



# AIA New Hampshire forum

*For those who shape the built environment*



**The Savidge Library at the MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, site of AIANH's May 28 Chapter Meeting. Photo courtesy of Todd Williams Billie Tsien Architects.**

## Visit Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects' Library Addition at the MacDowell Colony



We are very excited about our May 28 AIANH Chapter Meeting at the MacDowell Colony's historic Savidge Library. We'll start off with a tour of its new addition designed by Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects (TWBTA). After a reception/dinner, we'll learn about the design process, building siting, material sourcing, and building performance from Brent Buck, who was the project architect from TWBTA; David Macy, resident director of the MacDowell Colony; and Tim Groesbeck, the general contractor.

Some notable projects by TWBTA are the Asia Society Hong Kong Center, The Barnes Foundation Museum in Philadelphia, David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center, the Ameri-

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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.

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# Perspective

Point of view from the President of AIANH  
 Paul Bourbeau AIA



### Making Change Happen

When was the last time someone thought of you as a luxury? When was the last time someone said you were not relevant in the general public's eye? These characterizations were offered up by Russell A. Davidson FAIA, AIA First Vice President and Grassroots Chair, in March in Washington, DC. Not only was the snow piling up during Grassroots 2015, but the rhetoric as well. Deserved or not, we as architects owe it to ourselves as individuals and a profession to make change happen. Every year, the AIA puts on a conference known as Grassroots in Washington, DC, in the hopes that architects, brought together with a common purpose, can affect change in our government. The reality is that for us as practitioners, this change is often an uphill battle as indicated by the observations above.

In last month's *NH Forum* I talked about AIA+2030 and the challenges we face to make this change happen in our profession. In addition to the educational series, architects have an opportunity to adopt the AIA 2030 Commitment in their own practices.

"The AIA 2030 Commitment is a growing national initiative that provides a consistent, national framework with simple metrics and a standardized reporting format to help firms evaluate the impact design decisions have on an individual project's energy performance."

Many of you have gone through the AIA+2030 Professional Series and some of you have even signed on for the AIA 2030 Commitment. So now that we are armed with all this information regarding sustainability and how to implement it, what do we do with it? How can we change business as usual and affect change that will make a difference? The first step is how you interact with others. Your personal relationships with your

*Continued on page 15*



AIANH President Paul Bourbeau AIA and President-Elect Jay Lawrence Purcell AIA in Washington, DC, to attend the AIA Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference, March 4-6. No, the tree behind them is not showing off blossoms, but snow!

# Emerging Professionals Network

Point of view from the AIANH Associate Director & EPN Chair  
 Tony Nazaka Assoc. AIA



## Helping Fix Bad Architecture

I think we have all been there: working on an uninspired building, with a client on a strict budget and unrealistic timeline, on a fee that is almost impossible to give the project its necessary time. On top of all that, as an intern or young/new associate, you might be relegated to just “going through the motions” of doing what you’re told, which can sometimes mean reluctantly assisting first hand in a bad design.

There are many completed buildings, and many that will continue to be designed and built, that look like they left an office in a “screw it” mentality. It will probably happen to us all, even the best of the best (whether or not they are actually willing to admit it). No architect really wants to design a bad/ugly building; sometimes there are situations

in which it just happens. How can young professionals help resolve this? Better yet, can they help resolve this?

The upcoming class of young architectural professionals have a deeper grasp on technology, which can have huge implications in an architectural office. We can do things easier, faster, and more efficiently than ever before. This, however, does not equate to being a good designer, which is a skill set that must be learned, perfected, and tweaked over time. What it does mean, though, is that young professionals can be quite an asset in the design process, by being able to produce more schematic designs to a client, that are more understandable and relatable than a simple floor plan.

As a young professional, I have found that to make our skill sets known, you must put in the time to do so. I learned quite some time ago that architecture is not a profession in

*Continued on page 14*

## Details...

**DeStefano Architects PLLC** recently announced the promotion of **Robert Harbeson AIA**, to Commercial Studio Manager.

Robert joined DeStefano Architects in 2003, focusing on design and management of the firm’s commercial projects. In downtown Portsmouth, Rob was involved

in restaurant renovation at 96 State Street, the redevelopment at 111 Maplewood Avenue, and the residential construction at 10 State Street. Rob managed the renovation project at Abenaki Country Clubhouse in Rye



**Rob Harbeson AIA**

and two major projects at the Pease Tradeport: Medtronics (formerly Salient Surgical) and the main facility of Great Bay Kids Company. Rob is currently working on a campus repositioning project in Duxbury, MA.

Rob holds a M.Arch. degree from the University of Maryland and a BS in Civil Engineering with a minor in Art History from the University of Delaware. He is the Vice Chair for the Board of Directors for Great Bay Kids Company, the Treasurer on the Board of Directors for Area Home Care and Family Services and an active member of the NH Lodging and Restaurant Association.

Phase II of the Bow Highlands housing project in Bow, NH for CATCH Neighborhood Housing has been completed. **Warrenstreet Architects, Inc.** provided design for the project and the contractor is **North Branch Construction, Inc.**

This New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA)-funded project, situated atop a bluff with beautiful scenic views, included the construction of two wood-framed two-story buildings, each containing eight townhouse-style units for a total of 16 units of workforce housing. One unit is ADA accessible. The units were built to Energy Star standards and are in the process of receiving certification.




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Michael Waters, AIA LDA Architecture & Interiors  
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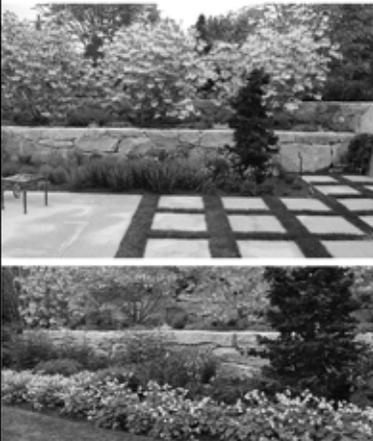
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# Michael Graves: a Memory

by Jonathan Vincent AIA



## Michael Graves (1934-2015)

I was fortunate to study under Michael Graves at the Princeton SAUP in 1974-75. For many years, he taught the second year Masters program studio at Princeton. Because Princeton was, and remains, a very small program (24 in my class of 1975), everyone was in the same studio.

At that point, Graves was a relatively young architect, trying to establish himself. But what I remember is what a great teacher he was. He was very talented, and accessible to all, including the less skilled (myself included). He gave fascinating lectures, and

was available for both three-hour studios each week.

Although I personally did not worship Le Corbusier, and felt the client/user and budget should have more importance, he did teach a coherent, consistent design methodology. The late 1970s were a time of flux, with architecture desperately looking for “meaning,” plumbing both sociology and linguistics for insights. Nevertheless, despite his interest in “semiology,” now thankfully forgotten, Graves was a gifted and generous teacher. He was even better as an industrial designer, but hopefully will be remembered for all his contributions to the field. ■

# Help Shape the Future of NH’s Historic Preservation



Every five years the Division of Historical Resources (DHR), as New Hampshire’s State Historic Preservation Office, facilitates the preparation of the statewide historic preservation plan. The plan celebrates preservation success stories, highlights lessons learned, and lays out a vision for preserving our special places over the next five years.

Granite Staters who share their thoughts on the topic of historic preservation in New Hampshire will help set New Hampshire’s strategy for the next five years. Granite Staters like you who are:

- interested in the cultural and economic

value of preserving and leveraging the state’s historic and cultural assets,

- actively involved in historic preservation activities, or who
- simply enjoy the landscapes, buildings, and neighborhoods that make New Hampshire’s communities unique.

Please participate by taking a short, 14-question, questionnaire by May 31, 2015, available at: <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eaqj074yi7hv6p80/start>.

There are other ways for you to participate in shaping the vision for preservation in New Hampshire – find out more by visiting [www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/plan.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/plan.htm). ■

**Granite Staters who share their thoughts on the topic of historic preservation in New Hampshire will help set New Hampshire’s strategy for the next five years.**

## Submit Your Details...

Do you have an interesting job on the boards or one that is newly completed? How about a new hire, a promotion at your firm, or someone had a baby? Maybe you’ve recently received an award or had your project featured in a magazine? Send us the information and we’ll print it in our “Details...” columns. Email to [office@aianh.org](mailto:office@aianh.org). Photographs can also be used (300 ppi).

# Structural Column

by Jeff Karam PE



## Structural Failures

Surely we all remember as children building towers out of blocks. Inevitably failure occurred. Often we remain excited about how tall we were able to build and often we wish we could get just one more block on. As we strived to understand the causes of failure we were able to correct flaws and construct even taller towers. Our failures thus led to improvements or adaptations. The same is even true with Egyptian pyramids. The Bent Pyramid has a non-uniform slope that experts feel was revised during construction to prevent failure. The Bent Pyramid was the second built by Pharaoh Sneferu, and his first pyramid, the Pyramid at Meidum, suffered a collapse.

Notable failures are not difficult to recall with images such as the Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse and the space shuttle Challenger burned into our memories. Other failures are also noteworthy and have left a lasting lesson appropriate for us all to keep in mind.

One such example is the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. On the evening of July 17, 1981 two hanging walkways collapsed causing more than 200 injuries and 114 deaths. Collapse was caused by a change allowed during construction. Initially, the fourth floor walkway and the second floor walkway were to be hung from the same cable supported at the roof. The builder wished to simplify construction and got approval from a project engineer to modify the design to permit the second floor to be hung from the fourth floor. This doubled the design load on the connection of the fourth floor to the cable but no changes to connection design were made. The connection was only just adequate for the self-weight of the revised assemblage. It's a sobering reminder that we must always exercise care and question what might go wrong with any requested changes.

An example of crisis averted is the story of the Citicorp building in New York City. One of the more famous structural engineers of recent history, William LeMessurier, is the center of this story. Construction had been completed on the iconic skyscraper when an

**It's a sobering reminder that we must always exercise care and question what might go wrong with any requested changes.**

engineering student's question caused LeMessurier to re-evaluate the building's structure. The student had found that quartering winds (winds directed not perpendicular to the elevation) caused a higher load in the braces than perpendicular winds and it seemed to her as though LeMessurier's analysis had not taken this into account. After review, it was found that the student's findings were valid and also that a design issue combined to create a weak link theoretically incapable of resisting the code loads. LeMessurier calculated that a 70 mph wind would cause failure which was much below the code required wind speed for design. A remedy was quickly designed and retrofitted and the potential crisis was successfully averted. LeMessurier is often considered to have handled the issue with exemplary ethics.

Thank you for reading. If you have comments or suggestions for future columns relating to the practice of structural engineering please contact me via [jeff@evergreenstructural.com](mailto:jeff@evergreenstructural.com). ■

— Jeffrey Karam PE is the principal of Evergreen Structural Engineering, PLLC, [www.evergreenstructural.com](http://www.evergreenstructural.com).



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## Details...

TFMoran was named "Best of Business" in the Engineering category for a third consecutive year at the New Hampshire Business Review's BOB Awards event on March 5 at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. NHBR's BOB Awards reader's survey honors the "best of business" in New Hampshire in over 90 categories. "With 2,700 ballots cast for the 2015 Awards, the BOBs continue to be considered a standard of excellence in New Hampshire," said Jeff Feingold, editor of NHBR.

"It is a great honor that we have won three years in a row," says Robert Duval, president of TFMoran. "This clearly shows that our civil, structural and traffic engineers, surveyors and landscape architects are focused on client service and delivering the best engineering solutions possible. And, with our recent acquisition of MSC Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors in Portsmouth, we can offer award-winning professional services to the seacoast region."

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## Details...

Construction of a Student Success Center on the campus of Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth, NH continues, despite the tough winter. **JSA, Inc.** is providing design for the project, being built by **North Branch Construction, Inc.** Despite the tough winter, is still on track to be complete by late summer of 2015.

This one-story, 20,000 square foot addition to the existing college will include a gymnasium, administrative offices, a student lounge, an exercise space, and locker rooms. Steel erection is now complete while roofing and exterior metal stud framing is ongoing. Siding is expected to start later this week.

**North Branch Construction, Inc.** has completed the installation of new fire protection sprinkler systems in the historic Ton-Tine House and Grist Mill buildings at Sugar River Mills in Claremont, NH for the Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH). In addition to the sprinkler and fire alarm work, North Branch completed improvements to the thermal envelope of the building in various locations to correct air infiltration through the weathered stone and brick walls, not uncommon in mill buildings. Working cooperatively with Sugar River staff and tenants, North Branch was able to complete the project ahead of schedule.



# Alex Azodi PE Named Engineer of the Year



**Alex Azodi PE** has been named the 2015 New Hampshire Engineer of the Year.

The award was presented to Azodi in February at the 64th Annual National Engineers' Week Awards and Celebration presented by the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers and the New Hampshire Joint Engineering Societies.

The Structural Engineers of New Hampshire (SENH) nominated Azodi based on his long record of service to the profession and community service.

## Congratulations to Alex Azodi for a much-deserved award!

Alex attended California State University at Fresno and graduated with a B.S.C.E. degree in 1984. He then attended the University of California at Berkeley and graduated with an M.S.C.E. degree in 1985. His professional career began in San Diego, CA, where he worked for six years, followed by four years in Washington state before moving to New Hampshire, where he has practiced structural engineering ever since.

In 2004, Alex founded Omega Structural Engineers, PLLC in Newbury, which he leads with an insightful understanding of structural design elements to support and enhance architectural design, coordinating human resources and innovative solutions for even the most complex projects.

Azodi has given back to the profession throughout his career by actively participating in and leading engineering groups. As a member of SENH, he worked with the Special Inspections Committee to develop an informational guide for building officials to explain special inspections when they were first introduced. He later was elected to the SENH Board of Directors and served a number of roles, including president of the group from 2008-09. His service to SENH continues as the groups' representative to the Code Advisory Committee of the National Council of Structural

Engineers Associations. This subcommittee is heavily focused on the general engineering issues of the International Building code and also the engineering issues relating to the International Family 1 & 2 Residential Code (IRC) publication, which is a prescriptive code for use of "conventional" construction requirements in the design of low-rise one and two-family residential buildings. He also serves as the SENH representative to the American Society of Civil Engineers,



**Alex Azodi PE**

Structural Engineering Institute.

On the state level, in 2013 Azodi was appointed to the State of New Hampshire Board of Professional Engineers.

Alex is a long-time AIANH Professional Affiliate member who has actively participated in AIANH programs and events over many years. Most recently he has been an important part of developing our NH Architects & Engineers Emergency Response Task Force (NH AEER TF) and advocating for HB292, adding architects and engineers to the Good Samaritan bill, now being considered in the State legislature.

As a resident of Newbury, Azodi has served as an alternate for the Zoning Board of Adjustment since 2004. He also helps the town when needed by providing pro bono structural engineering services and advice on town buildings and structures. In addition, Azodi has been a soccer coach for the Bradford Newbury Youth Sports Athletics Program.

Azodi is married to his wife Susan for more than 32 years and they have two sons. ■

# New Certificate Program at NHTI

## Building Inspector and Plans Examiner Certificate



A new 18-credit-hour certificate program is available at NHTI, Concord's Community College, to prepare Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners to critically examine permit applications and plans for residential, commercial, and other building types and to subsequently ensure that the construction of buildings with permits is conducted in accordance and within the provisions of relevant building codes. It is the responsibility of building inspectors and plans examiners to review and inspect various building types from permit applications through construction phases to ensure that they are safe and structurally sound.

As the profession of building inspectors nationwide begins its retirement exodus from this industry, many openings will be coming, especially in New England where

there is limited state oversight. These positions can be filled by qualified individuals, or possibly a contracted third party firm, such as an architecture firm, with staff trained in cases in which a town is looking to cut back on full time staff positions, or supplement a part time position.

This Certificate will be supported and promoted by the New Hampshire Building Officials Association, the International Code Council, and eventually the NH Municipal Association and Town Managers Associations. You may want to encourage some of your staff to achieve this Certificate through funding tuition support and/or incentives for completion of the program which can help your firm's staff portfolio when competing for a Municipality's RFP or bidding on construction projects.

Admission requirements include:

- High School Algebra I & Algebra II, each with grades of C or higher and High School Geometry with a grade of C or higher, OR prior experience in architecture, engineering, construction, and materials manufacturing industries as evidenced by academic degrees, industry-accepted credentials, employment experience, etc.

- One page essay explaining reasons to join the Building Inspector & Plan Examiner Certificate Program.

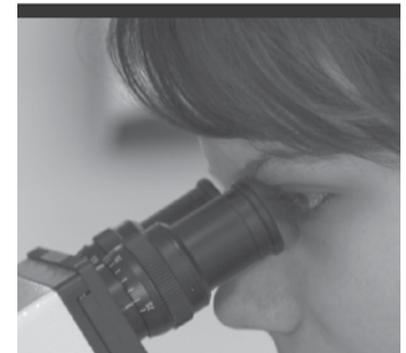
More on the Building Inspector and Plans Examiner Certificate at: [www.nhti.edu/academics/programs-study/engineering-technology-programs/building-inspector-and-plans-examiner](http://www.nhti.edu/academics/programs-study/engineering-technology-programs/building-inspector-and-plans-examiner). ■

## Job Opportunities, Positions Sought

Job listings and positions sought listings are on the AIANH website: [www.aianh.org/careers](http://www.aianh.org/careers). To submit an ad, please email ad text to [office@aianh.org](mailto:office@aianh.org). Job opportunity listings are free for AIANH members and \$80 for four months for non-members. Listings for Positions Sought are free for everyone. Please include your contact information with your ad listing.

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# AIA+2030: Prepare for the New Energy Future...

## Session IX Recap

by Dale Doller AIA, LEED AP. Photos by John W. Hession

The mission of the AIA 2030 Commitment program is to take the aspirational goals of 2030 and transition to the reality of achieving tangible, strategically targeted, performance goals on every project we touch.



### Session X, February 26, 2015 —Putting It All Together: Achieving 2030 on the Project and at the Office

I would like to start my last session review of this series by first offering a final, heartfelt warm thanks to our program sponsors for their support to this important educational series and their belief in and dedication to sustainability. They made this program possible!

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**Presenter (by live video conferencing):  
Ed Mazria FAIA**

Session X as the last of our AIA+2030 Professional Series, a yearlong commitment sharing knowledge with you about The 2030 Challenge, the AIA 2030 Commitment, and the tools and processes we can use to meet The Challenge. This was a wrap-up and review of our seminar series. Here is a reminder of the focus of this program series:

**The 2030 Challenge.** “Architecture 2030, a non-profit, non-partisan and independent organization, was established in response to the climate change crisis by architect Edward Mazria FAIA in 2002. 2030’s mission is to rapidly transform the U.S. and global Building Sector from the major contributor of greenhouse gas emissions to a central part of the solution to the climate change, energy consumption, and economic crises. Our goal is straightforward: to achieve a dramatic reduction in the climate-change-causing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the Building Sector by changing the way buildings and developments are planned, designed and constructed.” (<http://architecture2030.org>)



**Presenter: Amy Seif Hattan LEED Green Assoc.**

We owe a great deal of thanks to **Ed Mazria FAIA**, founder of Architecture 2030 for his insight, persistence, and forethought in bringing to our attention how our present habits and choices in design are jeopardizing the future of our own environment and our civilization. We are also grateful for his presence at this final Session via online conferencing. Thanks too, to AIA Seattle who first developed the AIA+2030 Professional Series.

On-site presenters for Session X were **Peter Arsenault FAIA, LEED AP**, principal with Peter J. Arsenault, Architect and **Amy Seif Hattan LEED Green Assoc.** with Thornton Tomasetti. We appreciate their knowledge and experiences, which will help us achieve 2030 on the project and at the office.

Peter reviewed the goals and mission of



**Working together during Session II (clockwise from lower left): Scott Vlasak AIA, Bruce Hamilton AIA, Josh White, Amy Bailey AIA, Maureen Westrick, speaker Chris Schaffner PE, Chris Carley AIA, Jeremy Greeley AIA, Jay Purcell AIA, Jennifer Hegarty Assoc. AIA, and Matt Lawton, Assoc. AIA**

The 2030 Challenge and how it can change the way we perform our business. He described the three step approach, Design Strategies, Technologies & Systems, and Offsite Renewable Energy in organizing our choices for our project designs. And, he reviewed



**Presenter: Peter Arsenault FAIA**

the tools we need to determine and verify our design performance which is vital to resolving better design solutions.

Amy shared her experiences moving her office to embrace, commit, and live up to the The AIA 2030 Commitment. She reviewed the process, difficulties and reporting processes taken to change the offices of Thornton Tomasetti. To remind us of what this is:

**The AIA 2030 Commitment.** “The AIA 2030 Commitment is a growing national initiative that provides a consistent, national framework with simple metrics and a standardized reporting format to help firms evaluate the impact design decisions have on an individual project’s energy performance. The profession can’t meet radical building energy use reduction targets one project at a time and architects are embracing the challenge at hand by thinking differently about sustainable design.” (<http://network.aia.org/2030Commitment/home>)

The following participants were awarded certificates at the final Session of the Series:

**For exceptional class participation:**

- David Ely AIA
- Kate Hartnett Hon. AIA
- Sheldon Pennoyer AIA
- Bill Schoonmaker AIA
- David Udelsman AIA

**For attending all ten Sessions:**

- Amy Bailey AIA
- Stephen W. Burnell AIA
- Laurence Dean, Assoc. AIA
- Dale Doller AIA
- Jennifer Hegarty Assoc. AIA
- John Hession
- Matt Lawton Assoc. AIA
- Paul Leveille
- Christina O’Brien AIA
- Susan Mendleson AIA
- Karen Schacht AIA
- Bill Schoonmaker AIA
- Doug Stewart AIA

So you have completed all 10 sessions. What has it meant to you? Here are some facts we learned. Buildings consume 49% of the energy used; more energy than any other user. Over 75% of US electricity is consumed in buildings. Fossil fuels used to

*Continued on page 14*



Amy Bailey AIA and Bill Schoonmaker AIA focus on an exercise during Session IX

**AIAANH's  
AIA+2030  
Professional Series**

*Preparing architecture and engineering professionals for the new energy frontier.*

*Thank you to all who participated in our AIA+2030 Professional Series, March 2014 to February 2015! And a BIG thank you to our sponsors!*

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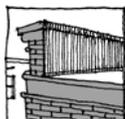
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# A Medieval Footpath in Umbria

## Part IV of a Series

Text and photos by Bruce Hamilton AIA



Beautifully situated in the medieval heart of Umbria, Assisi is one of the most popular pilgrimage destinations in Italy. While the ancient Umbrian city of Asisium left a priceless legacy of Etruscan and Roman structures, it was the town's most famous monk who transformed Assisi into a site of immense architecture and artistic importance. Many of the greats of the high Middle Ages and the Renaissance were drawn to Assisi and the outstanding works of Umbrian painting and sculpture that adorned every church and basilica.

Our tour group began our visit to Assisi in the western part of the town where we entered the Piazza Unitá d'Italia. From the square, we climbed up to Viale Marconi and crossed the Piazzette Ruggero Barghi. After turning left along Via Frata Elia, we reached the Piazzale Inferiore di San Francesco. At this point, we enjoyed a wonderful perspective of the monumental structure that consists of two churches built one on top of the other. According to our tour guide, the 15th century arcade which defines the four sides of the square was built to provide pilgrims with a shelter when they arrive in masses to honor the Saint.

The entrance of the lower church is situated in a harmonious square. A Renaissance arch supported by two columns rises above a Gothic portal with two openings bordered by small columns. The writing: *INDULGENZA PLENARIA QUOTIDIANA PERPETUA* is a consolation for the traveler who is about to enter. The entrance is not wide, but almost cozy, and this feeling is enhanced by the faint light in the interior. At the end of the entrance transept our tour group observed the Cappella di Santa Caterina (Chapel of St. Catherine). The stained glass and frescoes are interesting and noteworthy. Leaving the entrance transept, we continued toward the nave. The harmony of the cross vaults is enhanced by the sky blue color, the arches, and by wall decorations.

We continued on to the upper church. The lowest part of the portal takes its inspiration from the lower church. It is constituted by two slender columns, a pointed arch linking the two entrances, and a plain rose window. The interior of the church has a Latin cross plan and with its wonderful harmony of lights, colors, and pictorial art, is religious architecture at its best. The Italian Gothic style makes the structure slender and at the same time creates harmony in the colors. The

church has a simple nave, divided into four cross vaulted bays which are sustained by slender pillars; through the mullioned windows, golden light filters into the interior. The walls are frescoed throughout.

Upon leaving the Basilica di San Francesco, we wandered through narrow medieval streets to Piazza Del Comune (Town Hall Square). It forms a rectangle with a slight inclination and is surrounded by a large number of historical monuments. One of the historic buildings we visited is the Tempio di Minerva (Temple of Minerva). The façade consists of a row of six fluted columns with Corinthian capitals. The temple was transformed into the church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva.

Moving along, we entered the narrow street of Via Borgo Aretino which leads to the Piazza Santa Chiara where the homonymous Basilica di Santa Chiara rises. The façade is made up of alternating bands of white and pink stone. In the lower section, the portal with a slender marble column stands out against the simplicity of the exterior wall. Two lions are set on

**Below left, Basilica di San Francesco Exterior Façade of the Upper Church; right, Altar at the Santa Maria Sopra Minerva**



the sides of the lunette. In the central section above the portal is a rose window with several concentric circles and twisted columns. The building is reinforced by means of three flying buttresses to support the vault.

The irregular square in front of the Basilica features a polygonal fountain. From the artificial terrace on which the square is located I was able to admire a panoramic view of the northern Umbrian Valley. The interior is plain, with fragments of frescoes on the left side of the entrance. It's a church with a single nave in Gothic style with cross vaults. The presbytery is partly frescoed. Located above the altar is a Crucifix dating back to the 13th century.

Assisi looks like an enchanted kingdom and the approach to this small medieval town is tantalizing. As if cupped in celestial hands, the mere sight of Assisi is enough to send your soul spiraling to heaven. This medieval village extends itself over the western slopes of Mount Subasio like a comet of rare beauty. Its outline reflects a splash of color that hesitates between pink and red bricks, which can be seen from every corner of the Spoletive Valley. The spirit of St. Francis can be felt everywhere. The extraordinary secret of the town lies in its capacity to combine normal day-to-day living with a re-evocation of the past and moments of intense spirituality. The city is still enclosed by a medieval wall and it conserves the typical shape of an ancient village. Assisi is a city that does not deceive, but it was able to wrap our entire group in an atmosphere of expectation and nostalgia, enchantment, and even enrapture. ■

Below left, Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva; at right, top to bottom: Basilica di Santa Chiara Exterior Façade; Polygonal Fountain at Piazza Santa Chiara; Medieval Street Via Borgo Aretino

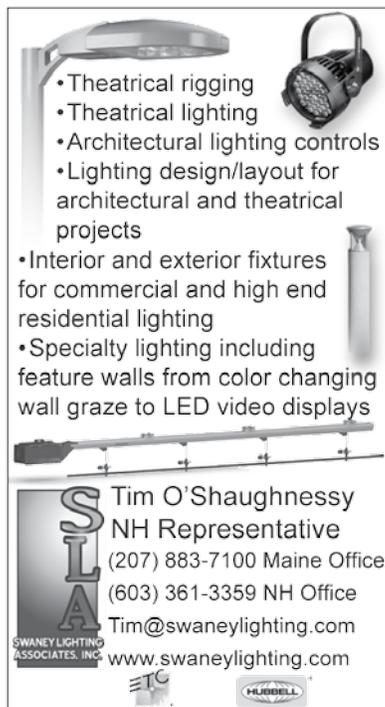


## Details...

**Eckman Construction** has announced that the New Hampshire Job Corps Center in Manchester, NH, has received substantial completion. Construction of the seven-building campus on Dunbarton Road was completed on time. The project architects are Miller Dyer Spears of Boston. The new facility was built for the U.S. Department of Labor. Some construction activity will continue at the campus during the spring as Eckman crews complete additional work requested by the Department of Labor.

"We started work here at the NH Job Corps Center in May 2013 and we want to thank all the subcontractors, vendors and other workers that had a hand in helping us get to this point," said John Deloia, Vice President, Eckman Construction and project executive on the project. "We hope that the new campus will serve as a statewide resource to help students carve out meaningful careers for years to come."

Job Corps Centers across the country currently train more than 60,000 students at 125 centers nationwide. The NH Job Corps Center features dormitories with 360 beds for on-campus living, an education building with classrooms, a recreation facility, dining commons, a wellness/administration building and a gatehouse. The center will serve people 16-24 years old, who will spend an average of eight months earning their high school diploma or GED while also preparing for a career.



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# AIANH Visits NH's Federal Representatives

by Carolyn Isaak, Executive Director



AIANH's annual trek to Washington, DC, for the AIA Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference always proves to be very beneficial. The trip is usually made by the Board President, President-Elect, Executive Director, and Associate Director. Educational Sessions provide these Chapter leaders with valuable information on programming, member services, governance, leadership, and business practices for the Chapter. This year **Paul Bourbeau AIA**, **Jay Lawrence Purcell AIA**, and I attended the conference.

During the conference, we also always visit Capitol Hill to meet with our Senators and House members. The meetings became complicated this year by the fluke snowstorm on March 5 when government offices were shut down. After much emailing and texting, we did manage to visit with staff members from Senator Shaheen and Senator Ayotte's offices the following day. Later in the month, Derek Torrey from Rep. Kuster's office kindly followed up and met with us here in NH.

AIA has had an impressive success record lobbying for issues of importance to the design and construction industry over the years. (See the article on last year's accomplishments in the March *NH Forum*, page 17.)

This year we were seeking support on three issues:

- *Urging Congress to pass legislation that provides student debt relief to graduating architecture students in exchange for pro bono work in under served communities.*

Architecture students are graduating with decidedly high loan balances that affect professional competitiveness in the short and long term. This causes many graduates to leave architecture programs, depriving the country of the professionals who will design and retrofit the next generation of buildings.

A recent poll conducted by the AIAS revealed that students had an average of \$40,000 in accumulated debt after graduation, as well as many unexpected costs specific to their architectural training.

It is crucial that not only architecture students, but the entire profession, get involved in the debate over student loan funding and

continue advocating for policies that keep architecture graduates active in the profession and serving their communities.

AIA is working with Rep. Perlmutter's office to reintroduce a bipartisan bill, the National Design Services Act, to accomplish this goal, and we asked our NH Senators and House members to support the bill on its reintroduction.

- *Urging Congress to support legislation that will help communities prepare to withstand natural disasters and other hazards.*

The Safe Building Codes Incentive Act introduced in 2014 would increase federal contributions following a major disaster to states that adopt and enforce the most recent version of a nationally recognized model building code. Although adoption and enforcement of building codes is a state and local responsibility, the federal government has an interest in ensuring that the strongest building codes are in place in order to reduce disaster impacts on our communities.

We urged our Senators and Representatives to support this legislation.

- *Promoting the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Spaces.*

As Congress considers reforming the tax code, the federal historic tax credit is exactly the kind of market-based incentive we need to leverage private investment in our communities.

Since its inception, the Historic Tax Credit (HTC) has rehabilitated more than 40,000 buildings, created nearly 2.5 million jobs and leveraged \$117 billion in private investments. The cumulative \$21 billion cost of the program has been more than offset by the \$26.6 billion in federal tax receipts generated solely by these rehabilitation projects. The HTC has revitalized historic cores of cities and towns, enhancing property values, encourage additional reinvestment by adjacent owners, and augmenting tax revenue for federal, state, and local governments.

A number of Senators and House members, led by Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), are working to improve the historic tax credit. We urged our NH Senators and House members to work with them. ■

# A Tsunami of Opportunity

Save the Date: June 4 talk by Bob Berkebile FAIA



Join peers from northern New England to hear Bob Berkebile FAIA, speaking on “A Tsunami of Opportunity: Changing our Practice to Change the Outcome of the Human Story.”

Bob Berkebile FAIA is a national leader in sustainable architecture, co-founder of the AIA Committee on the Environment, and with his firm BNIM, has won firm of the year and 10 top COTE awards.

AIA COTE groups from Maine, New Hampshire Vermont and Boston have partnered for this unique event. NH’s AIA COTE group is better known here as the NH Environmental Guild.

**About Bob Berkebile FAIA:**

Bob Berkebile, a founding principal at BNIM in Kansas City, focuses on improving the quality of life in our society with the integrity and spirit of his firm’s work. Bob has received numerous awards for his commitment and action towards restoring social, economic and environmental vitality to America’s communities through sustainable architecture and planning, including: the Heinz Award, the Hanley Award, ULI & USGBC leadership awards, and was named Game Changer Emeritus by Metropolis Magazine.

Among his contributions to his industry, Bob is the founding chairman of the American

Institute of Architects’ National Committee on the Environment (AIA COTE) and was also instrumental in the formation of the US Green Building Council and its LEED rating system.

Bob’s firm BNIM has received 10 AIA COTE Top Ten Green Awards, including the 2014 COTE Plus Award for the Iowa Utilities Board. Additionally, in 2011, BNIM was selected for the AIA National Architecture Firm Award, the organization’s highest honor, for their role in promoting green building design.

Projects include:

- The Omega Center for Sustainable Living at the Omega Institute, the first building in the world to achieve the Living Building Challenge and LEED Platinum certifications.
- Chatham University’s Eden Hall Campus Master Plan, the university’s vision to build the nation’s first sustainable campus.
- Bancroft School Apartments in Kansas City’s Manheim Park neighborhood, a collaboration with Brad Pitt’s “Make It Right Foundation,” to renovate an existing school into healthy, affordable, and LEED Platinum rental units with community amenities.

The event will take place June 4 at the Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. A reception and networking will follow. You can find out more information on the AIANH website events page: <http://www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events>. ■

## Details...

**PROCON** was a \$10,000 sponsor of the Child and Family Services (CFS) SleepOut on March 20 to increase community awareness about the plight of homeless youth. The event raised over \$134,000 to help stabilize and transform the lives of youth who become homeless. The event was held in Stanton Park in downtown Manchester across from The Radisson Hotel, Center of New Hampshire.

On any given night, 300 youth are homeless in the Manchester area and in a year’s time, over 1,500 runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth access Child and Family Services. CFS seeks to change the trajectory of these youth, providing them with the support and skills they need to live safe and productive lives.

“Homelessness is a major issue in the City of Manchester and negatively impacts so many of our youth. The SleepOut raised awareness throughout our community and the funds raised through this effort, will be used to combat youth homelessness and provide the services that these young people need and deserve. Working together with Child and Family Services, PROCON is committed to making a positive difference in our community,” stated Mark Stebbins, owner and CEO of PROCON.

Steve Kanavich, a project estimator with PROCON joined community leaders in participating in the SleepOut’s overnight stay in freezing temperatures. “It was the best night’s sleep I have had in a long time,” he said.

**PROCON** has announced the addition of two new staff members. Tracey Pelton is the new Executive Director of Business Development and Marketing. Mrs. Pelton has over 15 years’ of marketing, branding and business development experience, with 12 years’ specifically in the construction industry. Tracey will work with PROCON’s officers to bring in new business across a variety of market segments, deepen existing relationships, and manage the marketing and business development teams.

Beth Carter has been hired as the Marketing Manager. Beth has 15 years in the construction industry and will support multiple departments, handling everything from graphic design to database implementation. Her resume also includes comprehensive oversight of graphic and web design collaborations, website management, and social media promotion.



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**SESSION X, AIA+2030**

*Continued from page 9*

power electrical generation plants contribute directly to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Over 80% of emissions are from coal. We are experiencing greater swings in serious weather events. Our 100-year weather events are happening more frequently. Our 50 year weather events are happening more frequently as well. Our oceans are rising; polar caps are reducing; many US coastal cities like New York City and New Orleans acknowledge changes and are taking steps to protect their shorelines from rising ocean levels.

We have provided the information and facts to you on how the built environment is negatively affecting our global environment and ecology. We have shared with you the tools you can use that will help to change your design thinking and process. And, we shared with you creative examples in developing environmentally respectful and regenerative built environment solutions.

**NAZAKA** *Continued from page 3*

which you should expect to punch in at eight and out at five, year round. If you feel you can lend a voice toward a design process, but aren't delegated to that process, you might have to do so on your own time. On a strict budget or schedule, the partners or project managers will not want to spend precious company time having an intern architect produce a bevy of conceptual ideas. They may, however, be willing to look at your designs if you stuck around the office for a few more hours a week to work on them. In that situation, the worst that will happen is that they don't like your design, and you can use that critique for motivation on the next project. Know your strengths, and find ways to not only improve upon them, but to add value to yourself, your team, and your company. ■



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**Our thanks go to Dale Doller AIA for serving as the moderator for the AIA+2030 Series and for writing these followup articles! We appreciate your commitment to the program and to the 2030 Initiative!**

What will you do next? Change is hard! Will you go back to “business as usual”? Will you find an excuse.....? Will you take the easy way out and say, “It will cost too much up front for my client to change design solutions”? “It negatively affects my creative design solutions!” Or will you learn to be creative, advance your own knowledge and teach your clients how they can succeed in improving their own built environment and make a dedicated commitment to solving our own global environment issues?

You say, “What will it cost to change our design to meet the 2030 Challenge...? I say, “What will it cost if we don't...? ■

**MAY 28 EVENT** *Continued from page 1*

can Folk Art Museum in NYC, The Phoenix Art Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art Downtown Branch, NYC.

The MacDowell Colony, located on beautiful farmland and woods in Peterborough, NH, is home of the nation's first artist residency program. Established in 1907 by American composer Edward MacDowell and his wife, the pianist Marian MacDowell, to nurture the arts by offering creative individuals of the highest talent an inspiring environment in which they can produce enduring works of the imagination.

Thanks to **Belletetes Building Product Specialists** for sponsoring the event.

We hope to see you there! To register please go to [www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events](http://www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events) and click on the appropriate link. ■



# Construction Summary

**Project Type:** NH Liquor Commission Headquarters Renovation  
**Cost:** \$788,400 (Bldg Prime)  
**Location:** Concord, NH  
**Owner:** State of NH-DOT  
**Architect:** Christopher Williams Architects  
**Engineers:** Lee F Carroll PE, Design Day Mechanicals Inc, SFC Engineering Partnership  
**Gen. Cont.:** Charters Brothers

**Project Type:** Memorial Union Building (Room 158)  
**Cost:** \$325,000  
**Location:** Durham, NH  
**Owner:** University System of New Hampshire  
**Architect:** Manypenny Murphy Architecture  
**Gen. Cont.:** Greenleaf Construction

**Project Type:** Town Hall Addition & Renovation  
**Cost:** \$3,240,000  
**Location:** Rye, NH  
**Owner:** Town Of Rye  
**Architect:** SMP Architecture  
**Engineers:** Northpoint Engineering, Yeaton Associates, Steffensen Engineering  
**Gen. Cont:** Hutter Construction Corp.

**Project Type:** Renovations (School of Marine Science & Ocean Engineering) (UNH Morse Hall)  
**Cost:** \$204,900  
**Location:** Durham, NH  
**Owner:** University of NH  
**Architect:** Manypenny Murphy Architecture  
**Gen. Cont.:** Build It Construction

**Project Type:** Town Office Building  
**Cost:** \$2,000,000  
**Location:** Barrington, NH  
**Owner:** Town of Barrington  
**Architect:** SMP Architecture  
**Const. Mgr.:** Bonnette Page&Stone

**Construction Summary is provided by Construction Summary of NH, Inc. 734 Chestnut St., Manchester, NH 03104**

**Project Type:** Childrens Place & Parent Education Center Renovations  
**Cost:** \$154,300  
**Location:** Concord, NH  
**Owner:** Childrens Place & Parent Education Center  
**Architect:** Harriman Architects & Engineers  
**Gen. Cont.:** MCCI Inc

**Project Type:** Building Condition Assessment (Laconia High School)  
**Location:** Laconia, NH  
**Owner:** Laconia School District  
**Consultant:** Frank Marinace Architec  
**Consultant:** Rist Frost Shumway Engineering

**Project Type:** Auto Dealership Renovations  
**Location:** Lebanon, NH  
**Owner:** Team Nisan North  
**Architect:** Port One Architects  
**Engineer:** Summit Engineering  
**Gen. Cont.:** Jewett Construction Co Inc.

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**BOURBEAU** Continued from page 2  
 clients, colleagues and the general public will affect the change you are looking for, but you will need some tools. Seth Kahan in his book: *Getting Change Right (How Leaders Transform Organizations from the Inside Out)* offers up some excellent tips and anecdotes from his years with the World Bank. According to Seth, there are Six Goals for Interaction with others:

- Build trust
- Seed the conversation
- Listen
- Learn
- Inspire
- Connect

Sounds simple right? It is, but “one of the fundamental problems in communicating change is quite simply that most professionals don’t know how to hold an

**In the end, we are being asked to take leadership roles in our communities as architects to help spread the message for change, change that is needed if we are to survive and remain relevant...**

engaging conversation, much less teach their supporters how to do the same. The traditional approach is to take a great idea and turn it into a slogan, an elevator speech, and a campaign. This amounts to one-way communication and sabotages engagement.”

Of the six goals, perhaps the one which is often times overlooked is seeding the conversation. According to Kahan; “introduce only enough information to initiate and guide the conversation with your audience.” Again simple, but this slight manipulation actually provides focus for future discussion and streamlines your message. In the end, we are being asked to take leadership roles in our communities as architects to help spread the message for change, change that is needed if we are to survive and remain relevant, change that is needed if we do not want to be relegated as a luxury in the “rear view mirror” of history. Together we can almost not get it wrong, alone we don’t have a chance. ■

## Calendar of Events

**April 12-14** ESBOF Educational Conference 2015, 66th Annual Eastern States Building Officials Federation Educational Conference, hosted by the New Hampshire Building Officials Association, Portsmouth, NH. Instruction on ICC 2015 Code updates, NEC updates and NFPA topics, FEMA and disaster mitigation guidelines. [www.esbof.org/2015conference.php](http://www.esbof.org/2015conference.php)

**April 16** Managing Construction Projects, course on planning, design, contracts, records, legal issues, and more. \$350. Portsmouth Pease Tradeport, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm, <http://learn.unh.edu/training/seminar/spring-2015/481215>

**April 17** Keeping Our Place: New Realities for Historic Preservation in NH, Concord City Auditorium, 8:30 am to 6:30 pm. NHPA statewide preservation conference focusing on new realities for preservation amid changes in our state's economy, population, climate, and energy needs. [www.nhpreservation.org/news-a-events/upcoming-events/cat.listevents/2015/03/27/-html](http://www.nhpreservation.org/news-a-events/upcoming-events/cat.listevents/2015/03/27/-html)

**April 21** NHCSI at ReVision Energy's solar powered showroom and warehouse for networking, BBQ dinner and a presentation and tour discussing solar energy systems in NH; 5:00pm. NH has an abundance of solar energy, about 30% more than Germany, the world leader in solar energy installations. Find out how can you capture this abundant resource, benefit financially, and impact climate, \$25. <http://hstrial-nhcsi.homestead.com/aor2015Mtg.html>

**April 30 AIANH-KSC Joint Meeting: Future Cities Envisioned.** Our annual event with the Architecture Department at Keene State College, 4:30pm to 8:45pm. "Future Cities Envisioned" by Maria Aiolova Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, co-founder of Terreform ONE in Brooklyn, NY; exhibit of the AIANH High School Design Competition entries, the myMarvin Competition entries by KSC students, KSC Architecture Studio projects, and a reception and dinner. **1.25 AIA LUs.** Gold Sponsors: **Catlin + Petrovick Architects, PC; Bruce Ronyane Hamilton Architects; Scully/Architects;** Silver Sponsors: **Christopher P. Williams Architects, R.W. Gillespie Associates.** Register at: [www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events](http://www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events)

**May 5** Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST Training, NH Housing Finance Authority, 8:00 am to 4:15 pm. Free training on the Fair Housing Act. [www.eventbrite.com/e/manchester-nh-fair-housing-accessibility-first-training-registration-13833411105](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/manchester-nh-fair-housing-accessibility-first-training-registration-13833411105)

**May 7** Plan NH After Hours, Hannah Grimes Center, Keene, 5:30 pm.

**May 12** Commercial Beyond Energy Code course sponsored by GDS and the NH Utilities, McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, Concord, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, [www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php?go=register](http://www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php?go=register)

**May 28 AIANH Chapter Meeting featuring Williams Billie Tsien Architects' Savidge Library** at the MacDowell Colony, **2 AIA LUs.** Sponsored by Belletetes. See p. 1.

**June 4 A Tsunami of Opportunity: Changing Our Practice to Change the Outcome of the Human Story:** Lecture by Bob Berkebile FAIA, Portland Museum of Art. **1.5 AIA LU/HSW.** More information and registration at [www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events](http://www.aianh.org/news/aianh-events) and on page 13.

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## Photo of the Month



The White House, March 2015, after the "big" snowstorm.  
by Carolyn Isaak, Hon. AIANH

**Do you have an interesting photo?** Why not send us one to print? 300 ppi jpegs, approximately 4 x 6 inches, BW or color. (photos are also posted on the website at [www.aianh.org/news/photo-of-the-month](http://www.aianh.org/news/photo-of-the-month).) Send along a title, caption, and your name, to [office@aianh.org](mailto:office@aianh.org).