



calendar

June 22nd:

- Trip to Montreal with a tour of Pointe-a-Calliere with the project Architect, Dan Hanganu.
- Dinner at Weinstein & Gavino's.
- Bus will leave:
 - Berlin Park & Ride at 7:15 A.M.
 - Staples Plaza in S. Burlington at 8:00 a.m.

June 14-15:

- Deconstruction and Materials Re-use Workshop,
- Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Warren, VT.
- How to reclaim and appraise usable materials, and how to locate and incorporate reclaimed materials into your design. Join us for this two day course with Burlington's ReCycle North.

- 12 AIA HSW Continuing Education Units available.
- Call 802-496-5545 to register or for more information.

June 16:

- LECTURE: Grand Past, Sustainable Future: The Shelburne Farms Landscape Stewardship Plan. 7:30-9:00 pm. FREE.
- Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, VT.

- Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Patricia OmDonnell and Kimbel Erdman, preservation landscape architects and planners, will present the award-winning Shelburne Farms Landscape Stewardship Plan.
- For more information call at 802-496-5545.

July 9:

- LECTURE: Designing & Building the Passive Solar House. 7:30-9:00 pm. FREE

- Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Warren, VT.
- John Ringel, a founding member of the pioneering Jersey Devil Design/Build firm, recounts 25 years of designing and building passive solar projects.
- For more information call 802-496-5545.

aiaVT welcomes

- Samuel Purvis, Assoc. AIA of Woodstock
- Andrew Volansky, AIA of Stowe.

It will be appropriate therefore to turn now to consider the notion that experimentation is an essential prerequisite for invention; a notion which gave rise to the theory, still very popular today, that we live in a period of perpetual artistic primitiveness. This was noticed as early as 1855, for in The Builder of the year it was remarked that 'in endeavoring to fix some distinctive characteristic of the age - after rejecting the ordinary one as asserted, namely the prevalence merely of contemporaneous "styles" - we found that no other period had practised so much the experimental system'.

Changing Ideals in Modern Architecture
Peter Collins
(p.139: 1965)

aiaVT steers its newsletter in a new direction

steve clark, aia

At the most recent Grassroots Leadership Conference, AIA National conducted surveys of participants. One of their findings was that for providing timely member news, **70 percent** found electronic newsletters most effective, **11 percent** preferred the AIA Web site, while **10 percent** chose printed publications.

After many years of printing and mailing our newsletter, the AIA Vermont board has decided to more fully coordinate our resources and deliver our **newsletter in a digital format.** This decision is based primarily on **three important considerations.** The cost of printing and mailing is a significant part of our budget. There is a four week delay between sending the digital copy to the printer and receiving it in the mail. We have been unable to generate enough advertising to pay for the publication costs.

While we felt the communication to our members easily offset these shortcomings in the past, the speed of our web site makes it a **more effective communication medium** for current events and notices. An additional advantage to this form of publication is the **ability to use full color.** Anyone who has tried the Newsletter Archive knows we have been publishing in full color all along. We just couldn't handle the additional cost of color printing.

We feel promoting further use of the site allows us to focus on providing a greater range of more current information to the membership and the public in one place. The fact that our web events calendar is two to three times the size of our newsletter calendar is due entirely to its quick posting ability. Most notices we receive come too late for newsletter publication. We live in a time where many important events are organized and occur in a short time frame. By the way, don't forget to check Events and the Job Bank frequently. Recently, someone offered a free set of Sweets Catalogues. They were gone three days after being posted on the Job Bank page.

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We will lose the additional content and distribution we gained by mailing with the AIA New Hampshire Forum. We may actually gain overall readership as anyone with an internet connection will be able to access our electronic newsletter, as they can now, by downloading the pdf archive version. This will mean that even those with no personally owned computer can access the newsletter and the web site from a library or other internet-connected computer locations. Initially, we will offer the newsletter in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, as we now do, in our Newsletter Archive. We will redesign it to read more easily on a computer and to print on letter size paper. In the future, we plan to also offer an optimized version for reading or printing directly from the web page.

To notify members of a newly posted issue of the newsletter, we will send out an **email with a direct link to the pdf file**. Clicking on the link will open the pdf newsletter **for reading** and you can **save it, print it or close it** when you are done. It will also be in the Newsletter Archive. You will be required to have Adobe Acrobat Reader (a free program downloadable via the internet) installed to access the newsletter. Most computers have this useful program already. Each email and the web site will include a link to the Adobe program,

We realize this is a significant change for our members and we hope this new delivery system will improve our contact with members. Please contact Hanne Williams at aiavt@madriver.com or Steven Clark at sclarkj@adelphia.net with any questions or concerns you may have.

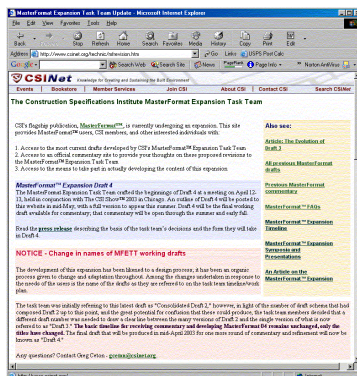
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AIA Vermont reserves the right to edit articles for available space and determine appropriate content prior to inclusion. Submissions must be received by the 5th of the month prior to publication.



csi going ahead with changes to master format

As we indicated here about a year ago, the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) is moving ahead towards publication next year of a new edition of MasterFormat, the industry standard numbering and organizing system for construction specifications. The newest versions abandon the 16 Division structure that has been in place for 40 years and replace it with a new system that includes a different numbering system and approximately 60 specification Sections. The first 14 original Divisions still exist in the newest draft version. You can learn more about the specifics on CSI's website at <http://www.csinet.org/press/pr41803.htm> including the latest draft (at this writing, #4).

There is little disagreement that the current system has become full and difficult to expand. Change and growth in digital and data systems, new electrical control systems, energy conservation and green construction have vastly increased the number of new areas not easily integrated into MasterFormat's previous incarnation. Project delivery and aftermarket services also require attention. Considerable thought and work has gone into the new format to design the best integration of these (and many newer and future) technologies including long term flexibility. The new version also opens the MasterFormat system to all the engineering disciplines and allows the current sections to expand properly.

The decision to significantly change the system has met with the same response most significant changes meet - significant concern. Until recently, AIA has not participated in the review but is now attempting to take part with CSI's encouragement. Expectations are that when the new changes are explained clearly to users and their concerns are addressed, the advantages of the new system will outweigh the inertia to stay with an outdated system with limited flexibility.

As things shake out, I expect we will all gain some CEU's next year at Jonathan Miller's CSI series on the new MasterFormat. Perhaps a look at the proposed changes will help us know what questions to ask. Here is a schedule for the planned roll-out of the new MasterFormat:

- 2003:
 - February 18: Draft 3 (consolidated from Draft 2 proposals) published
 - March 31: Commentary closes on Draft 3
 - April 9-11: CSI Convention - Debut of 90% Draft 4
 - April 21: Publish Draft 4
 - June 9: Commentary closes on Draft 4
 - June 23: Final Draft completed
 - July - Dec: Final Draft sent to publisher
- 2004:
 - April - July: Expanded MasterFormat™ for sale

Stay tuned.



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