

# THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS NEWS

## G. HOLMES PERKINS WINS FOURTH AIA/ACSA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

For Release After 7 p.m., Monday, April 9, 1979

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 9, 1979--The American Institute of Architects and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture today presented the Award for Excellence in Architectural Education to G. Holmes Perkins, FAIA, former dean and current professor of Architecture and Urbanism at the University of Pennsylvania.

AIA President Ehrman B. Mitchell, FAIA, and ACSA President William Turner made the presentation at the 67th ACSA Annual Meeting in Savannah, Ga. Perkins will be honored again at the AIA National Convention in Kansas City, June 4.

The AIA/ACSA award is given annually to a living educator who has taught at least 10 years and made outstanding contributions to the field of architectural education. Previous award winners are Jean Labatut, FAIA, Princeton University; Henry L. Kamphoefner, FAIA, North Carolina State University; and Lawrence B. Anderson, FAIA, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

From 1951 to 1971, Perkins served the University of Pennsylvania as dean of the Graduate School of Fine Arts. During this time, he also served as chairman of the Department of Architecture, chairman of the Ph.D. Program in Architecture, and teacher and advisor to students and faculty.

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G. HOLMES PERKINS WINS FOURTH AIA/ACSA AWARD  
April 9, 1979  
Page Two

Under his direction, the Division of Architecture expanded its offerings to cover a total concern with the built environment. This includes architecture, city planning, urban design, and landscape architecture.

The 74-year-old Perkins was instrumental in the University of Pennsylvania's recruitment of prominent individuals for its faculty. They include such notables as Lewis Mumford, Ian L. McHarg, Hon. AIA; Edmund N. Bacon, FAIA; Romaldo Giurgola, FAIA; the late Robert LeRicolais, Hon. AIA; and the late Louis I. Kahn, FAIA.

He also has been active in city affairs. From 1958-68, he served as chairman of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission. In addition, he played a major role in other organizations responsible for the redevelopment and revitalization of Philadelphia.

Before coming to Pennsylvania, Perkins taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design for 21 years, and was chairman of the Department of Regional Planning.

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# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19174

## *The Graduate School of Fine Arts*

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
110 FINE ARTS BUILDING/CJ

PETER McCLEARY, Chairman

September 29, 1978

To: Committee of AIA/ACSA Award for  
Excellence in Architectural Education

Attention of:

Maria F. Murray, Director  
Awards Program  
AIA  
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Director Murray and Members of the Committee:

I would like to place in nomination G.Holmes Perkins, former Dean and present University Professor of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of Pennsylvania, as a candidate for the Fourth Annual AIA/ACSA Award for Excellence in Architectural Education.

As requested, I enclose Dean Perkins resume, and after discussion with Maria F. Murray, will forward a "roster of distinguished students" and faculty that flowered under his leadership (teaching, administrative and inspirational) at Penn. Further, I seek your advice on the appropriate material to be furnished to your committee in order that they can make a well-informed and judicious decision.

As can be seen from G. Holmes Perkins resume, he contributed to the quality of mind at Harvard G.S.D. for 21 years, serving through all the teaching rank's to that of the Charles Dyer Norton Professorship and as Chairman of Regional Planning.

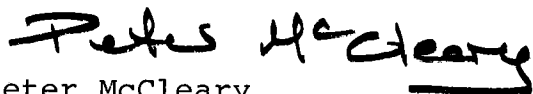
For 27 years i.e. since 1951, he has served the University of Pennsylvania as Dean of the Graduate School of Fine Arts, Chairman of the Department of Architecture, Chairman of the Ph.D. Program in Architecture, University Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, teacher and advisor to students and faculty alike.

We, at Penn, (and elsewhere) consider and judge him to be without peer in American Architectural Education. Truly the father of American Deans. Past recipients of your award; J. Labatut, H. Kamphoefner, and L. Anderson, would be honored, as will the AIA/ACSA to have G. Holmes Perkins be given serious consideration for your award.

48 years, to date, of a distinguished life is an almost insurmountable contribution to have made to architectural education. Few, if any, architects will make such a sacrifice and even fewer will make a contribution of the quality and quantity of that of G. Holmes Perkins.

In support of G. Holmes Perkins candidacy, I will be delighted to furnish any desired documentation.

Yours sincerely,



Peter McCleary

PM:kl

Enclosure

3/2/78

University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Fine Arts

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>% TIME</u>	<u>AGE</u>
Perkins, G. Holmes	Univ. Professor of Arch. & Urbanism	70%	73

Current Teaching:FALL

Arch. 711: History of Urban Development  
 Arch. 713: Theories of Architecture

Education:

Doctor of Laws (Honorary)	University of Pennsylvania	1972
M. Arch.	Harvard University	1929
A.B.	Harvard University	1926
	Phillip's Exeter Academy	1922

Teaching Experience:

U. of Michigan	Instructor	1929-30
Harvard G.S.D.	Instructor, Ass't, Assoc. Prof.	1930-45
Harvard, Regional Planning	Charles Dyer Norton Professor	1945-51
Harvard, G.S.D.	Chairman, Regional Planning	1945-51
U. of P., G.S.F.A.	Dean, Grad. Sch. of Fine Arts	1951-71
U. of P., G.S.F.A.	Professor of Arch. & Urbanism	1971-present

Memberships:

AIA  
 American Institute of Planners

Academic and Professional Honors:

Fellow of the AIA	1953
Chancellor of the College of Fellows, AIA	1964-66
Doctor of Laws	1972
American Institute of Architects Medal	1977

Publications:

"Comparative Outline of Architectural History"	1935
Editor, Journal of American Institute of Planners	1948-52
Contributor to Woodbury's "The Future of Cities and Urban Redevelopment", University of Chicago Press	1953
Contributor to Hamlin's "Form and Functions of 20th Century Architecture", Columbia University Press.	1952
Contributor to "The Town Planning Review", <u>AIP Journal</u> , <u>AIA Journal Survey Graphic</u> .	

Research and Public Service:

Cambridge, Mass. City Planning Commission	1949-51
President, Philadelphia Housing Association	1955-58
Chairman, Philadelphia Zoning Advisory Commission	1956-58
Chairman, Philadelphia City Planning Commission	1958-68
Trustee, Fairmount Park Art Association	1960-present
Old Philadelphia Development Corporation	
Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation	
Philadelphia Commission on Higher Education	
Philadelphia Port Corporation	

Registration:

Massachusetts (Reg. #26)	1935
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Professional Experience:

Private Practice, Cambridge, Mass.	1933-51
Urban Development Division, National Housing Agency, Acting Director	1945
Consultant to Ministry of Town and Country Planning, Britian	1946
Consultant to the United Nations	1946, '55, '57, '59
Baltimore Redevelopment Authority, Consultant	1960
Washington, D.C., Land Agency, Consultant	1961
Worcester Redevelopment Authority, Consultant	1965
Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, Consultant	1965

G. HOLMES PERKINS

Born October 19, 1904 - Cambridge, Massachusetts

Exeter 1922; Harvard, A. B. 1926; M. Arch 1929

Taught University of Michigan, 1929-1930;

Harvard Graduate School of Design 1930-1951, Charles Dyer Norton

Professor of Regional Planning 1945-1951, and Chairman of the  
Department of Regional Planning;

Dean of the Graduate School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, 1951-71.  
University Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, 1971-

National Housing Agency 1942-1945; Acting Director of the Urban Development  
Division 1945.

Consultant to Ministry of Town and Country Planning, Britain, 1946.

Consultant to the United Nations - 1946, 1955, 1957 and 1959.

Consultant to the Baltimore Redevelopment Authority, 1960-; to Worcester (Mass.)

Redov. Auth. 1965-; to Cambridge (Mass) Redev. Auth. 1965-; to Washington, D. C.  
Land Agency, 1961.

Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Member of American Institute of Planners.

Chancellor of the College of Fellows, American Institute of Architects. 1964-1966.

Former Director Citizens' Council on City Planning (Philadelphia).

Former Member of the Cambridge (Mass.) City Planning Commission.

Past President of the Philadelphia Housing Association, 1954-1956.

Chairman, Philadelphia Zoning Advisory Commission, 1956-1958.

Chairman, Philadelphia City Planning Commission, 1958-1968.

Member Old Philadelphia Development Corporation, 1958-1968.

Member Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation, 1958-1968.

Member Philadelphia Commission on Higher Education, 1953-1968.

Member Philadelphia Port Corporation, 1964-1968.

Trustee Fairmount Park Art Association 1960-.

Editor of the Journal of the American Institute of Planners, 1948-1952.

Contributor to Woodbury's The Future of Cities and Urban Redevelopment, and

Hamlin's The Form and Function of 20th Century Architecture;

author of Comparative Outline of Architectural History;

Contributor to The Town Planning Review, AIP Journal, A. I. A. Journal  
and Survey Graphic.

10/18/68

# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

## GEORGE HOLMES PERKINS

*Following his perception of architecture as a special language, George Holmes Perkins has structured an exceptional contribution to his University, his city, and his profession.*

*Gifted, personable, and self-possessed, he early turned his attention to the urban scene. After chairing the Regional Planning Department at Harvard, he became Dean of Pennsylvania's Fine Arts School, building it overnight into the best of its kind in the country and knowledgeably leading it for twenty years. Concerned with civic change, he advised Philadelphia as the Chairman of the City Planning Commission and as President of the Housing Association.*

*As an observant director of the University's master plan for its physical plant, he gave visionary guidance to the future campus, encouraging the development of a variety of styles for the growing urban institution.*

*The Trustees have proudly recommended that he receive from the University he so gracefully assisted the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.*