

MINUTES OF THE CHARTER MEETING  
DOCOMOMO/US  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
31 March, 1995

The charter meeting of the United States Chapter of DOCOMOMO (DOCOMOMO/US) took place at the Palmer House in Chicago on March 31, 1995 in conjunction with the Preserving the Recent Past Conference sponsored by the National Park Service. Participants of the meeting were from all over the US with strong participation from the Chicago, New York City, Washington, D.C., St. Louis, and the Los Angeles areas as well as DOCOMOMO International members from European countries. Participants of this meeting are listed on the attached sheet.

The meeting began with a presentations by Hubert-Jan Henket, president, and Wessel de Jonge, secretary of DOCOMOMO International. They introduced DOCOMOMO, its origins, mission, and long term goals. Mr. Henket explained that a primary goal of DOCOMOMO is the preparation of a registry of "modern movement" buildings, sites, and neighborhoods. This is the thrust of the various chapters of DOCOMOMO throughout Europe. DOCOMOMO was also described in terms of its advocacy for preservation of heritage monuments of the recent past. In this regard they serve as a watchdog for endangered buildings of the Modern Movement. Mr. Henket stated that DOCOMOMO has an international conference which meets every two years. The 1996 Conference will be held in Bratislava, Slovakia and the 1998 Conference will be held in Stockholm, Sweden. He stated that it is possible that the Conference could occur in the US as early as 2000. European members of DOCOMOMO International that were in attendance at the meeting were introduced.

The three geographical groups present at the meeting came to be referred to as the East Coast Chapter (New York and Washington DC), the Midwest Chapter (Chicago and St. Louis), and the West Coast Chapter (Los Angeles). These labels were not meant to be exclusive of other regions of the US. It will be a goal of DOCOMOMO/US to include all interested areas of the US in membership. It was suggested by DOCOMOMO International that, due to the size of the US, perhaps three separate DOCOMOMO Chapters should be established in the US rather than one Chapter to represent the entire US. This suggestion was discussed at length by the participants. The consensus of opinion was that we should all work together as one group to begin DOCOMOMO/US. At a future date, the geographic groups may choose to act regionally. At that time, DOCOMOMO/US would become more of an umbrella organization.

The first order of business was to discuss available resources to aid in the establishment of a "center" for DOCOMOMO/US. The purpose of the center would be to provide photocopying, newsletter mailings, and other coordination and communication endeavors. Two offers for this center were put forth during the meeting and contemplated by the participants. One was from the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. A second was from the School of Architecture of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. The participants decided unanimously to accept the offer of the University of Southern California to assist with logistical support to set up DOCOMOMO/US. The Freeman House, a Frank Lloyd Wright property owned by the School of Architecture of the University of Southern California, will serve as the home office for DOCOMOMO/US.