

Hans W. Meier, FCSI

*“In recognition of your distinguished achievement in the field of education through development of the educational program of the Santa Clara Chapter, establishment of educational programs and goals for Region 11, and for consistent contributions to educational programs of the Institute, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on this 26th day of June 1974.”
Portland, Oregon*

HANS WILLIAM MEIER was born in 1917, the son of a Portland, Oregon building contractor. His long experience in the practice of architecture, and as an educator, has brought him national recognition as an authority on proper preparation of written construction contract documents.

Meier's education was interrupted by World War II when he served in the U.S. Navy. Following the war he taught at Oregon's College of the Construction Sciences (absorbed into University of Oregon) and received a DSc degree in 1950.

A veteran of construction design and project management in locations ranging from Australia to Japan, and including terms as Project Manager for the Los Angeles based architectural firm of Daniel, Mann, Johnson & Mendenhall, in Rome, Italy and on the Island of Guam, Meier later became Chief of Specifications for that firm prior to establishing his own specifications consulting firm in Studio City, California. Today a large share of his time is used as arbitrator or expert witness in helping to resolve construction disputes.

Meier is author of the massive "Library of Specifications Sections" and the "Construction Specifications Handbook,"

published by Prentice/Hall, plus nearly 100 nationally published magazine articles and books on architectural practice.

He is a popular lecturer at universities and professional seminars across the United States and Canada as well as in England.

Meier is sometimes called the father of CSI's Certification Program, a role he denies. "No one person was responsible," says he, "It was just a concept whose time had come."

As one of the scores of "Spec Talk" columns he wrote for Specifier Magazine, Meier's November 1973 article suggested examination and certification as a concept for CSI's consideration. Institute President Larry Dean liked the idea and suggested it to the Institute Board. After a lot of discussion, pro and con, Director Bob Schmidt made a successful motion and the program was off and running.

Dean appointed an ad hoc committee under the initial chairmanship of Institute Past-President Terrell Harper. Meier was appointed chairman in 1975 and the committee enlisted some of CSI's best thinkers and planners. The first exams were held on April 1, 1978 -- and the rest is history.

CSI Membership

Member, Los Angeles Chapter, 1972 to 2006
Member, Santa Clara Chapter, 1968 - 1972

Chapter Offices, Committees

President, Santa Clara Chapter, 1970 - 1971
President, Los Angeles Chapter, 1982 - 1984
Secretary, Los Angeles Chapter, 1984 - 1987

Awards

Honorary Member, 1998
Ben John Small Memorial Award, 1978
Institute President's Plaque, 1976
J. Norman Hunter Memorial Award, 1976