



CHELSEA GROUP LIMITED

AIA Hosts CCIM Members For An Architectural Walking Tour of Downtown Honolulu

By Andy Beth Miller

Honolulu, HI—Renowned British Architect Stephen Gardiner once stated that, “Good buildings come from good people, and all problems are solved by good design.” Also an avid believer in the merits of good design is Chelsea Group, which recently sent two representatives from the firm on an architectural walking tour of historic Downtown Honolulu.

“It’s right up our alley,” shared Chelsea Group Building Scientist Lisa Reddinger. “Our firm has touched—in some way—so many of these buildings. As building scientists, we’re focused on the infrastructure of the properties. Our guide for the tour expanded the range of facts about each building: what the historical context of the building is; exact materials used in original construction, and why. These additional facts will help Chelsea Group in the never-ending struggle to guide building owners as they preserve the value of these properties into the future.”

The walking tour was hosted by the AIA (The American Institute of Architects). The invitational event was organized by the local CCIM (Certified Commercial Investment Members) Hawaii chapter.

Buildings highlighted within the tour included well-known and cherished iconic structures such Alexander & Baldwin Building, Kumu Kahua Theatre, State Capitol, Iolani Palace, the Tamarind Park, Aliiolani Hale, and the First Hawaiian Center, just to name a few. But what made the event so unique was the depth of additional architectural and historical insight offered en route by the knowledgeable guide, an architectural historian.

According to Reddinger, “There was a lot of synergy there,” she said of the entire experience. “I’ve learned a lot about these properties and the buildings systems from reviewing documents and doing Energy Star and LEED work with them here at Chelsea Group, but you can only learn so much from what’s written down on paper,” she said. “Actually getting to tour downtown with an architectural historian, seeing these buildings up-close and learning about their histories and significance within the Honolulu skyline was spectacular.”



Chelsea Group helped the First Hawaiian Center reduce their energy use by benchmarking their central plant



Chelsea Group helped Ali'i Place reduce energy use and gain LEED and Energy Star Certification



For more on AIA Honolulu Architectural Walking Tours please visit: <http://www.aiahonolulu.org/?WalkingTours>

The tour started at the AIA Honolulu's headquarters and ended at the Dillingham Transportation Building

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