

Irving Shapiro, AIA Consulting Architect

Education

- Cornell University, Bachelor of Architecture, 1968

Registrations

- National Council of Architectural Boards
Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio,
South Carolina, Texas, District of Columbia

Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Architects

General Experience

Mr. Shapiro has over 40 years of experience in the practice of Architecture on both International and Domestic Projects. A 1968 graduate of the Cornell University College of Architecture, he holds a National Council of Architectural Registration Boards certificate and is licensed to practice architecture in 10 states, including Pennsylvania. He has been trained in Alternative Dispute Resolution, is a member of the American Arbitration Association Roster of Neutrals, and has acted as a sole arbitrator, as well as a member of a three person panel, in the resolution of owner/contractor disputes.

Upon receipt of his architecture degree, Mr. Shapiro moved to Philadelphia, where he has lived for his entire adult life. After working for eight years with several local firms, he founded Irving Shapiro, Architect in 1976. He led the firm for 32 years as it became Shapiro Petrauskas Gelber Architects and in 2000, was renamed **spg3**. Mr. Shapiro acted as the Managing Partner of the firm from its inception, and as the Chief Executive Officer from 2005 until 2009. In these positions, he oversaw the growth and operation of a 67 person practice serving a local, national and international client base. Acting as the public face of **spg3**, he managed all of the firm's marketing, business, labor and contractual relationships including all disputes and professional liability matters. This role included drafting of all Owner-Architect agreements and assisting in drafting Owner-Contractor agreements for well over \$500,000,000 worth of construction.

Mr. Shapiro is a recognized expert in architectural standard of care, building codes and standards, code interpretations, construction delays and costs, construction defects, and material substitutions. Mr. Shapiro is an accomplished public speaker and has presented to numerous governmental entities throughout the United States. This includes many appearances before the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment.

His work with **spg3** has included extensive experience in several specialized building types; housing, education, retail and entertainment.

Selected Project Experience

City Re-Development: Between 1976 and 1988, Mr. Shapiro was a leader in the redevelopment of many neighborhoods surrounding Center City Philadelphia. In addition to the design and documentation of hundreds of new and renovated housing units, these years of practice entailed constant meetings and negotiations with community groups and the many City of Philadelphia agencies having jurisdiction over the projects.

These housing projects included many infill schemes in established neighborhoods and the adaptive reuse of historic structures. They also included mixed use developments combining housing, retail, entertainment and parking in the same structure.

Education Facilities: Between 1980 and 1990, Mr. Shapiro and the firm were responsible for all work undertaken by the Lower Merion School District. This included additions to several of the district's elementary schools and the demolition of the Ardmore Junior High School and redesign of the pedestrian, automobile and bus circulation on the Lower Merion High School Site. Mr. Shapiro acted as a spokesperson for the District to the community and to the Lower Merion Planning Board throughout a protracted and contentious two year approval period.

In 1991, Mr. Shapiro led **spg3**, as well as several other consulting architects and engineers in preparing a \$100,000,000 Capital Program to modernize the district's aging physical plant in preparation for the 21st Century. This included preparing life-cycle cost analyses of all of the structures in the district. This ultimately led to advising the district as to which structures should be rehabilitated and which should be replaced.

When the District selected **spg3** as the architect for both the Gladwyne and Penn Valley Elementary Schools, Mr. Shapiro led all of the initial programming and public entitlement processes.

Commercial/Retail: Mr. Shapiro has been involved in the Shopping Center Industry since 1971. He has led over \$100,000,000 worth of development from initial municipal approvals through design and construction. This work has included many public presentations and extensive participation in the negotiation and drafting of leases and exhibits.

Mr. Shapiro has worked with most of the major US shopping center developers, department stores and entertainment anchors, as well as several of the leading UK developers in preparing site plans for the redevelopment of existing regional shopping centers and downtown shopping complexes.

Airport Development: In 1995, Mr. Shapiro and **spg3** were engaged by MarketPlace Redwood to lead the design and construction of all of the retail and food service at Philadelphia International Airport. This engagement continues in 2013. In his role, Mr. Shapiro had to carefully balance the requirements of numerous constituencies, including the City of Philadelphia, the airlines, the passengers and the proposed tenants, as the airport remained in a continuous state of construction and renovation. With MarketPlace, he developed a Tenant Review process that often involved as many as four different architects, as well as the City of Philadelphia Department of Aviation.

Entertainment: Mr. Shapiro acted as the Executive Architect for General Cinema from 1995 through 2000. During this time, **spg3** was responsible for all new General Cinema design and construction. This included General Cinema's first "stadium seating" auditoria, as well as the development of Premium Cinema, the exhibitor's luxury brand. Since these projects coincided with the movement of multiplex cinemas into regional shopping centers, his ability to find common ground between the developers and General Cinema enabled the successful completion of numerous projects.

In 2000, **spg3** was engaged by National Amusements, the parent company of Viacom and CBS. Mr. Shapiro worked closely with the president of National, to create a new experience for their cinema patrons worldwide. Between 2000 and 2008, National reinvented their brand and brought the concept of Cinema de lux to new buildings throughout the United States, Russia, Argentina and the United Kingdom. In the UK projects, the cinema was the entertainment anchor for sev-

eral of the largest “urban regeneration” projects being contemplated in Europe. The initial planning was done in collaboration with several acclaimed international design firms, including Foreign Office Architects, Chapman Taylor, Cesar Pelli and Westfield Architecture. In Moscow, the work was done in collaboration with Callison and IKEA’s in house design professionals.

In order to accomplish the construction of the cinema complexes, working relationships were established between **spg3** and multiple international architectural and engineering firms and contractors to complete well over \$100,000,000 in new construction.

During this time, Mr. Shapiro also assisted National Amusements and the National Association of Theater Operators in negotiating and settling many of the Americans for Disabilities Act lawsuits which had arisen over the location of wheelchair seating in stadium seating theaters.

Expert Consulting Assignments: Mr. Shapiro sold his interest in **spg3** in February 2009 and since that time has been providing expert architectural services as a sole practitioner, as well as consulting to owners, professional liability insurance carriers and law firms on disputes within the architectural and construction communities. He has been involved in more than thirty disputes, both in defense of, and in support of, actions against owners and architectural firms. He has prepared expert reports on many issues, including; architectural standard of care, scope of services, code interpretations, delays and costs, construction defects, material substitutions, construction accidents and personal injuries.