REMARKS ON THE AIA GOLD MEDAL

My brother Ian and I are very grateful that the AIA has recognized the achievements of Evans with the Gold Medal. It is important to remember that his buildings would not have been possible without the collaboration of associates and clients.

Among his associates, I want to mention, in particular, Lynn Molzan, his partner of many years, Lawrence O’Connor and Kevin Huse. Architecture happens with a combination of small and large decisions and endless coordination. The excellence of these individuals made it possible.

Evans put great stress on the importance of client relationships and gave generous credit to clients for the success of a building. This list of distinguished clients includes Jane Owen of New Harmony, Allan Clowes of Indianapolis, Gavin Barnes of St. Meinrad, Mary Lou Leighton of St. Mary’s College and Elvis Starr of Indiana University.

All of these individuals had a critical role to play in the design and construction of buildings. Today, however, the agenda shifts to the preservation of these buildings, both through thoughtful rehabilitation and advocacy. Mary Ellen Gadski has recognized this pressing need as important buildings such as Clowes Hall reach eligibility for historic designation. The AIA will also have a role to play in speaking up for the preservation of the legacy of Woollen, Molzan and Partners in Indiana.

Malcolm Woollen