

In memoriam

Ayyub Malik 1935-2007 Chapman Taylor's office specialist who worked with London's biggest developers

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Ayyub Malik from the sudden onset of spinal cancer in November 2007.

Born in a village in the south-western Punjab in 1935, Malik was the eldest son of a family watched over by a father whose motto was success through education. Malik studied at the National College of Arts in Lahore, then in Karachi and completed his studies at North London Polytechnic.

Obituaries

This month, the RIBA has learned with regret of the following members' deaths:

John Stuart Ambrose, elected 1950, Chertsey, Surrey

Sir Howard Montague Colvin CBE, Oxford, Oxfordshire

Brenda Trevor Davison, elected 1950, Camden, London

Dr Lancelot Finch, elected 1942, Australia

Fredrick Allan Gotelee, elected 1945, Newbury, Berkshire

Gareth Trevor Jones, elected 1988, Birmingham, West Midlands

Paul Daniel Lennard, elected 1965, Woodbridge, Suffolk

Thomas Watson Mackenzie, elected 1950, Kenya

Alvin Markham, elected 1973, Stockport, Greater Manchester

Maurice Emmitt Pickering, elected 1954, Harrow, London

Anthony Patrick Thornberry, elected 2000, Harrow, London

Gwyn Williams, elected 1959, Okehampton, Devon

Kenneth Hartley Wilson, elected 1955, Bromley, London

Malik joined Chapman Taylor from Shepherd Epstein & Hunter in 1969 where he had worked on the new University of Lancaster Colleges and Halls of Residence and the Arts and Music Centre and the masterplan for the University of Accra in Ghana.

At Chapman Taylor Malik specialised in office buildings and worked on the design and construction of major commissions in London.

Notable buildings include Caxton House, Tothill Street, for Commercial Union Properties, a romantic essay in Portland stone that makes a vigorous addition to the street scene.

Meanwhile, One Drummond Gate in Pimlico, part of the Crown Estate's Millbank Estate, was designed for the Crown by Malik as a contemporary response to the cream stucco context of the surrounding streetscape. The structure is boldly expressed externally with four-storey free-standing columns leaving clear interior floorplates set around a large double atrium which was a much praised and innovative feature in 1983.

At 83 Pall Mall, he undertook for Hammerson the delicate task of redevelopment of one of London's first steel-framed buildings whilst retaining the stone facade.

In latter years Malik designed two major office buildings in the City of London: Moorgate Hall for Land Securities and Dominant House for Hammerson, and his last project, with echoes of the Pall Mall project, was the redevelopment of 172-182 Regent Street – a major redevelopment for The Crown Estate behind listed steel-framed facades.

Malik was a brilliant architect and rose to the position of salaried partner at Chapman Taylor prior to his retirement from the firm in 1994.

Outside of the office he was great company and always up for a party, many of which he hosted at his riverside flat in Brentford. Lunchtimes would flow into the late evening with conversation and debate accompanied by wonderful curries and much wine.

Throughout his career Malik supported his brothers and sister through their education and, although having no children of his own, he always made families and their children very welcome and did not patronise the young. Indeed, he was often to be seen in debate with young people, who received his sometimes provocative views with rapturous attention.

A man of many talents, he was co-founder of the quarterly *Global Built Environment Review* and a visiting lecturer at international conferences, and seminars.

At any lunch or dinner party, he was always the person to sit next to as one was guaranteed to be entertained by his many stories and thought-provoking observations. No one was spared his wit, least of all his many female admirers, whose presence could be guaranteed



Malik's designs include Caxton House in Tothill Street, an essay in Portland stone

to enliven all such occasions!

Ayyub Malik made an outstanding contribution to Chapman Taylor over many years and inspired all those who worked with him, especially the many young architects who learnt how to build under his rigorous guidance.

His retirement gave him the opportunity to develop his skills in ceramics and painting and his last exhibition was held just four months before his death. He is greatly missed by all of us at Chapman Taylor and the many other people who had the privilege of knowing and working with him over many years.

Nigel Woolner