

Foreword

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FOREWORD

In 1974, the St. John's Law Review published a landmark issue entitled "Symposium on the Law of Condominium." Leading authorities from all parts of the country were invited to contribute their views as to existing problem areas and what to expect as the condominium format revolutionized home ownership in America. Exactly a quarter of a century later, the present Editors of the Law Review assembled a new group of real property practitioners and commentators and asked them to summarize where we are at and what lies ahead as the housing field enters the next millennium. Naturally, some of the problems envisaged in 1974 were either never realized, or were solved shortly after their appearance. On the other hand, difficulties that received scant, if any, attention back then, now hold center stage. Similarly, housing vehicles or entities that might have been expected to be supplanted by the condominium concept (such as cooperatives and home owner associations) have instead grown in importance. Accordingly, the scope of this second Symposium has been expanded to include a discussion of all types of "shared facilities" or "community association" living. A brief perusal of a list of the current contributors and their topics should convince even the casual observer that this Symposium is a worthy successor to the earlier Law Review endeavor in this field.

This Foreword would not be complete without acknowledging the passing of Professor Curtis J. Berger, Wien Professor of Law at Columbia Law School. Curt and I were lifelong friends, and collaborators on many research projects and publications. His learning and style enriched the pages of the first *St. John's*

Law Review Condominium Symposium, and we were scheduled to collaborate again on this issue. I am sure I speak for all real property professors and practitioners when I say he will be sorely missed, both as a scholar and a gentleman of the highest caliber.

On behalf of all my fellow contributors to this issue, I would like to dedicate this Symposium to his memory.

Patrick J. Rohan
March 17, 1999