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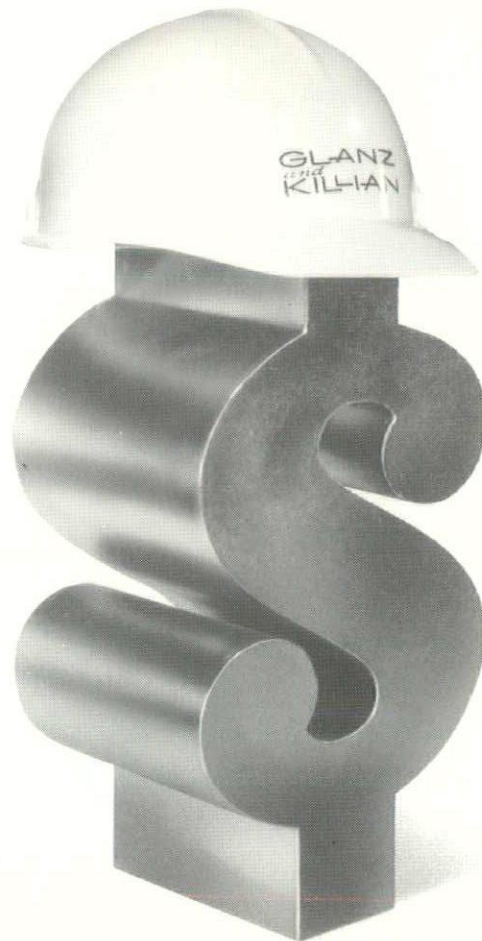
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**Monthly  
Bulletin**

Michigan  
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November 1976  
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# Monthly Bulletin

Vol. 51 No. 11  
November, 1976

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Cover photography and design  
by Balthazar Korab.

The story about Bill Kessler in the last issue was from the typewriter of James Gallagher. We apologize for the omission of the author's name.

The Monthly Bulletin is published by the Michigan Society of Architects to advance the profession of architecture in the State of Michigan.

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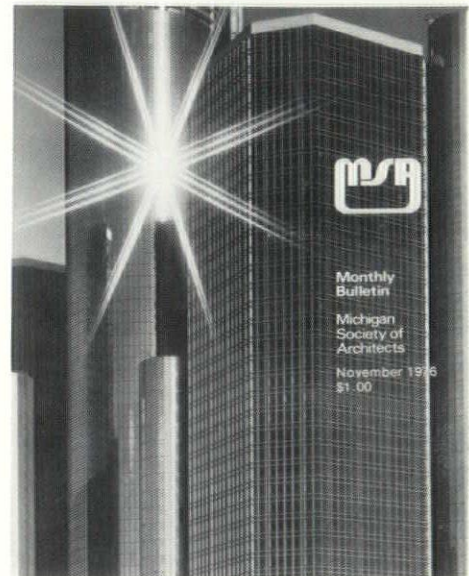
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# Women and the Profession of Architecture

By Joe Neussendorfer

**"Architecture is a super career. It is people, it is life, it is the future. The reward of a satisfied client is supreme; disappointments many. Few of us would even consider anything else. The sex of the architect has NOTHING to do with ability. When the aptitude is there, it must not be ignored. Our society needs the architect."**

**Evie Asken, AIA**

**"I have found through these years of practice that the response among my colleagues, my contractors and clients (if these are men and also professionals) is excellent. It is other women who are the ones that have certain distress and feel uncomfortable in a one-to-one relationship with a women professional."**

**Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA**

**"The profession should consider women as architects first rather than the fact they are women . . . My hope is that our profession will come to accept women from writing specifications to field supervision."**

**Virginia Pinnell, AIA**

Since Mrs. Louise Blanchard Bethune was elected the first woman member of The American Institute of Architects, in 1888, women members of AIA have been going about the business of helping to translate the American Dream into our built environment.

Part of the ongoing history of significant contributions by women to the profession of architecture in American is being created by women architects in Michigan.

Evie Asken, AIA. . . Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA. . . Virginia Pinnell, AIA. . . and Betty-Lee Francis, Associate Member of Detroit Chapter AIA are four of the several women who are making an impact in our daily lives.

This issue of the MSA Bulletin explores their philosophy and outlook concerning their work; reports briefly on AIA's "Affirmative Action Plan for the Integration of Women in the Architectural Profession"; and makes a few suggestions for additional reading on the subject of women architects.

## **EVIE ASKEN, AIA**

Evie Asken's practice is located at 3707 Wedgewood Drive, Kalamazoo. She had the following to say about the role of women architects and the architectural profession:

"Each time I am asked to make a statement about women in architecture or how I feel about women in architecture, I seem to arrive at a different conclusion. It mostly depends on how business is going—which is not a whole lot different for architects in general—male or female. I always try to be as objective as possible and try to keep the 'personal' out."

With this goal of objectivity in mind, Architect Asken went on to say, "Our society is based on humans seeking survival. Necessity required roles and all phases of life accepted their assignments. Our fore-fathers were very realistic in their approaches.

"Today, man satisfies his needs in a *completely* different manner than he did 50 years ago. The roles of necessity have been altered. More brain power has been freed to develop technology, society, medicine, etc. The change has been so rapid, man is finding it hard to cope with the changes."

"Well, the way I see it, we will not be regressing and a revision will happen. It will be a resultant of need, not of organizations, however, the organizations are providing a push. Life will be 'reformed.'"

"However, I am to discuss the role of women in the profession of architecture in 1976 in the United States. It is not easy. Although a woman registered to practice has the EXACT same academic and on-the-job training and has passed the EXACT same examination as her male colleagues, she is yet to be accepted as expert. It seems she must always be tested."

"Even though we hate to admit it, we women are not free to move within business circles. Our approach to new business must be altered from the acceptable norm—perhaps to our advantage, but many times we find ourselves out of the circle and away from the leads."

"I have found that the background and training I received during the apprentice period was lacking in many of the facets of our

profession. It was tunneled and I am having trouble making up the time—especially when my time should be devoted to making the business run. (Fortunately, this is changing!)”

“Architecture is a super career. It is people, it is life, it is the future. The reward of a satisfied client is supreme: disappointments many. Few of us would ever consider anything else. The sex of the architect has NOTHING to do with ability. When the aptitude is there, it must not be ignored. Our society needs the architect.”

#### **GRETCHEN MINNHAAR, AIA**

Architect Gretchen Minnhaar, who was born in Rosario, Argentina, has an architectural practice located at 505B Waters Building, Grand Rapids. She makes the following pertinent remarks about women and the profession of architecture:

“A great deal of stress has been put into classifying the female as something different when we enter a professional career.”  
“Having studied in a foreign country where this difference did not exist, I was educated with the belief that what really matters was if you could do the job or not.”

“In Argentina, Law has 22% women, Medicine has 21% women, Dentistry has 50% women, Architecture has 30% women, Engineering has 5% women, and Veterinarian Medicine has 19% women. So my approach into the profession was devoid of all prejudice.”

“I have found through these years of practice that the response among my colleagues, my contrac-

tors and clients (if these are men and professionals) is excellent.”

“It is other women who are the ones that have certain distress and feel uncomfortable in a one-to-one relationship with a woman professional.”

“It is of the utmost importance that to solve these problems for our young women, we must have more women teachers at the college level, especially if they also in private practice, since it gives the professor a dimension of different value of the solely academic.”

“I also believe there should be more active participation of women in zoning boards, school boards and other local-level groups. I’m talking about the types of activities that are different from the traditional woman-oriented organizations, benefits, art and music, etc.”

“Through these expanded activities, which will reach the general public at all levels, we may end the discrimination and the expectation that only exceptional women can do what any common man does, although it is a rewarding feeling to be considered one!”

“I just want everyone to know that I’m a person who happens to love her career and likes to encourage young women to enter this rewarding and interesting field!”

#### **VIRGINIA PINNELL, AIA**

Virginia Pinnell is Vice President/ Design of Contract Interiors, Inc., formerly Hudson’s Contract Division, 511 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Michigan Society of Architects.

Architect Pinnell, in a recent interview, had the following to say about women in architecture:

“The architectural profession should consider women as architects *first*—rather than the fact that they are women.”

“I simply do not like the myth that exists that just because you’re a woman you can’t do as good a job as a man in the practice of architecture.”

“From a personal standpoint, I have been treated fairly. However, I do know of instances where other women architects have been treated unfairly. My hope is that the architectural profession will come to accept women from writing specifications to field supervision.

#### **BETTY—LEE FRANCIS, Associate Member, AIA**

The following statement was prepared by Architect Francis. It reflects a true love of the profession of architecture and is indicative of the great contributions women are making to the profession:

“The philosophy of a woman architect toward the quality which is produced in the profession should be the same as the philosophy of a man. A woman’s or a man’s professional endeavors should ideally strive for the highest quality obtainable. It is from a high performance level of competence that evidence of quality should be projected and the responsibility shouldered by men and women.”

“Realistically, all architectural products are not excellent nor can one expect a constant singular classification for creativity. Ac-

## Women and the Profession of Architecture

ceptance of ones ability at different levels is of primary importance. The variety of abilities found in persons can be easily accepted and rated on scales that do not favor either men or women. These scales delineate equal value for employment status. Currently men, in general, seem to recognize their employment status. Women are still waiting for theirs to be recognized by men and women alike."

"The ultimate product of one's creation depends upon human ingredients. These human ingredients of design or analytical talent do depend, however, on the employment environment one is in. If the tone is positive for all who are employed, a satisfying product will usually result for the creators as well as the client. Mutual respect for the wide range of human qualities found in men and women working in an office upgrades the finished architectural product and results in an environment for society in general."

"Architecture is an unusual profession because those practicing it come in contact with a wide range of personalities, life styles, and work organizations through client contract. This advantage should result in a more inventive outlook towards one's own lifestyle. The architect is, however, not unlike other professions or industries in not answering, not unlike other professions or industries in not answering the difficult question of adequate work hours for men and women with children. The last hundred years has produced with the industrial revolution a distance between mother-father and children. The sensitivity to life required by an

architect can be easily nourished with working hours that are compatible with family life. Children could then learn from close example and parents could receive another depth currently lost with eight plus working hours."

"The question of where a person fits into their working world contains many subtleties of interaction. The direction of one's responses are often deeply controlled by one's background. There is no doubt it would be ideal if equality existed in pay and attitude; but is it possible for one to side step their background and look fairly at men and women as individuals? If this is possible, then a good product could be accepted and could nourish a better environment regardless of who is the creator. Ultimately, a fine environment would be the total goal. It would be a goal that is recognized first, before the creator."

### CREDENTIALS TELL THE STORY

If you don't think that women architects can measure up to their male counterparts in the profession of architecture, just read, carefully, the impressive credentials of the three women architects mentioned in this article:

**Evie Asken, AIA:** Received her Bachelor of Architecture degree from Kansas State University in 1959. She has been active in the Western Michigan Chapter AIA, serving as Secretary in 1974, Vice President for 1975, and President for 1975-1976. She was also Program Chairman for the 1975 MSA Convention.

Her civic responsibilities include: appointed to the Portage Building

Board of Appeals in 1976; appointed to the Kalamazoo County Economic Development Committee in 1976; and member of the League of Women Voters.

Architect Asken's professional experiences have encompassed both design and execution responsibilities for a wide variety of projects. The following is a representative list of her work:

**BRONSON MEDICAL CENTER EAST AND PARKING RAMP,** Kalamazoo, Michigan. Involvement: Architectural Draftsman—Parking Ramp; Designer—Stair-tower; Project Manager—Corridor Sculpture Competition; Project Architect—Doctors' Suites. Firm: Stapert, Pratt, Sprau, Tower Associates, Architects, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**OFFICES FOR RAMBLING ROAD PEDIATRICS/BRONSON MEDICAL CENTER EAST,** Kalamazoo, Michigan. Involvement: Project Architect Detail and Graphic Designer. Firm: Stapert, Pratt, Tower, Pinkster Associates, Architects, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES FOR BRONSON METHODIST HOSPITAL,** Kalamazoo, Michigan. Involvement: Draftsman; Color Coordinator; Designer—Conference Table. Firm: Stapert, Pratt, Sprau, Tower Associates, Architects, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**OFFICE BUILDING FOR DR. JOHN MICHKOVITS, DDS,** South Haven, Michigan. Involvement: Project Architect. Firm: Dick Slocum Architect, AIA, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA:** Received her Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering from

Evie Asken, AIA was Project Architect Detail and Graphic Designer for the offices of the Rambling Road Pediatrics/ Bronson Medical Center East in Kalamazoo. (top). Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA was Project Designer/Architect for the Krause Travel Agency (bottom).

Lawrence Institute of Technology and a Master of Architectural Design from Universidad del Litoral, Argentina. She worked as a designer for Smith, Hinchman and Grylls and was an Associate Architect of Marvin DeWinter Associates. She has been in private practice since July 1971 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and affiliated with the Grand Valley Chapter AIA.

Architect Minnhaar has been a guest lecturer at several universities. Her drawings and paintings have been exhibited in shows in the United States and Argentina. She is a co-author of the book "Women and Success," published in 1974. She was a panel member for the 1974 AIA Honor Awards, Chairman for the 1975 AIA Task Force of the Future of the Institute during 1974-1975. Just a few of her many projects are:

**BROKER'S OFFICE.** Involvement: Project Designer. Firm: Marvin DeWinter Associates.

**AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIP.** Involvement: Project Designer. Firm: Marvin DeWinter Associates.

**TRAVEL AGENCY, DeHAAN-RESIDENCE & DOCTOR'S OFFICES.** Involvement: Project Designer/Architect. Firm: Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA.

**HIGH RISE APARTMENT BUILDING.** Involvement: Project Designer. Firm: Contech Architects and Engineers.

**Virginia Pinnell, AIA:** Received her Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Kentucky. She has worked as an architectural designer for three firms and was project designer for a range of building types which include hous-



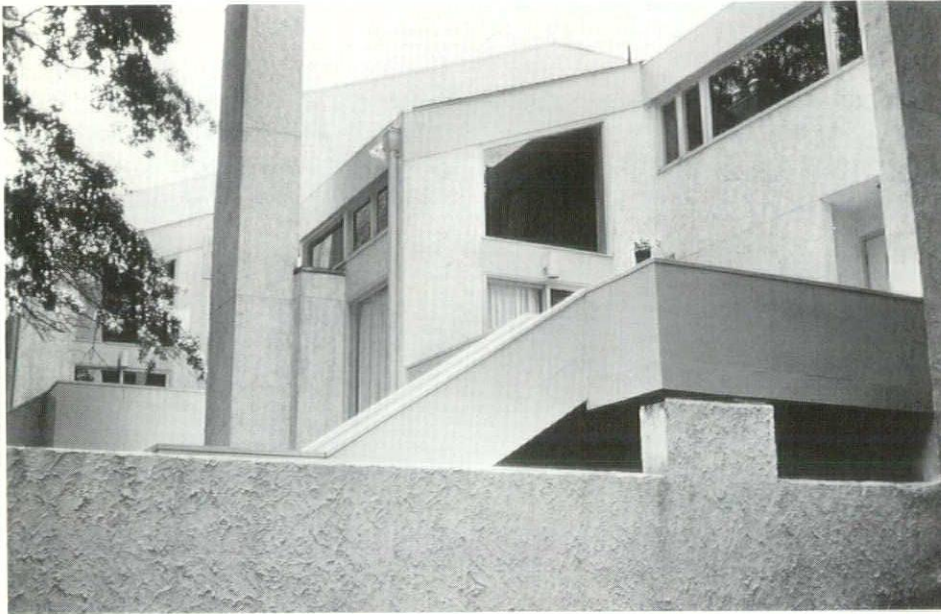
ing, a nursing home and a community center. Other projects emphasizing interior design and environmental graphics included: office buildings, educational facilities, recreational centers and municipal buildings. Architect Pinnell is Vice President/Design of Contract Interiors, Inc., formerly Hudson's Contract Division. She is serving on the Board of Directors for the Michigan So-

ciety of Architects and is active in the Detroit Chapter AIA. Just two of her many projects are:

**EMORY UNIVERSITY, PANHELLENIC HOUSING,** Atlanta, Georgia. Involvement: Project Designer. Firm: Stevens and Wilkinson, Inc., Atlanta.

**DETROIT AUTOMOBILE CLUB OFFICE BUILDING,** Dearborn, Michigan. Involvement: Project

## Women and the Profession of Architecture



Designer for Space Planning and Interior Design. Firm: Giffels Associates, Inc., Detroit.

**Betty-Lee Francis**, Associate Member, Detroit Chapter AIA: Received her Bachelor of Architecture and her Masters Degree in City Design from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. In addition to executing private commissions she has worked for: Yamasaki and Associates, Albert Kahn and Associates, and Meathe, Kessler and Associates. She is on the teaching staff of Lawrence Institute of Technology. She is a member of the American Society of Planning Officials, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, Association for Preservation Technology, Franklin Village Planning Commission and Associate Member of the American Institute of Architects. A representation of her work includes:

**RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE:** Private Commission, Dr. and Mrs. John C. Jahnke House, Oxford, Ohio. Involvement: Project De-

signer; the Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rudolph House, Grosse Pointe, Michigan, Private Commission, Involvement: Project Designer; and the Mr. and Mrs. E. Francis House, Addition and Renovation, Franklin, Michigan, Private Commission, Involvement: Co-designer.

**PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN.** Franklin Master Plan, Franklin, Ohio. Firm: Rudolf Frankel and Associates. Involvement: Student Assistant.

**OAK PARK URBAN DESIGN,** Flint, Michigan. Firm: Parkins, Rogers and Associates. Involvement: Urban Design Director.

**GENESEE VALLEY REGIONAL CENTER,** Genesee County, Michigan. Involvement: Urban Design Director. Firm: Parkins, Rogers and Associates.

**TEACHING.** Woodward East Project, Detroit, Michigan, Design Retreat with students and professionals for adaptive use to conserve historic structures. Involvement: Instructor of Preserva-

tion Architecture for Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield, Michigan.

### THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS' "AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION"

At its December 1975 meeting, the national AIA Board approved the "Affirmative Action Plan for the Integration of Women in the Architectural Profession and The American Institute of Architects."

The plan is the result of two years' work by the Task Force on Women in Architecture, chaired by Judith Edelman and Marie Laleyan; other members were Natalie DeBlois, FAIA, Patricia Schiffelbein, and Jean Young.

Besides the members of the Task Force on Women in Architecture, the following helped with the report: Genevieve Greenwald-Katz, Dr. Lou Katz, James Stewart Polshek, FAIA, and the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture and Planning; the 1974 AIA Personnel Practices Committee chaired by David Bowen; Steven H. Rosenfeld, formerly Director of Professional Practice Programs.

### MAJOR PROBLEMS

The study of women in architecture carried out in response to a 1973 AIA Convention resolution entitled "The Status of Women in the Profession of Architecture" identified major problem areas that form the foundation for AIA policies and actions on women in architecture.



To begin with, there just aren't many women in the profession. According to a survey only 1.2 percent of all registered architects are women, and only 3.7 percent of the entire architectural work-force. This reflects traditional and persistent views of women in all careers and professions; but while the numbers of women with jobs, and the numbers of women entering professions, has been rising, the architectural profession still lags behind many other fields in opening opportunities for women.

The number of women entering architectural schools is increasing but by small and uneven increments. A large part of the problem is that architecture has traditionally been presented to the public as a man's world.

THOSE WOMEN who have become architects have reported a variety of discriminatory practices directed against them. Their salaries are lower than men's salaries—on the average, 28.64 percent lower.

Advancement is another problem: for women it usually stops in the lower and middle eschelons, although sometimes the work is the same as that being done by men with higher salaries and grander titles.

#### **LOUIS de MOLL, FAIA, SPEAKS ABOUT SPECIAL REPORT ON WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE**

The following statement by Louis deMoll, FAIA, President of The American Institute of Architects was made on the issuance of AIA's Affirmative Action Report:

"The Affirmative Action Plan for

the Integration of Women in the Architectural Profession and The American Institute of Architects represents the culmination of two years' dedicated effort by the Institute's Task Force on Women in Architecture, the Commission on Professional Practice, and those who have provided the Task Force with staff support."

"All of us who are committed to a strong Institute—and I believe this includes every one of its members—are indebted to these people for their work toward making AIA truly representative of the profession and of today's society."

"But gratitude is not enough. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan will require positive effort at every level—not only nationally, but within chapters and state organizations, by firms, and by individual members—men and women."

"State components must take action to bring about changes in registration laws, and any other statutes governing practice and employment, which tend to discriminate against women in the profession."

"Chapters must make a particular effort to identify and recruit women professionals into their membership at every level. They must encourage the active participation by women members in chapter affairs, and particularly those areas of professional activity that are visible to the public through the news media—thus enhancing the visibility of women in architecture."

"Women members of the profession and the AIA must accept the task of creating greater awareness among various sectors of

the public—including students and young people. By participating in career days, lecturing to college classes, and related activities, they can through their very presence encourage young women to consider careers in the design professions."

"Perhaps most important, principals in firms must wholeheartedly accept the responsibility for recruiting and hiring qualified women, for encouraging their professional development, and for providing the same financial incentives and advancement opportunities that are provided for male employees . . . This is a commitment that all of us must consciously make—not merely as a matter of conscience, nor of compliance with governmental or other directives."

"If we fail to respond, we will be shortchanging not only a great many talented and dedicated architects and future architects. We will be shortchanging our whole profession."

#### **SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL READING ABOUT WOMEN ARCHITECTS**

*THE STORY OF AMERICA*, published by Reader's Digest, containing a chapter about Mrs. Louise Blanchard Bethune (1856-1913), the first woman member of The American Institute of Architects.

*WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE: A SPECIAL REPORT*, January, 1976 AIA Newsletter (Special Issue), published by The American Institute of Architects, Washington, D.C.

*FROM TIPI TO SKYSCRAPER: A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN ARCHI-*

**Women and the  
Profession of Architecture**

**TECTURE** by Doris Cole, book published by i press, inc., Lincoln, Mass.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION AND THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**, 73 pages, published by The American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

**INDIVIDUAL LIFE EXPERIENCES**, by Architect Gretchen Minnhaar, AIA, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Volume 208, pages 4-10.

**RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

Note: While the following publications do not relate directly to women in architecture, they do, however, contain valuable information for persons interested in studying problems encountered by women in today's labor market:

**HIRING DISCRIMINATION**, Dr. Henry Tosi and Dr. Patricia Renwick, Michigan State University News Release, June 29, 1976.

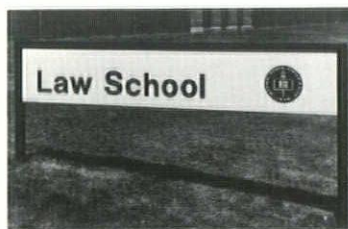
**CORPORATE SEX DISCRIMINATION**, congressional Record, July 19, 1976, page E-3855.

**THE ROLE AND STATUS OF**

**WOMEN WORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN**, U.S. Department of Labor, 1976.

**1975 HANDBOOK ON WOMEN WORKERS**, U. S. Department of Labor, 432 pages. Available from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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# MSA News

## Flint Firm To Design State Park Museum

Tomblinson, Harburn, Yurk and Associates has been commissioned to design the Michigan Museum of Surveying. The museum will be a part of the new state park located between Lansing and Jackson to be known as Meridian-Baseline Historic State Park. The park will be developed by the Department of Natural Resources while the building will be constructed with funds raised state-wide by the Michigan Society of Registered Land Surveyors and the Michigan Surveyors Foundation.

## Ellis/Naeyaert Receives Design Award

Engineering Society of Detroit has announced that Michigan Bell's 4A Switching Center in Saginaw has been given an architectural award in its annual Building Design and Construction Recognition Program.

Designed by Ellis/Naeyaert Associates of Warren, the modern five-story structure houses long-distance switching equipment, administration and business offices.

The Engineering Society of Detroit competition is unique in that nearly 100 industrial, public works and residential entries from around the state were judged on building design, function and impact each project has on the community it serves. Seven important criteria were used in determining the winners; Land Use and Environmental



Considerations; Design; Mechanical and Electrical Systems; use of Materials; Building Process and Construction Method; Energy Conservation; the end use and its impact on Michigan.

One of the eleven projects recognized, the Saginaw 4A Building is located in a downtown urban renewal area, adjacent to a proposed city park bordering the Saginaw River. Completed in 1974, the new 4A Complex enables Michigan Bell to provide improved service, both long distance and local, to the northern part of the state and the Saginaw area.

The 4A building incorporates many mechanical and electrical features. One of these is a special emergency system that, in the event of fire, provides the fire department with remote control of air supply and smoke exhaust

fans. When activated, the system discharges smoke outside the building, thus permitting more effective fighting of the fire.

Added protection from fires is provided by means of an intricate alarm network that employs ionization-type smoke detectors, heat and flame detectors. The different detections systems are tied together by means of a master control center that continually monitors the building's status. In the event of trouble, it automatically sounds the alarm and identifies the location of the fire.

Designed before the present-day energy shortage, the Saginaw 4A Complex employs added insulation in roofs and certain walls to reduce the heat loss. Glass is double-glazed insulating type to also reduce the heat loss. It has a mirrored surface to reflect the

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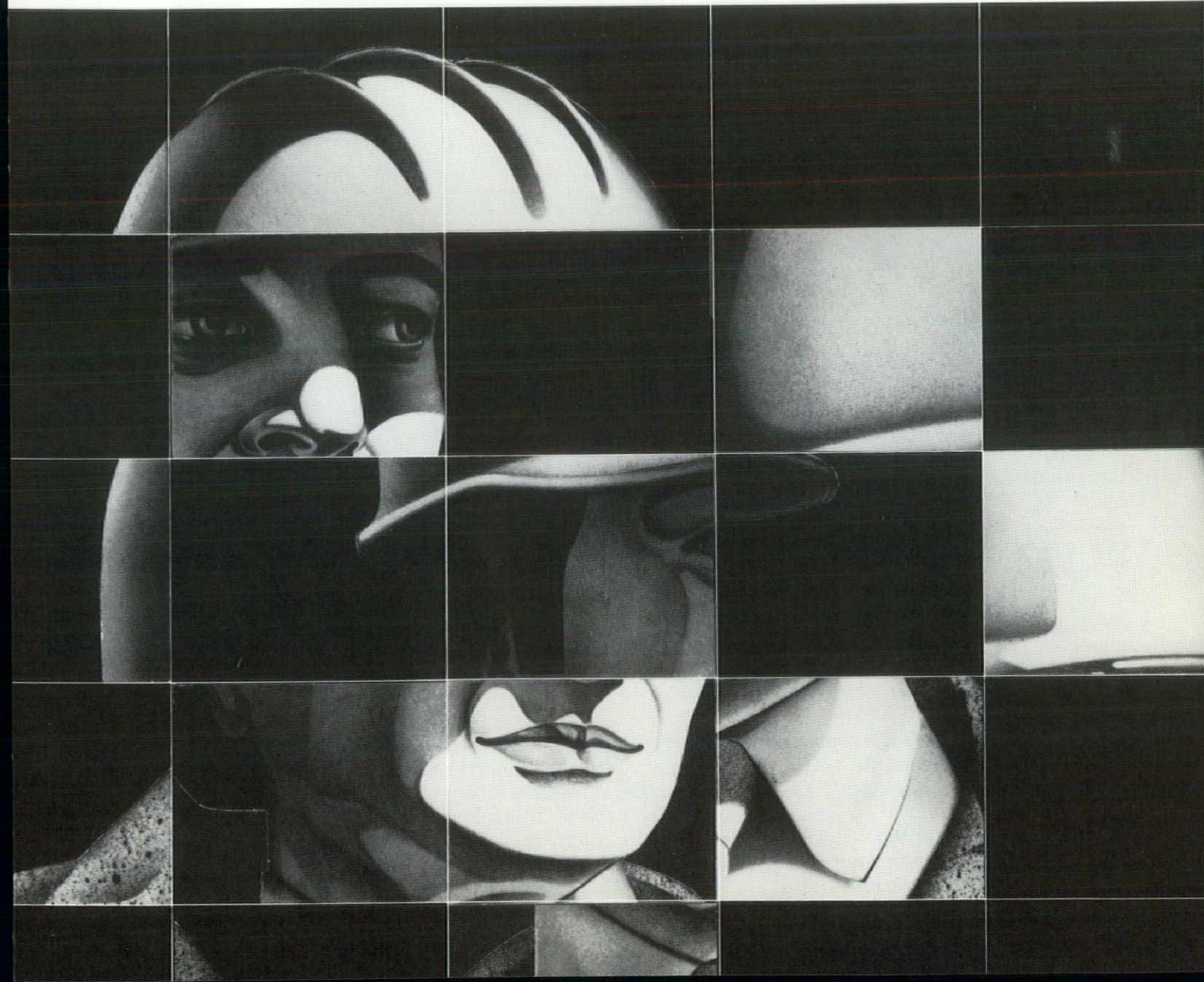
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# GET IT TOGETHER WITH T.S.R.



The award-winning Michigan Bell Saginaw 4A Building was designed by Ellis/Naeyaert Associates, Inc. (opposite page). Albert Kahn Associates designed the new 1532-car parking structure in Detroit (below). It is one of the largest self-service facilities in the country.

radiant heat from the sun before it can enter the building. An economy cycle is incorporated into each air conditioning supply system so the 100% outside air can be used for cooling during those times when the outside air temperature is below the inside air temperature.

### Parking Structure Dedicated

A new 1523-car parking structure designed by Albert Kahn Associates for the Municipal Parking Department of the City of Detroit has been opened.

Located at First and Bagley in downtown Detroit, the structure occupies one city block and is one of the largest self-service angle parking facilities in the country.

Angle parking is provided on six levels, and the sloping ramp design incorporates two-way

traffic. To afford maximum use of available area, angle parking is also provided on the ramps as well as the flat deck areas at each floor level.

The major portion of the parking structure exterior is of exposed weathering steel. Accenting the steel, the two-cab elevator towers at the northwest and southeast corners are of brick, while the adjoining stair towers have three sides of brick and one of laminated safety glass.

Carrying the structural load of the garage are tubular columns of high strength steel, the column cores, filled with concrete, provide excellent protection against impact and bumping resulting from careless parking.

Floors of the structure are of poured-in-place concrete. Ramps to side-walks and elevators, washroom facilities and elevator controls are designed to enable physically handicapped persons to use the garage.

The economical design of the structure resulted in a total cost of under \$5 million. A. J. Etkin Construction Co. was the general contractor.

This First-Bagley Parking structure is the fifth major garage in Detroit designed by the Kahn firm in recent years. The other four are:

1. The City's 525-space underground Kennedy Square garage;
2. Henry Ford Hospital's 870-space garage which won an Excellent Design award;
3. Ford Hospital's 900-space General Services and Parking Building; and
4. The 800-space structure contiguous to Children's Hospital, also designed by the firm.

### Announce 19 Winners In PCI'S 14th Annual Awards Program

Distinguished Juries of architects and engineers recently recognized nineteen winners in the 1976 Prestressed Concrete Institute Awards Program.

Equivalent top Awards were granted to the winning entries for their achievements in esthetic expression, function, and economy. From a large number of entries, seven bridges and twelve buildings and miscellaneous structures were chosen. The latter include: two financial buildings, two office complexes, a hotel, a parking structure, a grandstand, two colleges, a re-



search library, and observation/transmission tower, and a floating terminal for liquid petroleum gas.

The Jury for buildings was chaired by Louis de Moll, FAIA, President of the American Institute of Architects. Chairman of the Jury for bridges was Lester A. Herr, P.E., Chief of the Bridge Division, Federal Highway Administration. Both Juries noted the simplicity and economy of construction in precast and prestressed concrete, and its remarkable esthetic versatility.

They predicted that these benefits would make it the material of choice in a growing number of applications.

Other Jurors were: (for bridges) Gerald F. Fox, P.E., Partner, Howard, Needles, Tamman & Bergendoff; and Joseph S. Jones, State Highway Engineer-Construction, West Virginia Department of Highways; (for buildings and miscellaneous structures;) H. E. Bovay, Jr., P.E. President, National Society of Professionals Engineers, Bovay Engineers; Arthur J. Fox, Jr. President, American Society of Civil Engineers, Engineering News-Record; Fred T. Hollingsworth, FRAIC, President, The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, Fred Thorton Hollingsworth Architects; and John Macsai, AIA, President John Macsai & Associates Architects Inc.

This year's winners are:

UNITED SERVICES AUTO-MOBILE ASSOCIATION OFFICE COMPLEX, San Antonio, Texas  
Architect/Structural Engineer:

Benham-Blair & Affiliates, Inc., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. General Contractor; Henry C. Beck Company, Houston, Texas. Prestresses Concrete; Wolco Corp., San Antonio, Texas.

CENTER FOR CREATIVE STUDIES, & COLLEGE OF ARTS AND DESIGN

Detroit, Michigan

Architect: William Kessler and Associates, Inc., Detroit, Structural Engineer: Robert Darvas and Associates, Ann Arbor. Owner; Center for Creative Studies, Detroit.

An expandable building was the goal, for growing enrollment and multiplying departments. The objective was to be able to add in any direction with a minimum of effort and disruption and no change in character. Also needed was a structural system which would receive the mechanical and electrical services required by almost every space.

The result is an integrated system of precast and prestressed concrete. Hollow cylindrical columns, more than 5 ft. in diameter, contain utilities. Also precast are columns collars to receive beams, the beams themselves, sills for beams and columns, and prestressed hollow-core floors. Beam cutouts accommodate horizontal piping and air intake louvers. The exposed structural system became the primary architectural statement, "uninhibiting, and durable enough to withstand the creative onslaught from a vibrant population."

Jury Comments: "A playful space, illustrating the variety of forms possible with precast pre-

stressed concrete. The pleasing esthetics come directly from the structural columns with their ingenious, knobbed joints, reminiscent of tinker toys."

New Huxtable Collection

No keener mind than that of Ada Louise Huxtable has criticized the American architectural landscape. Individually, her columns are marvels of witty perception, but when gathered together in a single volume they constitute a breadth of vision that is nothing less than extraordinary. In her latest collection, *Kicked A Building Lately?* published by Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Company, Inc. she has assembled her finest work since 1970, when she won the first Pulitzer Prize ever awarded for "Distinguished Criticism."

She wrote most of these essays during one of the bleakest periods in architectural history; economics and expansion had taken precedence over everything, including the environment, and particularly that of urban areas. But despite the rampant destruction of old buildings and the construction of many aesthetically impoverished ones, Mrs. Huxtable celebrates the fact that a significant part of the battle has been won.

"The campaigns (to improve the cities and the environment) are now being waged with the backing of an unprecedented public commitment and a vastly increased public knowledge." Attitudes toward older buildings have nearly reversed themselves;

## TERRAZZO'S AT THE INSTITUTE



The Detroit Institute of Arts is internationally recognized as one of the finest galleries in the world. Conveniently located in the Cultural Center of metropolitan Detroit, the Art Institute regularly schedules special exhibitions in addition to sponsoring educational programs and the performing arts.

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people no longer cry "make way for progress" because they have finally begun to appreciate and encourage restoration. Neighborhood conservation has become a priority in cities everywhere, and the level of architectural design has risen significantly.

Mrs. Huxtable ranges widely. She does not hesitate to attach particular buildings that offend or disappoint her. Of the Kennedy Center she writes that "Albert Speer would have approved" and she criticizes the architect for attempting a timeless design. She says "to aim for something untouched by, or that sidesteps, the moment, is to miss both history and art. The moment contains the stuff of immortality."

She finds that "the art of the city is the most pervasive art of all" and analyzes the achievements of a number of American cities. Chicago is the city of greatest architectural excellence; Houston is an "urban invention" created with "unbashed commercial eclecticism"; and Atlanta is the "instant city." Washington, a frequent target, places such great restrictions on official buildings that many become "aesthetic bastards." With characteristic irony, Mrs. Huxtable remarks that the compromises of design in the nation's capital are symbolically appropriate. New York, with all its unique problems, holds a special fascination for Mrs. Huxtable and of course provides her with a great deal to write about.

Cities and buildings of the past contain many pleasures for Mrs. Huxtable, but while preservation emerges as one of her major concerns, she does not chose her

eyes to futuristic ideas. Mrs. Huxtable writes that "the truth (about architecture) is somewhere between art for art's sake and art for society's sake; but art is the eternal constant." So it is with criticism; in *Kicked A Building Lately?*, Mrs. Huxtable demonstrates that her art will be as enduring as any of the structures that please her most.

## Out-to-Out\*

By Joe Neussendorfer

### We're Rediscovering Windmills!

America is rediscovering its love affair of windmills. The current search for alternative energy sources is sending a lot of architects, engineers and the public back to the history books to learn and revive windmill technology for fun and to help alleviate the country's energy problems.

The use of windmills in America is not a new phenomenon, however, with the advent of the Rural Electrification Act years ago, windmill technology was dropped. Back in December, 1935 the North Dakota Agricultural College published Circular 58 describing "Homemade Six-Volt Wind Electric Plants."

Today, many people are going back to the pre-REA days, studying the windmill technology of those days, and reviving the romantic and practical machines for a wide variety of uses.

One such person is Craig Toepfer of Ann Arbor who has started his

own business called "Windependence Electric Company." He and his wife, Linda, are very excited about the machines of old and their practical uses in today's world.

At the present time they are constructing an approximately 90-foot-high wind structure for the Chuck Tellas residence in Milan, Michigan. The aggressive, young company is very optimistic about the modern-day uses of wind-energy generating devices.

Wolverines throughout Michigan are taking hold of windmill and wind energy technology and having fun along with saving quite a few bucks. The following

is a round-up of what's happening:

- William R. Hershey of 1479 Maywood, Ann Arbor, has constructed a functioning wind-energy generating device atop his house to produce electricity. He is a research associate with the Huron River Group, a local transportation research firm, who spent \$480 and labored for a total of 570 hours in developing his wind turbine.

- Shalmon Michlin, a University of Michigan freshman engineering student, has built a "Tensegritator" on the roof of Alpha Epsilon Phi Fraternity at 1620 Cambridge, Ann Arbor. Built from

recycled items such as Volkswagen auto parts, old bed frames, plumbing equipment and beer cans, the windmill device will, hopefully, produce electricity when hooked up later to a generator.

- Andy Groenhout of Grand Haven, Michigan is reassembling a "Spinnekop" windmill model given to him by Adrian Folkertsmma, who originally built the device in 1940.


- Gene Norris of Cedar Creek, Michigan is going into the business of restoring and repairing windmills. Already, he has established a fine reputation in this line of work.

- Environmental Energies, Inc., a young Copemish, Michigan business, is hard at work developing and constructing wind generating systems. To date, the firm has installed nearly 40 systems powered by the winds. Within two years, the firm hopes to produce a new electric generator capable of providing 25 kilowatts of power just from the wind. They hope to have a prototype sometime this winter.

IN THE RESEARCH AREA, all kinds of things are happening in windmill and wind generating technology. Here are just a few of the many, exciting events:

- Michigan State University's high wind energy project at Hart, Michigan has moved into its second year, with a new grant of \$86,000 from the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA). Hart, with a population of 2,500, proximity to Lake Michigan, and its own power plant, has a good potential

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for windpower as an energy source for generating electricity, the MSU engineering researchers concluded, after their first year of collecting and examining data. They will continue to examine the technology, the economics, and the present and projected consumer needs of Hart. They are collecting wind data from recorders operated at about a dozen sites along the lakeshore, and in Hart and Ludington. Shoreline winds remain high in the winter months from October through March, and decrease in summer, especially in July and August, according to the MSU researchers.

- The federal government is concentrating on giant windmills. A year ago a generator was erected with 60-foot rotors. More recently, General Electric was awarded a contract for an even larger machine.

- An "American Wind Energy Association" has been founded (started in Detroit) and its membership is steadily growing. A real promoter of the Association is Don Mayer, founder of North Wind Power Company located in Warren, Vermont. More than 250 members attended AWEA's 1976 meeting.

- The U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) has authorized a \$112,000 research grant for the University of Michigan to study the question of windmill interference and television signals. There is some concern that an expanded use of wind-energy generating devices may create constant interference of television signals.

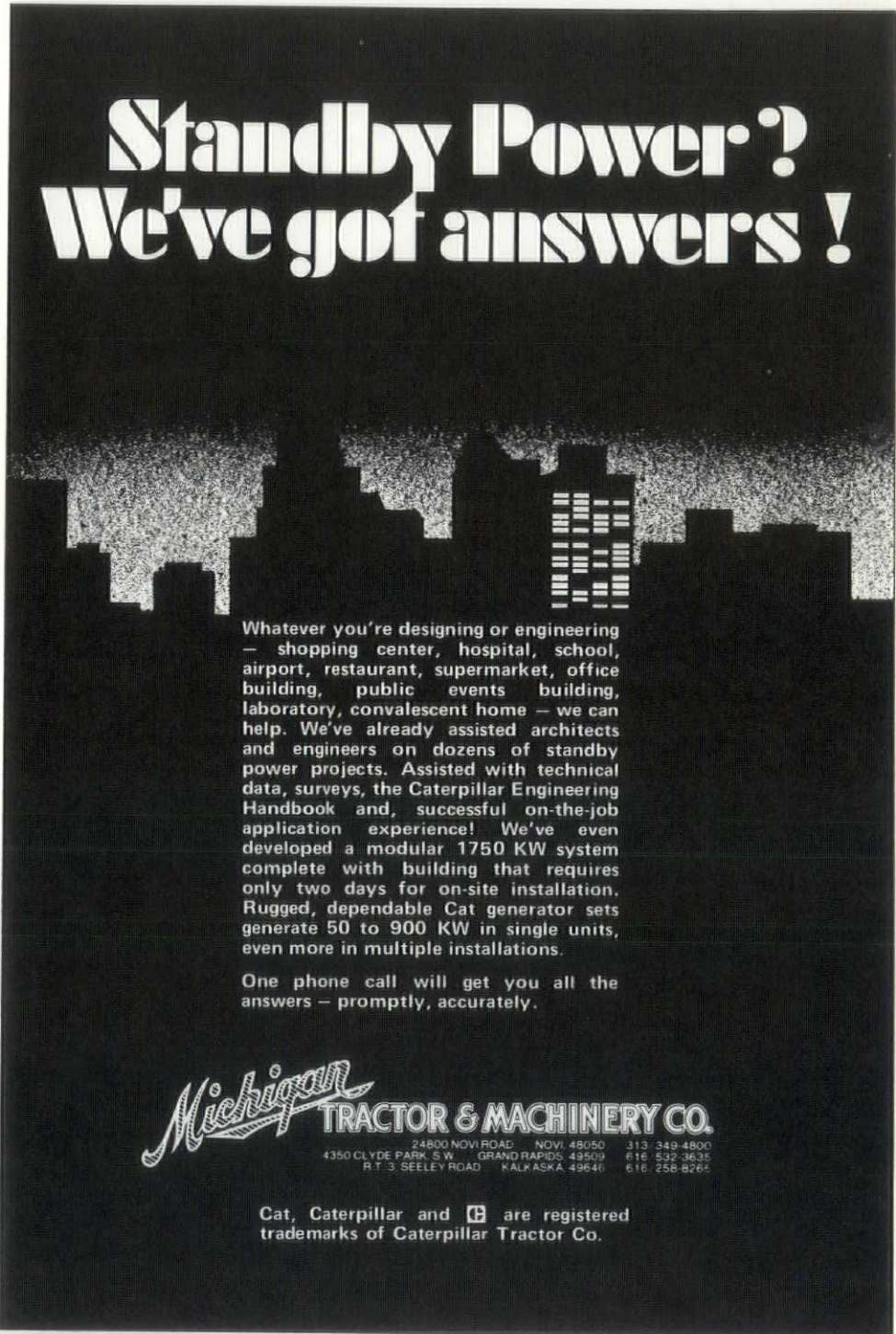
Because space here does not

permit a more thorough picture of windmill and wind energy technology, readers are directed to the following resources for fas-

cinating information about the state-of-the art:

*Energy from the Winds*, brochure,


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available from U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20545

*Architecture Plus* article, May/June 1974

*Watts From the Wind*, article, Michigan Natural Resources magazine, May/June 1974

General Information regarding projects of Windependence Electric Company, write company at P.O. Box M 1188, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

## Calendar

1977

**January 2**

WAL Art Institute

**January 17-19**

Grass Roots/Washington, D.C.

**February 1**

Seminar—Cash Flow and Control Robert L. Teets, Chicago Il. For more information write—Midwest Electric News, 20 N. Wacker Chicago, Il. 60606

**February 15**

WAL Center for Creative Studies

**March 3-4**

Michigan Housing Consultants Conference, Traverse City, Michigan

**June 5-9**

National AIA Convention, San Diego, California

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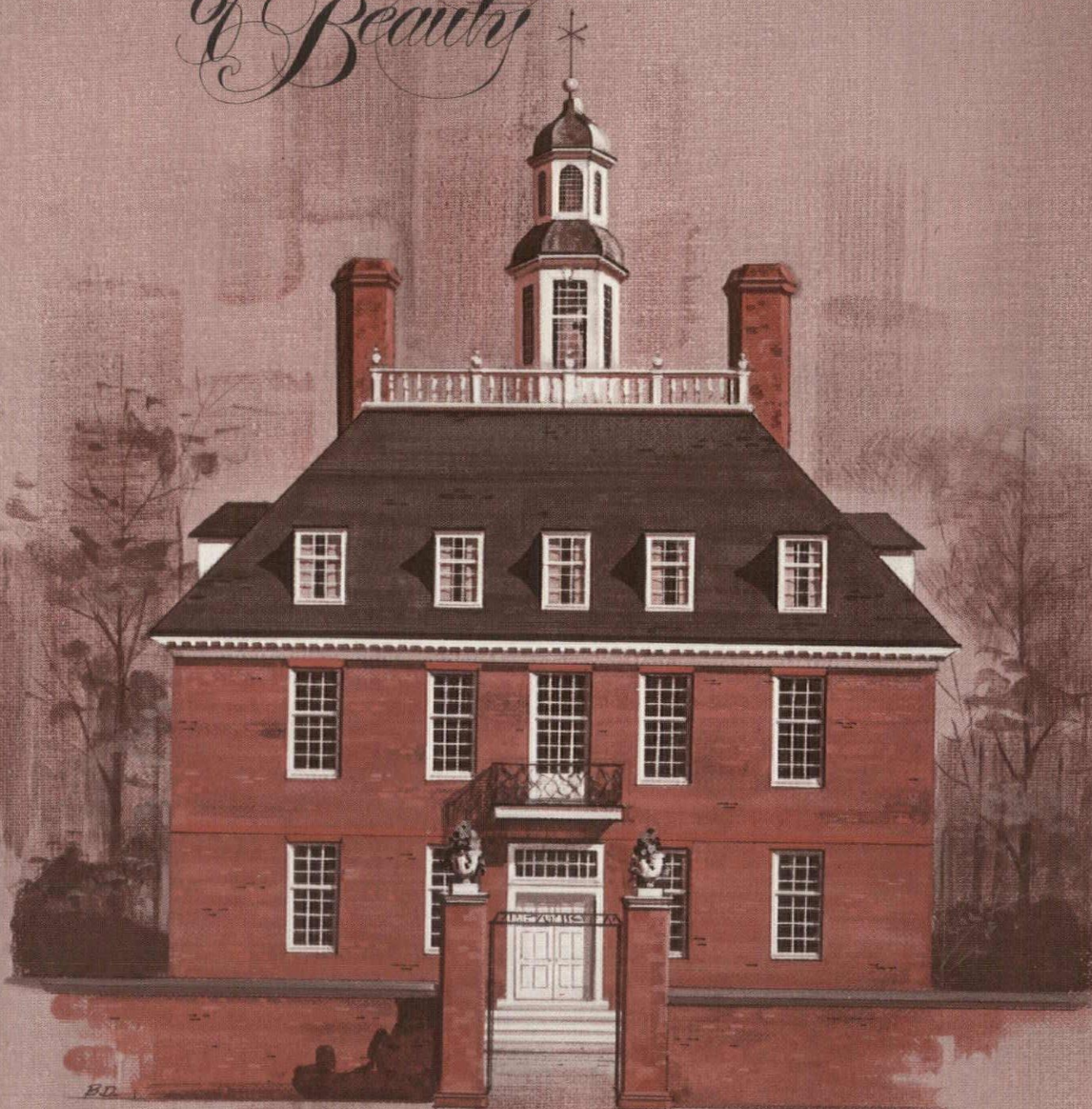
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