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NYSAA

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT

JULY/AUGUST, 1967

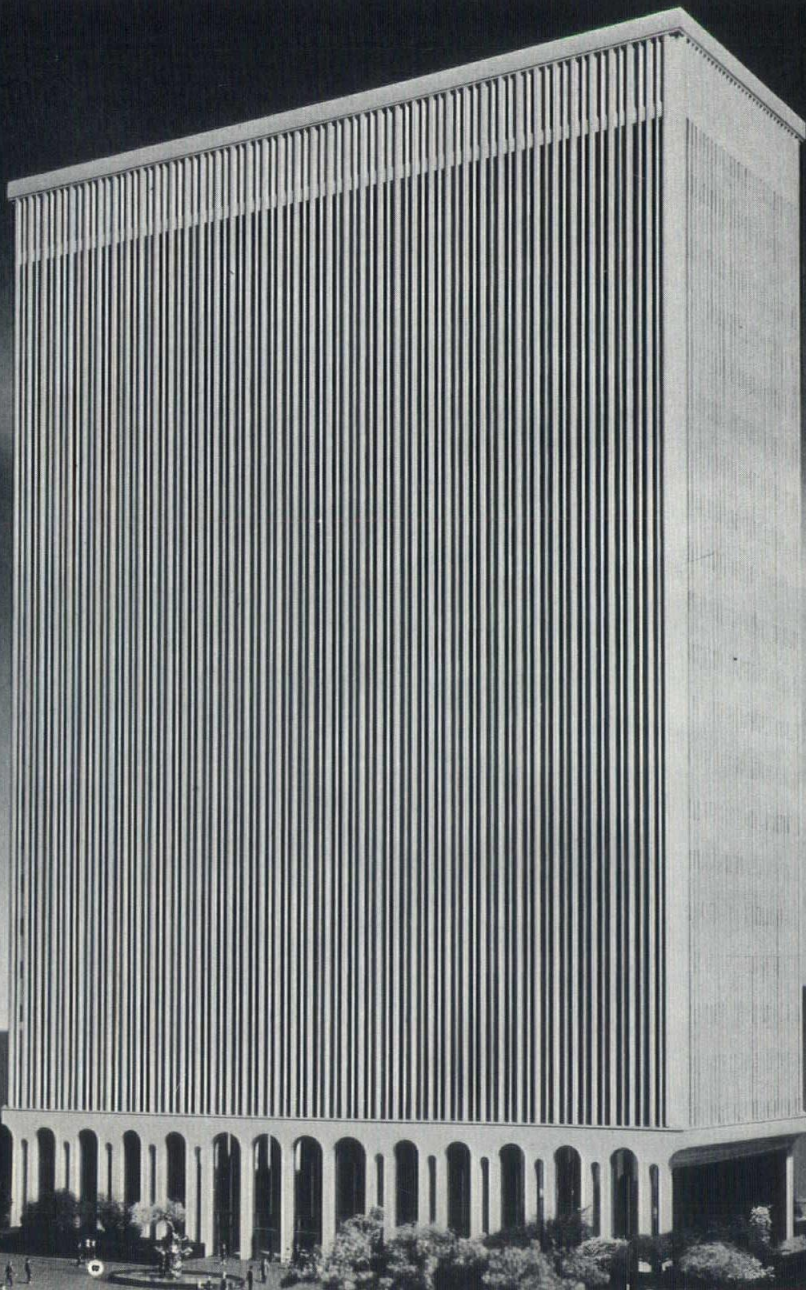
VOL. XXVII No. 4

THIS ISSUE:

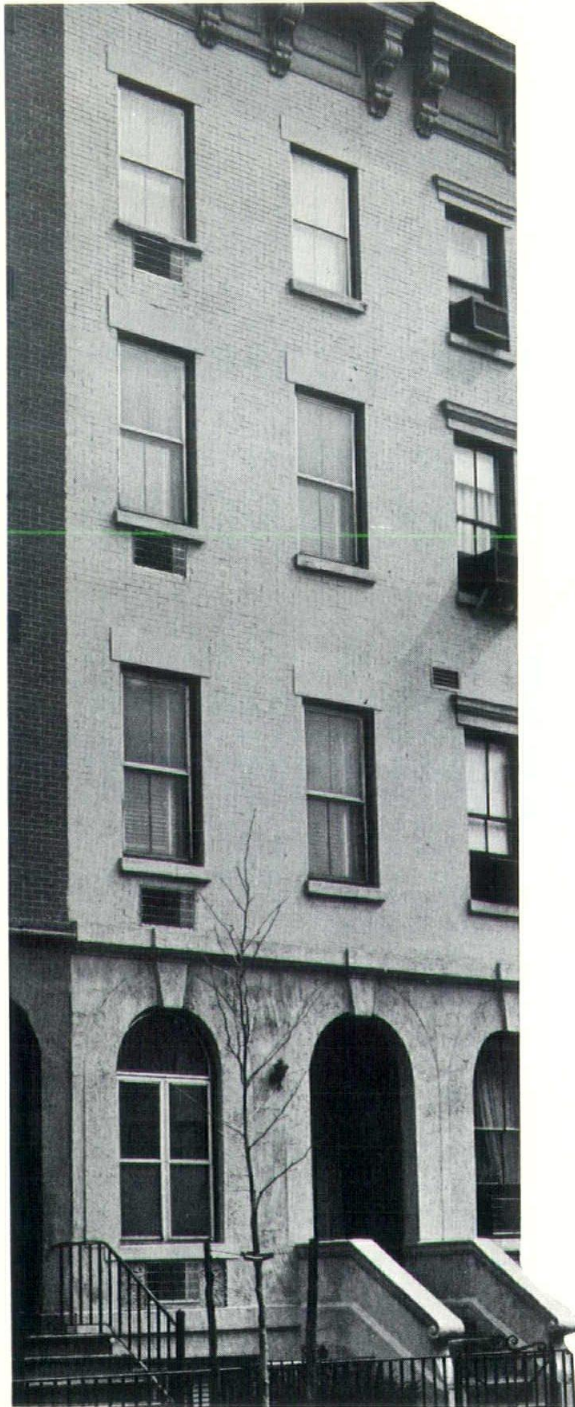
- ONE M & T PLAZA
BUFFALO, N. Y.
- ADVANCE PUBLICITY
NYSAA CONVENTION

NEXT ISSUE:

- CONVENTION ISSUE
- CORPORATE PRACTICE
SYMPOSIUM



New life for old brownstone with modern Electric Heat!



Electric Heat played an important part in the renovation of this century-old brownstone in Manhattan. The owner, Mr. Gabriel Zuckerman, wanted to preserve the old New York charm of his brownstone and yet make it into a *modern* two-family home.

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Mr. Gabriel Zuckerman's brownstone at 487 West 22nd Street, New York City. With Electric Heat a pipe-filled basement was transformed into this attractive living room.

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N Y S A A

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS
STATE ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JULY/AUGUST, 1967

VOL. XXVII, No. 4

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

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COVER: ONE M & T PLAZA
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

(Photo by Sherwin Greenberg, McGranahan & May, Inc.)

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Address subscription requests and other communications to the Managing Editor, Joseph F. Addonizio, 441 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, 10017; and all inquiries concerning advertising to Harry Gluckman Co., 128 South Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York, 14202. All editorial matter should be sent to the Editor, ARTHUR H. DAVIS, 18 Tracy St., Buffalo, New York 14201.

Published six times a year. Second Class Postage Paid at Buffalo, New York. Annual Subscription: \$5.00; per issue \$1.25. Membership Directory Issue \$5.00.

Postmaster: Please send form 3579 to Empire State Architect, 128 South Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York, 14202.



SMÖRGASWORD - - FROM THE EDITOR'S BUFFET . FACING THE ISSUES :

Due to the early date of this year's State Convention, certain decisions had to be made. After the convention is over we will know whether they were correct.

It was decided that advance publicity, particularly the Program and Chairman's comments should be included in the July-August issue to assist all those who contemplate attending, in making their plans well in advance. We also believed that to make July-August, the Convention Issue was premature, and there would have been no way to properly solicit advertising; nor could such an important issue have been prepared to do justice to the Event or to the advertisers. Please make your plans early. Additional information will be forthcoming.

We hope to have the July-August issue out by late July or early August, and the Convention Issue (September-October) out the first week of September with additional convention information. Hope springs eternal!

HEADQUARTERS REJECTED !

As a result of direct contact with the office of Information Services for the AIA, in Washington, it was suggested as premature, any editorial comment at this time concerning the rejection of the new AIA Headquarters Complex by the Washington Fine Arts Commission. It was learned that President Robert L. Durham of the AIA, was attending dedication ceremonies in Cumbernauld, Scotland, but speaking for him, first Vice President George Kassabaum, had issued a statement in essence saying that the decision was most disappointing; but that the report is to be studied at length, and the officers and Board will endeavor to determine the Institute's future action. The Fine Arts Commission's decision is assuredly a blow to the project's progress, and to the unanimous acceptance by the profession.. However, we can once again show unanimity of purpose by sending letters or telegrams to President Durham at Washington Headquarters. As a profession well immersed in ethics and culture, it should so act, and react to the situation.

It seems obvious that a sincere nationwide response from a distinguished profession would lend moral support at least, to the Officers and Board as they ponder the next steps, and come to grips with decisions they must make. Surely such response can do no harm.

In conversation with Headquarters we learned that the Fine Arts Commission was acting under authority created by Congress—the Shipstead Act of 1930. In short the act requires the Commission's approval of any new building proposed for property adjoining or facing Government Buildings. It must be difficult to find property in Washington that doesn't fall into one of these categories!

Needless to say such a Commission has total power, so all we can do is wait Hm! I wonder would a Geodesic Dome on pendentives to embrace the total concept, fronted by something of Dodecastyle nature perhaps compromise the situation and satisfy everyone?

If this is construed as editorial comment I'll blame the publisher!



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Nothing says permanence like Haws rugged concrete fountains . . . whether you want pedestal units such as Model 30 shown above, or a wall-mounted fountain like Model 50-C below. Both are precast reinforced concrete to assure everlasting beauty despite outdoor exposure or indoor abuse. And you can specify in exposed aggregate or light sandblast finish . . . in the color of your choice! Haws pedestal Model 30 comes in 30", 36" and 42" heights, for the tall and small. Indoors or out, Haws concrete fountains will meet your specs. (A freeze-proof valve system is available, too.) For details, write **HAWS DRINKING FAUCET COMPANY, 1441 Fourth Street, Berkeley, California 94710.**



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EVALUATION COMMITTEE REPORT FOR NYSAA

"A state organization's function is of major importance to both the Profession and the Institute, for it represents the architects and all of the chapters and societies in the state in activities of general interest at the state level. In some instances, the chapters and societies will be performing the state level activities. Regardless of the structural organization, the chapter must recognize its role in state functions. It must cooperate fully with the state organization by being a willing resource. It must recognize that some activities are more properly conducted at the state level and not appropriately at the chapter and society level. Multilateral action will assure greater success." (From AIA document "The State.")

With the growth of the architectural profession within our State, the New York State Association of Architects recognized the need for a fresh look at the purposes and practices of the organization. As a result the 1965 convention, by resolution, authorized the formation of an Evaluation Committee. The work of this Committee has proceeded with research and statistical analyses of the many phases of the State Association.

The Committee then developed, in the light of this research and with a thoughtful forecast of the profession's future, a series of recommendations which will, we believe, bring NYSAA, with the help of its constituent organizations, into a more viable and promising form.

The Evaluation Committee was charged with the following duties:

1. To evaluate the functions of the NYSAA
2. To review its methods and objectives.
3. To recommend revised and new functions, objectives and/or procedures.

This condensed report summarizes the conclusions of the Evaluation Committee, of their findings during the period of Committee work 1966-67.

1. LEGISLATION:

- A. To continue the present legislative program in Albany.
- B. To encourage greater understanding and participation of legislative matters at the annual convention.
- C. To develop a continuing legislative program for the direction of legislators before, during and after the legislative session.

2. EDUCATION LAW:

- A. To provide for NYSAA activity; to revise and simplify the Education Law.

- B. To provide for a system of self regulation and a method of grievance committee operation for the architectural profession.
- C. To work in conjunction with the Joint Legislative Committee toward the improvement and administration of the State Education Law.

3. FINANCE:

- A. To retain the present method of financing.
- B. To change the present method of collecting dues with a recommendation that dues be collected through the central office.
- C. To continue the scholarship fund.
- D. To project a budget in terms of services to the profession.
- E. To develop a long term program — 5 year periods for financial projection.

4. PUBLICATIONS:

- A. To continue the Empire State Architect and to evaluate its effectiveness on an annual basis.
- B. To publish a newsletter with emphasis on the effect of distributing during the legislative session.
- C. To improve the financial return level of the Empire State Architect.
- D. To make the publications a strong public relations medium.

5. CONVENTIONS:

- A. That conventions be continued with a more effective pattern.
- B. To carry out efficiently the business of the NYSAA at the annual meeting.
- C. To deal with and resolve problems of the architect at the state level.
- D. To accomplish collectively what the architect cannot do alone, particularly in legislative matters.
- E. To expand the building product displays.
- F. To provide for work shops.
- G. To develop techniques to encourage greater statewide attendance.

6. ADMINISTRATION:

- A. To provide for an Executive Committee.
- B. To revise the committee organization with vice presidents and commissions guiding the activities of committees.
- C. To employ an assistant executive director.
- D. To develop a strong public relations program.
- E. To develop a relationship with all agencies concerned with planning on the city, state and federal levels.
- F. The coordination of central office activities with all budgetary requirements.

TREVOR ROGERS,
ROBERT KAPLAN,
Co-Chairmen
ALBERT MELNIKER
Consultant

May 18, 1967

SEPTEMBER 25, 1967 — MONDAY

- 3 P.M. Registration.
- 6 to 7 P.M. Opening of Exhibits — Commercial and Architectural.
Host Chapter Cocktail Party at Exhibit Area.
- 7 P.M. Host Chapter Dinner — Greetings — Get Together —
Fun Night.
- 8:30 to 10 P.M. Booths Open. Visit Exhibits. 1st Drawing 10 P.M.
- 10:30 P.M. Show.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1967 — TUESDAY

- Registration — All Day
- 9 to 10:30 A.M. Booths Open. Visit Exhibits.
- 10 A.M. Opening Business Session — Reports, Nominations,
Resolutions.
- 12:30 to 2 P.M. Booths Open.
Exhibitor's Cocktail Party — Architects only — Exhibi-
tion Area.
- 2:30 to 5:30 P.M. Seminar—"Urban Restoration"
Simeon Heller, Chairman.
Speakers and Moderator to be announced.
Exhibitors invited.
- 5 to 6 P.M. Booths Open.
- 6 to 7 P.M. On your own. (Informal Party Time).
- 7 P.M. Dinner. Speaker—**Clifford Flather** (Dormitory Au-
thority).
- 8:30 to 10 P.M. Booths Open. Visit Exhibits. 2nd Drawing 10 P.M.
- 10:30 P.M. Show.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1967 — WEDNESDAY

- Registration until 3 P.M.
- 9 to 10:30 A.M. Booths Open. Visit Exhibits.
Recreation—Golf, baseball, swimming, hiking, etc.
Various Prizes. Registration application is to in-
clude request to select which of various activities
is desired, so arrangements can be made. If golf,
give handicap, if any.
Committee Meetings.
- 12:30 P.M. Lunch — Main Dining Room.
- 12 to 1 P.M.
and 2 to 4 P.M. Booths Open. Visit Exhibits.
- 3 P.M. Registration Closes.
- 6 to 7:30 P.M. Booths Open.
Hotel Cocktail Party — Exhibit Area. 3rd Drawing
7:15 P.M.
- 5 to 7:30 P.M. Elections.
- 7:30 P.M. Banquet — Black Tie.
Exhibit Awards—**Arthur Schiller**, F.A.I.A., Chairman.
Architectural Awards.
- 10:30 P.M. Entertainment — Show.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1967 — THURSDAY

- 9 A.M. to
12 Noon Booths Open. Visit Exhibits.
Final Business Session.
- 1 P.M. Luncheon — Host Chapter. Installation of Officers.
Awards and Prizes — Golf and other activities
Door Prizes.
Ladies' Prizes.
- 3 P.M. Board of Directors Meeting.
Departure after lunch.
- Ladies Program to be set up.

ADVANCE PUBLICITY



STANLEY H. KLEIN
Convention Chairman

As Fall approaches, so does our Annual Convention. The New York State Architects' Convention will be held earlier than usual this year, from Monday, September 25th to Thursday, September 28th. The site for the Convention is the Nevele Country Club, Ellenville, New York, which is the smallest of the three "giants" of the hotel circuit in the Catskills. The Nevele is located in a lush valley with the surrounding picturesque mountains as the backdrop. The buildings of the hotel, approximately 100 rooms each, are arranged in a rough semi-circle in a park-like setting. All facilities are within walking distance.

As we have done in the most recent Conventions, we are again changing the format of the schedule in an attempt to arrive at the most beneficial arrangement of the allotted time for business and pleasure. The Queens Chapter has requested a schedule whereby any member who desires can spend Monday and Friday in his office and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Convention, or additional time as he may desire. The schedule, briefly, is "Business" on Tuesday, "Recreation and Com-

continued

mittee Meetings" on Wednesday and "Business" on Thursday. A more detailed program will be forthcoming. This flexible arrangement has been made because of the central location of the Nevele—2 hours from New York, 2 hours from Albany, and 2½ hours from Binghamton.

We expect that the Educational Product and the Architectural exhibits will be superb. The space for the exhibits is outstanding—good visual space, accessible, directly visible and on the main line of traffic to and from the most popular room of any Convention, the "Dining Room."

The Recreational facilities of the Nevele are outstanding. An 18-hole golf course with superb greens, 6 tennis courts, softball, basketball, handball, boating (rowboats and motor boats), fishing (license required), badminton, volleyball, etc. Indoors there is a magnificent pool and health clubs, gymnasium, ping-pong, and, again "et cetera." See the brochures for the variety of sports.

The theme of the Convention is "Urban Restoration." As all of us must realize by now, the largest and most difficult tasks that confront all architects is the reconstruction of all our cities. This is not only a problem of New York City, but Albany, Rochester, Syracuse, Buffalo, and even the small towns and villages. There is much to be preserved, not only to protect our heritage, but to protect our outstanding buildings and natural resources. To tear down an elevated train structure and replace it with an elevated highway is possibly "progress", but scarcely an improvement. This is the theme for our Seminar. Let the opinions be kicked around.

We are all looking forward to an outstanding Convention. Come early, stay late or come late, as you please, but get your reservations in early.

I shall look forward to greeting all of you at the Nevele.

SEE YOU ALL
IN THE FALL

september
25th. thru 28th.

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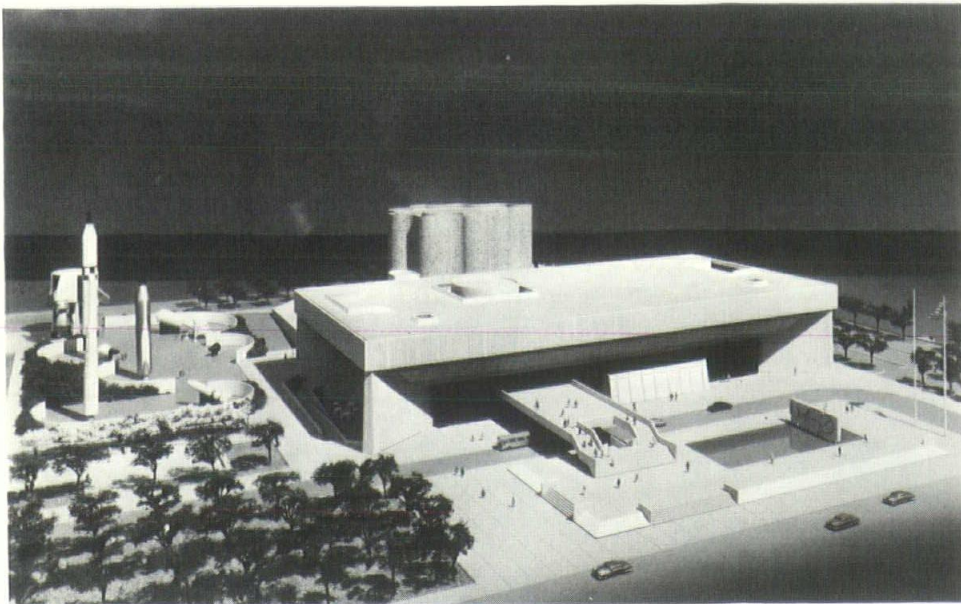
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HALL OF SCIENCE BUILDING

DESIGNED BY THE OFFICE OF MAX O. URBAHN
ARCHITECTS

Mayor John V. Lindsay has announced final plans for a \$10 million Hall of Science Building to be constructed at Flushing Meadow Park, Queens, N.Y., the site of the 1964-65 World's Fair.

Designed by The Office of Max O. Urbahn, Architects, the five-story, 190,000-square-foot structure was termed by Mayor Lindsay, "a truly 20th-Century building both in terms of design and modern construction methods."

Construction of the new building is being entirely funded by the City of New York, and it will be used to house science exhibits, research laboratories and training facilities for New York school students. It will connect with the existing 60,000-square-foot Hall of Science, a carry-over from the Fair, forming a 250,000-square-foot, two-unit facility.

Plans include the addition of an exhibit mezzanine level to the existing building, which will permit access between structures and act as a buffer zone to reduce noise.

"The Hall of Science, when completed," the Mayor said, "will become a cultural center equal to the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center and other such great institutions."

The facility is the first expansion

phase in the development of Mayor Lindsay's plan for an extensive science complex at the Flushing Meadows site. A third building will finalize the project, forming a 750,000-square-foot, multi-unit facility.

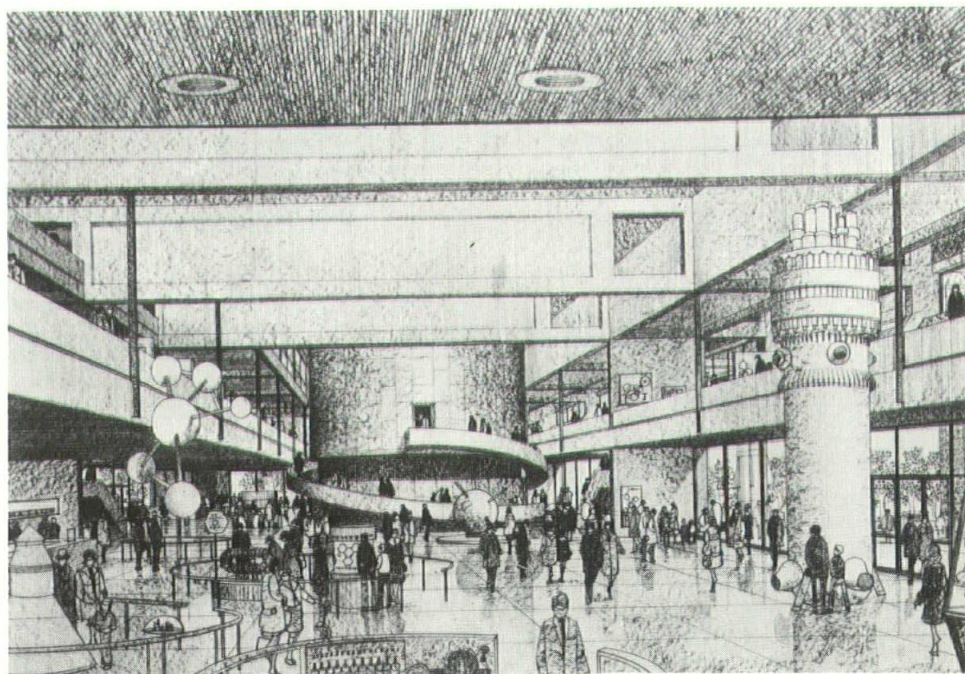
Consisting of a spacious exhibit area, the main floor will be essentially column-free, utilizing four reinforced concrete piers to sustain the roof.

"The open quality of the design facilitates the handling of large crowds without confusion, and furnishes dramatic space for exhibitors," noted Mr. Urbahn.

Focal point of the vast interior, portions of which reach three stories to the ceiling, is an Atomarium, which houses a nuclear reactor being donated by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Rising through all levels of the building, the mammoth Atomarium will be used both for public demonstrations and as a research and education facility. Three tiers of adjustable seating line the upper portion of the circular Atomarium, enabling visitors to look down upon the reactor pool or up to movie screens around the ceiling. The research laboratories in the lower level will have access through the walls of the pool to the reactor.

Overlooking the main exhibition space is the administration floor, suspended within the main roof structure. Large conference and reception facilities are planned to



The Public Relations Board, Inc.

hall continued

accommodate visiting dignitaries and scientific conferences.

Between the primary exhibit space on the main floor and the administration quarters is a mezzanine, designed for small exhibits and to permit total viewing of some of the major exhibits below.

In addition to laboratories, below ground level facilities include a lab-amphitheater where teachers can try out new techniques of laboratory demonstrations, and an audio-visual studio containing a television studio for making educational films and broadcasting educational shows to other parts of the building, and throughout the New York City school system. Located underground is a theater, designed with a revolving stage for scientific demonstrations and dramatic productions.

On the ground floor is a Science Information Center with an extensive scientific library. Almost all material will be reduced to microfilm, using a complex computer center with the latest technology for storing and retrieving data.

The project designer is Martin D. Stein of the Urbahn firm.

Comment on the design concept, Urbahn noted that "the new building was designed as a simple but dramatic statement of architecture, its form complementing the intricate shape of the existing structure, and its scale heroic in order to properly convey the permanence of the new Hall of Science of New York City."

The facility will be integrated into the master plan of the new Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, and will be fully landscaped with walks, plazas, seating areas and gardens.

Construction is scheduled to begin early Spring 1968.

LIABILITY



WARNINGS

An architect was retained to design a motel which was to be located on a river bank. The owner was to act as his own general contractor. The architect was not required to inspect or supervise construction.

The bank which was furnishing the construction loan required an architect's certificate of the owner-contractor's monthly payment requisitions. Since the architect was performing two other projects for the same owner, he agreed to certify the requisitions, as a favor, even though he was not obligated to do so under his contract.

Under the procedure which was arranged, the owner-contractor was to submit requisitions to the bank which, in turn, would deliver them to the architect. The architect would then go to the job site and verify that the work had been completed and report back to the bank. The bank told the architect that they expected him to protect their interests and he agreed to do so, although no fee was charged.

Because of the proximity of the building to the river, a number of wooden piles had been driven to stabilize the river bank. As the building neared completion, cracks developed in its foundation. An investigation revealed that the concrete slab

FAVORS CAN BACKFIRE !

on which the building was constructed was gradually moving towards the river and that the wood piles had not been driven deep enough to stop this movement.

The cost to replace the piles and correct the land slippage exceeded \$25,000.

The bank sued the architect, alleging that he had improperly supervised the driving of the piles and that he knew or should have known that the work for which he had certified payment had been improperly performed. The complaint further alleged that the architect acted in bad faith and was grossly negligent in approving work which had not been done in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The architect readily admitted that he had approved the requisitions without making on-site inspections, but stated that he had relied on the contractor's resident engineer to correctly state that the work had been done, and that he was not required to supervise the driving of the piles regardless of his agreement with the bank. He admitted that the requisition could have been wrong by 5 to 10% but felt that this would not be significant.

The owner-contractor was declared bankrupt and the case was settled prior to trial by payment of \$20,000 on behalf of the architect.

POINTS TO NOTE:

1. When you agree to do a favor you assume a responsibility which can result in legal liability.
2. Don't agree to perform an act unless you are prepared to actually do so.

PEOPLE

GSA NAMES REGIONAL ADVISERS

Ten Regional Public Advisory Panels on Architectural Services have been appointed by the General Services Administration, following up its appointment of a 13-member national panel. Members in Region 2: Simon Breines FAIA of New York, Roy F. Larson FAIA of Philadelphia, Donald Faragher FAIA of Rochester.

RECOMMENDED READING

"A Report on Conditions of the West Front of the Capitol." by the A.I.A. task force. The task force, chaired by Samuel E. Homsey, S.A.I.A. consists of Francis D. Lethbridge, F.A.I.A., John W. Stenhouse, Louis Rossetti, F.A.I.A. and Norman C. Fletcher, F.A.I.A., and these men recommend restoration not razing.

The Threatened City: A report on the design of the City of New

York by Mayor Lindsay's task force, William S. Paley, Chairman. The report divides into four sections: "The Trouble", "Opportunities", "Toward A Method", "Proposals."

Such an all embracing report consists of but 51 pages. Add excellence to brevity and the result is *The Threatened City*.

The McCormick Place Fire — Chicago, Illinois: This report and

recommendations is issued by the American Iron and Steel Institute and designed to present the available technical facts about the building, the fire and to fit them into perspective from a fire protection standpoint.

The Hudson: final report of the Hudson River Valley Commission to Governor Rockefeller. Maps, Statistics, Photos, and History all at chairside.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON RELIGION ARCHITECTURE AND THE VISUAL ARTS

New York — Representatives of every major world faith will meet in New York during August to discuss religion's place in architecture and the visual arts. About 1,500 registrants from every continent are expected.

The meeting, the International Congress on Religion, Architecture and the Visual Arts, first of its kind, will take place at the New York Hilton, Aug. 27 through Sept. 1, and then will adjourn to McGill University for three days of additional discussions and visits to Expo 67.

Among the speakers will be an architect from India, a U.S. Senator, a Belgian Roman Catholic leader, a producer of experimental films, an English university professor, a Chilean author, a French art editor, a museum curator, a city planner from Africa and a number of architects, painters, historians, designers and communicators.

Thirty-five national architectural and religious organizations from 20 countries are sponsors.

This week will open with two days of seminars and be followed by a two-day plenary session. The banquet speaker will be Prof. R. Buckminster Fuller, noted inventor of new structural forms and designer of the dome housing the

United States exhibit at Expo 67. Among other speakers will be U.S. Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff (D., Conn.); Dr. Marshall McLuhan, newly appointed to the Albert Schweitzer chair at Fordham University; Dr. Harvey G. Cox, author and associate professor, Divinity School, Harvard University; Ben Shahn, artist; Rev. J. Capellades, O.P., editor, "L'Art Sacré," Paris; Patwant Singh, New Delhi, India, and M.O. Onofawakan, Western Nigeria, architects and city planners; Arthur Drexler, director, department of architecture, Museum of Modern Art; Lady Glyn, artist and philosopher, Wales; Barnett Newman, painter; Nemesio Antunez, author, painter and cultural attaché to the Embassy of Chile in the United States; Dr. Roger Ort-mayer, art critic.

Also, Rabbi Balfour Brickner, Commission on Interfaith Activities, for Reform Judaism; Dr. Joseph Sittler, professor of systematic theology, Divinity School, University of Chicago; Dr. T. W. Adams, political scientist, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Rev. Frederic Debuyst, O.S.B., editor, "Art d'Eglise," Belgium; Dr. Rudolph Arnheim, author and member of psychology faculty, Sarah Lawrence College; Stanley VanDerBeek, producer of experimental films; Rev. John M. Culkin, S.J., director, department of communications, Fordham University; Dr. Richard L. Rubenstein, director, B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, University of Pittsburgh; Abbé Francois Houtart, general secretary, International Federation of Institutes for Social and Socio-Religious Research, Louvain, Belgium; Dr. Gayraud S. Wilmore, Jr., executive director, United Presbyterian Commission on Religion and Race, and Daniel Callahan, associate editor, "Commonweal."

Participating architects include Max Urbahn, Robert L. Durham, William J. Conklin, Percival Goodman, Morris Ketchum, Daniel Schwartzman, Philip Johnson and John Simonds.

Receptions and special exhibits will be conducted for registrants at the Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Early American Folk Arts, Museum for Contemporary Arts, and New York University.

Highlight of the plenary session will be an exhibit of photographs of 75 buildings on four continents erected since World War II with secular buildings set next to buildings for religious purposes to invite comparisons and criticisms. Edward

A. Sovik, president of the Guild for Religious Architecture and chairman of the American Institute of Architects' committee for religious architecture will coordinate the exhibit and preside at the first meeting of the plenary session.

A highlight will be a theatre happening staged at the Judson Memorial Church in Greenwich Village, to "involve the audience in a multi-sensorial experience."

Session topics for the seminars include "The Multi-Phased Revolution," an examination of the multi-phase revolution in our culture; "Achievement of Values," an examination of the consequences for changes in ethical standards for religious art and architecture; "Emerging New Cities and Their Relationship to Religion, Architecture and the Visual Arts," a dialogue between Asian and American city planners; "Meaning of Place," a discussion of whether places may be set aside for religious purposes in today's mobile society and "Significance of Symbols," an effort to determine the role of religious symbols in modern life including movies made entirely by computers and a "movie mural."

Plenary session topics include "Spiritual Dimensions of Contemporary Art," an effort by artists of several continents to determine what recent developments in the visual arts imply for the religious imagination; "The Proliferating, Unplanned Cities and Their Relationship to Religion, Architecture and the Visual Arts"; "The Future of the Religious Community in an Age of Revolution and Changing Values," and "Arts and Architecture: New Concepts of Place and Symbolism," a study of the "responsibilities of persons from diverse disciplines and geographic areas to share in the creation of visual and spatial solutions for contemporary requirements."

On Sept. 2, at the Royal Victoria College, McGill University, Charles F. Gagnon, artist, will interpret the Christian Pavilion at Expo 67, and Prof. Radoslav Zuk, member of the faculty of McGill's School of Architecture, will discuss "Religious Architecture in Canada Today." There will also be an interpretation of the Jewish Exhibit at Expo 67.

Information about the congress may be obtained from John E. Morse, general chairman, International Congress on Religion, Architecture and the Visual Arts, 287 Park Ave. So., New York, N. Y. 10010.

ANDREW J. THOMAS

F. A. I. A.

A TRIBUTE

The death of Andrew J. Thomas, F.A.I.A. which seems to have gone unnoticed by American architects, brought to me a feeling that a period in American architecture has left us.

I first met Andy Thomas when he was about 84 years old. We were associated on a state housing job. Working with Andy, a gentleman of the old school, was an experience and an education. He was one who knew his mind and expressed his feeling of architecture. Even at his

advanced age he would constantly make sketch studies and spend hours examining plans and details. He was never fully satisfied that he had the best solution.

Buildings to him were an expression of what he considered fine. When a sketch reached a point of satisfaction, his eyes would light up and, with a wave of the hand he would go into a long discourse as to why his solution was good. He was a delight to work with, a great conversationalist and a colorful storyteller. He had a great admiration for fine workmanship — good design, construction and intelligent landscaping were conditions he always sought. He expressed his feelings for buildings as one who has lived with them for many years, although he had no formal schooling. He was a warm, pleasant and sociable individual who loved people and especially children.

Andrew Thomas' later years were lonely. He lived in a small apartment on East 64th Street, a building which he renovated some years ago. His apartment was full of interesting curios, pictures, paintings and drawings. He would talk of his friendship with people such as James Walker and Fiorello LaGuardia, Mayors of New York City,

James Farley and the Rockefeller family. He had pride in a dime given him by John D. Rockefeller, Sr., who made a tradition of giving 10 cent pieces away in his heyday. His walls were covered with pictures of the handsome estate he once owned in Montauk Point, Long Island and a town house in midtown Manhattan.

His last years were colorful and active. I recall having him as my guest at a testimonial luncheon for Harris H. Murdock, F.A.I.A., the then Chairman of the Board of Standards and Appeals. With Andrew Thomas at my table, it appeared that we bridged the past and the present. He knew ever so many people and they knew and admired him.

The profession misses men like Andrew J. Thomas. He was an individual who loved buildings. He was sensitive to all of the things that made a good building. He was a simple individual who had very strong convictions about building, landscaping and the environmental effect on people.

Andrew J. Thomas left a heritage of good planning, rational design and a love for the profession of architecture.

ALBERT MELNIKER, A.I.A.

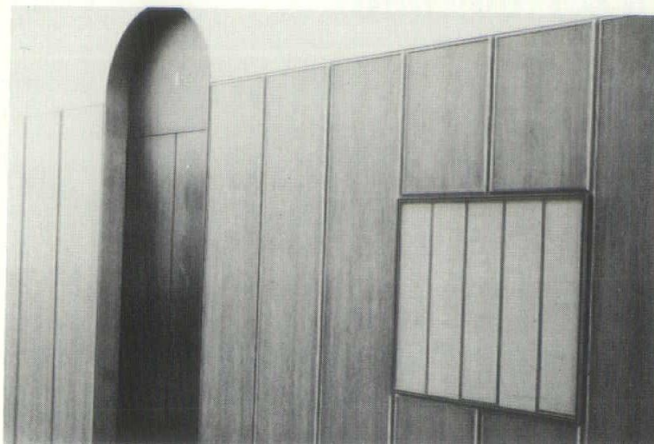
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Photo — Hedrick-Blessing, Chicago

ONE M & T PLAZA

MINORU YAMASAKI and ASSOCIATES

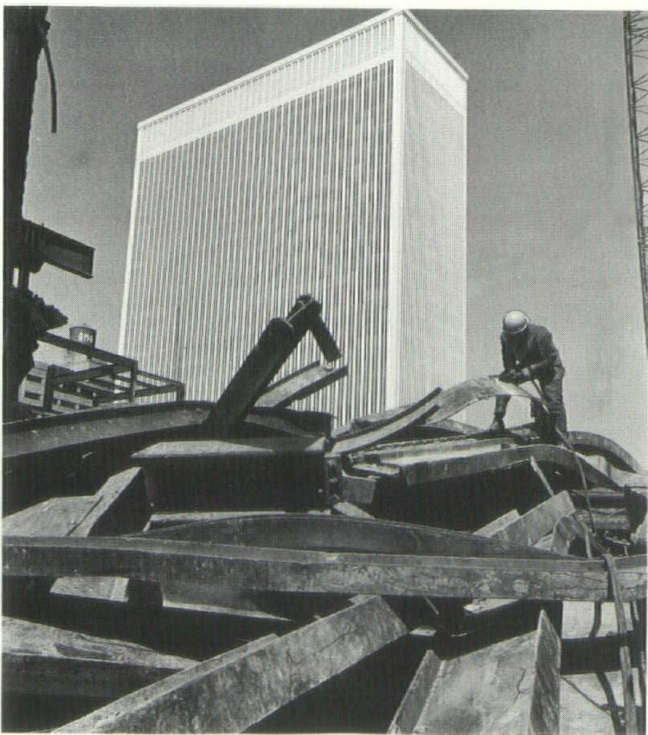
During the last decade numerous American cities have faced the problem of a deteriorating downtown core area. Countless businesses and industries began moving stores and headquarters to suburban locations, emphasizing the need for attractive working areas, accessibility to shopping plazas, and the requirement of convenient and inexpensive parking facilities. Buffalo was no exception. By 1961 only one new office building had been constructed in the downtown area in over thirty years, and major face-lifting operations were a thing of the past. Other cities were doing something about these problems, but in Buffalo it took the vision and unyielding conviction of private enterprise to initiate the revitalization of the downtown area.

M & T Bank, founded in 1856, has had its headquarters in downtown Buffalo since it first opened. Now, one hundred and eleven years later, M & T Bank is the owner and largest tenant in the newest address in downtown Buffalo, One M & T Plaza. This project was started in the Fall of 1961 when the bank announced that it had quietly acquired a non-descript block of old buildings, bounded by Main, Eagle, Washington and North Division Streets. This block was part of an area which had been recommended for redevelopment by the Arthur D. Little Company, consultants on urban development, in their survey recommendations for the downtown core area. As soon as New York State announced plans for the Church Street extension just to the south of One M & T Plaza, formal planning began in earnest. M & T Bank was rapidly outgrowing its space in its old building at 284 Main Street.

In 1963, Dudley M. Irwin, now an Executive Vice President of M & T Bank, was named to head the new building committee and to act as a liaison with architects and contractors for the bank during the construction. At this time the plans for the building were quite indefinite regarding the design and proportions of the structure. But in August, 1963, M & T Bank announced that Minoru Yamasaki had been selected as the principal architect for its new building and that the firm of Duane Lyman Associates, a well known name in Buffalo architectural circles for seventy-five years, would assist Mr. Yamasaki's firm.

Mr. Yamasaki's achievements have won him international recognition. A few of his famous buildings are the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University; the Wayne State University Convocation Center in Detroit; the home office of Northwestern National Life Insurance Company in Minneapolis; and his latest and largest project, the proposed two hundred and seventy million dollar World Trade Center in New York City. Four of his buildings have won American Institute of Architects first honor awards.

In 1964, the completed architectural plans for the new building were released and the John W. Cowper Company, Inc. of Buffalo was awarded the construction contract. After excavation, construction work was begun June 16, 1965, when M & T Bank Chairman of the Board, Charles W. Millard, Jr., officiated at the driving of the first pile, one of 675 which supports the building. On May 15, 1967, One M & T Plaza opened to the public and on June 13, 1967, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller participated in the dedication ceremonies of the building. In the text of his remarks, the Governor called One M & T Plaza the catalyst for the major rebuilding which is going on in the downtown Buffalo core area.



Courtesy of Buffalo Courier-Express

RAZE THE OLD—RAISE THE NEW

The interest and conviction in the future of downtown Buffalo shown by the M & T Bank in going ahead with the new building, had an impact on the total renewal program in the core area. The announcement by M & T Bank of the new building gave rise to a flurry of plans and proposals for the redevelopment of the remaining core area mentioned in the Arthur D. Little Company study. Enthusiasm ran high and new dedication to the job or rebuilding the long neglected downtown core area arose. A coordinated effort was begun by City, State, and County officials, the Greater Buffalo Development Foundation Inc., officials of downtown businesses, and the leaders of the area banks. In 1962, under a \$25,000 grant from the Greater Buffalo Development Foundation, six area architects compiled and submitted plans for the downtown redevelopment. This group was known in the area as the Architects' Redevelopment Collaborative, and many of its suggestions and concepts are to be found, with slight variance in the present downtown core scheme.

At regularly scheduled meetings, announcements came forth from many downtown concerns about new construction to be undertaken. The state lent its cooperation in undertaking the Church Street Extension project and promised to landscape the area surrounding the actual thoroughfare to add to the beautification of downtown. From the beginnings of rejuvenation in the Buffalo downtown area in 1961, 100 million dollars in construction has been undertaken or is in the advanced stages of planning. This qualifies the Buffalo renewal project as one of the largest privately financed undertakings in the United States. To this great private undertaking the state has announced that it has decided to construct a high-rise office building to house state employees in the general area of the redevelopment, though a definite site has not yet been chosen. The Governor has cited this decision as a testimony of the faith the state has in the continued rejuvenation of the core area.

Main Place, the two block shoppers mall located in the core area, is already well on the way to completion. The Main Place project, now underway directly opposite One M & T Plaza, is a major part of the redevelopment plan. It is being built by Hammerson, Fusco and Amatruda Corporation. M & T Bank was the lead bank in arranging for the building construction funds which were made available through Buffalo Commercial banks for this \$24 million project. Main Place will cover a site extending from the present Shelton Square area north over a two city-block area. It will contain a 200,000 square foot enclosed shopping mall, with retail store facilities on two levels, and a high rise office tower. A three level underground garage will accommodate 1,000 automobiles.

Western Savings Bank has already constructed a new addition at Main and Court Streets, while the new 26 story Erie County Savings Bank, at the south end of Main Place, is rising across the street from One M & T Plaza. New federal and county office buildings are in advanced planning stages, and Buffalo Savings Bank has completed a \$2 million addition to its present building.

Comments such as: "It will be the keystone to the arch of progress around downtown" have been heard around Buffalo concerning One M & T Plaza. It cannot be denied that the bank's decision to build the finest building possible was the first major step taken to update downtown Buffalo architecturally, while

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Architect . . .

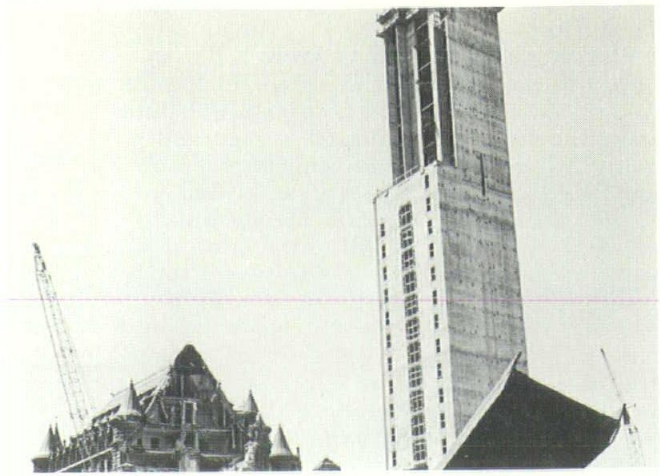
Minoru Yamasaki & Associates

General Contractor . . .

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Courtesy of Buffalo Courier-Express

simultaneously becoming the catalyst to the other projects which were then only in their formative stages.

Mr. Yamasaki conceived the building as both a symbol for the rebirth of downtown Buffalo and a symbol of the progressive spirit of the bank which built and occupies it. The broad plaza in front of the building was designed to create a park-like atmosphere in the heart of a now thriving and revitalized downtown area. The building is surrounded by over 3,000 shrubs, trees and plants, and the State of New York is continuing this theme with its plans for a well landscaped pedestrian park in the center of the Church Street extension. Architecturally, the building is a compelling example of Mr. Yamasaki's new concepts. Taconic marble, quarried in Vermont, is used for the exterior facing of the thirty-five foot first floor and for all of the mechanical core area at the rear of the 315 foot, twenty-one story building. Marble aggregate panels complete the facing, while green trim marble, Verde antique, imported from Italy, provides contrast in the insert panels and the facing at the base of the building.

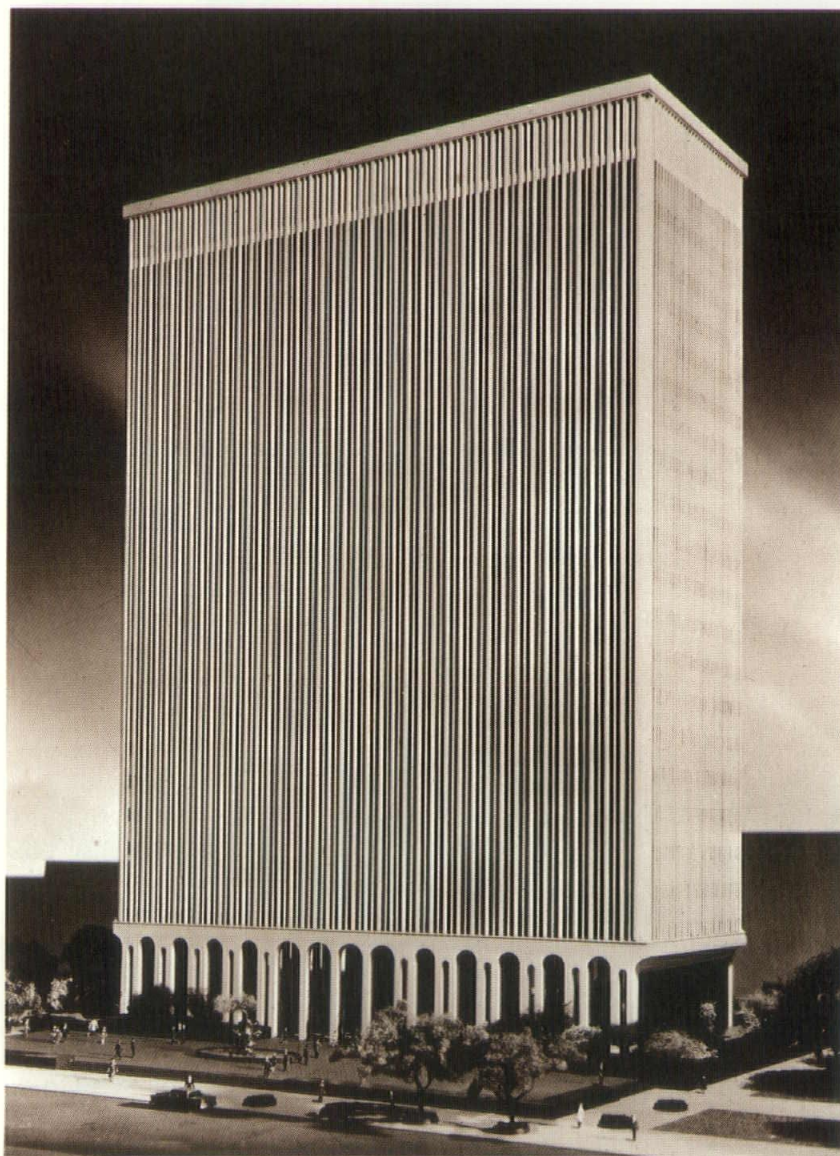
The interior, the basement, first ten floors and the nineteenth, all of which are occupied by M & T Bank, are designed to provide customers and staff with the most modern and functional equipment and furnishings available. Polished teak is used extensively in customer areas, and various bright and low-keyed colors complement each other throughout. In many cases, interior partitions have been eliminated, for the building itself requires no structural columns other than those on the outside perimeter.

The building is not only the home of the M & T Bank but also other prominent firms such as the New York Telephone Company which has taken three floors for its Western New York executive offices; United States Steel Corporation has moved its Buffalo sales office to One M & T Plaza; Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, took occupancy in August; the executive offices of Houdaille Industries, Inc.; many eminent law firms; and the Plaza Suite Restaurant, operated by Service Systems, Inc. As one of the new tenants remarked, "We think that we deserve the best and that's what we consider this beautiful new building." The building was fully leased before completion.

The sidewalk superintendents have now gone from One M & T Plaza, returning only for a quick nod of approval at their work, but they have not left downtown, because in Buffalo these days downtown is "where the action is."



*fine reputation,
like any structure,
must be built upon solid
ground in order
to endure.*



THE JOHN W. COWPER COMPANY

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1967

General Contractors for the Manufacturers and Traders Bank & Office Building



Photo — Hedrick-Blessing, Chicago

CREDITS

Project:

Bank and Office Building

Location:

Buffalo, New York

Owner:

Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company, Buffalo, New York

Architects and Engineers:

Minoru Yamasaki and Associates, Troy, Michigan

Associated Resident Architects:

Lyman and Associates, Buffalo, New York

Structural Engineers:

Skilling, Helle, Christiansen, Robertson, Seattle, Washington

Elevator Consultants:

Jaros, Baum and Bolles, New York, New York

Acoustic Consultants:

Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Lighting Consultants:

Wheel-Garon, Inc., New York, New York

Landscape Architects:

Sasaki, Dawson, Demay Associates, Watertown, Massachusetts

General Contractor:

The John W. Cowper Co., Inc., Buffalo, New York

MAIN ENTRANCE

STATISTICS

The new M & T T Central Bank and Offices will be housed in a high rise structure of 21 stories. The Building facing Main Street, between Eagle and North Division, is set upon a landscaped plaza, 220 feet wide by 75 feet deep with fountains, trees, flowers and benches. The Building, thus arranged, will form an urban square for this portion of downtown Buffalo, which will also be surrounded by the proposed new AMA development, the new Erie County Savings Bank complex and eventually, the Ellicott Square Building after the completion of the Church Street extension.

The unique first floor banking space, facing the plaza, is 35 feet high, framed by arched windows and integrated with the central lobby space to form one great room, 190 feet long and 70 feet wide. The delicately arched, marble sheathed columns, 14'-0" on centers, which support the long span building framing, are made possible through the use of new high strength

structural steels.

Each floor of the Building is served from the core on the Washington Street side, containing elevators, stairways and mechanical shafts. Each typical floor provides in excess of 12,000 square feet of column-free floor space.

The verticle elements of the steel framed tower, above the first floor are sheathed with precast concrete shells, of marble aggregate prestressed concrete, ground to a smooth white finish; these deeply finned elements provide lateral sun-shielding. Hard-coat aluminum spandrel panels and tinted heat-absorbing windows complete the exterior wall system. The typical floor interiors are organized to permit any desired combination of modular office arrangements.

The upper floors are served by a system of seven high speed elevators; the Administrative offices of the Bank will occupy approximately one half of the total building space, with the remainder provided as rental area. The building plans call for a public rest-

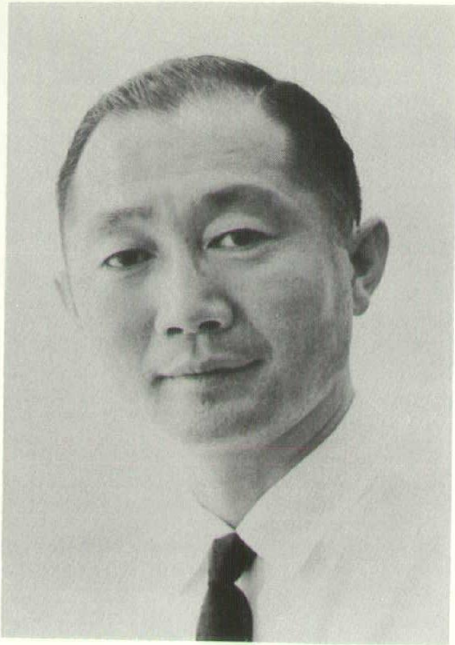
aurant, to completely occupy the top public floor of the Building, commanding a magnificent vista of Lake Erie and a panoramic view of The City of Buffalo below.

The Building is to be completely air conditioned, including equipment which will maintain comfortable humidity levels at all seasons. This complete climate control system will be augmented by a system of air filters, which will remove pollen and other air-borne particles, to deliver thermostatically controlled filtered air all year around.

Each office will be illuminated with recessed fluorescent lighting fixtures; floors will be wired so as to make available electric outlets and telephones at practically any location within the Building.

The top floor of the structure, housing mechanical equipment will be surrounded by a perimeter light gallery, which will be softly illuminated at night to provide an unobtrusive, but distinctly visible landmark against the Buffalo skyline.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL RECORD



MINORU YAMASAKI

Born:

Seattle, Washington
December 1, 1912

Education:

Bachelor of Architecture, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. Graduate work, New York University, New York, New York

Experience:

1935-36 Instructor of Water Color, New York University, New York, New York

1935-37 Designer, Githens and Keally, New York, New York

1937-43 Designer, Draftsman and Job Captain, Shreve, Lamb & Harmon, New York, New York

1943-45 Instructor of Architectural Design, Columbia University, New York, New York

1943-44 Designer, Harrison and Fouilhoux, New York, New York

1944-45 Designer, Raymond Loewy Associates, New York, New York

1945-49 Chief Architectural Designer, Smith, Hinchman and Grylls, Detroit, Michigan

1949- Own Practice, Minoru Yamasaki and Associates, (Yamasaki, Leinweber and Associates) (Leinweber, Yamasaki and Hellmuth), Birmingham, Michigan

GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER'S REMARKS OF DEDICATION:

Excerpts of remarks by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller prepared for delivery at the Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company new office building dedication ceremony, Buffalo, New York, Tuesday, June 13, 1967, 3:00 P.M.

Great buildings can have an influence far beyond the immediate reason for their construction.

And I believe that you have elevated a truly great building on this site. This fine and daring structure — the product of one of America's most inventive architectural imaginations, Minoru Yamasaki — is the home of a great financial institution in this area.

But it is much more. The Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company Building will also serve as a magnet drawing new enterprises to this part of town. It will serve as a catalyzing agent for the renewal of downtown Buffalo.

Already, its presence has influenced the choice of this area as the sites of Main Place — the huge new shopping center going up across the street. At the Southern tip of the Center a new 25-story office building is edging skyward — a structure also in the hands of one of the world's great architects, Wallace K. Harrison.

Your State government is an active partner in this reinvigoration

of downtown Buffalo. The demolition that is being started to the South of this block is a prelude to the construction of the Church Street arterial which will link the proposed Elm Street arterial to the Niagara Section of the Thruway.

I want to mention at this point that our progress in completing the new arterial will depend heavily on approval of the Transportation Bond Issue you will be deciding on election day this fall. So I urge you to support the bond issue. And at the same time, you'll be helping to build a better city of Buffalo.

I also want to take this opportunity to announce that I have approved the construction of a new State Office Building here in Buffalo. State officials recently met with your local officials and civic leaders in preliminary planning for this project. We will continue to work closely with your local leadership as plans progress.

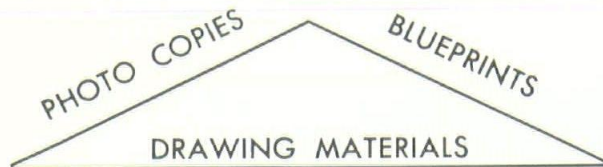
So here we see what I regard as model partnerships in action. We have State government and local government and private citizens working together closely;

— and public funds and private funds invested towards a common goal.

The community is fortunate which has all these forces working in its favor. Today, Buffalo is just such a community.

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PEOPLE

SCHNEIDER NAMED EXECUTIVE ARCHITECT

Sherman Schneider, A.I.A., has been appointed Executive Architect of Charles Luckman Associates, planners and architects of New York and Los Angeles.

Since 1961, when he joined the firm's New York office, Mr. Schneider has been the project architect for Madison Square Garden Sports and Entertainment Center and for the related redevelopment of the Pennsylvania Station. In his new position, he will be in charge of the multi-million-dollar project, scheduled for completion later this year.

He is a member of the New York chapter of the American Institute of Architects and of the New York State Association of Architects.

FINNEY APPOINTED PROJECT ARCHITECT

Everett D. Finney has joined the New York office of Charles Luckman Associates. As project architect with the planning and architectural firm, he will work initially on the new headquarters building for Central National Bank of Cleveland.

Mr. Finney lives at Fairacre, Chambers Road, Danbury, Connecticut.

Among the six regional directors elected to serve on the national Board of Directors of the A.I.A., was Max O. Urbahn FAIA of New York City, New York Region, who will serve a term of three years.

The Governor redesignated Seymour Knox, as chairman of the Council and Dr. Henry Allen Moe, New York City, as vice chairman.

NEW FELLOWSHIP IN URBAN DESIGN ANNOUNCED

The increasing importance of urban design to today's society was underlined when a new fellowship in urban design was announced at convention. The annual fellowship for graduate study will be sponsored by the Lock and Hardware Group of Eaton Yale and Towne, Inc., and conducted and administered by the AIA. It will provide funds for one year of study in a graduate program of urban design, and for a minimum six-week foreign study tour of urban developments. Each annual grant will be awarded upon evidence of achievement in academic studies, as well as indications of individual potential to contribute to the work of an effective urban design profession.

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PUBLIC IMAGE

NEW YORK CHAPTER, A.I.A. FORMS SPEAKERS' BUREAU TO INFORM PUBLIC OF URBAN ISSUES

The New York Chapter, American Institute of Architects, has organized a speakers' bureau that will make leading architects available to business, civic and women's clubs and other groups interested in a variety of today's urban issues.

The goal is to help enlighten the public on topics involving the architectural profession in the city. As a spokesman, the architect is highly qualified to discuss landmarks, housing design, building codes, open space planning and related current events. Pressure in these areas is mounting and the architectural profession must help inform the public of needs and consequences.

Among the topics selected for presentation are conservation (open spaces), airport design, town house restoration, churches, community centers, universals of urban spaces, landmark, restoration of historic buildings, psychological aspects of environment, theatres, and design and corporate image.

Groups interested in having architects address them on any of these subjects can contact the Chapter Headquarters at 115 East 40th Street, New York, N. Y. 10017.

BLIGHT TO LIGHT

Governor Rockefeller announced today that the State of New York will finance an experimental beautification project in Harlem which was proposed by the New York Urban League.

The project involves the conversion of several vacant lots into clean, well-lighted recreation areas. "These areas," said the Governor, "will bring recreation directly to neighborhoods in need, rather than concentrating on a few large playgrounds."

John Mosler, President, and Dr. Eugene Callender, Executive Director, said the comprehensive program will be directed by college students who were once school drop-outs. In addition, the students will be trained as streetworkers in an attempt to counteract the apathy and alienation of so-called "street culture."

Governor Rockefeller added:

"While not a massive program this is a significant step in the right direction. These college students will serve as positive examples and they may help to create new images for young people who far too often must learn the ropes from addicts and hustlers."

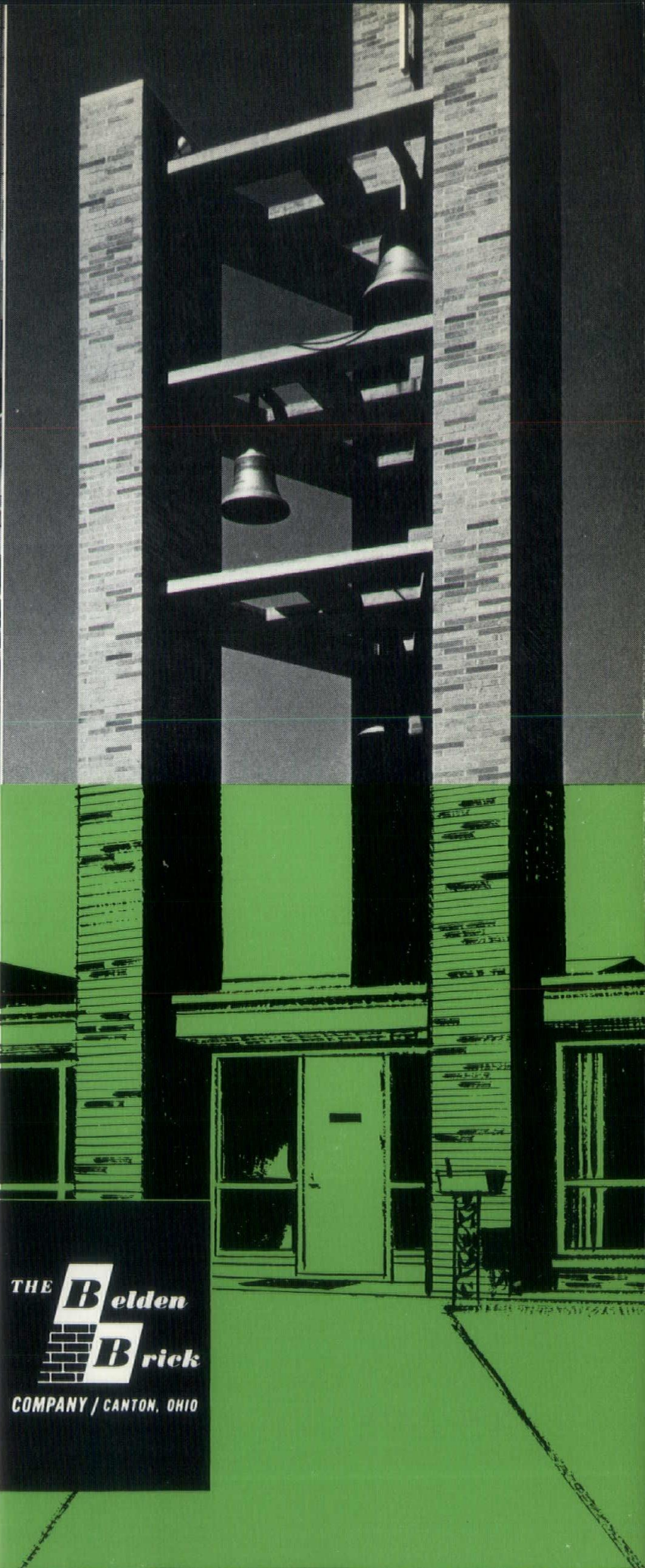
The State's contribution to the project is \$25,500.



***the mood is
Belden...mark
of creativity***

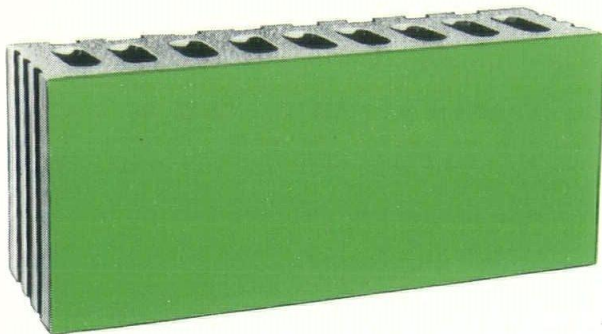
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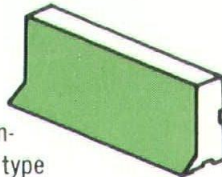
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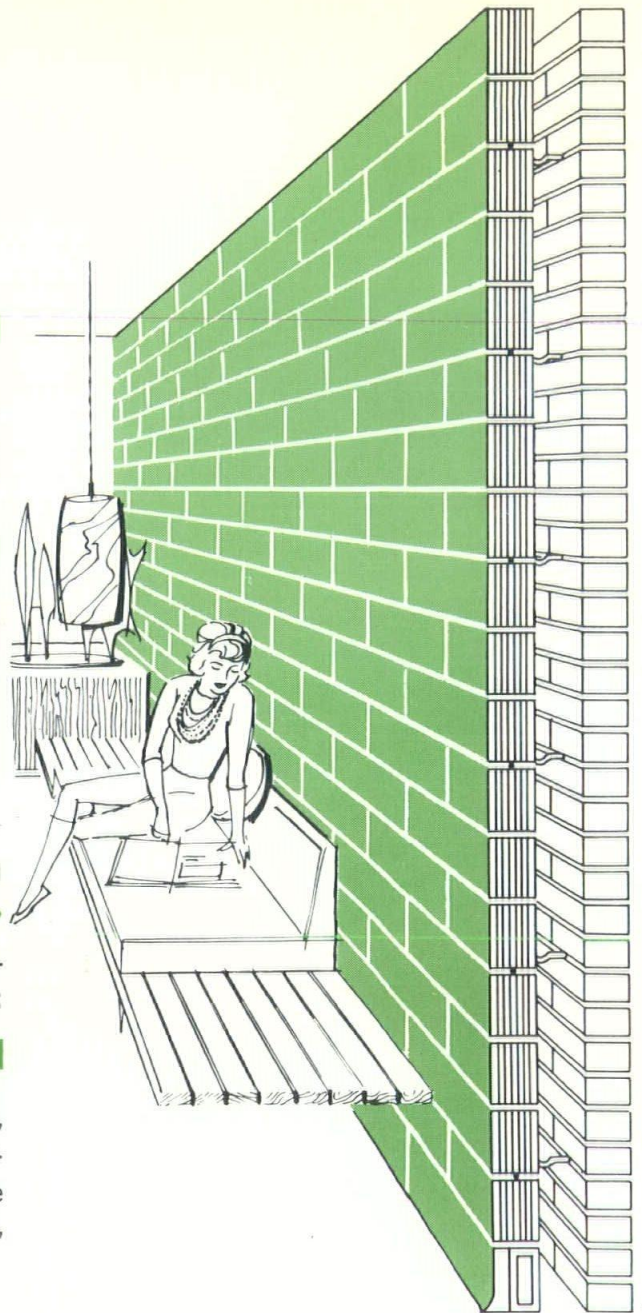
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