IOWA ARCHITECT Spring 1976





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Editor: Bryan Shiffler, AIA, Des Moines

Managing Editor: Julian Serrill, Des Moines

Publisher: Peggy Griffith, Graphic Design Des Moines

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1976 Design Awards:

Presented annually by the lowa Chapter, AIA, the 1976 Design Awards program reflects the wide range of architecture in the state. Distinguished jury members selected a Medal Award winner, three Honor Award winners and six Merit Award winners. Presented in this issue are the awards and comments from the jury participants.

News:

The News is here again! Items of current interest, new firms, recent awards and upcoming events.



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THE JURY

Arthur E. Jones, FAIA

Partner in the architectural office of Lloyd/Jones and Associates. Mr. Jones is a graduate of Rice University and attended Ecole' de Beaux Arts, Fontainbleau, France prior to his joining the firm of Lloyd and Morgan in 1949. The firm of Lloyd/Jones, formerly Lloyd, Morgan and Jones, has been a very active design firm in the Southwest area for many years and is the recipient of numerous design award honors.

Charles Tapley, AIA

Principal in the firm of Charles Tapley and Associates. Mr. Tapley, a graduate of Rice University, has traveled extensively in Europe, North Africa and Central America. In addition to his active role as a Design Professional, Mr. Tapley teaches in the School of Architecture, Rice University and has served on numerous professional and civic committees, relating to the Urban Environment.

James H. Rieniets, AIA

Senior Associate Partner in the firm of Kenneth Bentsen Associates. Mr. Rieniets, a graduate of the College of Architecture, the University of Houston, has been with the firm of Kenneth Bentsen Associates since 1969. As a project designer, Mr. Rieniets has been active in the development of numerous projects executed by this highly design oriented firm.

JURY COMMENTS:

The jury felt its charge or responsibility was that of selecting those projects which best evidenced an achievement in architectural excellence. This by no means implies that we were looking for, or expected to discover the New Architecture. It does mean that selection would be made for those entries which exhibited that which should be commended, especially in this day and time when it is so easy for both the Owner and Architect to sell out to the "package deal".

To those who have received an award in this year's program, I congratulate you and challenge you to produce again. To those who have submitted and did not receive recognition, I congratulate and challenge you also.

An awards program always has its skeptics, it costs money, and you can never count on the jury to view the project with the same perspective as you did.

The only thing an awards program does offer, is that it is a positive action. It is recognition of excellence, in this day and age of the fast track, design build package deal. At a time when the designer is besieged by increased, regulatory restrictions, nonprofessional competition and uncertain economic conditions, it may seem a bit naive to profess achievement in design excellence.

The awards program is one of the few vehicles by which the Architect can be recognized for attaining that which is above the common. If the Architect does not maintain his standards at the higher plateau, those he builds for will never know that higher standard.

James Rieniets

Medal Award

Brenton Bank and Trust/Urbandale Charles Herbert & Associates/Des Moines

OWNER: Brenton Bank & Trust Company STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Vanderlinden & Dennis

MECHANICAL ENGINEER: Don A. Rich, Consulting Engineer

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER: Don A. Rich, Consulting Engineer

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Wm. Knudson & Son

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Joel Strasser, William Plymat, Jr.

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The Owner's program required simultaneous operation of an existing branch office and construction of a new main bank on a busy suburban street. The area around the site is typical of strip-zoned commercial developments, requiring a building capable of making an impact in a visually competitive environment.

JURY COMMENT: A most dynamic and visually attractive form utilizing materials and shapes in a bold manner that attracts recognition from an obvious mundane strip commercial environment. The bold structural roof form executes well the horizontal relief it achieves for incontinuity. The carry through of the concrete materials and the compatible materials and colors utilized in furnishings unifies this project into a totality of design.





Bussard Residence/Des Moines Wilkins Bussard Dikis Ltd./Des Moines

OWNER: Ken Bussard ENGINEER: Terry Shuck, PE GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Ken Bussard PHOTOGRAPHER: Ken Bussard

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The house was designed with two levels to take advantage of the natural slope of the site as well as zone adult living above the bedrooms and the children's living room below. The kitchen, dining, living and deck space are open for entertaining, and elevated to maximize the view over the creek and into the woods.

JURY COMMENT: The siting of the house to the side of the site to retain the integrity of the creek is most commendable and the articulation of the exterior elements is most attractive in the handling of proportion and differing wood forms.









Honor Award

American Federal Savings/Clinton McConnell•Steveley•Anderson, PC/Cedar Rapids

OWNER: American Federal Savings and Loan

CONTRACTOR: O. Jorgensen & Sons Construction Co.

PHOTOGRAPHER: McConnell•Steveley• Anderson, PC

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The program was to provide a Branch Savings and Loan Facility with space to accommodate three tellers, two officers, and a drive-up facility designed to allow for future expansion. The site contained three homes, one of which was a substantial brick structure built in 1888. Rather than build a completely new facility, it was the architect's decision to retain the larger brick home for the main banking space. The two other homes were demolished to provide space for the new drive-up facility.

JURY COMMENT: With a changing economic base and ecology and environmental trends emerging throughout the country, Architects are going to become increasingly involved with remodeling-renovation projects. This one has been executed well.







ND

MAIN FLOOR PLAN

Honor Award

Iowa State University Stadium/Ames Finch-Heery/ Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC, Associated Architects/Atlanta/Dubuque

OWNER: Iowa State Foundation GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Huber, Hunt, and Nichols, Inc.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Joel Strasser, Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The project, as visualized by the owner through a Design/Build approach, required the design of a 40,000 seat football stadium with ancillary facilities on a site within the flood plain south of an existing university center. The ancillary facilities were to provide office space for the University's Athletic Department as well as meeting rooms and locker facilities for the varsity and freshman football teams and visiting varsity team. The program statement required a facility compatible with the existing structure to the north but within a project cost limitation of approximately \$6.8 million dollars.

JURY COMMENT: A one word description for this project should probably be simplicity, which is most assuredly the benefactor of this entry. The gracefulness of the stadia structure is really a thing of beauty.





Merit Award

M.A. Knutsen Inc./West Des Moines The Design Enterprise Co./Des Moines

OWNER: M. A. Knutsen CONTRACTOR: Bill Main; M. A. Knutsen PHOTOGRAPHER: Terry Leonard

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: This existing building had been a drug store and sundries shop for many years. It had been remodeled with the typical glass panels and glass brick popular a number of years ago, which left very little of the original character intact.

The new owner's requirements had these objectives:

- To establish a character which expressed his merchandise, which was contemporary furniture and accessories.
- 2. To compliment the entire character of the business district which was undergoing restoration and revitalization.
- 3. And to meet the constraints of a strict budget of approximately \$9,000.00 which was to be phased as money became available.

JURY COMMENT: This project exhibited an admirable utilization of the original old brick and wood joist construction which becomes a uniform back drop for the display of merchandise. The unusually low budget for this remodeling project certainly did not restrain the designer from achieving his challenge.



Fire Station Prototype/Des Moines McKlveen and Carney/Des Moines

OWNER: Fire Department, Lee Williams, Chief, City of Des Moines GENERAL CONTRACTOR: King-Bole, Inc.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: McKiveen and Carney

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The City's program involves the relocation and consolidation of fire stations by providing five new stations to replace 10 old stations, some of which were built to accommodate horse drawn vehicles. Through this reorganization and the building of new stations, it is expected that the City will receive more comprehensive fire protection and save approximately \$465,000.00 annually in manpower, operating and maintenance costs.

The identical design of each station allows for the transfer of men from one station to another for temporary or permanent assignment and immediate familiarity with the location of all facilities and procedures.

JURY COMMENT: A statement in simplicity, this project's most admirable feature was the restraint used in the fenestration of the exterior elements and the continuance of this restraint to the interior entry area.







Merit Award

Northwestern Bell Telephone, Office & Equipment Bldg./Marshalltown Charles Herbert & Associates/Des Moines

OWNER: Northwestern Bell Telephone Company

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Vanderlinden & Associates

MECHANICAL ENGINEER: Frank Pulley GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Mueller Construction Company

PHOTOGRAPHER: Charles Herbert & Associates

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The Owner's program required facilities for business office and service personnel, switchboard operators, and complex, automated communications equipment to be housed in a single structure. The site is level and in close proximity to the central business district.

The solution seeks to provide both horizontal and vertical growth for future equipment by ordering static functions and a logical circulation system along the street and alley sides of the building.

JURY COMMENTS: A statement in simplicity, this project's most admirable feature was the restraint used in the fenestration of the exterior elements and the continuance of this restraint to the interior entry area.







Merit Award

Cottage Grove State Bank/Cottage Grove, Wisconsin Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC/Dubuque

OWNER: Cottage Grove State Bank ENGINEER: Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Cepek Construction Co.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Joel Strasser

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: A bank in a small rural community having outgrown its outdated facility desired to build a new facility which would allow for its expanding drive-up business. A relatively flat site was purchased at an intersection at the edge of town. Due to the treeless, uninteresting site, it was desired to construct an eyecatching, almost sculptural structure. The angles create visual interest, while the deep angled overhangs protect from sun glare on the interior. The modest budget allowed for an open central banking space which expands visually through glass walls into the drive-in area creating a space which seems considerably larger than its physical dimensions. The space is supplemented by small private offices, conference and work space. The interior space expands outward through areas of glass in several locations which at the same time creates a constantly changing facade as one drives around the building.

JURY COMMENT: The project was nicely sited and the structure exhibits a pleasant sculptured form. A commendable project for a small town bank.





Central Fire Headquarters/Mason City Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC/Dubuque

OWNER: City of Mason City ENGINEER: Durrant-Deininger-Dommer-Kramer-Gordon, PC GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Modern Structures, Inc. PHOTOGRAPHER: Joel Strasser

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The program consisted of providing space to house both present and future fire fighting equipment and for the housing and training of the department's personnel. A four level training tower designed to realistically duplicate actual fire conditions is a vital element of the training program. A multipurpose meeting and training room for both staff and public functions is provided to strengthen the public usage and awareness of the facility.

JURY COMMENTS: A very attractive structure exhibiting pleasant proportions and yet dynamic in the use of mass over voids, and an expressionistic use of brick as a veneer. The practice tower provides a very effective project marguee.







Ruan Center/Des Moines Kendall Griffith Russell Artiaga/Des Moines

OWNER: Mr. John Ruan

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS: Vanderlinden and Dennis, Inc.; Rittweger & Tokay, Inc. MECHANICAL ENGINEERS: Paul A. Walters; Environmental Systems Design, Inc.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Kendall Griffith Russell Artiaga

INTERIORS: Kendall Griffith Russell Artiaga

CONTRACTOR: Arthur H. Neumann & Bros., Inc.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Kendall Griffith Russell Artiaga

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTS: The building houses, in addition to the owner, a bank, two insurance companies, two utility companies, two national accounting firms, two law firms, a contractor, an architect, and a private businessmen's club. The building is leased.

The steel sheath is punctuated with solar bronze glass windows equalizing but onethird of the wall surface as an energy conservation measure.

JURY COMMENT: The usual first floor conflict between the banking element and tower lobby was handled well in the natural separation of the two. The tower has a very pleasant proportion and above the first floor level shows admirable restraint in the detailing of the steel sheathing wall system.







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News

AMERICAN PLYWOOD ASSOC. AWARD GIVEN



The American Plywood Association has recently announced winners in the 1976 Plywood Design Awards program. Of the four categories for judging, the top award was given in only one, Commercial/Institutional. This was awarded to Home State Bank, Drive-up Office, Jefferson, Iowa, designed by Charles Herbert and Associates. A citation award was given to American Federal Savings and Loan Association Drive-up office, Des Moines, Iowa, designed by our office.

The Jury members were William Turnbull, Jr., AIA; John D. Bloodgood, AIA; and Remmert W. Huygens AIA.

KINGSCOTT ASSOCIATES ANNOUNCE MERGER

Kingscott Associates, Inc. of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Davenport, Iowa and Indianapolis, Indiana announces the merger of that organization with Koppes & Company of Kansas City, Missouri. Principals of the firm are James M. Bentley, President, Gordon A. Gibbs, Brooks H. Godfrey, Dewayne A. Leppke, David K. Pyle, Vice-Presidents, and Robert J. Koppes, Director.

Robert J. Koppes will assume the position of Marketing Manager for Iowa, and Managing Director of the Davenport office. Mr. Koppes attended Iowa State University and is a graduate of the University of Kansas.

Activities in the American Institute of Architects include presidency of the Kansas City Chapter in 1969 and the Missouri Council of Architects in 1974.

NEW EDITOR FOR THE IOWA ARCHITECT

Ron Walker has stepped down as Editor of the Iowa Architect, and will be replaced by Bryan Shiffler.

Ron, President of Design Enterprise, in Des Moines, has worked for the Iowa Architect for 8 years and has been its Editor for the past five years. He has been singularly responsible for maintaining the magazine's high quality and imaginative format. Through his efforts the scope of the magazine was expanded to embrace articles from other fields yet of primary importance to the changing role of architecture. Ron will continue to serve the Iowa Architect on the Board of Editors.

Bryan Shiffler, with Charles Herbert and Associates in Des Moines, has worked with the magazine as a member of the Board of Editors. He will take charge of its publication for 1976.



"Depressed about the awards? Things could be worse!"

AMICUS POLONIAE BADGE AWARDED

Professor Donald I. McKeown, Department of Architecture at Iowa State University, has been given the honorary Amicus Poloniae badge by the editorial board of the Polish Interpress Agency, publishers of Poland Internation Illustrated Magazine. The award was given for McKeown's help in establishing a student exchange between the Warsaw Institute of Technology and Iowa State University and for his collaboration in an article describing the exchange program.



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