KANSAS CITY CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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Welcome To

THE 7TH

CENTRAL STATES

Conference

AMERICAN INSTITUTE

OF ARCHITECTS

OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 1952

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

GRAND BALLROOM

HOTEL MUEHLEBACH

12th AND BALTIMORE
A CITY TO RANK WITH THE FINEST.

Most American cities are not pretty. But Kansas City!

How could I have forgotten the wide sweep of the tree-lined boulevards, the sparkling jewel-like view from Quality hill, the breathtaking sunsets you never see in a valley surrounded by mountains, the fairy veil of soft color picked up by the turreted skyline seen when coming east across the viaduct in the evening, the throbbing vitality of Twelfth and Main streets so brilliantly lighted at midnight, the miles and miles of pretty, pretty homes symbolizing a family life and prosperity never dreamed of in Europe, the fun of the zoo and the wild natural beauty of Swope Park, the little parks sprinkled here and there to give pleasure to the eye and cool relief from the heat of asphalt, our art gallery which can compete with pride with any of the famous galleries of the world, the sheer magic land within the stores.

I could go on and on but not without mentioning the most important, the thing that warms the heart and fills me with a glow of pride—the hospitality, the friendliness, the courtesy of the people. And Kansas City's reputation for that has drifted all the way to Europe. I have heard it everywhere, from all nationalities.

Janice Rothen in the Kansas City STAR.
buildings to see

To aid tourist architects who will spend a few days in Kansas City attending the Seventh Central States Conference, we have prepared a guide to the architecture of our century-old city.

This list of buildings was prepared by a group of outstanding Kansas City architects with the express purpose of selecting buildings which would be of particular interest to visiting architects. Each building mentioned has exceptional merit. Some of these buildings we would not call beautiful; some may not stand the test of time and use.

These structures represent some striking contrasts among the architectural achievements of this city.

Here is a record of change, and the course of continuity in the buildings of the Heart of America.

Here then is the best that Kansas City offers to the Architecture of America.

DOWNTOWN

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM
13th to 14th - Wyandotte to Central
Gentry, Voskamp & Neville
and Hoit, Price & Barnes, Architects

A huge building, solving the complex problem of a civic auditorium. Excellent planning for handling of people and a wide variety of shows.

BOLEY BUILDING
12th and Walnut
Louis Curtiss, Architect

Built in 1916, still years ahead of anything built in Kansas City today. Steel frame with set back columns on the street faces. A real curtain wall, fixed glass in combination with ventilating panels below the windows.

20 WEST 9TH STREET
(Formerly New York Life Building)
McKim, Meade & White, Architects

A design apropos to its location. Has lived a long life. Note the striking use of sculpture.

CITY HALL
12th and Oak
Wight and Wight and Hoit, Price and Barnes, Architects

A graceful, stately design representative of the purpose it serves.

HALL'S
1114 Grand
Wurdeman & Beckett, Architects
Marshall & Brown, Associate Architects

Beautifully detailed; refined and subdued background with merchandising value.

MACY'S
11th at Main
Kivett and Myers, Architects

Kansas City's only integrated department store; flexible fixtures, walls, ceilings and lighting.

IN THE OUTLYING DISTRICTS

UNION STATION
23rd and Main
Jarvis Hunt, Architect

Designed before World War I, it still sets the pattern for others. Massive in scale.

LIBERTY MEMORIAL
Facing the Union Station
H. Vau Buren Magonigle, Architect

A fine piece of inspirational architecture. Beautifully scaled proportions and arrangement.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL BUILDING
(Formerly Scottish Rite Temple)
Linwood Boulevard and The Paseo
Keene and Simpson, Architects

Kansas City's best building of period design.

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE
3400 Paseo
Greenbaum, Hardy & Schumacher, Architects

An intricate, delicate, colorful design of beautiful proportions. Tile domes which cannot be duplicated. Exceptional brickwork.

KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE
(New Buildings) 4415 Warwick
Runnells, Clark, Waugh and Matsumoto, Architects

Good planning for a difficult site. Interesting use of materials.

NELSON GALLERY OF ART
45th and Rockhill Road
Wight and Wight, Architects

Monumental and enduring.
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH  
52nd and Troost Avenue  
Barry Byrne, Architect  
Joseph B. Shaughnessy, Associate Architect  
An unusual contemporary church with good plan and excellent unification of sculpture and interior furnishings.

HOME FOR THE JEWISH AGED  
78th and Holmes  
Kivett and Myers, Architects  
A new approach to providing adequate care for the aged.

ADLER HOUSE  
3600 Belleview  
Frank Lloyd Wright, Architect  
Beautifully integrated to its site.

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS  

BROTHERHOOD BUILDING  
8th and Minnesota  
John Maultsby, Architect  
Unique integration of structure and mechanical equipment in this fully air-conditioned office building.

SUNSHINE BISCUIT BUILDING  
801 Sunshine Road  
Designed by company architectural department.

A simple well organized building with clean lines and a typical industrial look. Best looking building in one of the best looking industrial districts in America.

SIDELIGHTS  

For an architect touring Kansas City, we would also suggest a slow drive and a few stops on Armour Boulevard from Broadway to the Paseo. Here you will see all kinds and sizes of apartment houses and apartment hotels, some being structures worthy of note and study. Some are good examples of what not to do in apartment work. At the corner of Armour and Main visit the Berl Berry automobile showroom and service department -- a nice design (by Andrews and Hutchins). Note the Wolferman Store at 9 West Armour, the only decent monolithic concrete building in this part of the country (Edward W. Tanner, Architect).

The Nationally famous Country Club Plaza is located just west of Main at 47th Street. This much-praised, sometimes criticized shopping district is worthy of architectural scrutiny. One of America's first completely integrated shopping districts, (Edward W. Tanner, Architect). "The Plaza" is undergoing some changes to keep pace with the deluge of cars a development of this kind must accommodate, Multi-deck parking stations are now being built. While at the Plaza, be sure to see the new "Summit House" apartment building at 47th and Summit; a trim, big building by Gentry and Voskamp,
BUILDING costs being what they are, Barney L. Allis has not yet brought the Hotel Muehlebach quite to Wyandotte street. There still is space for a corner skyscraper.

But the expanded Muehlebach, with its formal opening tomorrow, will go on Kansas Citians' point-with-pride list. With its new grand ballroom, its new cafe and cocktail lounge and new suites, it is a hotel to be proud of. . . . And Allis appears more than ever a unique and valuable, if sometimes puzzling, citizen.

Hotel men rate him at the top.

In his new planning, B. L. A. has taken himself not upward, a route traveled by many hotel men, but down stairs. His own offices have been shifted from the mezzanine to the "concours floor" below the lobby level. There, eyeing the main kitchen, are the administrative offices. . . . Very much B. L. A. is not aloft, but in the center of the expanded operation.

Halley K. Dickey, publisher of Tavern Talk, who knows the hotel world and has had an analytical eye on Allis these several decades, discusses this most recent Allis achievement, as follows:

"There have been 100-room hotels (in years past) built and furnished for what B. L. A. spent on architectural plans . . . He literally wrote out two architectural firms. Tearing up plans is cheaper than pulling down walls.

"Allis's only regret, according to an associate, was he could not place every brick in the new building.

"Four years ago, before the Terrace Plaza opened in Cincinnati, B. L. A. was there with his architects and consultants, measuring and analyzing . . .

The Muehlebach plans started forming in his mind forty years ago—and have been on drawing boards more than five years.

"Take a look at his main kitchen. There etched in glass on doors to plate warmers are his slogans: 'Handle Food with Loving Care.' And 'Hot Foods Hot.' Also 'Cold Foods Cold.'

"There are five kitchens, main, banquet, Rendezvous, Picardy and coffee shop. He thinks of volume in food and Muehlebach's low prices on food are a matter of comment in trade.

"J. Edward Frawley, former president of the American Hotel association, and at one time with the Muehlebach, said: 'I know of no man who loves the hotel business more than Barney Allis.'

"Because of its maintenance, operation and service, the Muehlebach is one of the luxury hotels . . . Allis like the phrase—'Utility, Service, Elegance . . . USE.'

"Because his heart is in it, this man with little formal reputation became one of the great students of the profession and today is recognized as one of the most successful hotel operators in the country."

Between the Shamrock hotel in Houston and the Muehlebach in Kansas City, an architect might choose to visit the new Texas institution, much as it offended the eyes of Frank Lloyd Wright . . . . But a Hotel man would pass up the fabulous Shamrock to study the new Muehlebach. . . . Harold B. Callies, senior vice-president of the Statler hotels, says it would indeed be an unobservant hotel man who couldn't find at least four ideas to filch from Allis's planning. James S. Jackson.

(From the Kansas City STAR, June 8, 1952, special section devoted to formal opening of new additions to the Muehlebach).
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 9, 10, 11 - Thurs. Fri. Sat.
Central States Conference
Hotel Muehlebach

October 20 - Tuesday
Chapter Meeting
Program by Associates and
Junior Associates

November 18 - Tuesday
Chapter Meeting
Program: Virginia Mackie

December 16 - Tuesday
Chapter Meeting
Annual Meeting

NOTE NEW CHAPTER MEETING NIGHT.
THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.
SAME TIME, SAME PLACE.
BUSINESS SESSION AT 5:30 P.M. SHARP
THE WISHBONE, 4455 MAIN STREET.
The Program Committee states that this sche­
dule will prevail now thru 1953.

October Chapter Meeting

Seminar on the status of the Junior and Associate Member
- in the national organization
- in the local chapter
- in the office

Corporate members of our chapter will be designated to speak for five or ten
minutes on each of these items. Point by point the young men will be per­
mitted to quiz the principals of local firms concerning various topics in the
field of general office practice, the ethics of the profession, the aims of the
A.I.A.

Admittedly, this program covers a lot of territory and could get out of hand.
John Monroe, chairman of the Junior and Associate Committee, promises the
discussion will be well organized and well moderated.

Corporates are urged to attend and express open-mindedly their experiences
and principles.

The young men won't pass up this opportunity to state openly and frankly their
problems and viewpoints.
Resolution presented, discussed and unanimously passed:
That the Kansas City Chapter A.I.A. fully and enthusiastically en­
dorses the proposed Missouri State Constitutional Amendment No. 2
which will appear on the November 4th ballot as offering practical
help to school districts lacking sufficient bonding capacity for their
building needs.

This amendment, if passed, will increase the debt limit of school
districts from the present 5% of the assessed valuation of the district
up to 10% without changing the constitutional requirement that ap­
proval of two-thirds of the voters of a district is required to author­
ize the incurring of bonded indebtedness.

Letter from District Director Bailey read:
Asking nominations for the craftsmanship award of the national body.

Announcement made of the deaths of Frank L. Lang and Robert B. Dearing.
Frank Trask appointed to write memorial resolution on Mr. Lang; D. P. Clark appointed to write same on Mr. Dearing.

Central States Conference Chairman Frank Slezak reported:
Preparations for the event are shaping up favorably, and final "big
push" to stage a really fine meeting is now under way;
EVERY member of the KC Chapter is requested to pre-register. This
will ease the registration task when the visiting architects arrive.

Regional Councils Chairman Joe Shaughnessy presented:
Resolution passed by the 1952 Convention urging the establishment
of a council in each region; A set of suggested By-Laws for the pro­
posed Central States Regional Council.

Moved, seconded, and passed that the KC Chapter propose to the
Central States Conference that a council be established for this re­
gion, and that the suggested By-Laws be adopted with whatever re­
visions the conference agrees upon.

Program for the evening was three color films on Cuba and South America,
presented by Braniff Airlines.

Sixty in attendance.

Practically all discussions was on items to be placed on the September Chap­
ter meeting agenda -- namely, final preparations for the October
conference, the pre-registration of KC Chapter members for the Con­
ference, and action by this chapter in the establishment of a Council
for this region.

Several applications for membership were considered and acted upon. New
members will be announced in a future issue of SKYLINES.

Treasurer Bill Simon reported on the status of the budget:
"Excellent Condition."
MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

Springfield, Missouri, was the site of the first meeting of the newly re-incorporated state association of architects. President Harold Casey was host to the directors and officers at a board meeting held August 16.

A dinner following the meeting was attended by 52 architects, draftsmen and their wives.

Main item on the agenda was a discussion of preparations being made for a membership drive which is expected to be underway shortly. The state board of registration has voiced support of the new state association and has provided mailing plates for all architects registered in the state.

Two application blanks will be sent to all registered architects, one for 1952 (dues $1.50) and one for 1953 (full years dues $3.00).

President Casey announced that Senator McCawley was working on the By-laws and these would be out within a few weeks.

The idea of an Architects Day in Jefferson City was presented and favorably discussed. It was felt that if it were possible to secure a large group of architects, their wives and perhaps their families to come to a meeting in Jefferson City and in a way "Take over the Town" for a day the state legislature might realize that there are Architects in Missouri. It was felt that next April in connection with the annual meeting might be a good time.

New Missouri Roster

During September the new roster of architects registered in the state of Missouri were mailed out by the Registration Board. John M. Schaper of Jefferson City, Chairman of the Architectural Division of the Board, announced the mailing. Mrs. Clemmie V. Wall, Secretary of the Board, Box 184, Jefferson City, has charge of the roster.

Included are the names and addresses of 803 registered architects in good standing as of the date of the roster, July 1, 1952.

In number of registered architects, St. Louis ranks first with 269, Kansas City second with 145, out-state Missouri third with 79, St. Louis County fourth, Kansas fifth, Illinois sixth, California seventh and Oklahoma eighth.

The Board requests that the roster be preserved for possible future supplements which may come through before the next publication of a completely new roster.
FRANK L. LANG, A.I.A.
1888 - 1952

Frank Lloyd Lang, for the last twelve years commissioner of buildings in Kansas City, died last month, following eight months illness.

A lifelong resident of Kansas City, he was a graduate of Columbia university. After a summer of study in Europe, he worked with the McKecknee architectural firm for several years, and later became associated with Wight and Wight. Before assuming his duties with the city, he maintained his own firm ten years. Buildings he worked on include the Nelson gallery, Mercy and St. Joseph's hospitals and several Kansas City churches.

ROBERT B. DEARING, A.I.A.
1906 - 1952

Bob Dearing, born in Des Moines, Iowa, May 7, 1906, died in Columbia, Missouri, September 15, 1952, after a long illness.

His early career as an architect began in St. Louis offices and at Washington University. He had practiced in Columbia since 1931. For nine years he was in partnership with D. P. Clark, also of Columbia. During World War II Dearing worked at military airport planning in Missouri and Kansas, and later was with the Army Engineers in Europe.
## Fall and Winter Adult Activities and Classes

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<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
<td>4 Oct. 6, 1952</td>
<td>Certificate $5.00</td>
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<td><strong>HOME CHRISTMAS</strong></td>
<td>7:30-9:30</td>
<td>6 Oct. 6, 1952</td>
<td>Certificate $5.00</td>
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<td><strong>LUMBERMANS' NIGHT SCHOOL</strong></td>
<td>7:30-10:00</td>
<td>10 Oct. 14, 1952</td>
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<td><strong>PURCHASING AGENTS FORUM</strong></td>
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<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
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<td>6 Feb. 4, 1953</td>
<td>Certificate $5.00</td>
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He is a graduate civil engineer of the Rolla School of Mines and a Junior Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

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