

PS
AZ
LIB
C2

SKYLINES



APRIL

1955

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER AIA

PRESIDENT	William H. Simon 25 East 12th Street
VICE-PRESIDENT	Frank R. Slezak 18 East 11th Street
TREASURER	John C. Monroe, Jr. 818 Grand Avenue
SECRETARY	Donald R. Hollis 9423 West 80th Street Overland Park, Kansas
DIRECTORS	Edmund L. Bower 3543 Broadway (1957) I. L. Roark, Jr. 7133 West 80th Street Overland Park, Kansas (1956) John T. Murphy 15 West 10th Street (1955)
CHAPTER OFFICE	818 Grand Avenue Four Two Nine Scarritt Bldg. VI 9737 Betty J. Martin, Secretary

SKYLINES

Published monthly by the Kansas City
Chapter of The American Institute of
Architects.

EDITOR	Frank V. Grimaldi 3543 Broadway Kansas City, Missouri
--------	---

Skylines

Volume Five, Number Four

April, 1955

Submissions for work eligible for Medal Awards are due Friday, April 15, 1955, and presentation of the awards will be made at the next chapter meeting to be held

Tuesday, April 19.

Complete details on the meeting will be included in the regular meeting notice.

Awards chairman J. B. Shaughnessy announces three outstanding architects to serve as judges for the 1955 KC Chapter recognition for outstanding buildings built during the past year:

Harold T. Spitznagel, AIA, Sioux Falls, S.D.

**Floyd O. Wolfenbarger, AIA, Manhattan,
Kansas**

John M. Rowlett, Oklahoma City, Okla.

These men will review the submissions and make their decisions the weekend preceding the chapter meeting. Following precedent of other years, a "Certificate of Award" will be given to each outstanding of design for a complete building and a "Special Award" will be given each outstanding feature or detail on buildings completed during 1954.

editorial

Reprinted from the Cleveland Plain-Dealer

Is it because our history does not extend back to the days of moated castles and Renaissance cathedrals that we are so careless of the inheritance from our past? Have we as a people subconsciously taken the attitude that in America there is nothing old enough worth preserving?

Whatever the reason, there is a tendency to tear down old homes and public buildings that are architectural treasures of the past. Unless there is some association with the famous men in our history, and sometimes even then, we have a passion for substituting steel, aluminum and glass and ranch type dwellings for the treasures of yesteryear.

A case has just come to light in the Hudson River valley where the great regency house built in 1792 by Staats Morris Dyckman, founder of the famous New York family, was sold to a wrecker for \$35. The wrecker turned around and resold the pillared front with its balcony, an historic bit of American architecture, to a contractor for \$2,000.

At least that much of the old mansion will be preserved, but the rest, unless the historical societies of New York state that have intervened can do something, will be sold as kindling wood.

What is needed is not the preservation or restoration of Williamsburgs or Schoenbruns, fine as these are, but greater care in saving individual structures from the ax of the wrecker. This country will have little to show of its past unless historical societies, states and local governments employ a keener sense of the historical and the beautiful.

All members
of the Kansas City Chapter AIA
are invited to a
dinner meeting
of the KC Chapter Producers' Council
to be held at 6:00 P. M.
Tuesday, April 26
at the Hotel Muehlebach.
Your host will be

Armstrong Cork Company



Mr. R. C. Stabern will conduct a presentation of 130 color slides illustrating the use of Armstrong's resilient flooring materials, industrial insulations, wall coverings and acoustical products. Mr. Stabern is Director of the Armstrong Bureau of Merchandising. New materials recently announced by the company will be featured and product displays will be on exhibit.

CREDIT FOR THE DESIGN

ARCHITECT CHIEFLY RESPONSIBLE
FOR HOME'S LIVABILITY.

**If Buyer Is Happy With His
House, It Depends Largely on
Care With Which This
Expert Works.**

One person is largely responsible for whether you are happy when building your home, and happy with the home you get.

That man is the architect. But, he is much more than the man who simply draws up the plans, as many people think. He can take most of the responsibility of building operation off your hands, and give you a better home for your family than you could get any other way.

Here are some specific functions of any architect.

Studying your needs. No two families live alike, and, ideally, no two families should have homes that are alike. The architect finds out how you live and what you need in a house, then plans it around those facts.

Choosing a site. An architect often advises on the building site. Or, if you already have land, he determines the best location for it for the home.

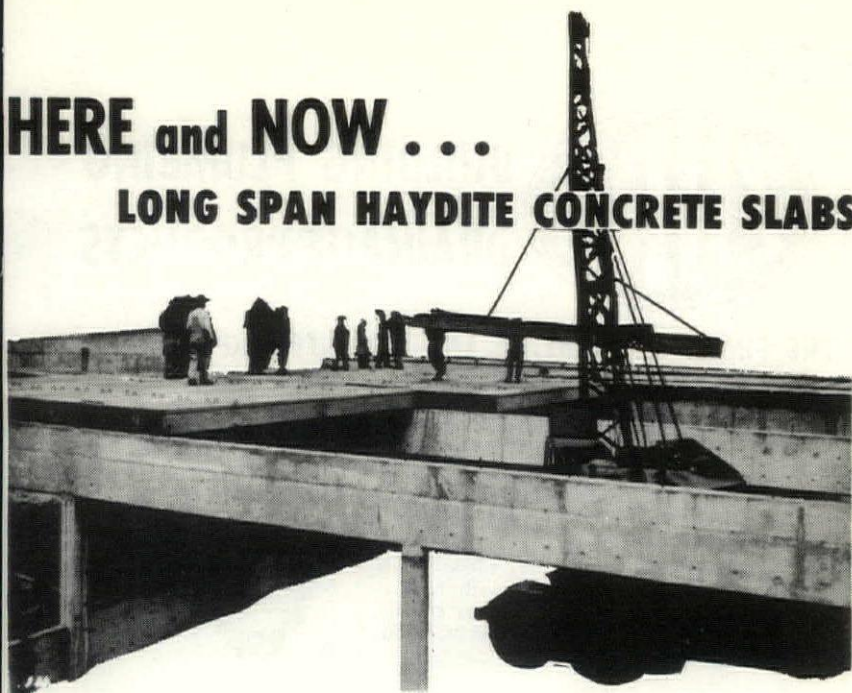
Using materials well. The architect is trained in the use of such standard materials as ceramic tile for baths and kitchens. He knows the design possibilities of wood, brick, ceramic tile, glass and other major materials.

Advising on contractors. The architect is used to working with general contractors and knows the reputation of those in the area. Part of his job is analyzing bids and making sure that you get a good one.

Creating unusual effects. The architect often uses standard materials in new and striking ways.

HERE and NOW . . .

LONG SPAN HAYDITE CONCRETE SLABS



Business Machine Center
18th & Main, Kansas City, Mo.

Architect, Raymond E. Bales, Jr.
Consulting Engineer, Uriel Seiden
Mech. Engr., Robert R. Bayles & Assoc.
Contractor, Flett Construction Co.

HERE

is economical construction that saves time and labor. Carter-Waters Long Spans permit construction with a minimum of interference with other work on the building. No shoring, forming or reinforcing steel placement is required. Work can proceed above and below immediately after placing slabs.

NOW

Carter-Waters offers L-O-N-G Span Haydite Concrete Slabs in this area...with quick shipment when, and as needed.

Here and now, give us a call and our representative will gladly show you how Long Span Haydite Concrete Slabs can fit into your planning.

CONSTRUCTION THE MATERIALS
CARTER-WATERS
KANSAS CITY CORP. 8 MISSOURI
2440 Pennway GRand 2570

SPECIFY



BUILDING PLUMBING DRAINAGE PRODUCTS

FOR THE FINEST IN QUALITY AND ENGINEERING DESIGN

▶ **Z-120 ROOF DRAIN**—High Velocity Discharge Type With Integral Expansion Joint—Extra large, unmovable, non-clogging, mushroom dome strainer. Clamping collar of vise construction assures tight joint.



▶ **Z-540 FLOOR DRAIN**—Continuous Flow Solids Retaining Shallow Type—Provided with removable perforated sediment bucket. Assures continuous flow even though sediment bucket is filled.



▶ **Z-1326 SUPREMO PERFECT SEAL CLEANOUT**—Floor Level Type—Provides gas and water tight connection, cover always easy to remove. Adjustable top compensates for variations in floor surfaces.



▶ **Z-1171 GREASEPTOR**—Deluxe Type—Grease intercepting basket baffles are removable with cover for ease of cleaning. Provides free flowing drainage through pipe lines at all times.



▶ **Z-1206 SH—ZURN SYSTEM**—Vertical Adjustable Type—Provides supporting carrier and trim for plumbing fixtures including complete fitting for vertical drainage.



ZURN CONTINENTAL SERVICES, INC.

Exclusive Sales Agent
J. A. ZURN MFG. CO.
ERIE, PA.

Represented by

JAMES V. IRVIN CO.

Concrete Building Units Company

Manufacturers of

VIBRACRETE

CONCRETE JOISTS

During the past thirty years of service to the construction industry in Kansas City we have seen many methods of floor installations.

After careful investigation of these varying types, we are convinced that the most economical and versatile method is still the reinforced pre-cast concrete joist. This method develops a T-beam structure capable of carrying great loads. Before designing your next concrete floor we will consider it a privilege to serve you by calling at your office or meeting with you to discuss this type of floor construction.

Call VA. 5300
for details

Specify

VIBRACRETE CONCRETE BLOCKS

Natural and Light weight Aggregate



"Serving Kansas City Over Quarter of a Century"

VIBRACRETE

CONCRETE BUILDING UNITS COMPANY

3405 Terrace

Kansas City, Missouri

PATIO SLABS • CONCRETE JOISTS • AREAWAYS • SPLASH BLOCKS • ALUMINUM & STEEL SASH

A REPORT **on the architects conference** **on retail store and shopping centers**

by george m. beal, AIA
head, dept of architecture
university of kansas

The second annual conference, sponsored by the Kansas City Chapter, the Kansas Chapter, the University of Kansas Department of Architecture and the University Extension, was held on March twenty-second and twenty-third in the Student Memorial Union Building at Lawrence.

Severe storms in the north held up plane service and kept Kenneth C. Welch from arriving on schedule. It was not until late on Tuesday night that he arrived in Lawrence. In the meantime, Victor Gruen and Marvin C. Holmes took the leadership and illustrated numerous pertinent points. Wednesday morning Kenneth Welch was in fine fettle and presented an illustrated discussion that extended the splendid presentations of Gruen and Holmes. All three men stayed through the final lunch, generously answering questions and exchanging valuable ideas surrounding the central theme.

About sixty people, including A.I.A. representatives from the two Student Chapters of Kansas State and the University, attended the meeting in spite of the threatening weather conditions.

There seemed to be substantial agreement by the three principal speakers on the following four

points that are part of the overall problems surrounding the shopping center development.

1. There should be a positive preliminary economic survey early in the development to clearly define the facts and factors in the situation.

2. There should be an owner "Break-even-rate" established, even though some rents might be below this figure.

3. That "Downtown" planning has had a shot in the arm due to shopping center developments located outside the city limits, which is all to the good.

4. The architect is an important member of the team of Owner, Economist and Lending Agent, whose principal task is coordinator.

The discussions by Victor Gruen and by Kenneth Welch were well illustrated with both color and black and white slides. Some showed what to do, while others showed what not to do. The centers that were illustrated ranged from the very large and ideal arrangements of Northland down to medium and small size. They covered the regional and the neighborhood centers.

All through the conference, from the introductory remarks of Victor Gruen to the closing notes of Kenneth Welch, ran the refrains—positive planning—creative thinking, physical and spiritual values—ownership is no-fast-buck deal—long range and scientific planning necessary.

Listing of a limited number of points brought out during the conference might prove a reminder to those who were there and suggestive for those who were unable to take advantage of the conference.

- a. It is important to clearly separate foot traffic, car service and general traffic.
- b. Improve the accessibility of the surrounding roads that lead to the center.
- c. Provide sufficient parking space of high quality. Don't forget to reserve additional parking space for future expansion.
- d. For the long range, the health of the total

area is important and the center should be integrated with the larger environments. Protect the residential area.

e. The boundaries of the center become important.

f. See that the shopping environment is varied, stimulating and colorful.

g. Control of the architectural unity of the whole should not be lowered by lack of control of such subordinate features as wires, radios and TV aerials, cooling towers and the like.

h. Determine the economic suitability—capital investment, operating and potential income must form a balance.

i. The enlightened influence of operative tenants becomes very important. Upkeep, parking and many other points must be clearly defined.

j. The shopping center should be thought of more in terms of a community, as a place of culture, education, amusement, eating, exhibits, and broader human needs.

k. Key tenants are important, but the part played by chain stores should not be over emphasized, in the total picture.

l. a variety of sales goods is needed to attract and to hold the buying public.

m. One-third of our population have incomes in which no luxuries can be provided, just enough for shelter and food.

n. One of the owners present who joined in the discussion stressed the importance of good public relations, especially where zone changes become necessary.

o. Covered streets for shopping, arcades and the like afford new features to utilize.

p. Roof parking space can be used to advantage in some cases, especially in two stored centers.

The above limited notes may afford some idea of the conference. On the whole it was optimistic, forward looking with a note of down to earth realism playing through it all.

**WESTERN
BLUEPRINT CO**

APPRECIATES EVERY ORDER

**K.&E., DIETZGEN & POST SUPPLIES
HAMILTON DRAFTING FURNITURE
ALL THE BEST PHOTO PROCESSES
SUPER MICROFILM
909 GRAND
VICTOR 7881**

"IT IS SUPER-RIDICULOUS," said Charles Eames during a recent visit to Kansas City, "for people to say, as they do, 'I don't like that, it is too functional, it lacks warmth.' If the object being criticized lacks warmth, it isn't functional at all.

"People nowadays change their surroundings for all kinds of superficial reasons. You can't imagine an early American family tossing out their Windsor chairs. I think that as Americans regain some of their old security they will hang on to the things of which they are fond."

NEWS

AT THE APRIL BOARD MEETING two members were advanced from junior associate status to associate membership.

William Merrill Conrad, native of Sapulpa, Okla., graduate of Shawnee Mission High School and KU (1950). Worked for Kivett and Myers and Donald R. Hollis. Now a partner in the firm of Northern and Conrad.



William Merrill Conrad



John David Miller

John David Miller, native of Independence, Mo., graduate of Northeast High and KU (1950). Draftsman for University of Kansas until July, 1951. Now with Donald R. Hollis firm.



**YOU'VE GOT
TO SEE IT
TO BELIEVE IT**

● **The original multi-color finish with the
ultimate in wearability and washability**

Non-Static

Repels dirt and grease particles. Non-Static quality keeps surface cleaner longer without constant care. Less dust will settle on a Zolatone surface than on conventional finishes.

Washable

Extremely washable. Withstands endless washing. Dirt, grease, stains, body oils and acids, etc., have little chemical effect on the film. Any paint solvent, dry cleaner, household soap, detergent, or cleanser can be used to remove ink, fingerprints, smudges, etc.

Durable

The very tough film resists chipping and scratching to a far greater degree than conventional finishes, even when subjected to attack by pointed objects.

Attractive

The multi-color pattern gives the surface an unusually live effect. Zolatone has depth and creates the feeling of a third dimension.

Camouflage

The multi-color pattern tends to conceal flaws and imperfections in the surface being covered. Similarly, protuberances into a room area can be blanked out to make the room appear larger.

Long-Lived

The life expectancy of Zolatone can be expected to be far in excess of conventional finishes.

No Spray Dust

No fog or misting allows a cleaner, neater job.

There is only one ZOLATONE PROCESS

• **Accept no substitution** •

• **STERLING RONAI**
• **General Manager**

DEVOE

of kansas city, inc.

PHONE VI. 5672

• 200 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
• KANSAS CITY 8, MISSOURI

EXCLUSIVE ZOLATONE AGENT FOR THIS REGION

