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SKYLINES and MIDWEST ARCHITECT

Vol. 15 No. 1 December-January, 1965

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Panels of Carthage Exterior Marble form a striking curtain wall for the 14-story Administration Building at the 3M Company's new Research Center near St. Paul.

The building was designed by the St. Paul architectural firm of Ellerbe & Co. Carthage Exterior Marble for the project was quarried at Carthage, fabricated and installed by Twin City Tile and Marble Co. of Minneapolis.

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Director's Page

Frank H. Fisher Secretary Kansas City Chapter American Institute of Architects



Most members are not aware of the fact that your Chapter's secretary wears three hats - - he is also secretary-treasurer for the Central States Regional Council. This, I understand, is because we are so centrallylocated and not so much because we have such good secretaries.

During our recent Central States Regional Council meeting at the Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City, attended by the Presidents and Secretaries of each regional Chapter, a business session was held the morning of October 30th with Director Angus McCallum presiding. After much discussion, it was decided the Region should not incorporate.

The Chairman of the 1965 Regional Conference, Ken Kendall, announced the date of the 1965 Conference to be November 3rd to 6th in Des Moines, Iowa. The theme will be "Architecture of Mid-America" and it is intended to institute a Regional Design Awards program in connection with this theme.

In turn, each Chapter President told of his Chapter's progress through the past year and Director McCallum reviewed some of the high lights of the activities of more pertinent items of consideration should be of interest to the Chapter membership:

Inasmuch as the treasury funds are \$2,930.96, it was decided not to collect the fifty-cent per Corporate head again this year.

A motion to underwrite the Student party, if necessary, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 was passed.

David Murray, of the Oklahoma Chapter, was appointed alternate to the Regional Judiciary Committee.

A complete exchange of Fees Schedules has been accomplished between Chapters and copies of each are now on file with the Institute Board.

The next business session of the Council will be held in Kansas City in February, 1965 and will be attended by the new Presidents and Secretaries of each Chapter.

K(K)

(Voluntary Customary Comment)

"We were particularly impressed by the quality of the reproductions... The speed of service by Jack Porter was excellent. Gary and his staff at the branch office worked beyond the call of duty to accommodate us."

That quote was lifted out of a letter from an engineercustomer of years standing who "always appreciated our relationship... commenting especially on this case". Such voluntary compliments do not come easy, but we love 'em when we get 'em.

That statement, faithfully quoted, didn't replace the profit motive, but it sure helped. It was made by a prominent member of the A.I.A. who likes our supervisors because they are perfectionists, and it paraphrases similar compliments we get daily, couched in slightly different language.





A Brief on . . . "CLEVELAND: Village to Metropolis" by Edmund H. Chapman

About this book:

The development of a pioneer lakeside village into a sprawling traffic-clogged metropolis of more than a million people is the theme of Edmund A. Chapman's new book CLEVELAND: Village to Metropolis. This book is a joint publication of The Western Reserve Historical Society and The Press of Western Reserve University.

In a sense this book might be considered the measure of the inability of historic man to look into any really distant future in planning the layout of a city. But more specifically, the book points up a simple fact — that no one living in the early 19th century in the New World or the Old, could have anticipated the unprecidented growth of this city as the result of the industrial revolution of the 19th century that shook the world.

The book concerns itself with the period from the founding of Cleveland by Moses Cleaveland in 1796 through the year 1875, a period which the author describes as the city's adolescence. This book is handsomely illustrated with many maps and photographs that have not been published before. The author points out in his introduction that two related things are involved the design of the town as a whole and the buildings which arose upon this plan.

Prior to 1794 the forest and the Indians owned all of what we today know as Greater Cleveland. It was not until the



Indians were driven across the Cuvahoga River and Jav's treaty gave the U.S. jurisdiction over all lands south of Lake Erie and east of the Mississippi, that it was practical for Moses Cleaveland to start his survey for the city to be named for him. He chose the east bank of the Cuyahoga because the Indians were still on the west bank. His first map laid down a ten acre Public Square, bisected by two wide streets as principle arteries. These together with eight other major roads formed the original checkerboard pattern found today north of Public Square. It must be remembered here that it was the aim of the early settlers to make Cleveland as much like an 18th century New England village as possible. How could they possibly realize that the needs of commerce and industry would within 50 years overwhelm their early planning.

For several years Cleveland remained little more than a chart drawn by surveyors with a scattering of crude log cabins. At a time when the rest of Cuyahoga County had a population of 1500, Cleveland had 57. This was the year 1810.

The first pictorial history of a Clevebuilding is a drawing of the Cuyahoga County Court House located on the northwest corner of Public Square. It was about twenty-five by fifty feet on plan and two stories high, and except for a specially reinforced section used as a jail, the building was ordinary frame construction. The exterior of the building was covered with clapboard and painted red. Its windows and doors were framed by flat boards painted white. No mouldings or ornamental carvings interrupted the flat surfaces, for Cleveland was by 1813 still a primitive place consisting mostly of log cabins with a few frame buildings. But between 1815 and 1830 it took on

the unmistakeable signs of civilization and the march toward becoming a metropolis had begun.

Mr. Chapman takes us through the four main periods in the development of this American city - the Pioneer Settlement 1796 - 1815, the New England Village 1815 - 1830, the Mercantile Town 1830 - 1854, and the Industrial City 1854 - 1875. He includes as an epilogue Cleveland after 1875.

An outstanding feature of this book is the author's use of sketches and old photos to breathe a large chunk of everyday life into this scholarly work. His choice of language shows the light touch, as though to recognize the fact that the book's appeal is by no means limited to fellow architects and city planners, but rather that it will be read with interest by many laymen who have a fine taste for American history.

About the author

Dr. Edmund H. Chapman is chairman of the Division of Art and Architecture of Western Reserve University where he is a professor of art. He received his PhB and Master of Arts degrees from Yale University and PhD degree from New York University. Dr. Chapman taught at the University of Colorado, Hunter College and Goucher College before serving during World War II as a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve Air Combat Intelligence in the Atlantic and Pacific areas. His memberships include AAUP, College Art Asociation, Society of Architectural Historians. and American Society for Aesthetics. The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians and College Art Journal have carried articles by Dr. Chapman.

Where to order

A LIMITED PRINTING OF 2000 for the first edition is available and can be obtained with the author's autograph. This case study in problems of urban development in 19th century America is a "first". The size of the book is 7-¾" x 8-¾" containing 180 pages. The book is brown cloth case bound with gold lettering. This book was designed by Merald E. Wrolstad.

This book may be ordered from The Press of Western Reserve University, 2029 Adelbert Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 at \$7.50 each.

ANTI-SHOCK TREATMENT POSSIBLE

The problem of static electricity shock, increasingly being encountered in residential and commercial interiors using large amounts of carpeting, can be eliminated through the use of a new product developed specifically for this purpose.

Called Shock Proof, it is a fine crystalline concentrate being marketed by The Shock Proof Corporation of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Applied to carpeting either in place or in the warehouse, it forms an invisible shield over the fibers which prevents shock from occurring, the corporation explained. One treatment will last as long as a year.

The material is harmless to fabrics and colors, will not promote re-soiling and can be neither seen nor felt on the material to which it is applied, according to the company. It is sold with a money-back guarantee, having been tested by leading fabrics laboratories.

"With the rapidly growing use of wallto-wall carpeting in homes and in many commercial environments," the corporation noted, "decorators and architects are finding that the old problem of static shock, far from having been conquered, actually is becoming more severe.

"Certain of the synthetic fibers now in use in carpeting are more likely to induce shock than wool, although wool also is an offender when conditions are conducive. The low indoor humidity levels created by modern heating and cooling systems also are a factor."

Shock is more pronounced in business establishments in the presence of metal furniture, the company noted. "Hotels, banks, specialty shops and business offices which take pride in the use of high-quality carpeting are finding static shock to be a growing problem in both customer and personnel relations."

Shock Proof is being marketed initially through selected licensed retailers in 300 specific markets, the company reported. Only token amounts are going to consumer outlets. The company offers a trial sample, sufficient to treat 450 square feet of carpeting, for \$4.50. Quantity prices on request.

The Shock Proof Corporation has offices in the Sunrise Professional Building, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Inquiries may be addressed to P.O. Box 4455.

TO DIRECT UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS 1965 ENGINEERING EXPOSITION

Richard N. Coleman, senior architectural student from Kansas City, Missouri, has been selected by the School of Engineering Council to serve as chairman of the 45th Annual Engineering Exposition to be held April 16 and 17 in the new KU Engineering Building. All engineering departments and organizations will participate with exhibits. The exposition is held during the Kansas Relays program each year.

Coleman has been active in campus activities. He is secretary of the Delta Chi Social Fraternity, architectural representative on the Engineering Council, a member of the Scarab Architectural Fraternity and the Student Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.



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Architect From Japan Foresees Oceanic and Atmospheric Living For Future Generations

Residents of the world's high-density population areas may one day live on sky platforms 1000 feet above the land or in vast floating shafts 300 feet under the ocean, a distinguished Japanese architect and city planner said recently at the University of Southern California.

Sky towns and marine cities could be as practical for the Los Angeles area as for the island nation of Japan, according to Kiyonori Kikutake, who spent a week at USC as a design critic for the fourth-year class in USC's Department of Architecture.

Kikutake's lofty tower towns – which he believes will be built in his lifetime – are envisioned as being independent and even self-supporting communities for 5,000 people. One of these towns in the sky might have several large platform areas standing on towering pillars of reinforced concrete. On the platforms would be erected houses, offices, schools, and even factories.

Travel between the platforms and to the earth community below would be by helicopter and perhaps interconnecting bridges.

The sky platforms could enable the earth resident to have a 'place in the country' a thousand feet above his office on land, the visiting Japanese planner told USC students.

Tower towns of these dimensions would increase the 'function' of a vast metropolitan area such as Tokyo or Los Angeles without materially disturbing the use of ground surfaces, he said.

Although the tower town would seem to be an 'umbrella' above the landbased settlement, it would be high enough that it would not materially alter the weather pattern or even limit the sunlight, except for brief periods. Rain would still fall under the tower towns, as well as on them. Cost of a 5,000-resident tower town has been estimated by Kikutake at \$55 or \$60 million.

The Japanese planner's proposed marine cities are even more fantastic compexes of unconventional dwelling areas.

Kikutake suggests that immense floating islands of irregular shape and size could support both tower buildings above the islands and inhabited undersea shafts below them.

He estimates that, with people living both above and below the water surface, as many as 500,000 residents could be accommodated and supported in a marine area no larger than four square miles.

The marine cities proposed by the Japanese visionary would have undershafts probing the waters to depths varying from 100 to 300 feet.

Residents would look out of marine picture windows into lighted underwater areas and would see marine life instead of freeway traffic. Travel between the submerged towers might be by some form of submarine.

Easy interchangeability of the floating marine islands would be one of their strong points of recommendation, the Japanese planner believes.

From any given complex, a "factory" island, or a "residential" island, or a "business" island could be detached and floated to some other inhabited marine complex.

Only 36 years old, the Japanese has headed his own architectural firm since he was 25.

* * * *



EARLY CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION IN KANSAS CITY

by Donald L. Hoffmann

Strange it was that the use of reinforced concrete, such an excellent method of construction, evolved so slowly in the world; and strange too, perhaps, that Kansas City was the scene of several quite early reinforced concrete structures.

Cement has been traced back to ancient Crete, and the Roman builders employed a fine grade of concrete cement consisting of volcanic dust and slaked lime. However, concrete construction virtually disappeared in the Middle Ages. John Smeaton is given credit for re-discovering concrete, using it first in the Eddystone lighthouse in England, in 1774. Portland cement was first made in England in 1824.

A few French masters of construction began using reinforced concrete in the 1890's, but not until 1903 in the famous apartments at 25 Rue Franklin, Paris, by Auguste Perret, was reinforced concrete used there really as a means of architectural expression. Oddly enough, that significant building was not published in the Architectural Record until 1908, and then without crediting the architect.

In the United States a concrete house had been built in Milton, Wis., in 1844, and in 1875 the W. E. Ward house near Fort Chester, N. Y., made use of light iron beams and rods for reinforcement.

Ernest L. Ransome in 1884 patented the idea of using twisted iron rods to reinforce concrete. Before 1890, he had employed this concept in structures in Palo Alto, Calif. But the first major reinforced concrete factories in America were the United Shoe Machinery company factory at Beverly, Mass., in 1903-1905; the Foster-Armstrong Piano company building at East Rochester, N. Y., in 1904-1905; the Packard plant in Detroit in 1905, and the Ford plant in Highland Park, Mich., in 1909-1914.

The first reinforced concrete skyscraper in the world was claimed by the Cincinnati architectural firm of Elzner & Anderson, with their Ingalls building in Cincinnati in 1902-1903. That fifteen-story structure used cold twisted square steel bars, and had eight-inch walls and five-inch floors.

With those details in mind, the dates of the first reinforced concrete buildings in Kansas City become quite interesting:

*The Gumbel building (1904), still standing at the southeast corner of Eighth and Walnut streets, John W. McKeeknie, architect.

*The Terminal Warehouse company local warehouse (1905), standing but neatly remodeled into an office building on Broadway near Twenty-fourth street, Elzner & Anderson, architects.



The Gumbel building of 1904 at Eighth and Walnut streets was the first sizeable building of reinforced concrete in Kansas City (Anderson Photo company).

* The Montgomery Ward & company building (1908), later the Tension Envelope corporation building at the southwest corner of Nineteenth and Campbell streets, John W. McKecknie, architect.

*The Gloyd building (1909), still standing at 921 Walnut street, John W. McKecknie, architect.

* The Curtiss building (1909), still standing at 1118 McGee street, Louis S. Curtiss, architect.

* The Bernard Corrigan house (1913-1914), still standing at 1200 West Fiftyfifth street, Louis S. Curtiss, architect.

Clearly, the pioneering architect in reinforced concrete construction in Kansas City was John W. McKecknie. Harry A. Noble, longtime structural engineer in Kansas City who once worked for McKecknie, remembers him so: "He was the first who really took it up. He believed it was a coming type of construction."

McKecknie was born in 1862 in Clarksville, O., and was a graduate of Princeton and Columbia universities. In 1892 he made a significant photographic documentation of the architectural monuments of Italy and France, returning to America to catalogue his portfolio for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He came to Kansas City before the turn of the century, and he died here in 1934. Frank E. Trask, Kansas City architect who was a partner of McKecknie from about 1915 on, recalls that the 1904 Gumbel building was constructed of cinder concrete reinforced with wire cables, rather than with bars.

The Gumbel building is six stories. From its appearance today, one must conthat either the top story was added at a later date or was rather tastelessly designed in the beginning; for its wider coner piers and heavy Renaissance cornice may the overall effect of the building. Another aberration is the treatment of the piers, which are rounded and ornamented as if to suggest fasces, the bundles of rods that symbolized the power of ancient Roman magistrates. The building is faced in terra cotta and is amply fenestrated with the well-known "Chicago windows" in three parts.

McKecknie's Montgomery Ward building of 1908 came close on the heels of the huge Montgomery Ward headquarters in Chicago, completed in 1907 by the firm of Richard E. Schmidt, Garden & Martin. Chicago, incidentally, was not a center of pioneering reinforced concrete construction. The first such building there, apparently, was a minor structure of 1904 at the northeast corner of Thirteenth street and Michigan avenue; and the first important building was the Ware headquarters. The old Ward building here is not a forceful expression of its mode of construction.





(Continued on Page 18)



AT THE HELM IN 1965!

The inside front cover of this issue of SKYLINES reflects the results of the December 15th election of officers of the Kansas City Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

Gene E. Lefebvre, of the firm of Monroe & Lefebvre, was elected to the office of President. Stepping into the office of Vice President is J. David Miller, of Hollis & Miller. Former Treasurer Herbert E. Duncan, Jr. was elected Secretary and Clarence F. "Doc" Watson was elected Treasurer.

The office of director, vacated by the expiration of the three year term of Mark S. Sharp, was filled by the election of William M. Conrad, W. M. Conrad & Associates, to serve for three years through 1968. Continuing as directors are John E. Jameson of Voskamp & Slezak, Dwight C. Horner of Horner & Horner, and Richard P. Stahl with his own firm in Springfield. Mo.

The new officers were installed at the annual inaugural dinner, convened this year at the Florentine Room of the Kansas City Club, Tuesday, January 26th. Robert H. Levison, Regional Director, A.I.A., from Clearwater, Florida, was the principal speaker on this occasion.



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The Terminal Warehouse company local warehouse at Twenty-fourth street and Broadway was built in 1905, entirely of reinforced concrete (photo courtesy of Chris P. Ramos).

Easily the most successful of McKecknie's early concrete buildings is the Gloyd building of 1909. Twelve stories high, it has a narrow frontage, and above the two projecting bays on the second story (which were removed later in a remodeling program), the spandrels sweep in unbroken planes across the facade. The office floors each had five windows on the front, swinging open on center pivots. Thus the facade had a simplicity of architectural expression quite in keeping with the mode of structure.

Nicely remodeled for office space by Geis-Hunter-Ramos in 1959 and 1960, the warehouse is now the Armed Forces building (photo courtesy of Chris P. Ramos).



The use of reinforced concrete by Louis Curtiss was consistent with his long and intense study of structural problems. Curtiss, in 1890, had made a very significant engineering contribution in the foundations for the old Kansas City municipal building at Fifth and Main streets. In his Boley Clothing company store of 1908-1909, at the northwest corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, Curtiss was perhaps the first in the country to employ rolled steel members, rather than built-up sections, for columns.

His own building at 1118 McGee street was similar to the Boley building in that it had a glass curtain-wall facade. Aesthetically, it was a superior facade; with the exception of the heavy scoopedout cornice and the cartouche with the architect's initials, it was handled very simply. A narrow area of the spandrels originally was left in exposed concrete, but later owners added a covering of patterns in tiny tiles.



The Curtiss building of 1909, at 1118 McGee street, is another reinforced concrete structure. Louis Curtiss had his home and office here (photo by the author).

Curtiss again turned to reinforced concrete for the massive Bernard Corrigan house of 1913-1914. Despite the limestone facing and rather extensive ornamentation of the exterior, the massing and disposition of the windows in long banks show a fine feeling for structural clarity.

The dates of the Corrigan house are of particular note; Reyner Banham has written that "the first concrete-framed villa by a modern architect" was the house at Huis ter Heide, apparently in the Lowlands, by Rob van t'Hoff, in 1916.

The Williamson house at 5720 High Drive, Mission Hills, is another concrete structure. Though its date and architect are unknown to me at this time, it would appear to be later than the Corrigan house. (Continued on Page 22) ONE OF THE

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INSTITUTE TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S PROPOSAL To "Improve the quality of American Life"

Strong support for President Johnson's proposals to "improve the quality of American Life" was voiced today by the president of The American Institute of Architects.

Arthur Gould Odell Jr., FAIA, president of the AIA, offered the support and services of the architects to such programs as those which would control and prevent urban and suburban blight, create new parks and landscaping and deal with water and air pollution.

Odell's message, a telegram to President Johnson after the State of the Union address, said that the President's remarks "indicating primary concern with the quality of American life are wholeheartedly endorsed by the architects of the United States.

Your comments provide inspiration and impetus to plans of The American Institute of Architects for its nationwide campaign, "War on Community Ugliness: A Great Environment for a Great Society."

The AIA campaign, in which 155 member chapters will participate, will be launched formally in June during the annual AIA convention and XI Pan American Congress of Architects, meeting jointly in the nation's capital. Several hundred Latin American architects will attend. (continued on page 32)



(Continued from Page 19)



The Bernard Corrigan house, 1913-1914, at 1200 West Fifty-fifth street, by Louis S. Curtiss (photo by the author).

Elzner & Anderson of Cincinnati designed the old Terminal Warehouse structure at 2420 Broadway, a 1905 building. They used reinforced concrete for foundations, columns, girders, beams, floors, walls, stairs, roof, penthouses and a gravity tank on the roof for an automatic sprinkler system.

"In this way the entire building is practically a monolith, and has tremendous rigidity," A.O. Elzner, one of the partners, wrote in 1907. "The building stands unique in that the use of wood in any form has been entirely avoided throughout the building. It has been absolutely eliminated..."

Electrical wires were run through conduits built into the concrete, and the warehouse had collapsible doors of cement on steel frames. Truly it was a fireproof building.

Chris P. Ramos of the Geis-Hunter-Ramos firm in Kansas City which remodeled the warehouse into an office building for the Armed Forces in 1959-1960, says he was surprised to find the six-inch poured-in-place concrete walls with an expanded metal lath type of reinforcement. The classically-treated facade, with its pediment and paired narrow windows, was an oddity, but the building's face was left in raw concrete, appropriate enough considering its uses and the obvious advantages in being fireproof. Elzner had not been daring enough to to expose the concrete frame of the Ingalls skyscraper in Cincinnati. It was clad with brick, terra cotta, and marble.



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Kenneth W. Brooks, Spokane architect, and one of the featured speakers to the 1964 Regional Conference in Kansas City, was pleasantly surprised during the conference. His proximity gave Brooks' mother an additional opportunity to visit with her noted son. They were together for a brief re-union during the luncheon at the Rockhill Tennis Club when Ira Sutton, of the Kansas City Chapter, snapped this picture.



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New Members and Membership Changes

The following Corporate members of the Kansas City Chapter, AIA, were elected to Membership Emeritus as of December 1, 1964:

EUGENE RALPH MEIER

EDWARD WADSWORTH TANNER

DANIEL RICHARD SANDFORD



CORPORATE

C. JAMES BALDERSON

Manhattan, Ks. High, 3 yrs. – 1945 Kansas State U. at Manhattan 5 yrs. – 1952 Bach. Arch. K. C. Art Institute – 1 yr. City Architect with Angus McCallum, October, 1961 Registered in Kansas 1952, Missouri 1955



ROGER F. BLESSING, JR.

Little Rock, Ark. High — 1946 Oklahoma State at Stillwater — 1951 Bach. Arch. Student Associate, AIA, Oklahoma 1951 Associate K. C. Chapter 1952 Registered Missouri and Kansas in 1957 With Neville, Sharp & Simon



EVERETT EUGENE BUTLER

Mexico, Mo. High 4 yrs. – 1946 Washington U. St. Louis 5 yrs. – 1952 Bach. Arch. Registered in Missouri 1955 President Butler & Associates January,

1959, Springfield, Mo.





ROGER VERNON REED

Monett, Mo. High – 1953 U. of Arkansas, Fayetteville – 1958 Bach. Arch. Registered in Missouri 1963 With Kivett & Myers since March, 1962



JOSEPH BERNARD SHAUGHNESSY, JR.

Rockhurst High - 1951

- U. of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind. -1956 Bach. Arch.
- U. of Illinois, Urbana 1963 M. A.
- Teaching Assistant U.I. 1962-63

Travel: Ireland, England, Scotland, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Austria,

- Switzerland, France, Italy and Spain With Shaughnessy, Bower & Grimaldi in
- 1959 Resistant in Misser 1970 K 1957

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(Continued on Page 30)



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- Rockhurst High 1951
- St. Benedict College, Atchison, Ks. -1952
- U. of Ks. at Lawrence 1957 B.S. in Arch.
- Student Associate Kansas 1954-57
- Registered in Kansas 1957
- With Tanner-Linscott & Associates since 1960



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Vandalia, Mo. High – 1945 Central College, Fayette, Mo. – 1 yr. Washington U. St. Louis, 4 yrs. – 1952 Associate, AIA in July, 1959 Partnership – Marshall-Waters, Feb. 1962 Registered in Missouri 1955



- Wm. Chrisman High, Indep., Mo. 3 yrs. 1949
- K. C. Jr. College 1 yr.
- Arizona State Ŭ., Tempe, Ariz. 3 yrs. 1958
- Associate, AIA in April, 1962
- Partner in firm of Linscott, Kiene & Haylett
- Registered in Missouri and Kansas 1961



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(continued from page 21)

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