Smith, Hinchman & Grylls wins "M Award" for S.S. Kresge International Headquarters

"A dramatic statement - like a Norman castle and keep. A strong expression in masonry of core elements."

—John A. Holabird, FAIA
Chairman, Awards Jury

The striking use of oversize brick units in the corporate headquarters of the S.S. Kresge Company in Troy earned for Smith, Hinchman & Grylls Associates Inc., of Detroit, an "M Award" in the first annual masonry design competition co-sponsored by the Masonry Institute of Michigan and the Michigan Society of Architects. In all, four architects and their projects were so honored by a distinguished panel of Chicago architects who judged the 1975 competition. Details of the 1976 competition will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter. MSA members also will receive a complete outline of the competition rules by mail.
LEGISLATIVE LOG

MSA ATTACKS SINGLE BUSINESS TAX

Small and moderate sized businesses used a Senate Taxation Committee public hearing on Tuesday, May 1, on a proposed amendment to the Single Business Tax as a forum to unanimously decry the tax. The hearing attended by nearly 1,500 members of the business community, turned into an all out attack of the Single Business Tax itself instead of consideration of a bill (SB 1327) which would provide tax relief to small and low profit businesses.

Senator Republican Leader Robert Davis (R-Gaylord), prime sponsor of the bill, declared the Single Business Tax has been "disastrous" to small businesses. He allowed the new tax may have been a mistake and it is now incumbent upon the Legislature to act quickly to amend the tax to make it more equitable for the entire business community.

Davis said the Department of Management and Budget will argue the bill is ill-advised in that the state can't afford to cut the revenue from the general fund. He charged the tax is inequitable to the small and low profit businesses and the small businesses cannot afford to pay for the extra cost of state government. Davis added the tax was originally supposed to bring in $800 million per year and his calculations now show a potential revenue figure of $900 million.

Davis offered five alternatives to providing more equity to the small business community. They included increasing the small business gross revenue figures from $1.5 million to $4.5 million for a reduction if the proportion of Federal taxable income to gross receipts is 3 percent or less; removing the so-called "tax on a tax" by eliminating from the definition of compensation payments made to state and federal unemployment compensation funds, payments made under the federal insurance contribution act and similar social insurance programs, payments, including self insurance and for workers' compensation insurance; and providing a 100 percent credit of the personal tax liability as imposed under the act for every taxpayer other than a corporation or financial institution who is subject to the Single Business Tax. Davis said the costs of the proposed amendments range from $50 to $100 million.

Witness after witness concurred the Single Business Tax has been devastating to small and moderate sized businesses in the state. Ralph Pierce, representing architects and engineers, said due to the depressed construction industry, people in his profession are lucky to break even and yet they will be faced with a large tax bill under the Single Business Tax. He said taxation boils down to the ability to pay and the tax adds just that more burden to the industry which can only lead to increased layoffs.

W. Eddy Sheperd, of the Michigan Licensed Beverage Association, said the Single Business Tax was designed to replace eight previously existing taxes and bring in a windfall of $180 million. He said, in effect, the new tax has become the new tax on small businesses. He added although SB 1328 offers some relief, it is a reworking of the business activities tax in that a tax is paid whether the business is profitable to not.

Patrick Callihan, president of Provincial House, Inc., said this labor intensive business providing health care to the elderly cannot live with the Single Business Tax. He said using gross receipts as a basis for taxation is without precedent and indefensible. Comparing tax liabilities during the past three years under the former computation and the Single Business Tax, Callihan said profit at the end of the year is what is important and should be used as a basis for taxation.

William Jarratt, FAIA, Detroit Chapter and Bill Kane, AIA, Mid-Michigan Chapter and Ann Stacy were also present at the meeting. However, due to the number of people present Ralph Pierce, was our only spokesman.

The MSA office sent out a legislative alert requesting firms to submit material for the hearing the only firms to respond were Charles Sherman Associates and Jack Brown Associates of Birmingham, Haughey Black Associates, Battle Creek and Gordon Cornwall Associates, Traverse City.

One other interesting fact was that the tax is quite complicated and often an accountant is needed on a quarterly basis to compute the tax only to find out the accountant's fees may be higher than the computation.

Senator DeMaso from Battle Creek labeled the Single Business Tax as the "SHAFT TAX" which brought a round of applause from the audience.

One further note of interest, Governor Milliken has named a 37 member task force which, working with six legislators, is to review the new Single Business Tax and recommend if and what changes should be made.

The Task Force will be chaired by Lieut. Governor James Damman, and includes representatives from such businesses as the S.S. Kresge Company, the auto makers, several small businesses, and organizations. The governor asked the panel to study the effects of the tax as it relates to particular types of businesses, monitor its impact on the level of economic and business activity, and recommend specific changes. It is also to submit periodic reports to the governor, completing its work in not more than a year.
The panel is to evaluate whether the new tax properly assesses higher tax liabilities against some businesses.

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN PRESENTS "COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE DESIGN PROFESSION"

More and more, communications skills are vital ingredients in a successful design practice, as professionals are called on to develop office brochures, prepare effective packages for design award juries, present slide shows, and write proposals, articles, and reports. This course is intended to help architects, planners, and other design, real estate, and building professionals -- especially those responsible for client development and public relations -- to make effective written and oral presentations to clients, media editors, and the public.

Workshop sessions will be conducted by prominent practicing professionals in the fields of writing and editing, graphic design and production, architectural photography, audiovisual presentations, and public relations. During these sessions, concepts and elements of actual materials will be developed, mock interviews conducted, and participants' work individually analyzed.


Tuition: $270.00
Materials: $30.00
Dates: Wednesday, July 14 & July 16
Registration: 8:30 - 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 13, at Currier House

For further information write to: Continuing Education Program, Harvard Graduate School of Design, Gund Hall, Room L-37, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.

ANYONE FOR A COMMITTEE?

Bob Wine, AIA Chairman of the Detroit Chapter Program Committee needs enthusiastic members to work with him, to develop a series of events and happenings for the Chapter and the community.

If you are interested in spending a few hours with your fellow architects for the good of the Chapter please call Bob Wine at (313) 961-2084.

CONSTRUCTION CODE PUBLIC HEARING

The MSA was represented at the Public Hearing held by the Construction Code Commission by Brooks Godfrey, AIA, member of the MSA Board of Directors and the Western Michigan Chapter. The Society's position on ASHRAE Standards 90-75. We support the standards as an interim standard only, and would hope for further investigation and right of review within a specified period of time.

Over fifty people attended the meeting; however, Godfrey was the only MSA member present. Many of the attendees were employed by the State of Michigan and made no contribution to the meeting. Through Godfrey's research on behalf of the Society he submitted documents to support the MSA Position.

Please let us know if you have any comments on ASHRAE 9-75.

AIA ELECTS BOTSAL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Elmer E. Botsal, FAIA of San Francisco, was elected to the office of first vice president and president-elect.

John M. McGinty, FAIA of Houston, who will succeed to the presidency of the Institute in December, was elected during the 1975 convention in Atlanta. Botsal will succeed McGinty as president in December, 1977.

The AIA also elected three vice presidents: Herbert Epstein, FAIA of Brooklyn Heights, New York; Ehrman B. Mitchell, Jr., FAIA of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Robert L. Wilson, AIA of Stamford, Connecticut.

Robert M. Lawrence, FAIA of Oklahoma City, was elected to a two-year term as secretary.

DECISION ON ETHICS CHANGES DEFERRED

Delegates to the national convention voted to refer a proposed revision of its Standards of Ethical Practice to a special task force for further study and possible modification.

The proposed revision, which went to the convention with the endorsement of the Institute's Board of Directors by a 20-15 vote, had been circulated to the members. During the debate, several members said they had not been given enough time to study the proposal and its potentially far-reaching implications for the profession of architecture.

The measure would have eliminated the AIA's present bans on paid advertising, it would also have lifted restrictions against architects' interests in the construction business and allowing participation in
competitions not sponsored by the AIA.

While the majority of spokesmen favored deferring adoption of a change until the Institute's 1977 convention, many said they welcomed the chance to air and debate the controversial issues during today's business session. Louis de Mall, FAIA, of Philadelphia, AIA's 1976 president, called the proposed revision "possibly the most important issue we have ever faced" during the 119-year history of the Institute.

Opposition to removal of the current ban on paid advertising centered on the contention that the need to advertise would work a financial hardship on small firms. The majority of Institute members practice in firms of fewer than 10 persons.

SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ANNUAL MEETING

SEI will hold its annual meeting and product exhibit at the Hyatt Regency, Washington, D.C. For further information write to: SEIA, Annual Meeting, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 632, Washington, D.C. 20036.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMITTEE ASKS FOR BETTER COOPERATION FROM OFFICES IN FILLING-OUT SALARY AND FRINGE BENEFITS QUESTIONNAIRE!

Last fall the committee sent out two-hundred (200) questionnaires to Detroit area offices. Only twenty-two (22) were filled in and returned. Those few answers gave a surprisingly good picture of salary ranges for eight levels of work. A deeper analysis of the questionnaires regarding relationship of office location and size and type of commissions was not possible, due to small number of returns. The same questionnaire will be sent out in September. The committee requests that all offices cooperate this year. Anonymity of answers is assured.

ARCHITECT JOINS COUNCIL

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DETROIT CHAPTER JUNE 23RD SOLAR ENERGY TOUR

June 23 is the date of the Detroit Chapter Meeting to tour the new Solar Energy Collector at Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Inc. The tour will begin at 5:00 p.m. under the direction of Bill Louie, P.E. and Vice President of SHAG.

Call Julie at Detroit Chapter Headquarters (313) 965-4100 for reservations prior to June 18, 1976.

Limited reservations available. No charge for the tour.

STATE OF MICHIGAN -- BARRIER FREE DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

Submit Drawings and Specifications for review, as follows:

A. All State-Owned Or State-Leased Facilities:

Mr. Neil E. Decker, Review Officer
Department of Management and Budget
Bureau of Facilities
Construction Division
131 Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48913
517/373-8717

B. All School Projects: (Kindergarten through 2-year Junior Colleges, except administrative facilities at institutions of higher education. Also includes

TWO NEW DIRECTORS AT AKA

The annual meeting, of Alber Kahn Associates, Inc., Thomas C. Halliday was elected to a three-year term on the firm's seven member Board of Directors, and C. Dino Gavras was elected for a one year term. Incumbent Board members are: Daniel Shahen, Charles J. Allen, Paul G. Fleck, Jay Pettitt and Edgar E. Parks.

AWARD COMPETITION BY CONSULTING ENGINEERS COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN

The eminent conceptor award for engineering achievement was presented to Smith, Hinchman & Grylls Associates for the design of a one-thousand square foot solar collector, which was constructed on the roof of their Detroit headquarters building.

Third honorable conceptor award was presented to Hoyem Associates, Inc., of Bloomfield Hills for the design of central environmental controls for the University of Michigan. The project included planning, economic justification, engineering design, bidding and contract administration for the installation of a central environmental control system and a fire alarm and security system.

ARCHITECT JOINS COUNCIL

The Comprehensive Health Planning Council of Southeastern Michigan would like to announce the fact that Thomas A. Luchl, AIA, Architect has joined its professional staff as a Hospital Planner. He will be involved in planning and project review activities for the hospital portion of the health care system in the seven county area of Southeastern Michigan.
in instructional facilities at private 4-year Colleges.)

Dr. Lloyd E. Fales, Supervisor
School Plant Planning
Department of Education
P.O. Box 420
Lansing, Michigan 48902

Office Location: 1116 1/2 South
Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI
48902. 517/373-3342

C. All Other Projects, Public And Private, Which Are Used By The General Public:

1. Submit documents to local (City, Township or County) building authority.

2. If no local building authority, or if local building authority has optional not to enforce the State Construction Code, submit documents to:

Mr. Charles V. Opdyke, AIA
Chief, Plan Review Division
Bureau of Construction Codes
Department of Labor
Michigan Secondary Complex
7150 Harris Drive
Lansing, Michigan 48926
517/373-8407

Procedure for Request Deviation from the Established Rules and Regulations:

Any such request may be granted only by an appeal to the Barrier Free Design Board of the State Department of Labor.

Submit all request to:

Dr. Herbert R. Mueller, Chairman
Barrier Free Design Board
Construction Code Commission
Department of Labor
Michigan Secondary Complex
7150 Harris Drive
Lansing, Michigan 48926
517/373-8407

FIRM CHANGE

Howard Sims & Associates is pleased to announce that the name of the firm has been changed to Sims-Varner & Associates, Architects, 1900 Fisher Building, Detroit, MI 48202. (313) 871-4550.

ARCHITECTURAL CO-OP PROGRAM

Stan Fleischaker, AIA, retired from Giffels in January of this year is now in the process of organizing a volunteer office to assist co-op architectural students.

Strictly a volunteer, Stan has office space at the McNichols Campus and would like to hear from Detroit Chapter members interested in employing a co-op architectural student. Stan can be reached at the U of D number 927-1000.

SAGINAW VALLEY CHAPTER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership
Thomas Schmidt, AIA
Community Architectural Assistance Team
Arthur Nelson, AIA
Public Relations
David Oaming, AIA
Historical Preservation
Peter Frantz, AIA
Education - Delta College
Daniel Toshach, AIA
Legislative Minuteman
Leslie Tinknell, AIA
Student Activities & Awards
Harry Martin
State Registration & Enforcement
Francis Warner, AIA

MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

MAGICAL HAWAII

"Aloha" - the magical word that means "hello", "goodbye", "I love you" . . . and where else could one word say so much but in the world's most beautiful group of islands . . . Hawaii.

There are many tours offered to these islands at a variety of price ranges. However, our program has been designed to be a real travel bargain -- a tour that will give you enough of a taste of paradise that you will want to return.

Look what you get:

* Round trip jet transportation direct to Honolulu via American Airlines.

* Complimentary meals and beverages served aloft.

* Transportation round trip, airport/hotel.

* 8 days/7 nights accommodations at the Waikiki Beach Surf Hotel one block from Waikiki Beach.

* We also have a limited number of rooms at the more deluxe Princess Kalulani Hotel at an increased price of $100.00.

* Porterage and tips for 2 suitcases.

* Services of an Aloha Hawaii Tour Director.

* Continental breakfast and briefing first morning.

* Traditional flower lei greeting.

* No regimentation.
Our tour is departing Detroit on Tuesday, September 14, 1976 and will return to Detroit on Wednesday, September 21, 1976.

The cost is only $349.00 per person sharing a twin-bedded room, $409.00 for a single occupancy and $319.00 per person for a triple.

This tour is open to anyone. Space is limited and will be reserved on a first-come, first served basis. Mail the coupon today for an official application. Mail to: Towne House Travel, Inc., Group Department, 2314 Monroe Blvd., Dearborn, Michigan 48124.

ADDRESS CHANGE

The office of Sigmund Blum & Associates have relocated their office to 27070 14 Mile Road, P.O. Box 73, Franklin, Michigan 48025. 855-2422 extension 23.

TRANSFERS

Edward Gabert, AIA has transferred his membership from the Detroit Chapter to the Grand Valley Chapter.

William A. Foster, AIA transferred his membership from the Saginaw Valley Chapter to the West Virginia Society.

LOOKING FOR WORK


Prabhakar K. Kane, 15408 Rushmore Drive, Building No. 9, Taylor, MI 48180. (313) 941-5048. Nine years experience in architecture.


Salini Fonseka, 4834 Avery, Detroit 48208. (313) 833-6045. Major in Interior Designing.

Neil J. Beaufait, 166 Kenwood Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236. (313) 881-2423. Needs experience as an architect in training. Recently returned from Iran where he was a volunteer in the Peace Corps.

OBITUARY

Stephen C. A. Paraskevopoulos, professor and director of Architectural Research Laboratory at The University of Michigan, died suddenly Friday, May 7 in Athens, Greece. He was 49.

Prof. Paraskevopoulos, born in Athens, was visiting his family home there.

The U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning will establish a memorial fund in honor of Prof. Paraskevopoulos. Details will be announced at a later date.

LETTER

Dear Ann:

I am very pleased to inform you of a change of address. My new address is:

808 Clark, #3
Evanston, Illinois 60201

I am now working in the firm of Carlson & Seekatz, Inc. I do wish to continue my membership in MSA so that I can keep up with local events. I would also appreciate it if you would publish this change in the Newsletter.

Gratefully,

Lewis R. Schiller
Professor E.A. Metz, who has been a member of the University of Michigan College of Architecture and Urban Planning since 1974, has been re-appointed to the deanship for a five-year term.

CALENDAR

JUNE 11-14 Solar Energy Industries Annual Meeting. See N/L for further information.

JUNE 23 SH&G Solar Energy tour. See Newsletter for details.

JULY Gerry Shea, AIA, will review new edition of document A 201.

AUGUST 5-7 Mid-Summer Conference, Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island.

OCTOBER 20-22 MSA Annual Convention at Longs Convention Center, Lansing.

NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5 Michigan Association of School Boards Convention for more information write MASB, 421 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing 48933.