

ARCHITECTURE MINNESOTA

AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF
ARCHITECTS

March April 1978

LIBRARY

CL

Donald Canby, Editor
AIA Journal
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

A20

Corporate Architecture

CALL ON AN EXPERIENCED TEAM

For more than 25 years the people at Fred G. Anderson have worked with architects and interior designers throughout this area. Their knowledge and experience in the wall covering field is unsurpassed. Behind this team is the largest stock of commercial wall coverings in the midwest. Anderson's also maintains a large library of wall coverings and can offer prompt delivery on most items.

Fred G. Anderson's Miracle Mile Studio is your one source for service and quality.

For wall covering call on an experienced team.
Fred G. Anderson, Contract Department.



FGA

Fred G. Anderson, Inc.
Contract Department
5217 Excelsior Blvd.
Miracle Mile
St. Louis Park, MN 554
(612) 920-5620

ARCHITECTURE MINNESOTA

Official publication of the Minnesota Society American Institute of Architects

Volume 4 Number 2
March-April 1978

Editor

Bernard Jacob AIA

Art Director

Kenneth M. Nelson

Art

Mark Wilken, Tom Boll, Sherry
Reutiman

Publisher

Allan J. Duerr

Advertising Sales Manager

Cort Arner

Chris Seestedt

Advertising Production Manager

Elaine Stoffel

Circulation Manager

Caralyne Fairchild

Business Manager

Ruth Carlson

Architecture Minnesota is the official publication of the Minnesota Society American Institute of Architects

Minnesota Society American Institute of Architects, Executive Director, Daniel J. Sheridan, 314 Clifton Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403, (612) 874-8771

Committee for *Architecture Minnesota*: Leonard S. Parker, chairman, Francis Bulbulian, Gaile Edwards, Steve Edwins, Craig Hinrichs, Bernard Jacob, Phillip James Dan Kallenbach, Carl Remick, Ken Stebbins, Milo Thompson, Stuart West, Eric Wheeler

Editorial offices: Bernard Jacob AIA, 4716 IDS Tower, Minneapolis 55402, (612) 332-5515.

Architecture Minnesota is published by Dorn Communications, Inc., 7101 York Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435, (612) 835-6855.

Advertising and Circulation: *Architecture Minnesota*, 7101 York Ave S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435, (612) 835-6855.

When changing address, please send address label from recent issue and your new address. Allow four weeks for change of address.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to *Architecture Minnesota*, 7101 York Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435. Controlled circulation postage paid at New Richmond, Wis. 54017.
Subscription rate: \$9 for one year.

Copyright ©1978 by *Architecture Minnesota*

CONTENTS

Editorial

Judging a Book by
its Jacket 5

Comments

Congratulations Saint
Paul 7

Architecture at a
Glance 9

Corporate Architecture 15

Civic Architecture
A Corporate Concern 21

Elisabeth Close
Minnesota's Premiere
Woman Architect 27

Books 31

Letters 41

North Dakota AIA
Design Awards 42

Construction Industry
Finishing On Upswing 44

"Our big problem was getting rip rap to the job site. But Shiely barged in with the solution."



Lloyd Parker
C.S. McCrossan, Inc.
Osseo

"I guess I've been using Shiely aggregates about 25 years now. Their products generally aren't that different from everybody else's, but their service is. And that makes a big difference to general contractors, like us.

Here's one example. McCrossan was awarded a contract to build dikes and floodwalls along the Mississippi, to protect the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant from high waters. It was a big job, with many bid items, including about 20,000 tons of rip rap.

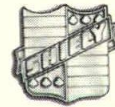
The Corps of Engineers insisted on rip rap for erosion control. The problem was how to get it to the job site. Access was very difficult, because of poor soils and work in progress.

Lucky for us, Shiely delivered the rip rap, plus bedding materials, on their own barges. Shiely tow boats dropped off the aggregates right where we needed them. Reducing the cost of delivery and placement.

There was no delay waiting for materials approval, either. The bedding material and rip rap met all gradation and quality requirements.

When we needed other aggregates, Shiely had them available, too. We used Shiely crushed stone base for our access roads and ballast for railroad realignment, to name two. They were competitively priced, met all our specifications, and were delivered on schedule.

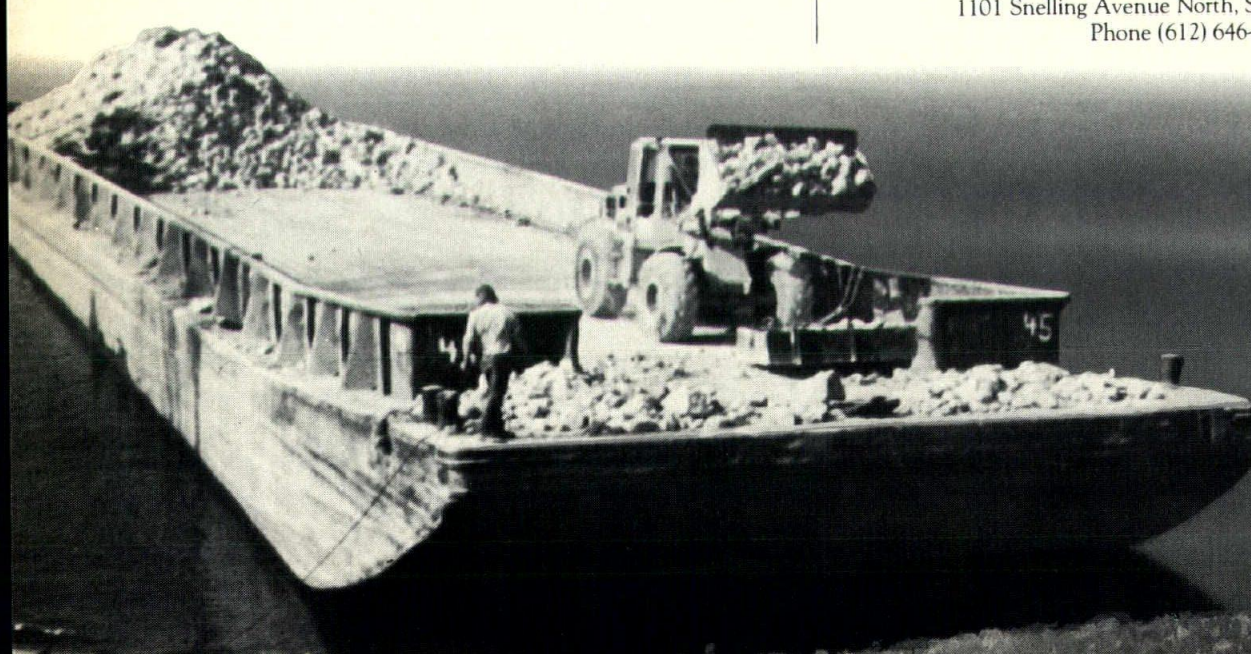
No doubt about it, Shiely saved us a lot of time and trouble on this job. The barges eliminated most of the truck work, and we were even able to finish that part of the contract faster than we had figured in our bid."



J.L. Shiely Co.

Quality Commercial Aggregates/Ready Mixed Concrete

1101 Snelling Avenue North, St. Paul, MN 55108
Phone (612) 646-8601



Judging a Book by its Jacket

The thesis, supported by the feature articles in this issue, is that local corporations have advanced the art of architecture and have also contributed significantly to the development of an important civic architecture in Minnesota. Leaders in corporate enterprises have individually also advanced the art of domestic architecture by engaging talented architects to design their private residences. Indeed it would be difficult to ignore the influence of corporate leadership on any aspect of the civic or cultural life of the community.

The far reaching influence and power of the corporation are not astounding within the framework of our economic setting. What is significant is the unusually high level of social and civic responsibility shown by our locally based corporations. It signifies an awareness and maturity rare in many parts of this country and abroad.

The architectural community is proud and happy to have the support of the corporate structure and, by allying with it, it joins in its achievements.

Many corporations, of course, have found that good architecture does pay and actually costs very little. Thus, in many instances, the handsome facade or the memorable image is more than skin deep. The beauty characterizes the spirit and the conscience of the corporation. In the instances of outstanding architectural achievements, the image truly becomes a symbol. A facade or a neat silhouette per se are of little merit, they can become mere billboards making announcements and promises. Good architecture has paid high dividends because as symbol it has represented the corporation well, and also because as architecture and planning it has provided the best possible working environment—which in turn has maintained morale and efficiency. Does it follow that good management results in good architecture, or vice versa? Of course not. Many well managed corporations operate in mediocre environments and surprisingly the opposite is also sometimes the case. But good architecture can and often does make the difference.

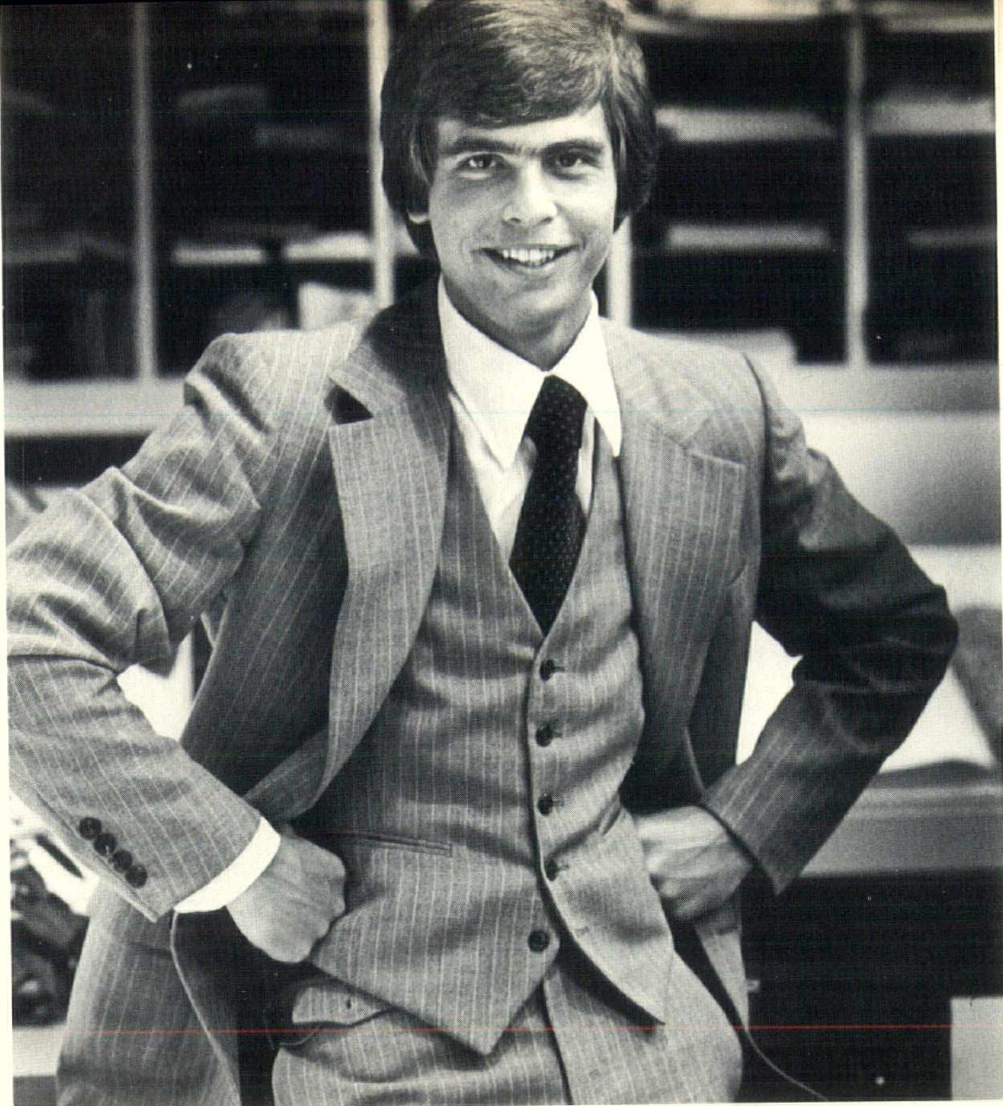
It makes the difference because the design process is very much like the budgeting process, the cash flow projections or the growth plans of a corporation. The design process is a series of goal statements as they relate to traffic, communications, proximities, initial and maintenance budgets and

the prioritization of all the interior needs and functions of the corporate structure. The creative synthesis of all these needs, within given parameters, is the design process which leads to architecture. It can be time-consuming. It is more time consuming than occupying a ready-made structure, but again it yields high dividends.

It yields high dividends, because, like the careful income projections on the corporation's books, it follows a methodical, informed and incremental decision-making sequence which is certain to accomplish the desired results. The temptation may be to tell the shareholders that next year the corporation's assets will be increased by 12%, but few will succumb to that temptation without the knowledge that in all probability they will reach their goal. Often, however, the design of the working environment does not receive this careful attention. Money and time are saved by providing the most possible shelter for the lowest possible cost. On the first-cost basis, it is naturally the most economical means of housing a business. It will, however, yield no dividend and instead probably continue to cost. The continued costs will not only be maintenance and upkeep but also the not so visible costs of time effectiveness, efficiency, work flow, morale and employee turnover.

The bottom line always counts and the successful corporations are manifest examples of goal-setting tough management. And many of these corporations, some in their world headquarters and others in their local headquarters, choose to invest in good architecture. They find that good architecture does pay high dividends and, indeed, that good architecture is good business. □

—Bernard Jacob



“I’m Jeff Lien...at your service in Hirshfield’s Contract Sales.”

Next commercial wallcovering job that comes up, give us a call at Hirshfield’s Contract Sales.

(612) 370-2626.

We’ll show you what Hirshfield’s means when we say, “We’ll outservice any wallcovering supplier in the 5-state area.”

We’re out to win you over by out-supplying, outsourcing, and just plain out-hustling the competition.

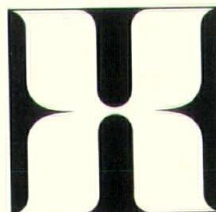
Our services include:

- **A Free Architect/Designer Reference File** of the latest commercial and specialty wallcoverings, looseleaf bound so it can be continuously updated.

- **Layout Assistance** in the coordinating of wallcoverings with fabric, carpeting, draperies, etc.

- **A Contract Sales Showroom** at Hirshfield’s downtown Minneapolis store, 824 Hennepin. Plus 5 other showrooms in the metro area.

- **Complete sampling program**



HIRSHFIELD'S
CONTRACT SALES

for all commercial wallcovering lines.

- **Measurement of rollage requirements** for jobs.

- **Consulting** on paints and sundries.

Call us for your next commercial wallcovering project.

Hirshfield’s . . . the Twin Cities’ largest and most complete decorating products supplier . . . since 1894.

Contract Sales Showroom: 824 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis.
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
Telephone: (612) 370-2626.

Distributors of: Stauffer Commercial Vinyls, Spectra Royale Vinyls and Architectural Reference File by S. R. Wood, Environmental Graphics, Geometrics for Designers by Tapeten World, Bulltex Commercial Vinyls, Fred Cole Foils, Manuscreens, Executive Wood by S. R. Wood, Vinyl Weaves by J. Josephson, Textured Vinyls by Moss, Imperial Wallcoverings, Fuller-O’Brien Paints, Olympic Wood Finishes. Representatives for: Jack Denst Designs, Winfield Designs, Albert Van Luit.

Congratulations Saint Paul

From the Executive Director
Minnesota Society American
Institute of Architects

Summon the trumpets. Take a bow Saint Paul, you've *almost* done it! Those weak in spirit and vision gave up . . . or didn't participate. Mutinous mumblers said it would never happen. But because of many of you, downtown Saint Paul is on the verge of a 200-million dollar rejuvenation and renaissance, unprecedented in Minnesota. It will lift not only the skyline, but the psyche of the city. Deservedly Saint Paul's public officials, its business community, the investors and, very importantly, the staffs of the city agencies can hold their heads high.

Minnesota's architects salute those who dared to care, to act and finally to make it happen. This is in no way to diminish the very impressive new development currently occurring in Minneapolis, Duluth and several other Minnesota communities.

Most of America's state capitals are smaller communities chosen for political or geographic reasons. Minnesota political folklore acknowledges that were it not for an individual who stole the bill already passed by one house of the Minnesota Legislature and kept it until after the legislature convened, our capital city would be located in Saint Peter, a small community in southern Minnesota. Yes, folks, that is a true story. However, by 1980 the Saint Paul renaissance will make the Minneapolis/Saint Paul metropolitan area unquestionably the most vital and dynamic capital city area in this country. Urbanologists will tell you that to have as a state capital a state's largest metropolitan area and its financial center all one in the same, is very rare.

What is most important is that this renaissance is not only on the drawing board, but that it is either financed or under construction. Cranes now tower over cleared or vacant land as housing, a hotel, office complexes, parking ramps and a science museum reach or soon will reach skyward.

Unique to Saint Paul's success has been the key role played by elected city officials and city staff, including the Mayor's office, City Council, the late HRA, the Saint Paul Port Authority, Planning and many other city departments. It just might be the Saint Paul HRA's finest hour . . . after it has been restructured into a new agency. Yet the main sails were raised by the Oxford Development Corporation and the Radisson Hotel Corporation in concert with the Saint Paul business community.

The city of Saint Paul has not only been willing to pledge the good will, but the assets of the city to make it happen. It has placed the future of downtown foremost on the public agenda. The City Council and Mayor George Latimer have mobilized the Saint Paul Port Authority, the agency with the purse strings and the most successful record in Minnesota at funding and making projects happen. Its charge has now been broadened and its financial capabilities have been used skillfully to catalyze these downtown projects. This pattern should continue.

Let's examine the ever emerging pieces of this puzzle; for by 1980 the panorama of Saint Paul will be vastly different.

The scenario:

*Saint Paul has sold through the Saint Paul Port Authority over 120 million dollars in revenue bonds to finance development of both new and rehabilitation projects downtown.

*The city selected as its downtown developer Oxford Development Corporation and financed a public parking ramp below the Radisson Hotel. Together these two blocks represent over 50 million dollars in new development. The major hotel will include a unique nine story atrium and solar collector. The Oxford project includes two large office towers with retail shops and a new Donaldsons department store.

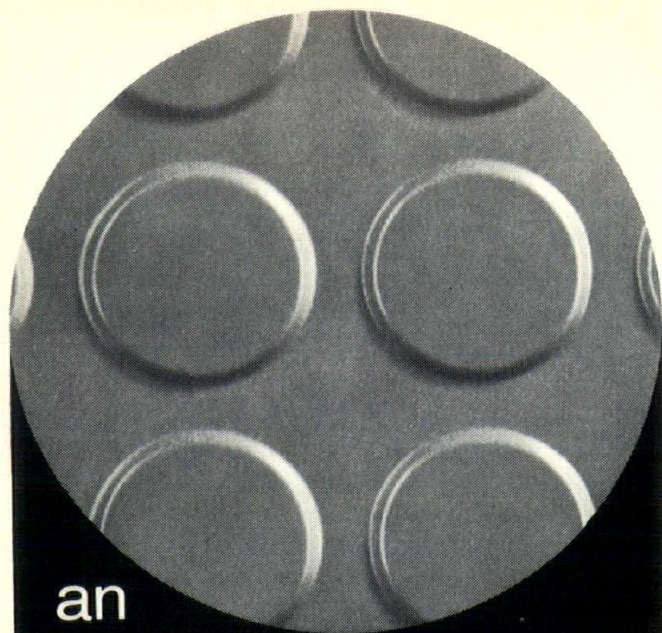
*Both projects will be in the heart of a seven block pedestrian mall—Seventh Place—three blocks which will be a shopping Galleria under glass . . . a downtown Southdale. The mall was formerly West 7th Street.

*The city has bought, cleared and resold—at a substantially reduced cost—land for several downtown housing projects as well as for the hotel and office buildings.

*The 800-plus new units of housing downtown are essential to the vitality of the downtown.

*Saint Paul has been selected as one of three cities (Cleveland gave the money back to the Feds) for a 50-million dollar plus downtown people-mover system. Detailed planning and feasibility studies are underway. Coalescing the necessary community and political support to get it built may be difficult, but if anyone is equal to the task, Saint Paul may be. Saint Paul legislators and Metropolitan Council representatives will be the key to the success or failure of the effort.

*The edges of downtown Saint Paul have already become the largest class-



an
exciting
new dimension in
creative flooring
design for indoor or
outdoor use...

noramment®

100% synthetic rubber flooring

- exceptional visual appeal
- outstanding wear and safety advantages
- easily installed and maintained

NORAMENT . . . the choice for some of the most imaginative American and European architectural projects . . . has many features your clients will appreciate. Call or write for samples and complete information.



SNOW-LARSON, INC.
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

1221 No. Second Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55405
(612) 374-1216

room without a blackboard in Minnesota. Over 300,000 individuals, mostly school children, annually visit the State Capitol or the Saint Paul Arts & Science Center. The completion of the new 15-million dollar expansion of the Science Museum and planetarium will expand this classroom and intensify the stream of visitors.

*There are numerous other projects but the jewel has to be the renovation of the Old Federal Courts Building into the Landmark Center as a home for the arts. This large and unique building, which is on the National Register, will soon house arts organizations committed to strengthening their programs. Other projects in the renaissance include:

Capri Hotel rehabilitation \$2.8 million. Result: 130 market rate apartments

Lowry Hotel rehabilitation \$3.3 million. Result: 203 apartment units

Wabasha Court—adjacent to Dayton—expansion into retail center

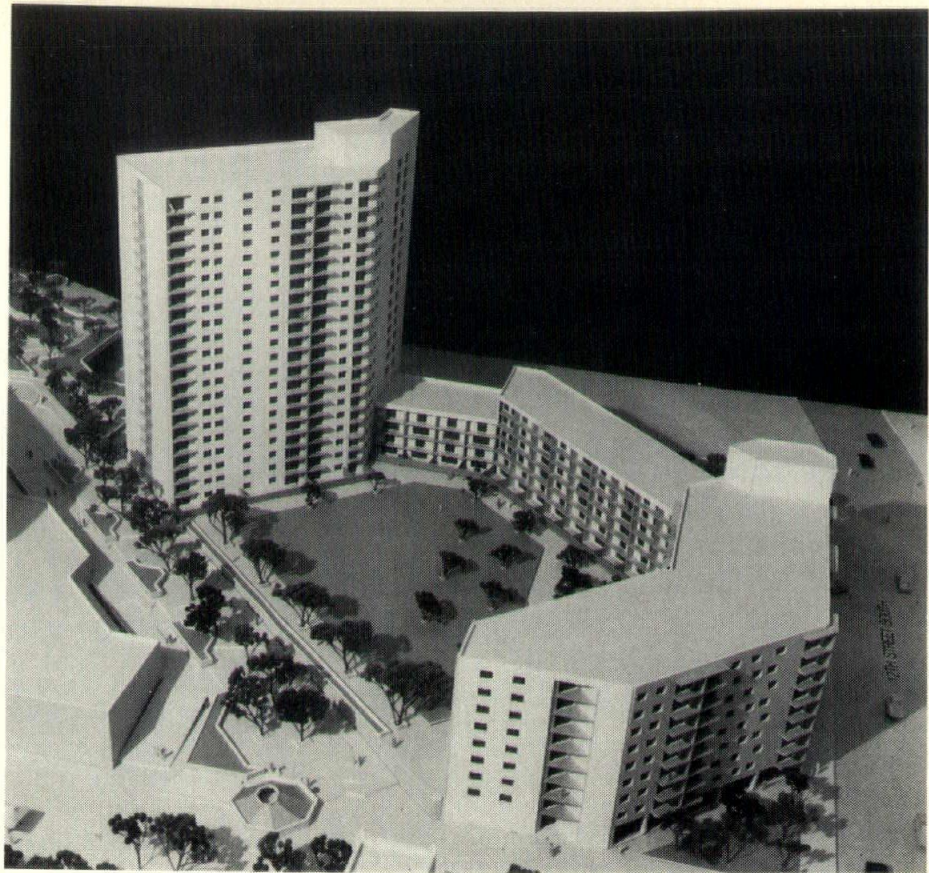
Saint Joseph's Hospital—adjacent to the Science Museum has underway an 11.2 million dollar expansion

Medical office building and 250-plus apartments on the Science Museum block.

The list is even longer, but the point is made: Saint Paul has made a dramatic step forward. The old is undergoing adaptive reuse and major new construction is occurring. Public investment tools along with private investment, a pragmatic Mayor and City Council are working creatively and cooperatively with a committed Chamber of Commerce and business community.

There was an infamous politician of the 1870's, George Washington Plunkett. His motto was "I seen my opportunities and I took 'em." Saint Paul appears to be decisively taking its opportunities . . . but the jury is still out as to whether or not it has the will and the political moxie to see it through to the end. □

— Dan Sheridan



"1200 On The Mall," a 317-unit condominium complex under construction at 12th St. and Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, is well into the second phase of development which will consist of 168 condominium apartments to be built in a 23-story tower. A parking ramp will be built on the first two stories of the tower. The one, two and three bedroom units will be offered for sale at prices ranging from \$45,000 to \$120,000. Architects for the project are the **Hodne/Stageberg Partners, Inc., Minneapolis**, and permanent financing has been committed by several Minneapolis banks and financial institutions.

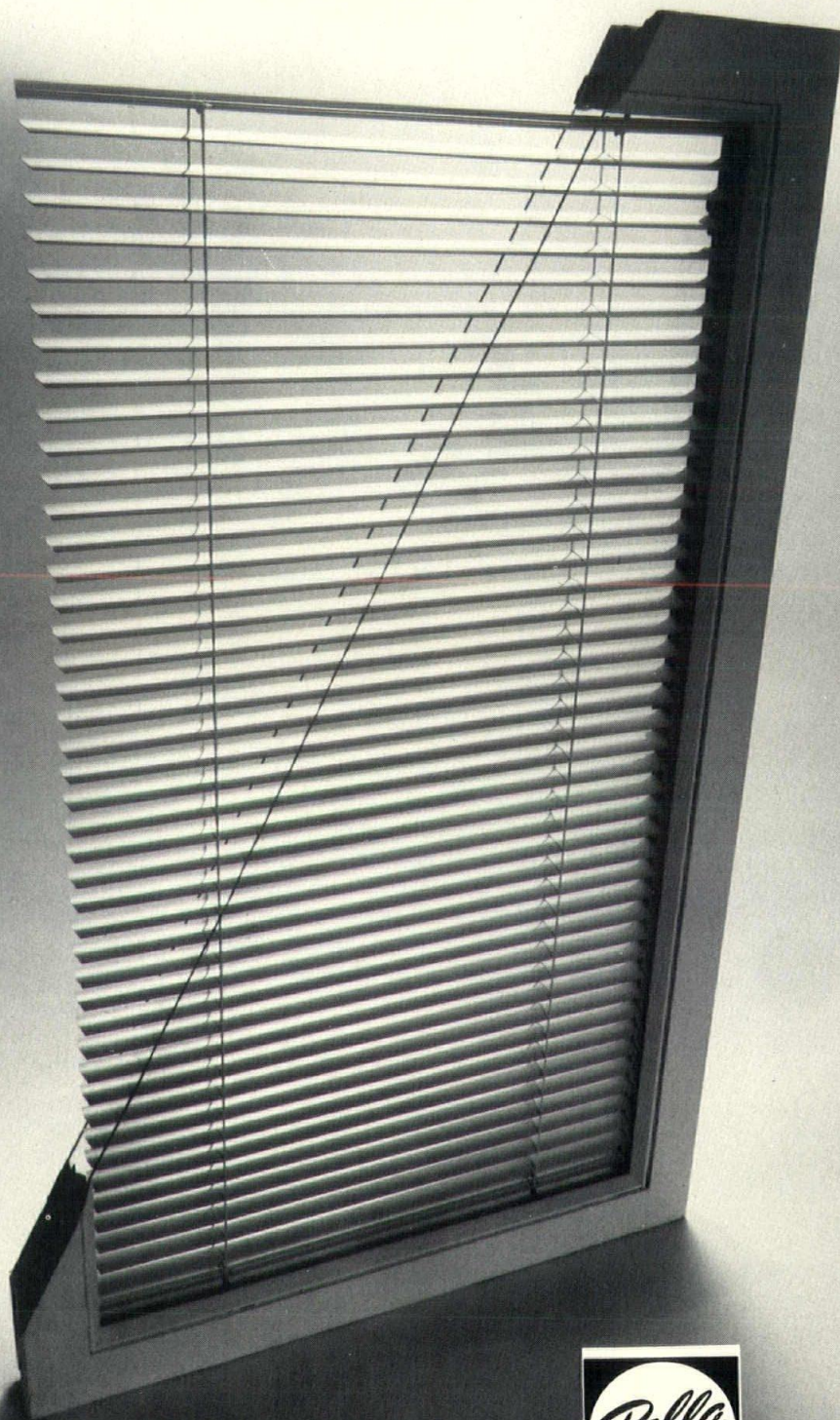
Minnesota architectural ingenuity has again surfaced in the form of an alternative redevelopment plan for an "undesirable" residential site adjacent to Interstate 94 in south Minneapolis. The plan, developed by Bill Lemke, director of **Seward West Redesign**, a non-profit, community-based redevelopment agency, and project designer Mike Dunn, calls for the construction of 10 earth-sheltered townhouses in a half block area bounded by 24th and 25th Avenues S. and E. Franklin and S. 9th Street. The houses would face south, away from the freeway, and by

placing dirt up and over the project from the north, distracting noise from the Interstate would be greatly reduced. Each unit would be equipped with a solar heating system and a high degree of natural light would be provided by skylights.

Preliminary state approval has been received for a \$1.7 million plan to restore and rehabilitate the **Taylor Avenue houses at Ft. Snelling**, known to many as "Officer's Row." The plan, designed by Saint Paul architect **Brooks Cavin**, calls for the preservation of all building exteriors while remodeling the interiors of the one hundred year-old houses into seventy lodging units, a 130-seat restaurant and eight boutiques. The houses would be connected by a below grade, all-weather ground-work to the 31,000 square foot annex building which will house meeting rooms, a health club and a swimming pool. Developers are the Bloomington-based RestoResorts of Minnesota.

The Mankato firm of **Rockey and Cheever Architects** have been selected by the community of Springfield to do the planning for the proposed addition of two science rooms, a choral room, a girl's locker room, a cafeteria and

out side in



Slimshade. We're surprised no one thought of it sooner.

a kitchen onto the public school. Tentative plans call for a one story addition attached to the rear of the present structure.

The Austin firm of **Kane and Cox Associates, Inc.**, has been selected by the State Designer Selection Board as the architects for two **Highway Safety Rest Areas at Blue Earth, along Interstate 90**. Each rest area will feature picnic areas and storage facilities, natural overlooks, duck and waterfall ponds and other natural amenities. A stream which has an active beaver population also traverses the area. Architecturally, the buildings will feature native Minnesota limestone, rough exterior wood siding and laminated wood beams. The structures will also be "buried" to minimize exposure for an energy efficient design.

Approval of a contract for the construction of a **new museum for the Rice County Historical Society** was granted by that organization recently. Under the direction of Northfield architect, **William Broderson**, the museum will be located in the old highway building at the county fairgrounds in Faribault. The same group is also making progress with its long range project of restoring the Scriver Building in Northfield and is playing an active role in official designation of a certain downtown Northfield area as a "Preservation District."

The Minneapolis firm of **Miller, Hanson, Westerbeck & Bell, Inc.**, are the architects for an \$800,000 housing project located in the Mississippi River community of Lake Pepin. The project will include 20 townhouses and 20 apartment units assisted by financing from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Beginning occupancy is scheduled for August.

The Saint Louis County Heritage and Arts Center (The Depot) in Duluth has been selected by the United States Department of Transportation as one of eight renovated train depots to be studied for its successful rehabilitation. A study is currently in progress to determine how the successful renovation was accomplished and findings will be published in two federal manuals for distribution to interested communi-

ties. The 1892 structure was owned by the Burlington Northern Railroad until its purchase in 1969 by a group of civic-minded citizens. Completed renovation work has included two additions, a railroad museum and a theater. The \$3 million project is now a county facility and is listed on the National Historic Register.

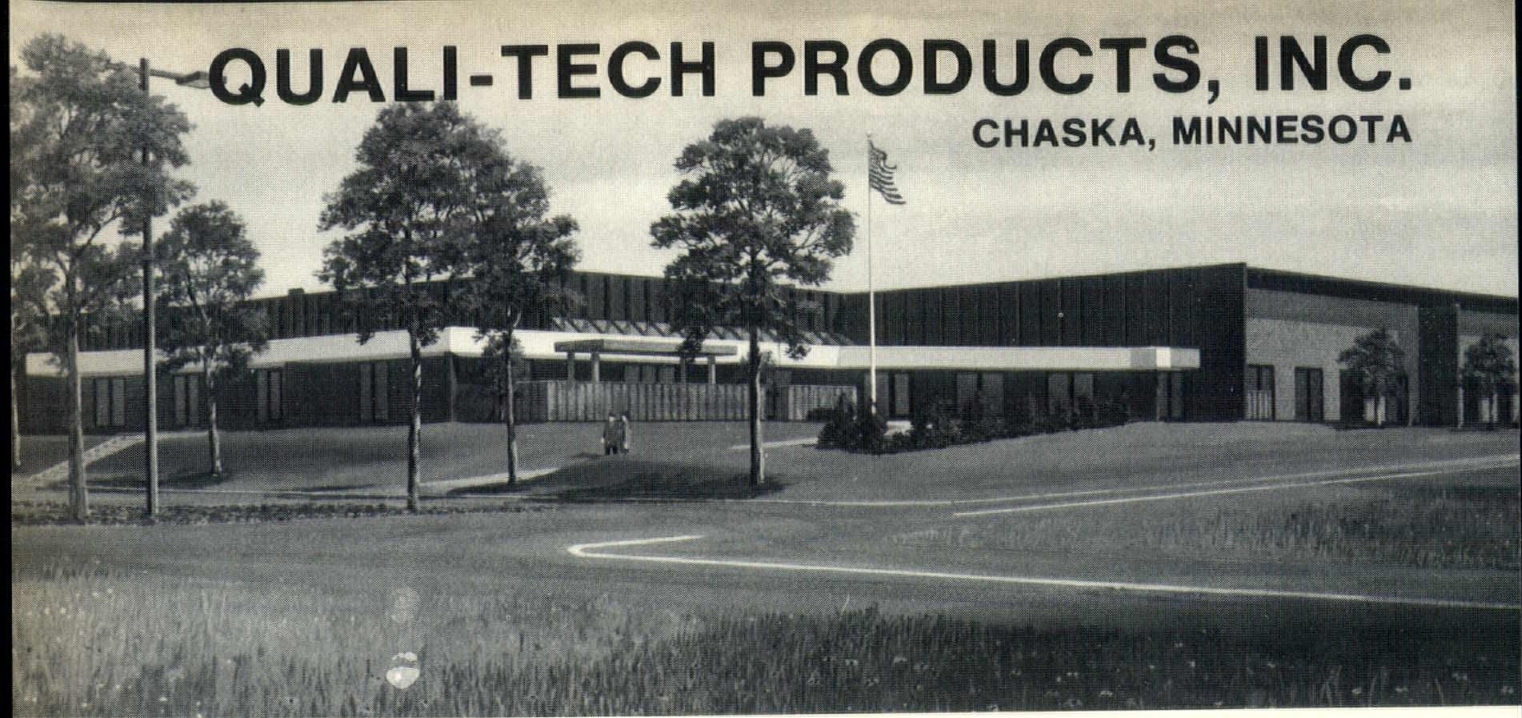
Minnesota's agricultural heritage will come to life at the Marshall County Fairgrounds in Warren, under a plan developed by **Architectural Resources, Inc.**, Duluth and Hibbing. The project will be a large antique farm machinery display located in a steel building along "The Street of Yesteryear" inside the fairgrounds. Skylights will be placed in the roof of the building which will house the antique machinery and other artifacts. The Marshall County Historical Society believes that much of the success of the project will depend upon the worthiness and educational value of the items on display and a campaign is now in full swing to locate both items and donors.

Construction is underway on a \$3.2 million, 105-unit apartment complex in the Como Park neighborhood. Designed by the Northfield firm of **Sovik, Mathre, Sathrum, Quanbeck**, the project is financed by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Agency and will be certified for federal rent subsidy for the elderly and the handicapped. The site is adjacent to the Lyngblomsten Care Center, a 112-unit center for skilled nursing care connected to 144-bed intermediate care facility and residents of the new project will be able to benefit from food and other existing services.

The U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration at a recent meeting with University of Minnesota officials and researchers who have worked on the **Williamson Hall** underground bookstore building, agreed to fund construction of the high temperature solar collector designed for the building. **David Bennett**, Associate Professor of Architecture at the University is principal architect of the building. Bids for construction of the collector will be awarded within the month of February, and construction is expected to be completed in the fall of 1978. The collectors were designed

QUALI-TECH PRODUCTS, INC.

CHASKA, MINNESOTA



ARCHITECT: *Roberts Architects, Minneapolis, MN*
ENGINEER: *L. W. Darg Engineering, Minneapolis, MN*
CONTRACTOR: *Watson-Forsberg, Minneapolis, MN*

Repeat business generally confirms customer satisfaction.

Precast wall panels, for the original Quali-Tech structure completed in **1973**, were furnished by **WCPC**.

The energy conscious design for the **1977** addition including insulated double tee wall panels and double tee roof deck, again were furnished by **WCPC**.

To facilitate fast-track construction method, competitive bids for precast concrete were taken prior to completion of working drawings. The design team then worked directly with WCPC in arriving at project solutions. A dollar allotment for precast was inserted directly in specifications for precast concrete.

We extend an invitation to you to involve WCPC in your preliminary planning. **Maybe you will become**, if you are not already — **a repeat customer**.

We invite you to call us for preliminary estimates and further information.



BOX 37, WELLS, MINN. 56097 — PHONE (507)553-3138

by Suntec Systems, Inc., a division of Sheldahl, Inc., of Northfield, Minnesota.

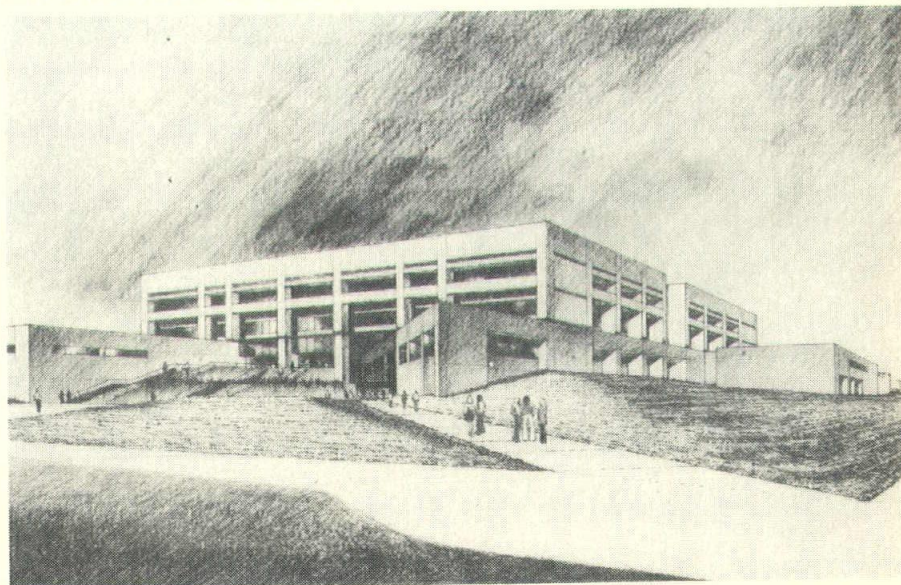
In spite of the noise and disruption caused by a \$14 million construction and modernization project, students at **Saint Paul's Central High School** would rather stay than be moved to another location. At least that's what a group of them have told the Saint Paul School Board during a public hearing last January. Designed by **Ellerbe Associates**, Bloomington, the construction project will completely modernize the 68-year-old structure while adding new wings, a one-story physical education center and a four-story vocational learning center. While some area residents and students wanted the old school demolished and a new one built at a different site, others preferred the traditional location at Lexington Pkwy. and Marshall Ave. The result was an architectural compromise whereby the frame of the old building will be the base for the new building.

Ellerbe Associates have been selected to design an entirely new structural system for the **Hartford Civic Center in Connecticut**.

Included in the design will be replacement of the Center's recently collapsed roof, increased seating capacity of 5,000 seats and expanded concession areas. New graphic, sound and lighting systems and increased mechanical capacity will be part of the project.

Ellerbe was chosen over Chicago firms C.F. Murphy and Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, finalists from a field of seven under consideration.

Eugene Hickey & Associates, Edina, are the architects for a new auto banking facility for the Crystal State Bank and a similar project for the First Southdale National Bank . . . A new, \$500,000 plus facelifting for the concourse mall at Southdale Shopping Center, Edina, has been designed by **David Todd Runyon & Associates, Inc.**, Saint Paul . . . A \$6.5 million retirement facility for New Hope is hot off the boards of **Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc.**, Saint Paul . . . A new greenhouse for the Blaine Senior High School has been designed by **Armstrong, Torseth Skold and Rydeen**, Minneapolis . . . A new food and beverage facility for the Twin Cities International Airport has been planned by **Miller-Dunwiddie Architects, Inc.**, Minneapolis . . . A new world distribution center for Control Data Corp. will be built in Saint Paul based on plans by **Henningson, Durham and Richardson Architects**, Saint Louis Park . . . A whopping \$45 million coal gasification plant near the community of Hoyt Lakes is in preliminary design at the Cleveland, Ohio office of **Arthur G. McKee Co.** . . . A service area landfill garage for Hibbing has been designed by **Thomas & Vecchi, Duluth** . . . A \$300,000 plus courthouse annex at Long Prairie has been planned by **Traynor, Hermanson & Hahn Architects, Inc.**, Saint Cloud . . . and last but not least . . . should you decide to drive around the state and visit some of these projects, why not pick up a copy of the "Guidebook to Minnesota Art & Architecture" at MSAIA's Architectural Center in Saint Paul . . . you might just be surprised to find out what's located just "down the road apiece . . ." □



Central High School, Saint Paul, Ellerbe Associates, Inc., Architects

Right from the start, masonry saves you money. Engineered load-bearing masonry construction, for example, can save up to 30% in initial costs over competitive structural frame systems. The masonry serves as both structure and enclosure while providing a fire, sound and thermal barrier.

New masonry technology, such as loadbearing masonry and masonry panels, can substantially reduce con-

struction time, lowering costly construction financing and permitting earlier occupancy.

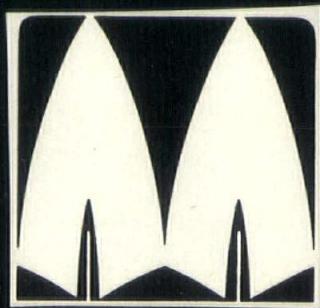
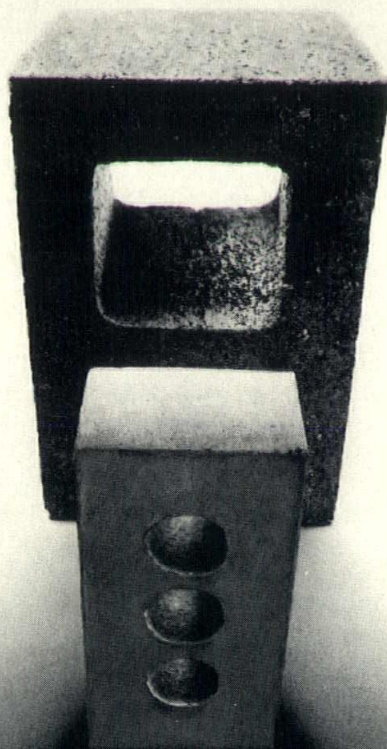
When completed, a masonry building will provide significant savings in energy costs. Because of their mass, masonry walls can reduce energy use all year long, lowering operating costs and allowing the use of smaller and less expensive heating and cooling equipment.

Finally, masonry walls save money throughout the life of the building because they require little maintenance for care and cleaning. You save money from beginning to end.

There are studies available which show just how much money masonry can save you. For free copies, write to us at the address below.

When you build with masonry, you build for keeps.

When masonry goes up, costs go down.



minnesota masonry institute

7851 Metro Parkway, Suite 103 Minneapolis, Mn 55420 (612) 854-0196

Corporate Architecture

Frederick Richter

To a visitor, the Cities present more than an image of lakes and fine residential areas; they enjoy the physical assets of many office, research and manufacturing environments created by architects and corporations that have built here.

The modern movement in architecture has traditionally been associated with corporate or industrial enterprise. Early 20th century architectural leaders Peter Behrens and Walter Gropius found patronage from industrial clients in the Turbine and Fagus factory buildings in Germany.

In the United States, two of Frank Lloyd Wright's non-residential masterpieces were office buildings for the Larkin Soap and Johnson Wax corporations. One of the earliest "glass skyscrapers" was the American headquarters of Lever Brothers in New York City and an exemplary campus plan was created by Eero Saarinen at the General Motors Institute.

The combination of American business and modern architecture has resulted in the recognized symbols of American civilization. Compared to the Greek temple, Gothic cathedral or Renaissance palazzo, the physical image of 20th century American society is the high rise glass and steel office building. Every American city is dominated by the buildings of its banks, insurance companies and corporate headquarters.

Unfortunately, many of these buildings are not examples of corporate technological advances and management creativity, but examples of banal architecture—at best, mediocre renditions of Mies Van der Rohe's Seagram Building. However, a large percentage of businesses has patronized creative architecture, and the Twin Cities has more than its share.

The Saint Paul-Minneapolis metro-

politan area is rife with corporate headquarters. On a per capita basis, the Twin Cities is second only to Boston in the number of headquarters for *Fortune* 500 companies. Not only are the two downtowns testimonials to office building dominance, but the recent affinity for available suburban land in conjunction with the topographical and multi-center character of the area, has resulted in the pervasiveness of corporate buildings throughout the metropolitan area.

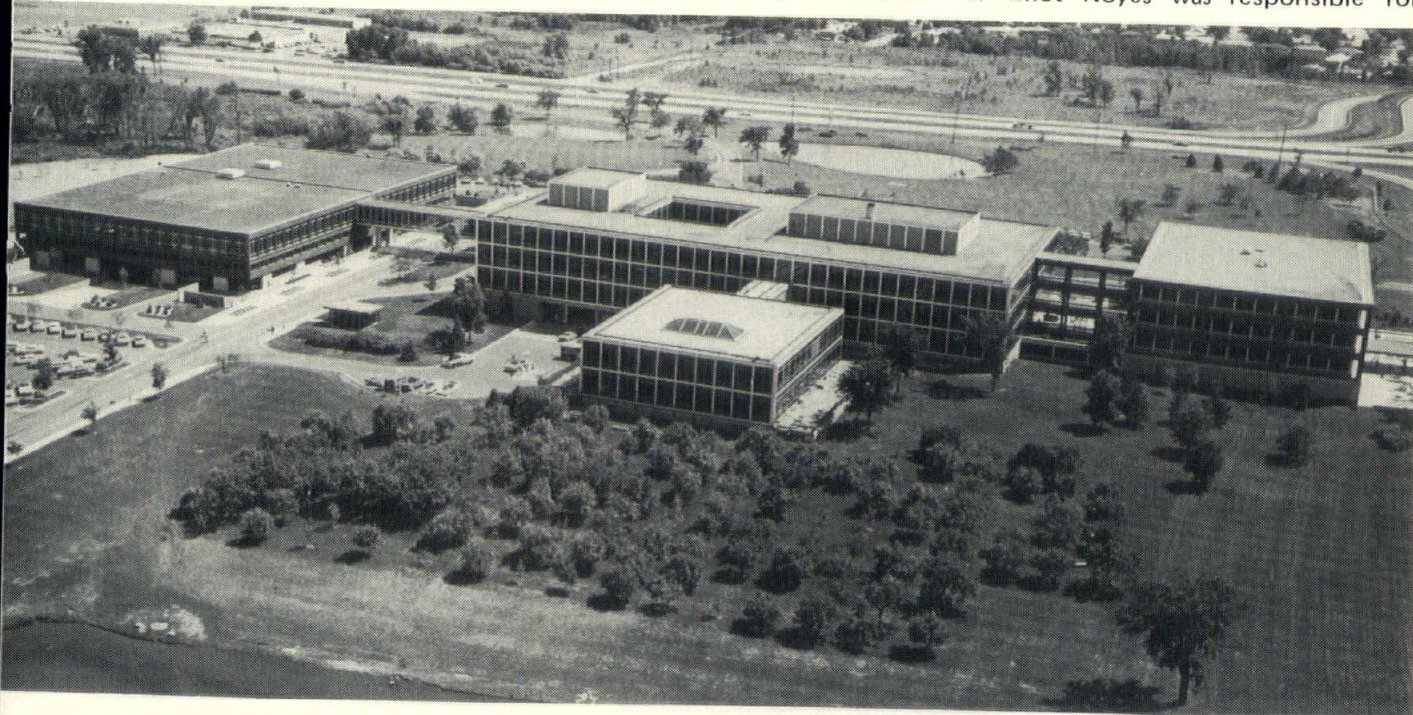
To a visitor, the Cities present more than an image of lakes and fine residential areas; they enjoy the physical assets of many office, research and manufacturing environments created by architects and corporations that have built here.

A building program in today's business world is an objective process. The corporate client is not unique among clients in this regard, but may be the best equipped to demand a balance of image, function and cost effectiveness. Creativity is often difficult within a corporate decision process, one that often prematurely goes to the "bottom line."

The importance given to image depends on the size, type of industry and philosophy of the corporation. The paradigm of corporate image and modern architecture is the IBM Corporation.

IBM is in a highly innovative, technical and profitable field and felt comfortable aligning itself with good design. Architect and industrial designer Eliot Noyes was responsible for

General Mills Headquarters, Minneapolis, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill





Northwestern National Life Insurance Building, Minneapolis, Minoru Yamasaki Associates, Architects

the IBM logo and product packaging. Recognized leaders in architecture have always been selected for IBM's buildings, including Saarinen for their facility in Rochester, Minnesota, which has been recently added to by The Hodne Stageberg Partners, Minneapolis. IBM brings concern, taste and consistency to the physical environment that it touches.

Insurance companies, always associated with major buildings, are not only responsible for the facilities they occupy but for those that they finance. Prudential Insurance Company of America for a number of years enjoyed the tallest, however mediocre, buildings in Chicago and Boston only to be outdone by the taller and more innovative John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company buildings in both cities.

More recently, and representative of the demographic transition in the country, Johns-Manville corporation built an architectural competition winner outside of Denver in its corporate move from New York City to the Rocky Mountains.

Locally in Minnesota, we have enjoyed a number of commitments to a quality environment by corporations. Northwestern National Life Insurance Company pioneered in downtown Minneapolis as the first major builder in Gateway Center. They hired nationally known architect Minoru Yamasaki to create a building that not only gave them an image but related to what was to become the Nicollet Mall.

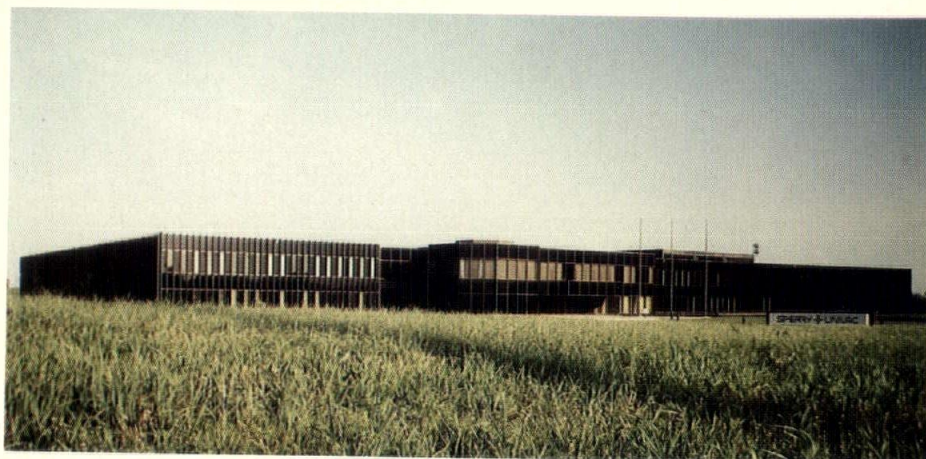
Both the 3M Company and General Mills, Inc., responding to land availability, created new "office parks" based on long-range master plans and the integration of landscape design and architecture. Both complexes present a major image as one enters the metropolitan area from the east or west. General Mills has not only adhered to a consistent architecture, it has patronized various artists by locating sculptures throughout the site.

The downtown areas have not been forgotten, with the most notable additions in the past decade the IDS Center in Minneapolis by Johnson/Burgee and the Economics Laboratory headquarters in Saint Paul by Wold Associates. Both are excellent office towers, not only well-detailed in tower fenestration but superior buildings in their relationship to the urban fabric of skyways and plaza/mall. Minneapolis has especially benefited by the investment in the IDS Center—it is a piece of archi-

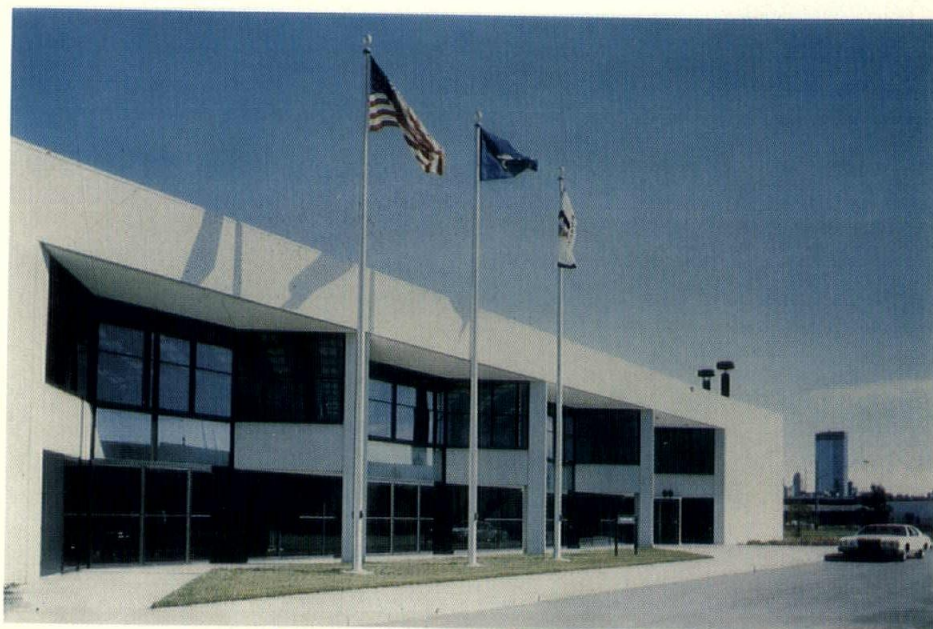
Gelco Corporation, International Headquarters, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, Parker Klein Associates, Architects, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Balthazar Korab, photographer

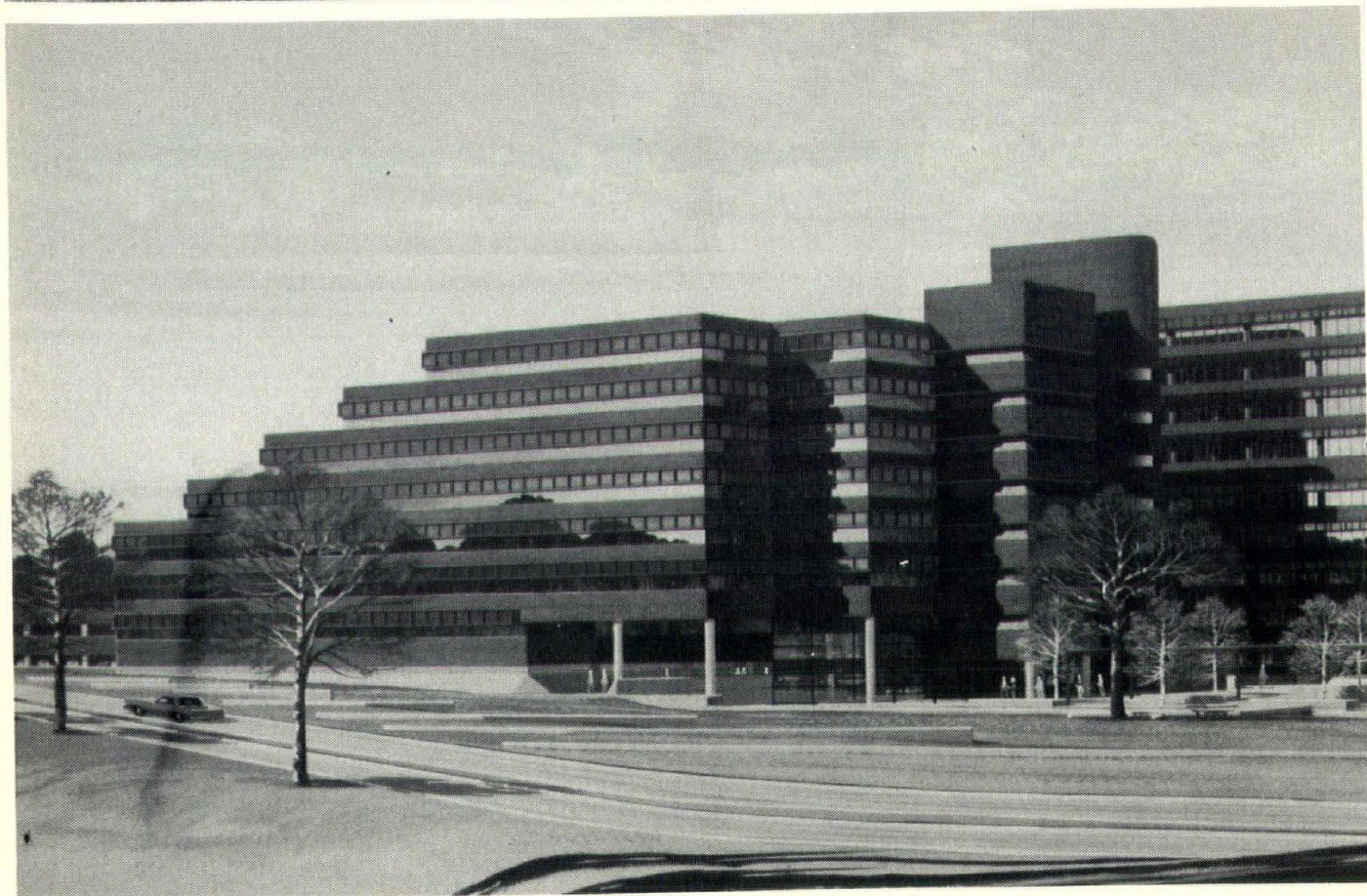
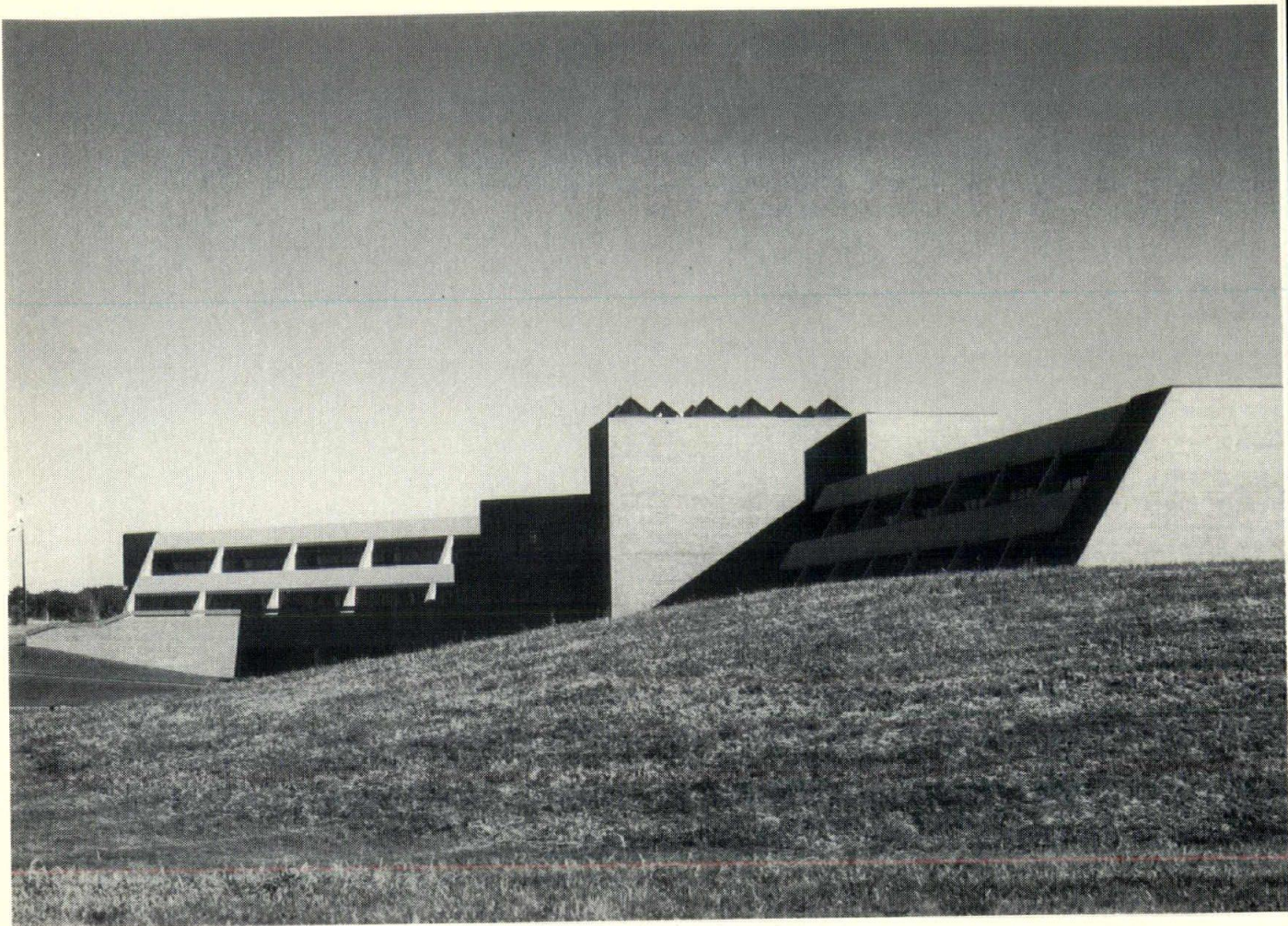


Univac Park Office and Laboratory Facilities, Eagan, Minnesota, The Architectural Alliance, Minneapolis, Minnesota



Graco Inc., Technical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Setter, Leach & Lindstrom, Inc., Architects & Engineers, Minneapolis, Minnesota





ecture that has deserved to become the focus of the entire downtown.

Other recent projects also exemplify creativity within the balance of image, function and cost effectiveness. Honeywell's new corporate headquarters investment in Minneapolis is representative of current architectural trends toward building re-use and energy conservation. Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc., associated with Ellerbe engineers, have created a new image for buildings that had grown haphazardly for years. They designed a new articulated mass, centered around a plaza that has given Honeywell a sense of place. Not only is the project a reaffirmation to its neighboring section of Minneapolis, but the use of solar collectors is unmatched in the country.

To the east of Saint Paul, Western Life Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the Saint Paul Companies, is nearing completion of its corporate offices, which sit dramatically at the intersec-

tion of two freeways. Not only is the building designed to give Western Life a major image, its simple angled geometry and stepped section by Ellerbe Associates generates from sun and energy loads on the building.

Other new suburban office buildings of note are the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota building, Eagan, by The Cerny Associates and The Architectural Alliance; Gelco Corporation headquarters by Parker and Associates—a sensitive mirror glass building on the edge of a woods in Eden Prairie; and Cargill, Inc., world headquarters at Lake Minnetonka by Vincent Kling, Philadelphia.

The downtowns are also witnessing a new wave of construction activity with The Pillsbury Company erecting a 36-story office tower in Minneapolis along with North Central Life Insurance Company's commitment to build a 25-story building in Saint Paul.

Recent environmentally sensitive



Top left

Northwestern Bell Office Building, Plymouth, Minnesota, Ellerbe Associates, Inc. Shin Koyama, photographer

Bottom left

Honeywell Corporation Headquarters Expansion, Minneapolis, Hammel Green and Abrahamson, architectural and Ellerbe Associates, Inc., engineering

Right

First National Bank of Minneapolis, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Peterson Clark & Associates, Hodne/Stageberg Partners, architects

construction by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company is especially significant not only because the telephone company is one of the largest real estate owners in the state, but because the parent organization, AT&T, has been associated with many utilitarian telephone equipment buildings across the country. The Plymouth office building is topographically interesting for the way it becomes part of the landscape and its architectural details are noteworthy. Ellerbe Associates, the architects, were also responsible for the new equipment tower in Saint Paul; a sculptured high rise that preserves the small tower scale of the city by contrasting to the adjacent older telephone building.

Environmental concern has also been exhibited on a smaller scale. Andersen Corporation commissioned Rafferty, Rafferty and Mikutowski for the design of an addition to their corporate headquarters at Bayport. The display space and entrance, detailed

in brick and wood, represent the Scandinavian tradition of the quality window manufacturer. In Minneapolis, The First National Bank of Minneapolis has exhibited concern for architectural detail in the design of their branch banks by Bergstedt, Wahlberg, Bergquist and Rohkohl.

Corporate building accomplishments are not uniformly to the point of unquestionable success. Many, however, should be recognized for their contribution to environmental quality. This contribution is an aspect of the region's "quality of life" and should be perpetuated. Hopefully the Twin Cities are setting an example for what can be accomplished when corporations patronize good architecture. □

Frederick Richter, AIA, is Director of Design for Ellerbe Associates and works locally and nationally with corporate clients. Richter also holds teaching positions in architecture at Macalester College and the University of Minnesota.



Crystal Court at IDS Center, Minneapolis,
Philip Johnson/John Burgee and Edward F.
Baker Associates, architects

Civic Architecture A Corporate Concern

Dixon Bond

Business and its leadership have been instrumental in the development of educational resources, social services, community redevelopment and even the attitudes of government.



In the beginning were wide prairies and, to the north, tall forests of fir and pine. A great river flowed toward the south. When early settlers arrived, they easily began to till the prairie soil, and cut the long trees for construction. Communities were formed—Saint Paul, Saint Anthony, Minneapolis. Many other cities were also based on the friendly natural resources; and industry developed. Milling processed grain from the rich earth. Lumber was made from the forests. Rail transport was formed to serve the industry, providing transportation to the east and west. Commerce and banking developed to serve the people. Homegrown wealth, often of relatively modest size compared to the older wealth of the east, rewarded the diligence of those who worked hard to develop the area and its resources. A strong community pride evolved.

A strange way to begin an article on the business community's involvement in civic architecture? Perhaps. Yet that single paragraph covering several generations begins to explain

the unique involvement that has continued to the present, resulting in an extraordinary number of civic architectural projects in which the Twin City area takes great pride. For the early wealth from locally developed business was enough to spark an interest in cultural activity, and enough to involve community leadership in creating institutions for itself and the population of a type that eastern communities cherished and pointed toward in justification of civic pride. The wealth was not substantial enough, for the most part, to allow the ego-gratification of projects funded by one individual. The community leadership, mostly businessmen, had to join together in order to make possible those projects agreed upon as desirable for their communities.

The history continues beyond the first paragraph, of course, and has resulted in a metropolitan area which headquarters a large number of regional, national and international businesses. More important: the attitude developed by the early business leader-

The Science Museum of Minnesota, Hamel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., architects

ship has not only continued but has also grown, fostering a business involvement in the community which is unique. Indeed, civic architecture is only one visible example of that attitude and involvement. Business and its leadership have been instrumental in the development of educational resources, social services, community redevelopment, and even the attitudes of government. A climate of joining together for the civic good pervades Minnesota.

There is major significance in this brief look at the origin of involvement. Many communities throughout the United States have looked to local tax funds to provide for all or a major portion of the construction and operation of most non- or quasi-governmental public facilities. This area, however, has been provided with a multitude of facilities available to the public which have been constructed and are operated almost entirely with private funds. The result of this "can do" philosophy—more facilities, more continued concern for those facilities and the community, much of the "quality of life" upon which we pride ourselves, and a local tax base not diverted from other concerns.

Not only has the business leadership involved itself and its business in the funding of local projects, it has also given time and talent to the creation of civic architecture as part of that involvement. In one instance, 25% of the time of the president of a locally-headquartered retailer's development division was obligated to shepherd a major project to its conclusion. He was joined by the head of engineering of a local diversified foods company, the president of a bank, and the retired chairman of the board of directors of a major locally-headquartered industry—all of whom spent five to ten hours per week for three years serving as a building committee. Their services—otherwise unavailable to the institution involved—brought knowledge and talent to this development of an example of civic architecture. The names of these individuals are unimportant. Similar business involvement has been duplicated many times; again, a continuation of the attitudes developed very early in the life of our community.

For the purpose of this article, it is important to dwell for a moment on a definition of "civic architecture." In the broad sense, any governmental construction can be considered civic

architecture along with any other facility created for use of a major segment of the population. The business community played an extremely important role in the development of the original Minneapolis Public Library and in the city's famous park system. Governmentally-funded facilities, though, are not the topic. It would be difficult to deny that the Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis with its dramatic plaza, or the Hennepin County Government Center with its surrounding park areas along with the original City Hall in downtown Minneapolis, or the State Capitol in Saint Paul are not forms of civic architecture. In the broad sense they certainly are. From a more limited and specialized viewpoint, the concentration here is upon what has been done beyond the government's capabilities.

From just before 1960 to today, many examples of civic architecture have been created in Minnesota. While most of the examples cited here are in the Twin City area, it should be noted that cities such as Rochester and Duluth are not immune to the attitude and have privately created numerous examples of good, civic architecture.

Some of the more obvious examples of the philosophy are in cultural facilities. In the last fifteen years or so, major cultural facilities have been created in both Minneapolis and Saint Paul at a private investment of more than \$50,000,000. The value would be substantially higher in today's dollars. Business leaders, as well as other individuals within the community, have provided direction and guidance for these facilities. They are built—and, for the most part, paid for. While government has assisted through associated facilities such as Orchestra Hall's parking ramp, no local tax dollars have been involved in actual construction. The Guthrie Theater, the Saint Paul Arts and Science Center (home of Chimera Theatre, the Minnesota Museum of Art and the Minnesota Science Museum), the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts Park (home of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and the Children's Theatre Company and School), Walker Art Center—all exist, and all are available to the community. New examples are being built, such as the Minnesota Science Museum's new expanded home in Saint Paul and the renovation of the Old Federal Courts Building (Landmark Center, now a community facility). In this latter

Left to right:

Skyway link, downtown Minneapolis, Edward F. Baker Associates, architects

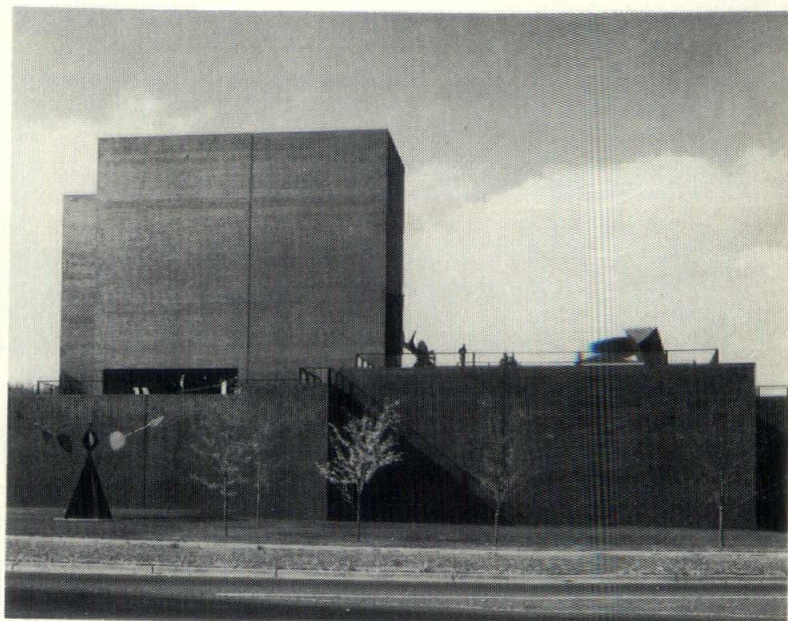
Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts, Minneapolis, Kenzo Tange and Parker-Klein Associates, architects for addition and renovation

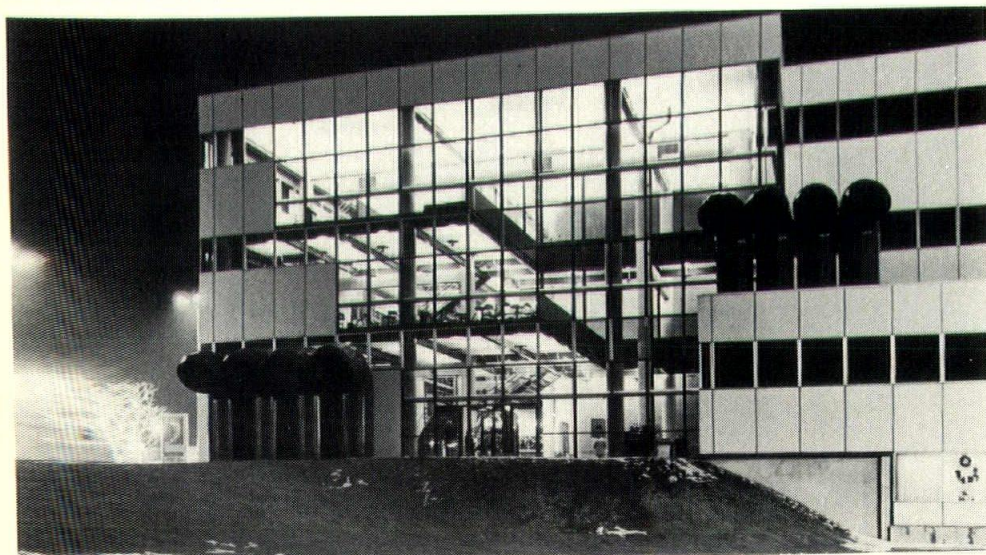
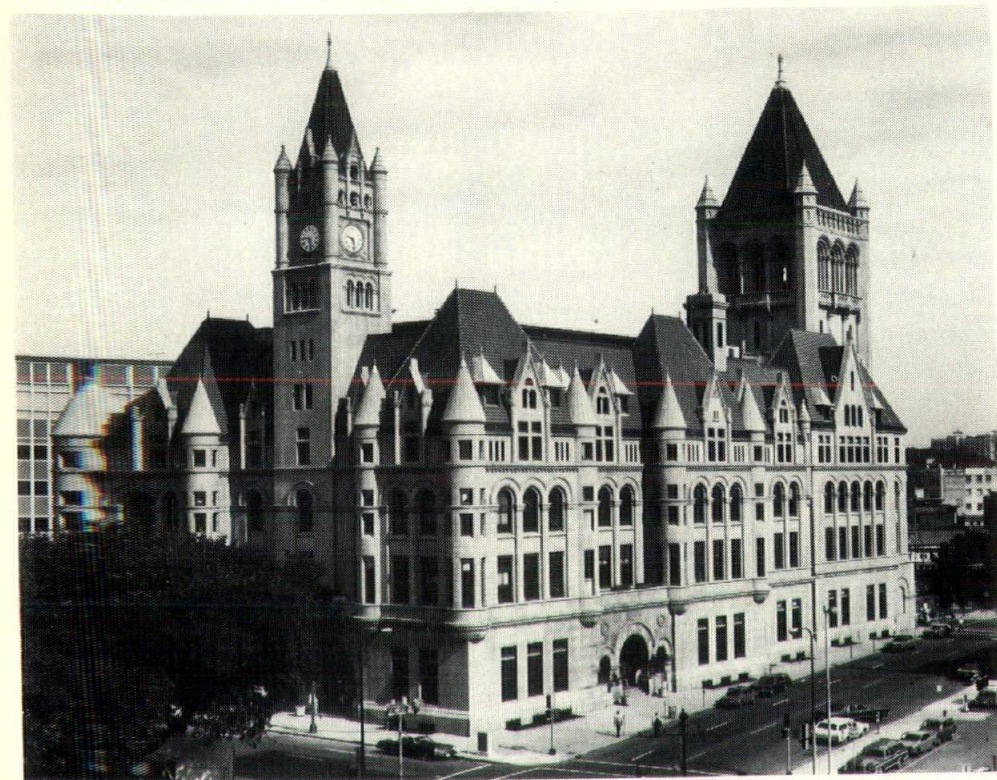
YWCA, Minneapolis, Freerks/Sperl/Flynn Architects

Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Lawrence Halprin Associates

Peavey Plaza, Minneapolis, Lawrence Halprin Associates

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Edward Larrabee Barnes, architects





example, the narrow definition would not identify the original facility as privately-funded civic architecture; but the renovation and re-definition of the facility certainly qualifies. Another renovation, that of the Masonic Temple in downtown Minneapolis as a cultural home for the Cricket Theatre and the Minnesota Dance Theater, is under consideration and may soon be added to the list.

The new YWCA in downtown Minneapolis is an obvious example of socially-conscious civic architecture. Regional YMCA's, while not having as much architectural impact on the area as a whole, have had substantial impact on their neighborhoods. Again, the business involvement is there.

The Jewish Community Centers of both Minneapolis and Saint Paul must also be cited, even though their audience is more defined, for they have been provided by a socially concerned group with heavy business involvement for a much broader segment of the population than the providing base.

The original Nicollet Mall is indeed an example of civic architecture. Some would argue that the Mall is governmentally funded, but in truth, the major portion of cost was paid for by the benefitting property owners who could have declined to do so. Governmental funding was primarily a financing method. Alongside the Mall is Peavey Plaza, associated with Orchestra Hall—also a distinct piece of civic park architecture.

The Minneapolis skyway system is a most striking example. While there is a direct benefit to the funding businesses in many cases, it would have been easy for most of them to justify not spending several hundred thousand dollars so that people might more easily traverse the city streets. The result of the Mall and the skyway has been the preservation of a viable, alive and exciting core city. The skyway system in Saint Paul is as far-sighted, but governmentally supported. The same philosophy and attitude have caused individual businesses to go beyond their own immediate functions in architectural design to provide quasi-civic architecture. Good examples are provided by the site treatment of Northwestern National Life Insurance Company and General Mills.

I have not cited, obviously, all examples of privately-financed civic architecture. The examples merely serve to prove the thesis. Nor do I purport all examples cited to be archi-

tecturally superior. Some will prove venerable, some will not. However, all are the result of an attitude which provides the climate for good architecture and all functionally benefit the communities in which they exist.

Is this area unique in its business involvement, promotion and support of civic architecture? Perhaps. Without studies of other areas, certainty is difficult—but if you take the opportunity to look around as you visit other cities, you will find a much greater dependence on local tax dollars for those examples that do exist. And locations are often determined by the need to redevelop, rather than by means of more thoughtful criteria.

We can be deeply grateful for those early attitudes that are now ingrained several generations later. We can be

deeply grateful for the constant cross-fertilization within the socially-conscious business community that broadens the base of that attitude. We can be deeply grateful for the level of taste and the almost-reverent appreciation among the leadership for the functional art of architecture, allowing latitude and diversity. And we can be grateful that we live here, and now—in a community with recognized needs and the opportunity to have those needs fulfilled. □

Dixon Bond is a Northfield, Minnesota based independent project consultant in the arts and on architectural projects. He is currently under contract to the First National Bank of Minneapolis, assisting on the bank's major downtown Minneapolis development. Previously, he served as Vice President of the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts, with responsibility for the planning and development of Fine Arts Park.



Left:

The Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, Ralph Rapson Architects

Landmark Center, Saint Paul, Winsor/Faricy Architects for renovation

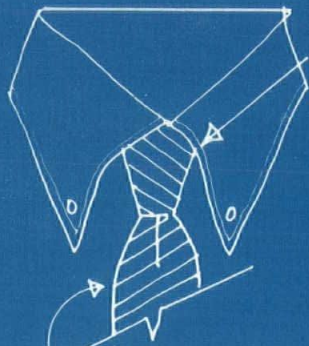
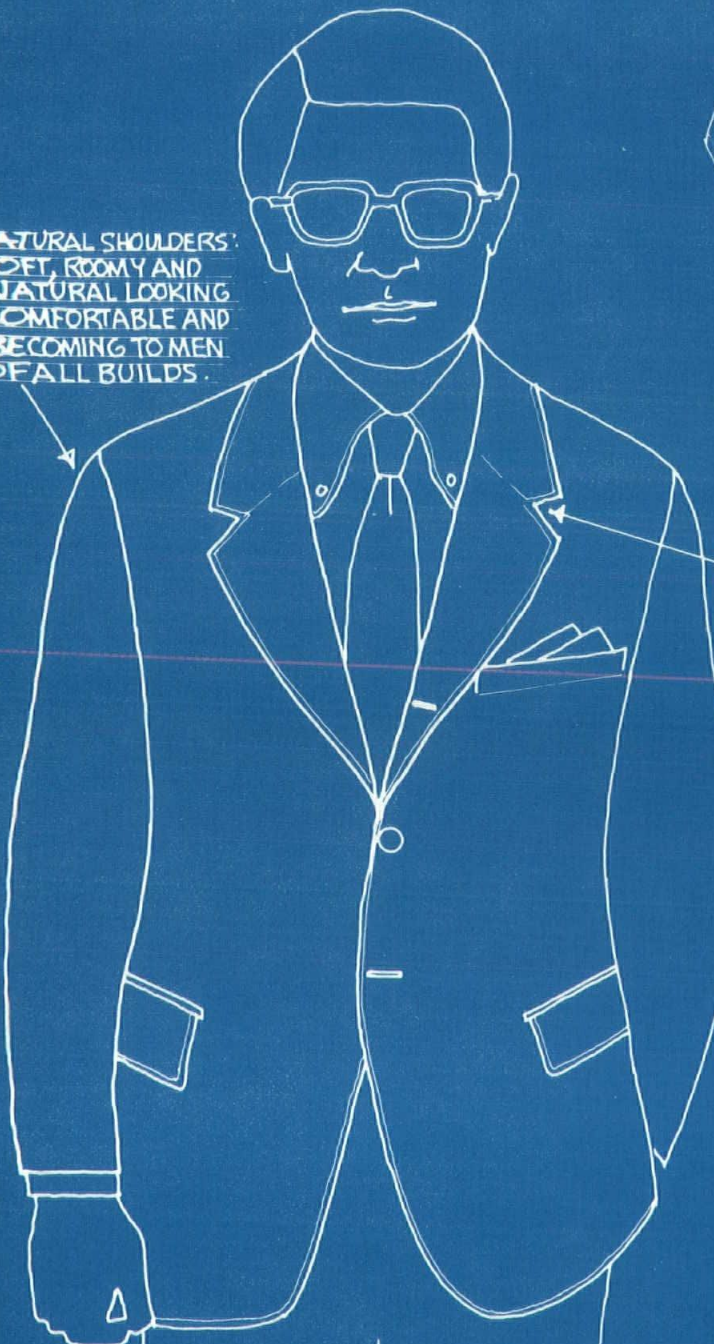
Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, Hardy, Holtzman and Pfeiffer, Hammel Green and Abrahamson, architects

Right:

Masonic Temple, Minneapolis, 1916 photo, Svedberg-Vermeland Architects Inc. for renovation

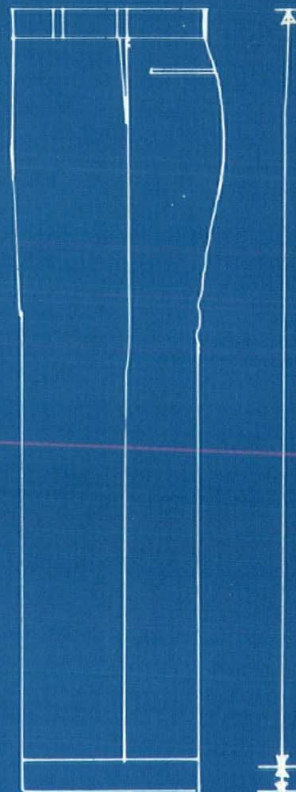
Sims explains traditional clothing in terms any architect can understand.

NATURAL SHOULDERS:
SOFT, ROOMY AND
NATURAL LOOKING
COMFORTABLE AND
BECOMING TO MEN
OF ALL BUILDS.



SHIRT: COTTON OXFORD CLOTH
BUTTON DOWN COLLAR WITH
A SLIGHT ROLL AT THE NECK.

TROUSERS: STRAIGHT LEG,
OR SLIGHTLY TAPERED.



TIE: 4-IN-HAND KNOT
3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " OR LESS IN WIDTH
IN A VARIETY OF
ENGLISH PATTERNS
AND FABRICS.

LAPEL: NARROWER,
NOTCHED AND
GENTLY ROLLING.

THREE BUTTON JACKET:
FULLER EASIER FITTING
FUNCTIONALLY DERIVED
TO COMBINE COMFORT
AND STYLE.

CONSTRUCTION: FEWER INNER
LININGS, LESS EXCESS PADDING
ALLOW GARMENT TO WEIGH
LESS AND GIVE AND TAKE
WITH BODY MOVEMENT.



SHOES: THICK LEATHER SOLES WITH REVERSE
WELTING, LEATHER LINING, ORTHOPEDICALLY
CORRECT, IN A VARIETY OF STYLES SUCH
AS OXFORD, WING TIP OR BLUCHER.

E. Sims Inc.
MINNEAPOLIS · WAYZATA

JOB NO.

DATE

SHEET

1

LASALLE COURT BUILDING 4350 So. 8th. ST. MPIS., MN.

Elizabeth Close Minnesota's Premiere Woman Architect

Bonnie Richter



Few can say they have shared in the Modern Movement as completely as Minnesota architect Elizabeth Scheu Close, FAIA. Born of an internationalist family, Close was profoundly influenced by her childhood home in Vienna, designed for her parents in 1912 by Adolf Loos. Loos is widely regarded as one of the earliest proponents of the Modern Movement in Europe and consciously or otherwise, Loos' teaching wore off on a young Lisl Scheu.

There had never been much question that Lisl would one day be a professional—it simply remained to be seen which profession she would choose. "It was always assumed that I would earn my own living," she says. Her

mother was an internationally recognized writer and publisher of children's books; her father was a lawyer and alderman in Vienna. Dr. Scheu was also instrumental in starting the first post-World War I housing program in Vienna and Lisl was steeped in housing for most of her school years.

But the overriding influence was probably the house in which she lived. The residence was unusual for any number of reasons. Most notably it was entirely devoid of exterior decoration—no turrets, bays or gables. This ventured on heresy in rocco Vienna. "The giant staircase," as the home came to be called, was considered shocking.

The house became a welcome haven for artists, writers, students, foreign

NEAL DEMOUNTABLE PARTITIONS & LANDSCAPE DIVIDERS ARE:

- 1
DESIGNED TO ALLOW
ARCHITECTURAL INPUT
- 2
PRICED COMPETITIVELY
- 3
MANUFACTURED,
INSTALLED & SERVICED
BY DEPENDABLE LOCAL
PERSONNEL

neal

w. e. neal slate co.

7975 WALLACE ROAD
EDEN PRAIRIE MINNESOTA 55343
TELEPHONE (612) 941-2440

Grazzini Bros.
& COMPANY

We specialize in:

TERRAZZO
TERRAZZO REFINISHING

CERAMIC TILE
QUARRY TILE

EPOXY AGGREGATE WALLS

EXPOSED AGGREGATE

SPECIAL FLOORINGS

GYM FLOORS

CEMENT GRINDING

Over 50 years experience

Grazzini Bros.
& COMPANY

620-16th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55454
612-336-7735

correspondents—any wayfarer who came to Vienna could find a welcome at the Scheu residence and they all said it felt “just like home.” They came from every corner of the world—the Egyptian medical student, the French law student, Ezra Pound, John Gunther—some stayed for dinner, others for years. It was one of the few places where the Russian and American ambassadors could sit down and have a nice talk.

There were frequent chamber music programs in the Scheu living room, with composers and performers from throughout the world taking part in the impromptu sessions. Dione Neutra met her husband, architect Richard Neutra, while staying at the Scheu residence—she was studying cello in Vienna, he was a student of Loos. Close attributes part of her love for cello to listening to practice sessions down the hall, and Richard Neutra is deeply respected as an architect by Close.

While Close chose architecture as her field, music has remained a close second. She plays cello with the Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis, for which she practices daily, and is a board member of the Minnesota Opera Company and New Friends of Chamber Music.

The choice of architecture was not an easy one in the 1930s—it was not considered a woman's field and the curriculum was stringent. Close committed herself, however, and after study at the Technische Hochschule, she attended graduate school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She had left Vienna and come

to America because of the anti-woman attitude at the university there and a generally reactionary political climate.

“MIT was just superb,” Close says. “It was a great place to work—not at all anti-woman.” And, perhaps more importantly, MIT was in the 20th century when it came to architecture. Harvard was still drawing Corinthian columns and sundry decorations, she recalls.

After graduation she had intended to study with Walter Gropius at the Bauhaus but it had disbanded. Instead, she went to Philadelphia to work on a public housing design with Oskar Stonorov. Commissions for architects were in short supply during the Depression; when the project was completed there was little to expect but unemployment.

Word came from Minnesota that there was a housing project being designed in north Minneapolis, Summer Field. A fellow MIT classmate, Winston Close, recommended Lisl for a position with the consortium of design firms working on it and she became designer for two years with Magney and Tusler, forerunners of Setter, Leach and Lindstrom.

In 1938, Lisl opened an office with Winston and shortly afterwards they were married. Their first project was for cooperative housing, which never got off the ground, and Winston was holding down another job with the Homeowners Loan Corp. for income. During World War II, Winston was in the Navy and the office was closed for three years. When they came back to Minnesota, the Closes bought a large home in the Lowry Hill area where they lived and worked until they built



Lisl Close wearing the “Atlantic Post” hat at the Captain's party prior to docking in New York in 1935. The Atlantic Post was the ship's newspaper.



Roy Close in 1944

their present office 26 years ago, located on Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis near the Mississippi River.

For 15 years the Closes designed prefabricated housing for the Page and Hill Co. as well as private residences. Today they have more than 100 custom homes to their credit in Connecticut, Virginia, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Idaho, Minnesota and Canada, as well as a number of commercial buildings. From the 1940s through the 1960s, Winston was a professor of architecture at the University of Minnesota and campus advisory architect. This left Lisl with major responsibility for the office.

From the outset, Close Associates took a different tack from the popular Modern Movement approach to design, which related art and architecture with the machine age. With the Closes, emphasis is placed first on site—a low-profile blending of site and structure rather than “tall, self-important” buildings that contrast with their surroundings. In the manner of Frank Lloyd Wright, “my husband and I are both convinced that you have to use the environment and that it is best used by disturbing it as little as possible,” according to Close.

The emphasis is on harmony with nature and the use of organic materials wherever possible—natural light, sheltered exposures, natural wood finishes (cedar, redwood, oiled teak), with minimal reliance on technology and high-maintenance materials.

What this philosophy has meant, in sum, is that “Elizabeth Close has created Minnesota’s most indigenous architecture,” according to Robert

Roscoe of The Design Collective, who has worked for Close Associates.

Many of the buildings that Close has designed, alone or in consort with her husband, have been published and recognized nationally. Because of their work, the Closes were named to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1969, the first husband and wife team to be named simultaneously. Additionally, Close has chaired numerous professional architecture committees on the national and local levels.

When addressed as Minnesota’s “premiere woman architect,” she gently quips “what you mean is, I’m the oldest.” Indeed, Close was a “woman in architecture” before the media created them. She dismisses discussion of feminism in architecture as overdone at this point—yes, there was prejudice; yes, one has to try harder, prove oneself more—in the end it is still architecture.

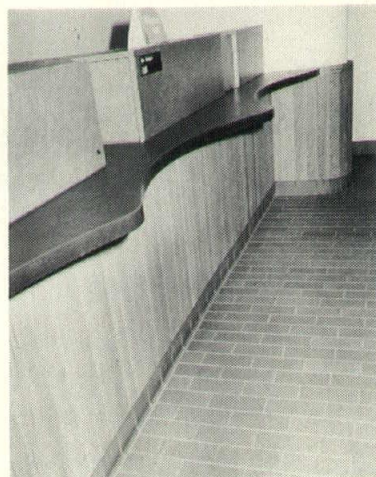
She and Winston have raised three children while maintaining a joint marital and professional partnership—an admirable accomplishment by any standard. Anne teaches German at the University of Minnesota, Roy is music critic for the Minneapolis Star, and Robert is a landscape architect.

Elizabeth Close’s consummate architectural work is most probably her Freshwater Biological Institute, Orono, Minnesota, for which she received an Honor Award from the Minnesota Society American Institute of Architects, in 1975. It could be said that the building represents the culmination of many experiential streams in Close’s life. The non-profit institute is an international, interdisciplinary center drawing scholars, scientists and laypersons together for the study of a matter of mutual survival—fresh water. As it meanders unobtrusively along the backwaters of Lake Minnetonka, the Institute becomes a warm melding of the thoroughly modern, yet environmentally correct, design approach. One scientist, who has worked in laboratories all over the world, says simply that “it’s the most humane science building I’ve ever seen.”

It is Close’s favorite work to date, and deservedly so. It is a quietly spectacular display of a lifetime’s experience with modernism in architecture. □

Bonnie Richter, an editor and journalist, is a frequent contributor to Architecture Minnesota.

The First Security State Bank is newly remodeled with the LONG LASTING BEAUTY OF



Quarry Tile flooring and Black Slate check desk and ledges.

All furnished and installed by

Drake Marble Company

CERAMIC TILE QUARRY TILE MARBLE SLATE
60 PLATO BLVD. ST. PAUL, MN 55107 PHONE: 222-4759

CARNEY INSULATION

when you
care to
Insulate
the
very best

4930 W. 77TH ST. #359

EDINA, MN 55435

PHONE 835-3717

A Capital Idea

CICC of Minnesota recommends that

"There shall be retained 5% from each progress payment until the work is substantially complete, at which time the Architect may recommend release of retained sums in accordance with paragraph 9.8, or final payment in full in accordance with paragraph 9.9."

We heartily endorse the Construction Industry Cooperative Committee's recommendation. The use of retainage is well and long established. Its purpose is clear, its need unarguable. Only the *amount* of retained percentage is in question.

Establishing the rate of retainage at 5% will mean less money tied up over a shorter period of time, a benefit for owner/architect and contractor alike.

The time has come to reduce retainage. The Piping Industry believes that doing so is a capital idea.

METRO ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING CONTRACTORS



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING CONTRACTORS



TWIN CITIES
PIPING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING CONTRACTORS

PIPING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

OF MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

A Guide to Architecture of Minnesota
By David Gebhard and Tom Martinson,
(University of Minnesota Press, Min-
neapolis). 469 pages. Hardbound
\$14.95, Softbound \$8.95.

Carl Remick.

David Gebhard and Tom Martinson
in their recently published **A Guide to
the Architecture of Minnesota** have in-
cluded a fine blue-on-gray photograph
of the I.D.S. Tower (we cannot resist
seeing the I.D.S. as symbolic) on their
book's back cover to be compared with
the photograph of an even cooler, more
crystalline structure on the front
cover, Saint Paul's Winter Carnival Ice
Palace of 1886.

Almost ninety years separate the
two structures. The economy has fluc-
tuated greatly in that period as has the
history of Minnesota. Most of what we
see of the built environment in Min-
nesota today was constructed during
that time. Those ninety years represent
also a period when photography ma-
tured to the point that it is now pos-
sible to argue whether or not it is an
art form.

No matter, photography is an in-
dispensable architectural tool. We are

all educated and entertained by photo-
graphs of buildings.

The photographs included in this
book are generally excellent (most, by
the way, have been taken by the
authors). You may have seen many of
them as part of the Bicentennial exhi-
bition "The Art and Architecture of
Minnesota" which travelled through-
out the state two years ago. In the
main body of the text there are entries
in excess of one thousand, each re-
presenting a single building of note.
It is the authors' stated purpose to
afford us "an understanding of signi-
ficant local architectural history." A
"photohistory" is presented. Yet of
those over one thousand entries, there
are printed photographs for but one
quarter to one third of the total. Per-
haps the authors are telling us to go
out and experience these buildings for
ourselves and to photograph them
ourselves rather than to rely on the
Guide's pictures.

The greatest service this book could
do is to make us more appreciative of
the past, guard more closely our archi-
tectural heritage and discover buildings
beyond our own county lines. I would



MASONRY SURFACE RESTORATION

Safe
Chemical Cleaning
& Paint Removal



SURFACE MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS

SERMAC of the Twin Cities Inc.
1920 Oakcrest
St. Paul, Minnesota 55113
612/631-2708



Circular, Spiral,

CONVENTIONAL

Industrial, Commercial,

ORNAMENTAL

METAL STAIRS

*Fabricated To Architects
Owner's Specifications*

C. W. OLSON, INC.

1310 QUINCY STREET N.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55413
Phone: (612) 335-1143

expect that the book will succeed in doing all these things.

Logically divided along geographic lines, the book's title suggests that it is intended to be a travel companion, a "Guide," kept in the glove compartment of the car rather than displayed on a coffee table. As such the book will prove to be invaluable to any student of the state's architecture.

The book's audience, however, should be wider than that of students. It will no doubt be easily read and appreciated by the general public—except for those parts of the text which deal with "style." Fortunately, style means more to the authors than mere packaging. But this is lost after a while by the compulsive need to identify this building as "Eastlake Revival" or that building as "Zigzag Moderne." Could anyone ever associated with the Old Swedish Lutheran Church at Millville have been aware of the fact that their humble place of worship does indeed give the effect of a Greek revival building with Gothic detailing? And does that so much matter to us?

Fortunately for the reader, there is a well outlined glossary near the book's end which describes with photographic example and well-outlined text

each of these referenced styles. I wish all architectural historians could rid their writings of terms we seem to be stuck with such as "The New Brutalism" or "The New Formalism." How new are they? Are they still new? Was there, for example, an "Old Brutalism?"

There is no question but that this book is academic and somewhat lofty. And it is a mistake, admittedly, to attempt to read it from beginning to end. It was not intended, I am sure, to be tackled in this manner. The reviewer must, however, study the book in its entirety and at once. Having done so, there is one overriding impression and that is that the text is tedious while the photographs are fascinating.

It would have helped, I believe, to have had fewer entries and more photos of those buildings selected as entries. The author should not have had to feel obligated to comment on quite so many buildings. There are entries without text. This should be acceptable and should have been more common. But to effect a better balance there should have been more photographs, and more photographs more simply captioned. It is understandably difficult to make

Architectural Hardware

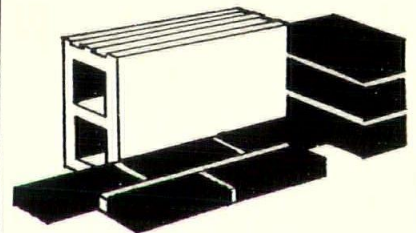
- Qualified Hardware Consultants (AHC)
- Specifications Written
- Locksmithing
- Installation
- Maintenance Hardware

Distributors of:
Sargent and Corbin Hardware



arners
Contractors Supplies

186 Kasota Ave.
Minneapolis MN 55414
Phone: 612/378-7300



Minnesota Brick and Tile
one of the few
"Iron Spot"
brick manufacturers
in the world

We are the largest
manufacturer selling direct in
the Twin City Market.

A complete line of all sizes and
shapes of brick, and
brick pavers.

Call or visit our showroom

**MINNESOTA BRICK
AND
TILE COMPANY**
520 West 86th St.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55420
Phone 612-888-9239

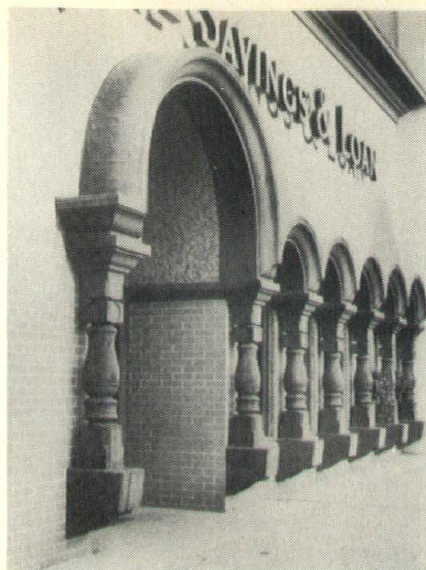




Eastlake office block



Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church



First Federal Savings and Loan Association



St. Rose's Catholic Church, near Kenyon

comments on so many buildings, particularly if the comment must be scholarly in tone. The individual paragraphs describing or commenting on a particular entry inevitably become repetitive.

The authors write well, when not constrained by those tight, weighty and sometimes too personal one-paragraph descriptions of individual buildings. Most cities, towns, and some neighborhoods receive lead-ins that are of sufficient length to permit a more relaxed approach to the text, some digression and a good amount of valuable, too often overlooked, information. The part that natural land features did or did not play in the formation of settlements is discussed along with the role of the land speculator and transit lines. A fine appreciation of how our cities and towns grew is exhibited. Similar outlines of the development of farmlands and the individual farm itself would be an interesting addition.

Many Minnesota architects are bound to take this book very personally and that is all to the good. Some of us would relish the opportunity to redo the book in bits and pieces (to include

INTERNATIONAL WHEELCHAIR SYMBOLS



Complete line of
interior and exterior
signs & decals

DESIGN
COMPLIANCE

For FREE illustrated price list contact:

ABC ABILITY
BUILDING
CENTER, INC.
1500 1ST AVE. NE
Rochester, MN 55901
507/289/1891
A Non-profit Rehabilitation Corporation

ARRIGONI BROTHERS COMPANY

TERRAZZO • CERAMIC TILE • MARBLE

Epoxy and Cement Exposed Aggregate
Panels cast in place or precast

PREEMA SPECIAL WALL FINISHES

WALKS

DRIVES

PATIOS

CEMENT FLOORS

Founded in 1927

Arrigoni
BROTHERS COMPANY



817 Vandalia St. 645-9321 St. Paul

Carl W. Fogelberg Co.

HEADQUARTERS FOR
BUILDING PANELS

- ALLIANCE WALL — Porcelain Enamel, Laminated Veneer, Sandwich and Chalk-board Panels
- ERDLER PERFORATING CO. — Three Dimensional Panels
- WOLVERINE PORCELAIN ENAMELING CO. — Architectural Porcelain enamel panels
- O.O. McKINLEY CO., INC. — Specialty Panels and Enclosed Walkways
- WALCON CORP. — Metal Building Panels and Louvers

CALL 646-7306
276 N. Snelling Av., St. Paul, Mn.
55104

*An Expansion of
Soil Engineering
Services, Inc.*



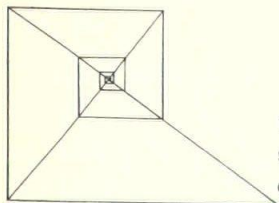
MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL 6800 S. County Rd. 18, Mpls., Mn. 55435 612 941 5600
NORTHERN MINNESOTA 3219 E. 19th Avenue, Hibbing, Mn. 55746 218 263 8869
CENTRAL MINNESOTA 200 Osseo Ave. N., St. Cloud, Mn. 56301/612 253 9940
Test Borings, Inspection of Construction, Material Testing
of Soils, Concrete, Bituminous and Building Components.



**SOIL TESTING SERVICES
OF MINNESOTA, INC.**

Consulting Geotechnical
and Materials Engineers

2405 ANNAPOLIS LANE, SUITE 280 • PHONE 612-559-1900
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55441



1500 GOODRICH AVENUE
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105
(612) 698-1574

IAN A. MORTON

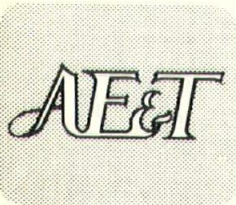
CONSULTANT • ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS



**twin city testing
and engineering laboratory, inc.**

662 CROMWELL AVENUE
ST. PAUL, MN 55114
PHONE 612/645-3601

COMPLETE TESTING SERVICES IN:
soil mechanics, foundation engineer-
ing; construction materials; NDT
and metallurgic analysis; chemical
analysis.



ENGINEERS
SURVEYORS
SOIL TESTING

515-232-7231

ames engineering and testing co

a subsidiary of JMA

2010 east 13th street • ames, iowa 50010



662 CROMWELL AVENUE
ST. PAUL, MN. 55114
PHONE 612 645-6446

SUB-SURFACE INVESTIGATIONS

ENGINEERING

- Analysis
- Recommendations
- Consultation

FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

LABORATORY TESTS



- 1. Stepped gable
- 2. Cartouche
- 3. Grotesque
- 4. Volute buttress

picture of Pillsbury Hall on the University of Minnesota campus, for example, as a trade for the Pelican Rapid's Pelican Statue). None of us would particularly wish to be starting from scratch on a project of this size. And for this we are all to be thankful to the authors and all those they credit in the book's foreword.

Without this book, I would probably never have known of many remarkable buildings. Some of the photographs deserve to find their way onto the cover of this magazine at some future date, such as the Afton Mill (Bahnenmann Barn) or Saint Rose's Church at Kenyon.

As I look again at these photos, in the context of the book it occurs that part of their effectiveness and specialness is gained by the fact that they are relatively small on the page, surrounded by a great deal of text. This seemingly contradicts my previous observation that there is too much text and too few photos. Yet it is more important to include only that which needs to be stated. Layout will follow. The larger photos in the "Photohistory" near the end of the book are not, by way of illustration, nearly as effective as those in the main body text.

All readers should take the authors' suggestion that other examples of Minnesota's buildings be forwarded to them for possible inclusion in future editions. In 1984 the National Convention of the American Institute of Architects will be held in the Twin Cities. It is important that this book be updated then. The architects of this state have an excellent base upon which to build.

Carl Remick is an architect with the Architectural Alliance, Minneapolis, and a member of the Architecture Minnesota Committee of the Minnesota Society American Institute of Architects.

New Architectural Guide is One of a Kind.

Students, tourists, preservationists, architects—in short, anyone interested in buildings—will have use for **Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945**, by John J.-G. Blumenson (to be published 3 October 1977. Paperbound, viii + 120 pages. \$6.75; \$4.50 to AASLH members, AASLH).

Identifying American Architecture answers a long-felt need in a unique manner. It allows the reader to visually

associate real buildings with its 214 photographs and to identify architectural styles, elements, and orders. No other book does this.

Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, architectural writer and critic of global renown, notes in his foreword that after recognizing these styles "you will be capable of making your own value judgements; I need scarcely add that sound value judgements are essential if in the end you want to plead for the preservation of the best."

What architectural styles are found in your neighborhood—Georgian,

Quality and value sell! Your customers recognize quality and value when they see ceramic tiles from Rollin B. Child Inc.

We stock and sell Romany-Spartan, Franciscan, Metropolitan, Summitville Quarry Tile and other fine lines of domestic and imported tiles from all over the world.

Your customers are always eager to buy ceramic tiles that lend a graceful beauty to any commercial or residential structure. Rollin B. Child Inc. has them ... by the carton or the truckload.



(612)
938-2785

ROLLIN B. CHILD INC.

420 Excelsior Avenue West, P.O. Box 397, Hopkins, Minn. 55343

prairie, international, Spanish, Colonial revival?

Have you ever been intrigued by a beautiful building and wondered when it was built, or how to describe it, or what combinations of elements were used in it?

More a glove compartment or top-of-the-desk book than a coffee table volume, **Identifying American Architecture** answers such questions with a text kept to a minimum. The book was designed to be used—to be carried about and kept handy and referred to often.

Identifying American Architecture has three sections: styles, index, and a pictorial glossary. The styles section uses three or four exterior views for each of the 39 styles; the sixteen-page



Gable Details

index is printed on contrasting paper in large type; and the extensive pictorial glossary provides a closer look at many different roofs, porches, wall finishes, doors, windows, and so forth. Every photograph is keyed to an explanatory legend by small numbered dots pointing out characteristic features.

John J.-G. Blumenson is an architectural historian whose work with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Canada's Heritage Trust led him to attempt in his first book to assist people of all walks of life in appreciating the architecture around them. His efforts, including trips to the offices of the Historic American Buildings Survey for most of the book's photographs, have resulted in **Identifying American Architecture**.

Susan Davis

MESSRS. LATROBE AND RICHARDSON, MEET TODAY'S BUILDING CODES-1

Can the works of Benjamin Latrobe, H.H. Richardson and other earlier architects meet today's building code provisions?

In other words, how should a government unit apply contemporary building codes to the rehabilitation of a building designed and constructed in pre-code times?

Can a mansion's elegant, sweeping staircase be retained, for example, or must it be sacrificed for a fireproof stair well?

Or, must doors that swing in originally be rehung to swing outward?

Such questions and hundreds more are being asked with greater frequency as the historic preservation movement grows in participants and in the number of adaptations, rehabilitations and restorations of still usable old buildings, and solutions are being found.

The problems and some of the answers are explored in *Preservation & Building Codes*, a publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Preservation Press.

The illustrated softbound book contains 25 papers given by architects, building code officials and preservationists at the first national conference held on the subject. Sponsor of the conference was the Trust, with 11 cosponsors.

Papers in the book first explore current issues and current solutions, dealing with historic preservation work in New Orleans, Seattle, New York, Richmond and Alexandria, Va., and other communities.

These are followed by a section on national code organizations. Topics of discussion include the following:


- Historic buildings and the Basic, Uniform, Standard and National Building Codes.

- Application of the Life Safety Code to historic preservation work.

- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) interest in building requirements.

Future directions are also discussed in the book. For example:

The Advisory Council on Historic

KOHLER

BOLD CRAFTSMEN
 SINCE 1873

KOHLER DISTRIBUTORS ARE

Baker Mfg. Company
Minneapolis

Bartley Supply Co.
St. Cloud and
Brainerd

Goodin Company
Minneapolis and
St. Paul

Graybow-Daniels Company
Minneapolis

Heles Supply Company
Worthington

A.J. Koch Company
St. Paul

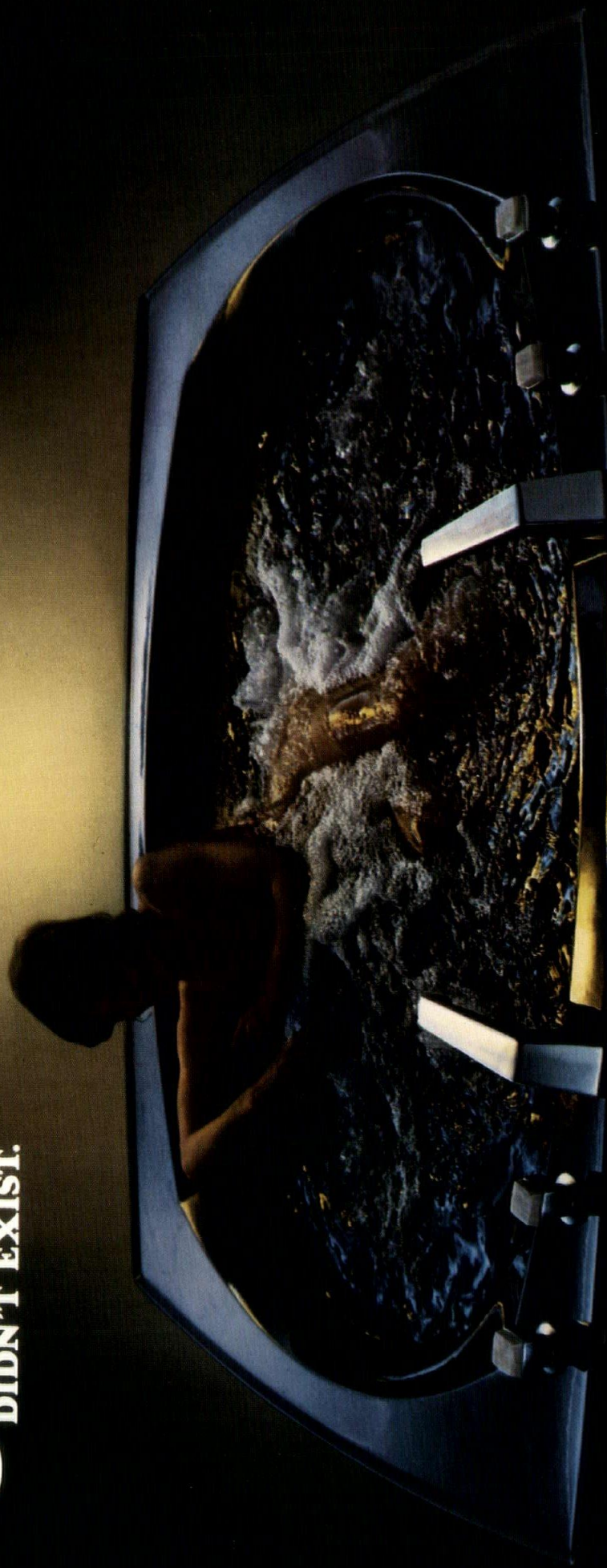
Marshall Northwest Pipe Fittings, Inc.
Marshall

A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co.
Minneapolis and
Rochester

North State Supply Corp.
Duluth

Wilson Supply Co.
Albert Lea and
Mankato

WHIRLPOOL BATHS AVAILABLE DIDN'T EXIST.



The Bath in Fiberglass 5½' x 7'. 6 adjustable jets.



Caribbean in Enameled Cast Iron. 6' x 36". 4 adjustable jets.



Sleeping Bath in Enameled Cast Iron. 5' x 36" x 20" deep. 4 adjustable jets.

Because until this year, whirlpool baths weren't available from Kohler. Now they are. And they're the best you can buy, for good reasons.

Kohler whirlpool baths offer you a choice. The Bath in fiberglass, 5½' x 7'. The 6' Caribbean and the 5' long, 20" deep Sleeping Bath, both in durable enameled cast iron. All in an unmatched selection of original colors to complement other Kohler fixtures. All with more built-in adjustable jets than most other whirlpool baths... and dual air controls for more pleasurable water massage.

Kohler whirlpool baths are designed for comfort, too. Unlike some whirlpool baths which have ridges and

bulges, Kohler baths are engineered for comfort and deep down whirlpool enjoyment.

Given the facts, Kohler's new whirlpool baths are the finest available. Our competitors might call it beginner's luck. We call it a Kohler tradition, and it has been going on for more than 100 years.

For more information on Kohler whirlpools, write to Box AB, KOHLER CO., KOHLER, WI 53044. Kohler products available in Canada.

THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER



Preservation, said Associate Legal Counsel John M. Fowler, was attempting to smooth the path for variances from OSHA for historic buildings.

William B. Lane, AIA, a practicing architect in St. Louis and chairman of the Committee on Historic Resources of the American Institute of Architects, promised that the committee would review the conference and make definite recommendations to the AIA Board of Directors. "As things are progressing now," he said, "it is a matter of convincing the various building codes organizations to include a section that gives discretionary powers to building officials when historic buildings are considered."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation hoped "to continue to serve as a communication vehicle both in responding to issues coming to its attention and in bringing those issues to the attention of national code organizations," said Russell V. Keune, AIA.

Keune, vice president for preservation services of the Trust, also suggested that a series of case studies and models for the application of building codes to historic structures might be developed.

The book concludes with summaries from the code official's view and from the architect's view.

Leo J. Cantor, PE, a commissioner of buildings in Richmond, Va., prepared the summary from the code official's point of view.

Stressing that his comments "are those of an individual building code official," he said that code officials, architects and preservationists "are all working toward the same objective."

"It is apparent," he said, "that restoration of historic structures is taking place even under current constraints of codes and standards. The problem area is how to execute restorations in the most effective manner without being inhibited by 'indiscriminate' interpretation of the building code regulations and standards."

Later in his summary, Cantor said, "We have to rely on good faith. Certainly the members of the National Trust are not advocating the exploitation of properties. What we are most concerned with is how to preserve the historic ambience while allowing for adaptation of historic buildings for current use."

The architect's view was that no responsible professional would want or

seek a blanket waiver from building codes for rehabilitation of older buildings.

Presenting this view was Nicholas H. Holmes, Jr., AIA, senior architect with Holmes & Geer, member of the Architectural Review Board of Mobile, Ala., and a former chairman of the AIA's Committee on Historic Resources.

Holmes asked, "Could not some provision be introduced into all codes delineating technical competency required of persons on any board of appeals or review committee?"

"The problem of adapting old buildings to new uses is not going to go away. It is going to be here from now on, and that is why this is an important conference. We have all gained a better understanding of preservation problems and the knowledge that through cooperation, inventiveness and imagination, acceptable solutions can be devised."

Copies of *Preservation & Building Codes* are available at \$4.00 from the Architectural Center, 402 N.W. Skyway, Saint Paul 55101.

NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST THIS MONTH:

Lifespace. Spiros Zakas with Margaret Miner. Macmillan. 14.00.

Zakas' theory of design concerns the definition of luxury. "For him luxury does not depend on the quantity of costliness of the objects you put into space; it arises from the way you experience space." 16 full color photographs, 57 black and white photographs, and 22 line drawings.

St. Paul: Saga of an American City. Virginia Brainard Kunz. St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce. 19.95.

"The history of the city to the present showing how much of old Saint Paul is still present today in its streets, homes, buildings, and parks and also in the progressive and adventurous spirit of its citizens."

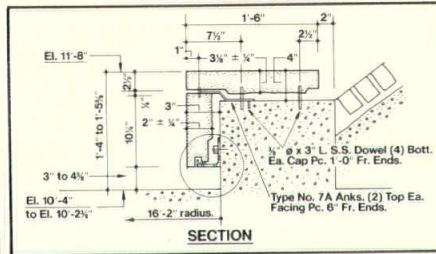
Big Art: Megamurals and Supergraphics, Environmental Communications. Running Press. 6.95.

"The Mural Movement is one of the most positive and beautiful legacies of the spirit and change of the '60's. Psychedelic art never survived but street paintings did, and now they adorn what were once some of the dreariest walls in practically every major city in North America." All color photographs.

Not-so-pedestrian plazas for pedestrians.



Architect: Murphy Levy Wurman, Philadelphia, PA
Project Architect: Vincent Maiello, Philadelphia, PA



For more information, plus a packet of full color literature illustrating our products in use, call (612) 685-3621 or write to the address below.



"The portraits in this book are a result of the direct confrontation Imogen made with the issues of life for those who were either, like herself, past ninety, or "after ninety" in seeking sense . . . Together they constitute a unique testament to the condition of old age—in its courage, its wisdom, its beauty, its dignity, its despair, and its loneliness."

Introducing the tile showroom with a total approach

Room Settings / Product Selection / Professional Services



As photographed at our new minnesota tile sketchbook showroom in the Leisure Lane mall in Edina

Research among architects and designers identified the need for a visual center where a wide range of better tile could be "seen and touched" in a variety of room settings and display vignettes. A place where current professional preferences in product, pattern and color could be carefully examined in one aesthetically pleasing location. The result is minnesota tile sketchbook.

beneficial in their design planning...and our displays a most appropriate setting to bring clients. Furthermore, our service has proven to be time saving when meeting their specification and delivery requirements.

For further information CALL (612) 925-2070
or write minnesota tile sketchbook at
7101 France Avenue South, Edina, MN 55435

We invite you to visit. Professionals who have been here say our selection has been very

 **minnesota
tile sketchbook**

Raylite

The Professional's Professional Insulation.

Raylite expanded polystyrene offers you all the versatility you are looking for in a building insulation material. It can be purchased as a rigid boardstock or as a water repellant masonry fill.

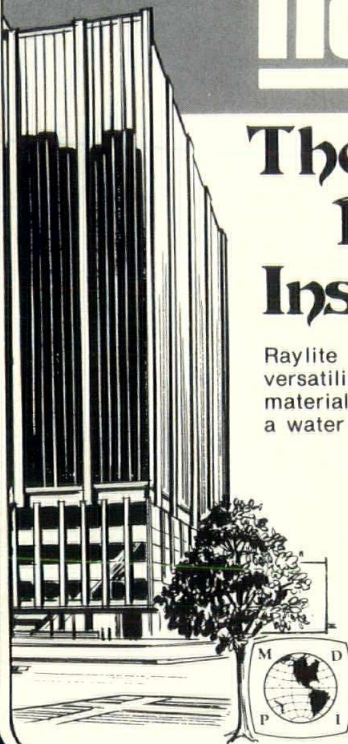
Commercial • Industrial • Residential

- low thermal conductivity
- low moisture-vapor permeability
- high strength to weight ratio
- dimensional stability
- easy installation
- economical

Manufacturing, fabrication, design,
consulting, technical assistance.

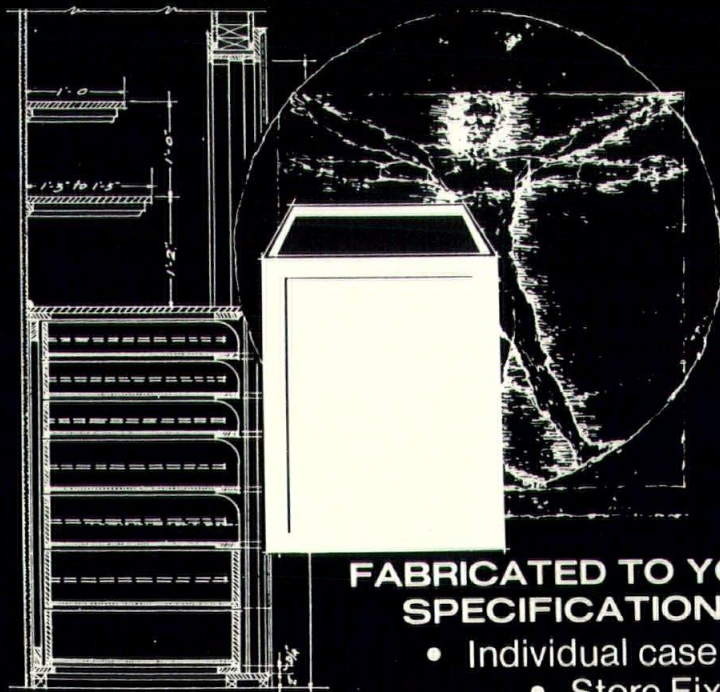
MINNESOTA DIVERSIFIED PRODUCTS, INC.

St. Paul, MN Phone (612) 645-4654



House and the Spangenberg House have been recommended as historically significant by that City's Heritage Preservation Commission. The Com Conservatory is credited with social significance and is the only surviving Victorian freestanding crystal palace conservatory in the state. The 1914 structure is a major achievement of Frederick Nussbaumer, a developer of the city's parks and boulevard system. The McGill house was built in 1888 in the Queen Anne style of the period for its original owner, Andrew McGill who was governor of Minnesota from 1886 to 1888. The Spangenberg House was built between 1864 and 1967 and is the oldest house in that part of the city. Frederic Spangenberg, a farmer and milk producer, built the stone structure as a pioneer farmhouse on what was then open prairie. Both the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commissions are presently headed by architects. The chairman of the Minneapolis HPC is William Scott. The Saint Paul HPC is chaired by Bernard Jacob, the editor of Architecture Minnesota.

ENVIRONMENTS INC. Traditionally Contemporary



FABRICATED TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS

- Individual case work
- Store Fixtures



**mahin
walz**

Modernfold
FIRST IN WALLS THAT MOVE



**mahin
walz**

Modernfold
FIRST IN WALLS THAT MOVE

NEW LOCATION

14324 Stewart Lane
Minnetonka, MN 55343
Ph. 935-7759

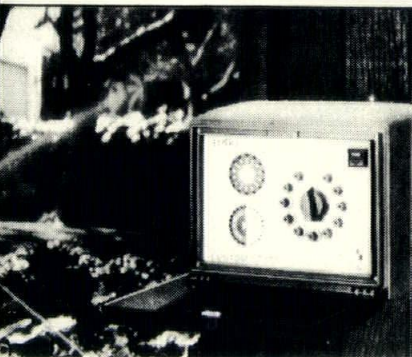
Dear editor:

I spent a fine day last week with my old pal, Ralph Rapson. I happened to see your publication **Minnesota Architect** and would like very much to subscribe to it.

I am currently teaching at Harvard and in my eighth year at The Architects Collaborative, and there are many Minnesotans here that would like to keep in touch.

If possible, I would like to begin with your November-December 1977 issue (10 Commandments of Architecture). Congratulations on your success!

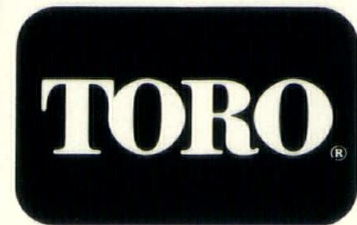
Michael F. Gebhart



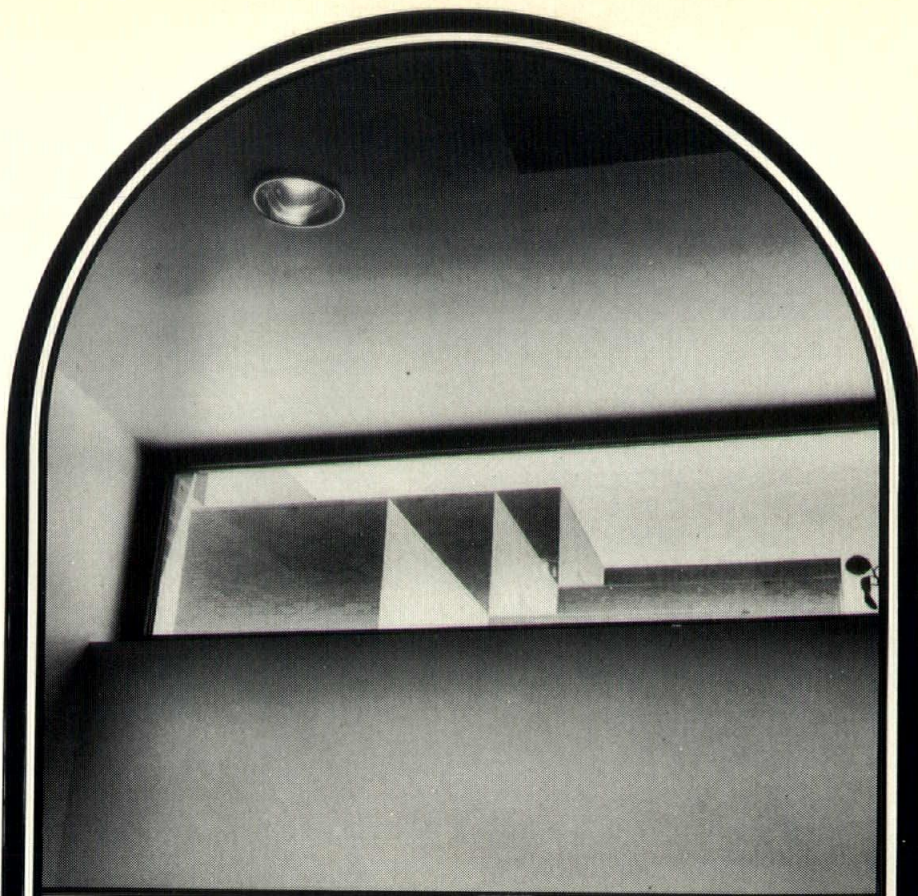
AUTOMATIC LAWN Sprinkler Systems

TORO offers many different sprinkler sizes and variations to handle any kind of watering situation. Backed with 50 years of innovative TORO engineering and turf care experience.

Lawn and Turf Sprinkling Systems



Call 475-2200. That's all you need to know — Minnesota Toro knows the rest.



Law School building, University of Minnesota, won highest honors in 1977 competition sponsored by American School and University magazine. Multi-level segments have 17 inch earth topping, plants, to reduce heat loss through roofs. It has other energy saving features. Leonard Parker Associates, architects; Bor-Son Construction Inc., general contractors.

A new **veneer plaster** gives the Law School building the tough, durable interior university buildings demand.

Now, benefits of plaster — hard, dense surface, damage resistant, easy to maintain — can be obtained without going to three coat 3/4 inch plaster.

New **veneer plaster** saves costs. Less material is used — it's only 1/16 to 3/32 inch thick. And it applies very fast.

Good reasons the Law School and many other recent projects have used **veneer plaster** interiors. Yours may be the next.

For veneer plaster design data, or facts on other veneer plaster projects, just call the answer man, Clint Fladland, at 645-0208.



**MINNESOTA LATHING &
PLASTERING BUREAU**
795 Raymond Avenue
St. Paul, Minn. 55114
Phone: (612) 645-0208

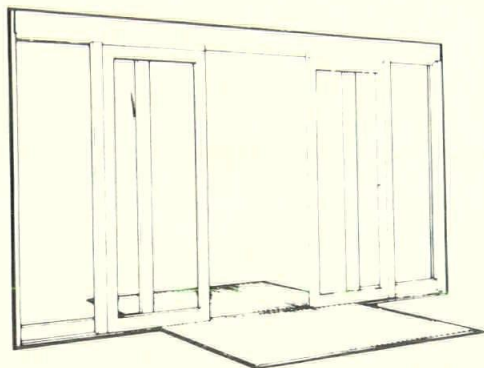
Stan's Door Services

SALES • INSTALLATION • 24 HOUR SERVICE



All Electric
Swinging & Sliding
Doors

Automatic
Self-contained
Operators



Phone 784-7024
4111 85th Avenue N.E.
St. Paul, MN 55112

Premier
SINCE 1902
does it right
electrically.

Installation and maintenance of industrial machinery and equipment - printing presses, rolls, process control, computer control, assembly line control, in-plant distribution systems; to makers' requirements or engineering plans and specifications. Any electrical need.

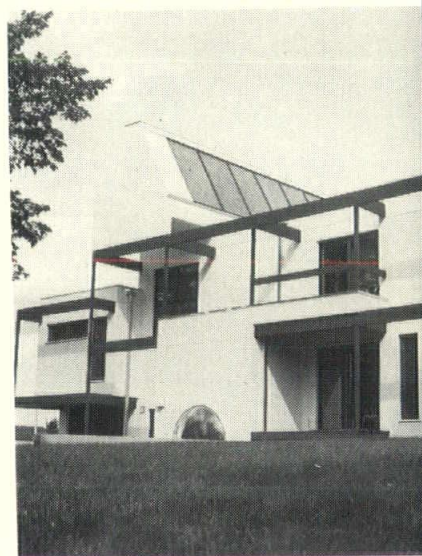
**PREMIER
ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION CO.**
115 East Grant Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403
(612) 332-7393

Aurora • Chicago •
San Juan, Puerto Rico

North Dakota AIA Design Awards

Four buildings designed by two Fargo architectural firms were recently named to receive awards in the Fifteenth Annual Design Awards program of the North Dakota Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Projects receiving awards were the Fargo National Bank Building in Fargo, Upson Engineering Building at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, Breckenridge Nursing Home in Breckenridge, Minnesota, and the Kranzler Residence in Moorhead, Minnesota.

The Kranzler Residence was designed by Design-7, Ltd. of Fargo. The



Merit Award, Design-7 Ltd., The Kranzler Residence, Moorhead, Minnesota



Merit Award, Foss Engelstad Foss, Architect, Engineer, Corbett Dehnert, Architects, The Fargo National Bank Building, Fargo, North Dakota

Fargo National Bank Building was designed by a Joint Venture of Corbett, Dehnert Architects and Foss Engelstad and Foss Architects of Fargo. The Foss Engelstad Foss firm also designed the Breckenridge Nursing Home and the Upson Engineering Building.

The award jury consisted of Winnipeg architects Gus Darosa, Ernie Walter, Alan Forester and John Petersmeyer. □



Merit Award, Foss Engelstad Foss, Architect/Engineer, Breckenridge Nursing Home, Breckenridge, Minnesota



Merit Award, Foss Engelstad Foss, Architect/Engineer, Upson Engineering, Phase II, Grand Forks, North Dakota

for
over
90 years

we've done
right by wood

From the world's finest hardwoods, we turn out millwork any architect would be proud of -- including fine matched cabinetry executed to your exacting plans and specifications.

Contact Don Boehmer, Jr., Roger Barlau or Rod Davies and learn about some recent installations that prove we do right by wood.

**SHAW
LUMBER CO.**

217 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103
(612) 488-2525

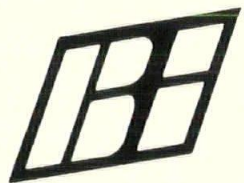


When You Think of **PANELS... Think of US!**

Preformed Steel Siding Inryco and Elwin G. Smith
 Standing Rib Roofing & Siding Kaiser Zip Rip
 Porcelain on Steel Kaiser Mirawal
 Porcelain on Aluminum Mapes
 Copper Laminated to Plywood Revere Copper
 Colored Aluminum Laminated to Plywood Panel "15"
 Stone Aggregate on Plywood Sanspray
 Formica Clad Interior Walls TMI Systems
 Insulated Closure Panels for Double Tee Decks Benoit Closure Panels
 Cement Asbestos Wall Systems We Have Them All

We will fabricate any laminated panel combination or
 shape you can think of.

WE DISTRIBUTE, FABRICATE & ERECT!



Benoit Inc.
 635 North Prior Avenue
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55104
 Inter State (800) 328-1436
 Intra State (612) 646-1387

A
R
C
H
I
T
E
C
T
U
R
A
L

P
H
O
T
O
G
R
A
P
H
Y



• EXTERIOR • INTERIOR •
 • INDUSTRIAL • PUBLICITY •
 • Complete service of publicity materials •



Construction Industry Finishing on Upswing

Construction markets scored another large gain in November with \$10.4 billion of newly-contracted projects reported by McGraw-Hill Information Systems Company's F.W. Dodge division. The latest month's total was a 20 per cent improvement over the year-ago amount.

November's seasonally-adjusted Dodge Index of total construction contract value advanced to 258, a gain of six per cent from October's 244 (1967=100).

"Sustained demand for housing and a solid improvement in contracting for nonresidential buildings were the dominant features of 1977's closing months for the construction industry," it was noted by George A. Christie, vice president and chief economist for F.W. Dodge. "These basic strengths point the way to further expansion in 1978," he added.

November contracts for nonresidential buildings, totaling \$3.1 billion, were 17 per cent above the year-earlier amount.

"In sharp contrast to the pattern of recent months, when commercial and industrial building set the pace in the nonresidential sector, November gains were concentrated among publicly-financed projects—schools, public administration buildings, and recreational facilities—suggesting that Round II of the Public Works Act is beginning to have its stimulative effect," the Dodge economist observed.

"For the first eleven months of 1977, however, commercial and industrial building was ahead of 1976's pace by a solid 26 per cent, while institutional building showed only a three per cent gain, with all of the coming in November," Christie said.

November's \$5.3 billion of contracts for residential structures extended 1977's large margin over the previous year by another month. The November amount, which was up 40 per cent from the same month a year earlier, brought the 1977 total for eleven months to \$57.2 billion—also 40 per cent over the amount for the same period of 1976.

"Analysis of 1977 housing data shows that the typical one-family

home built this year had 1,420 square feet of living space, and in that respect was virtually identical with its 1976 counterpart. However, the cost of building such a house, exclusive of land, was nearly nine per cent higher in 1977," Christie said.

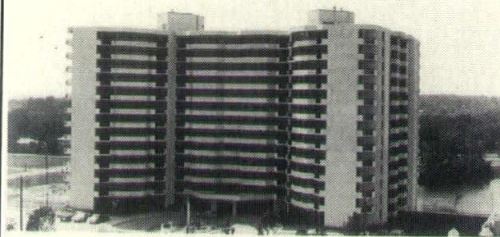
Contracting for nonbuilding construction declined 12 per cent in November to \$2.0 billion despite a strong volume of public works projects.

Responding to the stimulus of extra Federal funding, highway construction soared 62 per cent in November, while sewer and water projects were up 22 per cent. Electric utility construction was off sharply, however.

For the second consecutive month, not a single major electric power plant was started anywhere in the United States," Christie noted, adding, "This void follows a period of record activity in utility construction resulting in a total of \$19 billion in new projects during the first nine months of 1977."

At the end of eleven months, the total value of contracts for all construction initiated in 1977 was \$128.9 billion, up 25 per cent from the same period last year, and greater than 1976's full year total by \$15 billion. □

WHAT GIVES THE POINT OF FRANCE IT'S LONG LASTING FINISH?



THORO SYSTEM PRODUCTS

- Thoroseal Bedcote
- Thoroglaze

THOROSEAL BEDCOTE is a waterproofed, mill mixed, finish coat for portland cement plaster exposed (or flush) aggregate panels. It consists of cement, the proper silica in the correct mesh sizes, anti-shrink and plasticizing agents.

THOROGLAZE is sprayed on for a self-cleaning finish and a pleasing luster.

For waterproofing, restoring, protecting and correcting concrete, specify Thoro System Products.



CONPRO

UNIVERSITY AT 30TH AVENUE N.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55418
(612) 781-9583

Ceram-traz Has the Systems!



When you talk about
Special Finishes in floor and wall systems
...call us **612-929-1625**
and we'll give you the right answers.

"The cadillac of Floor and Wall Systems"

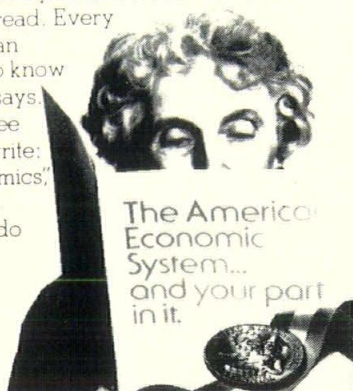
6500 Oxford Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55426



New Patent Applied for Device that will make some sense out of the energy conservation craze. An ingenious thermostat jacket, fully insulated, will help you save heating costs right at the source of the problem: the temperature control. Save money insulating your house, installing double glazing, etc. Be sensible, order a free trial demonstration of this unusual, and yet so simple Patent Applied for Device. Write, enclosing the thermostat manufacturer's name and serial number. Send \$3.56 to cover postage and handling, AM Box 103 T.

Does America need more government regulation? Or less?

Your informed opinion is important. That's why we're offering a free booklet that explains the American Economic System. It is interesting and easy to read. Every American ought to know what it says. For a free copy, write: "Economics," Pueblo, Colorado 81009.

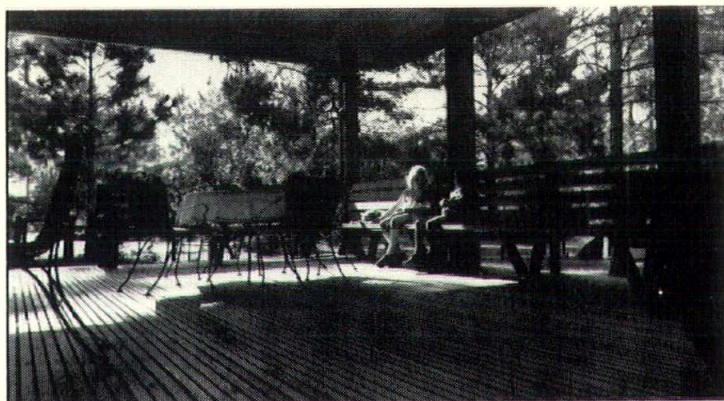


A public service of The Advertising Council & U.S. Department of Commerce presented by this Magazine

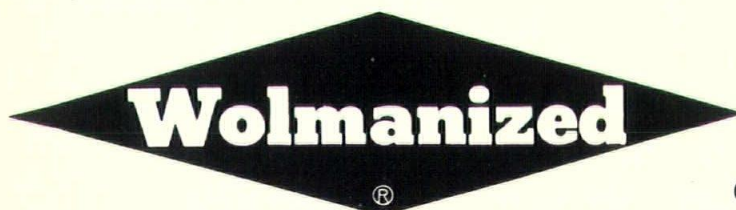


ARCHITECTURE MINNESOTA ADVERTISERS INDEX

Ability Building Center, Inc.....	33
Fred G. Anderson, Inc.....	Cover II
Arrigoni Brothers Co.....	33
Benoit, Inc.....	44
Carney Insulation.....	29
Ceram-traz Corp.....	45
Rollin B. Child Inc.....	35
Cold Spring Granit Co.....	38
Conpro.....	45
Drake Marble Co.....	29
Environments Inc.....	40
Carl W. Fogelberg Co.....	33
Grazzine Brothers & Co.....	28
Hirshfield's.....	6
Kohler Co.....	36
Minnesota Brick.....	32
Minnesota Ceramic Tile Industry.....	Cover IV
Minnesota Diversified Products, Inc.....	40
Minnesota Lathing & Plastering Bureau.....	41
Minnesota Masonry Institute.....	14
Minnesota Tile Sketchbook.....	39
Minnesota Toro.....	41
W.E. Neal Slate Co.....	28
C.W. Olson, Inc.....	31
Pella Products.....	10
Piping Industry Development Council.....	30
Premier Electrical Construction Co.....	42
Prestressed Concrete, Inc.....	Cover III
Saari & Forrai Photography.....	44
Sermac of the Twin Cities.....	31
Shaw Lumber Co.....	43
J.L. Shiely Co.....	4
Sims Ltd.....	26
Snow Larson, Inc.....	8
Stan's Door Services.....	42
Stewart Lumber Co., Inc.....	34
Warner Contractors Supplies.....	32
Wells Concrete Products Co.....	12



Decks and patios that last a lifetime



Pressure-Treated Lumber

**Preferred by
Architects and
Home Builders**

G. M. STEWART LUMBER COMPANY, INC.

A subsidiary of  LONE STAR INDUSTRIES

421 JOHNSON ST. N.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55413