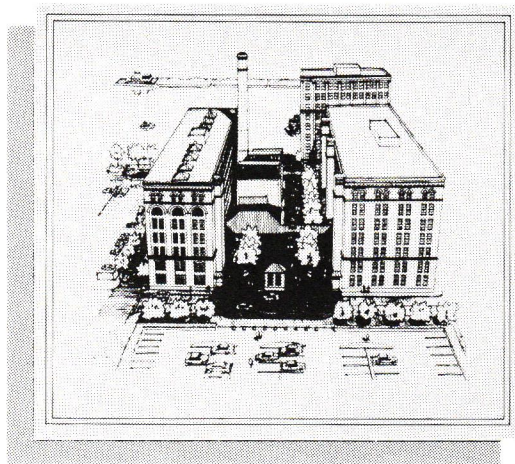


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ON THE COVER

COLUMNS GOES BACK-TO-SCHOOL! The main entrance to Winchester-Thurston's new elementary school in the North Hills introduces this month's theme issue on School Design. [*Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski, Architects; photo by Karl Backus.*]

THE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER AIA serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. Membership is open to all registered architects, architectural interns, and a limited number of professionals in supporting fields. Chapter Headquarters: Suite 1207, Bank Tower, 307 4th Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222. 412-471-9548.

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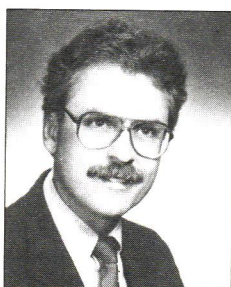
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VIEW POINT

THE PRIDE OF ARCHITECTS

DOUGLAS L. SHUCK, AIA, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR



Pittsburgh architects have a great deal of pride in their accomplishments. They can be proud of the high quality of their work, they can be proud of the client relationships and personal friendships which they have developed through their profession, and they can be proud of the accomplishments of the local AIA Chapter and COLUMNS. COLUMNS, which celebrates its second birthday with this issue, has become a public relations tool for the Pittsburgh Chapter as well as a forum and showcase for Chapter Members. COLUMNS has been subsidized by members of the Chapter and supported through the sale of advertising to many

loyal and supportive businesses in Pittsburgh and surrounding areas.

As a result of our rapid growth and development, the COLUMNS Editorial Board is in the process of formalizing its editorial policy. One point which has been a policy from the beginning and will continue to be a part of the formal policy is to focus on Chapter Members, who through their dues, support the publication of COLUMNS. As an architectural publication representing an area of Western Pennsylvania, we feel it is our responsibility to spotlight our members and also to feature architectural news items of interest to all in our distribution area. We may, at the discretion of the Editorial Board, focus on a non-member project due to its architectural significance. It would be short-sighted to ignore a significant project by a well-known architect from another city. But our emphasis is and will continue to be directed to the Pittsburgh Chapter and its members' contributions to the built environment. It's really quite simple. As a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter you can look forward to finding your projects in the pages of COLUMNS.

COLUMNS has been a catalyst for the growth of the Chapter, spurring an increase in both associate and corporate members. As we continue to develop our publication, we welcome your comments, editorials and particularly your stories of new and interesting projects.

Our profession is a dynamic one. We have a strong sense of pride in the accomplishments of our firms and of our colleagues. That pride can be magnified by sharing those accomplishments with others through the pages of COLUMNS and by joining the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Δ

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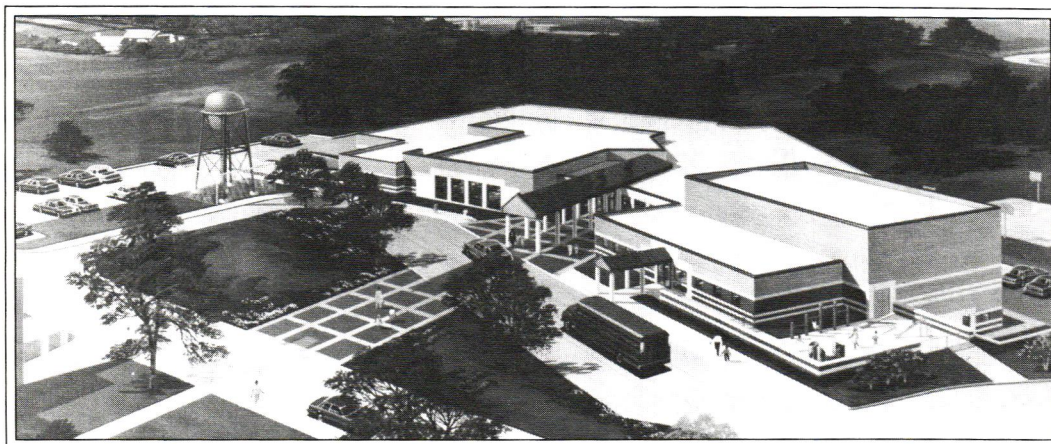
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FOREMAN & BASHFORD

WELL-SCHOOLED ARCHITECTS



The Fort Cherry Elementary School in McDonald, PA replaces three antiquated school buildings on a site adjacent to the existing Junior/Senior High School. Constructed of simple wall bearing brick, exposed block walls, bar joist roof and floor systems, the two story building contains 26 regular classrooms, a library, resource and learning center, cafeteria and facilities for art and music. Community wide programs will utilize the large multi-purpose room and the cafeteria for meeting, plays, concerts and other activities.

Cliff Foreman, AIA, is a grandfather, but he still spends most of his time in school. He and his wife live in a converted and expanded one-room schoolhouse. His firm, Foreman & Bashford, has chosen to renovate and enlarge a two-story, 100-year-old school house north of Zelienople for its main offices. And what does Cliff Foreman do in these offices? He builds schools. Lots and lots of schools.

Foreman & Bashford was established in 1956 as the first wave of baby-boomers crowded into pre-war elementary school buildings. Foreman had worked on school projects before starting the firm and he enjoyed the work. In its thirty-plus years of operation, F & B has carved an impressive niche as one of the pre-eminent school architects in Pennsylvania. At present 95% of the firm's projects are schools and they work in all corners of the state.

Like most firms, during the first few years of practice, F & B worked on small projects. Business took off in 1961 when the firm was hired to do a study for the Central Greene School District in Greene County, and built the Central Greene High School. The firm grew and prospered during the sixties building mostly new facilities. Then, the population of school-age children began to level off and decline. Compounding the drop in enrollment, economic pressures accelerated. "By the early 80's high interest rates and rapid inflation in construction costs drove the schools market south," says Foreman.

Many firms which had specialized in schools changed direction. Some broadened their niche to include a more general practice while others turned to hospitals as a new specialty. Architects at

Foreman & Bashford continued to design what they knew and liked best—schools. But their practice changed. Instead of designing new schools, they spent most of their time on renovations and additions.

Asbestos abatement, radon, and energy conservation became critical issues to many school boards. Project architects developed expertise in those areas. They also concentrated on roofing technology, designing conversions which meet Federal Handicapped Access Regulations, and system-wide building utilization studies.

In short, Foreman and Bashford kept all their eggs in the schools basket. The strategy paid off. In 1989 alone, the firm has 100 school construction projects underway—12 to 15 are large projects including major renovations and at least three new schools. Schools are booming again and communities are willing to support new facilities. Foreman sees this trend resulting from

changes in demographics—both increasing numbers of children and population shifts to less urban areas—and from a change in educational programs. There are so many new programs mandated by the state—TELLS, special education—schools need about six new rooms just to accommodate these programs.

The school construction slowdown from 1972 through the mid eighties has also had an impact on today's market. "Many schools are falling apart," says Foreman. "They have to stand the abuse of a lot of kids and the one place a district can control costs is in maintenance. We're seeing the effects of that right now. If people don't get greedy—if interest rates and inflation don't go through the roof, I'd say we have ten good years coming in the school building business, just to catch up." Δ

"I like working with school buildings, I know what I'm doing. Architects can find themselves in an awful lot of trouble fooling around with things if they don't know what they're doing." Cliff Foreman, AIA.

ARCHITECTURAL EXPLORERS

TOMORROW'S ARCHITECTS?

When did your vision of adult life start to come into focus? When did you begin to determine the shape of your future? Your profession? For many students, the high school years, especially junior and senior year, are a time of serious self-examination. Am I good in math? Do I have what it takes to be a doctor? Can I use my interest in music or art in a real job?

In the early 1980's the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, in cooperation with the Westinghouse Electric Company and the Boy Scouts of America established an **Explorer Post** for high school students interested in architecture. Local AIA members provide expertise and information—interesting speakers, tour leaders, sites to visit—while



High school students tour a construction site to learn about architecture from the ground up.

Westinghouse contributes a meeting place and administrative support, and the Boy Scouts supply structure and organization. This partnership has worked well, according to **John Nolan**, Associate Member, who acts as Chapter advisor to the Post.

Each year an average of forty high school students, predominantly juniors and seniors, meet twice a month to explore architecture as a profession. Topics range from the academic: *What is Design?* to the practical: *The Use of Computers in Architecture*. The program kicks off in the fall with a history and walking tour of Pittsburgh. After several lectures on issues and ideas in design, the group tours construction sites, architects' offices, and the CMU Department of Architecture.

Mid year, the focus changes briefly, as students and their parents attend a discussion of architectural education and training. Chapter members representing various universities share their own experiences in a lively exchange of questions and answers. In past years, a variety of hands-on activities have been included in the programs. This year, the group plans to participate in construction work at a Habitat for Humanity site in Braddock, where students may work on demolition or an early phase of construction and then return to help paint the renovated house.

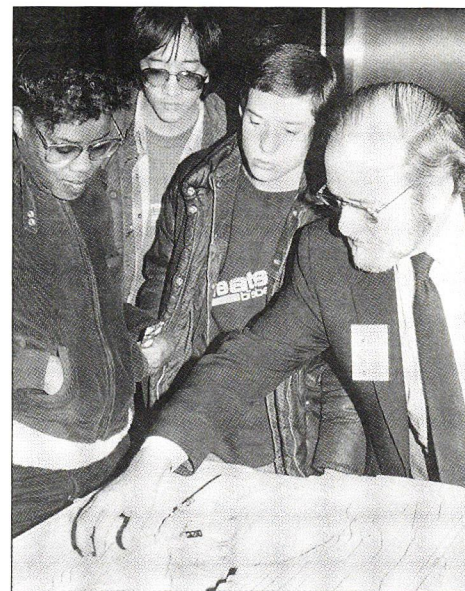
"We like to excite students about archi-

tecture as a profession—that's part of our goal," says Nolan. "But if they decide, after going through the program, that they don't want to be an architect, we consider ourselves successful too. Here's someone who hasn't spent a lot of time and money on something that wasn't right for them. We hope the course will sensitize them to the built environment so no matter what they do, they'll have the knowledge and experience to be able to make good decisions about architecture."

Nolan applauds the ongoing participation and support of several Chapter Members:

Jon Philip Andrews, FAIA; co-chair, Claire Bassett, AIA; William Bates, AIA; Marsha Berger, AIA; Park Rankin, AIA; David Vater, AIA and James Yucas, AIA."

The 1989 Explorer Post program begins this month. Volunteers are welcome. For more information, please call John Nolan, 642-3640. Δ



AIA Professional Affiliate, William Swain, uses a model of the Pittsburgh Zoo to demonstrate effective techniques in Landscape Architecture.

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GALLERY OF SCHOOLS

**BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN
WINCHESTER-THURSTON NORTH
BOHLIN POWELL LARKIN CYWINSKI**

Begin to design a new school in January and have it ready for occupancy in September. Does this sound like commission impossible? It wasn't quite impossible, but timing did present challenges for architects at Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski. Fortunately, the school had a clear vision of its mission and its needs.

Winchester-Thurston, a 100 year old private school for girls, decided to expand its program into the rapidly growing North Hills. The school's curriculum stresses flexibility—so an informal environment was conceived to provide many options for students. The semi-rural setting also influenced design. Windows invite the outside in, providing year-round views of the surrounding hills and a pond complete with ducks.

The first phase of construction of 5,000 sq.ft. included four classrooms and all the electrical, mechanical and plumbing for the entire campus. September 1988 saw the first group of kindergartners and first grad-

School building in western Pennsylvania is on the rise according to many AIA member architects. Schools built in the 50's to accommodate the baby boom generation are undergoing major renovations and additions, while new schools, both public and private, are breaking ground to serve a variety of new populations.

Below, COLUMNS takes a look at five school projects designed by Pittsburgh Chapter AIA member firms.

ers move into their almost-finished classrooms. This winter, second phase construc-

"Just thinking about making a place wonderful for small children was the most enjoyable aspect of the project."

Jon Jackson, AIA

tion will increase capacity through fifth grade. Future plans include a nature center, athletic facility, playing fields, and an auditorium, library and performing arts center.

"Maintaining the tight schedule was the most challenging aspect of the project, says

Jon Jackson, AIA: "but working with the people at the school and just thinking about making a place wonderful for small children was the most enjoyable. It was truly a lot of fun. I hope the building communicates that sense of fun."

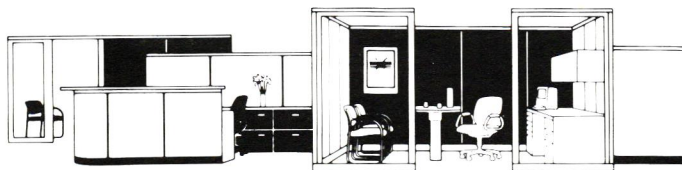


Sunlight streams in to warm the interior of Winchester Thurston's new North Hills elementary school. Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski, Architects.



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A SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE EASTER SEAL SOCIETY OF BUTLER COUNTY BURT HILL KOSAR RITTELMANN ASSOCIATES

Many local architects have designed schools, training facilities for the handicapped or environments for the elderly. But all three? Under one roof? That was the program presented to architects at Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates by the Easter Seal Society of Butler County.

The new building brings together three programs that are currently housed in four locations across the county: Adult Basic Education and Socialization Training; Elderly/Geriatric Adult Day Care; and a Pre-School for children with physical handicaps or communication problems.

Limited to a very tight budget, Easter Seal sought a straight-forward, functional building rather than a unique statement. Rather than compromise design, architects at Burt Hill embraced the minimal budget as its own challenge. Their mission, according to John Kosar, AIA, was to create good, meaningful design using the simplest of materials. "In any project, we should try to

continued on page 10

BREAKING GROUND

KUDOS



Double Kudos to **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates**, recently named Entrepreneur of the Year in the service category of awards sponsored by the accounting firm Arthur Young and Inc. magazine. **John Kosar** and **Ralph Burt** (pictured above) accepted the award for the firm, which was one of only 5 businesses nominated more than once in the 3-year history of the contest, and was chosen from about 150 nominees on the basis of financial performance,

quality of management and involvement in civic organizations.

The firm also ranked 22nd in the nation among architects and engineers by *Building Design & Construction* magazine, up from 29th last year and 50th in 1987. Burt Hill was the only firm in Western Pennsylvania to be listed this year among the nation's 50 largest architectural/engineering organizations.

John E. Kosar, AIA, president of the firm, has also been appointed to the Board of Directors of Heritage International Bank in Bethesda, Maryland. Upon the bank's merger with holding company Maryland Corp., it will become the state's 12th largest bank with assets in excess of \$225 million.

Congratulations to **Hayes Large Suckling Fruth & Wedge**, which received an Award of Merit from the City of Pittsburgh Historic Review Commission for the restoration of Byers Hall on the campus of Community College of Allegheny County.

Byers Hall was formerly the Byers-Lyons House, a private residence built on the North Side in the 1890's. Both the interior and exterior of the 90-room mansion were restored by the firm. The facility is listed as an official historic site with the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation and is used for academic and office space by the college.

Dan Willis, AIA, assistant professor of architecture at Penn State and an active participant in the AIA Pittsburgh Chapter IDP Program, has been awarded the 1989 Hugh Ferriss Memorial Prize for his design of an Edgar Allan Poe memorial. The prize is the nation's highest award for excellence in the graphic representation of architecture by the competition's organizers, the *American Society of Architectural Perspectivists*, and its sponsors, the Van Nostrand Reinhold Co. Willis' pencil drawing was chosen from more than 500 entries, and the award will be presented in October at the Chicago Art Institute.

FROM THE FIRMS

Design 3 Architecture, PC, has been selected to design the renovation of the historic May Stern Warehouse at River Avenue and Hope Street on the North Side. The 65,000 square foot, \$5 million project will be the second business "incubator" building for the developers, North Side Civic Development Council, and will emphasize minority and women-owned businesses. Also planned for the site are an on-site daycare facility, an industrial transportation museum, and the relocation of a recently discovered portion of the 19th Century Pennsylvania Canal. Construction is to begin in late 1989.

The University of Pittsburgh's Nationality Rooms Program released drawings of its proposed **Ukrainian Nationality Room** in the Cathedral of Learning, as designed by **Walter Boykowycz, AIA**. It will be the 23rd classroom designed in styles popular when the United States was formed. The space, an adaptation of a nobleman's living-dining room, will be designed in 18th Century Ukrainian baroque style, and will contain richly carved wood panelings and traditional icons. The budget, including artifacts, will total more than \$200,000.

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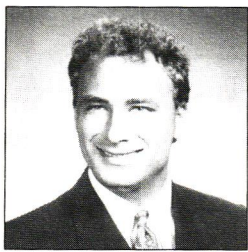
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Penn State graduate **Lawrence J. Payne** (pictured below) joins **Williams Trebilcock Whitehead** after interning there for 3 sum-



mers. Selected for the Outstanding College Students of America, Payne is an associate member of the AIA and is already an active participant in the IDP.

Currently, WTW is designing a new wing for Westminster Presbyterian Church in Upper St. Clair. The 28,000 square foot, two-story addition is expected to cost nearly \$3.8 million. WTW principal **Richard De Young** said the new wing will match the existing Georgian Colonial style, and will include a multi-purpose fellowship hall, meeting rooms, choir rooms, recreation space, and counseling rooms. De Young said construction should begin this winter and be completed by late next year.

The renovation of the old Gimbel's Warehouse at 21st and Wharton Streets on the South Side is another WTW project. The new "Birmingham Towers" will include premier and moderately-priced office space and a showroom.

WTW/Martin Chetlin, Inc., an affiliate of WTW, has participated in the design of the new IKEA store in the Robinson Town Centre. The fourth and largest IKEA in the country, the building includes a large self-service warehouse, a 70-table cafeteria-style restaurant, a children's play area, administrative offices, a bulk warehouse and six loading docks.

New offices for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, designed by **L.P. Perfido Associates**, are now complete. The Trust occupies 6,200 square feet of renovated office space in the building, bringing to 90% occupancy the first Certified Historic Rehabilitation in the Penn-Liberty Historic District of Downtown Pittsburgh.

Plans to re-develop the riverfront areas of Duquesne and McKeesport were also announced by **L.P. Perfido Associates**. The firm took primary responsibility for evaluating existing buildings and recommending either retention or demolition. Up to 25% of the vacant mill buildings were determined salvageable, and it is planned to build a waterfront park and better roadways to the

site. The goal of the planning activity is to attract a variety of business, research and development, and light manufacturing users to both municipalities.

TRANSITIONS

Syl Damianos, FAIA, James D. Brown, AIA, and J. Philip Andrews, FAIA, have joined to become one of Pittsburgh's newest and largest design firms, **Damianos Brown Andrews Inc.** The new firm currently employs 26 people, and will occupy 8,000 square feet in the renovated *Pennsylvanian* by late fall. Also, Damianos will assume the national presidency of the 56,000-member American Institute of Architects in 1990.

Tony Poli, AIA, announces the new name of his architectural firm, **Anthony G. Poli, AIA, Architecture & Interior Design**. The address and phone number remain One Market Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; Phone (412) 471-8008.

Jimi Yucas, AIA, formerly of Damianos and Associates, announces the opening of his new **Architect's Atelier** at 206 Beech Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15218; (412) 244-8603. Yucas will provide complete architectural services for new and renovation projects in the areas of residential, commercial and institutional design.

HERE AND THERE

Lynn Manion, Director of the **Community Design Center of Pittsburgh** wishes to remind COLUMNS readers to support the center's 1990 **United Way Donor Option Campaign** which kicks off in September. The Donor Campaign is a major way the architectural community can help support the center.

Architects who don't know the credit history of a prospective client, or have reason to be concerned about an existing account, can now quickly and inexpensively find out how the client is paying his other accounts. The national **Architects Account Collection** program, administered by the **Louisiana AIA**, now has a service contract with direct computer linkage to Dun &

Bradstreet and other nationwide credit research services. Interested AIA members can call the AAC at (800) 521-4517 or write to AAC, 521 America Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

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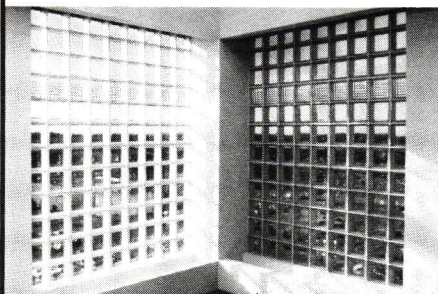
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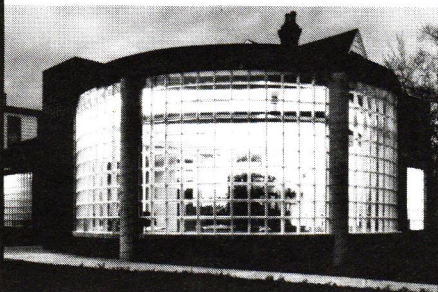
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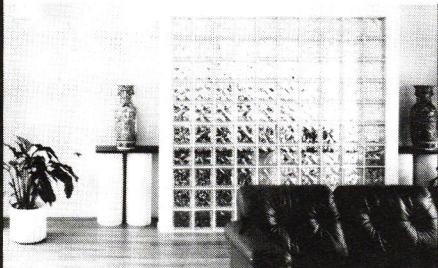
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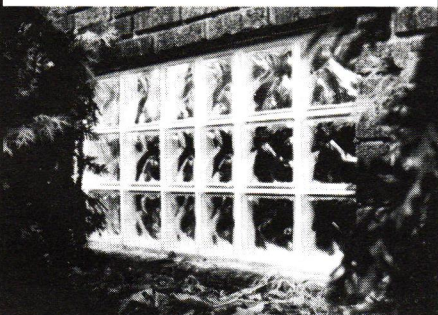
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inject architectural meaning—regardless of constraints. The challenge lies in trying to create a design aesthetic from a small simple room made of concrete block—because here too, we have the chance to apply a philosophy of design, and a purpose to create “High Architecture.”



The 18,000 sq. ft. Easter Seal Society facility for Butler County presented Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates with unique challenges in both usage and budget.

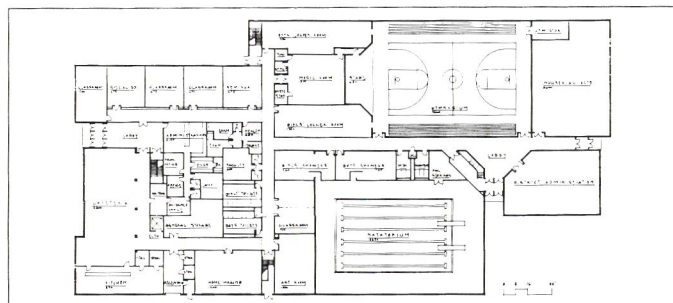
“In any project, we should try to inject architectural meaning. . . the challenge lies in trying to create a design aesthetic from a small simple room made of concrete block.” John Kosar, AIA

A NEW SCHOOL FOR AN AGING TOWN JEANNETTE MIDDLE SCHOOL KACLIK & GRAVES, ARCHITECTS

Jeannette, Pennsylvania, like many southwestern Pennsylvania towns, is aging both in terms of its population and its buildings. Many industries have closed and the economy has yet to revive.

Working with a very limited tax base, the school board was faced with the challenge of updating or replacing their ageing buildings, originally constructed in the 1930's.

Architects at Kaclick & Graves conducted a district feasibility study and their solution includes both renovation and new construction. At present K & G is designing a new Middle School, responding to the district's wish to separate the grades. The 2-story, 85,000 sq. ft. brick and masonry building will be sited on an overflow parking area already owned by the school district. Designed for a maximum of 525 students in grades 5-8, the school anticipates a population of 425 students when it opens. The building, which includes classrooms and auxiliary areas, district administration offices and a pool for school and community use, was tightly designed to fit into a 2 1/2 acre lot and to be cost conscious.



Floor plan for the new Middle School for Jeannette, PA, currently in preliminary design stages. Kaclick & Graves, Architects.

GALLERY

A SENSE OF PLACE FOX CHAPEL HIGH SCHOOL WILLIAMS TREBILCOCK WHITEHEAD

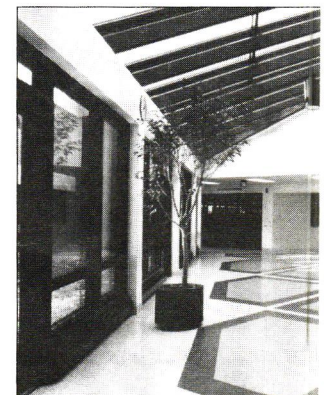
Fox Chapel, like many suburban centers. Likewise, its vintage series of halls and classrooms developed exciting programs, and a free exchange of ideas across the district.

The high school renovation project was a ten years of work by WTW. The master plan which studied every aspect of the school to determine which schools to keep and which to demolish.

The current project, which includes a 30,000 sq. ft. addition, and a renovation of the existing building.

The renovation rages the common areas of the school and creates a sense of community within the school. The school was once a courtyard, an inaccurate courtyard has been created.

whole; it provides space for offices and most important, a common hallway have been renovated to reflect the needs of each department and activities of each department.



Renovations and expansion of the school completed this fall, includes updating, redesign of classroom and labor commons area. Williams Trebilcock Whitehead.

Faculty support space has been added to the necessary cross-fertilization of the existing school. While improving the school, the architects designed a large adjacent copying facilities, a computer lab, and classrooms. This faculty center is the heart of the school.

The project, a decade long, was completed by Glen Schultz, AIA. “We are very satisfied with the school board and the state. It has been most satisfying to work together in such a dynamic environment.”

F SCHOOLS

urban neighborhoods, has no town's high school was an unfocused while individual departments had functioned separately with disciplines.

and addition project is the result of architects. It began with a facilities Fox Chapel school building to demolish or decommission.

includes a 226,000 sq. ft. renovation, an ancillary field building, encouragement to keep its focus on the high school. In its original design, the school was designed around a landscaped courtyard for students. The renovated school was moved over and integrated into the new media center, student activity center commons (below). Existing include exhibit space for the project.



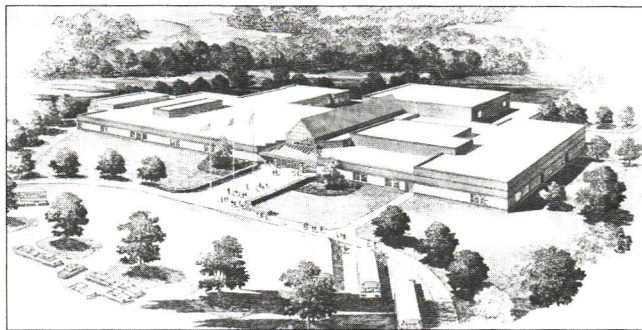
Fox Chapel High School, to be demolished, showing exterior and interior finishes, open space, and creation of a student commons. Whitehead, Architects.

in a key element in providing that space which distinguishes an outstanding facilities for each department, a common faculty dining room with telephones, meeting or conference space, as it should be, at the heart of

work "a lot of patience," according to a lot of time going through administrative, faculty, and the school's program come to see the school's program come to life in a rather rigid, 1950 building."

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS CRANBERRY AREA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL W.G.ECKLES COMPANY

In the Cranberry School District of northwestern Pennsylvania, a high school is more than just a high school. It is a focal point for the community, a center of activity for the entire area. The district, which includes 3 rural townships in Venango County between Franklin and Oil City, initially decided to



The new Junior-Senior High school for the Cranberry Area School District is one of only four new public high school projects in the state. W.G. Eckles Company, Architects, New Castle, PA.

renovate the existing high school and it floated the necessary bonds to finance the project. Grassroots local politics, however, can have tremendous impact on architectural decisions. Several members of the community opposed the renovation in favor of a new building. These citizen-activists ran for election and won, thus changing the balance of power in the district and placing a scheduling challenge to architects at W.G. Eckles Company. Because the state had already approved the bond issue, the district was tied to an abbreviated schedule for design and receipt of construction bids in order to receive reimbursements. The architects completed design and construction documents in a six-month period and construction began in late July of 1989 with completion planned for the spring of 1991.

The building, a 117,000 sq. ft. brick veneer structure, includes 20 regular classrooms, 4 special education classroom, a resource room, and a variety of auxiliary spaces for more than 1000 students. The focal point of the building is the main entrance, a public commons and central gathering space from which all other programmed areas emanate. The school was designed to permit future expansion in all directions and features wood panels in each classroom prepared from timber in the school district.

For principal, Robert G. Naugle, AIA, "the most exciting aspect of the project was design-

"The most exciting aspect of the project was designing with the community in mind." Robert G. Naugle, AIA

ing with the community in mind. The classrooms, auditorium, gymnasium, and even the library are used evenings and throughout the summer. When you enter the building, you'll find a large open area, a community commons, which acts as a public gathering space for the community and as a student activity center during the school day."



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BRICKS & MORTAR: COMMITTEE NEWS

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Douglas L. Shuck, AIA,
WTW/Martin Chetlin Associates Inc.
321-0550.

In a meeting with COLUMNS editors, the Communications Committee reviewed the publishing contract and renewal agreements and will make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The committee is also in the early stages of formalizing an editorial policy for our rapidly growing publication. We plan to seek out and publish information from member firms which have not yet been published in COLUMNS. Chapter members must help us in these efforts, however. The editors report some difficulty in gathering information—unreturned phone calls, stories that never get off the ground. If your firm wishes to have an article or story published, please, call us with your news, then respond quickly to COLUMNS phone calls. The editors have tight deadlines for publication. If you do not wish to be featured, please say so. That

will prevent repeated phone calls and last-minute reorganization of the stories.

AIA/CMU LIAISON

Chair: Steve Quick, AIA,
Quick Ledewitz Architects, 687-7070.

September brings a new crop of students and events for the AIA/CMU Liaison Committee. Now is a good time to join the committee and participate in the planning session for the year. If you are interested in joining this active group, please call Steve Quick for more information.

Please join us in welcoming two new professionals to Carnegie Mellon. David Lowry Burgess has been appointed dean of CMU's College of Fine Arts, and John Paul Eberhard has been hired as Head of the Architectural Department. Look for their exciting profiles in an upcoming issue of COLUMNS.

WIA

Chair: Marilyn Lupo, Associate,
Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann, 394-7000.

Twenty-five women architects recently attended a WIA Committee meeting to launch the committee's fundraising campaign. The Goal—to raise \$10,000 to fund future committee activities. Local firms will be contacted and asked to sponsor the work of this committee. In fact, four firms have already become sponsors whose contributions will help to bring several outstanding programs to Pittsburgh. This year alone, Frances Halsband, a well-known New York architect will speak at the November membership meeting; the National WIA Traveling Exhibit, *That Exceptional One*, opens mid-January in the PPG Wintergarden; and June brings an exhibit featuring projects by local woman architects which emphasizes the process of architecture from the development of projects through drawings & renderings. While plans for the November event are well underway, volunteers are still needed to work on the Traveling Exhibit. Please call Anne Newman, 394-7016, if you need more information or can help with the project. The committee is also looking for women who wish to participate in the June exhibit, which will be juried. Since the theme is the process of architecture, several drawings or renderings will be shown for each architect, illustrating the growth of an idea. If you wish to submit drawings or assist with the exhibit, please call Cynthia MacShane at 261-0700.

Other notes—*Architecture, A Place for Women*, edited by Ellen Perry Berkeley, and published by the Smithsonian, will be donated by the committee to a local university. Watch for a review in an upcoming issue of COLUMNS. The committee thanks Landau Building Company for providing dinners for all who attended their last meeting. Also a special thank you and goodbye to Karen Madigan, AIA, who has just moved to Chicago. Madigan, the Chapter WIA liaison, was instrumental in organizing the local WIA committee. Her generous sharing of time and energy brought the committee to its current status in a very short time. The committee wishes her and her family well in her new city.

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BRICKS & MORTAR: COMMITTEE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

Chair: Gwen Williams, Associate,
Douglas C. Berryman Associates,
363-4622.

There is good news and there is better news. The good news is that both membership and, more importantly, participation in the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA is on the rise. With the help of COLUMNS, active committee and outreach programs, the Chapter's public awareness has increased dramatically in the past year.

The better news? AIA National has added even more member benefits to its already extensive list. Among the opportunities: an AIA-CASS Training Package; Open Committees in Health, Justice, Housing, Political Action, etc; "You and Your Architect"; IDP; Small Design Firm Management Manual; etc. *We encourage you to take advantage of what the AIA has to offer.* If you'd like to know more about what your dues make possible, be sure to attend the September 26 meeting, which will cover Membership Benefits in full detail. Representatives from local, state and national AIA components will be there to answer all your questions. RSVP is on back page flap.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank some of the architectural firms who are actively encouraging new members: Akers/Erwin/Gasparella; Douglas C. Berryman Associates; Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann; Johnson Schmidt & Associates; MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni Inc.; and L.P. Perfidio Associates.

Please welcome our newest members:

Raymond M. Hildreth, AIA (Transfer)
The Hillman Co.
1900 Grant Building, 19th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Jane-Ann Stahl, Professional Affiliate
W.P. Corbett, Inc.
51-C Sandune Court
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

David Ledlie Gloninger, Prof. Affiliate
Bigler-Ketchum, Inc.
1030 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Ronald J. Thompson, Professional Affiliate
Honeywell Protection Services Division
5993 Penn Circle South
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Please update your directory with the following address changes:

Milton Shaulis, AIA
Shaulis Design Group
P.O. Box 619
132 W. Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658

Karen Loysen, AIA
226 Hastings Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

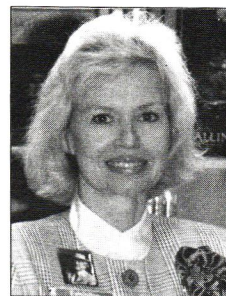
Steve Affeltranger, Assoc.
Baker Engineers
P.O. Box 280
Beaver, PA 15009

Steven G. Hawkins, AIA
2041 Wightman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Clifford W. Holasek, Assoc.
6470 Monitor Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

David Pecharka, AIA
105 Sunset Drive
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Lana Andrews Resigns



Lana Andrews, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA since 1982, has notified the Board of her resignation effective August 1. During her seven-year tenure, the Chapter grew by 40% to include more than 500 members. The Board thanks Lana for her dedicated service and wishes her well in her future activities. The Chapter office remains open, supervised by temporary personnel until the Board completes its search for permanent staff.

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SAA FORMS PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Good news for architectural administrators! The national **Society of Architectural Administrators (SAA)** has recently formed a Pittsburgh Chapter and will hold regular lunch-time meetings at the Harvard Yale Princeton Club the second Wednesday of each month.

The SAA is a support organization open to administrators and staff in architectural, A/E or design firms. The organization welcomes all office managers, administrative assistants, controllers, business managers, development personnel, marketing professionals and vice presidents of operations.

Organizing Chairman Clarke Strohm, Controller at MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni Inc., invited National Vice President of

SAA Pat Daugherty to help kick off the first meeting this past July, which was attended by more than 20 people. The next meeting, September 13 at 11:30, will feature "Cash Management and Investing For Small Business," with financial advisors from Mellon Bank. Lunch will cost \$10.



Twenty people gathered for the first Pittsburgh SAA meeting.

As an SAA member, you will get the chance to network and socialize with colleagues and discuss current topics of interest

with professionals in your field. You will also receive the monthly *SAA News Journal*.

The local SAA Chapter annual fee is \$25; National fee is \$55 a year, with a \$10 initiation fee. All new members are welcome! For more information, call Clarke Strohm, at 288-2410. Δ

INIGO JONES AT THE FRICK

"Perhaps *Inigo Jones: Complete Architectural Drawings* is not the most significant exhibition of its kind to have occurred in America in the last several years. But I would be hard pressed to name a more important one," writes Paul Goldberger of the *New York Times*.

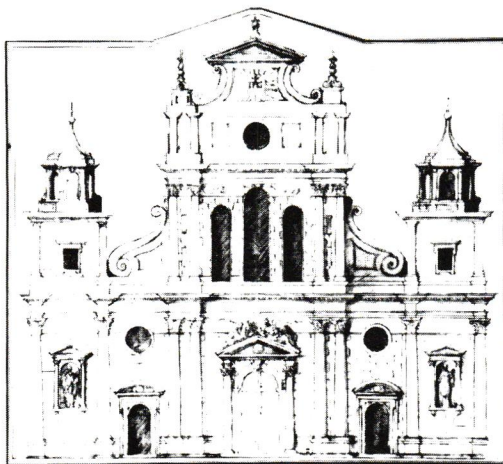
Now, the critically-acclaimed show will make its only other U.S. appearance right here in Pittsburgh. The exhibit will be held at the Frick Art Museum in Point Breeze from September 17 through November 5. It will contain 101 drawings, including virtually all of the 93 architectural drawings surviving from the hand of this 17th century architect, draftsman, painter, stage designer and collector, one of post-Elizabethan England's most potent creative forces. The exhibition, however, is not limited to architectural drawings. Also included are about 20 sketches of figures, costumes and stage sets. These are more than an intriguing footnote; they are absolutely vital to an understanding of Inigo Jones, for it was as a designer of masques, or great dramatic performances at the royal court, that he firmly established his reputation.

"It may seem extravagant to propose that Jones is perhaps the single most important person in the history of the arts in 17th century England; but this is so." J. Harris

In a nutshell, Jones was a genius who reinvented English architecture, and set in motion themes that even now, in the late 20th century, continue to hold great significance. "It would be virtually impossible to recall an exhibition that so gracefully weaves scholarship and visual pleasure into a seamless whole," says Goldberger. This is surely an exhibition you won't want to miss. As former curator John Harris once said, "It may seem extravagant to propose that Jones is perhaps the single most important person in the history of the arts in 17th century England; but this is so."

If you're interested or want more information concerning the Inigo Jones exhibition, contact Sandra Smith at the Frick Art Museum at 371-0600. Δ

AT THE FRICK ART MUSEUM September 17 - November 5, 1989



Elevation for the West Front of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, lent by the British Architectural Library, Royal Institute of British Architects.

Inigo Jones *Complete Architectural Drawings*

The first American exhibition of the renowned 17th-century architect. Its presentation at The Frick Art Museum is generously supported by a grant from Reed Smith Shaw & McClay.

7227 Reynolds Street, Point Breeze For information call 371-0600.

FOR CHILDREN'S SAKE: ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

"There has been no documentation of disease occurring to children because of their exposure to asbestos found in schools," says **Daniel Volz**, President of Volz Environmental Services, Inc. Extensive documentation does exist, however, of industrial workers suffering from disease because of exposure to asbestos. Recognizing the great resource that healthy children present to our society, the EPA developed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) in 1986. AHERA served notice to the country's school boards that they must begin an asbestos management plan in buildings owned by their districts no later than July 9, 1989. Because of these new regulations, architects designing renovations or planning demolitions in schools must now become involved in a concentrated team effort that is brimming with questions of legality and liability.

Who leads the team? According to **Paul Fackler, AIA**, of Foreman & Bashford, "The owner (school board) is the player who gets things started." He or she decides what will be renovated or demolished and furnishes the architect with AHERA's survey of the school. **Sashi Patel, AIA**, Celli Flynn, agrees with Fackler and Volz in suggesting that a second asbestos containing material (ACM) inspection is critical. "Every room in the building must be checked," says Patel. "You can't just say you couldn't find a key to a room. Later in the renovation you may find ACM there." If asbestos is found after a renovation is underway, instead of before, the architect is often forced to curtail the project design due to the cost of asbestos abatement.

The Abatement Process

The architect works closely with an industrial hygienist to gather detailed information about building characteristics, including ACM removal methods and costs. Specifications are then given to an asbestos abatement contractor who is charged with removing or abating the asbestos. The quality of personnel in this field gets mixed reviews.

Volz is impressed with the skills he has seen. "I think there are enough trained personnel. We have a well-established abatement industry. Sometimes there aren't enough workers available in the summer because of the high seasonal work load.

School districts can reap savings by spreading asbestos removal over the year. With today's techniques, abatement can be done safely and efficiently even when the buildings are occupied."

Fackler disagrees. "There are many young people involved in asbestos abatement who have little experience in the construction industry. When unskilled workers are working in hazardous conditions, it's crucial to have highly qualified supervisors."

Turnover is also an issue, according to Patel. "Often contractors will train workers who then decide that the work is not for them. The contractor can lose time and personnel and both losses can be costly."

Whatever their training, the asbestos abatement worker's job is to remove friable asbestos—that is, asbestos that can be reduced to powder by hand pressure, released into the air in microscopic fibers and inhaled into the lungs.

All friable material must be removed while non-friable asbestos (floor tile and floor tile adhesives) may be dealt with by enclosure. Most friable asbestos in schools is found in the boiler room and in acoustical plaster (school auditoriums, music rooms). Asbestos has its best chance to become friable during renovation. Unseen particles are a threat to children's health and also pose a risk to tradespeople such as painters and carpenters who must work in a renovated building. Therefore, monitoring is critical both during and after renovations.

Legal and Liability Issues

At first, insurance companies were reluctant to cover those involved in asbestos abatement because of the long time it takes for disease symptoms to develop. Now, according to Volz, industrial hygienists and removal contractors can acquire varying amounts of coverage. Architects will find it difficult to obtain coverage unless they have an industrial hygienist branch attached to their firm.

Liability does not end when the ACM is removed from a school and placed in a landfill. Volz suggests that the parties liable for the asbestos removal place the material in a specific cell in the landfill so they know exactly where it is located in case legal problems arise later.

A new technique called vitrification, being developed in West Germany, may lessen some of the liabilities. This process uses intense heat to transform the asbestos fibers into a glass silicate, thereby rendering the particles impotent. The materials can then be dumped into a landfill like common garbage. This process is still in its infancy and will be expensive for some time.

Federal and state laws pertaining to asbestos abatement present another maze for those involved in removal. According to Patel, "The poor asbestos abatement contractor is sometimes handicapped trying to comply with laws that may change from state to state and even school district to school district."

Another Hazard

Asbestos is not the only hazardous material to be found in schools. Lead in schools' water systems is becoming a major concern

Continued on page 20

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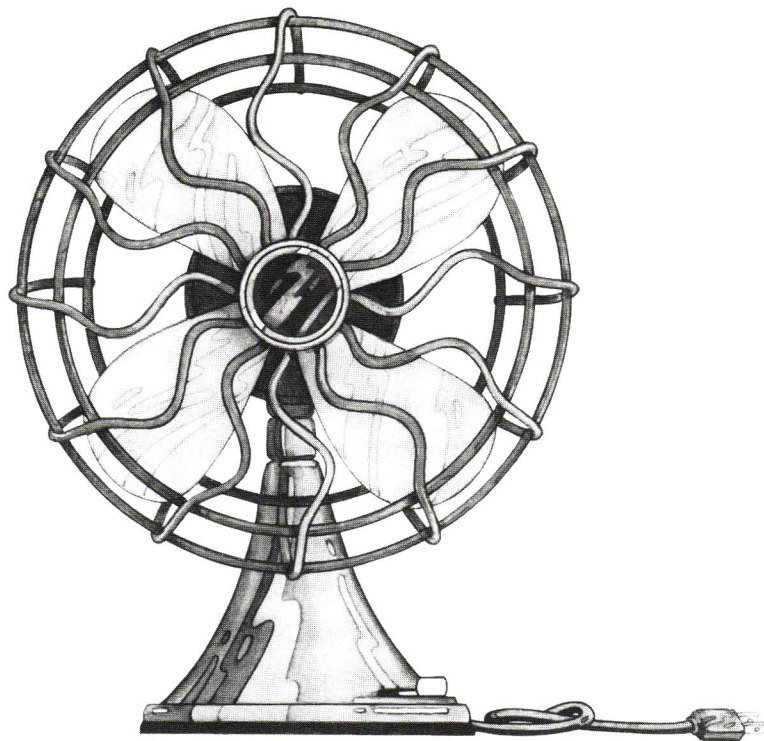
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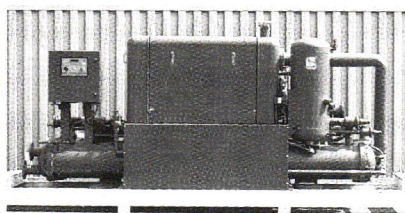
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SEPTEMBER, 1989

AIA ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14:

A Lighting Extravaganza: Workshop on Light and Color, co-sponsored by the Pgh. Chapter AIA and the W. Pa. ASID: Metropol Club, Smallman St.; 3:30-6 PM. Speakers: **Nada Napoletan-Rutka, ASID** and **Sandra M. Stashik, PE, IALD**. Metropol's computerized lighting system will be featured, followed by a Hospitality Hour. Cost: \$35 for AIA and ASID members; \$40 for non-members; \$25 for students. For more information, call Margaret Ringel Baker, ASID, at 488-0310 or Charles DeLisio, AIA, at 391-4850.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22:

The Pittsburgh AIA Chapter has extended its deadline for Design Awards submissions to today. Don't forget to submit your entries!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26:

Pgh. Chapter AIA monthly meeting. Topic: **Everything You Always Wanted To Know About AIA Membership**. Guest speakers from PSA and National. Holiday Inn, Oakland; Cocktails: 5:30 PM, Dinner: 6 PM. Prepaid for members, guests: \$20. RSVP with form on page 21.

AROUND TOWN

SEPTEMBER 11-29:

Asbestos Trainings and Seminars sponsored by **Volz Environmental Services** at Pitt's Applied Research Center in Harmarville. Topics include: *Asbestos Abatement Contractors' and Supervisors' Training*; *Refresher Course for Abatement Contractors and Supervisors*; *Refresher Course for Building Inspectors/Management*; *Asbestos Abatement Designers' Training*; and *AHERA Building Inspector/Management Planner Training*. For more information, call Greg Ashman at 826-3150.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13:

The Society of Architectural Administrators (SAA) monthly meeting, 11:30 AM, Harvard Yale Princeton Club. Topic: *Cash Management and Investing For Small Business*. Cost \$10. See page 14 for more SAA details. For more information, call Clarke Strohm at 288-2410.

SEPTEMBER 17-NOVEMBER 5:

Exhibit: Inigo Jones: Complete Architectural Drawings, Frick Art Museum, Point Breeze. See story on page 14.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24:

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation 25th Anniversary Commemorative Tour. Current neighborhood preservation efforts will be discussed, followed by a champagne reception where *A Past Still Alive: The Pittsburgh History & Landmark Foundation Celebrates 25 Years* will be presented. For more information, call Mary Lu Denny at 471-5808.

Jimmy Goldman, AIA, of **UDA Architects**, wishes to organize a Fall Bike Tour of Frederick Scheibler, Jr.'s architecture throughout the city. Anyone interested call 765-1133; or 683-0856 (eves. before 9:30 p.m.)

PLAN AHEAD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20:

A Celebration of Architecture: Annual Awards Ceremony, Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, Vista International Hotel.

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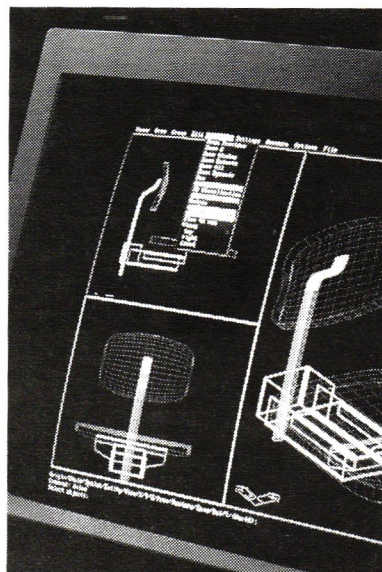
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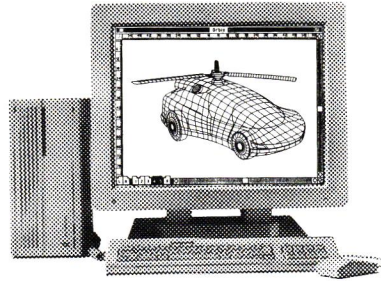
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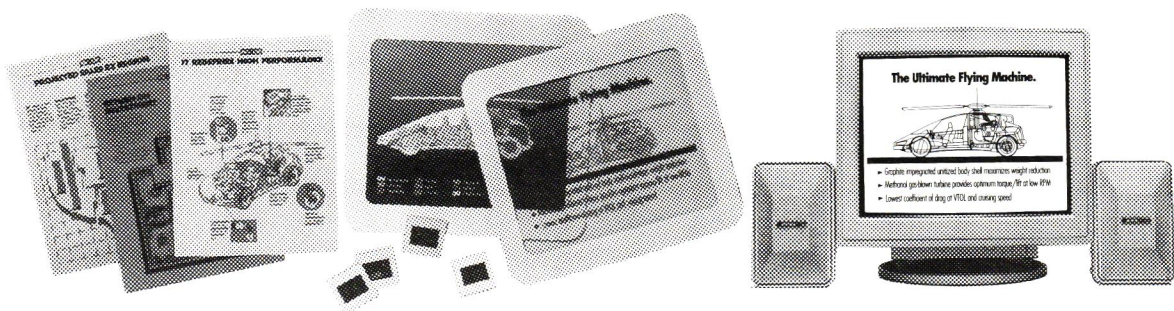


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Tom Spiers, AIA

President, PA Society of Architects

Susan Maxman

Regional Director for the National AIA

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▲ RSVP

September AIA Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, September 26

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City/State

Zip

Phone

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_____ Number of Guests (\$20)

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Clip this form and send with your check (if applicable) to: **The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, 307 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222** by September 20.
Checks payable to: **The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA**

ABOARD THE RIVER BELLE

JUNE 1989 AIA MEETING



Luke Desmone, AIA, joins Claire Bassett, AIA, and husband Jim for a smorgasbord of food and fun on the river.

Despite the gloomy skies, the mood was bright and sunny during the AIA June Dinner Meeting aboard the Gateway Clipper Fleet's River Belle. And the reason was obvious. AIA members, professional affiliates and guests gathered to enjoy an evening of good food, fine company, live music and a very interesting talk on the history of the three rivers, presented by Clarke Thomas, Senior Associate Editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

This yearly event is always a great way to mingle with colleagues and meet new AIA members.



Mr. and Mrs. Dick Rittelmann (Principal, Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates) prepare to set sail with colleagues and guests. [Photos courtesy of Robert Dale Lynch, AIA]

At our next meeting, September 26, discover what the AIA can do for you. Our topic is "**Everything You Always Wanted to Know About AIA Membership.**" (See invitation at left.) During this open discussion on member benefits, you will learn about the "AIA Advantage:" how you can benefit from National, State and Pittsburgh Chapter membership. Lela Shultz, Executive Director of the PSA, Tom Spiers, AIA, President of the PSA, and Susan Maxman, Regional Director for the National AIA will be on hand to tell you about the many services the AIA provides—some may even surprise long time members! The meeting promises to be both fun *and* informative. Bring your questions—we hope to see you there! ▲

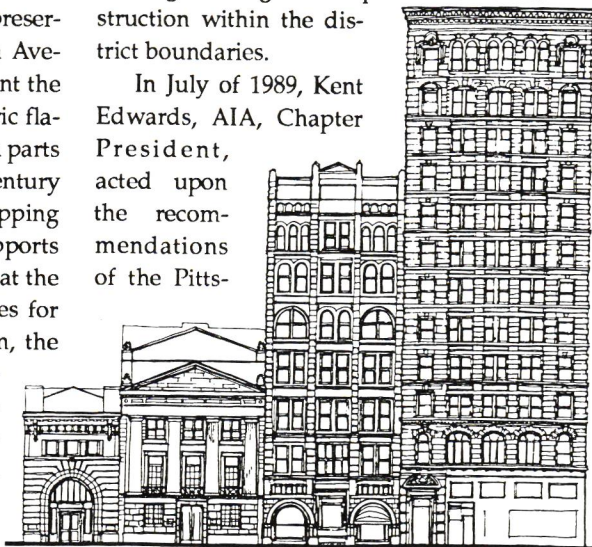
PROTECTING OUR LANDMARKS: PRESERVATIONISTS LOBBY TO SAVE HISTORIC 4TH AVENUE DISTRICT

In 1985, Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh's *Wall Street District*, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places following a nomination by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation. An ad hoc committee comprised of local architects and preservationists recently nominated Fourth Avenue as a *City Historic District* to prevent the destruction or disruption of its historic flavor. Meanwhile, plans are afoot to turn parts of this two-square block, turn-of-the-century financial district into a downtown shopping mall. While the ad hoc committee supports development in the area, it believes that the city should establish design guidelines for such development. In the short term, the nomination process itself blocks demolition, new construction, exterior alteration or change in location of structures located within a district until a final determination has been made. The decision process is currently underway and as a first step, testimony has been given to an Historic Review Commission.

If the nomination is approved by the Commission, City Planning and eventually by City Council, the Commission will appoint a group of interested parties to oversee the district. This group, which will include architects, preservationists, city planners and building owners then takes the re-

sponsibility for developing guidelines and for reviewing and evaluating all changes to existing buildings and all plans for new construction within the district boundaries.

In July of 1989, Kent Edwards, AIA, Chapter President, acted upon the recommendations of the Pitts-



The 300 block of 4th Avenue (above), is part of Pittsburgh's historic financial district built at the turn of the century. [Drawing courtesy of UDA Architects.]

burgh AIA Board of Directors, to add the Chapter's voice to the move for preservation. In a letter to Joan Ivey, Chairman of the Historic Review Commission, Edwards suggested that the district should receive the City Historic District classification because:

- It has already qualified as a National Register District, meeting federal eligibility standards that would affect any federally funded project (such as a UDAG).

- It has a wealth of quality buildings representing a diversity of architectural styles that give Pittsburgh its positive character.

- It is significant as Pittsburgh's original turn-of-the-century focus of financial activity, and continues to function successfully as a critical part of Pittsburgh's urban fabric.

- Preservation is good business: a strong Historic District will encourage responsible, high quality development.

Edwards offered the assistance of local architects in the effort to help property owners understand the advantages of historic designation.

In a similar mood, the AIA Board supported, by letter, the continuation of a study to preserve the Carrie Furnace, a former U.S. Steel open hearth furnace in Rankin, and to include it as part of the National Industrial Heritage Park. The House of Representatives approved funding, however, in its first round last July, the bill failed to pass the Senate. Senator John Heinz successfully re-introduced the appropriation and secured its approval by the Senate in late July. Δ

Asbestos, Continued from page 15

for Washington policy makers. Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful to health even at low levels of exposure and poses particular risks to children.

In schools, lead is usually found in lead-lined water fountain tanks or in lead-solder joints that connect the water pipes.

EPA officials announced this spring that they will soon issue a guide for school officials regarding testing for unhealthy levels of lead. The agency listed more than 100 manufacturers' model numbers for fountains in which lead levels were a concern. The Consumer Products Safety Commission intends to seek their recall and schools will most likely be required to replace these systems in the near future.

A probable alternative will be to switch to water systems that employ only copper components, such as the Elkay System. Dick Fitzgerald, of Fitzgerald Associates, Inc., reports that a copper-based system is only about \$40.00 more expensive to install than a system that contains lead. All in all, it looks like the 1990's will be a prime time to invest in the stock of well-managed environmental clean-up companies. Δ

Cheers! The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA thanks Carl Weber of **SAMCO Inc.** for sponsoring the bar at the September meeting.

LATE BREAKING NEWS:

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR

DESIGN AWARDS SUBMISSIONS

Because the PSA will not be returning submissions from the its Awards Program until September 14, the Pittsburgh AIA Chapter is extending its deadline for entries to its Design Awards to September 22 at 4 PM. Please make a note of this change, and be sure to enter!



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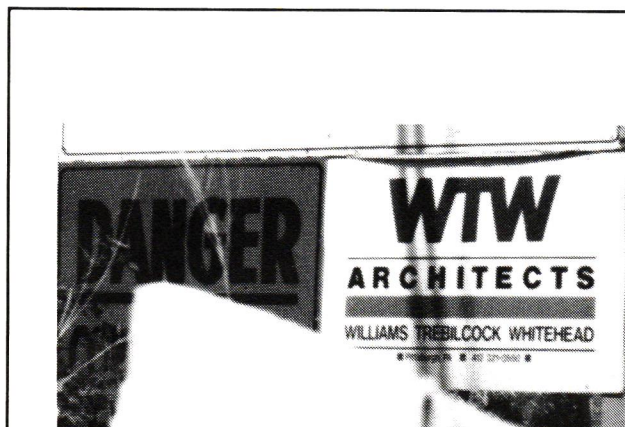
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