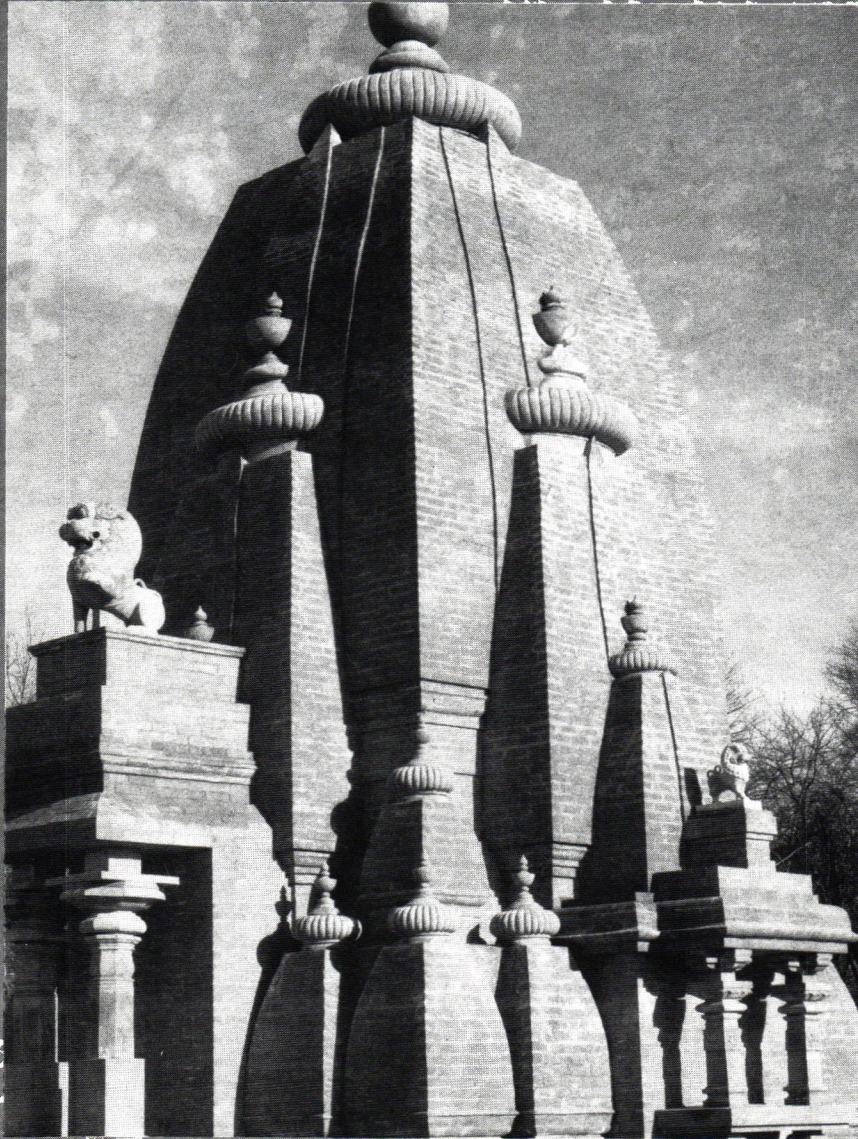


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ON THE COVER

Builders of the intricately decorated Hindu Jain Temple don't have any working drawings to follow. Find out why in "Hindu Minds over Matter" on page 6. *Sashi Patel, AIA, architect.*

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: CNG Tower, 625 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15222 412/471-9548.

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COLUMNS is published ten times a year by the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in association with the Cantor Group.

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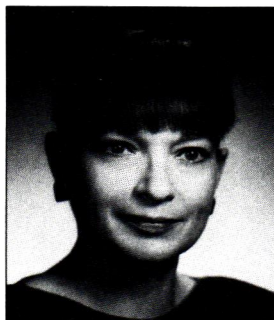
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VIEW POINT

MARSHA BERGER, AIA, CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Once upon a time, in the Valley of the Moan, following the death of King Steel, Sir Lewislot proposed to the Knights of the Golden Triangle that they hold a conference on remaking cities. Prince Charlming was asked to join them since he had similar problems in his realm. Many wizards and soothsayers descended on the valley and after intense deliberation made their proclamation. "Look to your rivers, beautify their edges, reclaim the land seized by King Steel, march forward toward a different life and don't look back!" the wizards cried. "But," they cautioned, "preserve his memory, because his 100 year reign is significant in the history of the world." They elaborated, "Clear the land and plant flowers to change your image immediately, then build education centers, museums, recreation facilities, and attract high-tech industries that can use your labor force." The people were frightened to hear such things and shook their fists at the wizards. The King had always taken care of them, surely the Prince had come to save them. But all he did was grace them with his presence.

Two years passed and the Prince crossed the sea again. "What has happened in the Valley of the Moan?" he queried. The knights told of the Riverfront Commission appointed by the Mayor; the County's aid in rezoning miles of riverfront property; its acquisition and planned development for the mill sites; the Riverfront Development Study Group formed by the Citizens League; the Steel Industry Heritage Task Force saving Carrie Furnace and planning a museum; community action groups focusing efforts on housing developments and river access for the residents; local development groups working together for the common good; government agencies pooling resources to form enterprise zones and historic districts; restoration of the Carnegie Library buildings; private development of one of the mill sites; and the castle of sand recently completed. The valley was reawakening. It had become the Valley of the Morn.

And the moral of the story is: Although the wizards do the work, it takes a Prince's kiss to awaken a Sleeping Beauty. Δ

How To Tell If You're Sitting On A Lemon.

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INSITES

JAMES B. JOHNSON, AIA
PRESIDENT, JOHNSON/SCHMIDT & ASSOC.

Editor's Note: With the new membership directory scheduled for publication in the spring, the recent elections of officers and the formation of new committees, our minds are on AIA membership. Why join? Chapter member James Johnson, AIA, of Johnson/Schmidt and Associates, answers that question and explains why his firm will even pay the way.

In 1965, Johnson/Schmidt and Associates was reorganized from a partnership to a professional corporation under the architects law of Pennsylvania. As a new professional corporation it asked itself the question, "What can the corporation do for its employees as a business expense?" Among other items such as medical insurance, we included the costs of AIA membership and did so for all architect employees because we wanted the firm's architects to be members of the Institute and to support the local chapter and its activities.

We believed then, and still believe, that

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME...

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COLUMNS welcomes two new staff members. P.J. Corso is the new Managing Editor and Drue Miller is Production Assistant.

Ms. Corso, a writer/editor since graduating from Boston College in 1979, has been published in *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The San Francisco Examiner* and *The Pittsburgh Press*. She is a communications and writing instructor at Carlow College.

Ms. Miller, a 1989 graduate of CMU, is a writer and Macintosh designer.



CORRECTION: George Ehringer, AIA, will serve a one-year term as Chapter Representative to the PSA, not President.

membership in the AIA keeps the individual closer to advancements in the profession and provides the major system of communication necessary for strong continuing education. In architecture, as in most other professions, the learning process never ends. The budding and blooming of new philosophies, technologies and business practices for architects forms a conglomeration of information and knowledge so vast that keeping even modestly abreast of the latest requires a great deal of time and the most sophisticated communications. AIA membership is the only authoritative resource available. Through its national programs, publications and state and local chapter organizations, it provides periodicals, memos, seminars, committee activities, conventions, tapes, documents, insurance and business programs, etc., all aimed at betterment of the profession of architecture and its membership.

We are convinced that it is just good business to donate the funding for each of our architects to be AIA members and to encourage them to participate in the chapter activities. It makes them better professionals and our firm a better firm. In concert with this, we also sponsor each year a trip to the national convention for an architect who has not previously attended. He is asked to bring back to the firm, for all who are not attending, as much new knowledge as practical and to make a presentation for us of what he learned and of new thoughts and ideas that may be applicable to our design practice.

We feel that as a matter of qualification and personal satisfaction there is value in being able to place AIA after the architect's name and title. The American Institute of Architects is prestigious and represents the highest standard of this profession upon which the public, communities, corporations and courts respect and rely. Membership is a great value for a modest price. I hope to see you all at our next Chapter meeting. Δ

FROM THE DESK OF PAT IAMS,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Promoters of the Pittsburgh region have capitalized on our highly-rated livability. Whether or not Rand McNally's rating of Pittsburgh has



spearheaded an influx of businesses and professionals to the region remains to be seen. Certainly, the opening of the Midfield Terminal,

in conjunction with the airport expansion covering a land mass larger than Chicago's O'Hare and the Atlanta airport combined, presents an unparalleled opportunity to attract new population to the region.

Through the efforts of Program Chair Ivan Santa-Cruz, AIA, and Steve George, FAIA, Director of the Department of Airport Area Development, a symposium is scheduled for March 21 focusing on the impact of the airport expansion on economic development in the region.

Six groups, including the Marketing task force of the Airport Area Development Advisory Commission, have been formed to help coordinate the construction and opening of the Midfield Terminal in 1992. Chair of the task force, strategic planning consultant Stanley C. Marshall, has gathered together a group of approximately 50 people, representing both the private and public sectors, from advertising, public relations, business, industry, government and education. One of the committee's primary goals is to market the region.

The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA March program provides an opportunity to better understand how the airport expansion presents a new growth area to the region, how the City and surrounding areas will benefit and what advantages will be created for existing businesses. I urge you to make every effort to attend. Δ

HINDU MINDS OVER MATTER



There are no working drawings at the construction site of the Hindu Jain Temple being built in Monroeville for its worshipers. No models, no scales, no computers to calculate the proper proportion of countless courses staggered on the temple walls.

The wonder of such an intricate undertaking is in the minds of 11 Hindus who work from memory, chanting the ancient rules of their craft and reciting religious formulas from the scriptures of temple design. For these men, building temples is not a science; it is their religion.

"This isn't something you can go to architectural school to learn, not even in India. The knowledge is passed on from father to son in the teachings of the scriptures," says project architect Sashi Patel, AIA.

These master masons from India, called shilpies, were hired by the Indian community in the Pittsburgh area to build a temple in Nagradi style, a modern design popularized in North, Northeast and Central India. Its basic form and outside shell, designed by Patel and two architects from India, consists of brick coursing and classical sculptures. Although the temple's texture is fancifully layered compared to most modern architecture, the Nagradi style is a simplified and cost-cutting version of a 10th Century style with perhaps thousands of coursings. The Nagradi style was created nearly a 100 years ago by Sompura who was contracted by Indian industrialists to design something new and different.

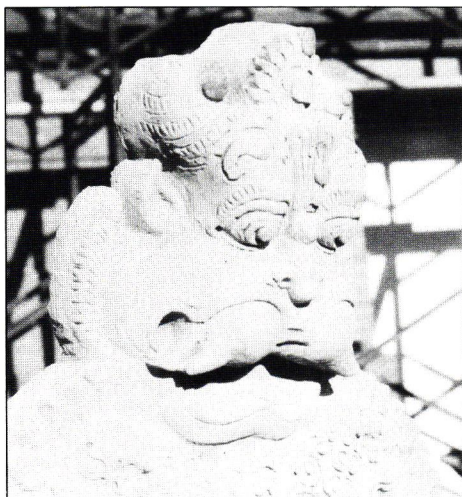
Muthiah Sthapathia has prepared full-scale drawings on plywood for the shilpies but they are only a partial guide because

not every portion of the building is drawn. For this reason, Patel says it would be difficult to employ local masons.

"Local contractors would probably get stuck every step of the way. They need contract drawings to work from. The shilpies don't. They can rely on their traditional teachings," Patel said.

He admits that importing 11 shilpies from India and housing them for two years is costly, yet they are still saving the Indian community money. The exterior of the temple will cost \$350,000 to construct using the shilpies. Patel estimates it would cost five times as much using local masons because of the training they would need to do

Above: Indian shilpies, or master masons, rely on mental calculations, not computers, to build cone-shaped towers. The mold below is one of 200 the shilpies will hand carve to complete the temple dressing.

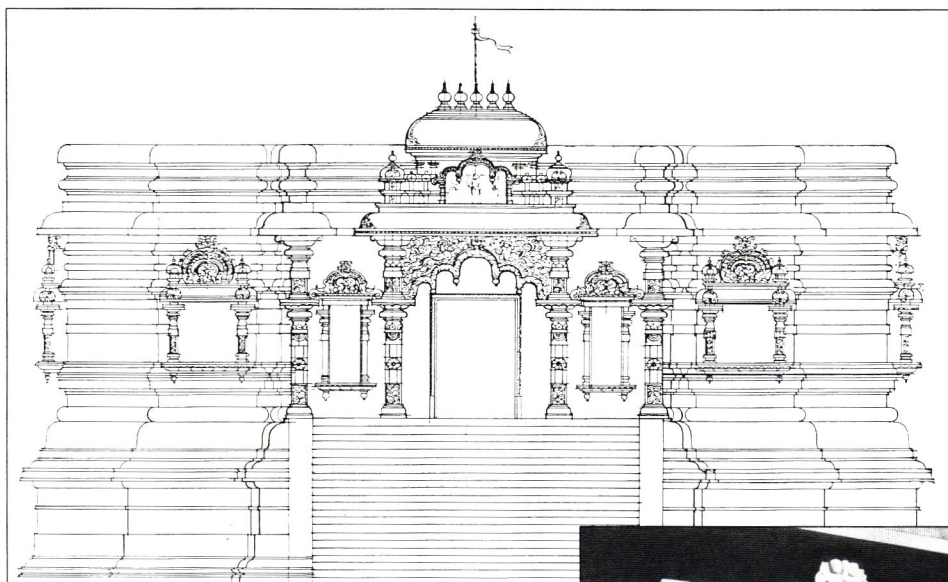


"This isn't something you can go to architectural school to learn, not even in India. The knowledge is passed on from father to son in the teachings of the scriptures."

Sashi Patel, AIA,
Hindu Jain Temple architect

the job as efficiently as the shilpies.

The temple's architectural scheme is divided horizontally into three main sections, consisting of the lower level (basement), superstructure (wall-face up to the cornice) and the roof which includes shikharas or towers signifying the number of deities housed inside.



Top: A developmental drawing of Hindu Jain Temple in Monroeville. Middle: Coursings and window moldings decorate the temple. Below, Hand carved, rose-colored bricks are applied over the temple's concrete facade.

The shilpies began their building ceremony in August 1988 by covering a concrete block frame with rose-colored bricks, each individually cut, grinded and layered to proportion. Sandstone and granite are used in India for the Nagradi design, but were not used here because they are too costly. The elaborate iconography, which will decorate the temple like icing blossoms on a cake, are cast from rubber molds of cement carvings. The shilpies expect to hand carve more than 200 molds to complete the temple dressing. The cement molds are cured in water to help prevent them from cracking.

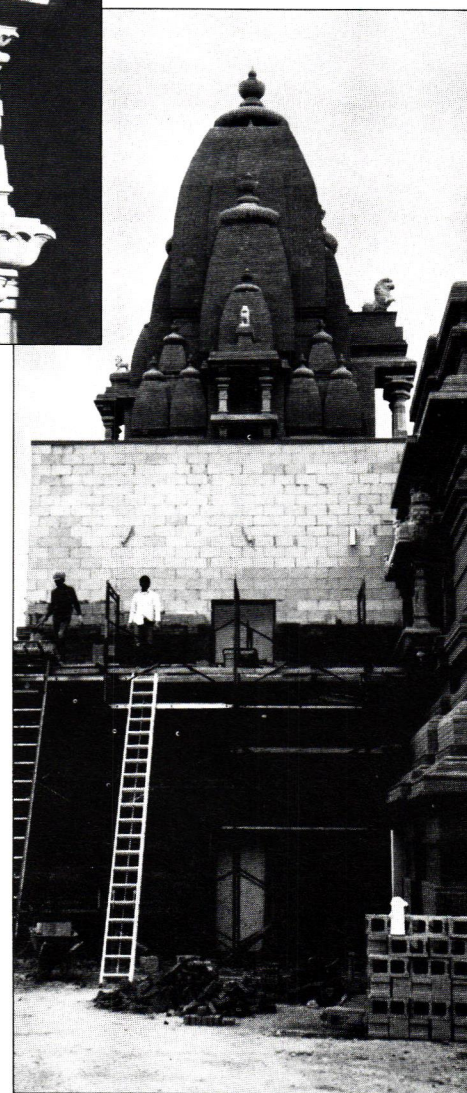
In the temple's lower level, there are three-foot thick courses called vergams. The walls get thicker as they go higher and the upper surface consists of a series of moldings and string-courses, the more important carved with repeating motifs arranged in an order fixed by convention.

The most significant portion of the temple is the middle division or floor reserved for images of deities enshrined in niches. Inside the temple, five Hindu deities imported from India are enclosed in separate wooden sanctuaries. Patel said five icons were congregated in the temple because of the small number of worshipers in the Pittsburgh area for each icon. For those who don't worship any of the five deities

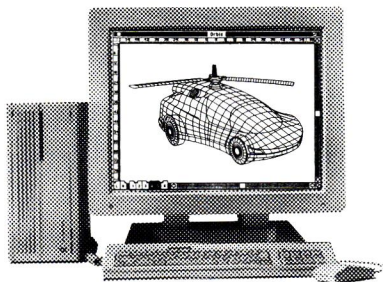
displayed in the temple, there is a place for worshiping a fire deity. As funds permit, the interior will be upgraded, replacing wooden sanctuaries with decorative plaster as well as columns and other elements around the windows and doors.

To complete the temple composition, there are five shikhars, measuring 48-foot, 36-foot and 15-foot from the roof. The shilpies built all the towers from their memories, mentally calculating the height and curvature of each in proportion with the width of the building.

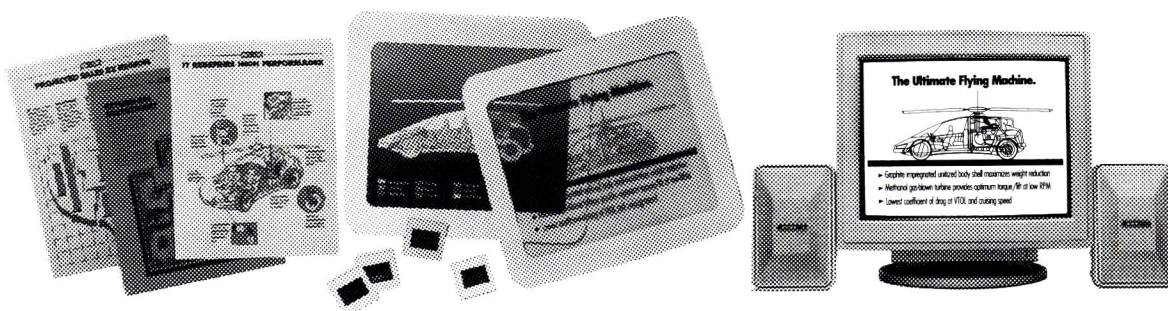
Temple Jain is scheduled for completion this September. Δ



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FREQUENT FLYERS TO BOSNYWASH AND BEYOND

Bosnywash, or the Boston-New York-Washington, D.C. corridor, may just be the word for Johnson/Schmidt and Associates. Those nine letters begin to encompass the territory this architectural, engineering and interior design firm covers from its Pittsburgh office.

Operating without satellite offices, JSA specializes in corporate, financial and retail projects that dot the Eastern Seaboard and Northeastern United States: Filene's Department Store in Boston, Jefferson Ward Company in New Jersey and The World Bank in Washington, D.C. to name a few. JSA President James Johnson, AIA, says that even though 70 percent of JSA's business is outside the tri-state area, he believes Pittsburgh is an ideal spot to locate his firm.

"Pittsburgh is a hub for us. Most of our clients can call and we'll be there in an hour by air," Johnson says. It is no accident that JSA is located on Parkway West and Route 60 near the airport to accommodate the frequent travel by firm members and clients.

Johnson said Pittsburgh's affordability is another reason JSA doesn't open satellite offices. "We can be extremely competitive and still pay the airline bills," he explains.

And because JSA's clients are not governments, there is no requirement to live in the city where the work is being done. JSA architects are also frequent flyers to Florida where they have designed data centers for Florida Federal and Tampa Electric Company, and to Texas, Colorado and Missouri.

Although JSA is primarily a regional and national firm, it was founded in 1939 by forebearers Roy Hoffman and Kenneth Crumpton who made their mark designing such notable Pittsburgh buildings as the Westin William Penn Hotel and Mellon Institute. Johnson said the firm took to the air as their clients were involved in corporate takeovers and became multi-state entities. When Rockwell merged with California-based North American Aviation in the late 1960s, JSA architects traveled back and forth to California to design an office space for more than 1,000 employees in the U.S. Steel Building.

The Rockwell project led to other corporate ventures, and the South Hills Village



Pittsburgh is a hub for us. Most of our clients can call and we'll be there in an hour by air.

**Jim Johnson, AIA
Johnson/Schmidt and Associates**

shopping mall, which JSA designed in 1963, led to others like it in retail. Johnson says what made the South Hills Village design distinctive at the time is access to parking from both levels of the mall. Another two-

level mall in California had failed to lure shoppers to the second floor because the parking was located in the basement level.

A year ago, JSA designed the interior for Kennametal's consolidation of two manufacturing plants in Ohio. JSA worked with the Latrobe-based tool manufacturer to design a 180,000 square-foot space that integrates office and plant facilities.

JSA currently has 135 employees and consultants and 80 clients, many of whom are repeat customers. As Johnson points out, "We've become an extension of our clients, like a special department within their organization." Δ



Above and below:
JSA's design of the Kennametal building in Ohio combines office and manufacturing facilities.

BREAKING GROUND

KUDOS

Congratulations are in order for **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates**, ranked the 5th largest in the nation and first in Pennsylvania among premier renovation architects for 1989 by *Commercial Renovation* magazine. The Union Trust Building, renovated by BHKR, was featured on the cover.

And the winners are... two member firms at the 1989 Construction Industry Awards presented by the Associated Builders & Contractors of Western Pennsylvania. **Williams Trebilcock Whitehead** was chosen Architect of the Year and **Indovina Associates'** Colony Savings Bank in Franklin Park, constructed by Morgan Landau, won Project of the Year at the awards ceremony held in January.

FROM THE FIRMS

L.P. Perfido Associates is handling the renovation of an historic downtown building. Located at 945 Penn Avenue, the nine-story terra cotta-clad loft with an overhanging copper cornice was built in 1905 for Henry Phipps and is on the National Register of Historic Places as a "significant" example of the Penn-Liberty Historic District's architecture.

Perfido's \$5 million renovation of the 130,000 sq. ft. structure will consolidate five Department of Public Welfare offices and will include new office space as well as new mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems. The exterior facade will be restored in accordance with guidelines for certified

Historic Rehabilitations.

Perfido's firm has been quite active in the Penn-Liberty Historic District, with completed projects at 931 Penn Avenue and 209 Ninth Street and current projects at 800 and 938 Penn Avenue.

Ross Schonder Sterzinger Cupcheck has named **James D. Roos, AIA** and **Dean E. Hess, CSI** as Associates. Roos, a graduate of Penn State, has had 14 years of architectural experience. Current projects of his include the new Conference Center for the Hospital Council of Western PA, the new Landmark North Office Building, and renovation and additions to Seven Oaks Country Club. Hess received his B. Arch. from Miami University of Ohio, and is currently Project Architect for the new facility of the United Methodist Church of Sharon.

Booming Robinson Township is the site of a 70,000 sq. ft. office building to be designed by **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann**. Scheduled for completion by year's end, the four-story building located at 600 High Tower Boulevard will have major entrances on the first and second levels. Sky-lights will provide the ambience in the four-story atrium. **John Kosar, AIA**, is designer.

BHKR is also designing the interiors for the law offices of Millisor & Nobil in Broadview Heights, Ohio. The project entails 20,000 sq. ft. of office space, and will include flooring, millwork and cabinetry, lighting and finishes.

And to assist with new projects, the Pittsburgh office has lured away marketing man **Gregory P. Riley** from the Fort Myers, Florida office. As the leader of marketing efforts of the Housing Division for the East and Mid-Atlantic regions, Riley serves as liaison to builders for analyzing market research, creating buyer profiles, establishing basic design approaches and conveying information to the design team.

Reid & Stuhldreher was recently commissioned to design the renovation of the 69-year-old club house at the South Hills Country Club. The \$3.3 million project calls for a complete renovation of the exterior facade to its original shingle-style design and a new building for the pro shop and club storage. Interior renovations include exposing the original cathedral ceiling in the members' lounge and upgrading the kitchen, main ballroom, men's grill and portico. The project is scheduled for completion by September, 1990.

The firm has also named six new principals to the firm, including members: **William P. Bartoli, AIA**, Vice President/Secretary; **John D. Francona, AIA**; **Jeffrey N. Heiskell, AIA**; and **Bruce C. Knepper, AIA**.

Williams Trebilcock Whitehead is designing an office plaza in Oakland and completing an office park in Robinson Township. Sterling Plaza, located at the corner of North Craig and Bayard in Oakland, will include two five- and six-story office buildings, both with integral below-grade parking, and will be done in two phases. The first phase construction of the 85,000 sq. ft. five-story building will begin in May and be completed by June, 1991 at an expected cost of \$9.5 million. Project architect is **Richard F. Bamburak, AIA**.

Construction has begun on the fifth and final building in the Campbell's Run Business Center in Robinson Township. The 41,000 sq. ft. flex building is scheduled for occupancy in May. Project architect is **John Cleary, AIA**.

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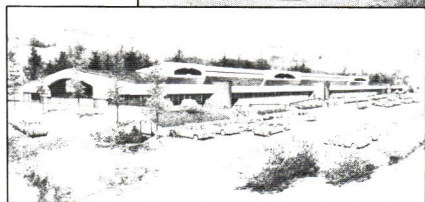
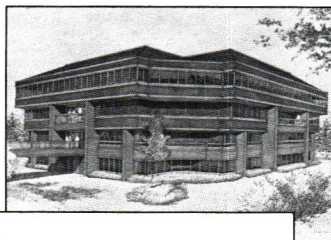
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BREAKING GROUND

headquarters for The Chester Engineers at the Cherrington Corporate Center in Moon Township, PA. The four-story 66,000 sq. ft. building will be completed and ready for occupancy this fall.



The Chester Engineers new headquarters in Moon Township (top); and the final building of the Campbell's Run Business Center, both designed by Williams Trebilcock Whitehead.

WTW also designed new offices for two downtown firms. Maritz Motivation, a developer of performance improvement programs for business, moved into 2,700 sq. ft. on the second floor of the Federated Investors Tower at Liberty Center in January. Metropolitan Fiber Systems, a telecommunications distributor, acquired 5,500 sq. ft. on the seventh floor.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Owners of old and historic houses are invited to participate in the 1990 **Great American Home Awards**, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Center for Historic Houses and *Historic Preservation* magazine. Awards will be given in recognition of excellence in home restoration and are divided into four categories:

- **Exterior Rehabilitation:** Appropriate renovation or restoration of a home;
- **Interior Rehabilitation:** Renovation or restoration of one or more rooms using materials and designs appropriate to the history or period of the home;
- **Sympathetic Additions:** Additions compat-

ible to the home featuring either modern or period designs and materials;

- **Bed & Breakfast Inns:** Residential structure that has been adapted to receive guests. Renovations can be exterior, interior, a sympathetic addition or all three.

Nominations may be made by individual homeowners, architects, contractors, restorers and interior designers who are fundamentally involved with the project. Award winners will be announced in *Historic Preservation's* January/February 1991 Home Restoration issue. Deadline for entry is June 30, 1990. For complete details and a nomination form, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Home Renovation Awards, c/o National Trust, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

And while you're entering their competition, don't forget about the special historic preservation issue of *COLUMNS* coming up in May! There's still time to let us know about your project and make your way onto our pages—write to: *COLUMNS* Preservation Issue, c/o The Cantor Group, 1225 Faragut St., Pgh., PA 15206 (Photos are appreciated!). Projects may be of any size but must be current or recently completed by a member architect or firm.

And if you find yourself longing to work out of town (or state), Mobile, Alabama is sponsoring a design competition for a City-County building. The competition is being managed by Nicholas H. Holmes, Jr., FAIA, of Mobile and Paul D. Spreiregen, FAIA, of Washington, DC, and will be held in accordance with AIA guidelines for competitions. The building will comprise 300,000 gross sq. ft. and occupy an urban site of approximately 2 1/4 acres. Project budget is roughly \$35 million. An information booklet with complete rules, eligibility, jurors, prizes and registration forms is available by writing to: Mobile County Building Design Competition, P.O. Box 40471, Mobile, AL 36640. Δ

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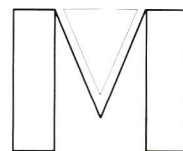
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CONTRACTOR INSIGHTS

(The View from the Other Side)

By Ivan Santa-Cruz, AIA,
Vice President, Marketing, Repal Construction

INSIGHT NO. 4: SECRET BID RESULTS:

As general contractors, we greatly prefer invitation over public bidding of projects. We do find fault with this process though, when bids are opened privately and the results are not announced promptly to all bidders. We especially object when results are not announced at all.

As I have mentioned before in this column, a contractor's investment in bidding a project is substantial (40 to 80 man hours). The losers, I believe, deserve the courtesy of being informed about how they fared against their competitors.

The unsuccessful G.C. needs this information for several reasons:

1. If the project was to be bonded, his bonding company requires it to release the bid bond obligation.
2. To find out how competitive (or uncompetitive) his own bid may have been.
3. To get a feeling for the competitiveness of the quotations provided by his subcontractors.
4. To relay the information to his subs, who in many cases would like to market their bids to the successful bidder.

Finally, prompt release of bid tabulations assures contractors that the project was bid competitively.

We are all happiest (and more willing to try again) if the bidding process is fair to all concerned.

Repal
Construction

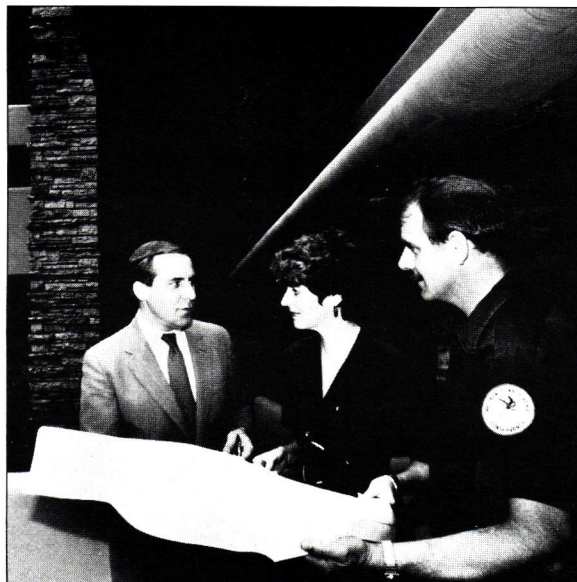


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Above: Two geologists from Weston Geophysical perform geological surveys under the waterfall at Fallingwater. The cantilevered deck is visible at the upper left corner. Below: Reviewing the details of a recently completed topographic site map are, left to right, Charles Kovach, Associate, architect for Michael Baker; Lynda Waggoner, curator and administrator for Fallingwater; and Blaney Sproul, Fallingwater maintenance superintendent.



FALLINGWATER

STRUCTURE IS STABLE BUT

Preliminary observations by Michael Baker Engineers subsidiary Weston Geophysical Corp. indicate there are no critical geologic issues requiring immediate attention. The home, which juts over a waterfall near Ohiopyle, is built on Pottsville sandstone, flagstone and reinforced concrete.

"There is no emergency. It's not going to fall over and wash away downstream..." but we want to secure appropriate insurance policies toward the conservation effort. but it is in need of constant surveillance.

In addition to establishing trends, Michael Baker recently completed a topographical survey of the surrounding environment and guest house. In the 1930s, Baker's contains more

"There is no emergency. It's not going to fall over and wash away downstream..."

Charles Kovach, Associate
Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

formed by Baker Engineers subsidiary Weston Geophysical Corp. indicate there are no critical geologic issues requiring immediate attention. The home, which juts over a waterfall near Ohiopyle, is built on Pottsville sandstone, flagstone and reinforced concrete.

"Fallingwater was a stretch for engineer Lynda Waggoner. "Engineer Wright has proven himself right."

That is not to say that Fallingwater offers a myriad of opportunities for water conservation and with horizontal surfaces which

In 1982, L.D. Astorino and Associates, Inc. walls, chimneys and terraces, and in admitting ultraviolet glass to preserve the structure. by Edgar Kaufmann Jr. to draft the plans, which can be used to compare the structure's

Waggoner said Fallingwater is a masterpiece and analyzed to determine its original design.

In 1986, Fallingwater was designed by Michael Baker Architects to be the most successful

S ALL WRIGHT

OF CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE

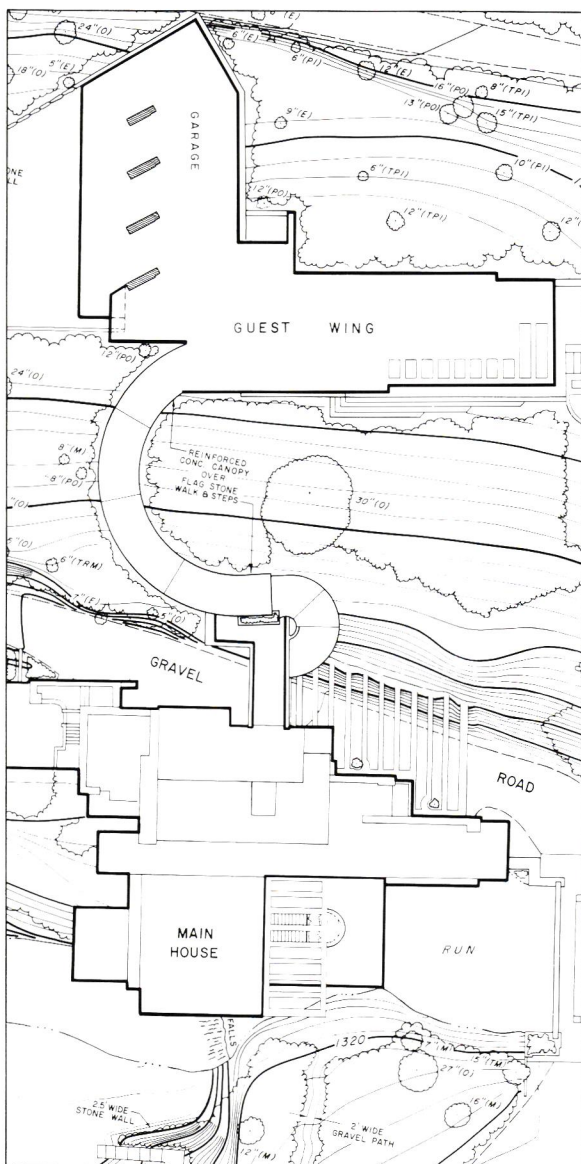
ker, Jr., Inc., indicate Fallingwater is to monitor its movement and a number designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. "Fall over and wash away downstream," Baker says. "For round-the-clock monitoring," Baker, which is contributing its services, said the structure appears to be stable.

structural movement, Michael Baker reviewing how the house relates to the surrounding topographical surveys were made including the current compass orientation of magnetic north versus Wright's record of it in 1936. The survey also includes tree species and sizes as well as two and five foot contour intervals locating streams, bridges and a permanent baseline.

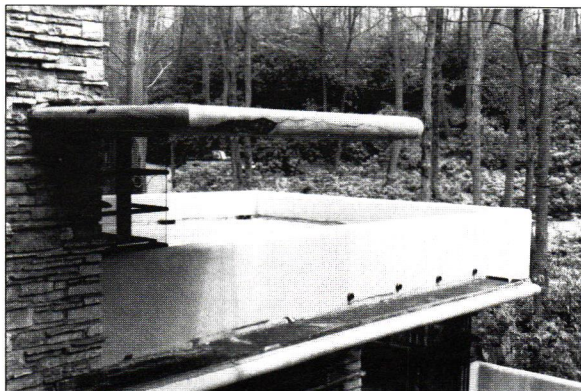
A recent geotechnical survey per-

"Fallingwater was a stretch for technology at the time. Engineers wondered how long it would stand up."

Lynda Waggoner
Fallingwater curator



Above: The topographical survey of Fallingwater by Michael Baker includes tree species and sizes as well as two and five foot contour intervals locating streams, bridges and a permanent baseline. **Below:** Deterioration of the roof canopy, restored by L.D. Astorino and Associates.



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BRICKS & MORTAR: COMMITTEE NEWS

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Doug Shuck, AIA, WTW/
Martin Chetlin Assoc., 321-0550

The Communications Committee will send a representative of the Chapter to the PSA's Editorial Board meetings, held quarterly, at which projects are selected for publication in the PSA's magazine, Pennsylvania Architect. If any members would like to submit their work for publication, please contact Doug Shuck. At the March meeting, projects will be chosen for the small practices issue; in June, the residential issue; and in September, the interiors issue.

Work is still underway on the 1990 Members & Member Firms Directory, which will be out later this spring.

The Committee meets the second Thursday of each month at WTW. If you are interested in attending, contact Doug Shuck.

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE

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

Members of the WIA Committee were quite pleased by the sizable turnout at the WIA exhibit held in January at the PPG Wintergarden. Seventy-five committee members, family members and sponsors attended the opening, including distinguished attendees Marsha Berger, AIA, Ralph Burt, AIA, Kent Edwards, AIA, David Henderson, AIA, Jim Johnson, AIA, Stefani Ledewitz, AIA, Gary and Cherie

Moshier, AIA, and Steve Quick, AIA.

The Committee extends their thanks to all who attended and organized the exhibit, including members Margaret Fisher, AIA, for assisting in organizing the exhibit; Maureen Guttman, AIA, for helping with the opening and mailings; Debbie Elliot,



Top: WIA sponsor Tom Landau, Professional Affiliate, Morgan Landau Construction, presents check to Chair Marilyn Lupo, Associate. **Bottom:** Margaret Fisher, AIA and Gwen Williams, Associate, prepare for the opening.



AIA, for coordinating security; and all committee members who contributed the last few hundred dollars needed to make the exhibit happen.

With the success of January in mind, the committee is focusing its energies toward the July exhibit "Creation is a Patient Search" (see February COLUMNS for more information, or contact Marilyn Lupo).

The WIA meets the first Tuesday of each month at 5:15 pm in the offices of BHKR.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEV.

Chair: Dave Brenenburg, AIA
Brenenburg Brown, 683-0202

Attention, interns: check the insert in last month's COLUMNS for the schedule of the refresher course for the professional examination. A survey conducted by the Chapter office showed that candidates who attended the refresher course scored above the national average on the exam!

Thanks to all of the refresher course instructors for sharing their knowledge, professional experience, and time.

The Committee would like to remind the membership of the Professional Development Library at the Chapter office. Books and tapes are available for you to borrow—the Committee is preparing a current catalog which will be distributed to all members, and is also devising the means for members without easy access to the office to borrow materials.

A new schedule of seminars for late Spring and Fall is in the works. Anyone with ideas or specific interests should contact a Committee member.

Welcome to new members Jill Flannery, Associate, of Damianos Brown Andrews Assoc. and Fred Fargotstein, AIA, of Anthony Poli Architect.

Meetings are held the last Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM at the offices of Brenenburg/Brown.

LEGISLATIVE

Chair: Paul Rona, AIA
Celli-Flynn Assoc., 281-9400

The Committee is alerting the local BOCA Chapter about excessive requirements imposed by the BOCA Plan Review

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BRICKS & MORTAR: COMMITTEE NEWS

in Chicago, necessitating additional architectural and consulting fees. These requirements are in excess and in contradiction to accepted architectural documentation practice.

BOCA local and the Committee have proposed to jointly sponsor the 1990 BOCA Code Update Seminar, which will be presented by a representative from BOCA National.

A letter detailing the City of Pittsburgh A/E Procurement policy will be sent to Alex Sciuilli, the new director of Engineering and Construction.

The Committee has been asked by the Executive Board to appoint an AIA liaison to the Master Builders Association; and the AIA has been asked to participate in a Tort Reform Seminar, to be sponsored by the Engineers Society.

Three new members are needed! if you are interested in legislative issues of concern to architects, contact Paul Rona, AIA, 281-9400.

HISTORIC RESOURCES

Chair: John Martine, AIA
IAS Corp., 856-4744

The newly formed Historic Resources Committee held its first meeting in January. The main topic of discussion was the committee's sponsorship of the May chapter meeting, a roundtable discussion concerning the economic impact of historic preservation. John Craig, Editor of the *Post Gazette* has agreed to moderate the panel discussion and Mellon Bank will allow us to use the auditorium space in the Union Trust Building. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 9.

Other subjects discussed were the future of the King Mansion in Highland Park and landscape design issues facing the Highland Park Reservoirs. The committee agreed to monitor closely the continuing public debate on these issues.

Go Fourth! committee members Rob Pfaffmann, AIA, Don Carter, AIA and Leonard Perfido, AIA are putting together an RFP advocating development options that

retain the architectural integrity of Fourth Avenue. John Martine, AIA, another *Go Fourth!* committee member, is planning special events for Fourth Avenue during National Preservation week.

INTERN DEVELOPMENT

Chair: Ed Shriver, AIA
Johnson/Schmidt & Assoc., 923-1566

The IDP's Construction Seminar Series will hold its March 17 meeting on-site at the extended living facility going up on Washington Road in Mt. Lebanon. This

continued on page 20

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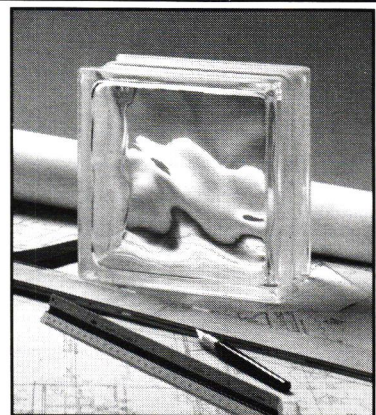
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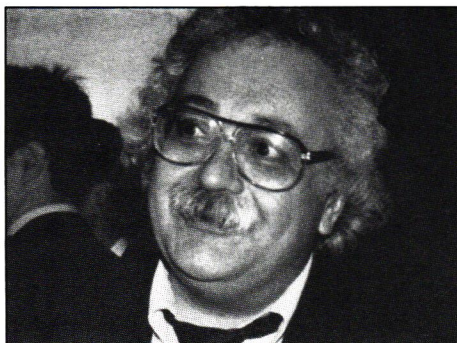
INTERVIEW

ALBERT FILONI, AIA

COLUMNS: Your enthusiasm for architecture shows every time you talk about a building. How did it develop?

FILONI: I don't know how I came to like architecture. Somewhere around third grade when someone would say, 'Well, what do you want to be?' I'd say, 'I want to be an architect.' And I never really thought about anything else. I drew all the time. I drew buildings, cars and trains—all the things kids drew. Of course I never thought about what an architect did, I just decided to be one. I kept on with the drawing and at the same time developed a tremendous interest in music. If I ever thought about anything other than architecture, it was music. There were a lot of people encouraging me to take up conducting. I thought about it, but decided that I could be involved in music as an architect, but I didn't think it would work the other way around.

I detoured for about four years, however. When I left high school I applied to Carnegie Tech in architecture and I didn't



get in. Growing up in a little coal mining town, you don't have a very big horizon. I went to see Schweiker who was then the head of the department. He was impressed by my drawings and told me to go to a college for a year, take a lot of the courses I didn't have at my high school and then transfer to Carnegie. I did just that, I went to Bethany College at his suggestion. I took a horrendous schedule that first year, math and physics. But I also took advanced art classes, philosophy and theology. I got in-

involved in school politics and stayed one year, two years, four years. I ended up going to the Harvard Graduate School of Design where I spent four years getting Bachelors and Masters degrees. Looking back, it was a rather unplanned program but I wouldn't change a thing—the liberal arts background, studying philosophy and art and music. It was fantastic!

C: And the architecture?

F: Architecture in those days was very different than it is today. Young people that I work with here don't understand the differences. All my teachers at Harvard were Bauhaus, International School Architects. We were socially motivated people who were going to change the society. The reason you were an architect was to change the world for people who desperately needed housing, to re-do cities that were falling apart, burning down. We didn't worry about what buildings looked like, and unfortunately, I think it shows. All the right ideas, all the right words were being spoken, but what was built didn't reflect our ideals.

C: And today?

F: I'm very worried about architecture today. As dangerous as a lot of that 60's thinking was, it had a lot more meaning than what's going on now where one building is pseudo-Egyptian, one building is this or that. Today's buildings are like opera sets. We're building structures with little thin skins. If you look at the Oliver building, you can feel the thickness of the granite. At the corners you can actually see the size of the stones. When you look at these new buildings, you see the one and a half to two inch piece of granite with the caulking butted to another piece. It's not the same and it doesn't feel the same. It's all facade now. What the Bauhaus people most feared has happened. I don't want to go back to their buildings, but right now we're like a bunch of children playing with things we don't understand. We're drifting away from serious issues. Personally, I'm still rooted in

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those older values. I think they were right.

There's a confusion of values that is dangerous. 'Oh, we can't afford Taj Mahal architecture,' says a Board of Directors. We hear this all the time. Wasteful architecture, building temples for no good reason, we shouldn't do in any case. But we have used that as an excuse to build buildings that are cheap, awful, falling apart. The schools built 20 years are almost impossible to renovate. We've built out of materials that don't last. The laws that have been written to give people tax benefits have led to this state. Maybe all these buildings with the little, thin granite facades are reflections of our values. It could be that Philip Johnson is really a very cynical person. And when he builds these temples to capitalism he is making a strong indictment in his own way. My kids are never going to be able to raise enough tax dollars to repair the buildings that are going up today, because the structures are simply not going to last. We've got to turn it around somehow.

C: MCF is 100 years old. What would you like to see your firm doing as it enters its next century?

F: It's true, we're a hundred years old. But ten years ago people didn't know who we were. We'd done a lot of important projects, but we weren't known. In the last 10 years we've become more visible. Because of projects like the Benedum, we have an image of doing only extremely expensive, very elaborate, historical restoration projects. I want to change that. I want to do new buildings, buildings in urban environments.

I'd like to do housing. Pittsburgh needs housing so ordinary people can live in the city. We have everything in Pittsburgh a city could want except a population to support it. Everyone drives in and out. The people who live in the city are people who are stuck, who can't pay the taxes, who can't afford to support the infrastructure. The crisis is so real, it's unbelievable. We've built no new housing since Nixon was elected President. In fact, we've torn down housing or renovated it for wealthy people.

Today's buildings are like opera sets. We're building structures with little thin skins ... It's all facade now.

**Al Filoni, AIA
MacLachan, Cornelius & Filoni**

If we don't find a solution we'll burn our cities down again. I want our firm to be finding solutions.

C: Will you continue to spend a lot of your time with theater architecture and with music?

F: Oh yes. Our firm is now getting national invitations to bid on theater projects. I want to build new theaters—like a symphony hall or an opera house and prove that you can build a new theater that is the acoustic

equal of the old ones.

Of course, music is central to the whole ball game for me. I get energy from music. One of my goals is to stage an opera. Part of it is a philosophic, intellectual thing. Everybody kids me about loving Richard Wagner and I do. When he talked about creating the total art work, he was so far ahead in his thinking. If it weren't for the Second World War, I think we'd take his work much more seriously. The attempts now being made to integrate music and cinema, light and acting, those were all Wagner's pursuits.

Architecture needs to be like that—life needs to be like that! Integrated! You can't separate the important things into specialized compartments. All my interests work together. I don't think about coming to work as apart from the rest of my life. And when I go home, I don't stop thinking about the things on my desk. It's all one. Δ

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

There are models, and then there are models. When Janssen & Cocken received the commission for the Mellon Institute in the late 1920s, their client, Richard B. Mellon, required a colossal 6.5 million cubic foot building designed in a classical style with a low, horizontal form.

To their credit, the architects came up with a viable design that satisfied these difficult requirements, and they commissioned the requisite number of models to assist in visualizing the project. They found it difficult, however, to fine-tune such a massive building on a 3/4" scale. So, as reported by the architects, "Mr. Mellon allowed us to build a full-size model of one of the end piers and two columns, including the two stylobates and the entablature, and the porch with its attic above." The model, built on a farm near Dorseyville north of Pittsburgh, measured 42' x 24' x 77'

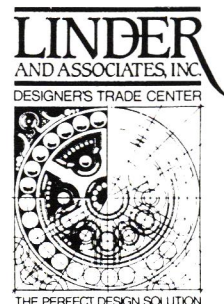
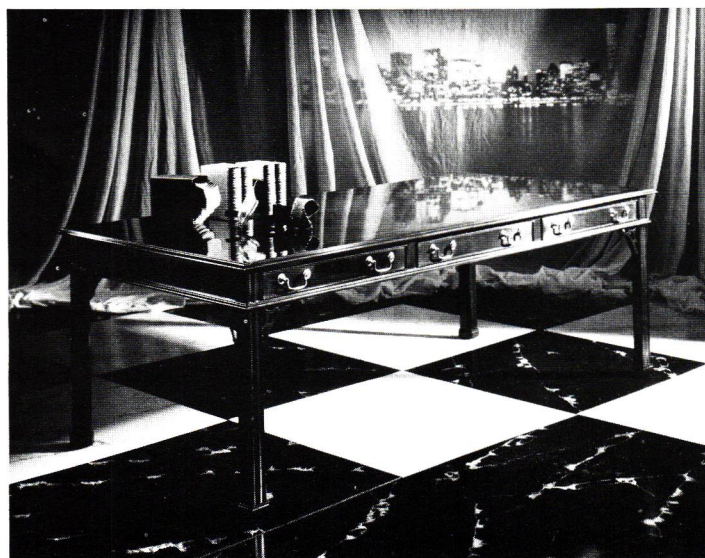


and incorporated 256 tons of wood, plaster, and other materials. It cost \$45,000 and required 19 months to complete to everyone's satisfaction. Many variations in the proportions and details of the building were explored with the model. "We built seven or eight columns by trial and error method, and finally chose one in which the diameter is contained into the height of the column about 7 1/2 times."

The horseman could be R.B. Mellon on inspection; more likely it is a local citizen appropriated with his mount to add scale to the photograph. The photo is from the Benno Janssen Collection of the Carnegie Mellon University Architecture Archives.

["From the Archives" is an occasional COLUMNS series drawn from the architecture archives at Carnegie Mellon and compiled by archivist Martin Aurand.] Δ

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ARCHITECTURAL MANAGEMENT UNDER STUDY

The Department of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University has received a National Science Foundation grant for research in the area of architectural practice management. Omer Akin, AIA, Deepak Wadhvani, AIA, and John P. Eberhard, FAIA are collaborating as principal investigator, investigator, and senior consultant respectively, on this project. They will be assisted at a later stage by two post-doctoral research fellows.

The researchers seek to study existing firms, their projects and clients. Optimal management models will be developed for different types of architectural firms, factoring in variables such as firm size, design orientation, practice objectives, financial goals and life cycle phase. The first part of the study will include data collection through questionnaires and structured interviews of Pittsburgh architectural firms. The data will then be statistically analyzed using computer modelling techniques. Management models used by other professional service firms will be used for comparison. Future NSF funding will be sought to conduct similar research on a national scale. Publication of the results by the AIA is one of the objectives of the research team. A symposium on the subject is tentatively planned for 1991.

Omer Akin, professor of architecture at CMU, has been on the faculty since 1977 and served as department head for seven years. He has a B. Arch., two M. Arch.s and Ph.D. in architecture. His areas of research interest are design process as it is related to design management, and computer aided design. Deepak Wadhvani, a project architect with Williams Trebilcock Whitehead, has been practicing in Pittsburgh for the last nine years. He has a B. Arch., M. Arch. and M.B.A. He is interested in the "Total Quality Management" of architectural practice and its correlation with both firm performance and design excellence. John Paul Eberhard is department head and Chairman of the Faculty of Architecture at CMU. He has a B.S. in Architecture and M.S. in Industrial Management. His research interests are history of urban systems and the development of advanced concepts for the future infrastructure of cities. Δ

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meeting will continue to study the building's interior construction while focusing on the mechanical and electrical systems. The meeting will last from 9 AM to noon and is open to all members—interested parties should contact Ed Shriver.

The IDP Committee serves as a clearinghouse for advisors and sponsors in search of interns and vice-versa. If you are looking for an advisor or sponsor or are interested in becoming one, contact Ed Shriver.

AIA/CMU LIAISON

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

CMU's student chapter has been busy polishing their resumes and portfolios based on advice given by Chapter members at workshops held in February and March. A number of Chapter members have been generous enough to donate their time and expert advice for the students' sake, and their input is appreciated.

A trip over mid-semester break (late February) is also on the students' agenda (location wasn't known at press time).

Be on the lookout for Ken Kuligowski, AIA and Nicholas Unverforth, AIA, two Chapter liaisons with the student chapter in search of members interested in holding seminars for the students. If you are interested in holding a seminar, contact them or Steve Quick.

Don't forget the Hornbostel lecture, which is also the monthly Chapter meeting in April. Speaker is Robert Campbell, Cambridge architect and architecture critic for the *Boston Globe*.

The AIA/CMU Liaison Committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 5 PM at the CMU Architecture Department.

IN SEARCH OF...

John Chung, AIA, is chairing a task force that will deal with health insurance issues for architects. Anyone interested in joining should call John at 681-9244. Δ



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Recalling the grandeur of the industrial age, the 1990 Palladian Ball will kick off the reopening of downtown's glittering Gulf Tower on Saturday, March 24. The essence of the building's original opening in 1932 will be recaptured by this gala event, which promises to be unforgettable.

The Palladian Ball is an annual masquerade ball sponsored by the Community Design Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting City neighborhood leaders with improving the visual quality of their communities.

In keeping with the theme, guests are asked to come dressed as their favorite art deco building (30's finery and black tie are also welcome).

Seventh Avenue (the main entrance) will be closed to traffic between Grant Street and William Penn Place. Opening festivities will be held on the street. Search lights will lead guests to the white canopy and carpet at the Seventh Avenue entrance, where they will be met by a flashbulb-snapping 30's era photographer. Classic automobiles will be parked nearby. Mayor Sophie Masloff will turn on the top of the building and cut a ribbon to mark the grand reopening.

Once inside, guests will be served cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the lobby, after which dancing to the hep sounds of the 17-piece Western Union Swing Band will ensue on the first floor in the former Mellon Bank space (and yes, the vault will be open). Guests will be paraded to the mezzanine, where local personalities David Lewis, FAIA and architecture critic Patricia Lowry, among others, will award prizes for the best costumes.

A champagne breakfast will mark the stroke of midnight, and to top off the evening guests will be invited to the 38th floor observation deck, which has been closed to the public for twenty years. Guests will dance until the wee hours on the 38th floor.

Honorary Chair of the ball is Jeannie Caliguiri. Tickets are \$85, \$800 for a table of ten, and \$1000 for a table and a full page ad in the program book. Don't miss this event! Make your reservations now by calling the Community Design Center at 391-4144. Δ

MARCH CALENDAR

AIA ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

WIA Committee meeting, 5:15 PM at Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann. Call Marilyn Lupo, Associate, 394-7000.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

IDP Committee meeting, 6 PM at Franklin Interiors, 10th and Bingham on the South Side. Call Ed Shriver, AIA, 923-1566.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

AIA/CMU Liaison Committee meeting, 5 PM at CMU Architecture Department. Call Steve Quick, AIA, 687-7070.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

IDP Construction Seminar Site Visit, Washington Road in Mt. Lebanon. Call Ed Shriver, AIA, 923-1566.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 24, 31

ARE Refresher Course meets. General Test-taking strategies, Pre-design, Site Design. Call Depak Wadhvani, AIA, 321-0550.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Dinner Meeting. A major forum on the impact of airport area development, co-hosted with seven local real estate and development organizations. Airport Marriott. Members and Guests: \$20.00. *See article and invitation on page 23.*

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Educational & Professional Development Committee meeting, 5:30 PM at Brenborg Brown. Call Dave Brenborg, AIA, 683-0202.

AROUND TOWN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

CMU Architecture Lecture Series, George Pillorge, FAIA, will discuss his firm's design approach to Baltimore's Inner Harbor. 7:30 PM, Wean Hall 7500.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

CMU Architecture Lecture Series, Gerhard Kallmann will talk about his firm's designs for the new GSIA buildings at CMU. 7:30 PM, Wean Hall 7500.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Palladian Ball. See story at left.

PLAN AHEAD

APRIL

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Monthly Meeting. Robert Campbell, a practicing architect and architecture critic for the *Boston Globe* will deliver this year's Hornbostel Lecture at CMU. Watch for details in the April issue.

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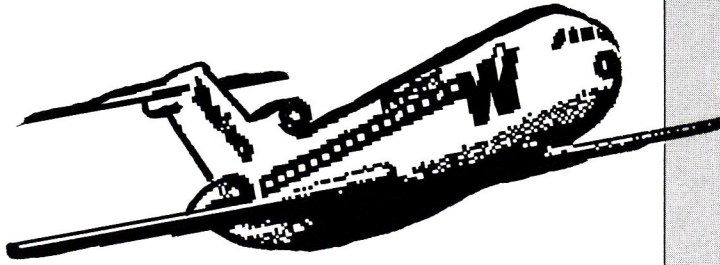
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Dean of Architecture — The Pratt Institute invites applicants and nominations for the position of Dean of the School of Architecture. Applicants must be architects who have appropriate academic and administrative experience and are recognized leaders in the field. Submit your nomination/application with a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and three references by March 10, 1990 to Professor Stanley Salzman, FAIA, Chair, Search Committee, Pratt Institute School of Architecture, 200 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205.

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Fifteen thousand jobs and a minimum of \$300 million for development and new companies. That's the goal the Airport Area Development Advisory Commission (AADAC) will discuss at a major airport symposium, to be held at the Airport Marriott as the March Chapter meeting. In addition to the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, co-sponsors of the event include:

- National Association of Industrial and Office Parks (NAIOP);
- National Association of Realtors (NAR);
- Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR);
- Urban Land Institute (ULI);
- Mortgage Bankers Association;
- Master Builders Association;
- American Society of Interior Designers (ASID);
- Allegheny County Bar — Real Estate Sections

The AADAC hopes to lure a variety of light industrial, R&D and service companies to the area, creating 15,000 jobs with a minimum payroll of \$300 million, as well as five international air carriers providing direct non-stop service to Europe and Asia and an international Air Cargo Center. The commission will concentrate on the Pacific rim, including the U.S. West Coast, Canada and Europe.

The evening will feature presentations by members of the AADAC explaining the structure and function of the AADAC and its subcommittees, goals, and services it can provide to the community and the groups present, as well as an overview of the airport area vis-à-vis accessibility and transportation to downtown. Services provided by the Department of Airport Area Development will also be highlighted as well as land-use coordination. ▲

▲
The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA
Cordially Invites You To
The March Dinner Meeting

•
A Symposium on
**The New Airport and the Development
of the Airport Area**

Presented by the Airport Area
Development Advisory Commission
Co-sponsored by the AIA and others

•
Wednesday, March 21
Ballroom, Airport Marriott
4:30 – 7:00 PM (social hour following symposium)

•
Members & Guests: \$20.00

•
RSVP by Friday, March 16

▲
RSVP

Airport Area Development
Airport Marriott
Wednesday, March 21

Name

Firm

City/State Zip

Phone

Please Reserve:

_____ Number of Members

_____ Number of Guests

Name of Guest(s):

Clip/copy this form and send with your check to:
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