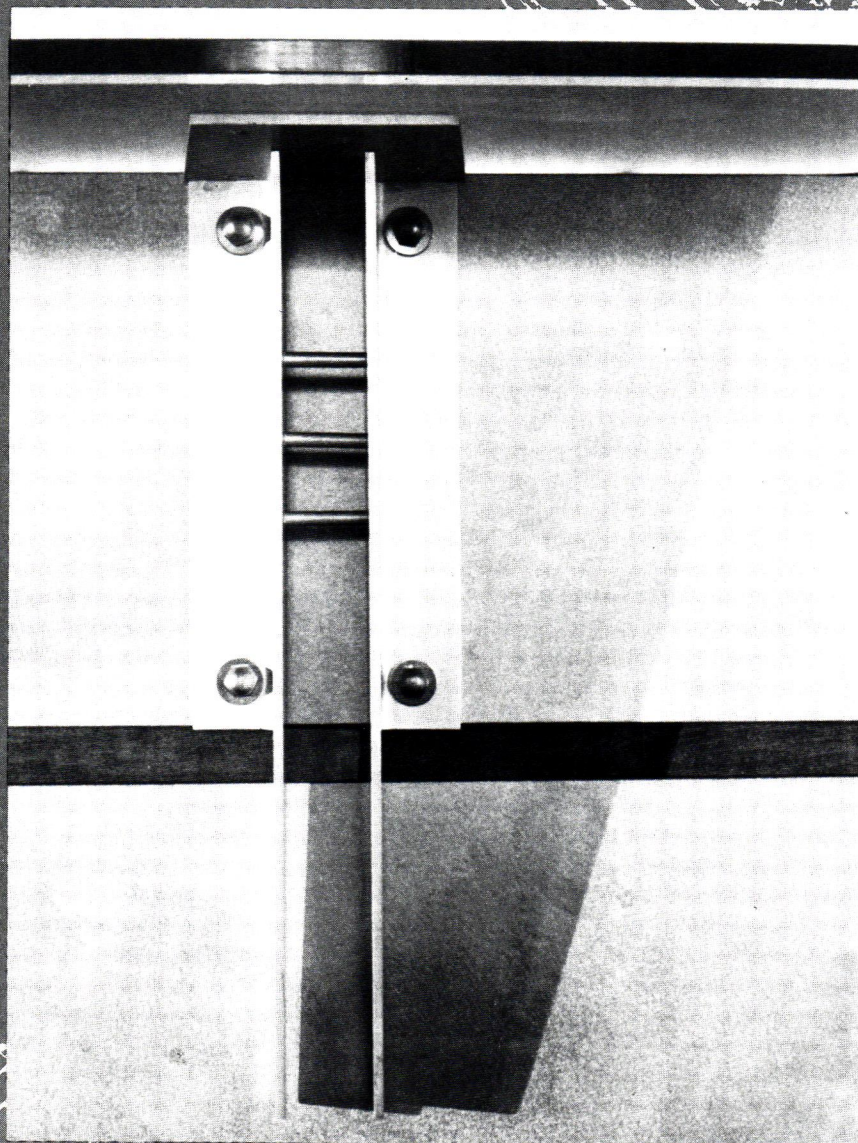


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ON THE COVER

Glass shelf and support bracket of anodized aluminum and brass is just one of numerous finishing touches to be found at the Dollar Bank in Erieview and in the pages of this month's COLUMNS, featuring an up-close look at architectural interiors. See the Interiors Portfolio, beginning on page 12.

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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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Opinions expressed by editors and contributors are not necessarily those of the Pittsburgh Chapter, AIA. The Chapter has made every reasonable effort to provide accurate and authoritative information, but assumes no liability for the contents.

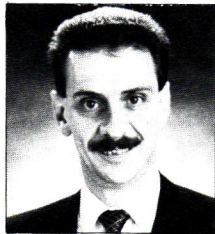
September 1990

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VIEW POINT

KENT EDWARDS, AIA



Got a question?

Did you ever wonder what the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA spends your local dues on? Should the work of area architects be promoted more aggressively to the local media? to potential clients? Should non-members be included in architectural exhibits sponsored by the AIA? Should there be a Women in Architecture committee? Should non-members be mentioned in COLUMNS? Are there too many pictures of architects at cocktail parties in COLUMNS? Should architects endorse political candidates? Should the AIA? Should the Charitable Association become the Pittsburgh Architectural Foundation? What is the Charitable Association? Does the AIA have a role to play in forming the architectural curriculum at CMU? Why do so few of the faculty belong and/or participate in Pittsburgh Chapter functions? Should architects even care about other architects?

Get the picture?

In the Sixties, the slogan was, if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem. The Nineties version of that is, if you're not part of the roller, you're part of the road. Architects (members and non-members), interns, interested observers with an attitude, all are invited to the Pittsburgh Chapter Town Hall meeting September 18th. Be part of the roller. Δ

Kent Edwards is an architect with Baker and Associates and a former president of the Chapter. For more information on the Town Meeting, see page 23.

Construction that reaches for the sky.

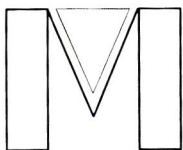
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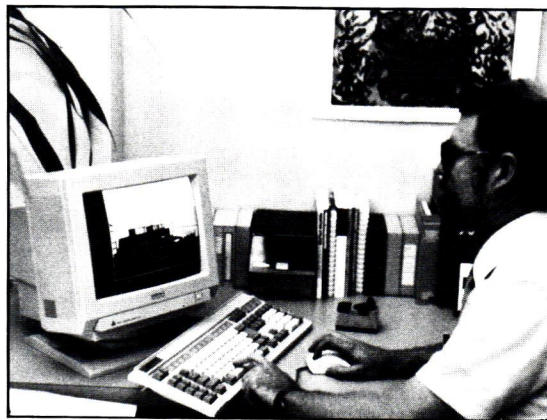
STEP RIGHT IN WITH CAD

Computer software representatives estimate that nearly half of the architectural firms nationwide are now using CAD. That figure may be as high as 60 to 70 percent in the Pittsburgh area as more architects explore its interior design capabilities in addition to its use as a production tool.

"Software packages lend themselves to more than drafting. An increasing number of architects are looking at software from a more advanced perspective," says Don Van Ollefen, AIA, of MicroAge, a full-service computer dealer offering hardware maintenance and software support services.

"CAD touches every project we do in one way or another," says James Kling, AIA, of DRS/Hundley Kling Gmitter. "Our original use was for hotel projects with re-

CAD's animation capabilities enable clients to view interiors from different angles and under a variety of lighting conditions. Here, Charles Brown, AIA, demonstrates the CAD setup at Brenenberg Brown.



construction even begins: "So many clients don't fully understand drawings and using CAD is a skill we've developed to give them a greater comfort level."

According to CAD hardware and software dealer Larry Diurba, AIA, ASID, of Computer Research Inc., CAD will eventually replace the need for building models.

"A client may ask, 'What view will I have from this corner?' and you can show them a view that is 100 percent accurate or 'Will I get sun?' and you can do a sun study to show shadowing through various times of the year," Diurba explains.

on the screen—you can look at it and if you've made a bad decision, you can change it long before costly errors are made."

Architects are discovering a host of other ways that CAD has aided the decision-making process. There are programs for analysis of design stacking and blocking which is especially helpful with large clients, says Van Ollefen.

Like DRS, Brenenberg Brown Group has used CAD extensively in hotel projects to develop purchase lists of equipment and keep track of inventory lists of furniture and equipment.

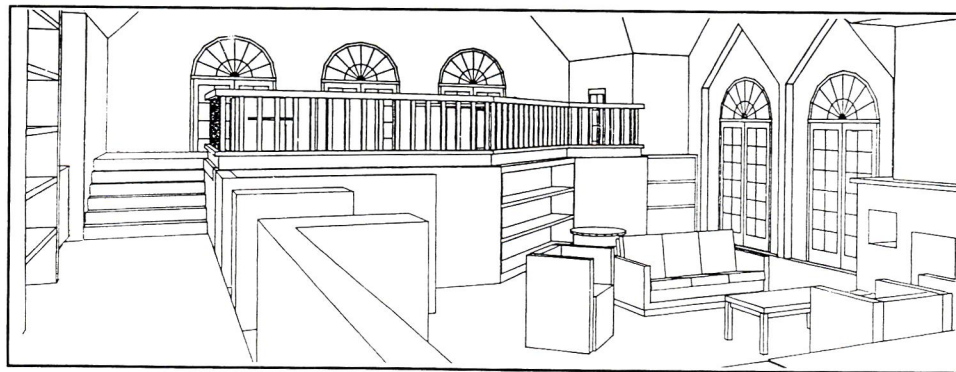
According to Van Ollefen, CAD provides firms with an opportunity to pursue facilities management services by adding a database of such information as employee's work areas, equipment, phone extensions and computer ID numbers.

"In our planning work, we have a great deal more objectivity with CAD. We can literally score arrangements and determine the optimal layout," Kling says.

Because principals have less time to learn, it's important that the packages are as easy as possible. Van Ollefen says some take as little as a day to learn, others three weeks to a month, depending on the sophistication of the package.

One point Van Ollefen makes is that although architects may expect one package to do everything, that's not likely. He cites national statistics which note that more than 60 percent of current CAD users work with more than one package, despite the fact that CAD software is becoming more expensive as its sophistication increases.

Still, architects can't afford to do with-



Brenenberg Brown's CAD system made this 3-D rendering of a residential interior in Fox Chapel a snap to produce. Many of today's clients are walked through buildings, via CAD systems, before ground is broken.

petitive drafting but early on it became a planning tool for us in facility analysis as well."

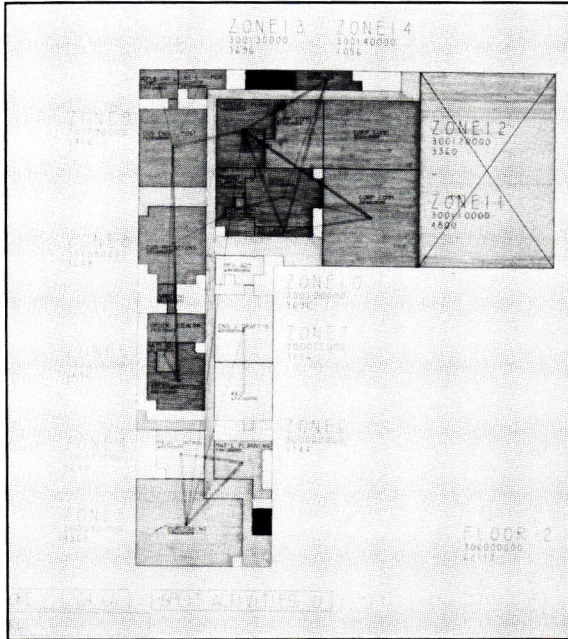
"When we first bought CAD, we knew we'd be able to produce working drawings more quickly but its design ability is something we never expected we could do," says David Brenenberg, AIA, of the Brenenberg Brown Group.

Brenenberg says firm members use CAD's animation on the video screen to walk clients through a building long before

Diurba notes several other interior design uses of CAD. One is comparing color schemes on the screen by mixing and matching the color of furniture, walls, trim and other interior features. Textures such as wood grains and carpeting are inserted using a photo-scanning device. Even artwork can be hung on the walls for the client to determine if it is right for the room.

"When clients sign off on CAD, what they see is what they get," says Diurba. "CAD eliminates the guesswork. Ideas are

continued on page 6



The optimal floorplan at left was created by a CAD system at DRS/Hundley Kling Gmitter. Data based on the amount and types of communication between people and departments is relayed to a computer, which then arranges the floorplan accordingly. The information is gathered from questionnaires, asking how often employees communicate, what information or goods they share, and whether they do it face to face, by phone or by electronic mail. Materials transport is included in the definition of communication.

out, especially those running on a low profit margin, Van Ollefen says. "One small design firm used CAD to enable themselves to address corporate facilities management services. It opened up new doors for them."

"I certainly wouldn't get rid of my drafting table. There are times when it is best to create a drawing by hand. It's a matter of learning when and where to use CAD."

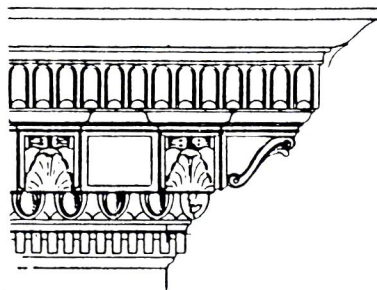
**David Brenborg, AIA
Brenborg Brown Group**

Diurba agrees that those architectural firms that haven't invested in CAD will have to in order to stay competitive.

"Architectural offices in the past had no real assets. If the bottom of the market fell out, they could pick up their drafting board and move elsewhere. Now they're buying FAX machines, printers and computer equipment. For many, this is the first time they ever had to spend this much money at once. It's hard to take that step but once they do, they realize they could never go back to doing everything by hand."

Brenborg agrees that CAD will become a tool architectural firms can't afford

to resist, but at the same time, he recognizes its limitations. He says, "I certainly wouldn't get rid of my drafting table. There are times when it is best to create a drawing by hand. It's a matter of learning when and where to use CAD." Δ



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Fun-loving MWPM, FAIA Lets share our war stories and build an organization to promote quality design in the built environment.

Serious SWPF, AIA Seeks position of leadership in an organization dedicated to the mission of promoting like professionals and their work. Wishes to demonstrate superior organizational skills and creative problem-solving abilities.

Like the personal ads in a tabloid, the membership of any organization is generally diverse in interests, desires and talents. Our organization is no different. The key to our success is our ability to bring everyone together working toward the same goal. In nonprofit "jargon" a common goal is most often referred to as the organization's "mission." If any of you are unsure as to our common goal/mission, it is very eloquently

*From the desk of
Anne Swager,
Executive Director*

stated on page 2 of your new membership directory.

My job as Executive Director is rather simple in theory. I am, (with considerable guidance and assistance from the Board of Directors), the management. You tell me what activities you think are the most important for us to undertake to achieve our mission. I in turn figure out what resources we have and how best to match them with your wish list of programs and projects. In my work, "resources" is another name for time and money and "wish list" is a euphemism for the expense side of the financial statement. In fact, one of my more important functions in my position is to be the organization watchdog for our finances. In this capacity, I am fortunate to be a newcomer to the job. Like a new political party in power,

I inherited the situation. My function at this juncture is limited to compiling the financial information and organizing it into a logical and understandable format.



The purpose of the September membership meeting is to offer you, the members, a forum to share your ideas on how we as an organization can better serve you, the profession, and the public as a whole. Pertinent to any discussion of where we hope to head is an update on where we are. My assignment for the meeting is to give you a dollars and cents update on where we stand and how we got there. Those of you familiar with my bean counting background will instinctively know that I will be most comfortable in this role of quantifying missions, resources, etc. into just plain numbers. In fact, I look forward to sharing this information with you on my very first "State of the Union Address."

Please mark your calendars for September 18, and join me, the Board of Directors, and your fellow members for an information-gathering session. I look forward to seeing you. Δ

Note: The AIA members portrayed in the opening ads are fictional. Any resemblance to real people or members is accidental and coincidental.

COLUMNS' 1991 Editorial Calendar

Plan now for these upcoming theme issues:

January — Art in Architecture

Architecture designed for art or sculpture installations.

March — Residential

Single family homes and apartment buildings.

May — Preservation

Adaptive reuse and renovation.

July/August — Waterfront Development (tentative)

September — Schools/Colleges & Universities

October — Women in Architecture (tentative)

All members and member firms are invited to submit projects for theme issues. Projects must be designed by a member or member firm and be no more than one year old. To include your project, contact Editor P.J. Corso, COLUMNS, c/o The Cantor Group, 1225 Farragut Street, Pgh., PA 15206, 412/661-3734.



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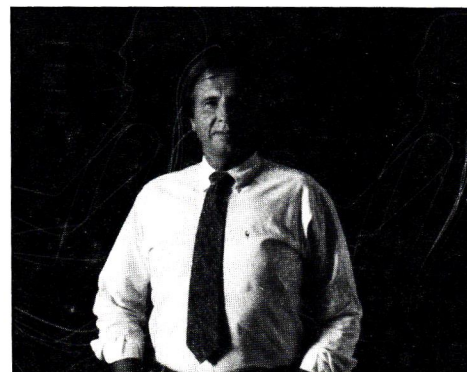
DESIGN PRESENTATION EXAMINES CREATIVITY ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Is society changing or normalizing? How is knowledge transferred between government, universities and private industry? Is it better to generalize or specialize? In light of sweeping political, social, environmental and technological changes throughout the world, architects and designers face new challenges as they address the shifting needs of people and society. These topics will be addressed in a special presentation by industrial designer Charles Pelly, president of Design Works/USA. His presentation, entitled "The Design Anomaly," will focus on the changing roles and requirements of creative professionals.

Pelly will also stress greater cooperation and dialogue between the many disciplines involved in creative development.

Pelly's talk is scheduled for Saturday, October 13, from 5 to 6:30 PM, with a reception to follow, in the Union Trust Building 10th floor auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) and Carnegie Mellon University, but all are welcome.

Advance registration is \$20 per person (\$25 per person after September 26). Make checks payable to *West Penn Chapter IDSA* and mail to: Steve Stadelmeier, Department of Design, Carnegie Mellon University, Schenley Park, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. For more information, contact Joe Legrand at Bayer USA/Mobay at 777-3838. Δ



INSITES

Ed. note — In the interest of presenting issues relevant to the architectural community, COLUMNS is reprinting a letter sent to PA Senator John Heinz from Bob Lynch, AIA. Copies were also sent to Congressman Doug Walgren, Al Eisenberg of AIA National's Government Affairs Department, and Marsha Berger, AIA.

The recent controversy over some programs which the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has funded should not endanger the very worthwhile contribution this federal agency makes as our national government's commitment to the arts. Please, as my Senator, support the NEA's future by:

1. Working to reauthorize the NEA over the next five years;
2. Supporting \$175 million in funding in FY 1991;
3. Opposing any changes in the NEA's structure that would place its programs in the hands of state agencies, thus destroying it as a national program;
4. Supporting an increase of \$1.8 million in new appropriations for the NEA's Design Arts Program to a total of \$5.95 million.

As an architect and as a citizen I keenly feel the importance of our national government to actively support the cultural life and liberty of our country.

Robert Dale Lynch, AIA

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Letters must be received by the first of the month prior to publication.

CORRECTION

Due to an editing error, Jill Watson, associate member, was misidentified in the July/August issue as a full AIA member. Δ

Dear COLUMNS:

I would like to thank you for publicizing *Architects-in-the-Schools* in the July/August issue. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation has had an enthusiastic response from AIA members willing to participate in the in-school program.

This newest addition to *Architecture: The Building Art* will begin in September when the exhibit travels to Chartiers Elementary School, a Pittsburgh Public School, in the

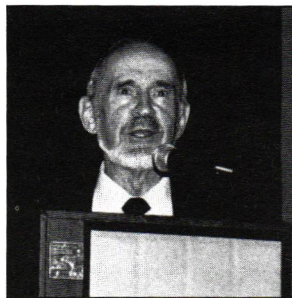
West End.

Again, thank you for your assistance in publicizing *Architects-in-the-Schools*.

Diane C. DeNardo
Director of Education and Marketing

Architects-in-the-Schools is still seeking architects to volunteer their time with elementary school classrooms. For more information call PHLF at 471-5808.

SCENES FROM THE FAYE JONES LECTURE

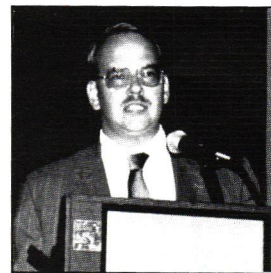


Faye Jones, recipient of the AIA Gold Medal, spoke to the Chapter in July in an event hosted by the Professional Development Committee. Jones talked about the range of influences on his style, from his studies with Frank Lloyd Wright to the natural splendor and wilderness of his native Arkansas, where many of his most stunning designs have been constructed. Nearly 300 people attended, making this one of the Chapter's most popular events in recent years. Special thanks go to Duquesne Light for sponsoring the event and providing these photographs to COLUMNS.

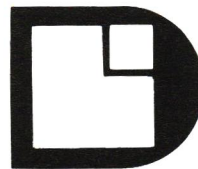
AIA president Sylvester Damianos, FAIA, speaks of Jones' far-reaching talents. The poster in his hands bears this telling quote from Jones: "I would not be at all distressed if I could only use a single gable roof, post and beam, and a simple rectangle for the rest of my life." Pinecote Pavilion, the Mississippi open-air chapel shown on the poster,



earned Jones a 1990 AIA honor award.



Dave Brenenborg, AIA, chair of the Professional Development Committee, applauds Jones' creativity and discusses the Committee's plans for future programs.



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CONTRACTORS

KUDOS

Sylvester Damianos, FAIA, president of the AIA and principal of Damianos Brown Andrews Inc., has been named an honorary fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC), an honor shared with members of the royal family, high officials in Canada's government and distinguished persons in the international architectural community. A medal was bestowed upon Damianos in appreciation and recognition of his work.

Metropol, one of Pittsburgh's hippest nightspots, was honored by the American Society of Interior Designers this summer. **UDA Architects** received an honorable mention in the Adaptive Use category of the 1990 National Interior Design Project Award Competition for the "Industrial Dance" club in the Strip District, which was also featured in an audio-visual presentation at ASID's national conference in August.

The Apartment Association of Greater Philadelphia awarded **Burt Hill Kosar**

BREAKING GROUND

Rittelmann a Best in Apartment Living Award for their design of the Cheltenham Station Apartments. The awards are given for excellence in all aspects of an apartment community including curb appeal, maintenance, landscaping, overall marketing and property management. **Burt Hill** won in the Best Garden/Townhouse Under 100 Units, Priced Between \$451 - \$699 category.

Rob Pfaffmann, AIA has been named the official City Watcher of WQED-FM's *Sunday Arts Magazine*. Pfaffmann brings a series of commentaries on the Pittsburgh environment to the weekly radio show, covering such topics as urban sprawl. Listen for him on Sundays from 4 to 5 PM on WQED, 89.3 FM.

FROM THE FIRMS

Construction is underway for a new driving range and golf training facility designed by **Alan Jesse Cuteri Architects**. The Practice "T" Country Club, located on Route 51 in Jefferson Borough, will be a year-round facility. Cuteri is providing full architectural services for the \$2.4 million project, featuring a 140-tee driving range with heated tees for winter usage, a 10-hole pitch and putt area with sand bunkers, and an indoor practice area. The 11,000 sq. ft. building will also house a pro shop, restaurant, banquet facilities and offices. Locker rooms and showers will be added later. Although the 50-acre facility will be open to the public, memberships entitling patrons to exclusive use of grass tees and locker rooms will be sold. The driving range is scheduled to open in September; the rest of the complex will open early next year.

The Comstock Center, designed by **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann**, was included in the United States exhibit at the International Union of Architects (UIA) XVII Congress in Montreal, held May 27 through June 1. The building, which houses headquarters for a high-tech industrial engineering firm, was chosen for its energy- and cost-efficiency as well as aesthetics. The 175,000 sq. ft. build-

ing was constructed for maximum energy-efficiency at construction costs lower than average for conventional Pittsburgh buildings. In the past year alone, energy consumption levels have been less than one-half the area average for contemporary offices.

Williams Trebilcock Whitehead has been chosen as principal office planning consultant by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. The three-year contract calls for evaluation of various DER facilities throughout the state, as well as design criteria and performance specifications for all new leased facilities statewide. WTW will design the renovation of DER's Harrisburg laboratory to include expansion of the existing labs, safety improvements and a general upgrading of space. Construction is scheduled to begin this fall.

The firm is also designing 400 Oxford Drive in Monroeville. The three-story, 54,000 sq. ft. structure will feature horizontal glass bands, brick piers and split-level entrances similar in style to neighboring 300 Oxford Drive, an earlier WTW project. Project architect is **Harold Colker, AIA**.

Down south, WTW is designing the new Southeast Bank of Florida in Bradenton. Construction of the seven-story 75,000 sq. ft. building and adjacent 250-car parking garage will be completed by early 1992. The design includes both walk-up and drive-up automatic teller machines and a four-car drive-through banking facility located between the buildings. The project cost is estimated at \$5.9 million. Project director is **Paul Zippel, AIA**.

TRANSITIONS

Alan L. Fishman, AIA has joined IKM Inc. as senior project manager. Fishman, of Philadelphia, was a principal and vice-president with Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham, and Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee of the Philadelphia Chapter AIA. He brings over 27 years of

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BREAKING GROUND

healthcare experience to IKM and is currently working on the Allegheny General Hospital Northwest Wing, a \$20 million project to include a new entrance, heliport and ED/Trauma Department. He has also joined the Chapter's Communications Committee.

Fishman was principal-in-charge and project manager for construction and renovation of the hospital and medical school of the University of Pennsylvania, the Annenberg Research Center and the Western PA School for the Blind (with Damianos and Associates).

He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Cornell and received his Master's from MIT.

Edwin D. Pope, AIA has joined the firm of NJC/PWS Associates, Inc. as a vice president. He will assume the responsibilities for managing the architectural group.

On September 1, **Anthony G. Poli, AIA** and **Alan Jesse Cuteri Architects** are merging. The new firm, to be named Poli & Cuteri Architects, will be located at One

Market Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, telephone 412/471-8008.

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

The AIA and the US Department of Justice have settled out-of-court the Department's long-running investigation into alleged antitrust violations, stemming from actions the Department claims were in violation of antitrust laws and the 1972 consent decree prohibiting the AIA from making or adopting policies that restrict competitive bidding. With this settlement, the investigation has been dropped and a new consent decree with an active compliance program will be drawn up. Under the new decree, all components will be prohibited from issuing policies that restrain competitive bidding or discounted or free services. Final versions of the decree will be sent to all members this fall. For more information contact AIA General Counsel John DiNardo 202/626-7379.

HERE AND THERE

The Houston Chapter AIA is publishing three booklets for clients and architects. *Architecture for the Home* (\$3.50) and *Architecture for the Church* (\$3.00) are designed to educate and guide readers through the design and construction processes and foster communication between client and architect. *Ownership Transition: Guidelines and Checklists* (\$5.00) offers information about the management, marketing, legal and accounting considerations of changing ownership, and suggests what to think about in planning for the long-term future of the firm. All three publications may be ordered from the Houston Chapter AIA, 20 Greenway Plaza, Suite 246, Houston, Texas, 77046, 713/622-2081 (add \$.50 for postage and handling).

BUSINESS BRIEFS

TSA/ADVET has been named as a reseller of Intergraph's MicroStation Mac, 2D and true 3D CAD software for generation, manipulation, display and output of graphics data. Δ

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INTERIORS PORTFOLIO

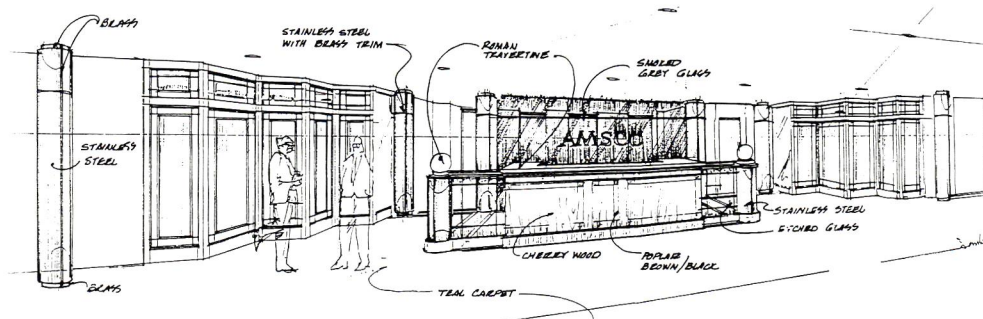


This issue's special portfolio on interiors gives COLUMNS readers an inside look at commercial and business projects designed by member firms. The firms shown here responded to a call for entries published in previous issues of COLUMNS. A special effort was made to invite smaller firms to participate, as well as those with a good percentage of their business in interior architecture as listed in our 1990 membership directory. This interiors portfolio includes remodeling, expansion and adaptive reuse projects from the following member firms: Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates; Design Alliance; Integrated Architectural Services Corp.; Kingsland Scott Bauer Havekotte Architects; Johnson/Schmidt and Associates; McCormick McCarthy; Ross Schonder Sterzinger Cupcheck Architects; and Williams Trebilcock Whitehead. The staff of COLUMNS thanks these firms for their participation and encourages all members to submit their projects for upcoming theme issues. See page 7 for a listing of future theme issues and submission information.



THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

Ross Schonder Sterzinger Cupcheck's interior design of this state-of-the-art operating room, above, reaches for the sky. Wall-to-wall windows fill this medical office with natural light and a panoramic view of downtown Pittsburgh and the Allegheny River. The firm designed the offices for plastic surgeons Cohen-Demos in their fifth-floor suite at Allegheny Center. Project architect: John Schonder, AIA.



INSPIRED BY ANTIQUES

Above, Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates' interior design of AMSCO International's new world headquarters on the 50th floor of One Mellon Bank Center uses warm, dark woods yet feels airy and uncluttered. To achieve this look, clerestories and back-lit etched glass were used to open up the corridors. One of the designers incorporated stainless steel columns with brass accents inspired by the stainless steel and brass antique sterilizers housed in AMSCO's Erie office. Some of these antiques will be put on display in the new 20,800 sq. ft. office, scheduled for completion in November.

MINIMAL TO MAXIMUM

Right, a major McCormick McCarthy design goal for Industrial Energy Services Company's 11,000 sq. ft. office in Station Square's Commerce Court was to offset the limitations of minimal perimeter windows. As seen in the reception area viewed from the public corridor, this was achieved by using available volume from high ceilings to create a bright and open center. Clear and ordered circulation patterns were established. Indirect fluorescent lighting, combined with task lighting, was used throughout the central work space. The color palette is simplified and subdued allowing for the prominence of highly textured finishes. Project architect: Mark McCormick, AIA. Photo: Linda Jeub.

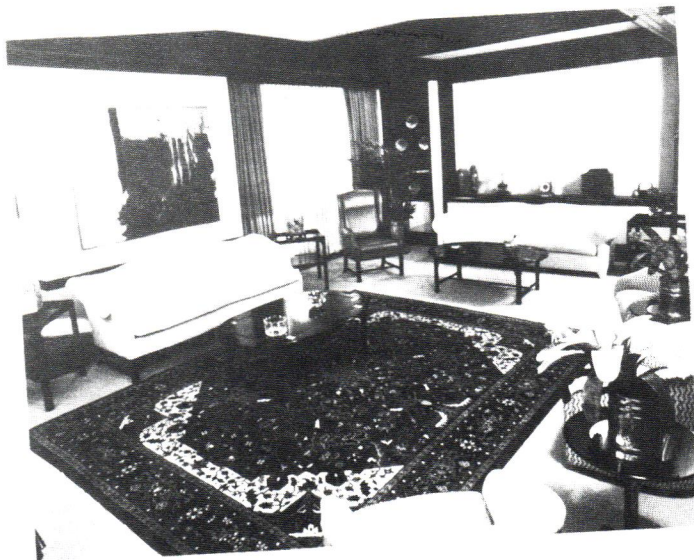


INTERIORS PORTFOLIO



CONTEMPORARY ELEGANCE

The concept for Westinghouse Electric's suite at the Duquesne Club, *right*, came from a magazine article written by Kingsland Scott Bauer Havekotte Architects. Their article in *Design Solutions* caught the eye of Westinghouse's in-house architect William Bates, AIA—and, as they say, the rest is history. KSBH's design for the 1800 sq. ft. suite includes a small dining room for informal business luncheons, a larger dining room for board meetings and a lounge for executive presentations. A richly-patterned oriental rug and mahogany-stained walnut trim give the lounge a warm, contemporary elegance without sacrificing corporate conservatism. The firm custom-designed every piece of wood in the suite—base and crown mouldings, chair rails, beam enclosures, panel moulds, door panelling and casework—as quiet reflections of the exceptional quality.



ON THE AIR — IN STYLE

At WQED-FM, classical music wafts through the air of the Bayer USA Broadcast Center for the Arts, *above*. Design Alliance's renovated broadcasting suite is 150% larger than the previous facility and includes space for live performances and interviews. Furniture is by Franklin Interiors. A windowless, concrete scene shop, *left*, was converted to 20,000 sq. ft. of much-needed office space for Metropolitan Pittsburgh Public Broadcasting, parent company of WQED-FM, WQED-TV 13 and WQEX-TV 16. An atrium and skylights flood all three stories of the 33' high building with natural light.

Project architects: Jules Labarthe, AIA and Edwin D. Pope, AIA.

Photos: Lockwood Hoehl.

INTERIORS PORTFOLIO

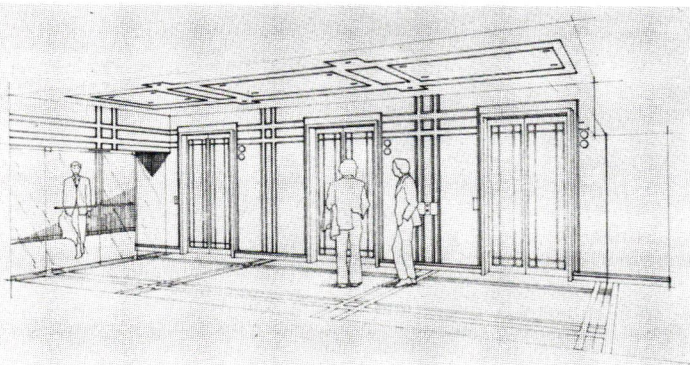
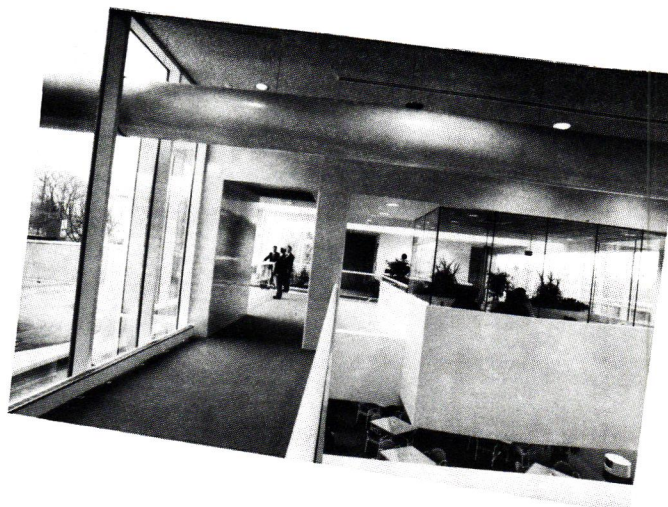


THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

What better building for glass research than one that shows off the end results beautifully? Reflective glass runs the length of Williams Trebilcock Whitehead's 85,000 sq. ft. addition to PPG's Harmarville Research & Development Center, mirroring the well-landscaped grounds. *At right*, a glass-enclosed conference room and open-air walkway overlook the ground-level dining area and skylit atrium.

Project Architect: John Dencler, AIA.

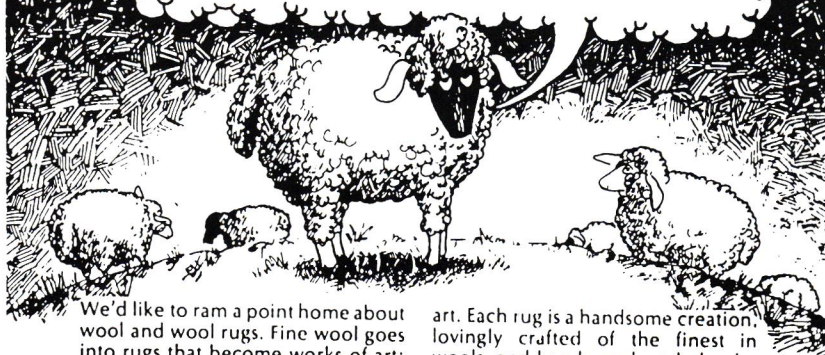
Photo: Linda Jeub.



REPEATING GEOMETRY

Repetition of geometric form is the unifying element in Johnson/Schmidt and Associates' recently completed interior design of Rockwell International's new 130,000 sq. ft. office space at CNG Tower. *Left*, a simple rectilinear design of fine wood mouldings is applied to the walls and ceiling of each elevator lobby and reflected in the carpet pattern. This subtle motif continues out into each floor and appears within an interconnecting stairwell, furniture and at departmental entrances. The color scheme is monochromatic with accent colors placed within squares to highlight the design.

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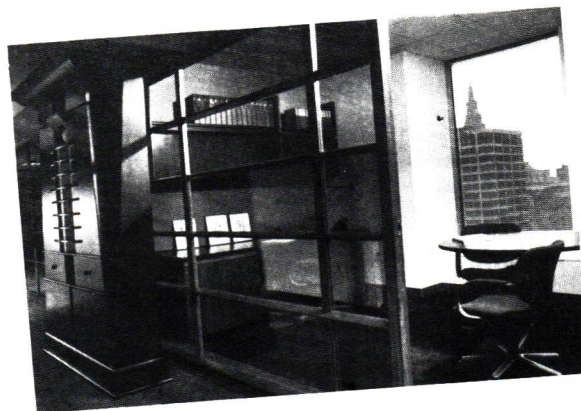


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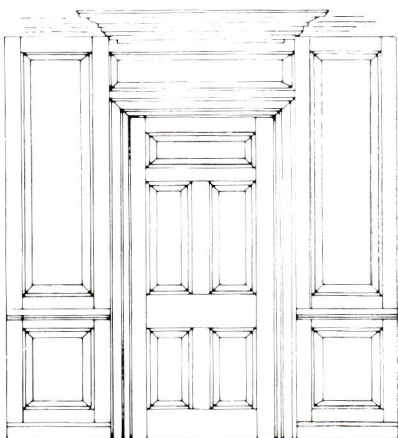
INTERIORS PORTFOLIO



DESIGN YOU CAN BANK ON

Integrated Architectural Services Corp. imbued the Erieview Tower offices of Dollar Bank with sunlight; it pours through the glass storefront of the first floor branch bank and dances across the tile floor. Upstairs, in the bank's Cleveland corporate headquarters, warm wooden piers separate public and private areas without eliminating the light that travels from window to reception via glass office walls. Even the bathrooms exude a sense of sunniness, with fresh daffodils ready to greet visitors.

Project architect: Christopher Haupt, assoc. member.

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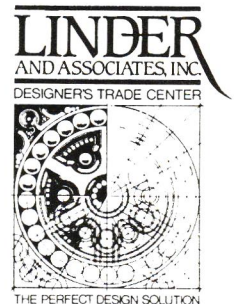
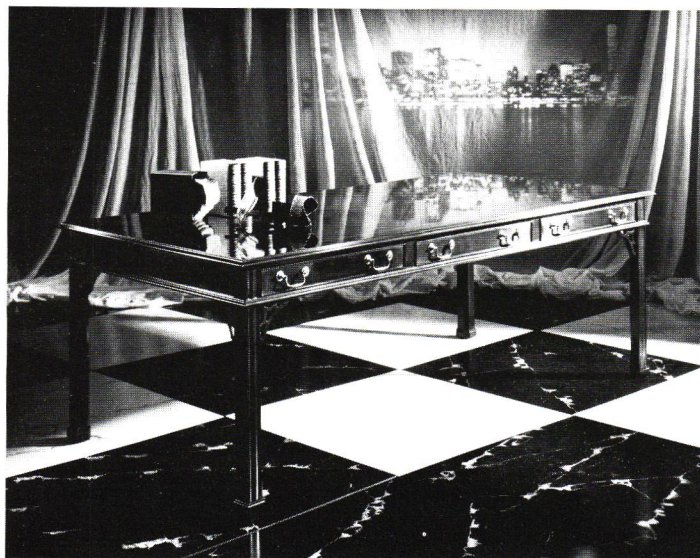
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HEALTHY INTERIORS

WE ARE WHAT WE
BREATHE

Robert Kobet, AIA, believes that humankind is altering its environment faster than it can adapt to it as a species. The 40-year-old architect builds on this sense of urgency.

"We can't take a narrow view of what we do. If you look at architects as people who create domiciles for generations to come, we have an obligation to do it right," Kobet says.

For Kobet, one example of "doing it right" is Harmony House, an abandoned farmhouse in Slippery Rock that is being renovated and expanded into a model of ecologically-sound, energy-efficient and healthy interior design. Kobet designed Harmony House as partial fulfillment of the university's master's program in Sustainable Systems and hopes that aspects of its philosophy will be incorporated in other homes, workplaces and classrooms.

"We're not looking to create a radically different-looking building that no one can afford or get materials for. Harmony House is a balance between high-tech exotic and something built mindlessly with toxins," Kobet explains.

Harmony House is a two-story, 2,200 sq. ft. structure designed to harmonize with its environment and inhabitants. Its interior is largely free of toxins and irritants that frequently bother environmentally-sensitive people.

Interior finishes are highly suspect as major contributors to environmental illness. Particle board, some types of plywood and drywall, spackling sealants, caulking, paints, solvents, adhesives, carpeting and many other common interior finishes contain significant amounts of formaldehyde and other volatile organic compounds which can adversely affect occupants.

The walls and ceilings of Harmony House are insulated with foil-faced fiberglass insulation which has been taped and air sealed to contain its fibers. The insula-

tion was installed with masks and protective clothing. Formaldehyde-free drywall will be finished and painted with nontoxic paint. Refinished wood floors with water-based sealant will be covered with natural fiber area rugs. Exterior doors are metal and glass. Interior doors will be recycled and refinished similar to the floors. Windows are high-performance vinyl-clad casements with naturally finished hardwood trim.

Air-to-air heat exchangers will provide between one-half and three-quarters of an air change per hour. A timer will schedule ventilation as required with a humidistat override to control humidity and limit mold growth.

A Clivus Multrum digester located in the basement receives all solid and liquid waste from the two bathrooms and the kitchen. The solid waste is aerobically composted into an odorless, granular fertilizer for use on the

adjacent permaculture plots. Gray water is recycled to the attached greenhouse for irrigation before being routed to the home's septic system.

Harmony House will heat its air, water and make a portion of its electricity using solar energy. Passive solar design is used in the attached greenhouse and for natural light and ventilation. An active solar thermal heating air collector system using rock storage is planned as a graduate student project. A Copper Cricket passive water heating device is also intended as a student-installed building system along with a number of water conservation devices. A 600-watt photovoltaic array, already in place, provides DC current to an inverter for interface with the existing utility grid. A



Harmony House, on the Slippery Rock campus, is making the transition from drafty old farmhouse to energy- and water-saving laboratory, under the guidance of Robert Kobet, AIA, and other master's degree students at the university.

pond will extend along the entire south elevation to enable aquaculture experiments and serve as a reflective surface to the adjacent solar systems.

Kobet began designing Harmony House two years ago. If all goes according to plan, it will be ready for use this fall as a laboratory and interpretive center for participants in the recently approved Master of Science in Sustainable Systems graduate program. The degree is a collective effort inspired by the late Dr. Robert Macoskey, professor of philosophy at Slippery Rock University.

Kobet is among a group of educators and professionals who have worked together for nearly 10 years to plan and write

"We're not looking to create a radically different-looking building that no one can afford or get materials for. Harmony House is a balance between high-tech exotic and something built mindlessly with toxins."

Robert Kobet, AIA

continued on page 18

Breathe, continued from page 17

the curriculum for the new degree which contains three tracks: agriculture, permaculture and the built environment. The built environment track will promote energy conservation, recycling, alternative energy systems and ecological design.

"Harmony House is a personal mission. It's for Bob Macoskey—a milestone for all he did," Kobet says.

Kobet's design approach incorporates his areas of expertise. He is the owner of Energy Design Associates, a firm he founded in 1979 in response to the energy crisis. EDA specializes in energy conservation, alternative energy systems, ecological design and environmental education. As assistant professor of general engineering at Penn State University Fayette campus, Kobet is working with the Housing Resource Center on campus and the Northwest Regional Affordable Housing Foundation on the design of energy-efficient, ecologically-sound affordable hous-

ing. Kobet was recently appointed to the Commonwealth's Building Energy Conservation Committee by Governor Casey and subsequently selected to chair the group.

Kobet is also the author of a six-hour accredited continuing education course on allergy-free, nontoxic design which he has presented to audiences across this country

and Canada. The course gives an overview of environmental illness, sources of interior air pollution, design and construction of nontoxic, allergy-free projects from site-planning to occupancy, and maintenance and case studies for critique.

"My goal is not to tell people how to design but what to design with," Kobet says. He notes that manufacturers and suppliers are

beginning to respond to a growing market for benign materials and products by providing nontoxic building components.

Healthy environments are gaining popularity in the business world, too. Many

corporations have created learning centers that employ principles of healthy interiors in the workplace.

"There's a general trend out there and it began with non-smoking rooms. I think they will include these features piece by piece until eventually clients ask for the whole package. Corporations know that if they provide a better environment, employees learn more and perform at their optimum. It's their way of honing the competitive edge," Kobet says.

Some members of the medical profession have already acknowledged the benefits of healthy interiors. A California production company recently featured Kobet and examples of his architecture for chemically-sensitive clients in an instructional video. The project was commissioned by *Special Report* magazine for distribution to physicians and others in the profession who treat victims of environmental illness.

"I ask, 'Are you always feeling sick at work and fine when you get home or vice versa? This may point to your environment.'"

Kobet stumbled into learning about healthy interiors. After getting his B. Arch. in 1979 from the University of Cincinnati, he returned to Pittsburgh and cofounded EDA with two partners. While lecturing on energy conservation, Kobet was approached by an audience member, clinical ecologist, Dr. Roy Kerry. Kerry was interested in building a home that was energy efficient as well as nontoxic to accommodate his allergy-prone spouse. Kobet spent a year and a half with the Kerrys to plan their home, eight months to design it and a year in construction. The home contains many of the features which Kobet later included in Harmony House as well as a detached garage and closet-free bedrooms with adjacent ventilated dressing areas to minimize pollution from clothing, dust, mold and offgassing from commonly stored household articles.

Kobet is convinced healthy interiors have made a difference to chemically-sensitive clients.

"I've had people tell me that when they moved into their homes, they had their first good night's sleep in years. There's no doubt, they feel better because we're treating the causes of their chronic illness and not the symptoms." ▴

"If you look at architects as people who create domiciles for generations to come, we have an obligation to do it right."

Robert Kobet, AIA

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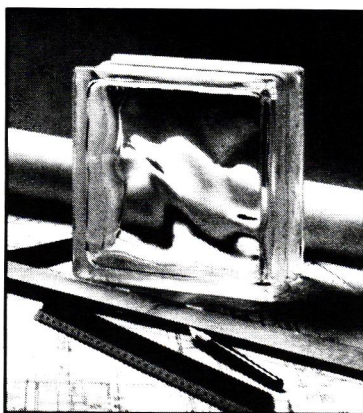
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BRICKS AND MORTAR: COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHARITABLE

President: Claire Bassett, AIA,
Architectural Services, 733-7616

On October 16, the Charitable Association will hold a benefit tour and reception at Clayton, Helen Clay Frick's refurbished mansion, to raise funds for the Chapter's scholarship programs. Covering the house, museum, stables and grounds, this will be the first public tour of Clayton—official opening date to the general public is October 23. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. For ticket information, contact Claire Bassett, 733-7616.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

The Committee welcomes two new members: Edward Dapper, assoc. member, of IDC and Alan Fishman, AIA, of IKM Inc., a recent transfer from Philadelphia.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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

The Committee thanks everyone who attended Fay Jones' July 24 lecture. Nearly 300 people turned out to hear Jones talk about designing in his native Arkansas. A special thanks goes to Duquesne Light for sponsoring the event. *See photos on page 9.*

The Professional Development Committee meets the last Thursday of every month, 5:30 PM at Brenenberg Brown.

HISTORIC RESOURCES

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

Robert Pfaffmann, AIA, John Martine, AIA, and attorney John Axtell, members of the Historic Resources Committee, hosted 23 members and friends of the Pittsburgh

History and Landmarks Foundation on a special evening tour of the Fourth Avenue Historic District in July. For the occasion, Dollar bank graciously opened the doors of their landmark building, which is currently undergoing extensive restoration and renovation of both the interior and exterior. This tour helped generate additional inquiries about the regular Saturday tours including a few phone calls from the media.

MEMBERSHIP

Chair: Gwen Williams, assoc. member,
Douglas C. Berryman Assoc., 363-4622

The Chapter welcomes its newest members:

Richard Bistransin, assoc. member
Bistransin Art Drafting & Design
Graduate of Penn State and Pierce College
Past Projects include: New York Times Square Hotel, PPG Creaton, Slippery Rock Water Treatment Center, Slippery Rock Recreation Center, Krendale Golf Course, Clark Harvey Homes, Able Homes.

Richard K. Chagnon, prof. affiliate
Otis Elevator Co.
Graduate of University of Mass. and Northeastern (MBA)
Interests: Golf and Travel.

Jeffrey A. Lancaster, prof. affiliate
President of Cain Security Systems, Inc.
Graduate of Adrian College
Married to Linda Lancaster;
four children: Jason, 8; Brian, 5; Becky, 4; Mat, 1
Interests: Managing son's baseball team with Kent Edwards, AIA; "I managed our team's victories, and Kent managed the defeats!"



Margaret L. Russell, prof. affiliate
PPG Industries, Inc.
Graduate of University of Georgia (BFA)
Interests: Art, Music, Photography, Architecture, Cross Country Skiing.

New members are reminded to send in their questionnaires and photographs for publication in COLUMNS. Δ

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PERFORMANCE REVIEWS ARE TOPIC FOR SEPTEMBER SAA MEETING

The Society of Architectural Administrators (SAA) held its August Chapter luncheon meeting at the Benedum Center. A tour followed, led by Al Filoni, AIA, of MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, the firm responsible for the renovation work.

The SAA, an affiliate organization of the AIA, offers support and networking to architectural administrative personnel. Lun-



cheon meetings are held monthly, with topics ranging from health insurance and professional liability insurance to temporary personnel. Recently, the group compiled an equipment survey of its member firms for analysis in future purchases and for general information.

While only one year old, Pittsburgh's chapter is one of the five largest in the United States with a membership of 35 people representing 29 Pittsburgh-area architectural and engineering firms. The SAA meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Harvard-Yale-Princeton Club, downtown. On September 11th, the speaker for the luncheon meeting will be James L. Davis of the Hay Group, an international management consulting firm. His topic will be "Performance Reviews." Reservations must be made by September 7. If you would like to attend this meeting or want more information on SAA, please contact Clark Strohm at 281-6568 or Rosalie Minnerly at 261-0660. Δ



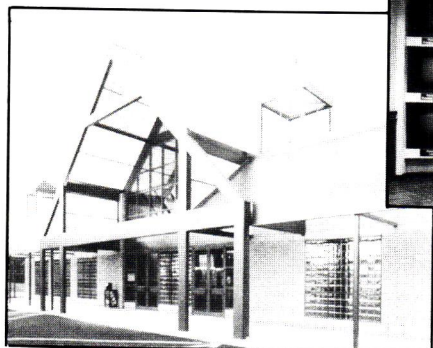
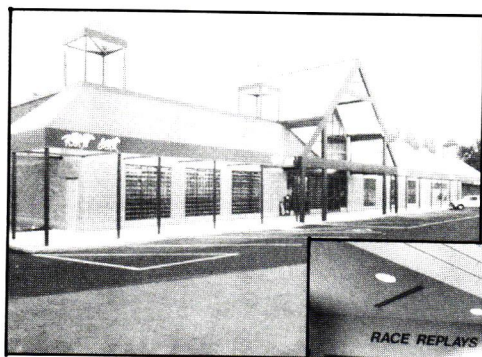
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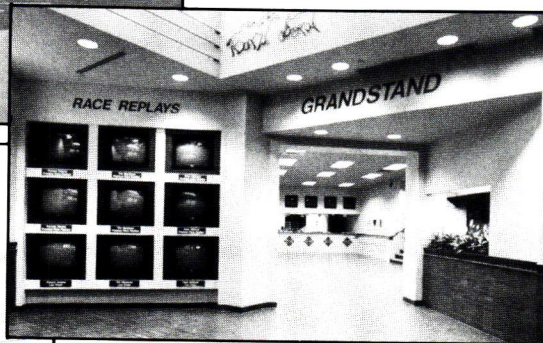
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Arch.: Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Assoc.

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Getting into trouble is a big business these days. In nearly all professional fields, from medicine to law and, yes, even architecture, threats of malpractice and lawsuits are becoming ever more present. And problematic.

In these litigious times, your best defense is knowledge. Understanding your legal rights and responsibilities as an architect is key to avoiding sticky legal situations—and saving your practice when you can't avoid them. An upcoming seminar co-sponsored by the Chapter's Legislative Committee will give you a solid foundation in understanding the complexities of legal issues that affect architects.

Avoiding Professional Liability Damages will feature three speakers actively engaged in the construction field, giving the viewpoints of architect and construction professional as well as the legal considerations for all involved.

Scheduled for Wednesday, September 12 at noon in the Engineer's Club, 337 Fourth Avenue downtown, the seminar is jointly sponsored by the Legislative Committee, the American Society of Construction Engineers and the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Speaking at the seminar are: Thomas Celli, AIA, president of Celli-Flynn and Associates; James O'Brien, principal-in-charge of the East Coast operations of O'Brien-Kreitzberg & Associates, Inc. and a nationally known expert on construction management and claims; and John L. Spiegel, principal in the Pittsburgh firm of Plowman & Spiegel and current chairman of the American Bar Association's Forum on the Construction Industry and the ABA's Fidelity and Surety Committee.

Lunch will be served before the forum, and a question and answer session with a cash bar will follow until 5:30 PM.

The \$30 attendance fee includes lunch. Send your check, payable to ESWP, to the Engineers' Society of Western PA, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; or call 412/261-0710 for reservations.

Attendance is open to all interested parties, and strongly encouraged for all architects. Δ

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

AIA ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Women In Architecture Committee meeting, 5:15 PM at Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann. Call Marilyn Lupo, assoc. member, 394-7000.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Avoiding Professional Liability Damages, seminar co-sponsored by Legislative Committee. 12 - 5:30 PM, Engineer's Club. \$30 per attendant, reservations necessary. Call 261-0710.

See story at left for details

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Dinner Meeting, Town Meeting and Election of new board members. 5:30 PM, Engineer's Club, 337 Fourth Avenue.

See article and invitation on page 23.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

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

AROUND TOWN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Society of Architectural Administrators (SAA) monthly luncheon meeting at the HYP Club. Cost is \$10. Call Clark Strohm, 281-6568.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Carnegie Mellon University Architecture Lecture. Joseph Esherick, AIA. 7:30 PM, Wean Hall 7500, CMU campus. For more information call the Architecture Department at 268-2354.

THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

Industrial Hygiene Training Programs, including asbestos practices and procedures, radon, PCB's and more. Offered by Volz Training and Meeting Center, 3010 William Pitt Way. Contact Gregory S. Ashman, 826-3150.

PLAN AHEAD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

1990 PSA Annual Meeting. 10 AM - 2:30 PM, Peddler's Village, New Hope, PA. Includes panel session on design, lunch and awards presentation. \$30 per person. For information call PSA at 717/236-4055.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Charles Pelly presentation "The Design Anomaly," 5 - 6:30 PM, Union Trust Auditorium. *See page 8 for details.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

1990 Construction Forum, sponsored by the Tri-State Construction Users Council. For information call 922-4705.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Meeting/Charitable Association Scholarship Fundraiser, reception and advance tour of Clayton before it opens to the public October 23.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Awards Reception, Frick Fine Arts Gallery, University of Pittsburgh. Hugh Newell Jacobsen, FAIA, will give the PPG Memorial Lecture.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

1990 CHAPTER DESIGN AWARDS

The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA invites Pittsburgh area architects (members and non-members) to participate in three upcoming design competitions: the **1990 Design Awards Program**, for practicing member professionals; the **Professional Entries Awards**, for registered architects who have been practicing independently for less than five years and those working outside of their firms; and the **Open Plan Awards**, open to all holders of architectural degrees. Winners in all three competitions will be honored at the November 14 awards ceremony.

Submissions for the Design Awards are limited to architectural and interior projects completed within the past five years (no earlier than August 1, 1985) by members or member firms in the Pittsburgh area. Previous Chapter Design Awards winning projects are not eligible. The jury chair for the Design Awards is Hugh Newell Jacobsen, FAIA, who will select jury members from the

Washington, DC Chapter.

Completed independent projects by all registered architects in the Pittsburgh area (including non-members) are eligible to enter the Professional Entries competition. The jury will be composed of Pittsburghers and representatives from Philadelphia's Young Architects Forum.

Entrants for the Open Plan awards must be graduates of architecture schools (including non-members). Unbuilt projects, critical studies, sketch books and work in allied arts and crafts. The only limitation is that projects relate to architecture in some way. Work completed for academic credit is not eligible.

Projects may be entered in more than one competition, providing they meet eligibility requirements.

Submissions for all three competitions must be presented in the standard AIA-sanctioned 8-1/2 x 11 binder, provided by

the Chapter (included in submission kits). Submission kits for the Design Awards cost \$60 for the first kit, \$45 for additional kits; kits for the Professional Entries and Open Plan awards are \$10. Separate kits are required for each project.

Slides are acceptable for the Professional Entries and Open Plan categories *only*.

To order submission kits, send a check (payable to Pittsburgh Chapter AIA) with your name, address and firm name to:

1990 Chapter Design Awards
Pittsburgh Chapter AIA
CNG Tower Suite 200
625 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Be sure to specify the quantity and type of kits you want. All submissions must be received no later than **Thursday, September 27, 1990.** Δ

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Additional copies of the
1990 AIA Membership Directory for Southwestern PA
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Call the office at 412/471-9548 to order,
or send a check, payable to Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, to:
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September's Town Meeting promises to be an enlightening event. The evening begins with a cocktail and social hour at 5:30, followed by a brief business meeting and elections (see below). The business meeting is open to members only, and only full members (AIA and FAIA) and associate members may vote. Dinner and the Town Meeting follow.

This is your opportunity to discuss the issues you find of special significance—to yourself, to the Chapter and to the profession as a whole. We hope to see everyone there. *For more information on the September meeting, please see Kent Edwards' Viewpoint on page 3 and Anne Swager's Executive Director's Column on page 7.*

Here are the nominees:

Brooks Robinson, AIA, is president of the Regional Industrial Development Corporation of Southwestern PA. He has served as executive director of Pennsylvania's Economic Development Committee of the Cabinet and Executive Deputy Secretary of the state Department of Commerce, and as a staff architect at Deeter, Ritchey, Sippel. He sits on the boards of numerous community organizations, including the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Dollar Savings Bank, Greater Pittsburgh Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Allegheny County Airport Advisory Committee. Robinson received his B.Arch. from Carnegie Mellon University and a B.A. from Yale.

Deepak Wadhvani, AIA, is a project manager with Williams Trebilcock Whitehead. He is an active member of the Professional Development Committee and the Communications Committee. He sits on the editorial board of COLUMNS and frequently contributes articles on architectural practice and management. Wadhvani holds a B.Arch. from the Indian Institute of Technology, an M.Arch. from the State University of New York and an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh.

Alan Weiskopf, AIA, is a partner in L.P. Perfido Associates. He was previously an associate at Woollen Associates in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is past president of the Woodruff Place Civic League Neighborhood Organization in Indianapolis and past chairman of the Historic Urban Neighborhoods of Indianapolis. Currently he serves on the Chapter's Legislative Committee. Weiskopf received a B.Arch. from the University of Cincinnati and a Certificate of Professional Practice.

In other nomination news, Chapter president Marsha Berger, AIA, has been nominated to the PSA Board of Directors, and James Brown, AIA, principal of Damianos Brown Andrews, has been nominated as PA representative to the National Director. Congratulations to both of them and best of luck to all the candidates! Δ

The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA
Cordially Invites You To
The September Dinner Meeting

A Public Forum

Engineer's Club

337 Fourth Avenue

Tuesday, September 18

5:30 PM Cocktails

6:15 PM Business Meeting & Elections
(open to members only)

6:45 PM Dinner

8 PM Town Meeting

Members: pre-paid Guests: \$20

RSVP by Friday, September 14

RSVP

Town Meeting & Elections

Engineer's Club

Tuesday, September 18

Name _____

Firm _____

City/State
Zip

Phone _____

Please Reserve:

Number of Members

_____ Number of Guests (@ \$20)

Name of Guest(s): _____

Menu:

_____ Veal Chardonnay

_____ Turbins of Sole Provencale

Clip/copy this form and send with your check to:
Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, CNG Tower, 625 Liberty Avenue, Pgh., Pa. 15222
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CALL FOR ENTRIES

1990
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DESIGN
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DETAILS ON PAGE 22!

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625 Liberty Avenue
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