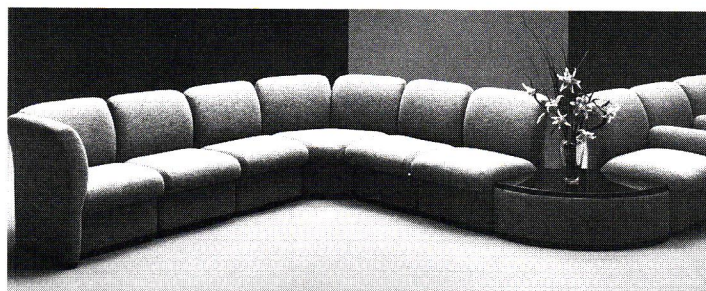


COLUMNS



100th Anniversary of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA



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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. The objective of the Chapter is to improve, for society, the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice; fostering design excellence; and promoting the value of architectural services to the public. AIA 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 Telephone: 412/471-9548; FAX: 412/471-9501.

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COLUMNS is published by, and primarily for, the members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Preference may be given to the selection of works, articles, opinions, letters, etc. of members for publication. However, in the interest of furthering the goals of the Chapter, as stated monthly at the top of the masthead and in the membership directory, COLUMNS will publish the names of and properly credit non-members, whether as participants in the design of works submitted by a member, or as designers of their own work, or as authors of articles, opinions or letters.

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.

"A Noble Past..." A Tribute from Mayor Sophie Masloff



Dear Friends:

I am delighted to offer my personal congratulations to the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects on the very special occasion of the Chapter's 100th Anniversary.

Pittsburgh is a dynamic and vital city. Its architecture, diverse and bold, reflects the dramatic forces that have molded our city. One can easily understand why Mies

Van Der Rohe described architecture as "the will of an epoch translated into space" when looking at Pittsburgh's architecture. In every direction one can see the distinct imprint of Pittsburgh's history and its architects. Look at our historic buildings and it's easy to reflect back to a time not so long ago when Pittsburgh was the "forge" for the nation and the world, producing glass and iron that was distributed worldwide. Condensed within the confines of the city's unique geography, one can see examples of many different styles representative of architecture's past. Distinctive architectural styles such as the Greek Revival and Romanesque styles of a hundred years ago are still evident in Pittsburgh today. It is this diversity that gives Pittsburgh architecture its singular and identifiable character.

As we look toward the twenty-first century, Pittsburgh looks and feels like a new city. Our distinctive architectural features have been preserved and we look to a new urban landscape, future designs along our riverfronts that reflect new trends and new industry, a more diversified economy.

Throughout the past 100 years, architects have played a key role in crafting the shape of Pittsburgh as a confident and powerful urban center. Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania are now home to more than 1000 architects — some making their mark on our own urban landscape; others, reaching out to new horizons across the globe.

I am personally grateful to the many members of the AIA as you celebrate the 100th anniversary of this outstanding Pittsburgh Chapter. Architecture is a truly living and creative art. Its purpose is to enhance our life and workplace. The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA has a noble past and I look forward to an exciting future.

Sincerely,

Sophie Masloff
Sophie Masloff

Mayor

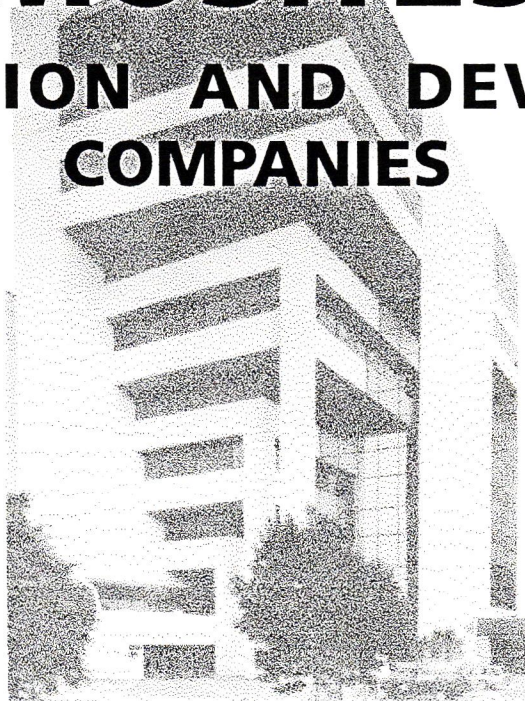
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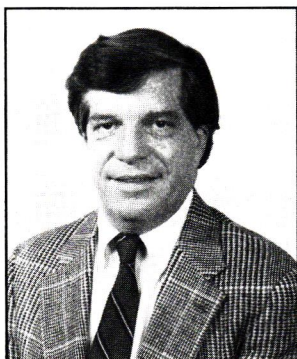
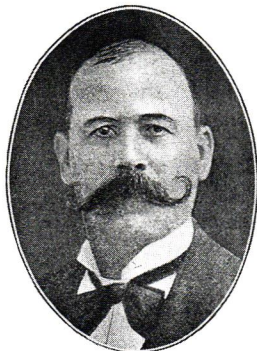
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Viewpoint: One Hundred Years!

Douglas C. Berryman, AIA, President



Then and now: T.D. Evans, the first Chapter President, in 1894; and Douglas C. Berryman, AIA, current Chapter President.

Our 100th anniversary is so big, we're celebrating twice! Join us at the July meeting for cake and champagne and a special talk by Charles Moore, FAIA. On September 28, ring in our second century in grand style when the Chapter co-sponsors "A Celebration of 100 Years of Pittsburgh Architects", the Community Design Center's annual Palladian Ball. Watch COLUMNS for details of both exciting events!

In 1891, H.H. Richardson's Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail had been in use for four years; McKim, Mead and White's Madison Square Garden opened in New York City; Louis Sullivan celebrated his thirty-fifth birthday with (among other things) the opening of the Wainwright Building in St. Louis; Frank Lloyd Wright was 24 years old; and somewhere in Pittsburgh a group of architects convened for the first time as a Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

In our records, Mr. T.D. Evans is listed as the first Chapter President, serving in 1894. The discrepancy apparent in these dates is due either to lax records on the Chapter's part at that time or, possibly, that our professional ancestors had difficulty raising a quorum. Or maybe they didn't *need* a president. Interesting thought.

Throughout the first hundred years of our Chapter's history, the profession of architecture has experienced obvious changes; there are also concepts and goals which have remained consistent. Then, as now, architects ostensibly united in the spirit of the mission of the AIA, and while we may differ in our opinions about how successful the Institute is in carrying out such lofty goals, it would be difficult to imagine our professional life without it.


The twenty-odd gentlemen who first established the Pittsburgh Chapter were undoubtedly a group of independent-minded professionals, each with his own attitude towards design, and each with his own feeling about the services and direction the Chapter should provide for the members. They also recognized that there was a need to be together — to talk about architecture, lobby as a group for the

benefit of the profession, and combine their personalities and objectives for the betterment of the community. I'd like to think the Chapter continues in the same spirit today.

OK, our dues are higher and we're using computers instead of an abacus; but we now have a membership of close to 600 with an office and staff instead of a closet and the secretarial services of whomever happened to be Chapter president. We have survived, for the most part, wars, depression and recessions, and have put on Remaking Cities, seminars and programs too numerous to count. We are in the planning (and hoping) phase of hosting a National Convention, and have committees actively involved with everything from legislative issues to the inestimable role of women in the field of architecture.

And we are as concerned today as were our forebears with the education of students and each other in the rudiments of practice and the spirit of professionalism, though we experience this in varying degrees. We are involved with our community, mindful of our responsibilities to the environment, and becoming more respectful of our history.

The legacy we share with those Chapter-founding architects is to do more — to foster and promote better design, to increase the standards by which people live, to speak on issues of relevance, to share with each other the combined benefits of our experience.

One hundred years. Much accomplished, and still much to do. Happy Centennial, Pittsburgh Chapter! 

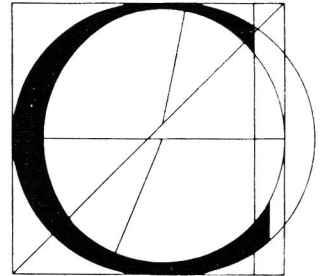
*Williams Trebilcock Whitehead
congratulates
the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA
on their
100th Anniversary*



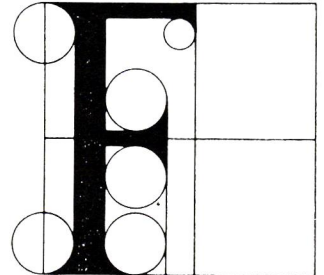
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“Dear Pittsburgh Chapter AIA ...”

The history of the Pittsburgh Chapter is commendable. Those of us who are fortunate to be a part of it today owe a great deal of gratitude to our predecessors who had the initial courage and the foresight to create an image of the profession in Western Pennsylvania. The foundation that they laid with their personalities and their work remains solid today and the succeeding generations have built very well upon that base.

The ten decades past represent a remarkable array of ideals and images created, of opportunities lost and regained, of challenges faced and won, and of transformations made — throughout the world. And our Western Pennsylvania region has a healthy share of those successes, thanks to the confidence of our neighbors, the vision of our leaders, and the dedication of our colleagues in architecture and in planning.

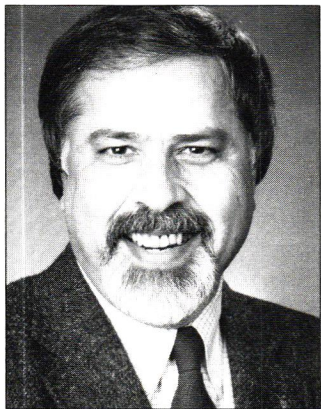
The next one hundred years should be just as fascinating. The evolving complexity of practice, the growing competition by others, the crucial response by education, and the advances in technology will continue to contribute to the excitement of Architecture, the greatest of the arts.

But the one factor that has been important in the first one hundred years and will become critical in the next hundred is our ability to present the highest professional image to our public. Our value, our success, our future is dependent upon a strong profession — and that strength must come from within. Uncompromising quality, deep mutual respect, sincere professional friendship, and a true understanding of ethics are not simply memories of the past. They are serious and absolute needs of the future — our future!

Sincerely,



Sylvester Damianos, FAIA



*Syl Damianos, FAIA, was
President of the Chapter in
1980 and AIA National
President in 1990.*

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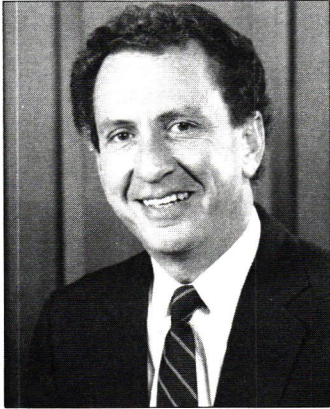


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"... You are the Dreamers!"



U.S. Senator Arlen Specter

I am delighted to have this opportunity to congratulate the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the Chapter.

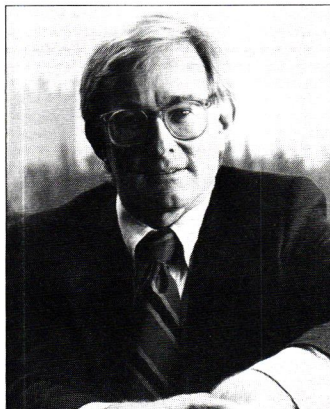
Architects play an increasingly important role in our lives. We like aesthetically-pleasing structures and demand that they be functional. This takes the education and experience that Pittsburgh Chapter members have.

Pittsburgh has changed much in one hundred years, to where it is now recognized as a "good place to live." The Renaissance would not have been successful without the creative vision of architects to put ideas into stone and mortar. We are indebted to the members of the Pittsburgh Chapter.

I hope that you will be as innovative and helpful during the next hundred years as you have been during this last century.

Sincerely,

Senator Arlen Specter



*State Representative
Thomas J. Murphy*

You are the dreamers! Architects sit at the crossroads of creativity and practicality. If not for the boldness in dreams of members gone by, Pittsburgh's skyline would not be so impressive. Your profession has shaped the city.

The riverfronts are the location of Pittsburgh's next renaissance. It will be you that translate that vision into reality. What an awesome responsibility!

I salute the Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects on its 100th Anniversary. I challenge all of you to make the next one hundred years in Pittsburgh even better.

Sincerely,

Representative Thomas J. Murphy
20th Legislative District

1890's

1900's

1910's

1920's

1930's

1940's

1950's

1960's

1970's

1980's

1990's

PLEASE NOTE: The titles AIA, FAIA, and assoc. member have been intentionally omitted from this timeline for consistency's sake. Until recently their use was sporadic; in fact, most of the Chapter's records prior to the 1970's do not include the titles at all.

Our intent in assembling this timeline was not to provide a comprehensive history but rather a lighthearted look at an organization with a very colorful past. We made special efforts to contact the largest and oldest firms in the area; unfortunately, space and time constraints prevented us from including every firm.

Having barely scratched the surface of a vast archival collection, COLUMNS hopes that somebody soon will write an official history of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA. As always, we welcome your comments.

C O L U M N S

Sentimental Journey

100 Years of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA

COLUMNS is proud to present its Centennial salute to the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA — a timeline of Chapter history. For this we dug deep into architectural resources in and around the city and unearthed highlights of the past 100 years — memorable milestones, hidden treasures, and a few long-forgotten antics to boot. Some events are remembered for their impact on the city's growth. Some occasions are noteworthy for their historical importance to the profession and the Chapter. And, of course, other items are included simply for sweet nostalgia's sake (apparently costume balls and ping-pong were mainstays of Pittsburgh architectural activity for quite a few years!) COLUMNS thanks the many members and member firms who shared their stories and memorabilia for this issue — the Chapter is fortunate to have so many people dedicated to preserving Pittsburgh's rich architectural heritage. Happy Birthday, Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, and may you have many, many more. 🏠

1857

American Institute of Architects founded in New York City.

START HERE

1888

Elice Mercur breaks new ground as Pittsburgh's first woman architect. A talented draughtsman, she is promoted to foreman and then partner in a short time. Her designs include St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Centre Avenue and Watt Street in the Hill District (the congregation will relocate to Mt. Lebanon in 1920 and a new church will be built in 1935).

1890

AIA has 476 members nationwide. In Pittsburgh, 56 architects are listed in the city directory, one advertising complete services for an elaborate \$4,000 stone house at 5% commission (\$200).

March 28, 1891

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, founded in 1890, is formally organized. A local judge issues the group's charter on the condition that "no spirits or malt liquors be served at meetings." Its forerunner was the Architects Society of Western PA, founded in the 1880's whose 19 members met at the offices of Joseph Anglin, 64 Federal Street, Allegheny [the corner of Federal and Lacock Streets. Years later the building will be demolished to make way for Route 279].

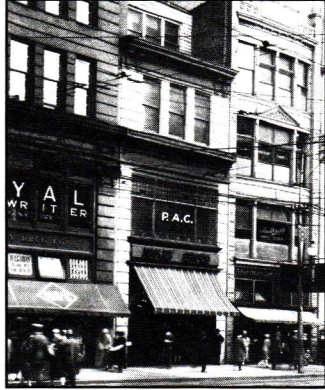
1893

The Chapter has 21 members, \$50 in the treasury and no debts.

1898

At the National AIA convention, Chapter Secretary (and former President) T. D. Evans reports the Chapter has 18 members and has held eighteen meetings that year —

nine with dinner, nine without. Average attendance is 7 ... This year also marks the founding of the Pittsburgh Architectural Club (PAC), a separate organization with more social interests. Their Clubhouse is the entire second floor of a Liberty Avenue storefront.

**1899**

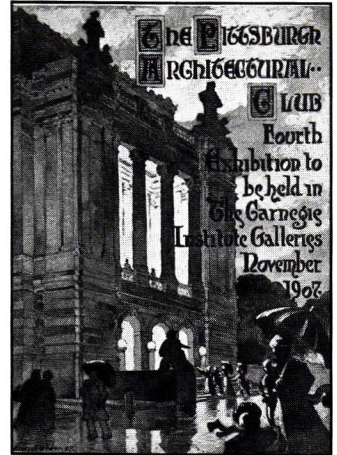
Pittsburgh hosts the AIA National Convention at the peak of its industrial might. A century later, in 1999, the convention is scheduled to return to a town our predecessors would scarcely recognize.

1905

Henry Hornbostel, designer of the Carnegie Tech campus, founds the school's Department of Architecture and serves as Head. Throughout his career Hornbostel will leave his signature throughout the city with such landmarks as Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Rodef Shalom Temple, the City-County Building, and the Grant Building.

1907

PAC holds its fourth annual architectural exhibit at the Carnegie. Frontpiece shown here is from the accompanying catalog.

**February 16, 1909**

The Chapter's official Constitution, submitted on this date, calls for Chapter members to pay a \$5 initiation fee and \$5 in annual dues (\$7.50 for FAIA members).

May 7 - 31, 1898

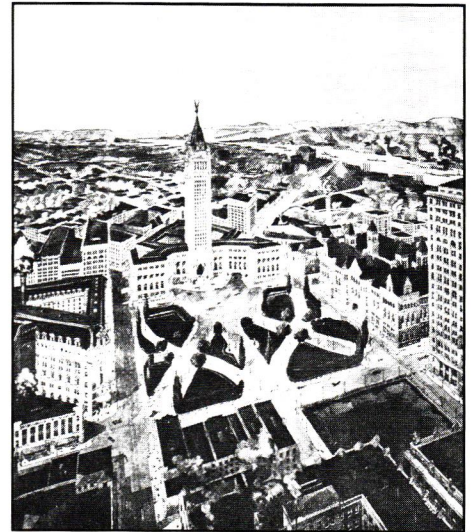
First annual architectural exhibit at the Carnegie Art Gallery, organized by the Chapter. The Chapter also holds a competition among Pittsburgh draughtsmen. The winner is Miss Jennie McMaster, who uses the \$500 scholarship prize to study at MIT.

1906

Member architect Carlton Strong [a Buffalo transplant and founder of Reid & Stuhldreher] designs the Rittenhouse Hotel on the corner of N. Highland and Kirkwood Streets in East Liberty. One of several luxurious dwellings by Strong, the Rittenhouse boasts an ornate ballroom that becomes a favored location for wedding receptions.

**1907**

Pre-Renaissance Visions: The Chapter's suggestion "for the improvement of the City of Pittsburgh adjacent to the Courthouse" shows lush green lots and like buildings sprawling towards the Monongahela River. Eventually this site will be occupied by Three Mellon Bank Center.



Timeline, from page 11

1913

Chapter membership reaches 68.

1919

Pennsylvania passes the Architects Registration Law, a cause championed by the Chapter.

1924

Annual dues have climbed to \$20 for the Chapter's 86 members (\$10 for its 15 associate members). Cost for attending a monthly dinner meeting is \$1 per person.

1926

Livonia Stevenson (nee Osborn) becomes the first woman to graduate from Carnegie Tech's Department of Architecture. "We had tea dances in the Fine Arts Building every Friday after the lecture," she later recalls, "and Mr. [Henry] Hornbostel [then Department Head] always tapped me on the shoulder! He would say 'I have to dance with my favorite girl student.' He was a beautiful dancer."

1927

Local architects begin a newspaper ad campaign in an effort to "keep important architectural commissions in Pittsburgh."

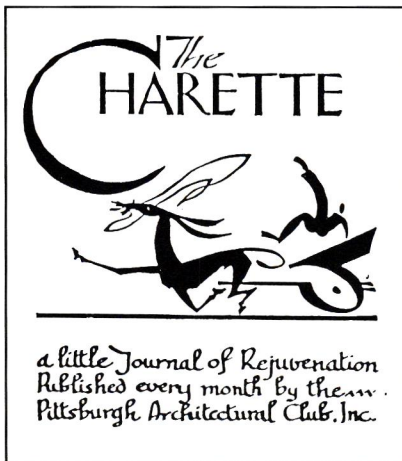
1929

Membership peaks at 100. Architects are hit hard by the Depression and Chapter membership falls to 60 by 1933.

February, 1920

Pittsburgh Architectural Club (PAC) begins to publish its monthly magazine, *Charette* under the guidance of founder and editor "Count" William B. Chalfant.

Billed as "A Little Journal of Rejuvenation," the magazine will continue to be published until the 1970's, placing it among the oldest regional architectural journals in the country. In its later years it becomes the official joint publication of PAC, the Chapter and PSA.



April 20 - 24, 1925

The 58th AIA Convention held in New York City. Members are offered a special hotel rate of \$5 per day for double rooms at the Hotel Empire. Six Chapter members attend.

December 18, 1928

Members are lured to the December meeting in the newly refurbished rooms of the Pittsburgh Architectural Club by the promise of dinner for \$1.50 and a chance to see the Club's new "orchid pink commode."

June 28, 1932

Ring toss, quoits, horseback riding, tennis, mush ball and a trip to McConnell's Mills are on the agenda for the Chapter's June meeting, held on President Press Dowler's ancestral farm in Butler County. The day ends with supper and song in the basement of a log cabin.

1934

G. Edwin Howard
[founder of
Burt Hill
Kosar
Rittelmann]
is selected
to help with
restoration
of the White House. His
work includes detailing
on the Oval Office.
Howard is shown here in
1958 studying a model
for one of the many
schools his firm later
became known for.

**March 17, 1936**

"'Twas the night of St. Patrick's/
When all thru the town/The
water went running/Around
and around." In the flooded
Downtown area, water peaks at
46 feet (21 feet above normal
flood stage) and reaches the
13th step of the PAC stairway ... 1936 also marks publication of Charlie Stotz' book *The
Early Architecture of Western PA*, underwritten by the Buhl Foundation ... The National
Home and Electric Show is held April 18 - 26 at Motor Square Garden. The Chapter's
exhibit features a model house.

**June 21, 1938**

The June meeting includes reports on the Point Park Project and the National AIA convention held in New Orleans, a discussion of office wage rates and "several interruptions," reports Chapter Secretary Rody Patterson, "not the least of which was a parade of considerable size which passed directly beneath our windows [at the PAC on Liberty Avenue]. The meeting came to a temporary halt while the architects cheered the National Guard as it rode by on trucks and caissons and even burst into songs of wartime vintage to the accompaniment of [Charlie] Stotz' accordion. Hurrah for Constitution Day!"

June 26, 1936

Ingham & Boyd
[predecessor to
IKM, Inc.]
completes the
second unit of
Chatham Village,
the nationally-
lauded model
housing develop-
ment high atop
Mt. Washington.

**1937**

Mellon Institute, Richard Mellon's monolithic science center is built by Janssen & Cocken [predecessor to Johnson/Schmidt and Associates]. Mellon Institute was founded in 1911 as the world's first R&D center devoted to industry. An unusual technique is employed to assure proper stress distribution for the 62 columns — on the spot where each column's center will rest, a nickel and a large block of ice are squarely placed; the columns are then hoisted by crane on top of the ice. As the ice melts, the columns gently settle into their precise positions.

February, 1938

Notes on a Chapter meeting from *Charette*: "The meeting was one of the best the Chapter has seen in many a day. Everyone was in good spirits, the business of reporting the activities of the committees was carried out with dispatch and the seriousness of an ordinarily dull routine was favorably punctuated by song and the contribution of several impromptu limericks on various subjects ... What the Pittsburgh Chapter needs is more gay meetings such as this one, where the architects may burst into verse and song and where business is transacted but not taken too seriously."

1958 • Charles L. Desmone and Assoc.; Emery A. Szalai

1959 • Kaclik & Graves, Architects; Williams Trebilcock Whitehead

1961 • Harry J. Ashbaugh; William F. Pleva, AIA

1964 (cont.) • Milton Z. Shaffer, AIA; UDA Architects

1965 • D.R. Hamburg Assoc.

1968 • J.F. Gayton III & Assoc.; N. Lee Ligo & Assoc.

1970 • Jim Cook, AIA

Timeline, from page 13

April, 1939

Twenty-five hundred people view the Chapter's first exhibit in years, held for 16 days at the Carnegie. Displayed are models of Sacred Heart Church, Buhl Planetarium and Mellon Institute. Participants include the familiar — Janssen and Cocken [predecessor to Johnson/Schmidt and Assoc.]; Ingham, Pratt and Boyd [predecessor to IKM Inc.]; Kaiser, Neal and Reid [predecessor to Reid & Stuhldreher]; Lee and Marlier; Stotz; W.G. Eckles — and the up-and-coming (works exhibited by seniors at Carnegie Tech are noted for their "free modern spirit").

January 23, 1940

The Chapter celebrates its Fiftieth Anniversary one year early but nevertheless in grand style. The evening begins with dinner at the old Pittsburgh Club on Penn Avenue, in a room transformed by bamboo trees and tabletop floral



Fiftieth Annual Meeting
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER AIA
HOTEL KITSON
Front Row: Widom, Celli, Lindsay, Davis, S.L. Brown, Neal, Stott, Hoffman. Middle Row: Rubin, Lee, Ingham, Wilson, Reutti, Sterling, Kaiser, Brocker, Bulton (rear), Hoover, L. Wolfe (rear), Reid, Patterson, Harrold, Schmertz (rear), G. Wolfe, Schell. Back Row: Smith, Marks, Schwab, K. Weber, C.M. Stotz, Braziell, A.E. Prack, Fleming, Roush, Franklin, Hogner, Linder, Pratt.

arrangements. One hundred seventy-five members and their guests dine on Clear Green Turtle Amontillado, Filet of Sole and Breast of Guinea Hen to the accompaniment of a five-piece string orchestra. Special guests include AIA National President Edwin Bergstrom, Pittsburgh Mayor Cornelius Scully, and featured speaker Gilmore Clarke, Chair of the National Commission of Fine Arts. After dinner, members perform an original (and very funny) skit written by Bob Schmertz: the tale of a youth in search of truth and beauty whose travels lead him to the Mistress of Architecture and Frank Lloyd Wright. The party lasts until the wee hours with dancing and a trio of accordion players. "The Fiftieth Anniversary Party was one for the Hundredth Anniversary Committee to try and match," challenges one reveler.

April 16, 1940

A forum on architect-contractor relations is the main event of this month's Chapter meeting. Contractors are charged with taking orders from the owner without consulting the architect and subletting too much work. In turn, architects are singled out for a lack of uniformity of specifications, too much repetition of "the contractor shall, etc." and drawings with incomplete information. True to their playful nature, "the evening was brought to a climaxal close with a stirring ping-pong match," reports the *Charette*.

September 20, 1940

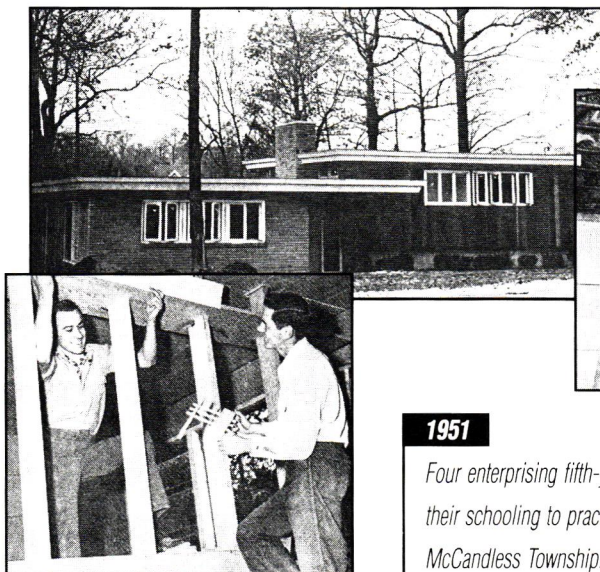
The Chapter's first joint outing with the Cleveland Chapter AIA is a smashing success. Forty attendees, 16 from Cleveland, enjoy the day-long affair at the Hickory Club, 25 miles west on Route 30. Games are, as always, quite popular; the Ohioans teach "Swidge," a new card game, to their Pittsburgh friends. Chapter Secretary Allan Neal immortalizes the meeting in the next *Charette*: "After appetites were satisfied, the horseshoes, badminton and shady trees called to their various customers. Off came ties, shirts and pants as the heat increased and athletics became more strenuous and by time the ball game was called many there were cavorting in their brevities. The Clevelanders came from behind to cop off the ball game 11 to 8, but if someone hadn't brought out that big bucket of beer near the end, I think we would have kept our lead." Rattlesnake meat is on the dinner menu, and Chapter VP Rody Patterson entertains with magic tricks. The festivities wind down at 11 PM as members head back to their respective cities. Neal calls it "one of the merriest and most successful jollifications ever held in these parts."

1945

With the end of the war comes an increase in architectural contracts, and Chapter membership jumps to 154.

December 20, 1946

Roughly 100 members and friends attend PAC's Christmas Stag Party. Entertainment is provided by Bob Schmertz, Shorty Ellis, and Tom Pratt, as well as "a singing master of ceremonies, an accomplished magician, a lovely young lady who interpreted the Russian and acrobatic dances, and another young lady who gave a slightly different version of the Russian and acrobatic dances." Less scandalous winter festivities include a children's Christmas party and New Year's Eve party for members, guests and their wives.

**February 15, 1947**

Another fiftieth anniversary celebration, this time for PAC. The Golden Jubilee includes a dinner party at the Roosevelt Hotel and dancing to the George Wells Orchestra. Mayor David L. Lawrence and "Count" William B. Chalfant are featured guest speakers. Tickets are \$4.50 per person.

1951

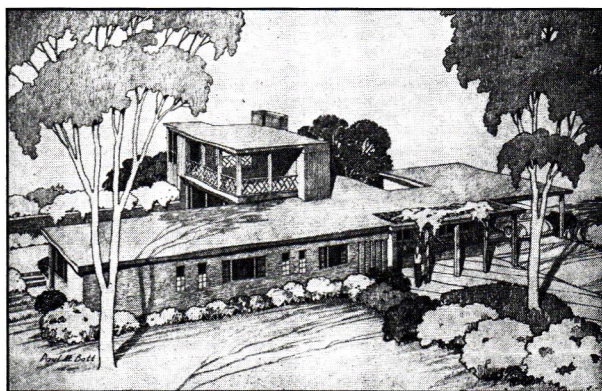
Four enterprising fifth-year Carnegie Tech students put their schooling to practice and construct a house in McCandless Township. Ralph Burt, Alva Hill [future principals of Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann], William Cole, and Donald Garrett design the four-level, three bedroom redwood, slate and brick house on site and handle all the work except plastering, plumbing and welding the radiant heating pipes.

June 29, 1948

Dravo hosts the membership on its annual towboat tour of the rivers. The afternoon party lasts into the evening with cocktails and food and a "pilot's license" for all on board. Captain's hats are also courtesy of Dravo.



Mario Celli, Raymond C. Celli, Kenneth R. Crumpton, Press C. Dowler, Thomas Garman, E.J. Hergenroeder, Roy L. Hoffman, Joseph Hoover, Charles Ingham, Jr., B.J. Kaiser, Ray Marlier, Walter G. Prack, Thomas Pratt, P. Howard Sterling, Hilary D. Watterson, Karl Weber, II, J.M. Doremus, Alson Eggers, C.F. Eggers, Jr., H.H. Hall, C.F. McWilliams, Jr., R.C. Mountser, W.G. Ramsey, D.G. Sisterson, W.F. Trimble, Jr., L.M. Weed, Karl Weber, III, W.E. Clark, O.E. Eyman, R.W. Hindman, R. Jones, F.J. Lloyd, Jr., W.W. Walker, C.J. Herzog

**September 17 - 25, 1949**

Combining the "Beauty of Modern Design with the Utility of Modern Materials," the "House of Beautility" is the Chapter exhibit at Pittsburgh's Better Homes Exposition.

1952

"Renaissance One" is in full swing: The aluminum-clad ALCOA Building, billed as the "Lightest office building of its size," goes up on the sight of the old Nixon Theatre. Pittsburgh firms Mitchell & Ritchey [predecessor to DRS/Hundley Kling Gmitter] and Altenhof & Bown serve as associate architects to the project ... Plans for Point Park are accepted by the County. Designed by landscape architects Ralph E. Griswold & Associates [predecessor of GWSM, Inc.], the abundant green space will complement the three completed towers of nearby Gateway Center.

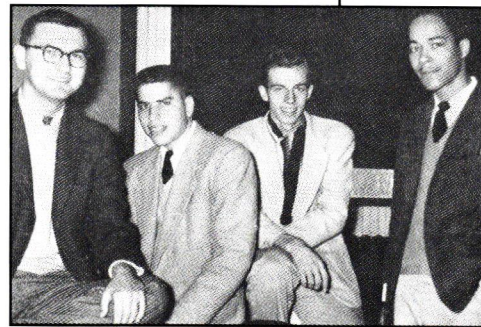
October 18, 1955

Mellon Square, Pittsburgh's first underground parking garage, opens to rave reviews and becomes one of the most heavily publicized undertakings of Renaissance One. Nationally it is heralded as unequalled in concept and beauty. Architects are Mitchell & Ritchey and landscape architects are Simonds & Simonds.

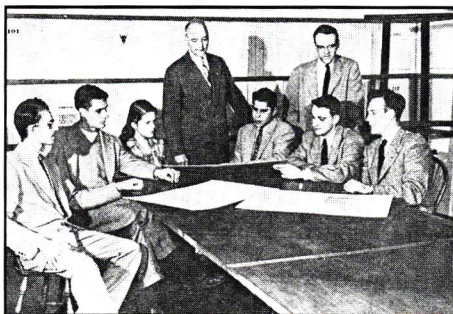
1956

Of 51 cities nationwide, Pittsburgh ranks 13th in volume of home building (Philadelphia ranks 5th) ... An article in the *Post-Gazette* tells us that: "Today's architect in America is no longer a luxury. He is a useful, important and often very necessary figure in our modern scheme of living, his services as vital to the welfare of a household as those of the family doctor. In the Pittsburgh area, architect fees vary on a sliding scale, depending upon the size of the project. Generally his fee for, say, a \$20,000 house construction job will be somewhere between \$1800 and \$2500." ...

Carnegie Tech students Sylvester Damianos and Earle Onqué (shown at right) are Vice-President and Treasurer, respectively, of the school's student chapter.

**December, 1953**

Thirty-three Carnegie Tech architecture students [including Syl Damianos, future founder of Damianos Brown Andrews, Inc.] compete in the Chapter's design competition. Their task — submit studies for a joint headquarters facility for the Chapter, the Pittsburgh Architectural Club and the Pittsburgh Producers Council, the local branch of a national organization of manufacturers and dealers of building products. Despite the students' innovative designs, the structure is never built.

**January, 1957**

At the monthly meeting, Pittsburgh Mayor David L. Lawrence is awarded a certificate of recognition and appreciation from the Chapter for promoting the city's renaissance. The Mayor applauds Pittsburgh architects on their "unselfish service in all civic affairs." In honor of his presence, architect Bob Schmertz performs his original composition (with apologies to Davy Crockett) "Davy Lawrence, King of Our Own Frontier."

September 19, 1957

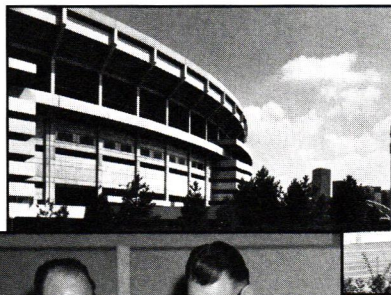
"The First Hundred Years are the Hardest," an all-day celebration of AIA National's Centennial is hosted at Churchill Valley Country Club by the Pittsburgh Producers Council. Afternoon activities include golf, horseshoe pitching, card games, swimming, badminton, and 'pitch & putt golf.' Cocktails, dinner, music and prizes round out the evening.

December, 1957

Landscape architects Griswold, Winters and Swain announce their work on a master plan for development of Pittsburgh hillsides and river banks. Their designs will convert existing river sites into playgrounds, picnic areas, riverside drives and promenades, boat docks and even swimming beaches. Other suggestions include: high tree plantings to screen railroad tracks and yards, rezoning to remove barge and salvage operations near the Point, and even construction of a bandshell atop Mt. Washington. The \$15,000 study is expected to serve as a guide for expenditure of \$75,000 in bond funds for each of the next five years.

1958

Dahl Ritchey and Russell Deeter look over plans for Three Rivers Stadium. Their firms merged to form Deeter and Ritchey expressly for this project. Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. [predecessor of Baker and Associates] serve as structural engineers.

**March, 1968**

The Chapter's Public Service Committee offers "outpatient clinic service," free restoration and renewal counseling to shopkeepers and residents of the North and South Sides. Members meet with property owners and offer verbal advice about the architectural character of their buildings and how it can be retained and restored. UDA Architects prepare a design study to publicize the group's general goals. Committee Chair is G. Thomas Williams; other members include Nathan Levenson, William Wurmb and Chapter President Louis Valentour.

1962

Measuring 415 feet in diameter, the stainless-steel retractable dome of Mitchell & Ritchey's Civic Arena is the largest in the world.

1966

Member Harry Lefkowitz serves as associate architect for Chatham Center, "a city within a city" offering a hotel, apartments, theater, restaurants, health club, swimming pool, shops and parking garage in one location.

1965

The "glory days" of building in Pittsburgh: Chapter membership reaches 272, and, according to the August, 1965 *Charette*, "Building activity has been constant since 1945. No designer need lack for commissions, and prosperity for the architect is the order of the day." In Bethel Park, Loeffler/Johnson and Assoc. [predecessor to Johnson/Schmidt and Assoc.] designs South Hills Village, the first enclosed regional shopping mall in the Eastern U.S. With 1.2 million sq. ft. of retail space on its two levels, South Hills Village dramatically changes the way suburbanites shop. The firm's second mall in Monroeville, built in 1969, expands on the mall experience with an additional 200,000 sq. ft., fountains, skylights, indoor landscaping and a regulation size ice hockey rink.

May, 1968

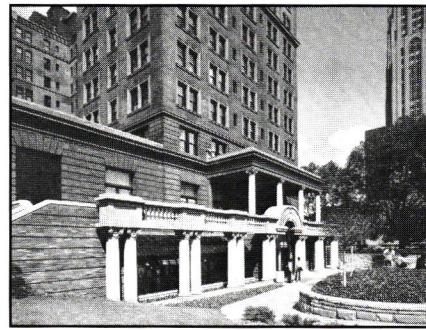
The Chapter opens its office in the Benedum-Trees Building and proudly unveils its brand new identity symbol, commissioned by Kenneth Hiebert, Director of Graphic Design at the Philadelphia College of Art.



Timeline, from page 17

April 13, 1970

Pittsburgh Mayor Pete Flaherty kicks off Architects' Week '70 with a press conference in the William Penn Hotel to "honor the outstanding contributions architects have made to the social, religious and material development of the community." Urban design and new technology are the topics for the Chapter meeting held Tuesday, April 14. Members are encouraged to "tap their enormous potential to achieve higher degrees of urban development." The week ends with an elegant cocktail party at the William Penn, followed by a dinner-dance and cruise aboard the Gateway Party Liner. The highlight of Architects' Week is the "Architecture is for People" exhibit, which presents the work of 36 area firms and eight CMU students. Sixty-two architectural projects are displayed on 99 40" x 40" panels and three freestanding models. After Architects' Week, the walk-through exhibit travels to area shopping malls and the Westmoreland County Museum of Art. ... To commemorate the work of his colleagues, Jack Ross of Ross Schonder Sterzinger Cupcheck edits the 1970 Pittsburgh Architects' Yearbook, a visually engaging collection of choice projects by member firms. He'll repeat his editorship in 1971.

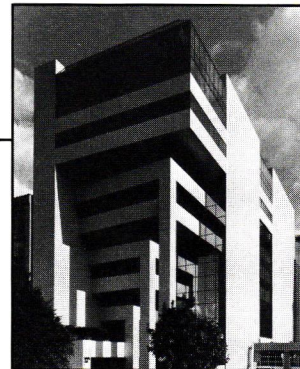


1983

The Hotel Schenley, an 1898 luxury hotel and preferred lodging of famous visitors, is renovated and restored to glory by Williams Trebilcock Whitehead as the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Student Union. The building will receive Architectural Woodwork Institute's Awards of Excellence in 1984 and 1987 and a Pittsburgh Chapter Merit Award in 1984.

1980

Energy efficiency is increasingly important to architects and clients, and nowhere is this more noticeable than in Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann's design of the Comstock Center. Average usage is half the cost of other large office buildings in town.

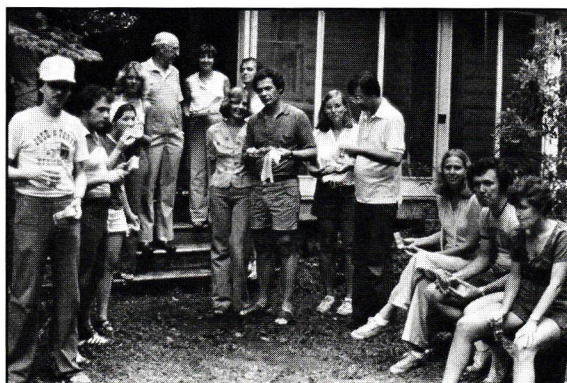


October, 1971

The Penn Theater, darkened since the mid-60s, is transformed into Heinz Hall and the Pittsburgh Symphony's permanent home by Stotz, Hess & MacLachlan [predecessor to MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni]. Across the river, the old Post Office on the North Side is given new life as the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Museum by architects at Williams Trebilcock Whitehead.

1973

A company picnic at The IKM Partnership [predecessor to IKM, Inc.] proves that architects still know how to have a good time. Enjoying fresh watermelon and sunshine are founder Charles S. Ingham (on stairs), Sr. V. President Marion F. Zentarsky, Chairman/CEO Mihai Marcu, V. President Robert J. Mord, and Sr. Associate Thomas E. Hartman.



April, 1974

A statewide survey of architects' salaries yields some surprising results: In Pittsburgh, project managers earn an average \$18,118 a year; project architects receive \$14,992. Their Philadelphia counterparts take home \$17,428 and \$15,396, respectively. Principal's earnings are commensurate with firm size: principals of firms with 1 - 4 employees average \$20,000 a year; 5 - 9 employees: \$30,000; 10 - 24 employees: \$35,000; and 25 or more employees: \$46,000.

1981

Celli-Flynn provides the city with much-needed exhibit space in the 572,000 sq. ft. David L. Lawrence Convention Center, the world's first building with a cable-supported space frame.

1985

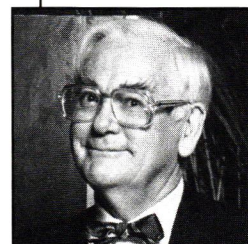
Years of Renaissance efforts and urban renewal come to fruition when Rand McNally crowns Pittsburgh the country's "Most Livable City" in its *Places Rated Almanac*. Winning points are the city's plentiful, affordable housing, low crime and ample cultural offerings. Pittsburgh's glowing reputation continues to grow and in 1989, *New Yorker* critic Brendan Gill waxed poetic about our fair town: "If Pittsburgh were situated somewhere in the heart of Europe, tourists would eagerly journey hundreds of miles out of their way to visit it. Its setting is spectacular . . . Indeed, the ideal population of a city today is about that of Pittsburgh, and the ideal area of a city is — again, like that of Pittsburgh, which is fifty-five square miles — comparatively small."

1987

The old Stanley Theater is reborn as the opulent Benedum Center for the Performing Arts, new home for the Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Ballet, Civic Light Opera, and Pittsburgh Dance Council by MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni. . . . In September, the Chapter begins publishing COLUMNS, a twelve-page monthly newsletter. In a little over a year it grows to 24 pages with a circulation of nearly 2000 throughout Western PA.

**March 2-5, 1988**

David Lewis, founder of UDA Architects, organizes the "Remaking Cities" conference. Special guest H.R.H. The Prince of Wales visits key sites in the Mon Valley and shares his vision for the future of industrial cities. Member and Mon Valley activist George DeBolt is the Prince's personal tour guide, providing color commentary along the way. The conference is co-sponsored by the Royal Institute of British Architects and AIA National, in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Chapter.



TO BE CONTINUED ...

1988

New York Times architecture critic Paul Goldberger pays a special compliment to Pittsburgh when he writes "Pittsburgh is really one of the great architecture cities of this country." . . . Adding to the changing face of Oakland is the Software Engineering Institute, a research facility operated by Carnegie Mellon University and designed by Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski. For their glitzy high-tech vision they are awarded PSA's prestigious Silver Medal. . . . and Pittsburgh gets its first industrial dance club — Metropoli, designed by UDA Architects.

The gritty-but-glamorous interior of this Strip District night spot recalls its humble past as a turn-of-the-century warehouse.

**January, 1990**

The beginning of a banner year for Pittsburgh: Syl Damianos, founder of Damianos Brown Andrews begins his term as President of AIA National, and the Library of Congress is overrun with Pittsburghers for his inaugural fête. Meanwhile, Syl's partner James Brown is chosen to chair the AIA National Convention in Houston held in May. And the AIA National logo receives a welcome facelift from Pittsburgh design firm Agnew Moyer Smith . . . Over the summer, the Chapter completes a long-awaited move to new offices in CNG Tower. Staff now includes full-time Executive Director Anne Swager, part-time Administrative Assistant Nancy Tragard and part-time secretary Susan Dornburg.

1991

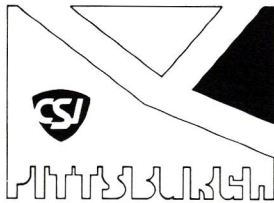
Pittsburgh prepares for the 21st Century and renewed growth with a new airport, designed by Tasso Katselas Associates. Baker and Associates provide structural, mechanical and electrical design services for the Landside Building, the 390,000 sq. ft. facility housing ticketing, concessions and passenger pick-up and drop-off. . . . and in April, Chapter membership reaches a record high of 588.



The officers, directors and members of the Pittsburgh Chapter Construction Specifications Institute congratulate the Pittsburgh Chapter American Institute of Architects on its 100th anniversary.

CSI lauds a strong and active Pittsburgh AIA Chapter for significant achievements in development, support and public awareness of Pittsburgh area architects.

Pittsburgh Chapter CSI wishes Pittsburgh Chapter AIA continued growth and vitality throughout the next 100 years.



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Roy, Tom & Jeff Landau, 4th and 5th Generations

Cal
3rd Generation

Those Were the Days

Fond Rememberances from Mario Celli, FAIA

M

ario C. Celli, FAIA, received his degree in architecture from Carnegie Mellon University in 1932 when the school was known as Carnegie Tech. Now retired, he is a senior emeritus member of the Pittsburgh Chapter. Mario talked with COLUMNS about his early career in Pittsburgh fifty years ago.

"My firm, Celli-Flynn, was established in McKeesport in 1949 with my brother Raymond C. Celli and William V. Flynn. Our first project was designing public housing for the city of McKeesport. Back then, it was a rip-roaring town and we had a rip-roaring time as I remember.

"I was just out of school when I took my first full-time job at Rust Engineering. I worked there for a very good 15 years before going out on my own." At Rust, Mario learned valuable lessons about the construction phase of design, lessons which he credits for his ultimate success as an architect. "Rust taught me to meet the problems of construction head on — during the design process. Budgets, schedules, cost factors were always part of the design, not afterthoughts. I firmly believe you can't separate design from construction. That was the advantage our firm had and still has — knowing how to get things done on time. Costwise, functionwise, everything is factored in from the start."

Mario's holistic approach to architecture prompts this advice to young architects today: "Start building. Get your hands dirty. Working in a design/construction firm is a great way to practice."

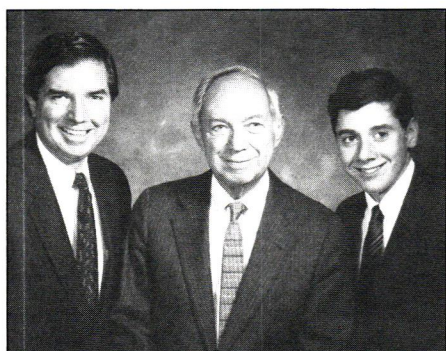
And practice he did. His first office, at the corner of Shaw and Locust in McKeesport, prospered during the post war years alongside Re-

naissance One and suburban expansion. Projects that stand out as career highlights are Highlands Senior High School at Natrona Heights, Norwin Senior High School, the renovation of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, and the small chapel in the former novitiate of the Sisters of Charity at Seton Hill. This Chapel Mario calls "a little jewel," with wood interiors by George Nakashima and black and white stained glass by Emil Frei of St. Louis. This very private place has been overlooked by the profession because, says Mario, upon its completion, he was asked not to give it any publicity. "It was in a novitiate and intrusion was unsuitable."

When asked if the business of running a successful firm ever encroached on his ability to practice architecture, Mario replied "not at all. I never had to give up designing to manage the business. I had two good partners who divided the work and allowed me to design until my retirement." Mario considers that "hard work, common sense and a good attitude" were responsible for his firm's steady growth and that the business side evolved with the firm. "We always believed in awarding big bonuses to make sure those that did produce kept producing."

Outside of the office, Pittsburgh architects were a close knit group in the forties and fifties, and Mario fondly remembers many a picnic and soiree serenaded by the entertaining duo of Bob Schmertz and Charlie Stotz. Every year, Charles Ingham Sr., (who was the secretary of the State Board of Examiners, and

22 ➡



Chips off the old block: Mario Celli, FAIA, with son Tom Celli, AIA and grandson Michaelangelo Celli.

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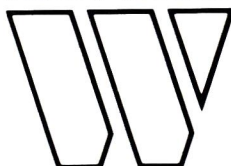
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Interior Construction

Mario Celli, from page 21

Chapter president in 1958-59) hosted a picnic for Chapter members on his farm near Donegal in Westmoreland County. All the Fellows would attend: Charles Schwalb, Louis Stevens, Bruno Jannsen, Rody Patterson, Ken Crumpton and others. Mario recalls that the Chapter was famous for its merry-making. Bob and Charlie had dozens of parties — informal get-togethers at different members' homes. Tom Pratt would accompany Schmertz on the piano. "That's probably what I miss most from the old days — the comraderie among the architects," says Mario. (Architectural revelry actually went back to the early thirties in Pittsburgh — see the following story on the Pittsburgh Architectural Club.)

What other differences does the profession present today? "Definitely the lack of ethics one finds in the selection of architects. When it comes to awarding contracts I am amazed at how few times the overall ability of the architect is examined thoroughly."

Today, Mario's son, Tom, heads the firm his father founded forty-two years ago. Will there be a third generation of Celli architects? "Maybe," says Mario. Tom's son Michaelangelo, a high school senior, isn't saying for sure, but he's applying to colleges with strong architectural programs just in case. And if he does decide to carry on the family tradition, he will inherit a proud legacy from his father and grandfather, Mario, who practiced architecture in Pittsburgh with uncommon spirit and dedication. 

COLUMNS invites readers to submit articles, letters and comments. Send materials to:

COLUMNS c/o The Cantor Group
1225 Farragut Street, Pgh., PA 15206
 FAX: 412/661-6287

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month.



Costumes were grand and revelers were gay at the Pittsburgh Architectural Club's Soirees, masquerade balls following the true Beaux Arts tradition. One year (reports the Charette) Mrs. Max Nirdlinger (shown above with her husband, a prominent local architect) arrived in a dress from a well-known Philadelphia costumer (it had won first prize in the famed New Year's Eve Ball there). Not content with its past glory and billowy skirt "larger than any Marie Antoinette ever owned," Max had his favorite electrical contractor wire 50 small lights onto the dress — powered by flashlight batteries worn on his wife's wrist! When the lights dimmed and the Nirdlingers started down the walkway, she twinkling like a Christmas tree, there was "an audible gasp from the assembly followed by a protracted 'Ahhhhh' To break the awesomeness of the effect, Max whispered to his wife, 'It's not you they're so stunned at, Honey, it's just the first time the architects have ever seen anybody all lit up before the bar opened!' "

"It was a wow!" Remembering the Pittsburgh Architectural Club

Mario Celli, FAIA

In the early 1930's, the Pittsburgh Architectural Club occupied the entire second floor over


a store at about 530 Liberty Avenue. The entrance was from an alley officially noted as One Charette Way, running from Fifth Avenue and dead-ending at Rosenbaum's Department Store Building, the alley being used principally for truck loading. A narrow wooden stair led to the second floor. The emergency exit in the front was a coil of rope in

the corner by the front plate glass window. PAC occupied these quarters during the depression and prohibition years when architectural work was scarce and architects and



draftsmen had plenty of time on their hands. They promptly set about sprucing up the place. Lunch was served by way of a dumbwaiter from "Gammons" restaurant next door downstairs. A popular item was a hot plate — two frankfurters, baked beans and coffee for 35¢, no tipping necessary. Lunches were well attended and the Club served as an exchange and watering place. Ping-pong was the game and Charlie Stotz was the champion. Etching and water color classes were also popular — the club was used extensively and the architectural community was closely knit with bantering and criticism as important functions.

To raise money, we invited the well-heeled elite to a series of Soirees over a 2-week period. Toots Davis, himself a socialite, agreed to be chairman and everybody pitched in to redecorate the Club. Remodelling came cheap when architects became carpenters, painters, plumbers, electricians, etc. Needless to say, many raucous design meetings were held. As an important part of these high class shindigs, the ceiling was covered, painted blue and featured the signs of the zodiac with stars, planets, etc. The walls were treated with architectural silhouettes made by Bob Schmertz, Charlie Stotz, Rody Patterson, Sidney Brown, Ray and Mario Celli, Stu Forsyth and others. Toots Davis handled the invitations to the Soirees, a beautiful blueprint, and he carefully spread the guests out to avoid personality clashes. Guests brought their own booze, which was dispensed in coffee cups. The Soirees took on a Carnival atmosphere with drinks, food and dancing to a pickup band that included architects and one or two members of the Shadyside Five. Architects also acted as waiters and busboys.

Entertainment was provided by Bob Schmertz, his banjo and such ballads as "Every Little Chicken Wants to Wear a Peacock Feather" and "On Bundles of Pillows With You." Charlie Stotz and his accordion, Tom Pratt at the piano, and others joined in. It's surprising how much talent is available when architects let their hair down. It was a wow! 

Troubador of the Two-by-four

Architect Bob Schmertz left a legacy of lyrics

A

lthough other architects are better-known, Robert Schmertz had the unique distinction of being the most lyrical of Pittsburgh architects. Practicing for over 50 years, Bob was known to all in the AIA and PAC for his tongue-in-cheek rhymes and original banjo compositions. His ribald tales were preserved for posterity on several full-length recordings, including the

1968 release "Ladies Beware of an Architect." Several of his songs, including "Monongahela Sal" and "Angus MacFergus MacTavish Dundee" became well-known across the country and were recorded by Burl Ives, Pete Seeger and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

Bob had his professional side as well: he practiced architecture with partners Ray Fisher (after

WWII) and E. MacDonald Erwin, Jr., AIA, (from 1957 - 71). He also taught at Carnegie Tech from his graduation in 1920 until he retired in 1970.

Derek Martin, FAIA was a summer employee of Bob's during the 40's. "Mr. Schmertz had a drawing board, because at that time architects actually used them. He had covered his with burlap-backed linoleum, decided that he didn't like the 'feel' of the linoleum and removed it, and made drawings with a strong burlap texture for many months thereafter. Anyway, Mr. Schmertz (it was years before I could call him Bob) had gone out to inspect a house that was almost complete near Washington, PA for a client who was a W & J professor. When he came back he was somewhat shaken, because, he told us, just as he was parking at the curb immediately in front of the house, it blew up! He blamed leaking gas."

Mac Erwin was kind enough to submit a sampling of "limericks and doggerel which Bob Schmertz happily composed with a passion." Mac remembers him fondly: "Most of us who worked with Bob begged him to devote at least half as much time to architecture as he did to rhyming. He was an absolute master in the use of, and arrangement of, words and sounds, and we all loved him for the many moments of pleasure he brought to life."

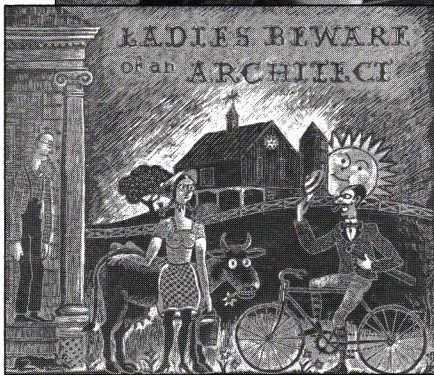
What follows are excerpts of the treasured works for which Bob Schmertz will always be remembered.

From "Limericks"

I once knew a happy young lecher
When he went for a girl he could ketcher
Like all young architects
He was torn between sex
And reading Sir Bannister Fletcher.

From "When That Architect Comes to Jordan"

When that architect comes to Jordan will he cross?
When that architect comes to Jordan will he cross?
When that chariot swings down low
Will that architect get to go?
When that architect comes to Jordan will he cross?
Will that architect get to climb the Golden Stair?
Will he get to see Saint Peter standing there?
When he says that he's AIA
Will Saint Peter say "You don't say!"
When that architect comes to Jordan will he cross?
Will that architect sit there by the Lord's right hand -
With a license to practice in the Promised Land?
They'll be checkin' up jobs he stole -
That damned unethical soul -
When that architect comes to Jordan he won't cross!



Bob Schmertz, the "Poet Laureate of Pittsburgh" was a frequent entertainer at Chapter functions. His talents shone on such popular songs as "Monongahela Sal" and "The Queen Anne Front and the Mary Ann Behind." One of many recordings, his 1968 album, "Ladies Beware of an Architect," was released for the Chapter's 70th Anniversary. (Cover art also by Schmertz).



From "The Molding"

Architecture these days looks a little dreary;
There is very little which says "Whatcha doin'
tonight dearie?"

There is very little that has fun in it like the
Victorian

And very few churches suited to decent
Gregorian

There seems to be a lot of tedium
In what used to be an artistic medium.

Many modern modes are merely skeletal,
Without a little flesh they don't look well at all;
Their outer skin denies the third dimension
And causes surface tension and dissention
Amongst the ancient ones who just sit
sneering — at engineering.

Perhaps a Great New Master will appear on
the Horizon

With molded forms that will require full-sizin'
And shall proclaim in accents Jovian
That buildings shall be Marilyn Monrovia
Perhaps we shall not emulate the bustle
But follow after Jane (Not Lillian) Russell.

From "Strange Interlude"

Written for the Chapter's 50th Anniversary

I'll tell you a story about architecture,
It won't be a speech and it won't be a
lecture;

It's a sad, sad story about a youth
Who went out looking for Beauty and Truth.

He looked in the town and he looked in the
city,

The things he saw, they weren't very pretty;
He did a lot of things in fits and starts
'Til he met a gal named Architecture, Mistress
of the Arts.

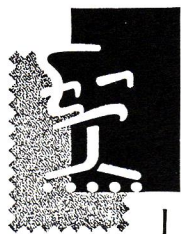
He'd heard some stories about this lady,
And some of them were just a little bit shady;
But she said, "Come on, baby, take a
chance,

I'll show you Rome and the Middle Ages and
the Renaissance!"

They came back home, swore they'd stick
together

Through fair and foul or stormy weather;
But it all wound up in a terrible fight
'Cause he ran across a guy named Frank
Lloyd Wright.

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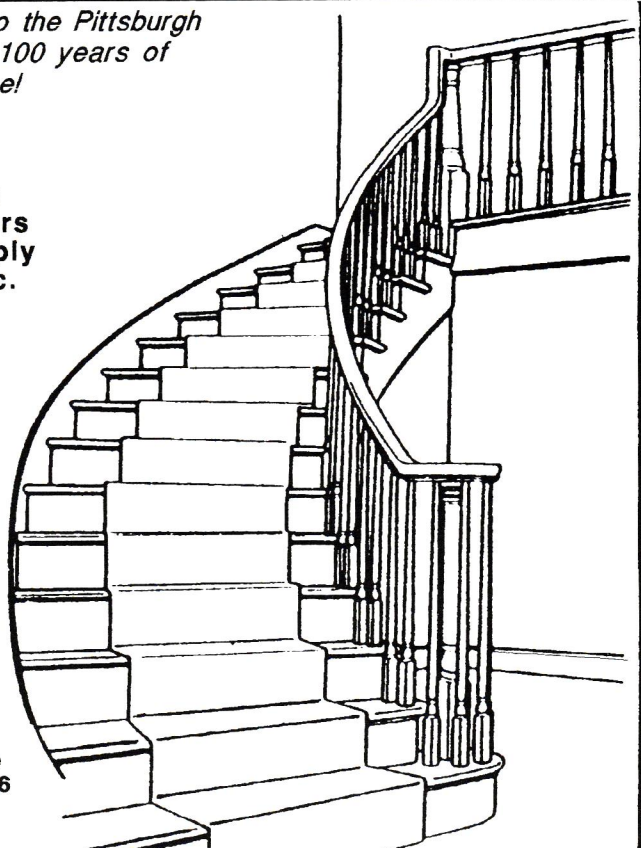
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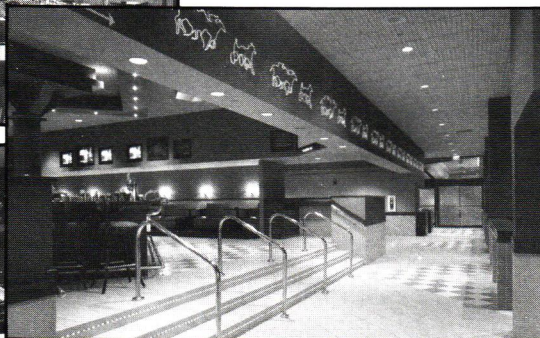
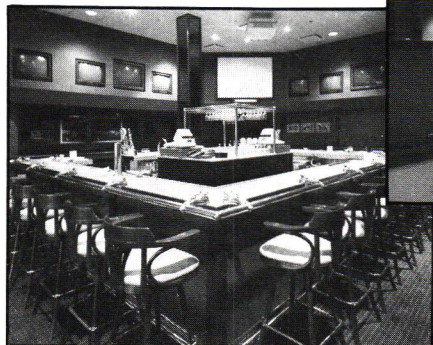
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■ bricks and mortar: committee news

■ Interiors

Chair: Charles DeLisio, AIA

Studio DeLisio, 488-0307

The newly-formed Interiors Committee has begun working in a number of areas, including education, awards and communication with related organizations, such as IFMA and ASID. We have met in March and April; our next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 20 at 5:30 PM in the Chapter office. All interested members are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Charles DeLisio, AIA, Margaret Ringel Baker, AIA, John Francona, AIA, or Gary Moshier, AIA.

■ Women in Architecture

Chair: Susan Tusick, AIA

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann, 394-7069

On Tuesday, May 7, Committee members Louisa Grauel, AIA, Maureen Guttman, AIA, Clare Wallace Kist, AIA, Cindy Mrozinski and Jennifer Higgins will host our meeting at MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, 200 The Bank Tower, 307 Fourth Avenue (281-6568). The five women will present their work and lead a tour of the office, beginning at 5:15 PM.

Sam Panarella of H.F. Lenz will present a seminar on "Field Observation and Recognizing the Contractor Moves" at the June 4 meet-

Batter Up!

The 1991 Architects' Softball Season is in full swing — come on out and cheer your favorite team to victory! Full details (including team line-ups) will appear in the next COLUMNS. Call Commissioner John Cullen at KSBH for dates and times of games: 323-0514.

■ bricks and mortar: committee news

ing, to be held at 5:30 PM at Burt Hill, 300 Sixth Avenue, 7th floor.

WIA meetings are open to everyone. For more information, contact Susan Tusick.

■ Professional Development

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

We are pleased to announce our 1991 Design Program, featuring guest speaker Charles Moore, FAIA, on Monday, July 22. Moore received this year's National AIA Gold Medal. His lecture will be combined with the July Chapter meeting. This should be an excellent follow-up to the very successful Faye Jones, FAIA, appearance last summer.

The Committee worked in many directions to bring Moore to Pittsburgh. The successful path led through John Eberhard, FAIA, at CMU, who wrote and asked his friend to join him here in July. We thank John very much for his assistance.

The "Optimizing Firm Management" program, presented by James Franklin, FAIA, in February, was well received by all attendees. Anyone who missed this program should consider attending it during the National AIA Convention in Washington, DC. However, the cost will be twice what it was in Pittsburgh. The Committee lost \$300 on this program, even with the sponsorship of The Financial Planning Forum. However, we understand the Board has applauded this program, and we look forward to presenting programs of similar quality in the future.

The Professional Development Committee meets the next-to-last Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM in the offices of Brenenborg Brown. All Chapter members are welcome to attend our next meeting on May 23.

■ AIA/CMU Liaison

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

Career Day '91, held in March, was highly successful. Our thanks go to the participating firms: WTW, UDA Architects, Michael Baker, DRS/Hundley Kling Gmitter, and William Thomas Design Studio.

The Department of Architecture maintains a reference file for students seeking information on Pittsburgh-area firms. We remind all firms to keep their information in this file current — if your firm has developed new brochures or other materials, please save a copy for this file. Call Clare Gallagher for more information: 268-2354.

The student chapter is planning next year's activities. Fall seminars will feature local firms; Spring seminars will focus on career issues, including resume and portfolio development. Ken Kuligowski, AIA, is coordinating these efforts and may contact your firm. Please consider participating in the seminars — it's a terrific way to share your expertise and meet the next generation of architects.

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

■ Historic Resources

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

We are working towards finalizing our sponsorship of the May meeting, featuring a presentation by Clarion Associates of Chicago, consultants to the City of Pittsburgh on proposed changes to the City's Historic Ordinance.

Preservation Week, beginning May 12, will find members of the Committee acting as guides for free lunchtime tours of the Fourth

Avenue National Register Historic District.

In June, we will again serve as guides for a more comprehensive walking tour of downtown Pittsburgh for members of the Victorian Society in America, a national organization holding their 25th annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

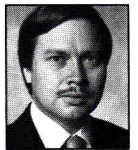
■ Membership

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

Please welcome five new members to the Chapter:

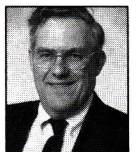
David E. Lage, AIA

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann
Graduate of: Kent State
Past projects: MRI Center and Emergency Generator Center at Presbyterian University Hospital; St. Francis Hospital Labor and Delivery Suite
Married to: Diane Lage Children: Michele, 9, Kristen, 7
Interests include family, homebuilding, travel and gardening.



Robert K. Tench, AIA

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann
Graduate of: University of Cincinnati (BS Arch.)
Past projects: Children's Hospital of Cincinnati; Cincinnati Milling Machine; Federated Department Stores; Children's Home of Cincinnati
Married to: Marjory L. Tench Children: Patricia, 40; Kenneth, 38; Susan, 36; Beverly, 34; Marilyn, 31; and Janet, 30.



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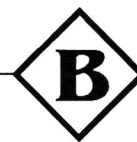
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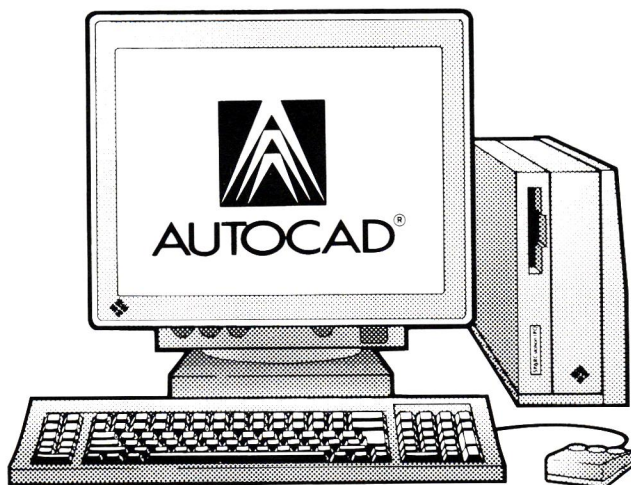
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A "Capitol" Idea: The 1991 AIA National Convention

Steven G. Hawkins, AIA

W

ith the 1991 AIA National Convention approaching, and with its Washington, DC location so close to Pittsburgh, I encourage all to make the trip and cram as much as you possibly can into the five days.

I attended last year's convention in Houston (my first) and planned a full schedule of workshops and seminars. Having a three-person office, I concentrated on those sessions concerning operating and marketing a small firm and on doing small projects.

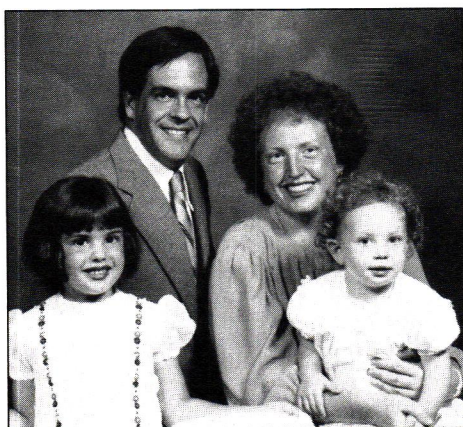
Especially important for me was James Franklin's day-long "Optimizing the Small Firm" workshop (May 16 this year). Here I met and heard other small firm professionals and had a very validating experience: I discovered that there were architects all over the country who were practicing in a manner similar to mine, being loosely guided by the AIA Handbook. I found that my intuitive and often informal ways of getting and doing small projects were indeed very common among small firms. In the workshops and seminars, our methods were recognized and affirmed by AIA National and were documented and presented in a very usable fashion. Almost a year later I am still using handouts and the Small Firm Handbook as references for marketing, fee negotiation, financial management, and project management. Again in '91 there are many topics from which to choose; check the listing in this year's convention booklet.

Other memorable activities included the general sessions and their keynote speakers; hearing Faye Jones, FAIA, and seeing his work; browsing through the incredible Book Fair (bring your checkbook because you'll be tempted); attending the Pennsylvania delegation breakfast meeting; talking briefly with other practitioners from across the country (a tip here, an encouraging word there); touring the new product exposition; and the reception for Carnegie Mellon alumni, graciously hosted by Architecture Department Head John Eberhard, FAIA (guests included then-AIA President Syl Damianos, FAIA, current President Jim Lawler, AIA, and this year's Convention Chairman Gregory Palermo, AIA).

My family and I stayed with my Carnegie Mellon classmate Robert Moroz, who lives in Houston, and so had an insider's experience of the city perhaps not shared by all conventioners. The '91 list of professional and family tours and activities in and around Washington looks outstanding. The trick is to do all you want to do in the time available. A great excuse for a mini-vacation.

The more of us here who have been to an AIA National Convention, the better prepared we will be when Pittsburgh is the host chapter. We will have an incredible opportunity, not seen since Remaking Cities, to focus public attention on our Chapter and profession, to showcase our city and region, and to renew our commitment to excellence in design and planning.

Come to Washington in May. You'll find it well worth the effort. ■■■



Pittsburgh architect Steven G. Hawkins, AIA, (shown above with his family) is one of many Chapter members who will be attending the 1991 AIA National Convention and Design Exposition on May 17-20 in Washington, DC.

Thirty professional programs, four specialty breakfasts and more than 40 consultation sessions will be offered at the five day gathering. Three convention theme topics are dedicated to specific issues. Saturday, May 18, "In Design" features Robert Venturi, FAIA, as the keynote speaker. Sunday focuses on "In Community" with Rod Hackney, Hon. FAIA, Charles Correa, Hon. FAIA, and Andres Duany, AIA, as keynoters. Monday, "In Environment" is highlighted by speaker Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute. For information on attending the convention, call the AIA Convention Hotline: 202/626-7395.



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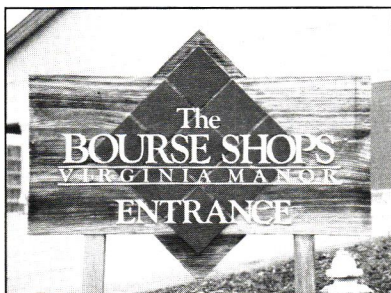
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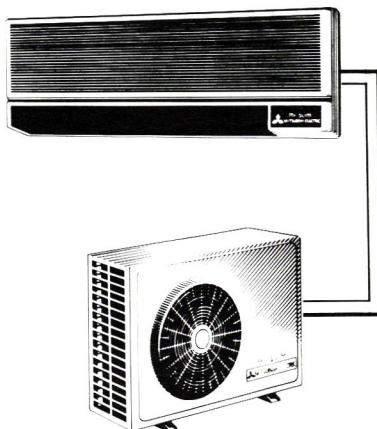
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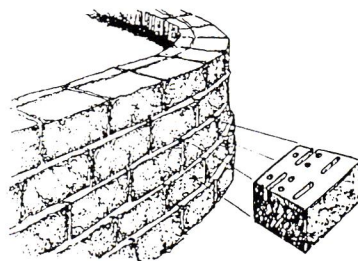
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Architects Refresher Course: Materials & Methods; Construction Documents & Services. 9 AM - noon, Carnegie Mellon University, Margaret Morrison Hall Room 14. Ed Goytia, assoc. member, 683-0202.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

Women In Architecture Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni. Five architects will present their work and give a tour of the office. Child care is available. RSVP to Susan Tusick, AIA, 394-7069.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA May Meeting on the city's Historic Preservation Ordinance. 6 PM, Union Trust Building. *See invitation at right.*

THURSDAY, MAY 9

AIA/CMU Liaison Committee Meeting, 5 PM in the Dept. of Architecture office. Steve Quick, AIA, 687-7070.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Board Meeting, 5 PM in the Chapter office. All members are welcome. Anne Swager, 471-9548.

MAY 17 - 20

1991 AIA National Convention Washington, DC. Call the AIA Convention Hotline: 202/626-7395.

MONDAY, MAY 20

Interiors Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM in the Chapter office. Charles DeLisio, AIA, 488-0307.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Professional Development Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at Brenenborg Brown. Dave Brenenborg, AIA, 683-0202.

MONDAY, MAY 27

Legislative Committee Meeting, 4:30 PM in the Chapter office. Chuck Parker, AIA, 471-5900.

■ AROUND TOWN

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Society of Architectural Administrators monthly lunch meeting at the HYP Club. Cost is \$12.50. Clark Strohm, 281-6568.

THROUGHOUT MAY

A History of Schenley Park Tours and lectures on the Park's history, horticulture and master plan, presented by the Historical Society of Western PA. 681-5533 for information.

UNTIL MAY 12

Eighteenth-Century Scenic and Architectural Design Drawings by the Galli Bibiena Family Exhibit at the Frick Art Museum.

■ PLAN AHEAD

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

Women In Architecture Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at Burt Hill. "Field Observation and Recognizing the Contractor Moves" presented by Sam Panarella of H.F. Lenz. Child care is available. RSVP to Susan Tusick, AIA, 394-7069.



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Town Meeting on Proposed Changes to Pittsburgh's Historic Preservation Ordinance and Policies

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Town Meeting - Historic Preservation

Union Trust Building
Wednesday, May 8

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100th Anniversary Issue

Sentimental Journey: An AIA Timeline	10
Remembering "The Good Old Days" with Mario Celli, FAIA	21
Soirees and More at the Pittsburgh Architectural Club	23
A Special Tribute to Bob Schmertz, AIA	24
<i>plus tributes from Mayor Masloff and others!</i>	

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