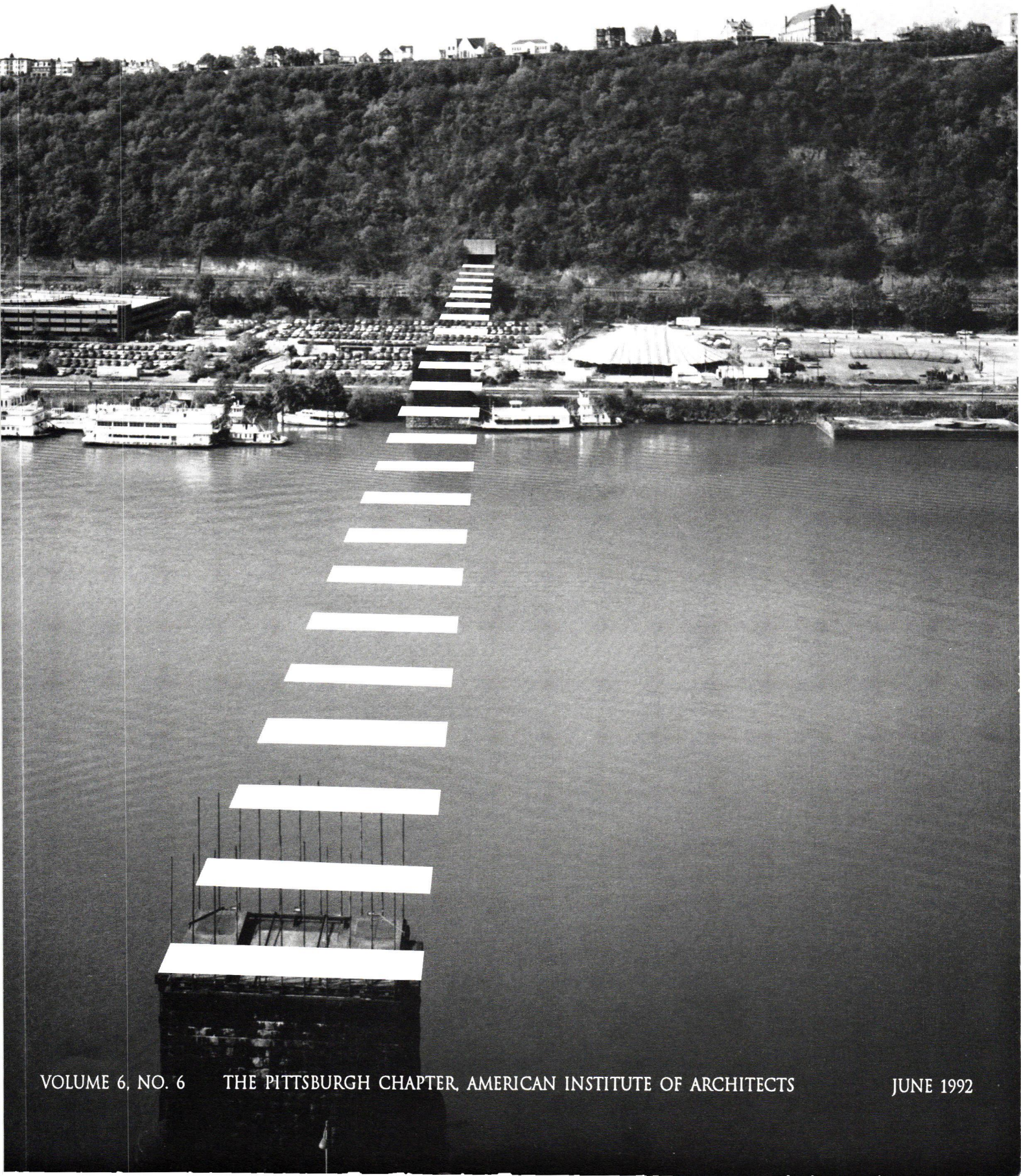


C O L U M N S



VOLUME 6, NO. 6 THE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JUNE 1992

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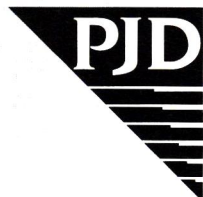
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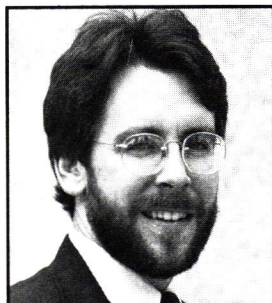
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View Point: Towards an Urban Agenda

Rob Pfaffmann, AIA, President



"We Architects and Planners are not the visible symbols of oppression like the military or the police. We're more sophisticated, more educated, more socially conscious than the generals—We're the soft cops."

—Robert Goodman, *"After the Planners"* published in 1971.

Every so often an event occurs that causes me to become temporarily quite cynical about the relevance of our profession. This most recent episode consisted of three not-so-disparate events: The AIA Convention, the Commu-

nity Design Center's New Urban Housing Competition and the civil unrest in Los Angeles. As these three events interacted in my mind one evening, I grabbed a musty old copy of a book from my bookshelf entitled *"After the Planners"* by Robert Goodman. It was required reading in a freshman course at Syracuse called *"ARC 145: Social, Economic and Political Factors in Design."* Although full of 1960's anti-establishment rhetoric, the book's attack struggled with the same things I had on my mind that evening: the nation's urban policy (in this case, Nixon) and affordable housing (in one case called *"Guerrilla Architecture"*).

Earlier this year at the end of Grassroots (our annual leadership conference in DC), a group of the largest urban chapters gathered to discuss what could be done to focus our collective attention on the critical issues overwhelming our urban areas. Ironically, in light of the events of the last week, it was the Los Angeles' Chapter representatives vocal dominance of the meeting that could be read as a warning in retrospect.

The end result of that meeting was a resolution calling for the adoption of an "urban agenda" by National. That resolution, a general but important list of whereases, has been sponsored by Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The resolution preparation and attendant form work is the work of Alan Greenberger, President of the Philadelphia Chapter.

Last month, the Chapter's Board voted to co-sponsor the resolution (the full text of the resolution and its sponsors appear on the following page).

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An architect's-eye view of the Wabash Tunnel and Bridge site. Article on page 5. Photo by Karl Backus, AIA.

View Point, from page 3


There have been many efforts, each with varying degrees of success to put the urban agenda on the front burner (the Remaking Cities conference, for example). This year's Grassroots gave many of us an indication that our national leadership needed to hear loud and clear that the dictated subject of healthcare, although relevant to everyone, is not the subject that architects can advocate with much effectiveness on Capitol Hill. We CAN provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of housing policies, urban enterprise zones, community block grants, infrastructure design, preservation tax credits...the list goes on.

The other two events last month also showed that we need to return our attention to our cities; the New Urban Housing Competition, organized by the Community Design Center, and the violence in Los Angeles, organized by frustration and despair. The events in LA are a harsh reminder that we have covered over or ignored the problems of our inner cities once again. The images bring back depressing memories of the 1960's, raising questions and doubts about what we architects can do to effectively respond.

In contrast, the CDCP's competition (on exhibit at Pittsburgh Center for the Arts through June 6) certainly seems like a great way to apply our professional talents to one of the multitude of issues on the "urban agenda." Unfortunately, the results, despite over 250 entries in the middle of a recession, indicate we have to get our professional house in order. The Reagan/Bush eras of S&L-driven strip malls spoiled many in our profession. Many who organized the competition expected that the recent recession might get architects to think more seriously about affordable housing. One would think that most of those un-

employed architects would be ready to dig down and seriously look at the problem. Instead we got more LA in the form of style over substance. Many of the submissions looked like they belong in Santa Monica or Venice Beach. Others could easily be mistaken for Ryan Homes' latest suburban models. Probably the submission that got the most attention, ironically, was the "Garfield the Cat" entry. Made of wrapping paper and comic strips,

this solution (entitled "Buyer Beware") summarizes, with humor, the disappointment and cynicism many feel these days.

Let us hope that the CDCP's competition winner is built successfully, the AIA's Urban Agenda Resolution begins to reorient our profession's priorities, and the destruction of LA's neighborhoods will finally bring action, not merely words. 

1992 Resolution 92-3

Title: Formation of an Urban Agenda

Sponsors: Herb Levy, Pennsylvania Regional Director
Philadelphia AIA
Pittsburgh AIA

Intent: To have AIA take the lead in development and promotion of a comprehensive urban agenda for the nation.

Text of Resolution:

WHEREAS an overwhelming majority of Americans live and work in urbanized areas, and

WHEREAS cities have historically been the laboratory of civilization and engine of social, cultural, and economic opportunity, and

WHEREAS the financial plight of American cities has worsened to the point of insolvency with an attendant increase in social problems and pessimism about urban life, and

WHEREAS American cities are being asked to shoulder the burden of care for problems that are national and regional social phenomena, and

WHEREAS the symbolic and physical history of our profession is embodied in the architecture of the city, and

WHEREAS by training and temperament, our profession is highly qualified to consider the long term vision that will be necessary to reverse the physical and social decay of our cities therefore be it

RESOLVED that the American Institute of Architects take a leadership role in developing a comprehensive urban agenda that will form the basis for future legislative lobbying efforts, and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Institute of Architects become a primary national advocate for American cities with equal representation given to needs and opportunities that our cities continue to represent.

A Proposal for the Wabash Bridge and Tunnel

Drafted by Rob Pfaffmann, AIA

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ditor's note: The following proposal was adopted by the Board of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA and sent to the Wabash Bridge Task Force, comprised of representatives of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, AIA, Golden Triangle Association, City Planning, and Engineers' Society of Western PA.

The Wabash Tunnel Bridge for the Airport Busway is an important project not only for its function as a transportation link from downtown to the new airport, but also as a major bridge design in the Golden Triangle that is home to an encyclopedia of bridge designs spanning a century. Unlike most interstate bridges, this bridge will cut through the heart of the world-famous view of Pittsburgh as one leaves the Fort Pitt Tunnel and Bridge.

For this bridge to be a successful addition to that view, it is our position that the design must utilize the best of the professions of engineering and architecture. The relationship should be a collaborative one; the bridge should be an expression of a close relationship between form and function. A number of recent landmark designs reflect this approach, including the Sunshine Bridge in Florida, Weirton-Steubenville's new cable stay bridge and a number of elegant urban bridges in Europe by the architect/engineer Santiago Calatrava.

We recognize that an accelerated design and construction procurement process is required due to the closing of the Fort Pitt Bridge; however, the schedule does not require a sacrifice in design quality of the new bridge. Many award-winning building projects have

been conducted on "fast track" schedules where design and construction phases of the project overlap.

To achieve a bridge design befitting Pittsburgh's world-renowned bridge building traditions, the following elements should be incorporated into the design and review process:

1. Statement of Design Principles

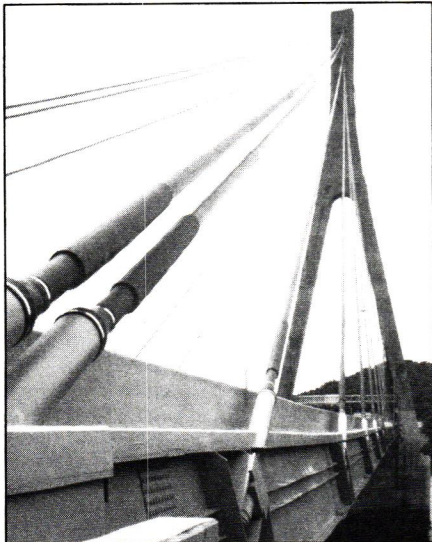
A program statement that outlines design principles for the bridge design should be collaboratively developed and included in the PAT RFP and used as a basis for evaluating design solutions.

2. Design Review

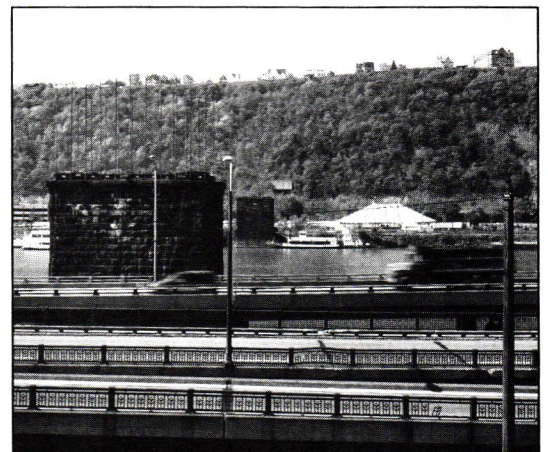
Because of the critical position that this bridge occupies in the Golden Triangle's most famous view corridor, a design review process that includes a committee of leading Pittsburgh designers and cultural leaders should be considered. If coordinated properly, this would present no delay to the project schedule.

6 ➤

The Wabash Bridge should consider pedestrian access and the character of the roadways it will meet on the downtown side.



The Weirton-Steubenville Bridge, designed by Baker and Associates, is one of several elegant cable stayed suspension bridges around the country. Planning for the bridge began in the 1950's, but design and construction of the final project was fast-tracked in nine months. Senior engineer was Bob Bondi, P.E.



Wabash Bridge, from page 5

3. Collaborative Design

A requirement for an experienced design consultant to collaborate directly with the engineering team. Qualified consultants could include architects, landscape architects and environmental artists. The RFP for the design and construction should also include an experienced lighting designer.


Suggested Design Principles for the Wabash Bridge:

- The bridge should contribute to the importance of the site (Mt. Washington, the skyline).
- It should maintain a compatible relationship to adjacent historic bridges.
- It should reflect a blend of both quality structural expression and humane detailing that

does not literally mimic the past yet is sensitive to it (handrails, stairs, signage, etc.). It should reflect the highest standards of engineering and visual design.

- It should be pedestrian-friendly, with humane detailing in location, size, expression of walkways, rails, stairs, ramps (ADA), etc.
- It should have appropriate lighting (character, type, high visual interest).
- Landing points should be carefully considered (at the Golden Triangle and at the tunnel).
- It should consider the existing piers (whether reused or not).
- It should set up new opportunities to regain an appropriate expression for the character of

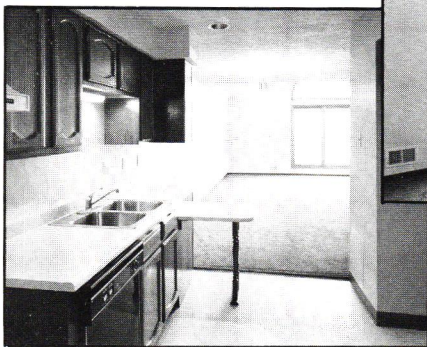
Fort Pitt Blvd. which considers pedestrian access and design of the river edge (rails, lighting for example).

- At Station Square, it should offer opportunities for higher public transit access and support new development. 

COLUMNS welcomes your input!
Send letters, articles and comments to:

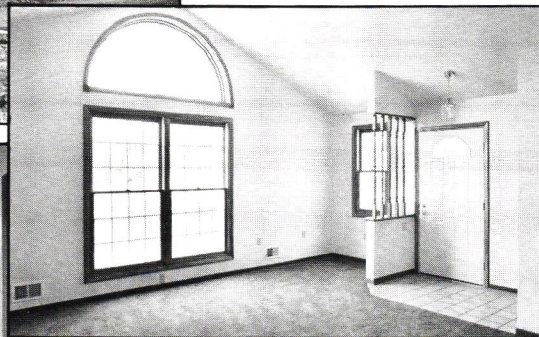
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Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month prior to publication (*deadline for the September issue is July 25*).



Above: Stirling Village Retirement Complex in Butler Township
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Arch.: James L. Tomlinson, AIA

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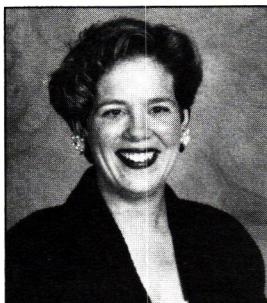
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Occupational Hazards

Anne Swager, Executive Director



If you want your name in bright lights, help out.

The Board and committees are a wide mixture of people whose only common denominator is that they are architects or in a profession related to the field and they give of their time and expertise.

I used to cringe whenever I was asked “What do you do for a living?” In the past, my answers have typically elicited a heated response from the questioner. As a banker, I heard long monologues on checking accounts, loan rates, and how banks never lend money to anyone who really needs it. I was constantly subjected to everyone’s “bad bank” story, even if it was with another bank.

Working in my town for the economic revitalization of the downtown was worse. Everyone felt free to tell me what was wrong. My doctor kept me an extra 20 minutes one morning; he had finished diagnosing my strep throat with 103° temperature when he launched into a tirade on the business district. Too sick to sit up, my head bounced off his desk each time he banged it as he repeated his theory that diagonal parking, not parallel, was the answer to the area’s woes. I did not work for the Township, yet I was constantly asked if I could get tickets fixed, why the Township had planted a tree in front of so-and-so’s house, and how you got your kid into the already overbooked soccer classes. When I couldn’t help, they took that as a green light to launch into their opinion of what was wrong with the municipality and the state and federal governments as well.

Now when people ask me what I do, they invariably follow my reply with “Oh, are you an architect?” A simple “No, I’m an administrator” usually is enough to send them scurrying off to torture someone else. With rare exception, architects are generally more polite; some even look upon me as some sort of demigod because I appear to enjoy administering *and* I put up with architects all day. Occasionally, I am harassed about the AIA. Once, at a party, I was cornered by an ill-mannered galoot with all his guns drawn. He loudly proclaimed that

the Chapter “leaders” lacked design talent. Before I could figure out what that had to do with anything, he launched into a whole list of what we didn’t do or didn’t do well and on and on. True to form, I jumped right in with plenty of answers for his accusations. Unfortunately, it fell on deaf ears. He was looking for a place to dump a lot of anger and I happened across his path.

Still, I have given a lot of thought to many of his accusations. While I think he was way off base, if others of you have the same misconceptions, we are in trouble. I’d like to share with you my answers that he wouldn’t hear. Let’s start with the “private club/old boy’s network” or whatever other name he felt compelled to call the Chapter. We do not have any special initiation rites. All you have to do to belong is pay the freight. If you want your name in bright lights, help out. The Board and committees are a wide mixture of people whose only common denominator is that they are architects or in a profession related to the field and they give of their time and expertise.

Why belong? There are numerous benefits. The biggest benefit is probably the access you get to people, ideas, and information in your own Chapter and across the country. Access opens the door and gives you the means to get what you need and want but you have to do the taking.

Lastly, anyone who pays the dues is a part owner of the AIA. That means you get to tell us what to do. You also have a vested interest in seeing that it gets done and for that we need your help. So, if you want to make a difference, leave your pedestals at the front door and join up. And by the way, how about saving your verbal bashings for the IRS. ■■■

Redefining the Architect/Engineer Relationship

Sides of a Coin, or Birds of a Feather?

Aren't architects supposed to be among the last broadly educated humanists on earth? Shouldn't that mean they have good communication skills?

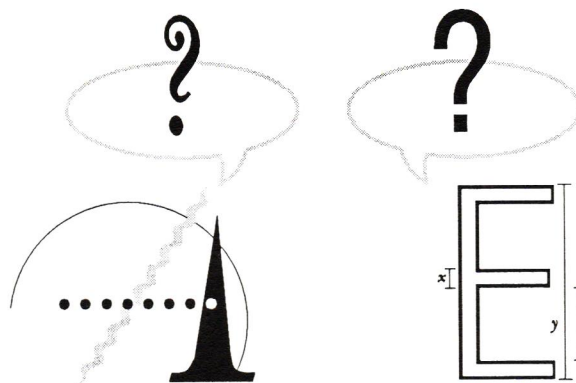
In a symposium on the relationship between architects and engineers held at the Guggenheim Museum in New York three years ago, one theme repeated by many of the participants was that architects and engineers work in fundamentally different ways. In the book published to document the meeting, *Bridging the Gap: Rethinking the Relationship of Architect and Engineer*, Peter McCleary, former chair of the School of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, reflected the thoughts of a number of speakers when he suggested that "...for the architect, design begins by considering the humanization of space—the main concern is dwelling; for the engineer, design begins by answering to the properties of materials and the logic of structural mechanics—the focus is on structuring."

Different though their approaches to design may be, the complexity of many of today's buildings demands that architects and engineers work together effectively. Based on interviews with several engineers practicing in Pittsburgh, one thing members of that profession find essential to a successful working relationship with an architect is *good communication*. The phrase came up again and again. Look at the article on the architect-contractor relationship in the March COLUMNS and you will find that the folks who build buildings are after the same thing. What's going on here? Aren't architects supposed to be among the last broadly educated humanists on earth? Shouldn't that mean they have good communication skills? That may be what it should mean but perhaps we need to look a little more

closely at how we get our ideas across to the engineers we work with and, at least as important, how we in turn listen to their ideas.

A decree only communicates the strong likelihood of impending disaster. One of the things an engineer fears most is the architect who walks into the office with a sheaf of drawings and announces that he has been working on a design for six months and nothing about it can be changed. Good communications develop over time on a basis of understanding. Every engineer agreed that it is important to be included from the beginning of a project, not brought in at the end to squeeze in some structure here and a little HVAC there. By being part of a project team from the start, the engineer not only can contribute throughout the design process but also will understand the final design far better leading to greater efficiencies in the planning of the structural, mechanical, electrical, and other systems. Early collaboration also may help insure that the feared phrase, "Well you can do it that way but it's going to cost," is heard only early in the process when different approaches are being explored.

Speaking from his considerable experience with hospital work, mechanical engineer Mark Wolfgang of RCF Engineers, Inc. noted that when his firm is included from the start it is far better able to get an accurate sense of what systems will best meet the project requirements. "By communicating from the beginning of a project it is possible to consider a lot more choices, giving the architect different ways of meeting the client's needs."



Daniel Greico, Jr. of Engineering Mechanics, Inc., a consulting geotechnical firm, said that in order to formulate a good response to the soils problems posed by a site he needs to understand the design to be built there, something he is best able to do if he has been on board from the start.

Greico also pointed out that while geotechnical work is probably not an expense the client wants (soil work is not visible), it is often necessary in this part of the country. He said he relies on the architect to understand the need for his expertise and to help explain that need to the client. This brings up the other side of the communication equation: listening. Charles Fedon of Dotter Engineering, Inc., a firm specializing in structural work said that for him it is essential that the information flows back and forth. "It is important for the architect to let me know what he expects at the start but I also need feedback throughout the process." The architect can only respond to the engineer if he or she is willing to listen and make the effort to understand the project from the engineer's perspective.

Implicit in this is that the architect views the engineer as a fellow professional and values his or her contributions to a design. Gary Van Balen of Ackenheil Engineers, Inc. noted that from his perspective one of the big disadvantages in selecting engineers through competitive bidding is that it reduces them to a commodity, undermining the mutual respect that is essential for a good working relationship.

The overall consensus is that good communications are not left to chance. An effective method for documenting decisions and circulating information is essential. The importance

of establishing a system of written communication at the inception of a project is primary.

Finally, when problems turn up, good communication demands that they be dealt with promptly and forthrightly. They won't go away on their own and when avoided can grow much worse. ■

What Do You Think?

The following essay, "The Nature of the Beasts," was written by **Mario Salvadori**, Architecture and Civil Engineering Professor Emeritus at Columbia University, in *Bridging the Gap* (Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York) 1991. It is reprinted here to spark readers' interest and open a dialogue on perceptions of the different professions.

"It is obvious to anyone who has dealt with young students in our two fields that they belong to different breeds of the human species... Young people inclined to become engineers are, by their mental makeup and previous education, not ambitious enough to aspire to become scientists: they are willing to accept the dictates of science and to apply them to the practical problems of our culture. Hence, most of them believe in what they have learned, do not develop much of a critical mind and, to my surprise, really believe that science explains physical reality, contrary to Newton's statement that it can only describe it. Some of the most naive among them believe that mathematics proves some kind of physical truth. Their inclination makes them socially and politically conservative.

By contrast, youngsters who decide to enter an architectural career are more open-minded, adventurous, critical, curious, and independent. They choose architecture because they are interested less in the practicalities of life and more in the infinitely varied and complex problems of their society. They tend to be more liberal, at least until they become successful architects, and seem to be more gregarious and eager to understand their fellow human beings."

COLUMNS invites readers to share their thoughts on this issue. Send your comments to: COLUMNS, c/o The Cantor Group, 1225 Farragut Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206. Responses will be printed in an upcoming issue. ■

Designing New Towns that Feel Like Home

Plater-Zyberk speaks from the forefront of community planning

E

lizabeth Plater-Zyberk, AIA, one of the profession's bright young stars, proved to be an inspired choice for this year's Hornbostel lecture, held April 14 at Carnegie Mellon University. Always one of the highlights of the year, the awards dinner and lecture drew more than 300 Chapter members, guests, architectural students and representatives of the construction industry (this year's lecture received support from the PA Concrete Masonry Association and the Masonry Institute of Western PA).

Designing entire small towns with "humane-ness" (as David Lewis, FAIA, stated in introducing her), Plater-Zyberk and partner Andres Duany have gathered an international clientele and regularly win the plaudits of professional journals and general interest magazines alike. Their firm, Duany and Plater-Zyberk Architects, is best known for Seaside, a project on Florida's Gulf Coast that won an AIA Honor Award for Urban Design and has been widely published. Plater-Zyberk presented this and similar projects and discussed her firm's philosophy of design, identified principles that she and her associates use to guide their work, and described techniques that have allowed the firm to collaborate successfully with municipalities and developers.

Plater-Zyberk began by stating that good design, though highly desirable, is absent in much development today. Contrasting late 20th-century suburban sprawl with Yorkship Village, a planned community built in Camden, New Jersey in the early 1920s, she suggested that the "visual and social banality" of today's suburbs is the result of proscriptive

local policies and the lack of regional planning, whereas the qualities we value in developments planned three quarters of a century ago are the products of good design. In her view, good design meets a number of criteria. When approaching a problem it seeks to understand the broader parameters within which the problem exists. It is critical of assumptions and clichés. Good design also has a healthy respect for history.

Respect for history is a defining characteristic of Plater-Zyberk and Duany's work. They see themselves in a tradition shaped by Frederick Law Olmstead and Lewis Mumford, and it is impossible not to think of garden suburb designs when considering their work. Drawing from Yorkship Village and other products of the period (which Plater-Zyberk refers to as the enlightenment in American planning), they have developed a list of elements to incorporate in every project. These include: clear boundaries and a central focus, a mixture of uses, prominent sites for public space and civic buildings, and the encouragement of pedestrian traffic. By looking to the history of the specific place where they are working and incorporating information from those who will live and work there through on-site design charrettes, they adapt these elements to the situation at hand, formulating them into a prescriptive document they call a Traditional Neighborhood District Ordinance.


Plater-Zyberk acknowledges that often the firm has worked in contexts atypical of suburban development. Seaside, for example, is an expensive resort and their Windsor Polo & Beach Club, as the name implies, is hardly



Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, AIA, presented her ideas on "humane architecture" to the Chapter at this year's Hornbostel Lecture.

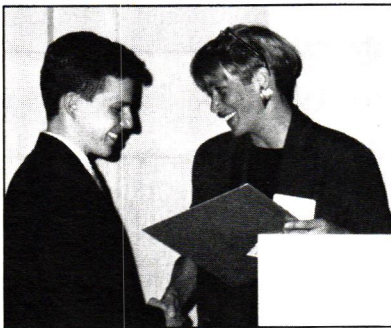
tract housing. At Kentlands in Gaithersburg, Maryland where housing is designed by builders rather than architects, the school board has disputed the firm's requirement for a true public facade for a new elementary school. In

such cases, Plater-Zyberk said they are learning how far their formula can be stretched. They are also testing their principles in retrofits to dated shopping centers and downtowns like Trenton, New Jersey. With apparent suc-

cess even in obsolete malls, Duany and Plater-Zyberk have come full circle, not merely posing an alternative to what many consider among the most characteristic and intractable of suburbia's problems, but replacing it. 

Future Stars: Meet CMU's Award-Winning Architecture Students

Board member Karen Loysen, AIA, presents the 1992 Stuart L. Brown Award to **W. Jason Alden** at the Chapter's April meeting.



Jason is entering his fifth year as an architecture student at Carnegie Mellon University.

The Stuart L. Brown award is given annually in the form of

a travel stipend, to be used between the fourth and fifth years of school. The \$3000 award is endowed by the Chapter. Jason plans to travel to central Europe and study churches from the early Gothic/late Romanesque period.

Two of Jason's winning submissions appear here: the free-hand drawing at right is of Cairncrest, a historical museum next door to his family's home in Bryn Athyn, PA. The house was owned by the Pitcairn family, the town's founders.

Jason's elegant, space-saving solution to a class project is shown below. Students were challenged to fit a 1000-seat theater, supermarket, dance school and library on one site in Montreal. The view here is a section through the multiprogram building.

Several other student awards were presented at the meeting. They were:

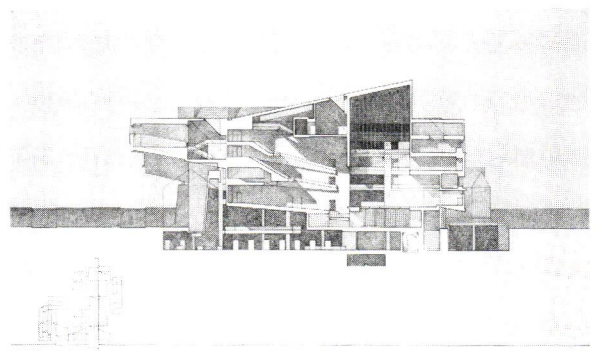
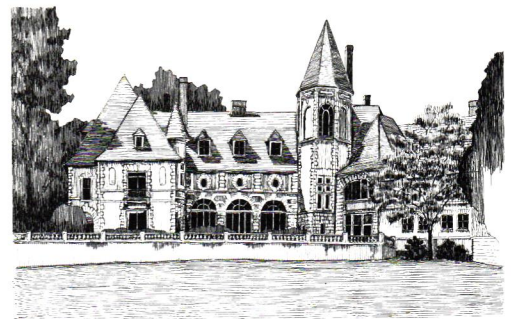
Luther Lashmit Award, a \$2500 stipend for two architectural

students to travel between the fourth and fifth year, given to Glenn Cottrell and Christine Kochinski.

Robert H. Burdett Award, for travel, given to Leslie Kavchek.

John Knox Shear Award, a travel award for a student displaying skill in representation, given to Rochell Kleinberg.

In addition to CMU's awards, the **PA Concrete Masonry Association** sponsored a competition for 10 second year students. First prize went to Sally Ann Kluz, Matthew Yoder took second, third prize went to Josef Kaps and honorable mention was given to Gareth Tseng. 



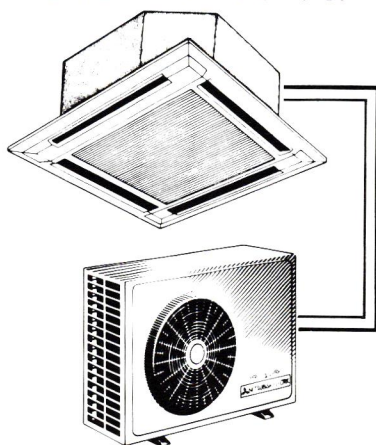
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■ bricks and mortar: committee news

■ Urban Design

Chair: Steven Hawkins, AIA

Steven G. Hawkins/Architects, 521-9399

Our work in meetings has focused on general issues and areas of interest to committee members. The first committee project was the May Chapter meeting program on the Golden Triangle. We are now formulating other specific projects that we will take on, either as a group or individually.

Committee members will attend the AIA National Convention in Boston this month and will network with members of that city's Urban Design Committee. There are also programs scheduled on the role of architects in urban planning and development that will provide other ideas for our committee.

If you see a need or an opportunity for participation by architects in organizations or on issues in your neighborhood or community, please contact us to discuss your ideas.

■ Membership

Chair: Gwen Williams, intern member

Douglas C. Berryman Associates, 363-4622

Please welcome the following new members:

Stephen William Eger, intern member
4056 Grizella St., Pgh., PA 15214

Jeanne B. Weber, associate member
Recently returned from Hungary
(a transfer from the Cleveland Chapter).

■ AIA/MBA

Contact: Joe Collins

Master Builder's Association, 922-4703

The AIA/MBA Joint Committee acts as a liaison between its parent organizations and works to foster a spirit of cooperation between owners, architects, and contractors. The committee provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, discussion of industry problems and development of recommended construction practices for the Western Pennsylvania region. The committee publishes and disseminates these guidelines of industry customs and procedures as the AIA/MBA Yellow Book or recommended Construction Practices.

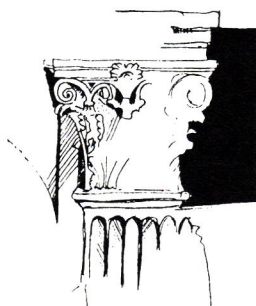
■ Exhibits

Chair: Karl Backus, AIA

Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, 765-3890

Our meeting time has changed: we now meet the first Thursday of each month at 5 PM. Please join us June 4 at the Chapter office. We encourage you to bring your exhibit materials and ideas. Our next exhibit will be the Women

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■ bricks and mortar: committee news

In Architecture Committee's photography competition in September.

■ Professional Development

Chair: Dave Brenenborg, AIA

Brenenborg Brown Group, 683-0202


Welcome to Karen Kingman, our newest committee member. Karen is with Burt Hill Kosar

Rittelmann, and will work on developing a topic and plan for a lighting seminar.

Deepak Wadhvani, AIA, is continuing work on a management seminar, to be held later this year.

James Stewart Polshek, AIA, will speak to the Chapter on July 23 at Rosebud. His firm is the

recipient of the 1992 AIA Firm Award. For complete details, see next month's issue of COLUMNS.

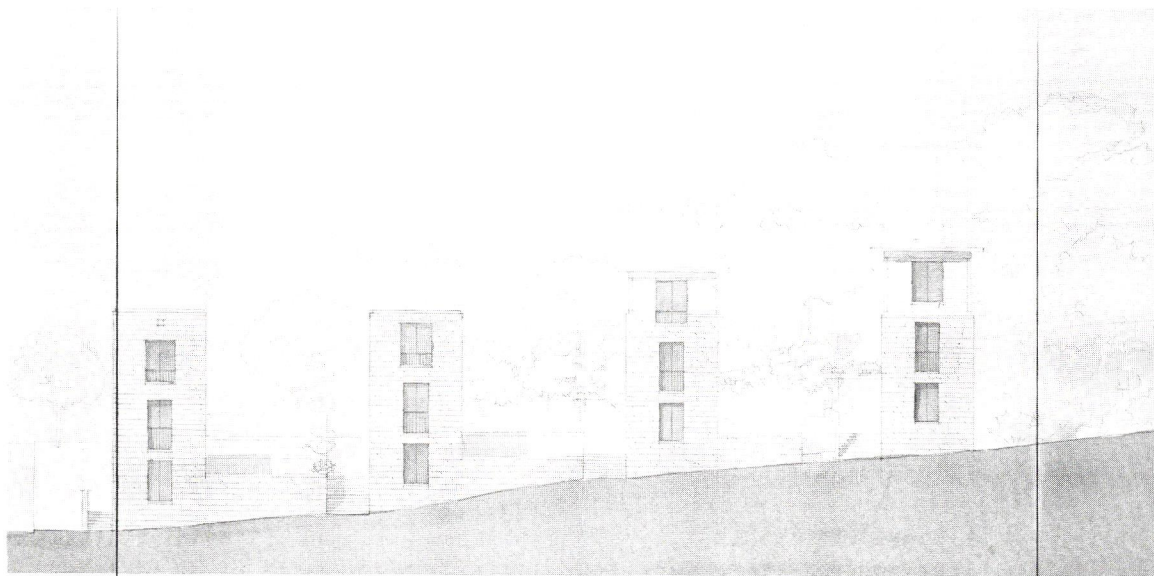
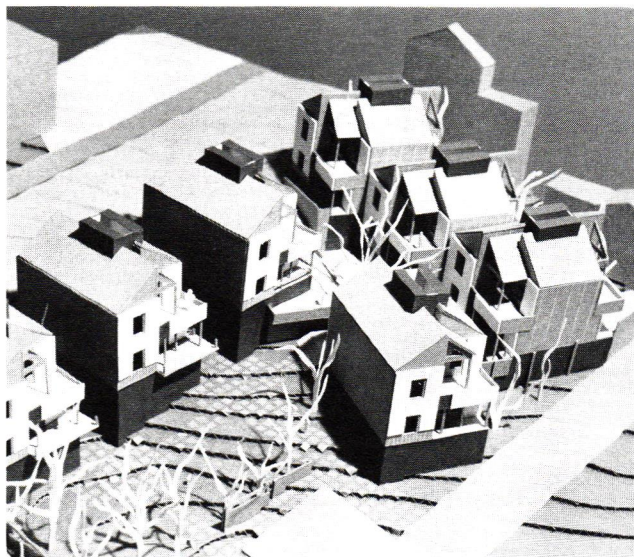
Our next meeting will be held Thursday, June 18 at 5 PM at Brenenborg Brown. All are welcome to attend. 

New Urban Housing winners

An empty lot in Garfield was the selected site for a national design competition sponsored by the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh.

Identical houses in the winning student entry, *right*, gain their identity from their relationship to the sloping hillside. Each unit features two private decks and ample storage in 1137 sq. ft. *Designed by Gregory Bradshaw and Kent Suhrbier (fifth-year students at Carnegie Mellon University).*

Affordability is a central feature of the winning proposal, *below*, which features a "common amenity zone" with a small plaza, orchard and a meandering walkway. Both styles of the three-story 14' x 30' units employ standard construction and modular design. *Designed by Peter Fillat, AIA and Randy Sovich, AIA (Studio Wanda, Baltimore).*



▲ breaking ground

▲ Kudos



Mary L. Heindl, editor of *Dynamic Business* magazine and former executive director of the Chapter, was selected the 1992 Small Business Administra-

tion's Media Advocate of the Year for Western PA. Heindl served as executive director from July, 1967 until December, 1974.

Congratulations to the following Chapter members who received Awards of Merit from the **Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation: Raymond L. Gindroz, AIA**, for remodeling and restoration of the highest qual-

ity of Calvary Episcopal Church; **Steven G. Hawkins, AIA**, for facade rehabilitation and morale-building in 20 projects under the URA's Streetface Program; and participants in the Architects-in-the-Schools program, including **Marsha Berger, AIA; Gary Carlough, AIA, N. John Cunzolo, AIA; Kenneth C. Evans, AIA; Stefani Ledewitz, AIA; Robert Dale Lynch, AIA; Cherie H. Moshier, AIA; Daniel Rothschild, AIA; Alan Tisdale, AIA** and **Charles H. Wellington, AIA**.

Two projects by **Apostolou Associates** were included in an exhibit of school architecture at the National School Board Association's 1992 convention in Orlando, held in April. The chosen projects (a \$3.3 million extensive renovation and addition to the Ben Franklin Elemen-

tary School and a \$6.4 million renovation and addition to the Independence Middle School, both in the Bethel Park School District) were jury selected by NSBA out of more than 100 submissions nationwide.

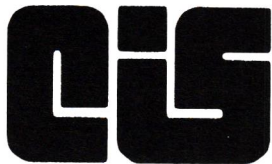
▲ From the Firms

Hayes Large Architects is designing a 125,000 sq. ft. facility incorporating an ambulatory surgery and physical therapy center for Centre Community Hospital and a sports medicine, office and conferencing center for Penn State University.

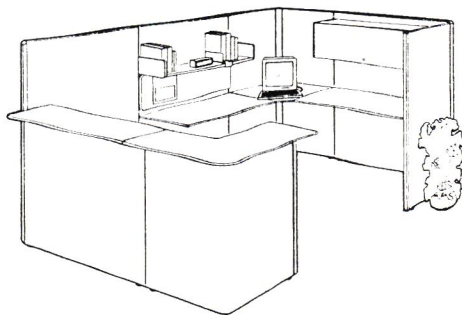
Williams Trebilcock Whitehead with Ellerbe Becket, Inc. is completing a series of projects at Shadyside Hospital in the West Wing Addition, including an operating suite and Inpatient Physical Therapy Department. The firm has also completed plans for relocating the Planning Department to the Family Health Center Building. And tenant fit out of the interior of the new Physicians Office Building is at 80% completion, with many tenants already moved in.

▲ Call for Entries

Designing housing for people with AIDS is a rapidly emerging issue in urban centers around the nation. In response to the crisis, Boston's Public Facilities Department and the Boston Society of Architects is sponsoring **Raising the Roof, Opening Doors**, a national competition for innovative design solutions and ideas to the critical daily challenges faced by people living with AIDS. The competition's architectural category has two facets: rehab of an existing structure and new construction of additional housing on an adjoining lot. The ideas category is open to inte-



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rior and urban design, furniture design, poetry, and photography, among other media. Entries will be juried and awarded at Boston Society of Architects' BUILD BOSTON convention in November. For more information, contact Tim Smith, Boston Public Facilities Dept., 617/635-0331.

The Chain Link Fence Manufacturers Institute welcomes entries in its **1992-93 Design Award competition**, given annually to an architect who designs the most innovative project using chain link fence materials. Nominations are open through November 1, 1992. Last year's winner was the rooftop recreation dome of the Bartholomew County Jail in Columbus, Indiana. For information or an application, contact Mark Levin, 202/659-3537.

▲ Here and There

"Valuable Markets of the 90's" was the topic of the first meeting of Pittsburgh's **Society for Marketing Professional Services**. Speakers from PennDOT, the State System of Higher

Education and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers discussed upcoming projects in Western PA. To purchase a video of the event or learn more about SMPS, call Bob DiGloia at 856-6400 or Mart Witouski at 231-1500. 

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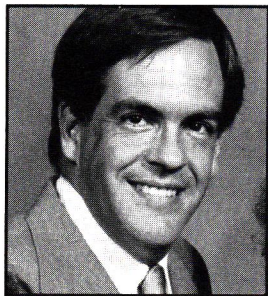


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Dossier: Steven G. Hawkins, AIA



"AIA is a vehicle for me to learn and to make a bigger difference in the community than I might solely through my practice."

Steven G. Hawkins, AIA

Steven G. Hawkins/Architect

Firm: Steven G. Hawkins/Architect

Family: wife Susan, and two daughters ages 3 and 7.

Years in practice: 19.

School/Education: CMU (B.Arch, '73)

First Job: Summers in construction and building architectural models, then with Tasso Katselas after college.

Project you're proudest of: A house of a single material (concrete) freshman year at CMU.

Building you wish you had designed: National Gallery of Art East Wing.

Building you'd like to tear down: Allegheny Center Mall (and rebuild the old neighborhood).

If you hadn't been an Architect, what would you have been? An artist or oceanographer.

If someone made a movie of your life, who would play you? Charles Martin Smith (as in *American Graffiti*).

If you could live anywhere in the world, where? Almost anywhere in Northern Italy or Switzerland.

What's the best part of your job? Having a client tell me their project exceeded their expectations.

What would you change about your job? Spend more time designing and drawing, and less time on the phone.

What have you always wanted to tell your (former) bosses: Thanks for the opportunity of learning with you.

What is the most annoying thing Architects do? Pretend to be God's gift to the construction industry.

Advice to young Architects: Travel abroad and do some construction work; travel will expand your world, and working in construction will teach you about the people who execute our designs.

The one thing you wish they'd teach in school is: That the profession is very different from school.

Favorite building: Fallingwater (among many others).

Favorite interior: Galleria in Milan.

Favorite city: Rome (among many others).

Favorite Architect: Louis Kahn.

Favorite Architecture book: *Streets for People* by Bernard Rudofsky.

Favorite Pittsburgh neighborhood: The next one I come across that I haven't yet explored.

Most architecturally-appealing restaurant in Pittsburgh: With two kids we don't eat out much, but The River Room at the Grand Concourse is our favorite.

Best gift to give an Architect: Roundtrip ticket and two weeks accommodations (for 2) in Paris.

Wish list for Downtown: restore and preserve our buildings and neighborhoods, and have people return to the city to live.

What's the next big architectural trend? Hopefully, design and planning at all scales that is for and about people and life, not aesthetic theory alone.

Someday I'd like to: Travel, draw, and paint to my heart's content.

I want to be remembered for: Creating meaningful exterior spaces with the buildings I design.

People would be surprised to know that: I was a volunteer fire fighter in Maryland.

The secret to my success is: Having a good relationship with almost everyone I work with.

I belong to the AIA because: It's a vehicle for me to learn and to make a bigger difference in the community than I might solely through my practice.

Architectural quote to practice by: "So start with this: Make a welcome of each door and a countenance of each window. Make of each place, a bunch of places of each house and each city, for a house is a tiny city, a city a huge house. Get closer to the shifting center of human reality and build its counterform." — Aldo van Eyck (Team 10 Primer).

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J U N E C A L E N D A R

■ AIA ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Communications Committee Meeting, 12:30 PM at the Chapter office. Doug Shuck, AIA, 321-0550.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Accessibility Seminar, offering information on ADA and Universal Accessibility (PA State) standards. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Sheraton Inn Warrendale. Co-sponsored by BOMA and PSA. \$75 for members, \$125 for non-members. Call 717/236-4055.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Exhibit Committee Meeting, 5 PM at the Chapter office. Karl Backus, AIA, 765-3890.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

IDP Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Chapter office. Rich Bamburak, AIA, 321-0550.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

Interiors Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM. Call for location: Charles DeLisio, AIA, 488-0307.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Legislative Committee Meeting, 4:30 PM at the Chapter office. Al Cuteri, AIA, 471-8008.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Urban Design Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Chapter office. Steven Hawkins, AIA, 521-9399.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

WIA Committee Meeting, organization for the upcoming photography competition. 5:30 PM at the Chapter office. Susan Tusick, AIA, 394-7069.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19-22

AIA National Convention, in Boston. For registration information, call 202/626-7395.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

June Chapter Meeting, tour of the Pittsburgh Zoo's Tropical House. *Details and RSVP on page 19.*

■ AROUND TOWN

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

Society of Architectural Administrators monthly luncheon meeting at the Engineer's Club. Cost is \$12.50. Call Perity Walecko, 429-1555.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

CSI Monthly Meeting, tour of the Airport's new Midfield Terminal. Begins at 3 PM. Cost is \$20, and reservations must be paid in advance. Call 823-5063 for reservation information.

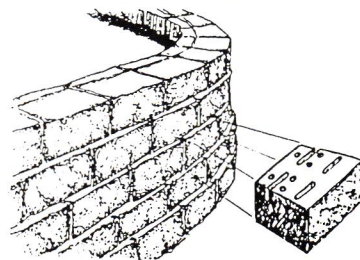
■ PLAN AHEAD

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

Entry deadline, WIA Photography Competition.

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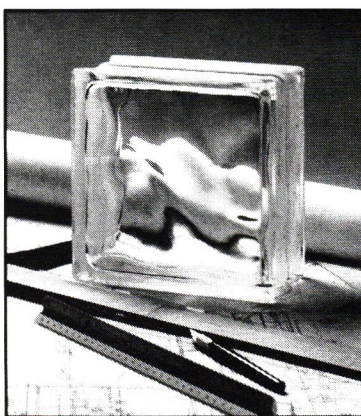
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October — Schools Issue

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Welcome to the Jungle

Tired of watching the animals in your office? Get out of the concrete jungle and head for the wilds of Highland Park, as the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA and the PA/DE Chapter of ASLA present a special family night at the Pittsburgh Zoo on Tuesday, June 23.

The design of the Zoo's Tropical House was not a typical architectural project. Any building that includes bamboo trees made from steel pipe, rocks made from concrete, and so many consultants that they don't all fit into a large conference room has to be a unique project with many fascinating stories.

Join Dr. Barbara Baker, Director of the Pittsburgh Zoo, Jim Morgan of Morgan Associates, and Bill Mullin of GWSM, Inc. as they describe the design process behind this very unusual project. After the presentation, tour the facility with Gary Cirrincione, Jim Pashek, Carol Horovitz, President of Plantscape, and others who helped to put it all together.

The presentation and tour will be followed by a delicious barbecue dinner (with beer and wine) in the main plaza in front of the Tropical House. In case of rain, the dinner will be held in the restaurant adjacent to the plaza.

Come and see the exotic wonders of one of the most delicate, diverse and threatened biospheres on the planet (tropical rainforests are home to more than 50% of all known species of plants and animals in the world, yet occupy only 7% of the Earth's landmass). Guests (especially younger ones) are welcome to attend. So, join us for a fun-filled, educational evening on Tuesday, June 23. See you at the Zoo! 🏠

AIA Award Winner to Speak in July

In July, the Chapter welcomes **James Stewart Polshek, AIA**, of the New York firm James Stewart Polshek and Partners, winner of the 1992 AIA Firm Award. Polshek will speak on Thursday, July 23 at Rosebud in the Strip District. The event is sponsored by Duquesne Light. Look for more details in next month's COLUMNS! 🏠

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An Evening at the Pittsburgh Zoo

Tuesday, June 23

Meet in front of the Tropical House

Guest speakers:

Dr. Barbara Baker, Director, Pittsburgh Zoo

Jim Morgan, Morgan Associates

Bill Mullin, ASLA, GWSM, Inc.

6:30 PM Speakers & Tour of Tropical House

Barbecue dinner follows

Parking available in the commissary parking lot
(off Lake Road)

AIA and ASLA Members: \$15

Guests: \$20

RSVP by Friday, June 19



RSVP

Pittsburgh Zoo

Tropical House

Tuesday, June 23

name _____

firm _____

address _____

city/state/zip _____

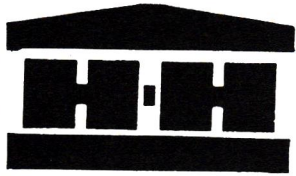
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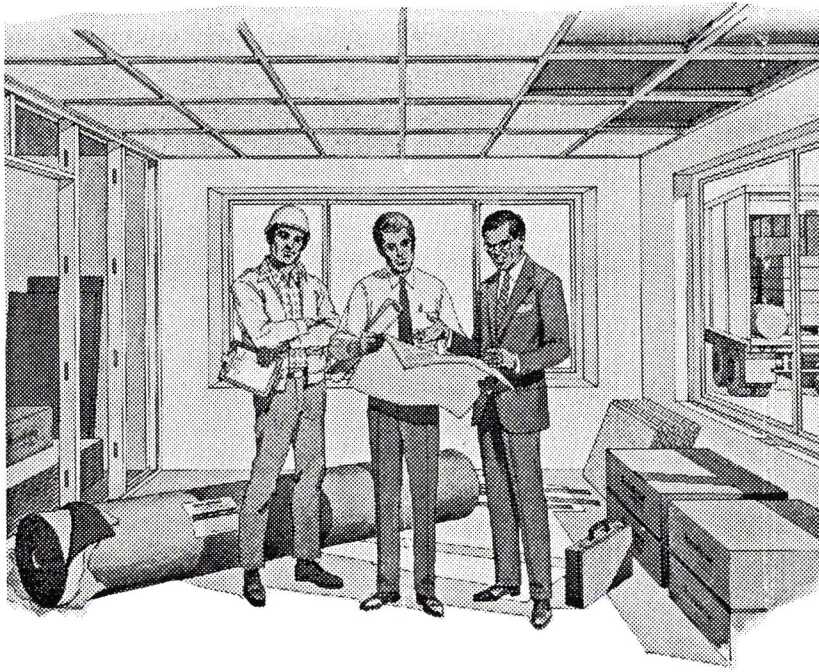
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*Cancelled -
see insert in this
issue!*



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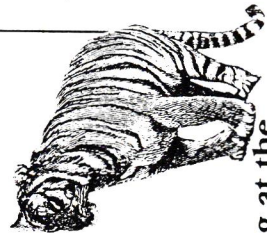
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