

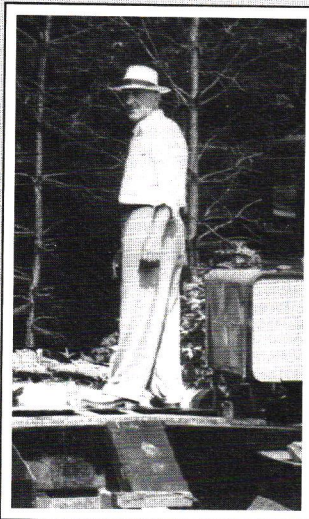
COLUMNS





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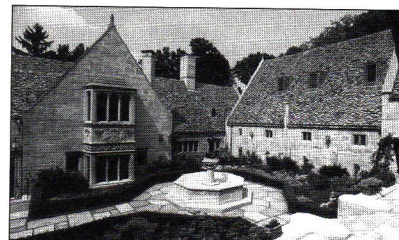
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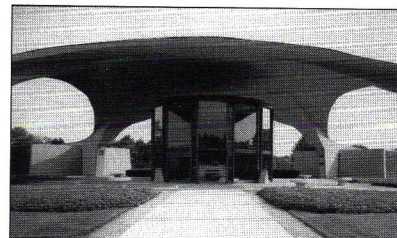
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Involvement Encouraged for Visionaries

by Douglas Shuck, AIA, President

1993 presents some unique challenges

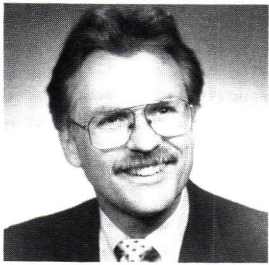
for architects. We can increase our effectiveness in local government, increase the perceived value of the profession, and facilitate AIA member involvement in outreach projects. These are three of the six goals identified by our organization's 1993 long-range plan.

This year, we have the opportunity to elect a new mayor for the City of Pittsburgh. As professionals, we need to establish an ongoing dialogue with local officials, lobby for qualifications-based selection for government projects, and achieve architectural representation on selected committees and planning groups. All of the above can be initiated by becoming involved in the primary race and supporting the candidate of your choice.

The next mayor should be a person with vision that will lead us into the next decade and have a dynamic influence on the city. Our new mayor should be encouraged to espouse the following programs:

- New housing similar to the Crawford Square project.
- Infrastructure improvements, similar to the Wabash Bridge project.
- Mass transportation improvements.
- Public safety improvements.
- Waterfront development for public use.
- Tax incentives for job creation and economic development within specified zones.
- Contaminated industrial site clean up.
- Programs to attract new businesses, corporations and industries to invest within the city.

Recent editorials in the *Post-Gazette* have identified architects as "visionaries and problem solvers," promoting a positive perception of our role in the city. We, as architects, have an urban agenda for Pittsburgh and have established ourselves in a leadership position interested in growth and development, and I encourage all of you to maintain that momentum and become involved.



We, as architects, have an urban agenda for Pittsburgh and have established ourselves in a leadership position.

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On the cover:

Gardner & Pope's ski vacation residence unites the old and new while providing necessary space for family and guests.
Photo by Ed Massery.

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.

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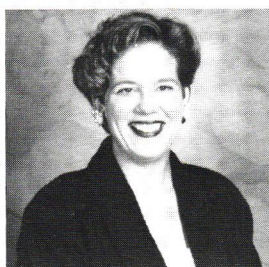
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Integrity & the Bon Bon Eaters

Anne Swager, Executive Director

In my brief attempt at full-time motherhood,

I did not find a strong support group in other at-home moms. The moms I knew often affirmed their own worth through their children's accomplishments. They took it so seriously, you would have thought there was a direct correlation between when children walk and/or potty train and their future earning power. Betsy is perfect proof that you can succeed in academics even though she showed no interest as a baby in standing up much less walking. Potty



When you throw your integrity out the door, the perception of you as the leader of the construction and design team goes out the door with it.

training was a huge joke. We wore out sets of training pants. I carried them with me constantly, even through her kindergarten year, still not sure if she really had the idea down pat. It's hard to imagine this child, who is now enrolled in every ninth grade honors class possible, couldn't decipher any bodily functions other than eating and sucking her thumb. Of course, we're not over the hump yet. She may never be gainfully employed much less keep me in a style to which I would like to grow accustomed. Because, despite her academic acumen, she leaves the house most days looking like somebody else's child. She wears ripped jeans, wrinkled flannel shirts, and her father's snow boots, which make you think that if her height catches up to her foot size she'll be ten feet tall. At least now, I'm over thinking I'm a lousy mom just because my kid likes to emulate a homeless person in her mode of dress. I just blame it on the gene side of the equation and figure the environment side is doing the best it can.

Even though Mothers' Day is the busiest day for most restaurants and the best holiday for card stores, good jobs by moms are mostly only appreciated by their families. Questions to full-time moms like *Do you work?* confirm how little value society puts on the job of full-time motherhood. Take Marge Simpson and Al Bundy's wife as perfect examples of full-time moms portrayed in less than flattering

terms. Supporting each other's efforts, instead of blaming the mom each time the kid goof, would be a good start in changing the public perception of moms as big time bon bon eaters with little of importance to do.

Our decision to reprint an interview from AIA Philadelphia's newsletter with DGS's David Jannetta was partly in response to the many phone calls and comments directed to both myself and Lela Shultz from PSA when the recent D.G.S. awards were announced. I can only hope that many of the comments we heard you make about each other were not repeated elsewhere. I never knew so many of you were "friends of the Governor's, a big contributor to the Democratic party, were owed by the Governor" while at the same time being "inept, unscrupulous, and with no more design ability than a frog." This isn't even the half of what I heard and most I would never repeat even with my sailor mouth. While work (especially with a good client who is willing to pay you what the work is worth) is undeniably difficult to come by, panning each other's abilities, business practices, and/or political affiliations is not going to gain you any more of these prize, or not so prize, clients. Instead, it threatens to have the word lawyer replaced with architect in my favorite genre of jokes. Phil Schreiner said it much better than I when he said...*an important element of measuring integrity [is] the treatment people accord those who cannot benefit them, or who can't fight back.* When you throw your integrity out the door, the perception of you as the leader of the construction and design team goes out the door with it. You cannot even be perceived as a much needed team player if all that is heard from you is carping about others of your profession.

The selection system for most public agencies needs to be changed but sniping at and about each other will hardly impress those with the power to affect needed changes. Worse yet, you denigrate the very value of what you do by insisting that others in the same profession can not do it too.

To be treated with integrity, you have to have it yourself. If you would rather eat bon bons all day, then talk loudly and unflatteringly about each other. If you don't respect what the profession can do, neither will anyone else. This will surely be reflected in the fee structure.

County Selection Process Defined

The following letter was written by Herbert C. Higginbotham, II, Director of Engineering and Construction for Allegheny County to George Tkach, Assistant Director, Department of Administration Allegheny County, in May 1991.

In response to your conversation and note to me, which contained as an attachment a letter from Mr. Al Cuteri from the American Institute of Architects, Pittsburgh Chapter, the following response may be transmitted to them for their information.

At times, shortlisting may be accomplished by using qualifications of firms on file with the department.

Once a project is identified and funded, the Department of Engineering and Construction reviews the project in detail with the County Department requesting the project. This results in a project profile which describes the project in detail, the scope of work and methodology for completing the project. This is our attempt to ensure there is no misunderstanding between our department and the client department as to what is necessary and required for the project. A determination is made whether to use the county's selection procedure to select a consultant, or to select a consultant because of the specialized nature of a project or past experience of a specific consultant with a facility and its systems. If this is not the case, a formal selection process is followed.

The first step in the consultant selection process is to advertise for letters of interest and qualifications from consultant firms interested in performing services for a specific project or group of projects. Once this is received, a county committee is formed to evaluate and shortlist to (usually) three firms. It is not reasonable to request all firms to submit a proposal for two reasons. First, a properly prepared proposal requires much time and effort on the part of the consulting firm. This translates into dollars and the degree of effort put into proposal preparation is generally proportional to the amount of firms in competition. Second, it is extremely difficult to review and compare a great number of proposals in a fair manner. The review committee consists of members from the Department of Engi-

neering and Construction, Planning and the requesting department or agency.

Once shortlisting is completed, proposals are sent to the firms shortlisted. After a pre-proposal meeting, formal proposals (with fee in a separate sealed envelope) are received, reviewed and rated by the same committee which reviewed the letters of interest and qualifications. Actual submittals of price proposals are only reviewed for the highest rated consultant. Once rated number one for the project, negotiations are entered into with this firm. Assuming negotiations are successful, we request permission from the Board of County Commissioners to enter into an agreement. In reviewing price, we evaluate hours expended per classification of personnel and project task. We review the actual rates of the personnel involved, permit mark up by an audited overhead factor and an acceptable profit margin based on the project and type of payment. If for any reason negotiations are not successful for the highest rated firm, negotiations are initiated with the firm second-rated.

At times, shortlisting may be accomplished by using qualifications of firms on file with the department. In other instances such as mentioned above, the firm is selected because of prior experience with the facility and its systems.

This is a brief overview of the process. If you have any questions concerning it, do not hesitate to contact me. Upon your transmission of this to Mr. Cuteri, he may feel free to contact me directly for additional discussion.

Letter-to-the-Editor

On February 9th the *Post-Gazette* wrote a lead editorial focusing on the positive contributions the American Institute of Architects has made in establishing a dialogue and co-sponsoring a charette for the development of opportunities surrounding the new Wabash Bridge. Due to their education and practical experience, architects are problem solvers and visionaries for our clients and our communities.

AIA Pittsburgh has a membership base of over 500 and those members reside in the counties of Southwestern Pennsylvania. We encourage our members to be involved in their local planning and zoning commissions and we further encourage our communities to call upon the resources and talents of architects to provide the problem solving and visionary direction that has been exhibited in the Wabash Bridge effort.

It's one issue to have planning, zoning and development opportunities which confront our communities, but it is an oversight not to call on individuals, such as architects, who have the insight and creativity to assist in solving those issues.

Douglas L. Shuck, AIA
President, AIA Pittsburgh; WTW Architects

DGS *Speaks...*

About the Selection Process

Interview by Harris Steinberg, AIA

In October of 1992, the Pennsylvania Department of General Services (DGS) put out a call for about half a billion dollars worth of work on 59 state projects—not a paltry sum considering the current economic malaise. The proposed projects range in size from a \$100,000 fire and security system for the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania to a \$52.5 million rehabilitation of a recreation and convocation center at Temple University.

Having considered, in less than a month, 2,205 proposals from 300 firms, the DGS announced January 14th that 59 firms would receive the work.

DGS secretary David L. Jannetta had primary responsibility for making selections. With his press secretary Rose Wuenschel on the line, Jannetta shared a few of his thoughts in a recent phone interview.

The Philadelphia Architect: The task of choosing firms must have been daunting.

David Jannetta: It was, singularly, in my five years here, the most difficult chore to coordinate and then make the final selection because of the sheer size. And obviously, [considering] the competitiveness of it, my intent was to spread it out as best I could, in the same vein we've been doing it during the past five years. Now that it's over I feel better, but it was a tough couple of weeks, to say the least.

TPA: Is there any reason why so many jobs went out at once?

DJ: The governor, back in the fall when he announced Operation Jump Start for the universities, couched it in terms of a major effort to satisfy some of the capital needs of the higher education facilities in the state, but equally important as an effort to continue to fast track all of our capital building projects to get people to work—both in the architectural and engineering community, and obviously, in the construction industry. This is our third year of doing this and it's been a fabulous success. We're building all over the state with a portfolio of over \$1 bil-

lion in projects underway. Every one of them is coming in under allocation when we're bidding them because we're just about the only game in town right now in terms of capital construction. We saw it coming years ago when instead of getting 10 or 12 firms submitting for a project, all of sudden we were getting 30 or 40 firms submitting—big firms submitting for small projects. We were scratching our heads at first, but after a few months, the recession hit and we saw it coming because the private sector began putting everything on hold. So the design community didn't have a lot of work out there but ours.

TPA: Is there more work coming?

DJ: That's clearly the intent. This is a monumental effort and we have to pay for it, too. So the governor has the dilemma of balancing the desire to get these projects moving to get people working with the fact that we have to pay for it also. For the short-term, there won't be any more major announcements for capital projects. We have

Our selection criteria are geography, equal distribution of work, capability, manpower and "other."

everything we've had on the shelf in the bid market now. We've just accelerated everything for the past two years. Which is really remarkable. Most of the work is in the higher education community. For the first time, in any major way, the universities sat down with us and agreed to do some private fund-raising to match some of these state dollars. And that was really the key to making this package as significant as it is.

TPA: How are the selections actually made?

DJ: Basically, there's an act from 1975, called Act 45, which governs the process. There's a five-member committee appointed by the governor. They serve two year terms and rotate and change people over a course of

time. Bill Wilson, who chairs the committee, is probably the senior person. We advertise, and submittals are made on our forms 150 and 150S. The committee reviews the submittals and meets in public session and takes a public vote. They come up with a list of three firms, which they provide to me. My criteria are geography—and I'll just talk about them as I go over them—obviously I'm not going to pick a Pittsburgh firm to design a project that's going to be built in Philadelphia. Second, equal distribution of work. That's probably the one category that, singularly, is where I'll make a decision. All that means is that I get a computer printout of firms on the short list and it shows what work they're doing and have done for the commonwealth—and we go back about 10 years—and generally that's the factor that wins it or loses it for somebody. If I just gave them a project at the last meeting, it's doubtful that they're going to get another project if they're on a list with other firms who don't have a current project. That's the most important of all.

The third and fourth factors, capability and man power, are important, but generally—particularly when you see the number of firms involved—if the selection committee goes through their process and picks three firms out of 90 or 30 or whatever, I feel pretty confident that any one of the three firms is capable of doing the work, and probably has sufficient manpower. The only time I look at manpower is if it's a very technical or specialized project, like a lab building where I'm looking for specific mechanical work that might be crucial and one firm might have more specialists in that area over another area. The fifth factor is "other"—the proverbial miscellaneous. I use that one almost exclusively to add or detract, or generally to add points to the project team. If there are women or minority firms as key consultants, that sort of thing.

TPA: We just had a seminar here with the GSA, and supplemental points is what they call it.

DJ: That's interesting you say that. When I get the three firms on the short list, in my mind I consider them equal. Although I get them one, two and three based on the vote of the selections committee, I generally consider them equal. When I go through and rank them and give them points using my own system—for geography, equal dis-

tribution, capability, manpower and other—then if I get a tie I'll go to the selection committee ranking and the points they assign to them and I use that as my tie breaker.

TPA: Is the point system on the basis on 100 points?

DJ: No. It's not spelled out in the legislation. So basically I give one, two, or three points for each of the five categories, so the maximum number of points anyone can get is 15. I'll assign them three points for geography if they're real close, (If they're far away it might be one or two points) and literally just add them up and the highest points wins.

TPA: In terms of the ranking, you get it one, two, three, but you don't necessarily pick them that way. You do your own ranking.

DJ: Exactly. My gut reaction tells me that about 75% of the time I pick the firm that was ranked first by the selections committee, and of the 25% that I didn't, my guess is that 20% of those selected were because of the equal distribution of work.

TPA: We just had a seminar here from the GSA. Does DGS have anything similar?

DJ: We kind of go wherever we're invited. We haven't done any seminars in the design area, but certainly if you'd want us to come down and do something like that we'd be happy to do it. From day one when I started here the Governor's emphasis was to spread the work around, make sure that we make it equitable, and that we don't overload one firm at the expense of others, and to encourage minority business firms to participate in these things. It's pretty remarkable the success we've had in distributing the work over time over a large number of firms. There were 59 projects that were on the table in this portfolio. I selected 14 firms as prime contractors, nine of them were minority firms. Additionally, there were 10 other jobs. That's really significant, considering that six years ago there was nothing.

TPA: On what basis are selectors selected?

DJ: We try to balance the board by profession and by

geography. I think right now we have three architects and two engineers.

Rose Wuenschel: Well, actually, do we have someone who is a professor. And actually, those professionals, for instance, Bill Wilson—his firm cannot apply for any state jobs during his tenure or one year after.

DJ: There weren't a lot of people we could turn to because of that restriction. Again, over six years there hasn't been a single controversy, even a hint of impropriety along that line, and I think that speaks volumes to the way the process has been professionalized over time.

TPA: I want to ask you about Senate Bill 770, the equivalent in Pennsylvania to the Brooks Act. (Ed: Which sets negotiation fees.)

DJ: That's obviously an annual discussion here, and I know we've had all sorts of meetings with the professional community. Generally, that's where I put my pro-

It's to your benefit not to have done work for the state, because we're using an equal distribution factor in awarding these jobs.

tector of the tax payers' dollar hat on, I guess. I certainly recognize and understand all the arguments for negotiating fees. My two reactions to the legislation every time I'm asked my opinion is, number one, it's obviously going to drive our costs up. But more importantly, number two, is that the way the legislation has been written every time we've seen it talks about negotiating fees in terms of the various departments, and we just don't have the technical expertise out there to do that, and that's a major concern. We don't have the expertise to sit down on all the projects, particularly when you're talking the volume we're talking, and what I think would be professionally negotiated fees. The other point is if our formula was that

distorted and out of whack in terms of the private section then I don't think I'd have 2,205 firms vying for 59 projects. So I balance it that way, too. Now, again, people complain all the time "All of us don't make enough money," or get a fee that they think is high enough. But I've got to balance it. If the formula is conservative we're not spending money that's money that we put right back into these projects. And it can't be too far out of whack if all these firms are that anxious to work for us.

TPA: Is the fee structure actually less than it was in 1986?

DJ: I wouldn't think so. There's a formula that we use and it's...

RW: ...based on the construction bid, based on the overall construction cost.

DJ: But there are a lot of other factors involved. The complexity of the job is factored in, a renovation gets a 2% addition to the fee. I can't give you the details.

TPA: Is DGS going to be able to handle all these jobs going out at once?

DJ: That's a great question. We were successful in getting legislation this past year for the state related schools—Penn State, Temple, Pitt and Lincoln—that would allow me to delegate projects to the universities themselves. And what I'm doing now is to get the design professionals selected. My next step is to sit down and see which projects they might be interested in doing themselves.

TPA: How can a small firm with little or no experience get in the loop?

DJ: Apply, apply, apply. It's to your benefit not to have done work for the state, because we're using an equal distribution factor in awarding these jobs. In other words, if you get on the short list and you've never done any projects for the state, it's to your advantage. You're the one who's going to get selected. I can distinctly remember the first time, it was about 18 months ago, that I got

(continued on page 14)

Home Is Where The

by Michelle Fanzo

Columns takes a peek at what's been going on behind, and outside, closed doors with members' residential projects.

Marsha Berger, AIA

Marsha Berger, Architect

Gateway Towers, Apt. 17K and 26K

Apartment 17K was renovated as both home and office, with the visually appealing dining room also used as a highly functional conference room. The reflective wall in the eating/meeting area creates a sense of roominess and becomes a window from the bedroom into the rest of the living space. Reflective surfaces in the kitchen offer simple maintenance and a sense of cleanliness with a modern edge, while the visibility of kitchenware and personal items provides a homey, individual touch.

A comfortable, easy-care apartment was the criteria for the renovation of apartment 26K. The living area focuses on seating in a relaxed, interactive atmosphere, a feeling which is carried throughout the project.

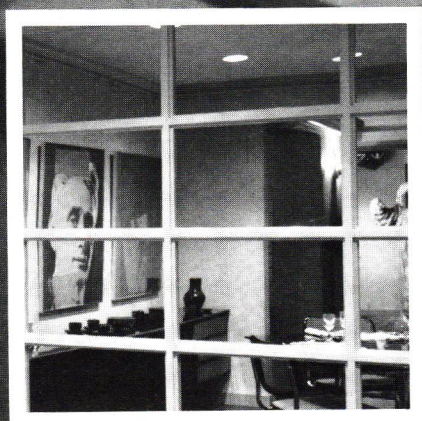
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Marsha Berger: 1,2,3) Apartment 17K; 4) Apartment 26K.

Donald Montgomery: 5,6) Trillium; 7) Fox Chapel Residence

2

3



Art Is...

Donald Montgomery, AIA

Montgomery & Rust, Inc.

Fox Chapel Residence and Trillium

The eclectic tastes of one Fox Chapel client enabled the architect to design and construct a home combining disparate elements—classical columns, a 1920's style study, cathedral ceilings—with natural light, hardwood and marble to tie the various spaces together. Montgomery's extensive knowledge of architectural artifacts was employed to assist the client in purchasing key furnishings.

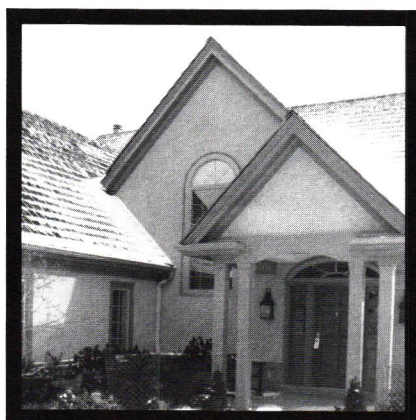
Montgomery's work on Trillium, a high-density development with the feel of private, family living, again highlights his interest in reusing elements like french doors, mantels, stained glass and newel posts. The architect designed 12 of the Fox Chapel residences as well as the gatehouse. The development is arranged in three "pods" and boasts the designs of five area architects among its 32 units, including Montgomery, KSBH, Doug Berryman & Associates (the majority of the work was done by these three firms), Joe Gasparella, AIA, and Clarence Klaus, AIA.



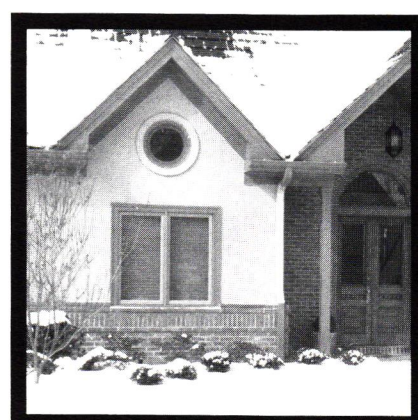
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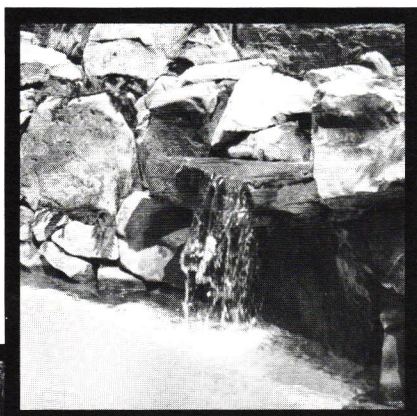
**Joël C. LeGall, AIA Professional
Affiliate, ASLA**

Joël C. LeGall Landscape Consultant

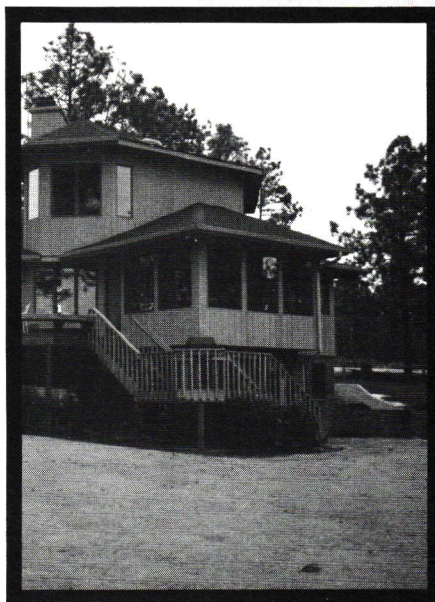
Indiana, PA Landscaping Project

Six thousand square feet of patio surround the eye-catching 50 x 40 foot pool at this panoramic Indiana, PA residence. Stone masons from Ligonier sculpted 35 tons of the region's boulders into the landscape of well-placed plants and shrubbery. It took over a year for LeGall to layout the pool, patio and grounds for this expansive project. The rocks surrounding the pool are sitting on a ledge just beneath the water, with other ledges for sitting also provided. The waterfall, which can run 100 gallons of recycled water a minute, is using 10 gallons a minute in the photograph below.

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Joël LeGall: 8,9) Indiana Project;

Claire Bassett: 10) The Gaffney Project;

Gary Gardner: 11,12,13) Hidden Valley Residence

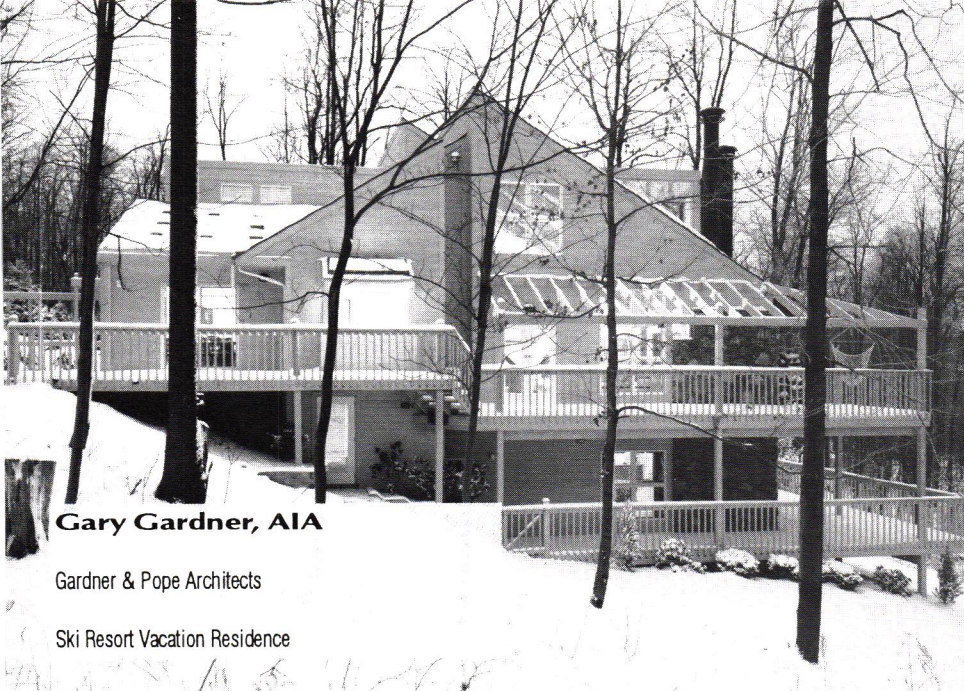
Claire M. Bassett, AIA

Architectural Services

The Gaffney Project

The Gaffney residence was designed for a two acre lakefront site in North Carolina. The client's request that all rooms have a view of the lake and accept the prevailing breeze, generated an original structure where no corners are square. The angle faced south so the stepped-back design accomplished the client's wishes and the site contours obliged.

The fan-shaped roof configuration flows with the different levels and design concept. The stairs are a main feature of the residence, swinging around a large post (mast) supporting vaulted and cathedral ceilings. The roof section over the master bedroom suite (the only rooms on the second level) spreads to adapt to the plan. The exterior finish is cedar siding and soft brick with brick corners constructed at overlapping angles.



Gary Gardner, AIA

Gardner & Pope Architects

Ski Resort Vacation Residence

to Ed Massery

▲ 11

▼ 12, 13

The site for the house was chosen due to its proximity to a ski lift and surrounding countryside. Two new means of entry are provided: one for visitors arriving by car and the other for skiers coming directly from the slopes. The feel of the existing structure was maintained while the addition provides rooms for the family as well as guest spaces. The living room, dining room and kitchen areas were created by combining the existing house space and adding high ceilings with windows and trellised decks to experience the best views. The windows and skylights link the house with the surrounding homes and ski slopes, creating a relaxing environment.

The entire structure was clad in cedar siding, including the existing structure. The interior walls were trimmed with cedar siding wainscot, with a cherry top rail and base to add warmth and richness. The finishes chosen for the space organize and unite the old and new while creating a feeling of warmth and richness to contrast with the snowy slopes.



photos: Lochwood Hoehl

Homes in Transition

Years of work in residential design have developed one architect's thoughts on trends and changes in his field.

"Architecture has been cheated,"

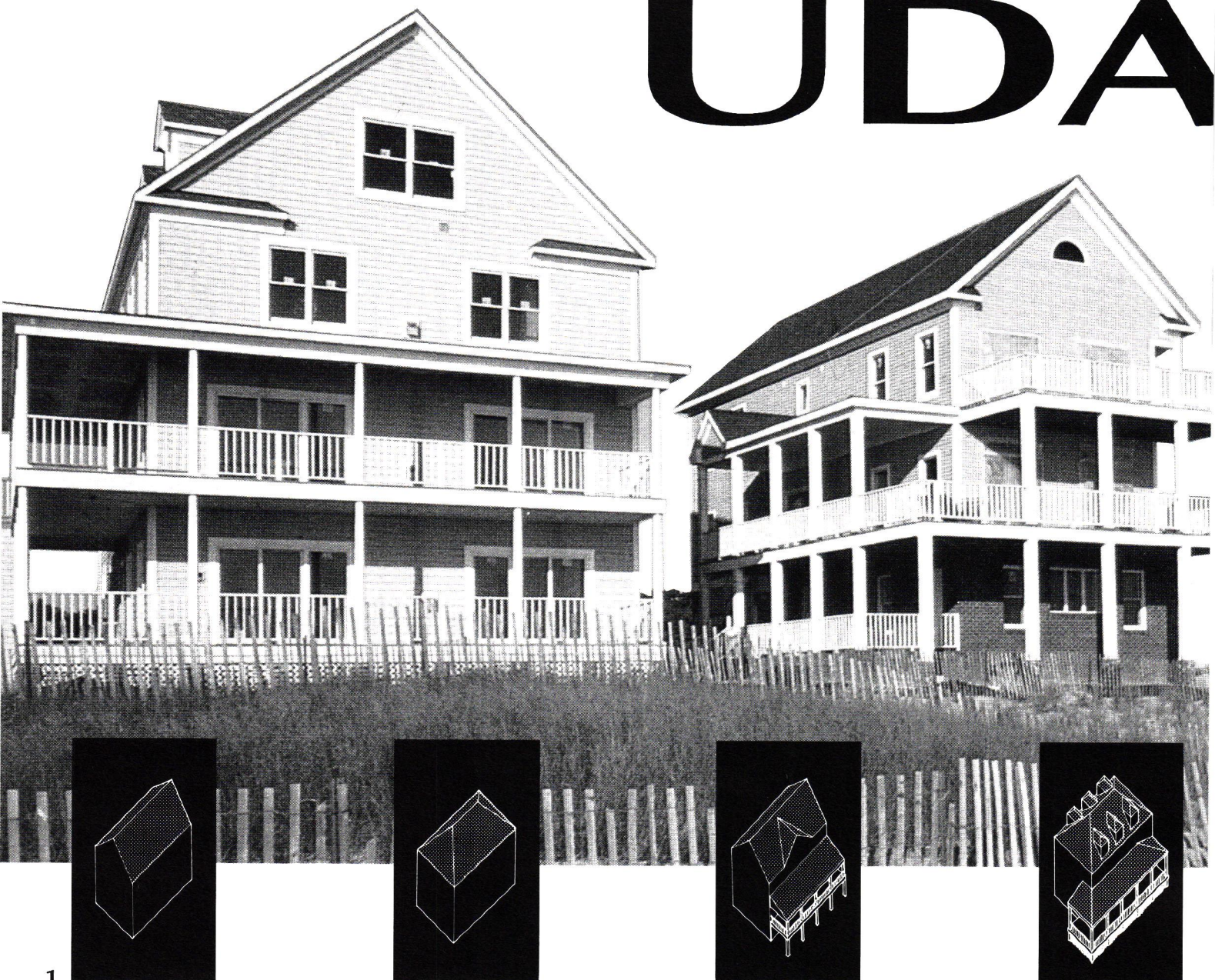
says Don Montgomery, AIA—concerned the design integrity of a home has been overshadowed by trends emphasizing the size of the space and what goes inside it. "A room should stand alone before one stick of furniture is in place." He worries architecture and design magazines do a disservice to the industry, prompting the public to lose sight of what architecture should be. "The influence of big peddlers lead people to believe manufactured material are what residential design is all about—tiles, tubs, windows—when the basic tenet is creating a well-crafted personal space." Montgomery's extensive knowledge of the period, style and material of unique architectural elements enables him to offer clients key pieces or an entire architectural package to give a new house an older or charming aura. "I like to mold personality into a house rather than just create a traditional space. It puts the fun back into architecture."



Montgomery has seen a significant move away from architectural details in homes in the last 30 years, with more clients interested in the size of a room than how well it functions. He feels part of the decreased emphasis on residential detailing comes from a more transient society. He finds clients are more willing to put thousands of dollars into furnishings or artwork they can take with them, than architectural detailing they cannot. "However, my customers are getting more and more educated about design and I am able to sell them smaller spaces with well chosen historical architectural pieces—it changes the space to be more comfortable and individualistic." ■



UDA



1

An architecture firm saying it wants to revitalize America's cities is like an eight year old saying she wants to be president—people smile, wish her luck and shake their heads at the brash ambition, or is it naïveté? Yet, an impressive track record has replaced such doubters with clients for UDA Architects, who has been achieving its goal of putting the spirit back into decaying urban settings for 29 years.

The firm's success can be traced back to the community-oriented architectural philosophy of founder David Lewis, FAIA, AICP, RIBA. UDA aspired to design buildings and environments that responded specifically and sensitively to site, program, client and community at a time when buildings had little relationship to their surroundings. Context is as important as content.

UDA, a firm with 26 members, organizes itself as a studio, managing projects with teams that work closely with clients, agencies and citizens. "This is a non-hierarchical firm," says UDA principal Don Carter, AIA, AICP. "We do project reviews with everyone on the project, the partners and senior associates. The more voices, minds, eyes the better." This ap-

proach has won UDA many repeat clients and referrals, enabling them to weather the construction dry season. While 95 percent of its work is in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia, the firm has won international recognition for its work, and has completed projects as far away as Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the former Czechoslovakia.

Though UDA shuns the idea of having its own style—feeling each project is uniquely shaped by the circumstances of its necessity—the firm is well-recognized for its fortuitous stance that the urban landscape not be abandoned for the suburban playground.

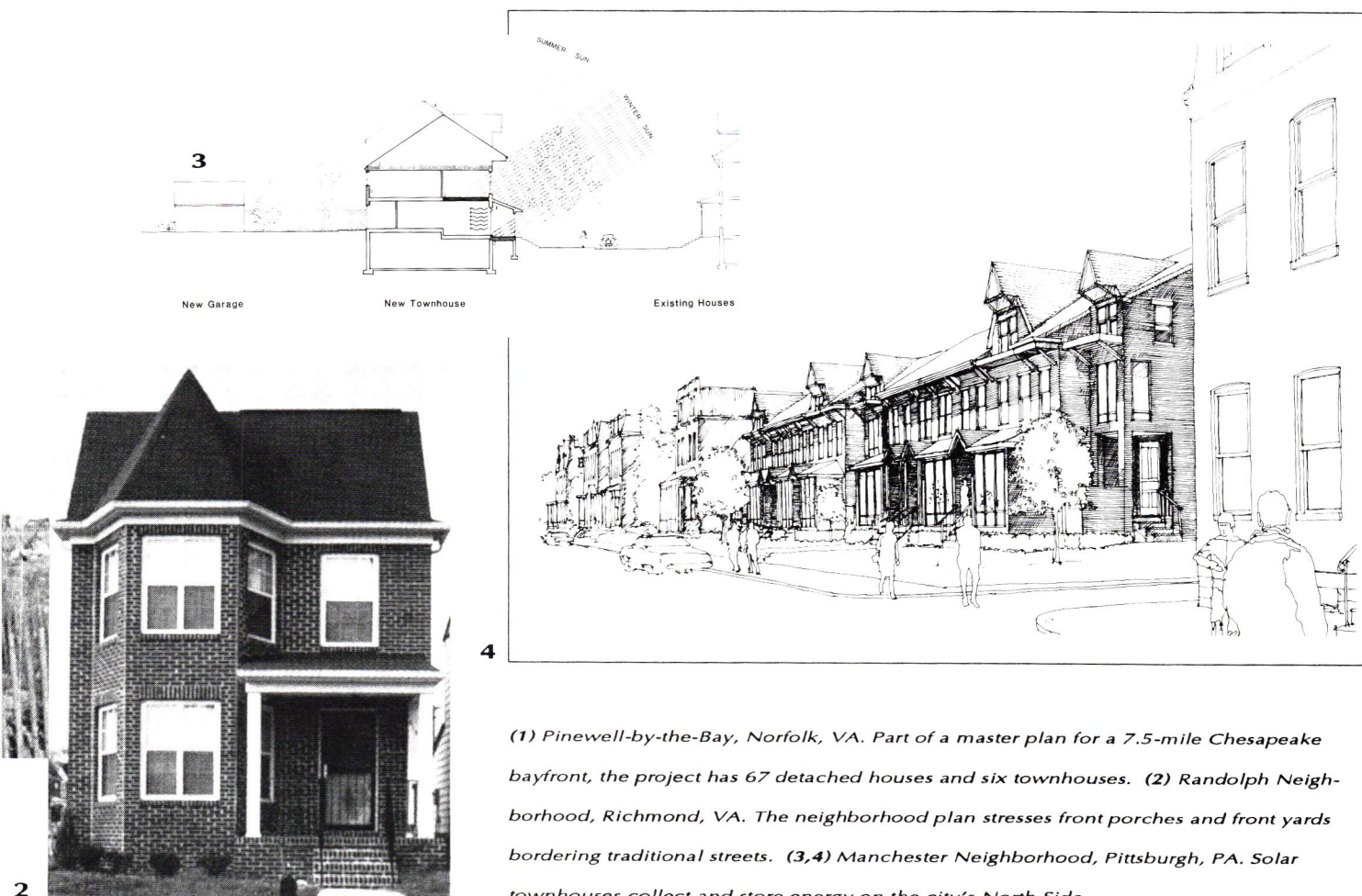
To date, UDA has completed over 900 projects, with an average of 30 in progress at any one time. Among others, the firm has worked on plans for waterfronts, airports, coastal communities, suburban, urban and historic districts, universities, parks and highways. UDA has mastered the plans behind downtown Norfolk, Virginia, Yale Science Park in New Haven, Connecticut,

**The UDA
architects :
the quality**

ARCHITECTS

putting it all in context

by Michelle Fanzo



(1) Pinewell-by-the-Bay, Norfolk, VA. Part of a master plan for a 7.5-mile Chesapeake bayfront, the project has 67 detached houses and six townhouses. (2) Randolph Neighborhood, Richmond, VA. The neighborhood plan stresses front porches and front yards bordering traditional streets. (3,4) Manchester Neighborhood, Pittsburgh, PA. Solar townhouses collect and store energy on the city's North Side.

Church Square in Cleveland, Ohio, and Randolph Neighborhood in Richmond, Virginia. Locally, it has developed the award-winning Crawford Square, the restoration of courtroom No. 3 in the Allegheny Courthouse, North Shore Center, the Pittsburgh Technology Center, Liberty Center, the Frick Museum Estate, the Manchester Solar Townhouses, the financial district on Fourth Avenue (known as Pittsburgh's Wall Street), Metropoli Industrial Dancing, the impact study for Pittsburgh International Airport, and is currently serving as the associate firm for the Andy Warhol Museum and in a joint venture with a Boston firm for Carnegie Mellon's University Center.

sophy refers to
custodians of
e of the future.

Because UDA sees its role as part of a continuum—not only fitting its design into a logical context of what came before, but also influencing that which comes after—the participation of people affected by their work is paramount.

Workshops and public forums involving citizens and site users have been a key element to UDA's ability to achieve a design absolutely right for the building's place and purpose. "We

celebrate participation in the broadest sense of the term. We are committed to soliciting the hopes and dreams of our clients," says Carter about the firm that pioneered citizen participation in urban design and architecture and whose literature refers to architects "as the custodians of the quality of life of the future."

On the way to achieving this goal, UDA has been recognized repeatedly for its urban design excellence. The firm has received 40 awards (most recently for Crawford Square and Randolph Neighborhood) and numerous accolades and honors bestowed on its principals Raymond Gindroz, AIA, APA, James Goldman, AIA, Carter and Lewis—whose efforts brought Prince Charles to Pittsburgh for the Remaking Cities Conference in 1988.

Though proud of UDA's accomplishments, Carter is quick to praise other area firms. He says he has seen the quality of design in Pittsburgh improve every year and feels the metropolis is an unrecognized design center. "The talent here is overlooked." ■

DGS Speaks

(continued from page 7)

my first short list of firms that had not done state work before. And I felt I had succeeded. The day I saw that I thought, well, we're getting our point across.

TPA: So, is name recognition a factor at all?

DJ: I don't think so. Certainly not to me. After years of doing this there aren't many firms around I've never heard of. One issue I hear about often is the issue of in-state versus out-of-state. Generally, the emphasis by the governor was to get Pennsylvanians working. It's not written in stone or anything, but if I have a short list and two are in Pennsylvania and one isn't, I don't know that you'll ever see me pick the out-of-state firm unless there's a compelling reason. On some of these larger projects, where there are joint ventures, you'll see a major interna-

tional firm in joint venture with a Pennsylvania firm.

TPA: Are you an architect or engineer?


DJ: I have an engineering background. I graduated from the Air Force Academy with a B.S. as a general engineer.

TPA: Are you appointed by the governor?

DJ: Yes, this is a cabinet position.

TPA: The GSA will give you a post mortem if you don't win. Does the DGS have anything similar?

DJ: We generally discourage that because of the sheer volume. If I did that there wouldn't be enough time in the day. If someone has a situation where they feel they want

to talk, I'll do that, but it's very rare. I've done a couple over the years. This is a big department. We do a lot of other things beside construction. I just don't have time to sit down and formally debrief everyone. Generally, I think people can look at a short list and figure out why I picked who I picked. I really believe that, because I get very few calls asking to be debriefed. Like I said, if it's a problem someone feels they just have to sit down and talk out, I have done it in the past. Talk about a daunting task—trying to debrief all these people—it would just be too much. 

This interview was reprinted, with some editing, from The Philadelphia Architect, the newsletter of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AIA.



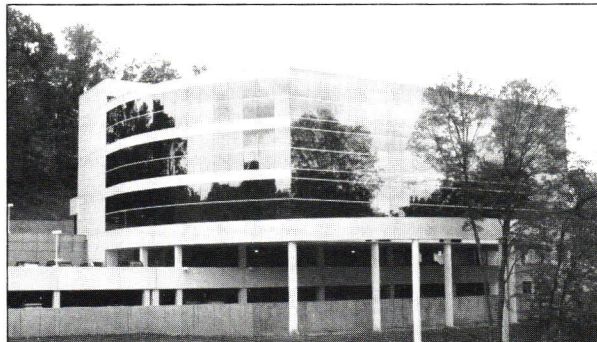
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Kudos

• **Williams Trebilcock Whitehead's** Elmo Natali Student Union at California University of Pennsylvania has been named "Building of the Year" in the category of new construction over \$5 million by the Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania. The new center combines a 45,000 square foot addition with 41,000 square feet of renovated space from the old student union.

West Virginia University's new Concurrent Engineering Research Center, designed by **Omni/WTW**, has been selected as "Building of the Year" in the category of new construction of less than \$5 million by the Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania. The facility was dedicated last fall at the Morgantown, WV campus.

Transitions

• Rich Oziemblosky, has been hired as Project Architect-Design by **Johnson/Schmidt & Associates**. Oziemblosky received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh, a Masters in Architecture from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and has eight years experience most recently at Hayes Large Architects.

Hayes Large Architects has hired Michael Federici as a job captain in the Pittsburgh office. A 1982 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, Federici is a registered architect in the state and a native of Oakmont, PA.

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates has named four new associates: Diane M. Davisson, John M. Deffenbaugh, P.E., Vincent J. Fazzoni, RA, and Rachel B. Pavilack.

From the Firms

• **Johnson/Schmidt & Associates** (JSA) is participating as the corporate sponsor, along with CMU, in the Apple Technical Partners Program. The result of the program was the official February dedication of the Hoffman Laboratory located at CMU's School of Architecture in the College of Fine Arts Building.

Business Briefs

• People on the move. **Jeffco Construction Company** named Gina Martucci Gruden sales and marketing manager of the specialty interior division. Jeffco Construction Company has been awarded the Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania 1992 Project of the Year Award for its Longwood at Oakmont project. Longwood is a \$13 million retirement community—a virtually self-sufficient "mini town" covering 24 acres.

Learn More, Save Time at Annual Product Show

by Ken Nagie, FCSI, CCS

Why attend a product show? On Wednesday, April 21st, CSI will present its annual product show at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. It is highly recommended that all firms plan to have as many of their professional staff attend as possible. Why? They will learn about products they will someday specify, they will meet people they will someday do business with, and your firm will benefit from this efficient means of interaction with product representatives/suppliers and manufacturers.

There is also the fact that product representatives cannot possibly get to see all of us. Usually their territories are too large or we are not always available when they call on us. Consequently, we are saddled with the task of making technical decisions based on pretty pictures and advertising jargon that does us no good in selecting a product for which we are held liable. You can get answers to your questions and make better decisions if you have personal contact with each representative. The product show affords you and your employees this opportunity!

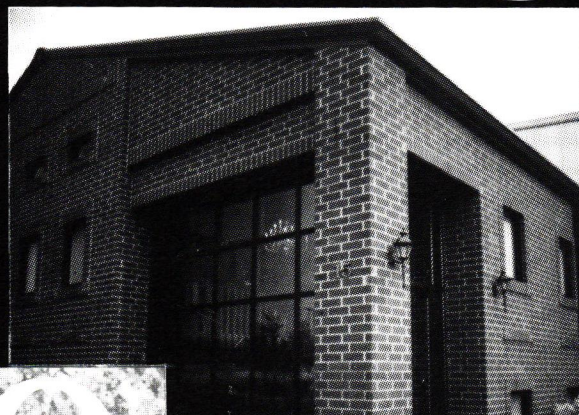
Consider that every product representative called to your office takes half an hour of your personnel's time, and that representatives call on your office an average of one per week day. This means seeing 260 products will take 130 man hours. By attending the product show you can see 120 product exhibits and representatives who represent approximately 200 companies, in only *six hours*.

In addition, there will be one or two special seminars that deal with problems facing our profession. Of course, there will be free wine and cheese as there always has been. Hope to see you there!

Celebrating



Don J. Ivill, Vice President



Corporate Headquarters



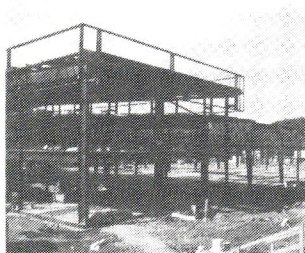
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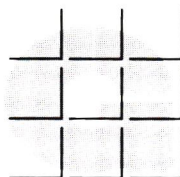
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CALENDAR

AIA ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY, April 6

Communications Committee Meeting, 12:30 PM at the Chapter office, Rob Pfaffmann, AIA, 765-3890.

WEDNESDAY, April 7

Architrave Board Meeting, 5:15 PM at the offices of Reid & Stuhldreher, Anne Swager, 471-9548.

THURSDAY, April 8

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

TUESDAY, April 13

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

WEDNESDAY, April 14

Historic Resources Committee Meeting, 4:30 PM at the Chapter office, John Martine, AIA, 227-6100.

WEDNESDAY, April 14

WIA Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Chapter office, Susan Tusick, AIA, 394-7069.

MONDAY, April 19

AIA/CMU Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM in the architectural office at CMU, Steve Quick, AIA, 687-7070.

MONDAY, April 19

Exhibit Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at Rosebud Cafe, David Roth, AIA, 261-1663.

MONDAY, April 19

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

TUESDAY, April 20

April Chapter Meeting, "Hornbostel Lecture," at CMU. *Details on page 23.*

TUESDAY, April 20

Urban Design Committee Meeting, 5:45 PM at the Chapter office, Steven Hawkins, AIA, 521-9399.

THURSDAY, April 22

Professional Development Committee Meeting, 12 PM in the Chapter office, Dave Brenborg, AIA, 683-0202.

TUESDAY, April 27

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

WEDNESDAY, April 28

AIA/MBA Committee Meeting, 6 PM at the Building Industry Center, Conference Room #1, 2270 Noblestown Road, James Kling, AIA, 391-4850.

AROUND TOWN

TUESDAY, April 13

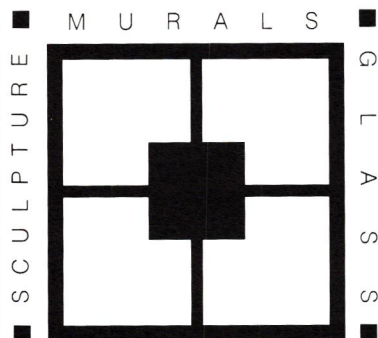
Society of Architectural Administrators Meeting, Perity Waleko, 381-1400, for information.

TUESDAY, April 13

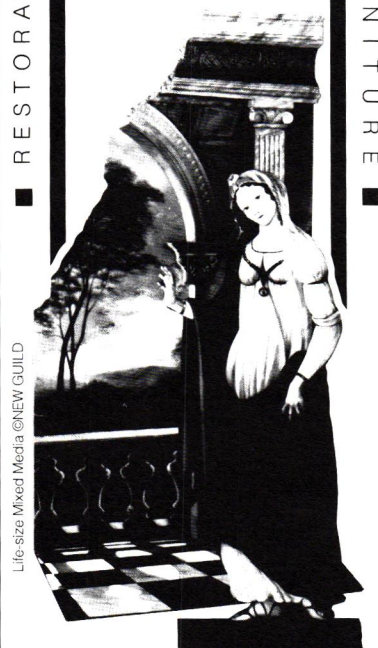
Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) Monthly Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Sheila Cartiff, 823-5063 for information.

WEDNESDAY, April 21

CSI Product Show, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Ken Nagie, FCSI, CCS, 452-9690 for information. (see page 15)



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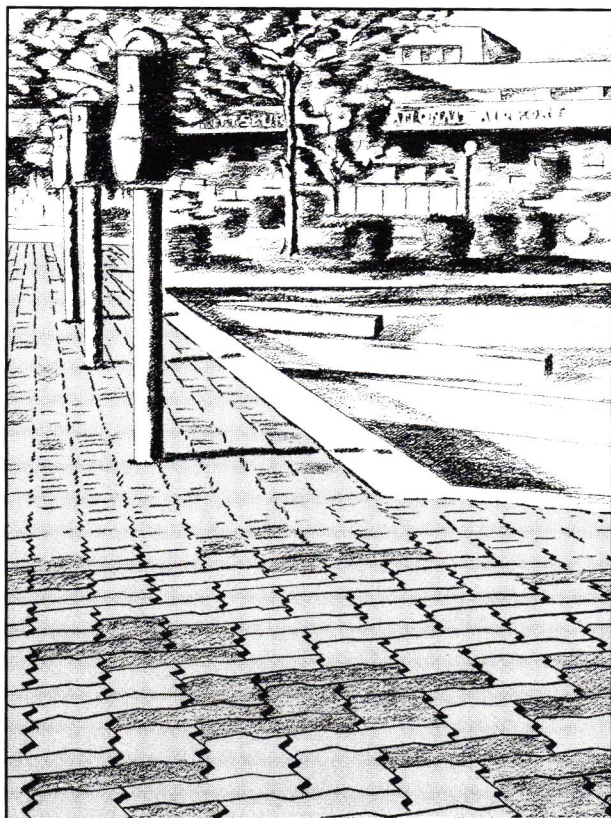
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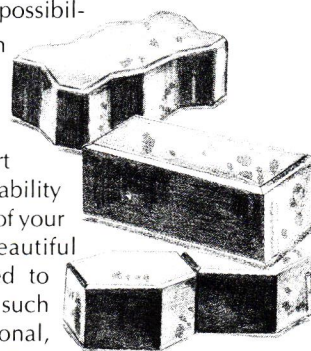
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Claire M. Bassett, AIA

Firm: Architectural Services



Advice to young architects: Study business, public relations and psychology.

Family info: Husband, Jim Bassett, metallurgical engineer. We live on a 200 acre farm in Murrysville, PA. Our six children all grew up here, training and riding horses, and helping with a herd of 14 Hereford cattle. Never a dull moment as we all ride, and the summer and fall bring many cross-country and dressage events.

School/education: Carnegie Tech: B.Arch—loved every minute of my time spent in school.

Project you're proudest of: Sloan School (1900) retrofit to commercial and apartments.

Building you wish you had designed: The Fine Arts Building at CMU.

Building you'd like to tear down: Any parking garage in Pittsburgh.

If you hadn't been an architect, what would you have been? I really can't imagine being anything else. Our children come first, but my work is ever-present.

What have you always wanted to tell your boss? The client is the boss. I'd like to tell them what is best for them and their building.

Advice to young architects: Study business, public relations and psychology.

The one thing you wish they would teach you in school: See above.

Favorite building: Monticello, because it was designed for the environment, for the people, and it has timelessness and beauty (plus it has horse stables).

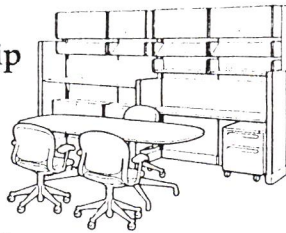
Best gift to give an architect: A tour of Italy, Austria, Germany and France, with lots of time to *sketch*, not photograph.

Wish list for downtown Pittsburgh: Continue the development of the rivers, bridges and banks (both sides). Also, traffic flow is terrible.

People would *not* be surprised to know that: I like it here where I am.

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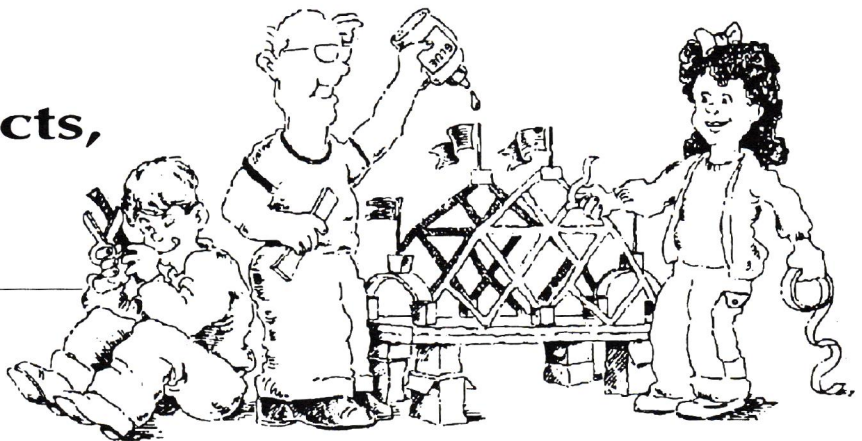
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A. Martini & Co., Inc. 320 Grant Street, Verona, PA 15147 828-5500 Contact: Angelo Martini, Sr.	●	●			●		●	●		●	
Mosites Construction Company 4839 Campbells Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 923-2255 Contact: M. Dean Mosites	●			●	●	●	●	●		●	
Ross & Kennedy Corporation 1610 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15209-1696 821-2424 Contact: John N. Broeren	●	●			●		●	●		●	

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It's history in the making! On Saturday, May 8th, the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation will sponsor the sixth Hands-on History Festival at the Station Square Festival tent from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. An admission donation of \$1 is suggested. Once inside the festival tent all activities are free. The festival celebrates the creativity of Pittsburgh area students in the fields of history and architecture. Over 60 schools have chosen to showcase their projects this year and more than 100 students from grades one through twelve will participate in the "Great Pittsburgh Bridge-Building Contest," with winners picked in numerous categories.

Visitors to the festival can design and build an architectural column, create a gargoyle mask, make a building to add to the "Mainstreet Mural," among other activities. Still more fun is planned for the day, including rides in antique cars, talks about the history of the city and life in the mill, story telling, folk dancing and crafts demonstrations.

For more information call 471-5808.

Engineers' Directory

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Astorino Branch Engineers, Inc. 227 Fort Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 765-1701 Contact: Patrick I. Branch, PE, President				●	●	●	●		●	●	●	
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Claitman Engineering Assoc., Inc. 960 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 261-4662 Contact: Robert Rosenthal					●				●			
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To include your firm in the Contractors' or Engineers' Directory call Tom Lavelle at 882-3410.

Obituary

**William L. Wurmb,
AIA Emeritus**



In February, William L. Wurmb, AIA passed away at the age of 78, survived by his wife Elva. Wurmb, a Pittsburgh native, was past President of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects and was the initiator of Architects' Week in Pittsburgh in 1952. The graduate of Carnegie Mellon University designed and consulted in many areas, including schools, hospitals, churches, public works, municipal buildings, parks, industrial structures and over 100 private residences. Wurmb believed it was the architect's objective "to bring order to this environment, to cause it to function properly within structures that are safe and healthful and to impart to all a beauty and distinction that are appropriate to our time."

Donations can be sent to Architrave to be put towards the committee's scholarship fund.

Marketplace

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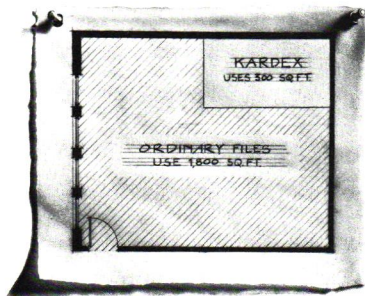
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We have recently updated *Columns'* mailing list. If you are a practicing architect or intern architect and you did not receive your personal copy of *Columns*, please fax your name and address to 412-661-6287, or call Jennifer Yeager at the Cantor Group: 412-661-3734.

Please notify us if you are receiving duplicate copies.

Hornbostel Guest Lecturer: Merrill Elam

This year's Hornbostel guest speaker is Merrill Elam, AIA, principal of Scogin Elam and Bray Architects, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia. A native of Nashville, Tennessee, Ms. Elam, 50, is a member of the American Institute of Architects, a founding member and past president of the Architecture Society of Atlanta, member and past president of the Georgia State Board of Architects, a member of the board of directors for *Art Paper* and the Twentieth Century Art Society of the High Museum.

Her work has received both national and regional awards and recognition. She has served as adjudicator for a number of academic and professional organizations, and has lectured and taught at universities across the U.S. In the 1991-1992 academic year she was the Harry S. Shure Professor at the University of Virginia and the William Wayne Caudill Visiting Lecturer at Rice University. Ms. Elam received her Bachelors of Architecture from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1971 and a Masters of Business Administration from Georgia State University 12 years later.

Ms. Elam has 31 awards and 57 projects and buildings to her name, has taught at Harvard, Rice, and Ohio State Universities among others, and will surely be an inspiring speaker with so much experience to draw from.

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Guest Speaker: Merrill Elam, AIA



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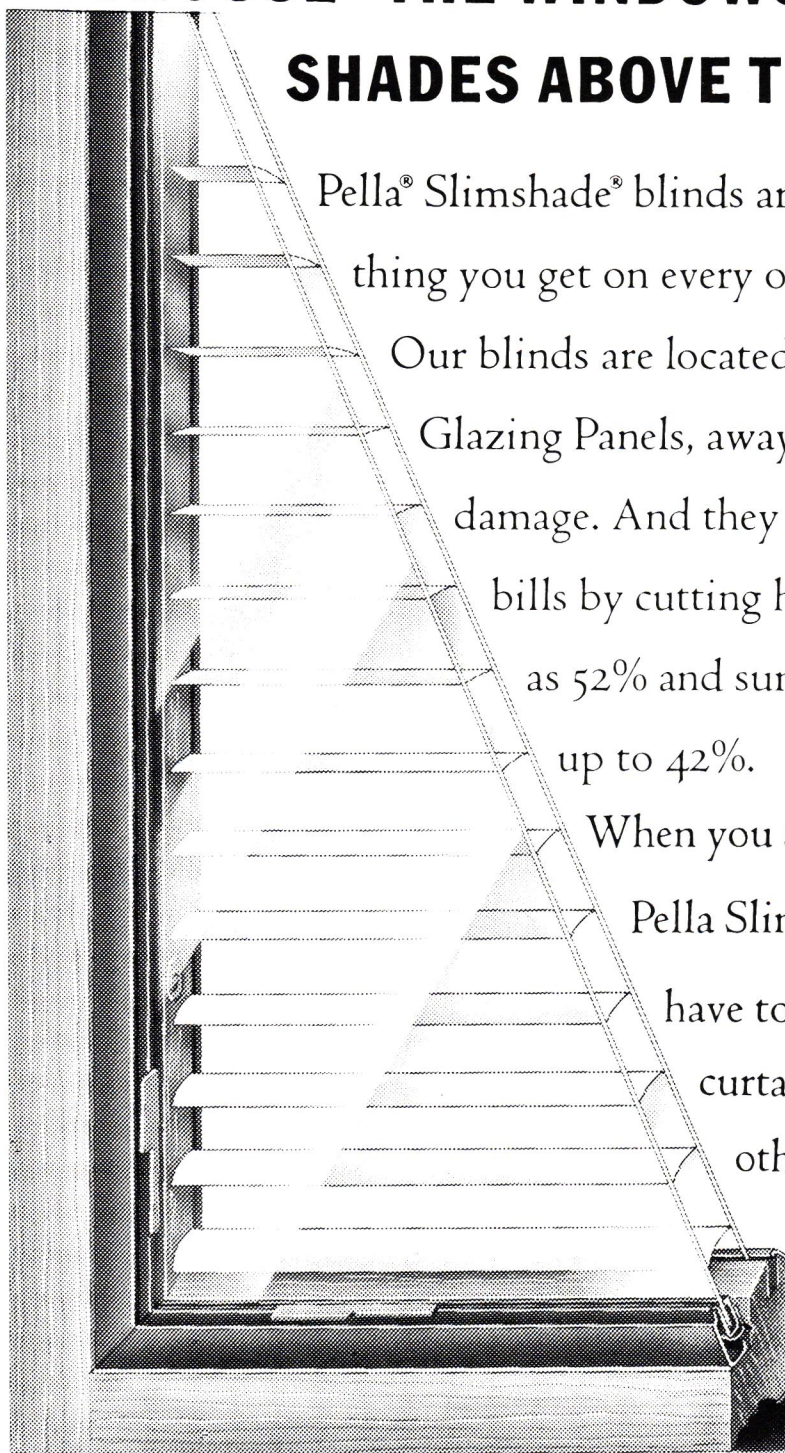
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