


# COLUMNS



VOLUME 7, NO. 6

AIA PITTSBURGH, A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

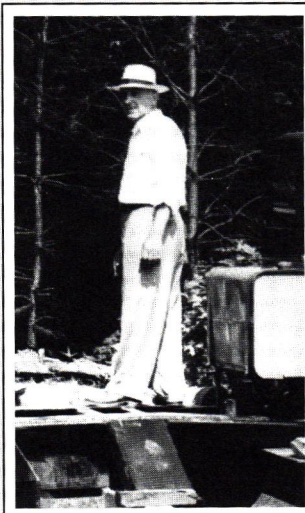
JUNE 1993





# *A seventy-five year commitment to craftsmanship*

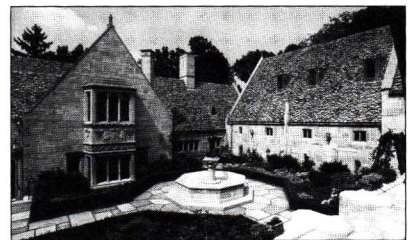
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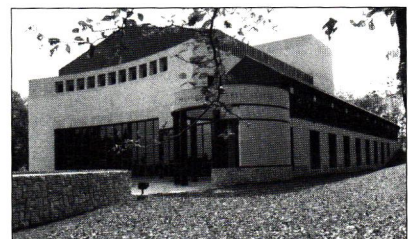
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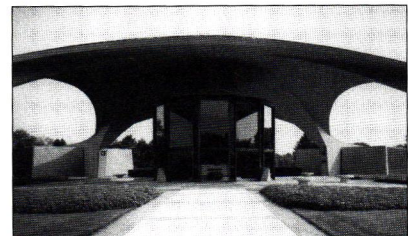
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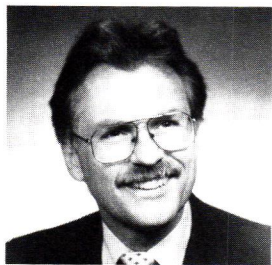
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# Missed Opportunities and Must See Events

by Douglas Shuck, AIA, President

## Following the 1988 Remaking Cities Conference,



I left the last convention feeling very positive about the future of architecture—about the integrity, skill level, and professional acumen that I witnessed in people around me.

the Chapter leadership decided it was time to submit an application to host the AIA National Convention and reconvene the Remaking Cities Conference at the same time. Our Chapter's efforts became focused on hosting the gathering in 1999 and showcasing our city. It was believed the "blush would not be off the rose" and Pittsburgh's transformation from a heavy industrial economic base to a high tech health, corporate, and service oriented community would be well underway. The AIA committee which reviews and selects cities for the National Convention visited Pittsburgh and indicated we could only host the 1999 convention if there was a commitment to expand our convention center.

Following numerous letters to AIA National, as recently as a month ago, and correspondence to the governor and state legislature for a commitment to expand our convention center, we received a letter from Harrisburg indicating it is not within the budget to do so. In response, AIA National has decided to look elsewhere for the site of the 1999 convention (probably Denver). This information has greatly disappointed the local AIA Board

and is a missed opportunity for the city to be showcased, and for our Chapter to host this prestigious event.

AIA Pittsburgh will continue to support any initiative towards expansion, renovation and/or development of a new convention center and looks forward to hosting this event in the future. This lost opportunity does not mean that we may not reconvene a Remaking Cities Conference some time before the year 2000. We will continue to keep our options open for future opportunities and developments which may provide a forum to reconvene this event.

## Architecture at the Crossroads

On a brighter note, you have received your schedule and registration information for the 1993 National Convention and the XVIII International Union of Architects meeting in Chicago this month, June 18th through the 21st. Having attended a National Convention in Cincinnati several years ago, I would urge you to set aside time for this event. It is an opportunity to renew friendships with architecture

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## On the cover:

Rothschild Architects' US Connect Pittsburgh project reflects the technological and human relationship inherent in the client's computer networking company.



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

## Send in the News

by Michelle Fanzo, Editor

Milling around with a glass of Sprite in my hand, I happened to have overheard conversation snippets in the crowd before April's Hornbostel dinner. I found much of the project information being shared to be interesting, especially since it was all news to me. Did you know L. D. Astorino & Associates has been working on three baseball athletic facilities in Florida as well as Pitt's new basketball arena and changes to Three Rivers Stadium? Me neither. So this got me thinking about letting every-

one know, from the largest firm to the newest newcomer, that *Columns* is a great place to let people in on what's happening in the profession.

I have recently discovered some very interesting endeavors undertaken by area architects through casual conversation or research for articles wholly unrelated to *Columns*. A number of young architects are part of an ambitious do-it-yourself group of Friendship residents renovating homes in that neighborhood. Steve Hawkins, AIA has been busy renovating and designing the space for Kayla's, an attractive new restaurant; the Brenenborg Brown Group was

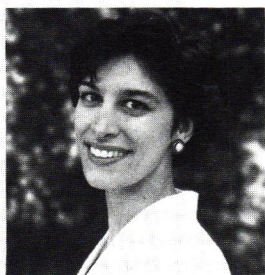
integral in renovations to the Upstairs Theater building and Ray Schinhofen, AIA did the art deco facade of Pittsburgh's newest art gallery, Garfield Artworks—all on Penn Avenue in Garfield. A rejuvenation effort is emerging in this neighborhood as may be happening elsewhere. Your membership publication is a good place to update peers on just such accomplishments and show readers how architects can make a difference in a community.

While *Columns* tries to present the best photographs with informative text in our features, firms and individuals (this includes interns and students) should never feel they don't have the "right stuff" to submit a project update, an award announcement, or an interesting aside. If there is no time or resources to write a formal press release, a quick fax (as long as it's legible) or brief phone call to our office is sufficient to put an announcement in *Breaking Ground* and other monthly sections. (Just remember information *must* be received five weeks prior to publication.) The same goes for story ideas. We can't promise to run right out and cover every topic, but we certainly encourage recommendations.

Some insightful articles appearing in *Columns* over this past year have been written by members or readers. David Raves, AIA, who wrote about professional liability in October, will have another feature appearing in this issue. Last month Structural Engineering Corporation shared their renovation expertise with the Chapter. In the near future, *Columns* will be publishing a "How to Write and Submit Articles for Publication" story to explain how simple the task is. Until then, we welcome any questions members have about submitting material or ideas to us.

On a final note about sending us information, the absence of committee reports in recent issues has been noticed by some members. Having received very few over the course of many months, I would like to extend the invitation of sending news to *Columns* to committee chairs. However you can get the stuff to me, please do: phone, fax, courier, smoke signals (only on clear days). Members are interested in what's going on in the Chapter. So am I. ☺

*Michelle Fanzo*



*Columns* is a good place to update peers on accomplishments and show readers how architects can make a difference in a community.



# Ways of Meaning

by Anne Swager, Executive Director

When I accepted the position as Executive Director of AIA Pittsburgh, I felt confident that I could do what I was supposed to do well with one exception. During my interview, someone cavalierly threw in the requirement that I write a monthly column for the magazine. I promptly had a major anxiety attack while maintaining a picture perfect poker face, which I believe effectively disguised my inner angst. Worse yet, the next thing I heard was me saying I would be delighted to take the job. I could have kicked myself! The numbers queen was going to have to put pen to paper and come up with something worth reading. I was so undone by my own gall that I tripped up a curb on my way back to my car. I was left with two skinned knees, a skinned hand, craters in my stockings, and a complete loss of dignity. I healed while sweating my first column.



When you write, you know what you are trying to say but you don't know how it looks to everyone else.

Deadline time arrived and I was in agony. I felt like I was back in college trying to make the *Causes of Inflation* palatable for a mass audience. My friend Matt, a reporter for the *Pittsburgh Press* at the time, read my effort and told me, among other unflattering epithets, that I sounded constipated. He also gave me some great counsel and I rewrote my first column with much better results. Now, three years later, I still agonize over each and every column. True to form, I am right at deadline and still panicked about what the heck I am going to say this time. Sometimes I can start and finish a column in a morning, but more often than not it is a day and a half long project. My mother, contrary to popular advice, would like me to quit my paying job to become a *writer*. She doesn't understand the difference between people reading what you write because they pay you a salary to do a job and would like to know what you do and who you are, and selling your written work to the general public, who don't read much to begin with and certainly could care less about you and your opinion on anything. Worse yet, I'd be bald. This is really hard work and if I did it full-time I would pull my hair out.

It is much easier for me to get my point across by talking. When you are talking to somebody you can just watch their facial expressions and tell where you need to add more detail, restate what you just said, or embellish your original thought. As an added feature they can tell you right then and there whether you are making any sense at all. Talking on the telephone is only a little less easy. You lack visual clues but pregnant pauses, sighs, and throat grumbles give you a tremendous amount of information. And once again, you get immediate feedback on what you have said. This is not true with writing. When you write, you know what you are trying to say but you don't know how it looks to everyone else. Inevitably, we find ourselves apologizing each month to at least one person who interpreted what we wrote in a way that we did not intend. It is after one of those phone calls that I truly marvel at the art of writing. It's like ice skating, it looks easy until you realize your ankles are always at 90 degree angles.

Every month, after *Columns* hits your mailbox, we hear from you. Sometimes it is the dossier that offends you, or we put AIA after an intern architect's name, or we misspelled your name, or more often than not you really liked something one of us said. Your participation in our efforts is gratifying. We relish the positive comments and hopefully, learn from your criticisms. We are always trying to make this issue our best, so please continue to let us know how we are doing. By the way, don't worry, I'm not taking my mother's advice. If I had to rely upon writing to put food on my table, I'd be a size 4 and I wouldn't be able to afford new clothes. 🏠

## Missed Opportunities - Continued from page 3

school friends and meet fellow architects from around the world. Pittsburgh is eligible to have twenty-nine delegates at the convention. If you plan to attend, let us know so you can be designated a delegate and vote in the general business meeting. This is an opportunity to play a key role in many of the important issues effecting our profession today. I left the last convention feeling very positive about the future of architecture—about the

integrity, the skill level, and professional acumen that I witnessed in people around me. The seminars are first class, providing a wealth of information, and the parties are always a great time to relax and enjoy the fellowship of others. Please make your plans to attend this event in Chicago if you have not already done so, and advise the Chapter that you will be going to enable us to make you a delegate. See you at the convention! 🏠



# WYATT

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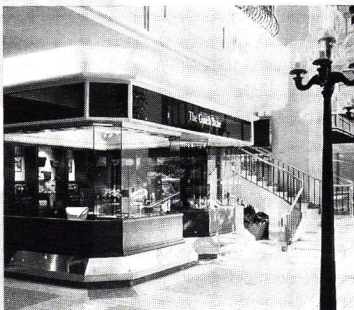
board rooms, to inviting retail stores, to high-tech data centers, to historic restorations.

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# Preservation Awards

The Historic Review Commission gives credit where credit is due

Every 12 months architects and community organizations nominate candidates to be judged by the Historic Review Commission. The commission looks for high quality examples of renovation, restoration or sensitive additions to historic buildings. "They should be exemplary in the work done and model they pose for their neighbors," says Michael Eversmeyer, AIA, Principal Historic Preservation Planner for the City of Pittsburgh. Out of 16 awards presented this year six were given to AIA members, recognizing their significant contribution to historic preservation in Pittsburgh.

## Congratulations go to:

- **Steven Hawkins, AIA** for his commercial renovation of 4025-29 Butler Street in Lawrenceville.
- **Ross Bianco, AIA** for 1711 East Carson Street, the LaFond Gallery on the South Side, both an art gallery and attractive home.
- **Richard Miller, AIA** for 301 South Fairmont Street, a stately Victorian home in Friendship.
- **Ralph Alster, AIA** for his residential renovation of 812 Galveston Avenue, the White residence in Allegheny West.
- **The Design Alliance** for their commercial renovation of 950-54 Penn Avenue, home to A. H. Mathias Company downtown.
- **Design 3 Architecture** for their commercial renovation of Riverside Commons, Innovation Center.

► *Design 3 Architecture: The two 100 year-old brick and wood warehouse buildings that are the Riverside Commons Innovation Center, were converted to Pennsylvania's first business incubator space focusing on women and minorities.*



photo: Ed Massery



◀ *Steven Hawkins, AIA: Working from a 1909 photo, the architect returned this historic Butler St. building to its original appearance.*

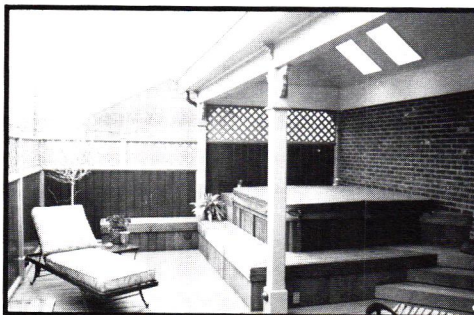


photo: Ralph Alster

▲ *Ralph Alster, AIA: New garages and an enclosed sundeck, complete with hot tub, complement this historic rowhouse in Allegheny West.*





# R O O M T O

**Openness and context are the new buzz words in office and commercial space**



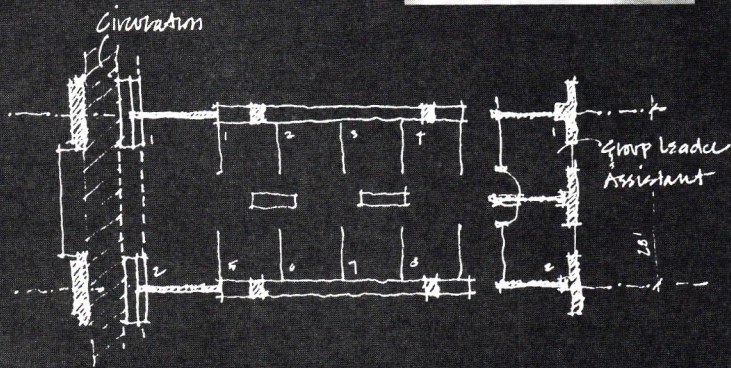
## **UDA Architects**

**the project:** *SMS Engineering, Pittsburgh, PA*

SMS, which designs, manufactures and installs fabricating equipment for steel and aluminum industries, will move its headquarters from the South Side to the North Side intersection of General Robinson and Sandusky Streets. The company's new five story, 81,000 square foot building was designed from the inside out and the outside in, with the firm and client working together to design a plan reflecting the engineering team structure of the company. The exterior skin was devised so that each face would respond to both internal arrangement and external context. For example, west-facing windows become a curtain wall with a masonry pier expression, reflecting the Warhol and Limbach buildings across the street. The metal sunscreen on the south facade provides an image piece which speaks back to the steel and glass of downtown, and to the form of the bridges which frame the site. Completion is expected in March 1994.

Principal-in-Charge: Ray Gindroz, AIA

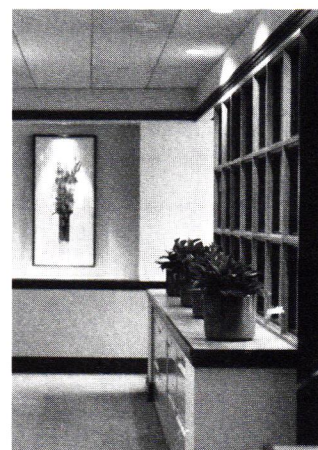
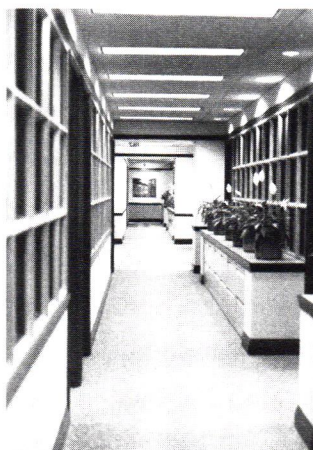
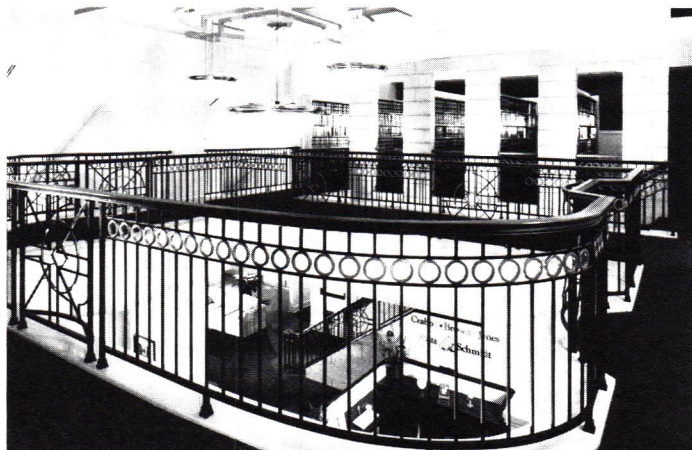
Project Architect: Karen Loysen, AIA





# Love

by Michelle Fanzo



## Golba & Associates

**the project:** *Crabbe Brown Jones Potts & Schmidt, Columbus, OH*

Golba transformed 30,000 square feet of loft-like office space into functional, classically inspired law offices. The space, which the project architect feels might be compared to the top of CNG Tower in its basic state, was designed by the building architect who was then unable to use it. Golba transformed this one-of-a-kind two story area into a striking space, combining the contemporary layout with strong, traditional elements. The intricate grill work pattern around the stairway was devised by abstracting exterior patterns on the building, creating an interior/exterior relationship.

Project Architect: Frank Golba, AIA



## The Design Alliance

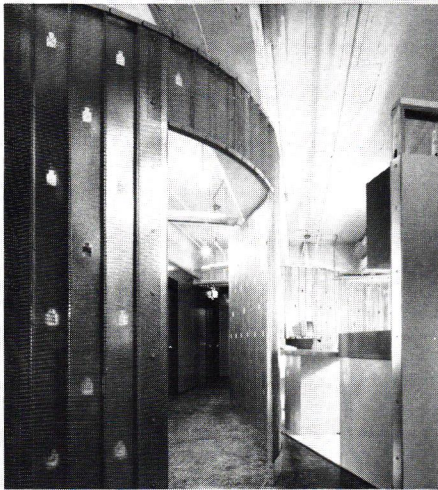
**the project:** *McKinsey & Company, Pittsburgh, PA*

McKinsey had two seemingly conflicting objectives for their new 14,000 square foot offices in One Oxford Centre: an "open feel," to encourage communication and interaction among staff, and privacy, due to the highly confidential nature of their international management consulting work. The project team was able to marry the two objectives by using custom-designed windowwalls along the corridors. This element allows natural light into the interior, enhancing the airy feel, while the windowwall's depth and the relatively small subdivisions maintain privacy. A sense of openness is further enhanced by choosing light woods and creating the illusion that the corridor is wider than it is by moving the windowwall back above the hallway's file cabinets.

Project team: Leander Minnerly, AIA, Mary Ann Mozelewski, Todd Sanders



photo: Ed Massery



## Rothschild Architects

**the project:** *USConnect Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA*

The client wanted something different, something that reflected the essence of his computer networking business, but his budget was tight. Rothschild Architects was able to reflect the technological and human relationships of the computer network through material rhythm, geometric contrast, and spatial interaction using some surprising and cost-effective materials.

The main hall links the entry to the president's office with an undulating steel stud wall, providing sounds and keyhole views of the computer lab beyond. The metal wall eases back and forth from a polished particle board panel wall and overlooks a lively concrete floor treatment. As the steel and wood walls intersect, the wood panels separate, allowing perimeter natural light to flow to the computer lab at the heart of the 4,000 square foot space in the South Side's Birmingham Towers. The rear of the steel stud wall is covered with diamond metal lath, which refracts the light and activates the shape of the wall.

Principal: Daniel Rothschild, AIA

Project Architect: Kenneth Doyno

Staff Architects: Brian Berger, Gregory Koop, Gregory Smith

## Hayes Large Architects

**the project:** *DER Administrative Center, Harrisburg, PA*

A granite staircase in a three story lobby, a semi-circular auditorium, and the distinction of being one of the first state facilities to have a day care center are some of the key elements to this 16 story, 446,000 square foot building for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Services. This project brings most of DER's offices into a central operating center to increase efficiency and provide for future changes in organization and function. Structural, mechanical, electrical, communications and data processing systems have been developed to permit maximum flexibility in space and service utilization while providing occupants with an attractive workplace.

The design response to the program was to place service areas in a basement level with ramp access from a minor street. The public hearing room is in a three story rotunda accessed through a major gallery which connects the three principal street entrances to the main elevator bank. The lobby is positioned in the tower floors to provide an orientation view of the West Shore skyline. A special five-by-five foot ceiling grid system will enable DER to reconfigure the work space with greater flexibility.

Project Architect: G. Randolph Hudson



photo: Chris Barone



## Reid & Stuhldreher, Inc.

**the project:** *MPCGS Associates, Medical Office Building, Pittsburgh, PA*

A vintage 19th century North Side building has been renovated as medical offices for MPCGS, a private group medical practice. The four story (plus basement) edifice is on the Pennsylvania register of historic buildings, but had been unoccupied for some time and fallen into disrepair.

The renovation emulates the original character of the structure, with the exterior being thoroughly cleaned and repointed. The main entrance has been relocated from Suisman Street to the corner of Suisman and Middle, to become the focal point of an elegant new curved facade, such as was often constructed at the turn of the century. Floor plans, wainscoting and wallcoverings will hark back to Victorian precedents, blurring the distinction between the old and new. Thus, the structure will be adapted to its new use but will retain the distinctive marks of its architectural heritage. The building was completed in the late spring of this year.

Principal-in-Charge: John D. Francona, AIA  
Interior Designer: Heather J. Knuth



photo: Linda Jeub



photo: John Francona

## Williams Trebilcock Whitehead

**the project:** *Miles Inc., Pittsburgh, PA*

An understated design that reflects the professional character of its occupant was created in this 144 square foot space. The room receives an abundance of natural light, reflected nicely off the polished marble desk top and tiles bordering the carpet. The open design allows for a non-cluttered appearance while key furnishings offer plentiful storage. For flexibility, the executive office provides two types of meeting spaces: a conference table with arm chairs and the more intimate lounge chairs found near the window overlooking the Miles campus.

Principal-in-Charge: Richard De Young, AIA  
Project Designer: Pamela Hudspeth, IBD  
Staff Designer: Jill E. Morris, Associate IBD



photo: Ed Massery

## McCormick Architects

**the project:** *Photosynthesis/Photographer's Studio, Pittsburgh, PA*

The renovation entailed redesigning a 6,000 square foot building at 105 Market Street downtown for the multifaceted needs of photographer Chris Caffee. The project involved developing new patterns of use and circulation for a program which includes three shooting studios, a workshop, a lounge, storage, and office space. In addition, the owner intends to use the space on a periodic basis for art exhibits by local graphic designers.

Project Architect: Mark McCormick, AIA



photo: Chris Caffee



## Pennsylvania's One-Call System: The Cheapest Insurance Around

by David Raves, AIA

**Infrequently, the Pennsylvania Legislature** provides an opportunity for design professionals to reduce their liability exposure. One such opportunity is the Underground Utility Line Protection Law, which, if complied with, offers a designer (and contractor) liability protection arising out of construction accidents resulting from damage to underground utilities. (Another such piece of legislation may be the Workers' Compensation Reform Act, which as currently proposed, contains a design professional civil immunity clause.)

Despite the potential liability protection offered under the Act, only 52 PSA member firms across the state, covering 113 different project sites, availed themselves of this inexpensive means of limiting their liability in 1992. In light of the potential liability a designer is exposed to by failing to contact the One-Call System, the only conclusion is that the membership does not realize the legal duty the Act imposes upon them.

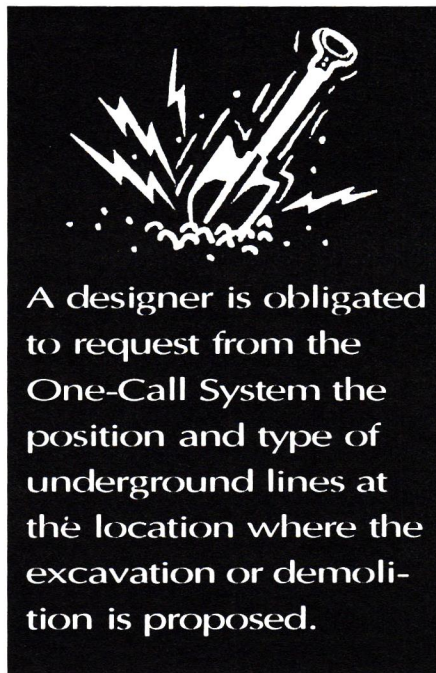
The Pennsylvania One-Call System, established through the Underground Utility Line Protection Law, is a clearing house between utility suppliers and the construction industry. It is required to inform requesting parties the location of utility distribution lines throughout the Commonwealth.

Though the system is widely known as a means for contractors to verify the location of underground utility lines, few designers realize the Act also imposes duties upon them when a project they are involved with requires either demolition or excavation. This article will briefly outline a designer's duties under the Act, as well as the commensurate protection the Act bestows upon a designer who complies with its terms.

A "designer," defined under the Act, is any architect, engineer, or other person who prepares a drawing for a project which requires excavation or the demolition of a structure in the Commonwealth. A designer is obligated to request from the One-Call System the position and type of underground lines at the location where the excavation or demolition is proposed. The request must be made not less than ten nor more than ninety working days before the final design is to be completed. The designer is not precluded from obtaining such information more than ninety days before the final design is to be completed, however, in order to comply with the Act, another request should be made within the specified time frame.

Once notified, the One-Call System must respond to your request within ten days, advising you as to the existence or non-existence of utility lines at the site. The notification is not required to be in writing unless so requested by the designer. It is advisable to have a written record of the One-Call System's report.

If the designer is notified that buried lines do exist, he or she must indicate upon the drawings the position and type of each line, and furnish the name of the user and the user's designated office address and telephone number. The designer must also make a reasonable effort to prepare the construction drawings to avoid damage to and minimize interference with a user's facilities in the construction area.



A designer who has complied with the terms of the Act and is not otherwise negligent, shall not be subject to liability or incur any obligation to users, operators, owners, or other persons who sustain injury to person or property as a result of the contractor's excavation or demolition work damaging a user's facility. Failure to comply with the Act reciprocally exposes a designer to potential liability for reimbursement for any damages sustained by a user as a result of the designer's failure to comply with the Act.

Though many designers utilize outside consultants to perform much if not all of the site investigative work required for a construction endeavor, ultimately they may be subject to potential liability as the designer on the project. A passing telephone call to your consultant, entered into your telephone log, verifying that they are in compliance with the requirements of the Underground Utility Line Protection Law, can go a long way when a utility line is severed at the job site. Because the Act imposes no limitation on the size of

construction or excavation, even the smallest addition should trigger a telephone call to the One-Call System, perhaps the cheapest liability policy on the market today. ■

(This article is not intended to render any legal advice, nor is it intended to act as a substitute for the rendering of a legal opinion in specific situations.)

*David Raves, AIA, an attorney with the law firm of Plowman Spiegel & Lewis, P.C., received his architectural degree from Carnegie Mellon University and his law degree from Duquesne University. Mr. Raves' practice focuses on matters relating to construction and professional liability.*



## New Guidelines for Medical Facilities

The AIA Committee on Architecture for Health, with assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services, has released the 1992-93 edition of *Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities*. The guidelines, the latest in a 45 year series, are used in whole by 35 states as the basis for health facility design and licensure, while the other 15 states use various components of the document when establishing requirements. In addition, the federal government uses the guidelines in regulating HUD-22 loan guarantee programs to hospitals and for Health Service medical facilities.

The 150 page document is available by calling AIA Pittsburgh 412-471-9548. The cost is \$22.50 for AIA members, \$25 for all others.

# WRT

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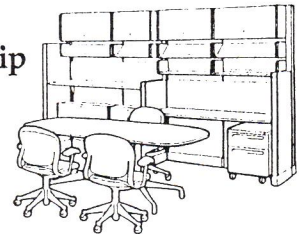
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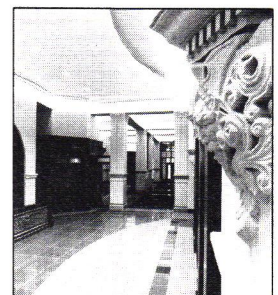
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## Kudos

• **Dennis L. Astorino, AIA** has been appointed to the Pennsylvania Architects Licensure Board. After Astorino was recommended by the Pennsylvania Society of Architects, his name was placed in nomination by Governor Casey and ratified by the Pennsylvania State Senate. The Licensure Board, which meets in Harrisburg, oversees all architectural licensing in the state, including administering examinations, hearing complaints, investigating illegal practices, and revoking licenses.

**Sylvester Damianos, FAIA**, participated in the recent events honoring Thomas Jefferson at the University of Virginia and Monticello. Representing the American Architectural Foundation (AAF) in his position as Chairman of the Board of Regents, Damianos had the opportunity to greet former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev at Jefferson's Virginia home.

In April, **Thomas Celli, AIA** delivered a lecture in Buenos Aires, Argentina to the International Congress on School Buildings and Libraries. The subject of Celli's lecture to the movers and shakers of 21st century education addressed "Social Change-School Change." The task explored American social changes that are leading to serious design alterations in our elementary and secondary school buildings.

A rustic style bird house, called "blue bird" house, designed by **Chuck DeLisio, AIA** and Deborah Elliott, won Most Creative in a competition held to benefit the Pittsburgh Aviary. The For the Birds fundraiser earned over \$2,700 for the city's Aviary. Receiving one of two bird house awards, DeLisio and Elliott's entry reflects their concern for the environment and was built completely from recycled materials, including copper, wood, leather and tree bark.

## From the firms

• Construction is underway on two two-story additions and a renovation to the student union at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown campus. **WTW/Martin Chetlin** has designed the additions, totaling over 14,000 square feet, to maintain the character of the original fieldstone building and the wooded campus site. The plan also calls for the renovation of the 40,000 square foot existing student union. The \$3.8 million project will be completed in late November.

Vintage, provider of adult day care and senior citizen programs, has contracted **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates** to design the renovation of their existing facility and the former Giant Eagle in East Liberty. Additionally, space in the former Blue Cross building on Smithfield Street is currently under construction and will be completed in late spring.

A new Outpatient Rehabilitation Center operated jointly by Harmarville Rehabilitation Center and Ohio Valley General Hospital opened recently in the retail section of Edgewood Square professional office building in Moon Township. Designed by **Reid & Stuhldreher**, the new facility boasts the latest rehabilitation equipment, bright and cheerful colors, and the maximum use of natural light afforded by exterior windows and an 18 inch glass block wall.

The firm is also working on three other healthcare projects: the new 12,500 square foot Radiation Therapy Center at Veterans Administration Medical Center in Oakland; the second phase of construction for a \$15 million expansion project at St. Margaret Memorial Hospital in Aspinwall; a project encompassing 36,000 new square feet and 6,000 remodeled square feet for United Community Hospital's \$5 million expansion in Grove City.

## "Endangered" Update

• It took little time after receiving the last issue of *Columns* before one Chapter member called the office with a prime example of another "endangered" historical site that was not mentioned in May's cover story. The gothic revival style home (in need of repair) on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Woodland Street, at the entrance to Chatham College, is being left to fall down, says **Chip Desmone, AIA** of Charles L. Desmone and Associates. "It's a crime." The Civil War era home was designated as a City Historic Structure in 1985. The privately owned house was bought with plans for renovation, but the owner found his estimate for the work to be too high. He wanted to have it torn down so he could build a new brick home, but his application for demolition was rejected by the Historic Review Commission, who felt the owner's estimate for repair was not an accurate assessment of costs. The owner has taken the commission to court, where the case is waiting for a judgment. The structure's "endangered status" presently rests with the legal system.

## Business Briefs

• Jeffco Construction Company has been awarded the Associated Builders & Contractors of Western PA 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. Additionally, Jeffco has promoted Gina Martucci Gruden to the position of Sales & Marketing Manager of the Specialty Interior Division.

## Please Note:

• In our May issue we mentioned the Pittsburgh-based firm, IKM, has been looking into reuse possibilities for the Allegheny County Jail, one of the buildings identified as "endangered." The article went on to mention a previous lack of sensitivity to renovations to the building, but was in no way meant to imply IKM was among the insensitive renovators. We apologize for any misinterpretations due the wording of the text.



## Membership Committee

• **Warren Bulseco, Associate AIA, 321-0550**

### **Aron Temkin, Intern AIA**

L. P. Perfido Associates  
One Bayard Road #34  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

### **Regis A. Zapatka, Intern AIA**

1066 Laurel Street  
Bridgeville, PA 15017

### **Dennis J. McFadden, Associate AIA**

The Heinz Architectural Center  
The Carnegie Museum of Art  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080

### **Sandra Dobkin Tarr, Professional Affiliate**

S. Tarr Designs  
5504 Howe Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

### **Jeffrey Ferris, Professional Affiliate**

Kacin Inc.  
795-22 Pine Valley Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

*We will welcome more new members  
next issue.*

AIA Pittsburgh congratulates the following members advancing to architect member:

### **Gwen Williams, AIA**

Douglas C. Berryman Associates  
6740 Reynolds Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

### **E. Andrew Dunmire, AIA**

Sheehan & Holler Architects  
417 South Craig Street, Suite 302  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

### **E. Thomas Cihil, AIA**

Baker & Associates  
Airport Office Park Bldg #3  
420 Rouser Road  
Coraopolis, PA 15108-2750

### **Timothy J. Hutcheson, AIA**

The Eckles Company Architects  
301 N. Mercer Street  
New Castle, PA 16101

### **David Mickey, AIA**

The Eckles Company Architects  
301 N. Mercer Street  
New Castle, PA 16101

## Urban Design Committee

• **Steven G. Hawkins, AIA, 521-9399**

At our April Committee meeting, John Rahaim, Department of City Planning, gave us an update on the City of Pittsburgh Zoning Ordinance revision process. On June 4 and 5, caucus groups will be organized for working on specific parts of the ordinance (commercial, residential, institutional, etc.). Each group will consist of interested citizens, mem-

bers of organizations like AIA, and at least one consultant team member. Monthly working meetings of each group will be held.

This is a golden opportunity for architects to help create a document that will have widespread effects on how our city looks and works. Most architects in town have dealt with the old Zoning Ordinance in some way at some time on some project, and the document leaves much to be desired. *Please* consider participating in a caucus group for the next year or two; there should be an AIA member in every group.

We're still feeling our way as to how to approach the Strip District. One suggestion was to wait until a new city administration is in place. Another was to limit our study area to 11th Street through 24th Street in order to focus on the area having more critical, pressing issues. Still another was to have a Chapter informational/educational event in the Strip, possibly in conjunction with an organization there, as a kick-off event; this we are pursuing.

A final note: we cannot participate in any of this work without a solid base of committee members. Call Steve Hawkins for more information about the committee (interns and professional affiliates welcome).

## Architrave, the Pittsburgh Foundation for Architecture

• **Alan L. Fishman, AIA, 281-1337**

Architrave has completed a long-range strategic planning process. As a result, we have organized into three working committees: Communications, Planning and Membership/Fund Raising, each of which will develop programs in its sphere of influence. At the March Board meeting, a comprehensive report with suggested action plans was presented by the Communications Committee. The report will be further reviewed and methods of implementation determined at the May board meeting. Architrave is also continuing to provide long range support to the "Our Town" program, which provides architectural education and experiences to at-risk public elementary school children. The Board approved granting two scholarships for CMU students to work with the "Our Town" project this summer.

## Interiors Committee

• **Chuck DeLisio, AIA, 488-0307**

The Interiors Committee is planning an interiors architecture exhibit for this coming fall, is working with new, interested members, and will possibly be hosting some other projects in the future. *Please note* the location of the next two committee meetings has changed. The June 21st meeting will be at 5:30 at STUDIO DeLisio, 128 Wyoming Street on Mt. Washington. The July 19th meeting will be held at the same time, but at Rosebud in the Strip. There will be no meeting in August.



**Hornbostel Recap:****Weird Food, Great Design**

The throng of architects milling around the Great Hall in Carnegie Mellon University's College of Fine Arts before the recent Hornbostel Lecture managed to dwarf even that massive corridor. As guests seated themselves at the architecturally atmospheric dining area, Karen Loysen, AIA and Steve Quick, AIA started the evening program by announcing fifth-year architecture student Cherie Hayek the winner of this year's Stuart L. Brown Award, a \$5,000 travel and scholarship honor. (Cherie will be going to Spain to study the work of Antonio Gaudi.)

After a dinner of chicken ballantine, fr  se salad and rice timbale which, to my tastes, was like dining on dandelion weeds, congealed capers and salty chicken loaf, guests were served a delicious chocolate cake roll. (I was told the strawberry that was supposed to be part of my dessert had been "locked in the elevator." How this happened was never fully explained, but it gave me something to ponder as members viewed student exhibits after eating.)

At the beginning of the evening's lectures, awards recognizing good design and the use of masonry were presented to second-year students by the Masonry Institute and Pennsylvania Concrete Masonry Association. Four other awards were also presented to fourth-year architecture students. Until this point, the evening had been low-key and long. The next event on the program was a slide presentation by the previous year's Stuart L. Brown scholarship winner, Jason Alden. With full stomachs, the lights off and the comforting hum of a nearby slide projector, I wondered how many people would manage to stay attentive. Alden solved that problem by being the surprise of the evening. His presentation on a year long project tracing the origins of Bryn Athyn Cathedral in eastern Pennsylvania to St. Cuthbert Cathedral in Wells, England, was humorous, insightful and just plain well done. His Holmes-like approach to the investigation exhibited great observation, insight, and doggedness, ultimately drawing the audience into his excitement at the discovery of each clue.

Guest speaker Merrill Elam, AIA principal of Atlanta's cutting-edge firm, Scogin Elam and Bray, presented a series of disparate but related images that were not only curious

and intriguing pictures, but presented architectural observations through new eyes. I couldn't help but wonder how long it took to acquire the comprehensive collection of images, ranging from Main Street in Johnsboro, GA to a hot dog shop, a veggie stand, a Francis Bacon painting, details of Italy and the Orient, and a 30 foot fish caught by one of Elam's colleagues.


Elam's firm, only eight years old, produces markedly unconventional architecture while at the same time reinterpreting myriad architectural conventions. The three principals struck out on their own from another Atlanta-based firm, acquiring clients on their reputation and ability to explore new territory while keeping their designs functional. The sometimes discordant, sometimes funny, sometimes revealing slides reflect the firm's new uses for traditional elements. Elam presented photographs of her firm's atypical approach in both high-end and very low budget projects, exhibiting equal success and singularity. The inspirational philosophy of Scogin Elam and Bray could be summed up in a comment made by one of the firm's principals. When a client asked if an unorthodox series of very tall wooden poles, designed to jut out of the ground and through a house's deck, were going to be included in the finished project, the reply was, "if we don't include them no one will notice, but if we do, no one will forget it." The poles stayed.

— M.F.

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Full credit will be given to the architect or designer in a descriptive caption accompanying the photograph. All information sent with the transparency and/or black and white glossy will help to secure placement. Material should be addressed to: Susan Regan, Executive Vice President, Hardwood Manufacturers Association, 400 Penn Center Boulevard, Suite 530, Pittsburgh, PA 15235. For free copies of *Hardwood Expressions* please request them by mail or phone: 412-829-0770. 



## CALENDAR

### AIA ACTIVITIES

#### MONDAY, June 7

Architrave Board Meeting, 5:15 PM at the Chapter office, Anne Swager, 471-9548.

#### TUESDAY, June 8

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

#### WEDNESDAY, June 9

Historic Resources Committee Meeting, noon at the Chapter office, John Martine, AIA, 227-6100.

#### WEDNESDAY, June 9

Legislative Committee Meeting, 3:30 PM at the Chapter office, Al Cuteri, AIA, 471-8008.

#### TUESDAY, June 15

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

#### THURSDAY, June 17

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

#### MONDAY, June 21

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

#### MONDAY, June 21

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

#### TUESDAY, June 22

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

#### WEDNESDAY, June 23

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

#### THURSDAY, June 24

June Chapter Meeting, "Family Cookout at the Zoo" (See page 23 for details).

### AROUND TOWN

#### SUNDAY, June 6

Lawrenceville House Tour, 11:00 - 4:00, Carnegie Library, 279 Fisk Street. 431-5296 for more information.

#### TUESDAY, June 8

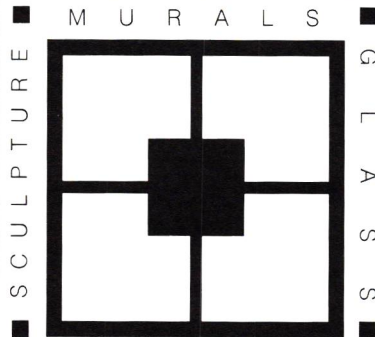
Society of Architectural Administrators Meeting, Perity Waleko, 343-8077 for information.

#### TUESDAY, June 8

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

#### MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, June 14-16

The Engineers' Club sponsors its annual Bridge Conference at the Pittsburgh Hilton downtown. 261-0710 for more information.



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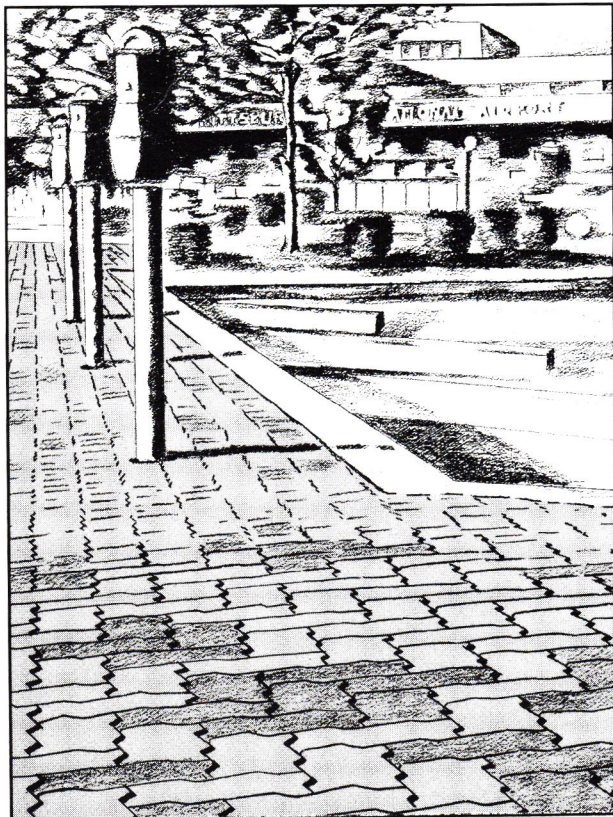
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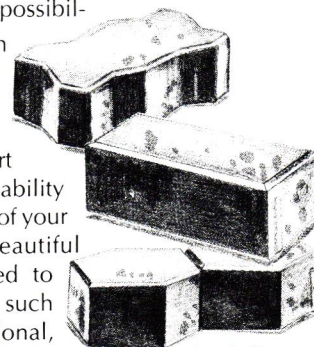
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# Mark McCormick, AIA

**Firm:** McCormick Architects



People would be surprised to know that I still play with legos.

**Family info:** Married to photographer Karen Meyers; 2 children: Miller 4, Malcolm 1.

**School:** B.A. Psychology/Philosophy Miami University (Oxford Ohio) 1972, M. Architect University of Colorado 1978.

**Project you're proudest of:** Samaritan House, built for the Archdiocese of Denver in 1986, allegedly the first newly constructed Homeless Shelter built in the U.S.

**Building you wished you had designed:** CMU Software Engineering Institute or Pitt Biotechnology Center.

**Building you'd like to tear down:** I don't think I'd tear them down but there are a few projects I've done that I'd like to revise.

**If you hadn't been an architect what would you have been?** A golf pro.

**Advice to young architects:** Responsibility is taken, not generally given.

**The one thing you wish they'd taught you in school is:** Know when to say no.

**Favorite building, why?** Halladie Building, San Francisco. Designed by James K. Polk in 1916. The building demonstrates the emotional power evoked by the clear expression of our idea.

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**Wish list for downtown Pittsburgh:** 90% occupancy at Gimbels within 5 years.

**People would be surprised to know that:** I still play with legos.

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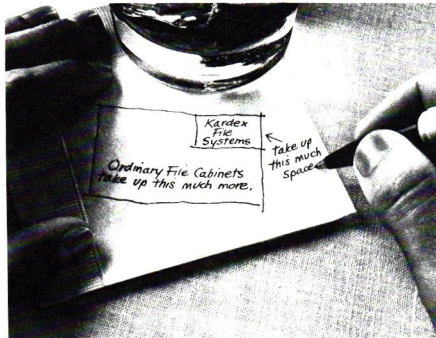
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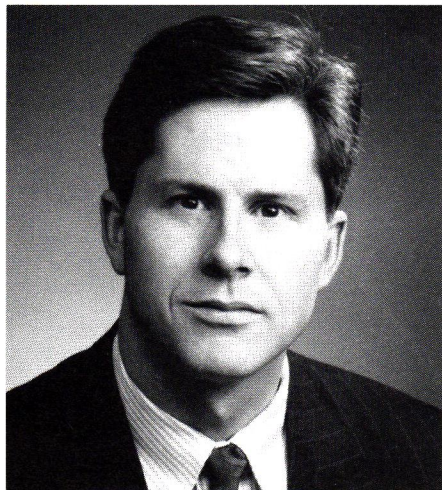
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<b>SE Technologies, Inc.</b> 98 Vanadium Road, Bridgeville, PA 15017 221-1100 Contact: Philip J. Damiani			●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	
<b>Solar Testing Laboratories, Inc.</b> 811 East Carson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 381-4454 Contact: Tony Chammas, P.E.	●				●		●	●				
<b>Structural Engineering Corp.</b> 300 Sixth Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 338-9000 Contact: Dennis A. Roth, P.E.										●		
<b>Widmer Engineering, Inc.</b> 806 Lincoln Place, Beaver Falls, PA 15010 847-1696 Contact: Joseph H. Widmer, P.E.			●		●		●	●		●		●

To include your firm in the Contractors' or Engineers' Directory call Tom Lavelle at 882-3410.



## Hayes Finds His Own Habitat



Affordable housing advocate and co-founder of Pittsburgh Habitat for Humanity, Kevin Hayes, AIA, has launched a new architectural venture—the Hayes Design Group. Located at 681 Washington Road in Mt. Lebanon, the firm focuses on creating architectural designs for new and existing commercial and residential buildings, as well as affordable housing.

Hayes is a 1983 cum laude graduate of Notre Dame University, a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and board member and social concerns coordinator for the Notre Dame Club of Pittsburgh. "Having grown up in Pittsburgh and then returning after college, my roots are firmly set in the community," says Hayes. "It's tremendously rewarding to open a business here. I look forward to adding our designs to the architectural fabric of Western Pennsylvania."

## 1993 Design Awards

Plans for the 1993 Design Awards are shaping up. The exhibit will take place in September at the Wood Street Galleries downtown. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust runs the gallery and will help with publicity.

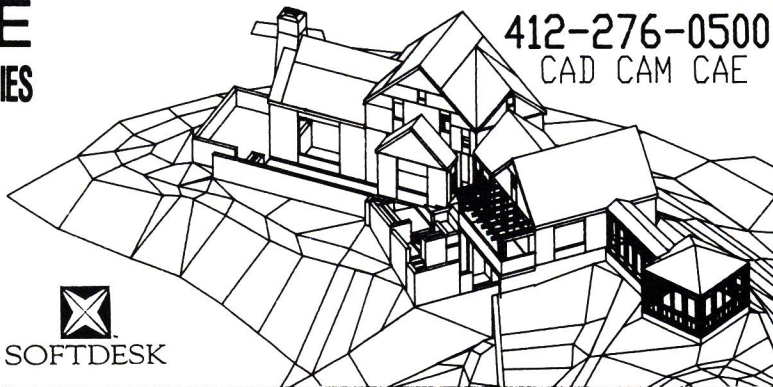
According to David Roth, AIA, the proposed schedule is being finalized but here is how it shapes up:

<b>June</b>	Entry packs available
<b>July</b>	Submissions due
<b>August</b>	Jury review
<b>September</b>	Awards program and exhibit

We hope you will consider entering this year. We need all our members to participate.

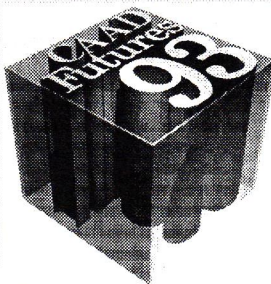
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## CAAD Futures '93



**Fifth International Conference on  
Computer-Aided Architectural  
Design Futures**

July 7-10, 1993  
Department of Architecture  
Carnegie Mellon University

Ulrich Flemming and Skip Van Wyk, Co-Chairs  
For additional information: 412/268-2355

The mission of the **CAAD Futures '93** conference is to advance the state of the art of computer-aided architectural design by providing an international forum for the presentation and discussion of innovative research and development on the use of computers as a tool and medium for the design, construction, and operation of buildings. CAAD Futures conferences are held every two years, and, if possible, alternate between Europe and North America. To date, the CAAD Futures Foundation has sponsored five international conferences: Delft, Netherlands (1985); Eindhoven, Netherlands (1987); Cambridge, MA, USA (1989); Zürich, Switzerland (1991); and now Pittsburgh, PA, USA (1993).

**CAAD Futures '93** will be held July 7-10, 1993, on the campus of Carnegie Mellon University in the newly-completed Graduate School of Industrial Administration, designed by the Boston firm of Kallmann, McKinnell & Wood. The conference is organized around special focus sessions of 2-3 papers each and special events such as hosted receptions, open houses of CMU building-related research centers, and a conference dinner on Friday evening.

**Paper Sessions.** The papers accepted for presentation, peer-reviewed by an international advisory committee, have been grouped into sections addressing similar topics or themes that range from new and ongoing research issues to emergent trends in practice.

- Decision Support Systems
- Generative Design Systems
- Prediction and Evaluation
- Product Modeling
- Cooperative Design
- Precedents and Prototypes
- Shape Recognition and Emergence
- Trends in Practice

**Registration.** The general registration fee, \$295 (US), includes proceedings published by Elsevier Science, open house and receptions, catered meals (conference dinner, continental breakfasts, lunches), and snacks and beverages between paper sessions.

For a program brochure, registration form, or additional information, contact Chris Simony, Department of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890; phone, 412/268-2355 or 412/268-6390; fax, 412/268-7819.



## Upcoming Issues

July/August - **Hospitals/Health Care**      October - **Call for Doodles**  
 September - **Alternative Careers**      November - **Heinz Architectural Center**

Here's your chance to showcase your work in COLUMNS! Projects must be designed by a member or member firm and may be in any stage of development, but no more than one year old. **The deadline for September information is July 25th.** Artwork will not be returned unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is included.

### NOTE NEW ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER!

Send your project to:

COLUMNS, c/o The Cantor Group, 5802 Douglas Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217 or call Michelle Fanzo at 412/422-6722.

## Advertising in COLUMNS

When you advertise your business, product or service in COLUMNS, your message is read by every registered and intern architect in Southwestern PA (over 1000) plus an equal number of consulting engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, facility managers and real estate developers. COLUMNS offers a targeted audience, attractive rates and proven results. CALL TOM LAVELLE 882-3410 FOR DETAILS!

# Construction Management

## A Profitable Way to Expand Your Practice

An interactive video workshop that shows you how to use the new CM documents to provide expanded services.

Workshop time: 2PM to 5PM

Date: June 25, 1993

Location: The Engineers Club

Sponsored by: AIA Pittsburgh & McDonough  
Caperton Insurance Group

To register for this workshop which explores the "whys" and "how tos" of construction management, call 471-9548 today.



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An AIA Professional Development Program

## AIA Pittsburgh and ASLA Pittsburgh Cordially Invite You To The June Meeting "Family Cookout at the Zoo"

Thursday, June 24

The Pittsburgh Zoo, Highland Park      Adults: \$12      Children under 12: \$6  
 (Park in the main zoo lot.)      **RSVP** by Friday, June 18  
 6:30 pm Program starts

## June Chapter Meeting: Zippity-Zoo Da...

Expect some baboons to show up at this month's Chapter meeting—along with a few gorillas, wild cats and an ostrich or two. To the zoo with you! That's where members and their families/significant others are invited on the evening of June 24th for an AIA/ASLA family cookout. Guests will be taken on private tours of the entire facility—the zoo will only be open to the AIA/ASLA group that evening. The designers of the new Tropical House, zoo entrance and educational center will be on hand to answer questions.

Dinner will be served at the Food Court by the Tropical House and the show will go on rain or shine. A special thanks goes out to Lou Marsico of Marsico Corporation, who is providing the beer and wine for the zoofest. Don't miss this evening of barbeque grazing and animal gazing. See you there!

### RSVP

## "Family Cookout at the Zoo"

The Pittsburgh Zoo

Thursday, June 24

name \_\_\_\_\_

firm \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Names of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

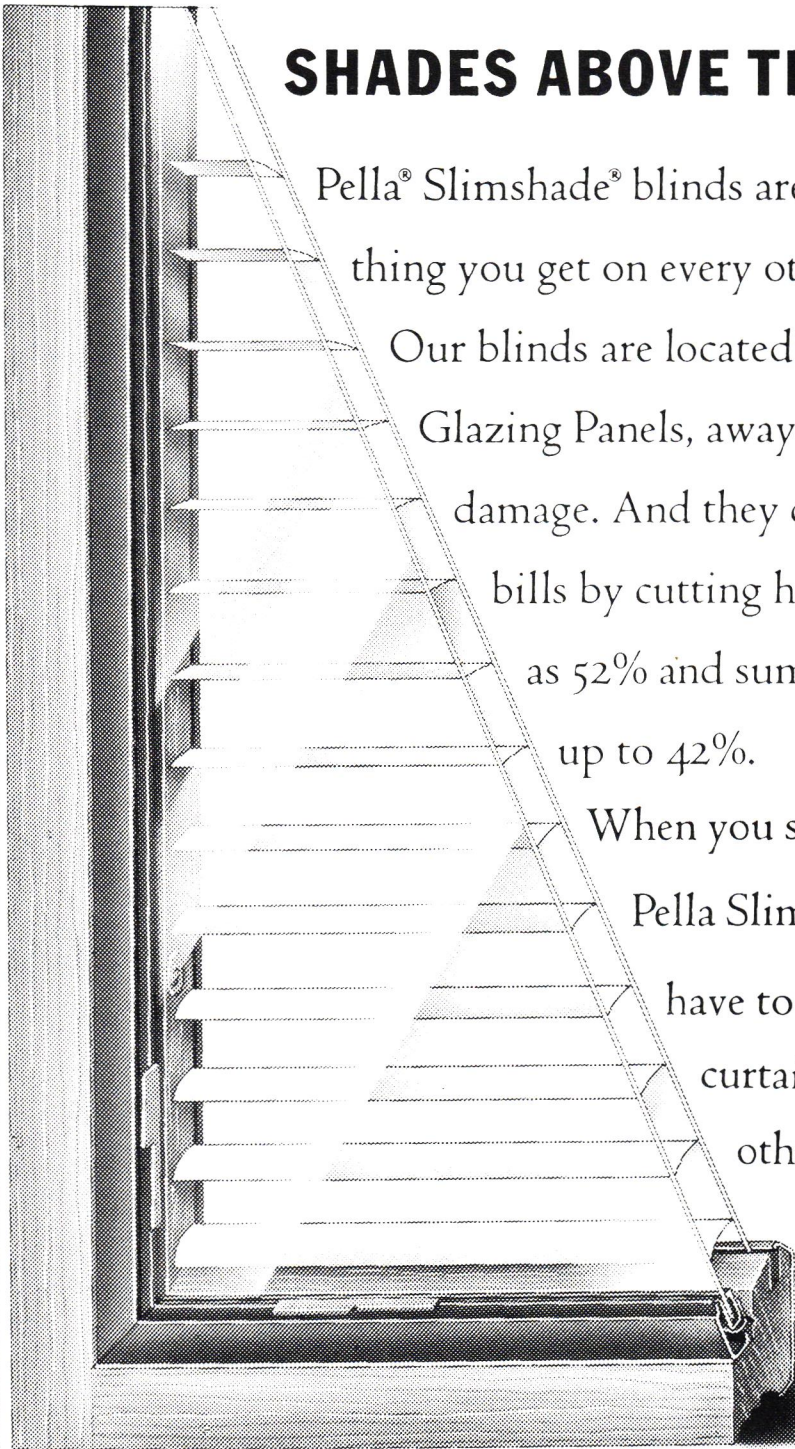
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Clip/copy this form and send with check (payable to "AIA Pittsburgh") to:  
 AIA Pittsburgh, CNG Tower, Suite 200, 625 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA  
 15222 or FAX to (412) 471-9501 by **Friday, June 18.**



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