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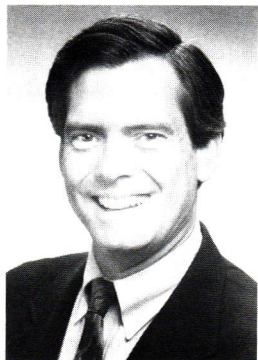
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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

A Couple of Issues

by Roger Kingsland, AIA, President



I have always felt that the best way to balance a budget was to make more money, not spend less.

Our last Board meeting (July 11), was very

interesting because two issues I think are important to AIA Pittsburgh were discussed.

The first was lack of attendance at AIA programs. Kevin Silson (Program and Exhibits Chair) and Carl Freedman (Continuing Education and IDP Chair) attended and asked for suggestions from the Board, regarding: how we might improve attendance. The Professional Development Committee has developed several excellent seminars in response to direct input from members. Carl's committee has done a fine job of organizing these events and has published a master calendar; call AIA if you need one. Kevin has developed a full schedule of monthly programs.

The Hornbostel and Richard Gluckman lectures have been the most popular so far. Attendance at some others has been disappointing, particularly Terry McDermott's lecture. As Executive Director of AIA National, Terry does an excellent job of explaining the value of AIA National. Thinking that a family oriented social event would be popular, we had scheduled a family picnic at the zoo for July, but had to cancel due to lack of interest.

Poor attendance is not a new problem. We are all busy and must be selective in the use of our time. I personally feel that we at the AIA should spend at least as much time encouraging attendance at a program as we do organizing it; even if we must cut the number of programs in half. It was mentioned that many of the professional development programs were scheduled for summer months when members are busy with other, non-professional activities (I think Jim Slomer at our office spends 83 percent of his waking weekend hours watching adolescent soccer when it is in season). The discussion expanded into the possibility of discontinuing AIA programs during the summer period. Summer is a fairly busy time for staff. We fill a lot of document orders, which is staff intensive, and do most of the planning for design awards. However, it seems feasible that we could discontinue committee meetings and membership programs and concentrate on these activities during the other three seasons of the year.

The second issue stems from discussion regarding the budget. Although it is difficult to accurately determine, we estimated by two methods of calculation, that we are approximately \$8,000 behind our revenue goal for 1995. I have always felt that the best way to balance a budget was to make more money, not spend less. After all, if we spend our money well, the more we spend, the better we serve our members. We have achieved substantial increases in sponsorship of our events, as well as doubled the number of professional affiliate members from 33 to 68 (we have a total of 578 members). I suggested that one way to make up the budget shortfall was to further increase the number of professional affiliates. We have a much lower percentage of affiliate members than other organizations, and many organizations, BOMA for example, receive substantial volunteer and financial support from their affiliates. Some Board members were, however, concerned that an increase in professional affiliates would inhibit opportunities for AIA members to socialize and interact and, even, perhaps, reduce program attendance by architects.

To me, this discussion is part and parcel to a central issue that we should discuss. The best way I can describe it is by a question: Are we a club or are we an organization (or where do we fall between these two extremes)? As a club, we would emphasize social interaction and the benefits members would receive through the exchange of ideas and knowledge among local architects. As an organization, our mission would be more directed toward accomplishing objectives that benefit our membership. I don't feel that AIA Pittsburgh should be at either extreme, nor do I have strong feelings as to which way we should lean. However, I do feel it is important that we have a clear conceptual understanding of what the nature of AIA Pittsburgh should be. Such an understanding would allow our leadership to plan programs appropriate to our underlying mission.

This is an excellent topic for November's long-range planning session and the Board would appreciate your input. For those of you too apathetic to give it, it's okay; we'll keep trying to get you involved and, even if you don't we can use the money. Thanks! 🏠

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On the cover: This month *Columns* takes a close look at the little things in architecture, such as this detail of MacLachlan Cornelius & Filoni's cupola at Duquesne University's Rangos School of Health Science. Photo: Dennis Marsico

AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. The objective of AIA Pittsburgh 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 AIA Pittsburgh. The Chapter has made every reasonable effort to provide accurate and authoritative information, but assumes no liability for the contents.

Regular or Decaf

Anne Swager, Executive Director

I only drink decaffeinated coffee.

The real stuff makes me hyperventilate, sick to my stomach and gives me a headache. It's somewhat akin to a hangover without the fun that led to it. We only have one

good coffeepot in the office and everyone else likes the leaded kind. You might think that we argue about how much of what we make and when we make it every morning, but we don't. We all drink decaf. Why? Because I am the boss and so, I win. There are lots of other issues that come up in the office from time to time with often, but not always, similar results. While I'm given to statements like *I don't mind negotiating as long as I get my own way*, mostly they are said in jest. Being the boss is the best position when the issue is what kind of coffee we make, where we are having our Xmas lunch, and what color we are painting the storage room. You can even be grumpy and out of sorts and people will just steer clear of you. Sometimes,

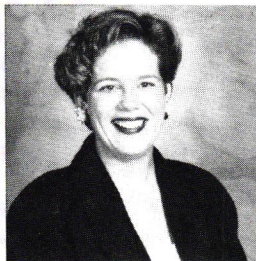
you can even impress people who have no idea who you are or what you do, by saying you are the boss of a whole office. "I run the company" sounds like mighty big stuff to the uninitiated.

After working for many different bosses for a number of years, I knew I wanted to be the boss someday. I was sure I could do it really well. I knew I would be totally democratic, always diplomatic, witty and insightful and of course, reap accolades from everyone in my office, unlike one fellow I worked for in the financial world of pinstriped suits and starched white shirts. He wore his rubbers over his shoes everyday to work for three solid weeks. He always asked everyone's opinion before he made a decision and then always did exactly what he thought in the first place. To me, he was Forrest Gump without the blind luck and certainly without any of the charm. I saw him several months ago and he was still in the financial world, apparently successful, wearing his rubbers and taking a con-

tainer of mashed potatoes and peas back to the office for his lunch. Did I mention his deplorable taste in cuisine? I critiqued his bad management techniques constantly. I took every criticism he made to anyone in the office totally to heart. I knew, given the chance, I could do it right. I could inspire everyone to do an outstanding job and succeed far beyond my wildest dreams.

I hear similar refrains everyday. There is no shortage of architects who someday want their own office. I am hardly one to criticize. I can no longer imagine working as a cog in the wheel of a large organization. But, I must add a note of caution. Being the boss only looks easy. When you are in charge, you can't be afraid to make decisions and go for broke. But now the rules have changed. It's not just your mouth you feed but everyone else in the office and their spouses and their kids and their pets and probably an elderly parent or two. Of course this won't be a problem because just like me you will know just the right thing to do to make a large profit. You are really sure of your idea, but just in case, you ask everyone in the office what they think, and a couple of your friends too. Naturally everybody's best guess is almost always different than yours and then, what should you do? Of course because you get to take lots of extended vacations and you can leave whenever you want, you'll have plenty of time to think over your brilliant ideas and make great decisions. As long as you don't mind phone calls when you are supposed to be away or errant thoughts of things you've forgotten jumping in front of your eyes while you are pulling tomato plants you'll be OK.

Of course, there's good and bad in everything we do, boss or not. If you are the one who signs everyone's paycheck, you can probably pick the coffee, even the flavored kind if you like. But, in the end, you also have to make all the final decisions, right or wrong, and live with the consequences. So, before you insist on choosing regular or decaf, remember you have to pay for it. ☐



After working for many different bosses for a number of years, I knew someday I wanted to be boss.



COLUMNS is printed on recycled paper.

In the Gallery

"Sites Specific Pittsburgh", an exhibition of watercolors by Robert L. Bowden will open Thursday, September 28, with a reception from 5 to 8 pm and will continue through October 27. Thirty-five new watercolors by the artist focus on structures and neighborhoods in the Pittsburgh area.

This exhibition builds on the themes of Bowden's 1994 Westmoreland Museum of Art show, "Impressions of Western Pennsylvania." The exhibit portrays the region's light and color, the structure of its buildings and topography, and how these elements combine to form the mood of our times.

Bowden has been drawn to architecturally related subjects since his graduation from Carnegie Mellon University with a bachelor of fine arts degree from the Department of Painting and Design in 1954. This is his ninth one-person exhibit of strong forms such as bridges, piers, and buildings which represent the ethic of our region. This spring he will exhibit at Slippery Rock University with his son, Paul, a



sculptor. In May, 1996, his show will open in the Nicholas Davies Gallery in Greenwich Village, New York.

AIA Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 4:30 and by appointment, telephone 363-2081 for more information. A catalog will be available.

St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church, Smallman and 21st Streets in the Strip District, Pittsburgh, watercolor, 1994, Robert L. Bowden

Urban Transformations Conference comes to Pittsburgh

October 12 -15 Pittsburgh will host the AIA Committee on Design, National Design Conference in conjunction with the Regional Urban Design Committee. The 1995 program, entitled "Urban Transformations," will look at Pittsburgh, Barcelona and Dallas/Fort Worth as cities that have significantly transformed themselves in the 20th century. The metropolises will be examined as representative urban structural typologies of the plains, the river and the sea. The place of the architect and role of design in these dynamic and contrasting environments will also be explored, along with political, economic and social factors that have contributed to the evolution of these three world cities.

The program begins on Thursday with tours and talks centering around the topic "Pittsburgh: City Form and Architecture." Friday's schedule includes a walking tour of the Golden Triangle, a visit to the Historical Society's new headquarters in the Strip District and a discussion of current plans for Downtown and adjacent districts. Saturday's program begins in Oakland in Pitt's Cathedral of Learning Nationality Rooms, and continues at Carnegie Mellon University and the Heinz Architectural Center. Afternoon tours to Fallingwater are followed by dinner at Rolling Rock Country Club in Ligonier, PA. The conference concludes on Sunday with talks and tours of the CMU campus and the Pittsburgh Technology Center.

Members receive 59 AIA/CES learning units for their participation in the program. Call AIA National at 202-626-7518 for information on how to register.





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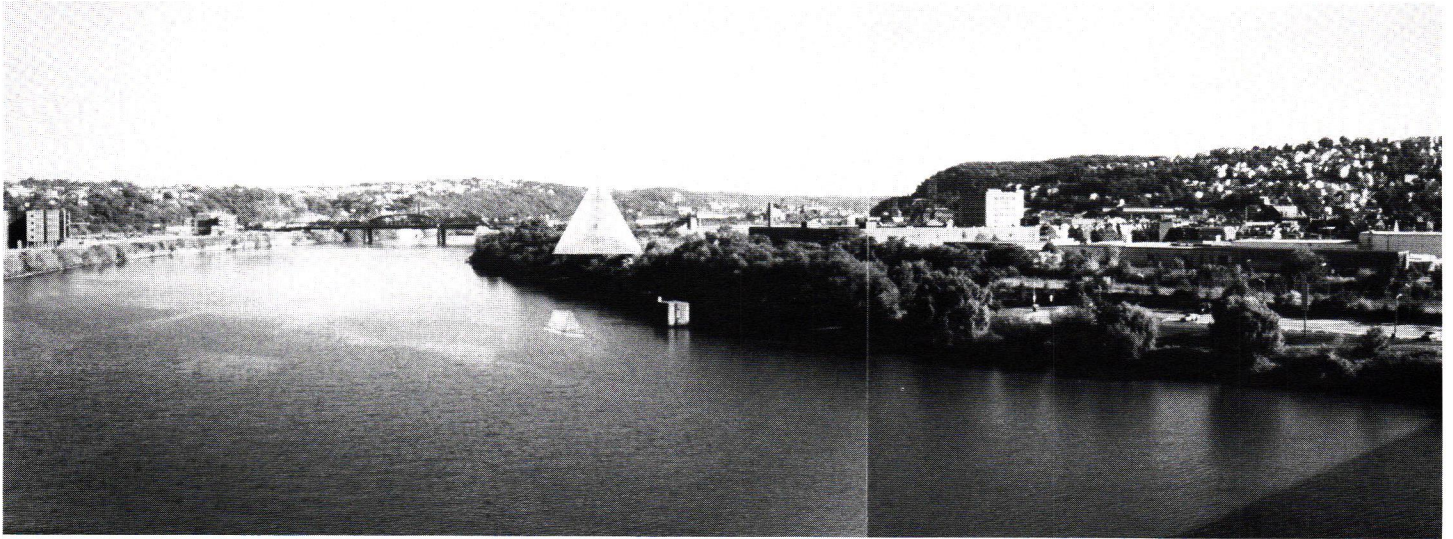
Charlotte

Pittsburgh

Tyson's Corner
(FALL OF 95)

Crystal Cathedral on the Mon

An award-winning project proposed for the former LTV site on the South Side raises interest, and aspirations.



A design for a golden glass cathedral and chapel boat that would be located at the former LTV site on the South Side has won architect **Frederick Winkler, AIA** the grand prize—a pound of gold—in the Libby Owens Ford glass company's international design competition. As part of the competition requirements, the design uses the company's Gold Eclipse Reflective Glass.

The 3,000-seat chapel is akin to California's Crystal Cathedral, which annually draws hundreds of thousands of visitors and is the location for nationally televised religious services. The Pittsburgh cathedral would function as a religious center on Sundays, a positive transition space daily, and as a large gathering hall for special events.

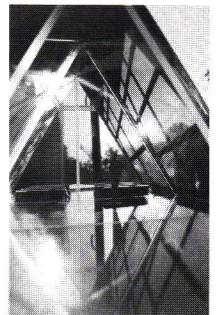
Winkler's vision places golden equilateral triangles of reflective glass and light, layered in planes in plan, elevation and section, to form a chapel on the water and a cathedral hall on the shore. The structure also functions as a port for the 75-seat glass chapel boat, which would provide daily water transportation from the cathedral to the city and could be used for weddings or special events. Winkler also proposes other program elements for the site, like a daycare center, preschool, a garden, continuation of the riverfront trail, extensive indoor and outdoor athletic facilities for

Olympic and public training, housing, and dining, among others.

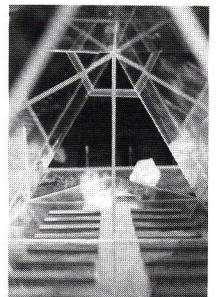
Winkler's goal is to "integrate with, reinforce and enhance the rivers of Pittsburgh through programming new uses of the water and the shore to give greater meaning and positive experiences to the people" as they enter the city. He sees the site's uses generating revenue for the city and helping alleviate transportation problems caused by the closing of major bridges in the next few years.

The proposal has been discussed with Mayor Tom Murphy, Urban Redevelopment Authority representatives and City Planning, and has been reviewed by the Heinz Architectural Center and Friends of the Riverfront. Both organizations found Winkler's proposal beneficial to linking Carson Street and the river by drawing people on foot, by boat or car from both edges. The project recently appeared in the May issue of *Architectural Record*.

Whether Winkler's project is built or not, the architect hopes it will encourage others to generate positive alternative uses for the area's riverfronts. On a more immediate level, Winkler has already put a portion of his pound of gold—or \$6,320—to good use. "I joined the AIA," he said. —M.F.



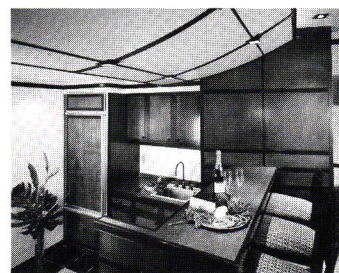
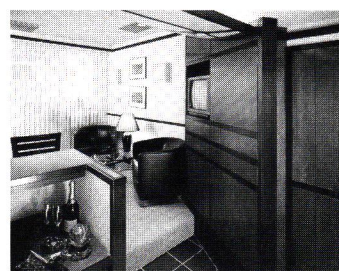
Interior of cathedral



Interior of glass boat

PARTS PORTFOLIO

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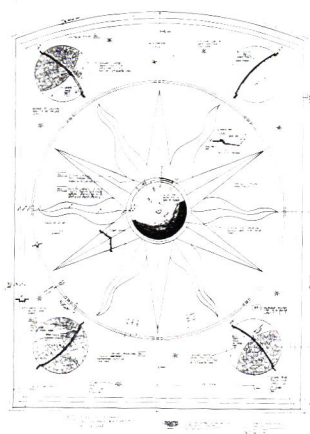


PHOTOS: ED MASSERY

Gardner + Pope Architects **Stadium Box at Three Rivers Stadium** **Pittsburgh, PA**

The restrictive parameters of the existing structure presented an interesting challenge for the renovation of this Club Box. By working closely with the casework manufacturer, a template was created on site which was then taken back to the shop to be used for fabrication of the finished product. The closets and cabinets immediately to the left and right of the entry were installed at a slight angle to make up for the pie-shaped walls. The sharply angled wood panel walls on either side of the space, along with the radiused bulkhead spanning between them, serve to elegantly cover the existing concrete structure while also forcing the perspective view outward to the playing field.

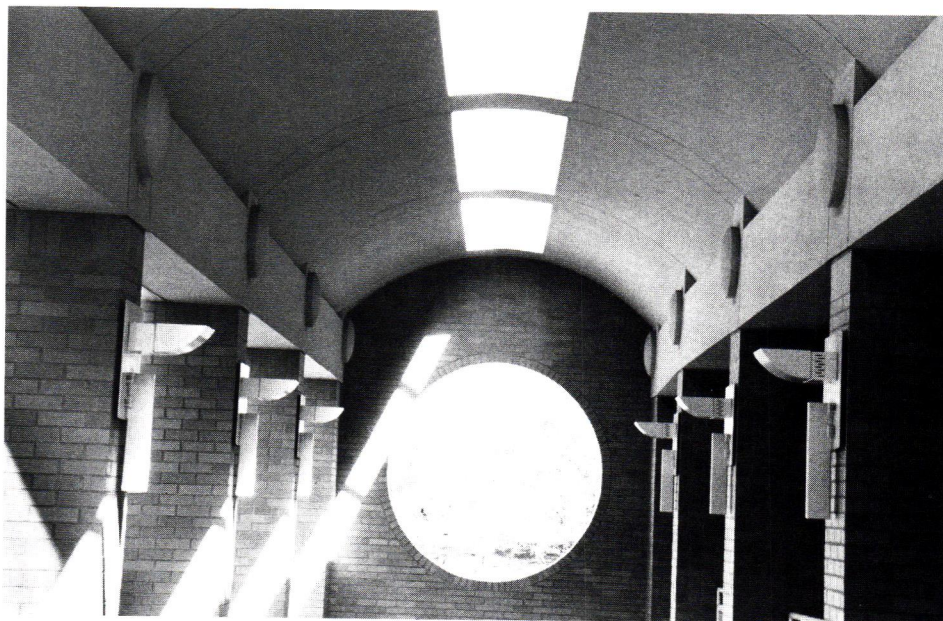
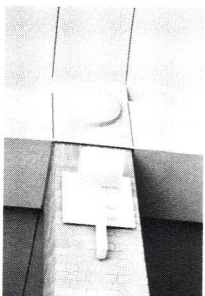
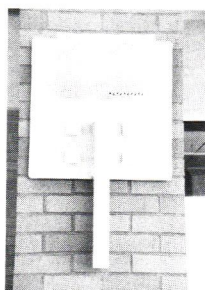
Contractor: P.W. Campbell



MacLachlan Cornelius & Filoni, Inc.
Courtyard Fountain at D.T. Watson Rehabilitation Hospital
Leet Township, PA

The "fountain" concept has become a symbol of the Hospital's mission to add new life to patients facing the biggest struggle of their lives. The fountain is a small centerpiece within a new central courtyard which organizes the entire building project. The sight and sound of flowing water instills a sense of calmness and vitality throughout the courtyard and interior spaces of the building. Hand carved limestone details depict the sun, symbolizing life and energy, and the waning and waxing moon phases which symbolize the human condition of sickness and healing. The brick and stone fountain is now a favorite place to sit, and touch, feel and hear the life-giving water.

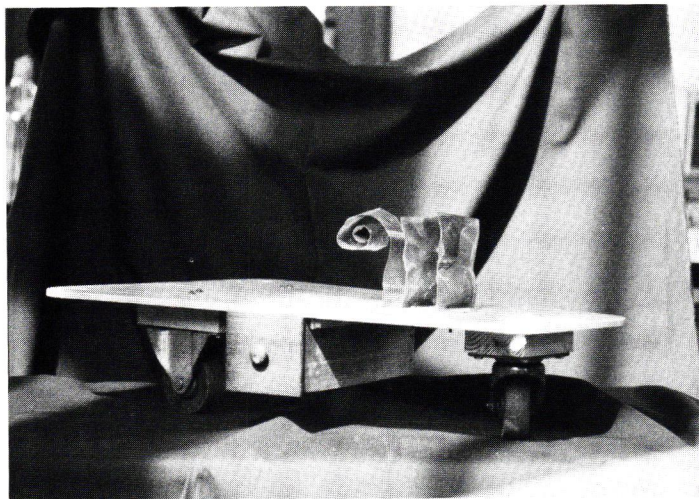
Fountain Design: Tim Powers Contractor: Landau Building Company



WTW Architects
Mt. Lebanon Transportation Center, Mt. Lebanon, PA

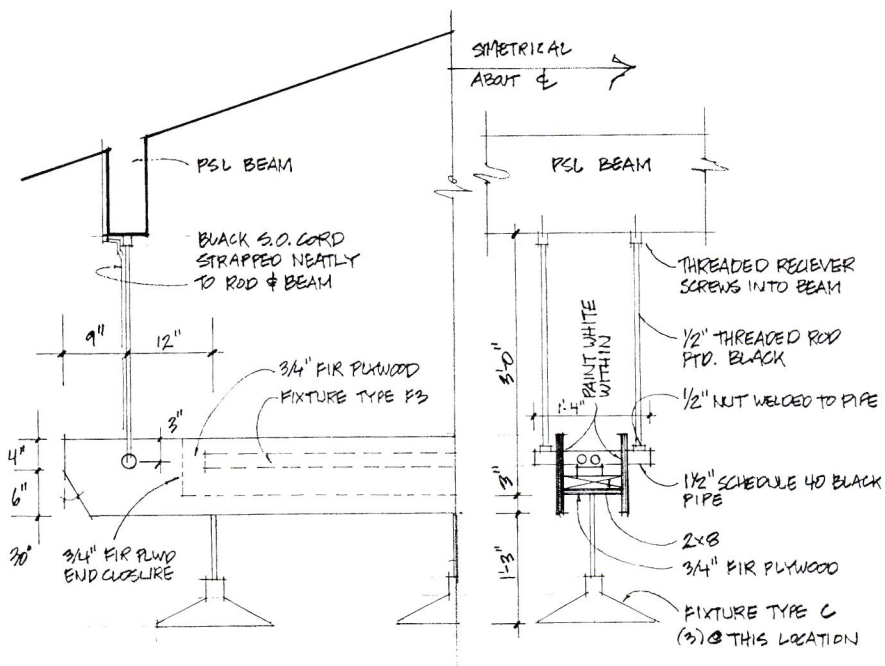
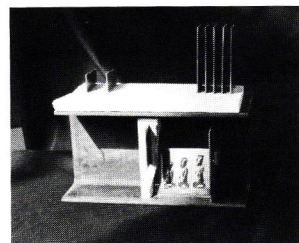
Designed as a catalyst for reinvestment in the business district, the Transportation Center meets a variety of planning and physical constraints with refined dignity. Sympathetically detailed to honor the Art Deco character of the neighborhood, the precast concrete and brick structure integrates elegantly into the commercial streetscape. Custom light fixtures mimic recesses in the masonry piers, while the vaulted ceiling and circular details of the column caps mirror the precast concrete elements of the building exterior.

Contractor: P.J. Dick



Jim DeCecco Architect Table by Poesia

Jim DeCecco designs and hand-crafts a number of sculptural furnishings, such as a candelabra, a music stand and table with copper fins (pictured). Aluminum, wood, copper and steel come together to form the unique pieces produced by Jim's company, Poesia.

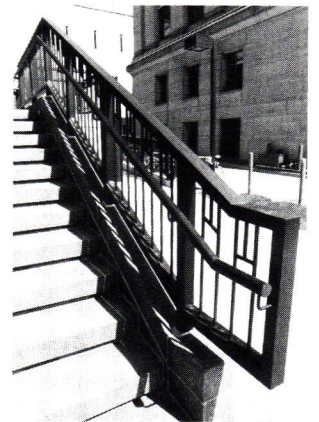
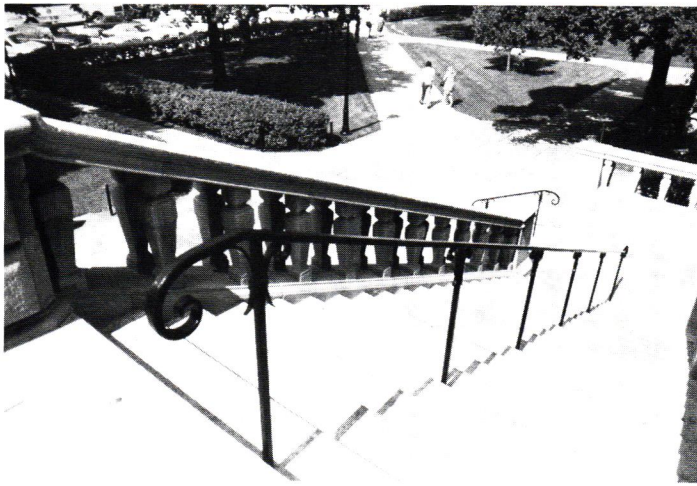


2 CHANDELIER
3.2 SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"

The Design Alliance Girl Scout Troop Cabins Bruceton Mills, WV

This simple assembly is located above a large dining/activity table centered in the cabin's multi-purpose room and hangs from a pair of exposed parallel strand lumber ridge beams. Three economical pendants, field painted a copper verdigris color, provide ample downlight while concealed T8 tubes flood the ceiling. Black pipe and fir plywood appear as accents and wall paneling elsewhere in the room. The pendants repeat above smaller tables and their finish matches the wall sconces.

Principal-in-charge: Cherie Moshier, AIA
Project Architect: Thomas O. Gray



LEFT: Cathedral of Learning
ABOVE: LRDC



ABOVE: "Missile Launchers"



Charles L. Desmone and Associates

Building Entrance Accessibility for Oakland Campus Buildings University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

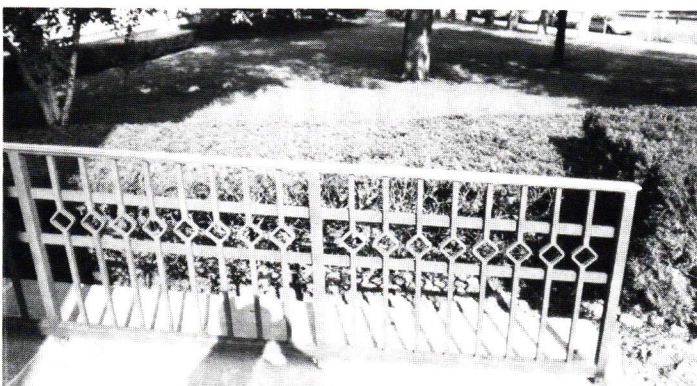
The railings for the entrance to the Frick Fine Arts Building were designed by Jim DeCecco. They emulate the imagery of an original iron door on the building's interior.

The iron railings at the main entrance stair for the Cathedral of Learning were designed by Chip Desmone, AIA and were meant to invoke the imagery of similar iron work originally designed for the adjacent Stephen Foster Memorial.

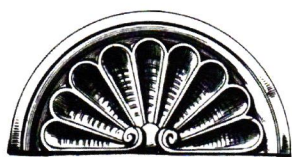
The railing for the Learning and Research Development Classrooms were designed by Krist Dodaro. The design was generated by the forms of the original Harrison & Abromowitz railings with efforts to bring the railings into ADA compliance. They are aluminum with granite bases.

The "Missile Launchers" were designed by Chip Desmone, AIA as a university standard for housing the automatic door push button operators. They were created as an identifiable object that can be easily recognized throughout the campus. They are constructed of aluminum and copper.

General Contractors: Tedco (13 buildings), John Deklewa & Sons (15 buildings)



LEFT: Frick Fine Arts Building



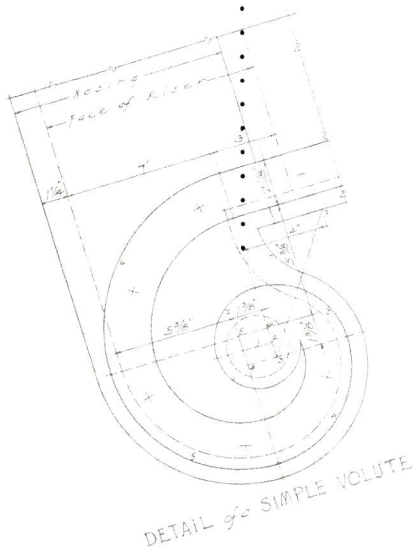
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Trifling Details

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**David J.
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In a musical analogy, the design is the melody and the detailing is the complex orchestration which is written out for each instrument on the long pages of the musical score. In the literary sense, the design is the plot and the details are the changing settings, the characters, the turn of a phrase and the mechanics of grammar. Like its companion arts, the process of architectural detailing is an essential step in transforming ideas into a convincing reality. Without this step, musicians improvise, builders guess and many readers go to sleep.

We tend to perceive notes without melody, random words and awkward piles of material as chaos. Yet the persistent imagination which visits the human mind can often see beauty in happenstance. The basic act of focusing interest on this unique part is, in fact, the same skill as detailing. Like a biologist with scalpel and magnifying glass, the architect repeatedly produces drawings which illustrate building components isolated, cut-away or in cross-section.

To conclude that because these tiny parts are small that they are somehow petty or insignificant would be a fault. To be able to see in them their relationship to the whole, their accordance to the great elemental forces of nature and the specific look and alignment of the design, is the gist of the matter. That's asking a lot to be conveyed in what is often no more than a three inch square of precisely drawn lines.

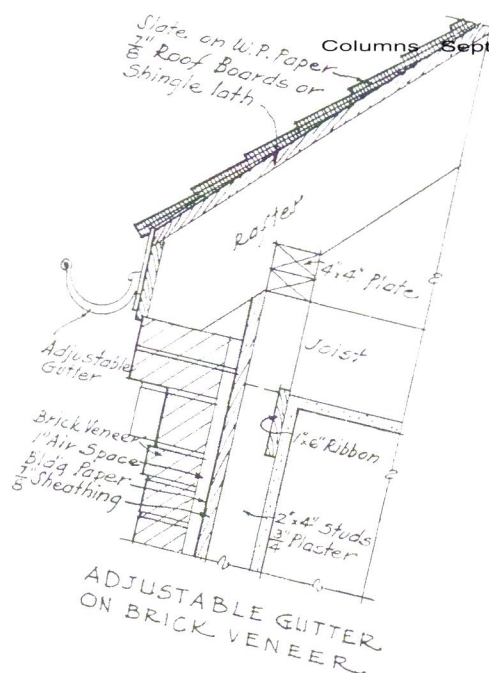
It hasn't always been that way. Until about 1910, working drawings were produced with few references to the technical components of assembly and construction. In the Old World, where methods of handicraft were advanced by life-long guild training, architectural drawings were rarely detailed and bore only the most basic dimensions. The architect was called upon to give a plan, elevations, and

ornamentation. Workers were relied upon to interpret their jobs without damaging the overall concept. This process consistently produced structures made of local materials according to customary methods. The most revolutionary change in modern professional practice occurred with the systemization of drawings and specifications into a comprehensive set of construction documents. Since the turn of the twentieth century, the continuous introduction of new materials, pre-manufactured components and the need for complex mechanical and safety systems have propelled architects to plan buildings in the most minute detail.

Today, a competent set of construction drawings serves both as the legal extent of the work, and as detailed instructions for the workers who construct the building. They are absolutely necessary to settle a number of important practical considerations. They are intended to be rigorously read with an eye towards exactness. The illustrations are explicit; the notations unequivocal. They are drawings of great clarity so there may be no doubt about the intended construction.

The most important qualifications of a detailer are to have first hand knowledge of good construction practice and an appreciation for how materials can best be used. The most successful details are derived from a pragmatic eye based on experience. It is essential to recognize the sequence of construction, the proper connections for joining dissimilar materials, and to understand the use of specialized tools. The detailers must also be sage enough to allow for material tolerances and to have scrutinized how each substance responds to the random cycle of natural forces: dampness, dryness, light, air, sound, fire, temperature and gravity.

The detailer is often preoccupied with the alignment and interconnection of parts. Working out a detail means to



embark on a logical search to unify and adjust several components into their optimum positions. Hidden in every detail is one critical relationship; a single tangible starting point for making it work. It is often difficult to find, and then puzzling when you do find it. Details are sometimes redrawn four or five times before their order is fully understood. It requires a certain fluidity of skills to alternately work in concept, plan, elevation, section, and perspective—as each of these views may influence the final fit.

Details often define the size of things and fix their length, breadth, height and depth. These dimensions are intended to be read with an Old Testament authority: When thy architect sayeth two feet, thy builder shall measure two feet, and no more or no less shall be measured, but at two feet it shall be built.

Part of the fun of detailing is that it is not just the technical precision of fitting a building together, but details also affect visual characteristics and are treated to a lot of artistic fuss. Details must reflect the designer's intent so that each part can be carried out with the spirit of the whole. Details determine if the look is to be bare-bones or a full-dress pageant.

The art is knowing what to express, making connections look easy and in finding harmonious and sometimes original forms. Like Houdini, it is up to the detailer to provide the wizardry and considerable attention to make countertops float, roofs hover, doors disappear and, of course, to conceal wires. The design architect is often found lingering about the detailer's desk and seems always ready to redmark drawings to help pull off these effects with style and imagination. But the job is not always simply finding a way to hide the fasteners. In the post-modern language of high-tech, detailing strives to exaggerate connections.

Indeed, detailing can evolve into a recognizable signature and is one of the age-old methods of stamping a project with individuality.

Architects spend a great deal of time trying to figure out distinctive ways to allow light and air in and to keep water out. Along the way, felt pens are put to cocktail napkins, graphite to vellum, and hasty crude sketches are made on sheets of raw drywall with blunted carpenter's pencils in what sometimes becomes a compulsive mania for finding the best way. Details are presumed in the design phase, thought out at design development, worked out in construction documents, committed to in the shop drawings and are sometimes only finally resolved on the job site by the skill and tenacity of a deep breathing contractor.

The detailing process is not an easy task. Imagine shaping the inside contours and outside profiles of a building simultaneously in your mind. Think of finding that sole correlation of the two in a unity that lets each exist on its own—a world of rooms inside with a different civic relationship outside. Two expressions from either side of the same window created in a romance of requirement, whim and structure; the design evolves to the touch of your thoughts, in the fluid of a pure idea. Then it is studied and refined to a fit so flawlessly matched that it can be built to exact dimension. One window which affords a new view to the world, and all around it a complexity of pieces fit together.

It should come as no surprise to read that Michaelangelo said, "Trifles make perfection and perfection is no trifle." 🏠



Hidden in every detail is one critical relationship; a single tangible starting point for making it work. It is often difficult to find, and then puzzling when you do find it.

Kudos

→ **Paul Ostergaard, AIA** was recently recognized by the American Society of Architectural Perspectivists in their 1995 Sketch Category Selection awards for his sketch of Yale Science Park in New Haven, CT. A product of a design charrette, the drawing captures the importance of creating a more direct link to the center of New Haven.

Douglas C. Berryman, AIA recently served as one of the judges for Mt. Lebanon's Build Your Own Landmark contest, an annual competition that honors quality exterior remodeling projects. In addition, Berryman helped revise the six-year-old competition which was originally conceived by the staff of *Mt. Lebanon Magazine* and **Anne Swager** when she was the Executive Director of Uptown Mt. Lebanon.

Three local carpenter apprentices, Steve Kelly, Timothy Wenk and Ronald Husa took top honors at the PA State Carpenter Apprenticeship Contest. After a rigorous four hour written exam the apprentices had to complete a winning project within an eight hour workday. Best of luck to the winners who move onto the International Carpenters' Apprentice Contest in December.

From the firms

→ **STUDIO DeLisio Architecture & Design** has been retained to design interiors for Extreme Fitness, a physical fitness, aerobics and personal training facility.

Ground was broken early this summer for construction of Negley Commons, a 25 unit apartment building designed by **RSH Architects**. The three story structure offers accessible apartments with financial rental assistance through the HUD Section 811 Program. Mistick PBT was awarded the construction contract and anticipates completion in early 1996.

Plans for the replacement facility for the Riverview Nursing Home were recently unveiled. Designed by **Perkins Eastman Architects, PC**, this new facility incorporates the latest in nursing home design featuring small clusters of 15 residents with direct nursing care staff. Borrowing from the surrounding Squirrel Hill community, the building will resemble a large estate house constructed of stone and brick with steeply pitched roofs, dormers, and porches.

Baker and Associates with Mellon Stuart Company have been awarded a \$3.2 million contract extension by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the design and construction of an additional building at its new Army Reserve facility in Wheeling WV. The new building is a 24,000-square-foot training center complete with classrooms, kitchen and storage areas.

Building on a master plan for the Mother Campus of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity, **Hayes Large Architects** has completed the design for a new 20 unit residential facility. Due to be completed in March 1996 by Burchick Construction, the new brick and wood building contextually compliments the 100 acre campus located off McKnight Road in the North Hills.

Transitions

→ With 15 years of experience in architectural practice, Robert W. Grubb is joining **Suzan Lami Architects** as a principal. His help is needed to manage the firm's growing client list which includes new contracts with Citizens Bank, Magee-Womens Hospital and Starbucks Coffee.

Fred Denig, AIA recently changed the name of his firm to **Atelier Denig Architects**. When he called the state licensing board to report the change, he was asked "Who is Mr. Atelier?"

News

→ A new company, Diversityworks, has been established by Susan Faigen to serve as a resource for Woman and Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (W/MBE's) in the building industry. Representing a variety of W/MBE companies, Diversityworks can provide goods and services for the design and construction phases of commercial building projects.

The U. S. government has recently published a new resource for architects and others interested in America's architectural, industrial and technological legacy. *America Preserved: A Checklist of Historic Buildings, Structures and Sites* was compiled from both the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER). The \$74 volume is available by mail, phone or fax order from any of the 24 U.S. Government Bookstores. Reminder: AIA members can borrow this and many other publications free of charge from the The American Institute of Architects library by calling (202) 626-7489.

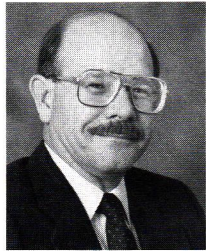
Pittsburgh is one of the "Hot Spots to be," so says *DesignIntelligence* published by James P. Cramer, former CEO of AIA National. In the July 21, 1995 edition of *DesignIntelligence*, the East Central region including Pittsburgh received the strongest ranking in the capsule report which covers financial trends, changes, and new commissions. The newsletter stated that multi-family housing and commercial construction continues strong. Residential should continue an upward trend mid-term. A/E firms are busier than at any time in the recent five years. Backlogs in this region remain strong and firms are seeking new talent and alliances. Confidence level is 7.5. Subscriptions are available by calling the Greenway Group at (703) 904-8065.

Because of our strong ethnic background, Pittsburgh is a city full of churches. Declines in population and the consolidation of parishes, have left us with many unused church buildings. In an effort to save these architectural gems, The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) is gathering information on successful church conversion projects. If you have done such a project, no matter what the size, please forward a brief description and address to AIA Pittsburgh. We will compile the information and forward it to PHLF.

Membership Committee *Al Cuteri, AIA, 471-8008*

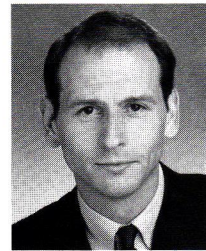
AIA Pittsburgh welcomes six new members

Ronald S. Libengood, Professional Affiliate, is the President and Principal Consultant of SecuraComm Consulting, Inc. He has been an independent consultant for the past 15 years, following a 16 year engineering and security career with Westinghouse. He received a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of



Pittsburgh and has been issued U.S. patents. Ron has been designated a Certified Protection Professional by the American Society for Industrial Security. He has designed security systems for hundreds of projects including financial, government, military, institutional, industrial and business facilities as well as private estates, and is currently designing systems for customs checkpoints at the new Russian border. In addition to meeting the needs of his varied clients he finds time to write articles for professional journals, play golf and tennis, and restore and show Corvettes. Ron and his wife Sandra have two daughters.

Jack R. Harnick, Professional Affiliate, is a sales representative for C-AD Signs, a Division of AI-AD Industries, Inc. Among recent projects are various Dollar Banks, Lost Kennywood, Kinko's Copies, and Mt. Lebanon North Parking Garage. Jack graduated from Kent State University with a BA in Business. He and his wife Nell teach alpine skiing and are remodeling their house in the Laurel Mountains. They are the proud parents of two cats and one dog.



Philip Abraham, Professional Affiliate, is the local branch manager of Traco which lists its most prestigious projects as the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building. Phil is a graduate of California University of Pennsylvania and lists his interests as raising his children—all six of them ranging in age from 2-18! He has also expressed interest in working with the Education/Professional

Development Committee, so give him a call and get him on board!

Traci L. McGavitt, Professional Affiliate, has been a sales associate at General Industries for the past seven years and is becoming a familiar face at our monthly events. She graduated from California University of Pennsylvania and lists her interests as reading and golfing, an interest which probably served her well



when General Industries was involved with the Southpointe Golf Clubhouse (or was it the project which served her interests). Among her interests in the AIA are the Membership, Communications and Programs Committees and Architrave. As active as Traci has already been in the AIA activities, she will make an enthusiastic committee person for the prompt caller and persuasive chair.

Babu K. Patel, Professional Affiliate, the Principal/Senior Vice President/Chairman of Polytech, Inc., a Cleveland based firm with an office now in Pittsburgh's Gateway Center, most recently was the Principal-in-Charge of mechanical, electrical and structural engineering at Jacob's Field, home of the Cleveland Indians. He received his BS in Mechanical Engineering from BVM Engineering College in Ahmedabad, India and his MS from the University of Kansas. He has been a practicing engineer for the past 30 years in Cleveland. Welcome to the 'burgh!! Babu has three children and enjoys reading, golfing and skiing.

Phil Lisotta, Associate AIA, was known as the "Skipper of the Clipper" by his CMU classmates before he graduated last May and accepted a position with Johnson/Schmidt and Associates. Originally from New York City, he was attracted to Pittsburgh by the CMU program and working summers with the Gateway Clipper fleet in their marketing and graphic design. Phil is remaining active in AIAS, organizing the Freshman Orientation program both last year and this. Though he preferred this brief bio to be scandalous, perhaps our members should make his acquaintance and form their own opinions.

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Monolithic Architecture

Nine buildings and twelve architects come together from fourteen countries to celebrate the eloquence of simplicity in design.



Next month the Heinz Architectural Center will present *Monolithic Architecture*, a singular exhibition of contemporary design. The exhibit will explore nine buildings of startling formal power designed by some of the most provocative architects practicing today. International in scope, it will bring together work ranging from Peter Eisenman's Max Reinhardt Haus office project in Berlin and Herzog & de Meuron's Signal Box for the Swiss Federal Railway in Basel, to Rem Koolhaas's Sea Trade Center in Zeebrugge, Belgium, and Ungers & Kinslow's steel T-House in rural upstate New York.

Heinz Center curator Christopher Monkhouse and guest curators Rodolfo Machado and Rodolphe el-Khoury have selected nearly one hundred objects, including models, drawings and photographs, to fully illustrate the buildings and demonstrate the visual simplicity that links them. Directness, eloquence, boldness and unorthodoxy are but a few of the characteristics that are celebrated in the show. "These buildings," writes Christopher Monkhouse in an essay on the exhibit, "primarily share an extreme economy and simplicity in overall form; most characteristic is their

capacity to deliver tremendous eloquence with very few formal means."

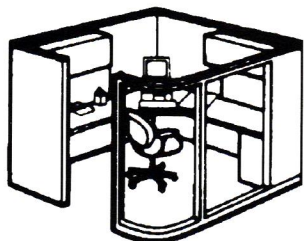
Argentinean by birth, but now an American citizen who had an architectural practice in Pittsburgh in the mid-1970s while teaching at Carnegie Mellon University, guest curator Rodolfo Machado is currently Professor of Architecture and Urban Design in the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. As a contributor to three Venice Biennales for Architecture, Machado brings with him international experience in contemporary architecture exhibits. Machado invited Rodolphe el-Khoury to co-curate the exhibit. Born in Lebanon, el-Khoury trained at the Rhode Island School of Design and is now Assistant Professor of Architecture at Harvard.

With fourteen countries represented in the exhibition, *Monolithic Architecture* serves as an excellent compliment to the 1995 Carnegie International, the endeavor's centennial exhibit. The show opens at the Heinz Architectural Center's galleries on October 1, 1995 and will remain on view until February 11, 1996. ■

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A Concrete Competition

Entries are due shortly for the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute design awards competition. All predominately site-cast, conventionally reinforced, concrete structures completed between January 1, 1993 and October 27, 1995 can be entered. Juried by Charles E. Dagit, FAIA, Steven M. Goldberg, FAIA, and Nicholas A. Bilandic, SE, several awards will be presented and winners will receive national publicity. Cosponsored by AIA, entries must be received by October 27, 1995. To receive an information packet, call CRSI at (708) 517-1200.

Celebrating Sparkle Season

Last year's successful holiday celebration, Sparkle Season, will once again brighten our downtown area in November and December. Cosponsored by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, this year's festivities will include storefront installations in empty shop windows. The Urban Design Committee invites any firm or individual interested in celebrating and promoting architecture to design and install your storefront exhibit. Contact Mary Cerrone at 471-3600 for more details.

AIA ACTIVITIES

September 5, Tuesday

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

September 6, Wednesday

Committee of Committees Meeting, 5 p.m.
at the Chapter office, Anne Swager, 471-9548.

September 7, Thursday

Programs/Exhibits Committee, 5 p.m. at the
Chapter office, Kevin Silson, AIA, 255-8622.

September 8, Friday

Urban Design Committee Meeting,
5:45 p.m. at the Chapter office, Kevin
Wagstaff, AIA, 391-2884.

September 8, Friday

Communications Committee Meeting,
12 noon at the Chapter office, Anne Swager,
471-9548.

September 13, Wednesday

**Professional Development Committee
Meeting/Intern Development Commit-
tee**, noon at the Chapter office, Carl
Freedman, AIA, 281-6568.

September 13, Wednesday

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Professional
Chapter of BOCA 1995 Annual Member-
ship Meeting**, 6:30 p.m. at the Engineer's Club,
call Ed Shriver at 788-1500. (See page 23).

September 14, Thursday

Committee on the Environment, 5:00 p.m. at
the Chapter office, Gary Moshier, AIA, 231-1500.

September 14, Thursday

Public Relations Committee, 12 noon at
the Chapter office, Dewey Nichols, AIA,
394-7085.

September 15, Friday

Legislative Committee Meeting
4:30 p.m. at the Chapter office, Jim Sheehan,
AIA, 682-6008.

1 C 9 A 8 L 5 E N D A R

September 25, Monday

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

September 27, Wednesday

September Membership Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
at the Engineer's Club, Election of Board
Members and Lela Shultz, Executive Director,
Pennsylvania Society of Architects. (See page 23
for details).

September 27, Wednesday

AIA/MBA Committee Meeting, 4 p.m. at
the Building Industry Center, Conference
Room #1, 2270 Noblestown Road,
Kay Lamison, 922-4750.

September 28, Thursday

Site Specific Pittsburgh, 35 new watercolors
by Robert L. Bowden opens in the AIA Gallery,
with a reception from 5-8 p.m.

September 28, Thursday

Public Relations Committee, 12 noon at
the Chapter office, Dewey Nichols, AIA,
394-7085.

AROUND TOWN

September 12, Tuesday

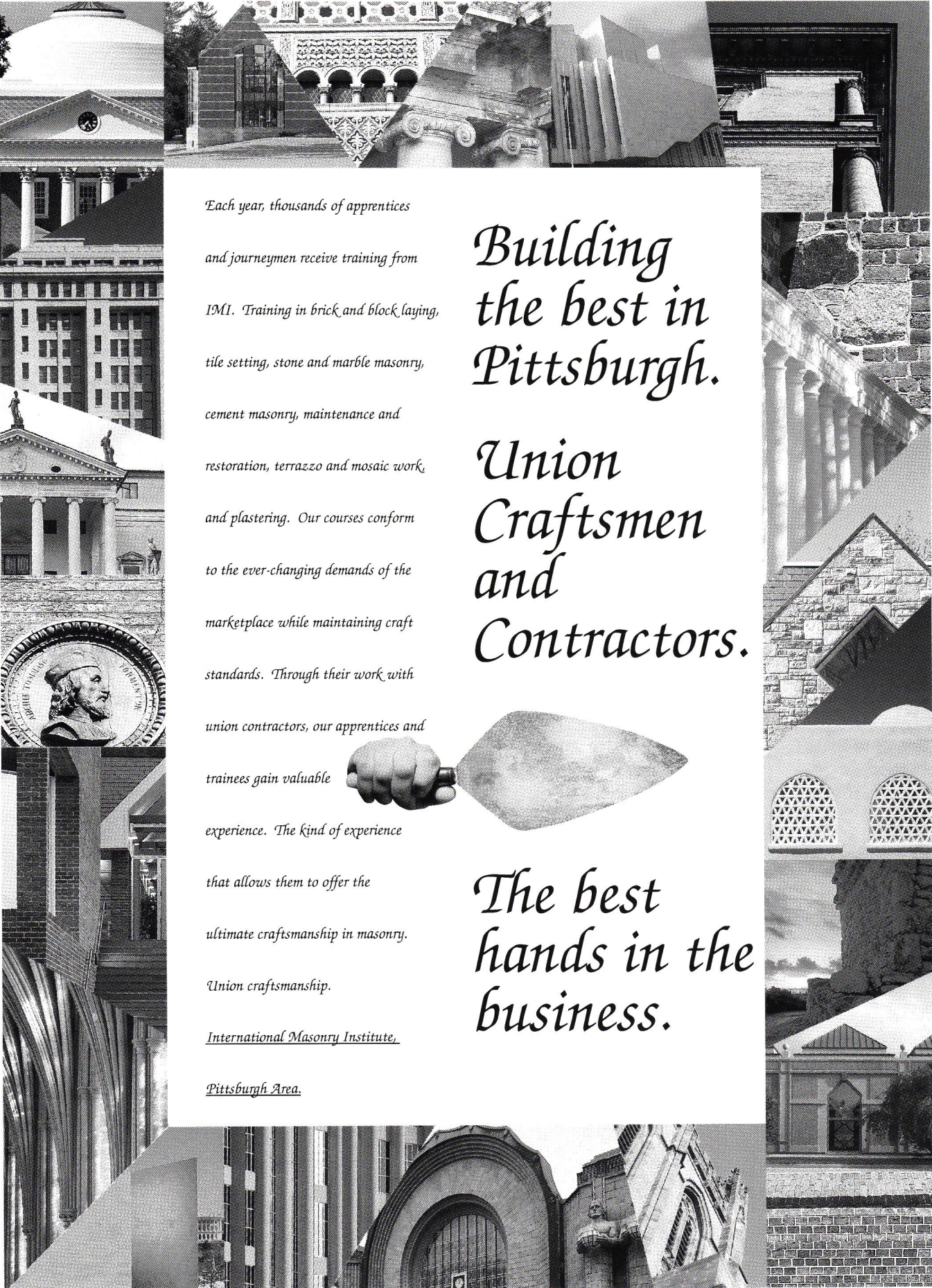
Construction Specifications Institute (CSI),
Embassy Suites Hotel; RSVP to Sheila Cartiff,
823-5063.

September 13, Wednesday

**Society of Design Administrators
Meeting**, Betty Lesser, 261-6515, for
information.

October 1, Sunday

Monolithic Architecture opens at the Heinz
Architectural Center. (See page 16 for details).

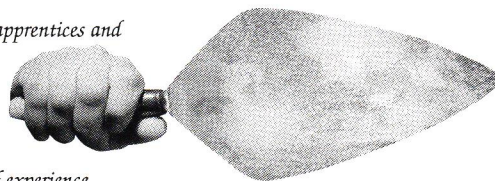


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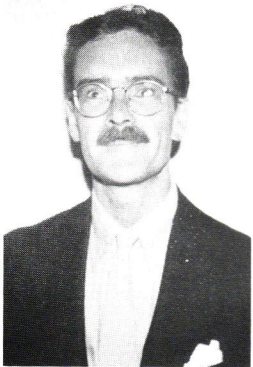
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James A. Sheehan, AIA



The best gift to give an architect is a deadline one month past the first one.

Firm: Sheehan & Holler Architects, Inc.

Family info: Wife: Laureen; daughter, Emily; son, Patrick.

Years in practice: 18

Education: B.S. Arch., Temple University; M. Arch., Carnegie Mellon University.

Project you're proudest of: Starting and growing my architectural practice.

Building you'd like to tear down: Headquarters of the IRS.

If you hadn't been an architect, what would you have been? A journalist.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be? The Dingle Peninsula on the southwest coast of Ireland.

What's the best part of your job? Exposure to a diversity of interesting clients who have enriched my views and understanding of business and operations very different from my own.

What would you change about your job? I'd like to devote extensive time to basic research.

What's the most annoying thing architects do? Analyze the micro before the macro is resolved.

The one thing you wish they would teach you in school is: Spelling.

Favorite city: New York.

Favorite architect: Alvar Aalto.

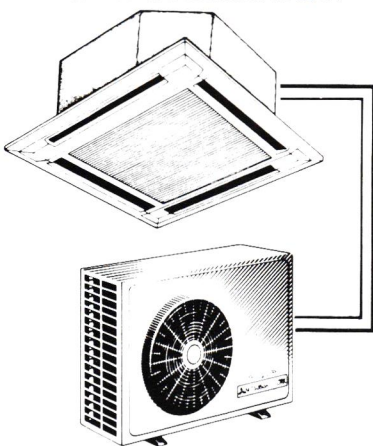
Favorite Pittsburgh neighborhood: Point Breeze.

Best gift to give an architect: A deadline one month past the first one.

Wish list for Pittsburgh/Downtown: A vibrant residential district.

I belong to the AIA because: I will improve my practice skills and deepen my understanding of issues and concerns in my profession. I am able to gain a perspective on the concerns and issues which other practitioners consider important for the profession.

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Burchick Construction Co., Inc. 500 Lowries Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 369-9700 <i>Contact: Joseph E. Burchick</i>	●	●			●		●	●		●	
F.J. Busse Co., Inc. 1575 Noblestown Road, P.O. Box 8540, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 921-1231 <i>Contact: John Paul Busse</i>	●			●	●		●	●		●	
DiCicco Contracting Corporation 1005 Beaver Grade Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108 262-3540 <i>Contact: Samuel E. DiCicco</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	
Flynn Construction, Inc. 610 Ross Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15221 243-2483 <i>Contact: Jan McCoy</i>	●	●		●	●			●		●	
General Industries 15 Arentzen Blvd., Charleroi, PA 15022 483-1600 <i>Contact: Donald Ivill</i>	●			●	●		●	●		●	
Kacin, Inc. 795-22 Pine Valley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15239 327-2225 <i>Contact: Jeffrey D. Ferris</i>	●	●			●		●	●		●	●
Kusevich Contracting 3 Walnut Street, P.O. Box 95042, Pittsburgh, PA 15223 782-2112 <i>Contact: George Kusevich Jr.</i>	●	●			●		●	●		●	
Landau Building Company 9855 Rinaman Road, Wexford, PA 15090 935-8800 <i>Contact: Thomas A. Landau</i>	●	●			●					●	
A. Martini & Co., Inc. 320 Grant Street, Verona, PA 15147 828-5500 <i>Contact: Angela Martini, Sr.</i>	●	●			●		●	●		●	
Mistick Construction 1300 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233 322-1121 <i>Contact: M. Robert Mistick</i>	●	●		●	●			●		●	●
Mosites Construction Company 4839 Campbells Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 923-2255 <i>Contact: M. Dean Mosites</i>	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	
Peters Holding Company 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 366-1666 <i>Contact: M. Raymond Hildreth</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	
Recco Corporation Expressway Park, Gulf Lab Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 828-9070 <i>Contact: Bill Schwartz</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	●
Repal Construction Co., Inc. 2400 Ardmore Blvd., Suite 400, Pittsburgh, PA 15221 271-3700 <i>Contact: Bill Palmer</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	●
Ross & Kennedy Corporation 1610 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15209-1696 821-2424 <i>Contact: John N. Broeren</i>	●	●			●		●			●	
TEDCO Construction Corporation TEDCO Place, Carnegie, PA 15106 276-8080 <i>Contact: John R. Rusnak</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	
Trafalgar House Construction Suite 345, One Oliver Plaza, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 566-5300 <i>Contact: John Bonassi</i>	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	

MARKETPLACE

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To place your ad in Marketplace: Classified Rates: AIA Members: \$.50/word; non-members: \$.75/word. Mail your typewritten copy to: AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Check must accompany copy. Deadline for Classifieds for the September issue is August 7.

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Astorino Branch Engineers, Inc. 227 Fort Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 765-1700 Contact: Patrick I. Branch, P.E., President			●		●	●	●		●	●		
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Claitman Engineering Assoc., Inc. 960 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 261-4662 Contact: Robert Rosenthal					●				●			
Conway Engineering Investment Building, 235 4th Ave., Suite 1408, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 765-0988 Contact: Bob Conway					●					●		
Dodson Engineering, Inc. 420 One Chatham Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15120 261-6515 Contact: Herbert J. Brankley					●				●			
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GAI Consultants, Inc. 570 Beatty Road, Monroeville, PA 15146 856-6400 Contact: Henry A. Salver	●	●	●		●		●	●		●		●
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. 215 Executive Drive, Suite 202, Cranberry Township, PA 16066 779-4777 Contact: John Walluk, AICP Regional Manager			●	●	●		●			●		●
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Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering 1836 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001-4301 378-3000 Contact: Daniel S. Gilligan	●		●		●		●					
Peter F. Loftus Division Eichleay Engineers Inc., 6585 Penn Ave., Pgh, PA 15206-4407 363-9000 Contact: Samuel C. Lyon			●		●	●			●	●		
Carl J. Long & Associates One Gateway Center, 5 West, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 471-9100 Contact: John Wilhelm						●					●	
Meucci Engineering, Inc. 409 Elk Ave., Carnegie, PA 15106 276-8844 Contact: James B. Fath, PE	●				●	●			●			
Precision Science & Consulting Inc. 5 Mallard Court, Export, PA 15632 327-7427 Contact: Jay McPartland	●			●	●	●			●			
RCF Engineers, Inc. Two Gateway Center, 13 East, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 281-7706 Contact: Mark S. Wolfgang, PE, Pres.					●	●			●			
SE Technologies, Inc. 98 Vanadium Road, Bridgeville, PA 15017 221-1100 Contact: Philip J. Damiani	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Structural Engineering Corp. 300 Sixth Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 338-9000 Contact: Dennis A. Roth, P.E.										●		
Widmer Engineering, Inc. 806 Lincoln Place, Beaver Falls, PA 15010 847-1696 Contact: Joseph H. Widmer, P.E.			●		●		●	●		●		●

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

Statewide Building Code

Could it be? Should it be?

PITTSBURGH
(SOUTHWESTERN
PENNSYLVANIA)
PROFESSIONAL
CHAPTER OF BOCA
1995 ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING

September 13, 1995
Engineer's Club
337 Fourth Avenue
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$20.00

The Professional Chapter of BOCA is sponsoring a roundtable discussion of the issues related to passage of a statewide building code. Speakers representing various industry groups, design professionals, building owners and users, and state representatives will discuss why a statewide building code is a possibility today; what are the key issues in the pending legislation; and where they stand on issues.

The board and membership of the Pittsburgh Professional Chapter invite anyone interested in these important legislative and building industry issues to join us for an informative and educational discussion.

NOTE: If you are interested in joining the Chapter, either as a professional member or an affiliate, your \$60 annual dues includes the September membership meeting. Dues must be paid by August 31, 1995. Call Ed Shriver at 788-1500 for details or an application.

RSVP by September 1 to: Pittsburgh Professional Chapter BOCA, c/o Henry Hagerle, 211 Charles Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15210, or FAX to 787-5960.

Send us your name, address and phone number, along with your dinner choice for the evening. Select either Yankee Chicken Breast or Roasted Prime Rib.

Make checks payable to: Southwestern Pennsylvania Professional Chapter

AIA Pittsburgh invites you to the:

Town Meeting

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Engineer's Club, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA

5:30 p.m.

Cash bar and yummy hors d'oeuvres

Free to members and guests...PLEASE RSVP!

Program: Election of Board members

Nominations from the floor are welcome.

Nominees must be AIA Pittsburgh members in good standing.

What's hot in the State Legislature this fall?

Lela Shultz, Executive Director, the Pennsylvania Society of Architects, will talk about the legislative initiatives and battles that are important to the architectural community.

This program is generously sponsored by Sweet's Group, A Division of the McGraw-Hill Companies.

RSVP by Monday, September 25.

RSVP Town Meeting

Send this form to: AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pgh., PA 15222 or Fax to: 412/471-9501

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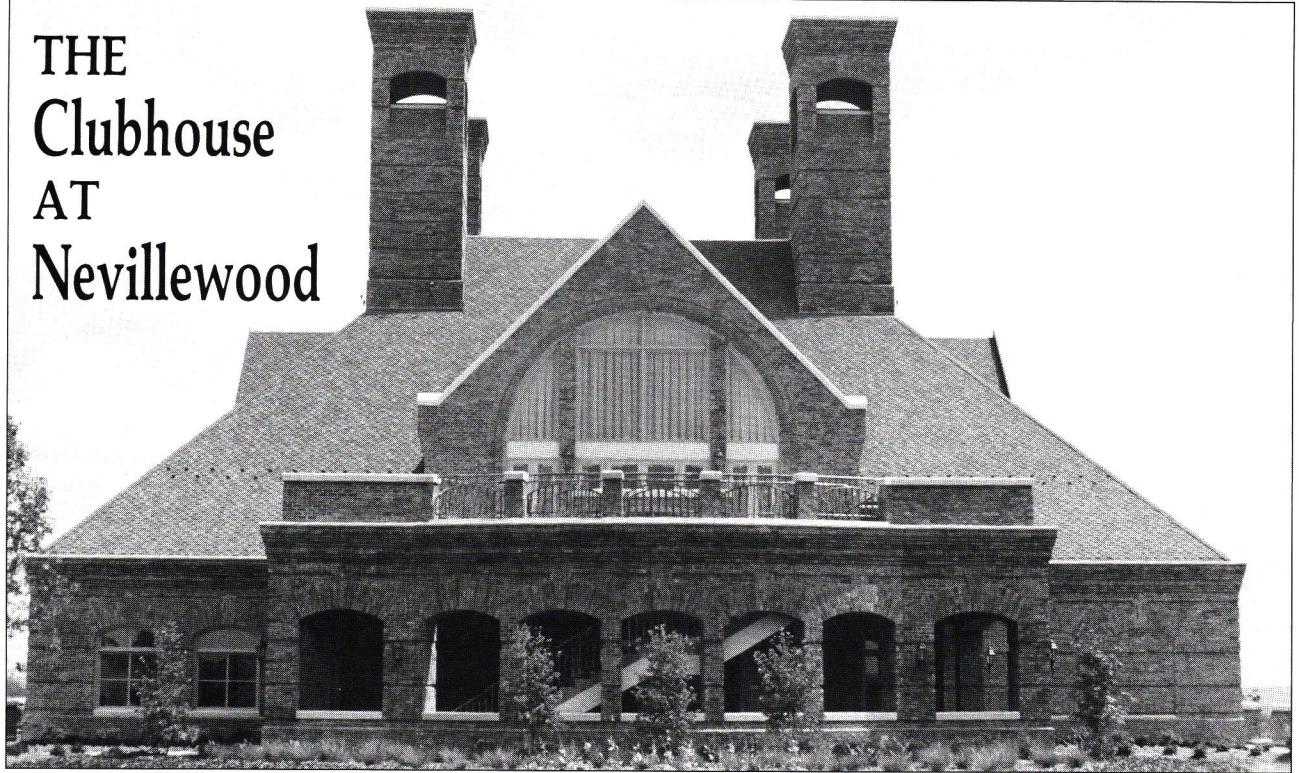
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