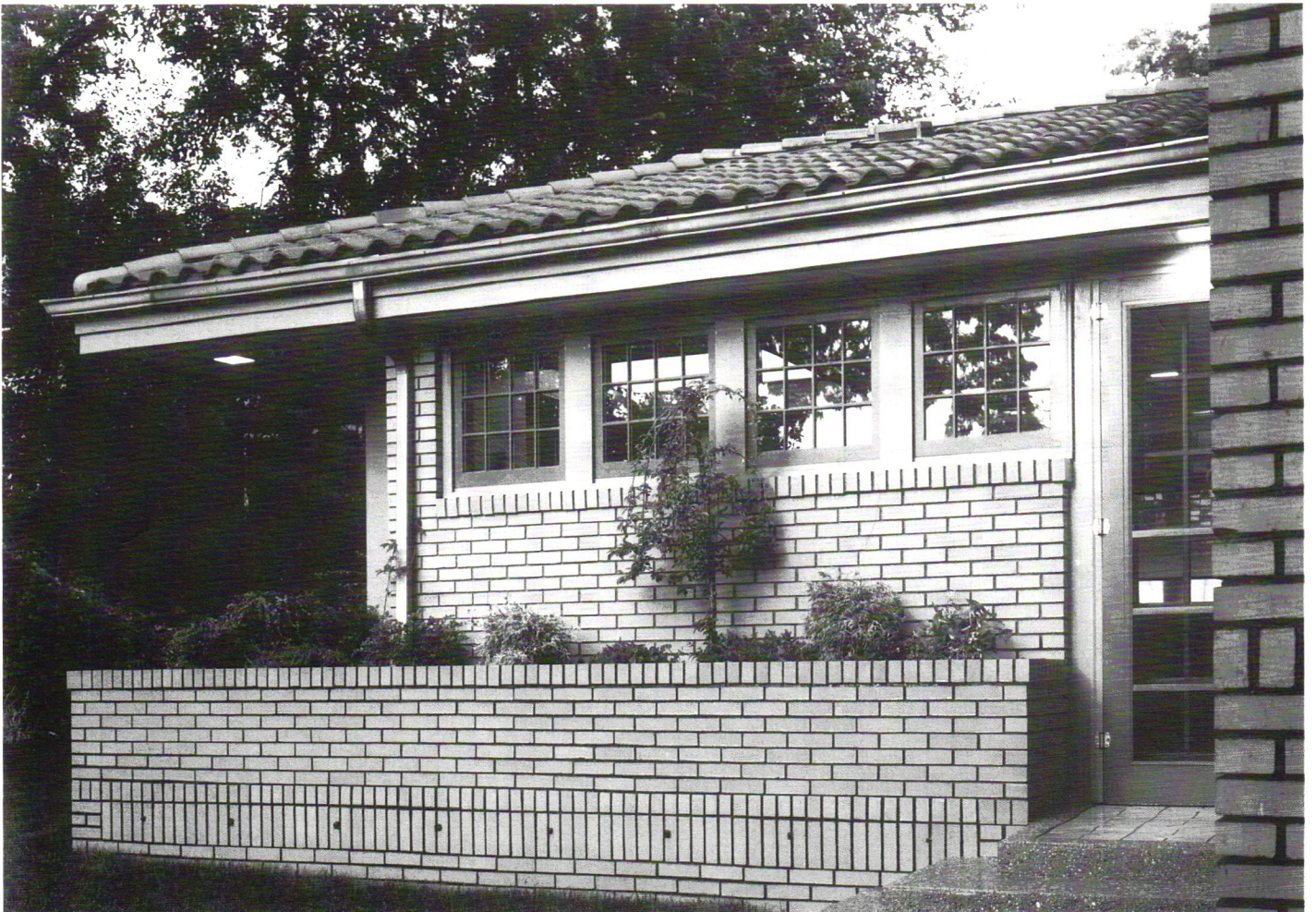


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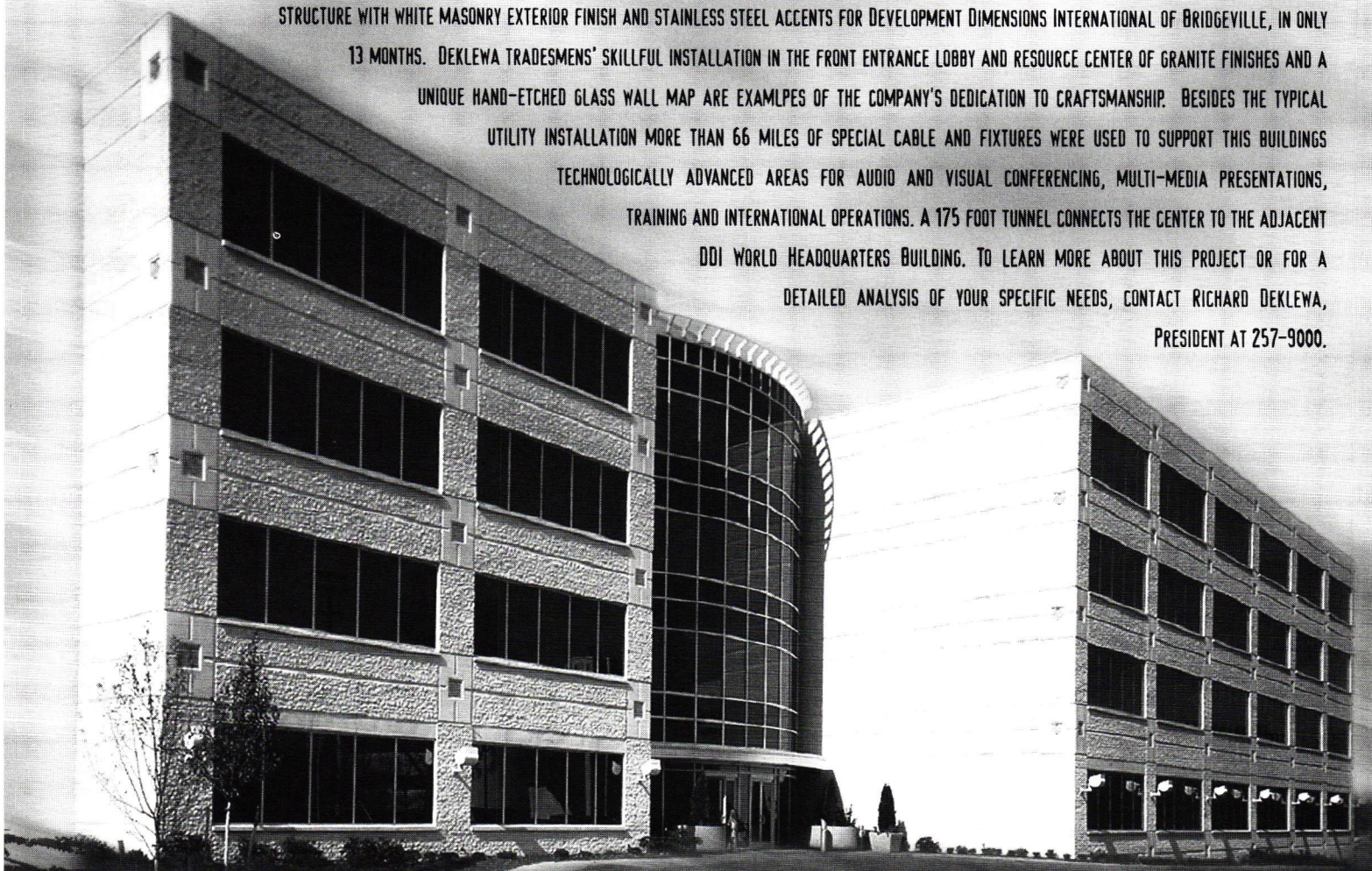


Special Issue
Residential Architecture Portfolio



DEKLEWA DEVELOPS A NEW DIMENSION

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Project Architect: Johnson/Schmidt & Associates

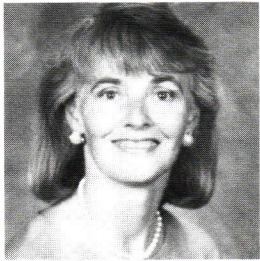
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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

A House Becomes A Home

by Cheryl R. Towers



Whatever your situation, an architect will give you the widest range of choices within your budget.

Congratulations! If you're reading this, chances are

that you've made the decision to engage an architect. Rest assured, it will be one of the best decisions that you'll ever make, whether your project is very small or involves the complete construction of your dream house. Architects are problem solvers who know the options available, the latest technology and how to develop cost effective solutions. In addition, an AIA architect's responsibilities continue through construction, giving you peace of mind that your interests are protected by a licensed professional subscribing to a code of ethics.

To me, though, the most important function of an architect is to give us choices. Every home is designed by someone, be it good or bad. That someone may be a builder, a homeowner who just bought the latest version of the Design Your Own Home® CD-ROM, or an architect. The architect's distinguishing characteristic is *design*. Look the word up in the dictionary — designing suggests arranging parts into a pattern, but more importantly, it involves creating and inventing. A builder is limited by his or her knowledge of building, a software program by the options that a programmer has given it. An architect is limited only by imagination and budget. And frankly, imagination is the more important quality since the most challenging design work can take place on small, low budget projects. In the end, design is a great deal more than drawing.

Choices move into a larger context, too. For years, driven by our increasing dependence on the automobile, we have pushed farther and farther outside of the urban core. The American dream came to be defined as a quarter acre in the suburbs, now grown to two acres and 10,000 square feet. For some people, that's still the dream, and an architect will help realize it. For many, though, communities are still the desired location, and that may mean designing a townhouse to fit into a small in-fill space, a renovation of an older home, or an addition onto an existing home. Choices may involve marrying modern conveniences to an older style house without losing the house's character, or making your home more environmentally friendly. It

can involve adapting to the changing needs of family — the addition of children or an elderly parent, perhaps, or turning an empty nest into an adult's playground. Or, maybe you just want to fix a problem area that's been annoying you for the past twenty years!

Whatever your situation, an architect will give you the widest range of choices within your budget.

Using an architect can add considerable value to your home. It will probably mean use of better quality materials and more well integrated solutions, especially in additions and renovations, than if an architect is not involved. Whatever your goals, the architectural product includes a great many things that you *don't* see such as use of "smart" technology and consideration of life cycle (rather than just up front) costs.

Finally, what is your job as a client? Simply put, it's to make an intelligent choice in choosing an architect, to be realistic about your budget, and to give the architect enough information to develop solutions. AIA can help you with all of these things. The Resource Center contains examples of member work, and printed material is available to help you choose and work with an architect. When making your selection, remember that "bedside manner" is important — you should seek an architect whose work is appropriate to your needs and with whom you're comfortable. Communication is essential to a successful partnership. And don't be afraid to cut out pictures of architectural features that you like. The specific item may not be practical, but it gives your architect a sense of who you are and your taste.

AIA Pittsburgh is delighted to bring you this issue. As a trade publication, we mostly talk among ourselves. While that's essential, it is also invigorating for us to have this opportunity to speak directly to you, the client. We hope you will find this portfolio a helpful aid in making a house truly a home.

(Regular features will return in the September issue.)

IN THIS ISSUE

Residential Architecture Portfolio 6
Columns breaks its traditional format to offer consumers of residential architectural services a portfolio of member firms' work.

The Better Home 12
A prototype home brings high performance standards to residential design and construction.

On the cover: Addition by Gerald Lee Morosco Architects, P.C. Photo by Massery Photography.

AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and AIA Pennsylvania. 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.

AIA Pittsburgh
211 Ninth Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Telephone: 412/471-9548
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Wanted: 4Bdrms; Rvr Vw by Anne Swager

Four years ago when I was pretty sure

that my now-husband was close to deciding he needed a family and that my already built-in one was a perfect fit for him, I thought about adding on to my house. I live in one of the smallest houses allowed in the great state of Mt. Lebanon. Originally designed by an architect during economic hard times, every square foot is utilized. My house is a great study in how to make the most out of little to no space. Nevertheless, marriage meant we would go from me, two part-time kids and two cats to me, two part-time kids, two cats, a full-time husband and a semi-big dog. While my house was otherwise perfect for me, it lacked entertainment space and there wasn't much room for a husband and a dog. Time to hire an architect.



Thirty years is a long time to pay for something that's poorly done.

I spent at least three months studying my house and thinking about how you could add on to it. I envisioned every possible way. Nothing looked like it would work, but I hate to move. A pack rat at heart, I have more stuff than five families would ever need.

Cleaning it out is a monumental task that's best left to my kids when I'm gone. When you fundamentally like your house and your neighborhood, and you know all the short-cuts to everywhere, who wants to move? Not me. So....I finally hired an AIA architect.

First, we talked. I told him about my family and what we like to do and what we don't like to do. The kids like TV. I tolerate it. I like to cook and entertain, but I hate to clean or, more to the point, I hate to clean things out. We needed more storage. The kids are mostly underfoot even though they are teenagers. If you need to see the kids, sit down and look relaxed. They'll be right there. My kids would never use a basement rec room because they hate to think that I might want to do something when I'm out of their sight.

Next, the question of money. How much did we want to spend? Our house is our most valuable possession. While

it's small, it maintains value just by being in a strong, stable community. Everyday, I drive past homes in Mt. Lebanon that I would never buy because of the hideous additions that have been slapped on them in the name of more space. That's precisely why it was so important to me that, if we did put on an addition, it had to be done the best possible way. Thirty years is a long time to pay for something that's poorly done.

I got raised eyebrows from all my friends when I told them that we were going to look at the solution the architect designed and then decide if we could afford it. They thought I had taken leave of my senses when I explained that I wanted to do what was best for the house and if I couldn't afford it, I would move.

We signed a contract, I put some money down and we were off. Within a month, the schematic plans were back. Only one solution was presented. He offered to do more, but true to my request, he thought this was the best solution. I marveled at the genius of it. I'd never thought of adding on the way he did. I put it in front of my husband, the engineer. I was sure he would find fault, but he didn't. The most he could do was talk about adding drainage, but then, he would add drainage to the Sahara desert.

Just as we were getting around to talking to contractors, the inevitable snafu in our plans...a very unexpected child was on her way. Two years later, we've seen more houses than we ever wanted to see. We've searched high and low for a house with an extra bedroom that fit all of our criteria including a manageable mortgage which seems to be the sticking point. We still like our house which is really crowded now. Henry sleeps on the couch most nights rather than sleep in the same room with his baby sister who likes to remind everyone how cute she is in the middle of the night. We're torn over how much we really need an extra bedroom. After all, Betsy is in college. The architect thinks he has a new scheme with a place to tuck a small bedroom or maybe even another bathroom....

It's starting to sound better than a new house.



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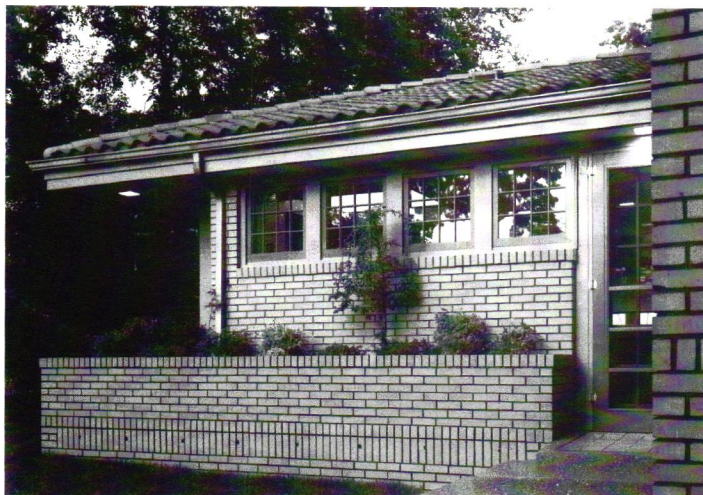
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Residential Portfolio



Columns invited member firms to submit examples of their work for this portfolio issue in order to give the consumer a ready source of information. While this isn't an exhaustive sample, it demonstrates the quality of member firm work. Additional information is available through the AIA Pittsburgh Resource Center, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 or call 412/471-9548.



PHOTOS BY MASSERY PHOTOGRAPHY

FIRM: **GERALD LEE MOROSCO ARCHITECTS, P.C.**

PROJECT: Addition

CONTRACTOR: Mann Construction, Inc.

The project represents a sensitive addition to a classic Pittsburgh "four square" dwelling with existing Arts and Crafts inspired interiors incorporating the area of the existing kitchen into a one story addition of 300 square feet. The addition creates a much needed first floor guest closet, powder room, kitchen and dining cove.



PHOTOS BY LINDA JELUB.



FIRM: **ANDREW JOHN JAMROM, AIA**

PROJECT: Architect's Residence/Small Renovation

CONTRACTOR: Tasillo/Rinamen, Inc., Carpentry;

Mark Seigle, Plumbing; Bob Knaus, Floors

The architect's own house is, by his description, "small and quirky", and sits on a typical sloping site. Because funds were limited when he moved in, he was forced to approach each space as a small project within a project. The stairway off the living area was opened to provide more available light. Entertainment shelving replaced a storage closet developed to match the existing gun-to-guitar case. The cabinetry is stained Cherokee red to match an original color chip. The gold leaf column at the entry appears to hover in a surreal manner between floor and beam.

The bathroom was kept functional, simple and affordable. The lighting was adapted from original fixtures.

Residential Portfolio



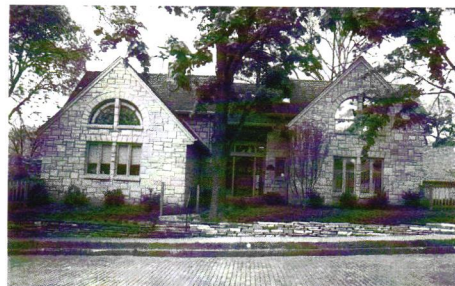
FIRM: **DUNN & PENNER ARCHITECTS**

PROJECT: Large Addition to Existing Home

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT: Dunn & Penner Architects

The new owners needed significantly more space but didn't want to destroy the character of this 70+ year old "English cottage" on the edge of Frick Park. The solution was a contemporary addition that physically linked the house and a remote detached garage without changing the house's essentially Old World character. To the rear, new decks and a screened porch give direct access to the beautiful mature perennial gardens. The new section includes a cathedral-ceilinged great room, an expansive kitchen/breakfast area, and a bedroom and bath above the kitchen. The old section houses a study, master bedroom suite and a "mother-in-law" apartment. The owners now have 4,600 square feet of usable living space, triple that of the original house.

PHOTOS BY PRH ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY





PHOTOS BY LOCKWOOD HOEHL

FIRM: EDGE ARCHITECTURE

PROJECT: FirstSide Lofts/Eve Picker, Associate AIA, No Wall Productions, Developer
CONTRACTOR: Morgan P. Kronk Construction Consultant, Inc.

429 FirstSide is a turn of the century Edwardian brick warehouse building with a terra cotta facade that has been converted to a residential loft building. Each unit is a floor through of approximately 1,850 square feet of open living space with an elevator opening directly into each condominium unit. A single detached "box" rotated in the space houses the bath, closets, mechanical equipment, and the kitchen. The floor of the "box" is raised to conceal utilities and plumbing.



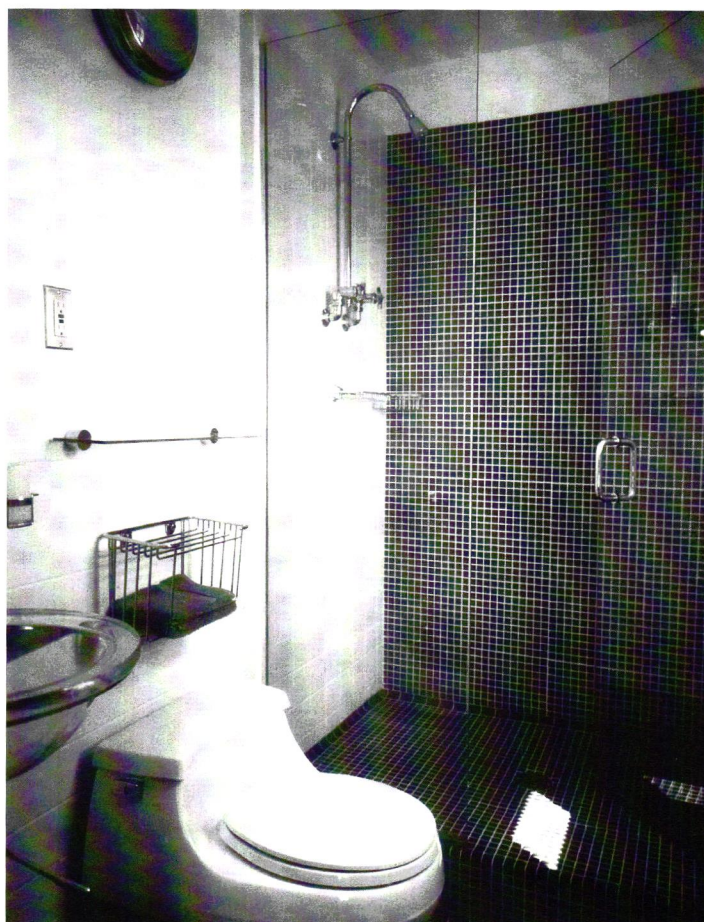
PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS F. TRAUB

FIRM: PETER JOSEPH BROWN, AIA

PROJECT: Details added to existing home
CONTRACTOR: Regis McQuaide and Company

An entry was added to the house with new steps and a front covered porch. The kitchen was reconfigured to make it more open to the dining room (the existing kitchen was completely removed, including a center island).

Residential Portfolio



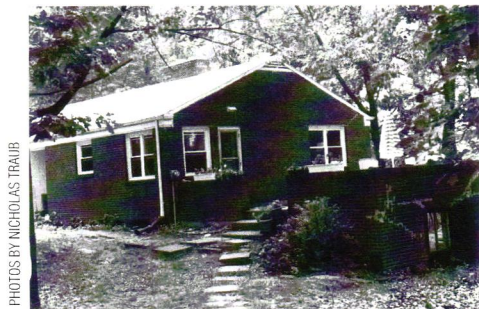
FIRM: **STUDIO D'ARC**

PROJECT: Detail/Interior Design and Renovation

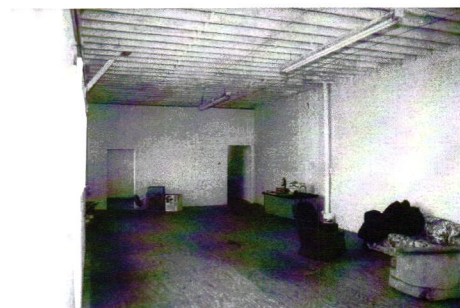
CONTRACTOR: Warren Home Improvements

The goal of the project was to update and improve the functional and aesthetic characteristics of the interior of an early twentieth century home, primarily in the bathrooms. Existing bathrooms used cast iron and ceramic tile, standard for the time. The introduction of new materials such as aluminum, stainless steel and glass are links to Pittsburgh's industrial past used in a very contemporary manner.

Before (above) and After (top) photos.



PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS F. TRAUB



PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS F. TRAUB

FIRM: **PETER JOSEPH BROWN, AIA**

PROJECT: Addition of a great room and other amenities

CONTRACTOR: KRB Construction

The new great room is spacious with abundant light. Lighting valences are built into the wall to allow for indirect lighting at night. Pocket doors allow the room to be closed off from the rest of the house or to flow into the kitchen and living room. In addition to the great room, a new circular driveway was added giving the house entry a prominence that it did not have before. The existing concrete deck was removed and a badly rusted steel beam replaced with a new steel beam and a wood floor structure on top of the existing masonry walls. Windows in the house were replaced and skylights added.

FIRM: **STUDIO D'ARC**

PROJECT: Live-Work Studio/Loft Design and Renovation

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: studio d'ARC

This project required a sympathetic yet minimal approach that would not overwhelm the character of the existing interior space (an early twentieth century ice house). Everyday hardware and industrial materials were used in adapting the modest interior. The loft's lavatory, hot water heater, storage and kitchenette are massed together for efficiency. This project demonstrates that simple, cost effective detailing does not have to be common or uninteresting.

Before (bottom) and After (top) photos of both projects.

Residential Portfolio

PHOTOS OF RENOVATION BY LINDA JEUB



Before (above) and After (top) photos.

FIRM: LAMI•GRUBB•ARCHITECTS

PROJECT: Kitchen Renovation

CONTRACTOR: Relco Construction

The owners of this older home wanted a finely crafted kitchen that could be enjoyed by multiple cooks. Granite and solid surface counter tops, bookshelves, a commercial stove, excellent lighting, and storage for a large wine glass collection were on the wish list.

The kitchen incorporates elements that one might find in a Frank Lloyd Wright kitchen, if Wright had designed kitchens meant to be enjoyed by a cook. A chimney that divided the kitchen and butler's pantry was removed from the third floor to the basement. Dimmable lighting provides ambience as well as perfect light for cooking. Cabinetry crafted like furniture, wall panels and ceiling trim, and copper hardware and tile details make the unified rooms the heart of the house.



FIRM: **GERALD LEE MOROSCO ARCHITECTS, P.C.**

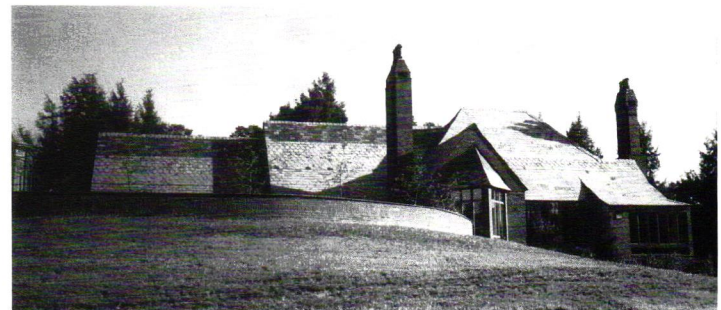
PROJECT: Detail/Lavatory Cabinet

CONTRACTOR: Avanti Construction, Inc.

This renovation of a very small bathroom is shared between two bedrooms and includes a window.



PHOTO BY GREGG



PHOTOS BY HUNTER PHOTOGRAPHY

FIRM: **N. LEE LIGO & ASSOCIATES**

PROJECT: Architect's Residence

CONTRACTOR: Capello Custom Construction

This new residence, located on a 50 acre site on the banks of a large creek, borrows heavily from the mock Tudor period of the 1920's that was so popular in many upscale, suburban areas. The house appears ageless rather than the slavish reproduction of a period house. The main level of the house is designed as two zones. The public zone is light, white and wide open. The bedroom area, in contrast, is more closed-in and traditional in feeling, utilizing heavy walnut and 19th century recycled moldings and doors.

Residential Portfolio

PHOTOS COURTESY MAVROVIC ARCHITECTS PC.



FIRM: **MAVROVIC ARCHITECTS PC**

PROJECT: Addition to Country Home

CONTRACTOR: Today's Renovations

The project included an addition for informal entertaining and casual living for a businessman's country home. The original commission was to provide a small utilitarian spiral stair at the existing side porch to connect the first floor living space with the existing lower level studio apartment. After the initial planning meeting, the owner decided to invest in a significant design element to complement this luxurious home. An addition to the existing porch was made to enclose the new grand stair. This new focal point reflects the existing character of the log home and connects to the lower level used for an entertaining area.

The new windows at the addition are a folding type and when opened, give a broad, uninterrupted view of the woods. Even at night, special exterior site lighting gives the owner the opportunity to bring the outside in and take full advantage of the woodland setting.



PHOTO BY MUNCH

FIRM: **MUNCH/JEFFREY DENINNO, AIA**

PROJECT: House Renovation and Addition

CONTRACTOR: John Salter, Jr. Construction, Inc.

The project involved a major re-working of an existing Colonial style house built in 1955. Additional living and sleeping space was added along with a greatly enlarged kitchen and a breakfast room. An important aspect of the design was opening the interior spaces to the landscape and surrounding woods.



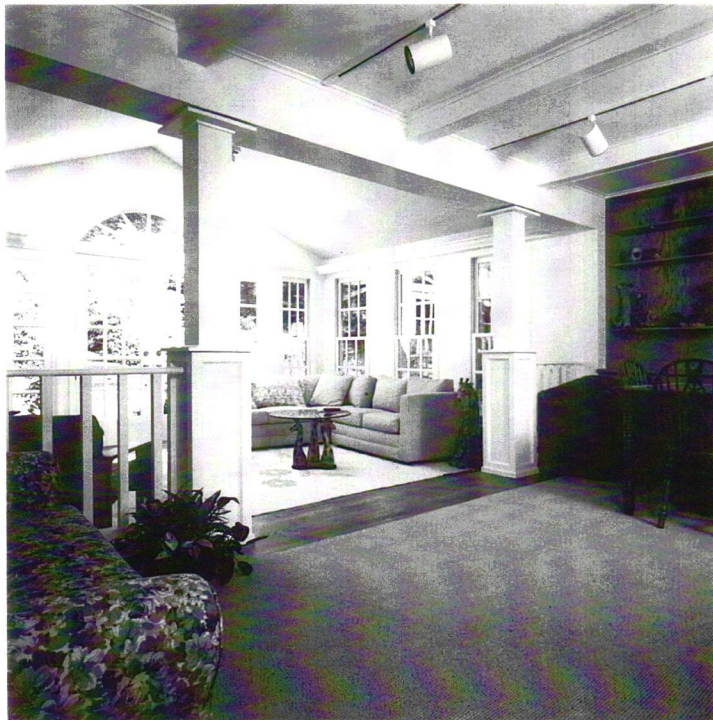
PHOTO COURTESY EWING • RUBIN • FICKLEY

FIRM: **EWING • RUBIN • FICKLEY**

PROJECT: New Construction

CONTRACTOR: James Dinert

The house began as a builder's "spec" house to be built in Thornburg, a small community off the Parkway West next to Roslyn Farms. The majority of the homes are Craftsman Style, and therefore the architect and developer agreed that this house should follow that inspiration.



FIRM: **POLI & CUTERI ARCHITECTS, INC.**

PROJECT: Residential Addition

CONTRACTOR: Kelly Custom Contracting



PHOTO BY DEBORAH ELLIOTT, AIA

FIRM: **STUDIO DELISIO ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN**

PROJECT: Private Residence

CONTRACTOR: Dennis Marunyak



PHOTO BY LINDA JEUB

FIRM: **STUDIO DELISIO ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN**

PROJECT: Interior Detail

CONTRACTOR: Wienand Construction

Residential Portfolio



PHOTO BY STEPHEN SIMPSON BOTH VIEWS ARE TAKEN OF THE SAME CORNER OF THE RESIDENCE

FIRM: **CLAIRE M. BASSETT, AIA**

CONTRACTOR: Michael Ruefle

PROJECT: New Construction

This new 6,000 square foot residence contains rooms that are individually accented with different ceiling solutions such as a chandelier, including the master bath. The family room soars with its own stairs to the children's loft, complete with swing and half-round Juliet balcony. The home also contains a marble entry and circular main stairway.

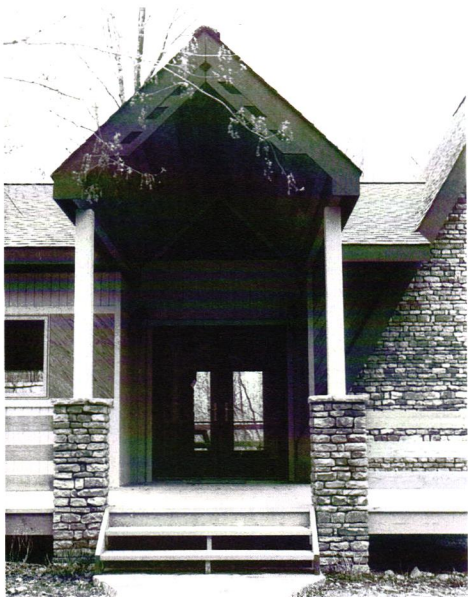
FIRM: **JIMI YUCAS, ARCHITECT ATELIER**

PROJECT: Conversion of Vacation Home to Permanent Residence

CONTRACTOR: May's Carpentry

The owners wanted to convert a small mountain cabin used as a weekend retreat into a permanent retirement residence. The result was an addition containing space suitable to their lifestyle and visits by children, grandchildren and guests. The existing cabin was engulfed by a new exterior that complemented the large A-frame addition containing a new master bedroom/bath suite, a guest bedroom and a two car garage. All natural materials were used in the new design to create a rural mountain image, and the stone on the exterior surfaces was excavated from the site.

PHOTOS BY ANITA BUZZY PRENTISS



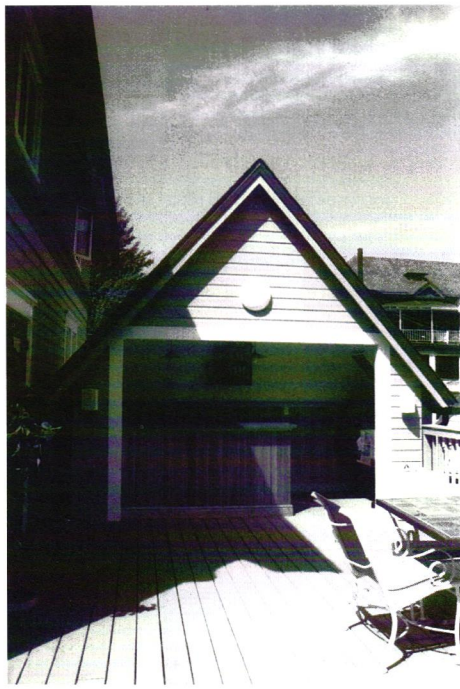
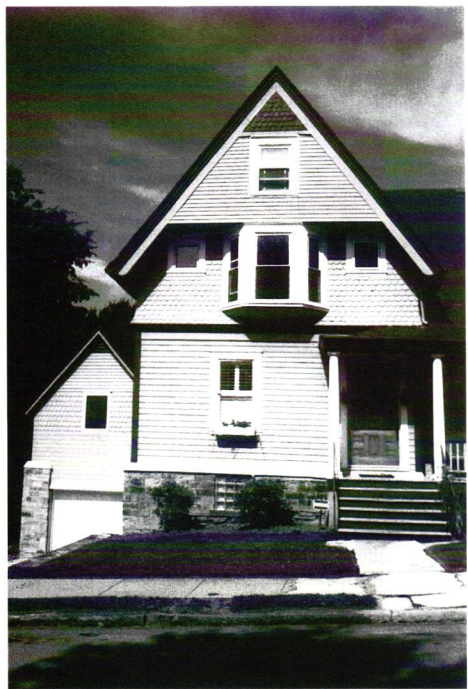
FIRM: **JIMI YUCAS, ARCHITECT ATELIER**

PROJECT: Detail/ Vacation Home Conversion

CONTRACTOR: May's Carpentry

In converting this weekend cabin into a permanent retirement residence, a new entrance foyer was designed as a link between the original cabin and the new A-frame addition. This foyer is complemented with the addition of a new front porch and expansion of an elevated rear deck for outdoor activities.

PHOTOS COURTESY MAVROVIC ARCHITECTS PC.



FIRM: **MAVROVIC ARCHITECTS PC**

PROJECT: Addition to Existing Residence

CONTRACTOR: D. Nadoff Construction

The addition needed to complement the Victorian character of this single family residence while including a two car garage and outdoor living area. An important aspect of the project was to preserve the image of the front facade through careful selection of construction details similar in style and appropriate in scale for the addition.

The small corner lot presented a challenge to provide more than just a typical urban garage. By taking advantage of the roof area for use as a deck, an outdoor entertaining zone was realized with direct access to the kitchen and to the back yard. The design maintained the net usable area from the original backyard.



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UNDOING BUSINESS AS USUAL. Unions arose as the legitimate response to the abuse of industrialists in the 19th Century. While protecting *perceived* interests, labor and management drew a line between themselves. Over time this line grew into a brick wall. A brick wall that precluded any reasonable discussion of wages, working conditions, benefits and ultimately, the quality of life. It doesn't matter who built the wall. It's time to tear it down. And we're removing the first brick.

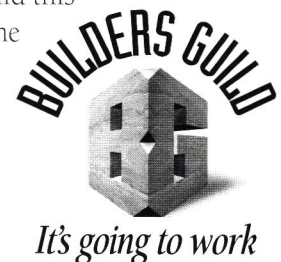
WE'RE RECALLING OUR PAST... Our forebears were the medieval guildsmen whose genius and craftsmanship were responsible for the world's enduring monuments. Membership in a guild was highly sought and nobly earned – a prize won after years of apprenticeship under a master's tutelage. Since trade union members must complete a similar education process today, we're creating a new entity – the Builders Guild. It is a tribute to our members' training and craftsmanship. It also is a promise of quality that is, quite simply, unequaled.

... AND WE'RE CHANGING OUR STYLE. There will be no more management and labor – no more “us” and “them.” Instead, it will be all of *us*. We acknowledge that management's need for fair profit and our need for fair wages are different aspects of a common goal. To reach this goal, we've established an advisory council comprised of guildsmen, contractors, architects, educators and businesspeople. They'll see that we fulfill our obligation to *listen* to management – and make sure management accords us the same respect. It won't change things overnight, but it's the first step in forging a partnership.

ENOUGH TALK. IT'S TIME TO ACT. The Builders Guild is going to work for you by encouraging cooperation among labor, management and owners. It's going to work to put an end to this area's reputation for difficult management/labor relations. It's going to work to rebuild this area's infrastructure. It's going to work to provide more employment, not only in the trades, but in all support business as well. It's going to work to make Western Pennsylvania, once again, one of the most prosperous regions in the nation.

For more information, or to find out how you can get involved, please call:
1-800-352-2407.

An Initiative Endorsed by The Building Trades Council and its affiliates – Building Trade Members of Western Pennsylvania.
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The Better Home

by Cheryl R. Towers

A demonstration project at Washington's Landing brings high performance standards to residential design and construction.

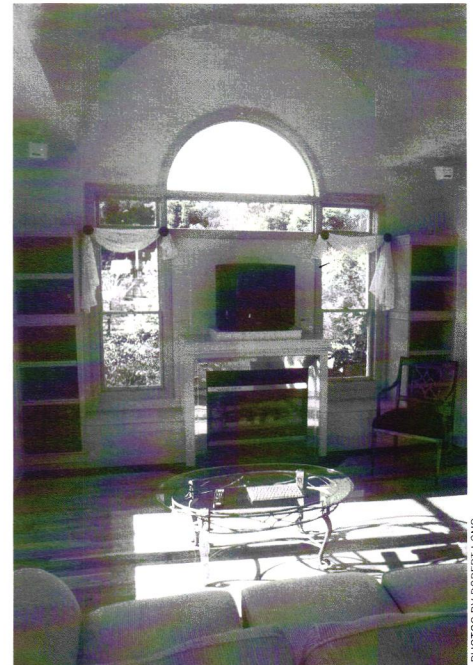
Homeowners are demanding features that were unheard of only a generation ago. For some, these are strictly design elements, such as the desire for great rooms to replace separate kitchens and formal dining areas. However, other modern needs go to the very heart of the house and require "smart" solutions. This could mean the need to accommodate computers and other electronic equipment, concern for an environmentally sound structure, or the desire to incorporate elements that in the past were unattainable in a moderately priced home, such as curved walls and barrel vault ceilings.

IBACOS, a Pittsburgh based research and development consortium, has built a prototype home as part of the Washington's Landing planned community. This home is bringing practical experience and techniques to the building community by delivering new ideas, products and processes. IBACOS defines The Better Home by a series of EQA™ principles: resource efficient, environmentally responsive, top quality, quick to build, affordable, and adaptive to changing lifestyles.

The good news for consumers is that this is not simply pie-in-the-sky. Technology transfer to builders and contractors is an important part of the project, and the house serves as a training and education center for the building trades. According to Glenn Cottrell, Director of Information Technology, "The relationship begun with this project has solidified into a development partnership for higher standards in community planning, environmental responsibility, and home construction at Summerset at Frick Park, the development overlooking Nine Mile Run." Richard K. Rubinoff of The Rubinoff Company, developers of Washington's Landing, anticipates that this work will lead to the establishment of community-wide performance standards to be adopted in future residential and mixed-use developments.

ARCHITECT: **MONTGOMERY AND RUST, INC.**

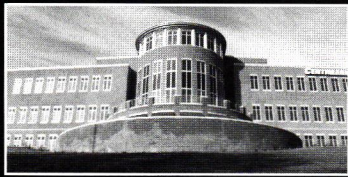
CONTRACTOR: Montgomery and Rust, Inc.



PHOTOS BY ROBERT LONG



IBACOS is a trade organization. Consumers may obtain more information regarding retaining and working with architects from AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412/471-9548). Information about green building standards and techniques is available from the Green Building Alliance, 64 South 14th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 (412/431-4449 x211).



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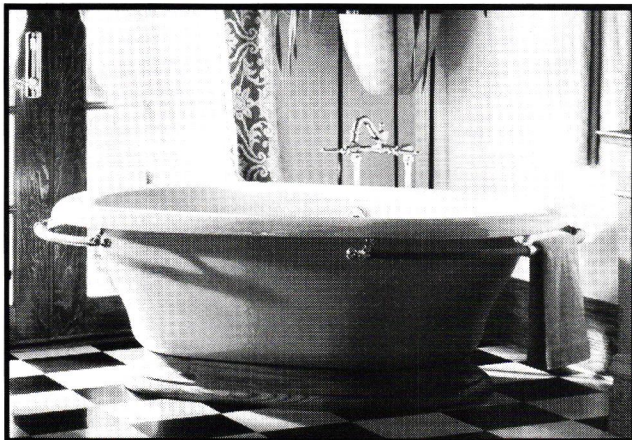
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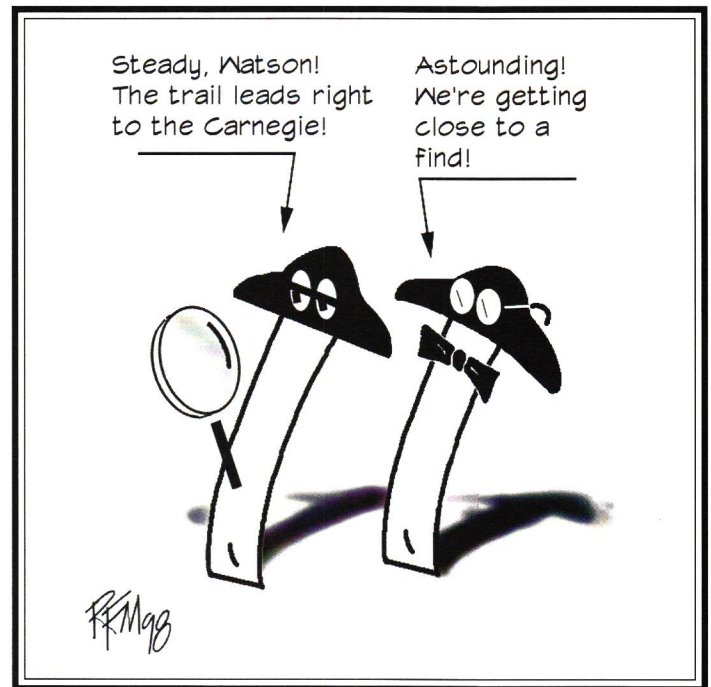
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Carnegie Museum of Arts Presents **Manchester: A Neighborhood Sketchbook**

Carnegie Museum of Art will present *Manchester: A Neighborhood Sketchbook*, July 25 through October 25, 1998 in the Heinz Architectural Center. The exhibition inaugurates the "Pittsburgh Neighborhoods Project," a new initiative of the Center exploring the City's unique neighborhoods. For information call 622-3131.

Pittsburgh is known as a city of neighborhoods. Each has its own character, often distinct from those that adjoin it, and residents identify themselves with their neighborhood as readily as with the City itself. The exhibit explores what makes Manchester special and should be of special interest to those who are already urban dwellers or those curious about life in a very special area of Pittsburgh.

The exhibit was developed by Dennis McFadden, Associate AIA, curator of the Heinz Architectural Center and Paul Rosenblatt, AIA of Damianos + Anthony Architects.



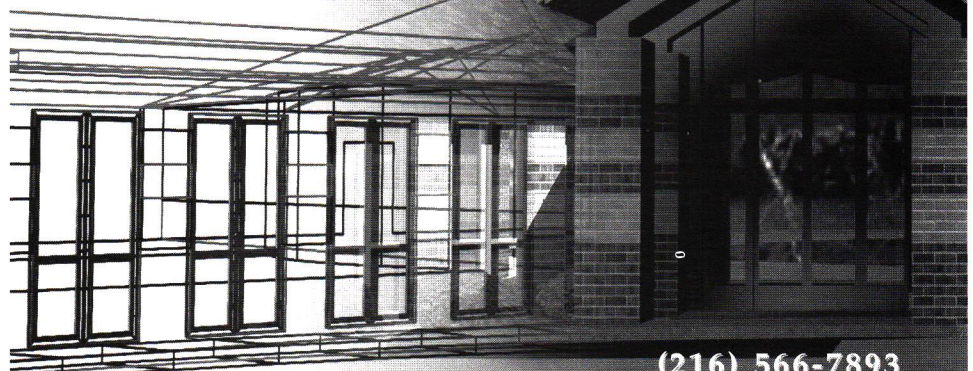
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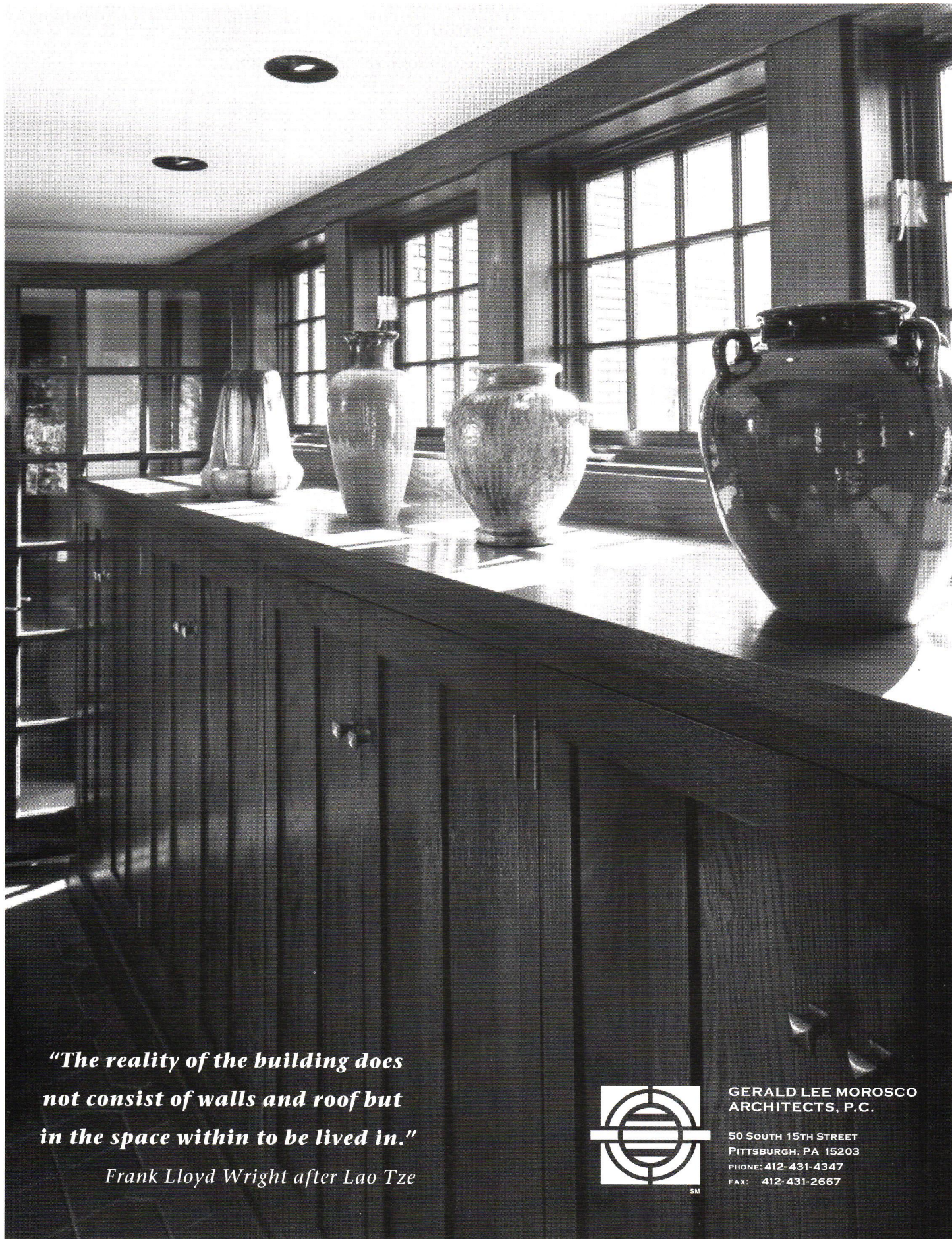
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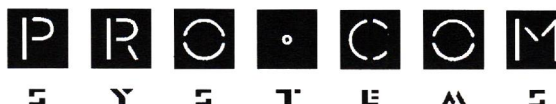
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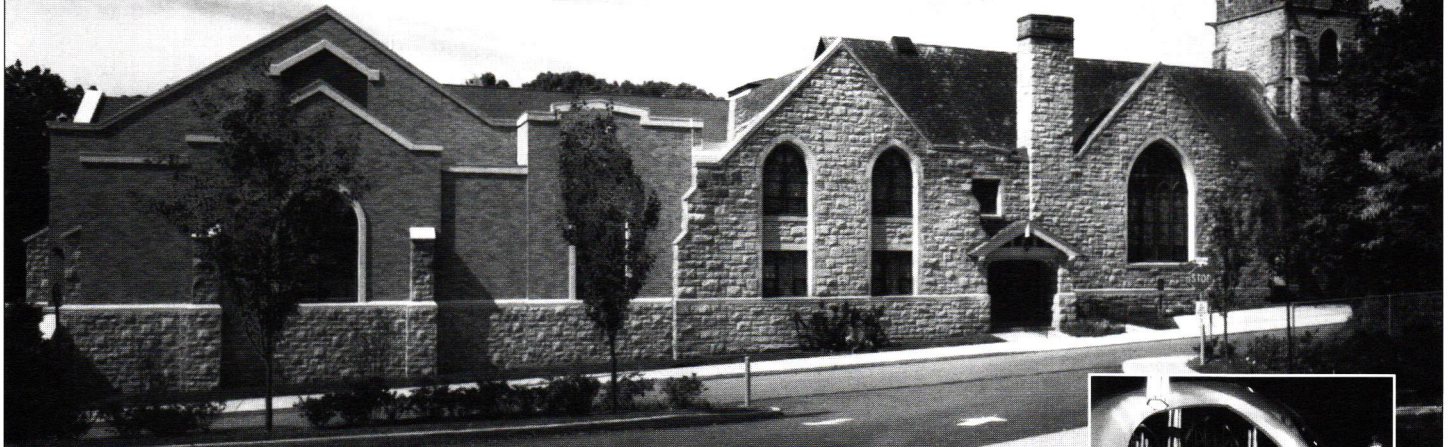
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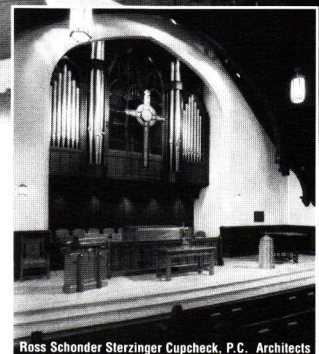


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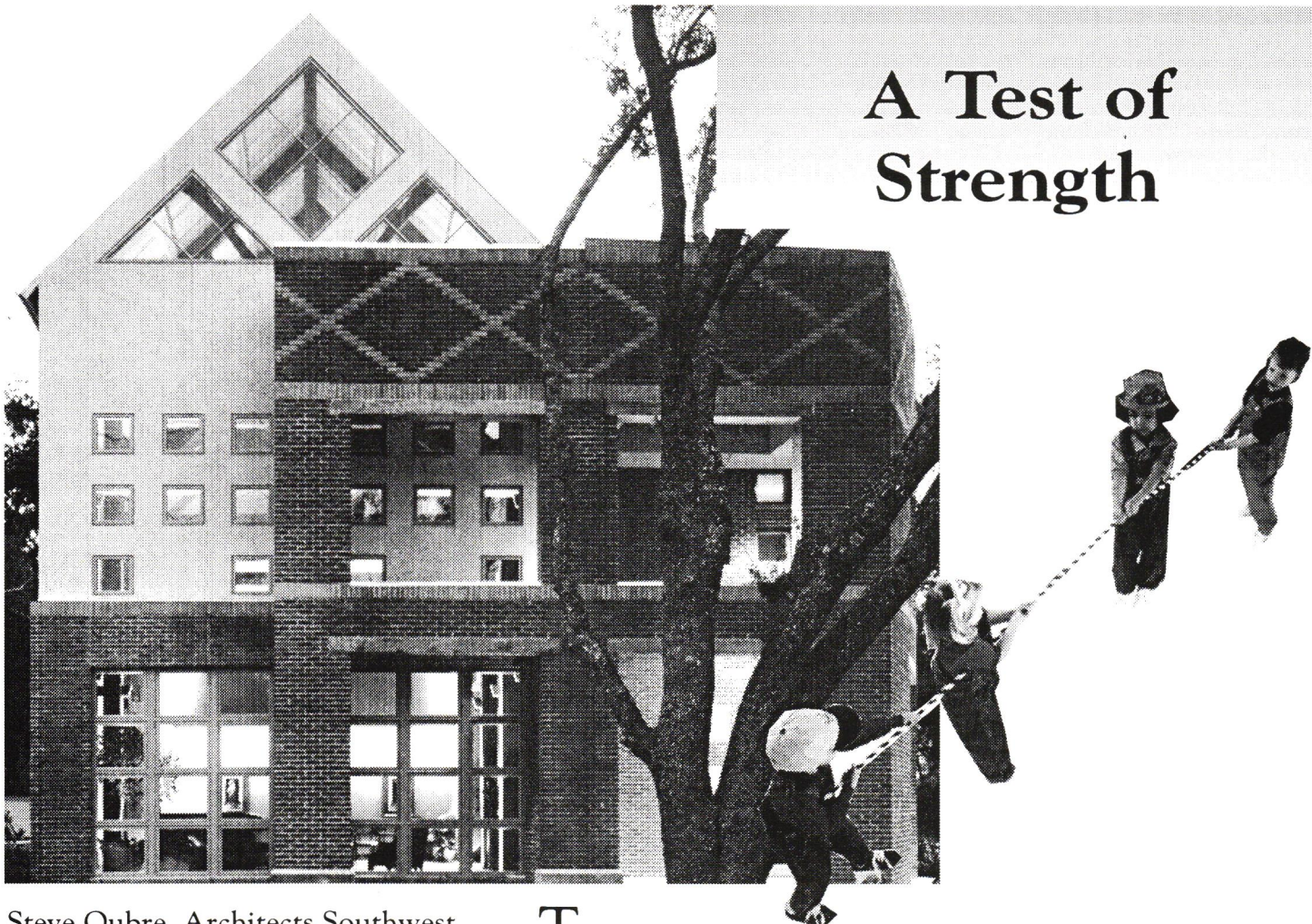


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