COLUMNS









DEKLEWA DEVELOPS A NEW DIMENSION

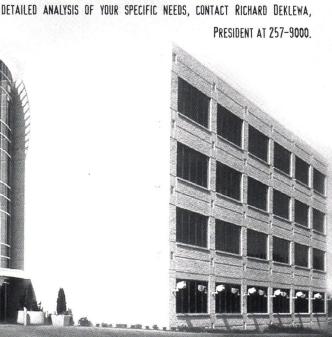
THE RECENT COMPLETION BY JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC. OF THE NEW CENTER FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGY SIGNALS ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE CONSTRUCTION FIRM'S LONG HISTORY OF PROJECTS FOR HIGH PROFILE CLIENTS. DEKLEWA CONTRACTORS ERECTED THIS "STATE OF THE ART" FOUR STORY STEEL FRAME STRUCTURE WITH WHITE MASONRY EXTERIOR FINISH AND STAINLESS STEEL ACCENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT DIMENSIONS INTERNATIONAL OF BRIDGEVILLE, IN ONLY

13 MONTHS. DEKLEWA TRADESMENS' SKILLFUL INSTALLATION IN THE FRONT ENTRANCE LOBBY AND RESOURCE CENTER OF GRANITE FINISHES AND A UNIQUE HAND-ETCHED GLASS WALL MAP ARE EXAMLPES OF THE COMPANY'S DEDICATION TO CRAFTSMANSHIP. BESIDES THE TYPICAL

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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

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The Entrepreneurial Spirit by Cheryl R. Towers

Ah, May. A gardener's fancy turns to



"Detachment carries a high price "

a night pri	ice		
— RONALD	L.	Skaggs,	FAIA

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On the cover: Indian Nationality Classroom at the University of Pittsburgh. Design by Renaissance 3 Architects. Photo by Mark Portland.

thoughts of Epimedium x rubrum, Hydrangea quercifolia and Metasequoia glyptostroboides (I go in for the really big stuff - at least in my dreams). Time to stock up on cheap beer for slug drowning purposes, and hope that a winter's worth of lifting weights in the basement gets me through a season of carrying 60 lb. bags of soil up two flights of stairs and out onto the deck, a/k/a the South Forty. Urban gardeners make do.

"Making do" is an interesting concept. Sometimes it's a cross between shoddy standards and martyrdom ("Don't worry about me...I'll make do....). Othertimes, it's the hallmark of the entrepreneur. Don't have all the tools, information and resources you need? So what? Make do. Or, as a famous marketing campaign puts it, "Just do it!"

The architectural process reminds me of this, especially when under the gun of a fast track schedule. Just as I still in my heart of hearts don't believe that big planes really fly, I'm amazed that buildings get built. And yet I look around town and see all sorts of things happening — two stadia, new office buildings, renovations, rehabs, adaptive re-use, you name it. Somehow, in spite of lumbering and sometimes ill-conceived planning processes, we're managing to "just do it" all over town.

My hope is that more and more of you are getting involved in making the difference between the martyrdom style of making do and the take charge kind that gets important work accomplished. Many of you sit on planning boards and volunteer for community involvement. Many of you do not. Yet architects of all stripes have the unique ability

to help our communities through difficult decision making times. I've been privileged to watch many of you as you take values that citizens express and turn them into living design solutions, and it's truly exciting. Abstract concepts become realities and tough choices become easier when people see the results.

You've heard calls for public involvement in these pages before, but spring, the time of renewal, seems like a good time to say it again. It's critically important that our region continue to cease to "make do" and adopt a progressive and aggressive style of forward movement. We all need you to help make it happen.

Ronald L. Skaggs, FAIA made the appeal in last month's AlArchitect: "Detachment carries a high price. It robs us of a strong voice in shaping the debates, the laws, the requlations, and the values of our community, our state, our nation, and, yes, even the world.

"We need to step into the fray. We need to become engaged. We need to recognize a fact I learned during my early years in the military: if you want to lead, be prepared to be shot at."

Unappealing though the thought may be, that's the chance a real leader takes. It's spring. Take a chance. Even my plants are willing to give it a go in often inhospitable surroundings. Certainly jumping into the fray isn't as bad as belonging to someone who forgets to water your roots for days on end!

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.

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Of Sewers, Committees and Design: All in a Day's Work by Anne J. Swager, Hon. Ala

There are many advantages to working in

a small office: no politics, close connections and a strong

sense of camaraderie. There are also disadvantages. When one of us is not in, our staff is down by 33%. Like many of you, I've made it habit to check email and voice mail when I'm on the road. It helps the remaining AIA staff, and I don't come home to hundreds of messages that I could never return. I was actually glad to be on the road when I got a message from Greg Harbaugh about Jim Roddey's New Idea Factory. Greg, on behalf of Jim, asked me to chair the Physical Infrastructure Committee.

My first reaction on hearing the message was to stay out of town. Lately, I've felt way over committed with little to no time to think, much less time to get a job well done. My "to do" list never seems to dwindle

and instead I'm often choosing between what I really have to do and what I can really let go. Fortunately, I gave myself a day to think about what I wanted to say, and I came to my senses.

As the AIA, we have long wanted to be players at the table. It would have been unthinkable for me to turn down such an invitation not only because of our goals, but because Roddey's efforts deserve our help. Trust me, I was invisible during his campaign. No one asked my party affiliation.

As the Executive Director of the AIA, I couldn't say "no" to an offer to pitch in. So I said yes. I was assured that I could add people to my committee, and I quickly added two architects. Recently, we added a graphic designer, ever mindful of how under-represented the design community usually is.

The committee is lots of work. Last month, I attended 7 meetings for the New Idea Factory. Additionally, I wrote up reports, emailed my committee frequently and made a dozen or so phone calls on committee business. On the up side, I'm learning more than I ever thought I could about down-

town housing, transportation, sewers, and the necessary infrastructure for technology businesses. My husband, the sewer afficiando, is amazed that I'm conversant in such subjects as combined sewers and Alcosan's capacity. Mention "wet weather flow" and his eyes sparkle with romance. Most importantly, I'm hearing an entirely different tune about the value of design from some unexpected circles.

Convincing people outside the design industry that design really counts is at best a steep uphill battle. Luckily for us, we have a new ally. Richard Florida, Ph.D. is a professor at the CMU's Heinz School for Public Policy. He contends that the raw material of today's technology economy is the "knowledge worker", and he has done cutting edge research on what it takes to draw them to an area. His research shows that these future Pittsburghers want an edgy urban environment. They look for a quality of life that is authentic and which has numerous outdoor recreational options. On fall Sundays, these are the people who will be kayacking by the new stadiums on the river. In Richard's mind the connection is clear. Good design drives quality of life that in turn drives the new economy. Richard's work provides the proof for what the design community has always believed.

Richard is a featured speaker all around town. His research is compelling and it is helping to guide the efforts of Jim Roddey's New Idea Factory. If you haven't read his paper you can access it on his website. If you'd like to hear him speak, let us know at AIAPGH@stargate.net. He is very generous with his time and I expect he would be willing to share his thoughts and entertain your questions.

I am off to another committee meeting, but for once I feel as if the tide is turning. Talking about the importance of design no longer brings the wide-eyed stares of a disbelieving public.



I'm hearing an entirely different tune about the value of design from some unexpected circles.

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CMU InfoLink Program Seeks Summer Intern Opportunities

InfoLink co-director Tom Cullen is seeking local employers interested in hosting high school students as interns during July and August 2000. The students are trained at CMU in a diversity of software including AutoCAD, and are available to work up to 140 hours with their salaries subsidized by a local non-profit agency. For more information, contact Cullen at 412/268-1155 or e-mail him at cullen@cmu.edu. Information about the InfoLink program is available at www.heinz.cmu.edu/infolink.

Fresh Idea Photo Contest Announced

Shakertown, maker of Western Red Cedar shingles and siding panels, is looking for recent photographs of the best examples of applications of its materials for the *Fresh Idea Photo Contest*. For complete rules and entry information, visit the website at www.shakertown.com or call 1-800-426-8970. Deadline is May 31.

letter to the editor

You were incorrect in noting an error regarding Mr. Roger A. Weaver's letter to you about the design attribution for Point State Park.

The firm of MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, Inc. has been in continuous operation since 1889, when it was founded by Edward Stotz, the father of Charles M. and Edward Stotz, Jr. During that time, it has had a number of names, including Charles M. & Edward Stotz, Jr.; Stotz, Hess & MacLachlan; Stotz, Hess MacLachlan & Fosner; and MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, Inc. The firm became Stotz, Hess & MacLachlan in 1963, which was about the same time as many of the contract documents for Point State Park were issued under the name of Charles M. and Edward Stotz, Jr.

Point State Park was the dream of Charles Stotz, Ralph Griswold, Landscape Architect of the firm now known as GWSM, and others. The actual construction of the Park was done over a long period of time, stretching from the late 1950's to its completion in 1974. Over this period, and encompassing many separate contracts, drawings would have been issued under the firm name of Charles M. & Edward Stotz, Jr. and Stotz, Hess & MacLachlan. Charles Stotz retired before the project was completed, but he did live to see his dream become a reality.

Clare Cornelius, Director Emeritus, has been connected with the firm since 1950 and Kenneth K. Lee, the current Vice President, was with the firm when the City celebrated the Park's dedication.

We can personally attest to the fact that while this Park was the dream of Charles Stotz as early as 1945, his brother, Edward, Donald MacLachlan, and James Hess all played a major role in its design and implementation. They all worked with Charles Stotz during the 1940's, 1950's, 1960's and 1970's.

Kenneth K. Lee, Vice President MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, Inc. Clare Cornelius, Director Emeritus



6 Columns May 2000 feature

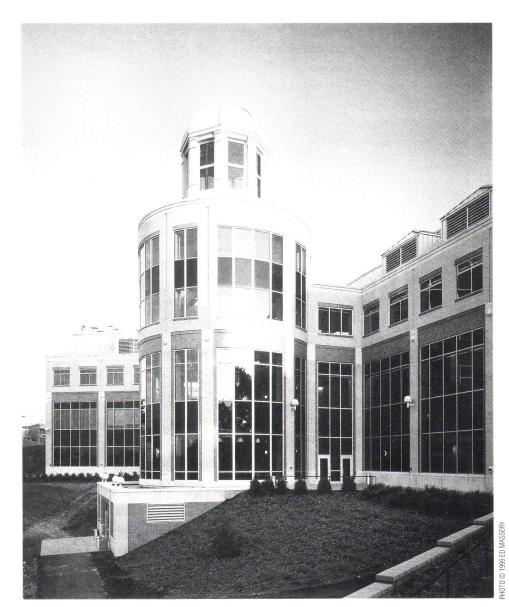
MASONRY CONSTRUCTION

A tradition continues

asonry construction has a long history in the Pittsburgh region, aided no doubt by waves of immigrants with appropriate skills who were willing to perform back-breaking labor. Masonry has always fit the image of Pittsburgh: strong, sturdy, resilient and not too flashy. Examples include most famously the Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail. The Burke Building, Pittsburgh's oldest commercial building still standing, was constructed in 1836 of brick faced with sandstone. Even earlier, parts of the brick Fort Pitt Blockhouse date to the late 18th century.

Architects are still finding relevance in masonry. Its use can lead to unique results such as the Indian Nationality Classroom, provide buildings with neighborhood context such as the Mt. Washington Rite Aid, or simply lend warmth and solidity to a residence as do the two featured in our portfolio. Chapter architects are obviously achieving successful results as reflected in the number of Golden Trowel Awards these various projects have won.

For more on how architects are honing their masonry skills, see IMI: Radical Masonry Teaching/Effective Masonry Learning beginning on page 10.

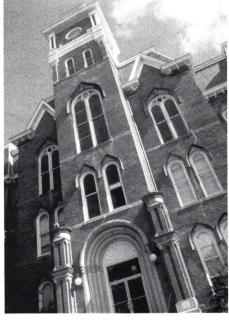


PROJECT: Robert Morris College Student Center FIRM: Celli-Flynn and Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: TEDCO Construction
An unusual example of multi-colored masonry, this
building is a focal point for the campus.

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PROJECT: Miller Hall/Waynesburg College Renovations

FIRM: Glance and Associates

MASONRY AND GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Graciano Corp. The firm was retained to organize the exterior restoration of Miller Hall, the main administrative building for Waynesburg College. This Second Empire structure, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, was built between 1874 and 1899 as a complete educational facility for the small college. The project consisted primarily of masonry restoration, including cleaning the entire masonry structure, patching and stabilizing the stone foundation, replacing damaged brick, and raking and pointing all mortar joints. Other work included painting all wood window frames, sash and trim, and installing protective storm windows on all decorative stained glass windows.

Glance and Associates won a Golden Trowel Award in the Best of Restoration/Preservation category.

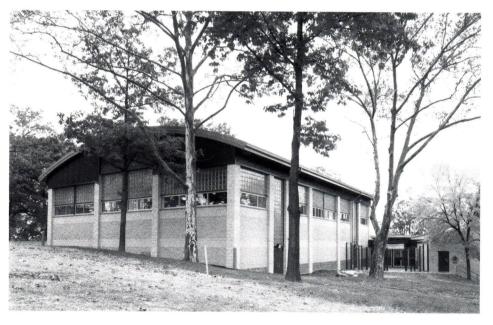
Columns May 2000 feature



PROJECT: Zone One Police Station FIRM: Lami•Grubb•Associates

MASON CONTRACTOR: MARSA, Inc.

The City of Pittsburgh purchased a former automotive facility to renovate into a new police station and evidence storage facility. The design intent was to create a sense of permanence while creating an inviting facade to the community. The curvilinear theme was continued throughout the building including a masonry sergeant's desk and wave patterns in the corridor checkerboard floor. The project received a Best of Category/Municipal-Community Golden Trowel Award .



PROJECT: Phillips Park Recreation Center Gym Addition/Pittsburgh

FIRM: Lami•Grubb•Associates

MASON CONTRACTOR: MARSA, Inc.

The gymnasium is a 10,000 sf facility designed for the City of Pittsburgh Parks and Recreation Department. The building was designed to integrate with the existing growth of trees on site. The spaces between the new and old buildings formed play courts for the preschool children and highlight views of the site and existing public pool. The neutral multi-colored stone blends comfortably with the park setting. The project won a Special Recognition Golden Trowel Award.

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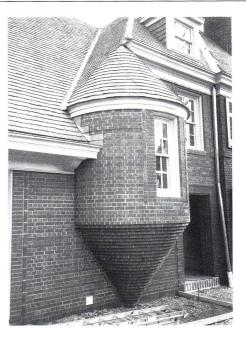


PROJECT: Indian Nationality Classroom/ University of Pittsburgh

FIRM: Renaissance 3 Architects

PROJECT ARCHITECT: Deepak Wadhwani, AIA
MASONRY CONTRACTOR: Franco Masonry
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: TEDCO Construction
The Indian Nationality Classroom is the 25th specialty
classroom/museum used as a functional teaching space
by the University of Pittsburgh. The classroom is
modeled on a typical courtyard from the ancient Nalanda
University in central India, where it flourished between
the 3rd and 7th centuries A.D. The brick walls, pilasters,
arches and floor pavers echo the principal building
material of ancient Nalanda. The pale rose bricks were
custom fabricated and detailed to capture the subtle hue,
texture and forms of the 7th century A.D. originals. A
team of Pittsburgh masons cut hundreds of bricks by
hand in order to fashion the complex forms.





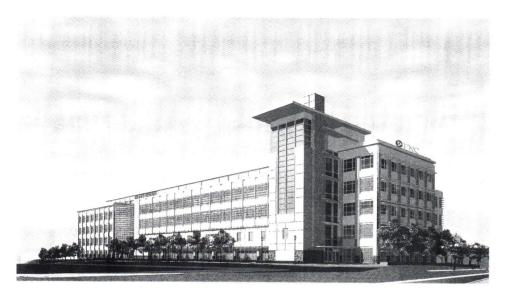
PROJECT: Residence/fireplace and turret FIRM: Ligo Architects

MASONRY CONTRACTOR: Etzel Masonry

The fireplace features a 1400 lb. limestone mantel. The masonry wall is the focal point of the room, and contains the fireplace, the television and a wood box fed from the exterior of the house. The horizontal opening under the raised hearth is glazed to feature a view to a nearby creek.

The round turret contains a stairway and is used as an architectural feature to blend the new addition to the original residence built in 1907. The bricks were custom made; the turret masonry is hung from a steel framing.

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PROJECT: PNC Firstside Center FIRM: LDA Companies – L.D. Astorino & Associates. Ltd.

MASONRY CONTRACTOR: Cost Company
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Dick Corporation
The use of masonry provided opportunities to reinforce
many of the initial design concepts. The facility sits on a
brownfield site but is in the company of many fine
masonry buildings that are a part of the Firstside district.
The existing color range of masonry is quite broad in
this area, including reds, browns and yellows. Granite is
also prevalent. It was logical to clad the new building in
masonry products to become part of the existing context.

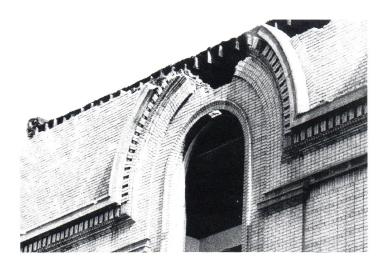
The challenge in placing a large building in this area which is one of the major entrances to the central business district was handled by breaking the large mass into separate smaller masses corresponding to the urban figure ground relationships of the City grid. Portions of the building are modeled to respect the masonry construction of the older office/warehouse facilities and others to respond to the movement inherent in the Monogahela River and Parkway East.

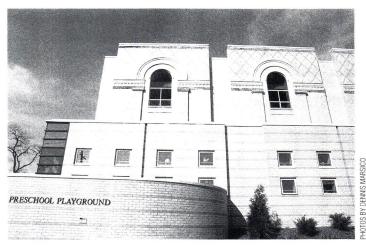
Three primary products were used to differentiate these masses. A dolomitic limestone (Kasota stone) from Minnesota was used as a base/background to the aluminum curtain wall areas. It sits on a granite base made of GSS Gold granite from New England Stone Industries with a band of Impala Black granite from North Carolina. A Belden ochre, roman-sized brick clads the pilasters that climb the facades of the office/warehouse masses.



PROJECT: Rite Aid Store/Mt. Washington FIRM: Lami•Grubb•Associates

MASON CONTRACTOR: Kusler Masonry, Inc.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Masco Construction
This new Rite Aid was designed to blend into the urban site. Traditional brick details and pilasters create a reduced sense of scale. Decorative accents have won the building praise from city planners and the surrounding neighborhood. The project won the Best in Category - Commercial Golden Trowel Award.





PROJECT: Congregation Beth Shalom (shown above, before and after)

FIRM: Indovina Associates Architects

DESIGN TEAM: Robert A. Indovina, AIA, principal in charge; Joseph P. Indovina, AIA, principal in charge of design; Edwin Grentz; Brian Roth, AIA; Brian Kaminski; Jason Bottles

MASONRY CONTRACTOR: Cost Corporation GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Jendoco Construction Co. The original building with its various additions and renovations was severely damaged by fire. An exquisite brick arch from the original 1908 construction was discovered partially intact after the fire destroyed the top portion of the building. The arch had been partially demolished and covered over during a badly executed remodeling attempt in the early '70's. Completely hidden from sight for over 30 years, the arch served as the architect's and masonry contractor's model for the brickwork that was constructed ultimately. Using only standard shapes and limestone trim as did the original builders, the complex is now unified in a manner reminiscent of and deferential to the original Synagogue. Like the Conservative Congregation the temple houses, it respects the past and tradition, but clearly looks forward to the future.

This project won two 1999 Golden Trowel Awards from the International Masonry Institute and a 1999 Master Builders Association of Pittsburgh award.





PROJECT: Private residence

FIRM: makato

DESIGN TEAM: Charles DeLisio, AIA & Vanessa

MASONRY CONTRACTOR: Cyprych Construction Inc. GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Avanti Construction Inc. The project is an addition and alterations to a single family residence originally built in 1917. The masonry work includes two grey and red brick plus custom colored mortars; brick and mortar colors were selected to match the existing house based on sample panels constructed at the site.

Masonry detailing features brick and slate highlights at window and door openings; red brick headers trim the round window and arched doors with multiple slate pieces used as keystones; corbeled slate courses are set over horizontal window lintels and on top of the sloped chimney wings. The corner columns are constructed of reinforced brick that is finished with a cement-based exterior plaster; the diameter of the columns decreases approximately 1/8" with each successive course of brick headers. The red brick base courses and top rowlock course are set flush with the plaster and left exposed.

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Radical Masonry Teaching/Effective Masonry Learning by Maria Viteri, AIA

Area architects gain hands-on experience.

asonry is the oldest building material still in existence today. So much of our architectural history is tied to masonry that architects still refer to the power of the architect/artisan or architect as the master mason, the single individual through which masonry design and construction come to life.

As a young architect from Connecticut attending the International Masonry Institute's Masonry Camp program explains it, the architect of today is no longer the artisan whose hands create the artifact. Today the mason is the embodiment of the architect's hands. As architects we depend on the masonry craftworker's ability to understand our concepts and goals and ultimately bring them to life. In other words, we design, they build — a gap obviously exists between the two groups, designers and craftworkers. Or does it?

Masonry Camp is a joint program of the International Masonry Institute (IMI) and the international Union designed



Visiting architect Danilo Guerri from Falconara, Italy works with Paul Wolk, IMI instructor, BAC 9PA, on a project-specific detail designed by Guerri for a hands-on masonry program at Carnegie Mellon University under the guidance of associate professor Stephen Lee.

to improve the quality of buildings and our built environment by bridging the gap between designers and craftworkers. IMI believes it is through this and similar interactive learning programs that the gap between the designer and craftworker can be closed. A labor/management cooperative of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers and the contractors who employ their members, IMI holds a unique position within the masonry industry. The organization not only provides technical masonry learning to the design community, but also trains the union craftworker responsible for constructing the successful masonry solution. With access to both the designer and craftworker, IMI provides a conduit by which the concerns faced by one group can be voiced and improved upon by the other. The architect no longer needs to be isolated in designing a building out of masonry but can, through IMI, access the knowledge of the masonry craftworker to contribute to the process of a better, more successful building.

Bricks and mortar

When an owner looks for an expert to create a building. the owner turns to an architect. When that architect looks for an expert for masonry detailing guidance, whom should they turn to?

Last January and February approximately 50 Pittsburgh architects and interns turned to the IMI and Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 9 of Pennsylvania for handson lessons in brick, block, and tile design. The hands-on programs, registered with the AIA, provided participants from Arthur Lubetz Associates, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann, Cuteri Architectural Group, Studio DeLisio, Dunn and Penner, KTH Architects, Ruprecht Schroeder Hoffman Architects, WTW, and UDA, with 9 CES units in return for half of a Saturday morning. The program was designed around Masonry Camp's designer/apprentice team format that allows the architect and masonry craftworker to learn directly from each other. At masonry camp, designers and masonry apprentices are teamed tofeature Columns May 2000 13



Apprentice Dave Donkin, Jr. BAC 9PA instructs architects from Ruprecht Schroeder Hoffman Architects and Bohlin Cywinski Jackson on mortar and workmanship principles.

gether and challenged to complete a design/build problem in the time span of approximately 5 days. Certainly the first challenge is to find a common language of communication and build trust between two groups that typically have little interaction, but without fail, teams have addressed designs ranging from housing projects to community buildings and have completed sample panels of typical construction details to explain their solutions.

Interactive learning continues in its most traditional format with architects enhancing their masonry knowledge with hands-on programs that directly tie idea-generating with constructability issues. Programs similar to masonry camp are provided annually for area universities and have served to compliment Material/Methods education at Carnegie Mellon, The Pennsylvania State University, and The University of Pennsylvania. As these local programs receive recognition, requests have been made by registered and intern architects to IMI and the local union instructors to design hands-on programs that address masonry detailing and performance. To satisfy this request, January's Brick/Block program was designed around explaining corner conditions, the impact of selecting different size block as back-up material, and suggestions on how to address cost issues in pier design. As area architects took turns spreading mortar and laying brick units, local apprentices explained the importance of mortar bond as the first line of defense against moisture infiltration. When it came time for the February Ceramic Tile program, union instructors and journeyman shared information on how different setting materials affect tile installation and performance.

Clicks and Mortar

IMI's presence on the Internet provides architects unable to attend a hands-on program an alternative method to access industry information. Is sandblasting recommended for the cleaning of an older masonry building? Should primer be specified on steel lintels over windows and door opening? How does wall-wash lighting impact a ceramic tile installation? "Ask IMI" at www.imiweb.org links the designer asking the question to a technical staff of architects and engineers who possess technical and applied experience in masonry design and construction. With technical staff located throughout the U.S., a question asked through the web can provide the architect with direct project assistance as needed.

Learning: What's at stake?

The January/February issue of *Columns* presented a number of predictions and trends by local architects for 2000 and beyond. Concerns focused on the architect's ability to maintain and enhance a leadership role within a design project and suggested a redefinition of the profession. As the architectural industry prepares itself for ways to address future trends, it should look to the examples set in other industry groups related to strategic partnerships that improve the industry's competitive position.

Masonry products and materials are among the most durable available for construction, especially when installed by quality contractors who employ trained skilled craftworkers. While it may be traditional to view the relationship between the architect and the craftworker as a construction-administration relationship, organizations such as the IMI are available to change this and in so doing, directly tie the idea-generating process to constructibility issues that will improve project scheduling, cost, and long term building performance.

Maria Viteri, AIA is regional director of marketing for the International Masonry Institute. 14 Columns May 2000 feature

A Tour of Bridges by David J. Vater, AIA

A review of Walter C. Kidney's latest contribution to Pittsburgh's past.

ittsburgh's Bridges, Architecture and Engineering, published in December of 1999 by Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, is the latest addition to the growing number of books about this city. The last book published on this subject dates back to 1928 and has long been out of print, making this new book a very welcome edition.

The new publication is foremost an enjoyable "picture book" which presents an exceptional series of photographs showing the drama and detail of Pittsburgh's bridges through historic views, construction photos, and contemporary images with text and captions by Walter C. Kidney.

Experienced travelers know that when you set off on a trip you have to be prepared for a few false starts, detours, and bumps in the road. So it is with the first half of this book that starts with a series of generalized essays subtitled "On Bridges." Here the writing feels rushed and breezy. Unfortunately, the section on engineers' biographics only includes three persons. More biographical details should have been presented to showcase the important contributions of professional engineers in this region. The essay on the durability of bridges does not aptly address the realities of physical maintenance, or the accelerated deterioration caused by PennDOT's penchant for dumping rock salt onto local structures. The chapter on bridge anatomy is written in such elementary language that a glossary of terms would have sufficed.

But don't let these few potholes distract from your enjoyment. The first half of the text also benefits from an impressive number of good photos, and there is an interesting ensemble of lengthy quotations from several other sources packaged together without comment in a sort of montage of Pittsburgh bridge quotations. One of these is a highly articulate letter by Robert J. Gangewere, editor of *Carnegie Magazine*, to the City of Pittsburgh, director of the Department of Engineering and Construction, about the detrimental visual impact of putting walls of chain link fencing and other "improvements" on the bridges in

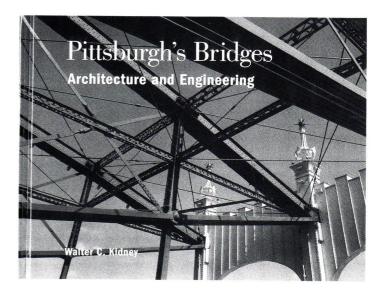
Schenley Park. Alex Sciulli responds with a bureaucratic effusion that exonerates the department from investigating other more appropriate solutions. Ultimately the insurer for the railroad in the valley below prevailed and the ugly chain link was installed and is still in place.

The best thing about the publication is the second half of the book subtitled "Bridges of the Pittsburgh Area: A Selection from the Present and the Past" which provides a more detailed written and photo description of fifty of the most important and interesting examples of Pittsburgh's bridges from the early days of the city to the present. Each is keyed into a helpful locator map. Here Mr. Kidney finally gets up to speed with informed commentary loaded with facts, all the while unveiling a seemingly endless supply of historic photographic documentation culled from several local archives.

It is rewarding and unexpected to see what the original design intent had been for several familiar structures which have been the target of repeated modernizations. The early days of the Liberty Bridge, for example, were enhanced by classical revival boulevard lampposts with twin lanterns, stone towers, acroterion, and neo-classical fish scale patterned railings, all of which have been lost in successive

"Why was it so mean, so ugly, so servile, so low-lived? Why could not a bridge perform its task with pride?"

— Louis Sullivan



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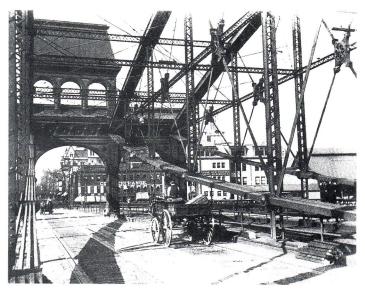
renovations to the structure. From the views in this book we get a new appreciation for the beauty once employed in the construction of our local bridges: Beechwood Boulevard Bridge, Junction Hollow Bridge, Washington Crossing Bridge, Heth's Run Bridge, the better known Sixth, Seventh and Ninth Street Bridges, and the Smithfield Street Bridge are all fascinating subjects in this investigation.

The famed Chicago architect Louis Sullivan once wrote of an important incident from his childhood. His grandfather, Henri List, was going on a trip to Lyons Falls, NY, and the young Louis at age fourteen begged to go along. As they were riding through the Berkshire Mountains the train went over a bridge. Sullivan recalls his impressions in his book *The Autobiography of an Idea*, referring to himself in the third person...

He received a shock of elation as the train moved slowly along the bridge, carrying him with it, and as he gazed downward upon flowing waters, again he marveled at what men could do; at the power of men to build; to build a bridge so strong it would carry the weight of a great train. But Louis mused about the bridge: Why was it so mean, so ugly, so servile, so low-lived? Why could not a bridge perform its task with pride?

For Sullivan, that haunting question served as an epiphany that would guide his professional career. From that point on he believed that the art of construction aims at emotional satisfaction as well as physical integrity. Although that story is not quoted in Mr. Kidney's book, those ideas serve as a recurring sub-theme in this book.

The dichotomy between architectural and engineering concerns is illustrated by the Sixteenth Street Bridge of 1923. The three massive heavily structured steel arches of its superstructure seem to be at odds with the graceful abutment refinements which culminate in fanciful bronze sculptures depicting clusters of soaring horses supporting armillary spheres. The resulting effect is of seemingly two unrelated events coexisting by little more than immediate proximity and a sense of massive weight. On the other hand, the Washington Crossing Bridge of 1923 by Benno Janssen, architect, and Charles Davis, engineer, is one



The Smithfield Street Bridge in the 1890s, looking downtown. The B&O Station appears to the right. The turnbuckle detailing of the trusses then was different at the junctions of the diagonals, though these are probably no more than decorative covers.

example of how the dual concerns of the engineer and the architect can overlap and both simultaneously inhabit the same armature. In this case each benefit from the other resulting in a bridge that strongly spans the Allegheny River in a serene series of three low long arches, simply detailed with all parts contributing to the total effect.

Sadly, this combination of talents was to be the last crescendo of "City-Beautiful" ideals. The unusual situation that an architect would receive the commission for a bridge design incited professional jealousies. Mr. Kidney writes, "...such was the rage of the local engineers that it never happened again; thence forth the architect had a contribution to make, but his work on county bridges was definitely subordinated to that of the engineers."

Perhaps Mr. Kidney should have employed the title *Pitts-burgh Bridges, Engineering and Architecture.* Either way, this book provides an enjoyable trip well worth taking.

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PetsMart, Washington, PA Architect: Casco Mgr./ Don St. Pierre

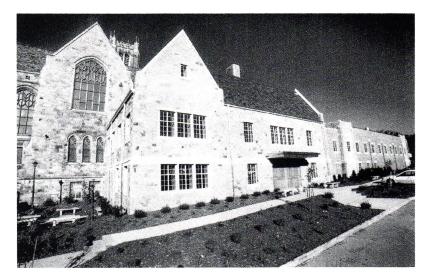


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Church of the Covenant Washington, Pa Architect: RSH Associates



CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

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From the Firms

➤ Moore Consulting Inc. is the architect and Repal Construction Co., Inc. the contractor for the kitchen installation at the ARC Westmoreland Adult Vocational Center.

Renaissance 3 Architects, P.C. is designing apartment housing at the University of Pittsburgh's Oakland campus and has received an open-ended services contract with Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. The firm also designed the recently dedicated Indian Nationality Classroom at Pitt's Cathedral of Learning.

WTW Architects has been selected for new projects at Texas Christian University, the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Kansas.

P.J. Dick Incorporated has formed a new division, Innovative Construction Services, to better serve clients whose projects require a unique level of service and creative contracting methods. Recent projects for this division include general construction of the Palomino Restaurant and construction management at the Bidwell Training Center. The company is also providing construction services to Carnegie Mellon University and to the U.S. Postal Services for new facilities in Library and Hookstown.

TEDCO Construction Corp. will provide construction management services to the South Fayette Township School District for the new Senior High School building.

LLI Technologies Engineering and Construction, Inc. and Fuellgraf Electric Co. have formed a strategic alliance partnership to bring greater capabilities to markets that each partner has developed independently.

Weber Murphy Fox, Inc. is the primary architect for the Seven Springs Mountain Resort renovation. The \$6.5 million plan includes a new three-level base lodge.

Repal Construction Co., Inc. was awarded the contract for the construction of an Aldi Grocery Store to be located in North Versailles Twp.

Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania opened a new construction management association office at 900 State St., Erie, PA 16501; 814/455-8738.

Business Briefs

► Raymond F. McCaughey, AIA has been promoted to vice president and principal of JSA.

William J.E. Curran, Associate AIA and Richard L. Zatta have joined the staff of WTW Architects.

Julie A. Mullen, AIA and Gretchen H. Kurzawa, AIA have joined McCormick Architect and Designers as senior associates.

TEDCO Construction Corp. recently appointed James T. Frantz as president.



Kudos

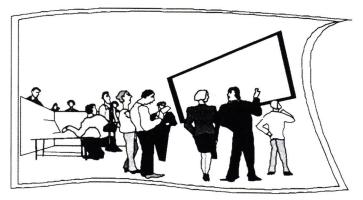
Sylvester Damianos, FAIA will keynote the 48th annual meeting of the Architectural Woodwork Institute scheduled for August 23-25 in Atlanta.

WTW Architects received an Award of Merit from the Associated Builders & Contractors of Western Pennsylvania for the firm's design of Knowledge Center located at Knowledge Park in Harborcreek Township near Erie.

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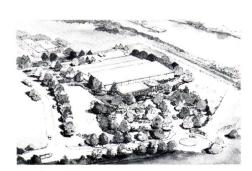
U.S. Green Building Council Announces Certifications

Pittsburgh firms design two of only 12 buildings certified nationally.

The first buildings ever to be certified for sustainable design and construction by the U.S. Green Building Council were announced in March at the Council's Fourth Annual Federal Government Summit. Eleven very distinct buildings from across the U.S. and one from overseas were recognized for achieving LEEDTM certification. LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a comprehensive rating system that provides direction and definition for sustainable design and construction. KSBA Architects and Gardner + Pope Architects designed the two Pittsburgh projects.



KSBA Architects Office Building



Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

PROJECT: **KSBA Architects Office Building** (Pittsburgh, PA)

FIRM: KSBA Architects

OWNER: Lawrenceville Development Corporation CONSULTANTS: RAY Engineering and Carlins Consulting

KSBA Architects decided to use an existing building, originally constructed in 1888, for its offices. The use of this existing building preserved the embodied energy of the building while reducing resource use and maintaining the vitality of a city neighborhood. The offices use 5,204 square feet out of a total square footage of more than 9,100 square feet.

The firm applied a performance design approach to maximize building and occupant performance through application of the latest building technology. Limited demolition was primarily steel which was recycled. KSBA re-used and refurbished as much as 90 percent of the interior millwork and furniture from the previous office. Total cost of the project was \$585,000.

Unique Sustainable Features

- The project was completed in December 1998. In the first year, energy consumption was 30 percent of the ASHRAE minimum model.
- Integrated access floor with convection enhanced ventilation increases comfort while reducing energy
- Modular carpet with 1:1 modularity to access floor uses no adhesive and therefore no VOCs were introduced into the building from that source.
- HVAC unit was not installed until all construction was complete to avoid contamination.
- Windows, light fixtures, access floor system, steel studs and paint were all manufactured within 350 mile of the site. (The windows were manufactured less than a mile away and the light fixtures about five miles away).
- Large windows and skylights contribute significant daylight (30-50 percent).
- Building is located within one block of at least four major bus routes.
- A shower is provided for cyclists and runners, and indoor parking is available for bicycles.

 ${\sf PROJECT:}\ \textbf{Greater Pittsburgh Community Food}$

Bank (Duquesne, PA)

FIRM: Gardner and Pope Architects

OWNER: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

This 95,000-square-foot distribution, warehouse and processing facility serves local food bank agencies in Western Pennsylvania. Program requirements included improved operations efficiency and safety over the previously used facility. The new building was completed in November 1999.

Because the Food Bank's mission relates to the sustainability and viability of the region, environmental sustainability was important to the building project team. The project included positive environmental impact, conservation of energy and good building performance.

Unique Sustainable Features

- Reclamation of a brownfield site, representing a new way to restore, if not improve, the nation's industrial sites
- · Low water and low maintenance landscape design.
- · Use of recycled and reclaimed materials.
- A structural building pad made of industrial byproducts.
- · Passive cooling.
- · Operable windows and natural daylighting.
- Storm water runoff from the parking lots, containing oils and salts, are diverted to bio-retention areas where plants break down harmful compounds into chemically benign water.
- Warm season grasses with wild flowers are used for a beautiful, indigenous ground cover that requires no maintenance.

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Anne-Marie Lubenau, AIA

Firm: Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (Associate Director). I also work as a consultant to Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, developing educational programs and teaching classes on the built environment.

Personal life: Tom Demko and I are in the process of renovating our 80 year old house in Regent Square that we share with two cats (Merlin & Felix) and one epileptic Dalmatian (Checkers). When we're not working on the house, we try to travel, camp, and paddle (canoe and kayak) as much as possible.

Years in practice: 13

Education: Bachelor of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University (1989)

Favorite project: While nearly every project I've designed has special meaning for me, the decision I made two years ago to join the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP) has been the most important "personal" project to date. While I'm no longer designing buildings, I'm using my professional skills to provide design assistance to the community development organizations. I continue to be surprised by the number of architects who consider that to be a departure from the profession. It's no less challenging or rewarding and, I feel, just as important to the profession in the long run.

Project I'm Proudest of: Coordinating Pedal Pittsburgh – the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh's annual bicycle ride and fundraiser – for 1800 riders last year. It presented a completely new challenge requiring skills I didn't learn in architecture school or 12 years of practice.

What's the best part of my job and why: Working with a diversity of community-based organizations and individuals, and helping those with little or no experience working with architects understand the value an architect and the design process bring to a project.

I want to be remembered for: Increasing people's awareness of and appreciation for architecture, urban design, and the architectural profession, and improving the quality of design in Pittsburgh and its neighborhoods.





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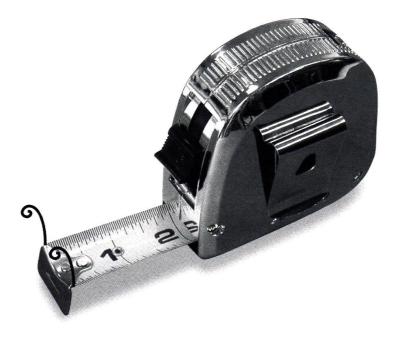
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May 9, Tuesday

Seminar: Principles of the BOCA National Building Code – Pennsylvania Building Code Primer. Kelly P.

Reynolds & Associates. Holiday Inn — Monroeville \$145. Call 800-950-2633 for information.

(6 L.U.'s)

May 31, Wednesday Architect/Engineer Liability And Practice In

Pennsylvania. A one day seminar designed for architects, engineers, contractors and builders. This seminar is intended to address fundamentals of the construction law topics set forth in the agenda, as applied in Pennsylvania. It is important for design professionals to understand their rights, duties and obligations. You will receive information on:

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 - · Design Build Issues
- Design Professional Liability to Third Parties
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 - Frequently Litigated Issues

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(8 H/S/W L.U.'s)

Please send your information to the attention of Joan Kubancek, AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or fax it to Joan at 412/471-9501. The deadline for inclusion is normally six weeks prior to publication. If you would like information describing qualified continuing education programs, please call the AIA office at 412-471-9548.

2 C A A L E N D A R

AIA ACTIVITIES

May 5, Friday

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

May 9, Tuesday

AIA Pittsburgh Board Meeting

5 p.m. at the Chapter office. All members are welcome, 471-9548.

May 9, Tuesday

Professional Development Committee Meeting noon at the Chapter office, 471-9548

May 12, Friday

Committee on the Environment, noon at the Chapter office, Gary Moshier, AIA, 252–1500.

May 18, Thursday

Legislative Committee Meeting, noon at the Chapter office, Chuck Coltharp, AIA, 252-1500.

May 31, Wednesday

AIA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture Meeting, 5 p.m. at the Chapter office, David Vater, AIA, 431-4245.

AROUND TOWN

May 8 - May 12

Preservation Week Downtown Walking Tours. Noontime walking tour in the Cultural District, along Penn and Liberty Avenues. Meet at Katz Plaza, Penn and 7th Street. 12 noon to 12:50 p.m. Free.

May 9, Tuesday

CSI Meeting: Discussion with Donald Miller, former art critic with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly of Pittsburgh Architecture" Social 6 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m. (\$20) Program 7:30 p.m. Holiday Inn, Greentree. For Reservations call Les Cartiff at 412-823-5063 by Friday, May 5th.

May 10, Wednesday

Society of Design Administrators.

Monthly meeting at the Engineer's Club. "Competing in an E-World" by Mark Thomas from Frontier Systems. He will give a presentation structured to help professionals harness the power of e-commerce. This is an overview of e-commerce and tactics to effectively take advantage of this revolutionary avenue for growing firms. 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Lunch \$17 members \$19.50 non-members. Reservations call Christine Taylor 412-231-5500.

May 17, Wednesday

"Saving Cities Through Sustainability"

Ron Sims, County Executive, King County (Seattle, Washington). Introduction by Jim Roddey, County Executive, Allegheny County and hosted by Duquesne University Center for Enviromental Research & Education, in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Technology Council. The Forums begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Bayer Learning Center, Duquesne University and are followed by a reception. No fee to attend. For information, contact Stephanie Zamorski at 412-258-6642.

May 31, Wednesday

AIA MBA Committee Meeting. Master Builders Association, 2270 Noblestown Rd. 6:00 p.m. 412-922-3912

June 7 - Sept 27, Wednesdays

History & Landmarks Wednesday

Walking Tours. June & September, Penn-Liberty Walk, Meet at Katz Plaza. July, Wood Street Walk, Meet at PNC Plaza. August, Grant Street Walk, Meet at USX Plaza 12 noon to 12:50 p.m. Members Free. \$3.00 nonmembers.

AIA Pittsburgh is using e-mail to keep our members informed of the chapter's activities. If you would like to be included and are a member, please send your address to aiapgh@stargate.net.

For advertising information and rates, contact the AIA office at 412-471-9548.

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Welcome New Members!

James Routh, AIA is senior designer for LDA - L.D. Astorino Companies, A CMU grad, Jim is married to Samantha and is the father of Jimmy (2) and Nina (6 mo.). All you baseball fans should know that he's one of



several project managers coordinating the construction of PNC Park. Jim is interested in the AIA/CMU committee.

Professional Affiliate Stephen A. Manley is with the Elk Corporation and is married to Jennifer. He's interested in the communications and programs/exhibits committees and hopes to educate the architectural

community about his



company's products and services. He also confides that he not only participated in but completed the 1999 Ironman Triathlon!

Professional Affiliate Ellis "Skip" McMillen is with

Trenwyth Industries, is married to Dottie, and is the father of Michael and Sarah. Skip spends his non-working hours out of doors and with his children as much as possible. He also tell us that he "appreciates being part of something that starts as a thought and turns into a structure that lasts generations."

Joseph J. Balobeck, Jr. AIA is with Architect Developer Inc. and is the father of five grown children. Joe's professional goals include continuing to promote humanity in architecture. He reports that "I shall strive to pro-



vide quality architectural services until I meet my maker or lose it entirely, whichever comes first!" He also reports an interesting mix of hobbies: nature, sketching, golf and "extraterrestrial shenanigans". He hopes to join the Design Awards Committee.

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To contribute to an issue or to submit a story idea, please contact the editor at 412/362-1844 or by email: CRTowers@stargate.net

UPCOMING ISSUES

Throughout the year 2000, *Columns* will explore innovative uses of various materials. All members are encouraged to submit designs in the categories below.

July/August 2000

• Water as a material and/or system (Deadline for submission is May 15)

September 2000

• Other materials not covered (Deadline for submission is June 15)

October 2000

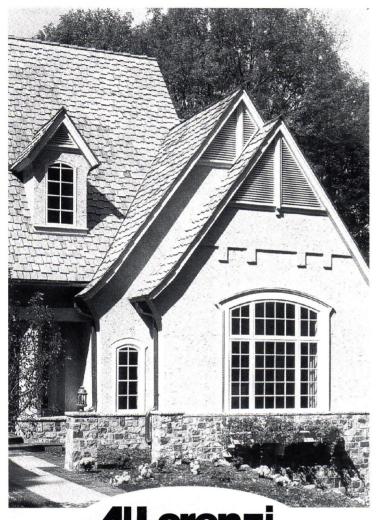
• Aluminum (Deadline for submission is August 15)

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