COLUMNS

.....

CHANGING THE DESIGN PROCESS: The Pennsylvania Barrier Project

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The first domed house in the country, and the only house today on the World Heritage List, Monticello boasts 13 skylights, dumbwaiters, automatic doors and the Great Clock, all designed by Jefferson.

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On the cover: Photo by Andrew A. Wagner

Don't Forget What Your Good Book Said By Tracy Certo

If you dream someday about writing

a book on architecture, you're in good company. As David Vater, AIA illustrates in his extensive article on architects as authors (p. 12), the list is long and illustrious, and that's just local. He also mentions historic figures such as the immensely prolific Thomas Jefferson—who authored the Declaration of Independence as well as a trove of 90,000 personal letters.

Coincidentally I had just returned from a trip to Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's estate in Charlottesville, Virginia. (Another coincidence: just as we entered the 500-acre plantation, Neil Young's "Southern Man" was playing on the car radio.) We headed south to see friends, and didn't expect such a wonderful trip, perfect for architects and historians.

To start with a bang: Monticello. I must confess that Jefferson was once my hero but his currency took a dive after I read McCullough's *John Adams*. So I'm happy to report that this visit renewed my appreciation for the man as an architect and landscape architect, philosopher and author. In his *retirement*, the prodigious statesman created the University of Virginia in nearby Charlottesville, designing many of the buildings including the now-restored Rotunda building.

High on a hill overlooking the historic town, Monticello is Jefferson's creation through and through, from its 40-year building history (Jefferson redesigned it after spending five years in Paris as a minister) to its Parisian furnishings and the many family portraits that line its 18-foot high walls. The first domed house in the country, and the only house today on the World Heritage List, Monticello boasts 13 skylights, dumbwaiters, automatic doors and the Great Clock, all designed by Jefferson. In one striking portrait, at age 78, he is featured wearing five layers of clothing. He was a man of many accomplishments but surviving winters in style wasn't among them. Detesting the cold weather, he wished to be like a dormouse, awakening each spring.

In his study, you get the best sense of the man, with the writing/copying machine he invented, his astounding book collection and the six-foot-three-inch alcove bed that splits the office from the bedroom. You can almost picture the 6' 2" Jefferson rising each morning—railing against his inner dormouse— to first dip his feet in a bucket of cold

water to ward off colds. It worked. He averaged one every seven years.

Jefferson's ambition and accomplishments were matched by his extravagant nature. If cold weather wasn't his thing, neither were finances. He died \$100,000 in debt, which is the equivalent of a million in today's dollars.

The tour is fascinating, but at 45 minutes, way too short. Outside, we walked the underground slave quarters (Jefferson as archeologist) and the famous gardens (Jefferson as landscape architect) as well as the private family cemetery.

After a hearty lunch at an authentic tavern, we headed to Richmond, straight to the signature Monument Avenue. With its grand statues of confederate heroes on horseback such as Robert E. Lee, (whose statue stands sixty-feet high) Stonewall Jackson and J.E.B Stuart, the street is as steeped in controversy as it is in history. Walk of shame or walk of fame? asks one Web site. As a native later informed us, the horses' rear ends tellingly all face north.

We hadn't noticed, entranced as we were with the mix of old Georgian and Tudor and Italianate houses that line this, one of America's Most Beautiful Boulevards. According to one local guide, it's the largest concentration of historical landmark houses in the country.

Nearby is the trendy Fan district, a historic neighborhood named for its shape, chockablock with row houses of varying architectural styles. Some are modest, some are knockout and some look like the best of our own Allegheny West, blocks-long. The Fan is adjacent to Carytown, a charmer of a shopping area along the lines of Shadyside but bigger, and with more independent stores. On a late December day, it was sunny, nearly 60 and Carytown was humming with activity.

There's much to see in downtown Richmond, from the splendid Jefferson Hotel and quaint and pretty Canal Walk along the James River, to the restored tobacco factories of Shockoe Slip and Shockoe Bottom. Now they house elegant design shops and restaurants.

First impressions of a city matter, as noted in the article about the Pennsylvania barrier (p. 8). It's quite a story, of unique collaboration that resulted in a workable solution for all. And now, it's award-winning. Let's talk civic pride! 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 guality 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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A MESSAGE FROM AIA MIDDLE PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENT Ralph A. Meacham III, AIA

As the new year unfolds, the Chapter is pleased to report a full slate of officers for 2003, who bring energy and a strong sense of renewed purpose to Chapter leadership.

During the past year we have had interesting and meaningful programs and have enjoyed a continued corresponding mem-



bership relationship with AIA Pittsburgh. Through this relationship we have received this magazine, *Columns*, along with a great deal of helpful input from Executive Director Anne Swager, Hon. AIA, and we have participated in their Design Awards program.

Our programs are geared toward continuing education credits as well as to local relevance. For example, we invited representatives from Altoona Blair County Development Corporation to discuss the I-99 growth corridor. That

prompted energetic discussion and marked the beginning of what has become a continued relationship.

Our continued pursuit of relations with Penn State seems to be taking root after years of effort. Our community involvement includes outreach in the form of financial contributions to the Blair County Historical Society for a major restoration, the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art and the Allegheny Ridge Corporation. We contributed to Penn State's "Structures for Inclusion" conference which advocated quality built environments for everyone. While doing this we have maintained strong finances with adequate reserves.

Our president, Toby Roberts, AIA, deserves special mention for advocating in favor of rental-property code inspections for the city of Altoona. The City Council followed the recommendations and consequently, citizens will be safer for it.

We continue to publish a bi-monthly newsletter and include allied professionals on our distribution list. We have attempted to form relationships with engineers with limited but growing success.

Our challenges include increasing member attendance at programs, better maintaining Chapter membership records and developing a Web site using the template provided by AIA National. We look forward to tackling these and other challenges in the year and years ahead.

CMU Student Shines

Congratulations to Katherine Bojsza, a fifth year student at Carnegie Mellon who was just named AIAS national vice-president for 2003/2004. Kate has been active in AIAS for four years, serving as the chapter president at Carnegie Mellon. Currently she serves as the

Northeast Quadrant Director on the National Board of Directors. She was also a member of the AIA Pittsburgh Board of Directors (2001-2002) and was involved in planning for AIAS Steel City Forum 2001. She served as Spring Break Chair for Carnegie Mellon's Habitat for Humanity chapter as as a member of her sorority, Delta Gamma. Upon graduating with a BArch and BA in history this spring, she will move to Washington, DC to fulfill her new post. She admits she plans on missing Pittsburgh very much. And vice versa, we might add. We wish her the best of luck.

Now There's a Typo

Alert readers may have noted an interesting typo in the January issue's blurb about the William Safire column on archispeak. In the write-up, the word charette was featured and next to it an editorial comment that read, "Note that Safire uses one r". Except charette was spelled with two r's. oops. Blame the editor's automatic spell check which has since been changed to spell charette the Safire way.

Why the editor noticed this blooper immediately upon publication but not during two different readings of the proof is one of those deep and unfathomable mysteries for which there is no answer. In any case, sory for the eror.



Welcome New Member

Christian A. Pegher, AIA of Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a Bachelor of Architecture in 1993. His wife, Debra L. Pegher, and he have a child, Jared, age 3, and a golden retriever named Pilsner.



Past projects include: Cellomics Headquarters at the Pittsburgh Technology Center, LaRoche College classroom addition, the Emily Brittain Elementary School in Butler, PA, the Westmoreland Regional Hospital Ambulatory Surgical Center and various Adelphia Business Solutions Sites. Interests & Hobbies? Home improvement projects and Apple Computers. Chris is on the AIA/CMU Professional Development Committee and if there is one thing he'd like fellow AIA members to know, it is, in his own words: "I have to apologize for being technically predisposed!"

McGraw-Hill Construction reported on November contracts for future construction in the six-county metropolitan region of Pittsburgh.

	2002	2001 %	change
NON RESIDENTIAL	\$101,574	\$51,909,000	96
RESISENTIAL	\$81,262,000	\$76,715,000	6
TOTAL BLDG	\$182,836,000	\$128,624,000	42

For the year-to-date on a cumulative basis, the totals are:

	2002	2001 % ct	ange
NONRESIDENTIAL	\$1,129,015,000	\$1,083,621,000	4
RESIDENTIAL	\$948,228,000	\$831,018,000	14
TOTAL BLDG	\$2,077,243,000	\$1,914,639,000	8

IN MEMORIAM

Claire Bassett, AIA

Claire Bassett died on December 1, 2002 at the age of 85. A graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1940, Claire had her own practice for more than 40 years. In addition to being a professor of architecture at Butler Community College, she was very active in AIA Pittsburgh.

"Claire was kind, considerate, honest, compassionate and sweet," says Chip Desmone, AIA."I could never turn down any request she made of me."

Paula Vorkapich Suhrbier, AIA, who used to work for Claire, says, "She made me feel like part of her family. Working with her, I learned a lot more than architectural skills. Most importantly, Claire taught me the key to being a woman architect: just be a good architect and an even better person."



Marsha Berger, AIA, remembers Claire for "being a true pioneer. Not only was she a successful architect, but she

also raised a large, beautiful family and made significant contributions to her community through volunteering and teaching. By showing us you can do it all, with style, good humor and grace, she was a role model for all architects."

James Yucas, AIA

Jimi Yucas died on Saturday, January 4, 2003, at the age of 54. The consummate learner, Jimi graduated from Penn State with a Bachelor's degree in Architecture and a Masters of Science Degree in Architecture. In addition, he attended the Universita del Arte Internacionale in Florence. His most recent office, Architect Atelier, was located in the Strip District of Pittsburgh. Active for years in AIA Pittsburgh, Jimi also enjoyed creative pursuits such as gourmet cooking and mixed media paintings. His ever-present smile and his warmth will be

missed. "Jimi was such a great guy," said Anne Swager, Hon. AIA, executive director of AIA Pittsburgh. "He was always smiling, always positive with such a wonderful zest for life."

John Sysko says, "Jimi loved architecture for its substance and for its evocative possibilities. He was always fascinated by the impressive, the bold, and the fantastic. As well, Jimi loved to cook, and to travel, for as fellow classmate George Miller stated, he had a great appetite for life."



Jimi Yucas, second from left, with six Penn State classmates during a tour of Beaver Stadium, an activity during an alumni reunion weekend which Jimi helped organize in 2002.

AIA PITTSBURGH WINS AIA National Award for PA Barrier





AIA Pittsburgh won the Component Excellence Award for the design of the Pennsylvania Barrier.

We knew it was a winner. Now the nation knows. AIA National just announced that The Pennsylvania Bridge Barrier Project won the Component Excellence Award in the category of Government Affairs: Single Initiative or Program.

The new barrier, which will be used on the upper level of the Fort Pitt Bridge (see related story) won for its design as well as the process of the involved project. The award was granted based on both the unique nature of the project, in reaching out to other "nontraditional voices" and for laying the groundwork for future, positive opportunities.

"I think it really exemplifies the creative and proactive leadership which is something highly valued in government affairs programs," said Rodney Clark of AIA National. "The awards were created to recognize the very good work AIA components are doing in government affairs and advocacy. AIA Pittsburgh not only led a collaborative effort to solve a problem at hand, but also established long-lasting relationships and good will—for other architects and the profession at large."

"Equally as important to the design outcomes of this effort was the collaboration," said a proud Anne Swager, Hon. AIA and executive director of AIA Pittsburgh. "As a result of this project, PennDOT, once an organization that was known for focusing on safety alone, and not necessarily the aesthetic impact of its decisions, is now open to new ideas."

PennDOT Secretary Brad Mallory, who was persuaded by the group of Pittsburgh leaders to consider an alternative design, said, "These folks did us a service. They made us go back to the table and think again, and we jointly crafted a solution."

The project certainly benefited Pittsburgh and it benefited AIA Pittsburgh as well, in several ways. "First, it once again positioned the organization as a resource and advocate for quality architectural design and planning in the region," said Swager. "Secondly, it allowed AIA Pittsburgh leadership to strengthen existing and develop new relationships with city, county, and state officials. Third, it reaffirmed to its members the value of their involvement with AIA Pittsburgh."

It's a winner all around.





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CHANGING THE DESIGN PROCESS: The Pennsylvania Barrier Project

BY TRACY CERTO

Talk about a barrier to good design.

In this case, the barrier itself was the impediment, a blocky, view-mangling chunk of solid concrete that PennDOT proposed to line the deck of the Ft. Pitt Bridge. Not only would it obliterate the stunning views but it would also greatly diminish the role of the bridge as a gateway to the city. That entrance, noted for its dramatic beauty, is regarded as an economic and regional asset. It is also, as it turns out, worth fighting for and protecting.

In June, 2002, PennDOT announced that the F shaped barrier, described above, was chosen for use on the Ft. Pitt Bridge as part of the \$84 million reconstruction plan. The objective was solely to meet safety requirements, in this case a stringent TL5 (TL for testing level). Although the F barrier would certainly accomplish that task, it would at the same time eliminate much of the view from the decks of the 43 year old bridge. It was a matter not taken lightly by groups vested in the design of Pittsburgh, such as AIA Pittsburgh and the Riverlife Task Force who led the fight to change the design.

"Safe, perhaps. Unsightly to be sure. And by partially obscuring the sight lines of Pittsburgh's rivers, hillsides and skylines, (the barriers) would be a travesty to a city with a million-dollar view," said an editorial writer for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Others agreed. "The Riverlife Task Force considers that view one of the greatest assets of Pittsburgh. To compromise it would have had far reaching implications," says Steve Quick, AIA, an architect with Perkins Eastman and member of both groups. The views, sacred to Pittsburgh, were of little consequence in PennDOT's initial decision, explains AIA Pittsburgh executive director, Anne Swager, Hon. AIA. PennDOT was operating as they usually do, in an expedient, safety-conscious and cost-saving manner, she says. "They have certain types of barriers that work for certain situations but in this situation, it didn't work."

For Swager, the announcement of the F-shaped barrier presented a challenge, a wakeup call to a change they felt was necessary, and long overdue. "It was an opportunity to get groups together in a charette process and come up with a much better outcome," says Swager. "It really came down to a cultural issue. We feel that the best resolution for transportation projects in general is to involve urban designers, architects, planners, highway and civil engineers—a broad-based group—to put together a process to come up with the best resolution."

As project manager in charge of the process, the AIA organized a few charettes and lunch meetings to get people engaged in discussion. In addition, the organization did all the background administrative work. "Our main role," says Swager, "was to make the process happen in order to get PennDOT to see the other side."

Other efforts had failed. A plea to PennDOT's Ray Hack went nowhere, even when the Mayor chimed in. Meanwhile, six civic leaders, including the Mayor and county executive, wrote a persuasive letter to PA Secretary of Transportation Brad Mallory urging him to reconsider the barrier design. In the letter, they noted that architecture critic Paul Goldberger had once named Pittsburgh as "the only city with an entrance". The view not only defines the city, the letter continued, but it also makes a lasting first impression for visitors.

Signed by several leaders of Riverlife as well as Maxwell King of the Heinz Endowments, the letter urged Mallory to take "a more flexible approach to the barrier" and work with them in designing a solution. Unfortunately, at that point Mallory was unresponsive.

As a result, several board members called on Elsie Hillman to assist in exerting pressure on PennDOT to seek a compromise. That was the key that ultimately unlocked the door, as one board member said. After meeting with Riverlife reps, Governor Ridge prevailed upon Mallory who then "made it clear to his staff that he wanted a compromise to occur," says advisory board member Eloise Hirsh, former city planning director. From that point on, things changed. "DOT officials from both Harrisburg and locally started attending advisory board meetings," she explains. "And they were terrific."

The Heinz Endowments funded the effort with a \$113,000 grant while Hirsh organized the advisory board which consisted of city and county representatives as well as design professionals, an attorney, and engineers. From that group, subcommittees were formed and Baltimore bridge architect Fred Gottemoeller, who is both an engineer and an architect, was called in as a consultant. "By casting a wide net it was very helpful," says Quick. "Eloise Hirsh and Anne Swager were key and made sure it was an open process and they helped guide and facilitate the group."

The process turned out to be as much of a factor as the barrier the group pushed through. "It was an unusual opportunity to have all different people come together and listen to different viewpoints," says Mary

Navarro of the Heinz Endowments. "A great synergy occurred when everyone got together. I think people were energized by that, to actually have the opportunity to come out of their everyday circumstances and really work together on a great solution."

Not that it was easy. One of the first things the group did was to establish ground rules with PennDOT and the Federal Highway Administration(FHWA). Among other tasks, they identified needs and resources, established budgets, gathered data and constructed models of barriers.

Pressed for time, they looked at a number of barriers from other states. Some were better than others but none were up to the design standards needed to maintain the view specifically from the sightline of a mid-sized car, says board member and landscape architect Sara Moore from Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann. Although the Colorado and Texas barriers allowed more of a view than the others, scale was a consideration and, as Quick said, they were looking for something with more finesse. Another factor was the vantage point. Since it's a downward view from the car sightline to see the rivers, said Moore, that distinction was an important design consideration.

By August, the board had hired Dr. Sunil Saigal, an engineer from Carnegie Mellon University, to design and eventually test the barrier. Speaking by phone from Florida, Saigal explained the procedure. "FHWA mandates the following: either physically testing, which is very expensive, or doing calculations based on available design codes however you must start from an existing approved design. We took an existing approved design and made modifications to it and that was acceptable to FHWA."

Before gaining approval on the design, Saigal and PennDOT went back and forth with rounds of questions and calculations, while consulting with HDR Engineering Group in downtown Pittsburgh. "They could have made it very burdensome for me, since I was doing all the calcula-



"We have a very efficient and attractive piece of highway furniture here that improved visibility tremendously." STEVE QUICK, AIA tions, by giving me conflicting requirements," says Saigal. "This was a nice bunch; they discussed things and agreed on things."

In the end, the spring of 2002, the objective was accomplished and the Pennsylvania Barrier was approved. That signaled the achievement of the immediate goal of the advisory board. "We have a very efficient and attractive piece of highway furniture here that improved visibility tremendously," says Quick.

But there was another far-reaching goal, as AIA Pittsburgh's Swager explains, "which was really to change the culture of

PennDOT, to make them more accepting of the influence of architects, designers, planners, and urban designers."

Calling it a "story of collaboration", Riverlife's Lisa Schroeder says, "It was extremely positive, not only in solving a problem that made a big difference in preserving



"I'd like to see a continued process with PennDOT on barriers and lighting and sidewalks and railings and such." ANNE SWAGER, HON. AIA the views but also having everyone work together to set the groundwork for an ongoing partnership."

That, says Schroeder is critical for her organization as Riverlife works with others on infrastructure projects such as bridges and boulevards with riverfront views. "With every infrastructure project the conditions are different," she says. "The fact that we can now get together with the city and with PennDOT and work through these things early in the design process makes all the difference in the world."

As Schroeder insists, "Relationships matter. For instance, the fact that we now have a strong relationship with the bridge division in Harrisburg has really helped with coming up with a plan that is satisfactory for everyone for the 16th Street Bridge." She commends the pivotal role the transportation committee played in the barrier project. "It helps to have that expertise," she says.

Others echoed that sentiment. "I loved it. It was a delightful process," says an initially skeptical Saigal. "All the people were very cooperative—with urban planning looking at aesthetics and people from DOT looking at safety, a consultant from MD guiding us, architects providing input. In the beginning I thought, how is this going to work with all these different people with different backgrounds? But I enjoyed the whole process a lot."

PennDOT local bridge engineer Lou Ruzzi admits that, for him, "It didn't start off too well. The solution was forced upon us. We didn't have another alternative to the F shaped barrier so we were trying to stick to it." With reason, he adds. "We were so worried about the condition of the bridge so anything that was holding us up bothered us."

He soon changed his mind. "After we got into it, we were literally at the drawing board. We brought examples and the architects would draw something up and we'd say, 'you can do that but not this.'

"We did a video superimposing a barrier on video to help us make the decision. Overall I thought it was good," he says of the process, clarifying, "but it was something we weren't used to doing at first."

Not surprisingly, the biggest discussion point centered on aesthetics and safety. "We were looking at it from the safety end and they were looking at it from their end with as much view as possible which meant as little concrete as possible," says Ruzzi. "We went back and forth on that awhile before we settled on a barrier. It helped that Fred Gottemoeller, who is an architect and engineer and knows both sides, was there."

Regardless of the discussion, the group enjoyed a positive atmosphere throughout the process. "The civic side and the engineers genuinely enjoyed the very creative process that looked for a solution that didn't exist before," says Hirsh. "We were able to lay aside the usual attitude that 'we can't do that'. Everyone's creativity was engaged."

On another level, the group met with success as well. "Institutionally, PennDOT really does understand how important the view issues are to Pittsburgh and I think their process has changed as a result of the good experience we all had," Hirsh added.

"It should happen more often," says Sara Moore. "It was cool to see the different agencies and the private sector come together to talk about design and think outside the box and throw wild ideas on the table. It was a very neat group of people," she enthuses.

As for the additional cost of designing the barrier, Swager was realistic in its assessment. "This is a change order to a project. And change orders can make things more expensive. You have to consider the government bureaucracy and the demand is faster, cheaper, better," she says. "PennDOT has to do it within the confines of their budget and it has to be safe."

Like other board members, George Halkias, AIA of Astorino, sees the cost as an investment. "Given the added attraction over the life of that barrier, it's a very small cost to pay," he says.

"Think about this," Quick suggests. "Had they gone with the Jersey barrier and people wouldn't have seen the view of the new North Shore and the three rivers, there would have been a major outcry and a huge cost to changing it. We would have preferred the Pennsylvania barrier on both levels," he adds. At the same time, Quick notes it sent a good message to traffic engineers and highway departments about the concern of both appearance and functionality. "People are looking for good design, that en-



"We're seeing it more and more on every job. Mike Ryan (of PennDOT) is emphasizing the context sensitive design and seeking public input in the hope of coming up with a good product in the end." LOU RUZZI compasses all the situations, not just appearance. That's valued

It is encouraging to note that the time, effort and money in the design of the Pennsylvania barrier will continue to pay off. Swager adds. PennDOT has already received calls from several other states interested in the new barrier.

Most importantly, the door has now been opened, paving the way for more opportunities. "We're talking about holding some visioning sessions on the 10th St. Bypass. I'd like to see a continued process with PennDOT on barriers and lighting and sidewalks and railings and such," says Swager. "I don't know that PennDOT wouldn't welcome us to do that but they still would like a book of standards that they could choose from. In other words, it would help if they had several barriers, all TL5s, to choose from as different situations arise."

Although this is the first time PennDot's Ruzzi was involved in any process like this, he says that PennDOT is now engaged in more similar group processes, citing the bridge off the Boulevard of the Allies in Oakland. "We're seeing it more and more on every job. Mike Ryan (of PennDOT) is emphasizing the context sensitive design," Ruzzi says, "and seeking public input in the hope of coming up with a good product in the end."

The Texas HT barrier on the lower deck is made of 32" of concrete and 18" of barrier with one single rail. The PA barrier on the upper deck is made of 24" of concrete with 26" of double rail square tubes.

AIA Pittsburgh thanks the Heinz Endowments for its generous support of the Pennsylvania Barrier Project.







Schroeder



Maxwell King The Heinz Endowments

Navarro

"Not only did this unusual mix of engineers and view preservationists manage to accomplish the task, it also set a precedent for future civic design cooperation in PennDOT projects," wrote Maxwell King, president of the Heinz Endowments to the editor of the Pittsburgh Tribune Review. In response to an article blasting the cost of the PA barrier, King corrected the erroneous report. "It was private, not government, money that was spent on the risky prospect of developing a new design that might not have been accepted. Also, the money was backed up by scores of hours of staff and volunteer time from the Riverlife Task Force and several other civic groups that worked the project through to acceptance by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to Secretary Brad Mallory, a big supporter of the project from beginning to end.

I know we at the Heinz Endowments believe there was tremendous quality-of-life return for the region that will continue to bring in big returns as other states adopt the Pennsylvania barrier."





Moore

Lisa Schroeder **Riverlife Task Force**

"The fact that we can now get together with the city and with PennDOT and work through these things early in the design process makes all the difference in the world."

Lou Ruzzi PennDOT district bridge engineer

"After working with the group you get a different perspective on things and it challenged us as engineers to come up with a better product that people liked."

Mary Navarro The Heinz Endowments

"It was a great process, a great public/private partnership and a lot was accomplished."

Sara Moore

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann

"It should happen more often."

Tomas Gulisek Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann

"Usually people are not willing to share knowledge and with so many people, some are against something. It was very different to have people in one room to brainstorm for an actual solution and do it quickly. It was a very interesting experience for me."



Ruzzi

Gulisek





A REVIEW OF BOOKS WRITTEN BY WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ARCHITECTS WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID J. VATER, AIA

AN YOU HEAR THE ARCHITECT'S VOICE IN THIS DESCRIPTION OF PLACE?

"The kingly brilliance of Sirius pierced the eye with a steely glitter, the star called Capella was yellow, Aldebaran and Betelgueux shone with a fiery red. To persons standing alone on a hill during a clear midnight such as this, the roll of the world eastward is almost a palpable movement." *Far From the Madding Crowd*

The writer was Thomas Hardy (1840 – 1928). It was written almost ten years after he had begun drafting in India ink with a sharpened bird quill in an apprenticeship with an ecclesiastical architect. As he took measurements of old churches in the Dorchester countryside, he wrote verse and essays in the early years. Two years after he won a prize for his own designs from the London Architecture Association, he published his first short story. His masterful novels are now read and reread worldwide.

Hardy understood the subtle business of paying attention and getting all the details right. In his preface to *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, he wrote," A novel is an impression, not an argument." Perhaps the same could be said of the old village buildings and country churches he studied which have the ability to quietly influence how we feel in their presence.

Hardy is one of many in a bibliography of architects who also distinguished themselves as authors. Others include: Marcus Vitruvius Pollio (with his ten books *De Architectura*, Andrea Palladio (*I Quattro Libri Dell' Architettura*), Leon Battista Alberti, Giorgio Vasari, and for his poems, Michelangelo Buonarroti. London's John Vanbrugh was better known in his day for his plays and dramas than for a certain country house for the Earl of Carlisle called Castle Howard, or for England's ultimate showstopper, Blenheim Palace.

Closer to home, Virginia's Thomas Jefferson is revered for both his university at Charlottesville and his *Declaration* of Independence. The list goes on, including famous names such as Asher Benjamin, Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier and Robert Venturi. Some others are not so well known. Do we recognize the architect-writer when reading Umberto Eco's popular mystery novel *The Name of the Rose*? Or, in David Macaulay's numerous children's books?

When we look about the streets closer to home in Western Pennsylvania, we may recognize in its buildings the handiwork of our fellow architects, but how many of us have read their books? The purpose of this article is to re-introduce some of these now legendary local figures by giving reference to their published books. Nearly all of the volumes in the following list are now out of print, but fortunately many can be found in the collections of local libraries. Some are scarce and only exist in out-of-town collections. A few are lost to the world.

It should come as no surprise that for the most part, the architect-authors of the Pittsburgh area, a city with a century-old reputation for no-nonsense, practical thinking and a tireless work ethic, pursued their writing with a straightforward diligence. The dreamy leisure hours of a novelist are rare. Pittsburgh architects more often wrote as pragmatic realists working in the non-fiction disciplines of history, biography, and professional documentation.

Local architects are best known for their books about local architecture, books that document their own careers, or present an overview of the work of a firm. Several have published memoirs or biographical statements.

Around 1890, Altoona architects George T. Smith and Charles Morrison Robinson published *Art in House Building. Twenty designs of modern dwellings... costing from \$600 upwards, including designs of a church and schoolhouse...* It was printed in Pittsburgh by J. Eichbaum & Co. A few years later C. M. Robinson published *Architectural Suggestions, a number of designs for public and private buildings* which was printed in 1893.

...in Western Pennsylvania, we may recognize in its buildings the handiwork of our fellow architects, but how many of us have read their books?



Pittsburgh architect Samuel T. McClarren, best known for his public school buildings, published the 23-page *Second Annual Souvenir of Designs* circa 1891. No copies of the presumptive first annual have ever been found. Thomas H. Scott, architect of the Benedum-Trees Building, published the 46-page *Souvenir Designs* printed in Pittsburgh around 1892.

The Pittsbvrgh Architectvral Clvb (sic), organized in 1896 and incorporated in 1901, played an important role in the turn-of-the-century life of Pittsburgh architects. Activities included great costume parties, fieldtrips, and, from 1900 – 1916, public exhibitions with published hardback catalogues lavishly illustrated with drawings, renderings, and photographs. The 1907 exhibition was probably the largest exhibition of architectural design ever presented in the United States up to that time. It included over 1500 exhibits from the United States, England, France, and Germany, occupying seven galleries of the Carnegie Institute (now Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh). The actual door count of persons who attended the show was 88,000. Also from 1919 – 1974 the club published a monthly magazine called "The Charette."

In 1904, Frederick J. Osterling, architect of the Union Trust Building, published an illustrated catalogue of buildings he designed.

Around 1910, Charles W. Bier, architect of the Sewickley Borough Municipal Building, pasted together a scrapbook of church views, and one of Colonial architecture to use for handy office reference. Although they were never published, the two scrapbooks still remain. They are now on the oversize reference shelf of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. Henry Hornbostel, George Wild, and Victor A. Rigaumont co-authored *The Comprehensive Plan of Johnstown [PA]: A city practicable, plans for the enhancement of its natural beauty and desirability as a manufacturing center* published in 1917. Although their report provides a very innovative and comprehensive proposal, very little of it was actually constructed. Only a few roadway alignments were adopted. Hornbostel also wrote chapter 13 on "Architecture" in the 1938 book *A Sesquicentennial History of Allegheny County.* Hornbostel's unpublished and largely uncompleted manuscript for his own autobiography exists as a stack of handwritten pages. It is now preserved in the collection of the Carnegie-Mellon University Architecture Archives.

Eric Fisher Wood, the New York born architect who moved to Pittsburgh and collaborated with Hornbostel on multiple projects, was the author of six books. Wood had been a student at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris when World War I broke out and he went to work at the American Embassy. Later he served in three armies: the French, British, and American, and was wounded twice. In 1915, at the age of 26, he sent parts of his journal to New York which was published as The Note Book of an Attaché, Seven Months in the War Zone. Here was a first-hand evewitness account of what was happening in Europe, exactly what the American public wanted to know. The book became an overnight national best seller and went into ten editions. In the next few years, Wood published The Swiss System, and The Writing on the Wall, the Nation on Trial, arguing against American neutrality in the war and The Note Book of an Intelligence Officer, once again retelling episodes of his own wartime experiences.

After the war, Wood wrote the biography (no relation) Leonard Wood, Conservator of Americanism published in

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1920. Leonard Wood was a close friend of Teddy Roosevelt, who served in the Rough Riders, and as U.S. Military Governor of Cuba, commanded U.S. forces in the Philippines then rose to Chief of Staff, and eventually became a Republican nominee for President.

During World War II, author Eric Fisher Wood served on General Dwight D. Eisenhower's staff in France and Germany which led to the publication of Wood's *Lectures on Troop Leading, Spoken Extemporaneously Between 8 April and 1st May 1941.*

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

Three local architects have published books on the topic of church architecture. John T. Comes, architect of St. Agnes church in Oakland and many other religious structures, wrote *Catholic Art and Architecture, A Lecture to Seminarians* in 1918. A second enlarged edition followed in 1920.

Edward J. Webber, architect of Central Catholic High School and the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, wrote *Catholic Church Buildings, Their Planning and Furnishing*, and *Catholic Ecclesiology*, both published around 1927.

Leo A. McMullen, architect of St. Bernard's Church in Mt. Lebanon, PA, wrote chapter 18, "Architecture in the Diocese" in the book *Catholic Pittsburgh's One Hundred Years* published in 1943.

ON THEIR CAREERS

Edward B. Lee, architect of the Harvard, Yale, Princeton Club and co-architect with Hornbostel of the City County Building, published circa 1926 *The Work of Edward B. Lee, Architect*, a handsome illustrated catalog of his work.

After seventeen years in Pittsburgh, the office of Kiehnel & Elliott moved to Miami, Florida where Richard Kiehnel eventually published *A Monograph of the Florida Work of Kiehnel & Elliott Architects* in 1938.

Raymond Hood, best known for his design of Rockefeller Center in New York City, came to Pittsburgh early in his career to work with Henry Hornbostel and help in the design and detailing of Carnegie Tech's Fine Arts Building and other projects. He wrote his autobiography, *Raymond Mathewson Hood*, in 1931.

Edward Stotz, architect of the Fifth Avenue and Schenley High Schools compiled the volume *Ramblings of an Architect: Being a Collection of the Writings of Edward Stotz* in 1946. In 1978 his son Charles M. Stotz mimeographed thirty copies of the text and presented copy number one to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. It's still there.

Charles Morse Stotz was known as an architect and antiquarian. He oversaw the restoration of Old Economy in Ambridge and built the reconstructions of Fort Pitt and Fort Ligonier. Doing extensive historical research was a



Robert Watson Schmertz

No article on Pittsburgh architect-authors would be complete without mention of the whimsical verse and lyrics of architect, CMU professor, and balladeer Robert Watson Schmertz. A gifted banjo player and folk song singer, he coined the architectural lyrics of "...a Queen Anne front and a Mary Jane behind..." and many other songs about architecture, Carnegie-Mellon University, and the Colonial history of Western Pennsylvania. Schmertz wrote the lyrics for "Fight, Fight, Fight for the Glory of Dear Old Tech" late one night while drafting a plan for Henry Hornbostel in his campus office called "The Shanty." Schmertz passed away in 1976 just after reviewing the proofs of his *A Picture Book of Songs and Ballads* which he also illustrated. Schmertz also produced recordings on 78's, 33's, and cassettes, and some of his songs have recently been re-released on CDs.



natural by-product of his professional work. As an author, he has six books to his credit.

The Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania published in 1936 by the Buhl Foundation, republished in 1966 and again in 1996, is a must see for anyone interested in local buildings built before 1860. Stotz also published a separate text on *The Bibliography of Books from which notes* have been taken for the Architectural Survey around 1936.

In addition, Stotz co-authored, with University of Pittsburgh historian Alfred P. James, *Drums in the Forest* published 1958. Stotz's other books are: *Point of Empire: Conflict at the Forks of the Ohio*, (1970); *The Reconstruction of Fort Ligonier: The Anatomy of a Frontier Fort*, (1974) and *Outposts of the War for Empire: The French and English in Western Pennsylvania: Their Armies, Their Forts, Their People, 1749 – 1764* (1985). The last one is probably his least known book, and yet a very impressive volume with wonderful conjectural drawings of each of the Colonial fortifications.

The history of the firm for which both Edward and Charles Stotz worked is described by *In Detail: The Celebration of a Century in Architecture* which was published in 1989 by Maclachlan, Cornelius & Filoni.

A 1988 exhibition at the University of Pittsburgh Art Gallery resulted in a published catalog by Alfred D. Reid, Jr., AIA; and Michael W. Stuhldreher, AIA titled, *Reid & Stuhldreher, PC, A Hundred-Year Retrospective: The Architect's Drawings as a Communication Medium.* It includes much of the work of architect Carlton Strong, best remembered for his Sacred Heart Church in Shadyside. Arthur Lubetz wrote the exhibition catalog for *Architecture...Energy* published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in 1989.

Pittsburgh born architect Cornelia Briery (who was for a while known as Mrs. Peter Berndston) wrote about her experience of studying under Frank Lloyd Wright in her book *Tales of Taliesin: A Memoir of Fellowship*(1999).

Kent C. Bloomer and Chicago architect Charles W. Moore authored *Body, Memory, and Architecture* (1977). Bloomer also wrote *The Natural Ornament: Rhythm and Metamorphosis in Architecture* (2000). The architect is remembered in Pittsburgh not only for being an inspiring teacher on the faculty at CMU, but also for his remarkable wave-like concrete relief on the addition to Rodef Shalom.

Raymond L. Gindroz, AIA was author of *Exotic Neighbor*hoods: Pages from a Sketch Book: Pittsburgh, San Diego, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Palm Beach (1991). He was also advisor for A Pattern Book for Shadyside by Ulrich Fleming, et al, published in 1985.

Tasso Katselas, architect of the Community College of Allegheny County's Pittsburgh Campus on the North Side, and the Pittsburgh International Airport, has published two books documenting his career: *Tasso Katselas, Architect Planner* (1970), and *Tasso Katselas, Architect/Planner: A Continuum 1970* – *1980* published in 1981.

The Architecture of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson was published in 1994, the same year that they were selected by AIA National for "The Firm of the Year Award." Among the most active of writers in this region is David Lewis, FAIA, a founder of Urban Design Associates and now on the faculty of the School of Architecture of Carnegie-Mellon University.



William S. Huff, architect and former Associate Professor at Carnegie-Mellon University wrote *A Return to Memphis: The Art of Samuel Hester Crone, 1858 – 1913* published by the Art Museum of the University of Memphis in 1997.

Pittsburgh born architect and exhibit designer James A. Speyer authored two books: *Mies van der Rohe* (1968) and *Twentieth Century European Paintings at the Art Institute of Chicago* (1980).

The Role of the Architect in Society, published in 1983 by Carnegie-Mellon University, edited by Peter G. Burgess, contains chapters by architects Ömer Akin, Peter G. Burgess, Donald K. Carter, AIA, Jay G. Garrott, Stefani Ledewitz, AIA and Louis Sauer.

Among the most active of writers in this region is David Lewis, FAIA, a founder of Urban Design Associates and now on the faculty of the School of Architecture of Carnegie-Mellon University. He has served as editor or co-editor of a series of books on urban planning including The Pedestrian in the City, 1966; Urban Structures, 1968; The Growth of Cities, 1971; Community Design: By People, 1977; Urban Design in Action, 1986; and Remaking Cities, 1989. Lewis is also the author of a remarkably perceptive series of books on artists. These include: Constantin Brancusi, 1957; Piet Mondrian, 1957; Warren Mackenzie, Potter: A Retrospective, 1989; Warren Mackenzie, An American Potter, 1991; Byzantine Butterflies: The Folk Paintings of Peter Contis and Helen Contis, Greek Immigrants to America. 1995; and Thaddeus Mosley: African-American Sculptor. 1997.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Landscape architects also have a notable place on the bookshelf of architect-authors of western Pennsylvania. Ezra Clarke Stiles, born in New York State, published *Rock Gardening for the Small Place* in 1935, fourteen years after he had moved his home and his practice to Pittsburgh.

Ralph E. Griswold and William G. Swain wrote *Opportunities in Landscape Architecture*, a 121-page book (1978). Ralph E. Griswold and Frederick Doveton Nichols wrote *Thomas Jefferson, Landscape Architect* (1978), the first book about Jefferson's extensive interest in botanical experiments and his role in notable landscape designs. Griswold planned the landscaping for Point State Park, Chatham Village, Longvue Country Club, and the Mt. Washington Overlook.

The landscape designer for Equitable Plaza and Mellon Square Park, John Ormsbee Simonds, was author of four books: *Landscape Architecture; The Shaping of Man's Natural Environment* (1961); *Earthscape: A Manual of Environmental Planning* (1978); *Landscape Architecture: A Manual of Site Planning and Design*, (1983) which went into three editions; and *Garden Cities 21: Creating a Livable Urban Environment* (1994).

PHILOSOPHICALLY SPEAKING

It was the great German poet and philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe who said, "Writing a book is like building a cathedral." Perhaps the inverse is also true.

The surprising number of local architect-authors suggest that despite a reputation of being a profession of poor spellers, there is something about the career of architecture

There is something about the career of architecture that produces designers absorbed with ideas that they are determined to explain.



that produces designers absorbed with ideas that they are determined to explain.

The everyday demands of professional practice, the drawing of intricate details, the understanding of complex building systems, and the need to communicate precise technical information results in professionals who have developed the mental facility of sustained attention, who are careful in the words they select, and are often very precise with their meanings. Architects are trained to organize massive amounts of information, to break large projects down into a productive manageable sequence, to be cognizant of intuitive sensibilities, to conceive a clear vision, to develop an overall concept, and to select or subordinate the parts to underscore the effect on the whole. A series of skills that would be handy for any writer.

Because of space limitations this article is limited only to books by architects, and does not include the many magazine and newspaper articles written by architects. There also was not enough room here to list all the books by local architects. I invite you to send me a note mentioning your favorites or to point out omissions. Maybe we can prevail upon the editor to print a follow-up article.

The Pittsburgh architectural profession owes a special debt of gratitude to several non-architect writers who over the years have produced some of the most important and popular volumes on local architecture. These writers include James D. Van Trump, Walter C. Kidney, Donald Miller, Martin Aurand, and Franklin Toker.

David Vater is a practicing architect and talented illustrator: He is chairman of the AIA Communications Committee, and currently serves as the president of The Friends of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

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From the Firms

► JSA Architecture Planning Engineering Interior Design is developing a master plan for the Porsche, Audi and BMW dealerships of the Sewickley Car Store in Sewickley. Project architect for JSA is Dawn Cindric, AIA. Project team leader is Timothy M. Kist, AIA.



Oaks Retirement Residence L.P. (pictured above) opened a 72,000 sf senior independent living facility that features green building elements and Craftsman interiors. Sota Construction Services, Prof. Affiliate, was general contractor and Arch 1 of San Diego was the architect.

Dynamic Building Corporation, Prof. Affiliate, started construction on an addition to Western PA Surgery Center in Pine Twp. for MRI Partners. **WTW Architects**.



Construction began on the 21,000 sf Solomon Chrysler Jeep Dodge dealership (pictured above), located off the Centerville Exit of the Mon Valley Expressway. It is being built by General Industries, Prof. Affiliate as a design build project. Architect is **Gerard-Nagar & Associates**.

Dynamic Building Corp. also began construction on interior renovation for Passavant Retirement Community in Zelienople. Reese, Lower, Patrick and Scott Architects, Lancaster, PA. Massaro Company was recently awarded services for fit-out of several floors of the east wing of UPMC Passavant. It will add 70,000 sf of space, increasing capacity by 96 beds.

Massaro Company was awarded a \$20 million project in Randolph County, WV by the West Virginia Regional Jail & Correctional Facility Authority.

Construction began at Landmark Properties' new Brush Creek Commons Office Building in Cranberry Twp. The 42,000 sf, three-story professional office building, was designed by architect Scott Kurtz and will be constructed by General Industries.

Christine Astorino Del Sole, Principal and Senior Vice President of Corporate Marketing at **Astorino** was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (ASWP). ASWP plans to utilize Astorino Del Sole's background in landscape architecture and corporate marketing to help promote their Beechwood-based Audubon Center for Native Plants.

Astorino announced the addition of Denis Grady, who joins the firm's engineering group as a senior designer. Grady has more than 30 years of experience in HVAC design.

Gregory N. Newman, interior designer for **Renaissance 3** Architects P.C. was promoted to associate.



Architect **Thomas Pierce**, **AIA** recently started a new practice, **Cognitive Architecture**, promoting graphics, fine

art photography, private architectural commissions and hourly consultation for local architects. To view his photography and for contact information visit www.steelcityimages.

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates hired Sara Bergakker as a mechanical engineer and Megan Kirin as a student interior designer in the Butler office; Anthony Glass joined the Pittsburgh office as an engineering draftsman.

Gerard Damiani, AIA announced that **studio d'ARC** has moved to 139 South 22nd St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203.Telephone: 412-381-2645.

A new company called Loftus Associates, Prof. Affiliate has been formed from the firm Eichleay Engineers which closed in August, 2002. Several local investors purchased the rights to multiple Loftus contracts, the archives and the name Peter F. Loftus. President Glenn Avick, Prof. Affiliate, former manager of the Loftus Division of Eichleay, said the new group has maintained many of the staff members. Loftus Associates is located at 555 North Bell Avenue, Carnegie, PA, 15106. 412-429-1396.

Canonsburg General Hospital has started construction on a 4,000 sf addition designed by **Valentour English Bodnar & Howell**. The additional space is for the Cardiac Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy Departments.

Valentour English Bodnar & Howell has also designed renovations to The Washington Hospital's Central Laboratory facilities. When complete, the totally renovated lab will provide workflow improvements as well as infrastructure updates.

Ohio University has selected **WTW Architects** and Moody Nolan Ltd., Inc. of Columbus to design a new 173,000 sf University Center for its Athens campus.

General Industries announced the following appointments: Donnie Cloud to vice president business development; Cynthia Grimm to vp administration and finance and Jeanne Bennati to business development associate. Rich Radomski was recently hired as chief estimator.

Massaro Company hired Domenic Ricciuti, Jr. as an estimator and Lori Follain as office administrator.

Kudos

► Astorino was recently named as one of the Best Places to Work in PA, ranking 44 in medium-sized companies in a survey by Great Places to Work Institute. The same company does the annual Fortune Magazine study. Astorino earned its ranking by offering unique employee benefits, such as flexible work hours and a referral awards system, encouraging professional development and offering on-site training. For more information: www.bestplacestoworkinpa.com.

A 14-foot curly maple stairway designed by **Ligo Architects** was awarded first place in the architectural millwork category of the annual design contest sponsored by CWB Magazine. In other categories, **Ligo Architects** also won first place for its kitchen cabinetry, a chimneybreast with 19th century cherry mantel, and rosewood library cabinets. All the Ligo designs were built by Greenville Wood Products of Greenville, PA.

Astorino announced that Patrick Branch, President/Senior Principal of Engineering; Rachelle Wolf, ASLA, Landscape Architect; and Patrick Thompson, intern architect, recently earned their LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accreditation by the United States Green Building Council. With a total of seven accredited employees, **Astorino** currently staffs the largest number of LEED Accredited Professionals in Pittsburgh.



Sylvester Damianos, FAIA, was inaugurated in December for a one-year term as Chancellor of the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows in Washington D.C. This highest honor is bestowed upon an architect who exemplifies commitment, achievement, contribution and leadership in the AIA and to society in general.

Anne Beswick, who joined the Projects Group at **Astorino** in 1998 as an intern, has recently completed her Architect Registration Examination.

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates announced that Deanna Gadley, Shawn Maley, AIA, and Christian Pegher, AIA completed their Architect Registration Exam.



Denis Brooks and Scott Lizotte, both of Burt Hill Kosar

Rittelmann Associates Butler office, have received their professional engineering registration.

The Master Builder's Association honored the following construction teams for projects in the 2002 Building Excellence Awards competition:

- Best Project Over \$7 million: Heinz Field: Massaro Construction/
 WTW Architects/HOK Sports Facilities Group
- Best Project Under \$7 million: Bost Building Historic Renovation: Jendoco Construction/MacLachlan Cornelius & Filoni, Inc.
- Award of Merit Under \$7 million: Airside Business Park Building 200;
 Burchick Construction Company, Prof. Affiliate/Baker & Associates
- Excellence in Craftsmanship: Crow's Nest-Klett Residence: Giffin Interior & Fixture, Inc., Prof. Affiliate, Paul Whitehead, AIA, WTW Architects
- Design-Build: PNC Park: Dick Corporation/**Astorino**/HOK Sports Facilities Group

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Please send your information to AIA Pittsburgh, 945 Liberty Avenue, Loft #3, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or fax it to 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.

Upcoming Issues

APRIL

Design Trends in Libraries

MAY Riverlife Task Force Revisited

JUNE Preservation Issue Altoona's newly named Historic Districts

AIA ACTIVITIES

- March 7, Friday AIA Communications Committee Meeting Noon at Chapter Office 412-471-9548
- March 11, Tuesday AlA Pittsburgh Board Meeting 5:00 p.m. at the Chapter Office. All members are welcome 412-471-9548
- March 20, Thursday Legislative Committee Meeting Noon at the Chapter Office, Chuck Coltharp, AIA 724-452-9690

March 26, Wednesday AlA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture 5:00 pm at Strada LLC office, 925 Liberty Avenue. Contact Ed Shriver, AIA 412-263-3800

² C⁰ A⁰ L³ E N D A R

AROUND TOWN

March 11, Tuesday

CSI Meeting. Master Format, Holiday Inn Greentree. For reservations call Deborah Merges at 412-855-0928 or email her at <u>dmerg@ATTBI.com</u>

March 12, Wednesday

Society of Design Administrators Meeting. Engineers Club, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$17 members \$19.50 non-members. Reservations call Cheryl Marlatt at 412-281-1337.

April 10, Thursday

ASID: Designpalooza. View Pittsburgh architectural highlights aboard the Gateway Clipper Majestic. Boarding at 7:00 p.m. at Station Square Dock. Cruise from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Enjoy open bar, food, games, music, and vendor displays. \$35 per person. For reservations call Ellen Ankney at 724-775-7699 or email her at asidpawest@peoplepc.com by March 20.

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 info@aiapqh.org

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PERSONAL LIFE: My wife, Jean, and I have been married for 34 years. Our daughter, Casey, is a Captain in the Marine Corps and is a company commander for MCB, Camp Pendleton in San Diego. Her next goal is to become a physician's assistant. She has just been accepted to Chatham College; a bit closer to home. Our son, Sam, is a commercial photography student at Randolph Community College in Ashboro, N. Carolina. We enjoy riding bicycles on the rails to trails and I also put a few miles on my Harley Dyna Low Rider when the weather permits.

YEARS IN PRACTICE: 30

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts, 1965 University of Pennsylvania & Master of Architecture 1972, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

PROJECTS THAT HAVE SPECIAL MEANING: I designed a dream house in architecture school that was nestled in the mountain rocks of Wyoming near Kaycee. This house is a combination of Frank Lloyd Wright and Marcel Breuer. It may never be built.

I was a draftsman on the Three Rivers Stadium in 1969 at the firm of Deeter Ritchie Sipple, and I was encouraged to make my first tiny design decisions. One assignment was to select the sanitary napkin dispensers for the women's bathrooms. Thirty years later friends say I must have screwed up because they had to blow up the stadium! I was present on that cold morning in Roberto Clemente Park when the stadium came down...not many of us work on a project and live long enough to see it demolished.



PROJECT YOU'RE PROUDEST OF AND WHY: I specified the sealant for the granite steps leading up to the Philadelphia Museum of Art featured in the "Rocky" movies.

PROJECT YOU WISH YOU HAD DESIGNED AND WHY: Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. because of the genius of its continuing sadness.

IF YOU HADN'T BEEN AN ARCHITECT, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN: A soldier of fortune or a motorcycle mechanic...but I was accepted at Penn.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE AND WHY? The mountainous American West because it is so uncomplicated.

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB? I learn something new every day.



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