

# Frank Lloyd Wright

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 1    Number 5

September-October 1978



*The tower in front completes Wright's design for the site designed in 1957 and completed this year by his successor architectural firm. Photograph courtesy Taliesin.*

### BUILDINGS

#### First Christian Church, Phoenix, Arizona

##### Frank Lloyd Wright Design Takes Shape in Arizona

*by Charles Montooth*

A unique free-standing bell tower, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1957 as part of a church complex, has just been completed in Arizona. Rising 120 feet from a landscaped oasis in north Phoenix, the tower is the second phase in an overall master plan being built to follow the famous American architect's original concept. The \$225,000 tower of precast concrete panels is topped with a four-ton gold cross lit at night from within the tower. An eighteen foot high pedestal of native Arizona stone and patterned concrete supports the precast panels. The tower will contain a carillon.

The first phase of the church was completed in 1972. Since then, the congregation has doubled. A prayer garden is planned around the base of the tower and a \$1,041,000 classroom, office, and chapel addition is currently under construction.

The church is one of several posthumous works of Frank Lloyd Wright to be built. In addition to the well-known Marin County buildings, several small houses designed in the 1930's and 40's have been completed or are under construction.

Project Architect for this phase of the work is Aubrey Banks of The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. ■



## THE LARKIN BUILDING Buffalo, New York History of the Demolition

by Jerome Puma

The Administration Building of the Larkin Company of Buffalo, New York, designed in 1904 by Frank Lloyd Wright and built in 1906 at 680 Seneca Street, became the focal point of the vast Larkin industrial empire. Built during the golden age of industry in Buffalo, the five story, dark red brick building drew international attention for its many innovations. The circumstances surrounding the destruction of this architectural marvel have never been adequately documented and explained.

The Larkin Company was founded in Buffalo in 1875 by John D. Larkin as a small soap manufacturing company. By the early years of the twentieth century, the Company had reached the most prosperous era of its existence, and was manufacturing soap, household goods, furniture, food, drugs, paint; in short, almost everything. Serving as a mail-order supplier to the entire United States, and operating numerous retail stores in the Buffalo area, it is reported that money poured into the Larkin Company offices at such a tremendous rate that it was removed from the envelopes and deposited into baskets and barrels, filling them rapidly.<sup>1</sup>

Money was certainly not in short supply when the officers of the Larkin Company commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright to design their office building across the street from the main factory. In fact, a \$4,000,000 price tag did not discourage approval of the project. At the time of demolition (1950) it was estimated that replacement cost would be between seven and ten million dollars.<sup>2</sup>

The building was constructed of dark red brick, utilizing pink tinted mortar. Five stories high, the main building was attached to an annex of approximately three stories. The entire roof was paved with brick and served as a recreation area for the building's employees, their families and guests.<sup>3</sup> The entrances of the building were flanked by two waterfall-like fountains. Above the fountains were bas-reliefs by Richard W. Bock, who also designed the globes on the tops of the central exterior piers of the building. These globes were removed by 1941 due to structural problems associated with their weight, and where they are now, if indeed they still exist, is not known.<sup>4</sup>

The interior consisted of a five-story central court or nave, surrounded by balconies. The upper level contained a kitchen, bakery, dining rooms, classrooms, a branch of the Buffalo Public Library, restrooms, a roof garden, and a conservatory.<sup>5</sup>

1. BEN, May 16, 1950, clipping from Buffalo Public Library files, page unknown. BEN = Buffalo Evening News.

2. Ibid.

3. *Prairie School Review*, Vol. VII, No. 1, 1970, pp. 15-19.

4. *Prairie School Review*, Vol. VIII, No. 2, 1971, pp. 14-17.

5. *Prairie School Review*, op. cit.

The interior walls of the building were made of semi-vitreous, hard, cream-colored brick. Natural and artificial light was provided by Wright-designed hermetically sealed double-paned windows, as well as Wright-designed electrical fixtures, that enabled the employees to work in comfort at their Wright-designed metal office furniture, while breathing air from a Wright-designed "air conditioning" system.<sup>6</sup> [See also the note regarding Banham's update in this issue, page 6.]

Wright's use of magnesite in the building's interior is interesting, since magnesite is mainly used to line the inside of steel-making furnaces. It is also mixed with cement to make a compound used for flooring.<sup>7</sup>

In the Larkin Building, Wright used magnesite that was mined in Greece and shipped to Buffalo. Magnesite was used in the construction of stairs, doors, window sills, coping, capitals, partitions, desk tops, and plumbing slabs. It was reported that the floors of the Larkin Building were marble. In reality, the floors consisted of a base of concrete, cushioned with a mixture of wood fiber and magnesite, then covered with sheets of magnesite.<sup>8</sup>

The beginning of the end of the Larkin Administration Building can be traced to a press release dated October 4, 1939. In this article, J. Crate Larkin, president and treasurer of the Larkin Company, and Adam F. Eby, general retail manager, announced that the Larkin Retail Store, located at 701 Seneca Street, would move across the street to the Administration Building, because it had 25% more floor space.<sup>9</sup>

These executives stated that because of the rapid elevator in the building and the large expanse of natural lighting, their new store would be "one of the most attractive retail establishments in this part of the country."<sup>10</sup> However, to meet this end, extensive remodeling of the interior began.

The interior court was cleared of the familiar desks that are so ubiquitous in Larkin photographs. The floors were carpeted and the organ console and grand piano occupied the space. The court was lighted by newly-installed diffused, glareless floodlights placed on the fifth floor. Also, the main floor now contained sixteen indoor "windows" where Larkin drapes and curtains were displayed against a pastel background that was backlighted to simulate sunlight. Full-length mirrors were installed and walls were repainted. The area surrounding the central court was partitioned to make three model rooms for display.

The second floor was also partitioned into three model rooms. This floor and the third floor held merchandise.

6. Ibid.

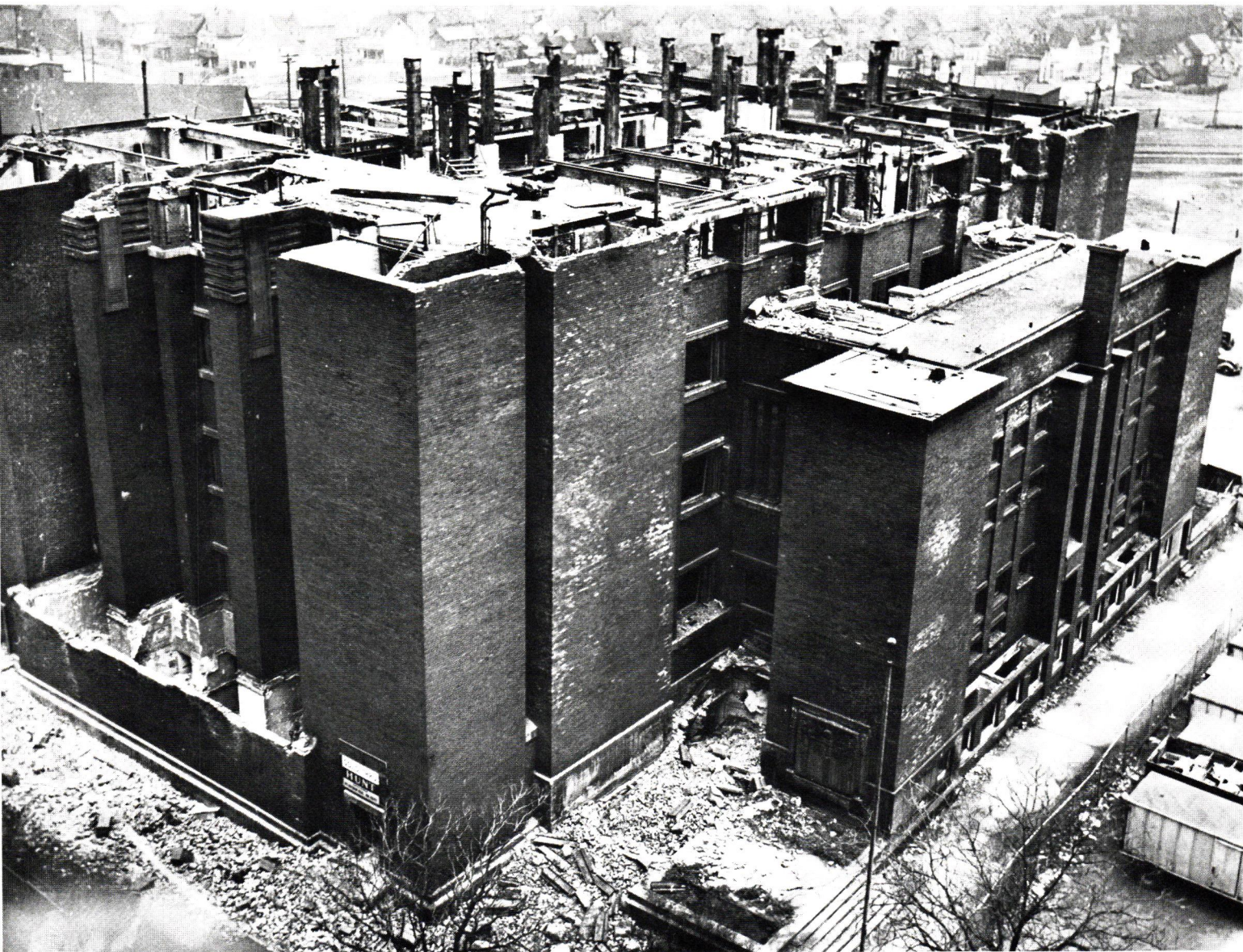
7. *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Vol. 14, 1967, p. 581.

8. *Prairie School Review*, Vol. VII, No. 1, 1970, pp. 15-19.

9. BEN, October 4, 1939, from Library files, page unknown.

10. CE, October 5, 1939, P. 10. CE = Courier-Express.





*Looking northwest from the warehouse in May of 1950. Photograph courtesy Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.*

The fourth and fifth floors remained in use as office space for the mail-order branch of the company. Ten of the double-paned windows that faced the parking lot were transformed into display windows.<sup>11</sup> On November 20, 1939 at 10:00 a.m., the Larkin Retail Store was opened by Buffalo's mayor, Thomas L. Holling, signaling the demise of the Larkin Administration Building.<sup>12</sup>

From the time of remodeling in 1939 until 1943, business dwindled and the Larkin Company fell further into financial troubles. The company began to sell various buildings on the Larkin property. So, it came as no surprise when on May 24, 1943, it was announced that the Larkin Building was sold for an undisclosed sum to L.B. Smith, a Harrisburg, Pennsylvania contractor.<sup>13</sup> Mr. Smith was the corporate head of a group of large construction companies that dealt in coal strip-mining and quarrying operations in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

At the time of sale, A.H. Miller, the comptroller of L.B. Smith, Inc. said that the company had no definite plans for the building. He did mention, though, that the Army had considered the possibility of using the building to house offices of the War Department.<sup>14</sup>

When business began to founder, the Larkin Company changed its name to the Larkin Store Corporation. When L.B. Smith bought the building, the Larkin Store Corporation had nine months remaining in its lease of the building. When the lease ran out, L.B. Smith took no further action, abandoning the building until it was taken over in a tax foreclosure of \$104,616 by the City of Buffalo on June 15, 1945.<sup>15</sup>

11. Ibid.

12. CE, November 19, 1939, sec. 6. p. 9.

13. BEN, May 24, 1943, from Library files, page unknown.

14. Ibid.

15 CE, October 2, 1948, from CE's clipping files, page unknown.



The next time the Larkin Building appeared in the news was on November 1, 1946. The city had owned the building for over a year with only one offer of \$26,000 from an unknown prospect interested in its purchase. Comptroller George W. Wanamaker stated that the offer was too small and reminded potential buyers that the building was assessed at \$240,000.<sup>16</sup> In an attempt to lure prospective buyers, the city spent \$6,000 in a national advertising campaign, with ads appearing in the *Courier-Express*, *Buffalo Evening News*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Chicago Journal of Commerce* and other publications.<sup>17</sup>

On November 20, 1946, William E. Robertson, president of the United Taxpayers League in Buffalo endorsed the ad campaign.<sup>18</sup> But the Common Council tabled the ad plan for two weeks. During this time, the council asked Commissioner of Public Works Elvin G. Speyer to report on the feasibility of transforming the Larkin Building into a housing project. This idea was quickly termed improbable.<sup>19</sup> Finally in January, 1947, the ads began to appear.

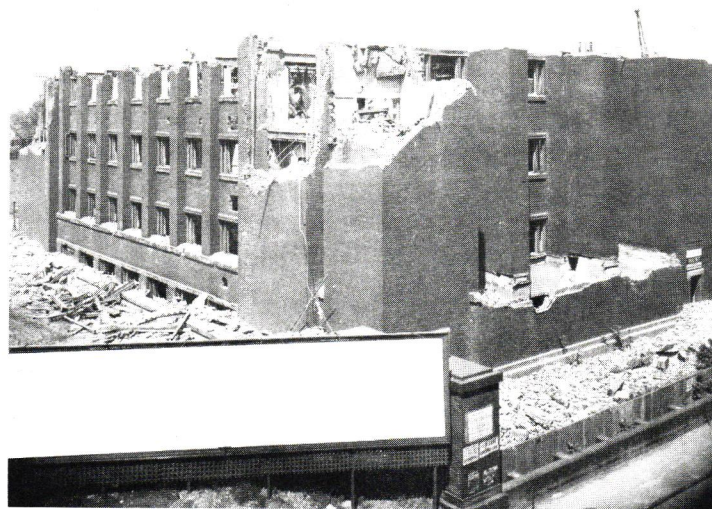
By March 29, 1947, the city had received no offers for the structure. Officials blamed the disinterest on the small amount of floor space in the building. The assessment value had dropped to \$224,000 and officials were showing signs of panic. Comptroller Wanamaker sent a letter to State Selective Service officials and asked them to consider storing state records in the Larkin Building, but they refused.<sup>20</sup>

On May 7, 1947, the Council accepted a \$500 offer for a 90-day option to purchase the building for \$25,000. The offer was made by attorney Maurice Yellen for an undisclosed client.<sup>21</sup> At this date, the building's assessment had fallen to \$221,810.

Two months later, on July 7, Mayor Bernard J. Dowd suggested that the Erie County take over the Larkin Building for office space. Widely referred to as a "white elephant," Chairman Roy R. Brockett of the Board of Supervisors named a committee of five to study the possibility of conversion. It was thought that the county would occupy the building before summer's end, but the idea never materialized.<sup>22</sup>

By October 1947, the building was virtually useless. Every double-paned window was broken, the iron gate had fallen off its rusted hinges, and the iron fence surrounding the building was sacrificed for a wartime scrap collection.<sup>23</sup> By this time, the state had rejected an offer to use the Larkin Building for emergency housing.<sup>24</sup> Predictably, the county of Erie took no action to convert the building for use as its Welfare Department.<sup>25</sup>

Another \$500 offer for a 90-day purchase option of \$26,000 was proposed by Sigmund J. Gucfa, a local realtor, on behalf of another undisclosed client on June 1, 1948.



*June 14, 1950 is the date of this photograph looking to the north-east. Photograph courtesy Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.*

The Common Council refused to accept the option because they felt it would force the city to sell the building for \$26,000, a small figure in their estimation.<sup>26</sup>

To cite an example of the Common Council's ineptitude, just 20 days later, on June 21, 1948, the Council accepted another \$500, 90-day purchase option by Chester, Inc., another local realtor, on behalf of yet another undisclosed client. Like all the others, this option fell through.<sup>27</sup>

Four months later, on October 1, 1948, another \$500, 90-day option fell through. This time, Magnus P. Benzing, general manager of the Magnus Beck Brewing Company, 461 North Division St., had offered to buy the Larkin Building for \$26,000, that familiar figure. Unfortunately, at the end of 90 days, he had changed his mind.<sup>28</sup>

By April 16, 1949, city officials were considering the building's possible use as a recreation center. Ellicott District Councilman Joseph F. Dudzick submitted a resolution to the Council which would allow the Capital Expenditures Committee to take over the building for conversion to basketball and tennis courts, and gymnasium facilities; Dudzick said:

16. BEN, November 1, 1946, from Library files, page unknown.

17. CE, November 2, 1946, p. 22.

18. CE, November 20, 1946, p. 6.

19. Ibid.

20. CE, March 29, 1947, p. 1.

21. CE, May 7, 1947, p. 13.

22. CE, July 3, 1947, p. 15.

23. BEN, October 15, 1947, from Library files, pages unknown.

24. Ibid.

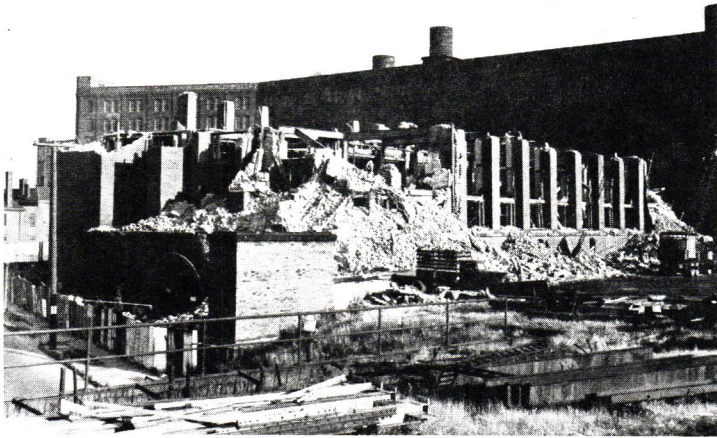
25. Ibid.

26. CE, June 2, 1948, p. 15.

27. CE, June 22, 1948, p. 13.

28. CE, October 2, 1948, from CE's clipping files, page unknown.





*A view to the southeast from the railroad bridge. The fence pier in the foreground is the last remaining fragment of this powerful design. Photograph courtesy Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.*

There is no wisdom in allowing the building to deteriorate further until it becomes a pile of crumbling brick, especially when it can be put to good use in building the bodies, minds and character of the city's youth.<sup>29</sup>

Despite this plea, the resolution was defeated. Another suggestion by Ralph A. Coppola to transform the building into a Buffalo Conservatory of Music was also defeated.<sup>30</sup>

Four months later, on August 20, 1949, with an assessment value of \$128,960, another offer to purchase the Larkin Building was disclosed by the Hunt Business Agency for an undisclosed client. The client planned to purchase the building for \$5,000, demolish it, and construct a "taxable improvement" costing "not less than 100,000" within the next year and a half.<sup>31</sup>

On September 13, 1949, the Council approved the \$5000 offer without even finding out with whom they were dealing. On October 8, 1949 it was revealed that the buyer was The Western Trading Corporation, 1100 Main Street, Buffalo. The corporation estimated that it would cost \$100,000 to demolish the building. It was noted that everything removable had been stripped by vandals, including twenty tons of copper, light fixtures, door knobs, plumbing, and even the boards used to keep the vandals out. Also, it was estimated that it would cost \$8000 to replace the windows.<sup>32</sup> Final sale was made on November 15, 1949.

Even though the Larkin Building was vacant for seven years, public outcry began only after demolition announce-

ments were made. On November 16, 1949, architect J. Stanley Sharp stated in the New York Herald-Tribune:

As an architect, I share the concern of many others over the destruction of Frank Lloyd Wright's world-famous office building in Buffalo. It is not merely a matter of sentiment; from a practical standpoint this structure can function efficiently for centuries. Modern engineering has improved upon the lighting and ventilation systems Mr. Wright used, but that is hardly excuse enough to efface the work of the man who successfully pioneered in the solving of such problems. The Larkin Building set a precedent for many an office building we admire today and should be regarded not as an outmoded utilitarian structure but as a monument, if not to Mr. Wright's creative imagination, to the inventiveness of American design.<sup>33</sup>

Demolition of the Larkin Administration Building by the Morris and Reimann wrecking contractors of Buffalo began in late February 1950 and was completed in July 1950. The inordinately long period of time for demolition was due to the fact that the building was "built to last forever." The floors of each story were made of ten-inch thick reinforced concrete in slabs seventeen feet wide and thirty-four feet long. The floors were supported by twenty-four inch steel beams, which are now shoring up coal mines in West Virginia, and the bricks and stone were used to fill the Ohio Basin.<sup>34</sup>

One year after demolition, in May 1951, the Western Trading Company announced plans to build a truck terminal on the site. The building's plans, drawn by I. A. Germoney, called for an L-shaped building with frontage of 280 feet on Seneca St. and extending 280 feet to Swan St., where the frontage would be 50 feet. A 50 feet by 70 feet section would contain two stories, the upper story containing offices. The company filed with the National Production Authority for permission to build the terminal at a cost of \$150,000 to \$200,000.<sup>35</sup>

On November 24, 1951, the Western Trading Company petitioned the Common Council to allow them to change the site of their proposed truck terminal from the Larkin site to a lot at Elk and Dole Streets, because "it was less crowded." They also stated that if they did build on the Larkin site, a valuable parking lot for the customers and employees of the Larkin Terminal Warehouse would be lost.<sup>36</sup> Three days later, the Common Council agreed to ease the pact; thus a parking lot now stands on the site of Frank Lloyd Wright's greatest contribution to Buffalo, the Larkin Administration Building.<sup>37</sup>

Today, the Larkin Company is gone, as well as the Administration Building. Memories barely survive of the once-grand building and the business empire. The last time anyone

29.CE, April 17, 1949, sec. 6, p. 16.

30.BEN, April 15, 1949, p. 24.

31.BEN, September 14, 1949, from Library files, page unknown.

32.BEN, May 16, 1950, from Library files, page unknown. CE, October 9, 1949, from CE's clipping files, page unknown.

33.BEN, November 16, 1949, from Library files, page unknown.

34.BEN, May 16, 1950, from Library files, page unknown.

35.BEN, May 24, 1951, from Library files, page unknown.

36.CE, November 25, 1951, sec. 6, p. 8.

37.BEN, November 28, 1951, from Library files, page unknown.



The loss of the Larkin Building was a tragic one for Buffalo and the entire world. In presenting the facts concerning its demise, it is hoped that in the future we will study the value of a structure and avoid the destruction of mile-stone architecture. ■

Baldwin, Guy H., "Modernism, 1906, Part I" *Empire State Architect*, VII (Jan., Feb., 1947), pp. 8, 21.

Banham, Reyner, *The Architecture of the Well-Tempered Environment*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1969, pp. 87-92.

*Buffalo Gallery Notes*, Vol. II, June 1947, pp. 18-21.

*Buffalo Industry Magazine*, Vol. 22, February 1947, p. 5.

*Empire State Architect*, "The End of an Era", Vol. X, March-April 1950, p. 27 and cover

Huxtable, Ada Louise, "Progressive Architecture in America: Larkin Company Administration Building—1904, Buffalo, N.Y., F.L. Wright Architect", *Progressive Architecture*, Vol. XXXVIII, March 1957, pp. 141-142.

*Northwest Architect*, "Early Wright Structure Goes Under the Hammer", Vol. XIV (Nov. 1950), p. 43.

*Prairie School Review*, "The New Larkin Administration Building", Vol. VII, No. 1, 1970, pp. 15-19.

*Prairie School Review*, "Richard W. Bock: Sculptor", Vol. VIII, No. 2, 1971, pp. 14-17.

Sturgis, Russell, "The Larkin Building in Buffalo", *Architectural Record*, 23, July 1908.

CE=Courier-Express BEN=Buffalo Evening News

"Buffalo's Modern Marvel", Buffalo Illustrated Express, October 11, 1908, p. 11.

"Description is Only Clue in Larkin Holdup, Pair Who Took \$5497 From Paymaster and Guard Make Good Escape; Stage Job in Tunnel", CE, December 20, 1928, p. 13.

"Larkin Store To Move Into Office Building, Will Reopen by Thanksgiving", BEN, October 4, 1939.

"Larkin Store to Be Moved", CE, October 5, 1939, p. 10.

"Half Page Ad for Larkin Store Grand Opening", CE, November 19, 1939, sec. 6, p. 9.

"Larkin Building Designer Turns to Defense Housing", CE, September 27, 1942.

"Contractor Buys Larkin Company Office Building, Acquisition by Army Declared to be 'Still in Talk State'", BEN, May 24, 1943.

"Organ Sale Out; City Hasn't Any", CE July 18, 1945, p. 9.

"City May Advertise Larkin Building on National Scale", BEN, November 1, 1946.

"City Will Place Larkin Sale Ads", CE, November 2, 1946, p. 22.

"League Endorses Advertising Plan", CE November 20, 1946, p. 6.

"Larkin Building Ad Plans Ready", CE January 1, 1947, p. 11.

"Use of Larkin Site By State Proposed", CE March 29, 1947, p. 15.

"City Plans To Sell Larkin Building at Public Auction", CE, May 7, 1947, p. 13.

"City's White Elephant Puzzles Council", BEN, June 4, 1947.

"County Eyes Larkin Building", CE July 2, 1947, p. 15.

"City's 'White Elephant' Falling to Ruin, No Use for Larkin Building in Sight", BEN, October 15, 1947.

"Larkin Office Building Sale Is Stymied", CE, June 2, 1947, p. 15.

"Larkin Option Accepted", CE, June 22, 1947, p. 13.

"\$500 Option Not Exercised, City Keeps Larkin Building," CE, October 2, 1948.

"A Shame of Our City", BEN, April 15, 1949, p. 24.

"Dudnick Asks Larkin Building as Recreation Center", CE, April 17, 1949, sec. 6, p. 16.

"Committee Approves Larkin Building Sale", BEN, September 14, 1949.

"Larkin Building Purchased By Trading Corporation", CE, October 9, 1949.

"Larkin Building Called Monument", BEN, November 16, 1949.

"Famous Larkin Building is Being Razed Under Sale Agreement Between City and Purchaser", BEN, March 3, 1950, picture page.

"Built To Last Forever, Famed Larkin Building Is Tough On Wreckers", BEN, May 16, 1950.

"\$150,000 Terminal Planned on Site of Larkin Building", BEN, May 24, 1951.

"Council Approves Shift of Building From Larkin Site", BEN, November 28, 1951.

"Change of Site In City Pact OK", CE, November 28, 1951, p. 15.

"800 Former Larkin Co. Workers Meet, Old Associations Renewed", CE, May 5, 1955, p. 11.

"The Larkin Legend Looms Large Over 'The Hydraulics' ", BEN, August 25, 1972, p. 1.

"'Piping' of Christmas Music by Larkin Company Is Recalled", CE, December 22, 1965, p. 47.

## TAH

In this article Mr. Banham examines with new insight the mechanical system of the Larkin Administration Building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1904. His source for this re-evaluation are documents from the Larkin Company, drawings from Wright's Oak Park office, and drawings from both the Carrier Company and the Larkin Building maintenance staff files. The drawings are very interesting themselves, but as Banham states, "This system is a more conventional one than we had supposed in 1966.\* By that token it is also a much more probably one and this can only increase our alarm that none of the reviewers or commentators at the time the drawing was published, or since, have ever questioned our reconstruction. Whether this is due to indifference to environmental matters among architectural historians, or a hagiographical, rather than historical attitude towards Wright's work, the effect has been a lowering of the quality of historical discourse."

TAH

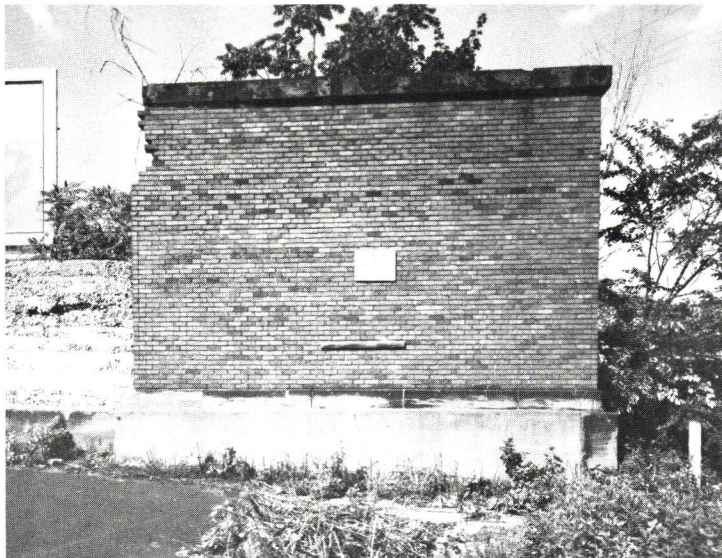
A piece of the Larkin building is still standing—for now, at least. It is the north pier of the fence that bordered the west property line of the Larkin Administration building. It appears in the extreme left side of photo 94 in Hitchcock's *In The Nature of Materials*. This discovery, impor-



tant in itself, has wide-reaching implications: all of those who have visited every site have *missed* this pier, which underscores the importance of visiting and inspecting meticulously each site, even though the building may have been demolished years ago.

The existing north pier gives us the color and texture of the building materials. Because of the relationships that Wright used in his buildings, it gives a sense of scale to the entire building. It aligns with the horizontal of the volume at the north and south of the buildings between the large corner piers and at the base of the central columns. (See photo on page 00.)

The brick and sandstone of the base and cap is red, similar in color to Johnson Wax and the first Jacobs house. The mortar is tinted to compliment the brick. At one time a similar piece of Midway Gardens was left standing, but it was demolished to make way for an unexciting apartment building currently on the site. A similar fate must not befall this pier. I appeal to the preservationists in Buffalo to take steps to preserve this last piece of a very important building by getting it placed on the National Register of Historic Places and by persuading the city council to enact legislation insuring its preservation. ■



*Larkin Building fence pier now standing on the northwest corner of the site of the building. The photo is taken looking west. Photograph courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*

## **PUBLIC BUILDINGS in the WEST and SOUTHWEST**

**ARIZONA BILTMORE HOTEL**  
East Sahuaro @ Camino Acequia  
Phoenix, Arizona 85002

An interesting color booklet is available at the desk. Guided tours may be arranged through the hotel's Social Director. Phone (602) 955-6600 ext. 1714.

## **HOLLYHOCK [Barnsdall] HOUSE** Barnsdall Park 4808 Hollywood Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90027

Tours are available for the general public on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and the first Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. Tours for groups of over 15 persons may be arranged on Tuesdays and Thursdays and require advance reservations. Admission is without charge. Phone (213) 662-7272 and 485-2433.



*Aline Barnsdall's "Hollyhock House" Los Angeles, 1918 is now managed by the City of Los Angeles. It was recently restored by the late Lloyd Wright who also supervised the original construction. This is the west front. Photograph courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*



**DALLAS THEATRE CENTER**  
3636 Turtle Creek Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75219

Regular tours are given at 1:00 p.m. on weekdays, except Wednesdays with matinees, and from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Sundays. This is an active, live theatre with regular performances. Phone (214) 526-8210 or 526-4013.

**GRADY GAMMAGE MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM**  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona 85281

Free guided tours are available on a daily basis, seven days a week, excluding holidays, beginning at 1:30 p.m. University students serve as guides. Phone (602) 965-5062.

**MARIN COUNTY CIVIC CENTER**  
U.S. 101 at North San Pedro Road  
San Fafael, California 94903

The building is open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The County Library in the Administrative Building is open until 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. The entire complex is closed on Sunday and on all holidays. Guided tours may occasionally be arranged. Phone (415) 479-1100, ext. 2511.

**MORRIS GIFT SHOP**  
(HELGA HOWIE BOUTIQUE)  
140 Maiden Lane  
San Francisco, California 94108

Now serving as a fine women's boutique, it is open during normal business hours Monday through Saturday. Interior photographs are not allowed. Phone (415) 956-5450.

**PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
2850 Foothill Boulevard  
Redding, California 96001

The building is sometimes open weekdays. Sunday services times vary; for details call (916) 243-3121.

**PRICE TOWER**  
N.E. 6th St. at Dewey Avenue  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003

The 14th and 16th floors are accessible to the public. Tours may be arranged by appointment during normal business hours. Phone (918) 336-8000.



*Morris Gift Shop as it appears today. Unaltered as a women's boutique. Photography courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*





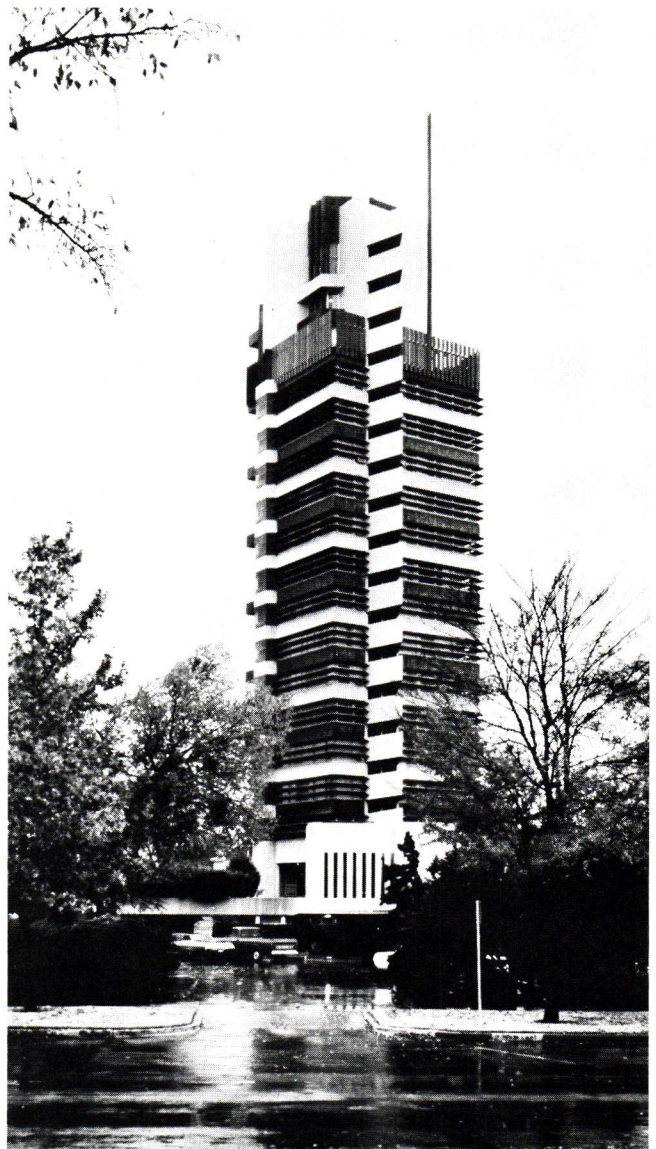
**TALIESIN WEST**  
Shea Boulevard  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

Tours are available everyday from 1:00 am to 4:00 pm every day of the week from September until May. The fee is \$3.00 for a tour given by the students and staff of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. Phone (602) 948-6400.

*Above – Taliesin West, Scottsdale, Arizona 1938, a view to the north across the pool to the drafting room still in use by Taliesin Associated Architects. Photograph courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*

*Right – Price Tower, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Each facade is different due to its organic design in solving the problems presented by the different orientations. Photograph courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*

*Below – Marin County Civic Center is just north of San Francisco. Photograph courtesy Thomas A. Heinz.*





## MUSEUMS

Department of Architecture and Design  
Museum of Modern Art (212) 956-6100  
11 West 53rd Street  
New York, New York 10019

**Curatorial Staff:** Arthur Drexler, Director; Mary Ann Evans, Administrative Assistant; J. Stewart Johnson, Curator of Design; Mary Jane Lightbown, Research Assistant.

### Holdings:

**Photographs:** a special section is set aside for a collection of photographs of Wright buildings. They have been assembled over the years from many photographers and are available for research purposes to scholars. Some of the collection is yet unpublished.

**Drawings:** These five drawings were given to the museum by Edgar Kaufmann, Jr. in 1972.

1. J. Bryan Christie house for Bernardsville, New Jersey (project) View from the East 1940.
2. J. Bryan Christie house for Bernardsville, New Jersey (project) View from the Southwest, 1940.
3. Stuart Wells house for Minneapolis, Minnesota (project) Perspective view, 1945.
4. Stuart Wells house for Minneapolis, Minnesota (project) Lower level plan, 1945.
5. Stuart Wells house for Minneapolis, Minnesota (project) Upper level plan, 1945.

### Furniture and decorative designs:

Larkin Building, Buffalo, New York; office arm chair, 1904; metal and wood.

Taliesin, Spring Green, Wisconsin; arm chair, 1925; wood and fabric.

Attributed to Larkin Building, possibly Unity Temple; side chair, 1904; wood and leather.

Johnson Wax Company, Racine, Wisconsin; office arm chair, 1936; metal and fabric.

Johnson Wax Company, Racine, Wisconsin; office desk, 1936; metal and wood.

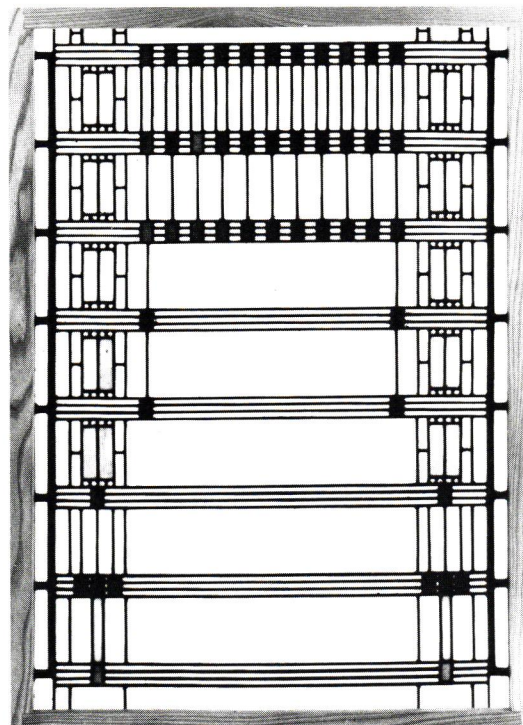
John Rayward house, New Canaan, Connecticut; dining chair, 1957; plywood and fabric.

D. D. Martin house, Buffalo, New York; first floor window, 1904; glass and zinc.

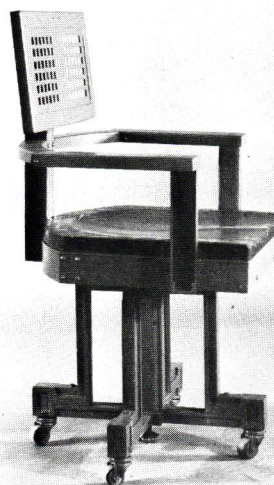
Midway Gardens, Chicago, Illinois; decorative wall panel, 1913; concrete.

**Accessibility:** The museum is open from 9:30 to 5:30 Monday thru Saturday, and the collections are available for study by appointment only from 10:00 to 4:00 weekdays by calling the Study Center at (212) 956-2686.

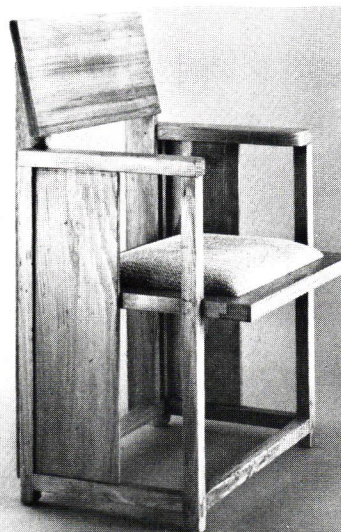
*This chair was designed by Wright for his own home at Taliesin, Spring Green, Wisconsin in 1925. It was a gift from Frank Lloyd Wright to the museum in 1947.*



*An art glass window purchased by the museum in 1970 is from the D.D. Martin House, Buffalo New York, 1904. The came in this instance is zinc with the majority of glass being clear plate. The colored glass consists of cathedral and flashed glass that has been irridized.*



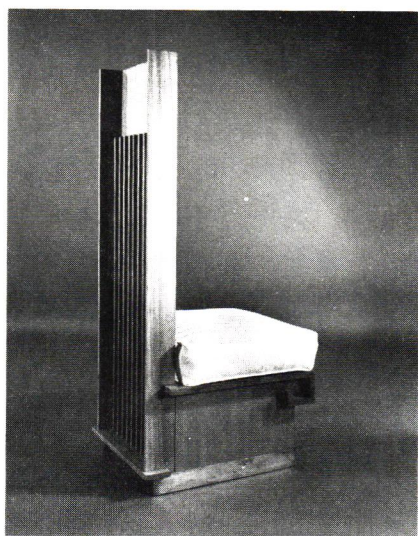
*The Larkin Company had the world's first metal office furniture in 1904. This chair was used by some of the executives of the Company. This is a gift of Edgar Kaufmann, Jr. in 1948.*







*Charles F. Glore House, Lake Forest, Illinois, 1951, a view to the northeast.*



*A revised and updated version of his early prairie designs for dining chairs. This example is a gift of John Rayward, New Canaan, Connecticut designed in 1957.*

## PROPERTIES AVAILABLE

### The Charles F. Glore House

Located in Lake Forest, Illinois, one of Chicago's most beautiful North Shore suburbs, it is situated on approximately two acres of heavily wooded ravine property just one block from Lake Michigan.

The exterior of the home is brick and cedar. All interior walls are brick or Phillipine mahogany.

As you enter the lower level, you will go through the dramatic 60 ft. Gallery that opens into the living room and entertainment center. On the southwest, a two story window wall offers a breathtaking view of the surrounding wooded ravine. A large open hearth fireplace, bar area and specially designed built-in compliment this spectacular room.

The dining room has its own fireplace, a beautiful built-in buffet of Phillipine mahogany, and doors leading to the 60 ft. long covered rear patio. The modern kitchen, maid's room (or playroom) with full bath, utility room and a powder room off the gallery completes the lower level.

The unusual hanging stairway off the gallery leads to the upper level. The master bedroom has its own private bath, fireplace and doors leading to a covered balcony and a 20x6 ft. Greenhouse. The three additional upstairs bedrooms each has doors opening onto the covered balcony. Two of the bedrooms share a full bath and another full bath is off the main hallway. A charming upstairs den has a large fireplace and overlooks the living room area.

We would be happy to provide additional information regarding this lovely home. Please contact:

Jan Castillo, T.J. Grant, Inc., Realtors, 680 North Western Avenue, Lake Forest, Illinois  
312/234-8300 or 312/295-2664.



**Clarification** — This Association with its newsletter is an independent organization which is not connected in any way with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation—The Taliesin Fellowship of Scottsdale, Arizona and Spring Green, Wisconsin—or with the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation of Oak Park, Illinois. It does cooperate with both organizations and is in frequent contact with them.

**Advertising** — For information concerning rates and availability please contact the Editor.

#### CORRESPONDENTS:

Catherine Wright Baxter,  
Santa Barbara  
H. Allen Brooks,  
Toronto  
Arthur Drexler,  
New York  
Leonard K. Eaton,  
Ann Arbor  
Shonnie Finnegan,  
Buffalo  
David Gebhard,  
Santa Barbara  
Bruce Goff,  
Tyler, Texas  
Camillo Gubitosi,  
Naples

Frederick Gutheim,  
Washington, D.C.  
David A. Hanks,  
Washington, D.C.  
H.R. Hitchcock,  
New York  
John H. Howe,  
Minneapolis  
Donald L. Johnson,  
Bedford Park, Australia  
Donald G. Kalec,  
Oak Park  
Edgar Kaufmann, Jr.,  
New York  
Thom Van Leeuwen,  
Amsterdam

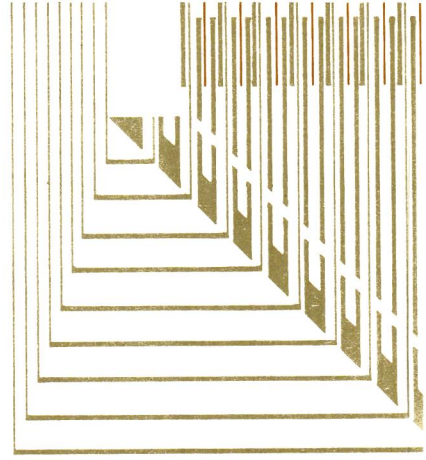
Richard MacCormac,  
Cambridge, England  
Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer,  
Taliesin  
John D. Randall,  
Buffalo  
Vincent Scully, Jr.,  
New Haven  
Kathryn Smith,  
Los Angeles  
Brian A. Spencer,  
Milwaukee  
Paul E. Sprague,  
Racine  
Edgar Tafel,  
New York

Masami Tanigawa,  
Tokyo  
Edmund Teske,  
Los Angeles  
James Weirick,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
David Wright,  
Phoenix  
Frances L. Wright,  
San Diego  
Robert L. Wright,  
Washington, D.C.  
Thomas A. Heinz,  
Editor

#### Membership information

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of The Frank Lloyd Wright Association. To become a member, send \$15.00 (\$20.00 overseas) to: The Frank Lloyd Wright Association, P.O. Box 2100, Oak Park, IL 60303. Memberships in the Association are for the calendar year.





Masthead Design by E. Fay Jones



*Frank Lloyd Wright with Fay Jones at The School of Architecture, University of Arkansas in April of 1958. Mr. Jones was chairman of the department of Architecture from 1966 to 1974 and Dean from 1974-1976. He studied with Wright in 1953 and they became close friends. Photo courtesy of E. Fay Jones.*