

November - December 1957

Vol. IV. - No. 6

IOWA

ARCHITECT

Official Publication of

Iowa Chapter

American Institute of Architects



"Architect and Community" Is Theme For Iowa Architects' 1958 Convention

Choosing a theme which is in line with major problems facing cities and towns of all sizes throughout the state and nation, the Convention Committee for the Iowa Chapter A.I.A. is building the convention program around this central idea: "The Architect and His Community."

Selection of the theme was an innovation in pre-convention planning for Iowa's Chapter and has the purpose of providing an "interest center" around which information relating to the convention can be disclosed to the public.

"Current interest on urban renewal in Des Moines will help us gain attention for the part architects must take in the satisfactory redevelopment of all sizes of communities," committee members said.

William Wagner, program chairman, said at least one of the major portions of the convention program would be devoted to the subject of redevelopment of urban areas. He noted that the problem now seems to be connected mainly with the major cities of the area, but was one which could have an effect upon every architect practicing in the state.

R. D. Fernbach, Des Moines City Planner, has agreed to participate in a panel discussion and details of this pro-

gram still are being worked out to provide a program of interest to all architects.

Committee members explained:

"We hope to create a program which will give each architect and contractor a better understanding of the problems which must be met in a good redevelopment program. We can't hope to cover the entire subject, but we want to create some interest which may result in activity.

"Many of the smaller cities throughout the state have embarked on programs of wooing industrial plants, and so architects throughout the state can look forward to the possibility of projects which will involve community planning and development."

OFFICERS

President.....James Walsh
 Vice President.....Wayne Lyon
 Secretary.....Paul Skiles
 Treasurer.....Lyle Howard

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

James Lynch, Chairman
 James Walsh
 Don McKeown
 Harold Bullington
 William Wagner
 Allen Salisbury

"Iowa Architect" is published bi-monthly for Iowa Chapter, American Institute of Architects, and mailed without charge. Appearance of names and pictures of products or services in editorial or advertising copy does not constitute endorsement of either the A.I.A., or this chapter. Editor: James Lynch, 2425 Park Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

FOR **EXIT** LIGHTING

PRESCOLITE IS PREFERRED

HERE'S WHY...

"Dielux" Diecast Frames precision made for greater strength; lasting beauty.

Die cut metal letter stencils.

Unbreakable Fiberglas lens Panels—6 color combinations.

Heavy, welded steel housings.

Diecast frame inner section, with concealed hinge, swings out for easy access to interior.

WRITE FOR YOUR COPY OF OUR CATALOG.

PRESCOLITE MANUFACTURING CORP.
 2229 4th St., Berkeley 10, Calif.
 Easton Road, Neshaminy, Penna.



Adel Clay Products Co.

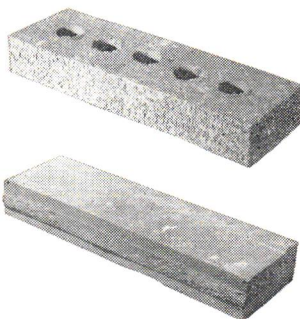
**IOWA SALES OFFICE
 AND WAREHOUSES**
 101 ASHWORTH ROAD
 WEST DES MOINES, IOWA
Phone CRestwood 9-9721
 FACTORIES
 REDFIELD and CENTERVILLE, IOWA

ROMAN BRICK

Textured Red Stipple-Matt in size $1\frac{5}{8}'' \times 3\frac{3}{8}'' \times 11\frac{5}{8}''$. Broken Face Roman in medium red, size $1\frac{5}{8}'' \times 3\frac{3}{8}'' \times 11\frac{5}{8}''$.

NOTE: We can supply most of your brick and tile requirements from either of our two factories — or through jobber lines in certain territories.

FREE: Illustrated Brochure of any items in which you are interested will be sent on request.



SERVING IOWA AND THE MIDDLE WEST SINCE 1894

Convention Committee Named and Foundation Is Outlined For 1958 Meeting Of A.I.A.

Members of the 1958 Convention Committee were named as George Russell, General Convention Chairman, met with the Chapter officers at the Hotel Savery for an afternoon meeting during the Master Builders of Iowa convention.

William J. Wagner was appointed to handle the program.

James Lynch was placed in charge of refreshments.

Harold Bullington was named to handle the public relations for the Convention.

Herb Shay was placed in charge of the hotel arrangements.

Keith Lorenzen was named to handle registration.

Mrs. Grant Voorhees has agreed to act as Chairman for the Ladies' portions of the program.

Preliminary plans for the convention program disclosed the members are assured of hearing an outstanding speaker, and that the subject matter to be presented during the convention will be of interest and value to all attending.

Although speakers have been lined up for portions of the program, the committee did not wish to disclose the names until it was determined at what times they were to appear.

O. H. Thorson of Waterloo has asked the committee for time to present a special report on the subject of "chapter affairs," which will include material which the A.I.A. believes should be brought to the attention of each member at a chapter meeting.

Prof. Leonard Wolf of Iowa State College will have time on the program and is expected to devote a portion of that time to background information relative to the "Architects in Training" program which has been developed by the A.I.A. Prof. Wolf was the Regional Representative on the committee which developed the program and thus has a fund of knowledge about the history and the development of the program as well as a full understanding of how the program can and should be used for the advantage of the entire profession.

THREE BUSINESS MEETINGS

Preliminary plans call for the establishment of three business sessions during the convention. The first to be held, as usual, Thursday evening, a second Friday morning at which the membership will hear special reports and choose officers for 1958. The third business

session will be Saturday morning, and officers will meet Saturday afternoon to continue planning for the year.

Among subjects which the architects will talk at the Business Meetings will be the Iowa Architect, and a report on the progress of that magazine will be presented by James Lynch, Editor, and Robert Bonomi, Public Relations Counsel, who supervises mechanical production of the magazine. Other subjects which it has been suggested will come up include Chapter Dues and the perennial subject of fees.

Of importance at the business meetings will be a proposal for the adoption of the "Revised Ethical Practices on Bidding." This revision has been under study for about five years and rewrites the "Blue Book" on bidding.

The board decided that it would not include on the Chapter Convention program any mention of private or group entertainments planned for A.I.A. members by firms or associations, even though the entertainment might be planned to mesh with the convention.

President James Walsh was unable to attend the meeting because of illness, and also had to cancel a scheduled appearance as part of a panel at the Master Builders convention.

Present for the session were Vice-President Wayne Lyons, Treasurer Lyle Howard, Secretary Paul Skiles, Board Members Doug Robison, Gene O'Neill, Griffith, Charles Silletto and Convention Chairman Russell.

Committee Calls for Craftsmanship Award Nominations

Iowa Architects, Builders and Contractors who desire to nominate outstanding craftsmen for the "Craftsmanship Awards" of the Iowa Chapter of the A.I.A. should have their nominations in the hands of the Awards Committee no later than Dec. 31 to assure full consideration of the candidates prior to the selection of award winners.

Wayne Lyon of Des Moines, Chapter Vice President and head of the awards committee for the 1958 convention, who previously had issued a reminder about the nominations, called attention to the fact that these awards are a method by which the architects and the contractors can publicly make known their respect for the skill of their better employes.

Nominations may be made by any member or contractor and should be sent to Paul Skiles, Secretary, A.I.A. 506 Shops Building, Des Moines. Nomination letters should include this information about the craftsman nominated:

Name, address, craft in which the man works, your reason for presenting him in nomination, the names of several other persons who are familiar with his outstanding skill, and the name of the contractor by whom he is principally employed.

Lyon called attention of architects and builders that the purpose of the awards is to recognize the men who are actively and actually in the laboring field. He recalled that in past years it has been necessary to pass over the names of nominees who, although they may have been very skilled, were now employed entirely in supervisory capacities.

In other rulings the Awards committee has had to pass over names because the individual proposed, although appearing to have been a wonderfully willing worker, was not employed in a manner in which he was required to display skill in a craft.

The Craftsmanship Awards have been widely noted throughout the state and have grown in value to the chapter during the years.

The Chapter has traditionally had the award winners as guests for the Reception and Banquet on the final night of the state convention. It also has been customary for the nominating firm to make certain the award winners are present for the dinner.

Following the banquet, the award winners and their sponsors will be photographed and copies of the picture presented to each winner.

The Iowa Chapter A.I.A. presented the craftsmanship awards to eleven men, representing nine crafts, as part of its 1957 convention program.

TWO NEW FIRM NAMES

Changes in the names of firms at Mason City and Des Moines have been announced, and the Iowa Architect is pleased to report the changes.

"Karl M. Waggoner, who has continued to operate the firm of Hansen & Waggoner, Architects, since the death of Harry P. Hansen, and Thomas M. Waggoner, his son, announce the formation of a new partnership "**Waggoner and Waggoner, Architects.**" The firm offices at 15 South Federal Avenue, Mason City.

Jame Dougher announces "**Dougher-Frevert-Ramsey, Architects and Engineers,** as the new name in Des Moines with offices at 302 Garvey Building. Dougher has been in practice since 1923. W. David Frevert joined the firm ten years ago, and W. Robert Ramsey, a registered professional engineer, joined the firm two years ago. Dougher is a graduate of Cornell University, Frevert of Iowa State College, and Ramsey of Kansas State College.

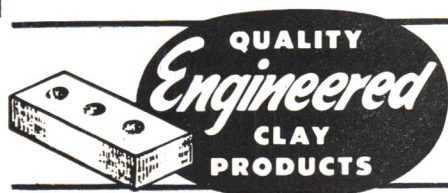


**MELLOWED
DIGNITY WITH
CORAL TAN
INTERIOR
COLONIALS**



The striking, soft warmth and color of the Coral Tan Colonial Brick in these exposed masonry walls lends a soft dignity and warm-toned, richness and quietness to this house of worship. The harmonious blend of mellow tan brick used in the First Presbyterian Church at Mason City, Iowa is a product of Mason City Brick and Tile Company. The architects were Hanson & Waggoner.

Write any of these companies for color reproductions of Coral Tan Colonial Brick or of the many other types of beautiful brick and tile which they produce, including back-up tile, partition tile, face tile and acoustile.



FIVE IOWA COMPANIES TO SERVE YOU
DES MOINES CLAY COMPANY
MASON CITY BRICK AND TILE COMPANY
OTTUMWA BRICK AND TILE COMPANY
OSKALOOSA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY
REDFIELD BRICK AND TILE COMPANY

*A Message from
the President*

Fellow Architects:

At this season of the year, I should like to take this means of publicly extending my very best wishes to you for a happy holiday season, and for a prosperous and successful year in 1958.

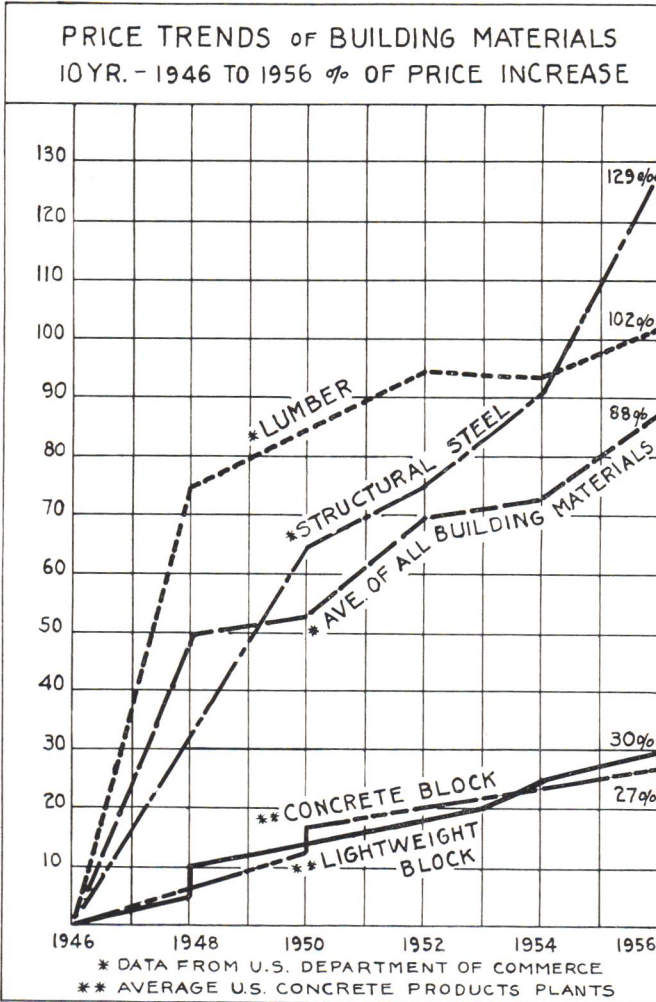
The year which we now are ending has been a memorable one for Architecture, and we took moments from our busy days to recognize the 100th year of the A.I.A.

Our Chapter has had some success this year in projects, and I am certain that we shall have an outstanding convention during January. I should like to urge each of you to be present if possible, for it will be an enjoyable and informative occasion.

I shall expect to see you all January 23 and 24 at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines.

Sincerely,
James A. Walsh,
President

CONCRETE MASONRY HAS HELPED TO KEEP BUILDING COSTS DOWN



IOWA CONCRETE MASONRY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 156

West Des Moines, Iowa

\$1,000 To ISC Fund By Home Builders

The Home Builders Association of Des Moines has made a donation of \$1,000 to the Iowa State College Alumni Achievement Fund to be used for development of the home building industry in Iowa, according to Ralph Canine, association president.

The fund will be administered by John Granson, director of the Alumni Achievement Fund, for programs carried out by Prof. Leonard Wolf, head of the department of architecture and architectural engineering, and by members and students of his department.

Professor Wolf said the exact disposition of the fund has not been decided upon, but will be for the use of the department of architecture to make studies of ways to improve homes in Iowa.

He said the studies would be along two main lines—how to change in order to improve design of Iowa homes, and how to change to improve the construction of Iowa homes.

Other possible projects, Professor Wolf said, would be to develop a comprehensive library for the home building industry at Iowa State College or to conduct a home builders conference at the college.

Builders James R. Leverett and L. J. Rothfus, members of the Home Builders Association's executive committee, are working with Professor Wolf on the exact use of the \$1,000 fund.

food for life

Methuselah ate what he found on his plate
And never, as people do now,
Did he note the amount of the calorie count;
He ate it because it was chow.

He wasn't disturbed as at dinner he sat,
Devouring a roast or a pie,
To think it was lacking in granular fat
Or a couple of vitamins shy.

He cheerfully chewed each species of food,
Unmindful of troubles or fears
Lest his health might be hurt
By some fancy dessert.

And he lived over nine hundred years!

Anon.

G. I. Griffith Attends Washington Meeting

Gerald I. Griffith, Immediate Past President of the Iowa Chapter A.I.A., represented Region 6 in Washington, D. C., December 13, at a meeting of the National Joint Cooperative Committee of the A.I.A. and the Associated General Contractors.

The meeting was called by Weldon A. Snow of the A.G.C. and held at the Statler Hotel. The agenda for the meeting indicated it would be of great interest to the entire field, Griffith reported.

Others from this section of the nation to attend were L. C. Halverson of the Madsen Construction Co., Minneapolis, Robert W. Long of the Long Construction Co., Kansas City, and Carl W. Olson of the Olson Construction Co., Lincoln, Neb.

Griffith had been selected as the Regional Representative at the October Regional session in Oklahoma.

Extend Reynolds Entry

The American Institute of Architects announce that, because of worldwide interest, extra time would be given to make nominations for the 1958 R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award—the \$25,000 honorary payment to the architect making the "most significant contribution to the use of aluminum" in the building field.

Established a year ago by the Reynolds Metals Company in memory of its founder, R. S. Reynolds, Sr., the annual Award is administered by the A.I.A.

The first R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award attracted 86 nominations from 19 countries in 1957.

The A.I.A. will accept nominations until January 15, 1958, in order to give architectural societies overseas extra time to name their nominees. This will also allow A.I.A. Chapters more time to designate candidates.

WELCOME NEW ADVERTISERS

The Iowa Architect is proud to announce this month addition of several new names to those which appear as advertisers in the pages of this, the official publication of the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

B. J. Lutz Co. with offices in Des Moines and Kansas City has taken the two center pages.

Sheffield Brick and Tile is a newcomer with a one-half page ad.

Vinyl Plastics, Inc., is an addition in the floor covering field.

Central Engineering Co. was a newcomer in the previous issue.

The following firms are advertising this month in "The Iowa Architect."

Adel Clay Products Co.

Central Engineering & Investment Co.

Iowa Concrete Block & Material Co.

Iowa Concrete Masonry Association

Iowa Paint Manufacturing Co.

B. J. Lutz Co.

Midwest Concrete Industries

Midwest Placing Co.

W. E. Neal Slate Co.

Prescolite Manufacturing Corp.

Sioux City Mosaic Co.

Sheffield Brick and Tile Co.

Ralph N. Smith, Inc.

Structural Clay Products Institute

Vinyl Plastics, Inc.

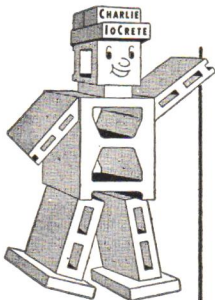
Waterite Co.

THE COMMON LAW OF BUSINESS BALANCE

"It is unwise to pay too much, but it's worse to pay too little. When you pay too much, you lose a little money—that is all. When you pay too little, you sometimes lose everything, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the thing it was bought to do.

"The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot—it can't be done. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it is well to add something for the risk you run. And if you do that, you will have enough to pay for something better."

(The above was written many years ago by John Ruskin, the great English poet, but the thought is just as important today)



You can keep costs of your buildings down by using more Concrete Masonry and you can help us to keep our prices down by giving us more volume.

**IOWA
CONCRETE
BLOCK &
MATERIAL
COMPANY**

Concrete Blocks • Haydite Blocks • Bricks • Channel Roof Slabs • Concrete Joist • Owens-Illinois Glass Blocks • Lannon Stone • Sanymetal Toilet Compartments • Champion Masonry Saws and Blades • Chicago Fire Brick • Masonry Materials Aluminum and Steel Windows • Arketex Glazed Tile Metal Specialties • Concrete Corn Cribs and Silos

820 S.W. 9th St. PH. AT 8-5751 DES MOINES 9, IOWA

"Your Problems Keep Us in Business"

Iowa Firm Furnishes Tile for Structure Which Survives Atom Test Blast Force

An Iowa firm provided building tile for a test series in the Nevada Desert this summer in which a full size, reinforced brick structure successfully withstood the effects of an atomic blast.

The packaged tile were shipped by rail to Las Vegas and a contractor there built the test sections as designed by the Structural Clay Products Research Foundation. The tile were furnished by the Mason City Brick and Tile Co.

The text of the Federal Civil Defense Administration announcement about the test results said:

"The Structural Clay Products Research Foundation had five structures under test to evaluate new reinforced brick and tile wall designs, and to study wall arching resistance to atomic blast pressures.

"A full size brick structure, 32 by 28 feet, which could serve as a school classroom survived atomic blast forces with no apparent damage inside or out. No cracks were noted in the walls, roof or at any joints. Large enough for a typical class of 30 pupils, the building could have provided a high degree of blast protection.

"The structure had 10 inch thick reinforced brick walls, a reinforced concrete flat roof, and was windowless. The lack of windows is an important part of protecting building occupants from missiles flying through or from window openings.

"There were no cross walls within the structure. The 32 foot wall length was oriented toward ground zero and was designed and located for a predicted load of about 1,500 pounds per square foot. The other three walls and roof were designed for testing at pressures of about 750 pounds per square foot. Deflection gauges revealed that the front wall deflected about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and the center of the roof $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. However all

deflections were elastic and their appeared to be no permanent deflections.

"Of interest also is the fact that this type of reinforced brick structure is designed to resist the destructive forces of powerful tornadoes or earthquakes.

"Two roof structures of reinforced clay tile beams were not visibly damaged.

"Two wall test structures for three brick and tile walls each were successful in developing wall arching resistance to blast pressure. In each structure the two highest strength walls withstood the blast. The lowest strength wall in each structure, designed to just fail at the design overpressure, cracked as predicted and as desired to aid in the establishment of economical and sound safety factors for future engineering design purposes.

"These building designs were developed and the tests were sponsored by the Structural Clay Products Research Foundation in cooperation with the Federal Civil Defense Administration."

**MAKE
YOUR RESERVATIONS
NOW
at
HOTEL SAVERY
for
A.I.A. CONVENTION
JANUARY 23-25**