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MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS



MSA

DETROIT • FLINT AREA • GRAND VALLEY
Cedarbrook Museum • Chevrolet Plant • St. Francis Church
HURON VALLEY • MID-MICHIGAN • NORTHERN MICHIGAN
Palmer Residence • State Capitol • Petoskey Railroad Station
SAGINAW VALLEY • UPPER PENINSULA • WESTERN MICHIGAN
Dow Residence • Grand Hotel • Petoskey Residence

BULLETIN

OCTOBER 87

President's Message



by Norman L. Hamann, AIA

I thought it would be interesting to you to expand the President's Message to include comments from the Society's Past Presidents. I asked them to address what they think to be the most important issue facing the MSA in the future. Looking ahead can be a very serious task so Nelson Nave, AIA of the Western Michigan Chapter/AIA created a wonderful cartoon. The caption comes from the January, 1890 minutes. Does anything ever change?

Kenneth C. Black, AIA 1938-39

"I have been retired for over fifteen years, during which I have not attended chapter meetings. I therefore, do not know enough about current MSA problems to be able to offer any intelligent comments to the readers of the *Bulletin*. I will look forward to reading the comments of others."

Adrian Languis, FAIA 1947-48

"As I reflect on more than 55 years of watching and being a part of the efforts by the MSA to enhance the purpose and practice of Architecture, I'm impressed with how much was accomplished toward that end when the dues were only \$5.00. During that period, a survey by *Fortune Magazine* ranked Architecture as the most admired and respected of all the professions. We thought we had it made.

For reasons within or without the profession, we lost that position and prestige as master builders. There

were of course, from time to time, changes by the profession in its attitude and approach to the building process. We forgot the 'orders' and 'form doesn't follow function' anymore, it follows fancy; but these things didn't do it. If you ask me — and you did — I think our problem is with the usurpers of our inherent rights and responsibilities. They are essentially our adversaries."

Frederick E. Wigen, AIA 1958-59

"As a retired Architect of some 40 years of practice, I am discouraged by the fact that we as practicing architects do so little to encourage and help young architects to establish their own practice. Nothing much seems to have changed in 40 years. This has to be a major concern of the MSA."

Robert Lee Wold, FAIA 1966

"The most important issue and challenge to MSA is to develop support systems to help the Architects of Michigan maintain positions of leadership in the construction process. This is not entirely a new challenge, but it becomes more critical as the architect's leadership role continues to erode."

Chase Black, FAIA 1968

"The most important issue in the future, as it has been in the past, is the challenge to have **each** architect in Michigan as a member of the MSA, so that MSA may **truly** represent all Michigan Architects."

Almon Durkee, FAIA 1970

"Fellowship always has been, and always will be, the main mission of the Society. We need to constantly be aware that our Society represents the bringing together of the Architects of Michigan — to socialize, to discuss their mutual problems and successes, as well as to conduct the business of the Society. Sustained and everincreased emphasis on the social activities will result in increased membership and many of the other objectives of the Society."

Howard Hakken, 1972

"Michigan Architects historically have produced projects that are notable for their no-nonsense function and serious attention to detail. It

seems to me, that the current generation of us, has added a refreshing quality of grace and light heartedness. Nice combination; certainly marketable, hopefully profitable."

Leslie D. Tincknell, AIA 1974

"Competition, both from within and outside the profession, continues to place the Architect in a position of diminishing returns. The professional society needs to address the problems to prevent an erosion of competence by members and firms."

Robert B. Tower, AIA 1975

"The MSA will be required to assist all members as they cope with a 'do-it-yourself' society. Computers that can design any building will threaten the need for Architects and our registration act. The computer-oriented firms will be the survivors, and the Society will probably be counting a smaller number of firms for membership."

Eugene DiLaura, FAIA 1976

"Success is measured in many ways, however true success will for eternity be measured by what one has given, what one has done for others. Make time, take time to be involved. For architects this translates, in part to being involved with the local chapter, the state society and nationally where possible. We cannot continuously take. We must give our fair share. For giving is the true measure of success."

Arthur Nelson, AIA 1978

"The professional competence of our future architects is the most important issue of the present that addresses the future. The AIA-NCARB developed and sponsored Intern Development Program for Architects, with an amazingly flexible but structured program, takes the hit and miss aspect out of the Practice Education of our future architects, and finally puts it on an equal footing with a traditional Academic Education for architects, completing the foundation for professional competence."

John W. Jickling, FAIA 1980

"Professional Liability Insurance! All other issues seem better addressed at National or Chapter levels. Self

insurance, going 'bare,' higher deductibles and lower coverage are the choices most offices face. Premiums can easily be 10% or more of the cost of doing business. How do we reduce or recover this cost?"

Evie Asken, FAIA 1981

"Like it or not . . . it's no longer a simple cottage industry of master and apprentice. Today's architect is trained on a broader scope. If AIA wants to speak for the profession, then its focus must shift from traditional practice and include the architect's contribution to society's environment.

"Heavy stuff? Think about it. Who, but the architect, is better qualified to deal with the issues of our deteriorating urban and rural scapes?"

Michael Callahan, AIA 1982

"The future of the Society will depend largely on the efforts of each individual Michigan Architect.

How will the Society fit-in, be relevant, to each individual licensed Architect attempting to provide architectural services? By giving attention to the profession the Society — by offering continuing education possibilities, governmental interaction, representation, promotion and education to the public and the Individual

Michigan Architect — through his own needs and by being relevant to the profession, will assure the continuation of the Society of Architects."

Roger Margerum, FAIA 1983

"Architects know that new facilities inspire new beginnings for the owner's programs. I observe this spirit reawakening in the MSA. There seems to be a collective pride inspired by the Beaubien House renovation in a time that exhibits a need for team work to promote the architectural profession. The Beaubien House must be redirected for continuous promotion of all MSA interests."

Dick W. Slocum, AIA 1984

"Architecture, engineering and our society are ever in a state of change; and the MSA must keep pace. We have seen a greater participation by the members and a great deal of support from the related professions. The architects and engineers are working more closely to solve mutual concerns, i.e., pending legislation for Selection by Competence and other legislative matters. The greatest improvement I could suggest is to have the MSA board and its members ACT rather than REACT!"

Robert Greager, AIA 1985

"My crystal ball view of future issues is no better than it was when I was president. With the Beaubien House remodeling complete, a sound budget in place, and (in partnership with Engineering Associations) an effective lobbying system, I'm confident we will face future issues from an informed pro-active posture."

James B. Shane, AIA 1986

"The most important issues facing MSA . . . Liability? Integration of education and practice? Public education? The technology of practice? There is a temptation to focus on one of these 'concerns' as the significant 'issue' of tomorrow. But essentially these are just more of the constant problems we encounter, and will handle with varying degrees of success.

In reality, the real issue facing us as a Society is our ability to become a truly cohesive, effective state organization.

Dedicated, interested individuals will always rise through the ranks to lead the Society and provide the impetus for action. But without the involvement of an equally dedicated and interested rank-and-file, these actions will produce no real or lasting programs.

In my view, the major issue facing the Society, its leadership and staff, is the need to develop an active involved membership across the state, working on common programs toward common goals."

Norman L. Hamann, AIA 1987

"The MSA needs to recognize and analyze the changes that are making the profession different; and position itself as a leader in making the decisions required for a strong profession. The MSA must work, in a cooperative effort with the architectural schools in Michigan, to prepare the architects of tomorrow to cope with the world of tomorrow."



"Contributions for beautifying the Association rooms have been asked for and we have received the delightfully large donation of two pictures." J.S. Rogers, Secretary 1/2/1890

MSA — 1887-1987

How It Happened



Photo: James Moyes

Lynne Merrill-Francis

Most of the confusion about the founding date of the organization of Michigan architects is cleared away in the context of similar events on the National scene. In 1887 when the first group of architects got together and wrote down their aims for a new professional society they had two options, The American Institute of Architects or the Western Association of Architects. The Architectural League, a confederation of sketch clubs, was an outside possibility but its members were mostly drafters and artists.

The AIA had been incorporated in New York in 1857 by Richard Upjohn, Richard Hunt and others. During the Civil War, the office was closed and the records moved to Upjohn's office for safekeeping. All work was suspended until the war ended in 1865. Tangible accomplishments did not come up to the stated goals of its founders, according to a 1942 article by Leigh Hunt in the *Wisconsin Architect*, but its influence was far-reaching during the 1865-89 period.

The Western Association was formed in Chicago in 1883 and included such luminaries as John Root, Louis Sullivan, Daniel Burnham and Dankmar Adler. Aside from the lofty ambitions of midwestern architects to promote a true "American architecture", the Chicago group

was piqued at the arbitrary entrance requirements of the 'Eastern Establishment'. The distinction between Associate and Fellow was particularly grating. "In the present condition of architectural growth there should be an absolute democratic condition. No man shall be placed above his fellows any more than his own individuality will place him," argued Louis Sullivan at the Fifth Annual Convention of the WAA in Chicago in 1888. Eventually they worked out their differences and the consolidation was approved in convention in Cincinnati on November 20, 1889. The two bodies merged, took the name of the older one and compromised on the Fellowship/Associate issue. Western members became AIA Fellows.

Michigan architects in 1887 had examined the credentials of both the Association and the Institute. Yellowed copies of the by-laws and constitution from the Illinois Chapter/AIA rest in the same file with their counterparts from the Wisconsin and Kansas Associations. Michigan's original **Constitution and By-Laws as adopted 26 Oct 87** is the Kansas Association copy cut and pasted to Wisconsin with additional language from the Illinois Chapter/AIA entered in pen. The name they chose was the Michigan State Association of Architects.

In due course the terms of the consolidation were worked out and officially adopted on January 15, 1891. The new name was the "Michigan Chapter American Institute of Architects."

As a practical matter, most of the early members came from Detroit but the membership had state wide focus. Letters went out almost immediately to architects all over in a recruiting drive. Sidney Osgood from Grand Rapids and Lemuel Grosvenor from Jackson promptly responded. They were serving on committees of the WAA even before the Association was organized in Detroit. Osgood's letters were full of good advice for the fledgling group. He also used his letterhead as a marketing tool. All of the buildings he had designed were listed across the top.

Based upon the evidence of the printed record, the priorities of the profession have changed little between 1887 and 1987. The May, 1987 issue of *Progressive Architecture* reported the following list compiled from a survey of AIA members:

1. Improving the public image of the "architect".
2. Publishing Standard Contract Documents.
3. Increasing compensation levels.
4. Lobbying for laws benefiting architects.
5. Promoting design excellence.
6. Improving firm management
7. Sponsoring seminars and continuing education courses.
8. Supporting or stimulating architectural research.
9. Administering intern development programs.
10. Combating competition from other professions.

A report of the **Committee on Ethics** of the Michigan State Association of Architects dated December, 1887 itemized their objectives for their new fraternity:

1. Manner of the competition among ourselves, paid or otherwise.
2. Discontinuance of making free sketches.
3. Uniform rates
4. Interference with another's clients by personal solicitations.
5. Upholding of scheduled rates in manner of making out bills.
6. Manner of dealing with firms offering percentages or commissions. Making it an association matter.
7. Mutual protection of ourselves and our clients from unscrupulous builders — placing them on a Black list?
8. A legalized code recognized as law stating an architect's rights in general. To sustain clearly the value of the **ideas** represented and not the value of drawings as such.
9. A seal for the Michigan State Association.
10. A law regulating the practice of architecture.

The similarities in the two lists prepared 100 years apart are remarkable. Add to it the 37 "Suggestions for Papers" that was attached to the 1887

committee report and all the points are covered. Here is a sample; Benefits of Architectural Associations; Separate vs. General Contracts; Relations of Architect to Clients and Builders; Owners Influence over Architect-Independence of the Craft; Speculative Building and Builders; a Course of Study For Young Architects; Style In Architecture; The Art of Planning; and Architects As Artists and Business Men.

The only item on the list that would probably not be relevant today is Polychromatic Ornament but in light of the work on the old Wayne County Building and the State Capitol it too might draw a crowd. One proposed title would have summed up all the rest, "A Building — A Perfect Organism With Its Multitude of Parts Perfectly Placed."

The group began with a great deal of enthusiasm. They rented "rooms" for \$12 per month in the Moffat Block, planned an exhibition of drawings, had the by-laws printed, organized a competition to design a seal and set about promoting the "artistic, scientific and practical efficacy of the profession," — a line that still appears in the by-laws.

It was however, a struggle to keep it going. The membership of the Michigan Chapter hovered around 20 architects for many years. Nationally the AIA has having the same 'missionary' problems. Michigan's own Frank Baldwin wrote to the Octagon in 1904 with advice for increasing participation, "A number of years ago, we found that in order to get a quorum at any meeting it was necessary to have an informal dinner."

Albeit small in number the architects here had their fingers in the civic pie. Because Detroit architects made up the largest block of members and because it was then as now the largest most prosperous city in the state, Detroit concerns dominated the agenda. Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saginaw and Marquette architects were also members so it is safe to assume that their efforts to improve conditions in their cities was proceed-

ing in a similar vein. For example, Thomas E. White of Lansing sought to involve the Michigan Chapter in a dispute involving the design and construction of school buildings in his city.



David Anderson, AIA
Marquette architect who initiated the UP Division — MSA in 1939.

Detroit could hardly make a move without the AIA appointing a committee of architects either in support of or in opposition to its pending plans. Whenever an issue came up that had to do with parks or the aesthetics of public places, William Stratton and John Donaldson were knocking on the mayor's door. Liaison with the art community often fell to Albert Kahn when he became an associate member in 1890. He was actively involved with efforts to build a new art museum. He lobbied long and hard to have an architectural section in the building but even his influence couldn't pull it off.

Another contradictory founding date that can be cleared up in context with other events is the "incorporated 1914" date found in the Institute's seal on the Michigan Chapter letter head after that year. On June 5, 1914, the president was authorized to make application for incorporation of the Chapter to the proper State authorities. With momentum building for an architect's licensing law and the formation of the Architects' Business Association on June 1st, Chapter officers no doubt felt that they should get their paper work in order and become properly "incorporated."

In September the president changed his mind about incorporation pending a revision of the Institute's By-laws but "new stationery was being used by the Chapter containing the seal of the Institute."

The organization of the Architects' Business Association is clearly spelled out in the files. A notebook was brought to the first meeting and everyone signed in. Harry Angell, in the July 31, 1928 edition of the **Weekly Bulletin** tells the tale. "Fourteen years ago when jobs were as scarce as they are now and you did not dare speak to a competitor for fear that he might read your mind and beat you to your best prospect, the M.S. of A. was conceived and definitely organized May 28, 1914 under the name of the Architects Business Association of Michigan. A group of old timers;



Three of the founders from an old tin type taken about 1888. Zack Rice, John Donaldson and Richard Raseman.

met by accident for lunch one noon at the Palestine Lodge House. During the meal we decided that competitors could be friends and work together for the purpose of having a registration law passed. Each one present agreed to invite at least one brother architect for lunch the following week and soon a regular weekly meeting was attended by some twenty or thirty good fellows."

Angell's hail hardy good fellow explanation is challenged somewhat in a letter dated January 24, 1939 from F. Gordon Pickell (first president of the ABA) to Talmage Hughes. He writes that Angell's account is quite accurate but the "lunch referred to however had an arrangement unbeknown to some present." He goes on, "The AIA Chapter at that time was something of an admiration society and left a gap that proved easy to fill with a more flexible organization. But it was the desire for a registration law and our luck in getting it over the first try which laid the foundation for a permanent organization."

Chicago architectural politics seemed to have played a role here as it had in the Western Association vs. American Institutes discussions in the 1880's. E. Stanford Hall read a paper called "Cooperation Among Architects" at the ABA Convention and explained why the Chicago Association had taken 'business' out of their name. His arguments led to a reconsideration of a previous motion to take the name, "Michigan Society of Architects." Thus on February 3, 1916 the name MSA was born.

Pickell's "more flexible organization" along with the registration issue seemed to have had popular appeal and pretty soon the AIA and the Society had overlapping membership rosters. C. Howard Crane, William Stratton, and Leon Coquard signed on early. The AIA group responded in kind and a stack of some 21 applications for membership were forwarded to the Institute early in 1917 for approval. Most of the names came from the MSA list.

Having set out here to explain the assortment of founding dates for the organization now known as the Michigan Society of Architects we have one more event to consider; April 3, 1884. This is the meeting that occurred in the offices of Elijah Myers, the architect for the Grand Rapids City Hall, Michigan Capitol, and many other state houses. The date written in fine nineteenth century script looks like 1887 rather than 1884 to this writer but George

Mason read "84" in his diary and without another bit of evidence who can say. April, 1887 makes for a tidier chronology. Discussions begun in April and finalized in October of the same year seem plausible. Those who signed on in Myers office included G.W. Lloyd, Mortimer Smith, A. E. French, Alvin C. Varney, Arthur Scott, Julius Hess, E. W. Arnold, Zack Rice and George Mason. Nearly all the same players were on hand for the October 1887 organization. Myers was conspicuously absent and French and Varney waited to sign on with the Architects Business Association in 1914. Mason's diary said that Myers had been elected president in 1884. He was then embroiled in controversy with the Texas State Capitol Commission and according to Henry Russell Hitchcock and William Seale in **Temples of Democracy**, he was upset over their repeated requests for mechanical drawings. Perhaps not a good time to take on the duties as president of a new organization.

The rest, as they say, is history and it is all in the files at MSA headquarters. The Society and Chapter worked in tandem on most important issues. The Michigan Chapter split eventually into Detroit and Grand Rapids and members were arbitrarily assigned by the Institute to one or another of these sections. The Society also had Divisions but in 1938, according to Kenneth C. Black, FAIA., "Most, architects who belonged to both groups became convinced that it was pointless to maintain two professional organizations interested in the same major goals." After Black's two terms as president he took over the Unification Committee and in 1944, upon approval of the national AIA Board of Directors, the unification was complete. New Chapters had been formed in the larger population centers and the MSA was reestablished as an amalgamation of all the AIA Chapters in the state.

The merger was bitterly opposed by some AIA members, just as in 1889 when the Western Association merged with the American Institute.

Some felt that the AIA should remain an elite organization of distinguished professionals and some MSA members who had been turned down for AIA membership were still smarting from the rebuff and wanted nothing to do with the AIA. In the end it all worked out and the threat to set up another organization failed to materialize. Michigan's procedure was followed by several other states where similar duplication of effort had occurred.

So now as the Society moves into its second one hundred years, its goals and objectives filtered through nine distinct Chapters, the statement of 1913 President John Scott in his **Annual Address of the President** is still true. The society in 1987 "strives for beauty in design, honesty in construction, and for advancement in culture and education, and for high standards in practice and ethics, and for purity in public taste, which make for the elevation and nobility of life."

The true history of an organization is not in establishing a chronology of its important events but in its accomplishments and the accomplishments of its individual members. Thus, this tiny chapter is only the forward to **The History of Michigan Architects**.

There are many stories that deserve to be told. Certainly Emily Helen Butterfield, Michigan's first registered women architect, deserves a chapter. She was registered along with her father, on December 10, 1916. The two of them built churches and schools in the Detroit area. She wrote two books, had articles in **House and Garden** and painted in her spare time.

A book could be filled with Roger Allen's warm and witty insights into the architectural profession. He wrote a column for the **Grand Rapids Press** and served as the architect's funny bone for many years.

C. Howard Crane's letters to Tal Hughes from London during the blitz and after the war could form the nucleus of a chapter about Michigan architects as soldiers and sailors and members of the Signal Corps. There

was even an architect correspondent from Viet Nam, Joseph Leinweber.



Roger Allen, FAIA at Mackinac

The exciting activist stance of the Society on environmental and social issues during the 1960's should be chronicled.

The formation of the **Bulletin** and the role it played to coalesce the separate Chapters into a cohesive state wide association deserves attention. In fact, there are a number of publications that came about at the instigation of the Society that were funded by the Michigan Architectural Foundation. **The Fifty Most Significant Buildings in Michigan** is but one example.

Samuel Cashwan who designed the Gold Medal for the Detroit Chapter in 1928 should be recognized. He was the first director for the Society of Arts and Crafts and recently, in his 94th year, he was honored with an exhibition at the Center for Creative Studies. Noted sculptor Marshall Fredericks designed the MSA medal in 1954 and his comments about art in architecture should be published. All of the Gold Medal winners should be described in a chapter of their own.

Going back to the teens when Albert Kahn was chair of the Lecture Committee, Michigan architects have sought the outspoken controversial forward thinkers of the profession and have invited them here in order to pick their brains. There is enough information about Frank

Lloyd Wright for two Chapters. He spoke to audiences of Michigan architects on at least four occasions. Copies of two of his speeches, neither of which appear to have been published elsewhere, are in the file and more digging might turn up the other two.

The Society's efforts on behalf of historic preservation should be compiled. Professor Larch and the Mackinac Island Biddle House and the Michigan State Capitol come to mind, as does Orchestra Hall, Belle Isle and others.



Frank Lloyd Wright in Detroit in 1954

In 1916 a magazine called **The Western Architect**, devoted its October edition to Detroit architecture. The editor, Robert Craik McLean was a bit of a rabble rouser and had sought to influence the outcome of the Western Association/Institute consolidation in 1889. Nonetheless, his remarks offer an insight into what had made Detroit and by extension Michigan architecture what it is.

He talked about the phenomenal growth of the city during the past

decade and the high quality of the architectural work being done there. He noted that the work had not been done by "two or three architects of business getting ability, but has been distributed with reasonable fairness among the sixty-odd practitioners who are responsible for the architectural standing of their city before the world." Speaking of the "strong fraternal feeling" that he found there he said, "It cannot be doubted . . . that this unity of thought and purpose which sees in each practitioner a worthy representative and a brother practitioner, has a vital and stimulating effect upon the architectural expression of the city. That this unity became possible (in Detroit) when the broad minds of a few leaders in architectural design first established the associations that welcomed the unattached practitioner and encouraged his development, is but creditable to a profession that as a whole seeks to spread instead of curtail art advancement in the professional ranks. This is the history of professional Detroit."

And, so it is.

Mich. State Association of Architects
Treasurer Report for year ending
Dec 31st 1888

<u>Receipts</u>	
Dues to Jan 1 st 1888	\$ 35.00
Dues to July 1 st 1888	\$ 80.00
Dues to Dec 31 st 1888	\$ 70.00
Unpaid dues 2 nd 1888	
<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>\$ 185.00</u>

<u>Disbursements:</u>	
Nov 23 rd Printing Cont & By Laws	\$ 8.50
Jan 21 st 1888 Post & Print	2.75
Feb 7 th Rent J. L. Bayley	12.00
Feb 23 rd Printing	5.00
Feb 24 th Black Paper	2.00
May 11 th Miscell. Printing	6.57
Paid J. Rice for rent	12.50
Aug 6 th	1.50
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 46.32</u>

<u>Balance cash on hand</u>	
Dec 31 st 1888	\$ 138.68
R. C. Rossman	
Treas.	

Michigan Society of Architects, 1887-1987

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Home is where the heart is

Finding a permanent home has been an elusive goal for an organization that is dedicated to the art and science of building. The whole story of how it all finally came together in 1987 will probably not be fully written until the MSA celebrates its BiCentennial.

The Nineteenth Century architects saw their "rooms" as a club house and a place to exhibit their best works. They had a need to socialize and share ideas. They wanted the latest architecture/art magazines available. Some felt that it also ought to contain a reference library that had all of the latest manufacturers specifications. They saw it as a place to keep their permanent records.

Maxwell Grylls tried several times to work something out with the engineers. In 1912 he suggested that all the technical bodies of the city join to establish permanent quarters. In 1917 WWI got in the way of a shared facility. As ESD was getting serious about their own building, they once again invited the Society to join them but nothing happened.

The first real estate that was evaluated was the Charles L. Freer Mansion in 1920. Freer was a patron of the arts, a friend of the profession and one of the first to become an Honorary Member. His shingle style house once held Whistler's famous Peacock Room. The Board concluded the operating cost was beyond their means and gave it up. The Peacock Room and the Freer collection moved to Washington and the house became a part of the Merrill-Palmer Institute.

Talk of using the Hecker Mansion as a new club house came to nothing in 1930. The house still stands and is occupied by Smiley Brothers Music. It had been designed in 1890 by McKim, Mead and White trained Louis Kamper with the help of John Scott, one of the association founders, and his brother Arthur.

Ten years later, "Mr. Albert Kahn looked to be the one man who could make this idea (of a permanent home) come true," said Benson Gamber in the 1941 Board Minutes. He took the necessary legal steps to bequeath his

home to MSA. But in 1944, after his death, the Board finally concluded that "wartime conditions" would make the building too difficult to manage. They turned the bequest down. The Kahn House is now the home of the Urban League.

A series of rented spaces served as headquarters until the Beaubien House came along. It was once part of a French ribbon farm that dates to 1797. It was built for a middle class Victorian family and it is one of the few such structures left downtown.

At the time the first architects association was getting organized in 1887, the house was occupied by a Dutch-born artist, William Machen. He used it for five years and built up quite a reputation for his painting. His work was exhibited in the Detroit Museum of Art and at his studio in the Beaubien House. Perhaps he was responsible for the designs, now protected by carpet, on the floor and stairs. He may even have had a hand in the decorative painting or the unfinished mural at the top of the first floor landing but further investigation will have to wait until more funds are available.

The list on the facing page is presented as a tribute to all the people who have contributed their time and talent to the renovation. There are some who must be singled out for special mention.

The Masonry Institute has been a supporter of the project from the beginning. Their members have given of their time, material and money. Beaver Distributors and Fred Blackwood supplied the tile and Franko's Tile did a great job installing it.

Ford and Earl volunteered to do the interior design. Lisa Hildorf spent a lot of her nights and weekends on that effort. She found contributors like Zeising Associates who supplied the hides to reupholster the Carbusier chairs and sent over a sofa and some chairs. She specified the carpet and then contacted Interface Carpet; Karastan; and Bently and they came through. We also must thank Tom Ernst for his own time and for freeing

up Lisa's time to do the job.

The folks at Schervish Vogel Merz did the landscape design and located a contractor, Fred Veresh, to put it in. Without them the yard would be a sea of mud.

The job of coordinating the construction fell to Gene DiLaura and his hard work and 'friendly persuasion' kept things moving right along. And the long suffering, architect's architects, Osler/Milling, must be noted.

Ray Williams and the Lighting Group once again supplied the lights and saw to it that the parlor chandelier was refurbished. What would we do without him?

We won't ask Tom Lucas how he was able to convince Olympia Painting to supply all the painters and the paint to do the whole house, but thank you Gus and Pete.

Both Herman Miller and Steelcase contributed some very special furniture. John Berry and Frank Bonner were especially helpful.

Smith, Hinchman & Grylls provided a suite of offices for almost a year for the cost of the cleaning service. A hearty thank you to Phil Meathe for the loan for his graphics department, particularly Gloria Harcourt. Jim Braethen and his crew have been very nice about all the furniture that has been showing up at their loading dock.

The two young architects, Erick Hiedenann & Jim Hostnik, who packed 100 years worth of memorabilia for the big move did more than their share.

And then there was Elaine Demiene, who stripped the parlor shutters.

All of the Board Members for the past ten years can breathe a sigh of relief and they all deserve a pat on the back for the extra hours it took to get the project going and to see it through. President Norm Hamann should get a medal for all of his trips across the state to handle the many crises that came up. Carl Roehling should have one too for dealing with the myriad financial transactions.

To the 800 people who made it happen, **THANK YOU!**

Detroit



Charles Merz, AIA

Detroit — “queen of the rust belt” — that’s how many Americans view this major American city. And how about us? What about Michigan architects? When standing on the shore of the Detroit River it is hard to imagine that Cadillac, with his entourage of trappers and Jesuit priests, passed through here before 1701 on his way to found Fort Michilimackinac at the tip of the peninsula. In fact, it was only because the Jesuits reported to the King of France that the trappers were debauching the Indians, that Michilimackinac was order closed and Cadillac fell back to the narrows of the Detroit River to establish his new fort and trading post in 1701.

Early Detroit history was dominated by the French presence. That legacy lives on today in names of streets: Joseph Campau, Chene, Dubois, etc. They reflect the names of the old French Ribbon Farms (the Beaubien House now sits on a part of one of them) that fronted the river bank for year round access. The farms stretched very narrowly north away from the river, with a river front lawn, house, orchard and tilled fields as the organizational hierarchy. Even then Detroit faced the river. This order has left an impression on our contemporary life in the organization of the city.

Of course, then there was the British domination and Pontiac’s rebellion, all of which enliven and

enrich the story. With the British, came Detroit’s industrialization and the early 1800’s railroad brought a significant increase in immigration. For many years Detroit had been a port for European immigrants that arrived to settle in the midwest. With the founding of the Michigan Central Railroad that immigration and disbursement to Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and throughout the lower peninsula greatly increased. It also brought the lumbering and mining industries in Michigan to a head. It allowed a tremendous expansion in foundries, stove works, ship building, railroad car building and numerous other types of manufacturing.

The legacy on the waterfront is diverse. There are many old family homes that still exist along Jefferson Avenue, directly behind lies the remnants of early industrialization. The area is an incredible potpourri of historical structures and sites. The Detroit Dry Docks for instance, were unique. Great Lakes ships were built there. The Palms Apartment Building designed by Albert Kahn and George D. Mason in 1902-3 may be among the first buildings to be constructed of reinforced concrete in the world. They share this mixed and varied area with the last remnants of modest, wood frame worker’s housing. All of this bespeaks the noble aspirations, hopes and failures of the people that made Detroit. Be they

French farmers, English industrialists, passengers of the underground railroad or European immigrants, all were equally seeking the promise of a better life.

The great expansion of industry in Detroit related to auto building equally spread both the industrial growth and population far from the river front. This new expansion fuelled the growth of the central business district as the river development had previously done. Since the Great Depression little major building has occurred here until recently.

When looking at where the future of a city lies, it’s best to return to its sources, in this case the Detroit River. The dominance of the river was proven when the Renaissance Center was built. Its developers insisted on a river front site and then apparently ignored this unique location in their design.

Current development on the river front has built a momentum, snapped back central business development and is now moving up the Woodward corridor. River front development has occurred in an area stretching from MacArthur bridge to Belle Isle to the central business district. It includes housing, retail and office as well as continued light industrial use. The primary examples are: Chene



The Detroit Dry Dock Company. From Silas Farmer’s “History of Detroit & Wayne County.” (1890)

Park, and the soon to be built St. Aubin Park and Marina. These positive developments are timely and contextual and are generating a rebirth in the area. The area has become a virtual Bourbon Street, with it's fine restaurants and night-clubs housed in vintage buildings. On Jefferson Avenue numerous historic homes have been successfully converted to professional offices. The area has attracted a great amount of public interest with the City Recreation Department historic bike tours and a Junior League of Detroit walking tour brochure. Obviously more development is to come.

This legacy however is fragile. Already several buildings on the river front, near the central business district have been "Northwestern Hiwayized"! That is, stripped to the structure and clad with a continuous window wall, denying their industrial heritage. Along Jefferson Avenue some of the historical houses have been modernized and squared off with aluminum siding obviously to create a "progressive" appearance. We all know we must take the good with the bad and we must lose some of our history to grow. However, the most important issue is how this is done. We know that we cannot hold

on to the past. Hopefully, we also know that saving the good and building upon it leads to a richer heritage. This will be our legacy to future generations. The challenge is not to citizens' groups, city government or industry. The challenge is more appropriately levelled at the design professionals, and more specifically the architectural community. The challenge is for a thoughtful, responsible reaction to our collective heritage.



View of Rivertown looking west with Chene and St. Aubin Parks in the foreground. Sketch courtesy of S.V.M.C.

Charles Merz, AIA of Schervish Vogel Merz wrote the early history of Detroit. The description of Grand Rapids came from *The Monroe Center Area* study that was prepared in 1980 by Preservation Urban Design Incorporated. The quotes by Robert Wold, FAIA came from the September, 1987 issue of the *West Michigan Profile* and are used with permission from the Managing Editor, Jeannie Hosey.



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Architectural Preservation / Adaptive Reuse

Grand Rapids

The heart of Grand Rapids today is located in about the same spot as it was when the Indians used the valley floor at the rapids as a meeting and trading center. These early French traders translated the Indian name for the river into "Grand".

The first settlers arrived to find the Indians had chosen a very attractive gathering spot. The river was 1,400 feet wide, with several islands creating channels and the rapids stretched for about 4,000 feet.

Fur trader, Louis Campau established a trading post and home at an Indian camp site on the river in 1827 and became the city's first permanent settler.

A post office was established in 1832, and the name Grand Rapids came into common use. A new arrival named Lucius Lyon purchased land surrounding that owned by Campau. Campau's settlement had already been named Grand Rapids so Lyon called his the Village of Kent, after Kent County. The unique street layout of downtown Grand Rapids resulted from the separate developments carried out by Campau and Lyon. Lyon oriented his streets to the compass points, while Campau laid his out at a 45 degree angle.

Major growth occurred in the period from 1832 to 1837. Several

frame buildings were erected close to the river, including the village's first hotel. Later in this period, several additional hotels were erected, and residences of increasing grandeur were appearing downtown and on Prospect Hill.

Steamboats began to ply the Grand River in 1838 and traffic flourished for a time. The Michigan State Legislature authorized the construction of a canal to bypass the rapids. Although the canal was built, the locks were not finished and the bypass was never operational.

The 1840s and 1850s were years of considerable building and expansion. In the city center, wood commercial buildings continued to spring up and metal building fronts were the latest fashion. Continual stylistic evolution was assured by the frequent fires which spread rapidly due to wood construction and poor fire-fighting methods. In response to this danger and the increasing prosperity of the city, buildings of brick began to appear. Grand Rapids was coming of age.

By the end of the Civil War, Grand Rapids could boast of several railroads, a thriving lumber industry, and a city ordinance prohibiting horse-racing in the city streets. The first plate glass store front was

erected in 1869, using 6-foot by 12-foot panes imported from England. A few years later, no modern commercial structure would be without such a window.

The greatest growth in Grand Rapids occurred in the decade of the 1870s. Physical reshaping of the land on which Campau and Lyon had made their original claims was nearly complete. Prospect Hill was leveled, its soil used to fill the river and build up streets. The river width was reduced to 500 feet, and the islands disappeared as the banks were moved out to engulf them.

Many buildings in present day Monroe Center were built during the growth period, such as the Ledyard Building and the Aldrich Block. The completion in 1874 of the Powers' Grand Opera House marked the beginning of professional theater in Grand Rapids and the first federal office building was built in 1879.

The 1880s saw continued growth in the downtown area, with density constantly increasing. Electric lights came into use and the street car system added a second track throughout the downtown. Major existing buildings constructed in the 80s included the Kendall and Mousman blocks. The new City Hall was built in 1888, its grand tower and Romanes-

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que arches and dormers portrayed pride in the City's progress.

The population of Grand Rapids reached 60,000 by 1890. No outlying shopping centers yet existed to vie with downtown as the city's focal point. Forty hotels were there. By this time, the city had become the furniture capital of the nation, and exhibition showrooms featuring locally manufactured furniture drew many architects, designers, retailers and distributors to Grand Rapids.

Buildings climbed higher as the steel frames and larger expanses of glass characterizing the Chicago-style of commercial architecture began to appear in the city. The ornate detailing of the Victorian era gave way to a simpler commercial style and to the various classical revivals.

In 1890, six architects along with 35 dentists, 90 butchers, and 1 chimney sweep had shingles hanging in the city. At least one of the architects, Sidney J. Osgood, was a member of the Western Association and later the Michigan Chapter. He engaged in a lively correspondence with Association officials in Detroit. By 1891 he had designed 23 churches on the west side of the state including the Chapel Church at the "Insane Asylum" in Kalamazoo.

Industries, such as furniture manufacturing, continued at a furious pace in the central city during the period from 1890 to the beginning of World War I. Residential building continued unabated until the 1930s, but commercial construction declined dramatically, leaving the central city relatively intact until the 1960s. Federal policies and the post-World War II baby boom caused explosive growth in suburban areas, the creation of satellite commercial centers, the dilution of downtown markets and the consequent decline in the viability of downtown Grand Rapids. Much evidence remains, however, of the periods of the city's most vital growth.

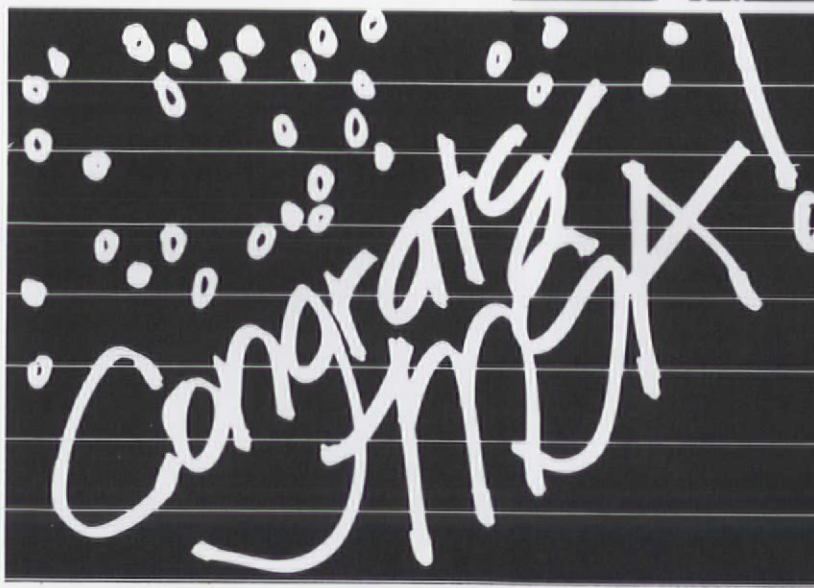


Robert L. Wold, FAIA

Is there such a thing as a West Michigan School of Architecture? "By all means," says Robert Lee Wold, who has practiced architecture in Grand Rapids for more than 30 years. Site planning, the kinds and quality of building materials used and emphasis on form following function characterize the region's architecture. Some people call it conservative; he calls it "organized understatement."

West Michigan architects avoid leveling a site to fit their building designs, Wold continues. Instead, they strive to design the buildings to fit its site. "Architects here respect the climate because of its extremes. That tends to make us more conservative, use conservative materials." Local architects use less glass and more masonry; brick masonry or field stones rather than large granite slabs or precast masonry. "The history of craftsmanship and quality in West Michigan encourages designers to do things that exploit that capability. We get much better workmanship here than we do in jobs in Detroit, Florida, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts."

And, don't look to West Michigan for examples of "post modern" architecture. In Wold's opinion it's too 'flamboyant'.



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Celebrating 100 Years of Design Excellence



Dennis M. King, AIA, Chair

So this year's MSA Convention marks the one hundred year anniversary of our state organization. That's certainly something to be proud of. I thought that a clever idea would be to find out what other important historical events happened in that same 1887. It should give some clearer perspective to our organization.

After consulting my World Almanac, I was devastated to find . . . nothing. Not a single noteworthy event was listed for 1887. Not even the founding of the MSA. How they overlooked that is a mystery to me.

Now 1886, that was a year. It had the Chicago Haymarket Labor Riot and the formation of the AFL (American Federation of Labor). 1886 even saw the final surrender of that great Apache Indian, Geronimo.

And even 1888 can be remembered for the Great Blizzard in the eastern U.S. that left 400 people dead. But evidently, nothing memorable took

place in 1887. Perhaps that is why our architect ancestors had the time to form the club? I suppose we'll never know for sure.

Nonetheless, a one hundred year anniversary is still something worthy of celebration. The 72nd MSA Convention will recognize our One Hundred Years of Design Excellence with a grand program on October 21-23 at the Fairlane Manor Conference and Banquet Center in Dearborn. Hotel accommodations are adjacent at the superb Hyatt Regency and distinctive shopping is right at hand at Fairlane Town Center. The entire complex is right next door to historic Greenfield Village.

Opening day highlights include inspiring keynote presentations by Paul Kennon, Design Principal of CRSS, and by Roy Slade, President of the Cranbrook Academy. That evening, Detroit's Host Chapter Party will kick off the festivities with a humdinger of a celebration right inside the renowned Henry Ford Museum. What better way to begin our retrospective journey through the history of design than a festive visit through the twelve acres of indoor collections ranking among the world's best. You'll quickly be able to relate the mystery of yesterday to the design world of today. Don't miss this "Best of Times".

Thursday brings an exciting emphasis on allied professions with insightful presentations by Landscape Architect, William Johnson, and Designers, Mike and Kathy McCoy. Internationally acclaimed photographer Balthazar Korab, shares with us an intimate look at Michigan's architecture, landscape and culture through

his exquisite photographic journey.

Solid technical resources are yours through two special presentations from AIA covering the highlights of the new contract forms as well as the lowdown on the national honor awards and fellowship programs. The best exhibits yet will grace the floor as our industry friends host us for the lunch buffet and dinner party. And the always entertaining renovation expert, Richard Fry, will share some of his recent successes with us.

A special opportunity to hear the much sought after, Peter McLaughlin, comes your way on Thursday evening as we co-sponsor a program with SMPS. McLaughlin has been called "the most exciting idea man in America", and was chosen as one of the 100 most innovative executives in the country. He has entertained audiences across the U.S. with his humor, insight and keen advice on how to maximize individual and team performance in business. His marvelous book, **Mentally Tough**, uses new but proven techniques of sport psychology and applies them to business performance. Peter McLaughlin is a special attraction that we will not soon forget.

On Friday, the day kicks off with the annual MSA Business Meeting, followed by our most interesting line-up of presenters yet. Bill Porter, from GM's Buick Division, will share his terrific visual presentation on the history of automobile design, always a favorite in the motor city. Gretchen Bellinger, enlisted through the efforts of ASID, presents her special approach to interior design.

The exhibition floor is open again for your final update on new pro-



ducts and lunch is once again available at the exhibitor's buffet.

Friday's afternoon programs are "don't miss" specials. We'll be privileged to have Britton Chance, the break-through designer of the famed "Stars and Stripes", for the Sail America team during the America's Cup race. Britton will share with us his design approach that led to the world's fastest 12-meter racing sloop, a rare treat for the sailors in our midst.

Our last program will feature "The Michigan Five", five Michigan architects who have designed and live in their own homes. Where else can you get personal guided tours of these unique residential solutions. Come and see this great variety from Ken Neumann, Harry VanDine, Paul Bowers, Norm Carver and Bob Ziegelman.

Of course we have saved the best for last. Friday night we feature the grand re-opening of the historic Beaubien House as the new home of our MSA. A special open house tour will amaze and excite you as this reception leads us into the special Honor Awards Banquet to be held in one of the contemporary exhibit galleries at the Detroit Institute of Arts. We guarantee that a great time will be had by all.

Of course the Convention will include events and programs of special interest for students, interns, Associates and Affiliates as well. The Dow Alumni Breakfast is in place and preparations are continuing for a special "student's day" during the program.

But best of all, this 1987 MSA Convention is your opportunity to

trace the roots of design in Michigan. Bring your family and visit Greenfield Village. Ride Detroit's new People Mover. Stop in at the grand Fisher Building or the ornate Guardian Building. Stroll Chene Park or visit Greektown and Bricktown. Stay the weekend and see what's going on in Detroit.

A special note for all the Detroit Chapter members too. Remember that this year is special for architecture in Michigan. The Detroit Chapter is one hundred years old also and the State is celebrating one hundred fifty years as well. So take the time to participate in the Convention activities this October 21-23 and give your employees the time that they may need to go as well.

This will be the best MSA Convention yet. We've planned it that way. And when future generations look back in their World Almanac, they should find this entry . . . 1987 — 100 year anniversary celebration of the Michigan Society of Architects . . . A great time was had by all!

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Paul Stachowiak, AIA

Kirk Delzer, AIA

Associate Representative

Kathy Buck, Assoc.

Recognitions Committee

Kenneth Neumann, FAIA, Chair



MSA Convention Program

Wednesday

10 am to 2 pm Hyatt Regency	MSA Board of Directors Meeting
2 pm to 3:30 pm Hearthside Room	Design Paul Kennon, FAIA, CRSS
3:30 pm to 5 pm VIP South	The Cranbrook Vision: Past & Present Roy Slade, Cranbrook Academy of Art
5 pm to 6 pm VIP North	IDP Associate Meeting Robert E. Samuelson, AIA
7 pm to 10:30 pm Henry Ford Museum	Host Chapter Party: The Best of Times

Thursday

7:30 pm to 9 am Dearborn Presbyterian Church	Dow Alumni William Gilmore, AIA
8:30 am to 10:30 am Hearthside Room	Before you Sign your Next Contract. Paul G. Sieben, Chairman AIA Documents Committee
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP North	The Context of Architecture: Integrating Land, People & Buildings William Johnson, Landscape Architect William Johnson Associates
10 am to Noon Stutz Bearcat Suite Hyatt Regency	Spouse Brunch: Self-Esteem & Life Transitions Mark Springer
11:30 am to 2 pm Exhibit Floor	Exhibition & Luncheon
2 pm to 3 pm VIP North	AIA Honors and Fellowships Maria Murray, Honorary AIA, Director Awards Programs AIA
2 pm to 3 pm VIP South	Renovation Richard Fry, AIA
3 pm to 4 pm Hearthside Room	33½ Out of 100 . . . A Retrospective Balthazar Korab

Thursday (Continued)

4 pm to 5 pm VIP South	Meaning in Post-Industrial Design Michael & Kathy McCoy Cranbrook Academy of Art
4 pm to 5 pm VIP North	Education and the Profession: The Next Stop Student-Professional Event
5 pm to 8 pm Exhibit Floor	Exhibition Reception & Dinner Buffet
8 pm to 9:30 pm Hearthside Room	Marketing: Sherlock Holmes meets Leonardo DaVinci Peter McLaughlin

Friday

8:30 am to 10:30 am Hearthside Room	MSA Business Meeting Continental Breakfast
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP North	A Short History of American Automobile Design: A Car Designer's View Bill Porter
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP South	Color and Design Gretchen Bellinger
11:30 am to 2pm	Exhibition & Luncheon Exhibit Floor
2 pm to 3:30 pm VIP South	Naval Architecture: The Cup is Back Britton Chance
3:30 pm to 5 pm Hearthside Room	The Michigan Five: Houses for Architects by Architects Paul D. Bowers, Jr., FAIA Norman F. Carver, Jr., AIA Robert Ziegelman, AIA Kenneth S. Neumann, FAIA Harold Van Dine, Jr., FAIA
7 pm to Midnight Beaubien House & Detroit Inst. of Arts	MSA Design Awards President's Reception: Beaubien House Sponsored by SMACNA Dinner & Program: Detroit Inst. of Arts

Registration Desk Hours Fairlane Manor

Wednesday: Noon to 5 pm
Thursday: 8 am to 8 pm
Friday: 8 am to 3:30 pm

Exhibitors

Actron Security Systems, Inc.
Advanced Business Systems, Inc.
American Glass & Metals Corp.
American Graphics Engineering
American Solar Systems
American Standard
Andersen Window Corporation
ANR Pipeline Co.
Associated General Contractors
Automated Entrance Systems, Inc.
Beaver Distributors, Inc.
Behlen Manufacturing Co.
Borin/Boice Builders Supply
Cabot Stains, Inc.
Casper System Corp.
Century Rain Aid
City Animation Co.
Classic Modular Systems, Inc.
Cold Spring Granite Co.
Computer Consulting Services, Inc.
Consumers Power Co.
Contract Interiors
Crawford Door Sales, Inc.
Custom Distributors
Darworth Co.
Detroit Edison Co.
Dow Chemical/ConMat Sales
Dunn Blue Print Co.
Eagle of Michigan
Eisen/Roberts/Andridge, Inc.
Engineering Reproduction, Inc.
Environmental Features, Inc.
Farnell Equipment Co.
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Federal Fountain Supply
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Kawneer Co., Inc.
Laticrete International, Inc.
Lighting Group, The
Lincoln Tile & Supply
Marvin Windows
Metro Wood Lumber & Supply
MichCon Gas Co.
Millguard Corporation, The
New World Sales
North American Energy Control, Inc.
Office Pavilion
Oldenkamp Co., H.J./Dupont Corian
Oldenkamp Co., H.J./Formica Products
Otis Elevator Co.
Overhead Door Corporation
Pella Window & Door Co.
Philip Johnson Corporation, The
Plumbing & Heating Industry of Detroit
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Williams Products, Inc.
Wilson Plastics, Ralph — Wilsonart
Xerox Engineering
Yates Office Supply

Registration Form

Three-Day Package registration fee includes all seminars, the Exhibitor's Design Party, and lunch on the exhibit floor on Thursday and Friday. Spouse registration fee includes all seminars, exhibits and the Exhibitor's Design Party on Thursday evening. Student registration fee covers the seminars and exhibits; meals are not included.

Design Professionals include members and employees of the following: AIA, ASID, IBD, PSMA, ASLA, MSPE, CEC, CSE, MSRLS, MSPO, AGC, SMPS, and all employees of A/E firms.

The exhibits will be open Thursday and Friday. There is no charge to visit the exhibit floor, but you must register.

Three-Day Package Registration

_____	\$100	Advance
_____	\$125	Register at the Convention
_____	\$25	Spouse
_____	\$5	Student
_____	no charge	Exhibits Only

One-Day Registration

_____	\$25	Wednesday (At the door: \$35)
_____	\$50	Thursday (At the door: \$60)
_____	\$50	Friday (At the door: \$60)

The following events are not included in the Registration Fee. Individual tickets are required.*

_____	no charge	MSA Business Meeting
_____	no charge	Dow Alumni Breakfast*
_____	\$25	Host Chapter Party*
_____	\$50	President's Reception & Design Awards*
_____	\$10	Spouse Brunch*
_____	Total	

Tickets to all events will be held at the Fairlane Manor or at the event.

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Honorary Memberships Bestowed



Robert Raisch



Rae Dumke



When Michigan architects decided to organize in 1887, they elected to come under the banner of the Western Association of Architects. The Constitution and By Laws even then acknowledged that there were people who were very important to the profession who were not practicing architects and therefore could not become regular members. Emil Lorch, FAIA, the first dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Michigan was one of the first to be honored.

Through the years an impressive list has grown up of people who have played their part to promote the cause of great architecture and its by-products: beautiful and functional places to live and work. Governor William Milliken, W. Hawkins Ferry, Dr. Karl Haas, Senator Jack Faxon and Thomas Monaghan are previous recipients of this accolade.

Three more names will be inscribed on the Honorary Membership List after the Awards Ceremony at the Detroit Institute of Arts on October 23rd; Jack Sharpe, Rae Dumke and Robert Raisch.

Jack Sharpe is the Administrative Secretary of the Michigan Board of Registration for Architects. He is Michigan born and a MSU alumnus and has held his post since 1972. He participated in the rewrite of the registration act in 1977 and again in 1980. Currently he is assisting the Board in their efforts to improve the architect's licensing standards through the Intern Development Program. The new rules are ready and will be considered by the Joint Rules Committee of the Michigan Legislature within the next 30 days.

Rae Dumke needs no introduction to the readers of the *Bulletin*. She has worked for the Michigan Society of Architects for the past 20 years and is now its Executive Director. She also heads the Detroit Chapter/AIA and the Michigan Architectural Foundation. In her free time she has worked to save Orchestra Hall and to improve another Detroit jewel through her support of the Friends of Belle Isle.

She is active with the Junior League of Detroit. The League is restoring the Sibley House for its headquarters. She is on the board of directors of her own professional society, the Michigan Society of Association Executives and is a director and past president of the Association Executives of Metropolitan Detroit. She is treasurer of CACE, the Council of Architectural Component Executives of the AIA and was recently appointed to the Architectural/Construction Drawing Advisory Committee of Schoolcraft College.

Robert S. Raisch has been trying for many years to bring a sense of lightheartedness and fun to the oftentimes too serious profession of architecture. He serves on the Entertainment Committee for the Society's Midsummer Conferences and for the past two years has written, produced and directed a play for the Fudgetime Players. In the work-a-day world, he is president of the Supersine Company and manufactures construction signs for distribution on a nationwide basis. His company supplies the distinctive matte black awards plaques for the Society.

Raisch is a decorated naval aviator and was a jet fighter pilot with the Marine Corps. He rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Marine Corps Reserves and was Assistant Wing Commander, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing until his retirement in 1980.

He has been a patron of art and architecture since his days at Cranbrook Academy. He is also a member of the Detroit Rotary Club, Economic Club of Detroit, Detroit Zoological Society and was appointed to the Private Industry Council by Mayor Coleman Young in 1984.

A MSA Gold Medal For Almon Durkee, AIA

Almon Durkee, FAIA is about to be presented with the Gold Medal of the Michigan Society of Architects. This, the Society's most significant award, is bestowed from time to time to members who have made a lasting contribution to the advancement of the profession of architecture.

Until his recent retirement, Durkee was the State Architect and director of the Bureau of Facilities for Michigan. He was responsible for the entire state building program and supervised a staff of 600 people and a budget of \$30 million. Before assuming his post with the Bureau he worked for 22 years with many of Detroit's best known architects; Victor Gruen, Linn Smith, Gunnar Birkerts and Carl Luckenbach.

In his role as state architect he had ample opportunity to strengthen and define the architect's place in the construction hierarchy. He performed

this function with diplomacy and finesse. The protection and continued use of the Elijah Myers designed Michigan Capitol is a cause that the Society has been vitally interested in for a number of years. Durkee is a charter member of the **Friends of the Michigan Capitol**. While Director of the Bureau of Facilities, he worked diligently in the highly charged political atmosphere of the Capitol to maintain the historic integrity of this important landmark.

He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, represented the Michigan Region on the board of directors of the Institute, a past president of the Michigan Society of Architects, a former director of the Detroit Chapter/AIA, and is currently an Emeritus member of the Mid-Michigan Chapter/AIA. He is a charter member and former officer of the Construction Specifications Insti-



Almon Durkee, FAIA

tute and the Michigan Association of Professions.

The MSA Gold Medal that was designed by noted sculptor, Marshall Fredericks, in 1954 will be presented on October 23, 1987 at a black-tie banquet at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Hastings Award Norman Carver, Jr., AIA

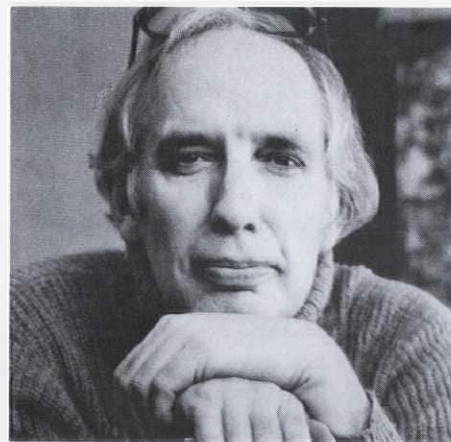
The Hastings Award was established in 1978 to honor the memory of Robert Hastings, FAIA. He was a distinguished architect, community leader, and President of the American Institute of Architects before his untimely death.

Norman Carver, Jr., AIA will receive the award this year in recognition of his significant service and contribution to a better understanding of the architecture and, therefore, the culture of many different ethnic groups throughout the world. Beginning with the publication of **Form and Space of Japanese Architecture** over twenty-five years ago, he has photographed the vernacular buildings of **Italian Hilltowns** and **Iberian Villages** and the **Silent Cities, Mexico and the Maya**. So called, progress, is threatening many of these places but his photographic essays will keep these building-types alive so that future architects will be

able to study their forms and learn their lessons of simple unadorned beauty.

A Fulbright Scholarship allowed Carver to return to Japan, five years after his first trip there with the U.S. Army, to study and photograph Japanese architecture. His trips usually lead to books and future subjects include North Africa, Greece, Central Europe, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

He is a practicing architect in Kalamazoo and he will be on a panel that will be featured at the MSA 72nd Annual Convention. He is one of **The Michigan Five**, five architects who have designed and live in their own houses, who will be telling their sagas of this experience to the convention delegates.



Norman Carver, FAIA

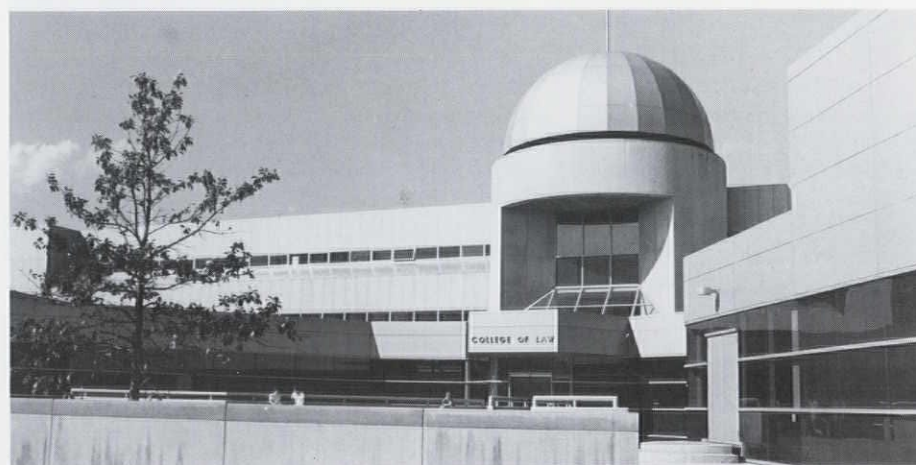
1987 MSA Design Awards



William Kessler and Associates *Industrial Technology Institute Ann Arbor, Michigan.*



James Blain/Robert Wakely *Cambridge Center Livonia, Michigan*



Gunnar Birkerts and Associates, Inc. *Wehner, Nowysz, Pattschull and Pfifner, Associate Architects — University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa*

Six of eighty-seven submissions earned a 'well done' from the 1987 MSA Design Awards Jury when they met in St. Louis in early September to evaluate the best efforts of Michigan's architectural community. Eugene J. Mackey III, AIA of Mackey & Associates in St. Louis chaired the energetic and often challenging discussions. The jurors represent a cross section of midwest architectural firms. Adrian D. Smith, FAIA is a principal with the Chicago giant; Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and E. Faye Jones, FAIA, himself a National Design Award winner, heads a tiny six person firm in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The winning solutions were all produced by medium to small sized firms. Osler/Milling Architects from Ann Arbor came away with two awards. One, the rehabilitation of their hometown Michigan Theater, was a joint venture with Quinn Evans/Architects also of that city. While noting that projects of this type are difficult (to evaluate) in an awards program since so much depends on the work of the original architect, the jury chose to acknowledge the obviously careful research and execution of a most successful restoration.

Osler/Milling's other award goes to a corporate headquarters and warehouse in Lake Orion. The jury called it an innovative solution for the building type and added that it is a mature work of architecture.

Across the state in St. Joseph, Allegretti Architects designed a luxury condominium in New Buffalo that captured the spirit of its setting with powerful simple imagery. It is reminiscent of the opulence and grandeur of the turn of the century resort hotels that are found along the coast of Lake Michigan.

James Blain/Robert Wakely Associates came up with the concept for the Cambridge Center Office Building in Livonia. Even though the jury was concerned about the use of reflective glass as an overworked building material, they felt that this particular building was executed extremely well

and that it has a strong, clear plan and a well articulated building form.

Two firms that have consistently appeared on the MSA Design Honor Award list have once again produced distinctive and exciting buildings. Gunnar Birkerts and Associates, Inc. from Birmingham submitted a winner in the College of Law for the University of Iowa. William Kessler and Associates of Detroit will receive another accolade for the Industrial Technology Institute in Ann Arbor. This building was awarded a plaque last year in the Detroit Chapter/AIA award program.

Birkerts' Law Liberty, sited on a wooded limestone bluff overlooking the river in Iowa City, caused a lot of discussion by the jury. They concluded that it was clearly a tour de force, a one-of-a-kind building.

Of Kessler's stainless steel and glass ITI building they noted that the architecture expresses the high-tech nature of the work being done there. The buildings of the Institute are masterfully and precisely detailed and, in spite of the strong contrast, carefully accommodate the land.

Ken Neumann, FAIA, who once again organized the MSA award program will be on hand at the DIA on October 23rd to introduce jury chair, Eugene Mackey III, who will fly in from St. Louis for the presentation. The black tie evening will be the exclamation point to the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the MSA.

Allegretti Architects —
Dunewood Condominiums,
New Buffalo, Michigan



Osler/Milling Architects, Inc.
Harry S. Peterson Co., Inc. Lake Orion,
Michigan



Osler Milling/Quinn Evans (A joint
venture of Osler/Milling Architects,
Inc. and Quinn Evans/Architects) —
Michigan Theatre Restoration/Renovation
Ann Arbor, Michigan



Challenge for the Future



Robert Greager, AIA

TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF CONSTITUTION, 150 YEARS OF MICHIGAN STATEHOOD, AND 100 YEARS OF THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS. These events make me think of celebration, heritage and responsibility.

As my focus has expanded from local to state to national, I have become more keenly aware of the interrelationship of responsibility, involvement, and representation.

The point I want to emphasize is responsibility and its two sides; enfranchisement and disenfranchisement. The basis of our national governing system, which is embraced by our professional society, is representation — broad **representation**.

There are two major levels of national professional representation; the elected regional directors, who together are the Institute's board, and the volunteer members of the national committees who are the heart and soul of the AIA. In the December issue, I will discuss how my successor should start getting involved now to better serve you. Below I will discuss the opportunities available to us on the National Committees.

Every aspect of our National need and professional responsibility is covered through our 39 Washington-based committees. Involvement is available to every member as a correspondent on any number of committees. Active participating membership is open and unlimited. Each committee has a small number of funded positions open primarily to those members who have served unfunded on a committee before and/or to those who are willing to commit three years to directing a committee.

This is a carefully prescribed procedure for selection of the funded positions. Overriding this process is an added policy to provide a proportionate number of funded slots to each **Region-Parity**. Michigan has achieved only 75% of parity during each of the last three years while some regions enjoy over 200%. We in Michigan, including me, have not adequately availed ourselves of the chance to become involved there. Our lack of commitment has created

a lack of representation at the leadership level in the national committee structure.

Think about it, get involved; help provide the Michigan viewpoint to nationwide issues! Geographic parity is a challenge to which you personally can make a major difference.

We have another test. Unfortunately there are other facets, beyond geography, which also lack parity. Among them are; the small firm practitioners, blacks, women, and associates. Obviously, each group has its own responsibility to get involved and to achieve equal representation.

However, our other obligation is to maintain an awareness of this disparity and more importantly to keep an open mind that will promote and not impair representation for all our fellow professionals. Think about it, challenge your degree of awareness and through your actions help to promote a true national parity!

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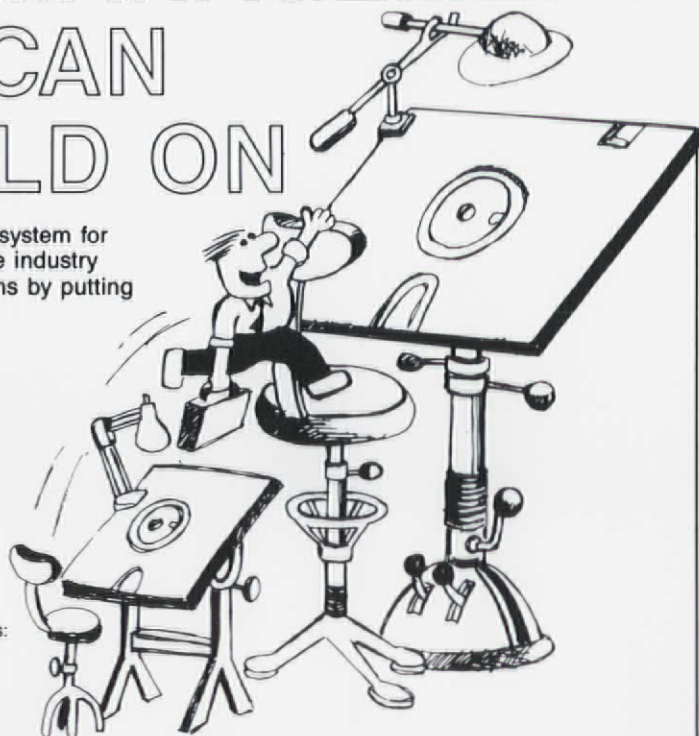
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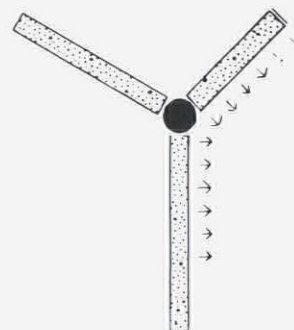
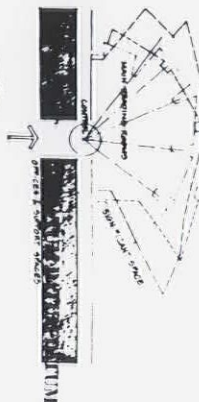
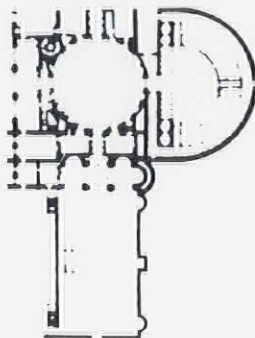
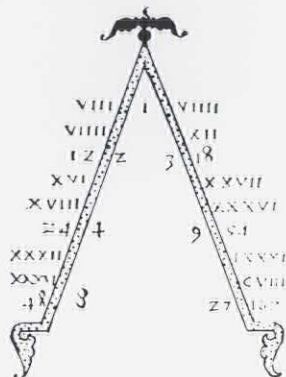
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Albert Kahn Associates Salutes the Centennial Anniversary of The Michigan Society of Architects



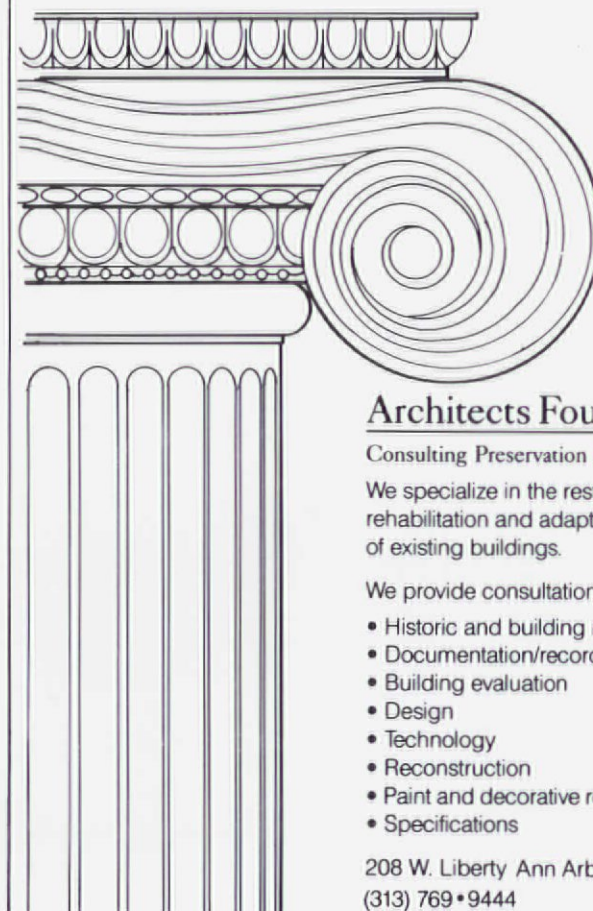
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Photo from a few years ago — or back at the beginning



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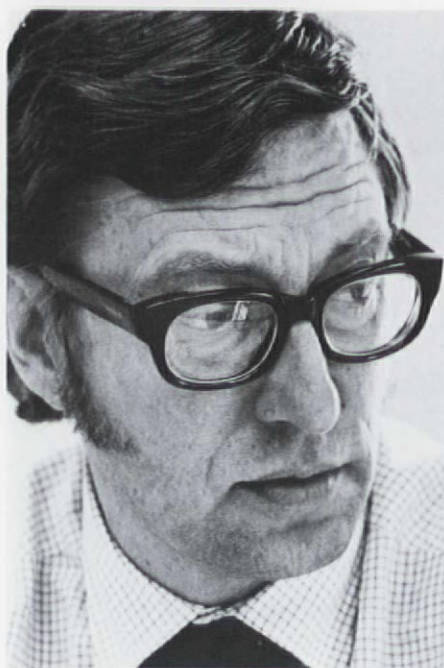
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Annual Meeting Detroit Chapter/AIA



Gunnar Birkerts, FAIA

The Annual Meeting of the Detroit Chapter/AIA on November 5th will be full of surprises. The first bit of information to catch your eye is that it will be held in Ann Arbor. The Huron Valley Chapter/AIA need not be shocked. Detroit Chapter officials have no plans to expand their boundaries and Huron Valley members are invited to attend this special event.

The reason for this small contradiction is Gunnar Birkerts, FAIA. He is the headliner for Lecture #6 in the Chapter's Centennial Anniversary Series and the building he will feature is Dominos Farms that is located just north of Ann Arbor.

Tour guides from Gunnar Birkerts & Associates will lead people through the sprawling facility beginning at 5:30 p.m. After everyone has had a chance to look at the architecture and to examine Tom Monaghan's extensive collection of Frank Lloyd Wright artifacts, dinner will be served at six thirty. Pizza is on the menu (what else?) along with an antipasto salad. You will make your own desert — luscious ice cream sundaes. The cost of all this is a low \$10. The Detroit Chapter Board voted to subsidize a

portion of the cost in the hope that it would encourage a large attendance at their Annual Meeting.

A short but very important business meeting will begin at 7:30 and last for 45 minutes. It is election time. The architects who will lead the chapter for the next year will be chosen. Arnold Mikon, AIA who has spent the last year in training as Vice President will assume the presidency within 20 days of the election. The Elections Committee recommended and the Board approved the following slate:

Vice President/President Elect

Steve Vogel, AIA

Secretary

Paul Stachowiak, AIA

Chapter Director (3 year term)

Michael Tomasik, AIA

MSA Director (2 year term)

Michael Mosley, AIA

Stephen Whitney, AIA

(Two to be elected)

Associate Director

John Marusich

An exciting evening has been planned. A peek at Wright's cherokee red Packard is worth the price of admission. And, no designer worth a t-square will want to miss Birkert's design secrets of this very important building for one of the Twentieth Century's few real patrons of architecture.

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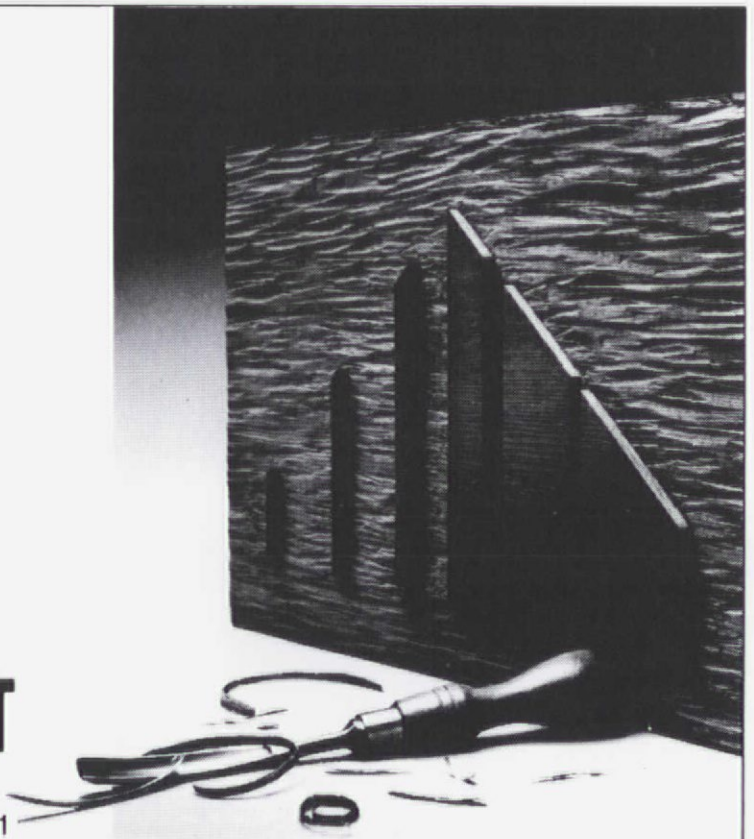
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Associate Director's Report

by David Aten, Associate

The judging has been held and as promised, here are the results of the MSA Associate Member Drafting Competition. As mentioned last month, the quality of the entries was exceptional and the judges had quite a time deciding the winners. With all but two entries coming from west of Lansing, the odds would give "out-state" members a better chance of winning. And they did. The winners are:

First Place: Michael R. Blied from the Western Michigan Chapter/AIA. Mike is a Battle Creek native who holds a BS and Master's Degree from U of M.

Second Place: Jim Winter-Troutwine of the Grand Valley Chapter/AIA. A graduate of Ball State University, Jim is employed by DSO Reid Architects in Grand Rapids. Active in local and national environmental groups, he is a member of the Audubon Society, Greenpeace and Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility.

Third Place: Grace Moose of the Grand Valley Chapter/AIA. With both a degree in architecture and interior architecture from IIT, Grace is a designer in the Health Care Division of the WBDC Group of Grand Rapids. Prior to joining WBDC, she worked as an intern in a firm in London, England.

Next year's contest may be expanded to include CADD generated drawings. Even though it didn't fit the category of "working drawings", one entrant submitted a CADD drawing which the judges were very impressed with. With more and more firms going to CADD, it may be considered next year.

One more note of interest — on October 16th and 17th, four architects from the Soviet Union (including the president of the USSR Union of Architects) will be in Chicago as part of a tour sponsored by the Architects/Designers/Planners For Social Responsibility. The Grand Rapids Chapter ADPSR is looking for people to be part of a group going to Chicago

to meet with the Soviet delegation. Any one interested should call associate member Jim Winter-Troutwine at 616-942-0440 for more information.

Intern Development Program

Barring any last minute glitches, the revised requirements for licensing that includes the intern provision that was developed by the Michigan Board of Registration for Architects will be considered by the Joint Legislative Rules Committee in the next 30 days.

As this significant change in the registration process comes closer to becoming a reality, it behooves AIA members and those who are seeking registration to become familiar with the new rules. Robert E. Samuelson, AIA, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at Ohio State University has been invited to speak to both interns and employers on October 21st from 5-6 p.m. during the 72nd Annual MSA Convention.

Earlier in the day he and Art Nelson, AIA will be taking their IDP Show on the road. They will be at SH&G at 8:00 a.m.; Albert Kahn at 9:30 a.m. and at TMP at noon. Phil Meathe, FAIA has invited all downtown Detroit interns and principals to the SH&G's office at 455 Fort Street to take part in this important presentation.

MSA 100th Anniversary Poster

The cover for the October **Bulletin** is a sample of the magnificent magenta washed MSA 100th Anniversary Poster. It was chosen as the cover in the hope that all AIA members will be motivated to buy several of the 20x26 inch 'real things' at a cost of \$4 each.

The inspiration for the poster came out of a meeting Tom Lucas had with the nine Chapter Vice Presidents. It was designed and photographed by Balthazar Korab to commemorate the Centennial Anniversary of the Society. Janet Ford, AIA of Schervish Vogel Merz did the graphics. It is the showpiece of a public awareness campaign that will be pushed by the Society for the next three years.

Members are being asked to help underwrite the printing cost by purchasing the posters but the goal is to have them hanging in public spaces all over the state. Chapter officers will be sending them to local officials, libraries, museums, etc. and they will be available for sale at art fairs and other community events. A one dollar contribution from each sale will go to the Michigan Architectural Foundation.

NAME: _____

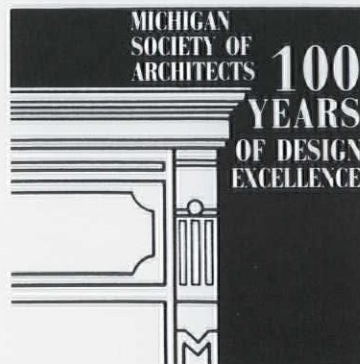
FIRM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____

Enclosed is my check # _____ for _____ posters @ \$4.00 each.

The cost includes shipping and handling. NO POST OFFICE BOXES PLEASE.



WILLIAM KESSLER AND ASSOCIATES

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THE 100TH BIRTHDAY

OF THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

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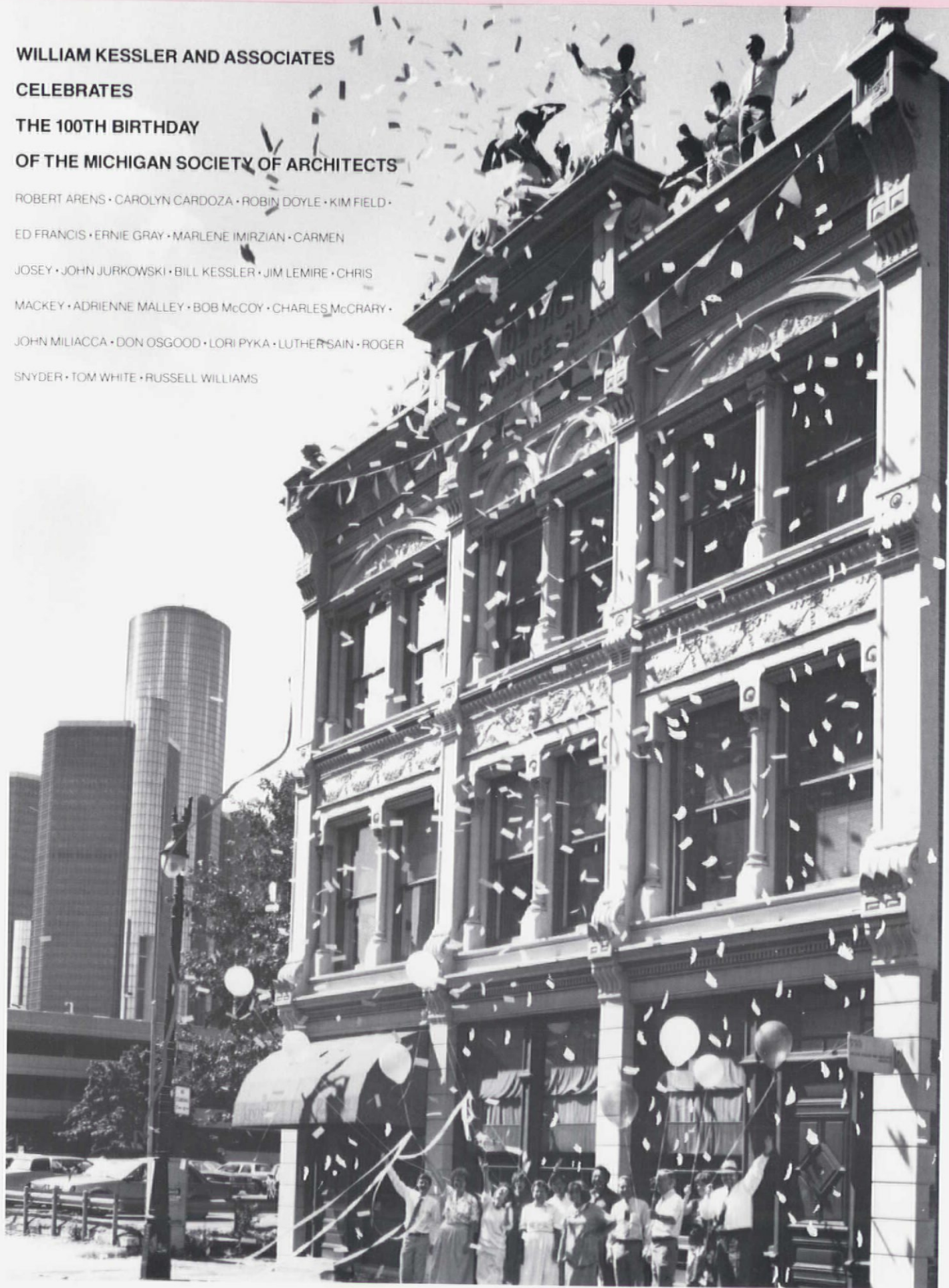
ED FRANCIS • ERNIE GRAY • MARLENE IMIRZIAN • CARMEN

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TIME VALUE

CALENDAR

thru October 31st

Dan Powell, a photographer with a national reputation, will bring his *Art & Architecture Series* to the Pierce Street Gallery at 217 Pierce Street, Birmingham. (Wed. thru Sat. 11-5 and by appointment.) Large black and white photographs of unusual perspective focusing on the timeless beauty of architectural form make up this important show.

OCTOBER

- 15 Mid-Michigan Chapter/
AIA Meeting Noon
- 20 WAL Trip to Campbell
Ewald Company
- 21-23 MSA Convention
Exhibitions and Seminars
Fairlane Manor, Dearborn
- 21 Host Chapter Party
Henry Ford Museum 7 p.m.
Costumes encouraged
- 22 Spouse Brunch
Dearborn Hyatt Regency
10 a.m.
- 23 Gala Reopening of the
Historic Beaubien House
beginning at 7 p.m. and fol-
lowed by The MSA Honor
Awards Program black tie
dinner at the Detroit Insti-
tute of Arts
- 27 CAM's CONSTRUCTech
Computer Seminar
Fairlane Manor, Dearborn
Call: 313-567-5500

- 27 Third Annual Governor's
Arts Awards Dinner
Westin Hotel, \$150 per
person call: 961-1776
- 30 Deadline for Western
Michigan Chapter/AIA
Awards

NOVEMBER

- ?? BIG MOVE BACK TO THE
BEAUBIEN HOUSE
- 5 Detroit Chapter/AIA
Annual Meeting. Anniver-
sary Lecture #6, Gunnar
Birkerts, FAIA Dominos
Farms, Ann Arbor, begin-
ning at 5:30 p.m.
- 10 ESD Luncheon, Detroit
Construction Update
Call: 313-832-5400
- 11 MSA Vice President's
Meeting 9:30 a.m.
Harley Hotel, Lansing
- 12 LIT ArchiLECTURE
Thom Mayne, avant-garde
Los Angeles architect
7:30 p.m. Architectural
Auditorium
- 18 Western Michigan
Chapter/AIA Annual
Awards Program
- 19 Mid-Michigan Chapter/
AIA Meeting
- 19 New Registrants Reception
Beaubien House and
St. Peter & Paul Church

DECEMBER

- 1 MSA Board of Directors/
Election Beaubien House

Cover Photo:

The Cover is the MSA Centennial Anniversary Posters. It was designed and photographed by Balthazar Korab. The graphics were done by Janet Ford of Schervish, Vogel, Mertz.

MSA BULLETIN

VOL. 10 ISSUE 8

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MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS



100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS 100 YEARS

MSA

DETROIT • FLINT AREA • GRAND VALLEY
Cassbrook Museum • Chevrolet Plant • St. Francis Church
HURON VALLEY • MID-MICHIGAN • NORTHERN MICHIGAN
Palmer Residence • State Capitol • Petoskey Railroad Station
SAGINAW VALLEY • UPPER PENINSULA • WESTERN MICHIGAN
Dow Residence • Grand Hotel • Charlie Rose

BULLETIN

OCTOBER 87

President's Message



by Norman L. Hamann, AIA

I thought it would be interesting to you to expand the President's Message to include comments from the Society's Past Presidents. I asked them to address what they think to be the most important issue facing the MSA in the future. Looking ahead can be a very serious task so Nelson Nave, AIA of the Western Michigan Chapter/AIA created a wonderful cartoon. The caption comes from the January, 1890 minutes. Does anything ever change?

Kenneth C. Black, AIA 1938-39

"I have been retired for over fifteen years, during which I have not attended chapter meetings. I therefore, do not know enough about current MSA problems to be able to offer any intelligent comments to the readers of the *Bulletin*. I will look forward to reading the comments of others."

Adrian Languis, FAIA 1947-48

"As I reflect on more than 55 years of watching and being a part of the efforts by the MSA to enhance the purpose and practice of Architecture, I'm impressed with how much was accomplished toward that end when the dues were only \$5.00. During that period, a survey by *Fortune Magazine* ranked Architecture as the most admired and respected of all the professions. We thought we had it made.

For reasons within or without the profession, we lost that position and prestige as master builders. There

were of course, from time to time, changes by the profession in its attitude and approach to the building process. We forgot the 'orders' and 'form doesn't follow function' anymore, it follows fancy; but these things didn't do it. If you ask me — and you did — I think our problem is with the unsupers of our inherent rights and responsibilities. They are essentially our adversaries."

Frederick E. Wigen, AIA 1958-59

"As a retired Architect of some 40 years of practice, I am discouraged by the fact that we as practicing architects do so little to encourage and help young architects to establish their own practice. Nothing much seems to have changed in 40 years. This has to be a major concern of the MSA."

Robert Lee Wold, FAIA 1966

"The most important issue and challenge to MSA is to develop support systems to help the Architects of Michigan maintain positions of leadership in the construction process. This is not entirely a new challenge, but it becomes more critical as the architect's leadership role continues to erode."

Chase Black, FAIA 1968

"The most important issue in the future, as it has been in the past, is the challenge to have **each** architect in Michigan as a member of the MSA, so that MSA may **truly** represent all Michigan Architects."

Almon Durkee, FAIA 1970

"Fellowship always has been, and always will be, the main mission of the Society. We need to constantly be aware that our Society represents the bringing together of the Architects of Michigan — to socialize, to discuss their mutual problems and successes, as well as to conduct the business of the Society. Sustained and everincreased emphasis on the social activities will result in increased membership and many of the other objectives of the Society."

Howard Hakken, 1972

"Michigan Architects historically have produced projects that are notable for their no-nonsense function and serious attention to detail. It

seems to me, that the current generation of us, has added a refreshing quality of grace and light heartedness. Nice combination; certainly marketable, hopefully profitable."

Leslie D. Tincknell, AIA 1974

"Competition, both from within and outside the profession, continues to place the Architect in a position of diminishing returns. The professional society needs to address the problems to prevent an erosion of competence by members and firms."

Robert B. Tower, AIA 1975

"The MSA will be required to assist all members as they cope with a 'do-it-yourself' society. Computers that can design any building will threaten the need for Architects and our registration act. The computer-oriented firms will be the survivors, and the Society will probably be counting a smaller number of firms for membership."

Eugene DiLaura, FAIA 1976

"Success is measured in many ways, however true success will for eternity be measured by what one has given, what one has done for others. Make time, take time to be involved. For architects this translates, in part to being involved with the local chapter, the state society and nationally where possible. We cannot continuously take. We must give our fair share. For giving is the true measure of success."

Arthur Nelson, AIA 1978

"The professional competence of our future architects is the most important issue of the present that addresses the future. The AIA-NCARB developed and sponsored Intern Development Program for Architects, with an amazingly flexible but structured program, takes the hit and miss aspect out of the Practice Education of our future architects, and finally puts it on an equal footing with a traditional Academic Education for architects, completing the foundation for professional competence."

John W. Jickling, FAIA 1980

"Professional Liability Insurance! All other issues seem better addressed at National or Chapter levels. Self

insurance, going 'bare,' higher deductibles and lower coverage are the choices most offices face. Premiums can easily be 10% or more of the cost of doing business. How do we reduce or recover this cost?"

Evie Asken, FAIA 1981

"Like it or not . . . it's no longer a simple cottage industry of master and apprentice. Today's architect is trained on a broader scope. If AIA wants to speak for the profession, then its focus must shift from traditional practice and include the architect's contribution to society's environment.

"Heavy stuff? Think about it. Who, but the architect, is better qualified to deal with the issues of our deteriorating urban and rural scapes?"

Michael Callahan, AIA 1982

"The future of the Society will depend largely on the efforts of each individual Michigan Architect.

How will the Society fit-in, be relevant, to each individual licensed Architect attempting to provide architectural services? By giving attention to the profession the Society — by offering continuing education possibilities, governmental interaction, representation, promotion and education to the public and the Individual

Michigan Architect — through his own needs and by being relevant to the profession, will assure the continuation of the Society of Architects."

Roger Margerum, FAIA 1983

"Architects know that new facilities inspire new beginnings for the owner's programs. I observe this spirit reawakening in the MSA. There seems to be a collective pride inspired by the Beaubien House renovation in a time that exhibits a need for team work to promote the architectural profession. The Beaubien House must be redirected for continuous promotion of all MSA interests."

Dick W. Slocum, AIA 1984

"Architecture, engineering and our society are ever in a state of change; and the MSA must keep pace. We have seen a greater participation by the members and a great deal of support from the related professions. The architects and engineers are working more closely to solve mutual concerns, i.e., pending legislation for Selection by Competence and other legislative matters. The greatest improvement I could suggest is to have the MSA board and its members ACT rather than REACT!"

Robert Greager, AIA 1985

"My crystal ball view of future issues is no better than it was when I was president. With the Beaubien House remodeling complete, a sound budget in place, and (in partnership with Engineering Associations) an effective lobbying system, I'm confident we will face future issues from an informed pro-active posture."

James B. Shane, AIA 1986

"The most important issues facing MSA . . . Liability? Integration of education and practice? Public education? The technology of practice? There is a temptation to focus on one of these 'concerns' as the significant 'issue' of tomorrow. But essentially these are just more of the constant problems we encounter, and will handle with varying degrees of success.

In reality, the real issue facing us as a Society is our ability to become a truly cohesive, effective state organization.

Dedicated, interested individuals will always rise through the ranks to lead the Society and provide the impetus for action. But without the involvement of an equally dedicated and interested rank-and-file, these actions will produce no real or lasting programs.

In my view, the major issue facing the Society, its leadership and staff, is the need to develop an active involved membership across the state, working on common programs toward common goals."

Norman L. Hamann, AIA 1987

"The MSA needs to recognize and analyze the changes that are making the profession different; and position itself as a leader in making the decisions required for a strong profession. The MSA must work, in a cooperative effort with the architectural schools in Michigan, to prepare the architects of tomorrow to cope with the world of tomorrow."



"Contributions for beautifying the Association rooms have been asked for and we have received the delightfully large donation of two pictures." J.S. Rogers, Secretary 1/2/1890

MSA — 1887-1987

How It Happened



Photo: James Moyes

Lynne Merrill-Francis

Most of the confusion about the founding date of the organization of Michigan architects is cleared away in the context of similar events on the National scene. In 1887 when the first group of architects got together and wrote down their aims for a new professional society they had two options, The American Institute of Architects or the Western Association of Architects. The Architectural League, a confederation of sketch clubs, was an outside possibility but its members were mostly drafters and artists.

The AIA had been incorporated in New York in 1857 by Richard Upjohn, Richard Hunt and others. During the Civil War, the office was closed and the records moved to Upjohn's office for safekeeping. All work was suspended until the war ended in 1865. Tangible accomplishments did not come up to the stated goals of its founders, according to a 1942 article by Leigh Hunt in the *Wisconsin Architect*, but its influence was far-reaching during the 1865-89 period.

The Western Association was formed in Chicago in 1883 and included such luminaries as John Root, Louis Sullivan, Daniel Burnham and Dankmar Adler. Aside from the lofty ambitions of midwestern architects to promote a true "American architecture", the Chicago group

was piqued at the arbitrary entrance requirements of the 'Eastern Establishment'. The distinction between Associate and Fellow was particularly grating. "In the present condition of architectural growth there should be an absolute democratic condition. No man shall be placed above his fellows any more than his own individuality will place him," argued Louis Sullivan at the Fifth Annual Convention of the WAA in Chicago in 1888. Eventually they worked out their differences and the consolidation was approved in convention in Cincinnati on November 20, 1889. The two bodies merged, took the name of the older one and compromised on the Fellowship/Associate issue. Western members became AIA Fellows.

Michigan architects in 1887 had examined the credentials of both the Association and the Institute. Yellowed copies of the by-laws and constitution from the Illinois Chapter/AIA rest in the same file with their counterparts from the Wisconsin and Kansas Associations. Michigan's original **Constitution and By-Laws as adopted 26 Oct 87** is the Kansas Association copy cut and pasted to Wisconsin with additional language from the Illinois Chapter/AIA entered in pen. The name they chose was the Michigan State Association of Architects.

In due course the terms of the consolidation were worked out and officially adopted on January 15, 1891. The new name was the "Michigan Chapter American Institute of Architects."

As a practical matter, most of the early members came from Detroit but the membership had state wide focus. Letters went out almost immediately to architects all over in a recruiting drive. Sidney Osgood from Grand Rapids and Lemuel Grosvenor from Jackson promptly responded. They were serving on committees of the WAA even before the Association was organized in Detroit. Osgood's letters were full of good advice for the fledgling group. He also used his letterhead as a marketing tool. All of the buildings he had designed were listed across the top.

Based upon the evidence of the printed record, the priorities of the profession have changed little between 1887 and 1987. The May, 1987 issue of *Progressive Architecture* reported the following list compiled from a survey of AIA members:

1. Improving the public image of the "architect".
2. Publishing Standard Contract Documents.
3. Increasing compensation levels.
4. Lobbying for laws benefiting architects.
5. Promoting design excellence.
6. Improving firm management
7. Sponsoring seminars and continuing education courses.
8. Supporting or stimulating architectural research.
9. Administering intern development programs.
10. Combating competition from other professions.

A report of the **Committee on Ethics** of the Michigan State Association of Architects dated December, 1887 itemized their objectives for their new fraternity:

1. Manner of the competition among ourselves, paid or otherwise.
2. Discontinuance of making free sketches.
3. Uniform rates
4. Interference with another's clients by personal solicitations.
5. Upholding of scheduled rates in manner of making out bills.
6. Manner of dealing with firms offering percentages or commissions. Making it an association matter.
7. Mutual protection of ourselves and our clients from unscrupulous builders — placing them on a Black list?
8. A legalized code recognized as law stating an architect's rights in general. To sustain clearly the value of the *ideas* represented and not the value of drawings as such.
9. A seal for the Michigan State Association.
10. A law regulating the practice of architecture.

The similarities in the two lists prepared 100 years apart are remarkable. Add to it the 37 "Suggestions for Papers" that was attached to the 1887

committee report and all the points are covered. Here is a sample; Benefits of Architectural Associations; Separate vs. General Contracts; Relations of Architect to Clients and Builders; Owners Influence over Architect-Independence of the Craft; Speculative Building and Builders; a Course of Study For Young Architects; Style In Architecture; The Art of Planning; and Architects As Artists and Business Men.

The only item on the list that would probably not be relevant today is Polychromatic Ornament but in light of the work on the old Wayne County Building and the State Capitol it too might draw a crowd. One proposed title would have summed up all the rest, "A Building — A Perfect Organism With Its Multitude of Parts Perfectly Placed."

The group began with a great deal of enthusiasm. They rented "rooms" for \$12 per month in the Moffat Block, planned an exhibition of drawings, had the by-laws printed, organized a competition to design a seal and set about promoting the "artistic, scientific and practical efficacy of the profession," — a line that still appears in the by-laws.

It was however, a struggle to keep it going. The membership of the Michigan Chapter hovered around 20 architects for many years. Nationally the AIA has having the same 'missionary' problems. Michigan's own Frank Baldwin wrote to the Octagon in 1904 with advice for increasing participation, "A number of years ago, we found that in order to get a quorum at any meeting it was necessary to have an informal dinner."

Albeit small in number the architects here had their fingers in the civic pie. Because Detroit architects made up the largest block of members and because it was then as now the largest most prosperous city in the state, Detroit concerns dominated the agenda. Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saginaw and Marquette architects were also members so it is safe to assume that their efforts to improve conditions in their cities was proceed-

ing in a similar vein. For example, Thomas E. White of Lansing sought to involve the Michigan Chapter in a dispute involving the design and construction of school buildings in his city.



*David Anderson, AIA
Marquette architect who initiated the UP
Division — MSA in 1939.*

Detroit could hardly make a move without the AIA appointing a committee of architects either in support of or in opposition to its pending plans. Whenever an issue came up that had to do with parks or the aesthetics of public places, William Stratton and John Donaldson were knocking on the mayor's door. Liaison with the art community often fell to Albert Kahn when he became an associate member in 1890. He was actively involved with efforts to build a new art museum. He lobbied long and hard to have an architectural section in the building but even his influence couldn't pull it off.

Another contradictory founding date that can be cleared up in context with other events is the "incorporated 1914" date found in the Institute's seal on the Michigan Chapter letter head after that year. On June 5, 1914, the president was authorized to make application for incorporation of the Chapter to the proper State authorities. With momentum building for an architect's licensing law and the formation of the Architects' Business Association on June 1st, Chapter officers no doubt felt that they should get their paper work in order and become properly "incorporated."

In September the president changed his mind about incorporation pending a revision of the Institute's By-laws but "new stationery was being used by the Chapter containing the seal of the Institute."

The organization of the Architects' Business Association is clearly spelled out in the files. A notebook was brought to the first meeting and everyone signed in. Harry Angell, in the July 31, 1928 edition of the **Weekly Bulletin** tells the tale. "Fourteen years ago when jobs were as scarce as they are now and you did not dare speak to a competitor for fear that he might read your mind and beat you to your best prospect, the M.S. of A. was conceived and definitely organized May 28, 1914 under the name of the Architects Business Association of Michigan. A group of old timers;



*Three of the founders from an old tin type
taken about 1888. Zack Rice, John Donaldson
and Richard Raseman.*

met by accident for lunch one noon at the Palestine Lodge House. During the meal we decided that competitors could be friends and work together for the purpose of having a registration law passed. Each one present agreed to invite at least one brother architect for lunch the following week and soon a regular weekly meeting was attended by some twenty or thirty good fellows."

Angell's hail hardy good fellow explanation is challenged somewhat in a letter dated January 24, 1939 from F. Gordon Pickell (first president of the ABA) to Talmage Hughes. He writes that Angell's account is quite accurate but the "lunch referred to however had an arrangement unbeknown to some present." He goes on, "The AIA Chapter at that time was something of an admiration society and left a gap that proved easy to fill with a more flexible organization. But it was the desire for a registration law and our luck in getting it over the first try which laid the foundation for a permanent organization."

Chicago architectural politics seemed to have played a role here as it had in the Western Association vs. American Institutes discussions in the 1880's. E. Stanford Hall read a paper called "Cooperation Among Architects" at the ABA Convention and explained why the Chicago Association had taken 'business' out of their name. His arguments led to a reconsideration of a previous motion to take the name, "Michigan Society of Architects." Thus on February 3, 1916 the name MSA was born.

Pickell's "more flexible organization" along with the registration issue seemed to have had popular appeal and pretty soon the AIA and the Society had overlapping membership rosters. C. Howard Crane, William Stratton, and Leon Coquard signed on early. The AIA group responded in kind and a stack of some 21 applications for membership were forwarded to the Institute early in 1917 for approval. Most of the names came from the MSA list.

Having set out here to explain the assortment of founding dates for the organization now known as the Michigan Society of Architects we have one more event to consider; April 3, 1884. This is the meeting that occurred in the offices of Elijah Myers, the architect for the Grand Rapids City Hall, Michigan Capitol, and many other state houses. The date written in fine nineteenth century script looks like 1887 rather than 1884 to this writer but George

Mason read "84" in his diary and without another bit of evidence who can say. April, 1887 makes for a tidier chronology. Discussions begun in April and finalized in October of the same year seem plausible. Those who signed on in Myers office included G.W. Lloyd, Mortimer Smith, A. E. French, Alvin C. Varney, Arthur Scott, Julius Hess, E. W. Arnold, Zack Rice and George Mason. Nearly all the same players were on hand for the October 1887 organization. Myers was conspicuously absent and French and Varney waited to sign on with the Architects Business Association in 1914. Mason's diary said that Myers had been elected president in 1884. He was then embroiled in controversy with the Texas State Capitol Commission and according to Henry Russell Hitchcock and William Seale in **Temples of Democracy**, he was upset over their repeated requests for mechanical drawings. Perhaps not a good time to take on the duties as president of a new organization.

The rest, as they say, is history and it is all in the files at MSA headquarters. The Society and Chapter worked in tandem on most important issues. The Michigan Chapter split eventually into Detroit and Grand Rapids and members were arbitrarily assigned by the Institute to one or another of these sections. The Society also had Divisions but in 1938, according to Kenneth C. Black, FAIA., "Most, architects who belonged to both groups became convinced that it was pointless to maintain two professional organizations interested in the same major goals." After Black's two terms as president he took over the Unification Committee and in 1944, upon approval of the national AIA Board of Directors, the unification was complete. New Chapters had been formed in the larger population centers and the MSA was reestablished as an amalgamation of all the AIA Chapters in the state.

The merger was bitterly opposed by some AIA members, just as in 1889 when the Western Association merged with the American Institute.

Some felt that the AIA should remain an elite organization of distinguished professionals and some MSA members who had been turned down for AIA membership were still smarting from the rebuff and wanted nothing to do with the AIA. In the end it all worked out and the threat to set up another organization failed to materialize. Michigan's procedure was followed by several other states where similar duplication of effort had occurred.

So now as the Society moves into its second one hundred years, its goals and objectives filtered through nine distinct Chapters, the statement of 1913 President John Scott in his **Annual Address of the President** is still true. The society in 1987 "strives for beauty in design, honesty in construction, and for advancement in culture and education, and for high standards in practice and ethics, and for purity in public taste, which make for the elevation and nobility of life."

The true history of an organization is not in establishing a chronology of its important events but in its accomplishments and the accomplishments of its individual members. Thus, this tiny chapter is only the forward to **The History of Michigan Architects**.

There are many stories that deserve to be told. Certainly Emily Helen Butterfield, Michigan's first registered women architect, deserves a chapter. She was registered along with her father, on December 10, 1916. The two of them built churches and schools in the Detroit area. She wrote two books, had articles in **House and Garden** and painted in her spare time.

A book could be filled with Roger Allen's warm and witty insights into the architectural profession. He wrote a column for the **Grand Rapids Press** and served as the architect's funny bone for many years.

C. Howard Crane's letters to Tal Hughes from London during the blitz and after the war could form the nucleus of a chapter about Michigan architects as soldiers and sailors and members of the Signal Corps. There

was even an architect correspondent from Viet Nam, Joseph Leinweber.



Roger Allen, FAIA at Mackinac

The exciting activist stance of the Society on environmental and social issues during the 1960's should be chronicled.

The formation of the **Bulletin** and the role it played to coalesce the separate Chapters into a cohesive state wide association deserves attention. In fact, there are a number of publications that came about at the instigation of the Society that were funded by the Michigan Architectural Foundation. **The Fifty Most Significant Buildings in Michigan** is but one example.

Samuel Cashwan who designed the Gold Medal for the Detroit Chapter in 1928 should be recognized. He was the first director for the Society of Arts and Crafts and recently, in his 94th year, he was honored with an exhibition at the Center for Creative Studies. Noted sculptor Marshall Fredericks designed the MSA medal in 1954 and his comments about art in architecture should be published. All of the Gold Medal winners should be described in a chapter of their own.

Going back to the teens when Albert Kahn was chair of the Lecture Committee, Michigan architects have sought the outspoken controversial forward thinkers of the profession and have invited them here in order to pick their brains. There is enough information about Frank

Lloyd Wright for two Chapters. He spoke to audiences of Michigan architects on at least four occasions. Copies of two of his speeches, neither of which appear to have been published elsewhere, are in the file and more digging might turn up the other two.

The Society's efforts on behalf of historic preservation should be compiled. Professor Larch and the Mackinac Island Biddle House and the Michigan State Capitol come to mind, as does Orchestra Hall, Belle Isle and others.



Frank Lloyd Wright in Detroit in 1954

In 1916 a magazine called **The Western Architect**, devoted its October edition to Detroit architecture. The editor, Robert Craik McLean was a bit of a rabble rouser and had sought to influence the outcome of the Western Association/Institute consolidation in 1889. Nonetheless, his remarks offer an insight into what had made Detroit and by extension Michigan architecture what it is.

He talked about the phenomenal growth of the city during the past

decade and the high quality of the architectural work being done there. He noted that the work had not been done by "two or three architects of business getting ability, but has been distributed with reasonable fairness among the sixty-odd practitioners who are responsible for the architectural standing of their city before the world." Speaking of the "strong fraternal feeling" that he found there he said, "It cannot be doubted . . . that this unity of thought and purpose which sees in each practitioner a worthy representative and a brother practitioner, has a vital and stimulating effect upon the architectural expression of the city. That this unity became possible (in Detroit) when the broad minds of a few leaders in architectural design first established the associations that welcomed the unattached practitioner and encouraged his development, is but creditable to a profession that as a whole seeks to spread instead of curtail art advancement in the professional ranks. This is the history of professional Detroit."

And, so it is.

Mich. State Association of Architects
Treasurer Report for year ending
Dec 31st 1888

<i>Receipts</i>	
<i>Dues to Jan 1st 1888</i>	<i>\$ 35.00</i>
<i>Dues to July 1st 1888</i>	<i>\$ 80.00</i>
<i>Dues to Dec 31st 1888</i>	<i>\$ 70.00</i>
<i>Unpaid dues 2nd 1888</i>	
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 185.00</i>
<i>Disbursements</i>	
<i>Nov 23rd Printing List & By-laws</i>	<i>\$ 8.50</i>
<i>Jan 2nd 1888 Post & Print</i>	<i>2.75</i>
<i>Feb 7th rent J. N. Bayley</i>	<i>12.00</i>
<i>Feb 23 Printing</i>	<i>5.00</i>
<i>Apr 24 Black Paper</i>	<i>2.00</i>
<i>May 11th Musell Printing &c</i>	<i>6.57</i>
<i>Paid J. Rice for rent</i>	<i>12.50</i>
<i>Aug 6th</i>	<i>1.50</i>
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>\$ 46.32</i>
<i>Balance cash on hand</i>	
<i>Dec 31st 1888</i>	<i>\$ 138.68</i>
<i>R. C. Ragsman</i>	
<i>Treas.</i>	

Michigan Society of Architects, 1887-1987

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Home is where the heart is

Finding a permanent home has been an elusive goal for an organization that is dedicated to the art and science of building. The whole story of how it all finally came together in 1987 will probably not be fully written until the MSA celebrates its BiCentennial.

The Nineteenth Century architects saw their "rooms" as a club house and a place to exhibit their best works. They had a need to socialize and share ideas. They wanted the latest architecture/art magazines available. Some felt that it also ought to contain a reference library that had all of the latest manufacturers specifications. They saw it as a place to keep their permanent records.

Maxwell Grylls tried several times to work something out with the engineers. In 1912 he suggested that all the technical bodies of the city join to establish permanent quarters. In 1917 WWI got in the way of a shared facility. As ESD was getting serious about their own building, they once again invited the Society to join them but nothing happened.

The first real estate that was evaluated was the Charles L. Freer Mansion in 1920. Freer was a patron of the arts, a friend of the profession and one of the first to become an Honorary Member. His shingle style house once held Whistler's famous Peacock Room. The Board concluded the operating cost was beyond their means and gave it up. The Peacock Room and the Freer collection moved to Washington and the house became a part of the Merrill-Palmer Institute.

Talk of using the Hecker Mansion as a new club house came to nothing in 1930. The house still stands and is occupied by Smiley Brothers Music. It had been designed in 1890 by McKim, Mead and White trained Louis Kamper with the help of John Scott, one of the association founders, and his brother Arthur.

Ten years later, "Mr. Albert Kahn looked to be the one man who could make this idea (of a permanent home) come true," said Benson Gamber in the 1941 Board Minutes. He took the necessary legal steps to bequeath his

home to MSA. But in 1944, after his death, the Board finally concluded that "wartime conditions" would make the building too difficult to manage. They turned the bequest down. The Kahn House is now the home of the Urban League.

A series of rented spaces served as headquarters until the Beaubien House came along. It was once part of a French ribbon farm that dates to 1797. It was built for a middle class Victorian family and it is one of the few such structures left downtown.

At the time the first architects association was getting organized in 1887, the house was occupied by a Dutch-born artist, William Machen. He used it for five years and built up quite a reputation for his painting. His work was exhibited in the Detroit Museum of Art and at his studio in the Beaubien House. Perhaps he was responsible for the designs, now protected by carpet, on the floor and stairs. He may even have had a hand in the decorative painting or the unfinished mural at the top of the first floor landing but further investigation will have to wait until more funds are available.

The list on the facing page is presented as a tribute to all the people who have contributed their time and talent to the renovation. There are some who must be singled out for special mention.

The Masonry Institute has been a supporter of the project from the beginning. Their members have given of their time, material and money. Beaver Distributors and Fred Blackwood supplied the tile and Franko's Tile did a great job installing it.

Ford and Earl volunteered to do the interior design. Lisa Hildorf spent a lot of her nights and weekends on that effort. She found contributors like Zeising Associates who supplied the hides to reupholster the Carbusier chairs and sent over a sofa and some chairs. She specified the carpet and then contacted Interface Carpet; Karastan; and Bently and they came through. We also must thank Tom Ernst for his own time and for freeing

up Lisa's time to do the job.

The folks at Schervish Vogel Merz did the landscape design and located a contractor, Fred Veresh, to put it in. Without them the yard would be a sea of mud.

The job of coordinating the construction fell to Gene DiLaura and his hard work and 'friendly persuasion' kept things moving right along. And the long suffering, architect's architects, Osler/Milling, must be noted.

Ray Williams and the Lighting Group once again supplied the lights and saw to it that the parlor chandelier was refurbished. What would we do without him?

We won't ask Tom Lucas how he was able to convince Olympia Painting to supply all the painters and the paint to do the whole house, but thank you Gus and Pete.

Both Herman Miller and Steelcase contributed some very special furniture. John Berry and Frank Bonner were especially helpful.

Smith, Hinchman & Grylls provided a suite of offices for almost a year for the cost of the cleaning service. A hearty thank you to Phil Meathe for the loan for his graphics department, particularly Gloria Harcourt. Jim Braethen and his crew have been very nice about all the furniture that has been showing up at their loading dock.

The two young architects, Erick Hiedenann & Jim Hostnik, who packed 100 years worth of memorabilia for the big move did more than their share.

And then there was Elaine Demiene, who stripped the parlor shutters.

All of the Board Members for the past ten years can breathe a sigh of relief and they all deserve a pat on the back for the extra hours it took to get the project going and to see it through. President Norm Hamann should get a medal for all of his trips across the state to handle the many crises that came up. Carl Roehling should have one too for dealing with the myriad financial transactions.

To the 800 people who made it happen, **THANK YOU!**

Detroit



Charles Merz, AIA

Detroit — “queen of the rust belt” — that’s how many Americans view this major American city. And how about us? What about Michigan architects? When standing on the shore of the Detroit River it is hard to imagine that Cadillac, with his entourage of trappers and Jesuit priests, passed through here before 1701 on his way to found Fort Michilimackinac at the tip of the peninsula. In fact, it was only because the Jesuits reported to the King of France that the trappers were debauching the Indians, that Michilimackinac was order closed and Cadillac fell back to the narrows of the Detroit River to establish his new fort and trading post in 1701.

Early Detroit history was dominated by the French presence. That legacy lives on today in names of streets: Joseph Campau, Chene, Dubois, etc. They reflect the names of the old French Ribbon Farms (the Beaubien House now sits on a part of one of them) that fronted the river bank for year round access. The farms stretched very narrowly north away from the river, with a river front lawn, house, orchard and tilled fields as the organizational hierarchy. Even then Detroit faced the river. This order has left an impression on our contemporary life in the organization of the city.

Of course, then there was the British domination and Pontiac’s rebellion, all of which enliven and

enrich the story. With the British, came Detroit’s industrialization and the early 1800’s railroad brought a significant increase in immigration. For many years Detroit had been a port for European immigrants that arrived to settle in the midwest. With the founding of the Michigan Central Railroad that immigration and disbursement to Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and throughout the lower peninsula greatly increased. It also brought the lumbering and mining industries in Michigan to a head. It allowed a tremendous expansion in foundries, stove works, ship building, railroad car building and numerous other types of manufacturing.

The legacy on the waterfront is diverse. There are many old family homes that still exist along Jefferson Avenue, directly behind lies the remnants of early industrialization. The area is an incredible potpourri of historical structures and sites. The Detroit Dry Docks for instance, were unique. Great Lakes ships were built there. The Palms Apartment Building designed by Albert Kahn and George D. Mason in 1902-3 may be among the first buildings to be constructed of reinforced concrete in the world. They share this mixed and varied area with the last remnants of modest, wood frame worker’s housing. All of this bespeaks the noble aspirations, hopes and failures of the people that made Detroit. Be they

French farmers, English industrialists, passengers of the underground railroad or European immigrants, all were equally seeking the promise of a better life.

The great expansion of industry in Detroit related to auto building equally spread both the industrial growth and population far from the river front. This new expansion fuelled the growth of the central business district as the river development had previously done. Since the Great Depression little major building has occurred here until recently.

When looking at where the future of a city lies, it’s best to return to its sources, in this case the Detroit River. The dominance of the river was proven when the Renaissance Center was built. Its developers insisted on a river front site and then apparently ignored this unique location in their design.

Current development on the river front has built a momentum, snapped back central business development and is now moving up the Woodward corridor. River front development has occurred in an area stretching from MacArthur bridge to Belle Isle to the central business district. It includes housing, retail and office as well as continued light industrial use. The primary examples are: Chene



The Detroit Dry Dock Company. From Silas Farmer’s “History of Detroit & Wayne County.” (1890)

Park, and the soon to be built St. Aubin Park and Marina. These positive developments are timely and contextual and are generating a rebirth in the area. The area has become a virtual Bourbon Street, with its fine restaurants and nightclubs housed in vintage buildings. On Jefferson Avenue numerous historic homes have been successfully converted to professional offices. The area has attracted a great amount of public interest with the City Recreation Department historic bike tours and a Junior League of Detroit walking tour brochure. Obviously more development is to come.

This legacy however is fragile. Already several buildings on the river front, near the central business district have been "Northwestern Hiwayized"! That is, stripped to the structure and clad with a continuous window wall, denying their industrial heritage. Along Jefferson Avenue some of the historical houses have been modernized and squared off with aluminum siding obviously to create a "progressive" appearance. We all know we must take the good with the bad and we must lose some of our history to grow. However, the most important issue is how this is done. We know that we cannot hold

on to the past. Hopefully, we also know that saving the good and building upon it leads to a richer heritage. This will be our legacy to future generations. The challenge is not to citizens' groups, city government or industry. The challenge is more appropriately levelled at the design professionals, and more specifically the architectural community. The challenge is for a thoughtful, responsible reaction to our collective heritage.



View of Rivertown looking west with Chene and St. Aubin Parks in the foreground. Sketch courtesy of S.V.M.C.

Charles Merz, AIA of Schervish Vogel Merz wrote the early history of Detroit. The description of Grand Rapids came from *The Monroe Center Area* study that was prepared in 1980 by Preservation Urban Design Incorporated. The quotes by Robert Wold, FAIA came from the September, 1987 issue of the *West Michigan Profile* and are used with permission from the Managing Editor, Jeannie Hosey.



K&KA

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Architectural Preservation / Adaptive Reuse

Grand Rapids

The heart of Grand Rapids today is located in about the same spot as it was when the Indians used the valley floor at the rapids as a meeting and trading center. These early French traders translated the Indian name for the river into "Grand".

The first settlers arrived to find the Indians had chosen a very attractive gathering spot. The river was 1,400 feet wide, with several islands creating channels and the rapids stretched for about 4,000 feet.

Fur trader, Louis Campau established a trading post and home at an Indian camp site on the river in 1827 and became the city's first permanent settler.

A post office was established in 1832, and the name Grand Rapids came into common use. A new arrival named Lucius Lyon purchased land surrounding that owned by Campau. Campau's settlement had already been named Grand Rapids so Lyon called his the Village of Kent, after Kent County. The unique street layout of downtown Grand Rapids resulted from the separate developments carried out by Campau and Lyon. Lyon oriented his streets to the compass points, while Campau laid his out at a 45 degree angle.

Major growth occurred in the period from 1832 to 1837. Several

frame buildings were erected close to the river, including the village's first hotel. Later in this period, several additional hotels were erected, and residences of increasing grandeur were appearing downtown and on Prospect Hill.

Steamboats began to ply the Grand River in 1838 and traffic flourished for a time. The Michigan State Legislature authorized the construction of a canal to bypass the rapids. Although the canal was built, the locks were not finished and the bypass was never operational.

The 1840s and 1850s were years of considerable building and expansion. In the city center, wood commercial buildings continued to spring up and metal building fronts were the latest fashion. Continual stylistic evolution was assured by the frequent fires which spread rapidly due to wood construction and poor fire-fighting methods. In response to this danger and the increasing prosperity of the city, buildings of brick began to appear. Grand Rapids was coming of age.

By the end of the Civil War, Grand Rapids could boast of several railroads, a thriving lumber industry, and a city ordinance prohibiting horse-racing in the city streets. The first plate glass store front was

erected in 1869, using 6-foot by 12-foot panes imported from England. A few years later, no modern commercial structure would be without such a window.

The greatest growth in Grand Rapids occurred in the decade of the 1870s. Physical reshaping of the land on which Campau and Lyon had made their original claims was nearly complete. Prospect Hill was leveled, its soil used to fill the river and build up streets. The river width was reduced to 500 feet, and the islands disappeared as the banks were moved out to engulf them.

Many buildings in present day Monroe Center were built during the growth period, such as the Ledyard Building and the Aldrich Block. The completion in 1874 of the Powers' Grand Opera House marked the beginning of professional theater in Grand Rapids and the first federal office building was built in 1879.

The 1880s saw continued growth in the downtown area, with density constantly increasing. Electric lights came into use and the street car system added a second track throughout the downtown. Major existing buildings constructed in the 80s included the Kendall and Mousman blocks. The new City Hall was built in 1888, its grand tower and Romanes-

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que arches and dormers portrayed pride in the City's progress.

The population of Grand Rapids reached 60,000 by 1890. No outlying shopping centers yet existed to vie with downtown as the city's focal point. Forty hotels were there. By this time, the city had become the furniture capital of the nation, and exhibition showrooms featuring locally manufactured furniture drew many architects, designers, retailers and distributors to Grand Rapids.

Buildings climbed higher as the steel frames and larger expanses of glass characterizing the Chicago-style of commercial architecture began to appear in the city. The ornate detailing of the Victorian era gave way to a simpler commercial style and to the various classical revivals.

In 1890, six architects along with 35 dentists, 90 butchers, and 1 chimney sweep had shingles hanging in the city. At least one of the architects, Sidney J. Osgood, was a member of the Western Association and later the Michigan Chapter. He engaged in a lively correspondence with Association officials in Detroit. By 1891 he had designed 23 churches on the west side of the state including the Chapel Church at the "Insane Asylum" in Kalamazoo.

Industries, such as furniture manufacturing, continued at a furious pace in the central city during the period from 1890 to the beginning of World War I. Residential building continued unabated until the 1930s, but commercial construction declined dramatically, leaving the central city relatively intact until the 1960s. Federal policies and the post-World War II baby boom caused explosive growth in suburban areas, the creation of satellite commercial centers, the dilution of downtown markets and the consequent decline in the viability of downtown Grand Rapids. Much evidence remains, however, of the periods of the city's most vital growth.

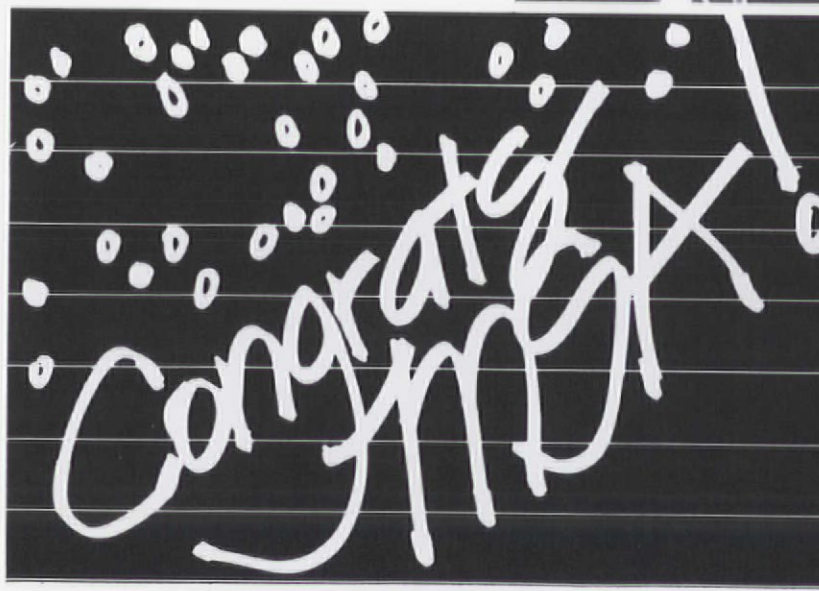


Robert L. Wold, FAIA

Is there such a thing as a West Michigan School of Architecture? "By all means," says Robert Lee Wold, who has practiced architecture in Grand Rapids for more than 30 years. Site planning, the kinds and quality of building materials used and emphasis on form following function characterize the region's architecture. Some people call it conservative; he calls it "organized understatement."

West Michigan architects avoid leveling a site to fit their building designs, Wold continues. Instead, they strive to design the buildings to fit its site. "Architects here respect the climate because of its extremes. That tends to make us more conservative, use conservative materials." Local architects use less glass and more masonry; brick masonry or field stones rather than large granite slabs or precast masonry. "The history of craftsmanship and quality in West Michigan encourages designers to do things that exploit that capability. We get much better workmanship here than we do in jobs in Detroit, Florida, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts."

And, don't look to West Michigan for examples of "post modern" architecture. In Wold's opinion it's too 'flamboyant'.



TMP Associates, Inc.
Architects Engineers Planners

Celebrating 100 Years of Design Excellence



Dennis M. King, AIA, Chair

So this year's MSA Convention marks the one hundred year anniversary of our state organization. That's certainly something to be proud of. I thought that a clever idea would be to find out what other important historical events happened in that same 1887. It should give some clearer perspective to our organization.

After consulting my World Almanac, I was devastated to find . . . nothing. Not a single noteworthy event was listed for 1887. Not even the founding of the MSA. How they overlooked that is a mystery to me.

Now 1886, that was a year. It had the Chicago Haymarket Labor Riot and the formation of the AFL (American Federation of Labor). 1886 even saw the final surrender of that great Apache Indian, Geronimo.

And even 1888 can be remembered for the Great Blizzard in the eastern U.S. that left 400 people dead. But evidently, nothing memorable took

place in 1887. Perhaps that is why our architect ancestors had the time to form the club? I suppose we'll never know for sure.

Nonetheless, a one hundred year anniversary is still something worthy of celebration. The 72nd MSA Convention will recognize our One Hundred Years of Design Excellence with a grand program on October 21-23 at the Fairlane Manor Conference and Banquet Center in Dearborn. Hotel accommodations are adjacent at the superb Hyatt Regency and distinctive shopping is right at hand at Fairlane Town Center. The entire complex is right next door to historic Greenfield Village.

Opening day highlights include inspiring keynote presentations by Paul Kennon, Design Principal of CRSS, and by Roy Slade, President of the Cranbrook Academy. That evening, Detroit's Host Chapter Party will kick off the festivities with a humdinger of a celebration right inside the renowned Henry Ford Museum. What better way to begin our retrospective journey through the history of design than a festive visit through the twelve acres of indoor collections ranking among the world's best. You'll quickly be able to relate the mystery of yesterday to the design world of today. Don't miss this "Best of Times".

Thursday brings an exciting emphasis on allied professions with insightful presentations by Landscape Architect, William Johnson, and Designers, Mike and Kathy McCoy. Internationally acclaimed photographer Balthazar Korab, shares with us an intimate look at Michigan's architecture, landscape and culture through

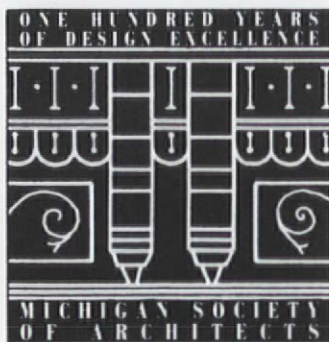
his exquisite photographic journey.

Solid technical resources are yours through two special presentations from AIA covering the highlights of the new contract forms as well as the lowdown on the national honor awards and fellowship programs. The best exhibits yet will grace the floor as our industry friends host us for the lunch buffet and dinner party. And the always entertaining renovation expert, Richard Fry, will share some of his recent successes with us.

A special opportunity to hear the much sought after, Peter McLaughlin, comes your way on Thursday evening as we co-sponsor a program with SMPS. McLaughlin has been called "the most exciting idea man in America", and was chosen as one of the 100 most innovative executives in the country. He has entertained audiences across the U.S. with his humor, insight and keen advice on how to maximize individual and team performance in business. His marvelous book, **Mentally Tough**, uses new but proven techniques of sport psychology and applies them to business performance. Peter McLaughlin is a special attraction that we will not soon forget.

On Friday, the day kicks off with the annual MSA Business Meeting, followed by our most interesting line-up of presenters yet. Bill Porter, from GM's Buick Division, will share his terrific visual presentation on the history of automobile design, always a favorite in the motor city. Gretchen Bellinger, enlisted through the efforts of ASID, presents her special approach to interior design.

The exhibition floor is open again for your final update on new pro-



Convention Committees

ducts and lunch is once again available at the exhibitor's buffet.

Friday's afternoon programs are "don't miss" specials. We'll be privileged to have Britton Chance, the break-through designer of the famed "Stars and Stripes", for the Sail America team during the America's Cup race. Britton will share with us his design approach that led to the world's fastest 12-meter racing sloop, a rare treat for the sailors in our midst.

Our last program will feature "The Michigan Five", five Michigan architects who have designed and live in their own homes. Where else can you get personal guided tours of these unique residential solutions. Come and see this great variety from Ken Neumann, Harry VanDine, Paul Bowers, Norm Carver and Bob Ziegelman.

Of course we have saved the best for last. Friday night we feature the grand re-opening of the historic Beaubien House as the new home of our MSA. A special open house tour will amaze and excite you as this reception leads us into the special Honor Awards Banquet to be held in one of the contemporary exhibit galleries at the Detroit Institute of Arts. We guarantee that a great time will be had by all.

Of course the Convention will include events and programs of special interest for students, interns, Associates and Affiliates as well. The Dow Alumni Breakfast is in place and preparations are continuing for a special "student's day" during the program.

But best of all, this 1987 MSA Convention is your opportunity to

trace the roots of design in Michigan. Bring your family and visit Greenfield Village. Ride Detroit's new People Mover. Stop in at the grand Fisher Building or the ornate Guardian Building. Stroll Chene Park or visit Greektown and Bricktown. Stay the weekend and see what's going on in Detroit.

A special note for all the Detroit Chapter members too. Remember that this year is special for architecture in Michigan. The Detroit Chapter is one hundred years old also and the State is celebrating one hundred fifty years as well. So take the time to participate in the Convention activities this October 21-23 and give your employees the time that they may need to go as well.

This will be the best MSA Convention yet. We've planned it that way. And when future generations look back in their World Almanac, they should find this entry . . . 1987 — 100 year anniversary celebration of the Michigan Society of Architects . . . A great time was had by all!

Chair

Dennis M. King, AIA

MSA President

Norman Hamann, AIA

Detroit Chapter President

John Castellana, AIA

Executive Director — MSA/DC AIA

Rae Dumke

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Denis Moncion, AIA

Bonlap Chan, AIA

Bob Gazall, AIA

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Robert Pearce

Karen Russo, ASID Liaison

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Gloria Harcourt, Chair

Host Committee

Carl Roehling, AIA, Chair

Tim Casai, AIA

Paul Stachowiak, AIA

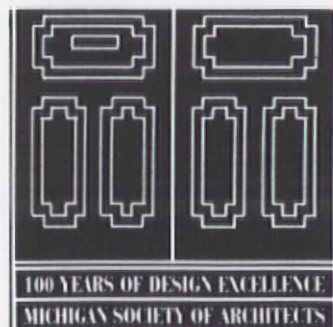
Kirk Delzer, AIA

Associate Representative

Kathy Buck, Assoc.

Recognitions Committee

Kenneth Neumann, FAIA, Chair



MSA Convention Program

Wednesday

10 am to 2 pm Hyatt Regency	MSA Board of Directors Meeting
2 pm to 3:30 pm Hearthside Room	Design Paul Kennon, FAIA, CRSS
3:30 pm to 5 pm VIP South	The Cranbrook Vision: Past & Present Roy Slade, Cranbrook Academy of Art
5 pm to 6 pm VIP North	IDP Associate Meeting Robert E. Samuelson, AIA
7 pm to 10:30 pm Henry Ford Museum	Host Chapter Party: The Best of Times

Thursday

7:30 pm to 9 am Dearborn Presbyterian Church	Dow Alumni William Gilmore, AIA
8:30 am to 10:30 am Hearthside Room	Before you Sign your Next Contract. Paul G. Sieben, Chairman AIA Documents Committee
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP North	The Context of Architecture: Integrating Land, People & Buildings William Johnson, Landscape Architect William Johnson Associates
10 am to Noon Stutz Bearcat Suite Hyatt Regency	Spouse Brunch: Self-Esteem & Life Transitions Mark Springer
11:30 am to 2 pm Exhibit Floor	Exhibition & Luncheon
2 pm to 3 pm VIP North	AIA Honors and Fellowships Maria Murray, Honorary AIA, Director Awards Programs AIA
2 pm to 3 pm VIP South	Renovation Richard Fry, AIA
3 pm to 4 pm Hearthside Room	33½ Out of 100 . . . A Retrospective Balthazar Korab

Thursday (Continued)

4 pm to 5 pm VIP South	Meaning in Post-Industrial Design Michael & Kathy McCoy Cranbrook Academy of Art
4 pm to 5 pm VIP North	Education and the Profession: The Next Stop Student-Professional Event
5 pm to 8 pm Exhibit Floor	Exhibition Reception & Dinner Buffet
8 pm to 9:30 pm Hearthside Room	Marketing: Sherlock Holmes meets Leonardo Da Vinci Peter McLaughlin

Friday

8:30 am to 10:30 am Hearthside Room	MSA Business Meeting Continental Breakfast
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP North	A Short History of American Automobile Design: A Car Designer's View Bill Porter
10:30 am to 11:30 am VIP South	Color and Design Gretchen Bellinger
11:30 am to 2pm Exhibit Floor	Exhibition & Luncheon
2 pm to 3:30 pm VIP South	Naval Architecture: The Cup is Back Britton Chance
3:30 pm to 5 pm Hearthside Room	The Michigan Five: Houses for Architects by Architects Paul D. Bowers, Jr., FAIA Norman F. Carver, Jr., AIA Robert Ziegelman, AIA Kenneth S. Neumann, FAIA Harold Van Dine, Jr., FAIA
7 pm to Midnight Beaubien House & Detroit Inst. of Arts	MSA Design Awards President's Reception: Beaubien House Sponsored by SMACNA Dinner & Program: Detroit Inst. of Arts

Registration Desk Hours Fairlane Manor

Wednesday: Noon to 5 pm
Thursday: 8 am to 8 pm
Friday: 8 am to 3:30 pm

Exhibitors

Actron Security Systems, Inc.
Advanced Business Systems, Inc.
American Glass & Metals Corp.
American Graphics Engineering
American Solar Systems
American Standard
Andersen Window Corporation
ANR Pipeline Co.
Associated General Contractors
Automated Entrance Systems, Inc.
Beaver Distributors, Inc.
Behlen Manufacturing Co.
Borin/Boice Builders Supply
Cabot Stains, Inc.
Casper System Corp.
Century Rain Aid
City Animation Co.
Classic Modular Systems, Inc.
Cold Spring Granite Co.
Computer Consulting Services, Inc.
Consumers Power Co.
Contract Interiors
Crawford Door Sales, Inc.
Custom Distributors
Darworth Co.
Detroit Edison Co.
Dow Chemical/ConMat Sales
Dunn Blue Print Co.
Eagle of Michigan
Eisen/Roberts/Andridge, Inc.
Engineering Reproduction, Inc.
Environmental Features, Inc.
Farnell Equipment Co.
Fascias, Inc.
Federal Fountain Supply
Four-D, Inc.
Genesee Ceramic Tile Distributors, Inc.
Glen-Gery Corporation
Grand Distributing
Grand Blanc Cement Products
Great Lakes Gypsum Distributing, Inc.
Greensteel
Hallmark Wallpaper & Paint/Pratt & Lambert
H.C. Real Estate Co.
Industrial Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Instrument Sales & Service Co., Inc.
Kawneer Co., Inc.
Laticrete International, Inc.
Lighting Group, The
Lincoln Tile & Supply
Marvin Windows
Metro Wood Lumber & Supply
MichCon Gas Co.
Millguard Corporation, The
New World Sales
North American Energy Control, Inc.
Office Pavilion
Oldenkamp Co., H.J./Dupont Corian
Oldenkamp Co., H.J./Formica Products
Otis Elevator Co.
Overhead Door Corporation
Pella Window & Door Co.
Philip Johnson Corporation, The
Plumbing & Heating Industry of Detroit
Pre-Con/Schokbeton, Inc.
Professional Underwriters, Inc.
Rainbow Computers
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Robinson Brick Co.
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TAB Products Co.
Technical Writing & Engineering Co., Inc.

ThermoCon Midwest
Thoro System Products
Timberpeg South, Inc.
United Glaze Products
Versa CAD/Architronics, Inc.
Virginia Tile Co.
Williams Products, Inc.
Wilson Plastics, Ralph — Wilsonart
Xerox Engineering
Yates Office Supply

Registration Form

Three-Day Package registration fee includes all seminars, the Exhibitor's Design Party, and lunch on the exhibit floor on Thursday and Friday. Spouse registration fee includes all seminars, exhibits and the Exhibitor's Design Party on Thursday evening. Student registration fee covers the seminars and exhibits; meals are not included.

Design Professional include members and employees of the following: AIA, ASID, IBD, PSMA, ASLA, MSPE, CEC, CSE, MSRLS, MSPO, AGC, SMPS, and all employees of A/E firms.

The exhibits will be open Thursday and Friday. There is no charge to visit the exhibit floor, but you must register.

Three-Day Package Registration

_____	\$100	Advance
_____	\$125	Register at the Convention
_____	\$25	Spouse
_____	\$5	Student
_____	no charge	Exhibits Only

One-Day Registration

_____	\$25	Wednesday (At the door: \$35)
_____	\$50	Thursday (At the door: \$60)
_____	\$50	Friday (At the door: \$60)

*The following events are not included in the Registration Fee. Individual tickets are required.**

_____	no charge	MSA Business Meeting
_____	no charge	Dow Alumni Breakfast*
_____	\$25	Host Chapter Party*
_____	\$50	President's Reception & Design Awards*
_____	\$10	Spouse Brunch*
_____	Total	

Tickets to all events will be held at the Fairlane Manor or at the event.

Name _____

Spouse Name (if attending) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ Chapter _____

Check No. _____ Amount _____

☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard Expiration Date _____

Account No. _____

Signature _____

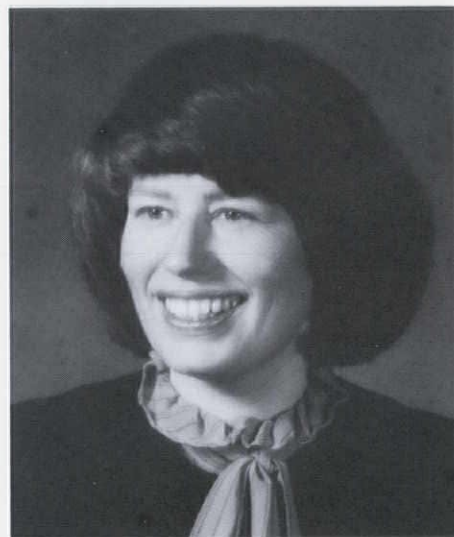
Please check: ☐ AIA Member ☐ Prof. Afil. ☐ Associate
☐ WAL Member ☐ Exhibitor ☐ Student
☐ Other _____

Mail this form & payment to: Michigan Society of Architects
553 East Jefferson, Detroit, MI 48226

Honorary Memberships Bestowed



Robert Raisch



Rae Dumke



When Michigan architects decided to organize in 1887, they elected to come under the banner of the Western Association of Architects. The Constitution and By Laws even then acknowledged that there were people who were very important to the profession who were not practicing architects and therefore could not become regular members. Emil Lorch, FAIA, the first dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Michigan was one of the first to be honored.

Through the years an impressive list has grown up of people who have played their part to promote the cause of great architecture and its by-products: beautiful and functional places to live and work. Governor William Milliken, W. Hawkins Ferry, Dr. Karl Haas, Senator Jack Faxon and Thomas Monaghan are previous recipients of this accolade.

Three more names will be inscribed on the Honorary Membership List after the Awards Ceremony at the Detroit Institute of Arts on October 23rd; Jack Sharpe, Rae Dumke and Robert Raisch.

Jack Sharpe is the Administrative Secretary of the Michigan Board of Registration for Architects. He is Michigan born and a MSU alumnus and has held his post since 1972. He participated in the rewrite of the registration act in 1977 and again in 1980. Currently he is assisting the Board in their efforts to improve the architect's licensing standards through the Intern Development Program. The new rules are ready and will be considered by the Joint Rules Committee of the Michigan Legislature within the next 30 days.

Rae Dumke needs no introduction to the readers of the **Bulletin**. She has worked for the Michigan Society of Architects for the past 20 years and is now its Executive Director. She also heads the Detroit Chapter/AIA and the Michigan Architectural Foundation. In her free time she has worked to save Orchestra Hall and to improve another Detroit jewel through her support of the Friends of Belle Isle.

She is active with the Junior League of Detroit. The League is restoring the Sibley House for its headquarters. She is on the board of directors of her own professional society, the Michigan Society of Association Executives and is a director and past president of the Association Executives of Metropolitan Detroit. She is treasurer of CACE, the Council of Architectural Component Executives of the AIA and was recently appointed to the Architectural/Construction Drawing Advisory Committee of Schoolcraft College.

Robert S. Raisch has been trying for many years to bring a sense of lightheartedness and fun to the oft-times too serious profession of architecture. He serves on the Entertainment Committee for the Society's Midsummer Conferences and for the past two years has written, produced and directed a play for the Fudgetime Players. In the work-a-day world, he is president of the Supersine Company and manufactures construction signs for distribution on a nationwide basis. His company supplies the distinctive matte black awards plaques for the Society.

Raisch is a decorated naval aviator and was a jet fighter pilot with the Marine Corps. He rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Marine Corps Reserves and was Assistant Wing Commander, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing until his retirement in 1980.

He has been a patron of art and architecture since his days at Cranbrook Academy. He is also a member of the Detroit Rotary Club, Economic Club of Detroit, Detroit Zoological Society and was appointed to the Private Industry Council by Mayor Coleman Young in 1984.

A MSA Gold Medal For Almon Durkee, AIA

Almon Durkee, FAIA is about to be presented with the Gold Medal of the Michigan Society of Architects. This, the Society's most significant award, is bestowed from time to time to members who have made a lasting contribution to the advancement of the profession of architecture.

Until his recent retirement, Durkee was the State Architect and director of the Bureau of Facilities for Michigan. He was responsible for the entire state building program and supervised a staff of 600 people and a budget of \$30 million. Before assuming his post with the Bureau he worked for 22 years with many of Detroit's best known architects; Victor Gruen, Linn Smith, Gunnar Birkerts and Carl Luckenbach.

In his role as state architect he had ample opportunity to strengthen and define the architect's place in the construction hierarchy. He performed

this function with diplomacy and finesse. The protection and continued use of the Elijah Myers designed Michigan Capitol is a cause that the Society has been vitally interested in for a number of years. Durkee is a charter member of the **Friends of the Michigan Capitol**. While Director of the Bureau of Facilities, he worked diligently in the highly charged political atmosphere of the Capitol to maintain the historic integrity of this important landmark.

He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, represented the Michigan Region on the board of directors of the Institute, a past president of the Michigan Society of Architects, a former director of the Detroit Chapter/AIA, and is currently an Emeritus member of the Mid-Michigan Chapter/AIA. He is a charter member and former officer of the Construction Specifications Insti-



Almon Durkee, FAIA

tute and the Michigan Association of Professions.

The MSA Gold Medal that was designed by noted sculptor, Marshall Fredericks, in 1954 will be presented on October 23, 1987 at a black-tie banquet at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Hastings Award Norman Carver, Jr., AIA

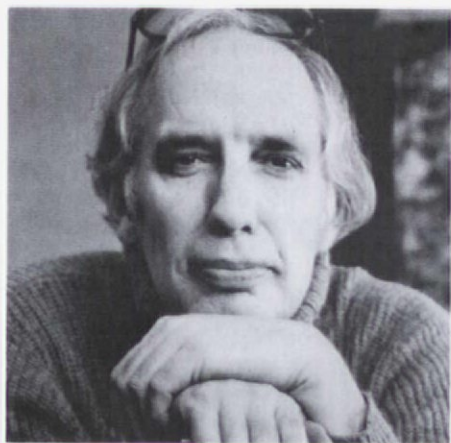
The Hastings Award was established in 1978 to honor the memory of Robert Hastings, FAIA. He was a distinguished architect, community leader, and President of the American Institute of Architects before his untimely death.

Norman Carver, Jr., AIA will receive the award this year in recognition of his significant service and contribution to a better understanding of the architecture and, therefore, the culture of many different ethnic groups throughout the world. Beginning with the publication of **Form and Space of Japanese Architecture** over twenty-five years ago, he has photographed the vernacular buildings of **Italian Hilltowns and Iberian Villages** and the **Silent Cities, Mexico and the Maya**. So called, progress, is threatening many of these places but his photographic essays will keep these building-types alive so that future architects will be

able to study their forms and learn their lessons of simple unadorned beauty.

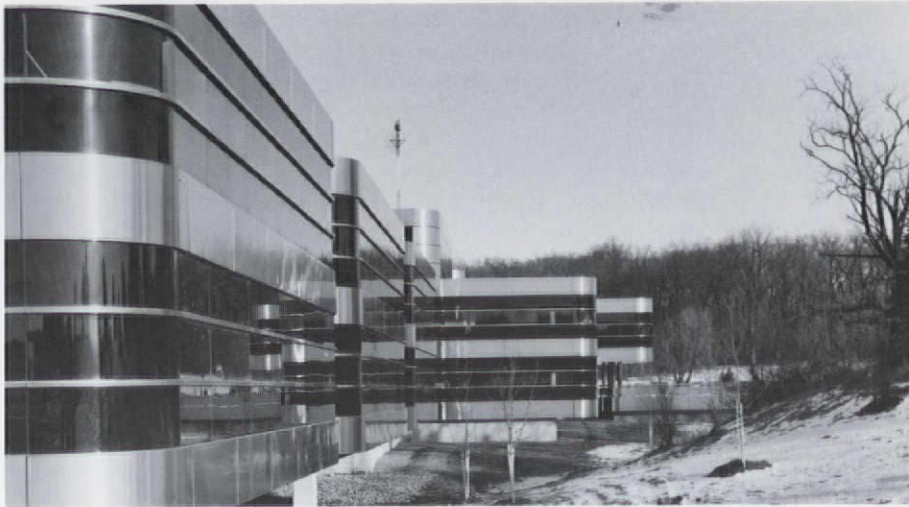
A Fullbright Scholarship allowed Carver to return to Japan, five years after his first trip there with the U.S. Army, to study and photograph Japanese architecture. His trips usually lead to books and future subjects include North Africa, Greece, Central Europe, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

He is a practicing architect in Kalamazoo and he will be on a panel that will be featured at the MSA 72nd Annual Convention. He is one of **The Michigan Five**, five architects who have designed and live in their own houses, who will be telling their sagas of this experience to the convention delegates.



Norman Carver, FAIA

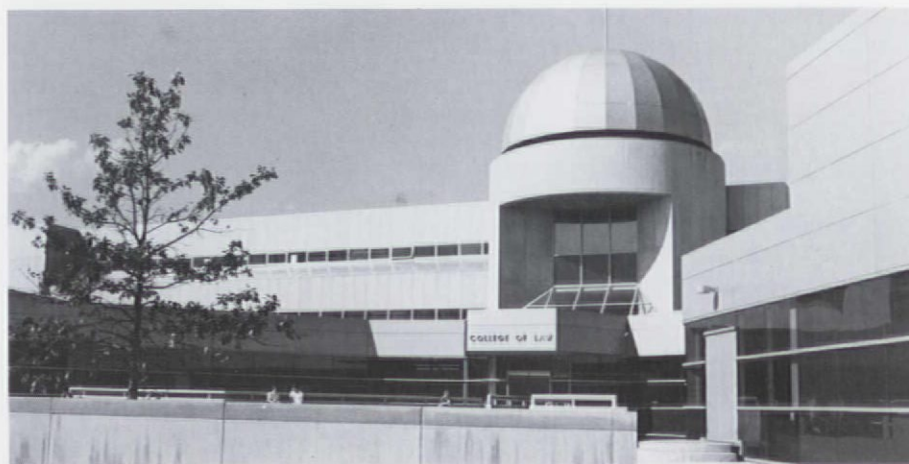
1987 MSA Design Awards



William Kessler and Associates *Industrial Technology Institute Ann Arbor, Michigan.*



James Blain/Robert Wakely *Cambridge Center Livonia, Michigan*



Gunnar Birkerts and Associates, Inc. *Wehner, Nowysz, Pattschull and Pfifner, Associate Architects — University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa*

Six of eighty-seven submissions earned a 'well done' from the 1987 MSA Design Awards Jury when they met in St. Louis in early September to evaluate the best efforts of Michigan's architectural community. Eugene J. Mackey III, AIA of Mackey & Associates in St. Louis chaired the energetic and often challenging discussions. The jurors represent a cross section of midwest architectural firms. Adrian D. Smith, FAIA is a principal with the Chicago giant; Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and E. Faye Jones, FAIA, himself a National Design Award winner, heads a tiny six person firm in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The winning solutions were all produced by medium to small sized firms. Osler/Milling Architects from Ann Arbor came away with two awards. One, the rehabilitation of their hometown Michigan Theater, was a joint venture with Quinn Evans/Architects also of that city. While noting that projects of this type are difficult (to evaluate) in an awards program since so much depends on the work of the original architect, the jury chose to acknowledge the obviously careful research and execution of a most successful restoration.

Osler/Milling's other award goes to a corporate headquarters and warehouse in Lake Orion. The jury called it an innovative solution for the building type and added that it is a mature work of architecture.

Across the state in St. Joseph, Allegretti Architects designed a luxury condominium in New Buffalo that captured the spirit of its setting with powerful simple imagery. It is reminiscent of the opulence and grandeur of the turn of the century resort hotels that are found along the coast of Lake Michigan.

James Blain/Robert Wakely Associates came up with the concept for the Cambridge Center Office Building in Livonia. Even though the jury was concerned about the use of reflective glass as an overworked building material, they felt that this particular building was executed extremely well

and that it has a strong, clear plan and a well articulated building form.

Two firms that have consistently appeared on the MSA Design Honor Award list have once again produced distinctive and exciting buildings. Gunnar Birkerts and Associates, Inc. from Birmingham submitted a winner in the College of Law for the University of Iowa. William Kessler and Associates of Detroit will receive another accolade for the Industrial Technology Institute in Ann Arbor. This building was awarded a plaque last year in the Detroit Chapter/AIA award program.

Birkerts' Law Liberty, sited on a wooded limestone bluff overlooking the river in Iowa City, caused a lot of discussion by the jury. They concluded that it was clearly a tour de force, a one-of-a-kind building.

Of Kessler's stainless steel and glass ITI building they noted that the architecture expresses the high-tech nature of the work being done there. The buildings of the Institute are masterfully and precisely detailed and, in spite of the strong contrast, carefully accommodate the land.

Ken Neumann, FAIA, who once again organized the MSA award program will be on hand at the DIA on October 23rd to introduce jury chair, Eugene Mackey III, who will fly in from St. Louis for the presentation. The black tie evening will be the exclamation point to the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the MSA.

*Allegretti Architects —
Dunewood Condominiums,
New Buffalo, Michigan*



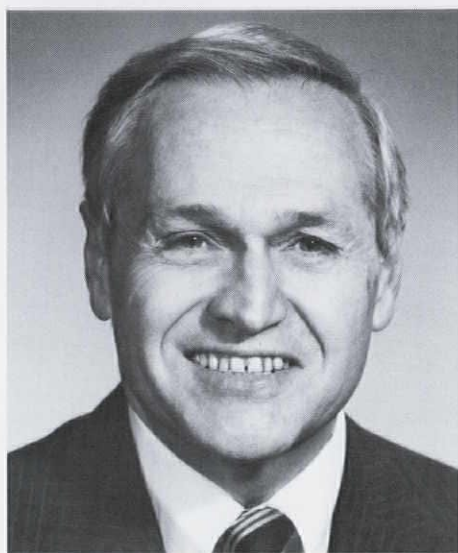
*Osler/Milling Architects, Inc.
Harry S. Peterson Co., Inc. Lake Orion,
Michigan*



*Osler Milling/Quinn Evans (A joint
venture of Osler/Milling Architects,
Inc. and Quinn Evans/Architects) —
Michigan Theatre Restoration/Renovation
Ann Arbor, Michigan*



Challenge for the Future



Robert Greager, AIA

TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF CONSTITUTION, 150 YEARS OF MICHIGAN STATEHOOD, AND 100 YEARS OF THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS. These events make me think of celebration, heritage and responsibility.

As my focus has expanded from local to state to national, I have become more keenly aware of the interrelationship of responsibility, involvement, and representation.

The point I want to emphasize is responsibility and its two sides; enfranchisement and disenfranchisement. The basis of our national governing system, which is embraced by our professional society, is representation — broad **representation**.

There are two major levels of national professional representation; the elected regional directors, who together are the Institute's board, and the volunteer members of the national committees who are the heart and soul of the AIA. In the December issue, I will discuss how my successor should start getting involved now to better serve you. Below I will discuss the opportunities available to us on the National Committees.

Every aspect of our National need and professional responsibility is covered through our 39 Washington-based committees. Involvement is available to every member as a correspondent on any number of committees. Active participating membership is open and unlimited. Each committee has a small number of funded positions open primarily to those members who have served unfunded on a committee before and/or to those who are willing to commit three years to directing a committee.

This is a carefully prescribed procedure for selection of the funded positions. Overriding this process is an added policy to provide a proportionate number of funded slots to each **Region-Parity**. Michigan has achieved only 75% of parity during each of the last three years while some regions enjoy over 200%. We in Michigan, including me, have not adequately availed ourselves of the chance to become involved there. Our lack of commitment has created

a lack of representation at the leadership level in the national committee structure.

Think about it, get involved; help provide the Michigan viewpoint to nationwide issues! Geographic parity is a challenge to which you personally can make a major difference.

We have another test. Unfortunately there are other facets, beyond geography, which also lack parity. Among them are; the small firm practitioners, blacks, women, and associates. Obviously, each group has its own responsibility to get involved and to achieve equal representation.

However, our other obligation is to maintain an awareness of this disparity and more importantly to keep an open mind that will promote and not impair representation for all our fellow professionals. Think about it, challenge your degree of awareness and through your actions help to promote a true national parity!

115 West Brown Street
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Architects

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
ON THEIR ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

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NEWS RELEASE:

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Robert H. Isler, AIA and Louis Kilgore, AIA,
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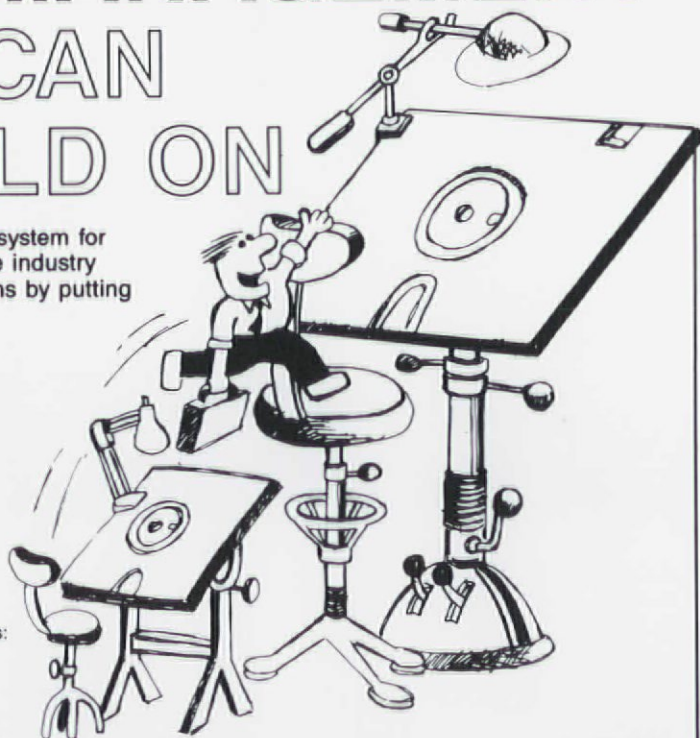
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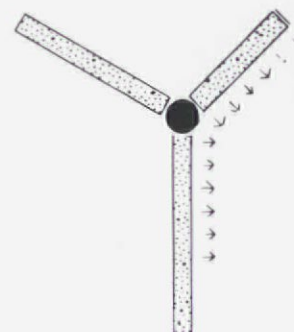
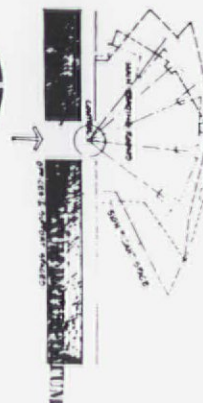
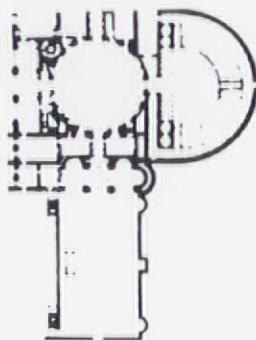
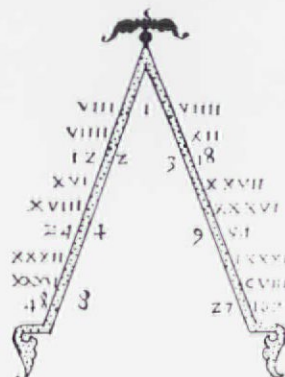
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October 1987

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Photo from a few years ago — or back at the beginning



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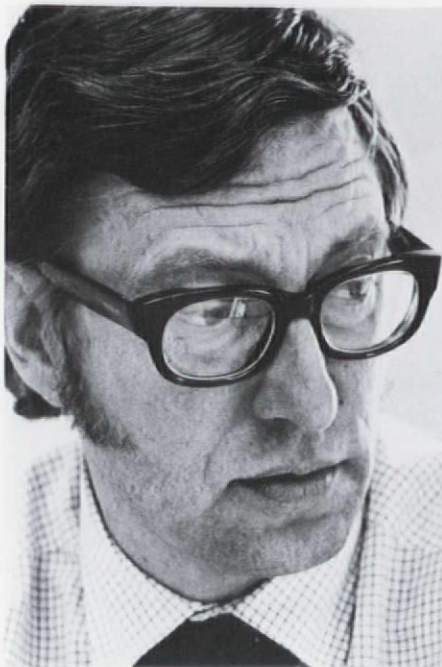
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Annual Meeting Detroit Chapter/AIA



Gunnar Birkerts, FAIA

The Annual Meeting of the Detroit Chapter/AIA on November 5th will be full of surprises. The first bit of information to catch your eye is that it will be held in Ann Arbor. The Huron Valley Chapter/AIA need not be shocked. Detroit Chapter officials have no plans to expand their boundaries and Huron Valley members are invited to attend this special event.

The reason for this small contradiction is Gunnar Birkerts, FAIA. He is the headliner for Lecture #6 in the Chapter's Centennial Anniversary Series and the building he will feature is Dominos Farms that is located just north of Ann Arbor.

Tour guides from Gunnar Birkerts & Associates will lead people through the sprawling facility beginning at 5:30 p.m. After everyone has had a chance to look at the architecture and to examine Tom Monaghan's extensive collection of Frank Lloyd Wright artifacts, dinner will be served at six thirty. Pizza is on the menu (what else?) along with an antipasto salad. You will make your own desert — luscious ice cream sundaes. The cost of all this is a low \$10. The Detroit Chapter Board voted to subsidize a

portion of the cost in the hope that it would encourage a large attendance at their Annual Meeting.

A short but very important business meeting will begin at 7:30 and last for 45 minutes. It is election time. The architects who will lead the chapter for the next year will be chosen. Arnold Mikon, AIA who has spent the last year in training as Vice President will assume the presidency within 20 days of the election. The Elections Committee recommended and the Board approved the following slate:

Vice President/President Elect

Steve Vogel, AIA

Secretary

Paul Stachowiak, AIA

Chapter Director (3 year term)

Michael Tomasik, AIA

MSA Director (2 year term)

Michael Mosley, AIA

Stephen Whitney, AIA

(Two to be elected)

Associate Director

John Marusich

An exciting evening has been planned. A peek at Wright's Cherokee red Packard is worth the price of admission. And, no designer worth a t-square will want to miss Birkert's design secrets of this very important building for one of the Twentieth Century's few real patrons of architecture.

Please mail your check for \$10 for dinner to headquarters.

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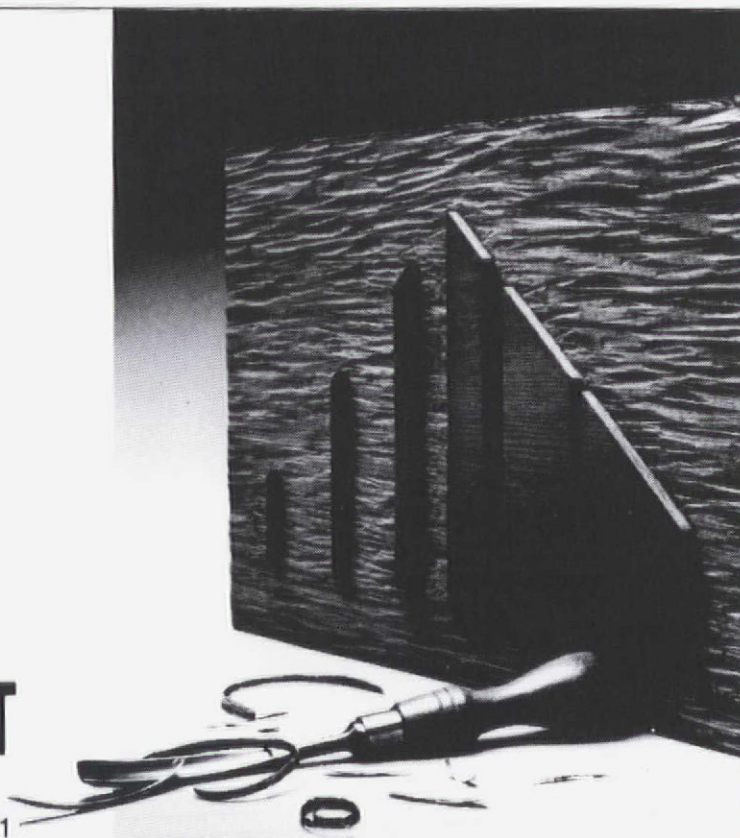
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Associate Director's Report

by David Aten, Associate

The judging has been held and as promised, here are the results of the MSA Associate Member Drafting Competition. As mentioned last month, the quality of the entries was exceptional and the judges had quite a time deciding the winners. With all but two entries coming from west of Lansing, the odds would give "out-state" members a better chance of winning. And they did. The winners are:

First Place: Michael R. Blied from the Western Michigan Chapter/AIA. Mike is a Battle Creek native who holds a BS and Master's Degree from U of M.

Second Place: Jim Winter-Troutwine of the Grand Valley Chapter/AIA. A graduate of Ball State University, Jim is employed by DSO Reid Architects in Grand Rapids. Active in local and national environmental groups, he is a member of the Audubon Society, Greenpeace and Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility.

Third Place: Grace Moose of the Grand Valley Chapter/AIA. With both a degree in architecture and interior architecture from LIT, Grace is a designer in the Health Care Division of the WBDC Group of Grand Rapids. Prior to joining WBDC, she worked as an intern in a firm in London, England.

Next year's contest may be expanded to include CADD generated drawings. Even though it didn't fit the category of "working drawings", one entrant submitted a CADD drawing which the judges were very impressed with. With more and more firms going to CADD, it may be considered next year.

One more note of interest — on October 16th and 17th, four architects from the Soviet Union (including the president of the USSR Union of Architects) will be in Chicago as part of a tour sponsored by the Architects/Designers/Planners For Social Responsibility. The Grand Rapids Chapter ADPSR is looking for people to be part of a group going to Chicago

to meet with the Soviet delegation. Any one interested should call associate member Jim Winter-Troutwine at 616-942-0440 for more information.

Intern Development Program

Barring any last minute glitches, the revised requirements for licensing that includes the intern provision that was developed by the Michigan Board of Registration for Architects will be considered by the Joint Legislative Rules Committee in the next 30 days.

As this significant change in the registration process comes closer to becoming a reality, it behooves AIA members and those who are seeking registration to become familiar with the new rules. Robert E. Samuelson, AIA, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at Ohio State University has been invited to speak to both interns and employers on October 21st from 5-6 p.m. during the 72nd Annual MSA Convention.

Earlier in the day he and Art Nelson, AIA will be taking their IDP Show on the road. They will be at SH&G at 8:00 a.m.; Albert Kahn at 9:30 a.m. and at TMP at noon. Phil Meathe, FAIA has invited all downtown Detroit interns and principals to the SH&G's office at 455 Fort Street to take part in this important presentation.

MSA 100th Anniversary Poster

The cover for the October **Bulletin** is a sample of the magnificent magenta washed MSA 100th Anniversary Poster. It was chosen as the cover in the hope that all AIA members will be motivated to buy several of the 20x26 inch 'real things' at a cost of \$4 each.

The inspiration for the poster came out of a meeting Tom Lucas had with the nine Chapter Vice Presidents. It was designed and photographed by Balthazar Korab to commemorate the Centennial Anniversary of the Society. Janet Ford, AIA of Schervish Vogel Merz did the graphics. It is the showpiece of a public awareness campaign that will be pushed by the Society for the next three years.

Members are being asked to help underwrite the printing cost by purchasing the posters but the goal is to have them hanging in public spaces all over the state. Chapter officers will be sending them to local officials, libraries, museums, etc. and they will be available for sale at art fairs and other community events. A one dollar contribution from each sale will go to the Michigan Architectural Foundation.

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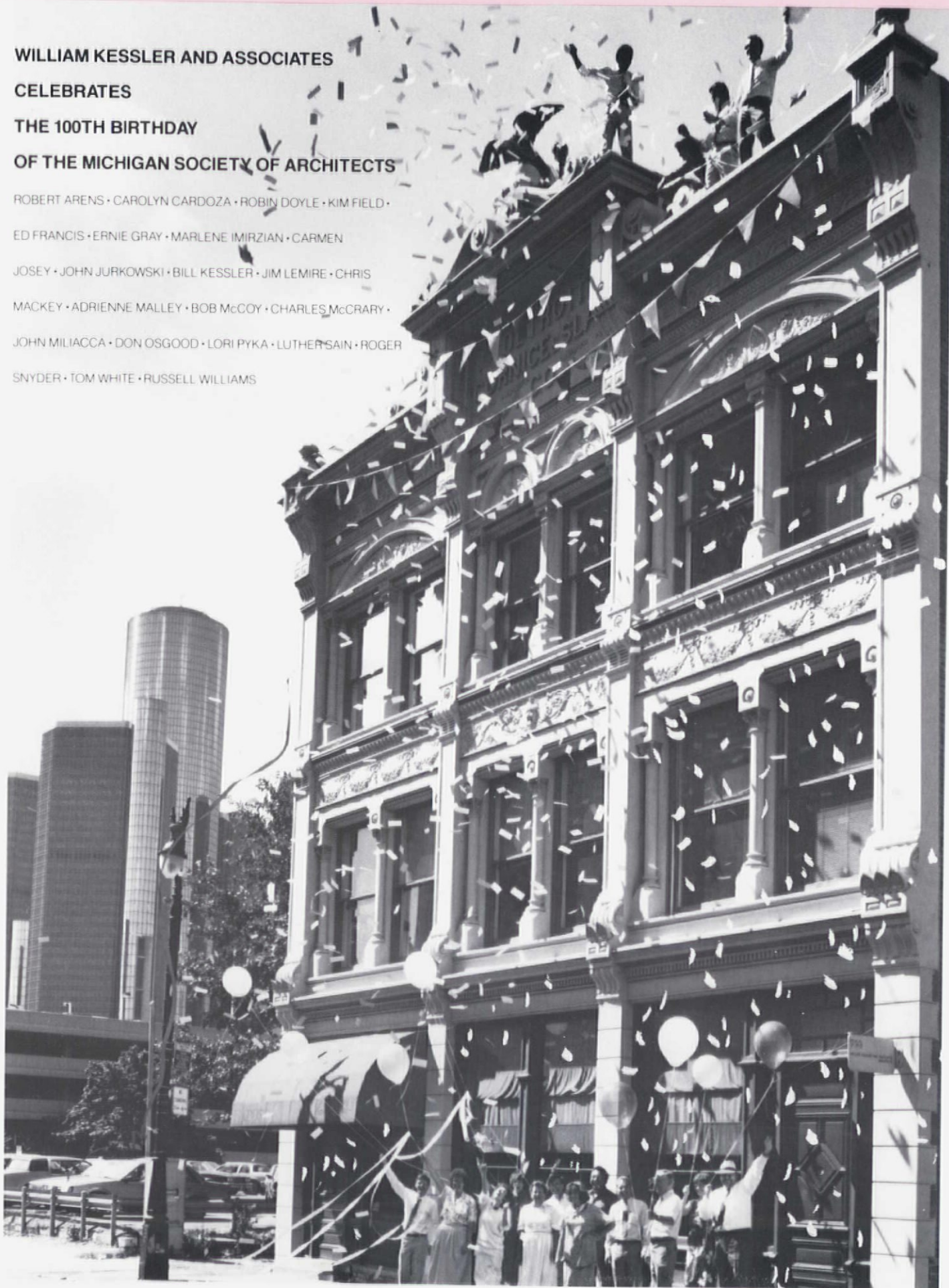
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OCTOBER

- 15 Mid-Michigan Chapter/
AIA Meeting Noon
- 20 WAL Trip to Campbell
Ewald Company
- 21-23 MSA Convention
Exhibitions and Seminars
Fairlane Manor, Dearborn
- 21 Host Chapter Party
Henry Ford Museum 7 p.m.
Costumes encouraged
- 22 Spouse Brunch
Dearborn Hyatt Regency
10 a.m.
- 23 Gala Reopening of the
Historic Beaubien House
beginning at 7 p.m. and fol-
lowed by The MSA Honor
Awards Program black tie
dinner at the Detroit Insti-
tute of Arts
- 27 CAM's CONSTRUCTech
Computer Seminar
Fairlane Manor, Dearborn
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- 27 Third Annual Governor's
Arts Awards Dinner
Westin Hotel, \$150 per
person call: 961-1776
- 30 Deadline for Western
Michigan Chapter/AIA
Awards

NOVEMBER

- ?? BIG MOVE BACK TO THE
BEAUBIEN HOUSE
- 5 Detroit Chapter/AIA
Annual Meeting, Anniver-
sary Lecture #6, Gunnar
Birkerts, FAIA Dominos
Farms, Ann Arbor, begin-
ning at 5:30 p.m.
- 10 ESD Luncheon, Detroit
Construction Update
Call: 313-832-5400
- 11 MSA Vice President's
Meeting 9:30 a.m.
Harley Hotel, Lansing
- 12 LIT ArchiLECTURE
Thom Mayne, avant-garde
Los Angeles architect
7:30 p.m. Architectural
Auditorium
- 18 Western Michigan
Chapter/AIA Annual
Awards Program
- 19 Mid-Michigan Chapter/
AIA Meeting
- 19 New Registrants Reception
Beaubien House and
St. Peter & Paul Church

DECEMBER

- 1 MSA Board of Directors/
Election Beaubien House

Cover Photo:

The Cover is the MSA Centennial Anniversary Posters. It was designed and photographed by Balthazar Korab. The graphics were done by Janet Ford of Schervish, Vogel, Mertz.

MSA BULLETIN

VOL. 10 ISSUE 8

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