


COLUMNS



VOLUME 7, NO. 6

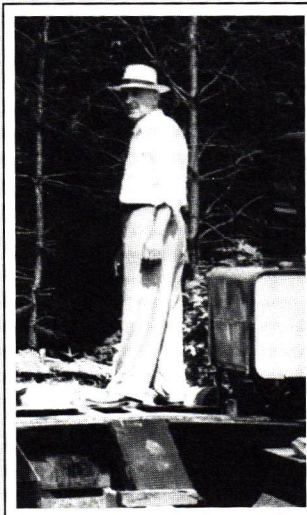
AIA PITTSBURGH, A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JUNE 1993



A seventy-five year commitment to craftsmanship

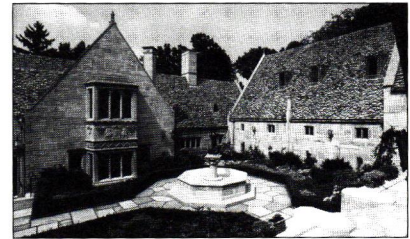
Today, John Deklewa & Sons, Inc. is one of the areas most experienced general contractors. Since its inception by John Deklewa, Sr., in 1918, the firm has been involved in most types of construction activity. From building construction to water and waste treatment facilities to high end residential and fine mill work installation, John Deklewa & Sons, Inc.



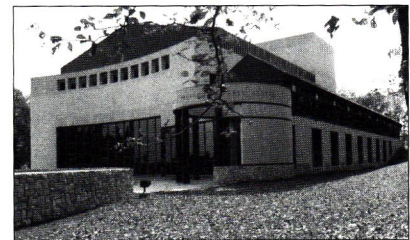
John Deklewa, Sr., founder of the firm that bears his name, could be found checking the job progress. This same attention to detail has become a tradition on all John Deklewa & Sons, Inc. projects.

applies state of the art construction techniques and a sense of fine craftsmanship.

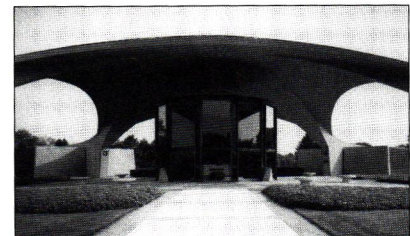
We are proud to have been a part of the Western Pennsylvania construction industry for the past seventy-five years and as we step into the future, we keep one foot in the past.



"Elm Court" a 9-acre private estate located north of Pittsburgh involves unique additions and renovations, including an underground theater.



"Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center" situated on the University of Pittsburgh's Johnstown campus, contains a 1000 seat proscenium style main theater, and the 200 seat "Black Box" theater.



St. Lazarus Oratory is one of the largest clear span post-tension concrete structures in the tri-state area, requiring the special skills of John Deklewa & Sons, Inc..

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Missed Opportunities and Must See Events

by Douglas Shuck, AIA, President

Following the 1988 Remaking Cities Conference,

the Chapter leadership decided it was time to submit an application to host the AIA National Convention and reconvene the Remaking Cities Conference at the same time. Our Chapter's efforts became focused on hosting the gathering in 1999 and showcasing our city. It was believed the "blush would not be off the rose" and Pittsburgh's transformation from a heavy industrial economic base to a high tech health, corporate, and service oriented community would be well underway. The AIA committee which reviews and selects cities for the National Convention visited Pittsburgh and indicated we could only host the 1999 convention if there was a commitment to expand our convention center.

Following numerous letters to AIA National, as recently as a month ago, and correspondence to the governor and state legislature for a commitment to expand our convention center, we received a letter from Harrisburg indicating it is not within the budget to do so. In response, AIA National has decided to look elsewhere for the site of the 1999 convention (probably Denver). This information has greatly disappointed the local AIA Board

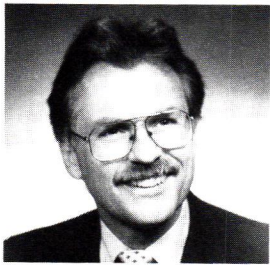
and is a missed opportunity for the city to be showcased, and for our Chapter to host this prestigious event.

AIA Pittsburgh will continue to support any initiative towards expansion, renovation and/or development of a new convention center and looks forward to hosting this event in the future. This lost opportunity does not mean that we may not reconvene a Remaking Cities Conference some time before the year 2000. We will continue to keep our options open for future opportunities and developments which may provide a forum to reconvene this event.

Architecture at the Crossroads

On a brighter note, you have received your schedule and registration information for the 1993 National Convention and the XVIII International Union of Architects meeting in Chicago this month, June 18th through the 21st. Having attended a National Convention in Cincinnati several years ago, I would urge you to set aside time for this event. It is an opportunity to renew friendships with architecture

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I left the last convention feeling very positive about the future of architecture—about the integrity, skill level, and professional acumen that I witnessed in people around me.

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On the cover:

Rothschild Architects' US Connect Pittsburgh project reflects the technological and human relationship inherent in the client's computer networking company.

The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. The objective of the Chapter is to improve, for society, the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice; fostering design excellence; and promoting the value of architectural services to the public. AIA membership is open to all registered architects, architectural interns, and a limited number of professionals in supporting fields.

Chapter Headquarters: CNG Tower, 625 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Telephone: 412/471-9548;
FAX: 412/471-9501.

Chapter Officers

Douglas L. Shuck, AIA, President
Karen A. Loyaen, AIA, 1st V. President
Susan Tuscik, AIA, 2nd V. President
Roger Kingsland, AIA, Secretary
Deepak Wadhvani, AIA Treasurer
Anne Swager, Executive Director

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FAX: 412/422-6728.

Connie Cantor/Executive Editor
Michelle Fanzo/Managing Editor
Joe Cooper-Silvis/Art Director
Bill Ivins/Production Manager
Tom Lavelle/Ad Manager

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COLUMNS is published by, and primarily for, the members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Preference may be given to the selection of works, articles, opinions, letters, etc. of members for publication. However, in the interest of furthering the goals of the Chapter, as stated monthly at the top of the masthead and in the membership directory, COLUMNS will publish the names of and properly credit non-members, whether as participants in the design of works submitted by a member, or as designers of their own work, or as authors of articles, opinions or letters.

Opinions expressed by editors and contributors are not necessarily those of the Pittsburgh Chapter, AIA. The Chapter has made every reasonable effort to provide accurate and authoritative information, but assumes no liability for the contents.

Send in the News

by Michelle Fanzo, Editor

Milling around with a glass of Sprite in my hand, I happened to have overheard conversation snippets in the crowd before April's Hornbostel dinner. I found much of the project information being shared to be interesting, especially since it was all news to me. Did you know L. D. Astorino & Associates has been working on three baseball athletic facilities in Florida as well as Pitt's new basketball arena and changes to Three Rivers Stadium? Me neither. So this got me thinking about letting every-

one know, from the largest firm to the newest newcomer, that *Columns* is a great place to let people in on what's happening in the profession.

I have recently discovered some very interesting endeavors undertaken by area architects through casual conversation or research for articles wholly unrelated to *Columns*. A number of young architects are part of an ambitious do-it-yourself group of Friendship residents renovating homes in that neighborhood. Steve Hawkins, AIA has been busy renovating and designing the space for Kayla's, an attractive new restaurant; the Brenenberg Brown Group was

integral in renovations to the Upstairs Theater building and Ray Schinhofen, AIA did the art deco facade of Pittsburgh's newest art gallery, Garfield Artworks—all on Penn Avenue in Garfield. A rejuvenation effort is emerging in this neighborhood as may be happening elsewhere. Your membership publication is a good place to update peers on just such accomplishments and show readers how architects can make a difference in a community.

While *Columns* tries to present the best photographs with informative text in our features, firms and individuals (this includes interns and students) should never feel they don't have the "right stuff" to submit a project update, an award announcement, or an interesting aside. If there is no time or resources to write a formal press release, a quick fax (as long as it's legible) or brief phone call to our office is sufficient to put an announcement in *Breaking Ground* and other monthly sections. (Just remember information *must* be received five weeks prior to publication.) The same goes for story ideas. We can't promise to run right out and cover every topic, but we certainly encourage recommendations.

Some insightful articles appearing in *Columns* over this past year have been written by members or readers. David Raves, AIA, who wrote about professional liability in October, will have another feature appearing in this issue. Last month Structural Engineering Corporation shared their renovation expertise with the Chapter. In the near future, *Columns* will be publishing a "How to Write and Submit Articles for Publication" story to explain how simple the task is. Until then, we welcome any questions members have about submitting material or ideas to us.

On a final note about sending us information, the absence of committee reports in recent issues has been noticed by some members. Having received very few over the course of many months, I would like to extend the invitation of sending news to *Columns* to committee chairs. However you can get the stuff to me, please do: phone, fax, courier, smoke signals (only on clear days). Members are interested in what's going on in the Chapter. So am I. 📧



Columns is a good place to update peers on accomplishments and show readers how architects can make a difference in a community.