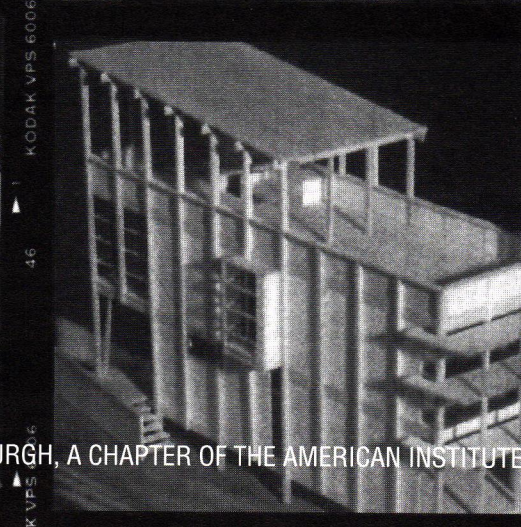
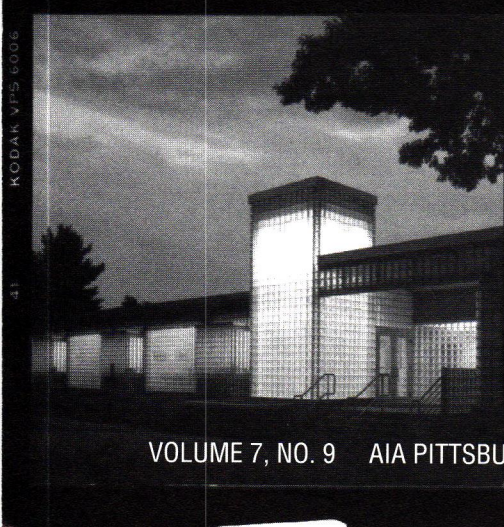
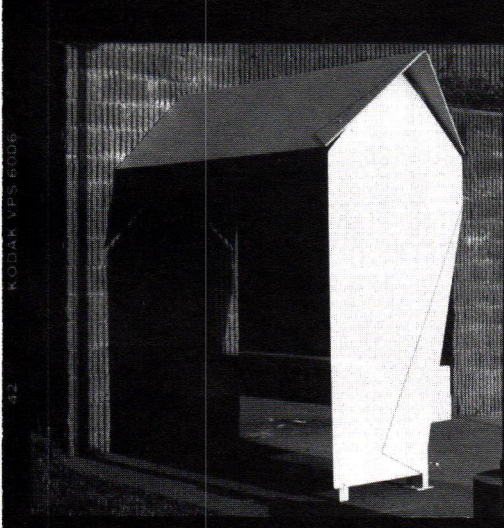
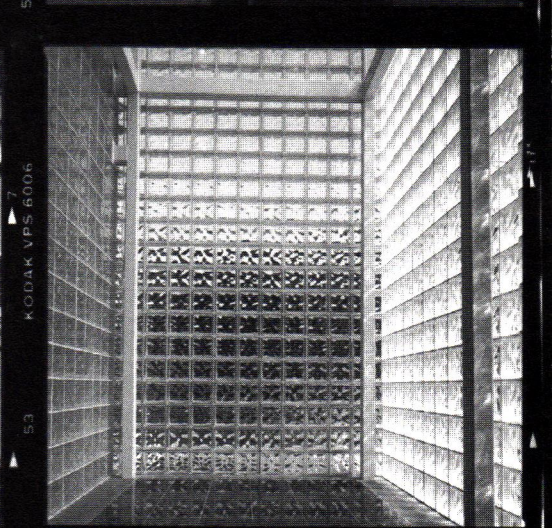
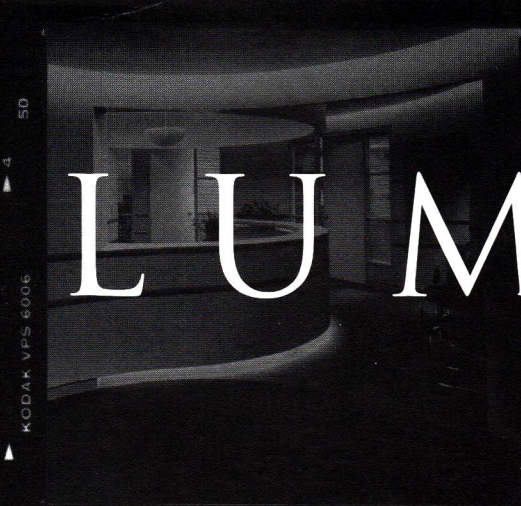
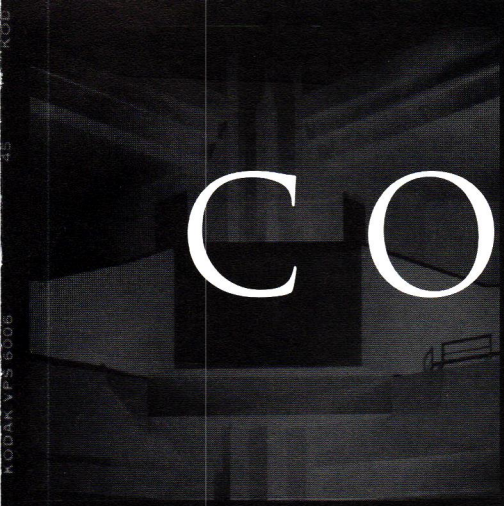
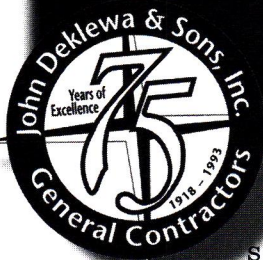


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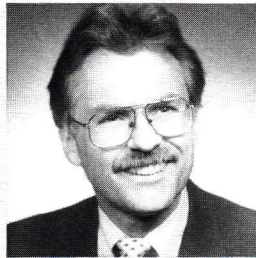
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# Fostering Design Excellence

by Doug Shuck, AIA President

## The 1993 Design Awards celebration

is the culminating point for projects that rise above others, as well as the inspiration for future design excellence. The awards not only honor the best new architecture in the region, but bring different philosophies and problem-solving techniques together to spark original ideas and raise substantive questions.



Collaboration enables the good to be great and is a crucial element in many of this year's best design award projects.

This year we are pleased and honored to have one of the country's most prominent architects, James Ingo Freed, FAIA—designer of the recently opened U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum—review the Pittsburgh Chapter's work. Each design that takes a step beyond the expected draws attention to the profession, encouraging better understanding of what role architecture plays in our communities. Better understanding fosters better clients, who will push us to do better work. AIA Pittsburgh is striving for Western Pennsylvania to be recognized for its outstanding architecture and design; the 1993 awards are a measure of our progress in this never-ending quest.

In addition to myriad technical, professional and budgetary responsibilities, architects are also responsible for a design

with which we must feel comfortable. This special issue of *Columns* highlights projects which make that extra effort and offer a distinctive contribution to our built environment.

Architecture is the only profession in which the delicate balance between building, technology, and design can take a new turn, touching many lives for years beyond the life of the design. But good design doesn't simply fall from the architect's pencil—award winning projects need award winning clients. Collaboration enables the good to be great and is a crucial element in many of this year's best projects.

AIA Pittsburgh thanks this year's design awards jury, hailing from New York City, and the firms and their members who have submitted projects for review. Such efforts help improve the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice; recognizing meaningful work; and promoting the value of architectural services. Whether it be heightened public awareness to the profession, or increased insight within the field, collaboration and communication are the building blocks for successful design. 