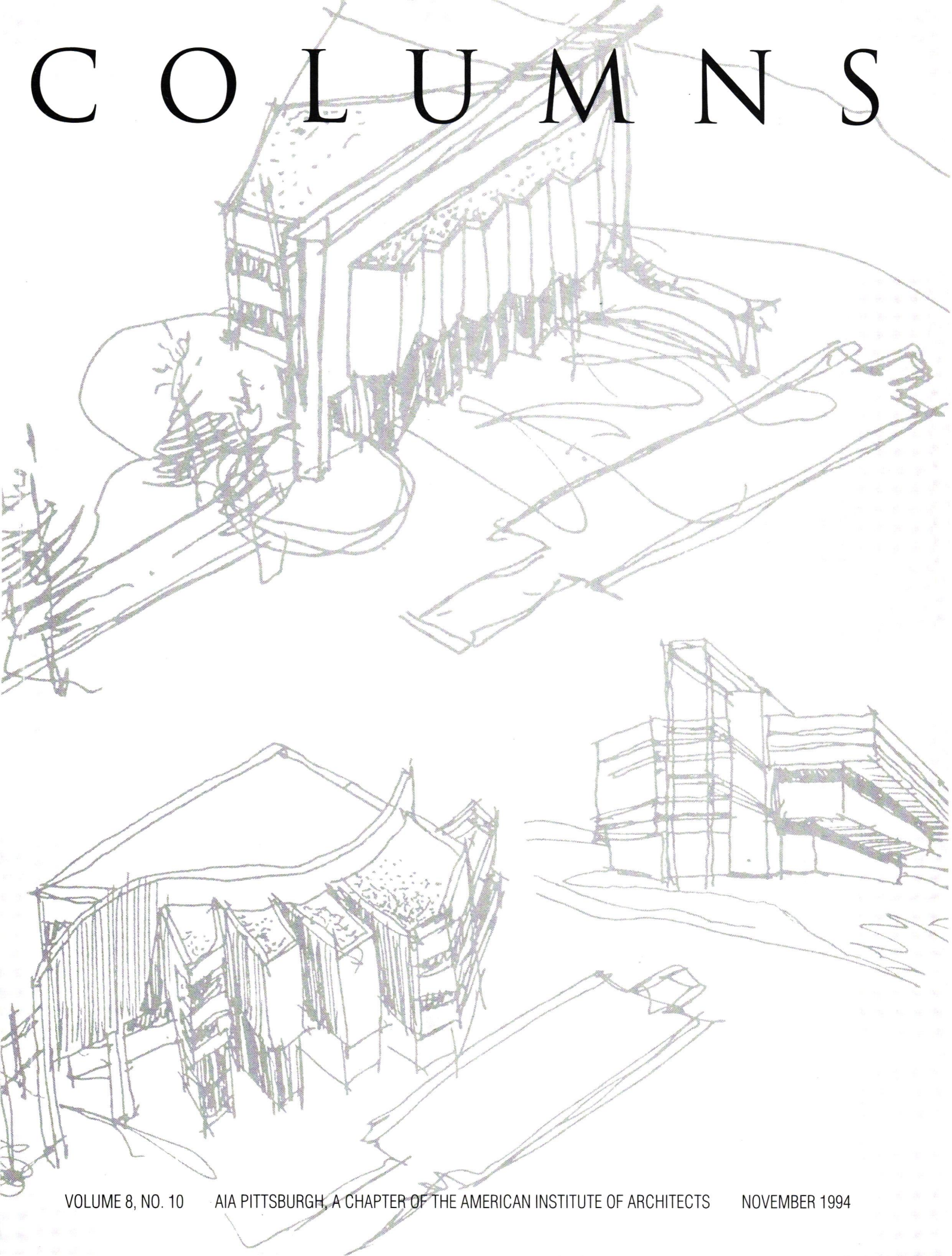
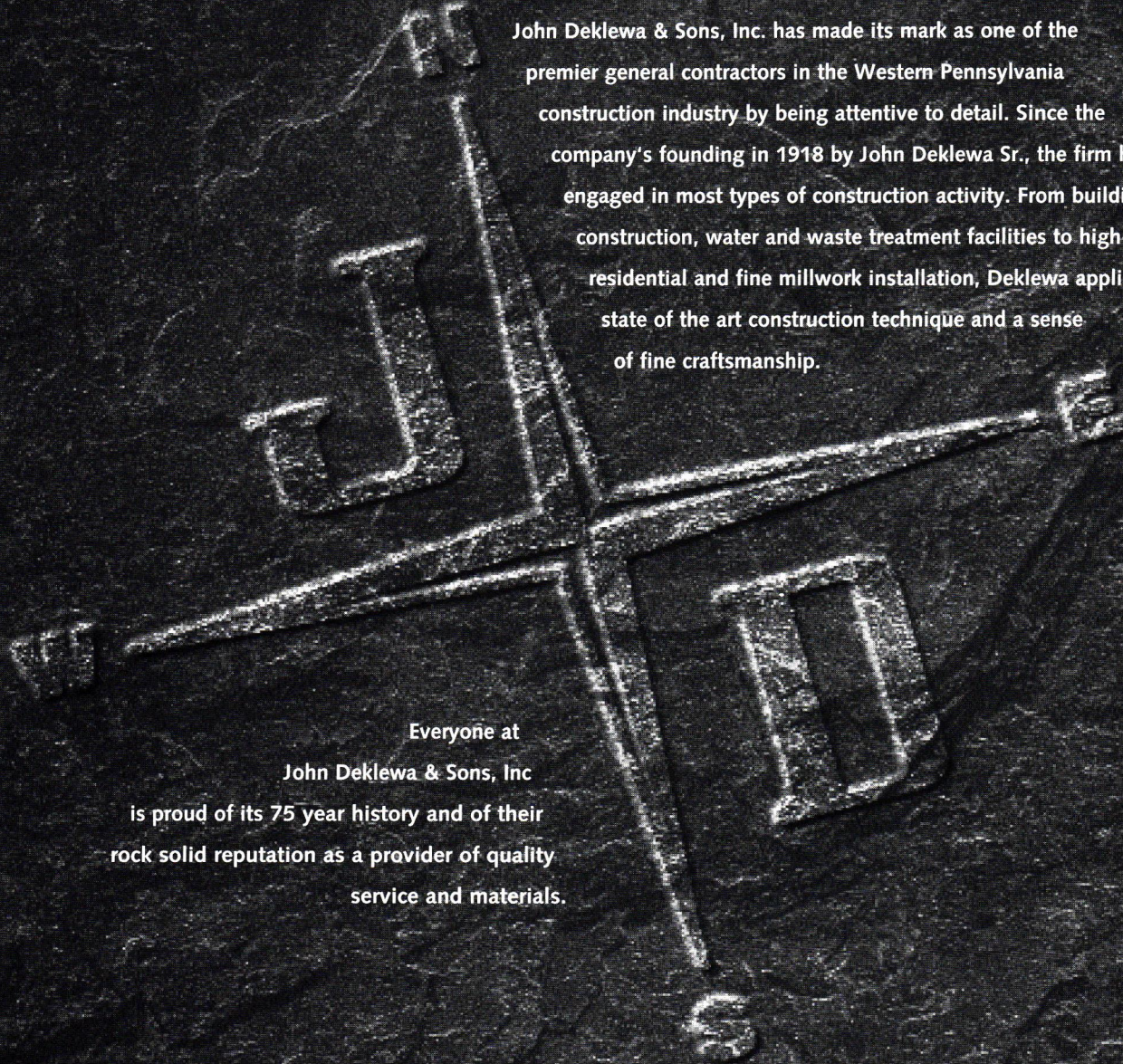


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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

Mental Doodles

by Karen Loysen, AIA President



Some Big Events of the year: our new space on Ninth Street; the Resource Center will be up and running in November; we have exhibited a number of exceptional shows in our gallery.

As this is the last *Columns* issue of the year

and my last "Viewpoint," choosing a subject on which to espouse is even more difficult than usual.

As I am writing this on the day after the design awards ceremony, the first item I'd like to include is a recap of the awards and an acknowledgment of the winners and the generosity of Tedco, Landau and Duquesne Light for sponsoring the event. I could reiterate what a success everyone felt the joint MBA/AIA awards were, how pleasant it was to congratulate peers and friends, and tell some tales from dinner with Jon Pickard, AIA and Daniela Voith, AIA. Not only do our awards foster good design, but professional camaraderie as well.

The second item is a recap of some Big Events of the year. I like this topic because people seem to forget that this is essentially a volunteer organization, except for Anne, Susan and Nancy. It has taken a lot of effort for us to achieve this year's many accomplishments: the search for a new space resulted in our move to Ninth Street; the Resource Center will be available to members and potential clients in November; we have already exhibited a number of exceptional shows in our gallery; *Columns* is now published in-house. The chapter also continues to work with other organizations—assisting in Architrave's fundraising auction and with CMU, Architrave and the Heinz Architectural Center to create a Pittsburgh Lecture Series. We have hosted a number of sessions with the Department of City Planning to discuss planning topics and the Wabash Bridge. The Urban Design Committee has become involved in a consortium of allied professional organizations to discuss riverboat gambling planning and design issues.

The third item for this article focuses on a Riverfront Conference being planned by the previously mentioned consortium. While I feel that both the idea of the consortium and the specific idea for the conference are of great value, my appreciation for the importance of the river edges has been renewed by a recent trip on the rivers. From a water-side perspective, the archeology of industry and character of the city is striking. Juxtapositions are uniquely Pittsburgh—rusting industrial relics and newly clean, pastoral landscapes, battered coal barges floating past a sparkling new high technology center. Plastic mesh lawn chairs mark fishing spots, just as they mark parking spaces. There are remnants of boat docks from every era of Pittsburgh shipping. Fern-like black willows line the river, charmingly untended. One wishes that at least some of these waterfront spots will be left exactly as they are.

The Riverfront Conference is expected to focus on these kinds of issues as well as development. It is intended to promote an informed public dialogue on riverfront issues. The Heinz Architectural Center and Friends of the Riverfront are compiling an inventory of existing riverfront plans. The ASLA and AIA will jointly present existing riverfront opportunities and the AIA's Urban Design Committee is developing a graphic comparison of cities where riverboat gambling has occurred. Other organizations and the public will be invited.

The conference is important not only because of riverfront issues, but also because of the way the effort reflects the desire of our organization to be part of the city's planning and policy-making processes. Also, this kind of research and facilitation role helps to make our expertise more accessible, valuable and utilized.

Perhaps these loose items read as thought sketches in this "doodles" issue and perhaps, even in this rough format, the messages will be communicated. 🏠

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AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. The objective of AIA Pittsburgh 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.

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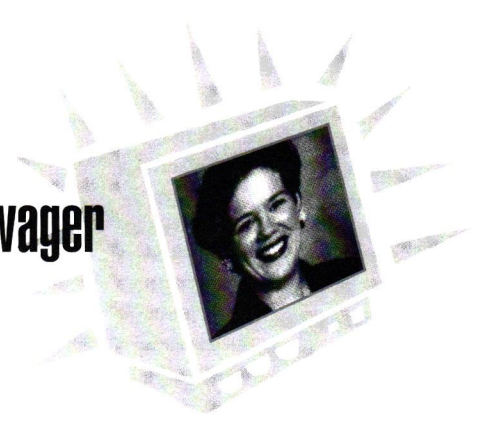
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Opinions expressed by editors and contributors are not necessarily those of AIA Pittsburgh. The Chapter has made every reasonable effort to provide accurate and authoritative information, but assumes no liability for the contents.

Late Night With Anne Swager

Top 10 reasons why I love my job so much!



10. I love to talk on the phone and ours never quits ringing.
 9. I don't have to worry about whether I have a social life or not because I'm always going to evening meetings, precluding any opportunity to date anyway.
 8. I love questions I can't answer, like "Will I need to eat dinner after the cocktail and hors d'oeuvre reception?" Answer: Only if you are a grocery queen like me and therefore must have food in your mouth constantly.
 7. Mt. Lebanonites don't appreciate fuschia — architects do. My clothes are now flashy and fun instead of gaudy and inappropriate.
 6. This is the only job I've ever had where doing every thing at the last minute is not only socially acceptable, it's expected.
 5. Everyday I learn something new about architects, but I'm still trying to figure out how Mike Brady supported a "bunch" of kids, a wife, a housekeeper, countless pets, and lived in a big house in suburbia on what an architect makes.
 4. No one else would ever let me write a column 10 times a year and say whatever I want to say — even this.
 3. I threaten to expose members of my family in this column if they don't do what I want them to do.
 2. I'm better at soliciting for the AIA than just soliciting.
- and the number 1 reason...

1. I'm still hoping to meet Mr. Ed!

Architecture on the Block

Come one, come all, and come at the right time! Architrave's fundraiser, Architecture on the Block, has a new date. Originally scheduled for November 11, the event will now be held on **Friday, November 18** at 6 p.m. at the AIA office on Ninth Street. Don't miss this distinctive opportunity to bid on a singular piece of furniture, architectural sketch, artifact, print or building remnant.

Proceeds from the auction support Our Town, an architectural education experience for at-risk children, scholarships, and an increasing awareness of the profession, among other goals.

Items for auction are still needed. Call John Martine, AIA with donations: 227-6100.



KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL DESIGN COMPETITION

The Korean War Veterans of Western Pennsylvania Memorial Fund announce an open competition to design a memorial which will recognize the service of all Korean War Veterans and to honor their achievements. The site for the memorial is located in Roberto Clemente Park between the Fort Duquesne and Sixth Street Bridges, on the North Shore of the Allegheny River in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Interested parties should contact the Memorial Fund, 1500 One PPG Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

January 1, 1995 is the closing date for receipt of registration forms. Design submissions must be postmarked by April 30, 1995.