



S N W U T O C

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renovation and retrofit of an existing

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comes in on time and on budget.

process. This insures your project

to help smooth out the production

example, can detect trouble spots early

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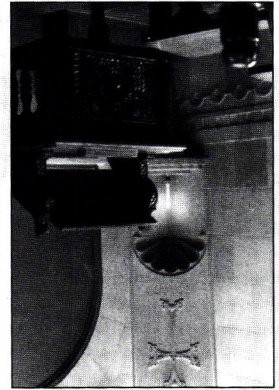
We offer a full range of contractor

buildings in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

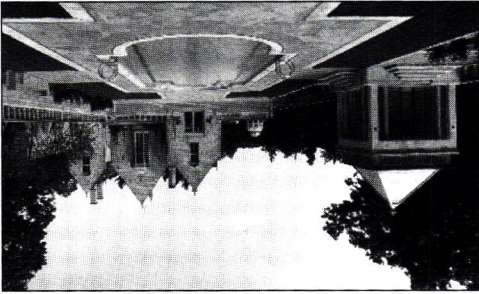
some of the most dramatic and functionally well-integrated

In the seventy-five years since our founding, we've produced

The Armenian room located on the third floor of the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh is the 22nd nationally room to be established at the university. The stone arched room copies the masonry techniques of church and monastery builders of the 11th century. This magnificent classroom was designed by Torkom Khrimian who emigrated from Armenia in 1978.



"Elm Court", a 9-acre private estate located north of Pittsburgh, involves unique additions and renovations. For example, the pool above is heated and has an ozone purification system. The deep blue water is surrounded by a granite surface edged in limestone. The pool is lined with hand made ceramic tile. On the left is a pool house sitting area. To the right is the "Fish Slide" built to hold two antique Indian carved marble panels giving the appearance of two carved fish swimming in the current of the fountain.



Sweating The Details Is No Sweat

more respected than John Deklewa and Sons.

No area general contractor is better known or

ment on all your construction projects.

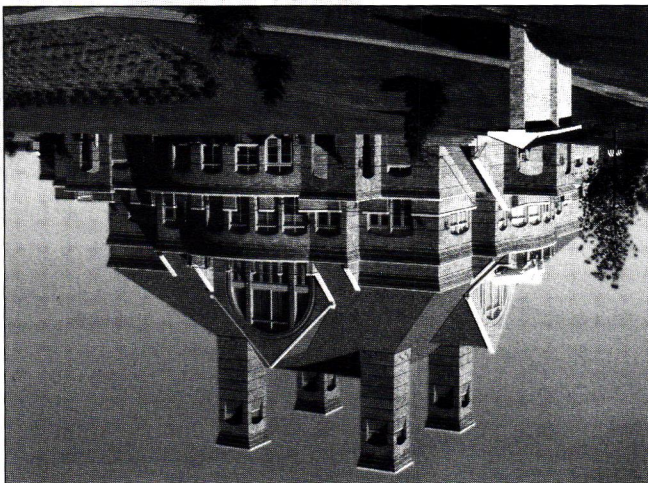
for quality workmanship and professional manage-

can depend on John Deklewa and Sons, Inc.,

providing professional design expertise. You

able of materials and techniques while still
our clients depend on you to be knowledge-

One of our recent projects, The Clubhouse at Nevillewood is now home to the Family House Invitational Golf Tournament.



A Helping Hand

by Maura Guttman, AIA President



The long-term health of this organization depends on its ability to engage and empower new people, securing future leadership.

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On the cover: QUESTION: Where are we going? With half of the U.S. population living in the suburbs, who is making future land use policy decisions? Photo courtesy of UDA Architects.

Do you remember what it was like

those first few days as a freshman in college? It seemed to me that everyone knew where to get spiral-bound notebooks, who to see with scheduling questions, how to use those meal plan tickets, and where the good parties were. Everyone, of course, except me. Having led a sheltered life as a shy kid in Horseheads, New York, I was overwhelmed by the activities, the freedom and the complexity of campus life. Lucky for me, I immediately hooked up with a seasoned sophomore from my hometown. Happy to share the wealth of his wisdom, he gave me a detailed tour of the bookstore, helped me drop a statistics course, showed me how to get a burger and fries late at night, and thoughtfully told me which fraternity mixers to avoid.

After a couple of weeks of absorbing information from my friends, I was confident that I knew all there was to know and I promptly left my hometown friend in the dust (sorry, Keith). I never thanked him then, but without him as a "big brother" I would have wasted valuable time being confused and intimidated by my new surroundings. And without his helpful advice on where to find a good study carrel on a Friday night, I might even have attended parties at certain unseemly frat houses, possibly over and over again. My professional path, like my college career, undoubtedly would have taken a more indirect route if not for the knowledgeable people I have had as mentors. By sharing a wealth of experiences, setting an example, and providing opportunities, a mentor makes a very generous contribution to the people in his firm and his profession.

If you are eagle-eyed, you will spot an ad elsewhere in this issue asking you to become a mentor to a new AIA mem-

ber. What's the thinking behind this, you may ask? Well, like I was those first days at CMU, many young and new members are intimidated by the apparent size and complexity of our association and perceive it to be a closed system. Those of us who innocently offered a suggestion or two and suddenly found ourselves President know that this is not the case. But everyone will benefit when we are able to change that perception to reflect the truth. The long-term health of this organization depends on its ability to engage and empower new people, securing future leadership. You may not be eager to chair a committee or sit on the Board due to the time involved, but at a fraction of that time commitment you can enhance the professional development of a colleague by being his or her tour guide of the AIA. Just think how you will feel when he or she becomes a famous national advocate for architecture and publicly credits you as an inspiration during their career! Please call a membership committee representative to get more details on our mentoring program.

Speaking of mentors, there is an organization that wants to hold Pittsburgh's hand and lead her to understand the value in a quality built environment. The organization is Architrave and among its many outreach efforts is the successful Architects Sunday, scheduled this year for April 14. Don't miss this opportunity to peek into the offices of eight downtown firms, and to rub elbows with the architect-loving crowd it attracts! Just be sure to get your official itinerary, or you could get lost and end up at a disreputable fraternity party. ☹