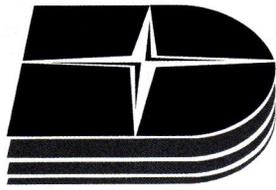


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It's Not Easy Being Green *By Tracy Certo*



The smart design of sustainable building is not only making it easier to go green but it's also making heroes of those who do. Ask any PNC Firstside employee.

It's not easy being green, as a wise frog

once said, but it seems it's getting easier all the time in Pittsburgh. Due to the strong response to this sustainable design issue, we have decided to include a lot more on the topic in future issues. Which means we welcome your contributions at any time. And if we missed you this month, there are plenty of opportunities ahead

As I was working on this issue, I read an editorial in the New York Times (Feb. 22) on global warming by Bob Herbert. He was trying to sound the alarm on the one hand and on the other, acknowledge that not everyone is ready to hear it. "The easiest approach for the time being is to pretend it's not happening," he writes of the global warming crisis.

That struck a chord in me, immersed as I was in ecology issues. As a writer, I am sometimes confronted with uncomfortable issues—indepth and for a sustained period—that I simply can't ignore. Recently I did a publication on maternal smoking and how Pittsburgh leads the nation in the number of pregnant mothers who smoke tobacco. It was difficult and frustrating reporting on the extensive damage smoking moms do to their fetuses. Worse, I kept running into smoking pregnant mothers or more commonly, moms with a cigarette in one hand and a small child in the other. It was maddening, and still is. Years ago, this was a common sight when the public wasn't fully aware of the harm. But now? The easiest approach for the time being is to pretend it isn't happening.

So now that I find myself wrapped up for weeks in this environmental issue, my awareness has been refreshed and raised on the wide impact of green building. If I'm any barometer after taking this crash course, I can tell you this: The more I know about sustainable design, the more I understand the urge for some to shout from the nearest (green) rooftop how important it is.

In Pittsburgh, we have our share of dedicated people willing to sound the alarm to inform others. The influence of the Heinz Endowments is powerful and pervasive. And the influence of the individual architect is growing stronger.

As more clients come around, more projects will feature green components. Yet, as one pointed out, in the end you're only as green as your client wants to be. Sometimes it makes good sense, and other times it's not feasible. In this issue we feature a client who is forced to compromise on a green project, another who is completely turned around on one, and, along the way, the architects—and others—who help to influence and shape their decisions.

In his op-ed piece, Herbert said that Americans, as the prime contributors, have a special responsibility to the global warming problem. For the same reason, many believe that architects and contractors have a special responsibility to sustainable design since by sheer size and volume of projects, their impact is so great. Construction uses up to 60% of the materials found later in landfills, as a state official said.

Innovations are certainly at hand. More companies are offering more environmentally friendly products than ever before—have you seen the hogshair carpet in the PNC Firstside lobby? It catches the dirt off the soles of shoes, making for a cleaner interior and thereby cutting down on cleaning costs. And the HVAC systems with plug and play capability make for greater comfort levels at work stations. Not to mention better air quality. Allowing for lots of natural light not only cuts utility costs, but it also brightens the mood of employees. And doesn't that account for greater productivity?

The smart design of sustainable building is not only making it easier to go green but it's also making heroes of those who do. Ask any PNC Firstside employee.

Why green? In the end, the final answer may be the flip side of that coin: why not? Where the costs are feasible and where the application is practical, it's the only sensible solution. Not just for the future, but as more are discovering, also the present.

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On the cover: PNC Firstside. Photo Copyright Ed Massery.

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

AIA Pittsburgh
211 Ninth Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Telephone: 412/471-9548
FAX: 412/471-9501

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Design Pittsburgh Wins National Award

AIA Pittsburgh received an American Institute of Architects National Component Excellence Award at the AIA Grassroots Conference in Washington D.C. in February. The award was given to the chapter in recognition of Design Pittsburgh, an annual series of events, held every October, that celebrates architectural design in the Pittsburgh region.

"The results of Design Pittsburgh were *very* impressive," said Phil Simon, Director, Communications, American Institute of Architects, and member of the award selection committee. "Through this program, AIA Pittsburgh thoroughly demonstrated how to engage a community in a discussion about the value of good design."

"Design Pittsburgh is just one example of why AIA Pittsburgh is considered to be one of the top 10 of our 300 chapters in the country."

Design Pittsburgh was created three years ago as part of a strategic effort to transform the chapter's traditional awards program into a series of events that would encourage chapter membership, increase public awareness, offer opportunities to

create strategic partnerships and generate revenue for the chapter's other programs and services.

"Our goal was to move from a traditional, "pat on the back" awards ceremony to a series of events that would excite and inspire the community to think about how quality architectural design can positively affect this region," explained Anne J. Swager, AIA Pittsburgh's Executive Director.

To do this, AIA Pittsburgh and its board members and volunteers created several events that appealed to different audiences in the Pittsburgh region. In October 2000, Design Pittsburgh included a gala for 500 guests at the Carnegie Museum of Art, an exhibit at the museum of 99 boards (40 x 40) displaying entries in this year's AIA Pittsburgh Design Awards, and an opportunity for museum visitors to vote on their favorite entry in Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania People's Choice Award. Also included were a design awards ceremony featuring winners of the AIA Pittsburgh Design Awards, Architects' Saturday, a tour of six downtown architecture firms, and an exhibit at AIA Pittsburgh Gallery.

"We were amazed at the turnout for Design Pittsburgh 2000," said Paul Ostergaard AIA, chairperson of Design Pittsburgh 2000 and

principal at Urban Design Associates. "Not only did the events appeal to architects and other members of the built community, but they also received attention from high school students interested in architecture careers and business owners interested in workplace design."

Another reason why Design Pittsburgh was selected as an outstanding public affairs and initiative program was because it was based on the chapter's efforts to create strategic collaborations with other organizations. These efforts demonstrated that a broader audience is interested in promoting quality architectural design. AIA Pittsburgh's relationship with the Heinz Architectural Center at the Carnegie Museum of Art resulted in the use of museum space for the Opening Night Gala, Design Awards Ceremony, and AIA Pittsburgh Design Awards Exhibit. *The Pittsburgh Business Times* worked with AIA Pittsburgh to create a 20-page supplement that featured all of the entries in AIA Pittsburgh Design Awards. This insert also included features of the winning entries, sponsor advertisements, and additional information about AIA Pittsburgh. In addition, corporations like Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania provided sponsorship support for the events.

The Component Excellence Award is the third time in the past three years that AIA Pittsburgh has received national recognition. In 1999, AIA Pittsburgh received a National Service Award. In 2000, AIA Pittsburgh's Executive Director of 11 years, Anne J. Swager, received Honorary Membership in American Institute of Architects. That same year, David Hoglund, then President of AIA Pittsburgh and principal at Perkins Eastman Architects PC was elevated to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

"Design Pittsburgh is just one example of why AIA Pittsburgh is considered to be one of the top 10 of our 300 chapters in the country," said Chuck Hamlin, Managing Director, Communications, American Institute of Architects. "The membership of this chapter continues to effectively reach out to their community and lend their expertise to regional development efforts. We believe that this chapter is one of the reasons why Pittsburgh, once known as a rust belt city, is now considered to be quite sophisticated in regards to architectural design."



LEED Accredited Professional Certificate

Now LEED is offering an Accredited Professional Certificate which will give you recognition on the website and one point toward LEED certification of your green building project. (Robert Kobet of Hanson Design has just been certified.)

Call **1-888-215-4154** to schedule a testing session at any of the 300 Prometric Learning sites around the United States. Members should be prepared to provide their USGBC Member username to receive the discounted registration fee.

The electronic format exam will be 2 hours in length and can be scheduled at your convenience at any Prometric site nationwide. The cost of the exam is \$250 for members and \$300 for non-members (subject to change). Successful exam candidates will receive:

- a LEED™ Accredited Professional Certificate
- recognition as LEED™ Accredited Professionals on the USGBC web site, and
- one point toward LEED™ Certification of their green building projects.

There are no prerequisites for registering for the LEED™ Accredited Professional Examination, however, it is strongly recommended that candidates have tenure in the building design and construction industry and/or as a building

business professional or a facilities staff or executive. Areas of expertise and knowledge that will be required and be demonstrated will include but not be limited to the following:

- familiarity with the LEED Green Building Rating System Version 2.0,
- understanding of the LEED project registration/technical support/certification process,
- knowledge of the LEED certification documentation requirements,
- knowledge of key LEED credit interpretation rulings for a variety of LEED credits from the LEED credit rulings web page,
- demonstrated knowledge of design and construction industry standards and process,
- understanding of the general subject matter of the various ASHRAE and Federal standards referenced in the LEED Green Building Rating System,
- intermediate understanding of green and sustainable design strategies and topics,
- demonstrated knowledge of the use and location of key green and sustainable design resources and tools. For more information, refer to www.usgbc.org

Welcome New Member

Michael J. Bernard, Assoc.AIA works at LLI Technologies, Inc. A graduate of Penn State, his past projects include the Lazarus/Oliver Avenue garage and the historic restoration/preservation of the windows, roof, dome and statue at the State Capital in Harrisburg.



Michael is married to Denise Bernard and they have a child, Renee, who is 16 months old. "The thrill of seeing something designed built has now been surpassed by the look of wonder in my daughter's eyes as she views the world," he says.

His current goal? To take and pass the structural and building design portions of the ARE on the computer and to get registered. We wish him the best in succeeding.

Reading and Surfing Corner

Have a good architectural book to recommend? Found a cool website? Want to share it? We'll run your name and your suggestion and a brief description of why you liked either one in *Columns* magazine. Discovering a good book or website is fun—sharing it is even better.

Correction

Bill Brennan, AIA principal of CelliFlynnBrennan, was previously a principal at another firm and is a graduate of Penn State.

To Those Firms Without a Marketing Director

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Call Joan at: 412-471-9548. FAX: 412-471-9501.

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Going Green

By Tracy Certo

What's driving the green building movement here and why is Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania in the forefront?

A number of factors are converging to make Pittsburgh a hotbed of sustainable design. There's the pioneering efforts of Conservation Consultants, Inc. for one, which has led the charge in the local environmental movement since 1975. It's Pittsburgh Green Neighborhood Initiative and High Performance Schools Partnership are teaming with a host of partners to green selected Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

There's the Green Building Alliance, for another—a unique not for profit organization that is aggressively promoting the cause. An offspring of CCI, and other environmental nonprofits that were once a loose coalition, it is now one of the premier nonprofits dealing with greening the built environment.

Not to mention the increasing number of local architectural firms who are incorporating environmentally responsible elements in their projects.

What exactly is green building or sustainable design?

As defined by the U.S. Green Building Council, the criteria for assessing green building includes the following components:

- Sustainable Sites
- Water Efficiency
- Energy and Atmosphere
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Materials and Resources
- Process



PHOTO COPYRIGHT ED MASSERY

The curved glass curtain at PNC Firstside provides natural light and allows even those in the center of the building to enjoy outdoor views.



PHOTO COPYRIGHT ED MASSERY

The dramatic, light-filled interior of the PNC Firstside lobby provides views of the Courthouse. Choosing the brownfield site set the tone for the sustainable design features to follow.

If that's not enough, Pittsburgh has something else other cities lack: the backing of the Heinz Endowments which has been a strong champion of environmental issues. "The Heinz Endowments believes the principles of green building are essential to sustaining prosperity and quality of life in Southwestern Pennsylvania," says program officer Melissa Crawford. "We see green building as an effective use of natural and economic resources."

The Heinz Endowments have supported a number of sustainable design projects locally, statewide and now internationally. To encourage green building and good civic design, the Endowments invested in education and technical assistance through the Green Building Alliance and the University of Pittsburgh's Construction Management Program, Crawford says. In addition, they created the Green Building Fund at the Community Loan Fund of Southwestern Pennsylvania (a \$2 million fund to encourage the greening of projects through loans at CLF).

When you add it all up, Pittsburgh is making great strides in meeting the social responsibility of being sensitive to the environment.

"I think Pittsburgh has made remarkable progress in the last several years to take its place among leaders of cities of sustainable design."

— ROBERT KOBET AIA

"I think Pittsburgh has made remarkable progress in the last several years to take its place among leaders of cities of sustainable design," says Robert Kobet AIA, of Hanson Design. Cities at the forefront include Portland, Seattle, Cincinnati and New York City. The latter, notes Kobet, just wrote its own guidelines for sustainable design. And if *they* can do it, he concludes, certainly Pittsburgh can.

The inevitable is happening," says Kobet, on the greening of Pittsburgh. "It's coming out in RFPs and through the foundations and the firms are going after it." The reason? "It's the right thing to do," states Kobet. What's more, he adds, people are going to make a very good living at it.

On the state level, Governor Ridge is leading the charge. He created the Governor's Green Government Council to promote efforts to prevent pollution and increase energy efficiency in future building.

"Pennsylvania has positioned itself as the first state to officially declare integrated design, energy efficiency and sustainable technology as the bedrock for all future building programs," Ridge states in the Department of Environmental Protection publication.

The state's DEP regional headquarters in Harrisburg, in partnership with the Heinz Endowments, was the first green building commissioned by the Commonwealth. Kobet and Hanson Design are part of the design team selected to green the Norristown Regional office for DEP.

If the state is in the lead, Pittsburgh isn't too far behind. "Pittsburgh is positioned to *take* the lead in green building design and development in the country," says Kobet. A founding member of the local AIA's Committee on the Environment and now on the national COTE, Kobet is a leader in sustainable design, locally and statewide. His belief is that if all things converge, that is, if the city, too, begins to support sustainable design, the movement will explode.

If Kobet represents architects who are in the forefront of the movement, other architects are coming around through recent experience. For PNC Firstside, Elmer Burger AIA, principal in charge of LDA-L.D. Astorino Companies and his team did their homework in helping to make the silver LEED rated PNC Firstside the largest building in the country to earn the distinction.

His take on sustainable design can be summed up succinctly: "Good design is good business," says Burger. PNC was very interested in worker satisfaction and retention, he says, and adding green elements to enhance the environment and maximize comfort was a huge plus.

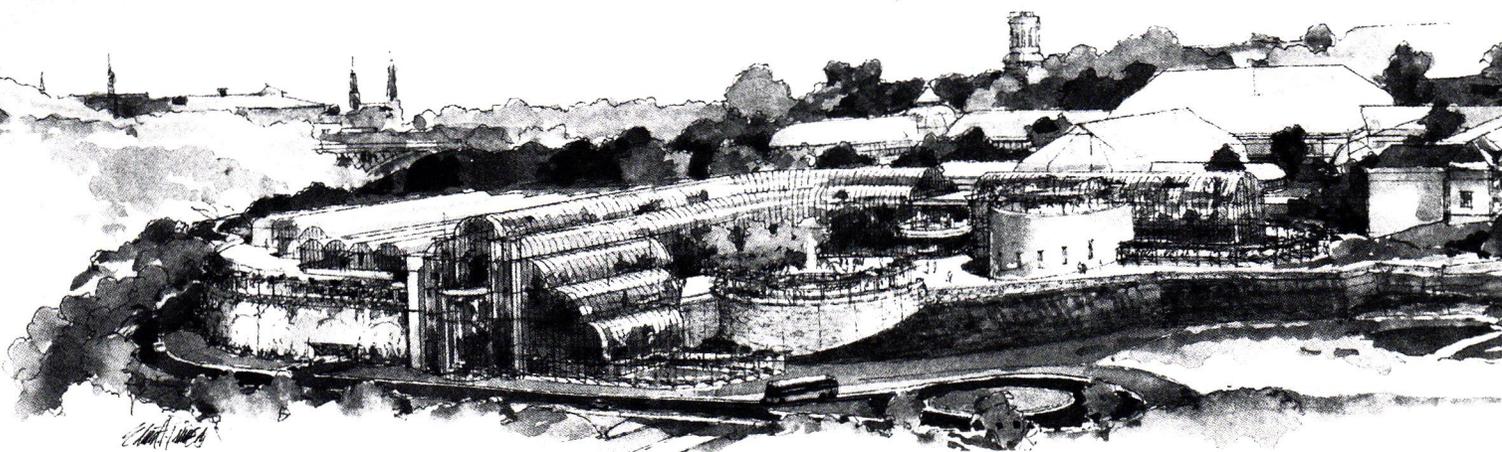
Certainly the client is sold. According to Gary Saulson of PNC realty services, not only are the employees happy but so are the shareholders who reap the benefits of cost saving measures. "We think that it's a commercially intelligent thing to do," says Saulson. "If you're going to build a new building and you can provide tremendous amount of natural light and fresh air, why wouldn't you want to do it? It's energy efficient and we can save money."

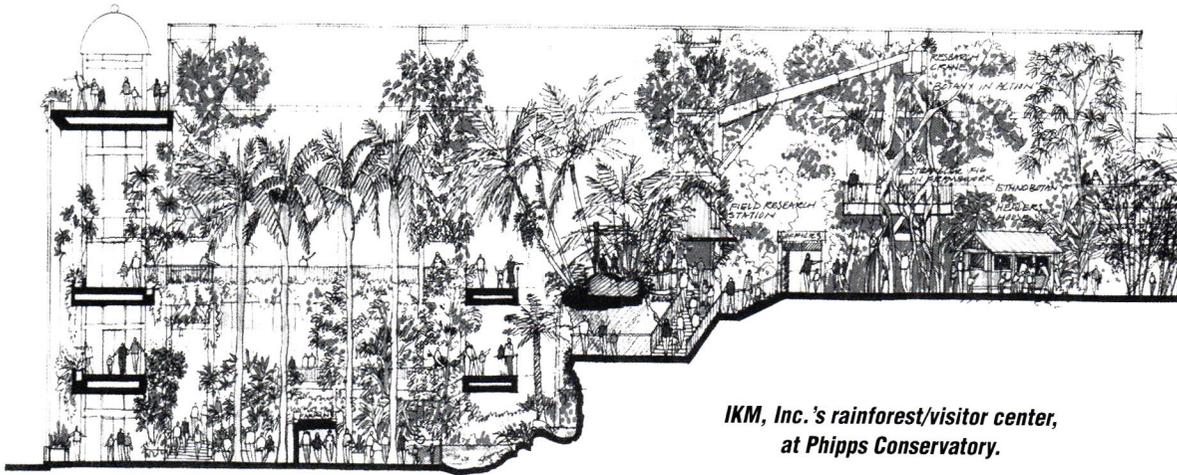
More Pittsburgh clients and firms seem to be coming around to that way of thinking. "Green building has entered another phase. It can be done affordably and you can realize immediate and long-term benefits," says Astorino's David Pecharka AIA, who served on the design team. (Pecharka, along with Kobet and Gary Moshier, AIA are the founding members of the Pittsburgh AIA Committee on the Environment.)

For many sustainable design is simply the right thing to do and it's becoming part of doing everyday business. "Sustainable design, or green building, techniques are incorporated within most of our work," says Chas DeLisio AIA, of makato, architecture and design. "While our architectural practice is based on sustainable practices, the approach varies with each unique project."

That ranges from specifics such as construction waste management in the National Aviary to the indoor air quality and natural energy sources used on virtually all the firm's projects.

IKM, Inc.'s addition to the Phipps Conservatory is a natural for going green. The project, which includes a rainforest/visitor center, (above right) uses partially earth-sheltered structures and responds to the solar geometry of the site.





***IKM, Inc.'s rainforest/visitor center,
at Phipps Conservatory.***

"We aspire to use environmental material on every job we do," says David Celento AIA, of CelentoHenn Architects + Design. "Some clients embrace it, others don't. I would say more—maybe 25 to 30 % —are now interested in placing a premium on environmental materials," he adds.

The problem is sometimes in the higher price. "Often times they start with the aspiration but when it gets to rug-cutting time, they change their mind," Celento notes.

In the Graham Realty Building at First and Wood Streets downtown, both the client and the firm were equally interested in greening the project. "It was a real pleasure for us because we don't always get that," says Celento.

Celento renovated two stories and the lobby of the former Watson Paint Building which was built in the late 1800's. Green features include: seagrass flooring, bamboo counters, cork and genuine linoleum flooring, casework of recycled wood products and distinctive large steel framed walls with copper and recyclable plastics.

Preserving the historical structure of the building was the goal so Celento and his client had to compromise on the issue of cast iron ornamentation. The original was in very poor shape and buying new was cost prohibitive. The solution—replicating through fiberglass casting—wasn't as environmentally friendly as they would have liked but on a practical level it worked to preserve the appearance of the historic structure.

When it comes to green building for architects, you're only as green as your client chooses to be, says one architect. If you happen to also be the client, all the better. Leading

by example, KSBA Architects chose to go green in moving into new office space in Lawrenceville. The building, originally an undertaker's stable, was part of a neighborhood revitalization effort.

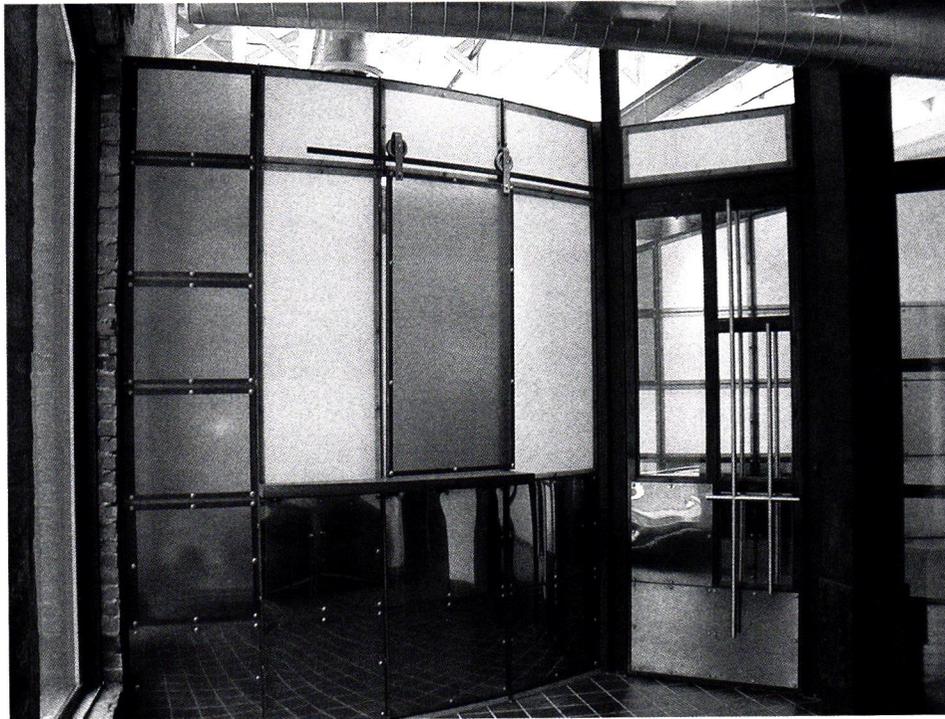
The list of high performance features is long, ranging from the integrated access floor and HVAC system to a shower for cyclists and runners and indoor parking... for bicycles. The building was one of three LEED Green Building Rating System TM pilot projects; the other local project was the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (Gardner + Pope Architects). CCI Center in the Southside (Tai + Lee Architects), a pioneering green building, was completed before the LEED rating system was formed.

"We were late in applying," says Moshier of KSBA. "And we needed more documentation to get rated." Despite the obstacles, he applied upon GBA's Rebecca Flora's suggestion and he attained the LEED rating. Which proves to Moshier that anyone can do it. "You don't need to be a tree-hugging green firm. It's within reach for mortal architects to be green," he says.

A sidenote from Moshier: KSBA is now a big advocate of the integrated access floor systems which allow for cleaner air and lower energy use. In their offices they used the Tate/York systems that were also used in PNC Firstside.

The medium is the message

Some projects by nature are more inclined to be green. Take the Center for Conservation Education in Westmoreland County. Its mission? To educate and encourage citizens to measure the impact of their actions



In the two-story and lobby renovation of the Graham Realty Building downtown, both the client and the architect, David Celento, were interested in taking it green. Shown is the steel-framed walls with copper and recyclable plastics.

against the consequences for the environment. Naturally, the medium is the message and the message is green.

The center was founded by farmers who used to meet in barns to discuss land management. From its hillside location (minimizing earth moving) to the recycled barn timbers and siding (sawed on site), the building incorporates many green components. The center's physical structure is an existing barn which was dismantled and relocated to a hilltop setting to take advantage of the sun and breezes as a "dramatic symbol of the conservation message."

"It's not a state of the art green building but more a state of the industry," says Bill Edmonds of Richard Glance & Associates who cites the balance of pragmatic and green components. Where there was a good cost benefit, they went green, he says, and upon project completion they will pursue a LEED rating.

Likewise, Phipps Conservatory's \$32.5 million expansion is a natural for sustainable design. "Preliminary LEED evaluation suggests the possibility of a very high (platinum) rating although budget considerations will inevitably lower the rating," says Jim Taylor AIA, of IKM, Inc.

"The project, which includes a rainforest/visitor center, exploits the 40-foot change in level between the upper and lower expansion sites, uses partially earth-sheltered structures and responds to the solar geometry of the site," Taylor says. He presented the schematic design to the National Energy 2000 conference "to very good feedback."

Also under consideration for the project is green roofing, a concept popular in Europe and gaining in this country. A waterproof roofing membrane is the key component of the roofing, along with a root-resistant compound that prevents plant roots from penetrating beneath the membrane. Aside from the natural beauty, the benefits of green roofing include reduced water run-off, improved air quality and reduced energy consumption, according to Ken Dengler of the Cleveland-based Garland Company.

Greening by Committee

At WTW Architects, interest in green building culminated in the formation two years ago of the Sustainable Design Committee to advance the greening of each project wherever possible. At the time, says committee founder Marc Mondor AIA, there was quite a buzz in town about going

green: the new convention center, the Green Building Alliance, the Heinz Foundation and the Riverfront Initiative were all in the news promoting sustainable design. "I thought there could be a latent demand for green building services," Mondor says.

The five components addressed by the firm's committee are: site issues, envelope, mechanical and interior, materials and operations and design and construction process. For example, during the planning phase for the University of Akron student union building, each component was addressed by a different person in the firm.

WTW has seen steady growth in green building and completed quite a few sustainable design projects over the years, "but not as much as we'd like," according to Mondor, who heads the committee. Among its sustainable design credits is the geothermal system at St. Francis College. The ground-coupled heat pump uses the latent energy in the earth below to warm or cool the building which saves money and reduces energy use.

WTW was recently named the architect of record on the new PSU School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA). (see breaking ground) PSU has set several

goals for the project, including interdisciplinary collaboration between architect and landscape architect and a minimum LEED silver rating for the project.

In determining costs for environmentally friendly materials, Mondo uses the BEES software from the National Institute for Standards and Technology to assess lifecycle costs. It allows him to more fairly compare carpet that sells for \$10 a square foot and lasts for six years to a carpet that is environmentally friendly selling for more but lasting longer. It's a good premise with too many loopholes, warns Mondor, but it's better than nothing.

Planting the Idea

When PNC selected a brownfield site downtown, it set the tone for sustainable design. Gary Saulson of PNC realty services also credits GBA's Rebecca Flora for her help in going green.

"Rebecca called and said I don't know you but I know you're building and I'd like you to consider building a green building," says Saulson who admits that his knowledge of sustainable building at the time was limited. "I had read a number of articles and I knew some of the components but that's where my knowledge began and ended."

Think Globally, Act Globally

If there's increased activity on the local scene, there's also a global influence from local firms. Hanson Design, a 13-year old firm which Bob Kobet, AIA joined as partner last July, is leading the sustainable building front locally and statewide—they're on retainer for the governor's green building council—as well as affecting change internationally.

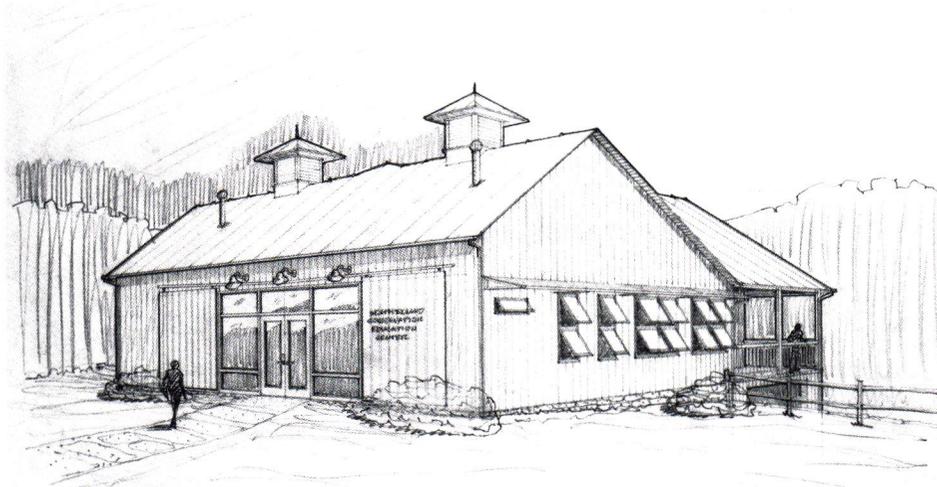
Kobet, who has numerous sustainable designs to his credit, is now individually LEED certified. He and Henry Hanson AIA, are consulting on the Central European Linkages Project (CELP), a project of sustainable design initiatives in the Czech Republic and Poland. It's sponsored by Air and Waste Management and supported by the Heinz Endowments and the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation.

"To date, several projects ranging from energy conservation retrofits to the design and implementation of community gardens and open spaces have been completed," says Kobet. "The latter uses a very ecological approach based on living systems to create plant-based outdoor recreation spaces.

"There are several interesting aspects of this job ranging from "sketchbook diplomacy" (contractors we work with usually do not speak English and vice versa) to the introduction of newly formed non-profit organizations," Kobet remarks.

All of this is modeled after the Pittsburgh Green Neighborhood Initiative, a project of CCI's. CCI was also central to the CELP projects. The nonprofit PGNI is a six year initiative endorsed by the mayor that targets four areas to green—residents, businesses, churches and schools—in a selected neighborhood. From free installation of energy saving devices to planting gardens and trees, PGNI has a long list of partners ranging from utility companies to social service agencies. They are currently working in their 11th neighborhood, the Hill District.

On another continent, Hanson Designs is helping to create a Transformation Center— in Rwanda, Africa. "This project seeks to use environmental stewardship and the ability to bring people together around environmental causes to rebuild a portion of Rwanda's community fabric and economy" says Kobet. Working with the Episcopal diocese of Pittsburgh and their counterpart in Kigali and Ruhengeri, along with an African architect, Kobet describes the worthy project as very challenging. This is one more project where sketchbook diplomacy is at work since Kobet knows little Rwandese. The location is the same one where Dian Fossey did her work with the gorillas. With perks like that, Kobet could become an expert in sketchbook diplomacy as well as sustainable design.



The Center for Conservation Education in Westmoreland County's physical structure is an existing barn. It was dismantled and relocated to a hilltop setting to take advantage of the sun and breezes as a symbol of the conservation message. Richard Glance + Associates, architects.

"We looked at a lot of facilities in the benchmarking process," says Elmer Burger who worked with the 70-member Astorino team and Dick Corp. to complete the 650,000 square-foot building.

"It's a huge floorplate," says David Pecharka. "The center of the floor is 150 feet from the window and yet you can still see the view from the center of the building. There are a lot of economics in doing a building this large," he says. "While a return on investment analysis was used, in most cases there was immediate payback—either a wash or savings," says Pecharka. For example, in most office systems, moving an employee from one work station to another can cost thousands of dollars. At PNC Firstside, the modular wiring in the raised floor system allows for easy, efficient moving without the costs.

"In today's economy, employee retention, training and recruitment provide companies with a competitive advantage," Saulson states. He believes they have that advantage now with PNC Firstside. What's more, "Our intent in going forward is to move our employees into a green environment when possible whether it's new construction or renovation."

PNC's next project in Delaware could be another showcase for sustainable design. "Our intent is to achieve gold status if possible," says Saulson who concedes that it's a "pretty lofty goal." Tom Paladino, a Seattle architect and national leader in sustainable design, is consulting on the project. LDA-L.D. Astorino companies is the architect.

Green Building Materials

As more projects are completed and as more environmentally friendly products become available, it will be easier to go green. Raised floor systems such as Tate access floors are becoming a staple in sustainable design along with HVAC systems such as York's FlexSys, underfloor air system. The York system not only uses less energy than traditional systems but it also allows for easy reuse of control and power wiring. The result, as they say, is an HVAC system that can be reconfigured as quickly and easily as the furniture. With such smart design solutions, some believe that in the not too distant future, sustainable design will be the only way to go.

RESOURCES:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Guidelines for Creating High-Performance Green Buildings
(Written by Bob Kobet, Wendy Powers (CCI), Stephen Lee of Carnegie Mellon and Christine Mondor (Hanson Design) and Marc Mondor (WTW).

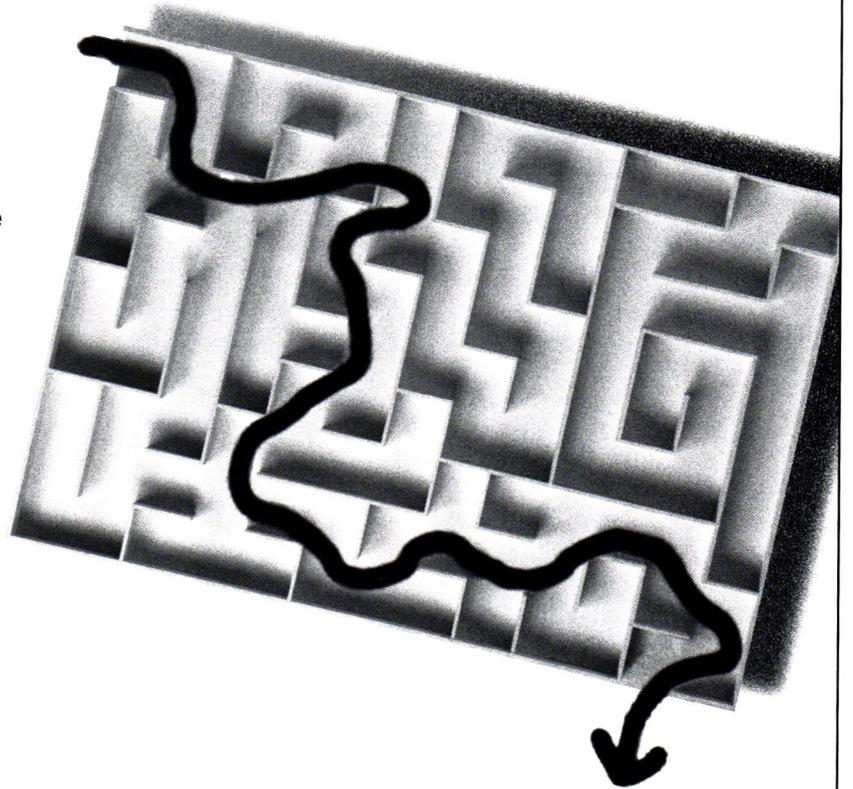
www.gbapgh.org
Green Building Alliance, Pittsburgh
412-431-0709

www.gba.org
Green Building Association

www.gggc.state.pa.us
Governor's Green Government Council

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Technical Assistance:

Adding Value to the Design Process

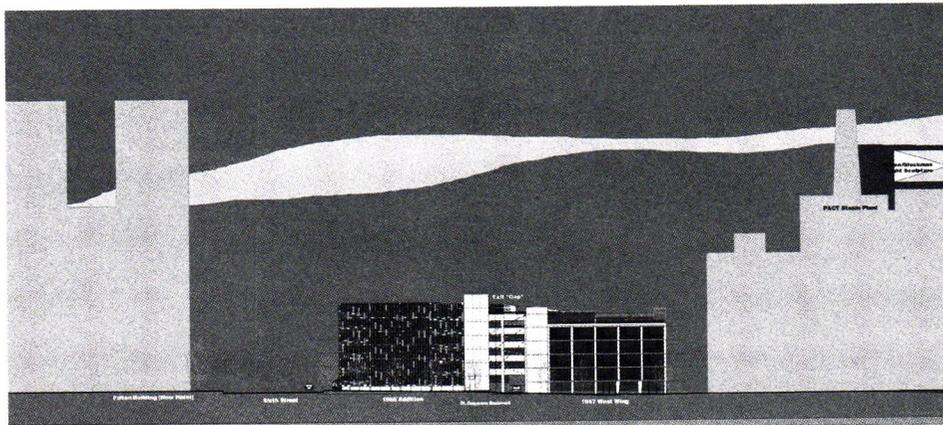
By Anne-Marie Lubenau, AIA, Associate Director, Community Design Center of Pittsburgh

By the time an architect receives a Request for Proposal (RFP), many decisions concerning the prospective project have already been made. Usually, the site has been selected and the scope of work defined. When these decisions are made with little or no professional input, the subsequent design process can be frustrating, leading to second-guessing and time consuming redesign. How often have you heard or thought “the client doesn’t know what they want”?

Since 1987 the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP) has been providing design assistance to neighborhoods and homeowners in the City of Pittsburgh to help get their projects off to the right start. This assistance — providing Design Fund grants and technical assistance to non-profit community development organizations (CDC’s) and matching homeowners with volunteer architects for Renovation Information Network consults — has helped nearly 70 CDC’s and over 350 homeowners understand and prepare for the design process — enabling them to become better, more informed consumers of professional design services.

Two years ago, the CDCP began offering technical assistance on a fee-for-service basis to new clients — non-profit organizations like the Pittsburgh Parking Authority, and communities outside Pittsburgh like Rankin and North Braddock. Through its technical assistance services, the CDCP helps clients with defining the project and scope of work, drafting an RFP, assembling a project committee, and identifying, interviewing and selecting the consultant. Once the project is underway, the CDCP also helps to facilitate the design process by attending regular project meetings, asking questions and providing input to make sure that the project stays on track and meets the client’s needs.

Working under separate technical assistance contracts with The Community Builders in Rankin and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County in North Braddock, the CDCP has been helping local community organizations through the process of developing housing investment strategies. Both communities have chosen to work with Hanson Design Group. Of his experiences working with the CDCP Henry Hanson AIA, president of Hanson



The CDCP helped the Pittsburgh Parking Authority develop a scope of work for public space improvements, including the facade renovation pictured here, for its Ft. Duquesne and Sixth Garage. Designed by Pfaffmann+Associates.

Design Group Ltd., says "The CDCP offers expertise and established credibility but, more importantly, brings community perspective to the project. Their assistance comes without any political bias. The questions asked are genuine and to the point, and essential. Their participation is viewed as sincere, honest, and open, and adds tremendous value to the project."

Over the past two years, the CDCP has assisted the Pittsburgh Parking Authority with projects downtown and in the Strip District. The Parking Authority first approached the CDCP in early 1999 for design assistance with public space improvements, now underway, at its Ft. Duquesne and Sixth garage. The CDCP helped the Authority develop a scope of work and select a consultant, Pfaffmann+Associates, for exterior and interior improvements. According to Ralph Horgan, the Parking Authority's Executive Director, the Authority "found itself in the position of doing major exterior renovation to a very public building in the heart of the cultural district, adjacent to the upper level of the new riverfront park. We needed help in understanding the process and the project needs, and getting best product available at the right costs. The CDCP provided professional insight and maintained focus on

the Authority's interests through the design process with the architect."

The CDCP is currently working with the Parking Authority to resolve outstanding design issues associated with the development of a new garage in the Strip District. The Authority asked the CDCP to assist in negotiating what was perceived to be a deadlock between the City's planning commission and the developer. According to Mr. Horgan, the "CDCP, as a third party, played the role of bringing public design knowledge to the project without threatening the interests of the developer or the City Planning Commission, and helped the Authority to negotiate the design process."

As these projects illustrate, the CDCP offers its technical assistance services as part of a collaborative process. Educating the consumer about the design process prior to and during a project results in an enlightened consumer, helping to raise collective expectations for the project, and yielding high quality design. The CDCP looks forward to working with the Pittsburgh design community as we bring our community experience to new projects with these services.

About the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh

To learn more about the CDCP, visit www.cdcp.org.

The Community Design Center of Pittsburgh is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization that works to improve the quality of design in Pittsburgh as a means of encouraging community reinvestment and citizen participation – through grants and technical assistance to community-based revitalization organizations and through broader educational programming.

Design Fund

Each year the CDCP commits \$60,000 to \$90,000 in grants to community development organizations for the purchase of professional design services to develop preliminary designs and cost estimates for community revitalization projects. To date, the CDCP has made over \$550,000 in grants that have resulted in more than \$32 million in construction and neighborhood investment.

After the Board of Directors approves each grant, the CDCP short-lists up to five firms for the project (including one WBE/MBE firm), based on the project needs and

consultant expertise. To be considered for a Design Fund project, firms must submit a brief qualifications package. For a copy of the Request for Qualifications call 412.391.4144 or download it from the CDCP's website.

Renovation Information Network

Through the Renovation Information Network (RIN), the CDCP matches City of Pittsburgh homeowners with volunteer architects and intern-architects for informal, low-cost (\$50 or less) design consultations. To volunteer or pick up materials to promote the program in your neighborhood, call 412.391.4333.

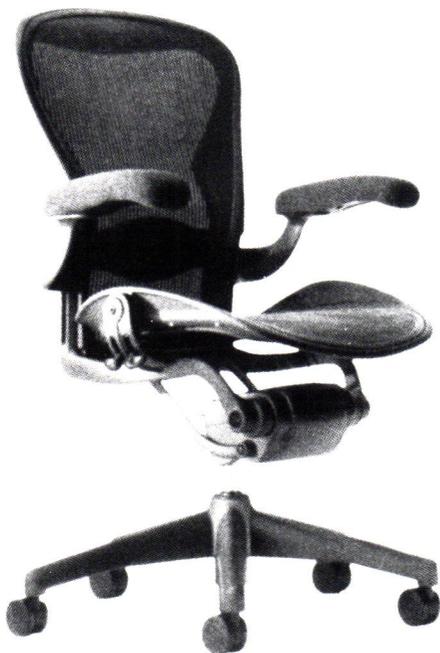
Volkswagen Pedal Pittsburgh

The CDCP's annual bicycle tour and fundraiser is Sunday, May 20. Support the CDCP by becoming a Mile Sponsor for as little as \$100 or volunteer. For more information call (412) 232-3545 or visit www.pedalpittsburgh.org.

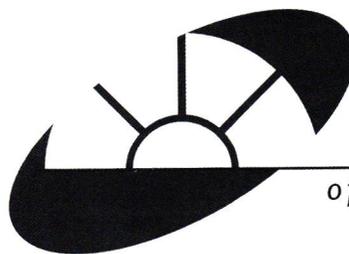
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From the Firms

→ **Rothschild Architects** recently completed the construction documents for Brentwood Town Square (below). The project involves the redevelopment of the heart of the Brentwood business district which includes 200,000 square feet of retail, office and supermarket use. Traditional town planning ideas include the reinforcement of the existing main street and the creation of a town square that can be used for festivals and community activities.



CelliFlynnBrennan is currently working on projects for Allegheny College, Thiel College, a Library Expansion and Community Center Building and St. Francis DeSales Church. They also participated in the dedication of the Paterno Library at Penn State and Brotherton Hall at the University of Charleston. In addition, the firm has completed the Student Recreation Facility for Penn State, Erie along with a science building, new plaza and fitness center for St. Thomas Aquinas College.

WTW Architects is the architect of record for the new PSU School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The interdisciplinary team also includes Overland Partners, San Antonio; LaQuatra Bonci Associates, Pittsburgh, and Murase Associates, Portland Oregon.

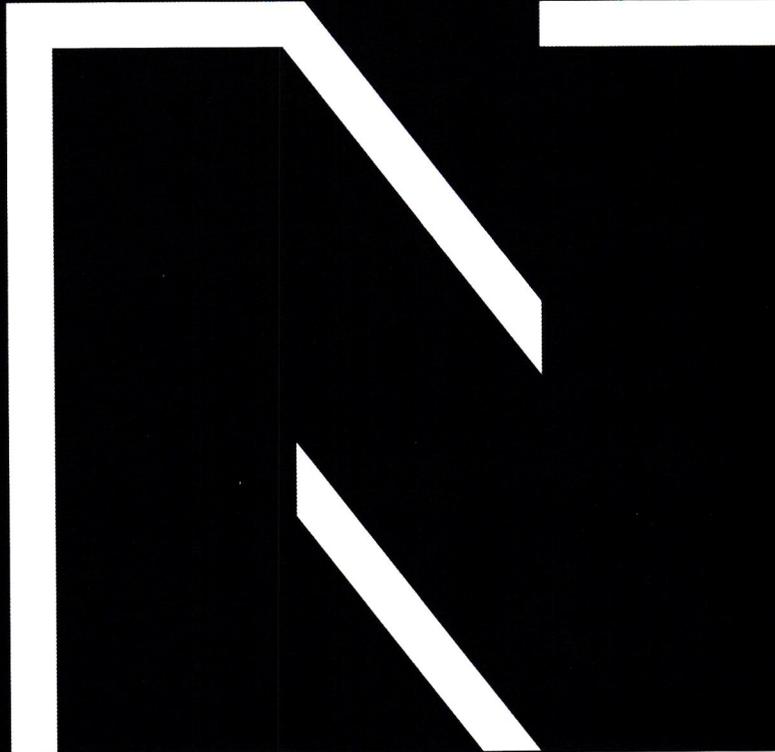
Hayes Large Architects, Pittsburgh, has been chosen to conduct a comprehensive facilities evaluation for the Akron Public Schools as part of a special urban initiative for the state of Ohio. The study involves 58 buildings and 5,000,000 square feet of space. In addition, **Hayes Large Architects** has been selected to design a \$20 million middle school overlooking Lake Erie. The firm has also been asked to facilitate programming and facilities planning for the International American School of Nanjing, China and to build the 35,000+ square-foot library for the Schlow Memorial Library Committee in Altoona.

Penn State approved preliminary plans for a new building for the School of Information Sciences and Technology. Inspired by the Ponte Vecchio bridge in Florence, the design is the work of Rafael Vinoly/**Perfido Weiskopf** Joint Venture of New York and Pittsburgh. The IST building will literally bridge Atherton St., which divides the core campus from the west campus, with a pedestrian-safe walkway. The steel-framed structure of brick, glass and aluminum, will be nearly 180,000 square feet. Estimated project budget is \$58.5 million dollars.

General Industries and architect **James Gerard, AIA**, participated in groundbreaking ceremonies recently for the new Meadow Pointe Plaza Office Development near the Meadows racetrack. The three-building office complex will have more than 110,000 square feet of commercial office space. *PICTURED BELOW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Jim Gerard, Principal, Gerard-Nagar Associates; Dan Hindman, Assistant Vice President, Three Rivers Bank; Brian Spicer, Chairman, North Strabane Township Supervisors; Rod Piatt, Horizon Properties; John Bevec; Chairman, Washington County Commissioners; Donald Ivill, President, General Industries; Jeff Kotula, Director, Washington County Council on Economic Development; Frank Siffrinn, Manager, North Strabane Township; Richard Popovich, Vice Chairman, Planning & Zoning Commission North Strabane Township; Greg Sulc, Planning and Zoning Commission North Strabane Township; Lou Falbo, Executive Director, Washington County Industrial Development Authority.*



(Continued on page 19)



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Business Briefs

→ **LDA-L.D. Astorino Companies** announces the addition of **William Fuller AIA**, as project architect, Marilyn Gelzhiser as landscape architecture project manager; Monica Weisenbach as marketing coordinator; Mark Mihalic as marketing coordinator and Diana L. Rudoy as marketing communications manager.

Douglas Shuck AIA, a principal of **WTW Architects**, has been appointed to the task group studying a variety of issues for the development of a proposed environmental center in the Boyce area of Mayview Park in Upper St. Clair.

Richard De Young AIA, senior principal and COO for WTW Architects, has been named vice chairman of financial development for the Western Pennsylvania chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. De Young was also recently elected to second vice-president of the AIA Pittsburgh. Marc Bulebush has joined WTW Architects. A graduate of the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Bulebush is creating 3D renderings for the team designing the new North Shore parking garage.

Lisa Dabinett and John A. Palmer have both been promoted to principal of **The Design Alliance**.

P.J.Dick Incorporated will work with the Rubinoff Company of Pittsburgh to build a \$19.5 million building on East Robinson St. Alcoa will be the major tenant. **Pfaffmann & Associates** are the architects.

Trumbull Corporation was recently awarded a \$74.5 million contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of a 4.6 mile stretch of the Harrisburg Capital Beltway, Interstate 81, in Dauphin County.



DABINETT



PALMER

Kudos

→ Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) was recognized as one of the top employers in the state by the Central Penn Business Journal of Harrisburg. CEC ranked fourth in the survey of 2000 businesses.

David Hoglund FAIA, principal at **Perkins Eastman Architects** was recently featured on ABC's evening news in a segment on Alzheimer's disease. Hoglund was noted for his work on the award-winning Woodside Place, a 36-unit Alzheimer's residence in Oakmont, PA.

WTW Architects was awarded the Golden Trowel Grand Prize Winner for the Central Pennsylvania region for the design of Penn State University's Hetzel Union Building (HUB) renovation and the Robeson Cultural Center addition at the main campus. The HUB atrium was designed to create a "Main St." that connects the existing building with the new addition. The 240,000 square foot facility houses a 400-seat tiered auditorium, dining area and food services and well as two ballrooms and various meeting rooms and recreation centers.

The Board of Directors of GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) has elected **Anthony F. Morrocco, Prof. Affiliate**, P.E., P.L.S., vice president of land development and Diane Landers, Ph.D., R.P.A. to vice president, cultural resources.

Facility Planning & Resources will present a full-day tutorial on "Designing and Constructing a Contamination Controlled Environment" along with another seminar on selecting cleanroom design and construction teams at the international conference in Boston March 12-14.

FPR has also been recently awarded with three new design contracts for high technology facilities at Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory in California, NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland and Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Attention Pittsburgh Architects

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April 27, Friday

Construction Claims in Pennsylvania:

The goal of this seminar is to provide all who work in the construction industry with the law and strategies to both recognize common issues giving rise to claims and to provide both parties the necessary forms and techniques.

This course provides you with information about the following:

- Statutory Prompt Payment Issues
 - Mechanics Liens
- Delay Claims And Documentation
 - Quantifying Delay Claims
- Accounting Needed to Support Claims

Holiday Inn South, 164 Fort Couch Road.
For information call Lorman at (715)-833-3959
6.5 L.U.'s

May 17-18

Project Management:

This seminar introduces the tools and techniques required to effectively manage a project. It is designed to acquaint you with the principles of the project life cycle, the work breakdown structure, and project scheduling techniques. It will also provide practical instruction on how to plan for a project, how to administer a project, and how to lead a project team through successful completion of the project.

Holiday Inn/Parkway East, 915 Brinton Road.
For information call Chitester Educational Services at
1-888-288-7070 or www.chitester.com
15 L.U.'s 15 H/S/W

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

May 16, Wednesday

The Design of High Performance "Green" Buildings. By John Boecker, AIA. Green technology, defined as the "intelligent integration of technology with nature" is intended to save owners money on energy costs. It is also designed to create a healthy and productive workplace for company employees by providing efficient air circulation and lighting design. 6:30 pm, Erie Insurance Auditorium. For information call David Brennan, AIA
814-452-4522
1 L.U.

AIA ACTIVITIES

April 6, Friday

Communications Committee Meeting. noon at the Chapter office, 471-9548.

April 9, Monday

AIA Pittsburgh Board Meeting
5 p.m. at the Chapter office. All members are welcome, 471-9548.

April 10, Tuesday

Professional Development Committee Meeting noon at the Chapter office, 471-9548.

April 19, Thursday

Legislative Committee Meeting. noon at the Chapter office, Chuck Coltharp, AIA, 252-1500.

April 25, Wednesday

AIA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture. Contact Ed Shriver, AIA, 263-3800

AROUND TOWN

April 4, Wednesday

Building Just and Sustainable Communities: Making Smart Growth Work for all Communities. Lecture by Robert Bullard, Director Environmental Justice Resource Center, Clark Atlanta University. 5 PM at the Bayer Learning Center, Duquesne University Free, Sponsored by Sustainable Pittsburgh 412-258-6642

April 6, Friday

"Energy-Efficient Lighting: Dispelling Myths - Avoiding Mistakes." A seminar by the Illuminating Engineering Society. The speaker is John Fetters, a nationally known speaker on this topic. Holiday Inn, Parkway East, 8 AM to 12 Noon. Cost \$50 before March 28, \$75 after March 28, and \$100 at the door. Reservations call Tom Farin 412-269-0773 or e-mail TFarin@aol.com

2 C O L U M N S

April 10, Tuesday

CSI Meeting. A technical presentation on different ways that floor and wall tile can be set, along with the different materials that can be used to set them.

Holiday Inn Greentree 6 PM Social, 6:30 PM Dinner. \$20 Contact Deborah Merges at 724-375-2113 or dmerg@home.com by April 6 for reservations.

April 11, Wednesday

Society of Design Administrators. Monthly meeting at the Engineer's Club. 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Lunch \$17 members \$19.50 non-members. Reservations call Cheryl Marlatt at 412-281-1337

April 18, Wednesday

Educating for a Sustainable Future. Lecture by David Orr: Chair, Environmental Studies Program, Oberlin College and Editor of Conservation Biology. 5PM at the Bayer Learning Center, Duquesne University. Free, Sponsored by Sustainable Pittsburgh 412-258-6642

April 23, Monday

Interior Spaces of Downtown Landmarks. Walk from Grant Street to Gateway Center and see the Joseph Urban Room, an Art Deco masterpiece in the William Penn Hotel; the interior of the Waterfront Building, with an etched-glass mural of Pittsburgh places; and the classical lobbies of several Fourth Avenue Landmarks. Call Pitt's Informal Program at 412-648-2560 to register.

April 25, Wednesday

AIA MBA Committee Meeting. Master Builders Association, 2270 Noblestown Rd. 6:00 p.m. 412-922-3912

April 26 - 28

Spring Tour to Columbus, Indiana: Sponsored by AIA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture. Recognized internationally as a city of unique architectural character, this tour will visit many significant sites. Call Joan Kubancek 412-471-9548 for information.

May 20, Sunday

Volkswagen Pedal Pittsburgh: Community Design Center's spring bicycle ride, "Passport to Pittsburgh" \$20/ride; \$45/family. Contact Jennifer Fox at 412-232-3545 or www.pedalpittsburgh.org

Please send your information to the attention of Joan Kubancek, AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or fax it to Joan at 412/471-9501. The deadline for inclusion is normally six weeks prior to publication. If you would like information describing qualified continuing education programs, please call the AIA office at 412-471-9548.

AIA Pittsburgh is using e-mail to keep our members informed of the chapter's activities. If you would like to be included and are a member, please send your address to aiappgh@sgi.net.

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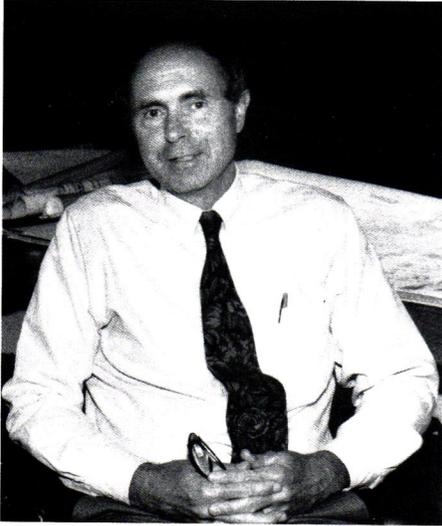
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Thomas B. Trebilcock, AIA



FIRM: WTW Architects

FAMILY: Wife: *Kathryn*, Children: *Amy, Ellen & Tom*, Grand Children: *Nial, Emma & Audrey*

YEARS IN PRACTICE: 42 years at WTW with Tom Williams and Paul Whitehead. Plus a couple more years before we became official.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCES: BS architecture, University of Cincinnati, 1957

I worked as a union carpenter during school years. This is still one of my enjoyments when I have the time to get into it. I have been on Rosslyn Farms Borough Council for 29 years with various responsibilities, including president for 15 years. This has been quite educational at times and I recommend it to young professionals.

BEST REWARD FOR AN ARCHITECT: A client who loves his building(s), and better yet tells everyone he does.

FAVORITE BUILDINGS: This is a difficult question, and my answer changes with the years. Right now especially two buildings in Spain have made a lasting impression. Both have fantastic interiors that are almost unbelievable. They are the Guggenheim Museum at Bilbao, and the La Mezquita Mosque/Cathedral a Cordoba on which construction started in 785.

One other building I just visited was the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. If you're in the area it's definitely worth the time to go in and see some grand interior spaces.

WISH LIST FOR PITTSBURGH: To make Pittsburgh an even more beautiful city. I wish Pittsburgh could become a litter-less city. That the walkways, roads, and river banks would somehow, through everyone's help and desire, become free of all the litter.

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB, AND WHY? Being associated with many, many, good concerned people, and producing quality work while having fun doing it.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE, WHERE WOULD IT BE? I'm still looking. So far I've no plans to leave Pittsburgh except for maybe a few months in the winter.

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Upcoming Issues

WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS AS WE EXPLORE THE FOLLOWING TOPICS IN 2001:

May

- Campus Architecture: Penn State University and the University of Pittsburgh
- Driving Market Demand for Sustainable Building from the Green Building Association
- High Performance Schools: Hanson Design's greening of 13 schools statewide

June

- The Digital Divide: How computer architecture is changing the profession (Tip: see the HAC exhibit now!)

July/August

- Design goals of Pittsburgh: how do we make the city more appealing?

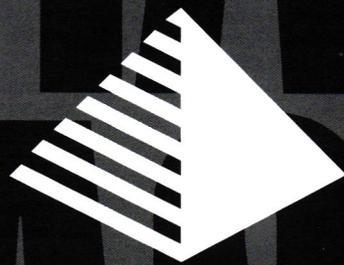
September

- Transportation in Pittsburgh – Good design matters
- Cool digs: firms in unusual office space

To contribute to an issue or to submit a story idea, please contact the editor at 412/563-7173 or email tcerto@adelphia.net.

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