1972 Architectural Awards of Excellence
The Architectural Awards of Excellence were established by The American Institute of Steel Construction in 1960 to recognize and honor outstanding architectural design in structural steel and to encourage further exploration of the many aesthetic possibilities that are inherent in steel construction. This year a distinguished jury named eight buildings for Architectural Awards of Excellence. In the opinion of the AISC Committee on Awards, each building represents design of the highest standards, and all awards are equal in stature. The award-winning architects are listed on the following pages with pictures of the buildings for which they received commendation.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION
Jury of Awards

S. SCOTT FEREBEE, JR., FAIA
First Vice President, The American Institute of Architects
President, Ferebee, Walters & Associates
Charlotte, North Carolina

VINCENT G. KLING, FAIA
Managing Partner, Vincent G. Kling & Partners
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

JOHN O. MERRILL, JR., AIA
Partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
San Francisco, California

LEO PLOFKER
Partner, The Office of James Ruderman
New York, New York

MARIO G. SALVADORI, FASCE
Chairman, Division of Architectural Technology
School of Architecture, Columbia University
New York, New York
1972 Architectural Awards of Excellence

ARCHONICS CORPORATION
Boiler Plant Addition

DANIEL, MANN, JOHNSON, & MENDENHALL
Aircraft Accessories Overhaul Shop (P-108) (P-110)

C. F. MURPHY ASSOCIATES
McCormick Place On-The-Lake

GEORGE NELSON AND GORDON CHADWICK
Pyramid Branch of Peoples Trust Bank

JOSEPH ROTH & ASSOCIATES
Cook Field

RTKL INC.
Calvert County Vocational-Technical Center

EBERLE M. SMITH ASSOCIATES, INC.
Monguagon School

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
Pardee Substation
"Here is a skifful combination of form and color that uses materials congenial with the job at hand. The architect has combined the aesthetics of utilitarian structure with the essence of the structure itself."
—Jurors' Comments

Architect-Engineer
Archonics Corporation, Terre Haute, Indiana

Boiler Plant Addition
Terre Haute, Indiana

General Contractor
F. A. Wilhelm Construction Co., Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana

Steel Fabricator
Modern Welding & Boiler Works, Terre Haute, Indiana

Owner
Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana

The design of the boiler plant addition for a rapidly growing city college campus expresses its pure engineering function. Engineering considerations called for a vertical structure, and a very high stack was needed to prevent noxious gases from reaching an adjacent high-rise dormitory. The building is located next to the older boiler plant to permit economical access to existing tunnels.

The building is a simple rectangle, 71½ feet long, 39 feet wide, rising 93 feet above grade. There is a full subgrade area 25 feet below grade level. At grade level, there is an office, control room, and toilet facilities. Above, there are seven additional operating areas.

The architectural expression is one of simple function of enclosure. Weathering steel was selected as the enclosure material to minimize the size of the structure and its impact on its surroundings, and because its light weight contributed to the economy of the structural steel framing. Above the solid enclosure, surrounding the boiler and its maze of interconnections, the exterior changes to a screen at the precipitators. The louvers are angled and sculpted to distinguish the function of the top portions of the building from the housing of the boiler below.
"A disciplined, artistic structure that shows thoughtful attention to the quartering of military technical processes."—Jurors' Comments

Architect-Engineer
Daniel, Mann, Johnson, & Mendenhall, Los Angeles, California

Aircraft Accessories Overhaul Shop (P-108) (P-110)
San Diego, California

General Contractor
G. L. Cory, San Diego, California

Steel Fabricator
J. C. Ek Machine & Steel Co., San Diego, California

Owner
Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Western Division, San Bruno, California

This aircraft accessories overhaul facilities building, constructed in two equal phases, contains a total gross of 278,000 square feet. The plant is designed to establish a functional work flow and include a computer-controlled storage and retrieval/automated handling and delivery system.

Nine-foot deep steel trusses efficiently met the requirements of 39-foot by 102-foot clear bay size. Wide flange steel also allowed use of minimum size columns in the 25-foot clear ceiling height.

The building is designed as a rectangular solid, 705 feet long, 410 feet wide, 40 feet high. The steel structure is clearly expressed as part of the skin with the chord lines of the truss and the column positions articulated in 3/16-inch thick steel plate. Precast concrete panels are expressed as nonbearing infill between columns. A three-foot high glass window angled inward below the bottom chord of the truss allows the inhabitants an awareness of natural light conditions.
"This enormous building is designed on a scale appropriate to its structural form. It is attractive, but not overwhelming. The detailing of the supporting columns is excellent, both in terms of technical quality and aesthetics. This is an outstanding exhibition hall."

—Jurors’ Comments
Architect-Engineer
C. F. Murphy Associates, Chicago, Illinois

McCormick Place On-The-Lake
Chicago, Illinois

General Contractors
Gust K. Newberg Construction Co., Chicago, Illinois
Paschen Contractors, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

Steel Fabricator
Allied Structural Steel Company
Hammond, Indiana

Owner
Metropolitan Fair and Exposition Authority
Chicago, Illinois

The new glass-sheathed McCormick Place comprises a 114-foot high exposition hall and a theater linked by a skylit plaza, separated by a protected traffic mall, and topped by a 600-foot by 1,350-foot roof. The two-way truss system supporting the roof has 76-foot overhangs on all sides, which serve as a sunshade and as a cover for loading docks and pedestrian areas. In the public area there are unobstructed views of the lake and surrounding park land. Structural bays are 150 feet by 150 feet. The roof's two-way trusses are 15 feet deep and spaced 30 feet on center, framing into 50-foot high steel columns. The geometric patterns of the huge exposed trusses are an intrinsic part of the architectural appearance of the facility.
Architects
George Nelson and Gordon Chadwick, New York, New York
(Alan R. Grinsfelder, Supervising Architect)

Pyramid Branch of Peoples Trust Bank
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Structural Engineer
D. M. Snyder & Associates, Fort Wayne, Indiana

General Contractor
Irmscher & Sons, Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana

Steel Fabricator
Unistrut Corporation, Wayne, Michigan

Owner
Peoples Trust Bank, Fort Wayne, Indiana

The central requirement for this bank, which serves as a prototype for a series of suburban banks in a midwestern city, is that it be readily identifiable as part of a local banking system. To implement this objective a pyramidal form was chosen, as the shape suggests stability, as well as being a reasonable structural form.

The architect treated site and building as a single element, which permitted the creation of sloped planting areas. Steel is used in two conspicuous but different ways. The exterior of the pyramid is formed sheet, designed to create horizontal shadow lines. The interior is an exposed steel space frame, detailed to meet the problems implicit in a pyramidal form.

The space frame, completely exposed within the 900 square foot banking room, acts aesthetically and as a support for a flexible lighting system, as well as for posters, banners, plants, or promotional material.
"This is an exciting form generated by a spatial concept rather than by imagery. Here is a happy marriage of a simple, straightforward structure with the concept of well arranged space for people to trade with one another. The building is simple, pleasant, natural, and without pretense." — Jurors' Comments
A series of weathering steel, hexagonal umbrellas make up this unusual shelter, one of two such facilities, in a large urban park. The design of the individual components is one that is both compatible with and accentuates the shape, scale, and feeling of the wooded area. The shelter covers 5,000 square feet to provide a focal point for separate group picnics.

The umbrellas are fabricated of 1/4-inch thick welded plates. Weathering steel was selected because it is virtually indestructible, maintenance free, and inexpensive.

"A playful sculptural shelter in a park is bordered by a very logical use of steel hexagonal umbrellas to produce an interesting and imaginative lighting arrangement. The inverted umbrella creates a lovely counterpoint."—Jurors' Comments
A superb combination of architecture, structure, and graphics. Though a simple, orderly building, it has a spirit of festivity and a rare feeling of intimate humanism."

—Jurors' Comments
This 61,300-square foot county vocational-technical center is designed for 450 full-time and 450 part-time students.

Two main activity nodes, the resource center and the technical center, share a student lounge and entry "street." The "street" doubles as a sales area for student-made articles and as a retailing training center.

Colorful "supergraphics" dot the loading doors of the automotive area, symbolizing the activities within. The completely overhead mechanical systems are exposed and color-coded as a training device.

Welded steel Pratt trusses and bar joists provide the clear spans for the column-free, flexible interior space. Exposed steel is featured throughout the complex. Solar gray glass at the building's perimeter introduce natural lighting into the interior.
The program for this junior high school required a building flexible enough to meet any future growth and change in educational needs.

The resultant design is arranged in staggered half levels: a Science and Math loft occupies the upper level, an Exploratory loft, the lower level, and an intermediate level contains a main pedestrian concourse and supporting functions including the library, dining facilities, and a large group forum. Movable walls and folding partitions are integrated with the mechanical and electrical systems to produce a totally integrated modular structure.

The positioning of the building and the configuration of the floor plan preserved an existing grove of trees on the site. The building's three-dimensional concept and its landscaping maintain a scale that does not overpower the nearby residences.

An economical steel frame of beams, columns, and steel joist's guides the large spans and mechanical cavities required for the architectural layout. Exterior walls and upper level fascias are weathering steel.
"A very exciting school. Its rich sweeping forms and open patterns release the school to the outdoors and its most attractive natural surroundings. There is a nice contrast between the quiet exterior and a lively interior."—Jurors Comments
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