

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Just because some individuals insist on cluttering the landscape and demonize the view of inhabitants of the space around Frank Gehry's building is no reason to reproduce the abomination of building materials in construction and engineering magazines. The reason I subscribe to magazines like *Civil Engineer* and *Engineering News Record* is to get current, useful information about the civil engineering projects and the building industry. Last week one of the magazines stated that Gehry got his inspiration for the Peter B. Lewis building in Cleveland, Ohio from mountains in the western part of the country. It could just as well have come from the manure piles at one of the cattle feed lots in east Texas or Oklahoma. Why do editors waste several pages of ghastly photos and boring text trying to explain how this one-time super-complicated structure was computed and then patched together in the field? We've already suffered through the Guggenheim Museum and Seat-

tle's Experience Music Project and now we have another.

Today I received a real shock while paging through June's *Modern Steel Construction*—the Peter B. Lewis Building received the first place award in the \$25 million to \$100 million category of the Engineering Awards of Excellence. I hope the award was for using the most pounds of steel per square foot of usable floor space. Otherwise my 47 years of experience gained by working for two steel fabricators and one of the best structural engineering firms was wasted.

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