ARCHITECTS OF COLORADO BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Architectural Firm: Lusk and Wallace

Office: Colorado Springs

Practice Dates:

Principals: Dietz Lusk

James Wallace

Additional Firms:

Information

Buildings in Colorado Springs designed by Dietz Lusk and James Wallace include the Broadmoor Community Church (which won a national American Institute of Architects design award in the late 1960s), the First National Bank (since altered), the Air Force Academy Visitors' Center, Bates Elementary School, Cheyenne High School, and many others.

One of the partners' more important works is the Maytag Aircraft Building. James Wallace recalled in 2003 that an effort was made to make the building look contemporary, with the roof trusses intended to evoke airfoils. Part of the framing system was patterned after a house in New England, and the tinted window glass was intended to reflect heat. Robinson Brick of Denver was probably the supplier of the turquoise glazed brick used for the walls. While glazed brick was not a new material, the turquoise color was certainly indicative of the 1950s. The courtyard between the two parts of the building was planned for outdoor use (including meetings), open to the sun but protected from the wind. There is a partial basement for storage and a tunnel that carries building systems between the two parts.

James Wallace, interviewed in his 80s, said that the building was designed to "provide lots of inside space without columns and to be sort of reflective of wings." He noted that the exposed aluminum trusses in the roof system were to resemble aircraft wings; the freestanding truss roof system provided for a column- free interior; the glazed bricks were maintenance free; and the inset at the base of the building gave it a little of a floating feeling. The courtyard area continued the inside/outside feeling of the building. Wallace recalled that the little long building was used for other Maytag family members' businesses, not Maytag Aircraft Corporation, and they used the connecting tunnel. Architect Michael Collins, who considers Wallace one of his primary mentors, said "It's a beautifully proportioned building like an aircraft has to be beautifully proportioned to fly."

From Roslyn Stouffer, "Maytag Aircraft Building," Colorado State Register of Historic Properties nomination, August 2005.

Awards (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Award	Date
Broadmoor Community	Colorado Springs	national American Institute	Late 1960s
Church		of Architects design award	

Credited Buildings (partial list)

_Building Name	Location	_Site No.	Date*	Status
Broadmoor Community Church	Colorado Springs			
Maytag Aircraft Building	Colorado Springs			State Register
First National Bank	Colorado Springs			Extant but altered
Air Force Academy Visitors' Center	Colorado Springs			Extant
Bates Elementary School	Colorado Springs			
Cheyenne High School	Colorado Springs			

^{*}Completion date is stated if known. Plan, building permit, or assessor date is shown if completion date is unknown.

Information Sources

Stouffer, Roslyn. "Maytag Aircraft Building," Colorado State Register of Historic Properties nomination, August 2005.

Site Files Database, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver.

Revised: June 10, 2007