

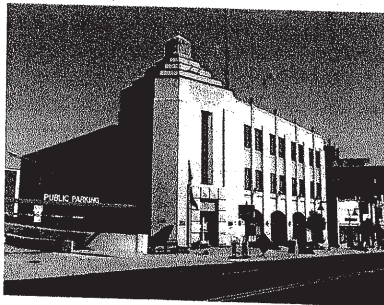
exhibitions. He graduated in 1910 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture, then attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, from 1911 through 1913.

In 1914, King was working as a draughtsman at his home in Pittsburgh's East End. In 1915, he opened an architectural office at 801 House Building in downtown Pittsburgh and exhibited designs for two houses at that year's Pittsburgh Architectural Club exhibition. King worked as a civil engineer in 1918, perhaps in connection with the war.⁹² He resumed private practice in 1919 and in 1923 moved to Mt. Lebanon. In 1928, he designed the Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building, one of the area's outstanding Art Deco buildings, completed in 1930.⁹³

King moved to Washington, Pennsylvania, his wife's hometown, in the early 1930s. While living in Washington, he took a position in 1943 with the Pittsburgh firm of Janssen & Cocken. He returned to Mt. Lebanon in 1944 and subsequently worked for architects Pressley Dowler and Hoffman & Crumpton. He died in Mt. Lebanon in 1953 and is buried in Washington, Pennsylvania.

18. Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

710 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon
William H. King, Jr., architect, 1928–30;
Rothschild Doyno Collaborative, architects for
renovation and restoration, 2004.
Historic Landmark plaque



Four silent figures stand watch over their community—not threatening, not too familiar—but dignified, as befits their age. From their roof-top vantage point, this hooded quartet atop the Mt. Lebanon

Municipal Building surveys the community, as it has since 1930. At the top of the building, the governmental eagle—wings spread—proclaims the seat of municipal authority, while a stylized bronze bas-relief panel, "Wisdom in Government," is set above the main entrance. Chevron panels (a repeated V-shaped pattern) on the Washington Road façade provide abstract decoration between the windows. Inside, the aluminum stair

railings and lighting fixtures in the dramatic two-story lobby are richly geometric and sleekly streamlined (see photo, page 222).

In addition to the municipal offices, the building originally housed the Mt. Lebanon Police and Fire departments. The Police and



PK Architecture in
The 20th Century
notable Buildings
Modern Buildings
+ Their Architects.

Albert Tonales

DHLF 2013

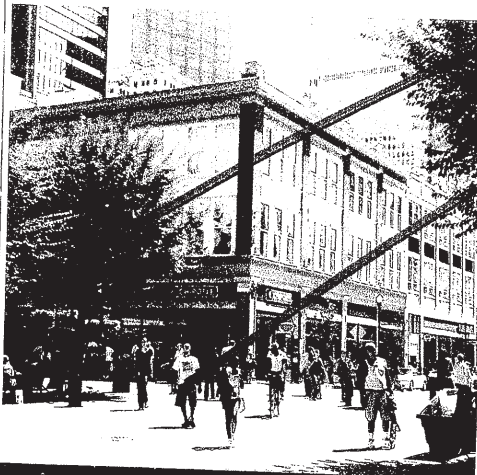
Fire departments moved to a new Public Safety Center that opened in 2003. The Municipal Building was renovated and restored in 2004 by Rothschild Doyno Collaborative; the firm was committed to "preserving and restoring the ... distinguished interior and exterior art deco features."⁹⁴ The four large fire-truck doorways were replaced with large windows and doors, and the former fire-truck garage now houses the Commission Chambers.

This building exemplifies a change of direction, as Walter C. Kidney observed: "Municipal buildings in the 1920s tended to be classical. ... but now and then a Moderne example appeared as well toward the end of the decade."⁹⁵

G. C. Murphy Company, founded by George Clintock Murphy in McKeesport in 1906, was one of the region's most successful businesses. By 1930 there were 170 stores in Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. At the height of the Depression between 1930 and 1936, Murphy's built some forty new stores. "In addition to the stores Murphy's purchased, a few new locations were constructed or remodeled to the company's specifications. Beginning in 1925, they were designed by Murphy's in-house architect, **Harold E. Crosby**, who became the first and only employee of the newly created construction division on July 8."⁹⁶ Harold Crosby (1899–1958), a Missouri native, had graduated from Iowa State College in 1922. After serving as company architect from 1925 to 1946, he was vice president of Murphy's Construction Division from 1947 to 1955.

19. Market Square Place (including G. C. Murphy Company Store No. 12)

Forbes Avenue at Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh
Harold E. Crosby, architect, 1930; Strada Architecture, LLC, architects for renovation and restoration, 2006–09
City Historic District



Market Square Place, located at 222 Fifth Avenue, incorporates seven historic buildings in an award-winning, LEED Gold, mixed-use development by Millcraft Industries, Inc. of Washington, Pennsylvania. Forty-six loft apartments, underground parking, new street-level retail, and a new downtown YMCA