



Judicial Center in Topeka was one of designed by the Topeka architectural and Bradly Partnership. Works by the

firm will be on exhibit Monday through Friday in the Seaton Hall gallery on the Kansas State University campus.

Topeka architectural firm to exhibit works at K-State

By IFAN PAYNE
Contributing Writer

The third in the series of Architecture from the Plains exhibits to be mounted in the Department of Architecture at KSU will be open to public viewing this week, Monday to Friday, in 205 Seaton Hall gallery on the KSU campus. This week's exhibit will consist of the work of the firm of Kiene and Bradly Partnership.

The firm was established in Topeka in 1952 as has carried out projects in several states in addition to Kansas, including Missouri, Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota and Ohio.

Throughout its projects, an important goal for the firm, according to partner Gary L. Hibbs, is "to accomplish each client's goal of providing a structure that is serviceable over a long term". The firm views itself, maintains Mr. Hibbs, as "being conservative in design outlook, with the emphasis being placed on providing a long lasting and maintenance-free building for the client".

The list of distinguished buildings designed by the Partnership is a long one, and includes such buildings as the Capitol Savings and Loan in Prairie Village, Kansas, and the First National Bank Tower in Topeka.

"Our firm tries not to do some of the things that some national firms do, in terms of experimenting with new things," explains Gary Hibbs. "We work with components that we have experience with and with which we are comfortable."

Mr. Hibbs feels that the firm approaches architectural design very much in the manner in which he sees Kansans and Topekans approaching life in general, that is, in a "localized

building that reflected their philosophical approach to government."

It would at first glance seem as though the Kiene and Bradly Partnership has been developing a specialization and expertise in the design of hospitals. In recent years the firm has executed commissions for the design of the Menninger Foundation West Campus, Stormont-Vail Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital in Topeka, but this has been a fortuitous occurrence, rather than any attempt on the part of the Partnership to specialize. The firm has in fact been attempting to maintain a broad approach to all potential design projects.

Like most architectural firms, Kiene and Bradly have seen changes in attitudes to energy conservation in building effecting their approach to design: as in the use of heat recovery systems, changing attitudes towards the ratio of glazed areas and the utilization of solar heating for hot water. The firm has also over the last five or six years been involved with two fairly large re-use projects. The Jayhawk Tower in Topeka, a hotel converted into an office building, is an example of the way in which it has become part of the trend toward reusing old buildings rather than tearing them down and building anew.