

Let there be light

Daylight effect sought by firm

By Janice Brunson
staff writer

If all goes as planned, the dome on Michigan's state capitol in Lansing will blaze anew amid a wreath of lights, illuminated once again as it was at the turn of the century when incandescent lamps highlighted the shape of the dome.

The interior of the dome, an unbroken vertical space spanning four flights, will shine for the first time thanks to specially designed fixtures.

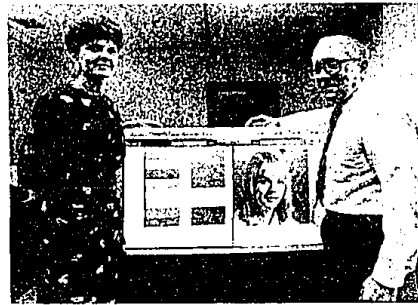
"This is an historic restoration, returning the original as best you can, either by restoring what is available or replicating that which is not. The original effect can be simulated very well," said Stephen Squillace, a lighting engineer with Shreve-Weber-Stellwagen Engineering in Southfield who is heading up the lighting restoration project.

When and if the project is ultimately funded, Squillace will restore the capitol's lighting system as closely as possible to the original concept designed by E.E. Myers in 1872.

Squillace pours over dated newspaper accounts and century-old photographs to learn what the original system looked like. He fastidiously studies modern trade catalogues in search of the perfect modern replacement.

THE ATTENTION to detail is more than historical preservation. Lighting is no longer a simple matter of economics, not if optimum results are to be achieved, according to Wolfgang Weber, an electrical engineer who founded the engineering consulting firm in 1984 with mechanical engineer Gerry Shreve.

Present lighting trends blend esthetics with cost and efficiency, a move away from the economical "turn out the lights" mentality that marked the industry following oil embargoes in the 1970s, according to Weber.



JERRY ZOLYNSKY/staff photographer

Judy Bentley and Stephen Squillace demonstrate how color and visibility of light can be measured.

'Lighting defines the size and shape of a room. It creates atmospheres.'

— Wolfgang Weber

"Much more care goes into choosing lamp sources today. We not only look at energy and cost efficiency, but we also consider esthetics," Weber said, because "lighting defines the size and shape of a room. It creates atmospheres."

Optimum lighting, according to Squillace, "defines visibility, how well we can see. A normal eye takes in a scene that is 135 degrees vertically and 170 degrees horizontally, a great big panorama."

If the entire panorama is not lighted, "the body responds and says this is not right. Correct lighting gives you a daylight effect which is what the eye actually sees," he said.

IMPROVEMENTS in existing lamps in recent years and a greater variety in available size, shape and wattage provides greater control and more subtle results in lighting, according to Squillace, adding he frequently mixes sources to achieve desired results.

Metal halide and fluorescent are energy efficient. Fluorescent, available in a variety of shapes and wattages, also provides good color rendering. Incandescent allows for better light control.

All three allow for "alternatives to downlighting," or indirect lighting which Squillace favors because it reduces glare and increases contrast.

"State-of-art lighting, if there is any such thing, has to be done with light reflecting off other surfaces. Indirect lighting simply makes it easier to see," Squillace said, demonstrating the differences between direct and indirect lighting by a series of lamps used to light his own work area.

But clients all too frequently "see" things differently, preferring bright.

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Mike Hiltch's dream calls for the Fox Theatre to form the hub of a downtown Detroit theater district which will include an enclosed shopping mall "with an emphasis on eateries,"

Hiltch Fox-trot grabs headlines

By Bill Parker
staff writer

Arena Football League.

While posing for photographers outside the Fox Theatre in Detroit Monday, Mike Hiltch recalled he never went to the Fox when he was a youngster growing up in the Motor City.

"I couldn't afford it," he said.

Now Hiltch owns the theater. When restored, the 10-story facility will become the new home of the world headquarters of Little Caesar International.

Because of his leadership and contributions to the community, Hiltch, a Bloomfield Hills resident, was named Detroit's 1987 Newsmaker of the Year by Crain's Detroit Business. He was honored Monday by the Detroit Economic Club with a luncheon at Cobo Hall.

Hiltch was also a force behind a lighting project for downtown Detroit, which began last year at Hart Plaza. He donated more than \$1 million to support the project. He also owns Little Caesars Enterprises, the Detroit Red Wings, Joe Louis Arena, Olympia Arenas (management company for Joe Louis and Cobo arenas), and he recently bought the Detroit Drive, Detroit's new franchise in the

will remain in Farmington Hills as is right now."

Hiltch opened his first Little Caesars pizza parlor in Garden City in 1959. Since then Little Caesars has grown into the third-largest pizza chain in the nation, serving 48 states and three countries.

Hiltch was the first to introduce two pizzas for the price of one with his "Pizza, Pizza" campaign in 1974. In 1976, the first Pizza Station was opened in Southfield, offering drive-through service and a traveling oven for on-site pizza preparation at recreation events.

The company posted sales of \$725 million in 1987 through its more than 1,800 restaurants in the U.S., Canada and England.

WHEN THE FOX project is completed, the area will be the center of a theater district downtown. Plans for the facility include the Little Caesars headquarters, entertainment, an enclosed shopping mall "with an emphasis on eateries" and a parking garage.

"A theater district will have a big impact on the city," said Hiltch. "We'll bring a million people to the Fox."

Proposed entertainment will include "Broadway, rock and roll, comedy, just about everything we have at Joe Louis and more," said Hiltch.

Hiltch now estimates it will cost him \$30 million for restoration and renovation of the Fox Theatre as opposed to the original price of \$15 million.

Conference draws area women

Eight area business women will lead workshops at the fifth annual Conference of Women Business Owners called "Ahead of the Curve: Business in the 90's" Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, at the Hyatt Regency in Flint.

The conference is open to women owning a majority interest in Michigan business and those considering a business in the state. Business trends and predictions for the 1990s will be analyzed.

The conference is sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), the Michigan Small Business Development Center at Wayne State University, the Office of Women Business Owners Services of the Michigan Department of Commerce and the U.S. Small Business

Administration. Ellen Goodman, Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated columnist, will be the keynote luncheon speaker on Friday. The Athena Award to the Woman Entrepreneur of the Year will be presented at the Friday night reception followed by a concert by the Chenille Sisters.

Thirty-five workshops have been designed along four tracks of business development ranging from business startup to expansion and diversification.

BIRMINGHAM attorney Nina Dodge Abrams and human resources counselor Jacqueline Y. Castine of

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