



VALLEY OF THE GIANTS



Harry Irvin Schenck
1880 - 1956

Harry I. Schenck was born November 13, 1880, in Dayton, the son of Aaron Schenck. He attended Dayton schools, and then went on to get a degree in architectural engineering from Cornell University in 1903. In January 1906 he and Harry J. Williams formed the firm of Schenck and Williams. Also, in 1906, he married

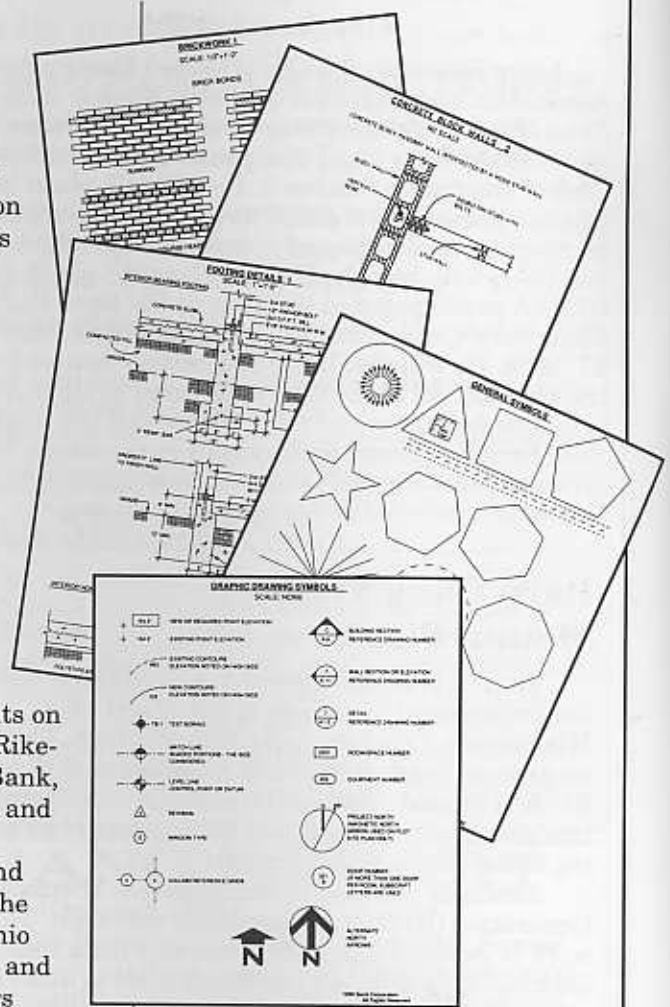
Eloise Rochester from Canada (their two children were Harry Irvin, Jr. and Eloise).

The firm rapidly advanced to a position of prominence among Dayton architects, and some of its more prominent works include the Third Street Baptist Church, Dayton View Baptist, Dayton Street Christian, First Baptist, Westminster Presbyterian, Grace Methodist and other churches in Ohio. Other well-known buildings include Dayton's first all-concrete-and-steel building (original Delco) at 35 S. St. Clair, the Delco and Frigidaire plants on E. First and on Webster, Rike-Kumler, Third National Bank, Hulman Building, YMCA and YWCA, Dayton Power & Light, Good Samaritan and Miami Valley Hospitals, the Conservancy Building, Ohio Bell, the Victory Theatre, and our own Dayton Engineers Club building.

His work included many schools and private homes. The Orville Wright Home in Oakwood, the Charles Kettering and Edward Deeds homes are but a few of the outstanding homes designed by this firm.

About 50 people were continuously employed during the '30s and '40s, one of whom was Engineers Club member Eugene Betz, who joined the firm in November of 1944 and left to form his own firm in January of 1956. Mr. Schenck passed away 2 weeks later, at the age of 76.

In addition to being one of the first few members of our Engineers Club in 1914, Mr. Schenck was one of the early Presidents, 1927 - 29. He was a long-time member and past-president of the Dayton



Chapter of the American Institute of Architecture, a very active member of the Dayton Chamber and also the Oakwood Planning Commission. He was a member of Dayton Country Club, Dayton Rotary, and was active in several Masonic Temple organizations. He served as director of Dayton Art Institute, was Trustee of Dayton Community Chest, and was a member of the Central Reformed Church.

Harry I. Schenck was one of those fortunate human beings to whom their profession was also their hobby, and he was one of the many who deserve a place in the history of our beloved VALLEY OF THE GIANTS!