

It recalls ^{both} the sketches of Violette le Duc and is described by Le Corbusier in the words of Le Corbusier, "unity of operation, a clear aim in view, strategy, legislation." (p. 158 ^{Towards A NEW ARCH})

The "Pyramid" (1964) is a simple form, with a simple mass, and simple geometry, geometric ornamentation. It stands alone in a lightly wooded semi-wooded area, ~~one~~ on top of a small ~~hill~~ ^{crest} ~~which~~ ^{slopes down to a} ~~not~~ ^{road} ~~far~~ ^{from} a four lane highway. ~~The~~ ~~trees~~ ~~surround~~ ~~the~~ ~~building~~ ~~are~~ ~~about~~ ~~as~~ ~~tall~~, and thus giving the building a graceful scale. The building must be considered as a monument; that's exactly what it is, like the pyramids of Egypt or like Uncle Scrooge's Money Bin in Duckburg.

It was designed for the Imperial Finance Investment Services. The client stated quite clearly what he wanted: a building that would fit the character of the corporation it housed. The only other stipulation, aside from room specifications, was that it had to have a squash court. ~~His~~ ~~requirements~~ ~~was~~ ~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~had~~ ~~to~~ ~~have~~ ~~a~~ ~~squash~~ ~~court~~. ~~The~~ ~~form~~ ~~does~~ ~~not~~ ~~derive~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~function~~, although the architect claims he designed it around the squash court, which is at the top of the pyramid. The form derives from the concept behind the function. The shape won't ~~necessarily~~ ^{be} ^{imperative} to house the ^{necessary} elements, but the shape did give the most perfect expression to the function of the corporation. The early sketches recall ~~the~~ ~~structure~~ ~~of~~ ~~Venturi's~~ ~~Guild~~ ~~House~~ ~~Apartments~~. ~~The~~ ~~super-graphics~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~crowning~~ ~~structure~~ ~~match~~ ~~up~~ ~~perfectly~~ ~~in~~ ~~form~~, ~~design~~, ~~and~~ ~~function~~.

Between the two buildings there would have been absolute correspondence ~~between~~ ^{of} the supergraphics and crowning little sculptures. But discession dictated that the architect back off from his wife's initial plans. (The first small sketch is her drawing and her idea.) The substitution of the corporation's emblem ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~of~~ for the signs ^{renders} ~~makes~~ the effect more subtle and perhaps more ^{pretentious} ~~pretentious~~. But the building does become a direct caricature of the graphics of the One Dollar Bill, with a more pure sort of parody.

The definition given by Emerich Schaffaren's Dictionary of the ARTS applies rather well to the Pyramid:

CAPS → MONUMENT. a) In the wider sense every outstanding or typical work of art, but in the narrower and more