

City of Milwaukee
Historic Preservation Commission
November 30, 2020

- e-1. Its exemplification of the development of the cultural, economic, social or historic heritage of the City of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin or of the United States.

Rationale: Many aspects of architectural design and philosophy saw changes after World War II not only in Milwaukee but globally. Library design which had been evolving throughout the 19th and first half of the 20th century was no exception. Architects and librarians were confronted with new challenges in the dissemination of information and democratization of knowledge. How best to house the institution resulted in the establishment of consistent principles through the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, that have now evolved again in the current millennium.

(pg 18 of Permanent Historic Designation Study Report, Forest Home Library dated November 30, 2020)

South Branch was the city's first library branch. It had the distinction of being the first established in an immigrant neighborhood and one of the earliest branch libraries in the country.

(pg 7 of Permanent Historic Designation Study Report, Forest Home Library dated November 30, 2020)

Branch libraries were soon expanded throughout the city. None were to be as monumental as Central Library or South Branch Library with one exception, the Llewellyn Library in the Bay View neighborhood at 907 East Russell.

(pg 8 of Permanent Historic Designation Study Report, Forest Home Library dated November 30, 2020)

By 1964 two new libraries were up and running, one on Capitol Drive (3969 North 74th Street today, changed from 7413 West Capitol) and the other at 35th and Oklahoma

(pg 9 of Permanent Historic Designation Study Report, Forest Home Library dated November 30, 2020)

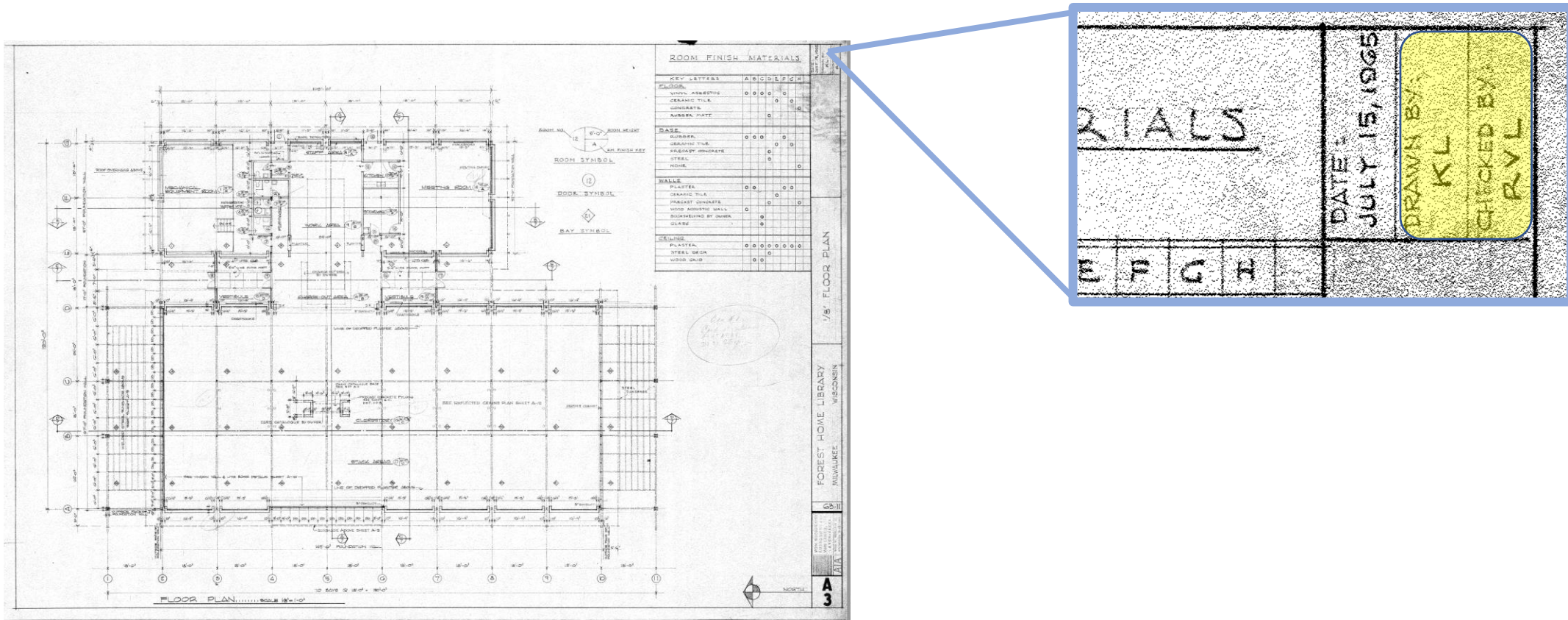
- e-5. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

Rationale: The Forest Home Library exhibits all the “classic” features of what in general has been termed Mid-Century Modern. It is not a style so much as a way to approach building design that utilizes new and sometimes experimental materials in new ways, looks for cost effective ways to meet functional needs and has structure become the focus of design. The Forest Home Library features a flat roof, lack of applied ornament, a block-like structure with overhanging roof, fenestration applied in a new way, and concrete panels that appear to burst through the main block of the building. In honor of the well-integrated interior and exterior, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects presented the building with its Honor Award in 1967. An ad by the United States Steel Corporation, featuring the library, states “The exposed structural shapes express an honesty of function that invites users in, unlike the forbidding monumentality of much library design.” (American Institute of Steel Construction, Modern Steel Construction, 1967 Architectural Awards of Excellence, page 7)

e-6

Its identification as the work of an artist, architect, craftsperson or master builder whose individual works have influenced the development of the city.

Rationale: Fritz Von Grossmann was a significant Milwaukee architect during the middle decades of the 20th century. Studying his projects has put a lens on how his works gave Milwaukee a new character after World War II.





Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

Credential/Licensing Search

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Individual Search Results

Search parameters

Last Name: Vanlanen
First Name:
Credential/License Number:
Credential Type ID: 5

[Return to Search](#)

Total Result Count: 2

| Credential/License # | Profession | Name | Location | Granted | Expiration Date |
|----------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 3734 | ARCHITECT | DAVID R VANLANEN | GREEN BAY WI | 03/29/1974 | 07/31/2022 |
| 1882 | ARCHITECT | ROBERT J VANLANEN | MILWAUKEE WI | 04/21/1952 | 07/31/1990 |



Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

Credential/Licensing Search

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Individual Search Results

Search parameters

Last Name: Burroughs
First Name:
Credential/License Number:
Credential Type ID: 5

[Return to Search](#)

Total Result Count: 1

| Credential/License # | Profession | Name | Location | Granted | Expiration Date |
|----------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| 1693 | ARCHITECT | CHARLES W BURROUGHS | MEQUON WI | 01/07/1946 | 07/31/1994 |



Wisconsin Credential/License Search

ATTENTION: If a renewal payment is received on time, the credential/license holder is eligible to practice while the credential/license is being processed.

- Search returned no results. Please check your search terms and try again.

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VONGROSSMANN, FREDERIC R (Primary Name)

900 JOHN RINGLING CAUSESWAY

APARTMENT 901

SARASOTA Florida 34236

SARASOTA

License Information

License Type:

Rank:

License Number:

Status:

Licensure Date:

Expires:

Architect

Architect

AR0002509

Null and Void

01/31/1989

Special Qualifications

Qualification Effective

Alternate Names

Excerpt from Attachment 5

Permanent Historic Designation Study Report, Forest Home Library dated November 30, 2020:

Von Grossmann, Burroughs, and Van Lanen

Security Savings & Loan, 2710 W National Ave., 1949
house, 6465 N Santa Monica Blvd., Whitefish Bay, 1950 (Burroughs)
Community Savings and Loan, 2526 W Vliet St., 1953
Reliance Savings & Loan, 3140 S 27th St., 1953
MPS Ninety-Fifth Street School (Bogner, Sutherland & Von Grossmann), 3707 N 94th St., 1953
Home Savings & Loan, 2805 W North Ave., 1953
MPS Fifty-Fifth Street School (Von Grossmann & Grieb), 2765 S 55th St., 1954
Grand Lodge Free Accepted Masons, 1123 N Astor St., 1956
Mt. Tabor UCC, 4920 N Sherman Blvd., 1956
Equitable Life Insurance, 1701 W Wisconsin Ave., 1957
Allis Chalmers Mfg West Bldg, 1205 S 70th St., West Allis, 1957
St. Peter Ev Luth, 7801 W Acacia Rd., 1958
Bowlero Bowling Alley, 11737 W Burleigh St., Wauwatosa, 1959
MPS Fulton Jr High (Malcom X Academy, closed) 2760 N 1st St., 1959
Arthur Andersen Data Center, 795 N Van Buren St., 1960 (demolished 2014)
We Energies building, 2425 S 35th St., 1960
Layton Park English Lutheran Church Christian center, 2820 W Grant St., 1960
Covenant Ev Luth, 8121 W Hope Ave., 1961
UWM Lutheran Chapel, 2223 E Kenwood Blvd., 1966
MPS Sholes Jr High (Burroughs, lead designer), 4965 S 20th St., 1964
MPS Alcott School, 3563 S 97th St., 1966
MPS Thoreau School, 7878 N 60th St., 1971
MPS Vincent HS (Architecture 360), 7501 N Granville Rd., 1979

1970 AIA American Architects Directory

The *American Architects Directory* was published by R.R. Bowker for the American Institute of Architects in [1956](#), 1962, and [1970](#). All AIA members and selected other architects were invited to contribute a biographical entry to the *Directory*. Those AIA members who did not send in an entry are shown with just an address listing or their entry from the first edition is repeated. The 1962 and 1970 editions also have listings for firms. In the 1962 edition, firms are alphabetized by the first surname in the firm name and interfiled with persons having that surname. In the 1970 edition, firms are listed after all persons who have that surname

VAN LANEN, ROBERT JOHN. AIA 50. Wisconsin Chapter
Burroughs & Van Lanen, Inc, 5455 W. Burleigh St, Milwaukee, Wis. 53210.
Home Add: 9030 W. Hadley, Wauwatosa, Wis. 53222.
b. Milwaukee, Wis, May 14, 14. Educ: Layton Art Sch; Univ. Wis-Milwaukee, Beaux Arts Inst. Design. Prev. Firm: Partner, Off. of Von Grossman, 49-56. Pres. Firm: Partner & prin, Burroughs & Van Lanen Archit, Inc, org. 56, joined firm, 49. Reg: Wis; NCARB Cert. Prin. Wks: Bolton Hall, Univ. Wis-Milwaukee, 65; Mem. Hosp, Oconomowoc, Wis, 66; Louisa May Alcott Sch, Milwaukee, 67; North Milwaukee Br. Libr, Wis, 68; Educ-Psychology Bldg, Wis. State Univ, Whitewater, 69. Govt. Serv: U.S.A. Corps Eng, Sgt, 41-45. AIA Activ: Wis. Chap, mem. exec. cmt, 66-68.

BURROUGHS, CHARLES W. AIA 49. Wisconsin Chapter
Burroughs & Van Lanen Architects, Inc, 5455 W. Burleigh St, Milwaukee, Wis. 53210.
Home Add: 6465 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Fox Point, Wis. 53217.
b. Milwaukee, Wis, Apr. 1, 10. Educ: B.S.Arch, Univ. Mich, 36; Univ. Wis; Tau Sigma Delta. Pres. Firm: Partner, Burroughs & Van Lanen Archit, Inc, org. 56, joined firm, 46. Reg: Wis; NCARB Cert. Prin. Wks: Kettle Moraine High Sch, Wales, Wis, 65; Milwaukee Co. Gen. Hosp. Seventh & Eighth Floor Addn, 66; Pewaukee Schs, Wis, 68; Henry David Thoreau Elem. Sch, Milwaukee; Mem. Hosp, Milwaukee. Pub. Serv: Gov. Task Force on Educ, Milwaukee, 69-70. Govt. Serv: U.S.A. Corps Eng, 43-45.

VON GROSSMANN, FREDERIC RICHARD (FRITZ). AIA 47, FAIA 65.
Wisconsin Chapter
† Fritz von Grossmann, R.R. 1, Box 217, 4988 Lake Bluff Lane, Port Washington, Wis. 53074; 1041 Hillsboro Beach, Pompano Beach, Fla. 33062.
b. Milwaukee, Wis, Mar. 3, 04. Educ: B.Arch, Univ. Minn, 28; M.Arch, Harvard Grad. Sch. Design, 32; First Medal, Beaux Art Inst. Design, 32; Alpha Rho Chi, 24; Harvard Univ. Scholar, 30-32. Prev. Firms: Prin, Off. Fritz von Grossmann, 39-55; prin, von Grossmann, Burroughs & Van Lanen Inc, 56-67. Pres. Firm: Fritz von Grossmann, org. 39. Reg: Fla, Minn, Wis; NCARB Cert. Prin. Wks: Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons Temple & Wis. Off, Milwaukee, 57; Arthur Andersen Wis. Hq, Milwaukee, 60; Wis. Gas Co, N. & S. Serv. Ctrs, 61; Univ. Wis. Bolton Hall, Milwaukee, 64, consult. archit. to State Dept. Eng, Madison, Wis; Wis. Lutheran Synod Hq, Milwaukee,

Notes on Scope and Arrangement

The "types of work" listing has been discontinued in this edition, and the examples of the architect's principal works completed through 1970 has been confined to a total of five. Following these, a list of five national or international professional honors and awards is entered. Then follow: educational activities

Despite our efforts to obtain complete data on architectural firms, the names of some principals are missing. The accuracy of such listings as well as biographical data are the responsibility of the principals and biographees concerned. The editorial office has used its best effort to include material submitted but has no legal responsibility for accidental omissions or errors.

- e-7. Its embodiment of innovation in architectural design or engineering, pre- or post-World War II, expressed in design, details, materials, craftsmanship, construction techniques or function of one or more buildings or structures.

Mid-Century Modern structures are known for their use of new materials. In the case of the Forest Home Library, the architects selected Cor-Ten steel for use on the building. Cor-Ten is a trademarked name for a product manufactured by U.S. Steel. Its name derives from Cor (corrosion resistant) and Ten (tensile strength). It was a product developed in the 1930s but first used for architectural purposes by Eero Saarinen for the John Deere Headquarters in 1964. The product has an exterior surface that weathers with a rust-like appearance and is resistant to atmospheric corrosion. Cor-Ten eliminates the need for painting and rust prevention.

