

The 1970s were marked by continued change of the social and cultural landscape. A new wave of developments in technology and science gave a sense of unlimited possibilities.

Irwin & Leighton maintained strong customer relationships in the academic and business worlds, and recommitted to the medical community of Philadelphia by building major new facilities that brought the latest science to local patients.

The end of the decade saw Irwin & Leighton's second successful management transition as Bill Olmstead retired and Walt Babich became President; the long green line continued.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY'S MATHEMATICS-PHYSICS COMPLEX

Princeton University's Departments of Mathematics and Physics were growing during the 1960s and 1970s, causing a need for more space. Irwin & Leighton was hired to construct a large complex which included two buildings connected by a shared library. Jadwin Hall, headquarters of the Department of Physics, was dedicated as a memorial to Stanley Palmer Jadwin, whose widow left \$27 million to the University upon her death in 1964. Fine Hall, home of the Mathematics and Statistics Department, adjoins Jadwin Hall. Including the two levels beneath the plaza, the complex has six floors; these contain ninety laboratories, eighty-four offices, and eight classrooms. Its basic construction is of reinforced concrete and steel, with a granite and brick-clad exterior.

This project is significant in that it was Irwin & Leighton's first on Princeton's main campus. It is doubly significant because in early 2009, Irwin & Leighton was awarded the contract to renovate Jadwin Hall to modern standards.



A Decade of Dynamic Growth



1970 **MATHEMATICS-PHYSICS COMPLEX, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**
Princeton, New Jersey • *Architect for Fine Hall: Hugh Stubbins and Associates*
Architect for Jadwin Hall: Warner Burns Toan & Lunde

Technology of Sound and Space



1976 **LIVING HISTORY CENTER, PHILADELPHIA '76, INC.**
*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • Architect: Mitchell/Giurgola Associates and
Raymond Loewy International, Inc.*

In 1976, Philadelphia hosted the nation's Bicentennial Celebration. The plan called for a mix of old and new attractions, the newest of which was the Living History Center at Independence Mall. Irwin & Leighton was contracted to build the Center, which included an IMAX theater that showcased the new technology and played the short film "To Fly!", along with a commemorative short. A crane was used to lower the massive screen into the space.



1971 **SPACE CENTER, RCA CORPORATION**
Hightstown, New Jersey • Architect: Malcom Wells

The Victor Talking Machine – RCA – General Electric



1972 ▼ **OFFICE AND STUDIOS, WESTINGHOUSE BROADCASTING COMPANY**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Architect: The Ballinger Company

Technology of the 1970s included the popularization of microwave ovens, video games, stereo systems and the cassette tape, as well as other modern conveniences for the home.

The 1970s were also the zenith of space exploration, with the Apollo and Voyager programs setting their sights on the moon and outer planets.

Irwin & Leighton worked for the technological pioneers of the time, who were the newest generation of old friends and customers. In 1971, the company returned to the RCA Corporation's Space Center in Hightstown, New Jersey, continuing a relationship that stemmed back to the earliest years of both organizations.

Irwin & Leighton's long time connection with Bell Telephone proved strong in 1971, when the company was chosen to build the massive Telephone Exchange Building in Philadelphia. The building housed the most advanced automated switchboard system available. Ironically, technological advancements came with such rapidity during this time that, by the end of the decade, the microchip would forever render the switchboard obsolete.



1971 ▼ **TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING, BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • *Architect: Ewing, Cole, Erdman and Eubank*

Government Projects

Irwin & Leighton built two important buildings for the government during the 1970s. The first, the 1971 Courthouse, Custom House, and Federal Office Building at Wilmington, Delaware, replaced the earlier courthouse built by Irwin & Leighton in the 1930s. The second government project was the Care and Preservation Facility in Letterkenny Pennsylvania.

1971 COURTHOUSE, CUSTOM HOUSE AND FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Wilmington, Delaware • Architect: McCune Associates



Letterkenny has been an active staging depot during the Iraq War. Seen here are M109 Paladin self-propelled howitzers as they arrived by rail. This completed a demonstration that tested military use of the Port of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as well as the Army's power-projection capabilities.



1975 CARE AND PRESERVATION FACILITY, UNITED STATES ARMY

Letterkenny, Pennsylvania • Architect: Army Corps of Engineers

Growth in the Academic Sector



During the 1970s, Irwin & Leighton's work in the educational arena continued to be driven by changes and advancements in the world of learning, as well as its success in building prominent facilities like the Wilson Synchrotron Laboratory at Cornell.

Educational funding changed immensely during this period as institutions received more support from public and private sources. With this increase in financial resources, colleges and universities

were able to expand and build on a much larger scale. An example of this is University of Pennsylvania's Class of 1923 Rink, built by Irwin & Leighton in 1972.

This 2,900-seat arena, located on the southernmost point of the campus, was the crown jewel of University of Pennsylvania's Athletic Department when Irwin & Leighton completed it in 1972. The 60,000 square-foot arena marked an important event in the University's history; at the cost of \$3.2 million, it was the largest class gift ever given. This gift was prompted by the efforts of Howard Butcher III, Class of 1923, and the Friends of Penn Hockey. The facility was then, and remains, the largest collegiate arena in the state; it has hosted many hockey teams.



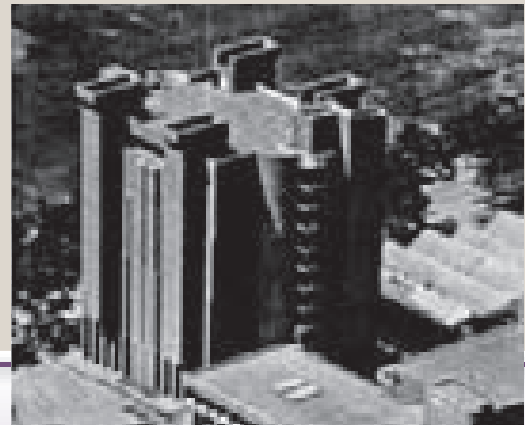
1972 **CLASS OF 1923 ICE HOCKEY RINK, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • Architect: Robert C. McMillan Associates



1970 ▽ **AGRONOMY BUILDING, CORNELL UNIVERSITY**

Ithaca, New York • Architect: Ulrich Franzen & Associates

In 1970, Irwin & Leighton returned to Cornell to build a classroom building for the Agronomy Department. Agronomy, the science of using plants for fuel, food, feed, or fiber, is a modern biotechnology that continually investigates better methods of producing and using crops. The 1968 Ulrich Franzen design for the building was modeled after Louis Kahn's 1961 modernist Richards Medical Research Building at University of Pennsylvania. The flat, unobstructed brick facade was praised by architectural critics for its sculptural solidity.





1970 ▼ **ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
URSINUS COLLEGE**

Collegeville, Pennsylvania
Architect: Bond & Miller



**UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA'S WHARTON
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

Built to house the Wharton Graduate School of Business, the 1973 structure on Spruce Street is considered a classic of modern "Philadelphia School" design. This is fitting for the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, as the very notion of a school of business is a modern idea. While most departments of the University are the descendents of classical European education, the Wharton School is a uniquely American creation, founded in 1881. The exterior of the building has a boldly-expressed structural skin, yet does not appear heavy. Today, the building is known as the Vance Building, or Henry T. Vance Hall. Irwin & Leighton's relationship with the University is one of the company's oldest.

1973 ▼ **WHARTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • *Architect: Bower & Fradley*

Irwin & Leighton and the Medical Community – The 1970s

As the pharmaceutical and surgical fields developed new ways to treat disease and illness, Irwin & Leighton became deeply involved in expanding and modernizing the facilities of many hospitals in the Philadelphia region. Numerous major projects throughout the 1970s continued Irwin & Leighton's long-standing relationships within the medical community.



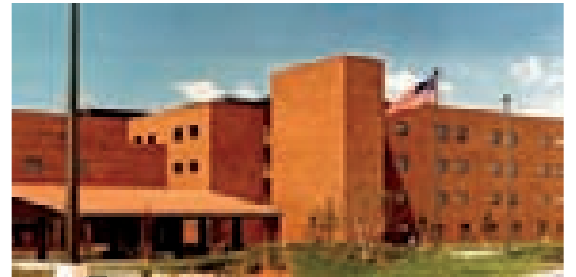
1970 ▾ **AMBULATORY SERVICES PAVILLION,
PRESBYTERIAN – UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA MEDICAL CENTER**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • Architect: Eshbach Pullinger Stevens & Bruder



1978 MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING, PAOLI HOSPITAL

Paoli, Pennsylvania • Architect: Robert D. Lynn Associates



1978 NEW HOSPITAL BUILDING, THE FRANKFORD HOSPITAL

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Architect: Ewing Cole Erdman Rizzio Cherry Parksy*



1978 MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING, THOMAS JEFFERSON HOSPITAL

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • Architect: Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson



1976 DOYLESTOWN HOSPITAL

Doylestown, Pennsylvania • Architect: Ewing, Cole, Erdman & Eubank

Office Environs Change



1976 REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS OFFICE BUILDING, UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

Moorestown, New Jersey • Architect: Ballinger & deMoll



1971 CORPORATE OFFICE BUILDING, MACK TRUCKS, INC.

Allentown, Pennsylvania • Architect: Wolf, Hendrix & Associates

Office building design evolved in the 1970s, due to a growing and more forward-thinking corporate philosophy regarding employees and the effect of work environments on production. Changes in design were also affected by a national energy crisis. Through all of this, the business sector was in an ownership mode with regard to facilities; offices were, therefore, designed in a prominent manner.

The Irwin and The Leighton Buildings, which are highlighted herein, are excellent examples of 1970s office building design.

During this period, Irwin & Leighton was also building major offices for various corporations – including Honeywell’s building in Bala Cynwyd, which was designed by Vincent G. Kling.



1973 **CORPORATE OFFICE BUILDING, HONEYWELL, INC.**

Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania • Architect: Vincent G. Kling & Partners



1978 **PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPANSION, ICI UNITED STATES, INC.**

Wilmington, Delaware • Architect: Ewing Cole Erdman Rizzio Cherry Parksy



1979 ▼ **THE LEIGHTON BUILDING, STOFFER'S HOTEL AND THE IRWIN BUILDING**
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

The Irwin and The Leighton Buildings

With the help of longtime company attorney and shareholder, Paul Guest, the company purchased a portion of the former Irwin Farm estate. Irwin & Leighton then built the Stouffer's Hotel (1971), The Irwin Building (1974) and The Leighton Building (1979) on the land. With the completion of The Irwin Building, Irwin & Leighton moved its headquarters, after more than 50 years in Philadelphia, to the top floor of this modern facility; it was designed by long-time friend, The Ballinger Company.

In 1979, the company completed The Leighton Building, named for its other founder and designed by Vincent Kling. The buildings were sold in 1985. The Irwin Building was eventually purchased by UGI, a leading energy provider that was the lead tenant when Irwin & Leighton owned the building. Irwin & Leighton remained as a tenant in The Irwin Building until it moved, in 2000, to its current headquarters.



1974 ▼ **THE IRWIN BUILDING**

King of Prussia, Pennsylvania • Architect: The Ballinger Company





1979 ▼ **THE LEIGHTON BUILDING AND STOUFFER'S INN**
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania