

Art Deco in Buffalo

BuffaloAH.com

Buffalo Architecture and History



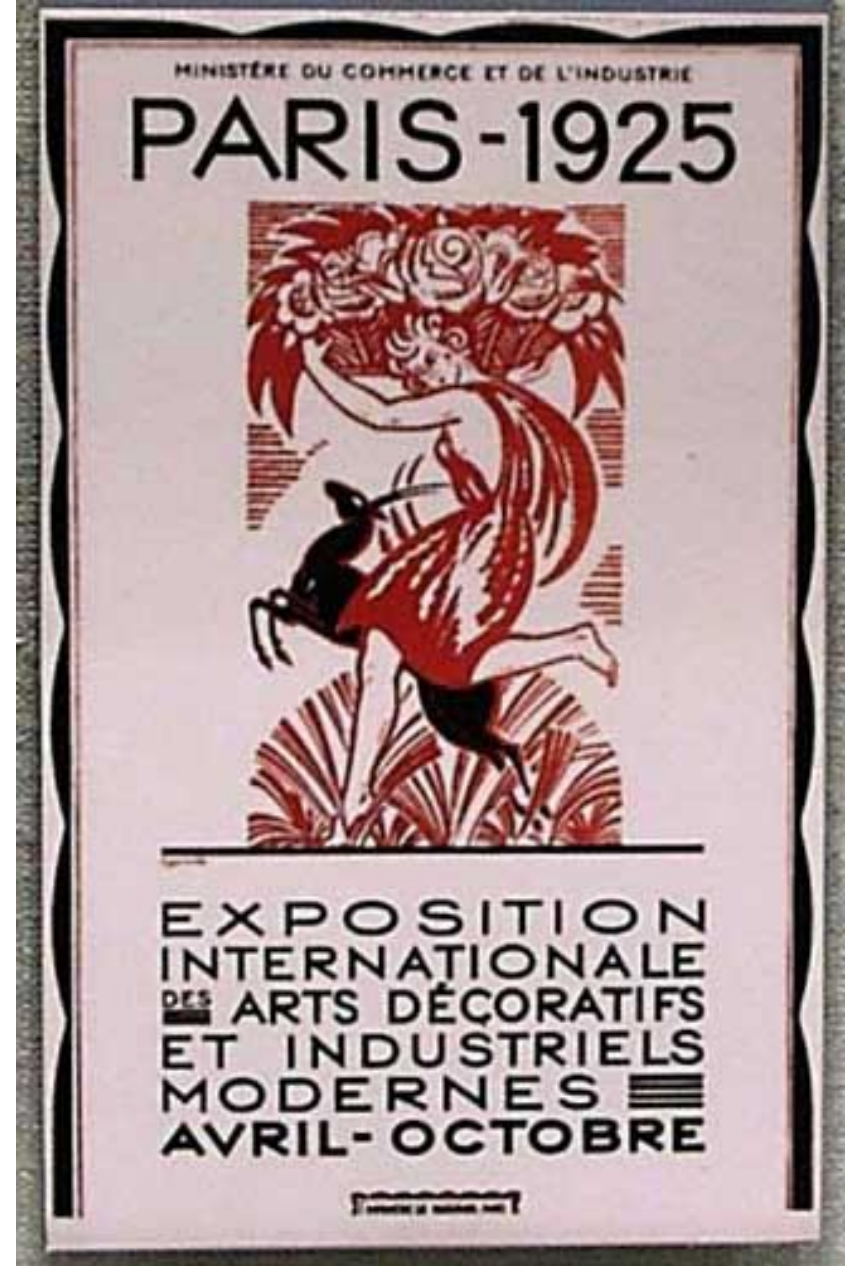
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Art Deco – Origins

- ✧ 1925-40
- ✧ Developed in France
- ✧ In architecture / jewelry / clothing / handicrafts / cars / trains / kitchen appliances / etc.
- ✧ Bold geometric design
- ✧ Stylized geometric ornament
- ✧ Bas-relief
- ✧ Use of modern materials
- ✧ VERTICAL design



Art Deco – Cubist Origins



Albert Gleizes, *L'Homme au Hamac (Man in a Hammock)*, 1913

Chrysler Building, NY City



Chrysler Building



1930

...

**Stainless
steel
spire
resembles a
car radiator
grill**

...

**7 rows of
sunburst
pattern**

...

**Chrysler car
co.
showroom
in lobby**

Chrysler Building

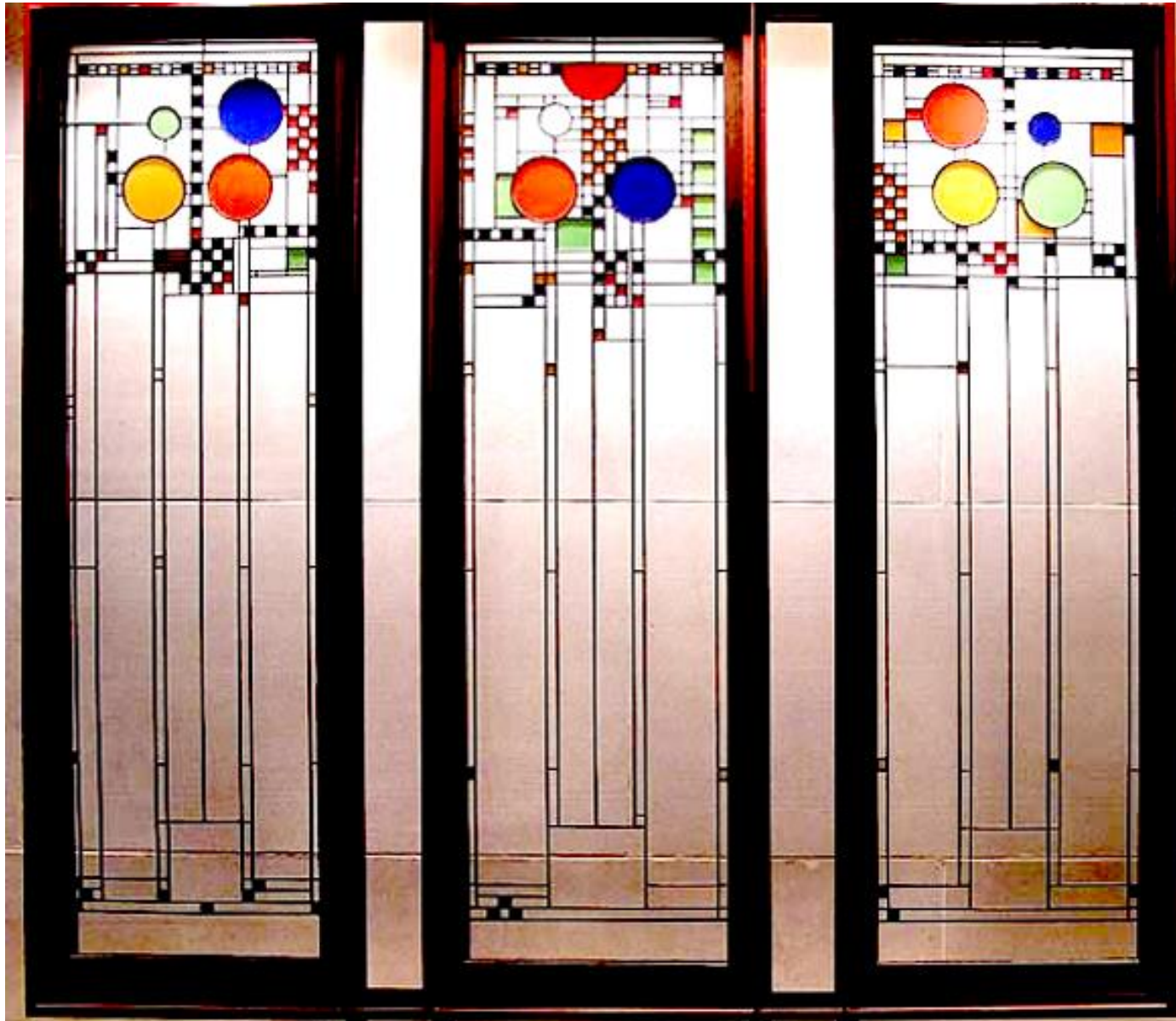


Simple, bold geometric design

...

Use of modern materials

Frank Lloyd Wright



Art & Design

Internet photo

City Hall

City Hall



✧ **1932**

✧ **Architects: Dietel & Wade**

✧ **32 stories tall, with 15 story and 12 story tall wings**

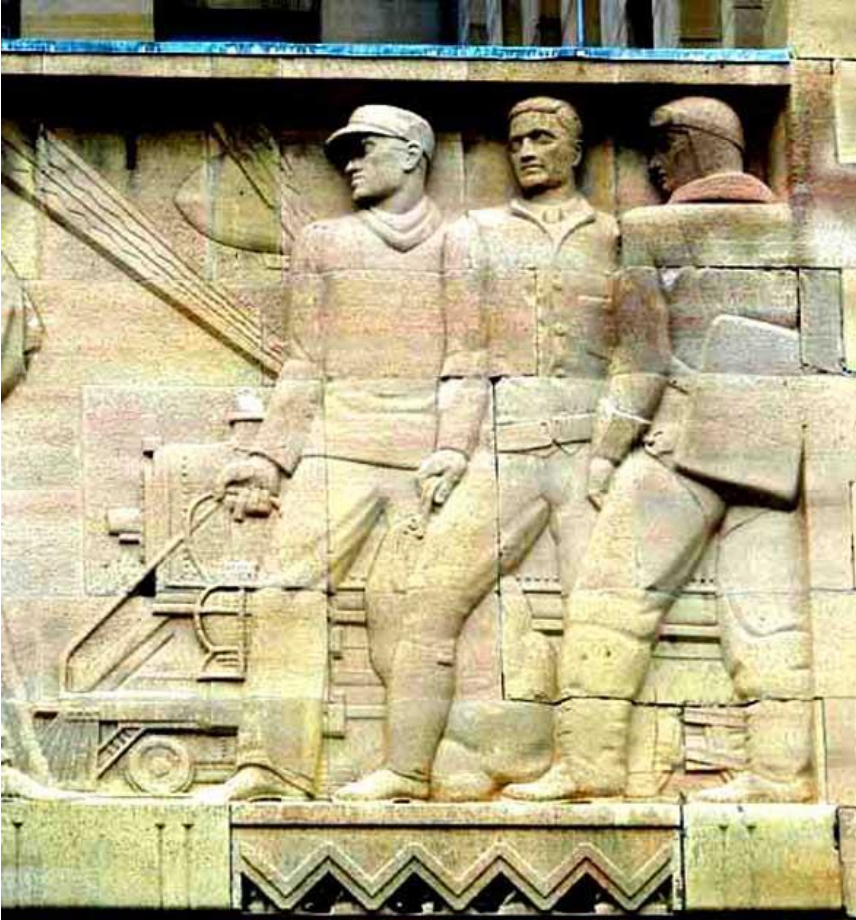
✧ **Steps ... Setbacks**

City Hall



- ✧ **Top story floodlights shine through glass at night**
- ✧ **Outdoor observation deck added plexiglass panels**
- ✧ **Polygonal terra cotta geometric chevrons combined to form Native American masks**

City Hall
Art Deco - Buffalo
City Hall



Setbacks ...
Bas-relief frieze ...
Reeding

Chevrons ... Train

City Hall

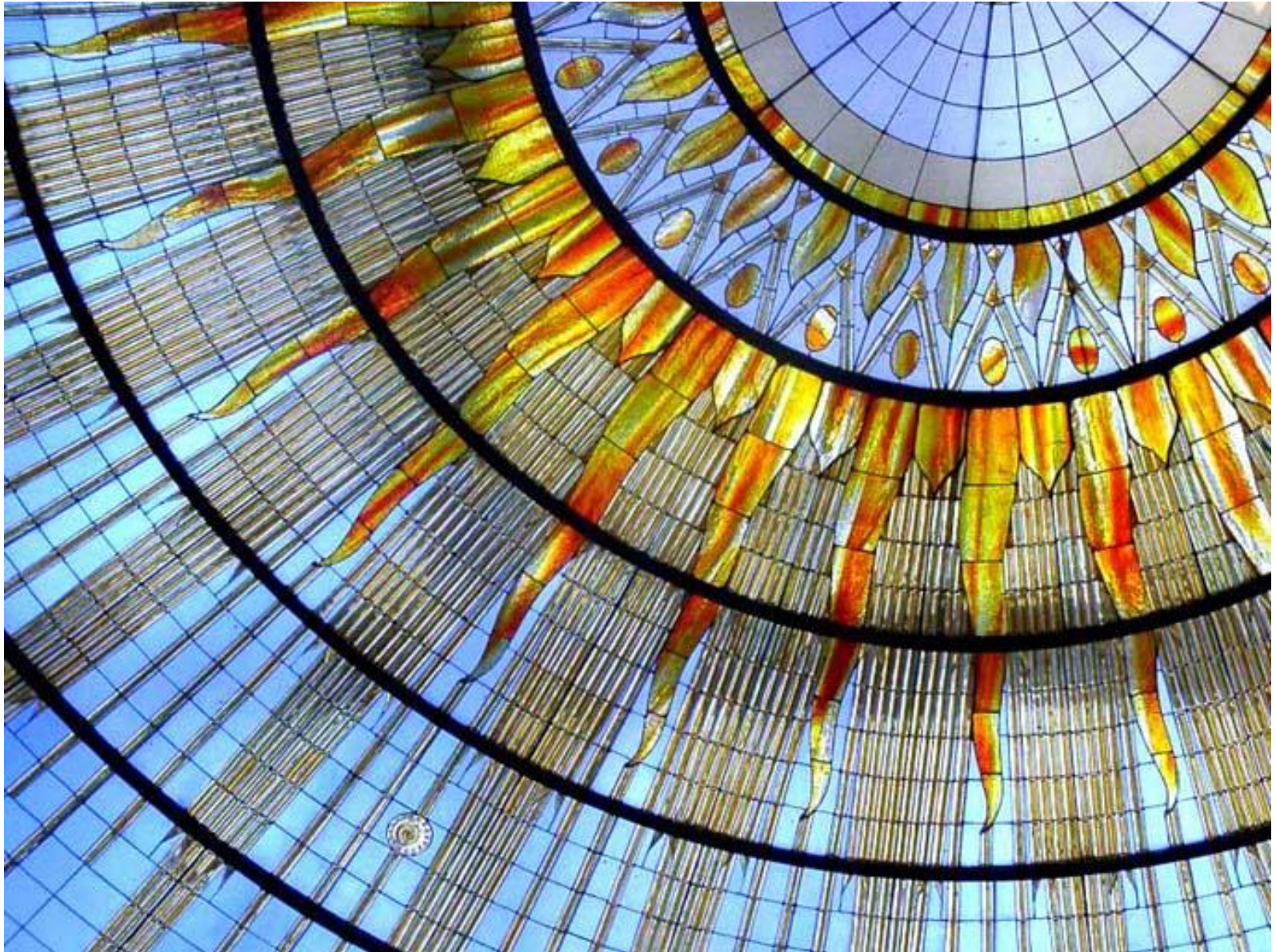


City Hall



**Geometric bronze window surround ...
Bas relief sculptures represent months**

City Hall



Common Council Chamber skylight: Solar system

Buffalo Industrial Bank

Buffalo Industrial Bank / 17 Court Street Office Building

- ✧ 1929
- ✧ Bley & Lyman, architects
- ✧ Style: Art Deco
- ✧ Bas-relief
- ✧ Geometric shapes
- ✧ Bas-relief frieze and spandrel panels

- ✧ 1939 First bank east of the Mississippi to offer drive-up banking – at its branch on Fillmore Ave.



Buffalo Industrial Bank



“Gods of Industry” terra cotta bas-relief frieze

Industrial Bank



**Bas-relief: Hermes ... Ship ... Train
... Airplane ... Skyscraper**

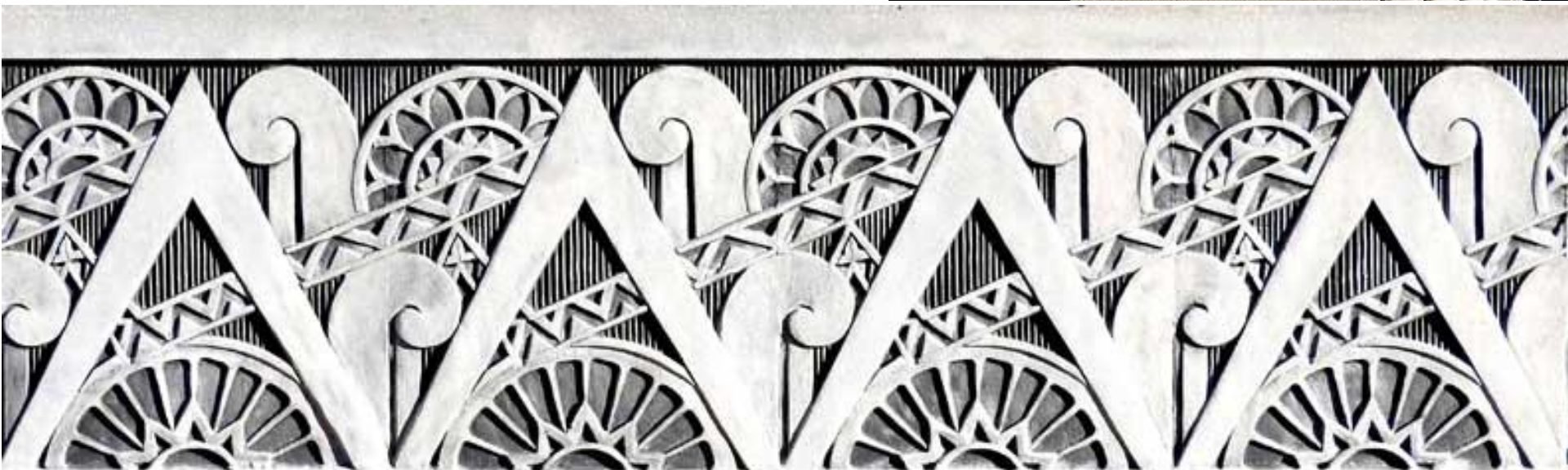
Stylized buffalo head



Industrial Bank

Chevrons ...
Fountain with volute sprays

Metal sunburst spandrel panel



Telephone Building

The Telephone Building,
Buffalo, N. Y.



Terra Cotta

Telephone Building



Telephone Building



Art Deco
stepped
design



Telephone Building

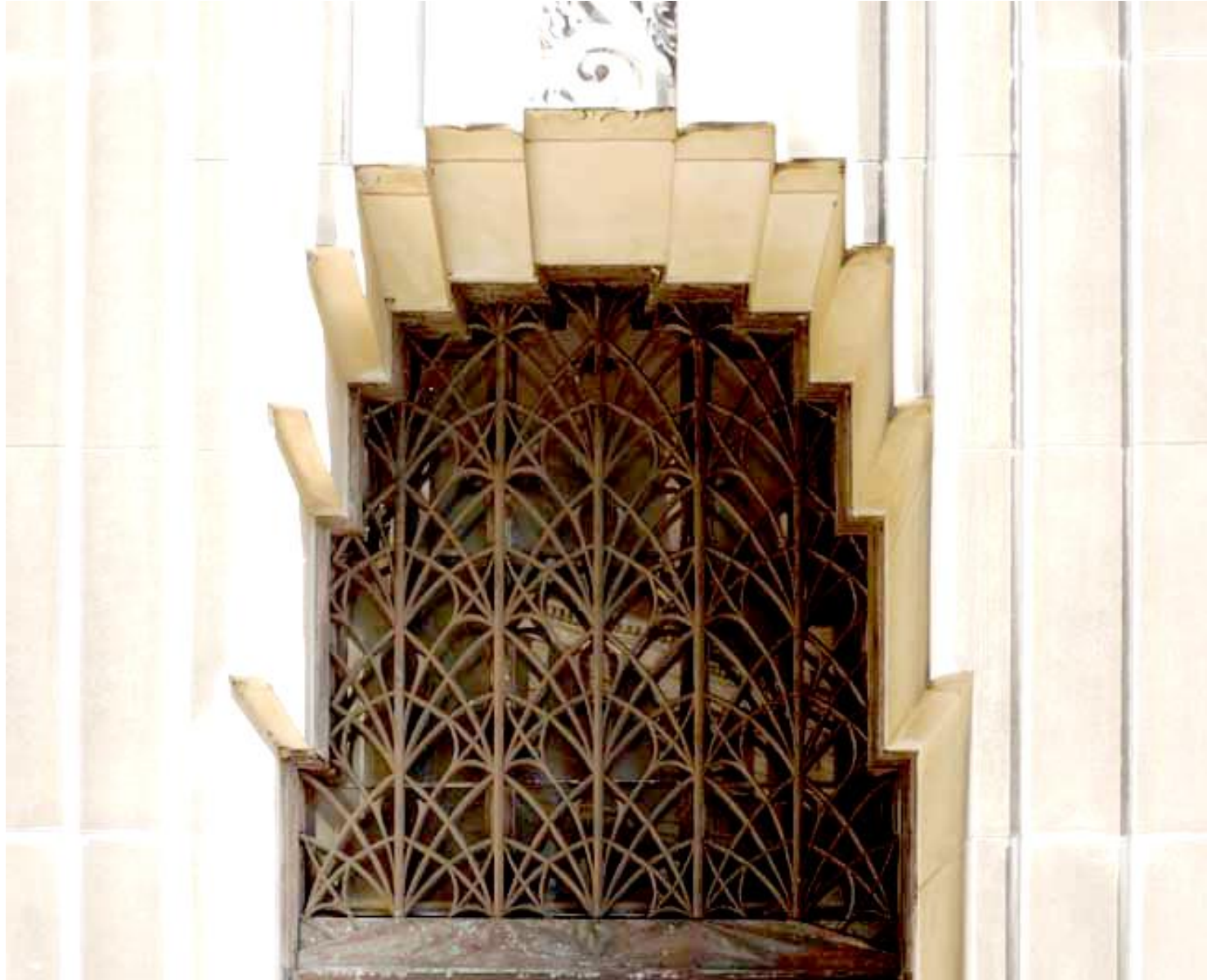


Franklin St. entrance

Art Deco arch



Telephone Building



Art Deco stepped arch ... Metal geometric design

Rand Building

Rand Building

- ✧ 1929
- ✧ Franklyn & William Kidd
- ✧ 29 stories (tallest until City Hall)
- ✧ Stepped setbacks



Rand House / Canisius H. S.

Rand Building



Finials



Art Deco doors



Rand Building

**Vertical
pier
buttresses**

...

**Geometric
design**

**Mabel Danahy /
Buffalo Design
Collaborative Building**

Mabel Danahy / Buffalo Design Collaborative

437 Delaware Avenue



Reeding



Sconce

Mabel Danahy / Buffalo Design Collaborative



Scallops ... Volutes ... Art Deco lettering

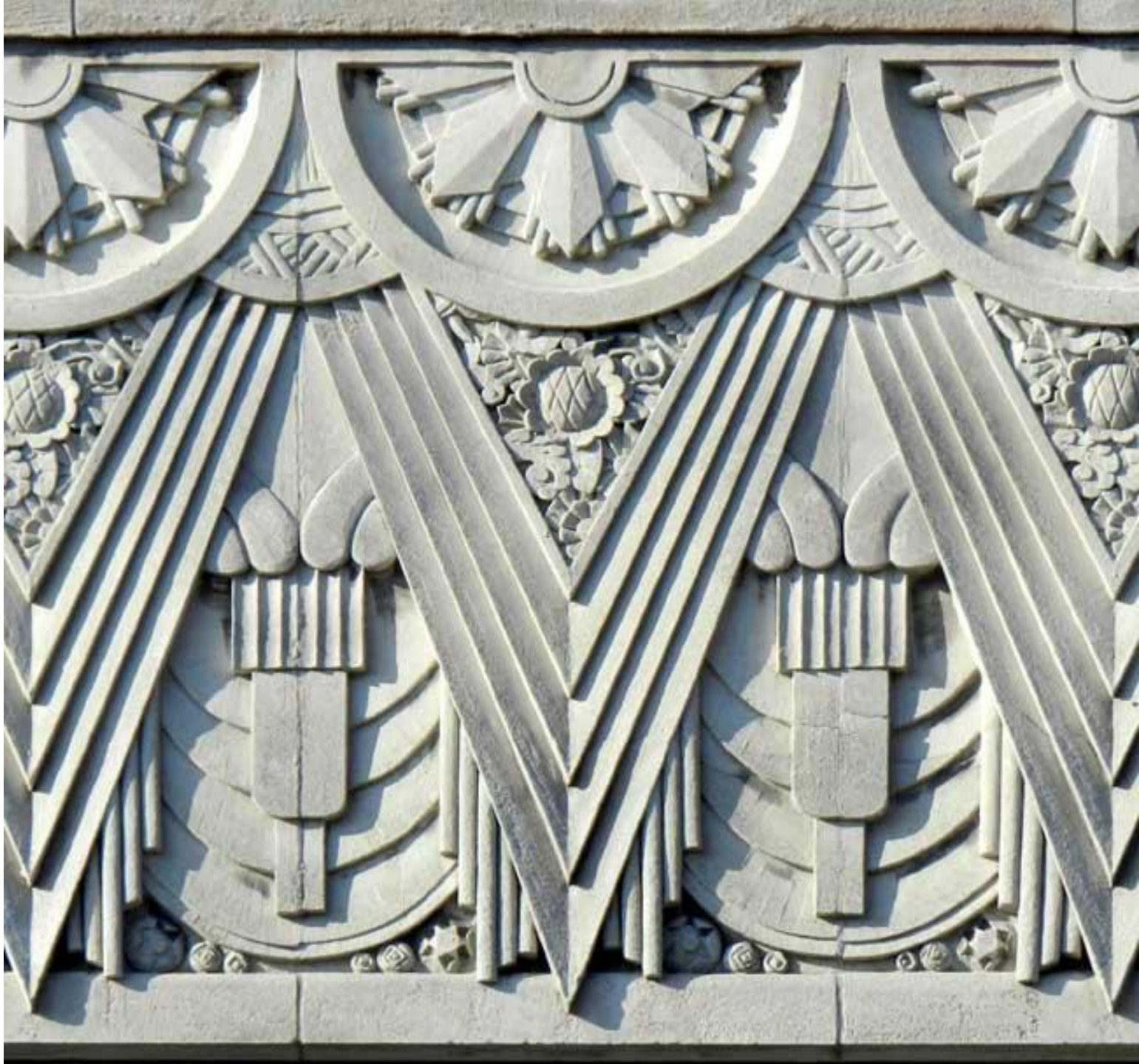
Vars Building

Vars Building



**Delaware at Tupper ... 1929 ... Bley and Lyman, architects ...
Ad firm ... Best Art Deco Commercial style building in Buffalo**

**Vars
Building**



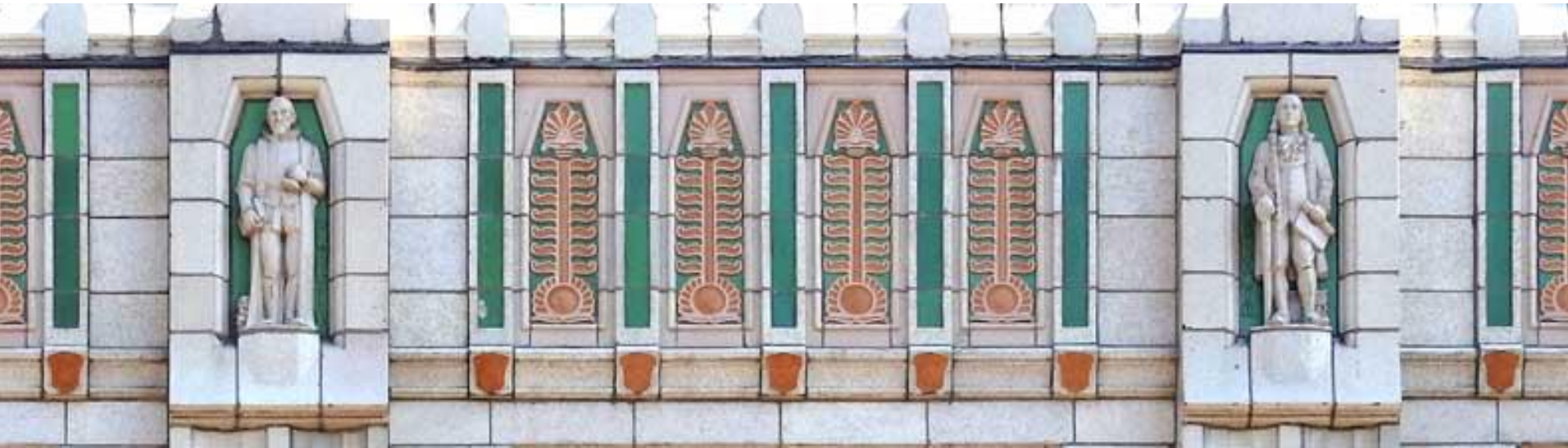
**Courier Express /
Diocese of Buffalo
Catholic Center**

Courier Express / Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Center

- ✧ **785 Main Street**
- ✧ **1929-30**
- ✧ **Monk & Johnson, architects**
- ✧ **Strong VERTICAL lines**
- ✧ **William J. “Fingy” Connors merged *Express* and *Enquirer***
- ✧ ***Courier* closed 1982**



Courier Express / **Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Center**



Christophe Plantin

Celtic motif

Benjamin Franklin

Famous historic printers ...
Polychromatic, glazed terra cotta



***Courier Express /
Diocese of Buffalo
Catholic Center***

**Celtic motif ... First
Amendment:
“Congress shall make
no law abridging the
freedom of speech or
of the press”**



Moderne /
Art Moderne /
Streamline /
Art Deco(?)



1933 Pierce-Arrow Silver Arrow





Horizontal lines

...

Rounded edges

...

Sleek

Source: Internet



TheArchivesofAdvertising

Greyhound Bus Terminal Art Deco Buffalo Alleyway Theatre



**Moderne/Streamline horizontal style ... Rounded corners
... Metal windows ... Round window ... Blade removed**

Greyhound Bus Terminal / Alleyway Theatre



- Rounded corners**
- ...
- Terra cotta**
- ...
- Neon lights**
- ...
- Steel doors**