James Sudler

Former Denver-based architecture firm James Sudler Associates collaborated with Italian architect Gio Ponti to design the Denver Art Museum’s seven-story North Building, which opened to the public in 1971. Sudler’s firm was responsible for creating the working drawings for the building and designing the original interior, while Ponti worked on the building’s exterior. Sudler called the resulting structure a “fortress for art.”

A Yale grad, Sudler was a member of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Colorado and a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects (FAIA). He designed a number of buildings throughout Denver and often worked with other local architecture firms, such as Fisher and Davis, and artists like Edgar Britton, a prominent local sculptor in the 1950s and 1960s. In addition to the DAM’s North Building, some of Sudler’s other notable structures in Denver include the United States Courthouse and Rodgers Federal Building (1965), which shows the influence of Ponti on Sudler’s work prior to their collaboration, and the Church of the Risen Christ (1969), inspired by Le Corbusier and sometimes called the “ski jump” church for the curve that stretches between the nave and the steeple.