I believe that the different defines are because in default mode, MSC is not 100% compliant with C++ standard and is a little more allowing than it should be. Basically, it allows you to not use const in some cases where const should be used. This dates back from the golden era of MFC AFAIK.

Please correct me if I'm wrong.

I would like to see const added to pick for MSC too on a pure ideological level, but I have no practical consideration that would make me change that.