v. 22 / march, 1972 / no. 3

cover and page 3: residents of liberty, texas can be justly proud of their handsomely designed and functionally arranged new cultural center. the building houses a community library, amateur performing arts theater and a public display and museum area.

page 6: architects working with school boards throughout the nation are modifying existing educational facilities or creating new structures to house the rapidly changing educational scene. excellent examples of these trends are featured in this issue. buildings are junior and senior high schools that were displayed in the "exhibit of outstanding schools" at the 1971 texas association of school administrators-texas association of school boards joint convention.

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GERALDINE D. HUMPHREYS CULTURAL CENTER
HONOR AWARD • TEXAS ARCHITECTURE 1971
Project: A community cultural facility for Liberty, Texas, a city of 9500 population.

Program: Design a multi-use cultural facility to include a community library, an amateur performing arts theater, and a public display and museum area. A fixed budget for all facility costs by state and benefactor funding could not be violated.

Solution: A two level space contained by exposed concrete block perimeter walls supporting an exposed steel space frame roof structure set the building shell. Electrical, mechanical, and structural elements are exposed in the roof system.

Interior space columns change to accommodate use groupings, while the multi-use circulation gallery provides visual variety.

First floor area – 15,568 square feet  
Second floor area – 7,282 square feet

photographs by Richard Payne
EXHIBIT OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS

Selected for exhibit at the 1971 TASA-TASB State Convention by the Texas Society of Architects/Texas Association of School Administrators/Texas Association of School Boards

RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

I am me!
I have come here to learn.
I am an individual—and I will
learn differently than any other.
But you are here
and you will meet my needs.
Architects were asked to design a four-year high school for 400 students to replace an outdated and inadequate structure built in 1925. Facilities include 11 classrooms, library with visual aids area, industrial arts, vocational agriculture, home economics, band, speech and choir, language lab, business classrooms, and science labs.

The cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium can be used for community functions and were placed so that they could be used without interference with other areas of the school. Band hall and shops were planned so they could be used day and night.

Classrooms were grouped by subject with the library at the core of the complex. Walls between classrooms can be moved in the future as instruction changes within the system.

Materials and finishes were selected to give the school a casual, rather than an institutional, feeling while maintaining durability and warmth. Color was used freely throughout the building. Each specialized area was planned in consultation with the instructor in charge to insure practical use of the space and facilities.
Building is planned to accommodate a maximum enrollment of 1500 students in grades 7-9 with initial instructional space for 1000.

Facilities are divided into six separate learning modules totaling 75,000 square feet of air-conditioned space with 25,000 square feet of non-air-conditioned corridors and covered walkways, and two open courts of approximately 7,000 square feet.

The building utilizes a module steel space frame throughout with no loadbearing walls or partitions to inhibit expansion or change. This is one of the first buildings in the state to use the systems approach to planning and construction wherein the structural, mechanical, electrical and other sub-systems were selected by competitive bidding based on performance specifications prior to the final planning of the project.
A modern, functional design arranged for 1200 pupils, grades 9-12, the main portion of this building is in the form of a hexagon providing optimum floor area in a minimum of exterior perimeter wall area.

Central entrance opens to a large multi-use space serving as a cafeteria and student commons. Student assemblies as well as community meetings can be accommodated. The commons is adjacent to the gymnasium, band and music rooms with wide access to classrooms, laboratories and teaching stations grouped around a split level central resource center containing about 7000 sq. feet. Main floor of the resource center, which is below the level of adjacent classrooms, contains open book stacks, study carrels, audio visual equipment and listening books, with informal reading arrangements. Mezzanine level contains conference rooms and a professional library.

Air-conditioned throughout, the building has few windows. Finishes were selected to reduce maintenance costs while providing a colorful and stimulating environment.
CORSICANA SENIOR HIGH

LA MARQUE SENIOR HIGH

KOETTER THARP & COWELL ARCHITECTS & PLANNERS, INC.

CORSICANA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Planned for 2000 students – grades 9-12 – the academic portion of the school consists of two floors built around the library or media center. The student commons is used for student gatherings before school, as a cafetorium and instructional area. The auditorium, seating 1600, is equipped with a fly loft and orchestra pit. The auditorium, seating 1600, is equipped with a fly loft and orchestra pit.

With the exception of the gymnasiums and dressing rooms, the entire school is air-conditioned.

The school district's program includes limited team teaching with moveable partitions providing required flexibility.

LA MARQUE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Programmed to accommodate 2000 students, this school serves grades 10-12. Architects worked with school administration to combine cafeteria, auditorium and gymnasium foyers and circulation space into a single carpeted area that serves all of these purposes. This commons also serves as a study hall and student assembly area.

Academic portion of the school is a two-story element with a resource center located at the core.

The auditorium, seating 2000 on one main level, serves the school as well as the community.

Physical education facilities are located off the commons.
School district was carrying grades 1-12 in a single academic building with separate homemaking, gym and shop structures. Additional space was needed to accommodate a growing enrollment. New building accommodates 300 students, grades 9-12.

Since the high school is a small one following a fairly sophisticated educational program, emphasis had to be placed on efficient and possible multi-use of areas. The concession stand serves both the gym and the auditorium and doubles as a snack bar on a day-to-day basis. The lobby serves as an eating place (especially in bad weather) for students. The auditorium-teaching theater is divisible into three independent teaching or lecture spaces.

Academic activities take place in open areas with a departmentalized program. The library-resource center is the hub of the educational program. Independent learning with individual TV and audio equipment at student carrels is incorporated.

No unusual natural or man-made features existed on the site to which the school could be oriented; therefore, the building was planned around a student court providing the desired inside-outside relationship.

Roof top multi-zoned air-conditioning units were utilized for greater flexibility.

photos by David Drake

MARCH 1972
Architects responded to the school administration's program with Dallas' first year-round air-conditioned, fully carpeted, open-plan school.

It consists of a compact two-story building taking full advantage of air-conditioning with as few windows as necessary to insure visual orientation to the outside.

Compact design features open-planned departmental clusters surrounding the media center/commons and auditorium making these the focal points of individual or group activities.

Department of industrial education, music, athletics, sciences, mathematics, communication arts, art, home and family life, and social studies each contain teacher work areas, storage facilities, and appropriate equipment, services and aids for that department.

Flexibility and provision for innovation are provided for by the exclusion of permanent walls within teaching departments. Areas may be adapted for small groups as well as larger combination of classes by moving visual room dividers.
FOREST MEADOW JR. HIGH SCHOOL

Classrooms are grouped in clusters, some with folding partitions to allow team-teaching today and others with partitions that can be removed should team-teaching be emphasized in the future. Classrooms are grouped around a large combination of library-study space. All areas are carpeted to provide a quiet, effective environment for study.

A lecture hall for groups up to 90 incorporates a stepped floor, lab-type demonstration table and rear-projection capacity. A student commons and dining area—one large multi-purpose informal space—separates the academic wing from shops and labs.

PLANO HIGH SCHOOL

Recent growth created a need to double current size. Plan "fills in" courtyards around finger-life academic wings. This allows new as well as existing classrooms to be grouped in clusters. A new, expanded library was placed in the center of academic activity.

Undoubtedly, it would have been possible to build the same number of square feet in a single rectangular building separated from the existing structure for less money. But this would not have enhanced the value of the existing school. This expansion plan provides desirable new space while updating the existing building and giving it new life for future years.
School was designed to accommodate 700 students and was planned for future expansion. A campus-type plan takes advantage of an open courtyard, covered porches and an elevated administration building to provide protected circulation between the various facilities.

Four separate buildings make up the complete school, including the elevated administration building, two academic buildings on either side, and an activities building at the rear.

A minimum of enclosed hall space was necessary since the student courtyard provides circulation between all areas.

Activities building includes a gymnasium with adjacent athletic dressing room facilities, assembly space and adjoining cafeteria.

The two academic buildings provide conventional size teaching spaces grouped in clusters of four and designed so that they may be easily revised into smaller or larger spaces in the future to accommodate the educational requirements of the school district.
MANOR JUNIOR HIGH

School is designed to house 900 pupils initially and 1200 ultimately in grades 7-9.

MANOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

OWEN GOODNIGHT JR. HIGH

School is designed to house 900 students initially and 1500 ultimately in grades 7-9.

OWEN GOODNIGHT JR. HIGH SCHOOL

MARCH 1972
Plan separates the plant's four major functions into radiating wings around a commons area. The commons, a high-ceilinged space at the heart of the plan, is a crossroads of student activity. It provides a place where students can assemble comfortably in the morning before beginning the academic day. During the day, it serves as a lunchroom, as recreation space with a dance floor, and as a large meeting room with a stage for theatricals.

Northwest wing houses classroom space, fully-equipped science labs and the resource center. Teaching spaces are somewhat open to the resource center and the corridor and are designed to accommodate an even more open-space philosophy if that should be desired in the future. Wing also houses the administration offices and practical arts teaching areas. The southwest wing contains the gymnasium, locker rooms and bandroom. The southeast wing contains food service facilities, mechanical and electrical equipment and other building services.
This is Oklahoma's first public middle school. It combines grades 6-9 rather than 7-10 as in the case in most traditional junior high schools. It borrows from the self-contained classroom concept prevalent in elementary schools, but introduces students to the subject specialization of secondary schools.

It offers transition from elementary to high school while meeting the specific needs of this particular age group. One of the basic characteristics of this age group is the desire and the need for exploration, for testing new ground by experimentation.

Rogers Middle School is designed to meet this need through innovations that foresee the trends in education in our nation today. Modular scheduling, team teaching, independent study and non-gradedness have developed as an effort to meet each student's individual need as a means for meeting the increased demands of public education.

Emphasis is on a student-centered approach to education. The intent is to develop within the student the skills and motivation for learning.
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Construction photo of the 1066-car Texas/Unicon parking deck at 2000 Smith Office Park in Houston, built for the Gerald D. Hines Interests.

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This symbol is the identifying mark of a statewide campaign to promote public awareness of the environmental opportunities still available to the citizens of Texas. Sponsored by Texas Society of Architects, the campaign encourages the participation of all Texans in finding ways to protect this priceless heritage. Preston M. Geren Jr., president of TSA, urges all Texans, when this sign is seen, to ask: “Am I handling Texas with care?”

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“PRACTICE IN THE 70’s”
TSA’s Professional Development Program continues into 1972 with the second seminar scheduled for April 7-8 in San Antonio. Produced by the Committee on Organizing for Practice, the seminar is entitled “Practice in the 70’s”.

Consisting of case studies in organization and management, this first problem-solving seminar will assist architectural firms of all sizes. Participants can study innovative business practices in small group sessions with key members of highly-organized national and international firms as well as those of progressive small operations. Faculty firm members will “tell it like it is.”

TSA members were mailed information on the seminar in early March. It is scheduled for the Travelodge at LaVillita in downtown San Antonio. Registration fee is $100 for the two-day meeting. Contact TSA, 904 Perry-Brooks Building, Austin 78701, for additional information.

CRSDA
Thomas A. Bullock, FAIA, chairman of the board and chief development officer of CRS Design Associates, Inc., has announced that William W. Caudill, FAIA, has been named president of Caudill Rowlett Scott, Houston-based architectural, planning and engineering firm. Mr. Caudill, a founder of the firm, already serves as chairman of the CRS board of directors.

JAMES WHITE

James E. White has joined Texas Tech University as instructor of freshman and sophomore design. Mr. White, Bachelor of Architecture graduate of the University of Texas, had been associated with Peters and Fields, an Odessa architectural firm, for the past nine years.

Mr. White is a corporate member of TSA and AIA.

MARCH 1972
STANLEY MARCUS
American Institute of Architects
Honorary Membership

Stanley Marcus of Dallas has been elected to honorary membership in The American Institute of Architects. He is one of eight individuals so honored because of "distinguished contributions to the architectural profession, or to allied arts and sciences."

The honorary memberships, which are extended to persons outside the architectural profession, will be presented to six men and two women during ceremonies at the AIA convention in Houston, May 7-10.

Others honored are Luis Echeverria Alvarez, President of Mexico; Elliot Lee Richardson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Laurance S. Rockefeller, President of the American Conservation Association, Inc., Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.; Helen T. Schneider, Executive Director of the New Jersey Society of Architects; Beatrix Sebastian, Director of School Building Service for the American Association of School Administrators; Sydney Steinborn, Chief of the Engineering Division for the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Seattle Division; and Wallace F. Traendly, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McGraw-Hill Information Systems Co.

Stanley Marcus, President of Neiman-Marcus Inc., has for many years guided the development and expansion of the famous specialty store earning international renown for design excellence. All of the store's establishments have been praised as demonstrating outstanding results from a corporate policy which stresses good architecture and handsome modern interiors as vital tools in successful merchandising.

As an active civic leader in Dallas and Texas and as a member of many national committees involving positions on design, architecture and aesthetics in general, Mr. Marcus has exerted a strong and positive influence for a better quality of the built environment.

He has actively promoted the business community's role in social responsibility programs through his leadership in the retail field as well as through such organizations as the Commission on Race and Housing (Fund for the Republic), The Urban Institute, The National Urban League, and others.

Mr. Marcus is a graduate of Harvard University. He has been president of Neiman-Marcus since 1950. He is a director of Republic National Bank in Dallas and the New York Life Insurance Co., New York.

C. L. McGEE

San Valley Tile Kilns, Los Angeles, has named C. L. McGee as its representative for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Colorado. Mr. McGee will maintain offices at 9131 Mount Rushmore, El Paso, Texas, providing assistance to architects, designers and builders.

NEUHAUS & TAYLOR

The first of 1500 concrete architectural panels, the first products of the new $1 million plant of Kirby Building Systems, Inc., Katy, Texas, have been installed on the 40-story Dresser Tower in Cullen Center, Houston. Neuhaus & Taylor are architects on the project.

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