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TEXASARCHITECT

5 / 6 Texas Houses: Renewing Eclecticism 1992

On the cover:

Stern House, Houston, designed by Willam F_r Stern and Associates, Houston; photograph by Paul Hester

Renewing Eclecticism

40

Until recently, most architects condemned eclecticism as a matter of unworthy imitation. In the wake of postmodernism, however, a renewed eclecticism that treats vernacular forms respectfully is developing.

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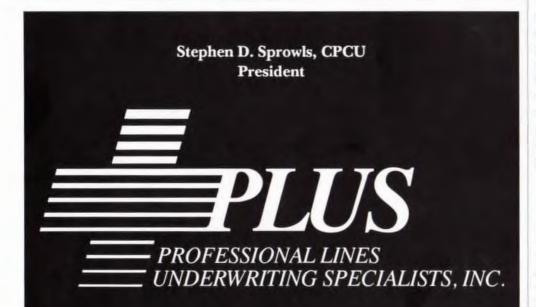
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Phillips and Brown Architects in Houston have experimented with different forms of what is called neotraditional planning, in the attempt to bring maturity to the brash postwar American suburb.

Letters

I FIRST MET [the late] O. Jack Mitchell, FAIA when we were both members of the TSA Publications Committee. Jack's dedication to our profession and the role it can play in contributing to the dignity, integrity, and celebration of the human spirit were inspirations that I will treasure always. "Making a Public Realm" (TA Mar/Apr 1992) is another demonstration of his keen insight, sensitivity, and gentle manner of guiding us toward truth and meaningful "intentionality." Gracias, Jack. Henry Ortega Partner, Lothrop Associates Valballa, New York

HATS OFF to TA for the article "Main Street 10 Years On," by Vincent Hauser, AIA (TA Mar/ Apr 1992). I have been a project manager with Main Street for the last six years. During this



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time, I have witnessed and experienced the persistence and dedication of the people involved in the process of downtown development. Though there have been setbacks, it is apparent that the supporters of Main Street (in cities of all sizes) are committed to the memories of the cities of our past and they are meeting the challenges of working in the economic and political realities of today.

In Tyler, I have worked with a team of architects and design professionals who have dedicated over 300 (volunteer) hours on two projects that will greatly impact the Tyler community and the future of its development. This is just one example of "thinking small in a big way." Through the talents of these professionals and the architects with the Main Street Program, we can facilitate positive change for our communities. Here's to another successful 10 years. Claire Squibb

> Main Street Project Director Tyler

I HAVE JUST REREAD the Mar/Apr 1991 issue—the one dealing with the 1980s—and I want to congratulate you on an absolutely *excellent* treatment of this lamentable decade. I am very impressed by a) the quality of the writing, b) the quality of the layout, and c) the fact that you produce this magazine with a very small staff. No wonder that those in other states often cite *Texas Architect* as the standard by which such publications are judged. Keep up the good work! **Roy Lowey-Ball**

Principal, Ford, Powell & Carson, Inc. San Antonio

ONCE AGAIN I must raise an issue that continues to be a great mystery of this profession. I have been unable to figure out why architects concerned with the publication and celebration of our work product continually fail to recognize 65 percent of our basic services.

For the record, the recent article entitled "If You Build It, They Will Come" (Mar/Apr 1992) by Willis Winters failed to acknowledge HKS as the architects of record [for several buildings at Solana]. Only those of us who have dedicated our careers to the technical aspects of the profession seem to realize that the transformation of a project from concept to reality also includes design. *James B. Atkins, AIA*

Principal, HKS Inc. Dallas

TEXAS**ARCHITE**

May/June 1992

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The Trouble with Symposia

AT TEXAS ARCHITECT, we spend a fair amount of time covering conferences. lectures, and symposia put on by schools of architecture and other groups.

Sometimes these gatherings are both enlightening and enjoyable. The University of Houston's 1991 lecture series devoted to contemporary Mexican architects, for example, was described as both, as was the recent convention of the Texas Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (covered by TA contributing editor Stephen Fox starting on page 9). These events can be a window on the outside world, providing the Texas architectural community the chance to hear fresh voices bring new perspectives to architectural discourse, and even to have its suppositions challenged.

All too frequently, however, problems outweigh benefits. Some of the best conferences in recent years have been undone by timing or setting. As an example of the former, the symposium on suburban development organized by the Center for the Study of American Architecture at the University of Texas and held in the spring of 1991 was extraordinarily informative. But, because of scheduling conflicts within the university and publicity problems, most of the sessions had far more panelists than audience members. One of the recent Rowlett Lectures at Texas A&M, by comparison, showed the opposite problem: For reasons that none of the faculty members I talked to could explain, large number of students and guests were crammed into an airless classroom with miserable acoustics for the symposium honoring Christian Norberg-Schulz and launching the university's international architecture journal, while a large auditorium stood empty in the next building.

But the worst problems seem to arise when the practice of booking star architects as conference headliners goes awry. This often works to help draw an audience, but it often also produces unsatisfactory results. The recent Rice University symposium intended to honor the memory of the late Paul Kennon, FAIA (which I write about starting on page 9), is a case in point. I went to it expecting great things, particularly from the moderator, Mary McLeod, who is an insightful writer. McLeod's skills as a questioner are considerable, but they ended up being no match for the demands placed on her at the Kennon Symposium. I left the event puzzled that no one (besides former dean Alan Balfour, whose role was minor) had said anything about Houston, a city undergoing an astonishing transformationm that should be of considerable interest to every American architect, and that all the hours of talk expended never seemed to advance beyond a tedious defining of terms and a very unpleasant preening on the part of some of the participants. If the best conferences are expansive windows on the world, this one was an exercise in claustrophobia. The dozens of people who worked to fund and organize the symposium surely deserved better. I think there may be a message to be gleaned that can help in organizing future gatherings, however: We have interesting problems here, and in addressing them we have things to show the rest of the world. Fewer stars and more engagement with the world outside the academy might serve us hetter in the future. Joel Warren Barna

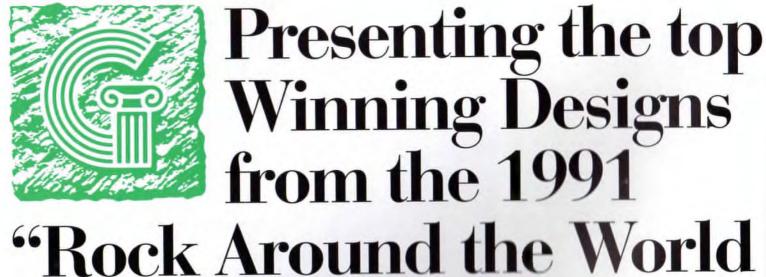


HONOR-ABLE MENTION

ABOVE: "Conference Table" Tracy M. Gremillion, ASID Goza Millworks, Inc. Denham Springs, Louisiana

> HONOR-ABLE MENTION

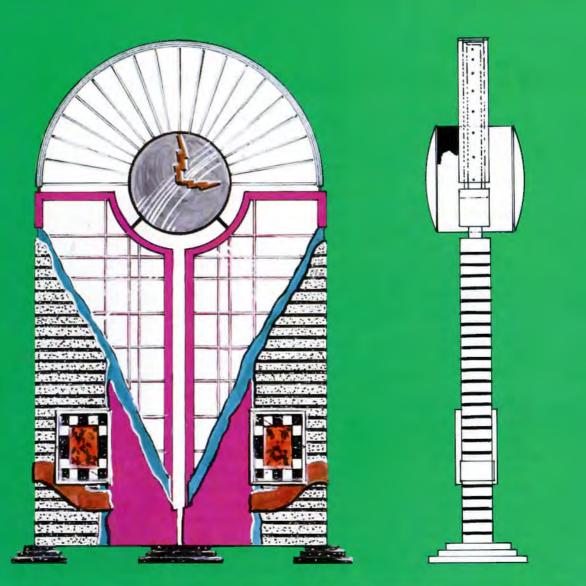
RIGHT: "4-Panel Screen Wall" M. Shane Cook Morris Architects Houston, Texas



"Rock Around the World with GIBRALTAR" Contest



RIGHT: "Striking Time" P.J.Johnson, Owner The Design Establishment Houston, Texas



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News

Attack on Quality Hill 8 FORT WORTH Unprecedented public outcry followed the destruction of several historic properties.

Landscape questions 9 HOUSTON A conference focused on the state of the Texas landscape.

A lack of imagination 9 HOUSTON The first Kennon Sympasium suffered from a dearth of energy and ideas.

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Winners in Houston 16 HOUSTON Eleven projects received awords in the 1992 design-awards competition.

Five projects honored 18 EL PASO Jurors gave awards to five projects in the chapter design-awards competition.

Attack on Quality Hill

FORT WORTH Preservation advocates in Fort Worth are reeling from another stunning defeat, only slightly more than a year after the demolition of the historic city library. This time, backhoes leveled two turn-of-the-century

mansions and a carriage house, all deemed eligible for the National Register. Demolished were the Morton House at 1209 Summit, a 1908 Craftsman bungalow with affinities to Greene & Greene's Gamble House in Pasadena; the Reynolds House at 1404 West El Paso, built circa 1900 by cattle baron George T. Reynolds; and a circa 1895 carriage house at 1310 Ballinger. Their demolition leaves only six houses intact in the neighborhood known as Quality Hill in the days when it boasted 100 grand residences.

The mansions' demise was set in motion by the pending relocation of I-30, which will displace the office of Opthamology Associates. In response, the eye doctors purchased the historic properties and an adjacent 1950s office building, which they intend to reclad in postmodern clothes and occupy.

Ignoring proposals for adaptive alternatives by Fort Worth architect Ronnie Wooten and an appeal by Mayor Kay Granger, the owners and their developer passed on the opportunity to simply allow an interested buyer to purchase and move the houses, which would have made them heroes. Instead the site was cleared—for parking, they said. Preservation advocates now assume that the developers have a long-range plan for further development of the site.

Unlike the relatively complacent reaction to the library's demolition in 1991, public outcry this time was spontaneous and vociferous. Two General Dynamics workers distributed 45,000 flyers, generating television coverage that fueled the outrage; city hall was barraged with hundreds of phone calls and letters.

Following the demolition, advocates won the support of the mayor and approval of the city council for a six-month moratorium on demolition of historic properties. A sub-committee of the Landmarks Commission is now studying preservation ordinances of ether cities, they plan to propose a more stringent ordinance

that may include an extension of the present 90-day delay between permit application and demolition to 180 days, and a package of incentives such as low-interest loans, tax savings, and a flexible application of city codes. The His-



Fort Worth Star-Telegram



istoric Preservation Council for Tarrant County

The Reynolds House (top) and the Morton House (bottom) were demolished in Fort Worth to provide parking for an opthamologists' clinic.

toric Preservation Council is planning to draw on the vigor of the the grassroots movement by opening up its membership to all citizens and by sponsoring a petition drive in support of the strengthened ordinance. While a group of myopic doctors turned a blind eye to preservation, historic preservation advocates look to the future, hoping that this tragedy will be a catalyst for change in Tarrant County. **Barbara Koerble**

The Texas landscape

HOUSTON The Texas Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects held its 1992 annual meeting in Houston, Mar. 6–8. The principal event was a day-long series of talks, walking tours, and discussions that focused on the meeting's theme, the Texas landscape.

The keynote speaker was Los Angeles critic and planning consultant, John Pastier, who addressed the impact that agriculture, ranching, industry, and urban and suburban settlement patterns have had on the state. Two nationally recognized landscape architects who have executed major projects in Texas presented their work. Peter Walker, FASLA, principal partner of Peter Walker & Partners in San Francisco, spoke about the evolution of his design approach from a picturesque to a more conceptual and abstract aesthetic. Stuart Dawson, FASLA, principal of Sasaki Associates of Bos-

Imagine what?

HOUSTON The theme of the first Paul Kennon Symposium was supposed to be "The City Imagined." However, the event—suffering from a lack of energy, of audience, and of ideas—never coalesced around the topic. Instead it provided dispiriting evidence of the



At the Kennon Symposium: (left to right) Richard Ingersoll, Jennifer Bloomer, Mario Gandelsonas, Mary McLeod, Marshall Berman, Diana Agrest, and Peter Eisenman

fragmentation of architectural discourse and the limits of the profession's star system.

Held March 14 in the concert hall of Rice University's recently opened Alice Pratt Brown Hall, the symposium honored the memory of Paul Kennon, FAIA. Dean of the Rice School of Architecture at the time of his death in 1990, Kennon had also served as president of the architectural division of Houston-based CRSS, ton and Walker's former partner, spoke about his connection to Texas as the first head of Sasaki's Dallas office.

The sculptor Donald Judd began his talk with photographs of suburban sprawl in El Paso and environmentally abusive development in West Texas. Judd contrasted these scenes of everyday landscapes with his attempt to enter into dialogue with the natural landscape through the installation of art in and near Marfa (where he lives).

At the end of the afternoon, following a tour of the designed landscapes of Hermann Park, Rice University, and the neighborhood of Broadacres, the conference reconvened at the Museum of Fine Arts for a discussion led by Houston architect Peter Waldman. What emerged was a certain frustration that the de-*"Landscape," continued on page 18*

Inc., a decade ago when it was the largest architecture firm in the world. Back then, the avant garde of American architecture coalesced around a critique of the stylistic means and social forces that Kennon and CRSS represented. Leading the way in that critique was the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, which Kennon helped raise funds for in the early 1980s. Many of the participants in the Kennon symposium-architects Diana Agrest; Peter Eisenman, FAIA; Mario Gandelsonas; and Jennifer Bloomer; along with architectural historian Mary McLeod, who acted as moderatorhad either taught or studied at the institute. Other participants were architect Rem Koolhaas, geographer Edward Soja, and culture critic Marshall Berman. Alan Colquhoun and Charles Gwathmey, FAIA, were scheduled but did not appear. Rice faculty member Richard Ingersoll and Alan Balfour (himself a former Rice architecture-school dean) responded to the panelists' presentations.

Mary McLeod kicked the symposium off by proposing that the panelists discuss not only the current situation of the city but the problems of dominant forms of architectural response to urban conditions, which she formulated as a bland contextualism or a rationalism unable to engage the strip and other fringe conditions. She urged panelists to imagine how the public realm could be reconstituted to include excluded groups and to imagine an architecture "with emancipatory potential."

"Kennon," continued on page 10

OF NOTE

Moneo chosen by MFA

Houston's Museum of Fine Arts has chosen architect Rafael Moneo of Madrid to design a 150,000-squarefoot new building; the expansion, to be located across the street from the current building, will double the museum's gallery space.

New A&M dean named

Dr. Walter V. Wendler has been named the new dean of the Texas A&M University College of Architecture. Wendler has taught architecture at Texas A&M since 1981 and served previously as head of the Department of Architecture.

UT dean Hal Box resigns

Hal Box, FAIA, dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Texas for 16 years, announced in late February that he will resign as dean effective May 31. Box has requested a year's research leave, after which he will return to practice and teaching. Associate Dean Lawrence Speck will serve as acting dean. UT President William Cunningham anticipates making a selection for a new dean, based on a search committee's recommendations, by Sept. 1.

Best in American Living

EDI Architecture/Planning of Houston was presented with the National Association of Home Builders' 1992 Grand Award for Best Single Family Detached Home. The Best in American Living awards are sponsored by the home builders and PROFESSIONAL BUILDER & REMODELER magazine.

Vet Clinic of the Year

An animal clinic in Copperas Cove designed by Ralph A. Thibodeau, Architect of Austin was named the 1992 Veterinary Hospital of the Year by VETERINARY ECONOMICS magazine. The clinic's combination of marketing and design—a full range of products and services offered in a mall atmosphere—elevated it above the other competition entries, jurors said.

"Kennon," continued from page 9

Unfortunately, none of the participants did anything of the sort. Gandelsonas and Agrest both presented slides of projects in Chicago and Iowa City in which various site conditions were analyzed as a basis for arriving at painterly urban compositions. Bloomer gave a talk in the form of an open letter to the late English novelist and cultural critic Angela Carter. Eisenman pronounced himself willfully unprepared; he did add a couple of anecdotes: For a project in Frankfurt, he had teamed with Albert Speer, Jr.; and in Berlin he had a client who wanted him to forget height limits and zoning regulations along with the city's history and "build a monument to the 21st century."

Eisenman's story elicited a shudder of envy and chagrin from the crowd of Houston architects: The king of the avant-garde was swapping comradely tales about big-bucks clients. It was as if Eisenman had generated a new persona for himself—as something very much like the head of CRSS. Architecture regularly subsumes its avant-gardes into the mainstream, but one seldom gets to see it happen in real time.

The afternoon presenters did little to lighten the mood. Koolhaas presented several unremarkable projects, disowning them as urban interventions by the end of his talk. Soja, promising a methodology for creating space that escaped the polarities of economic and political power, instead described the physical geography of Los Angeles as militarized. He was followed by Marshall Berman, who, with a big beard and mop of curly hair and an orange T-shirt, stood out from his gray-suited fellow presenters. Berman played "Out in the Street," a very long, decade-old Bruce Springsteen song (Bloomer and Gandelsonas danced in the aisle), then settled into his talk, a book review in which he criticized various writers, including Soja, for unreflective leftism.

The day ended without any meshing of the varied terms or methods used by the presenters, and with a general sense that any attempt to do so would be futile. One only hopes that the next Kennon Symposium, scheduled for 1994, will better reflect the hard work of its organizers and the potential of its setting. *Joel Warren Barna*



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Designs on health

DALLAS Six health-related projects received awards in the 1992 Texas Architecture for Health Design Awards competition, which was sponsored by TSA in cooperation with the Texas Hospital Association. The winning projects were selected in February by jurors George J. Mann, professor of health facilities design in Texas A&M University's College of Architecture; Nels H. Berg, senior vice president for construction and facilities at the Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York City; and Martin H. Cohen, FAIA, an architect in Armonk, N.Y. and an officer of the AIA Committee on Architecture for Health.





Left: HKS won a gold medal for its design of the Laurel Ridge Psychiatric Hospital.

Right: Page Southerland Page received a silver medal for Seton Northwest Hospital.

A gold medal was presented to HKS Inc., of Dallas for its design of the Laurel Ridge Psychiatric Hospital in San Antonio. Jurors praised the project for its use of both interior and exterior space. HKS also received a citation for the Cancer Treatment Center at the Schumpert Medical Center in Shreveport, La.

Jurors awarded a silver medal to Page Southerland Page of Austin for its design of Seton Northwest Hospital in Austin. The project's strengths, jurors said, were planning, layout, and interior design.

AC Associates Architects of Lubbock was awarded a citation for its design of the Outpatient Imaging Center at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock, which jurors called "a thoughtful treatment of a high-tech environment." Another citation went to ZBS Studio, Inc. of Dallas for its design of the Women's Breast and Diagnostic Center at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; jurors said the project demonstrated an excellent use of budget for a tasteful environment. Healthcare Environment Design of Dallas received a citation for its design of the Tom Landry Sports Medicine and Research Center at the Baylor Health Care System in Dallas (see page 62). Jurors described the facility as an exemplary comprehensive fitness-and-rehabilitation center.

The winning projects will be exhibited in June at the Texas Hospital Association convention in Dallas and Nov. 12–14 at the TSA Annual Meeting in Houston. *Susan Williamson*



Support the Companies that Support TSA

Surveys show that TSA members believe the TSA Annual Meeting and TEXAS ARCHITECT magazine are two of the biggest reasons for joining the Texas Society of Architects. And a big part of members' dues go to support these quality benefits, but most of the costs are

actually paid by exhibitors and advertisers. They participate because they value Texas architects and the business they bring. Respond to these companies' support. Send in your reader inquiry cards. Visit their booths at the exhibit hall this November in Houston. Make sure your exhibitors and advertisers know you appreciate their support.



NEWS

CALENDAR

AIA National Convention

The theme of the 124th AlA National Convention and Design Exposition is "Exploration '92: Engaging Society in Vital Ways." The convention will include 150 technical workshops, seminars, forums, and consultations on three tracks: design, technology, and practice. AlA Convention Department (202/626-7395), registration deadline: MAY 22

"The New Public Realm"

PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE invites entries in an ideas competition initiated to address the potential of a new public works program in the U.S. The focus is on ideas rather than on detailed designs. Public Works Competition, PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE (203/348-7351), deadline: JUNE 19

"Cedar Design Naturally"

Projects using Western Red Cedar lumber products are eligible; the competition is co-sponsored by the AIA and the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association. Western Red Cedar Lumber Association (503/224-3930) or AIA (202/626-7930), deadline: JULY 1

SUNSET Interior Design Awards

Interior design projects completed since Jan. 1, 1990, and located in the western United States, including Texas, are eligible. Winning projects will be published in the October 1992 issue. SUNSET Interior Design Awards (415/321-3600; fax 415/321-8193), deadline: MAY 15

Exhibit of School Architecture

Entries will be exhibited at the Texas Association of School Adminstrators' and the Texas Association of School Boards' joint annual convention in September and at the TSA Annual Meeting in November. Awards will be given for best of show, for design excellence, and for energy-conscious designs. Janean Ferguson, Texas Association of School Boards (512/467-0222), deadline: JUNE 19

"News," continued on page 16

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Dear Joan: Thank you for everything these past couple years. You have given me a new outlook on insurance companies. You was nice having my questions answered by an actual person. You never were rude or abrupt and always fast in settling claims. I sincerely appreciate your cooperation, patience and kindness. Fondly.

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38th Annual TSA Design Awards



Call for Entries

For only the second year in its history, the Texas Society of Architects Design Awards competition is open to all architects who are registered in Texas, even if they are not TSA members. Construction completed over the last six years is eligible (completed after Jan. 1, 1986). And in addition to the General Design and Interior Architecture entry categories, the Design Awards has a Restoration/Adaptive Use category. Master plan projects may be entered in General Design along with the usual individual projects. These major changes, made first last year, open new windows of opportunity in an exciting new competition.

Look for subtle rules changes this year: the limit of 20 slides per entry has been loosened, the project description sheet has been refined, and eligibility for out-of-state architects has been tightened to require that they enter instate projects, ensuring a "Texas connection."

Take part in the new TSA Design Awards, where winners are built. Read the facing page for full competition rules The only way to win is to enter.

Entry Deadline: June 30, 1992.

Photos: one 1991 winner (left): Refreshment Stand at the Dallas Arboretum, by Max Levy Architect, Dallas; and one 1988 winner (right): Texas Commerce Tower, Dallas, by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Houston

Competition Rules

CELEBRATING its 37th year, the newly expanded TSA Design Awards Program seeks to recognize outstanding architectural projects by architects who practice in Texas and to promote public interest in architectural excellence. In the past, winning projects have been selected from every region of the state, as well as from other countries and states. Winners have come from one-person offices and large firms and have ranged from simple one-room buildings to elaborate high-rise offices. This year all architects who are indistered in Texas are invited to submit one or more entries for consideration by this year's jury. Out-of-state architects must enter Texas projects. Judging will take place July 16-17 at the TSA Office in Austin. Winners and their clients will be honored by a special announcement party at the TSA Annual Meeting, November 12-14, in Houston, Winning projects will also be publicized statewide and prominently featured in the November/December 1992 issue of Texas Architect magazine.

ELIGIBILITY

Any new project in General Design lincluding constructed urban design and master planning), Interior Architecture, or Restoration/Adaptive Use may be entered. Construction must have been completed after January 1, 1986, to be eligible. Individuals or firms located in Texas may enter any number of projects anywhere in the world. Texas-registered architects located out of state may enter any number of Texas projects.

Entries must be submitted by an architect who was registered with the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners at the time the project was executed. Where responsibility for a project is shared, the design architect must be a registered Texas architect and all participants who substantially contributed to the work must be credited.

Projects must be submitted in the name of the firm that executed

the commission. If that firm has been dissolved or its name has been changed, an individual or successor firm may enter projects in the name of the firm in effect at the time the project was executed. Multiple entries of the same project by successor individuals or firms will not be accepted. For multi-building projects, the architect submitting the project (or portion thereof) must designate authorship of each portion of the project.

JUDGING

A jury composed of E. Fay Jones, FAIA, of Fay Jones + Maurice Jennings, Architects, Fayetteville, Ark.; Doss Mabe, AIA, of Zimmer Gunsul Frasca, Newport Beach, Calif.; and Rob Quigley, AIA, of Rob Wellington Quigley Architect, San Diego, Calif., will pick the winners. Project authorship will remain concealed throughout jury deliberations. Awards will be given in three categories: General Design, Interior Architecture, and Restoration/Adaptive Use, The list of project types on the entry form is only an aid to the jury and does not imply that a winner will be chosen from each subcategory. TSA reserves the right to disgualify entries not submitted in accordance with these rules.

DEADLINE

The fee, entry form, text, and slide submission must arrive at the Texas Society of Architects (Address: 114 West Seventh Street, Suite 1400, Austin, Texas 78701, 512/478-7386) in the same container and at the same time, BY 5:00 P.M., TUESOAY, JUNE 30, 1992. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

AWARDS

Architects and clients of winning projects will be honored at the TSA Annual Meeting in Houston, November 12–14.

For publicity purposes, architects of winning projects must submit six copies of an 8"x10" black-and-white glossy photograph of one view of the winning project. Publicity photographs must be received at the TSA offices by August 15.

For publication, Texas Architect magazine will require original images—not duplicates—of each winning project. The original slides and transparencies will be returned after the magazine has been printed. In addition, the entrant of each winning project will be required to pay a \$150 publication fee to defray the cost of four-color separations.

RETURN OF ENTRIES

Entries from Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio will be sent to chapter offices by Aug. 15. Entries from other chapters will be mailed individually.

ENTRY PACKAGE

CHECKLIST. Each entry package must contain the following items, which must all be mailed or delivered to the TSA office in the same container on or before June 30: (1) a boxed slide carousel with slides, (2) one-page data sheet, (3) a completed and signed entry form, in an envelope taped to the outside of the carousel box, and (4) the appropriate registration fee(s) in the envelope with the entry form or, for multiple entries, in any one of the envelopes.

SLIDES. Entrants must submit slides in a working 80-slot Kodak Carousel tray for each project, in which the slides are in proper order and position. Any number of slides may be entered; a total of 20, including the slides below, is a recommended maximum.

The first slide of each entry must be a title slide, with the following information: project type (see entry form); project size, in gross square feet; and project location.

Following the title slide, each entry must include: (A) One slide of a site plan or aerial photograph with a graphic scale and compass points (interior architecture projects are exempt from this requirement). (B) At least one slide showing the plan of the project. For a multistory building, include only those slides necessary to describe the building arrangement and envelope. Sections and other drawings are optional. If included, section location must be marked on the appropriate plans. (C) One text slide containing a brief description of the project. including the program requirements and solution. (D) For restorations and adaptiveuse projects, at least one slide describing conditions before the current work started.

DATA SHEET. Each entry must include an image and written text describing the project, with the program requirements and solution, on one side of a lettersize sheet of white paper. The image—a representative photograph or drawing—must be no larger than 5" x 7". The data sheet must be folded and placed inside the slide-carousel box. DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME OR THE FIRM NAME ON THIS TEXT SHEET.

ENTRY FORM. An entry form is found on pages 19–20. Copies of the form should be used for multiple entries. Place the entry form(s) in an envelope with the fee(s) and tape the envelope to the outside of the carousel box.

FEE. Include a registration check for \$180 for the first project, \$160 for the second, and \$140 for the third and further projects submitted by a non-TSA member; \$100 for the first project, \$90 for the second, and \$80 for the third and further projects submitted by a TSA member. Place the check in an envelope with the entry form and tape it to the outside of the carousel box. Make checks or money orders payable to TSA. NO ENTRY FEES WILL BE REFUNDED.

MORE INFORMATION

For additional information on rules, fees, and other matters, call Ray Don Tilley at TSA, 512/478-7386, or fax 512/478-0528.

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NEWS

Eleven from Houston

HOUSTON Eleven winners were selected in the AIA Houston 1992 design awards competition. Jurors Laura Hartman, of Ferneau & Hartman, Berkeley, Calif.; Susan Maxman, FAIA, of Susan Maxman Architects, Philadelphia; and Enrique Norten, of Mexico City, selected the winning projects from the 80 entries received.

Three projects in the architecture category were chosen for honor awards. Hoover & Furr Architects won for its design of the Memorial Sundial, Fountain, and Garden at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Albert Pope and William Sherman, Architects, received an honor award for its design of Row Houses in Houston. The third honor award went to Val Glitsch, AIA, for her design of the Schiebl House in Houston.

Pope and Sherman received a second honor award, this time in the interior architecture category, for its design of the donor wall at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

In the urban design category, the El Paso Medical Center Master plan, by Longoria/Peters, received an honor award.

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Merit awards were presented, in the interior architecture category, to Reid/Fehn Architecture for its design of Lucho, a men's clothing boutique in Houston; to Val Glitsch, AlA, for her design of the Avant House in Houston; and, in the urban design category, to SLA Studio Land for its design of Water Wonder World in Kobe, Japan.

In the architecture category, a citation went



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to Ray Bailey Architects, Inc., for its renovation and addition to Lamar Senior High School in Houston. In the interior architecture category, a citation was presented to CRSS Architects, Inc., for its design of Riaro, a hair salon in Houston. A citation was also presented in the urban design category to Brand + Allen Architects, Inc., for its design of Two Rodeo Drive, an outdoor mall in Beverly Hills, Calif. SW



Above left: Row Houses

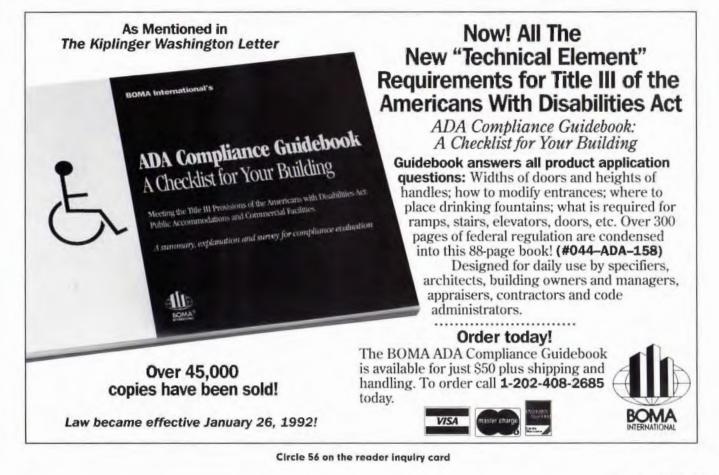
Above: Schiebl House

Top right: Memorial Sundial

Right: Donor wall







El Paso winners chosen

EL PASO The El Paso AIA 1991 design-award competition produced five winners, including three honor awards. Jurors Patricia Davis Wilson, Steve Yesner, Christopher Larsen, and Mark Harpert, all of the Albuquerque, N.M., Chapter/AIA, selected the winners.

Honor awards went to Morris Brown, AIA, MFA/Dimensions in Architecture for its design of the Thiewes/Lambert Residence in El Paso; to Duffy B. Stanley Architects for the rural campus of the Lee Moore Children's Home, located near El Paso; and to Garland/Hilles, AIA, Architects for its design of the Azar Nut Company building in El Paso.

Merit awards were won by Booth Keirsey Mijares Architects for the Benito Martinez Elementary School; and by Stanley + PSA, Inc., Joint Venture Architects for its design of the West Area High School Campus. SW

From top: Azar Nut Company by Garland/ Hilles, AIA; Lee Moore Children's Home by Duffy B. Stanley Architects; and Thiewes/ Lambert Residence by Morris Brown, AIA







"Landscape," continued from page 8

sign professionals felt in looking at Judd's work. In their role as consultants, they frequently had to take projects on their clients' terms, addressing issues already defined and ignoring those outside the scope of the commission.

John Pastier's opening presentation made clear that, despite the large sums of money and effort Texans have spent to modify the state's landscape, the conventional professional opportunities for landscape architecture are quite narrowly circumscribed. Peter Walker's work at Solana began to break out of this tight set of opportunities to relate publicly accessible places to the natural landscape on a scale comparable to Judd's work at Marfa. However, Judd's opening images demonstrate how careless Texans have become since the 1920s, when the last exemplary landscape projects at a public scale were realized; today, issues of civic beauty and environmental responsibility need to be addressed in public and private planning. Stephen Fox

Contributing editor Stephen Fox is an architectural historian living in Houston.

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Tape the envelope to the outside of the carousel of slides entered and send the entire package to: Texas Society of Architects, 114 West Seventh Street, Suite 1400, Austin, Texas 78701. For information call Ray Don Tilley at 512/478-7386.

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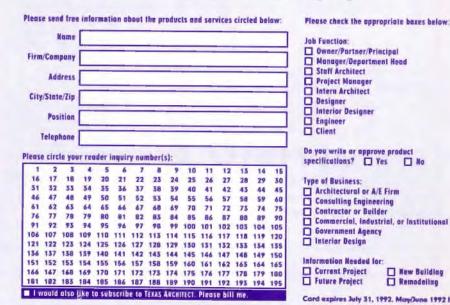
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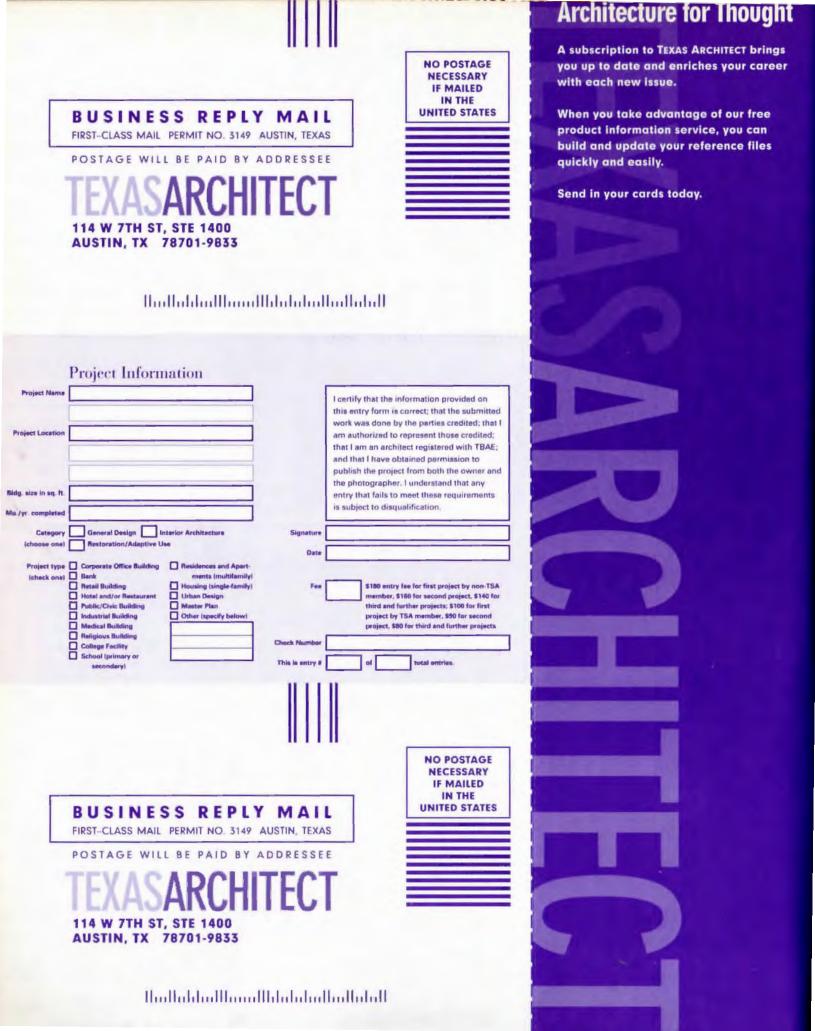
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Other events to be held in conjunction with A/E/C '92 are CMC Spring, the computer show for contractors; Facilities, the high-tech show for facility managers; and Autodesk Expo, the conference and exhibit focusing on Auto-CAD. An admission badge to any one of the shows grants admission to all.



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Summer 1992

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R.G. "Trey" Atwood, III, of Feather-

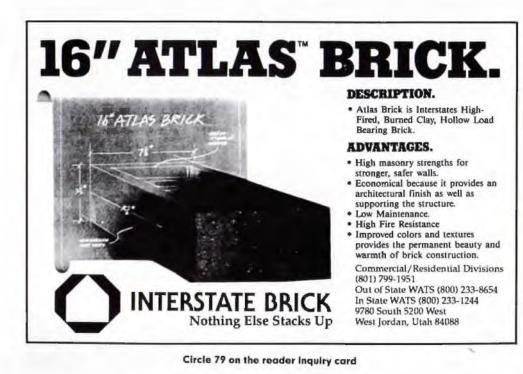


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Both Stubbs and Atwood say that the masonry and concrete industry's primary "Masonry," continued on page 37

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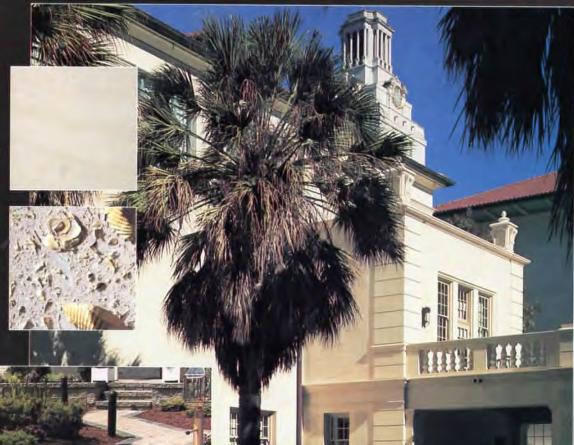


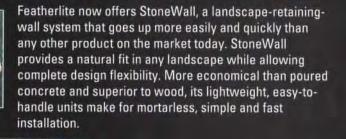
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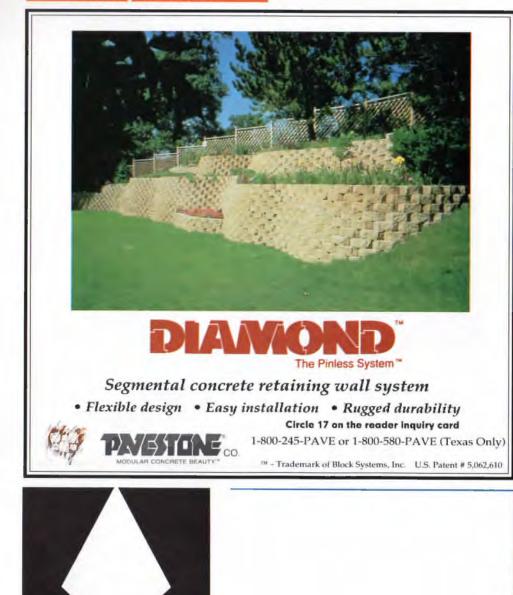
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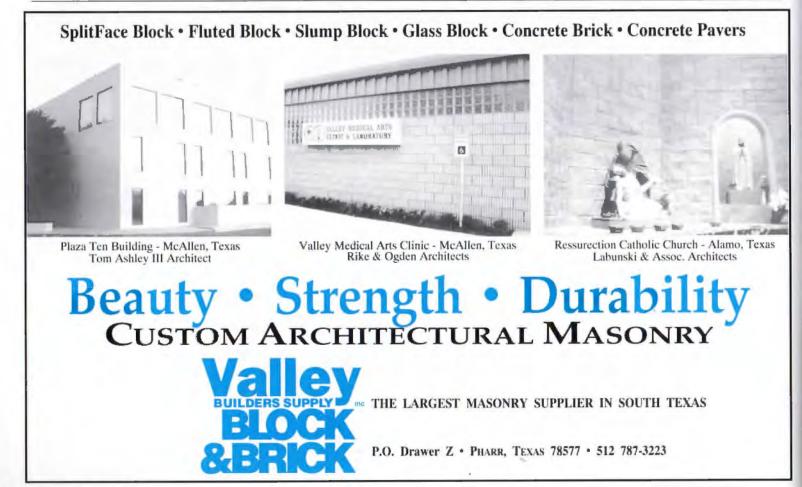
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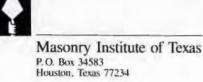
Talk about frustration! I mean, I'm known as a huffer and puffer, right? Don't mean to brag, but I can get some <u>wicked</u> velocity on my Sunday Huff.

Well, I wound up and gave it a solid Huff and slipped in a Number 3 Puff and that pig's hut didn't give a wiggle. Not a quiver. I thought I heard—I know I heard—them laughing in there.

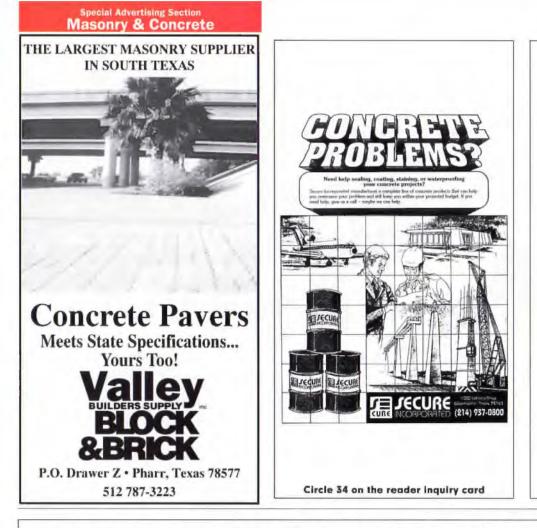


Well. You can imagine what <u>that</u> did to me. I've tried to come to grips with it, make it <u>my</u> reality, you know, but still it <u>was</u> a failure.

> Masonry construction and union labor are too tough, too much. There, I've said it and I'm glad. Huts aren't supposed to be that strong, you know?"



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9189-F Winkler, Houston, Texas 77017 P.O. Box 87097, Houston, Texas 77287-7097 Phone: 713/944-9716 Fax: 713/944-1723 "Masonry," continued from page 28 client continues to be public institutions. "We're seeing a lot of jail construction these days," Stubbs says, "and that almost always means stone or brick." Healthcare clients saw the masonry and stone industry through the lean times, as construction of hospitals and related facilities continued even during the economic slump. Medical facilities have traditionally been built of brick or stone, Stubbs says. Stone has been particularly popular with hospitals in the last few years, he adds.

Although the housing industry in the state, long a major user of brick and stone, remains depressed, Stubbs says that the market for houses in the upper end of the range, from \$100,000 to \$150,000 and up, has improved somewhat in the last year or so.

Atwood also mentions the residential market when asked about the future of concrete masonry in the state. Although concrete masonry has not been used much in the past for residential construction, he says, that may be changing as a range of more aesthetically pleasing concrete masonry products is introduced. Some of these products have been available in other parts of the country for several years, but are only recently becoming available in Texas.

"The ground-face concrete masonry unit has become really popular in the last couple of years," Atwood says. The ground-face units are concrete blocks to which an aggregate or color has been added. The face of the block is then ground to reveal the color or texture; an acrylic sealant is added to protect the finish. "What you get is the look of a more expensive material, terrazzo or granite or native limestone, for example, in a masonry unit," Atwood explains. Also available are split-face, sandblasted, and other types of custom masonry units.

The availability of concrete masonry units that are aesthetically pleasing as well as durable, economical, fire-safe, sound-absorbing, and practically maintenance free—qualities concrete masonry has long been known for—has led to an increase in its use in markets that have traditionally ignored or avoided it. "We're seeing custom masonry units, ground-face and split-face, used more and more in residential construction, especially in contemporary homes," Atwood says.

The primary customer for concrete masonry products is the same, Atwood says, as for brick and stone: the public sector. However, like Stubbs, he believes that as the economic outlook for the state improves over the next several years, the market for masonry products, whether concrete or brick or stone, will broaden. The long-term benefits of masonry and concrete—durability combined with aesthetics—are the keys to a successful future for the industry.



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Paths to a Renewed Eclecticism



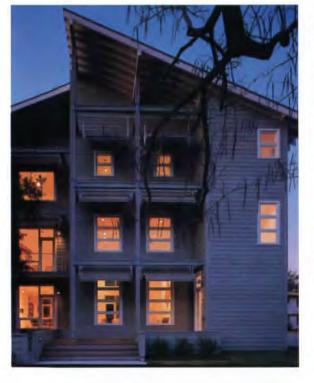
TEXAS ARCHITECTS are finding new approaches to eclectic house design, using styles that range from respectful adaptations of historical and vernacular traditions to regionalized modernism.







This page: William F. Stern's house in Houston shows siting and details adapted from his source in the low-scale bungalows of his neighborhood, which dates from the 1920s. Stern stretched the bungalow upward and outward, however, to accommodate his contemporary-art collection.







Renewing Eclecticism

by Joel Warren Barna

IN THE ARCHITECT AND THE AMERICAN COUNTRY HOUSE, his masterful history of high-style house design between 1895 and 1940, architect and historian Mark Alan Hewitt rediscovers the work of two generations of American architects, designers of houses that embody what Hewitt calls "the domestic eclecticism of the American plutocracy."

Until recently, that eclecticism has been in eclipse, condemned within the mainstream architectural community and among the highest-profile clients in roughly the same terms that early modernist polemicists proclaimed: That eclecticism was always a matter of unworthy imitation, with insecure Americans aping Europeans, newly rich burghers impersonating aristocrats, and moderns seeking false comfort in the trappings of their ancestors. While this may have been applicable to some of the "stately homes" of the 1880s (Hewitt quotes novelist Henry James on the the "hollowness" of some of the most celebrated), such prejudices ignore the myriad sources of eclectic imagery, from republican Rome to Art Deco, that had been nativized and domesticated dur-

Below: The Edelman House by L. Barry Davidson Architects is an adaptation of the high-roofed Acadian cottage to a Houstonarea suburban neighborhood. Louisiana brick was used for the walls.

Bottom: Dining room and kitchen, Edelman House Top right: Porches extend along the east and west facades of the Edelman House; the cottage model makes sense in Houston's climate.

Bottom right: Family room, Edelman House; warm-toned Louisiana cypress is used for paneling; pine beams bear the weight of the upper floor.

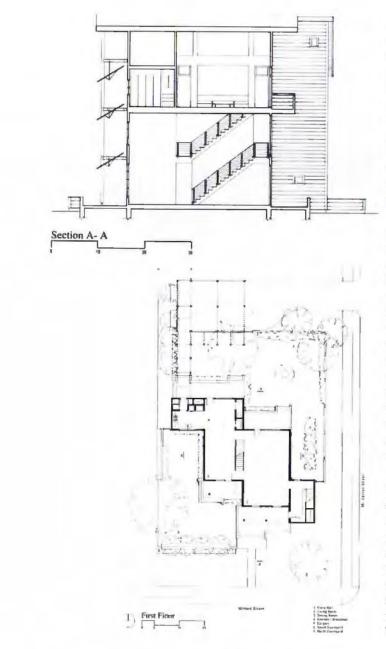








RENEWING ECLECTICISM



D III FIRST FLOOR PLAN

ing the course of America's history. And the modernist censure of the eclectic architectural tradition, elevating impersonal abstractness and personal creativity with equal vigor, also obscured the fact that, as Hewitt says, "To an eclectic architect, the choice of a source was in itself a creative act, a means of identifying with an ideal or a credo, a profession of who he was and what he aspired to. When he 'quoted' from the work of a master . . . he did so in homage. . . [acknowledging] the universality of the ideas and innovations in it and [offering] his variation as a perpetuation of a classic formula."

With modernism looking stodgily establishmentarian and shopworn, the postmodernist theorists of the last 20 years rediscovered historical universality, and turned to appropriating images, building forms, and planning principles from the past. But postmodernism was more bridge than stopping point, marked by a thinness of effect and a psychological nervousness that set it apart from early eclectic architecture. A new eclecticism-separated from postmodernism by a willingness to respond with straightforward respect to historical sources, without postmodern irony-has emerged in recent years, coexisting on a equal footing with a reborn modernism. As the houses on these pages show, many Texas architects are among those exploring what this new eclecticism can mean.

Hewitt describes four methods used by early 20th-century eclectic architects for approaching source material. The first and most important was typological analogy, in which high-style historical precedents, usually great classical buildings, were adapted to contemporary programs; Hewitt cites the example of McKim, Mead and White's choice of a Florentine palazzo as a model for the University Club. The second was genre application, the free adaptation of Tudor architecture, for example. The third approach was scholarly quotation. The



fourth was pastiche of old and new fragments, for example in Julia Morgan's San Simeon, much of which had been literally removed from European buildings.

Plutocracy isn't what it used to be, and there is little call for architects to design houses on the scale of Biltmore, the 255-room French Renaissance-style mansion designed by Richard Morris Hunt and built by George Washington Vanderbilt in 1895. Indeed, as Hewitt argues, Biltmore was itself something of a dinosaur when it was finished. The taste of clients changed, and the demand for "stately homes" was replaced by demand for "country places." Today, even those who find themselves suddenly very rich are more likely to want their

houses to portray them as people of good sense and exemplars of solid American values, rather than as lost Dauphins.

In today's environment, a different architectural sensibility is called for, and vernacular buildings are more likely to be chosen as sources to model houses on, instead of palazzos or classical temples. Thus what Hewitt calls genre application, with "genre" related to that sense of the word used in art history for depictions drawn from the everyday life of average people, has superceded typological analogy as the primary avenue for approaching source material for adap-

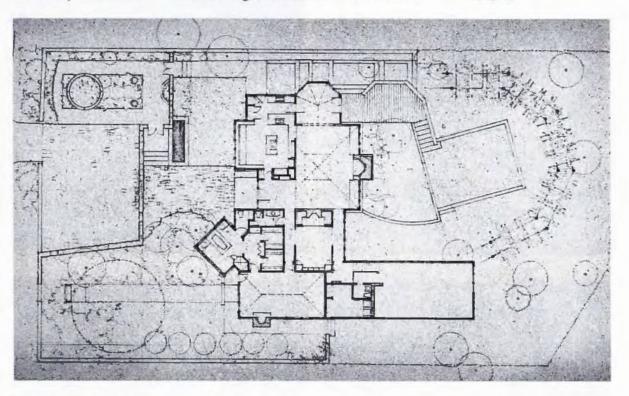
tation. The fact that architectural education no longer centers on studies of classical monuments, as it once did, reinforces this effect. So does the particular confluence of modernism and regionalism, championed by O'Neil Ford, Harwell Hamilton Harris, and other leading figures in Texas architecture after World War II. Since that time, Texas vernacular architecture, not high-style European classicism, has been treated as the authentic and appropriately adaptable wellspring of architectural virtue. In keeping with this lineage, today's Texas eclectic architects are more likely to pride themselves on details than on bombastic compositions, and to devote themselves more to caressing elaborations than to grand gestures. At the same time, among today's eclectic architects are those embracing a strain of what Hewitt calls scholarly quotation, less in the sense of academic exactitude than in maintaining knowledge of historical continuity in the built environment, which they see as threatened in a hostile and homogenized world. And this scholarly branch of eclecticism, it could be argued, now provides a repository for the craft-based school of American modernism that inherited the hunger for clarity and asceticism that animated colonial Congregational churches and Shaker design.

Stern House

THE HOUSE IN HOUSTON that architect William F. Stern designed for himself combines the first Facing page, top: Section, Stern House, Houston

Facing page, center: First-floor plan, Stern House

Facing page, bottom: Edelman House, firstfloor plan (left) and second-floor plan (right)



two methods of eclectic appropriation cited by Hewitt into what could be called genre adaptation, that is, taking a vernacular style and adapting it to a new, upscale program. Stern's house is derived from the bungalows that were the predominant house type in his neighborhood, near the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, which was first developed as a suburb in the 1920s. The derivation shows in the house's siting: It is set back along the lines of other nearby surviving bungalows, in contrast to townhouses and other projects built more recently, which push ingenerously up to their property lines. It shows also in the materials and construction techniques used in the house—eight-inch graystained clapboard siding, traditionally scaled fenesAbove: First-floor plan, Kirksey House, Austin, by Ann Rivers with Paul Lamb, Architect Below: In homage to the work of Harwell Hamilton Harris, the entry sequence at the **Kirksey House winds** through forecourts to a low front door.

Bottom: Kirksey House, kitchen; the architects used lowered soffits at the perimeter of the room, keeping the ceiling at the room's center high and open.

Below: The Kirksey House in Austin by Ann **Rivers and Paul Lamb**, Architect, opens to a deep landscaped backyard. The mostly glass livingroom wall

centers on a massive brick-and-stone fireplace.

Bottom: The livingroom has an open ceiling with paired rafters.









Below: The great room of the University Park House by Smith, Ekblad & Associates, features hammer beams and fieldstone walls. Right: Front elevation, University Park House

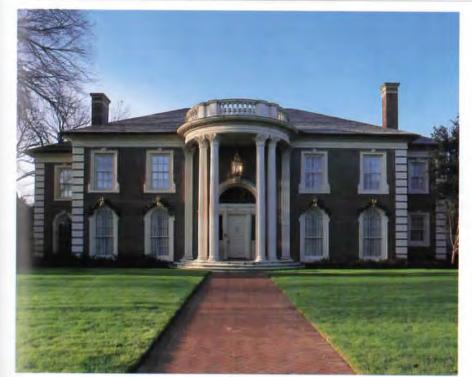
Below right: kitchen, University Park House, with handmade chandelier and stone arch Bottom left: Front elevation, Highland Park House by Smith, Ekblad & Associates

Bottam right: Hall, Highland Park House











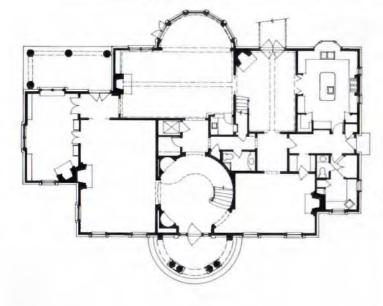


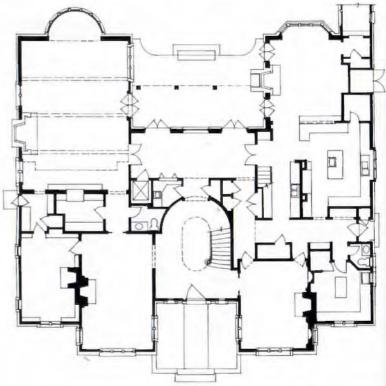


tration, and exposed rafter tails. Stern says he admires both the craftsmanship and directness in use of materials found in bungalow construction, and that these qualities guided his design. But he has elaborated and refined such details throughout the house and its gardens, even as he pulled the house upward and outward to make it work as a gallery for his collection of contemporary art.

Edelman House

ARCHITECT LESLIE BARRY DAVIDSON's Edelman residence in Houston is a straightforward typological transplant. She designed an Acadian cottage, a historical house type from southern Louisiana, for a couple who had moved to Houston from Louisiana and, Davidson says, "desired a 3,500-squarefoot home to recollect their heritage." The tall side-gabled roof comes down unbroken (except for dormers) to the first-floor roof line, creating deep porches on the house's front and back and making the house seem smaller, in keeping with its 50foot-wide lot and the neighboring bungalow houses. In fact, many of those bungalows have become victims of tear-down mania in the neighborhood and were replaced by big red-brick houses with large, ornamented fronts. Davidson's cottage, a welcome typological break from these "Georgianburgers," is better adapted to site and climate. The house's interiors are organized around a central hall and stair, lit from above by a hidden skylight. Longleaf pine floors, cypress paneling, 10-





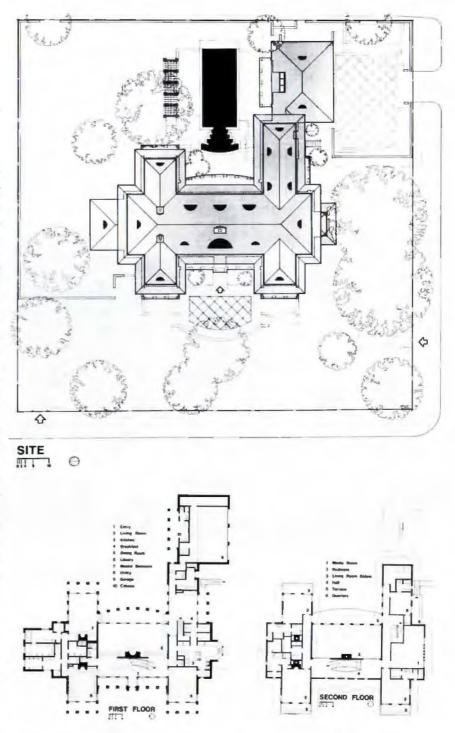
foot ceilings, and transomed doors combine to reinforce the old-fashioned feeling.

Kirksey House

ARCHITECT PAUL LAMB of Austin says that his design of the Kirksey House in Austin (working with Ann Rivers of Austin) is a homage to the Texas work of Harwell Hamilton Harris, whose reputation in Texas was resurrected in part by a Texas Architect article Lamb wrote with Lawrence Speek in 1981. The Kirksey house is part teardown: a flat-roofed pavilion on the site was removed, and Lamb's new wing, clad in the boardbatten siding that Harris sometimes used and with windows proportioned on golden sections, was built onto the side of an existing two-story glass and steel bedroom wing. The entry sequence to the house, Lamb says, shows Harris's influence; leaving the parking forecourt, visitors turn through a series of small rock-walled courts to approach the front door, which is tucked back in the shadow of the low roof. From a hall with a low ceiling, the visitor then enters a large living room, set under paired rafters, in which a massively scaled white fireplace is set in a window wall opening to the site's landscaped backyard. Next to it is the dining room, in which rafters form a chandelier-like element centering on the diningroom table, bringing the room's scale down through a boldly idiosyncratic constructional move. Almost all the house's interiors open onto manicured outdoor spaces. This includes the master bath, sybaritically set in an angled projection from the front of the house, with high windows that look into the trees. Throughout, sequences repeat the motif of low-ceilinged approach and expansive arrival. This is an affectionate eelecticism embracing the work of a modern master, and, if only architects will recognize the source, anyone can appreciate the hierarchy of spaces and the relationship to landscape it produces.

University Park and Highland Park Houses

ARCHITECT COLE SMITH of the Dallas firm Smith, Ekblad & Associates is one of the most clearly eclectic architects in Texas. Smith says that when he attended the University of Kansas in the early 1940s, the architecture school was still organized around Beaux-Arts principles. After serving for two years in the military, he returned to the school to find that it had changed to a Bauhaus-influenced curriculum and teaching style. In 32 years of practice in Dallas with his partner, architect and engineer Robert S. Ekblad, Smith has been responsible for the design of hundreds of houses, along with numerous schools, office buildings, churches,



and bakeries. The firm's stylistic preference had been "traditional" but not scholarly, Smith says. At the same time, he maintained an interest in craftswork that dated back to a blacksmithing class he took in his first year of architecture school and that influenced his treatment of details in his projects. In the summer of 1985, everyone in the firm went to Italy to take part in a month-long seminar organized by the Parsons School of Design. After their return, Smith says, "Everything was different. We became much more confident of our ability to deal with the details and craftsmanship involved in period work, and our practice turned to pursuing that." The discovery of the scholarly tools for eclectic appropriation, Smith says, has given a

Facing page, top and middle: Highland Park House, rear elevation and dining room; Firstfloor plan, bottom left

Facing page, bottom right: University Park House, first-floor plan

This page, top and above: Site plan and floor plans for a House in Dallas by Frank Welch & Associates

RENEWING ECLECTICISM

Modernized regionalism meets Italianate villa in the House in Dallas designed by Frank Welch & Associates. Brick arcades line deep groundfloor loggias (below). The tall livingroom is finished in simple planes and light tones (bottom left). Over first-floor walls of brick, the second floor is surfaced in austere planes of stucco, while the roof has hidden gutters and meticulously detailed soffits (top right). A curving stair rises from a wide, narrow entry hall (bottom right). Facing page, top and middle left: William Cannady's house faces the Contemporary Arts Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts In Houston.











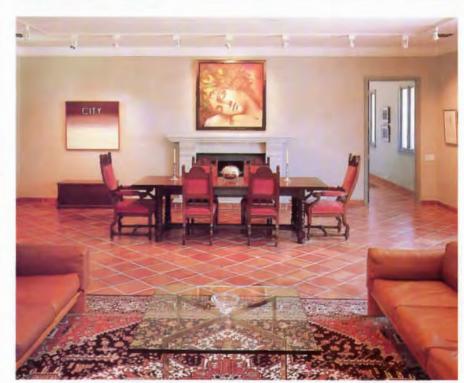




Above: House for Lot X, kitchen

Top right: The House for Lot X's swimming pool is sheltered by a high masonry wall. Right: House for Lot X, living room; the openness of the plan shows modernism in an otherwise antimodern package.

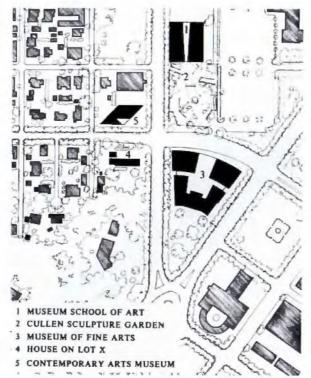


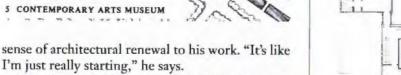


Right: Site plan of William T. Cannady's House for Lot X, relating the project to other significant structures in Houston's museum district.

Far right: House for Lot X, first-floor plan (top) and second-floor plan (bottom)

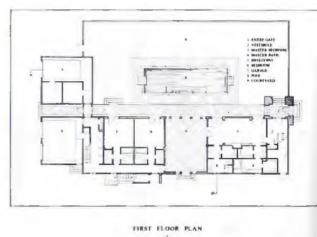
Facing page: Gravel replaces grass in William F. Stern's front yard, and a low garden wall frames a view of the neighboring bungalows that provided Stern's design inspiration.

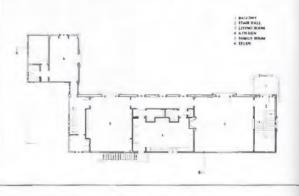




The House in University Park is based on English country houses from the late 16th century, Smith says, "but it's treated as a 19th-century revival." The eight-inch-thick walls are built of convincing fieldstone with Texas Lueders limestone quoins and beltcourses, although they turn out to be infill in a steel frame. The second story and the gables of the third story are half-timbered with brick infill. The ground-floor windows have stone mullions inside and out. The stone details of the fireplace in the hammer-beamed "great room" were carved in place, and all the house's metal hardware was fashioned by craftsworkers from the architects' drawings. The sense of earnestness (broken occasionally by such anachronisms as a widescreen television) is reinforced by the formality of the plan.

The House in Highland Park is an essay in even greater formality, based on English houses from the period of King George III; it faces the street with its portico of tall, correctly proportioned Corinthian columns and massively scaled quoins framing dark brick walls. The centerpiece of the house is a hall with a spiraling stair and a pavement drawn from Michelangelo's Campidoglio. Interior designer Sherry Hayslip of Hayslip Design Associates, Dallas, furnished the Highland Park House, and regularly collaborates with Smith, Ekblad & Associates on residential projects.





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

A House in Dallas

THE HOUSE IN DALLAS designed by Frank Welch & Associates has the same formality, although it recalls American precedents, rather than European ones, and although it has been inflected with the regionalized modernism for which Frank D. Welch, FAIA, is known. The client requested that the house have a Mediterranean atmosphere that would both fit in with and stand out from a street of two-story 1920s-era mansions; modern interiors were also required. The exterior of the house is finished in crisp planes of brick, mahogany and stucco, set under a slate roof with concealed gutters. The interior is finished in plaster, mahogany, granite, limestone, and slate, with steel sash windows and doors. The H-shaped plan is organized with guest rooms and a media room on the second floor, connected by a curving stair to the first-floor public rooms. The projecting wings of the plan are marked by arched brick loggias supporting secondfloor terraces. The double-height living room, toplit from arched roof dormers, faces the backyard pool through a bow-fronted loggia.



House for Lot X in Shadyside

THE CAREER of Houston architect William T. Cannady, FAIA, has been marked by a progression from modernism to postmodernism to a developing eclecticism, as shown in the three Houston house projects he has designed for his family-a cedar-sided cube in the 1970s; an addition with a thin pedimented facade in the 1980s; and, most recently, an apparently straightforward villa on "Lot X," the corner facing Mies's Museum of Fine Arts and Birkerts's Contemporary Art Museum. Cannady describes his house as "not conceived as a dwelling in the usual sense," but as "a building for the gathering of art and its devotees" that he foresees one day becoming a gallery, a museum director's residence, a foreign consulate, or the offices of an arts group. It draws on the typologies of the urban palazzo and the rural villa, wrapping them in a stripped-classical stucco-over-masonry exterior, with limestone lintels and inset bucranium and star medallions. The interior, which is open and undecorated, and thus clearly modern in spirit, has major family spaces on the second floor, with bedrooms on the ground floor facing a pool behind a wall.

Uniting modernism and regional vernacular and high-style sources, all with a clear sense of respect, these houses show the emerging domestic eclecticism of Texas architects. TA PROJECT William Stern House, Houston

- ARCHITECT William F. Stern & Associates, Architects, Houston (William F. Stern and Deborah Morris, design team, assisted by Paolino DiVece and Peter Dregborn)
- CONTRACTOR Renaissance Builders, Inc., Houston
- CONSULTANTS Stuctural Consulting, Inc., Houston (structural); Katy Ferguson (planting consultant, garden design); McDugald/ Steele (garden installation)
- PHOTOGRAPHY Paul Hester, Houston

PROJECT Edelman House, Houston

CLIENT Richard and Sue Edelman ARCHITECT L. Barry Davidson Architects,

ALA, Inc., Houston

CONSULTANTS Sharon Perry, Houston (interior designer); Jon Monteith, Structural Consulting, Inc., Houston (structural); Reed Dillon, Ruckle/Dillon (landscape architect)

PHOTOGRAPHY J. Griffis Smith, Austin

PROJECT Kirksey House, Austin

CLIENT Tom and Gene Kirksey

ARCHITECT Ann Rivers and Paul Lamb, Architect, Austin

CONTRACTOR Hagey Builders, Austin CONSULTANT Juster/Quintanilla, Austin (structural)

PHOTOGRAPHY Paul Bardagiy, Austin

PROJECT A House in Highland Park ARCHITECT Smith, Ekblad & Associates, Dallas

CONTRACTOR Crow Bar Constructors, Dallas (Cole Smith, Jr.)

CONSULTANTS Hayslip Design Associates, Dallas (interior design)

PHOTOGRAPHY Michael Lyon, Dallas

PROJECT A House in University Park ARCHITECT Smith, Ekblad & Associates, Dallas CONTRACTOR Insight Company, Dallas PHOTOGRAPHY Michael Lyon, Dallas

PROJECT A House in Dallas

ARCHITECT Frank Welch & Associates, Inc., Dallas

CONTRACTOR Murchison Development Co., Dallas

CONSULTANTS Lisa Gilebrist, Dallas (interior design); Boyd Hiederich Armstrong and Berger, Dallas (landscape architects); Mullen and Powell, Inc.–Techni Structures, Dallas (structural engineering); Daniel C. Herndon, Dallas (mechanical engineering); Craig Roherts Associates, Dallas (lighting)

PHOTOGRAPHY Frank D. Welch, FALA

PROJECT A House for Lot X in Shadyside, Houston

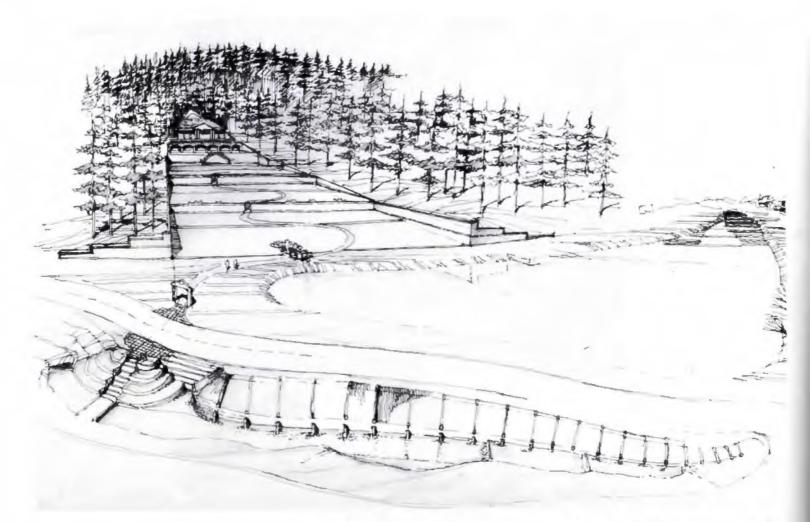
CLIENT William T. Cannady, FALA

ARCHITECT Wm. T. Cannady & Associates, Inc., Architects, Houston

CONTRACTOR Renaissance Builders, Houston

CONSULTANTS R. George Cunningham, Hous-

ton (structural engineer); Carlisle Becker, San Francisco, Calif. (landscape architect) PHOTOGRAPHY Paul Hester, Houston



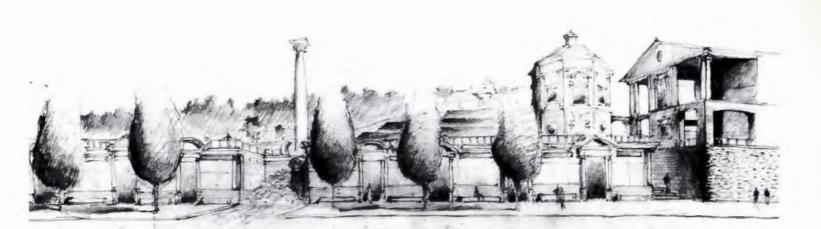
Planning a New Suburb

Phillips and Brown of Houston has experimented with planning principles aimed at bringing maturity to a new generation of American suburbs.

by Sharon Woodworth

Architects since the 1950s have been making proposals that they hoped would guide the brash adolescent form of American suburbia—low-density housing tracts, with pods of single-family houses on curving streets connected by arterial roads to faraway areas for work, shopping, and social services, where all purposeful movement requires a car—into a more urbane maturity. The energy-price rises of the 1970s stimulated many plans that promised to increase urbanity by emphasizing higher density and other measures aimed at resource conservation. But when energy prices fell, the need to develop compact suburbs seemed to disappear.

The idea of the next-generation American suburb nevertheless lived on in the 1980s in "neotraditionalist" plans. These were influenced by the ideas of Leon Krier, Aldo Rossi, and other European rationalist architects, who focused on streets and plazas shaped by buildings as the most important of urban elements, and who rejected the treatment of buildings as objects in neutral space that was characteristic of both doctrinaire modernism and standard suburban



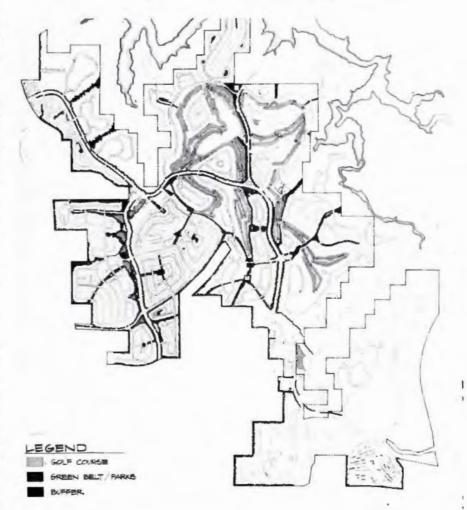
planning. In rationalist thought, urban form was connected directly to the moral underpinnings of society; chaotic modern spaces, of which American suburbs were the prime examples, were seen as seriously in need of reconstruction, if not exorcism.

The best-known neotraditionalist planners who implemented these ideas were Andrés Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, who, with Leon Krier, designed The Town of Seaside, a development of high-end weekend houses in Florida. Celebrated first in architectural circles and then in the popular press as the model of "the new American suburb," Seaside has been extraordinarily influential, not only among designers but among developers, who are always searching for ways to enhance the marketability of their projects. Neotraditionalist ideas have diffused into the world of suburban planning nationwide, and other designers and planners, many of them working independently in the neotraditionalist style, have emerged.

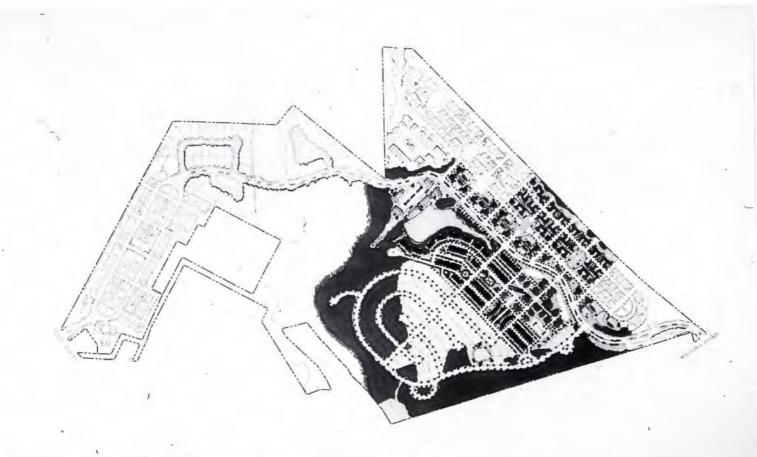
Phillips and Brown of Houston (which recently reemerged after a brief consolidation with the Pennsylvania-based Vitetta Group) is one such firm. In partnership since 1984, W. Irving Phillips, Jr., FAIA, and Peter Brown have a well-established practice in planning speculative suburban developments. (Phillips and an earlier partner, Robert W. Peterson, won a *P/A* award in 1974 for the planning for three speculative suburban residential developments, none of which were ever built. For examples of some even earlier work by Phillips, see *TA* Jul/Aug 1991.)

Organizing by Narrative

In the early years of their partnership, Phillips and Brown proposed that the problems of suburbia derived from a lack of historicity, in the sense that plopped-down suburbs didn't seem to mature over time. Developed without roots, they argued, subur-



Facing page: West Mill was planned with landscape features that resembled stage sets, to give the subdivision a sense of development in time. Top: A group of neoclassical buildings at West Mill represented one of the stages of Atlanta's transition from rural area to Sunbelt metropolis. Above: The plan for West Mill shows the developers also planned a golf course, running through the entire develoment, to attract residents.



HUNTING CREEK

PID LIPS BROWN

Phillips and Brown adapted local history into a development plan for Hunting Creek, an unrealized project for a Maryland tobacco farm. bia spreads in a search for something to cling to. As a remedy, Phillips and Brown planned projects with a factitious "history" into which the development would grow. Typically, Phillips and Brown analyzed sites for "historic content" as well as market trends from which a "story" was to evolve-planning by prologue, so to speak. The idea was to "follow simple rules for drama," according to Phillips: "First, create a story line that relates to the historic tradition of the context and [to] market trends. . . . Second, design a hierarchy of civic features complete with implied commemoration of historic events, utilizing universal myths customized to fit local and regional characteristics. Third, plan a geometric configuration of streets and land parcels that reinforces the natural site features and at the same time creates an easily identified and remembered pattern. And, finally, create design standards that bring diverse building groups into design compatibility consistent with the dramatic narrative."

West Mill, an unrealized development project from 1985, planned for a site near Atlanta, Ga., provides an example of this Phillips and Brown planning technique. Each section was planned as a village that represented stages in the growth of Atlanta from agricultural society to industrialized railroad town. The main road of West Mill was laid out as a series of proscenium-like land scultures, each fronting a village to recount the history of Atlanta's development. The plan was not realized, however; West Mill was developed as Town Lake, a much more conventional suburb.

A 1989 plan for Hunting Creek, a 1,200-house development near Annapolis, Md., provides another example. The site, once a large tobacco farm, had a knoll topped by a large tree, with a ladder of uncertain origin attached to it. Phillips and Brown treated this remnant of the previous land use as the narrative touchstone for their project. The streets around it were laid out in a Savannah-like checkerboard of parks and homesites, allowing groups of houses to claim their own knoll. A "historic" scenario of how the site might have originally grown into a town was developed and condensed into a five-year-plan. Due to a slumping economy, this plan has also not been realized. In projects from the 1990s, the firm Phillips and Brown has switched to a more conventional neotraditionalist planning style. The hallmark of this neotraditionalism lies in its attempt to interweave 19th-century urban concepts with contemporary land-use practices.

Neotraditional Principles

AT SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS on planning, Phillips and Brown have described their version of the principles that make a suburb neotraditional.

 Such a suburb contains a mix of uses, integrating residential with institutional and commercial areas.

 It is focused on a major civic space—either a village green or a commercial center, which is equally accessible by car or foot and which is surrounded by high-density uses.

• Its streets are designed to accommodate walking as well as cars and they are arranged in a hierarchy. One main street is given prominence through landscaping, close-in businesses, and allowance for vendor or sidewalk-cafe street life. Secondary streets narrow to reduce traffic, and other streets control traffic through one-way entries or exits.

• Its streetscapes reflect the multipurpose nature of the street traffic (i.e., not just cars) through visual variety in fences, gates, hedges, benches, kiosks, and lighting. On-street parking is allowed on all streets, while off-street parking lots are always dispersed and screened.

• It has flexible zoning and subdivision regulations that allow businesses to build as close to the street as the property line, and allow for smaller yards as well as alleys in the rear of lots. In addition, various housing types are permitted, including carriage houses above garages.

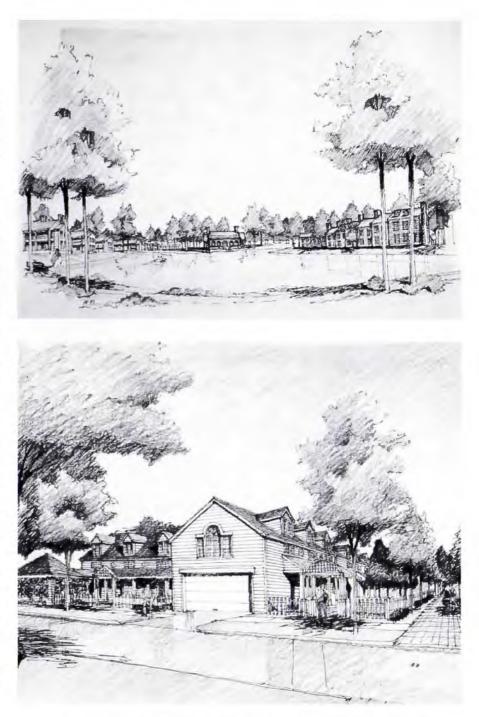
• All of the elements of the subdivision should be contained within a distinct boundary that protects open space, creating a sense of place and a feeling of community.

• And, finally, buildings and site elements should reflect traditions of the area, including ornamentation and detailing of roof forms, chimneys, porches, doorways, walls, and gardens.

Recent Projects

PHILLIPS AND BROWN have employed this set of neotraditional planning principles for clients all over the country, and for projects as diverse as revitalizing inner city neighborhoods, laying out new subdivisions, and planning entire new towns. Five of their current projects reflect their attempts to see each of the above ideals implemented.

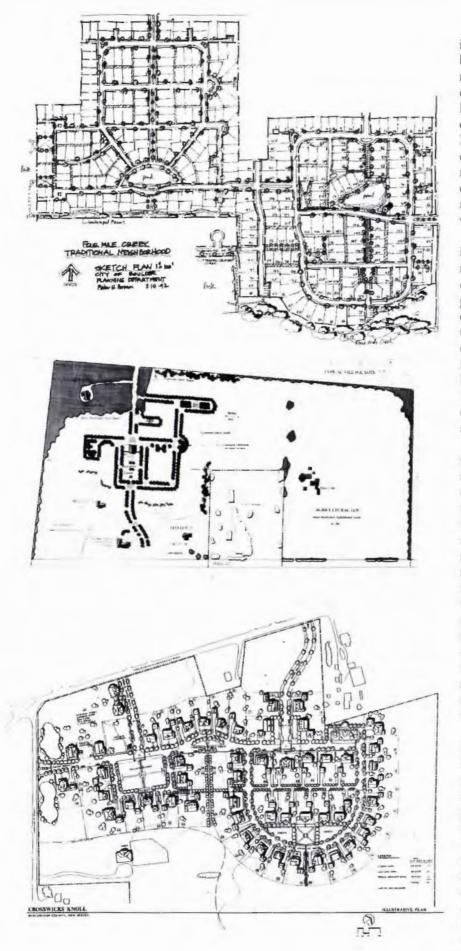
Four Mile Creek is 124-acre tract of land whose owner is seeking annexation by the City of Boul-



der, Colo., where local zoning laws allow much greater density (and thus higher profitability) within the city limits. City officials rejected the original town plan offered by the developer as part of his annexation bid as "too conventional, autooriented, and repetitive," citing specifically the use of cul-de-sac streets. Phillips and Brown led a workshop including all the interested parties, and derived a plan replacing dead-end cul-de-sacs with a variety of street forms, from boulevards to alleys, as well as streets meant to be used by both cars and pedestrians. The main street in their plan clearly stands out, as it terminates in one of the village greens, which centers on a pond. Houses provide the only visible edges of their village, which makes

Top: Perspective of village Center, Hunting Creek

Above: Hunting Creek, perspective showing densely clustered housing



it thus seem to lack the clear definition demanded by their principles, although the lower zoning of all non-annexed land in the county does create an edge effect. Small-scale paths make walking easy, linking houses to ponds and green space—an echo of the famous Radburn, N.J., plan of the 1920s. For now, however, a primary neotraditional ingredient is missing: mixed uses. Without offices and retail space to walk to, this well-thought-out grid of streets and paths remains a bedroom suburb, not reaching its potential as a compact community in which to live, work, and play.

A second project, the Woll Tract development in Bucks County, Pa., shows a stronger commitment on the part of the client to mixed uses, addressed in the proposal for a recreation center and general store. Whereas the recreation hall is located midway along main street in the village center, the farmer's market and general store are located where the main street intersects the highway, implying that the businesses do not exclusively belong to this village. Housing is clustered, so only 13 acress of the project's 100-acre site are developed. The remaining deed-restricted open space and agricultural space becomes a natural boundary.

A third project by Phillips and Brown, Crosswicks Knoll in Burlington, N.J., is described as "an historic Quaker village." Here, the mix of commercial and residential uses begins to develop more fully. Businesses remain logically located at two entries into the village, but they cluster around a village commons which is directly across main street from the village square. A second public space, the village green, is framed by a crescent of residential lots and therefore seems intended for the private use of the village. Despite the lack of a distinct boundary, a sense of place is created internally at the street edges. This is exemplified in the crescent, where driveways only meet the street on the outer curve and houses on the inner curve are served by driveways off an alley, reducing traffic along the crescent and enhancing the appeal of the village green as a place for pedestrians.

The Village East project in Medford, N. J. is larger, with 176 acres planned for development. Roadways define all boundaries, while retention ponds act as buffer zones between traffic and buildings. The project's primary public spaces-a shopping center, movie theater, churches, restaurants, and even a petting zoo-line the highway edge, with "standard" expanses of parking in the foreground. Secondary public spaces include a recreation hall, a library, and a police station, but they are planned for the southeast corner, which is actually beyond a major road. Unfortunately, not only must pedestrians cross this road to use these services, the two commercial centers are not related through a prominent main street. A significant village green is planned, but it is not a focal point of this development, and therefore seems to have less impact as a civic space. This further segregates the mix of housing, with dense apartments and town houses backing up the primary commercial zone while single-family lots are dispersed to a private edge in a standard suburban fashion. All the right ingredients exist in Village East, but the civic order called for in a neotraditional village seems askew.

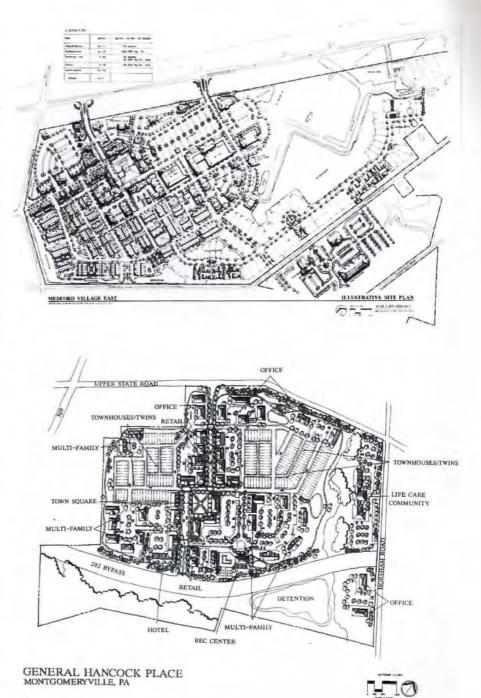
Phillips and Brown consider General Hancock Place in the Philadelphia suburbs to be their closest approach to the neotraditional village idea. Peter Brown says of it, "Civic order is created by taking the typical suburban elements (freestanding office buildings, strip retail, town houses, and apartments) and rearranging them into a village setting." The main street is lined with retail activities, while retail, institutional, and office space are dispersed around the periphery, creating a commercial edge. These boundaries divide the residential spaces into quadrants. Dense single-family housing is planned in the two north quadrants, while multifamily apartments fill the two south quadrants near the highway edge. A careful zigzag of main street around the town square staggers the four residential quadrants and gives each equal access to the centrally located public space. Main street fulfills its role, binding home, work, and play.

What is not yet depicted in any of these schemes, still in the early stages of development, is any attempt to reflect local architectural tradition.

Limits of Neotraditionalism

Is formal geometry at the heart of the "tradition" in neotraditional villages? Judging from the work of Krier, Duany and Plater-Zyberk, Calthorpe and other designers working in the same mode, the answer is yes. All mix housing and nonresidential use in formal, classical village plans emphasizing compactness. The work of Phillips and Brown, with its frequent use of street grids, fits well with this tendency.

Where Phillips and Brown diverge from other neotraditionalists, however, is in their gingerly approach to classical formalism. The language of classicism spreaks seductively to architects, according to Brown, but respect for the site and social needs must often take precedence over formal geometric principles. Says Brown, "Many practitioners are influenced by 19th-century planning, and by the work of Frederick Law Olmsted, John Nolen, and Raymond Unwin. The great places in our cities and towns today were laid out according to these classical geometries, which, in turn, influenced the design of subsequent urban spaces." But such mental constructs are not enough, according to Brown. He adds, "Underlying the axes, boulevards, focal points, civic squares, greens, and promenades should be a fundamental commitment to social objectives. Privacy, security, convenience, vi-



sual pleasure, social enjoyment for all ages, and a strong sense of identity are too important to sacrifice. We should be selective about classical geometries and historic imitation."

But with a society driven by the pace of a fax machine, an economy running on two-income households, and a political swing that must address women as workers instead of suburban caretakers, can yesterday's village accommodate what is unique about our lives today? Phillips and Brown know the proven package that orders a sense of place, but the challenge remains to seek the urban form that could instill a sense of 20th-century character. TA

Sharon Woodworth is a writer living in Austin.

Approaching

neotraditionalist ideals in speculative suburban plans: Four Mile Creek, Colorado (facing page, top); Woll Tract, Pennsylvania (facing page, center); Crosswicks Knoll, New Jersey (facing page, bottom); Village East, New Jersey (this page, top); and Generol Hancock Place, Pennsylvania (abave)

Interiors

shop's

spiral

form

begins

with ob-

central

jewelry

case.



Curves to the power of ten

A SERIES OF SPIRALS based on the curve of a nautilus shell is the basis for the form of Cotton Club Sport, a women's clothing and jewelry store in Houston.

Moore/Andersson Architects of Austin used the nautilus shell as a model for the discontinuous spiralling form repeated throughout the store, beginning with the objects inside a jewelry case. The spirals grow outward, increasing by powers of ten, the architects say, to fill the store. The form provides a framework around which the architects created various display areas.

Beadboard walls and display units are painted a uniform white that, combined with a soaring ceiling and dramatic lighting, produces an

open and airy effect in keeping with the "resort style" of the clothing sold. Lights are directed upward at a white panel hung beneath a dark metal ceiling. Other elements float between the ceiling and the stained concrete floor, skewed and unanchored and lit dramatically from below. SW

PROJECT Cotton Club Sport, Houston

ARCHITECT Moore/Andersson Architects, Austin (Arthur Andersson, project architect; Charles Soutball, job captain)

CONTRACTOR P.D. Construction, Tomball

PHOTOGRAPHER Arthur Andersson and Steve Dvorak

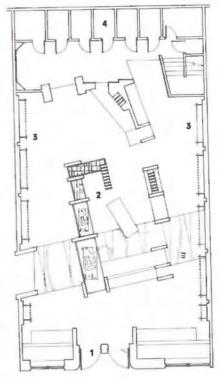
Below left: Clothes are displayed around the perimeter of the store.

Below center: Elements seem to float in the dramatically lit space.









INTERIORS

Sit down, take out

WHEN THE OWNERS of Via Cucina, a combination sit-down cafe and take-out market, were ready to open the sixth store in their chain, they wanted a new image. Kathy Heard Design of Houston, gave them just that by designing a texturally rich and rigorously organized space.

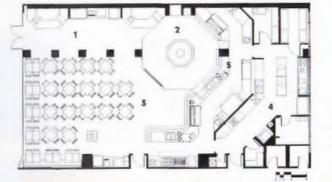
The 3,100-squarefoot market and cafe, in a low-rise connection between two high-rise office buildings, is divided into three areas: an entrance/exit passageway, the take-out market, and the cafe. The passageway provides the separation between market and cafe that the owners required, while also providing a clear circulation pattern for the space as a whole.

The take-out market is organized around an octagonal display area. The market's walls are covered with large-scale, sepia-toned photographs of produce; strings of garlic and peppers hang from brightly colored pipe frames overhead.

The cafe is defined by the space's central architectural element: an arcade painted in trompe l'oeil to resemble inlaid colored marble and "restored" plaster. Back-lit fabric panels hang from the ceiling in the dining area, casting diffused light on the tables and stained concrete floor. SW-

 PROJECT Via Cucina, Arlington, Va.
 ARCHITECT Kathy Heard Design, Houston
 CONTRACTOR Trend Construction Services, Inc., Houston
 PHOTOGRAPHER Hambright

Associates, Washington, D.C.



KEY TO PLAN 1 ENTRYJEXIT PASSAGEWAY 2 TAKE-OUT MARKET 3 RESTAURANT 4 KITCHEN 5 SERVING AREA







Above: Via Cucina's two sections, a takeout market and sitdawn cafe, are separated by a handpainted arcade.

Far left: The take-out area is centered on an octagonal display station.

Left: The arcade is painted to resemble inlaid marble and "restored" plaster.

Survey

New Pawel Village 60 ARCHITECTURE Housing for the Texas Research Park draws on vernacular precedents.

Gateways to Amarillo 60 URBAN DESIGN Architect Glenn R. Oldham designed a gateway for Amarillo's Center City.

Awareness with Honors 62 PRACTICE TSA's Honors Awards can help architects raise the profession's public profile.

In Praise of Graves 63 BOOKS Nestor Infanzón reviews a book on the work of Michael Graves.

Landry Center 62 HEALTH CARE The Tom Landry Center links office tower to park and fitness center.

Small Ships62Gerald Moorhead, FAIA, sailsout to meet Spain's Columbuscaravels in Golveston.

Pillot Building Reborn 64 PRESERVATION Morris Architects of Houston reconstructs the Pillot Building in Houston.

Railroad Plaza63URBAN DESIGN Two Lubbockfirms design a plaza for down-
tawn Big Spring.

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ARCHITECTURE The San Antonio firm Overland Partners designed New Pawel Village, a housing complex (named for a donor) occupied since mid-1991 by researchers at Texas Research Park (see *TA* May/June 1991). Built on the site of a former Hill Country ranch 20 miles west of San Antonio, the project consists of 32 apartments, a clubhouse, and sports facilities for researchers. It was conceived, funded, designed, built, and occupied in six months, for under \$40 per square foot, the architects say.

The architects adapted the German Hill Country precedent of stone farm houses with enclosed porches to their program, with four apartments per stone- and board-and-battenclad building clustered in groves of live oak trees. Additional buildings include a mail-box pavilion, a barnlike clubhouse and conference



center, a swimmingpool changing house, and a two-story building housing eight efficiency apartments. By adapting historic local typology and construction techniques and respecting the site, the architects created a cohesive communitarian space in what could easily have been a placeless "instant village." JWB

Marking the Center

URBAN DESIGN Architect Glenn R. Oldham of the Amarillo firm Hannon, Daniel & Dickerson won a recent city-sponsored competition for his design of a series of new gateways to mark the core of Amarillo's downtown. For winning the competition, which was conducted in accordance with AIA competition guidelines, Oldham was awarded \$1,000 and the commission to complete design of all the gateways in the series, which will be built in stages.

Oldham's constructions will mark 13 intersections at the edges of the "Center City," a 100-block area in downtown Amarillo that city officials and local businessmen are hoping to reestablish as a focal point for urban development. Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum and Real Estate Research Corp. completed a master plan for the area in 1991 that proposes a system of open green spaces to tie together existing employment centers and to stimulate a return of retail activity downtown. The gateway competition that Oldham won marks the first phase of the HOK/RERC master plan.

Oldham says his design divides the 13 designated intersections at the margins of Center City into primary and secondary entries. Two



Above: Model of Glenn Oldham's design for gateways to central Amarillo Facing page: Amarillo's Center City , from the HOK/RERC master plan

major intersections at the north and south edges of downtown will be marked by gates made with symmetrically placed, cantilevered trusses recalling both windmills and oil-drilling rigs, painted dried-wheat-yellow (*amarillo* in Spanish). The trusses will be set on concrete bases colored and layered to recall the strata of sedimentary rock found in the area's dramatic canyons. The spring points of the arches will





Facing page: Site plan of New Pawel Yillage on a former Hill Country ranch; apartment floor plans are inset.

Top left: Clubhouse

interior

Top right: Rooftops of housing (at left) and recreation/conference facilities (at right)

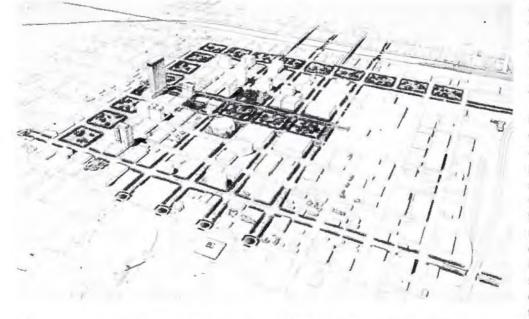
Above: Apartments are clad in stone and wood siding. **PROJECT** New Pawel Village, Texas Research Park, San Antonio

ARCHITECT Overland Partners, San Antonio (Madison Smith, principal; Ory Esbel, project architect; Rick Ar-

cher, Tim Blonkvist, and Scott Carpenter, design team) CLIENT Texas Research and Technology Foundation CONTRACTOR Metropolitan Contracting Company,

San Antonio (Steve Schuetze) CONSULTANTS Hoyt Consulting Engineers (civil);

Beicker Engineering (structural); John S. Troy (landscape architect); all firms in San Antonio



contain wind-activated chimes, protected against damage from the infamous West Texas wind by perforated metal covers. Folded copper banners will name major local industries.

Nine secondary intersections will be marked by single pylons of a simpler design using the same materials and forms, says Oldham.

A donation from Amarillo National Bank will pay for construction of the first gateway, which should be built during 1992. City Center organizers are seeking sponsors for the other gateways from among Amarillo's other banks and major businesses.

Oldham's gateway design was chosen from six entries. A project by Jim Doche, FAIA, of the Amarillo firm Wilson Doche Architects and sculptor Judy Kracke won an honor award for second place. *JWB*

PRACTICE

AWARENESS THROUGH HONORS

Through its annual Honors program, TSA recognizes those who share its commitment to the quality of life in Texas. Recognition of deserving individuals and groups is itself a worthy goal, but architects should also recognize the potential of the TSA Honors program to increase public awareness of architecture and the role of architects in society.

TSA gives two categories of honor awards to those who have demonstrated effective and genuine concern for the quality of the built and natural environment: Honorary Memberships for individuals and Citations of Honor for organizations. Accomplishments by past honorees have included roadside beautification, open-space protection, downtown revitalization, and preservation of historic buildings and sites.

In addition, TSA honors its own exceptional members each year. TSA's highest honor, the Llewelyn W. Pitts Award, is presented for lifetime leadership and achievement in architecture. Other honors include Distinguished Achievement in Architectural Education and the William W. Caudill, FAIA, Award for Young Professional Achievement.

The TSA Honors Committee organizes the awards program, and seeks your nominations for honorees in all categories. Nominations should be made through TSA chapters, and should be forwarded to the Honors Committee with completed nomination forms, letters of recommendation fram non-architects (mandatory for honorary members; optional for other nominations), and graphic support material showing the nominee's concern for the quality of the environment. Submit materials in 8¹/2-by-11-inch plastic sleeves and ring binders. Deadline is June 30.

Selected recipients will be honored with a public presentation during TSA's Annual Meeting in Houston, November 12–14. GERALD BRATZ

Architect Gerald Bratz beads the TSA Honors Committee for 1992. Call Mieko Akutsu at the TSA office (512/478-7386) for nomination forms.

Digging Graves

MICHAEL GRAVES; BUILDINGS AND PROJECTS 1982-1989 Edited by Karen Vogel Nichols, Patrick J. Burke, and Caroline Hancock Princeton Architec-

tural Press, 1991 336 pages, 764 illustrations \$49.95 cloth, \$34.95 paper

BOOKS This volume provides a record of recent projects by one of the most prolific



architects in America, once the *enfant terrible* of the postmodern architectural community and now near the top of the architectural establishment. This book covers Graves's work from 1982 through 1989 (a period during which he averaged a building per month), plus a variety of vases, medals, and paintings. Most of the projects, ranging from a wristwatch to the 1,510-room Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel, are documented with photographs, as well as plans and seductive drawings.

The book's introductory essay by Christian Norberg-Schulz argues for the validity of postmodernism both as an organizing principle and as an architectural style. Norberg-Schulz also explores the connections between Graves's iconography and use of tectonics and his obsession with Renaissance sources, illuminating not only Graves's work, but also the sophistication of his architectural vocabulary.

The closing essay by Robert Maxwell, a fellow professor of Graves's at Princeton, continues the examination of that vocabulary. Maxwell argues that Graves's constant use of collage, along with the fluidity of his spatial assemblies are not only deeply rooted in the modern tradition, but are, in addition, the tools that allow Graves to infuse his work with a selective historicism. The result is what Maxwell calls Graves's "figurative architecture."

Michael Graves may stand alone in an architectural environment constantly changing its direction, so it is refreshing to see how he has been able to refine his language and craft. Whether you like his style or not, this monograph is the record of the busiest postmodern architect—and probably the last one as well. **Nestor Infanzón**

Nestor Infanzón is an architect with RTKL, Inc., Dallas.

Tower in a Park

HEALTH CARE First proposed in the late 1970s by J. Pat Evans, then the team physician of the Dallas Cowboys, the Tom Landry Sports Medicine and Research Center is a complex composed of a 124,000-square-foot, seven-story medical-office tower (its tenants specialize in sports medicine and physical conditioning); a 100,000-square-foot, three-level fitness center, and a 106,000-square-foot garage. The architecture office Healthcare Environment Design, a division of the Baylor Health Care System, designed the complex. It stands on a nine-acre site adjacent to the rest of the Baylor University Medical Center: the tower echoes the materials and forms used in the other recent additions to the Baylor campus. A six-acre jogging park, behind the complex, is landscaped around jogging trails. The dual function of the complex required careful consideration of the circulation: Patients needed unimpeded access to the medical-office tower, while entry to the fitness club had to be controlled. The architects resolved these requirements by using a central atrium that serves as a circulation hub. TWB

Three small ships

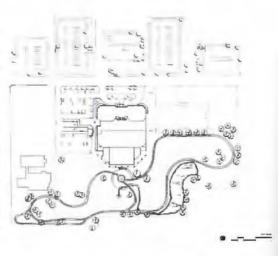
GALVESTON I drove down to Galveston early one March morning to ride the press boat out to meet the Columbus fleet, replicas of the *Niña*, *Pinta*,

and *Santa Maria*, built at a cost of \$15 million by Spain and sailed across the Atlantic to tour 22 American cities in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of Columbus's voyage of discovery.

We bobbed around

Galveston Bay for an hour, engulfed in diesel fumes, until a small gray square emerged from the haze—the sails of the *Elissa*, the Galveston Historical Society's restored 19th-century ship, escorting the convoy toward the jetty. The horizon became littered with sails and specks as pleasure craft of all descriptions assembled to accompany these reborn ships from the past. Our craft charged into the flotilla, past the *Elissa*, glorious under full sail, and through the sticky spray of the fireboat *Gulf Protector*. Then the sails of the Columbus caravels came into sight—three bulbous brown ships with dingy sails. *Tiny* ships.

SANTA MARIA replica in Galveston



PROJECT Tom Landry Sports Medicine and Research Center ARCHITECT Healthcare Environment Design, Dallas (Craig Patton, managing principal; Bruce Johnson, senior principal; Charles Turner; Susan Curry; Paul Devers; Donald Franklin; and Wanda Hailey)
CLIENT Baylor Health Care System

CONSULTANTS Raymond L. Goodson, Jr., Inc. (structural/ civil); CCRD Partners, Inc. (mechanical/ electrical); Joiner-Rose Group (acoustical); Newman, Jackson & Bieberstein, Inc. (landscape design)

Although the Columbus ship replicas were constructed with the same authentic materials — Spanish oak, pine masts, pitch—and with documented techniques as ships from the late 15th century, their design is speculative, since no contemporary descriptions or measurements of

> the ships themselves exist. Information on the ship's sizes was inferred from ships' logs detailing cargo capacity, expressed in terms of the number of large wine jars (tonelada, hence ton or tonnage). The Santa Maria is 97.1 feet long overall and 21.6 feet wide. The Niña is 70.5 feet by 20.6 feet, and the Pinta is 74.6 feet by 21.6 feet.

On his first voyage, Columbus hired a crew of about 90 sailors for these three vessels, and took about 40 days to cross the Atlantic—30 salty Spanish sailors and several horses per ship, spending over a month on an open deck smaller than my front yard. And Columbus returned to Spain from his second voyage carrying 100 passengers on board the *Niña*. Seeing these ships brought the unappreciated rigors and boldness of Columbus's adventures into focus. *Gerald Moorbead*, *FAIA*

Gerald Moorbead is Texas correspondent for Architectural Record and a TA contributing editor.

CONTRACTOR Medical Environment Development Corporation, Dallas





Facing page: Ground-floor plan, Tom Landry Center

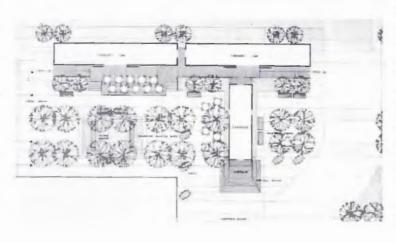
Far left: Atrium interior

left: Jogging tracks wind through a sixacre londscoped park.

Below: Section through complex



Right and above: Site plan and entry of Railroad Plaza, the downtown revitalization project sponsored by Main Street, Inc., of Big Spring. It wos designed by Design Plus Architects and Lima Planning Associates, both of Lubbock



Railroad Plaza

URBAN DESIGN Design Plus Architects and Lima Planning Associates, both of Lubbock, created Railroad Plaza as part of a master plan to revitalize Big Spring's downtown. The parklike plaza, filling in a former vacant lot, anchors the end of Main Street. The park faces the city's surviving railroad depot, and the park's theme comes from the role of the railroad in Big Spring's history. Old railroad cars were bought and restored to house retail and foodservice shops. Providing a focal point for the plaza is a caboose, which has a projecting canopy and stepped platform at the rear for concerts or informal gatherings. Ramps and stairs provide access to the railroad cars, raised decks, outdoor eating areas, and a trellis with built-in bench seating. Stone building walls on two sides contain the center area. Incandescent pole and landscape light was included so the park can be used at night. Amy M. Young

PROJECT Railroad Plaza, Big Spring **CLIENT** Main Street, Inc., Big Spring

ARCHITECT Design Plus Architects, Lubbock (Michael G. Peters, principal); and Lima Planning Associates, Lubbock

CONSULTANTS Grimes Associates, Lubbock (mechanical); Roberts and Thoma, Lubbock (structural)

Saving Face

PRESERVATION Morris Architects' reconstruction of Houston's Pillot Building began in 1989 and was completed on October 17, 1990. The the 13,650-square-foot Pillot Building (original architect unknown, circa 1860) is the second oldest building in Houston and is located downtown at the corner of Congress and Fannin. The building is one of the earliest cast-iron structures west of the Mississippi.

Designated as a Texas Historical Landmark, the Pillot Building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. But its owner, Harris County, allowed the building to deteriorate; it was condemned in 1977. Demolition was delayed for several years, however, and The City Partnership, a development company, obtained a lease for the building in 1985. Nevertheless, portions of the walls collapsed in 1988 and reconstruction waited until 1989.

Morris Architects worked with state and local preservation officials for an accurate reconstruction of the exterior of the building. Exterior reconstruction included re-casting the broken and missing acanthus leaves from the column capitals; poly-fiber resins and molds made from dental impression gels were used. Salvaged brick was used on the west side of the building. A rose-colored brick was produced for the rest of the building, recalling the original's color and texture. The brick was laid in a running bond with a header course every sixth row, following the original pattern while maintaining a contrast between the original foundation and new construction. The Texas Historical Commission required that the rear and plaza sides of the building be finished in plaster with a light brown, two-banded tint. The windows were framed with cast iron and wood painted a limestone color. An intricately detailed brick cornice was re-created.

The building's interior had to be completely rebuilt. The ground floor now houses the Pillot Cafe, which hosts jazz and blues musicians part of the year. Over 9,000 square feet of office space occupies the second and third floors. The entrance for the office area is raised and canopied, with brick pilasters. Inside, a refurbished lobby is tiled in dark green and white marble, with red-oak-finished paneling. The separate Pillot Cafe entrance is accented in dark green. A courtyard on the west side provides outdoor seating. *Amy M. Young*

Amy M. Young served as TA intern in early 1992.









Architecture Month

EL PASO The AIA El Paso chapter celebrated October 1991 as "Archtober," a series of events intended to raise awareness about architecture.

The El Paso Museum of Art was the center for many of the month's events. The chapter's Young Architects Task Force designed and installed an architectural sculpture on the museum's front lawn. The museum also hosted a film series and a lecture by Mark Mack of San Francisco.

Other activities included a house-design competition for elementary-school students, walking tours of downtown, architecture lectures for high-school students, and a competition to design a Mission Trail logo. *JWB*

PRODUCTS AND INFORMATION



This sofa is featured in the line of furniture-Evaneau-that Lauren Rottet, partner in the Los Angeles firm of Keating Mann Jernigan Rottet, has designed for Brayton International. Circle 151 on the reader inquiry card

GE Silicons' GEPEL TSR 218 Stain Resistant Penetrant protects concrete from graffiti by facilitating the removal of paint, dirt, and pollution stains. Circle 152 on the reader inquiry card





The Kestrel, Emerson's AirDesign brand ceiling fan, combines aesthetics with state-of-theart engineering. The 52-inch five-bladed fan comes in various colors, textures, and finishes. Circle 153 on the reader inquiry card



New standing-seam roofing and wall panels from N.A.T. Industries, Inc., are available in widths from 8- to 24-inch to meet different needs. Circle 155 on the reader inquiry card

The Berkeley Chair, designed by David Barr, is a new design offered by Gilbert International. Circle 154 on the reader inquiry card



A line of weathervanes introduced by Markuse Corporation features designs by, clockwise from top, Michael Graves, Smart Design, Stanley Tigerman, and Takenobu Igarashi.

Circle 156 on the reader inquiry card



Structural decking panels custom-curved by Curveline, Inc., may be used for all types of domed roofs and other vaulted designs.

Circle 158 on the reader inquiry card

The Hardwood Institute has published Imagination Within, a 44-page book featuring a wide variety of ideas for hardwood interiors. Circle 159 on the reader inquiry card



D.V. Frey-Tec has in-

troduced UL-Classified steel fire windows; the windows carry a 45- minute fire rating. Circle 157 on the reader inquiry card







A new handbook from Schindler Elevator Corporation focuses on the impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on elevator installations and covers ADA-accessibility factors in elevator systems for existing buildings, buildings under renovation, and new buildings. Circle 160 on the reader inquiry card

Low-Loc, a new access-floor pedestal assembly from USG Interiors. allows for lowered finished floor



heights, making access floors practical in any general-office area. Circle 161 on the reader inquiry card



The Opening Glass Wall by Nana Windows & Doors is an exterior, bi-folding French door system that allows openings up to 16 feet wide. Circle 162 on the reader inquiry card



The new MS60 Marina Panels from Medalist M&S are slip-resistant polyethylene-overlaid plywood for decks. The



The Gerber Corp. Aqua Saver and Ultra

Flush toilets meet ANSI

standards for low water

Circle 163 on the reader

consumption.

inquiry and

surface is wear-resistant and the pressuretreated plywood substrate provides decay and rot resistance. The panels are available in brown or gray, and in a variety of sizes. Circle 164 on the reader inquiry card



Vecta's 4 O'Clock Chair offers an ergonomic design that, with multiple models and sizes can provide seating for an entire organization. Circle 165 on the reader inquiry card

SURVEY

RESOURCES

Stern House (p. 40)

Structural steel, exterior steel connections, rails, and gates: Builders Iron; Interior steel stair: Patina Metals, Inc.; Wood framing material: Wenco Distributors; Cypress siding: Lodge Lumber; Cabinets and trim: Cabinet Works of Houston; Custom furniture (dining, coffee, and side tables): Brochsteins, Inc.; Roofing and sheet metal: GAF Timberline shingles (Con-Tex Services, Inc.); Plumbing fixtures: American Standard, Kohler, Chicago, Dornbracht (Elegant Additions); Tile and granite: American Olean Tile (H&R Enterprises); Hardwood floors: Joe's Floor Sanding; Appliances: Sub Zero, KitchenAid, Maytag, Elkay, Thermador (K&N Builders Sales); Lighting: Lightolier, Artemide (Lighting, Inc.); Mechanical: Lenox (Gulf Coast); Windows and doors: Marvin Windows; Paint and stain: Cabot Stain, Benjamin Moore, Pratt & Lambert, Devoe (Clifford Strain Painting)

Edelman House (p.41)

Roof: GAF Timberline Shingles; Brick: Louisiana Old "Soft Reds"; Pavers: Louisiana Old "Hard Tans"; Windows: Semko (custom); Millwork: Architectural Millwork & Supply, Baton Rouge, La.; Hardware: Jado, Colonial (pulls), Baldwin (hinges); Tile: Country Floors (through Materials Marketing); Wallpaper: Clarence House; Skylight: Plastico; Air conditioning: Lennox; Wiring: Lutron; Lighting: Lightolier, Halo, Georgian Arts, Peerless, Remington, Boyd; Fans: Casablanca; Kitchen appliances: Sub Zero, Thermador, KitchenAid; Kitchen and laundry-room sinks: Elkay; Plumbing fixtures: American Standard, Americh, Giorgio, Kohler

Kirksey House (p. 42)

Windows: Marvin Windows; Siding: Clear redwood; Brick: St. Joe Brick Company; Limestone: Cordova cream; Roof: Standing Seam Paint Grip (David Ramm Roofing); Floors: Quarter-sawn white oak (Artisan Floors); Ceilings: D-grade fir; Paneling: Black walnut, rosewood, ebony; Front door: Teak; Lighting: Lightolier; Cabinets and millwork: Warenoff's Inc.; Special carpentry: Max Rockoff; Metal work: Lars Stanley, Robert Philips; Paint: Pittsburgh Paint, Benjamin Moore; Appliances: Sub Zero, KitchenAid; Countertops: Black Andes granite, Carrara marble; Hardware: Schlage, Baldwin; HVAC equipment: Trane; **Plumbing**: Franke, Chicago Faucet, Dornbracht, American Standard, Porcher

House in University Park (p.45)

Stonework: Mezger Enterprises, Lampasas, stone supplier; Mike Bond, carver; Michael Peck and crew, masons; Dee Brown Company, heavy setting; Slate: Custom Slate, Dallas; Casement windows: Iron Craft Studios, Dallas; Blacksmiths: Mark Bokenkamp, Liberty, Ohio; Nick Brumder, Georgetown; Ironcraft Studio, Dallas; Lead-coated copper: Coppercraft, Dallas; Woodcarving and millwork: Carving Traditions, Bedford; Bronze and aluminum castings: A&B Foundry, Dallas: Special finishes and painting: Billy and Mary Kay Brown, Dallas

House in Highland Park (p. 45)

Brick and stone work: Masonry Technology, Dallas; Cut stone: Mezger Enterprises; Sheet metal: Coppercraft, Dallas; Special hardware: Chuck Magill, Garland; Exterior iron fencing and interior ironwork: Iron Craft Studio, Dallas; Wood carving and cabinet work: Carving Traditions, Bedford; Custom carving and applique: Decorator's Supply; Cast details: A&B Foundry, Dallas; Special finishes: Billy and Mary Kay Brown

House in Dallas (p.48)

Brick: St. Joe Brick Company; Roof slate: Roof Tile and Slate Co.; Interior flooring and exterior paving: Kirkstone; Limestone: North Texas Stone Co.; Steel windows and doors: Hopes Architectural Products; Wood windows: Pella: Window and door glazing: Mammen Glass and Mirror; Door hardware: TKO Associates; Custom light fixtures: Winona Lighting, Jim Cinquemani; Sound system: Soundsmith, Inc.

House for Lot X in Shadyside (p. 49)

Fireplace: Heatilator; Air conditioning: Carrier; Lighting: Lightolier, M&M Lighting; Windows and French doors: Pella; Ceiling fans: Hunter; Cut stone: Canterra Stone, Materials Marketing, Inc.; Mexican tile: Materials Marketing, Inc.; Stucco: Finish coat of Thoro-Coat acrylic stucco; Handrails: Julius Blum & Co.; Plumbing: Kohler; Door hardware: Schlage; Kitchen appliances: Thermador, Sub-Zero, KitchenAid

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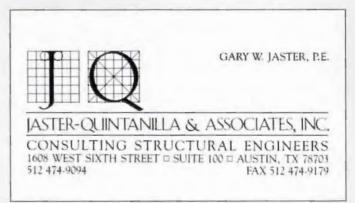
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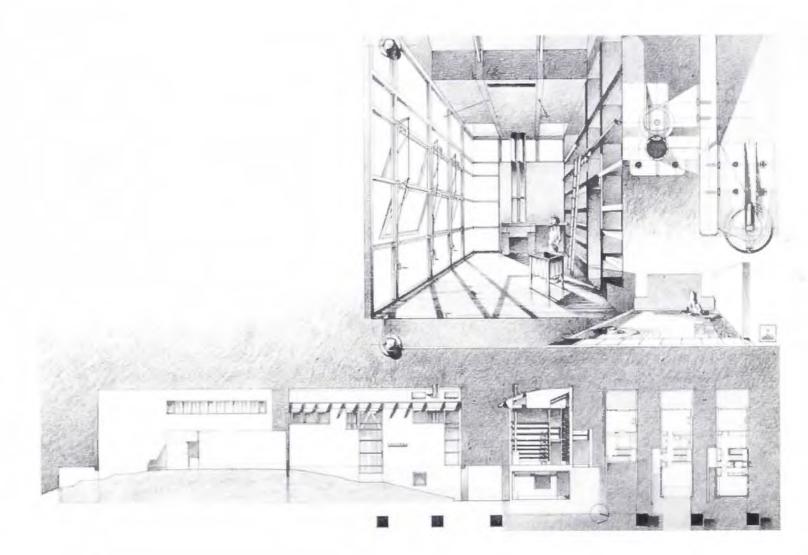


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Building a Paper Reality

ON PAPER "I doubt that the project will continue much beyond this phase," says Houston architect John Lemr about the compactly programmed house above, "but it was an interesting exercise for me."

The exercise entailed making room for an extensive library, a studio, a darkroom, and a Japanese bath on an unspecified "private, quiet" site in the Pacific Northwest. Lemr, a winner in all three *Texas Architect* Graphics Competitions, draws onto the page a reality that challenges this house's paper fate. With tactile clarity and a collage of scales and drawing types, Lemr gives his process a final product that explains a constructable building, yes, but that goes beyond scattered sketches to have a life of its own. **Ray Don Tilley** Texas Society of Architects 53rd Annual Meeting

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