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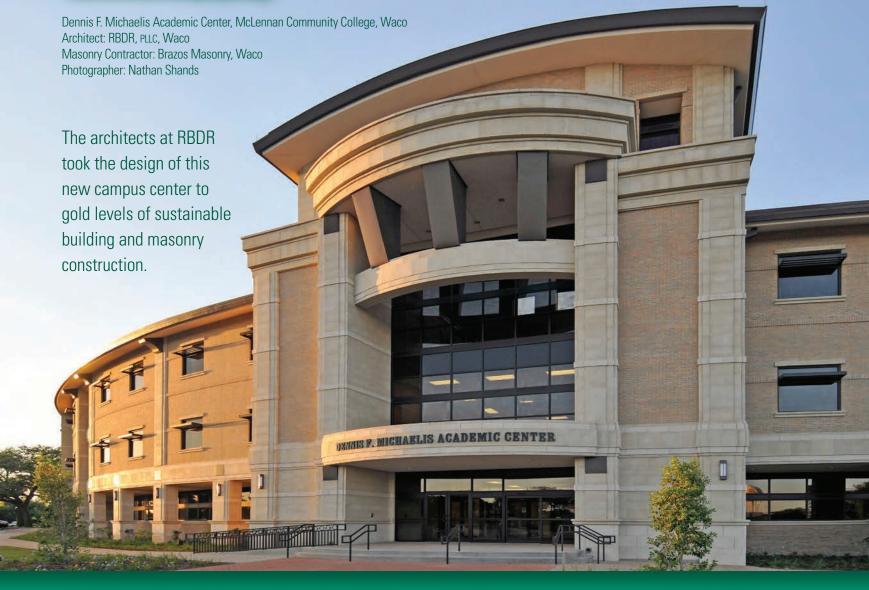
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Fierce Competition

Search for work in Texas intensifies as nationwide recession puts focus on a relative bright spot

THE EFFECTS OF THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN are now clearly apparent across the state. The evidence is rendered in less-than-optimistic forecasts as firms cautiously plan for 2010. The recession is brought into sharper relief when compared with the robust business climate enjoyed by design professionals for a decade prior to last year's fourth quarter.

With more downtime than anticipated, many firms are going to greater lengths to keep their troops busy. That may be one reason why TSA received a record number of entries (370) in its 2009 Design Awards program. This edition highlights the 12 projects recognized with Design Awards. The eight unbuilt projects selected for Studio Awards will be featured in the Nov/Dec issue.

Another result of the recession is the increased attention on Texas, a relative bright spot in the current economic picture. The competition for institutional and governmental projects in particular has intensified, with out-of-state firms now vying for jobs in places previously not on their radar.

"As far as the number of submittals, there's been a substantial pickup in responses in the last six months compared to last year. We've been getting 25 to 30 submittals where we were in the eight-to-nine range when things were going great," says Dan Kennedy, director of project planning for Texas A&M System's Facilities Planning and Construction Department. He adds, "We have seen an increase in interest from out-of-state firms, mainly from the Northeast and from the West Coast. And there are a lot of in-state firms I've never heard of before."

A news article on p. 17 of this edition further illustrates the lengths to which firms are willing to go to land big contracts, specifically two healthcare projects for Bexar County with a combined budget of \$899 million. To select an architect for the projects, both located in San Antonio, an RFQ issued

in January solicited interest from teams to participate in a "design challenge." Seven teams were ultimately invited, three for the \$778 million University Hospital and four for the \$121 million University Health Center—Downtown. There was one extraordinary stipulation, that the client would retain ownership of all the designs and pay stipends (\$100,000 for the larger project and \$50,000 for the smaller) to the teams who failed to win the commissions. Underscoring this unusual aspect of the competition was the client's stated objective to choose the best teams rather than the best schemes. In fact, officials with the University Health System (the entity that operates facilities for the Bexar County Hospital District) expect to build both projects based on final designs that may include parts of each of the submittals.

Also significant to this story is the amount of time and effort each of the teams put into their presentations, including detailed plans and models to demonstrate their responses to the functional aspects of the projects. A look at the materials makes it obvious that the expense far exceeded the amount of the stipends, which were divided among the various members of each losing team. And the public had an extended opportunity to view those drawings and models while they were displayed at the Center for Architecture, an exhibit sponsored by the Architecture Foundation of San Antonio. All of those designs, of course, are now publicly owned through the hospital district, which loaned the materials for the display that was scheduled to close on Sept. 2 after a two-month showing.

"We wanted to exhibit these so the public could look at the designs and be informed about the future of their health care," says David Lake, FAIA, the foundation's president. "I'd hate for all this to be put in a warehouse." [Lake is also a principal of Lake/Flato Architects, one of the local firms that teamed with Anshen + Allen of San Francisco. That team unsuccessfully competed for both of the projects.]

Unfortunately, while the public may exit the exhibit with a broader understanding of options for healthcare facilities, very little information is included that describes how the process unfolded or explains that the contests did not conform to the guidelines outlined in the AIA's Handbook of Architectural Design Competitions. Lake notes that the timeline in preparing the exhibit did not allow for comprehensive explanatory text. "Ideally, you should be debating the process and the long-term value of the design that the community is getting," he says.

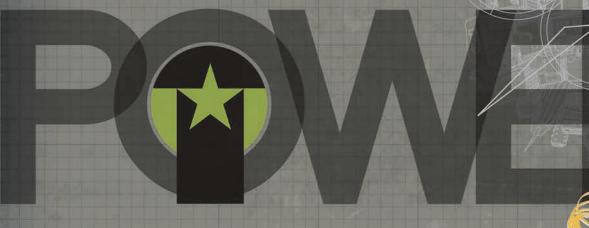
STEPHEN SHARPE

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Presentation materials from the University
Health System's recent
competition included detailed plans and models.
Designs submitted by
seven teams were displayed at the Center for
Architecture in San Antonio in July and August.

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GERALD MOORHEAD, FAIA is usually high on architecture. Literally. An associate principal of Bailey Architects in Houston, he goes to great heights, sometimes vertically, to do the job just right. Moorhead is also a long-time contributing editor of *Texas Architect* and recently finalized the manuscript for the first half of the two-volume *Buildings of Texas*. Volume one is scheduled for publication in 2011 by the Society of Architectural Historians.

JEFFREY BROWN, AIA is a founding partner of Powers Brown Architecture and teaches fifth-year design studio at the University of Houston. He resides in Houston with his wife Hether, daughter Aelish, and dog Sam. When he's not managing his design practice or molding young minds, Jeffrey enjoys spending weekends in the Hill Country, caddying a round of golf for his daughter, and most of all, a good cigar.

JULIEN MEYRAT, AIA was born in Paris, France, grew up in Singapore and Louisiana. He majored in political science at Southwestern University in Georgetown and obtained a Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin. In 2004 Julien returned to Dallas to join RTKL Associates. When at home in Rockwall, he draws prolifically on the Magna Doodle at the behest of his two children.

D A VID DILLON having been the architecture critic at the *Dallas Morning News* for 22 years, finally took the money and ran to Amherst, Mass., where he is teaching full-time in the architecture school at the University of Massachusetts. Dillon still works on special projects for the *News*, which gets him back to town to see friends and gorge on Mexican food.

 $E\ U\ R\ I\ C\ O\ R$. F R A N C I S C O , A I A just came back from a short family vacation. Once again, he dragged his wife and kids to see "some real good architecture," neglecting the more obvious tourist attractions along the way. His two elementary school-age boys are starting to question the very notion of "vacation." Eurico has lived in Texas for a dozen years and still hopes to one day master the Texan accent.

JENNY KIEL grew up in Fort Worth to eventually study architecture at Washington University in St. Louis. She is currently working part-time at Bailey Architects in Houston while finishing her masters in architecture at Rice. For fun, she likes to go running with her dog Casio.

B E N K 0 U S H is a founding member of Houston Mod and is currently writing a book about modern architecture in Houston. He is on the editorial board of *Cite* magazine and works at HOK. ©

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CORRECTIONS

The feature article on the Vistana (July/August, p. 41) misrepresented Mac White as AIA within the design team listing. He is an associate AIA member.

In the news article (July/August, p. 12) about Fort Bliss, the caption below the rendering erroneously attributed the project to Good Fulton & Farrell. The project depicted was designed by Jacobs. Good Fulton & Farrell's Fort Bliss Lifestyle Center is shown below.





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TSA 25-Year Award Recognizes Parker Chapel on Trinity Campus

S A N A N T O N I O The Margarite B. Parker Chapel is essentially unchanged since completed in 1966, a pink-brick Romanesque duomo at the spiritual center of O'Neil Ford's idealized hill-town campus of Trinity University. A larger version of his Little Chapel in the Woods in Denton, Ford's Parker Chapel feels like a grand space yet its honest expression of materials and the craftsmanship of its details combine to create a serene place for worship and reflection. For retaining those enduring qualities, the Texas Society of Architects has recognized the Parker Chapel with its 2009 25-Year Award.

The humble majesty of the chapel's sheer exterior walls hints at the sublime restraint of the interior where parabolic arches ascend 57 feet above the sanctuary floor. The soaring curves, reinforced concrete faced in white-painted brick, embrace a nave large enough for 440 seats although seemingly smaller courtesy of Ford's disciplined handling of every aspect of structure and form. Equally important as the architecture are the decorative details wrought by the architect's brother, Lynn Ford, including

hammered lead doors at the entry, a chip-carved screen dividing the narthex and the nave, and sanctuary lights that hang from the timbered roof.

"The Parker Chapel optimizes all that was O'Neil Ford. He was such a pioneer of regionalism in Texas architecture. The detailing and consistent simplicity of this project is classic Ford," said Vel Hawes, FAIA, one of five judges for this year's 25-Year Award program. "The Parker Chapel will, not unlike the Spanish churches of early Texas, resound clearly to its beholders for many years to come. It is a special place to worship and to simply enjoy."

Jurors for the 25-Year Award included Hawes, recipient of last year's TSA Lifetime Achievement Medal; TSA President Bill Reeves, AIA; Texas Architect Editor Stephen Sharpe; TSA Design Awards Committee Chair Rick Archer, FAIA; and Joe Mashburn, AIA, dean of University of Houston's Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture.

Jurors were unanimous in selecting the Parker Chapel from a roster of five nominated projects. AIA San Antonio put forth the chapel's nomination with the approval of Ford Powell & Carson Architects and Planners, the San Antonio firm that has retained the name used when founded in the late 1960s by principals O'Neil Ford, Boone Powell, and Chris Carson. The Parker Chapel was designed by Ford under the aegis of O'Neil Ford & Associates. Ford, who died in 1982, was assisted on the chapel design by Howard Wong, Nic Salas, Mike Lance, and Alfred Carvajal.

"O'Neil Ford is arguably the finest architect in the history of Texas and his work has profoundly influenced the current generation of architects in the state," said juror Rick Archer. "The Parker Chapel is one of the best examples of what makes his work so special: appropriate to context, rooted in tradition yet clearly modern, integrating art and craft, embodying its function. The chapel has been treasured by the community and maintained with integrity because it inspires us to do so. It has garnered the affection of everyone who has experienced this deeply spiritual place."

The campus of Trinity University is nestled into the remains of an old quarry on a hilltop three miles north of downtown. The campus was master-planned by Ford and Bartlett Cocke (with William Wurster as consulting architect), but it was Ford whose vision made the most of the chal-

lenging site's undulating contours and panoramic views. Ford and Cocke also designed many of the buildings on the 117-acre campus, which opened in 1952 under the auspices of Presbyterian Church. Dr. James W. Laurie, who served as the university's president from 1951 to 1970, was the catalyst for the "Miracle on the Hill" and worked closely with the architects on its development, including the design and construction of the Parker Chapel. Funds to build the chapel were donated by local businessman George Parker in honor of his wife.

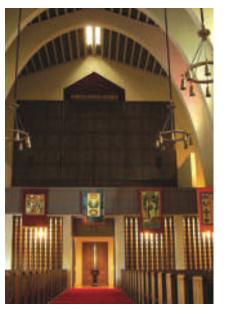
The 25-Year Award will be presented to Ford Powell and Carson on Oct. 23 during the TSA convention in Houston.

STEPHEN SHARPE

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(left) The Margarite B. Parker Chapel at Trinity University in San Antonio has retained its architectural integrity for more than three decades. The sculpture is by Charles Umlauf. (below) O' Neil Ford designed the parabolic arches similar to those in his Little Chapel in the Woods. Lynn Ford crafted many of the details.





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Bexar County Selects Design Teams For \$899M in Hospital Improvements

S A N A N T O N I O In May, the Bexar County Hospital District announced commissions — totaling \$899 million — for two large medical facilities following a competition involving highly detailed presentations by seven design teams. The projects are planned as part of a capital improvements program for the hospital district to expand existing facilities at two San Antonio locations, University Hospital in the South Texas Medical Center and University Health Center—Downtown. Both are scheduled to be completed in 2012.

The Dallas office of Perkins + Will was selected to lead the team for University Hospital. With a budget of \$778 million, the work at University Hospital is the larger of the two projects. The team also includes Garza/Bomberger and Associates, RVK Architects, and Richard Sanchez Architects, all of San Antonio. Improvements to the downtown campus will be lead by the Dallas office of RTKL. The team for that smaller project will include two San Antonio firms, Overland Partners Architects and Paul Anthony + Associates.

Drawing the attention and participation of many firms from across the nation, the selection process was unorthodox in several ways. First, although the hospital district took pains to call the process a "design challenge" rather than a competition, presentations included refined design proposals from each firm. Second, as stated in the hospital district's Request For Qualifications, all schemes presented became the property of the University Health System (UHS), the governmental entity under which the county operates its medical facilities. UHS paid stipends, either \$100,000 for the larger project and \$50,000 for the downtown project, to the teams that failed to land the commissions. According to Mark Webb, UHS vice president of facilities development and project management, the decision to secure ownership of all the designs will allow UHS to mix elements from any of the submittals. "We wanted to have the ability to use pieces and parts to make the best project possible," Webb said recently.

UHS is the third-largest public health system in the state of Texas. University Hospital is the flagship of its operations, with about 400 beds, and serves as the lead Level I trauma center for a 22-county area of south/central Texas. UHS operates numerous other facilities, including





The commissions went to teams headed by Perkins + Will for University Hospital (top) and RTKL for University Health Center–Downtown (left). Both projects are scheduled for 2012 delivery.

University Health Center—Downtown, formerly the Robert B. Green Memorial Hospital, located just west of San Antonio's central core.

The recently awarded commissions — the focus of the system's Target 2012 program — will result in several improvements at both locations, including a new trauma tower at University Hospital and a new urgent care building downtown. Previously, UHS hired Jacobs as the lead program management firm and two project managers, Broaddus-Muñoz for the University Hospital and Parsons for University Health Center—Downtown. Broaddus and Associates finalized master plans for both campuses last year.

In January, University Health System began its A/E selection process by issuing separate RFQs for each of the projects, the larger being University Hospital which attracted submittals from 13 design teams. Subsequent evaluations resulted in UHS inviting five of the respondents to make presentations in May, three for University Hospital and four for the downtown project. The two teams that lost to Perkins + Will for University Hospital were led by San Franciscobased Anshen + Allen and RTKL. The three

teams that lost to RTKL for the University Health Center—Downtown were Anshen + Allen (teamed with local firms Alamo Architects, Lake/Flato Architects, O'Neill Conrad Oppelt, and Lopez Salas), Marmon Mok of San Antonio (teamed with HOK and Chesney Morales & Associates), and Page Southerland Page's Austin office.

The process for both commissions involved evaluation teams, composed of UHS staff representing a range of its departments, that assessed the firms using set criteria. In both cases, the evaluation teams conducted site visits to the firms' offices—to assess their use of management software, BIM, and healthcare program modeling and simulation—and a day-long conference with all the firms in attendance to discuss the intricacies of the selection process and programmatic factors specific to that particular project.

The process culminated with each of the selected firms giving four-hour presentations that included detailed models of their designs. However, according to Webb, "This was not a beauty contest. We were not picking a scheme, we were picking a team."

STEPHEN SHARPE

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9/10 2009
TEXAS ARCHITECT



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Charles Gwathmey 1938-2009

Gwathmey died Aug. 3 in New York City at age 71.

Charles Gwathmey - Charlie, as most people called him - started off his career with a bang. Like two other giants of the American arts, Orson Wells and Norman Mailer, Charlie produced a masterpiece while he was still in his 20s. After graduating from Yale, Charlie traveled through Europe where he was able to experience first-hand the works of his most admired Modernist master, Le Corbusier. Upon his return, he designed a house for his parents in Long Island in 1965. It was a remarkable reinterpretation of Le Corbusier's European vein of Modern architecture that incorporated elements of the American vernacular. A simple and unapologetically Modern structure built with wood frame and cedar siding, the house had the basic traits that marked his entire career—the interlocking and carving of volumes, the abstract composition, the use of the grid and platonic forms, the attention to detail, and the idea of the contrasting object in the landscape. The house achieved iconic status and secured his place in the history of American architecture.

Unlike most great architects of his generation, Charlie did not consider his early residential work as just a springboard for larger, public commissions. Like Frank Lloyd Wright, he found himself at ease changing scales, enjoying as much the interior design of an apartment as the design of a museum or a skyscraper. Nonetheless, for him the residential work was the perfect milieu to try new formal explorations and to refine his Modernist credo. For this, Charlie sought out the complicity of his clients, offering

his passion and educating them, responding to their needs and befriending them.

Charlie had tremendous dedication to his craft, and a strong and charismatic personality. His intense talent found the right stability both in his long marriage to wife Bette-Ann and in his professional partnership with Robert Siegel for more than 40 years. The firm they created, Gwathmey Siegel, is not only renowned for the quality of its architecture, but also because it is exemplary as a well-run, professional office. I experienced it everyday during the five years I worked there. Charlie was able to focus his energy and stay intricately involved in all phases of the work, the way one normally assumes happens only in smaller offices. He also found time to lecture and teach (I was his student at Yale almost 20 years ago) and was particularly fond of mentoring young architects.

In addition to his magnificent houses, Gwathmey Siegel's most significant contribution has been the rich legacy of campus architecture in colleges across the U.S. From the small intervention in Whig Hall at Princeton University in 1970, to the large Tangeman Student Center at the University of Cincinnati, Gwathmey Siegel has tackled every building type in campus architecture. With pragmatism and uncanny ability to resolve complex programmatic requirements, the firm has been able to adapt to a variety of conditions and a range of budgets to produce a remarkable collection of buildings.

Despite the large number of quiet successes in his portfolio, Charles Gwathmey's name will always be associated with two of his most publicly debated projects—the addition and renovation of the Guggenheim Museum



(left) The author and Gwathmey during a recent visit to Austin. (right) The residence for Michael and Susan Dell in Austin, completed in 1996, exemplifies the Modernist ethos that Gwathmey maintained throughout his career.

in New York and of the Art and Architecture Building at Yale University. Charlie embraced both of these commissions, fully aware of the challenges in front of him, each a "no win situation," as he used to say. These two buildings, the first by Frank Lloyd Wright and the second by Paul Rudolph, are now considered two landmarks of American architecture of the twentieth century, yet they both were very controversial when they were originally built. Charlie's interventions were controversial as well: although critics praised the restorations, the additions themselves were criticized for different reasons. The addition to Rudolph's building is still very recent, while the Guggenheim addition feels with time more and more appropriate.

Charlie's relationship with Texas started in the 1970s when he taught at the University of Texas at Austin, he also lectured there several times, the last one in 2007. He loved Texas barbeque and the Longhorn T-shirts. I remember going to the Co-op with him looking for a very specific T-shirt to replace a worn-out one he had had for almost 20 years.

Charlie's most important work in Texas belongs to the residential category. His several projects for Michael and Susan Dell spanned a 15-year relationship that often brought him to Texas. The house he designed for the Dells in the early 1990s was unprecedented in Austin, both in scope and expectations. It raised the bar across the board for everybody involved, from contractors to consultants, and it has benefited architects practicing modern architecture in Central Texas today.

Charlie was my mentor, my friend. I enjoyed immensely working with him, his drive, his intensity, and his discipline. He introduced me to my professional partner Miguel Rivera and he is responsible for the fact that I call Texas home. (I was the project architect for the Dell house and he asked me to move to Austin to oversee the construction.) Two years ago Charlie and Bette-Ann visited my wife, Rosa, and me in Madrid. We celebrated his birthday and went to see a wonderful exhibition of paintings of his beloved Le Corbusier. He was as strong and enthusiastic as usual-little did we know that a cancer was lurking. His architecture is his legacy for the world, but for those of us who had the privilege of knowing him, we will always treasure a genuinely good person with a wonderful smile.

JUAN MIRÓ, AIA

19

9/10 2009

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Brown Seeks Mayor's Office in Houston Stressing Wide Architectural Experience

Peter H. Brown, FAIA, announced his candidacy for mayor of Houston in February. With more than 30 years' experience practicing in Houston, the architect also has served on the City Council since winning election in 2005 and re-election in 2007. He recently sat down with AIA Houston Executive Director Barrie Scardino to outline his objectives should he be elected when voters go to the polls on Nov. 3.

How will your background as an architect influence the way you would manage the City of Houston?

It was my background in both architecture and urban planning, because in my mind the two go together, that inspired me to run for office in the first place. I was concerned about the quality of the built environment and how that affects our quality of life and ultimately our economic competitiveness. I decided if I really wanted to make a difference, I should run for City Council. I was elected in 2005 and have served four years, so I know how to get results in city government.

My training as an architect is the best training you can possibly have for this job because it is a broad, multi-disciplinary kind of background. I have designed a whole range of public buildings from fire stations to libraries, and I believe there is no better experience in learning how the city operates. For example, when you design a police station, you get to know how policing works. I don't think there could be a better preparation, technically and in terms of experience, for the mayor of a big city.

Architects are problem solvers, and that is exactly what the City of Houston needs in its next mayor. We are problem solvers with creativity and know how to go through a logical process of conceptual thinking. Of course, there is always a challenge. Many times that boils down to how to do more with less in terms of a budget. Creativity and innovation are very often a part of effective management in the city, particularly in current economic conditions.

What measures would you take as mayor to help shore up our local economy? A huge part of Houston's workforce, from developers to subcontractors, is connected to the design and construction industry.

We aren't going to spend money we don't have, but, there are two hundred million dollars worth of public authorized bond monies that haven't



'Architects are problem solvers,' Brown says, 'and that is exactly what the City of Houston needs in its next mayor.'

been spent because project management in the public works department can't squeeze these projects out of the pipeline. My number-one item is to get projects that are already funded online. We have a detailed list of requests from the federal stimulus package with an emphasis on both infrastructure and vertical projects that would require architects.

The second thing is that we need a six-year business plan to grow our economy. This would be a catalyst for growth that would not otherwise happen. We've been waiting for people to come and knock on our door, and it's not just going to happen. We need to go out nationally and internationally and recruit new businesses. The role of the city is to understand the marketplace and encourage growth in the best possible ways. We need to streamline our government and make our city even more business friendly.

As we talk about growing our city, do we need huge investments in our infrastructure?

The problem now is that we have a reactive program where improvements are made on a case by case basis—if there is flooding over there we rush to fix it. What we need to do is figure out where the growth wants to happen and provide infrastructure that is needed to encourage that growth. Fannin South is a great example, there is a huge amount of land along the transit line that has no infrastructure to encourage development.

What do you think can be done to redevelop more urban areas, particularly along established and proposed transit routes such as in midtown?

My basic proposal is to form a Parking and Redevelopment Authority, like every other city has, and partner with private developers to build shared parking. That is what will make higher density, mixed-use, pedestrianfriendly, transit-oriented development work. Having great urban places in the City of Houston would be a major goal of my administration.

What is the role of architects in all of this?

As we move forward to build an even better Houston we are going to need the vision and creativity of architects and planners. We will certainly need to hire more design professionals. I want to see architects more involved in shaping the future of this city. I believe in Survival Through Design! That is the title of a book by Richard Neutra [1954]. We also need more architects on boards and commissions, and, as mayor, I would be in a position to make some of these appointments. Lastly, I would also like to call on architects all over the state to get behind Peter Brown for Mayor because Houston can set an example statewide.

Continued on page 101

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New Opera House and Theater Opens; Dallas Arts District Nears Completion

DALLAS October 12 marks the long-awaited grand opening of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA), a multiple-venue complex located in the Dallas Arts District that includes a new opera house and outdoor performance park designed by Foster + Partners, a multiform theater designed by REX/OMA (Kendall/ Heaton was the associate architect for both projects), and a 10-acre public park designed by the French landscape architect Michel Desvigne. The \$350 million project has taken nine years to design, fund, and construct, and represents the most significant new performing arts complex to be built in the U.S. since the completion of New York City's Lincoln Center in 1969. The DCPA also marks the substantial completion of the Arts District itself, which now boasts the world's foremost ensemble of visual and performing arts facilities in one contiguous, urban location.

The Arts District encompasses 19 blocks and more than 68 acres of real estate in the downtown's northeast quadrant. Planning for the district was initiated in 1977 when a study was commissioned to assess the city's cultural inventory and to recommend potential locations and funding strategies for new arts facilities. The analysis called for a loose concentration of new cultural venues to be located on the north end of Dallas' business district, between Ross Avenue and Woodall Rodgers Freeway. Sasaki Associates completed a master plan for the district in 1982, in which Flora Street was conceived as a six-block-long pedestrian-oriented spine linking the proposed cultural facilities and open spaces with over ten million square feet of office, retail, hotel, and residential development. Parking was to be located underground, and the entire district would be visually unified by the strict enforcement of design guidelines.

The first cultural institution to build in the Arts District was the Dallas Museum of Art, which opened its new facility (designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes) in 1984. Over the ensuing 25 years, development in the district proceeded sporadically, with the completion of the Meyerson Symphony Center (I.M. Pei & Partners) in 1989, the Nasher Sculpture Center (Renzo Piano Building Workshop) in 2003, and the renovation and expansion of the Booker T. Washington School for the Performing and Visual Arts (Allied Works Architecture) last



Construction continued in July on the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House (top), designed by Foster + Partners, and the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre (right), designed by REX/OMA.

year (see January/February 2009 Texas Architect). With the DCPA having augmented this list with two new venues by world-renowned architects, a total of four Pritzker Prize winners have now left their imprint on the Dallas Arts District.

The master plan for the DCPA builds upon the 1982 Sasaki Plan by maintaining Flora Street as the district's spine and extending it eastward by two blocks to Routh Street, where it encounters the 24-story massif of One Arts Plaza (see March/April 2008 TA). The two principal venues of the DCPA - the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House and the Dee and Charles Wyly Theater – have been placed by their architects upon a green tableau, set back from Flora Street in contradiction to Sasaki's original massing guidelines and conspicuously divergent from the setbacks of other buildings in the Arts District. The new facilities are buffered from the street by Desvigne's extended urban garden - named the Elaine D. and Charles A. Sammons Park - with its canopies of trees, green lawns interspersed with native landscaping, and a large reflecting pool. The opera house and theater are designed to transcend their physical boundaries and spill their activities into this park, dissolving the barriers between inside and out, so that private cultural events can become catalysts for public life in the district.

The Winspear Opera House serves as the metaphorical "heart" of the group of five performing



arts venues located in the eastern half of the Arts District. The striking design by Foster + Partners (led by Sir Norman Foster and Spencer de Grey) features a lozenge-shaped performance hall and glass-clad lobby suspended within a monumental shade canopy that covers most of the site. The 2,200-seat auditorium is an interpretation of the classic horseshoe configuration found in many of the world's great opera halls, including Milan's La Scala and London's Covent Garden. The interior of the hall is arranged in ascending tiers and has been engineered with flexible acoustics and stage configurations to accommodate performances of the Dallas Opera and the Texas Ballet, as well as Broadway shows. The building's lobby is encased within an expansive, 60-foot-high wall of glass, creating a transparency between the opera hall and the surrounding Sammons Park and providing patrons with sweeping views of the downtown skyline. Overhead, the canopy's fixed metal louvers provide optimal shade for the

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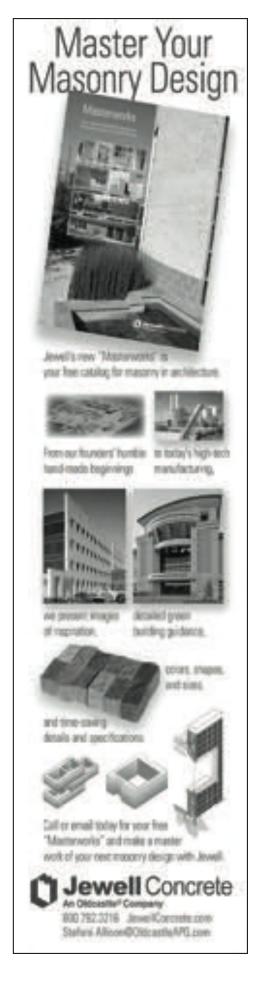




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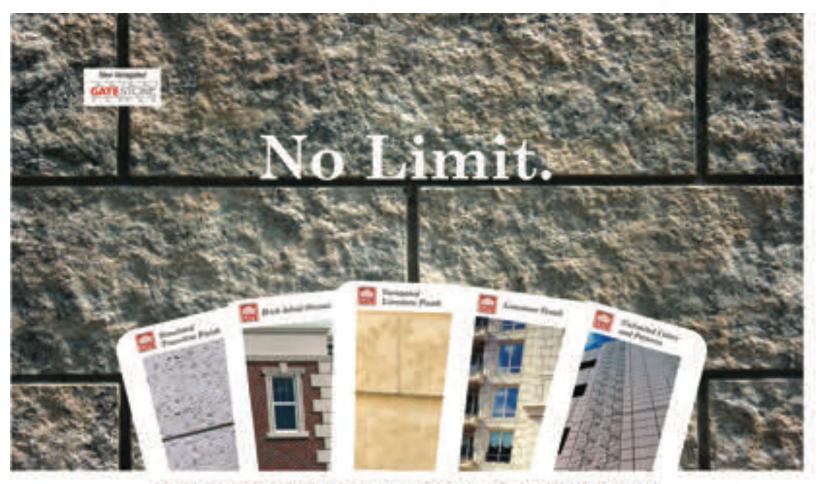






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glass facade and the exterior spaces throughout the day, taming the harsh Texas sun to create a microclimate around the building. Within the all-encompassing structural framework of the canopy, the performance hall is rotated off the orthogonal grid of the Arts District. The resulting north-south orientation produces an exciting physical dynamic amongst the rigid geometry of the surrounding buildings. This gesture acknowledges and complements the rotated auditorium of the Meyerson Symphony Center next door and creates exciting perspective views along Flora and Leonard streets. The Winspear is an epic building-one that not only has a grand physical presence, enhanced by the 1,400 deep-red glass panels that encapsulate the Margaret McDermott Performance Hall, but also one that creates a monumental civic space that is accessible and inviting. It is a building that has been shrewdly geared toward civic engagement by its architects, transforming the Arts District from a masonry-clad ensemble largely devoid of pedestrian life, into an energetic, thriving, and ultimately rich architectural and cultural mecca.

In contrast to the predominant sprawl of the various arts venues in the district stands the shimmering, 12-story Wyly Theater, a radically conceived reinvention of the traditional theater house by its designers, Rem Koolhaas and Joshua Prince-Ramos. Home to the Dallas Theater Center, the Wyly is one of the most innovative new theater buildings in the world. It eschews the traditional arrangement of a theater's support spaces wrapped around the stage house and, instead, organizes them vertically into a stacked design, tightly packed within the building's roughly square footprint. Back-ofhouse becomes above-house. This arrangement eliminates the traditional distinction between stage and auditorium, allowing artistic directors to not only reconfigure the performance chamber, but also the relationship between audience and performance, and the even more problematic relationship between the interior of the theater and the outdoors. This degree of drastic flexibility is achieved through the facility's advanced, mechanized "superfly" system, which allows both scenery and suspended seating balconies to be "flown," or lifted out of sight to create proscenium stage, thrust stage, and flat-floor configurations. At ground level, the exterior curtain walls of the 600-seat Potter-Rose Performance Hall are of acoustic-grade transparent glass with integral shade and vision



controls. On the hall's west side, two massive pivoting doors can open during intermission, or to allow oversized stage props (elephants were shown in the architects' early concept sketches) in for a performance. The upper floors of the Wyly are clad in a combination of six different aluminum tube extrusions, which has the effect of wrapping the building in a giant metal stage curtain. The result is dazzling and luxurious. The Wyly Theater attains an iconic status in the history of theater design, and gives the Arts District a brilliant new architectural landmark for the twenty-first century.

In addition to the opera house, an outdoor performance venue, the Annette Strauss Artist Square, also designed by Foster + Partners, is currently under construction, with an opening scheduled next year. In 2011, the first phase of the City Performance Hall, designed by the Chicago office of SOM, will open next door to the Wyly. Other non-arts-related projects currently under development in the Arts District include the 42-story condominium Museum Tower designed by Johnson Fain of Los Angeles; Two Arts Plaza, the second phase of Billingsley Company's mixed-use project that anchors the east end of the district; and a 22-story office building to be constructed on top of the Arts District parking garage, itself the site of the abandoned Lone Star Tower project dating back to the late 1980s. On the north side of the district, a 5.2-acre, \$70 million park is under construction on top of Woodall Rodgers Freeway, and nearby is the site of the Dallas Museum of Nature and Science, currently under design by Thom Mayne. The recently completed slate of projects by Foster + Partners and REX/OMA sets a very high bar for what is to come.

WILLIS WINTERS, FAIA

With the opening of the two projects in October, the Dallas Arts District will be close to completion.

Foster + Partners Exhibit at Nasher

The Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas has shown a significant interest in architecture during its relatively brief history. Aside from film, lectures, and symposia, it mounted an impressive survey of the work of the Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the architect of the museum. Now it has organized a significant architectural retrospective of Foster + Partners to coincide with the opening of that firm's nearby Winspear Opera House.

Jed Morse, acting chief curator at the Nasher, says the focus of the exhibition – The Art of Architecture: Foster + Partners – "is to provide context and understanding of the opera house." Planned for some time, the retrospective is a "one-off" that is organized by the Nasher and will not be traveling elsewhere. The museum will display models, renderings, drawings, and videos showing the design process of many of the firm's noted works around the globe, with a special emphasis on civic, cultural, and infrastructure projects. Morse also stated the museum plans more architectural offerings in the future, including an architectural film series.

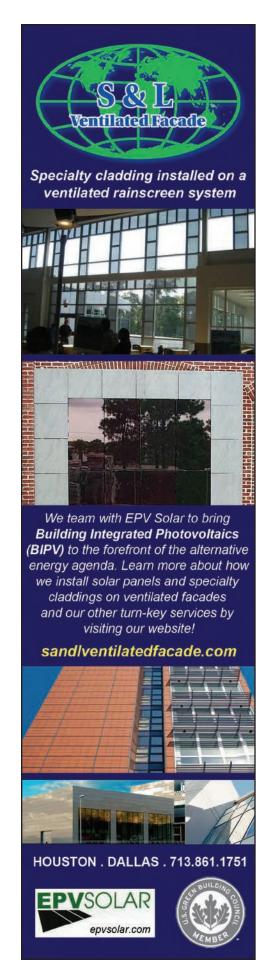
The exhibition will open on Sept. 26 and run through Jan. 10. In addition, events on the opening day will include a public lecture at the Winspear by Spencer De Grey, the firm's head of design.

For more information visit www.nashersculpture-center.org.

GREGORY IBAÑEZ, AIA

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AIA Brazos Awards 3 Projects

AIA Brazos held a jury on Aug. 6 for the chapter's biannual design awards program. Jurors included Dror Baldinger, AIA, of Marmon Mok Architects, Brantley Hightower, AIA, of Lake/Flato Architects and Stephen Sharpe, the editor of *Texas Architect*. From a total of nine projects submitted, the jury selected three for recognition.

The Daniel & Stark Law Offices received an Honor Award. Designed by Brenham-based Ben Boettcher & Associates, the renovation of the 1929 bank building in downtown Bryan incorporates modern design while maintaining sensitivity to the building's historic style. The use of modern indirect lighting at the ends of the lobby places emphasis on the original ceiling design.

The jury selected the renovation of the Bell County Expo Center for a Merit Award. The project, designed by the College Station office of BRW Architects, uses metal skeletons and colorful banners to introduce color and maintain the geometric theme of the domed events center.

The Citizens State Bank located in Navasota received a Citation Award from the jury. The bank, also designed by Ben Boettcher & Associates, incorporates sustainability elements such as local stone, low-VOC materials, and xeriscape landscaping. A cistern is used to store harvested rainwater and serves as a visual element on the exterior and the focus of the view from the interior lobby space.

JP GROM, AIA



Daniel & Stark Law Offices



Bell County Expo Center



Citizens State Bank

RDA Fall Lecture Series

The Rice Design Alliance Fall Lecture Series presents architects involved with tower design and building. For more information, visit www.ricedesignalliance.org. SEPT 16

LRGV Building Communities Conference

AIA LRGV will be hosting its Building Communities Conference on South Padre Island with sessions on accessibility, sustainable design, and other topics. Visit www.lrgvaia.org for more information. SEPT 25-26

AIA Dallas Salutes Center for Performing Arts

AIA Dallas and the Dallas Architectural Foundation will salute the opening of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts, and honor 13 organizations and individuals for their contributions to the city's cultural and architectural environment. For additional information, call (214) 742-3242. SEPT 26

DOCOMOMO North Texas Tour

DOCOMOMO, in conjunction with Preservation Dallas, presents its North Texas tour, which will focus on mid-century modern places for worship. Access more information at www.docomomo-us.org. OCT 10

AIA Austin Homes Tour

AIA Austin will host its 24th annual Homes Tour to showcase the great design completed by local architects. The self-guided tour will cover 14 homes from Central Austin to Lakeway and includes new construction and renovation and preservation projects. For more information, call AIA Austin at (512) 452-4332 or visit www.aiaaustin.org. OCT 10-11

2009 TSA Convention & Expo

TSA hosts its 70th Annual Convention and Design Products & Ideas Expo in Houston. Information on CE sessions, exhibitors, and online registration is available at *texasarchitect.org/convention*. OCT 22-24

AIA Dallas Delineation Competition

The annual Ken Roberts Memorial Delineation Competition recognizes students and professional designers for excellence in architectural drawing. More information is available at *www.aiadallas.org*. Deadline: OCT 30

Norman Foster Exhibit at Nasher Center

Dallas' Nasher Sculpture Center presents a retrospective of the work of Foster + Partners to coincide with the grand opening of the Winspear Opera House. For details, visit www.NasherSculptureCenter.org. Thru JAN 10

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Rice Appoints New Dean

Sarah Whiting, a member of the Princeton University School of Architecture faculty and an expert in urban and architectural theory, has been named dean of the Rice University School of Architecture. Whiting officially takes command on Jan. 1.

Whiting earned a Bachelor of Arts at Yale, a Master of Architecture at Princeton, and a Ph.D. in the history, theory, and criticism of art, architecture, and urban form at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Previously, she has taught at five higher learning institutions, including Princeton and Harvard.

In addition to editing several journals, Whiting has edited books on Ignasi de Solà-Morales

and James Carpenter and is the series editor of "POINT," a new architectural book series to be published by Princeton University Press next spring. She is the author of the forthcoming book *Superblock City* and is a principal at WW Architecture, a firm she co-founded with her husband, Ron Witte.

"I feel the variety of her experiences is a real asset," said Rice Provost Eugene Levy. "She's been on the faculty of a diverse set of institutions, which has fostered a broad set of perceptions and openness to thinking...that will be extremely valuable."

Lars Lerup stepped down as dean earlier this year after 16 years and will return to Rice in 2010 as a professor. (See related article on p. 35.)

TA STAFF

9/10 2009 TEXAS ARCHITECT



Constructed Ecologies

Rice University graduate students Zhan Chen and Brantley Highfill (with faculty sponsor Douglas Oliver) recently received second place for their design Constructed Ecologies in the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture "Concrete Thinking for a Sustainable World" International Student Design Competition. The program challenged students to investigate an innovative application of portland cement-based materials to achieve sustainable design objectives and offered two separate entry categories, each without site restrictions. Constructed Ecologies was entered in the Building Element category and consists of permeable concrete planks to create a diverse, productive, and programmed landscape in environmentally sensitive areas such as bayous, bridges, and seawalls. The prefabricated, interlocking concrete GeoPlanks are designed to blend into the environment by collecting soil and seed deposits, achieving flood control without harming the natural environment.

San Antonio Military Medical Center

Construction of the 1.1 million-sf San Antonio Military Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, designed by RTKL's Dallas office, began in December. Scheduled for completion in July 2011, the \$556 million integrated design-bid-build contract is a result of the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission's recommendations. The project, including renovations to the existing Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), will create the military's flagship medical facility in the southern United States. Upon completion of the project, BAMC will be re-designated as SAMMC North. The scope of the work includes constructing a 790,000-sf medical tower and renovating 275,000 sf of the existing BAMC. The project will also add a 5,000-space parking garage and a 28,000-sf central energy plant. It will feature an extension of BAMC's ISR Burn Unit. In addition, it will include approximately 78,000 sf of medical swing space to be used by the existing hospital departments during the renovation.



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Solar LED Fascia

University of Houston students Daniel De La Garza, Jared Wilson Thorn, Alfonso Villafuerte, and Chukwunoso Ofili have developed a concept for an eco-friendly, multi-purpose lighting system that could serve nightly as neighborhood and home security lighting and as solar-powered emergency lighting during power shortages. Composed of a solar-powered LED battery compartment and extruding aluminum siding with an acrylic diffuser, the light-up fascia creates a customizable band of white or colored light. Available in varying lengths, the light is meant to fit between the spaces of rafters. "The main purpose of the Solar LED Fascia is to light up the home in times of power outages as well as for everyday functions: landscape, security, or path lighting along the side of a house," said De La Garza. Another goal is to deliver light to unlit areas in a design-conscious way. The inspiration for this concept came from the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, which left three million customers without electricity for weeks.

TEXAS ARCHITECT 9/10 2009





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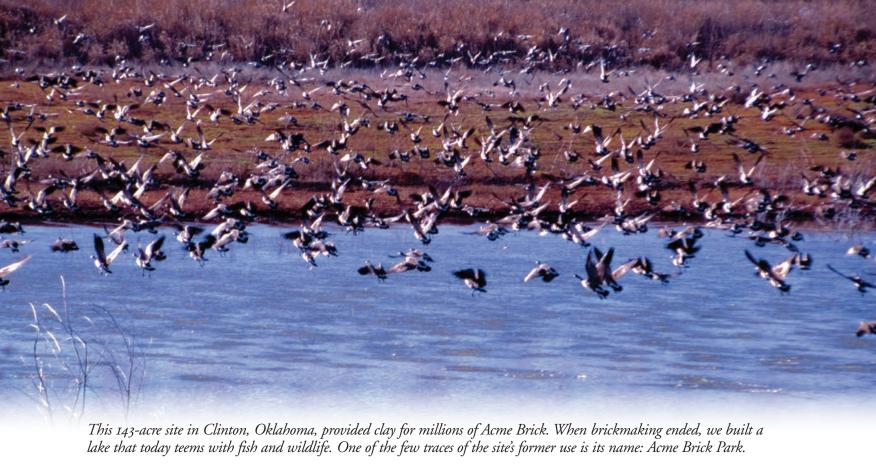
Acme Brick has thermal mass that architects can use in design to delay heat transfer and improve energy performance. Using brick as an interior finish material meets LEED goals by eliminating the use of volatile organic compounds associated with paints, carpets, and adhesives.

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optimization, and have added trucks that run on a biodiesel blend.

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Energy usage per brick continues to vily fall, as Acme has cut another 17.4% over the last five years alone.

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Architecture Criticism and the Public

by DAVID DILLON

I've just returned from a trip to Amsterdam and Paris, and one of the things that surprised me — besides \$20 chicken salad sandwiches washed down with \$15 glasses of vin ordinaire — was the number of architecture and design magazines for sale in airports, train stations, bookstores and sidewalk newsstands. They were everywhere, all the major ones — Architectural Record, Architecture Review, El Croqui, Architectura Viva, Domus, Casa Bella — plus dozens of smaller, more technical publications and a few academic journals.

This, obviously, is not the situation here in the United States, where right now we have only one national architecture magazine, Architectural Record, one national celebrity interiors magazine, Architectural Digest, and a handful of smaller design or trade publications with geographical ortopical emphases, such as Dwell, Metropolis, and Contract.

Progressive Architecture has been gone for 15 years, Architecture folded several years ago, to be succeeded by Architect, which seems like People magazine for designers, though it may evolve into something more substantial. What's left is a collection of shelter and lifestyle magazines

aimed at interior decorators, furniture manufacturers, and readers with an unhealthy interest in wicker furniture and throw pillows.

The result of all this publishing activity is a huge vacuum in serious design commentary, in which architecture, the most public of the arts, is losing touch with its public — its customer base, if you like — and has less and less influence on how our communities are planned and designed.

Yet as we all know, vacuums exist to be filled, and savvy design magazines, including the chapter magazines we're talking about here today, help to shape the design discussion in their regions, provided they understand what is happening in the larger publishing world and where they fit in that volatile environment.

Newspapers in Decline

To restate the obvious, American newspapers are in a meltdown mode, with revenues dropping and market share shrinking. And one of the most endangered areas of coverage is art and architecture.

This coverage is being marginalized or eliminated across the country. To give you an

idea of what this means, three years ago my paper, the *Dallas Morning News*, had 17 full-time arts writers, one of the largest arts staffs in the country. Now it has only five, and that number will likely drop further. I took a buyout a year ago and now do only special projects for the paper, which means that I write six or eight times a year compared with between 80 and 100 times before. And I will not be replaced. The architecture beat will disappear, ironically at a time when Dallas and Fort Worth are rising to international prominence in the arts.

The same thing is happening in other cities. As far as I know, Washington, Atlanta, Houston, and Miami no longer have full-time architecture critics. Minneapolis recently sacked its long-time architecture writer, and New York City is down to one full-time architecture critic, Nicolai Ouroussoff at the *Times* whereas a few years ago it had three or four.

This is disastrous because newspaper critics are the front line of architecture coverage, always more timely and often more comprehensive than the design magazines. Newspapers are where the public gets most of its architectural information, as well as most of its information



TEXAS ARCHITECT 9/10/2009



about planning, community development, neighborhood preservation, and other matters that it cares about. Online sources can't begin to plug this gap, which means that conversation has virtually stopped on most of these critical issues. Dialogue and debate have given way to deafening silence.

The justification from publishers is economics. The price of newsprint is skyrocketing; the Internet is killing ad revenue; people aren't reading anymore; architecture coverage is too specialized, too esoteric, for a time of shrinking resources and shrinking readership. These justifications are heard less often in discussions of sports or fashion coverage, which seem to be exempt from cuts in many papers.

However, I don't believe for a second that the public no longer cares about architecture and planning, that its become a niche subject. Just look at the proliferation of design and planning review boards around the country. Most communities have at least one—my home town of Amherst, Mass. has three. Whether this indicates that the public is passionate about design or scared to death of what architects might do to them is a different matter.

The same can be said of the growth of architecture support groups, patterned in some ways after the Museum League in New York or the Chicago Architectural Foundation. Texas, where I've spent most of my career, has two exemplary community design organizations—the Rice Design Alliance in Houston, which has a broad civic agenda encompassing parks and urban planning as well as architecture, and the Dallas Architecture Forum, which for 10 years has been bringing architects from around the world to talk and teach, and in the process has raised the design consciousness of the entire city.

What's lacking everywhere, however, is a common language and shared frame of reference for talking about these issues. Architects and the public inhabit different worlds when it comes to identifying and analyzing what really matters in communities.

Architectural Record, for which I've written for 15 years, recently polled six national critics about what was most important to residents in their part of the country. And almost without exception the key issues were public and civic—affordable housing, regional planning, access to transit, neighborhood preservation, congestion, sprawl, open space. Architecture with a capital A, as in what are Rem Koolhaas or Frank Gehry up to now, barely made the list. Which is to say that there is a big disconnect these days between what architects are doing and what the magazines are publishing, and what the public is doing and interested in.

If you doubt that, drive around any new suburb or subdivision and see what's being built. The new houses are mostly imitations of traditional styles, grotesquely done in many cases, but still worlds away from what turns up in the architecture magazines and trendy style sections.

Correctly or not, the public perceives the profession to be largely indifferent to its concerns. They think architects are interested mainly in architecture as art, in architecture as a business, or in defending the autonomy of the profession, which has been largely squandered, whereas they see themselves as custodians of the public realm and the social and communal elements of architecture and design.

This is a very simplistic division, I admit, but the communication gap is real, and architects and architectural journalists bear much of the responsibility for creating it, and for closing it. Small regional and component magazines have an opportunity to fill some of the coverage gaps and in the process rekindle the public design dialogue.

New Strategies for Magazines

So what is the role of regional and component architecture magazines? Let's begin by asking a simple question: "If I were not a member of this chapter, and my subscription were not included in my dues, if I were just an intelligent/curious

layperson with an interest in design, in other words, would I buy this magazine? Is there anything in it for me, or is it just a members-only magazine?"

One reason we're all here today, I believe, is that we want to get out of the "members only" club and become resources for the broader community. We want the community to become a collaborator rather than an adversary. So what might we do? Here are few ideas.

• Exploit the possibilities of the Internet because that's where the biggest gains in readership are going to occur. Create a Web site that is accessible, navigable, and on point; that isn't too "inside baseball" but that also isn't just an electronic copy of the print version. The site should have its own identity, in other words, some special content that extends or complements the print version.

One great advantage of the Web is that it is boundless, with no space constraints. You may be restricted to one or two photos of a project in the magazine, but you can put up 20 on the Web. You can also include interviews, reader surveys, resource lists, and so on. It's the place to post and update chapter news, and perhaps some general news that would be old news by the time the print version comes out.

• Most chapter magazines, most architecture magazines period, are too project driven, and too object driven. We all enjoy looking at stunning images, but by themselves they're not going to get you where you want to go. To have influence in your communities, you've got to be more issue driven and topic driven. Identify subjects that really matter in your region. Don't devote a whole issue to green design just so you can say you did it. Maybe there is something more urgent in your area — affordable housing, community investment, farmland conservation—that can be explored in depth.

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Lerup's Legacy

Everything Must Move: 15 Years at Rice School of Architecture 1994-2009

by BEN KOUSH

THE PROGRAM OF THE RICE School of Architecture (RSA) - encouraging students to create conceptual apparatuses for investigating contemporary urban phenomena - is outlined in its latest publication, Everything Must Move, released on the occasion of the fifth Kennon Symposium honoring Dean Lars Lerup as he steps down this year. According to the subtitle printed on its bright red cover, the book documents "a decade-and-a-half of propositions about the suburban city in general, and Houston in particular." Most of the content consists of excerpted student projects, the kind that won their authors travelling fellowships, with additional commentary by their professors. Much of it was culled from the Working series of booklets published periodically by the RSA to document its output. In addi-

tion there are several recorded conversations between various faculty and a selection of new and reprinted writings by Lerup.

Carefully edited by Luke Bulman and Jessica Young, the material in Everything Must Move allows for an analysis of the architectural program. What the editors chose to include (and what was omitted) speaks to the image the directors of the RSA wish to project to the outside world. The book is divided into seven numbered sections that the reader must decipher as they are not given titles. Series of photos at the beginning of each section and the selection of projects give a sense of the theme. Section 1, for instance, containing projects that outline the general characteristics of Houston's urban form begins with a photo labeled "Ambiguous destinies." It depicts a suburban freeway passing over two abruptly unfinished streets with a stand of trees in the background that has apparently not yet been cut away to make a strip mall parking lot.

In the face of a seemingly intractable urban condition, the RSA under Lerup's direction has positioned itself as critic rather than activist. The intentionally ambiguous organization of Everything Must Move, which prefers highly charged photographs of Houston over words, speaks to the RSA's method of judgment through selection and montage. Projects, especially those from early in Lerup's tenure, seemed ad hoc and surreal. Their authors seem to take pleasure in the absurd juxtapositions quickly evident in the assembly of a few disparate snapshots. In these projects an elegant and economical form of critical observation substitutes for brute force as a critique of the contemporary American city embodied by Houston.



Such later projects as the monumental apartment buildings produced by Clover Lee's studios and the regionally scaled net-like devices to control coastal erosion produced in Chris Hight and Michael Robinson's studios are futuristic and dreamy. Rather than negotiating with Houston's existing, diffuse urban spaces, they propose a drastic alternative. This is not to say these projects are not compelling and formally beautiful, but after living in Houston for some time I have changed my opinion about what ought to be done with this place. As Lerup wrote regarding Houston in one of my favorite essays, "Stim & Dross" (reprinted in this volume), "The European metropolis without crowds has skipped westward while radically transforming itself in a new creature, leaner, meaner and more

superficial, but harder to catch, at once simpler and less bearable to live in." (p. 244) Houston is not merely a debased version of a "real" city (a place where, I suppose, one walks along busy, tree-lined boulevards to the local boulangerie each morning in search of brioche) but something else entirely. It is precisely this "other" urbanism—physically epitomized by the inexorable spread of freeways, subdivisions, and strip malls—where most Americans now live that calls for critical attention on its own terms.

Houston has its own idiosyncratic and peculiar means of ordering itself and the way we live in it. It floods our houses, insists that we drive vast distances to go to work or to shop, leaves us a sweaty mess when we try to play golf or sunbathe, and provides stinging jellyfish to enliven our swim sessions in the brown waters of nearby Galveston. It bores a lot of us and makes others mad at its wasted potential. It also makes us hopeful when we realize the ease at which we can live here in super-cute houses that cost almost nothing, drive a new car we can afford because rent is cheap, eat delicious meals, and feast on a lively art scene.

June Arnold wrote in her novel Baby Houston, "Houston is a mess." But the mess makes it real. It requires that we make internal adjustments; the most difficult kind since you have to admit a lack of control, to accommodate the situation rather than the other way around. Lerup captures this idea in his defense of a studio project: "...there is a kind of Buddhist proposition here. If you fall in the river and you're a Buddhist, you don't swim upstream you swim downstream. Then you have a chance to veer off and do something

continued on page 98

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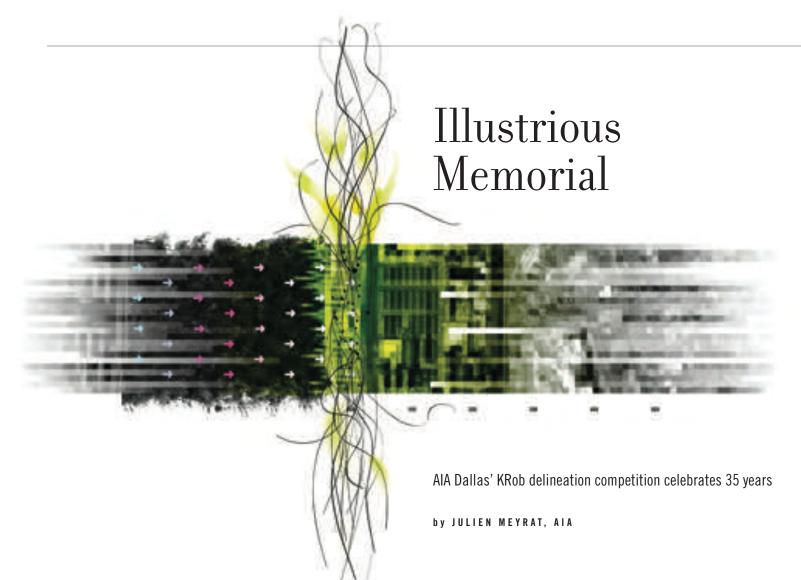
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ACCORDING TO JACK CRAYCROFT, AIA, THE IDEA for an architectural delineation competition and exhibit was partly inspired by the numerous architectural renderings that his firm, Craycroft-Lacy & Partners, produced as a means of selling projects to clients and financial lenders. When Ken Roberts, a young architect responsible for many of these highly accomplished ink renderings left the firm, Craycroft realized how important it was to recognize the contributions of area professionals in the art of architectural delineation. Thirty-five years later, this idea would result in the world's longest-running architectural drawing competition.

During his tenure as AIA Dallas president in 1973, Craycroft tapped his former employee to organize the very first delineation competition. Roberts, a native of Bastrop, La., was seen as a rising star at the time, having recently merged his own firm Roberts-Savage Architects with Clutts & Parker to form Iconoplex, Inc. With the support of Jim Clutts, the 1974 AIA Dallas president, Roberts inaugurated a very successful delineation competition. It showcased dozens of works and testified to the high-level technical mastery in the drawings among young architects in the

Dallas-Fort Worth area. Later that year Roberts, who struggled with a chronic kidney disease, passed away suddenly at the age of 34. Promptly thereafter, the AIA Dallas Executive Committee voted unanimously to rename the new delineation competition in his honor. Craycroft reminds everyone that in addition to remembering Roberts as a delineator, he was moreover "a great designer and even better Architect." In a written tribute he concluded, "He's gone now but his influence will live on in those whose lives he touched — not only in the professional sense, but in the way he met adversity — straight on, without complaint. The Ken Roberts Delineation Competition will be a fitting memorial to this young man who might have walked with the giants of our profession."

The Ken Roberts Memorial Delineation Competition (now commonly referred to as "KRob") soon became an annual event that recognized professionals for excellence in architectural drawing. There would be typically three jurors, featuring reputable architects and faculty from the area as well as throughout the country. A mounted exhibit would

Continued on page 100

Brandon Shigeta's work won Best in Show in the 2008 Ken Roberts Memorial Delineation Competition. The illustration by Shigeta, a student at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, was the top selection in the "student digital/mixed" category.

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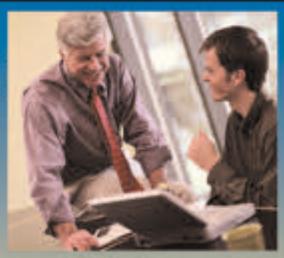
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THE 2009 TSA DESIGN AWARDS JURY met in Austin on May 15 to view 261 submittals of built work. The jurors were Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA, of Hargreaves Associates (San Francisco, Cambridge, and New York); Rick Joy, AIA, of Rick Joy Architects (Tucson); and Philip Freelon, FAIA, of the Freelon Group (Durham, N.C.)

Within three hours the jurors had completed an initial cull, retaining 72 entries for a second round. They spent the early part of the afternoon reviewing the slide shows before determining a second-round list of 16. By mid-afternoon the jury finalized its selection of 12 projects for Design Awards. Those projects, listed below, are featured on the following pages along with comments from the jury.

TSa design awards | 09



It's a great project. It's full of life. It's used. It's active. It's what we want to be happening in our cities...

MARY MARGARET JONES, FASLA

Well that one seems, again, I'm using this word fresh. I think

most of these projects are pretty light and

RICK JOY, AIA

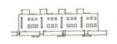
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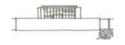
1400 South Congress Dick Clark Architecture w/ Michael Hsu



DFW International Terminal D Corgan w/ HKS and HNTB



Elements Buchanan Architecture



House in the Garden Cunningham Architects



ImageNet Houston Elliott + Associates Architects



Light & Sie Art Gallery Laguarda Low Architects



Linda Pace Foundation Poteet Architects

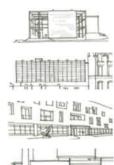


Long Gallery Carport & Parking Plaza Dillon Kyle Architecture



What a fun project. The jury felt that it was imaginative and playful, but also functional in its own way.

PHILIP FREELON, FAIA



Museo Alameda Jackson & Ryan Architects

SAMA Brown Asian Art Wing Overland Partners Architects

UT Dallas Center for Brain Health \mbox{HKS}

Wolfe Den MJ Neal Architects

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRYCE WEIGAND

9 / 1 0 2 0 0 9



by LAWRENCE CONNOLLY, AIA

Eclectic Ensemble

...a very good street presence, vibrant place for people to gather

IONES

PROJECT 1400 South Congress, Austin

CLIENT 04 Partners

ARCHITECT Dick Clark Architecture with Michael Hsu Design Office

DESIGN TEAM Raquel Basilico; Dennis Cudd; Kevin Stewart; Tray Toungate

CONTRACTOR Dorman Goodrich Construction

CONSULTANTS MJ Structures (structural); Bay & Associates (MEP); LOC Consultants (civil); Sitio Design

Group (landscape); Parking Planners (parking)

рнотоскарных Paul Bardagjy

hen Antoine Predock, FAIA, was in midst of conceiving the new Austin City Hall, he commented that the city was "terminally democratic." He made the remark after his design survived a protracted review process that included more than a dozen town meetings and hearings before the City Council. A similar sort of public scrutiny — albeit on a smaller, neighborhood scale — resulted when Dick Clark Architecture added a zoning non-compliant residential building to its 1400 South Congress mixed-use project. The components, including a five-story residential structure, could not be built without the neighborhood's endorsement of the five proposed variances. The site, on the west side of Congress Avenue about two miles south of the State Capitol, is located in the middle of the offbeat SoCo entertainment district where an assemblage of quirky retail shops, restaurants, and nightspots are flanked by two politically active residential neighborhoods.

The design team successfully shepherded the unlikely-to-be-built project through a meandering, year-long review process. The resulting four-building ensemble is so eclectic that its inspiration could have been taken from the old English wedding good luck strategy of "Something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue."

Something old — the 100-year-live oaks. Project architect Jeff Krolicki maintains that the design was based on the majestic trees existing on the site, whose good health requires permeable land at least the size of their respective drip lines. This resulted in a large stage-like wood deck patio that anchors the complex to the site's northeast corner. Juror Philip Freelon, FAIA, commended the pedestrian vortex and appreciated it being a "...vibrant place for people to gather and where the building meets the ground and the hardscape seem to be a perfect spot for the kind of mingling that goes along in that particular urban corridor. So it's a good example of a good urban streetscape and building interface."

Something new – the parking garage and the residential lofts on the west side at the alley. The three-story structure for cars is a poured-in-place, see-through concrete frame with bands of steel restraint cables. The charming D'Hanis structural clay tile loft building with green glass











FIRST FLOOR/SITE PLAN
1 RETAIL
2 PARKING
3 RESIDENTIAL UNITS

EVA STRET

GUERO'S PARKING

GUERO'S PARKING

GUERO'S PARTIO

SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE

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balusters on the northwest corner of the block is the jewel of the complex and generated the most juror interest: Rick Joy, AIA, said, "The housing looks very, very good. The plans are good. It feels fresh and the balconies seem very usable." Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA, added that the project has "some really beautiful detailing and some material use that would make it a great place to be and a great addition to an urban neighborhood."

Something borrowed — the two existing automobile dealership buildings (the showroom and the service department) were both re-used and expanded. The old pre-engineered buildings' painted metal and clear glass sheathing was replaced with new, dark, heat-absorbing glass and anodized metal in reverse proportions and with much more refinement. The "borrowed" first-level retail spaces have custom frameless glass storefront from floor to eave while the new second-story office component is clad in paint grip steel siding.

Something blue – the new baby blue-painted metal trellis. Depending on the time of day, the decorative shading device can almost disappear into the sky. It's draped steel rods visually link the east side of the block with the retail stores farther inboard and the parking structure across the alley.

These disparate things add up to a project that is, according to Jones, "...full of life. It's used. It's active. It's what we want to be happening in our cities. ...we very much liked the way there was a distinction between the retail component and the residential component, but at the same time it still held together as a place." The other jurors also acknowledged the variety of buildings that comprise the project and the overall appeal of its urban vitality.

Since 1400 South Congress was completed in 2008, the development has proven to be a financial success as its retail and office spaces were leased within six months of their initial opening and the lofts were all sold shortly afterward. Earlier this year, the *Austin Business Journal* recognized Dick Clark Architecture for maximizing the value of the property by presenting the firm with the Best Real Estate Award in the Mixed Use Category. Design-wise, AIA Austin also awarded the complex as well as the residential lofts with Citations of Merit. In addition, the project was previously profiled in the March/April 2008 edition of *Texas Architect*.

According to Krolicki, more important to the developer than the business and design awards is that they managed to avoid infesting South Congress with national retail and food franchises. Instead, and much to the neighborhood's gleeful relief, they have carefully woven a new seamless patch into SoCo's complex urban fabric by inadvertently following an eclectic wedding tradition.

Lawrence Connolly, AIA, is a \emph{TA} contributing editor.

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by GREGORY IBAÑEZ, AIA

Terminal Clarity

...the chaos of an airport environment is erased

INNES

PROJECT DFW International Terminal D, Dallas

CLIENT DFW International Airport

ARCHITECT Corgan with HKS and HNTB

DESIGN TEAM Phil Mein, AIA; Chuck Armstrong, AIA; Ralph Bauer; Jeff Mangels, AIA; Brent Kelley, AIA; Jennifer Johnson, AIA; Ross Payton, AIA

CONTRACTOR Austin Commercial

CONSULTANTS CAGE (baggage handling); L.A. Fuess Partners (structural); Campbell and Associates Consulting Engineers (structural); Walter P Moore (structural); Friberg Associates (MEP); Carter Burgess (MEP); Garcia & Associates Engineering (MEP); DFW Consulting Group (MEP); TriCADD Technologies (MEP); Ross and Baruzzini/MCM (communication); Basye & Associates (communication); CDI Communications (communication); Naughton + Associates (graphic designer); ARS Engineers (landscape); Terra Mar (geotechnical); OveArup and Partners (fire)

РНОТОGRAPHER Craig Blackmon, FAIA

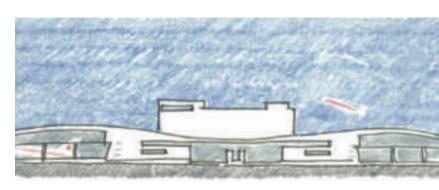
iscussing Dallas Fort Worth International Airport Terminal D and its selection for a 2009 TSA Design Award, juror Philip Freelon, FAIA, said, "We thought that the project was a very good example of a public building, very prominent, but it still was handled with quite some sensitivity. We all have been in airports, probably more than we'd like, and this is one where you actually feel a sense of light and airy space, which is relaxing. Natural light was well used, and the high volume of the space gives it an open and comfortable feeling. We thought it was well worthy of an award."

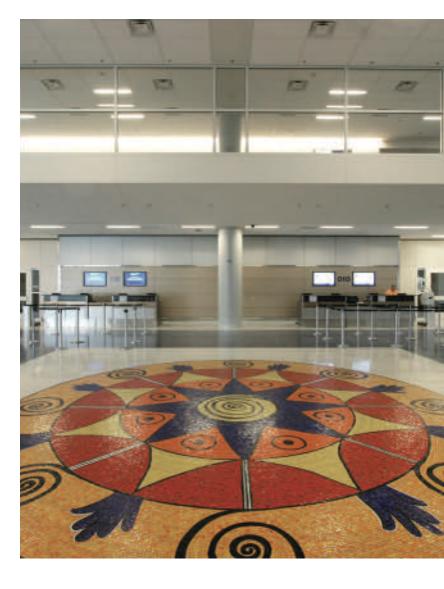
Unveiled in July 2005, Terminal D conforms to DFW International Airport's original partithat has efficiently served the airport since 1974. That master plan, designed by HOK, is an elegant series of horseshoe-shaped roadways and terminals arrayed along either side of a highway spine. At Terminal D, the arc remains as a two-level access road inscribed onto a very large (2.1 million square feet) rectangle. The upper level serves departures, providing direct access to ticketing and bag checking, and is flanked by a landscape of peaked fabric canopies from below that cover the arrival level where ground transportation services are located.

Spanning this space is a catenary cable-supported pedestrian bridge that connects to the parking structure located inside the arc. The primary interterminal connection, the Skylink "automated people mover," dramatically slices through the terminal several stories above the concourse, with the Hyatt Regency emerging as a vertical slab adjacent to the central lobby.

Overlapping grids of gray-glass curtainwall and metal panels comprise the terminal's facade. The roof form is a compound curve of stainless steel with linear skylights extending upward. While the overall form of the structure is hard to grasp from the ground, the terminal is conspicuous from a plane circling above the airport.

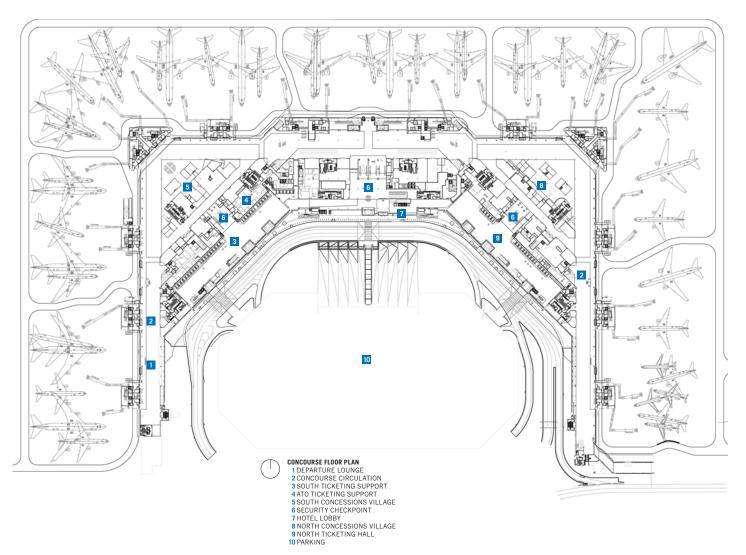
Upon entering the terminal, one finds clarity of organization and lightness of form throughout. As with all airports there is a necessary division between secure and non-secure zones, but here the areas outside security are commodious and bright, offering ample views into the concourse beyond. The ticketing lobbies located immediately inside are generously scaled with provisions for greatly increasing the number of counters as











the airport's traffic grows. The service counters face the entry and are covered by a steel canopy suspended by tension rods, above which is a large, sloped clerestory set beneath the vaulted roof with linear skylights providing additional filtered sunshine.

After clearing security, the traveler enters the concourse. Here no vestige remains of the familiar DFW radial concourse. Instead, one finds an orthogonal axial organization of gates and concessions. Wayfinding — white graphics on blue backgrounds — is clear and properly scaled for easy legibility. In fact, other than the blue signage, there is an absence of saturated color anywhere in the architecture. Instead, the color palette is consistently muted — terrazzo floors of soft grays and blues, wall panels of white metal and brushed stainless steel, perforated metal panels of medium gray on the underside of the vault, and intermittent lowered ceilings of whitewashed wood veneer panels — providing a cool, quiet backdrop for passenger activities.

Looking upward through the clerestory, one is struck by the sight of a Skylink car gliding silently high above the concourse floor. The stations are accessed either by elevators or via a series of very long escalators that provide a pulse-quickening ride through the vertical layers of the space.

Many of the international passengers using the terminal are only in transit, often faced with a long layover before connecting to another flight. In airport parlance, these travelers must be contained within "sterile" corridors until processed through immigration. The architects have thoughtfully placed these contained spaces within glass enclosures that hover above the main level, using the transparency to reinforce the sense of motion and activity. Plush transit lounges overlook the concourse, sharing in the ample daylight from above.

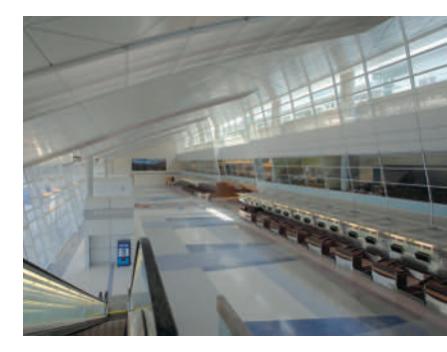
Integral to the terminal design concept is the public art program placed and administered by HKS. Much of the artwork—including terrazzo and tile floor pieces, sculpture, wall installations, and a scrim of photographs mounted to a clerestory—speaks to the locale via imagery of Texas icons, symbols, or landscape.

As a testament to its design, juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA, said, "It stands out amongst airports as a place that is not only full of life...but it has a sort of strong sense of clarity and organization, so that the chaos of an airport environment is not there; it's erased to some degree, which is so refreshing. And you find yourself actually happy to be in that space as opposed to wanting to get through it as fast as you possibly can."

Gregory Ibañez, AIA, is a TA contributing editor.

This article is adapted from "Cleared for Takeoff" published in the July/August 2005 edition.

RESOURCES LOUNGE SEATING: Arconas; ARCHITECTURAL METAL WORK: Big D Metalworks; RAILINGS AND HANDRAILS: American Steel; Ornamental metal panel work: Forms and Surfaces; roof and wall panels: Reynobond (NOW Specialties); metal roofing: A. Zahner Company; siding and special wall surfaces: Trespa North America; entrances and storefronts: United States Aluminum; glass: Viracon; decorative glass: Pulp Studio; glazed curtainwall: Kawneer; terrazzo: American Terrazzo; Laminates: Wilsonart, Pionite (Panolam Industries), Formica; tile: Texas Stone and Tile, Waterjet Works; paint: Sherwin-Williams; acoustical ceilings: Armstrong; metal ceilings: Armstrong; Capaul; special ceiling surfaces: Simplex; suspension, Luminous and custom ceilings: Gordon (Design Performance Associates); athletic surfacing indoor: Rulon; wall coverings: Shaw; skylights: CPI Daylighting (Conner-Legrand); metal roof underlayment membrane: Soprema (Conner-Legrand); membrane roofing: Sarnafil; architectural graphics: AGI Architectural Graphics; elevator/escalator: Thyssen Krupp; baggage equipment: Siemens; cable supported fabric structures: Span Systems



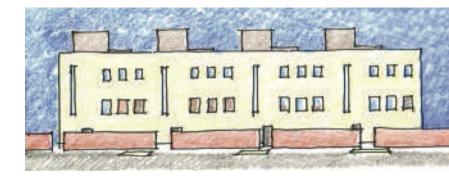




by EURICO R. FRANCISCO, AIA

A Sonnet to Dwell In

...a place of life, work, and play



PROJECT Elements, Dallas

CLIENT Fairfax Develops

ARCHITECT Buchanan Architecture

DESIGN TEAM Russell Buchanan, AIA; Gary Orsinger, AIA; Jesus Rodriguez Jr.; Jason Franzen

CONTRACTOR Fairfax Develops

CONSULTANTS Zinser/Grossman Structural (structural)

PHOTOGRAPHER Jason Franzen

he area just north of downtown Dallas known as Oak Lawn is rich and diverse in demographics, land use, and building types. Having matured over time, Oak Lawn has evolved into a neighborhood of restaurants, churches, hotels, offices, and a varied assemblage of residential buildings.

Visitors who know Dallas' reputation for a struggling downtown and generalized suburban sprawl are surprised to find in Oak Lawn a neighborhood that embraces and cherishes urban density. Elements, the four-unit townhomes in Oak Lawn designed by Buchanan Architecture, shows a keen understanding of the neighborhood character—its scale, massing, organization, and the relationships of buildings with each other and with the street. The project's understated precision and elegance, moreover, elevates it to the top echelon of similar buildings developed in the area over the last few years.

Elements is the second building that Buchanan Architecture has designed for the client. The first was The Envelope (itself recognized with a 2004 TSA Design Award), which served as a laboratory for the issues that architect and client would reencounter in 2007 when creating Elements. The challenge for both The Envelope and Elements was to maximize the allowable building area — and the return on investment — while creating intelligent, engaging, and lasting buildings that go beyond the typical developer's game. During the process, Buchanan Architecture became an expert in the intricacies of the planned development (PD) ordinances and restrictions for that particular area of Oak Lawn.

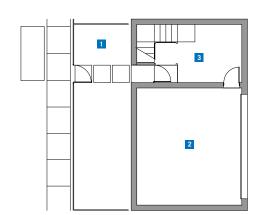
PD requirements included a minimum of two off-street parking spaces per unit, a maximum building height of 36 feet (excluding mechanical rooms, church steeples, etc), and a ban on roof decks. Creative interpretation of the PD ordinances, however, made it possible for the area adjacent to the mechanical room on the roof of each Elements unit to effectively double as a roof deck, giving residents a welcome amenity not found in similar buildings in the same PD.

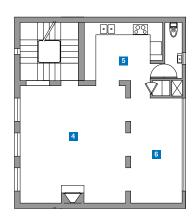
The corner lot affords each of the four units its own address and front door at the street. Vehicular access to parking occurs on the back side, with the driveway overlapping the required setback. With vehicles and parking

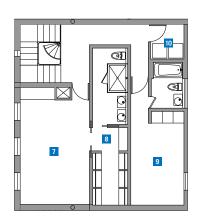


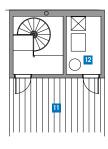














- TYPICAL FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 1 PRIVATE COURTYARD
 2 TWO CAR GARAGE
 3 ENTRY GALLERY



TYPICAL SECOND FLOOR PLAN 4 LIVING 5 KITCHEN 6 DINING



- TYPICAL THIRD FLOOR PLAN
 7 MASTER BEDROOM
 8 DRESSING/BATH
 9 BEDROOM/STUDY
 10 LAUNDRY/UTILITY



TYPICAL FOURTH FLOOR PLAN 11 OBSERVATION DECK 12 STORAGE

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garages concealed from view and with individual front doors — and even small front yards! — along the street, Elements does its part in creating a welcoming pedestrian streetscape in the neighborhood.

This straightforward site layout sets the stage for the deployment of the building program and form articulation. The exterior material palette of masonry, wood, glass, and standing-seam metal identifies the different program components (hence "Elements") and gives the building a serene and dignified presence. The masonry and its warm tone are a departure from the palette used in The Envelope and lend Elements an appropriate residential character and gravitas. The use of light standing-seam panels as cladding is intriguing and correct on the volume that cantilevers over the driveway. Wood fencing, done here in an original and effective manner, reinforces the residential nature of the building.

The first level of each unit contains an entrance and garage; living areas and kitchen are on the second level; bedrooms occupy the third level; a mechanical room and the bonus roof deck are on the fourth level. The 48-foot-tall vertical circulation core is continuous from top to bottom and is contained on a 10-foot square footprint, with a long and narrow window slot identifying the interior volume to the street. Inside, a finely detailed staircase occupies the space topped by a four-foot square skylight.

A balcony on the end unit projects beyond and dialogues with the stable masonry mass; from the inside, the balcony is a welcome surprise and favorite spot to sit and watch the movement on the street. Each unit—each home—is subtly expressed on the exterior via the clear volume articulation, window pattern, and, naturally, each unit's front door and front yard. Individual expression of the units was a deliberate goal of the design team from the beginning, and it has been achieved here.

Sometimes we are led to believe that the fullest creative expression is found only when there are no barriers or limits to the creative process. Poetry that observes a certain metric – the sonnet, say – proves otherwise. A good sonnet will always be emotion infused with order (given its prescribed form).

One comes to understand and appreciate this project not as the product of a simple application of zoning restrictions over a certain site, nor as the consequence of unchecked creative drive. Instead, one appreciates Elements as the result of a fine balance between order and expression. There is reason in it. There is beauty in it. As architecture, Elements is akin to a beautiful sonnet.

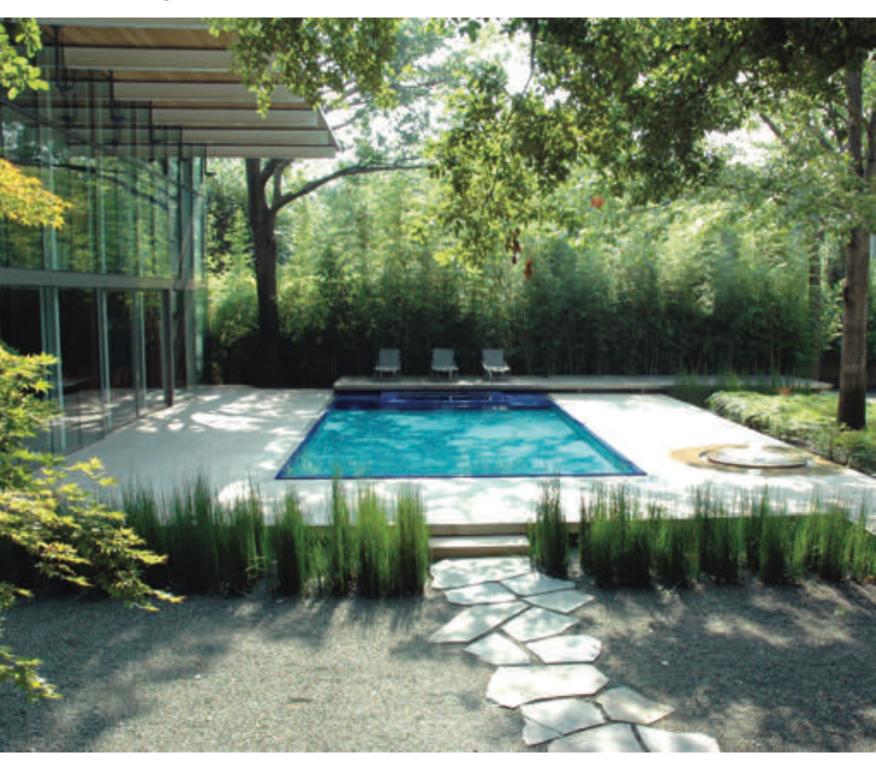
Eurico R. Francisco, AIA, is a vice president with RTKL Associates.

RESOURCES ARCHITECTURAL METAL WORK: Baldwin Metals; wood windows: Marvin Windows; paint: Sherwin-Williams; unit kitchens: bulthaup; access controls: Linear; control panel: USTEC; cabinetry: Henry's Industries; standing seam metal cladding and roof: Nationwide; lighting: Lightolier, Translite, Lumiere (Cooper Lighting)





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by MICHAEL MALONE, AIA

Garden Spot

TEXAS ARCHITECT

...the landscape and building provide a compelling solution

-FREELON

PROJECT House in the Garden, Dallas
CLIENT withheld
ARCHITECT Cunningham Architects

DESIGN TEAM Gary Cunningham, FAIA; Michael Lee Bessner; Tom Dohearty, AIA

CONTRACTOR Clowdus Construction

 $\textbf{consultants} \ \ Group Structural \ Engineers \ (structural); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); PHW \ Architectural); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); PHW \ Architectural); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); PHW \ Architectural); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); PHW \ Architectural); Hocker \ Design \ Group \ (landscape); Hocker \ Design \ (landscape); Hocker \ (landscape); Hocker \ (landscape); Hocker \ (landscape); Hocker \ (landscape); Hocker$

tural Lighting Design (lighting); MEP Systems (MEP)

PHOTOGRAPHERS James F. Wilson, Gisela Borghi

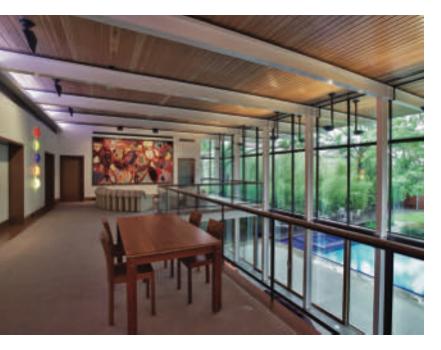
rom the street Cunningham Architects' House in the Garden is a beautifully conceived and executed object, partially shielded behind an iconic wall constructed of stainless-steel wire grid and filled with fragments of slag glass. This idealized garden villa - really a giant porch - provides a delightful way to both view and inhabit a highly personalized landscape. It's a thoughtful and well organized bit of place making; surprisingly its greatest success is as a foil and extension of an outdoor space that was originally part of the adjacent house. It completes a residential compound as an accessory structure (albeit an exquisitely detailed one) structured by robust steel columns and beams and separated from its adjacent pool terrace and garden only by a seemingly ephemeral glass wall. Combining a guest house, studio, and garage, the building complements a wonderful contemporary house completed in 1996 and engages that earlier work in a remarkable dialogue, resulting in an expansive, sunlit space that extends a formerly small court and provides access for the new guest house and pool terrace.

The house also represents an interesting developmental counterpoint to the whimsically ad hoc and exploratory nature of so much of Cunningham's other work. That side of the firm's practice is nowhere present in this house (other than in the typically creative spatial invention) and is here replaced by an elevated level of detail and craftsmanship. The follow-through in execution is relentless—every joint and corner a cause for celebration. These are characteristics of the house that cannot be discerned through photos, which enhances their appreciation when you're at the house.

The house itself is a rectilinear box, banded in strips of ipe, the durable and sustainable hardwood that is here used to clad the entire exterior except for the projected glass wall overlooking the pool. The thin module of the ipe siding organizes — almost compulsively — the horizontal relationships for everything in the house. The strips mimic the horizontal masonry joints of the cream-colored masonry on the existing house and will weather to a light gray. Within the banding are set windows and doors, with projecting eyebrows of stainless steel that shield the openings from





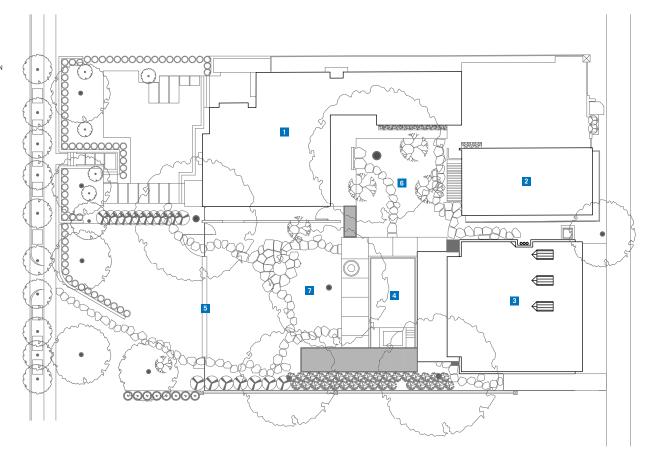






- SITE PLAN

 1 EXISTING HOUSE
 2 EXISTING GARAGE
 3 HOUSE IN THE GARDEN
 4 POOL
 5 PRIVACY WALL
 6 EXISTING GARDEN
 7 NEW GARDEN



rain. Contrasting dramatically with the ipe box is the frameless glass window wall with large operable sliding panels that open to the pool. The most dramatic feature of the house, the wall literally floats on the terrace with only the silicon joints to separate the panels of glass. This tour de force counterpoint to the visually dense box of ipe heightens the transparency and interconnection between the interior and exterior spaces.

The primary interior spaces designed for use when entertaining are stacked one above the other and focus outward to the terrace and garden, making exterior spaces the focal point of the rooms and bringing those spaces into the house. The upper-level sitting and library areas share a balcony overlooking the space below and an elevated view to the terrace and garden. The high level of detailing continues here: joint patterns and reveals reinforce the structure of the exposed beams and steel frame that support the cantilever behind the glass wall. The exposed ceiling decking is tongue-and-groove Douglas fir, the floors exposed concrete. Millwork, doors, and paneling are cherry. On the first level, immediately behind the main living space is the garage and on the level above, a guest room and painting studio. These somewhat more pedestrian rooms share the same level of spatial sensibility and careful detailing found in the rest of the house.

The garden design seems casual, but upon observation is as carefully organized as the house itself. A previously existing single-family home was demolished to make way for the new guest house, but the mature red oaks and elms were retained in place. (The house and pool foundations are floated on piers to provide the least stressful structural solution for the trees.) The rest of the garden is defined primarily by the pool terrace and its adjacent deck and the broad lawn that rolls down to the street, interrupted only by the iconic sculptural wall. The wall is placed along the primary setback line of the front of the other houses on the street and provides visual continuity. Passage up to and through the wall, as it is through the entire garden, is on random flagstones set in the grass. These free-flowing paths link the terraces, decks, and seating areas while still allowing the green of the lawn to dominate the visual field from the house. All of these elements, supported by the detailing, tie together to form a rigorous but welcoming environment that is at once private and relaxing, perfect for any pool structure.

Michael Malone, AIA, is a studio director at WKMC Architects in Dallas.

RESOURCES BUILDING INSULATION: Johns Manville; Wood and Plastic Doors: Loewen (Central Hardwoods), Simpson Door Company (Davis Hawn Lumber), Weiland Sliding Doors and Windows (Central Hardwoods); wood windows: Loewen (Central Hardwoods); laminate flooring: Pergo; exterior wood: IPE (Central Hardwoods); tub and shower doors and enclosures: Kohler; kitchen/bath cabinets, unit kitchens: builthaup; design software: Autocad, Autodesk





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by JEFFREY BROWN, AIA

Concrete Poetry

...a beautiful breath of fresh air in the industrial park

JOY

PROJECT ImageNet, Houston

CLIENT ImageNet Office Systems

ARCHITECT Elliott + Associates Architects

DESIGN TEAM Rand Elliott, FAIA; Michael Shuck, Assoc. AIA; Brian Fitzsimmons, AIA

CONTRACTOR Mission Constructors

CONSULTANTS Cobb, Fendley & Associates (civil); Haynes Whaley Associates (structural); E/B/E (MEP);

PHOTOGRAPHER Scott McDonald, Hedrich Blessing

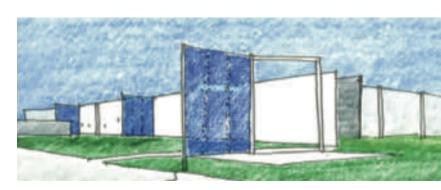
Wong & Associates (landscape)

...A building as a book...with pages and memorable thoughts. Words of History or independence or conviction or new ideas formed in concrete...

his word painting by Rand Elliott, FAIA, explains how he wants people to understand his latest award-winning project, ImageNet of Houston. Employing poetry or manifestoes to describe one's work is not uncommon these days. Indeed, such material appears to be a prerequisite of the current media culture that promotes "starchitects," "signature architects," and one-hit wonders. Supportive text is, we are led to believe, required reading. If a building appears mundane, baffling, or otherwise underwhelming, just refer to the narrative. Within the architect's words, we are told, lies the true meaning which will assure in our prosaic times that, yes, this is Architecture.

Fortunately, Elliott's body of work speaks for itself. More than a theoretical back-story for the project, his poem serves as a kind of user's manual for understanding the building. Colin Rowe, in his essay "Ideas, Talent, Poetics: A Problem of Manifesto," asserted a simple calculus that can be roughly paraphrased as: Do ideas without mediation of talent or craft automatically result in poetics? He explored this formulation by arguing that Richard Meier is an architect dependent upon talent and Eisenman is a manipulator of ideas, while Kahn achieved a synthesis of both in his "poetics." To summarize Rowe's rationale, poetics constitutes that sense of presence we recognize collectively as architecture, without mediation. In that sense, poetics emanates from Elliott's corpus in general and from his ImageNet Houston in particular. Poetics is the key to penetrating the ineffable quality he achieves so consistently in his buildings, an experiential alchemy that can only be perceived firsthand.

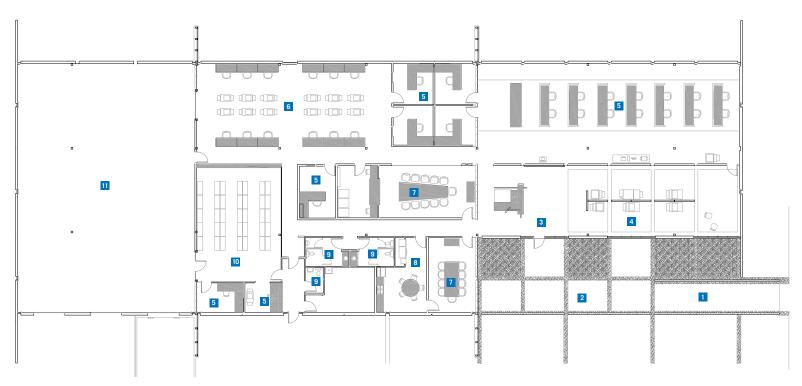
Sequestered in an otherwise ubiquitous office park in west Houston, ImageNet commands a presence that transcends its private purpose.











- SITE PLAN

 1 ENTRY PORTAL
 2 COURTYARD
 3 ENTRY
 4 SHOWROOM
 5 OFFICE
 6 SERVICE TECH
 7 CONFERENCE ROOM
 8 BREAK ROOM
 9 RESTROOM
 10 PARTS
 11 WAREHOUSE

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TEXAS ARCHITECT 9 / 1 0 2 0 0 9 While not overtly composed in the sense of facade, frontality, or classical hierarchy, the building is sited carefully and gives a clear signal as to entry. The 13,500-sf building is oriented along a north/south axis, allowing the entry to face northeast and the prominent site access. The tripartite plan, proportionally based on an 11x17-inch sheet of copier paper, is organized with entry court, reception, and administration in the first third, core business in the middle, and warehouse in the back. "Bookmarks" of blue polycarbonate separate the zones by slicing through the building's volume to establish each program division.

Rather than being dependent upon complex interlocking spatial relationships, the scheme is one of complex interlocking symbols that represent aspects of ImageNet's business—facilitating the creation of documents. The basis of this system of symbols stems from Elliott's notion that the building is an architectural portrait of the enterprise and its purpose. He believes that architecture has a role in how a business achieves success, as many architects have proposed. But here he elevates that belief beyond a mere didactic repository of indexed relationships. Simply using paper to construct a wall is far too reductive to produce the atmospherics Elliott has choreographed. With a relentless adherence to the concept of duplication (the firm is an info-technology company interfacing with copy machines), he seamlessly weaves together a prosaic concoction of devices related to the notion of the building as a marketing tool and the materials the company depends upon.

The entry sequence itself is laden with these symbols. One enters a breezeway between two 11x17-proportioned black concrete slabs past the twice-duplicated etching of the preamble to the Constitution. Overhead a binary symbol is suspended and light reproduces its shadow on the wall, a hint about duplication based upon light. The binary-coded graphics themselves are no mere gimmick. They instead represent, as they cast shadows and animate the public sequence, the code for ImageNet. Upon entry, the well-known wall of stacked paper frames the first interior experience. Its function again exceeds mere indexing. The wall is light-coded to illustrate a selling point of the company's information management—that 10 percent of information is lost in data transfer—and the lighting transformation from no light to white light illustrates this loss, with blue light indicating irretrievable data. And so the layering of concepts goes on.

What pushes Elliott's work beyond being seen as a mere architectural scaffold for the overlay of corporate spreadsheets and profit margin-driven themes is the synthetic integration of the effects he manipulates with the company's sense of purpose. The formal structure becomes subsumed by the atmosphere in a sublime manner. The building both provides an experience and tells a story in a way only poetry can describe.

Jeffrey Brown is a principal of Powers Brown Architecture and an adjunct professor at the University of Houston's Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture.

RESOURCES FENCE AND SOLAR SHADE: Privacy Link; concrete Stain: H&C Concrete Coatings; concrete cast thru letters: Awnings and Such; metal panels: MBCI; custom metal work: beyondmetal.com; millwork: Panel-Tech; polycarbonate panels: Polygal (Regal Plastics); hollow metal: Curries; overhead doors: Overhead Door Corporation; curtainwall: United States Aluminum; storefront: Kawneer; hardware: Schlage, Hager, Securitron (Designer Hardware by Faye); glass: Guardian; gypsum: USG; carpet: Atlas; paint: Sherwin-Williams; residential appliances: Sharp, Whirlpool; graphics: Digital Media Warehouse; translucent louvers: Enduro; tv and mounts: Samsung, Draper, Chief Manufacturing; office equipment: ImageNet Office Systems; furniture: Knoll, Umbra, Herman Miller; lighting: Engineered Lighting Products (CW Lighting & Associates), Gotham, Lithonia, Winona Lighting





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9/10 2009 TEXAS ARCHITECT



by STEPHEN SHARPE

Haven for Art

..a very elegant configuration of forms and space and light



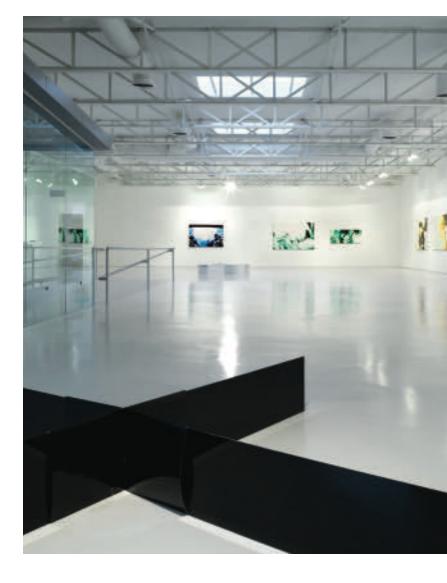
PROJECT Light & Sie Art Gallery, Dallas
CLIENT Andrew Sie and Stanley Light
ARCHITECT Laguarda Low Architects
DESIGN TEAM Pablo Laguarda, AIA; Linh Tran, AIA
DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACTOR Solid Green Construction
PHOTOGRAPHER Charles Davis Smith. AIA

nce just another nondescript, single-story building indistinguishable from its neighbors that together comprise a light-industrial district wedged between downtown Dallas and the Trinity River, the Light & Sie Art Gallery now stands out. The reconfigured entry, framed by a box of aluminum panels, asserts a refined presence that quietly commands attention amid the clutter of storefronts along Leslie Street on the city's near-west side. The 13,000-sf project is one of the latest examples in a transformative trend for the area where a few of the shopworn buildings have been repurposed as showrooms for the design trade and retail galleries for contemporary art.

Seen from the street, Light & Sie's metallic entry projects slightly from the building's original brick facade now painted almost black. Clad with aluminum composite panels, the south-facing entry reflects the colors of the sky, ranging through the day from flinty silver at noon to deep azure at dusk. This time-lapse mutation plays out vividly against the dark brick background. At nightfall the street facade becomes animated with windows, masked from the inside with vinyl sheets of an intense orange, that glow when backlit.

Visitors are drawn into the Light & Sie's projecting metallic entry through a 45-foot-long tunnel created from what originally was the loading dock, now replaced with a concrete ramp that gradually rises four feet from street level to the gallery floor. Glass along one side of the tunnel offers a preview of the art on display in the main exhibit space. The conspicuous narrowing of the passageway and the simultaneous upward slope of the floor surface combine to introduce a theatrical aspect to the entry sequence, a clever prelude to the often transcendental experience of viewing contemporary art.

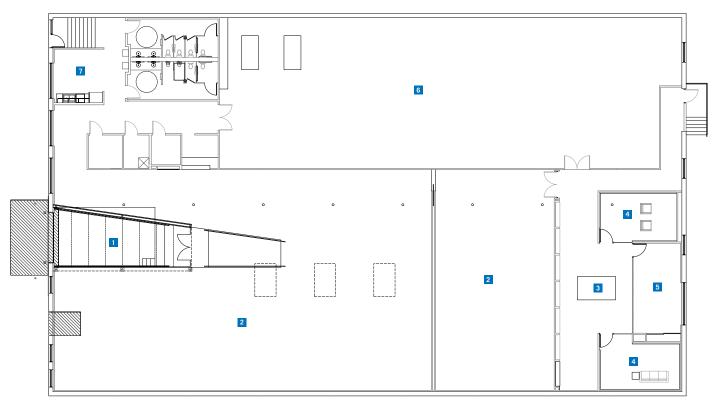
"This concept," Pablo Laguarda, AIA, explains," together with the nonparallel reflectivity of the two walls, not only visually extends the length of the ramp even further, but plays with the scale of the visitor entering the ramp, in proportion with the building scale, and the visitor's reflection. For self-aware art visitors, the art-historical references of such a play on perspective subtly and minimally begin the art-viewing journey even



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- SITE PLAN

 1 ENTRY RAMP
 2 GALLERY
 3 CONFERENCE/LIBRARY
 4 VIEWING ROOM
 5 OFFICE
 6 STORAGE
 7 KITCHEN

62 TEXAS ARCHITECT 9 / 1 0 2 0 0 9 while outside the gallery." The tunnel's opposite wall tapers inward along its metal-faced length, subtly sharpening the visitor's focus on the glass front door and the bright interior beyond. The ramp continues through the transparent portal, the final 15 feet of its gentle ascent bounded on either side by utilitarian metal railings.

Inside, the mostly white color scheme brings the artwork to the fore while camouflaging exposed structural elements — open web steel joists above and a row of slender steel columns to the left — and permeates the large space with an air of minimalist purity. Utterly without adornment other than paint, the project retains visual cues that remind visitors of the building's prosaic past. New overhead ductwork adds another sculptural component, and a few off-the-shelf skylights now perforate the ceiling, an intervention that infuses the stark interior with natural light. In sharp contrast to the visual cacophony of the street, this serene haven for art invites visitors to spend time with the exhibited works and delay reimmersion into the distractions of the urban jumble outside.

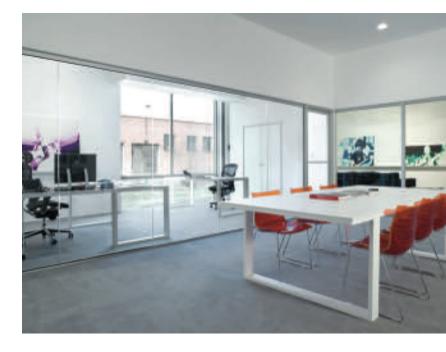
The building, bisected length-wise by the line of steel columns, was previously configured as a double-bay warehouse divided into two long and narrow spaces. The new configuration places a reception station at the left of the entry, just past the columns, and an auxiliary gallery behind the main exhibition hall. The smaller gallery holds audio-visual artwork. Toward the rear, facing the alley, is the curator's office and conference facilities, along with a couple of viewing rooms. On the west side of the building is a large storage room.

The TSA Design Awards jury was unanimous in its praise for the project: "We all loved this little project that activates the street in such a great way," commented juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA. "It addresses the street in such a fresh, new kind of way. And then the ramp that takes you into the space is so simple, so straight-forward, so beautiful. And the spaces inside are so elegant and so simple and so beautiful. The craftsmanship is really very fabulous. So it did what galleries should do, which is make a beautiful interior space for showing art, but it also addressed the street in such a great way that urbanistically is really important.

Describing the new gallery as a "fresh face in Dallas," juror Rick Joy, AIA, also pointed to the architects' reimaging of the entry sequence: "The way they remodeled the loading ramp as the entrance, it's just a beautiful way to enter."

"A very elegant configuration of forms and space and light," said juror Philip Freelon, FAIA. "A very nice blending—simple yet sophisticated in how those forms are configured."

Stephen Sharpe is the editor of Texas Architect.





RESOURCES: METAL MATERIALS: Alucobond; TILE: Horizon Tile; KITCHEN AND BATH CABINETS: Ikea



by GEOF EDWARDS, AIA

Elegant Tribute

...finely detailed with wonderful moments of color and form

-FREELON

PROJECT Linda Pace Foundation Offices, San Antonio
CLIENT Linda Pace Foundation
ARCHITECT Poteet Architects
DESIGN TEAM Jim Poteet, AIA; Brett Freeman; Isadora Sintes; Shane Valentine
CONTRACTOR Rubiola Construction
CONSULTANTS Lehmann Engineering (structural)
PHOTOGRAPHER Chris Cooper Photography

pproaching the Linda Pace Foundation from the east, visitors are confronted with a strikingly graphic text piece on the building's canvas-like facade, a short poem by Daniel Edgar Martinez: "beauty...it rubs against one's tongue, it hangs there, hurting one, insisting on its own existence, finally it gets so one cannot stand the pain, then one must have beauty extracted." It's an "in your face" message that transcends its purpose as a public art piece and could describe the transformation of a derelict 1940sera auto paint shop into what is now the subtle and powerful beauty of the Linda Pace Foundation.

When Jim Poteet, AIA, of Poteet Architects converted the former paint shop into an art studio for noted San Antonio arts patron Linda Pace, he had no way of knowing he would be redesigning that same space just a few months later. Sadly, Pace passed away from breast cancer in 2007, only six months after her new studio was completed. Three months after her death, Poteet was asked to redesign the space as offices for the Linda Pace Foundation, a nonprofit established by Pace prior to her death. The Foundation is dedicated to the display and loan of her renowned contemporary art collection; facilitating the artist-in-residence program at Artpace; and maintaining CHRISpark, the adjacent private park.

Completed in February 2008, the re-conversion of the 2,500-sf building provides office space for three employees and a conference space for the Foundation's four-member board.

In converting the building from art studio to the Foundation's head-quarters, Poteet made one of his strongest architectural moves by flipping the entrance to the opposite side of the structure and away from the street. Now visitors access the Foundation by walking through CHRISpark, a small urban garden that was established by Pace to commemorate the life of her late son. An informal path of rectangular Leuders limestone blocks angles toward the building entrance from a gate at the park and through the Foundation's private sculpture garden. Poteet describes the processional approach as "a kind of memorial sequence."

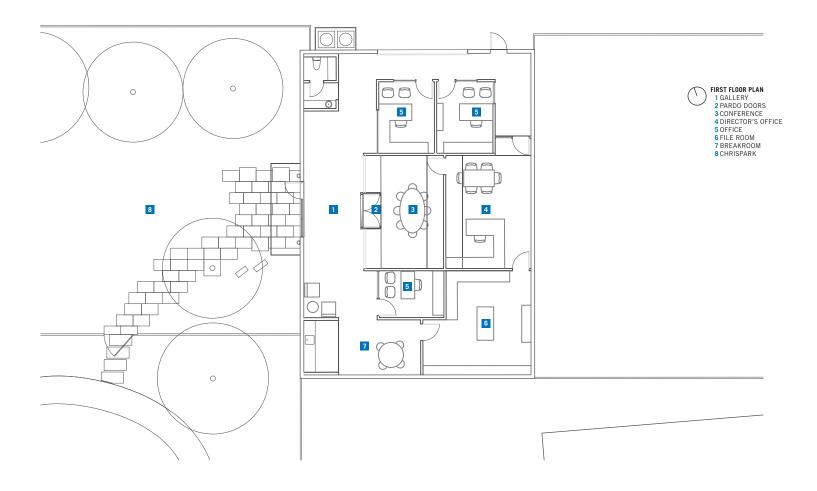
Poteet added large custom-fabricated steel and glass storefront for access to the building and views back to the sculpture garden, as well as to











bring natural light into the space, which is a recurring theme throughout the project. Immediately inside the building, on axis with the lone store-front opening, is the conference room that is accessed through a centralized portal specially fabricated with a custom-coped stop to receive a pair of bright orange, sculptured front doors by Miami artist Jorge Pardo. In addition to heightening the significance of this entrance, the portal allows the doors to be viewed to equally potent visual effect in either an open or closed position.

The building's only signage is meticulously excised in the gray drywall that encloses the conference room. This contrast of the signage's precise craft and workmanship employed on this humble material is a key to understanding one of the project's most powerful aspects—elements that have dual interpretations or serve multiple purposes can be found throughout.

Organizationally, Poteet inserted the conference room and four private offices into the center of the building, which leaves the art display walls created during his first renovation as a perimeter gallery for the Foundation. Most of the new office spaces are open-topped to take advantage of the six large skylights added to allow sunshine to filter through the exposed trusses and fill the entire space. The natural light illuminating the display walls is supplemented by museum-quality track lighting.

Natural light is introduced differently in the central conference room. Its walls are horizontally banded with drywall at eye level to provide privacy while polycarbonate panels over light-gauge metal framing above and below the drywall admit natural light to the center of the space during the day. At night, this effect is reversed: the conference room glows like a lantern into the gallery and out to the sculpture garden.

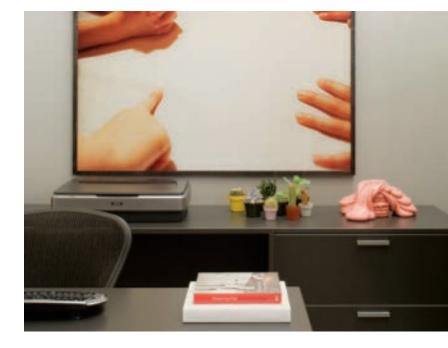
"This is a project that is elegant and restrained with such a beautiful use of light. We were compelled by the way natural light was introduced into this space and used in such subtle ways. The project has a sort of grace to it, it speaks to its purpose, which is quite different," said juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA.

By organizing the project's components so that all create multiple meanings and perform multiple functions, Poteet has created a space that is simultaneously minimal yet richly layered. According to Pace Foundation Director Rick Moore, his design fulfills Pace's wishes: "Linda insisted that the Foundation offices be something distinctive and unique." This building embodies the characteristics that drew her to become Texas' greatest advocate for contemporary art during her life.

Geof Edwards, AIA, is chief operating officer at Kell Muñoz in San Antonio.

This article is adapted from "Enlightened Conversion" published in the May/ June 2009 edition.

RESOURCES ARCHITECTURAL METAL WORK: OSCAT'S CUSTOM Iron Works; ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK: Nick'S CUSTOM WOODWORKING; LAMINATES: WilsonArt; PLASTIC FABRICATIONS AND GLAZING: POlygal (Regal Plastics); GARAGE DOORS: Alamo Door Systems; GLASS: PPG; HARDWARE: Omnia (Hardware Specialties & Glass); SKYLIGHT: Skylights Over Texas; Gypsum: US Gypsum; Special Ceiling Surfaces: Hunter Douglas Contract; Paint: Sherwin-Williams; CARPET TILE: Interface (Commercial Surfaces); MANUFACTURED CASEWORK: Steelcase (Texas Wilson Office Furniture and Services); Lighting Fixtures: Lightolier, Spectrum Lighting, Lonestar Lighting





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TSA design award | 09



by JENNY KIEL

Folia Fictus

...a project that makes you happy to be in the city

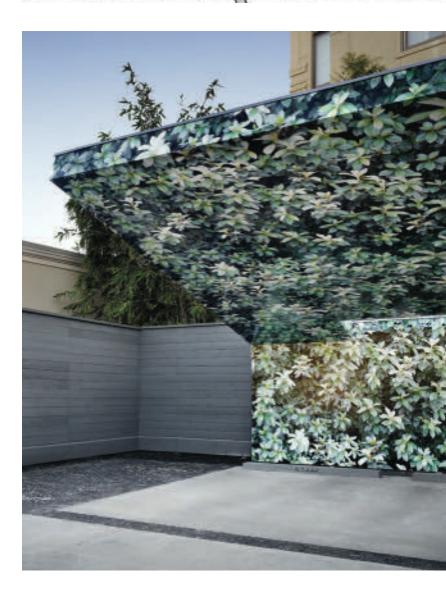
PROJECT Meredith Long Gallery Carport & Parking Plaza, Houston
CLIENT Meredith Long & Company
ARCHITECT Dillon Kyle Architecture
DESIGN TEAM Dillon Kyle, AIA; Peter Klein; Cedar Baldridge
CONTRACTOR Tynes Sparks Building
CONSULTANTS Baldridge Landscape (landscape); National Structural Engineering (structural)
PHOTOGRAPHER Casey Dunn Photography

nce the site of an identical apartment building as the building the gallery now inhabits, is where the designers Dillon Kyle and Cedar Baldridge imagined a parking lot built for the artists of the gallery. The parking lot is actually used more by the guests and owners of the gallery but it makes a nod to the artwork inside. It is a unique integration of art, landscape, and function.

The Meredith Long Art Gallery occupies a modest cream-painted brick apartment building in the River Oaks area of Houston. Since 1957 the gallery has built a reputation for exhibiting some of the best works by nineteenth-century, twentieth-century, and contemporary artists and it has been located on the busy street of San Felipe since 1961. As coincidence would have it, the 50th anniversary would mark the beginning of a project that would both meet the gallery's need for new parking and express the artwork within.

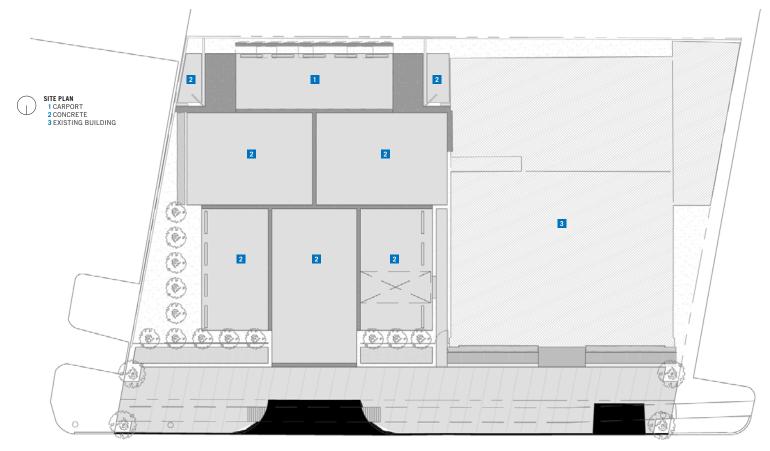
"I wanted something to make you smile when you pass by," Kyle admits. "I wanted something happy; a lot of architecture is very serious." Initially Kyle liked the idea of using an abstract painting by Donald Sultan as the image used on the carport. Sultan, whose work is often displayed in the gallery, had completed a series of paintings of flowers where the detail and the depth of the subject are removed. The flatness of the flowers and morphed shapes enter into an abstractness that allows freedom of the imagination. Instead of using one his paintings specifically, Kyle took inspiration from Sultan's flowers to create an image through several photographs of a hedge commonly seen in landscapes in the area.

The oversized image suggests abstraction and order, propelling it into the nexus between art and architecture. The process used to create the image on the carport is a predetermined system of roughly 50 photographs of an ordinary hedge pieced together and then repeated enough times to cover the structure. The two-dimensional image maintains the intended abstraction from reality even when applied to the three-dimensional structure. Abstraction is achieved through this established order of the photographs, allowing the image to seemingly escape from reality through repetition and enlargement.









SAN FELIPE ROAD

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Like a textless billboard, the carport has become another piece of artwork for the gallery by acting both as a canvas and sculpture. It definitely plays the loudest role in the design and makes a bold statement along the streetscape. Juxtaposed in a neighborhood with an abundance of fully matured trees and perfectly manicured front yards, the steel carport is wallpapered with the striking pattern of an oversized hedge. The cantilevered canopy is then angled upward showing off even more of the floral wallpaper.

The precision in craft in all the elements of the design makes this project especially appealing as a piece of architecture. Skylights are arbitrarily sized and cut into the connection between the wall of the carport and the overhang, adding a greater sense of spatiality to the design and reinforcing the clean, sleek lines despite the floral application. When standing underneath the carport, these skylights open up to the neighboring houses and trees behind the property.

The carport sits on what was intended to look like floating pads of concrete separated by thick lines of granite. The pads of concrete delineate the three zones of parking and the drive aisle. Clean-cut stone wheel stops with engraved designations only add to the precise details in this unique parking lot. Crepe myrtles line the eastern perimeter of the site near one of the zones of parking while ivy was planted on the building opposite the crepe myrtles.

Between the carport and the street is a modern galvanized steel fence with slim vertical posts for security for the gallery. Steel lettering of the gallery's name and address sits like decoration on top of the fence, only visible to the pedestrian. In front of the fence, grass berms sit in steel planters about waist high, outlined in crushed granite. All the elements in this design are supportive to the carport. They create both a background and foreground for the star of the show, the carport.

The carport is more than just a shading device for a parking lot. "It's a wink in the urban landscape," Kyle says. The space was designed to also function as an impromptu outdoor social gathering space. The project was chosen for one of the TSA awards because it accomplished exactly what Kyle intended. "It's singular. It has personality. It narrates; it says something about the place," commented said juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA. "And it's just a project that makes you happy to be in the city. It makes you want to be part of a very varied streetscape."

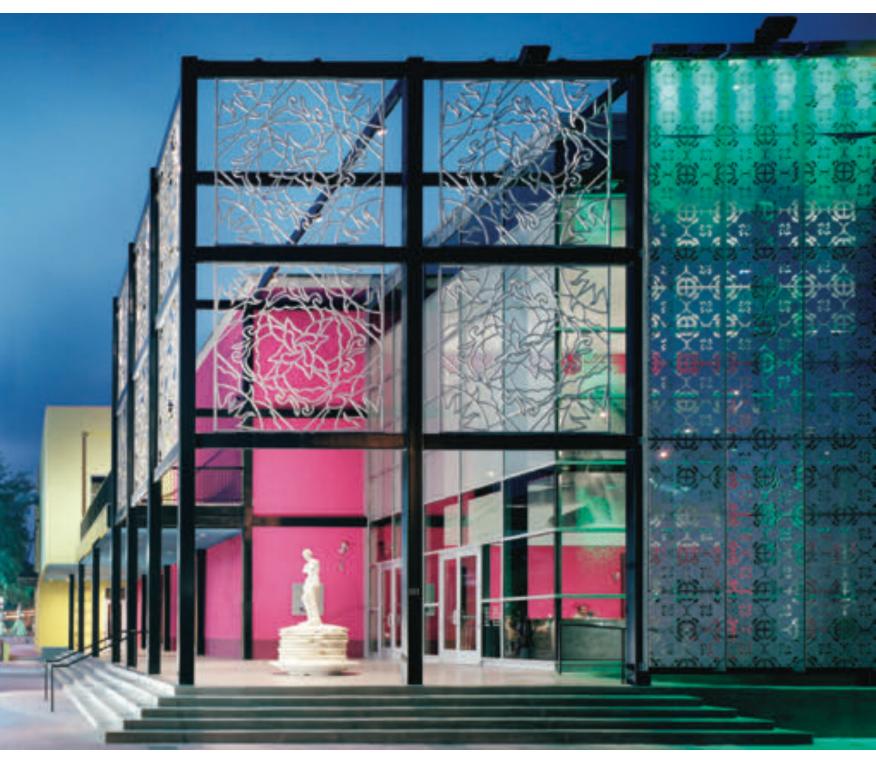
Jenny Kiel works with Bailey Architects in Houston.





RESOURCES ARCHITECTURAL METAL WORK: Metal Railing of America; VINYL GRAPHIC: Superior Projects

9/10/2009 TEXAS ARCHITECT 71



by RICK LEWIS, AIA

Cross-Cultural Delight

...you can imagine the cultural artifacts and art within

JONES

PROJECT Museo Alameda Smithsonian, San Antonio

CLIENT Centro de Alameda

ARCHITECT Jackson & Ryan Architects

DESIGN TEAM Jeffery D. Ryan, AIA; John C. Clements, AIA; Lea Bass Rogers; Julian Pittman, AIA

contractor The Sabinal Group

CONSULTANTS Lundy & Franke Engineering (structural); Wylie & Associates (MEP); Pape-Dawson Engineers (civil); Protection Development (code); Bender Wells Clark Design (landscape); Project Control (project manager/owner's representative); Andy Benavides (exhibit lighting); Tech F/X (exhibits); Advanced Architectural Metals (metal work)

PHOTOGRAPHER Mark Scheyer/Houston

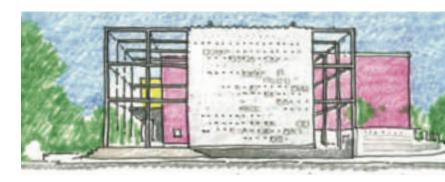
Ithough San Antonio's iconic settings are significant especially when weighed for their economic benefits to Texas' third largest city, the broader story of her heritage, traditions and, most importantly, her people is to be found in quarters beyond the shadows of high-rise downtown hotels.

The arrival of the long-awaited Museo Alameda in the spring of 2007 was the culmination of a decade of planning, designing, and fundraising toward orchestrating a one-of-a-kind museum championed as the first affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution's satellite museum program and as the first step toward the establishment of a national center for the study of Hispanic culture in San Antonio. Born by co-opting a 1930s meat and fish market that had evolved into a cultural center by the late 1970s but stood largely unused when identified as a desirable museum site, this architectural rendition of El Mercado's premier corner location is from a distance a curious, if not intriguing, edifice.

Located in the west end of downtown San Antonio, the Museo Alameda's billboard-like main facade with its eye-popping display of brightly colored stucco surfaces and dazzling decorative stainless steel panels, attracts pedestrians from the city's historic Main Plaza, a distance of some three blocks to the east. The device also caught the eye of the TSA Design Awards jurors, including Rick Joy, AIA: "The veil, the screen on the front, is very seductive, it's nearly like a negligee sort of revealing this beautiful space on the inside. And I think it's very well grounded as an urban spot with the small stage at the entrance, which I imagine works very well for events."

Juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA, remarked on the overall effect of the museum's design: "The Museo Alameda Smithsonian speaks so beautifully to its purpose. It feels like what it is about; it looks like what it is about. So you can imagine the sort of cultural artifacts and the art that would be within that place being expressed in the facade and in the building itself."

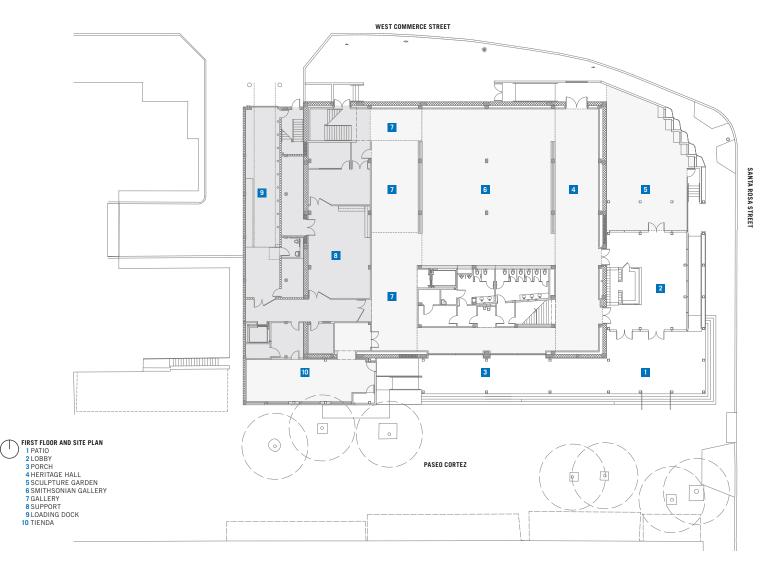
Of the many design solutions incorporated in this adaptive re-use project, the facade is the most prominent. On axis with West Commerce Street, it is water-jet cut with computerized oil field technology and decorated with four emblems that symbolize *mestizaje*, the mixing of cultures. The design recalls punched metal craftwork or *hojalata*, a folk art. The stainless











screen is lit by an LED programmable lighting system, which allows over 28,000 color combinations. The lighting is also coordinated with music, which can be heard from nearby Milam Park.

Visitors must approach the museum by foot, as they are funneled from one end or the other of an elongated plaza; the building is abruptly separated from the plaza level by two to three feet of increased height. From this projecting entry plinth, the building's dramatic lobby is accessed by way of two sets of curtain-wall decoratively patterned glass doors.

Once inside, the austere steel-and-glass, lantern-like lobby features a quaint north-facing sculpture garden and a secure reception area conveniently adjacent to the lobby.

At night, the glass-box lobby is a revolving kaleidoscope of beautifully manipulated colored lighting (cascading down the lobby's superimposed metal-decorated facade) that leaves a smile on the face of everyone strolling past the building as it conjures up images of *fiestas* past and those yet to come.

The interior core's main sky-lighted stairway provides for a salient yet at the same time comforting centerpiece of spatial familiarity granting visitors a signal that it is permissible to explore at will.

Large and fairly flexible exhibit spaces are located on the main and upper levels. The building's exposed structure of cast-concrete columns, floor planes, and gently arching long-span steel trusses suit the project's demand for flexible exhibit spaces admirably. In facilitating the stringent environmental conditioning requirements pursuant to hosting world-class art, thoughtfully arrayed intricacies of mechanical and electrical systems are attached to surfaces and honestly express their roles. From the archival, conservation, and exhibit production standpoints, the Alameda is spared the cumbersome and expensive back-of-house spatial requirements with which collecting museums are often preoccupied.

Freestanding pastel-painted exhibit walls infer the "colorful" traditions of Southwestern festiveness, and the building's interior backdrop of graytone finished galleries comes across as successfully supportive and, more importantly, submissive to the objects and events being presented within.

The Alameda offers a delightfully appealing gift shop—created to look like a *botanica* (traditional Mexican-American herbal apothecary)—that serves an important role in the marketing and therefore appreciation of traditional Latino arts.

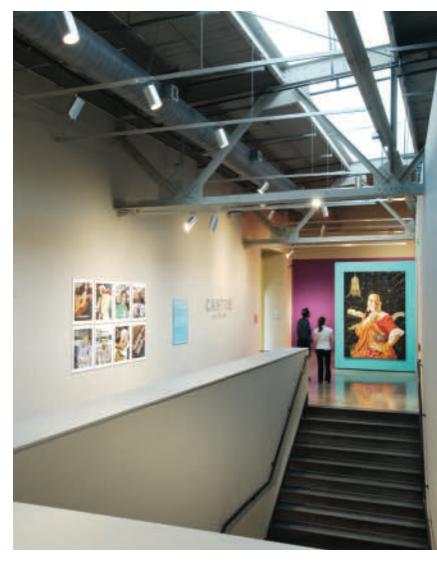
The Alameda represents a daring go-for-broke architectural statement that challenges the more "old school" cultural institutions to metaphorically loosen their ties a bit and consider cultivating territories of social variety and inclusion in what they do.

Rick Lewis, AIA, practices in San Antonio and teaches in UTSA's College of Architecture.

This article is adapted from "Rebel with a Cause" published in the March/April 2008 edition.

RESOURCES CONCRETE PAVEMENT: The Sabinal Group; masonry units: Headwaters Construction Materials; aluminum grilles: Advanced Architectural Metals; stainless steel ojalita screen: Advanced Architectural Metals; handrails and stainless steel facade: Better Bilt Sheet Metal; roof and deck insulation: A.D. Willis Company; membrane roofing: A.D. Willis Company; flashing: A.D. Willis Company; metal and wood doors: Dumas Hardware; entrances and storefronts: Samuels Glass; glass: Samuels Glass; glazed curtainwall: Samuels Glass; hardware: Dumas Hardware; tile: Dal Tile; exterior stucco and acrylic topcoating: Corev America (Compass Services); high-performance coatings: Sherwin-Williams; Louvers: Ruskin Company; hydraulic elevators: Thyssen Krupp; exterior color lighting: Color Kinetics; track lighting: Litelab





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by STEPHEN SHARPE

Inspired Display

...unique and of this time but timeless in its restraint

JONES

PROJECT Lenora & Walter F. Brown Asian Art Wing, San Antonio

CLIENT San Antonio Museum of Art

ARCHITECT Overland Partners

DESIGN TEAM Timothy Blonkvist, FAIA; Rick Archer, FAIA; Robert Shemwell, FAIA; Jeff Russell, AIA; Greg Snow

CONTRACTOR Browning Construction Company

CONSULTANTS Goetting & Associates (MEP); Pape-Dawson (civil); Lundy & Franke Engineering (structural); Clifford LaFontaine (exhibits); Bos Lighting (lighting); R.A. Heintges Architects Consultants (curtainwall); Project Control (project management); Protection Development (fire/security); Jack White & Associates (waterproofing)

PHOTOGRAPHERS Paul Bardagjy Photography, Terry Manning Photography

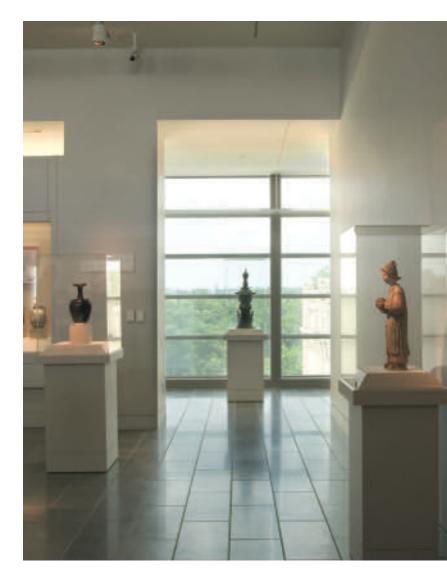
glow at night like a gigantic Chinese paper lantern, the Lenora and Walter F. Brown Asian Art Wing, designed by Overland Partners of San Antonio, inserts a luminous minimalism into the crenellated, century-old former Lone Star Brewery that houses the San Antonio Museum of Art. The architects have maintained the subtle rhythms of the circa-1900 brewery while deftly introducing a sleek, modern horizontal complement to the venerable, vertical brick structure.

Opened in 2005, the Asian Wing comprises two levels set atop a onestory segment of the original brewery complex. An aluminum skin encases the addition's windowless lower level while its upper floor is enveloped by a sophisticated glazing system that along the southern elevation resembles a series of rice-paper shoji screens. By appropriating such an obvious Oriental metaphor, the architects risked tipping toward caricature. However, their design for the addition's exterior expression handily resolved the challenge of grafting a new project onto a historic building while also cleverly conveying a sense of what lies within.

Inside, priceless collections of Asian artwork are exhibited in galleries arrayed on two levels, arranged in a series of spaces encompassing 13,000 square feet. While the architects considered other museums of Asian art — specifically, the Museum of Oriental Ceramics in Osaka and the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco — they turned instead to the artwork for inspiration. "The museum wing was designed to house a very specific Asian collection. So the design concepts, though clearly related to our time and place and the specific historic context, were largely drawn from the collection itself and from the cultures that created these magnificent works of art," says Overland principal Rick Archer, FAIA. "We studied the specific objects, drawing inspiration from things such as glazes on Chinese porcelains and the lacquered Japanese boxes with their intricate detail and perfectly organized compartments."

A meandering layout in the addition allows for a sense of discovery, as each turn presents another encased object or grouping on display. Circulation was important, Archer says, in the sense that it would loop through the two-level Asian Art Wing while also providing visitors with





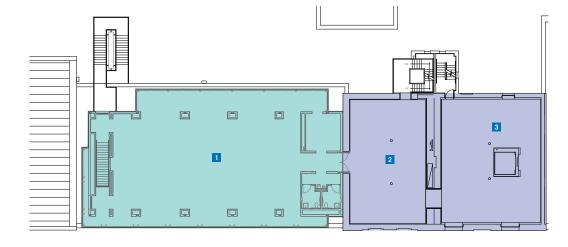






- THIRD FLOOR PLAN

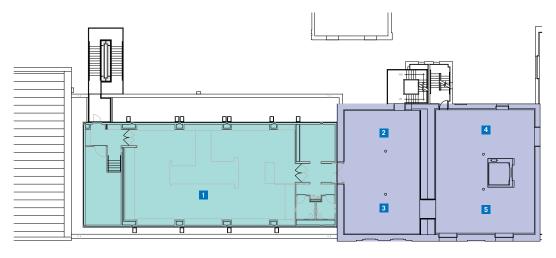
 NEW GALLERY
 REMODELED GALLERY
 1 CHINESE CERAMICS GALLERY
 2 CHINESE TEXTILES, FURNITURE
 AND PAINTINGS GALLERY
 3 EARLY CHINESE ART GALLERY





- SECOND FLOOR PLAN

 NEW GALLERY
 REMODELED GALLERY
 1 JAPANESSE GALLERY
 2 KOREAN GALLERY
 3 SOUTHEAST ASJAN GALLERY
 4 INDIAN GALLERY
 5 TIBETAN GALLERY



easy access to and from the main museum via galleries and an elevator in its five-story tower.

Because the addition's southern and western elevations must bear the brunt of direct sunlight, the architects devised a unique layering of glass to protect the upper-level galleries from overexposure to ultraviolet light. A double-paned wall of fritted glass diffuses sunshine yet emits enough natural light for viewing exhibits on most days without artificial illumination. It's along the southern and western elevations that the rice-paper screen effect is employed, with off-the-shelf fluorescent light fixtures installed behind horizontal sections of the steel grid. The architects collaborated with exhibit designers to customize the cases that distribute sunlight to each of the objects displayed. Outdoor views through clear glass along the upper-level's north side invites visitors to take a break from viewing exhibits.

In contrast to the complexities of the lighting design for the upper level, the strategy employed in the lower story is simple—envelop the entire level completely with opaque metal panels. According to Martha Blackwelder, who served as the museum's curator of Asian art when the new wing first opened, the delicate works exhibited in the Japanese Gallery cannot be exposed to daylight. Instead, those articles must be displayed in a space where low levels of artificial light can be controlled for the object's preservation. Overland's architects worked closely with Blackwelder and the Asian Wing's benefactors to specify lighting design for each application. "We tried to understand what type of place would be appropriate for each part of the collection, both in terms of cultural context and physical environment," Archer says. "Light was a major concern throughout the collection. What kind of light, how much light, where is the light coming from? This led to the idea of the building as a 'light harvester' where objects are viewed under optimal natural and artificial light."

Overland's attention to light paid off, as juror Rick Joy, AIA, commented, "The addition is clearly the work of a mature architect with a very precise interest in daylighting. There's even a beautiful section where daylighting is borrowed from an adjacent space to illuminate some exhibits on the wall. It's clearly modern and of our time and place, but in contrast, in a beautiful contrast between itself and the big historic building it's a part of."

Juror Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA, added, "The Asian Art Wing is a perfect example of how additions should be done to historic buildings. It is restrained. It is elegant. It uses natural light really well, not only in the public spaces of the museum addition but also in the exhibits, so that the quality of light on the objects is well done."

The Asian Wing represents one of a series of collaborations between SAMA and Overland Partners, the firm chosen in the mid-1990s to masterplan the museum complex.

Stephen Sharpe is editor of Texas Architect.

This article is adapted from "Light Insertion" published in the November/December 2005 edition.

RESOURCES CONCRETE MATERIALS: Alamo Concrete Products; cementitious decks: Drury South; unit masonry wall assemblies: Acme; railings and handrails: Julius Blum & Company; structural steel: Jackson Steel; roof and wall panels: Morin Corporation; membrane roofing: Siplast; intumescent paint: A/D Fire Protection Systems; dampproofing/traffic coatings: Sonneborn; access doors/panels and entrances/storefronts: Vistawall Architectural Products; glazed curtainwall: Kawneer; gypsum: G-P Gypsum; tile: Daltile; stone paving and flooring: Delta Granite & Marble; blinds, shutters and shades: Vimco Lutron Electronics; design software: Autocad. 3D Studio Viz







9/10/2009 TEXAS ARCHITECT 79



by STEPHEN SHARPE

Catalyst for Creativity

...a veil creates a sort of moire effect against the facade

JONES

PROJECT University of Texas Center for Brain Health, Dallas

CLIENT The University of Texas at Dallas

ARCHITECT HKS

DESIGN TEAM RON GOVER, AIA; Jeff Stouffer, AIA; Bob Martineck, AIA; Kyley Harvey; Tim Winger; Dwight Wiggins, AIA

CONTRACTOR Charter Builders

CONSULTANTS Campbell & Associates Consulting Engineers (structural); URS Corporation (civil); ccrd Partners (MEP); Caye Cook & Associates (landscape)

PHOTOGRAPHER Blake Marvin/HKS

he comprehensive renovation of a circa-1970 Brutalist office building has yielded a comfortable and award-winning home for the innovate research being conducted by the University of Texas at Dallas Center for BrainHealth. Designed by HKS, with Kyley Harvey leading the effort, the 63,000-sf project was completed in late 2006.

The Center for BrainHealth is dedicated to neurological discovery, development of brain repair cognitive treatments, and the definition of guidelines for strengthening brain function. Its founder and chief director, Sandi Chapman, Ph.D., describes the new facility as a catalyst for achieving the center's mission. "The inspired brilliance of the architectural design by Kyley Harvey of HKS is the perfect context for the life-changing brain science taking place within," she said in response to the project being selected for a 2009 TSA Design Award. "When researchers and staff members enter the building, the innovate design frees the mind to unleash incredible creativity."

Located on a leafy 3.5-acre site near the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, the three-story Center for BrainHealth combines the relaxed atmosphere of a modern medical clinic with the no-frills but light-filled environment of a corporate office complex. "One of the most important things was connecting the building with the site in almost every way possible," Harvey says, "and that is why you get that openness and that relaxed feel. You're in the building but still part of the site."

The grounds surrounding the building provide a green buffer to the traffic along Mockingbird Lane just a few blocks from both Love Field to the northeast and Interstate 35 to the southwest. Numerous live oaks shade the parking area at the building's south side. To protect the trees, Harvey says, pavers were installed over the original concrete parking surface rather than risking possible injury to the trees by removing the existing concrete. Three large works of outdoor sculpture are sited as focal points for views from interior spaces.

The transformation of the building is readily apparent from the exterior, which is now sheathed in a perforated copper screen punctured with large, rectangular apertures placed in a rhythmic pattern along the top









- FIRST FLOOR PLAN

 1 AUDITORIUM

 2 RECEPTION

 3 VIRTUAL RESEARCH

 4 CONFERENCE ROOM

 5 MECHANICAL ROOM

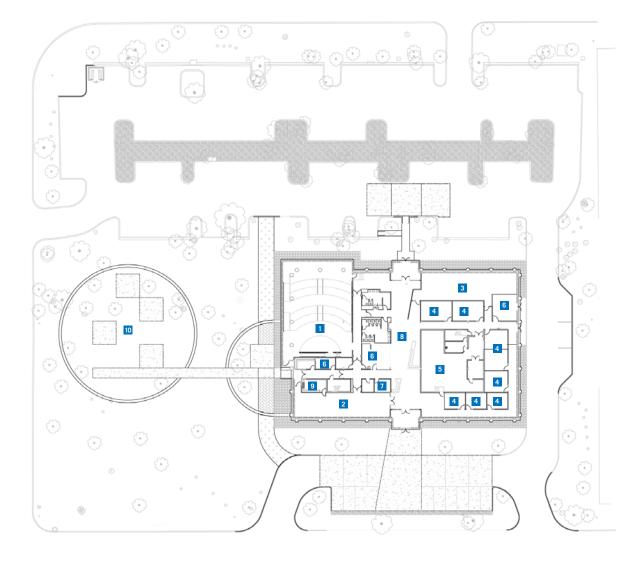
 6 BUILDING SERVICE

 7 SECURITY

 8 LOBBY/GATHERING

 9 SERVERY

 10 OUTDOOR GATHERING



two stories on all four sides. "The beauty of [positioning the openings in the screen] was that it was programmatically driven," Harvey says. "Each office has two full panes of glass and each office had to have direct views to the exterior without being encumbered by the screen and the second window would look at the back of the screen." The exterior veil in effect becomes an incidental work of art through which sunlight plays on interior surfaces.

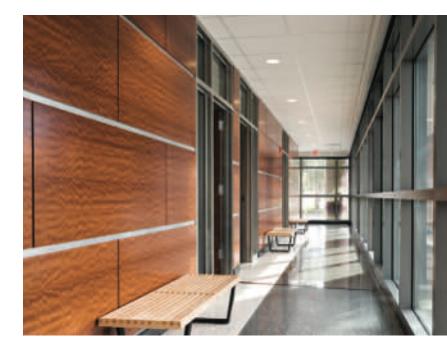
The previous design accentuated its massing with concrete, using precast horizontal panels interspersed with bands of glazing, as well as precast cladding on the steel structural columns arrayed along the building's perimeter. Harvey removed all the concrete, added more glazing, and rewrapped the columns with red-painted metal. While the new veil of pre-patinated copper indeed softens the exterior appearance, the screen does not cover the ground floor and thereby does not completely obscure the structural components.

A peek upward between the screen and the building's mass explains how the metal facade is affixed to the columns by horizontal struts. The gap between is four feet, six inches, which allows enough room for a mechanical lift that facilitates window-washing and other maintenance on the exterior. The screen is installed just beyond the perimeter of the building's concrete parapet and soffit, which Harvey says were retained as a nod to the original construction.

Equally dramatic changes are evident inside the building, particularly on the ground level where a 220-seat auditorium now encompasses space formerly used for covered parking. Abundant glazing on all three levels opens almost all areas, public and private, to natural light, an attribute used to maximum effect at the ends of corridors where the designer has created generously sized seating areas that can double as spaces for impromptu conferences. The main research activities take place on the third floor in rooms equipped with state-of-the art technology, some outfitted with one-way glass for observing participants in experimental activities. Brain scientists are provided with the necessary tools to elucidate how brain networks can be strengthened or reconnected using electroencephalography, functional MRI, and brain morphometrics.

Stephen Sharpe is the editor of Texas Architect.

RESOURCES RECONSTRUCTIVE STONE: CONCreation; GRAVEL AND GRASS PAVE: Invisible Structures (MKM Sales); UNIT PAVERS: Pavestone; SITE FURNISHINGS: Landscape Forms; STONE: Commercial Stone Group; METAL FENCING AND SLIDING GATES: Cain Fence; Architectural Metal work: AEP Span (NOW Specialties); Architectural woodwork: Millwork Partners; Building Insulation: Johns Manville; METAL DOORS AND FRAMES: VT Industries; Glass: PPG (DGB Glass); Glazed Curtainwall: Kawneer: DGB Glass; Gypsum Board Framing: Chicago Metallic, Dietrich Metal Framing; Gypsum: Georgia Pacific; Terrazzo: American Terrazzo; Laminate Flooring: Mannington; DRAPERY AND CURTAIN HARDWARE: Mechoshade (Kites Draperies); COLUMN COVERS: Protean Construction Products (Innovative Architectural Products)







by NOELLE HEINZE

Enlightened Living

...an interesting combination of richness and clarity

PROJECT Wolfe Den, Austin
CLIENT Alex Wolfe
ARCHITECT MJ Neal Architects
DESIGN TEAM MJ Neal, AIA; Chris Hill
CONTRACTOR Living Art Austin
CONSULTANTS Rain Lily (landscape); CEC Consultation (lighting controls)
PHOTOGRAPHER Viviane Vives

olfe Den, by MJ Neal, AIA, represents the Austin architect's fifth TSA Design Award. The 2,300-sf residence, designed for a young professional couple, is a study in layers, light, and logic, and stands out in subtle contrast to Neal's previous award-winning work, which includes Twin Peaks (2003), Ramp House (2004), Anthony Nak (2005), and Farley Studio (2007). "This is a much more subtle work than Ramp House and Twin Peaks. The division of space is central to this project," says Neal, when asked to define the difference between this home and the three others (Twin Peaks comprises two side-by-side dwellings) on the same south Austin street. Sited in an eclectic neighborhood populated by mostly 1930s-era homes interspersed with hip makeovers, Wolfe Den is bordered on the east by a one-story bungalow and on the west by the strikingly modernist Ramp House. Further down the block are Twin Peaks.

The three-bedroom, three-bathroom abode consists of two parts, a simple rectangle with a central core along one side of the lot and an adjacent courtyard. The plan provides privacy from the street while allowing the interior living areas to open on to decks and garden. An overhang with aluminum lattice provides the transition to the garden and protection from the west sun. The design bridges the gap between man and nature through the clever interplay of indoor/outdoor space, green materials, and natural daylighting. The concept of served and service space is a primary element. Everything along the east side of the upper and lower levels is service space, including closets and storage, a wet bar, kitchen appliances, and a hidden toilet and vanity on the second floor.

Sustainable design aspects include fluorescent and low-voltage lighting, a geothermal HVAC system, diamond-ground-finished concrete floors, formaldehyde-free plywood, soy-based blow-in insulation for the perimeter wall and roof, recycled denim insulation in interior walls, recycled rubber floors, and ipe from certified forests. The house is also photovoltaic-ready. "I try to be careful about where the materials come from, what kind of longevity the materials have, and what kind of recycling opportunities there are. And then with that said, I just want all of that to go away. I don't want you to notice that. I just want you to experience the

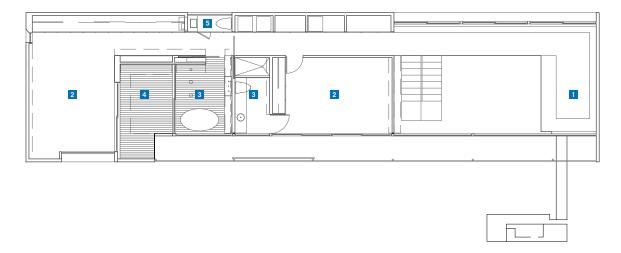






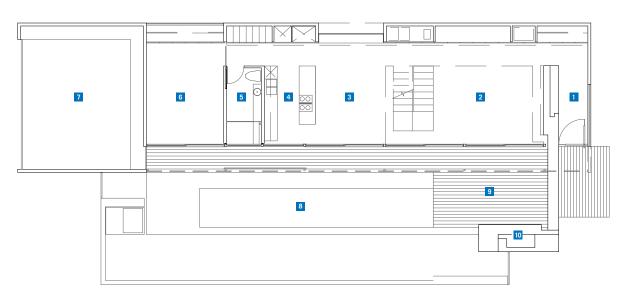


- SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 1 OFFICE
 2 BEDROOM
 3 BATHROOM
 4 DECK
 5 TOILET





- FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 1 ENTRY
 2 LIVINGROOM
 3 DINING
 4 KITCHEN
 5 BATHROOM
 6 BEDROOM
 7 GARAGE
 8 GARDEN
 9 DECK
 10 OUTDOOR FIREPLACE



space," says Neal. "I'm starting to want to have less and less complexity in all these things. The more I do this, I really want the architecture to go away and take second place to the activity that's going on within the space itself."

One enters Wolfe Den through a front door that is actually an entire wall that pivots open and is obscured from the street by its placement. Once inside, everything is relatively private and opens into its own world, and this is seen throughout the entire house. Passing the entryway, there is an immediate, different feeling about how everything starts to work and about the relationship of the interior to the exterior.

The living room and kitchen are extensions of each other, with the space divided by a sculptural stairway. Other delightful surprises show the careful attention given by Neal. A whimsical extension on one stair tread offers optional seating. A guest bedroom anchors the end of the house and a shower in the downstairs bathroom offers an outdoor exit. An outdoor fireplace lengthens the living room and is accessed through sliding glass panels that open along the entire lower-west side of the house. "The way the openings work, the way the screens work, the way the sun tracks, all of this has been thought about specifically for this site," says the architect. "All of my work is very site-specific."

Details include recessed curtain rods, touch-latch cabinets with FAA-approved aircraft hardware, the elimination of air-conditioning grillwork, custom concrete bathroom counters, and a visual continuation of lines to lengthen and enlarge the house. The result is clean, simple, and very modern.

On the second floor, an office area resides at the end of a catwalk, and a guest room and bathroom sit adjacent to the tripartite master suite: a bedroom, a bathroom, and a rooftop-type courtyard with a James Turrellesque "skyspace." The master suite can become one, two, or three separate spaces depending on the position of large sliding glass panels.

Says Neal, "Everything is based on a logic and how people can move through the space and use the space and what activities are going to go on in the space. And then on top of that you ask, what kind of light does it need to have? And then you begin to think, okay, how does the sun track around this so that you have overhangs that are not so much overhangs but you get less light in or more light in depending on what it really needs. How do you need to modulate the light? So there are all of these different layers. It's about thinking about these things in a very logical way and then turning that logic into something that's a little more poetic."

Noelle Heinze is assistant editor of Texas Architect.

RESOURCES FENCING, GATES, ARCHITECTURAL METAL WORK, RAILINGS: GARCÍA Welding; CONCRETE SINKS AND VANITY STONE:

Newbold Stone Architectural Concrete; BRICK: Acme; ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK: Living Art Austin; PREFABRICATED

STRUCTURAL WOOD: Columbia Forest Products; SIDING: US Lumber Brokers; SPECIALTY DOORS: Maverick Door Company; GLASS: Cardinal Glass; DOOR HARDWARE: DOORTONICS, Rixson; TOUGH LATCHES: Saint Louis Design; Interior

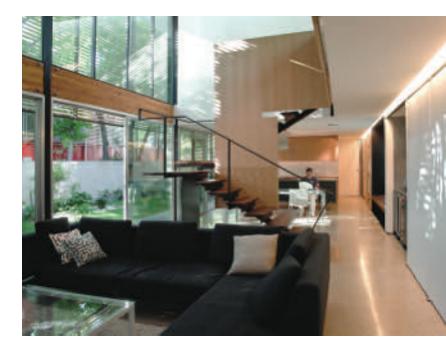
SLIDING DOOR HARDWARE: Hafele; SPECIALTY HARDWARE: Alexander Marchant; Casement window: Solar Innovations;
GARAGE DOORS: Overhead Door Company; Tile: Trikeenan, Artistic Tile (Architerra); Flooring: Tuflex; wood

SEALER: Sikkens; SHOWER GLASS AND MIRRORS: Anchor Ventana; Kitchen Cabinetry: bulthaup; Appliances: Gaggenau,
BOSCH, Liebhert, SubZero; Video Projector Lift: Draper; Speakers: Velodyne, Bang & Olufsen; Invisible Speakers:

Stealth Acoustics (Elite Marketing); Halogen Fixtures: Delta (Legacy Lighting); Intense Lighting: RKI; SHOWER

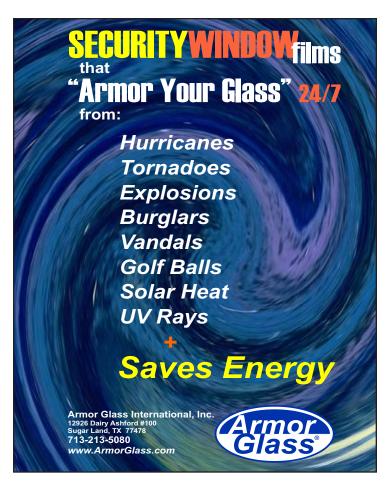
FIXTURES: RSA (Legacy Lighting); DRAPERY AND CURTAIN HARDWARE: InteriorsAustin; Furniture: Spazio Interiors;

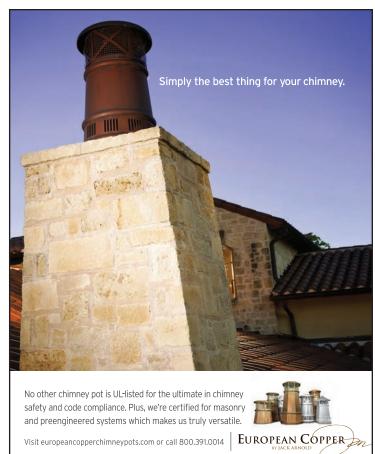
SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS: Meridian Solar; HVAC COMPONENTS: Titus (Texas Air Products)





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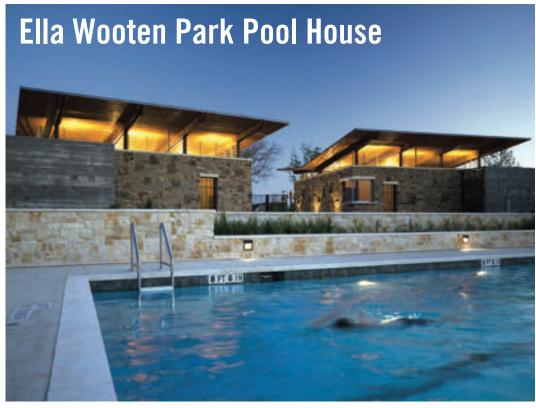


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PROJECT Ella Wooten Park Pool House, Austin
CLIENT Catellus Development Group, a Prologis Company
ARCHITECT Studio 8 Architects
DESIGN TEAM Milton Hime, AIA; Bhavani Singal, Assoc. AIA

DESIGN TEAM MINTON HIME, AIA; BNAVANI SINGAI, ASSOC. AIA
CONTRACTOR Flynn Construction

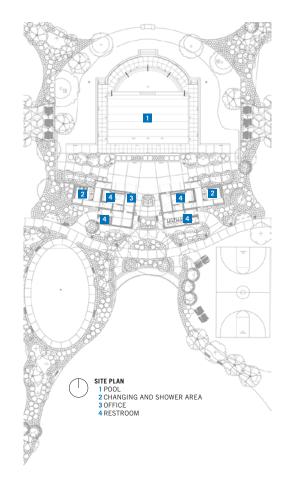
CONSULTANTS Bosse & Pharis Associates (landscape); Modern Pool Design (pool); Bay & Associates (MEP); MJ Structures (structural); Bury+Partners (civil)

рнотодкарнек Andy Mattern

RESOURCES FOUNTAINS: Most Dependable Fountains; FENCES: Ameristar Fence; site, street, and mall furnishings: Landscape Forms, Green Corner Umbrellas; stone: Jim Connelly Masonry; glazed masonry units: Pittsburgh Corning; architectural metal work: Stanley Architects and Artisans; lumber: Texas Redwood; waterproofing: Degussa; water repellants/vapor retarders: Polyguard; metal roofing: Berridge; metal doors and frames: Hull Supply Company; detention security windows and screens: Dynamic Closures; paints: Sherwin-Williams; grilles and screens: S&S Steel; letters and plaques: Building Image Group; signage and graphics: Austin Architectural Graphics; tub and shower doors and enclosures: Accurate Partitions (Hull Supply Company); metal lockers: Lyon Metal Products

The Ella Wooten Park Pool House, designed by Studio 8 Architects, is located within the redevelopment of Austin's former Mueller Airport. The park serves as a public gathering place that embodies the city in both its locally derived design and emphasis on green technology. The pool house is the anchor for the park and contains an office, open-air shower, changing areas, vending machines, and restroom facilities, with a lawn that slopes down around the pool area. The design pays homage to classic Austin swimming facilities such as Deep Eddy and Barton Springs, combining natural, indigenous materials to create a simple and elegant structure that includes a sandstone plaza and breezeway. Boardformed concrete walls draw visitors into the building, guiding them to the restrooms and changing areas where interior movement is translated to the exterior through selectively placed glass blocks. A concrete portal on the northern edge of the site guides the observer's perspective, emphasizing the symmetry of the site. The open-air shape and structure of the roof allow breezes to flow through the building for natural ventilation, one of the many considerations contributing to the project's 4-Star Austin Green Building Program rating.

SUSAN BUTLER





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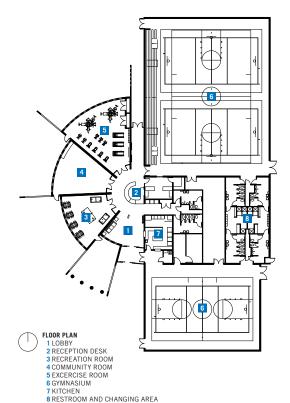


PROJECT Westside Community Recreation Center, El Paso
ARCHITECT Parkhill, Smith & Cooper
DESIGN TEAM Hector De Santiago, AIA; Eric Perea, Assoc. AIA
CONTRACTOR SamCorp General Contractors
CONSULTANTS Schrickel, Rollins & Associates (landscape); Parkhill
Smith & Cooper (irrigation, structural, civil, MEP)
PHOTOGRAPHER Geof Harral

RESOURCES CONCRETE PAVEMENT: CEMEX; FENCES, GATES AND HARDWARE: Mesa Fence; RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT: Landscape Structures (Exerplay); RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING: TOTTUT (Exerplay); SHELTERS: Icon Shelter Systems; MASONRY UNITS: Del Norte Masonry Products; STONE: Advanced Cast Stone; METAL DECKING: CSI Metal Dek Group; ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK: Heron Millwork; BUILDING INSULATION: Johns Manville; ROOF AND WALL PANELS: BERRIDGE; GLAZED CURTAINWALL: United States Aluminum; Gypsum/Acoustical Ceilings: USG; INDOOR ATHLETIC FLOORING: Mondo Sports Flooring; ATHLETIC WOOD FLOORING: Connor Sports Flooring; LAMINATE FLOORING: Armstrong; Fluid APPLIED FLOORING: Daltile; PAINT: Dunn-Edwards Paint; Cable Supported Fabric STRUCTURES: Exerplay

Imagined as an oasis at the edge of the Chihuahuan Desert, the Westside Community Recreation Center within the Three Hills (Mulberry Dam) Park in El Paso acts as a gateway to hiking the adjacent undeveloped terrain, Designed by Parkhill, Smith & Cooper in collaboration with Shrickel, Rollins & Associates, the 21.200-sf recreation center and associated outdoor amenities, budgeted at \$5,857,000, are the first phase of the master plan. Sited on a remnant parcel of flood control land, the project includes a gym, basketball and volleyball courts, and covered playgrounds. Preliminary collaboration with the city's parks and recreation staff and interested citizens affirmed the building as the park's center of activity, an idea that is reflected in its radiating geometry. This design maximizes visual control for staff while orientating patrons to their destinations through a series of arches that correspond with various activities. The center stands out as a beacon against the desert landscape with bright washes of color, while simultaneously offering patrons opportunities to connect with nature. The Westside Community Recreation Center has proven to be an asset, both visually and physically, to the area.

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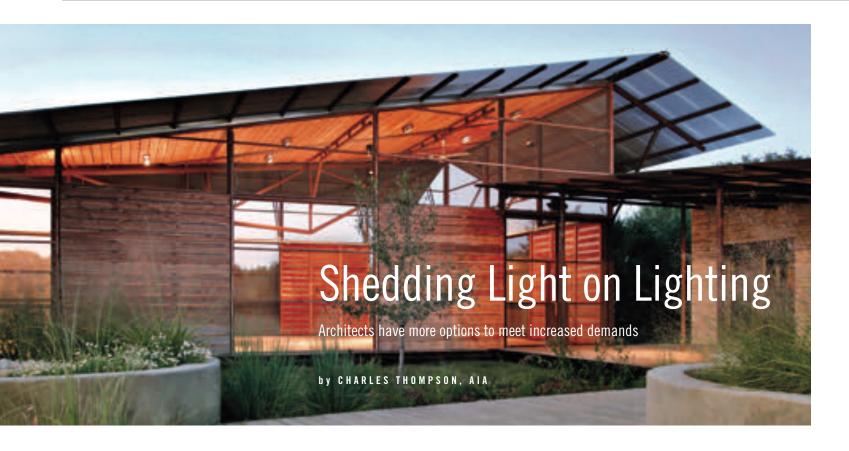
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MANY ARCHITECTS remember a time when incandescent and T12 fluorescent lamps occupied a large part of our light fixture schedules. It was not really all that long ago. But now, there is a new game in town. Well, actually, lots of new games.

Lighting today's projects is challenged by new regulatory factors, stressed construction budgets, and increasing client expectations.

Today's projects require better and more versatile lighting while using less wattage and costing less. The demand for quality lighting is greater than ever.

Even more so today than in years before, there are few absolutes in lighting. Generally, there are no good or bad lighting products. The quality of the lighting result is based on how the products are combined in our projects. It's all about design application.

While most of us are very comfortable with the process of design, today's lighting options can be confusing. We are being asked to meet challenging project programs, with a seemingly endless range of lighting options.

When carefully applied, lighting becomes another resource in the architect's tool box. Successfully implemented, lighting can have one of the largest positive impacts on any project. An effective lighting solution should always begin with choosing a light source. A few of the most versatile options follow.

Linear Fluorescent Lamps — Don't underestimate the value of T8 fluorescent lamps with electronic ballasts. Keep them as your standard. These products have proven successful and will meet most of your project needs.

Don't be too quick to jump to T5 fluorescent products. These smaller lamps are another tool at our disposal, but you can't justify using them in every application. A two-lamp T8 fixture might be replaced with a single-lamp T5HO fixture. The single-lamp product can be smaller and a bit more effective in light output.

Compact Fluorescent Lamps — CFLs are available from 13 watts to 80 watts, although most projects will have trouble justifying any CFL in excess of 42 watts. A 26-watt CFL produces 1,700 lumens, about equal to 100 watts of incandescent light.

Avoid specifying incandescent fixtures with a plan to install screw-base CFL retrofit products. The lamp portion of the retrofit lamp may fail before the ballast portion, forcing disposal of the entire unit.

CFLs are the likely default source in downlighting. The range of wattages makes CFLs a

good choice in some cove lighting, task lighting, and 2 x 2 ceiling fixtures.

Halogen Lamps — Because incandescent sources are the dinosaurs of lighting, halogen is a good option when the color of light is critical (in museums, for example) or where full-range dimming is required. These lamps are a great alternative to incandescent and are slightly more efficient.

Halogen Infrared Lamps — Halogen IR lamps are a new twist on halogen, a default for many lighting solutions. With these lamps, a coating is applied inside the halogen bulb wall to redirect IR energy back to the filament. Sending this energy back to the filament increases the filament temperature.

What's the big deal? By redirecting the IR energy, the filament reaches operating temperature at lower wattages. Lighting output of a 37-watt halogen-IR lamp is the same as a 50-watt halogen lamp, but saves 13 watts (about 30 percent of the energy).

Halogen IR lamps should be considered an upgrade for any standard halogen products. But, be aware they may not be in stock and will certainly cost more.

Ceramic Metal Halide Lamps—This rather new light source provides a more efficient option

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to halogen or incandescent. CMH's color and quality of light is comparable to halogen, but it consumes about 20 percent of the energy used by standard halogen lamps.

The major downside of CMH is its warm-up time (about five minutes or so) and cost. In addition, CMH is not dimmable, so residential applications are limited to exterior lighting. Therefore, major markets for CMH are retail and other applications traditionally lighted with halogen.

Light Emitting Diodes — LEDs are not the savior of the lighting industry. We all tend to be intoxicated by the apparent low energy consumption and extremely long rated life.

These sources are great for applications requiring low lighting levels or direct view products. In addition, LEDs are a solid option for step or aisle lighting, cove lighting, display lighting, and some task lighting.

LEDs are also appropriate for signage, special effect lighting (including color changing requirements), and many direct view applications (substituting for neon, for example).

Along with selection of lighting sources, architects must also specify lighting controls, which in today's projects occupy a strange place. All energy codes require lighting controls, but few give credit toward meeting the wattage limits. Energy codes may be turning toward a time when the additional energy savings of lighting control devices may actually help in achieving the lower wattage densities of codes.

Try to avoid any lighting product programmed to automatically turn lights on unless it meets a specific functional requirement. For example, program any office lighting to switch on manually. This allows the user to leave lights off, if desired. This basic approach saves energy.

Match light source with control technology, which includes:

Full-range dimming available in incandescent, halogen (including IR), linear fluorescent, and CFL sources.

(left) The exhibit space of Government Canyon by Lake/ Flato Architects utilizes low wattage, adjustable halogen accent lights for primary lighting of vertical surfaces. Fluorescent uplight on the ceiling provides soft-fill light for the interior wood ceiling. (right) The Austin Convention Center Parking Garage by Barnes Gromatzky Kosarek Architects uses compact fluorescent, linear fluorescent, metal halide, and LED direct view products.

- Limited-range dimming (down to 5 percent light output) available in linear fluorescent, some LEDs, and CFL sources.
- Limited-range dimming (down to 30 percent intensity) available in metal halide.
- Dual-level switching ballasts available for some fluorescent and metal halide sources.

Some fluorescent ballasts are being produced with integrated control intelligence for dimming the lamps they power. Onboard intelligence allows motion sensors, daylight controls, and local override controls to be wired directly to the ballast using low-voltage cable. This technology appears to be the future of fluorescent lighting controls.

Right size your lighting solutions and don't be too quick to embrace new technology unless it meets a specific need on your project.

To increase the success of your lighting design solutions, decisions should be integrated into the design phases. This begins with predesign/programming phase of the project.

The lighting solution with the smallest carbon footprint is lighting you don't install. If you avoid extraneous lighting hardware, lighting does not need to be installed, powered, or maintained.

Charles Thompson, AIA, is president of Archillume Lighting Design in Austin.

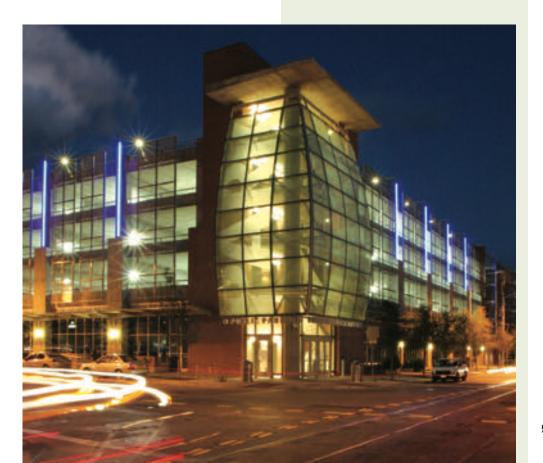
Code Watch

Codes are popping up in an increasing number of communities interested in reducing light pollution (uplighting) and light trespass (shining light across a property line). Limiting both of these offensive lighting concerns is admirable, but some of the local codes are troublesome. However, losing these fixtures and lighting techniques hampers the architect's ability to create vibrant exterior spaces where people like to visit.

Some local codes eliminate all uplight (used for building accent lighting, landscape lighting, and sign lighting) and further require all exterior lighting to be IESNA "full cut off."

This eliminates building accent uplighting, all forms of ground mounted fixtures, all adjustable fixtures, and most decorative fixtures.

More appropriate regulation would relax the restrictions on light pollution and allow limited amounts of uplight while requiring the uplight to be turned off after business hours. Also, light trespass should be eliminated, but in a measurable manner. In all cases, lighting restrictions should be measurable. Lighting to meet subjective limits for light pollution/trespass will always be difficult to design and the legislation will be difficult to enforce.



Light Show

by STEPHEN SHARPE

PROJECT Dallas Center for Architecture, Dallas

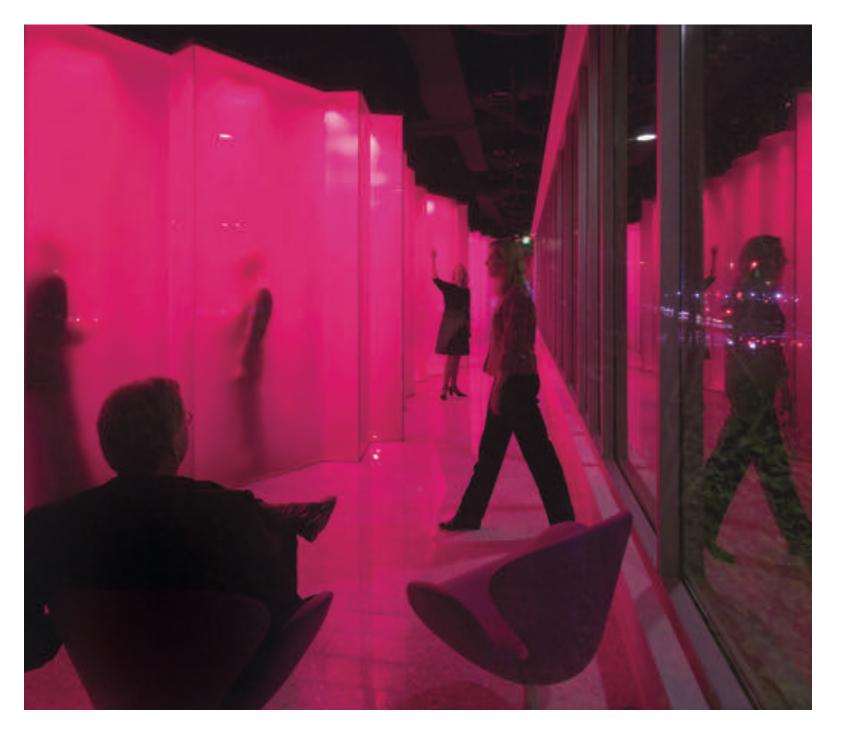
CLIENT Dallas Chapter, American Institute of Architects

ARCHITECT Booziotis & Company, Thomas Phifer & Partners, nodesign

DESIGN TEAM Peter Doncaster, AIA; Gabriel Smith, AIA; Nicholas Marshall, AIA; Donald Roberts, AIA; Aaron Farmer, AIA

CONTRACTOR Constructors & Associates

CONSULTANTS Gensler (project management, interiors, graphics); Purdy-McGuire (MEP); Henderson Engineers (commissioning); Lum Architectural Lighting Design Consulting (lighting); Ware Architecture (LEED); Jim Sealy, FAIA (codes); Shen Milsom Wilke (av/acoustical); Moye Consulting (security/technology); Access by Design (accessibility) PHOTOGRAPHER Craig Blackmon, FAIA



TEXAS ARCHITECT 9/10 2009

FOUR YEARS AGO the leaders of AIA Dallas decided that their chapter needed a location with a higher public profile, which would allow the chapter to become more engaged with the community on issues critical to the future of the city's built environment. To achieve that goal, Tip Housewright, AIA, the chapter's 2005 president, set into motion a multiphased process required to secure a suitable site and select a design. That second step involved a competition that literally increased the chapter's visibility through the use of a lighting scheme that integrates a luminous glass wall within the space.

The result is the new 7,400-sf Dallas Center for Architecture, opened in October 2008 and located in a low-rise office building otherwise forgettable save for the intense pulses of color that emanate most evenings from the expansive ground-floor curtainwall. The light shows are aimed directly toward the adjacent Arts District. Proximity to the city's cultural epicenter was an important factor in choosing that site and will become even more so with the future completion of an urban park planned by the City of Dallas. The outdoor public space will be created by decking over the below-grade Woodall Rodgers Freeway, effectively installing a three-block-long pedestrian-oriented recreation area that will bridge the gap between the Arts District and the Center for Architecture.

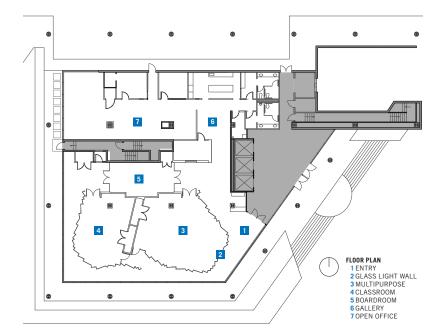
The design competition was held in February 2008 and the entry selected was a collaboration among three architect friends—Peter Doncaster, AIA, of Booziotis & Company Architects in Dallas, who teamed with Nicholas Marshall, AIA, of nodesign in New Orleans, and Gabriel Smith, AIA, of Thomas Phifer and Partners in New York. Their concept revolved around the idea that inside the building was a mysterious illuminated object. The project's programmatic requirements, as outlined by the Center, called for a LEED-certified interior finish-out that would include spaces for staff and support services, as well as areas for public exhibitions, lectures, and gatherings.

Suzanne Branch of LUM Architectural Lighting Design Consulting in Dallas was asked to consult with the architects on lighting. She steered them to color-changing LED and then collaborated with Doncaster on mockups of the enigmatic focal point of the design, a "crinkle wall" of translucent, acid-etched glass that wraps two meeting rooms. Comprised of 11-foot-tall segments of the glass installed in narrow-width facets, the wall is illuminated by LEDs set at ceiling level between the glass and a reflective curtain that bounces the light through the glass wall and out from the building.

Capable of emitting any color of the spectrum (16.7 million unique combinations), the LED modules work in concert on a preprogrammed "show," such as a "sunset show" that modulates from vibrant orange to blood red to deep purple. A total of 40 custom-fabricated fixtures, each containing 36 50-watt LEDs, were installed within the crinkle wall, spaced from 18 to 30 inches apart.

Stephen Sharpe is the editor of Texas Architect.

RESOURCES LAMINATES: Pionite; SOLID POLYMER FABRICATIONS: ZODIAQ, 3Form; ETCHED GLASS: Walker Textures (M3 Glass); CHANNEL GLASS: Pilkington Profilit (M3 Glass Technologies); RECYCLED FLOORING PLANKS: EnviroGLAS; ACOUSTICAL CEILING AND SUSPENSION GRID: Armstrong World Industries; wood ceilings: Armstrong World Industries; wall coverings: Knoll; Projection screens: Draper; food service equipment: Miele, SubZero, Hoshizawa; kitchen and bath cabinets: Woodhaus; drapery and curtain hardware: Dazian Fabrics; Lighting: Architectural Lighting Associates; Led: Color Kinetics; Lighting track: Edison Price; Interior ambient Lighting: Finelite, Zumtobel, LightControl; downlights: Edison Price; controls: Lutron







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"Criticism" continued from page 33

Architecture Boston does a terrific job at this, often using roundtable discussions with experts on specific topics. The latest issue is titled "Small," and covers everything from small houses to microscopic photography.

Another good model has been *Cite* in Houston, which isn't a chapter magazine but focuses mainly on the city in all its complexity and quirkiness instead of only its buildings. "Local, local, local" is the new publishing mantra in our instant access age, and it applies to chapter magazines as much as to metropolitan dailies.

• Introduce other voices into your editorial mix to broaden its appeal. Architecture magazines written exclusively, or nearly so, by practitioners are a bad idea because most architects can't write, and those who can tend to write for one another, not for the wider public you want to reach.

Worse, because they are all members of the same club they tend not to write critically about one another even when that's precisely what's needed. Architects criticizing other architects is considered disloyal and unprofessional.

So invite journalists, educators, public officials, poets, and essayists from your area to write for you. I'm not suggesting you go after

name writers, only that you listen to different voices. You'll be surprised at what you'll find.

- You can't start a conversation unless you're willing to open your mouth. So be vocal and out front editorially on issues of local and regional importance. Be willing to take a stand. Obviously this can create political problems, which is why generally architects have been more effective as individuals than as members of the AIA. But if you want to raise community design awareness, to start a dialogue, you've got to take some chances and speak out editorially.
- Another way to become more visible, and more relevant, is by sponsoring community forums, small design competitions, guest speakers, and lecture series. For financial reasons, this may require partnering with other organizations, such as schools of architecture, friends of the library, the local museum league. Go beyond the annual awards issue. Become conveners.

Another way to put this is that architects and architecture magazines are looking for a way to regain influence and establish authority, which is not the same thing as power.

Power is the ability to make something happen, or not happen, or happen differently. Authority is a different matter. Authority means that your work is read, listened to, talked about, paid attention to. Influence or authority comes not from stopping Project X in its tracks, but from being able to gradually sharpen community perceptions about good design, and thereby to raise public expectations about what is acceptable and what is not.

The great critic Ada Louis Huxtable once said that the public knows its rights when it comes to the law, or Social Security, or Medicare; it's up on all the entitlement programs. But it does not know what it is entitled to in terms of architecture, urban design, or environmental policy.

One job of a good design magazine is to help educate the public about its rights in these matters, because in the end its biggest ally is a concerned public, and its most powerful weapon the ability to arouse public opinion in the service of good design.

This article is adapted from a speech presented by the author to the Council of Architectural Component Executives in Richmond, Va, in August 2008.

"Lars" continued from page 35

kind of nice by yourself on the shore." (p. 41) Perhaps the only thing constant about Houston is the mess. But if you play your cards right, you canveer off and do as you please while everything else swirls slightly out of control.

In this relaxed, spontaneous method, there are the remnants of 1960s counterculture (the years when Lerup came of age); the *détournement* in an uneasy co-existence with capitalism, and mind-altering experiences of psychedelic subculture without the LSD. Such overwhelming disorder underscores the importance of navigating in the present. It makes the past seem pointless because it offers only a history of the same problems, and suggests the future might not appear because it is so much work to alter the course of destiny.

The projects that I liked best were those that did this. They make us look anew at this place, disturbing and banal, but so easy and comfortable that we don't always think about it. Lee Moreau's 1999 thesis directed by Albert Pope, "Houston, Inside Slowly," consists of photographs collected during a suburban walkabout, depicting a city which Stephen Fox observed

"has so little need of architects and what they have to offer" because of its instinctive "populist inclinations toward truculent independence and impulsive expediency." (p. 31)

"Sweeny, Texas" was a graduate option studio led by Keith Krumweide in 2000 to produce a masterplan for this little town in Brazoria County. One scheme, "Flexible Sweeny," presents a fantastic image of snowbirds congregating along the banks of the San Bernard River amid a large collection of adult tricycles with a collaged scan of Henri Rousseau's Combat du tigre replacing most of scenery.

Brett Linden's 2004 thesis directed by Nana Last, "As Found: Space—Light—Situation," is a series of haunting montages created from shots of empty corridors and parking garages of low-budget office buildings that cause you to pause to try to figure out what has gone off-kilter.

Last, Larry Albert's 1999 thesis, also directed by Albert Pope, "Houston Wet," depicts simultaneously the futile efforts to save the sinking Brownwood subdivision and the efforts of NASA engineers a few miles south in Clear Lake to devise a way to get an American flag on the Apollo 11 flight to the moon. Albert suggests Houston is a "war zone and laboratory" where people spend considerable energy to devise methods to temper existing environmental factors that are at once conceptually simple but technically complex and prone to failure. Albert's cheeky commentary also serves as a cautionary tale for the increasingly technologically dependent and large-scaled projects coming out of the program at the end of Lerup's tenure.

With the arrival of a new dean it will be interesting to see how the curriculum changes. Will Lerup's wit be superseded by something more earnest— perhaps studios where every student is expected to design a building? Or will a truce be established? In any case, Everything Must Move presents an interesting 15 years. Here's to the next decade-and-a-half.

Ben Koush was a graduate student at Rice School of Architecture during Lerup's tenure.

This article is an expanded version of one that appeared online at offcite.org, the Web site of the Rice Design Alliance's Cite magazine.

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take place the same day as the judging, which spawned a wider dialogue about the place of delineation in the discipline of architecture. By the early 1980s, the competition was extended to architecture students. Due to the fact that many of the drawings in school were produced as part of design exercises, the focus of the competition began to slowly shift from the merits inherent in good commercial renderings to the potential expressive qualities of architectural drawing as a conceptual tool.

Within the Dallas-Fort Worth region, the Ken Roberts Competition grew into a popular annual event. Up to 120 drawings were received at the very first competition and since

then enjoyed generous promotion by local firms and UT Arlington's architecture program. The exhibition that followed after each competition served as a unique forum for architects, academics, and students to reflect on the role of drawing in the practice of architecture. Organizers had the freedom to create new prizes in response to rising interestinemphasizing previously overlooked aspects of drawing.

The following decades witnessed the emergence in the wide-spread use of computer software that would redefine the way archi-

tecture was visually communicated. For a competition that highlighted the manner in which buildings are represented, a new prize for drawings completed using various digital media was created. The work could either be a hand drawing manipulated by graphic software or a digitally enhanced view of a computergenerated 3D-model. In either case, these works in digital/hybrid media were to be printed and submitted in physical form along with all the other purely hand-drawn submittals.

To expand its visibility outside the AIA, the Ken Roberts Competition committee began to form alliances with other entities. Seven years ago, the committee began to coordinate a lecture series with the Dallas Architecture Forum (DAF) that features prominent architects, as well as up-and-coming talent, from around the world. Each year, one of these lecturers would also serve in the competition's jury. Following the day's judging, the winners of that year's competition would then be announced at the DAF lecture that evening. Another way of increasing the competition's presence was through the Internet. Archinect, a popular online magazine about architecture, promotes KRob by sending one of its editors each year to serve on the jury.

In spite of these recent initiatives, the level of entries continued to dwindle. By the middle of the current decade, the total number of entries



(left) Last year's top award in the "professional hand" category went to Scott Tulay of Juster Pope Frazier Architects in Northampton, Mass. (right) Ken Roberts, shown in photo from the late 1960s, inaugurated a drawing competition in 1974 under the auspices of AIA Dallas. He died later that year of chronic kidney disease at the age of 34.

fell to only a few dozen. A major reason was that the time and cost of shipping an entry seemed to discourage some potential participants, especially when email and ftp sites had become the most preferred method of delivery. Responding to this obstacle, the Ken Roberts Competition began accepting submittals electronically through its Web site (*krobarch.com*) in 2006. The number of entries rose dramatically – exceeding 300 last year – with submittals from across the U.S. In fact, most of last year's finalists were from outside Texas.

Also, the rest of the world had begun to notice, with individuals from countries outside the U.S. inquiring about entering the competi-

tion. As a result, an international category was added last year and a submittal from South Koreawonthe inaugural prize. By opening KRob to foreign participation, it was acknowledging how architectural drawing has become an increasingly global enterprise.

More changes are in store this year as KRob plans its thirty-fifth annual competition. In addition to professional and student prizes in categories for delineations by hand, digital hybrid media, and those coming from abroad, a new category for physical entries has been created. As the majority of entries are viewed by the jury via digital projection, the KRob committee and others closely

associated with the competition throughout the years believed that the value of a drawing's physical qualities was being overlooked. The result is the creation of a new \$400 prize exclusive to those who send the physical original of their drawings. All finalists from the four categories will be considered for the \$500 Best of Show prize. Also, works of special value to each juror will be awarded a Juror's Citation.

Jurors this year will be Jeanne Gang, FAIA, of Chicago, and Aaron Plewke, an editor of archinect.com, and Michael O'Keefe, an adjunct professor of art at SMU. The deadline for this year's entries is Oct. 31, with the jury scheduled to select

finalists and prize winners on Nov. 19. A mounted exhibit of the selected finalists will take place in January at the Dallas Center for Architecture.

Through the years, the Ken Roberts Memorial Delineation Competition has demonstrated to the potential for poetic depth of architectural drawing. It will continue to serve as a valuable snapshot of evolving nature of this most fundamental of architectural disciplines.

Access more information at www.krobarch.com.

Julien Meyrat, AIA, specializes in commercial projects at RTKL Associates in Dallas. He is the current chair of the Ken Roberts Memorial Delineation Competition sponsored by AIA Dallas.

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Won't it be something when an architect is mayor of the fourth largest city in America?

A lot of these plans are going to take more than six years [Houston's mayor is limited to three two-year terms]. How do you plan to assure that progress made during your terms won't get dropped by the next administration?

Yes, that's why we have to have an adopted Houston General Plan so we can set policies and priorities and even identify specific programs that will carry the city forward in the next 15 years. I am committed to having the first official City Plan since 1929. That will encourage development. There are national investors and developers who chose other cities because of a more predictable future where such a plan is in place. That is what we need. With such planning and the establishment of design criteria, we will get a stronger tax base. We also need to create tax abatements and credits to encourage new investment.

Houston has a fantastic quality of life, but the advantages of living and working here need to be more obvious. What could you do as mayor to improve both perceptions and reality?

Public emphasis on the character of the built environment makes a great city. For example, the redesign of Allen Parkway with street lights, pedestrian connections to both Buffalo Bayou and parks making a grand entrance to downtown needs to happen. Also, the Buffalo Bayou Master Plan could change the whole character of the city. This is a great plan not just for the Bayou but for surrounding development. When I am mayor I will take a much needed leadership role in implementing these and other such plans. Our city is bulging at the seams with great urban possibilities, which I'll make happen when I'm mayor.

I know you support historic preservation, but Houston has a notoriously weak preservation ordinance. And with the absence of zoning, it is very difficult to preserve our historic buildings and neighborhoods. What initiatives would you support as mayor to encourage more preservation in Houston?

I do support historic preservation. In fact, I had a major role in creating the Old Sixth Ward Historic District. This is a great example of what we can do, not just save a few houses for

nostalgic reasons, but revitalize a whole neighborhood. There is no question that preservation and rehabilitation of old buildings raises the character of a neighborhood, which raises property values, and ultimately raises the tax base for the city. Preservation is a good real estate investment.

Houston's historic preservation ordinance does need to be strengthened. We need to identify more historic areas and make it more difficult to get a demolition permit in those areas. And we have to provide incentives to keep historic character of a neighborhood. Preservation is important for signature buildings, but it is even more important for neighborhoods — where it really makes sense. This is not a zoning thing — we could follow Denver's conservation neighborhood program. Preservation is really another planning issue. As Paul Goldberger said, "You can't make up a city as you go along."

What is your goal for city-owned buildings, and for that matter the city as a whole, in terms of sustainability?

I am chair of the Sustainable Growth Committee of the City of Houston, and we have several initiatives I am responsible for. One is a major recycling program that's already generated a million dollars in revenue for the city, although we are still behind other cities. The second is energy conservation in city owned and operated buildings. I would also

like to see an amended city building code. My most recent proposal is to establish a new tax credit ordinance for green building. Harris County has a tax credit for solar panels and other sustainable strategies, but now, if you're in the city of Houston, you are not eligible for county tax credits because the city has no enabling ordinance. All we have to do is adopt an ordinance. This will happen soon when I am mayor. We also need incentives and rebates for green building. The culture is changing; tenants and investors are now looking for sustainable buildings.

Is there anything else you would like to discuss?

Yes, crime prevention. Many don't realize this is an architectural issue. Crime is an inevitable result of urban disorder. Much of Houston, because of poorly designed streets and subdivisions is very expensive to police. There is a direct connection to design of the physical environment and the safety of the city. Architects need to point this out. The decisions we make today will create the kind of city we have in 15–20 years, and we don't want to be an accidental city. The mayor has a lot of power in the City of Houston, and, as mayor, I will use that power to create a better quality of life with more sustainable and economically successful growth.

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Grand Openings, Inc. a Millwork Solutions Company, is a leading provider of Crittall Steel Windows in the United States, Crittall internationally pioneers and standardizes the steel window industry. Being equally active in new construction and refurbishment, projects range from replicating 1920's windows to supplying windows for the most contemporary building designs.

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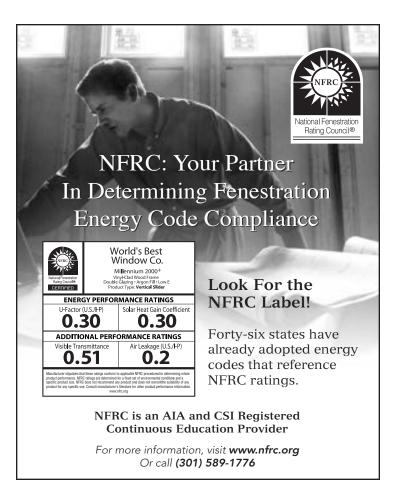
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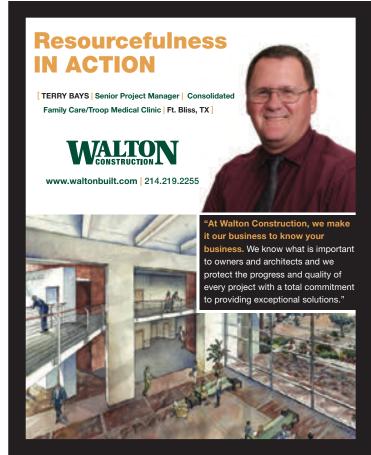
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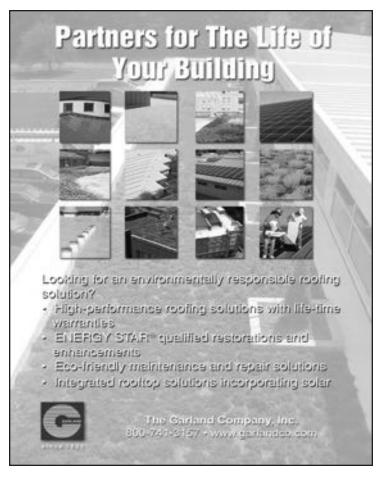
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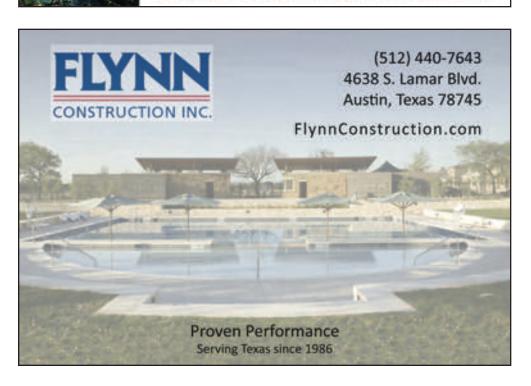
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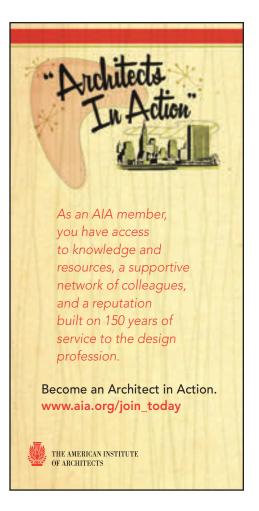
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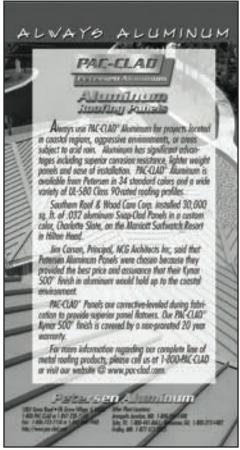
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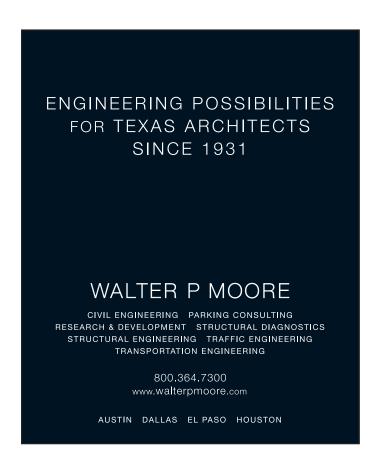
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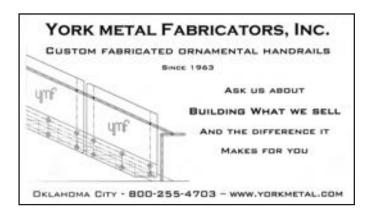


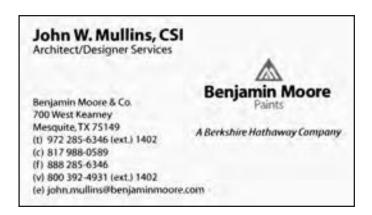
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Halff Wins Award for Animation Project

Halff Associates, an engineering/architecture consulting firm with offices in 10 Texas cities, recently received a national award for an animation project that allows project planners to "walk through" a complex 14.4-mile stretch of highway. The 2009 Telly Award recognized Halff for its work on the DFW Connector for the Texas Department of Transportation Fort Worth District. The project is a 3D visualization of a 24-lane corridor encompassing seven highways, six interchanges, and 10 bridges. Created in 1:1 scale, the animation was used to uncover major design flaws and to help the public understand the highway project that is expected to cost nearly \$2 billion. Founded in 1978, the Telly Awards (www.tellyawards. com) honor the best in local, regional, and cable TV commercials, as well as the best video and film production.

Two Texas Firms Honored with NAHB Awards

Texas firms Humphreys & Partners Architects and Sueba USA Corp both recently received 2009 Multifamily Pillars of the Industry Awards from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Humphreys & Partners Architects received honors for The Carlyle, which was named Best High-Rise Condominium Community, and for Century Plaza, which was named Best Adaptive Reuse of a Condominium Community. Sueba USA won Best Clubhouse at a Multifamily Community for its work on Ventura Lofts in Houston. For a complete list of winners, visit www.nahb.org/pillarsawards.

Lake/Flato Receives Brick in Architecture Award

Lake/Flato's redesign of the Pearl Brewery in San Antonio recently received a 2009 Brick in Architecture Award in the Paving and Landscape Architecture Category from the Brick Industry Association. The project's landscape architect was Rialto Studio. Awarded projects highlight clay brick's performance benefits, aesthetic appeal, and ease-of-use, and honor the innovative use of clay brick. Four renowned architects from around the country independently reviewed and scored each entry. Winning projects will be published in a special issue of *Brick In Architecture*, which will be included as an insert in the November issue of *Architectural Record*, and all competition participants will have their work featured in BIA's Brick Gallery at www.gobrick.com.

Ford Powell & Carson Presented with National Award

Ford Powell & Carson Architects & Planners Inc., received the 2009 Design Award from *Faith & Form* magazine and the Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture for its design of the new All Saints Chapel at the historic Texas Military Institute. The firm won in the category of "Religious Architecture – New Facilities" during this year's International Religious Art and Architecture Design Awards program. The chapel design will be honored in a special feature spread in the magazine's upcoming Winter issue.

CCI Honored with Two Awards

CCI of Dallas was awarded the Clubhouse Architect of the Year award by *BoardRoom Magazine*, making it the eighth time the firm has received this award in the past 10 years. The award recognizes CCI's excellent portfolio of completed clubhouse projects for the year. CCI was also honored with the 2008 "Golden Trowel" Award for the Best Hospitality Building by The Central Texas Masonry Contractors Association.

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Pfluger Associates Recognized for Middle School

A Green Building of America Award has been presented to Gus Garcia Middle School for Austin-based Pfluger Associates Architects implementation of green building techniques on the facility. The architecture firm was selected among more than 2,500 entries and will be featured in the upcoming special *Real Estate & Construction Review Green Success Stories* edition. The Austin ISD school exceeds energy code requirements by 25 percent and was also awarded a 3-Star Rating from the Austin Green Building Program. Gus Garcia Middle School boasts a number of energy-saving features, including photovoltaic panels, low-VOC and recycled building materials, energy-conserving fluorescent light fixtures, and low-flow faucets.

Linbeck Receives Honors for Houston's Co-Cathedral

The Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Houston, designed by Ziegler Cooper Architects, has earned the Linbeck Group the highest award in the construction industry. Linbeck was named recipient of the AGC/Aon Build America Award in the New Building category. Linbeck is one of the few building companies in America to have received this award five times.

SpawMaxwell Honored With Statewide Title

Texas Construction and the editors of *McGraw-Hill Construction* recently named SpawMaxwell as Texas' first "Contractor of the Year." Founded in 1998, SpawMaxwell has offices in Houston, Dallas, and Austin.

National Green Building Standard Approved

The National Green Building Standard, known as ICC-700, was approved Jan. 29 as an American National Standard. The new industry standard provides guidance for safe and sustainable building practices for residential construction, including both new and renovated single-family to high-rise residential buildings. This is the first and only green standard that is consistent and coordinated with the Code Council's family of I-Codes and standards. This new standard provides a practical route to green, sustainable, and high-performance construction, especially in communities with little if any green/sustainable buildings or guidelines. The standard also promotes homeowner education for the maintenance and operation of green residential buildings in order to ensure long-term benefits. Homeowner education on proper maintenance and operation to maintain its green status throughout its life cycle is available along with related ICC publications through the Code Council Web site at www. iccsafe.org/700.

Restoration Group Launches New Web Site

The Restoration Industry Association (formerly the Association of Specialists in Cleaning & Restoration) has launched its new Web site, *www. restorationindustry.org*, which includes information for professionals and consumers, and access to technical articles from the association's *Cleaning & Restoration* magazine.

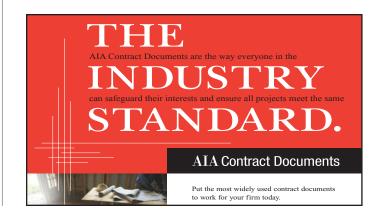
Free Acme Brick Pocket Guide

The 2009 edition of Acme Brick's *Pocket Guide to Quality Brick Construction* is available free of charge. The 127-page reference book is a detailed, authoritative manual for anyone dealing with masonry. To order, call (800) 792-1234.





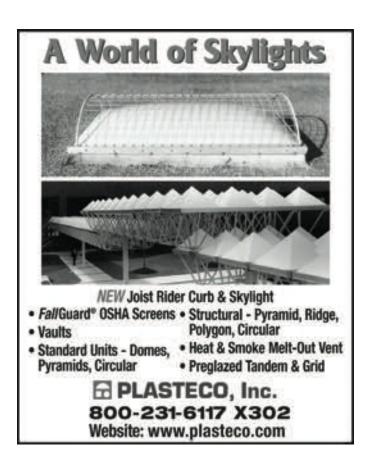




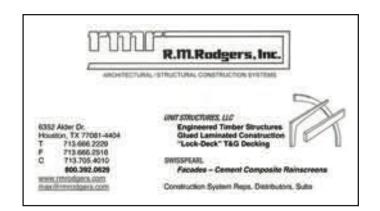
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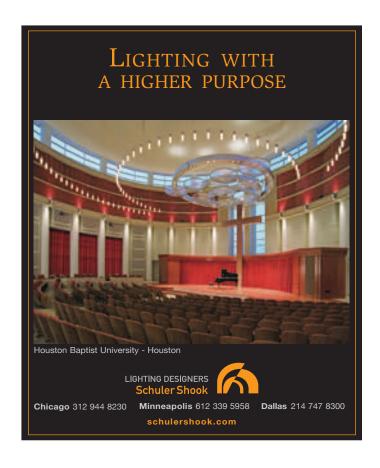
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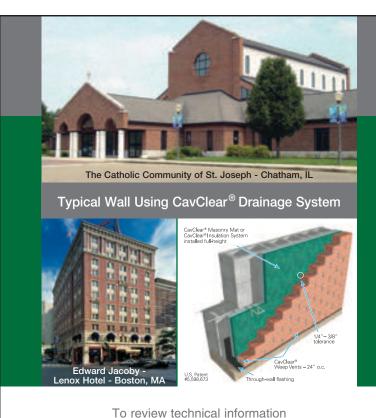












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Stamp of Approval

One of a new postage set, the Matagorda Island landmark illuminates Gulf Coast heritage

by GERALD MOORHEAD, FAIA











FIRST LIT IN 1852, THE LIGHTHOUSE ON MATAGORDA ISLAND IS ONE OF FIVE INCLUDED IN A new set of commemorative stamps issued by the U.S. Postal Service. "Gulf Coast Lighthouses," which went on sale in July, also includes the historic lighthouses at Sabine Pass, La.; Biloxi, Miss.; Sand Island, Ala.; and Fort Jefferson, Fla. The fourth in an ongoing series, the new set is preceded by Pacific Lighthouses (2007), Southeastern Lighthouses (2003), and Great Lakes Lighthouses (1995), all designed by Howard E. Paine and illustrated with paintings by Howard Koslow.

One of only five surviving lighthouses on the Texas Gulf Coast and one of two that remain illuminated (with the Lydia Ann Light at Aransas Pass), the Matagorda Island Light was the first of three lighthouses built in Texas following statehood (including Bolivar Point and Point Isabel) to protect the entrance to Matagorda Bay and the port of Indianola. The original 79-foot-tall, black-painted, round and tapered, cast-iron tower was lengthened to 85 feet in 1873 when it was relocated. The move was necessitated because of coastal erosion and the need to make repairs to damage caused by a Confederate attempt to destroy the lighthouse in 1863. The extension is visibly discernable, as it does not continue the original taper. The structure consists of nearly ½-inch-thick cast-iron plates braced and bolted to a heavy central steel column by the internal spiral staircase. Its third-order Fresnel lens, preserved in the Calhoun County Historical Museum in Port Lavaca, was visible 16 miles out to sea. The Matagorda Island Light is very similar to the Bolivar Point Light, marking the entry to Galveston Bay, built in 1873. Also clad in cast-iron plates, the Bolivar tower, however, has a brick core as the internal structure, making Matagorda's all-steel structure more technologically advanced.

The Matagorda Island Lighthouse is operated by the U.S. Coast Guard with a remote-controlled, solar-powered light installed in 1977. Located amidst the inlets and swamps at the northern end of Matagorda Island, it is not easy to get to, accessible only by private boat, so the best view of it may be the one to be had on this new postage stamp.

Gerald Moorhead, FAIA, is a TA contributing editor

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