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THE TOP ROOF FOR ANY BOTTOM LINE

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Searching for software:
A request for information

Less than a year ago, in an editorial admitting that I was one of those who had secretly hoped to make it to early retirement without actually understanding much about computers, I confessed it was clear that simply was not possible; indeed that every professional (specifically including those in small firms) really did need to take the time now to understand what the computer can do for the business of creating architecture. The question is how.

There are of course a plethora of meetings, seminars, conferences, and conventions related to computer use; an increasing number of books being published, at least some of which recognize the fact that the reader is not a computer expert coming in; an increasing number of consultants, and service bureaus, and training programs put on by the manufacturers; and a major growth in newsletters and in the number of organizations relating to computer use by architects and engineers. They are all good ways to help you get started.

But...I want to explore the how-do-you-get-started question from a specific point of view. While I'm still not much of a computer expert, I have learned the fundamental fact that the computer can't do a thing for an architect (or anyone else) without the right software to program the computer—that is, tell the computer what to do, how to do it, and when to do it. To my simple mind, a good listing of software programs that are available specifically for architects and the engineers who work with architects, together with a brief and concise description of the tasks that can be accomplished with each specific program, would form an excellent way for architects to gain a clearer understanding of just what they can and should expect from a computer.

Therefore...Herewith a request for letters from any and all sources of software specifically programmed for architects: software suppliers, computer (hardware) manufacturers, service bureaus, systems vendors, time-sharing services, service bureaus, architectural firms interested in selling the software they have developed in-house, consultants, and, indeed any other source.

I'd like to know about sources for three kinds of software:
1. Software performing nondrafting or drawing functions specifically related to architectural firms—for example: spec writing, energy audits, simple structural calculations, costing, construction management, facilities management, code management, solar studies, cost control, programming, project-control management, materials takeoffs...and what else?
2. Software specifically programmed for CAD—software useful in working drawings, or in design and exploration of design alternatives.
3. Software (and this may prove too long a list to publish completely) programmed for uses that are not necessarily specific to an architectural firm but related to similar small-office operations—such as word processing, accounting, cash flow.

If you would write to me—Walter F. Wagner, Jr., ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020—Attention: Software survey—we'll follow up with a detailed questionnaire, asking among other things for:
1. Specific descriptions of the capabilities of each piece of software you have available;
2. Whether it is provided only with a hardware system; is available for sale or lease; or available only through a time-sharing or service bureau;
3. What specific hardware it is compatible with, and
4. Some idea of cost.

Harry Mileaf, McGraw-Hill's resident expert in computer use for architects, wrote in an article for us: "The soft spot is software." Our hope for the survey that will grow out of this request for information is to provide architects with a meaningful way to search for the software (and then the computer system) to best meet their needs. I think it will be a useful way (among other things) for small firms to get started—to understand just what they can do with the tools of the computer revolution. Please let me hear from you. You'll hear back. W.W.
How much weight should the hippopotamus lose before crossing the bridge?
Legislation to protect industrial designs pending

A design registration bill, H.R. 2985, is pending in the House of Representatives that would make for better protection of product designs by recognizing the esthetic properties of the design separate from its functional ones. Proponents of the bill use the telephone receiver as an example of current practice in which a better-appearing receiver could not be protected because the function was in public domain. What they hope to achieve is protection of the visual design, similar to that given to painters and greeting-card designers. They emphasize the urgency of broad support during this month and March to assure the bill's passage. For information, contact William Pryor, Professor of Law, University of Baltimore, 1420 N. Charles St., Baltimore Md. 20814 (301/625-3396).

The National Trust announces grants and requests nominations for awards

The Travelers Corporation is investing $1 million with the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the purpose of creating a joint mortgage program providing low-cost loans to upgrade existing low- and moderate-income housing in selected cities throughout the United States.

The Department of Agriculture has announced that it will fund a trust program to educate small-town leaders on the value of historic resources in their communities. The amount of the grant is $250,000.

The trust is also requesting nominations for Preservation Honor Awards to be given out at the annual membership meeting in May. Awards will go to individuals and organizations making significant contributions to preservation. The trust also announces the creation of "Preservation Week" to focus attention on preservation in the United States.

More help for services abroad on the way

The new mandate by Congress for the Export-Import Bank—go out and push American exports and talk up the Bank's Bank for profitability—is music to the ears of the building industry, which has long complained about the lack of an advocate for the industry toward helping sell American construction and design services. Riding on the coattails of new International Monetary Fund legislation providing an additional $8.4 billion for IMF and a $15.6 billion housing authorization bill just before recess last December, Congress extended the Bank's charter for another three years. Congress told the Bank in no uncertain terms that promoting the export of goods and services by offering fully competitive financing came first, and that operating the Bank in the black was a distant second. The Bank was told to set up a program of mixed financing, using both their own credits and lower-interest money from the Agency for International Development to meet similar foreign funding head-on.

Congress also requested the Bank to re-establish a 12-member advisory committee, including representatives from service industries such as the building professions, as well as small business, and to treat service industry exports on an equal basis with manufactured goods. All of this had long been sought by builders, architects and engineers. Bank officials say it encourages full competition necessary in the current climate of mistrust still prevails—more so among contractors than among architects and engineers.

Construction industry sources say the Bank's chairman, William H. Draper, a Reagan appointee, throughout the last year or so had insisted the Bank was in there competing efficiently with the rest of the world for international orders when in fact it wasn't. "The bottom line was that we're supposed to be the people to be helped, but we weren't," says a staffer for the National Construction Association, an organization of big American firms heavily involved in foreign work. While the Bank did modify its approach somewhat during 1981 by providing more assistance to industry needs, the feeling was that this wasn't enough and the Bank was not sufficiently competitive as a service provider.

Architectural and engineering sources are more restrained in their assessment. While they agree that the Bank did not do enough in recent years in funding feasibility studies of major foreign infrastructure projects—winning a feasibility study is often the first step for a nation to win a big piece of the final contract—they are more inclined to give the Bank the benefit of the doubt for the time being. A staffer for the American Consulting Engineering Council, which worked with the American Institute of Architects on the issue, says one of the litmus tests will be what the Bank will in fact do about mixed credits, for instance. "Let's see what happens before we throw stones," he says.

Robert Djerejian, managing partner of Haines, Lundberg, Waecher in New York, acknowledges that getting the Bank's support for design services "has always been a difficult issue. Its financing has always been much more important to builders," he says, but there are some ramifications for architects and engineers as well. Basically, he is happy that the new legislation recognizes "the fact that exports of services are important per se, but so far it's a little late and not that important to make us jump up and down." Nevertheless, Djerejian thinks the new language could be of some help to bring in architects early as part of the team designing foreign projects—for feasibility studies, for instance. Early involvement of architects would be useful because "we could give a little bit more direction" in high-tech areas;

G. van Horn says the requirements of high-tech equipment influence the design of telecommunication, medical and research facilities, for instance. Since most American firms specify American equipment and are familiar with what's available, they could play a significant role not only in the design itself, but also in the export of American-made equipment.

James R. Sharpe, the Bank's senior vice president for direct credit and financial assistance, believes the Bank has already turned around. Sharpe, a former construction executive who moved over from the Commerce Department a little more than a year ago, admits the Bank was not a big help in export projects when the dollar was money was much higher and when foreign competitors just about totally subsidized their exports. But new financing and other policies and ground rules based on market interest rates within the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (of which the United States is a member) plus the new legislation, which is "more of a confirmation" rather than anything basically new, according to Sharpe, "represents a measure of change." Part of the Bank's problem has been "not to communicate sufficiently to the export community what it has to offer," he says.

Still, the industry is not totally convinced. The Bank "has improved," says a construction industry executive. If there was a communication failure, it was the Bank's failure to listen. "Their failure to react to messages from the industry is the reason why industry went to Congress," he says. Peter Hoffmann, World News, Washington, D.C.

Income/expense statistics show marketing trends in real estate

Studies available from the Institute of Real Estate Management (a division of the National Association of Realtors) report statistics useful in figuring the profitability of projects in planning. The 1983 Income/Expense Analysis: Apartments, for instance, shows current operating costs (up between seven and 14 per cent in 1982) compared to rents (up between seven and 10 per cent). It also shows median rents for various areas with highs of $475 to $419 for an 850-square-foot unit (found in Boston, New York, San Francisco and Orange County, in that order) and lows of $247 to $263.

1983 Income/Expense Analysis: Office Buildings compares rents (up 11.2 per cent and 9.4 per cent respectively in downtown and suburban projects) and operating costs (up 7.8 and 8.6 per cent respectively) and shows where these costs are likely to go: 34 per cent for maintenance and repair and 18.4 per cent for taxes. These studies, along with Expense Analysis: Condominiums, Cooperatives and Planned-unit Developments are available from the Institute at 430 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill., 60611 (312/661-1590).

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Design is an information-intensive process. The architect is constantly engaged in collecting, refining, organizing, and representing information. In fact, architecture can be viewed as information management.

Architects collect information from clients in the form of programmatic data, and generate information in the form of design and production documents. In addition, they must provide information to other parties, collect information from other parties, and attempt to organize and filter information from other parties (see Figure A).

Information is exchanged between many different parties in many different forms. The individuals and groups who must exchange information during the design and construction process include (as shown in Figure A) the architect, client, building user(s), consultants, engineers, planning agencies, construction managers, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, community organizations, and regulatory agencies. In addition, the client may request additional information such as "as-built" drawings or data to be used for facility management after the project has been completed. It is also common for architects to enter into joint ventures with other architects for specific projects. The joint firms must, obviously, exchange information throughout the design process.

Traditionally, architectural information has been transferred in a variety of forms, including sketches, working drawings, written specifications, telephone conversations, change orders, shop drawings, correspondence, photographs, physical models, renderings, computer printouts, building codes, product catalogs, and supplier quotations. Using these forms and others, individuals and groups involved in the design process compiled information in the form most convenient for their own needs. Others who had to use information prepared by one group had to extract the information they needed and perhaps reorganize it into a different format.

Although the process of differentiating, extracting, integrating, and organizing information is slow by traditional method, it is a task for which humans are very well suited. People are very good at picking a meaningful pattern out of an extremely ambiguous field of information.

With computers, the need becomes finding a way to exchange information among various systems. Now, with the increased use of computers in the design and construction process, the opportunity to exchange data through computers has presented itself. However, new problems have emerged with this opportunity. Although computers can handle raw data at much faster rates than humans, they are not as adept at extracting useful information from various sources and integrating it into a meaningful form.

Each computer manufacturer and computer software developer, as well as each group of users, has its own conceptual model of the way data is organized and related in the computer. The type of data that is stored and the ways in which data is stored in one computer or software system is invariably different from other systems.

Architecture is a "Tower of Babel" problem. Many individuals are trying to use computers to work toward a common goal without having common communication.

As the architecture profession begins to use computers more and more in architectural practice (and as our clients and colleagues increase their use of and understanding of computers), the need to exchange information in digital form will increase. This will require that some standard be established to ensure that information produced by one group and its sub-system is meaningful to other groups and systems.

To address this issue, several attempts have been made to develop a standard for information exchange between computer systems. It is important that architects be aware of these efforts so they may provide input to the formation of these standards and so they will be aware of the need for the products that they purchase to support these efforts.

To help make architects aware of these efforts and some of the issues surrounding them, let's explore information exchange in more detail, the ways in which computers exchange information, the concept of an information standard, and finally some examples of information exchange specifications.

How information is exchanged between computer systems affects their usefulness.

For purposes of this discussion, our goal is to transmit a drawing and associated information from one system to another. Since this information will be in a computer file of some kind, the task becomes one of: transmitting a file from one system to another, and: ensuring that the contents of the file can be "understood" by the application program in the receiving system.

The thrust of this article is the latter and might be called "information transfer," the former, which we could call "data transfer," is certainly a necessary component. How do we do data transfer?

One way, certainly, is to copy the data onto paper, as a printout, or digitizing in a drawing. Although highly inefficient and error-prone, this scheme has actually been used many times in the past, even in production systems in very large companies.

A much more effective means is to copy the data onto some electronic storage medium that can be carried between systems, such as a floppy disk or magnetic tape. Here, of course, we must discuss the format that is used. In other words, if the sending system uses a 1600 bpi, 9-track unlabeled tape with 80 character records, the receiving system must be able to read such records. Further, both systems must use the same encoding scheme, either ASCII (e.g. the number 142 represented as the character string '142') or binary (142 represented as '10011010').

A still more effective scheme is a data link, transmitting the data over a communications link, such as a telephone line or a direct wire. Similar incompatibility issues occur here, too. Economic issues are important. For example, using a dial-up telephone network to transmit a 4-megabyte file from Chicago to Los Angeles at 1200 bits per second would take over 10 hours, even assuming no errors, and be considerably more expensive than mailing a tape, even using an overnight service. Using a high-speed data link (e.g. ARPANET) would reduce the time but increase the cost. If file transfers occur often, on the other hand, the network may be economical.

The subject of networking and data transmission is too large and complex to be more than mentioned here. For further reading see any standard introductory text.

What is an information exchange standard, and why do we need one?

In architectural practice, each firm has its own standards and methods. The ways in which architects describe building details, lay out a drawing, and relate various drawings to each other and to contract documents may be quite similar from firm to firm, but with subtle differences. The standards for a given firm have evolved over time and have been shaped by a variety of factors to fit the needs of architects and their clients.

In a similar way, the developers of computer-aided design systems have found unique ways of organizing information influenced by the type of hardware, the software, the type of data used by the system, the needs of the users of the system, the methods used for generating data used by the
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system, and the developers' concept of what information is necessary for a particular task and how it is collected, generated, analyzed, and displayed.

As with architects, there may be considerable variation between one standard and another. However, since the factors affecting the formation of a standard in the computer-aided design community are more diverse, it is likely that the standards vary significantly from one system to another.

To communicate information stored in one system to another system, some format for the exchange of this information must be agreed upon by the developers of the two systems. This agreement—upon means of data transfer is an information exchange standard. A standard defines the form of information exchange from one system to another. If one has some information in system "A" and wishes to transfer it to system "B," one must first translate the information on "A" into a neutral form.

The neutral form, in effect, is the form described by the information exchange standard. One must then translate the information to system "B." With each translation some information may be lost. If one wishes to transfer the information back to system "A" even more information may be lost.

Let's look at some problems involved in defining an information exchange standard. Let's use the analogy of a Russian scientist who wishes to send a document to a Japanese colleague. Suppose that the Russian did not have a Russian-Japanese translator available, but that a Russian-English and an English-Japanese translator were available. The Russian would have to have the document translated from Russian to English and then from English to Japanese. With each translation, some information would be lost. Each language has a particular set of concepts that can be expressed, but there is not necessarily a one-to-one correspondence in translation. The general meaning of the document can probably remain intact through the translation but subtle nuances may be lost.

In trying to exchange information between two computers, one encounters the same problems as the Russian scientist. However, the problem is likely to be worse since human languages are very rich and complex and can express one concept in a variety of ways whereas the computer may not have such a wide range of alternatives available to represent information.

Architectural design is an iterative process. An architect generates a design solution, evaluates that solution, and successively refines it until it "fits" the design criteria. Many people, including the client consultants, engineers, other architects, planning boards, etc., may be a part of this process. If the parties involved in the design process have computer systems, it is probable that they will wish to use them. Thus design information may go through many translations, potentially losing information through each.

It is clear that, if care is not taken, the original meaning of the design information could be lost in much the same way that information is lost or distorted by translation. Beyond recognition in the old party game in which a sentence is passed around a circle of people by having each person whisper to the next in the circle. One may ask why a single such system is necessary. Why not write a translator between each pair of CAD systems? There are two reasons why this is impractical. First, there are a large number of CAD systems on the market. To allow each system to exchange data with any other system would require a large number of translators. Second, we know that there are "n" CAD systems on the market, n(n-1) translators would be needed to ensure that data could be exchanged between the systems.

Each time a new system came on the market, a new set of translators would have to be developed. In addition, as each CAD system developer upgraded his products, the translators would have to be upgraded as well. It is clear that this would be a monumental task! With one information exchange standard, each manufacturer would be responsible for maintaining a translator to and from the standard format, thus resulting in only 2n translators (see Figure C).

The second reason for a single, neutral standard is that manufacturers of various CAD systems are competitors. They, in all probability, view their internal information structures as proprietary. To write a translator between any two CAD systems, it is necessary to have a detailed knowledge of each system's data storage structures and mechanisms. CAD system developers might understandably be hesitant to divulge information to their competitors. With a single standard in the public domain, CAD-system developers could develop their own translators, thus providing data transfer capability while ensuring that knowledge of the internal workings of their system remains confidential. Thus, it is clear that a single information exchange standard is the most reasonable approach to exchange of architectural CAD data.

An information exchange standard should allow one to transfer as much information as possible between computers. Obviously, the more information that can be described by a standard, the more that can be transferred. Care must be taken to ensure that information stored implicitly in the structure of arrangement of information as well as the information that is explicitly defined is transferred. To summarize, an information exchange standard is a format upon which architects have agreed to transfer information from one CAD system to another. There is currently no information exchange standard for architectural CAD data, but several potential standards are evolving. It will be to the architect's long-term benefit to participate in their formation.

What efforts are under way to develop an information exchange standard? Several attempts have been made to codify information exchange standards. Some are still being developed. As each addition, as each transfer capabilities of two commonly used standards for computer graphics, and finally a data transfer specification for microcomputers.

IGES—Initial Graphics Exchange Specification. IGES is specifically tailored to the exchange of CAD data. Development of IGES began in January 1980 by a technical committee composed of CAD/CAM industry representatives and coordinated by the National Bureau of Standards. IGES Version 1.0 was adopted by ANSI (the American National Standards Institute) in September 1981. The original goal of IGES was to provide "a data format for product design and manufacturing information created and stored in a CAD/CAM system in computer-readable form." IGES consists of CAD data to be stored in neutral form (a generic format not specific to any given CAD system) and to be translated from one CAD system to another. Initial users of IGES were large companies that had developed special-purpose software in-house and who wished to trade integrated CAD systems with that software and/or to use that software in conjunction with a turnkey system. In addition, CAD system developers began to implement IGES translators for their systems. Currently, 32 CAD-system suppliers have committed themselves to supplying IGES translators for their products. These suppliers include several major CAD system developers for the architectural market.

Version 1.0 of IGES was primarily aimed at the general CAD/CAM community and allowed for the representation of geometric data such as size, shape, and position. Version 2.0 of IGES included extensions to accommodate printed circuit board technology and description of finite elements.

IGES tries to provide a very general format for the storage and transmission of computer-aided-design data. Each piece of data in an IGES file is represented by an entity. An entity may be one of three types: geometric, annotation, or structure. A geometric entity describes the physical shape and size of the object being represented. Geometric entities include lines, curves, surfaces, and planes. Annotation entities allow notations to be given for the object being described. They provide further...
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At the end of 1983, a group of those interested in developing extensions to IGES for architecture, engineering, and construction applications met in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The group consisted of some 35 representatives from architecture and engineering firms, CAD systems vendors, government agencies, construction firms, and the academic community. The group discussed the existing IGES specification and how it might meet the data transfer needs of the architecture, engineering, and construction communities, and how that function might be extended. The issues discussed included: the reasons for transferring information between CAD systems; the type of information to be transferred, ways in which CAD data is generated and the “model” of a building that is or should be provided in a computer system. Although no conclusive recommendations were formulated, the group agreed that IGES use for architecture, engineering, and construction warrants further discussion. They plan to meet again this month as a subcommittee of the IGES committee.

Although some suppliers of CAD systems were present at the meeting, several heavily involved with the architectural and engineering market were not. This seeming lack of interest leads to three possible conclusions: CAD-system suppliers are not supporting IGES; they are trying to discourage their customers into using their own systems by discouraging transfer of data to others; and/or they view architecture, engineering, and construction as an insignificant part of their market.

What designers can do to help themselves

The process of defining a standard for information exchange deals with technical issues outside the area of expertise of most architects. The standard that results from such a process, however, has far-reaching implications for the architectural profession. With this in mind, what can members of the architectural profession do to ensure that a data exchange standard will meet their needs? The steps one can take include the following:

1. Define one’s current and future needs for information exchange.
2. Work with the current and future needs for information exchange.
3. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
4. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
5. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
6. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
7. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
8. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
9. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.
10. Work with the new and future needs for information exchange.

What data do you foresee having on your computer system in the near future? With whom might you wish to exchange this information? What will be done with the information once it is exchanged? Attempting to answer these questions may help clarify one’s own needs for data exchange capabilities between two or more computers.

• Ask your computer suppliers if their system supports IGES. If the answer is yes, ask how far along they are in implementing their IGES interface. If no, ask why IGES is not being supported. If your suppliers do not support IGES or some other common information exchange standard, they may be trying to “lock” you into using only their products. While this may be good for them, it is certainly not in your best interests. Many architects have been disappointed by CAD systems that have not performed to their satisfaction. The capability to transfer data to another system can give one more flexibility in upgrading CAD systems and will provide an incentive for CAD suppliers to continue striving to improve their systems.

• Find out more about IGES. The National Bureau of Standards has several publications on IGES, which are available through the National Technical Information Service. In addition, they publish an IGES newsletter. For more information, contact Mr. Stahl at the Center for Building Technology, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C. 20234.

• Encourage the American Institute of Architects to have a voice in the definition of computer data exchange specifications.

• Make your data exchange needs and concerns known to the IGES AEC working group. To do this you may contact: the author at Hellmuth, Obata, and Kassabaum, 100 North Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 63102 or Dave Jordani, Ellerbe Associates, One Appletree Square, Minneapolis, Minn. 55420.

It is encouraging that an AEC working group on IGES is being formed. It will certainly benefit the architectural profession to be involved in the development of a standard that is gaining widespread acceptance by other members of the AEC. The benefits of using computer-aided design techniques. Jon H. Pittman
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Circle 15 on inquiry card
By Robert Steven Anderson

As curators of our architectural heritage, preservationists render a broad range of services: design, planning, and education.

Some preservationists are also architects; many are not. All face increasing exposure to negligence and malpractice liability as their nascent profession gains visibility and influence.

In the past, preservationists were endeavoring to persuade clients and potential clients that they are professionals, and to distinguish the service they offer from that which can be obtained from an architect, architectural historian or restoration contractor without special training in preservation.

Preservationists’ increasing success in that effort is cheering news, for they have worked for that recognition and stand to gain from it, financially and spiritually. But there is a down side too: To the degree preservationists succeed in establishing themselves as a distinct profession, they are also increasing their exposure to malpractice liability.

For years there has been the terms “architectural conservator” or “preservationist” called to mind the few architects, archaeologists, historians and classicists who studied, catalogued and, occasionally, restored old structures—as well as public advocates (blue-haired ladies in tennis shoes included) who campaigned to save specific buildings and neighborhoods and to awaken the rest of us.

Today, the core of what is often referred to as the “Preservation Mafia” is increasingly composed of people who have completed an extended, formal training in preservation at one of the 50-plus American colleges and universities now offering such programs.

While some are licensed architects who use new knowledge in their practice, others join municipal, state and federal agencies, where they care for publicly owned properties and administer regulatory programs. But as their knowledge and experience expand, so also grows their capacity to cause harm to persons or property.

Ours is a litigious society, and the courts are increasingly prone to hold all professionals accountable for injuries caused by their mistakes. The extraordinary growth in law suits and judgments against architects and engineers is in point, as reported in the June 1983 issue of ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, page 37.

Therefore preservationists would do well to consider the following questions: 1. Am I a professional in a legal sense? 2. If I am, how is my liability exposure changed by that status? 3. To what extent can I protect myself with insurance?

Have preservationists achieved professional status in the eyes of the law?

Many preservationists assume that they are not “professionals” in any legal sense, because the states do not license preservation consultants as they do doctors, architects, lawyers, etc. The assumption is based on a misconception of state licensing statutes. Those statutes draw no crisp line between what is, and what is not, a profession in any absolute sense but reflect merely the legislatures’ regulatory schemes and objectives. Witness New York’s Education Law which omits university professors from its list of licensed professionals but includes the “profession of massage.”

There is, in fact, no clear and consistently applied legal test for distinguishing professions from nonprofessional occupations. But the demand for professional status is compelling in the preservation context.

New York, for example, levies no unincorporated business tax on professionals. Construing that exemption, New York’s highest court has held that an occupation is a “profession” if the service rendered “requires knowledge of an advanced type in a given field of science or learning gained by a person who has received special instruction and study.” Do preservation tasks require such knowledge? Increasingly, the answer seems yes.

Certainly, preservationists are exhibiting the caste marks of professional status. They write and publish articles. They subscribe to the journals in which such articles appear. They attend conferences of their peers, carry out their research and debate papers. They form societies and other nonprofit organizations that include in their stated purposes the expansion and dissemination of knowledge in architectural preservation. They are endeavoring to develop consensus on fundamental principles and standards of their craft and on appropriate curricula for graduate preservation programs. There is a certain amount of public success, even mission, about their craft.

Cerainly it would be unwise for a preservation consultant to lose his risk management planning on the assumption that his liability cannot be adjudicated by professional standards. Architects for new construction, after all, were first treated as professionals for liability purposes at the end of the last century, when that profession was at a comparable stage of development and self-definition.

How, in particular, are preservationists opening themselves to liability?

Various intangible factors, including greater visibility, will increase the likelihood of preservationists being sued. Achievement of professional status by preservationists may also bring into play less favorable statutes of limitation and broader exposure toward third parties. Most importantly, the performance of preservationists, qua professionals, will be judged against higher standards. There are two reasons for this.

First, the work product of preservationists will be judged against the standards set by their peers, i.e. other university-trained preservationists, rather than against the work product of contractors, architects or others engaged in the same or similar tasks but not holding themselves out as having had specialized preservation training.

The principle can be illustrated by the following analogy: Assume that I ask my friend, who is not a barber, to cut my hair. If he undertakes this task, I expect still to have my ears when the job is done. But I should also expect my hair to show a few tufts. If I go to a barber, I expect not only that there will be no loss, but also that there will be no peaks and valleys. If I go to a hair stylist, I expect the result will be stylish, and that a particularly stubborn cowlick will be rendered invisible.

Although all three undertook the same basic task, i.e. giving someone a haircut, I expected different levels of competence from the three.

The law protects those expectations. When a person holds himself out to the public as a practitioner of a particular occupation, he implicitly warrants that he is competent to perform the specialized services associated with that occupation. He is required to exercise in his work the degree of skill and knowledge commonly possessed by members of that occupation. If harm results because he does not have, or does not exercise, that degree of skill and knowledge, he will be liable, even if his work is comparable to that of other persons, not of his particular occupation, doing the same basic tasks.

The second reason that attainment of professional status is likely to increase preservationists’ liability is that professional status plus se excites higher expectations. "Profession" is defined in Webster’s Third New International Dictionary as: A calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive preparation, including instruction in skills and methods as well as in the scientific, historical, or scholarly principle underlying such skills and methods, maintaining by force of organization or concerted option high standards of achievement and conduct, and committing its members to continued study and to a kind of work which has for its prime purpose the rendering of a public service.

The public expects, and is legally entitled to expect, that the services of a professional will measure up to Webster’s definition. I expect of my daughter’s pediatrician not only that he met his qualifications 20 years ago, but that he has kept abreast of developments in his field. If I retain another lawyer to render an opinion, I expect his opinion will be based not only on experience, but also on whatever research is necessary or appropriate.

The demands made of professionals can be illustrated by a hypothetical case

A recent owner of a 19th-century apartment building finds the south facade developing large patches of a white crystalline powder, and selects two consultants with different specialties to diagnose the problem. Consultant 1 is a roofing contractor with experience in cleaning and restoring older buildings. Consultant 2 is a 1970 graduate
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<td>2&quot; Insulation System</td>
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<td>Thermo-Stud System fastened with 6 T-Clips</td>
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of the historic preservation program of XYZ University's graduate school of architecture.

His resume shows his qualifications for the project, his postgraduate studies and the several articles he has authored on preservation issues.

Both consultants give the same diagnosis: "Mister, you've got a water problem. Rain water is getting into the building at the base. Dissolving salts, is drawn to the surface by evaporation and deposits them. If you want to stop the efflorescence, you will have to keep water from entering the masonry. Clean it and apply a moisture barrier." End of diagnosis.

The owner thanks them both, pays them and hires a contractor, whom he tells to do whatever is necessary to keep water out of the building's walls. A lot of money is spent on cleaning and water-repellent coating. Next February, the efflorescence returns and the faces of some of the bricks are popping off. The owner hires his two consultants.

In the pretrial proceedings, it is established that the salts forming the original efflorescence came from a chemical cleaner the previous owner had used just before putting the building on the market. Neither consultant had conducted any investigations that might have disclosed the earlier cleaning, nor had either consultant made any laboratory analysis of the building's brick or mortar or of the surface deposits.

The trial begins. To prevail against each consultant, the owner must prove that the consultant was negligent, i.e., that he failed to identify the root cause of the building's efflorescence because he failed to exercise the care, skill and competence commonly exercised by members of his particular occupation.

The case against consultant 1, the waterproofing contractor, is a poor one. There may be difficulty in getting another waterproofing contractor qualified as an expert witness to testify about standard practices in that amorphous industry. Even if the owner gets over that hurdle, the testimony of his expert is likely to be the expert's own view of what investigative steps ought to have been taken, dressed up with technical jargon so that such an investigation is a norm of the industry. Testimony of that kind, if admitted at all, is vulnerable to cross-examination and is not very persuasive. Consultant 1's defense is a simple one: He is a waterproofing contractor; if the building owner wanted the services of a chemist to look at a private eye, he should have hired one.

Consultant 2, on the other hand, presents a sharper target, likely to be judged against a higher standard. The expert witness whom the owner uses in this case, let us assume, is a level-faculty member of the faculty of the preservation program at XYZ University.

The witness opens his testimony by explaining to the court why it should conclude that university-trained architectural preservationists constitute a distinct profession, and—being able to back up that statement with specific criteria—concludes by stating that, had the consultant exercised the skill and learning common to members of his profession, he would have realized that the problem could likely have been cured by application of a poultice or, perhaps, by several good washings with a garden hose.

Whether the second consultant wins or loses the lawsuit is a toss-up. What is certain is that the claim against his professional negligence has some real substance, and that he will incur heavy legal expenses if he chooses to contest the claim through trial. Consultant 2's predicament would be serious enough if he were adequately insured. Chances are, he isn't.

What liability insurance is available for preservation consultants?

Typically, a professional looks to insurance for two types of protection: (1) indemnification for a judgment against him or her should he or she be named in a lawsuit alleging professional negligence, and (2) defense in the event that the consultant performs his services for a fee, including payment of legal fees and expenses.

An architectural preservation consultant can purchase the same insurance policies that contractors rely on to protect them from claims of negligence. Such policies include comprehensive general liability insurance. A more comprehensive policy will provide against claims for ordinary negligence, i.e., negligence of a nonprofessional nature. For example, the consultant gets mail in the mail that when a claim is made alleging professional negligence. Most comprehensive general liability policies provide, in words or substance, that "This insurance does not apply to bodily injury or property damage arising out of any professional services performed by or for the named insured, including the preparation or approval of maps, plans, opinions, reports, surveys, designs or specifications."

The architect believes the insured to be professionally negligent, so he files a suit against the architect. Under such circumstances, the insurance company will cover the defense costs and the claim, if any, against the architect.

A preservation consultant insured by such a policy and sued for professional negligence, would likely receive from his insurer a "Reservation of Rights" letter of the sort described in the June 1983 issue of RECORD (again, see page 37). The letter would state the insurance company's position that professional negligence is excluded from the coverage of the policy, and that the company will not indemnify the insured if professional negligence allegations are proven and the court enters judgment on those allegations. If the consultant disagrees with the insurer's position, he will probably have to sue the insurer, at his own expense, to obtain a declaratory judgment on the policy's coverage.

As yet, the route has not been tried, but all other things being equal, the preservationist has a better shot at being classified as a professional in litigation with the insurance company than he does in litigation with an injured plaintiff.

General rules of contract construction required that any ambiguity in the term "professional," as is used in an exclusion clause of an insurance contract, be resolved against the insurer. The insurer drafted the contract and clauses of exclusion are construed narrowly. The insured can argue with some force that the casualness with which "professional" is used in common parlance has eroded any certainty of meaning the term might once have had.

Our defendant-preservationist is not likely to find much solace, however, in having a "good shot" at establishing coverage under his policy. When he bought the policy and paid his premiums, he thought he was buying a measure of certainty, not simply the right to litigate with his carrier over the scope of the policy's coverage. A comprehensive general liability policy with a "professional services" exclusion clause does not provide that certainty.

Architects, including architects with a preservation component to their practice, can solve the problem by buying a professional liability policy, often referred to as "errors and omissions" insurance. A nonarchitectural consultant working within an architectural firm is likely to be covered by the firm's professional liability policy. The insurance industry, however, has not yet developed such a policy for the preservationist conducting his or her own consulting practice. Indeed, the industry is only beginning to awaken to his or her existence.

The insurance industry may be unlikely to invest time and effort in designing a professional liability policy for preservationists, including doing the necessary actuarial workups, until two developments occur: There is broad market demand for such insurance, and clear lines are drawn around the profession, so that insurers can ascertain easily who is within the profession and who is not. State licensing or, perhaps, a national organization with restrictive membership qualifications could satisfy that second requirement. Licensing and professional organizations with restricted membership are hot topics of debate among preservationists and are not likely to come for several years. What is the consulting preservationist to do now to achieve some measure of protection? There are quite a number of the questions that are discussed in the August 1983 issue of RECORD (see page 39).

Consulting contracts must be carefully drawn, especially as they define responsibilities and the service to be rendered. Projects with high potential for producing lawsuits should be avoided, as should litigation-prone clients. Thought should be given to incorporation to protect personal assets from judgments based on theories of derivative liability. On the insurance front, consideration should be given to asking the carrier to agree in advance on a definition of "professional services," perhaps one limiting its meaning to services that legally can be rendered only by a licensed professional in the jurisdiction of the preservationist's practice. Most importantly, however, preservationists must become aware of the dimensions of their negligence liability exposure so that their risk management planning can proceed on a realistic basis.

Mr. Anderson is an attorney practicing in New York City. He is associated with preservation through a number of activities, including the Center for Building Conservation and affiliation with RESTORE, a skills-training program directed by his wife Jan.
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Marketing:
Clients' needs are the target

The Society of Marketing Professional Services celebrates ten years of progress with the recent awards in excellence in marketing techniques

By Ernest Burden

At the tenth anniversary convention of the Society for Marketing Professional Services held in Dallas late last year, 40 awards were presented to representatives of architectural, engineering, interior-design, construction management and landscape architecture firms. Over the decade, the society's competition has developed from a single category contest for newsletters only to the 11 category competition of today. It is now the major vehicle in which design firms can pit their marketing tools against the standards being set within their own industry.

Chaired for the third year by Nadene Barna of The Fulick/Keis Partnership Inc. and Ernest Burden, New York marketing communications consultant and author of this article, the program drew 369 entries from the current 2,600 members.

Of the 369 design firms that submitted their marketing materials for judging, 40 firms received awards.

The emphasis is finally being placed on the message rather than the medium. This year's winners demonstrated the growing use of client testimonials and client-targeted messages. This could be the result of a change in the way design firms perceive what clients want to see, the result of several years of a buyers' market, or both.

In any case, recognizing the client was the focus of most winning programs. And rightly so.

In the print categories, well-targeted and client-oriented pieces were favored by all jurors. In the two audio-visual categories, five of the seven winners featured client testimonials or natural dialogue from members of the firm rather than the traditional canned approach using narrators.

The audio-visual entries were straightforward rather than the "razzle-dazzle" of previous years. As a result, the entries were less spectacular from a media point of view, but more direct in purpose.

Broad criteria made the awards most selective

The entries were judged in 10 cities around the country and were more selective than in previous years in designating winners. One reason for this greater selectivity was the inclusion in the jury of communication experts from other industries, who brought with them their own high standards. As a result, awards were not given in all categories.

Outside jurors who participated in print media judging included Andrew Sparks, editor of the Atlanta Journal & Construction; Jo Ann Trufliman, manager for print and production services, Coca-Cola USA; and John Berry, director of corporate communications, Herman Miller Inc.

Jurors in the audio-visual category included William Pescos, director of design, Department of General Services, New York City; Paul Rozypal, chief of project operations branch of GSA; and Douglas Brenner, senior editor, Architectural Record.

Advertising is a prime example of where an outside perspective is needed. "Our industry is only pioneering in advertising and should be judged each year by those with broad experience," stated competition chair Nadene Barna.

"After all," said Barna, "when we send a brochure to a prospective client, we compete with the building industry - nobody else. The same is true in advertising space. Our material must meet the standards of major advertisers if we are to favorably compete."

Category 1: Company brochures

Jury chairman Joseph Huttie Jr. of Ellerbe Associates Inc. and his fellow jurors felt that only one brochure of the 65 entries should be awarded a major prize. That winner was the brochure of Anshen & Allen Architects of San Francisco.

It was the only entry with that very necessary characteristic, a strong marketing and design concept. It also exhibited a sense of humor and whimsy that appealed to the jury. Said Huttie, "They didn't use the standard design industry approach of showing all their work and hoping the client sees something he likes."

Category 2: Special market brochures

The most successful entries in this judging, chaired by Robert Skunda of Dewberry & Davis, were those that had a strong theme and were directed at a

Examples of First Place winners:

Many of the brochures still read as though written for peers, with technical descriptions of capabilities and services.

Category 3: Annual reports

Despite the apparent large investments in time and money in most annual reports, there was a notable seesaw effect in the finished products. Examples: some used expensive paper, but used canned, trite or poor-quality photography.

Jury chair Michael J. Riordan, of Welton Becket Associates, believes that design firms, no matter how talented with building design, should not be afraid to hire outside graphic consultants when moving from drafting table to typewriter.

Layouts and organization of material were overly complex and entries were judged as "too wordy," given that the intended recipient is a busy professional with no time to wade through quite that plethora of text.

The jury liked the use of quotes from employees because it involved the reader in a group of interested people and definitely expressed a personal touch.

Category 4: Newsletters and magazines

Ten of the 32 submittals contained articles of real interest to the readers and had high quality graphics and photography. Many firms are now including general interest articles relevant to their particular fields to gain the attention of the target audience. There is also a trend to theme issues oriented to a specific market segment and away from the all-purpose newsletter.

The jury, chaired by Sally Rasmussen of Jova/Daniels/Busby, found that even the many fine technically competent pieces all began to look alike after the first dozen, which is the same reaction one can expect from clients. "What impressed us, then," noted Rasmussen, "was the competitive edge, the pieces that stood out by using a creative concept, outstanding photography or a well-targeted message.

Category 5: Corporate identity programs

Few design firms are using corporate identity programs to project their unique character and distinguish themselves from their competition.

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program where consistency and completeness become major criteria.

Category 8: Direct Mail
Most entries were brochures and one-time mailings rather than actual mailing campaigns, and range from brochures and promotion announcements through Rolodex cards, Form 254s, and a book pop-up. They tended more to the self-promotion of the design firm than to the interests of the prospective clients, an indication of the need for greater attention among design firms to their marketing planning. The jury, chaired by Darlene Weidert of Gensler and Associates, applied strict state-of-the-art criteria to entrants, knowing that mailing pieces have heavy competition every day in the client’s mail.

Category 7: Special Events
As unsolicited communications, special-events pieces begin in a weak position among all the other competing appeals for the client’s attention. As in the other categories, the entries that spoke to the client’s interest were more effective than those simply stating a self-oriented message. The jury, chaired by Ellen Flynn-Haples of C.W. Fentress and Associates, P.C., reacted far more positively to the person-to-person effort than to the sparse minimalist style or cool abstractions. Also, the highly designed pieces did not inspire the confidence that the slightly more conservative, yet attractive, pieces did.

As with most printed promotional material, the jury (as is the case with clients) preferred limited use of text. Chances of getting your message to the client are much higher with less of his time and commitment required to read a short, clear piece.

Formats were creative and ranged from posters, cards and puzzles to jars of jam.

Category 8: Corporate Advertising Programs
Advertising continues to be an area of inexperience among design firms. The trouble begins early with failure to be specific in the objective of the advertising. Without a well-defined objective, it simply isn’t possible to create effective advertising.

With a well-defined objective, the next essential is to have a creative strategy to support it. This combination was difficult, if not impossible, to find in this typewritten tabloids where the only focus is internal. They are now periodic extensions of the firm’s promotional activities, second only to the brochure.

A brochure or print piece may only command 15 or 20 seconds of the client’s attention before it is filed away, whereas an audio-visual program usually lasts five minutes or longer. Therefore, an AV program with good visual and narrative information remains an excellent method of communicating with clients, when you get your foot through the door. The big change has been the dramatic shift from slide show to video format among entrants in the competition. Although only a few firms have reached the level of full corporate identity programs, many are viewing that as the next logical step, as design firms take on more of the traditional customs of corporate businesses.

The award winners in various categories are:

- Company brochures: 3rd: Aiken & Allen, Architects, Honororable Mention; Clark Trible, Harris and Li Architects, P.A.
- Special presentation brochures: 3rd: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, 3rd: Soedrups Corporation

Annual reports:
- 1st: The CRB Group
- 3rd: Camp Dresser & McKee Inc

Newsletters:
- 1st: RTKL Associates Inc.
- 2nd: The Ratcliff Architects

Magazines:
- 1st: Woodward-Clyde Consultants
- 2nd: Gensler and Associates/Architects
- 3rd: J. A. Jones Construction Company

Corporate identity programs:
- 2nd: Gensler and Associates/Architects
- 3rd: The NBBJ Group (tie)

Honorable Mention:
- Walker Associates Inc.
- Rumpart Group Inc.
- HMBH Architects Planners
- Interior Designers

Direct mail
- 3rd: R.G. Vanderweel, Engineers, Inc.
- 3rd: The Dowld & Johnson Architects, Inc.
- LEA Group

Special events:
- 1st: Rosner White Hobbs Davidson McClellan Kelly, Inc.
- 2nd: Modjeski and Masters
- 3rd: Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates
- 3rd: Honororable Mention: Bobrow/Thomas and Associates

Corporate advertising programs:
- 3rd: Gilbert-Commonwealth

Communications programs:
- 2nd: Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates

Corporate services presentations:
- 1st: Harvey Construction Co., Inc.
- 2nd: Ferebee Walters
- 3rd: Kirkham Michael & Associates
- 3rd: EDI Architects (tie)

Project presentations:
- 1st: Stevens & Wilkenson
- 3rd: Camp, Dresser, McKee
- 3rd: Soedrups Corporation

For more information on the society, contact: Jeanne Murphy, The Society for Marketing Professional Services, 1437 Powhatan, Alexandria, Va., 22314, 703/749/6117.

Mr. Burden heads the firm of Burden Associates, in New York, and is an architect who specializes in design-communications consultation. He is the author and publisher of The Communicator’s ADVISOR, a newsletter on interview strategies, client criteria, presentation techniques and print media. Burden is a member of the SMPS and author of several books, including Architectural Delineation and Design Presentation, both published by McGraw-Hill.
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As names go, let us agree that ours—the "National Council of Architectural Registration Boards"—lacks the catchiness ever to win instant recognition among the American public. Yet by the same token it deserves credit for describing precisely what the organization is: namely, a council of the legally constituted architectural registration boards of all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

NCARB, known to many as simply "the Council," is unique among the several collateral organizations of the architectural profession in two notable respects. Though it has by far the fewest members, it serves the larger profession in its capacity as overseers of inter-state registration boards. These boards are its only members, and its most important constituency is the entire American architectural community.

How, you may wonder, is it that such few serve to preserve so many? A ready answer can be found in the Council's bylaws, which state in part these few words: "The mission of the Council shall be to work together as a council of member boards to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public by enabling member boards to carry out their duties." It is important to remind ourselves as architects that under the Constitution of the United States possession of the power to "guard the health, safety and welfare is reserved to the individual States." This language makes it clear that, as with a number of other professions, regulation of architecture and the registration of practitioners cannot be done nationally. Each state issues its own licenses.

But this legal constraint has not prevented the appropriate state agencies from joining forces to achieve common aims through a national organization. In NCARB's case, the great idea for such an umbrella body took shape in 1919, when 15 architects from 14 states met, in response to a call from an Illinois architect-educator named Emory Stanford Hall. The main thrust of this meeting was to find a way of forming an organization of examining committees in those states that had licensing or registration laws. Interestingly, although the year 1919 hardly looked back to dim antiquity, there were only 19 states with such laws when Mr. Hall's pioneering hand met.)

The following year in the month of May, a second meeting took place at the Octagon in Washington, D.C. There, in the American architects' symbolic building, a development committee's recommendations were accepted and an organization called the "Council of Architectural Registration Boards" was founded. A little later that year, the founders, sensing more fully what they had wrought, added "National" to the title.

What are NCARB's key objectives? Reciprocity is first. Then, as today, NCARB's key objectives included reciprocal registration, uniformity of examination, interchange of information among the member boards and, as the founders wrote, "other matters of interest to the various committees and interests involving the general educational standards of the architectural profession in the United States.

Of these objectives, none enjoys reciprocal registration in importance. In his report to the 1983 NCARB annual meeting, the Council's executive director, Sam Baer, reported that beginning in fiscal year 1984, there will be approximately 22,815 NCARB certificate holders in the United States. He estimated that this figure represents roughly 35 percent of all registered architects in active practice. Why are so many architects certificate holders and what does it mean? The main reason is that the certificate now enables an architect to gain registration, quickly and without further examination, in all but a few states. The instrument that makes this possible is the Council Record, sometimes called "the Blue Cover." When a person is issued a certificate, this is done with the understanding that NCARB will act in confidence as a recordkeeper in compiling and maintaining the ongoing documentation of the certificate holder's professional activities. This compilation, the Council Record, is transmitted on request by the certificate holder to a particular state in which he or she wants registration. For more than a decade, NCARB has also been a party to "interrecognition agreements" with both the United Kingdom and Australia; these have appreciated facilitating the practice of American architects in each of these countries.

This, in fact, a recognition by the member boards of this need to move across state borders that explains why NCARB concerns itself with each of the profession's so-called four E's: education, experience, examination, and enforcement.

There have been times when these concerns were not well understood by the profession at large. Until recently, for example, we have heard the view expressed occasionally by an architectural educator that NCARB was trying to "teach the schools what to teach; or by the professional societies that NCARB was encroaching on their domain; indeed, others of us within the Council can remember periods when the most significant news we ourselves were generating had to do with our most contested internal disagreements about the same issues. But I hope that those days of intraprofessional squabbling are largely behind us. A transition has occurred in a short time, and it can be attributed for the most part to two major developments.

An accredited professional degree is now required. The first new development is the apparent reconciliation by NCARB of its oldest and most divisive issue, namely, the question of whether or not a person seeking an NCARB certificate must hold a professional degree from an accredited architectural education program. One needs to know that before the Council voted to adopt the degree requirement at its 1980 annual meeting, similar resolutions previously had been twice adopted—and twice rescinded. This legal challenge facing the Council was figuring out how to make the latest degree requirement stick. The Council, by the nature of its mission, must strive for a substantial consensus. Though each member board has a single vote, the full membership is sensitive to the fact that a change in the standards for NCARB certification effectively changes the rules by which a registered

architect is free to practice in another state; thus if a single state refuses, as a result of the change, to accept the NCARB certificate, the entire structure of interstate registration is impinged. The degree requirement is at last being put to the test, and in a way that reinforces the Council's mission to safeguard the public interest. Effective July 1, the educational standard for certification will be that a candidate must hold an accredited first professional degree in architecture. We anticipate that all but a small fraction of applicants for the certificate in the years just ahead will be professional degree-holders.

But an alternate is being developed for special cases. What about those who make up this small fraction who don't have the right degree? They, too, will be allowed to seek recognition to satisfy the new NCARB educational standard. At the 1983 annual meeting, the member boards voted to grant the Council the authority to issue certificates to those applicants "without an accredited degree but meeting all other Council criteria, whose education is deemed by an Educational Evaluation Committee to meet the Education Criteria." Since last July, the very considerable responsibility for determining "education criteria" has been in the hands of a committee chaired by NCARB's immediate past president, Sid Frier. The committee is composed of architects and educators who were appointed on the strength of their demonstrated expertise in architectural education, as well as the provision of services in this area to NCARB and the other collateral organizations. It is charged with presenting a comprehensive set of recommendations to the member boards to discuss and debate at the six NCARB regional meetings this spring. The committee will then prepare resolutions for all key aspects of the non-degree-holder's process for member board action at the 1984 annual meeting. Thos. Frier's committee cannot tip his committee's hand, he has made two promises. "We are not putting NCARB in the education business," and we are not doing anything that would jeopardize our hard-won educational standard for certification—and that's an architectural education received in an accredited program."

I anticipate that the Education Architectural Record February 1984 - 37

Robert E. Oringelburgh, AIA, is president-elect of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, and a partner of Brook Jensen Oringelburgh/OTool O'Toole/ Rudolph, Architects, Portland, Oregon.
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Evaluation Committee’s recommendations will be seriously considered as proposed at next June’s annual meeting in Portland, Oregon. Should these recommendations be adopted, NCARB will have arrived at a goal that a long succession of Council leaders have hoped to reach. For it is the professional degree that will give us the uniformity we have worked for. It will strengthen our national system of reciprocal registration and therefore assist the member boards in serving the certificate holders and, of course, the public.

A new exam is now accepted by all for registration
Along with the new education standard, NCARB has also created a new single examination. As many architects well remember, various jurisdictions have until recently required all registration candidates to pass a qualifying test, regardless of their educational background; others, of course, administered this test for candidates who lacked an accredited professional degree. Such disparities further complicated the Council’s mission to maintain reciprocal registration.

But now, after a prodigious effort undertaken in a short time frame, we have a single, universal examination. Its title, the Architect Registration Examination, or A.R.E., describes exactly what it is. It was first given in June 1983. Reporting on the new exam’s development to the NCARB annual meeting, A.R.E. Chairman Edgar Beery, a former member of the Virginia Board, said, “Over 50 dedicated architects, together with NCARB staff and a very active group from Educational Testing Services, devoted thousands of hours in developing the nine divisions of the new exam.” Beery characterized the A.R.E. in this way: “We believe it meets each of the demands expressed over the recent years by the individual state boards. These include a requirement for a single examination, one more closely aligned with the IDP; a test design, including graphic communication, an exam testing the knowledge and skills that architects need to perform the role of architect; and a national period of learning in a school of architecture. It will be an exam for architects, not engineers, not graphic designers, not historians; it will be an exam that will lift the profession; it will determine the candidate’s ability to design and to act as a generalist-coordinator; and lastly, and perhaps most important, it will test the candidate’s competence to protect the public health, safety and welfare.”

Has the new exam done all of these things? We believe so. A statistical analysis of the ’83 edition, correlated with performance data covering previous years, confirms that A.R.E results are generally consistent with those established during the decade of the Professional Examination—Part B and later, the Design Exam. But telling ourselves the A.R.E. is a good exam is not enough; critics might very well charge us with self-serving bias. So President Kirk this year appointed a “validation panel” of 12 registered architects to evaluate all nine divisions of the 1983 edition of the A.R.E., as well as the 1984 exam specification. The specific criteria for selecting the “validators” is significant. The panel comprised two members each from NCARB’s six regions. They are associated with firms ranging in office size from two to over 200, and they range in experience from one person who has practiced for only two years to a senior partner in one of the older firms in the United States. The single most important criterion is that the validators “are not now, nor have been, members of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.” The NCARB Validation Committee, chaired by Robert Tessier, a current architect member of the Board, has as its primary duty the recording of the panel’s commentary. Tessier notes that the results of the validation will be entirely and exclusively those of the panel. It is expected that these results will be presented to the Council’s spring regions.

Cooperation spurs the intern program—but more is needed
Another major development is the progress the profession’s collateral organizations have achieved recently in working together. These are, of course, the organizations comprising the Florida Bar, the IDP, and NCARB. By the end of 1983, the IDP-eligible, the IDP-eligible, the AIA, the Associated Students Chapters/AIA, the Associated Collegiate Schools of Architecture, and the National Architectural Accrediting Board. The program is strongly endorsed by all of our collateral organizations, and I urge that registered architects give it the support it deserves. Far from “costing” you time and money, as we sometimes hear from the ill-equipped, the internship represents a solid long-term investment in professional talent.

New school accreditation criteria is another development
Less well known than the IDP but no less significant is the Special Committee of the NASB which was appointed to evaluate the entire architectural school accreditation process. The committee’s makeup was prestigious and broad-based. Its members were presidents or past presidents of AIA, ACARB, ACSA, and NAAB, with the exception of an ASC/AIA person who also served on the NAAB board. The Special Committee’s major recommendation, which was subsequently adopted by the NASB board, calls for the implementation by NAAB of the committee’s “achievement-oriented performance criteria” which would be applied “for the purposes of evaluating the performance of students and thereby the effectiveness of the school’s program.” This marks the first time ever that the accrediting process has been structured to evaluate the academic program on the basis of its graduating students’ performance.

But the public interest always comes first with NCARB
From NCARB’s point of view, the public interest is accommodated to a far greater degree through an internship program that is firmly based on training criteria that can be uniformly applied by all 54 member boards. Similarly, it is well within the Council’s responsibility to concern ourselves with the quality of architectural education. It is a major part of our work to prepare and administer national examination for all registration candidates. To accomplish this important task, we must be able to interact with the educators and other collateral organizations.

While the public may be our largest constituency, we have other constituencies, too, within the profession. And we prize our good relations with all of them. Most of the men and women who serve on their state registration boards—NCARB’s member boards—are registered architects. The remaining members are public members. We are all sworn to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare. It is perhaps unclear to some in the architectural profession that when we are doing the Council’s work, we are publishing this first and architects second. We may belong to the AIA, we may be architectural educators, practitioners, or salaried workers in the public or private sectors. And we are proud of our profession and wish it well. But when the issues are clear and the public interest is paramount, NCARB is bound to resolve them to the public’s benefit.
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What are today's architectural students like? Are schools teaching what they should? Using Ohio's four schools—which offer varied ways to teach—and a long background in practice and education, James Foley presents some strong opinions on what's right and what's wrong.

By James J. Foley

Most architects have opinions about politics, art or any other subject including the state of architectural education in the United States. Consistent with that broad statement, the following are my views on the state of architectural education in general—with emphasis on Ohio in particular. During my tenure as a member of the board of directors of the American Institute of Architects, followed by a term as a member of the board and then as president of the National Architectural Accrediting Board, for U.S. schools of architecture, I watched with interest the slow but sure change in architectural education and the relationship of the profession with academia. I feel that this change is positive and is still under way. My opinions are personal. However, they are the result of some experience in the academic arena and are influenced by 30 years of private practice—which is about to come to a planned termination.

Today's students are clever, quick—and serious

In Ohio, we are experiencing a phenomenal improvement in the knowledge and awareness of students. They are clever, quick, worldly and are well informed about architectural affairs across the land—at least compared to the students of, say, 15 years ago. Fortunately, most have abandoned the view that the super architect (which some want to be) drives around in a Ferrari, has seven different "dates" (one for each night of the week) in a personal penthouse on the top floor of the most expensive building in town. This is the TV syndrome, and while still popular, is not why the average student of today is studying architecture. Actually, the students are more interested in improving the lot of fellow citizens while engaging in a profession which is creative, exciting and on the cutting edge. If lucky, or unlucky perhaps, this TV architectural personality may evolve. However, that is not our goal.

I believe that the profession can be thankful and look forward to a positive future because of these students. The days of demoralizing and losing interest in favor of social rhetoric are also fortunately over, at least in middle America. Our contemporary student is very much interested in the social and political issues of the day and has chosen to improve our society, not by talking about it, but by participating as a professional using architectural craft in this real-life situation.

Unfortunately, some of the instructors of today were deeply influenced by the burning sixties, and I believe that they are out of tune with the goals and aspirations of today's student. The student of today is aware of the problem of the inner city and the social ills of our time, but feels that one can serve better by being a better trained professional.

If the student of today is indeed this serious-minded seeker of education and training, we should look at the schools that provide it. How well are they equipped, both physically and mentally, to do the job? What commitment do they have to architecture in both the narrowest and broadest sense? Are the schools up-to-speed, so to speak, with the demands of today's practice? I can only generalize about my geographical area and obviously my views may or may not coincide with other parts of the country. Just what is happening in architectural education in Ohio?

What kind of school should one choose

Ohio has four accredited schools of architecture and I believe that they tend to serve four very different constituencies—and this is indeed fortunate. It is possible in Ohio to pick and choose, within limits, the kind of architectural exposure you want, assuming that you know the difference. That in itself is a problem, many cannot differentiate among the various academic thrusts because they have no basis for evaluation. They have no single source for this information. There is a need for someone to make available to the mass consuming public a reference that will help guide the student in the choice of school. Which school is practice oriented; which is strictly design; which emphasizes physical planning versus social planning and the like? It would be difficult and possibly unfair to grade or categorize the different schools; but it may be a real service to guide students in terms of interest, and aim them toward the institution that parallels their interest.

I have tried here to do this for the four schools of architecture in Ohio—Kent State University, the Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, and Miami University. A few short years ago Ohio University in Athens also had an architectural program; however, when they had accreditation problems they dropped it.

The University of Cincinnati combines study with work

What kind of school is the University of Cincinnati in balance, I think it is a very good school with an innovative work-study program. UC has no problem placing its graduates, who are well trained for entry in the profession when they complete the fundamental educational program. All students go to school for a given period of months, followed by a similar period of actual on-the-job experience in an office. UC has done a good job of placing the students for on-the-job experience. Last year I had in my office a student by the name of Larry Cunningham, and I can report from actual experience that he will do one day be an asset to an architectural firm—maybe his own. After he finished here he went back to school for another term, and I understand that he then went with The Architects Collaborative in Cambridge for additional training. The point I am making is that I feel that Larry is getting a good, broad-based education and he will enter the profession on a higher plane than the average graduate. The problem (if indeed it is a problem) with this type of program is that it does take more time and money to complete—but many argue that it is time and money well spent. I feel the program is well balanced between design and practice, and produces a well-rounded architect within the capability limits of each student.

Miami University stresses design

Miami University, located in Oxford, Ohio (which is between Cincinnati and Dayton), is physically well positioned. Many natives think of the idyllic setting of this quiet, serene college town (most of the time) as the perfect setting for transition into adulthood. But, what about the architectural program?

I believe that Miami marches to a different drummer—and there certainly is room within the profession for that. In my opinion, they tend to overemphasize the design studio aspect at the expense of more fundamental values. They seem to engage in a design frenzy with the benefit of a design guru. (There, I have said it.) As I stated earlier, these views are subjective and I am sure that I will hear from Dean Hayden May, who like that I have, will challenge my statements. In any event, I feel that Miami turns out a middle-of-the-road graduate who needs some honing and shaping before understanding that a building has to stand up and not leak—and that building codes, whether or not they are followed (do they?), are indeed a constraint upon the design effort. You may argue that this part of the educational experience can be acquired on-the-job in an office—which is true—but it means that this type of graduate starts at a different threshold within the profession.

Kent State University offers a no-nonsense balance

Some of you may remember Kent State, in Kent, Ohio, for another reason that is rather famous. You should also know that the architectural program, founded and nurtured for many years by Joe Morbito, is a fundamentally sound program based on the fact that Joe was a practitioner in good standing, who knew what the student had to do to succeed. From the time Western Reserve gave up its architectural program, Kent State has serviced the northeastern part of our state as the training ground for architects.

In my view, the program integrates the constraints of design with the real world of
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practice and, while essentially continuing the basic philosophy of Joe Morbito, is now under the leadership of Irven Armstrong. It seems to be the consensus of the architectural community that Kent State is a good, solid school with no nonsense program. What more is there to say?

Ohio State University integrates building techniques with design

The fourth architectural program in Ohio is in Columbus, at the Ohio State University. The school of architecture there is part of the college of engineering. This organizational structure has meant many things to the architectural program, both good and not so good. When you consider the power politics of a university setting, this structure has given the school of architecture much clout which it would not have had if it were part of the liberal arts college. But Ohio State, the engineering college is outstanding and has a worldwide reputation that is highly respected within the university. Dean Glover of the college of engineering is sympathetic to the needs of architecture and lends his support. This has meant a great deal in terms of faculty salaries and other day-to-day operational needs of the school. On the other hand, within the architectural community there is the ongoing concern that architecture may succumb to an engineering emphasis at the expense of design. As a matter of fact, such is not the case. The college administrator who runs the school of architecture to be the very best, and has given it every support and academic freedom to reach this goal; architecture has total control over all of its curriculum matters, but can and does draw upon the great resources at the disposal of the college of engineering.

Historically, the architectural program at Ohio State has been a fundamentally sound one, although it has not yet attained the status of excellence consistent with university and college goals. A number of years ago, in an attempt to remedy this situation, the program was restructured, and numerous changes were made within the faculty and curriculum—which re-oriented the program toward urban design as a major thrust. In so doing, too much emphasis was placed on the rhetorical side of architecture, at the expense of the practical aspects. For example, courses such as "the political determinants of architecture," plus "the social determinants of architecture" were over-emphasized. While important, they did not further the students' education in basic architectural terms—given the limited amount of time available. To accommodate these courses, "structures" (other than a basic introductory course) was made an elective, which gave the students an opportunity to avoid rigorous courses—which naturally they elected to do at the expense of their well-rounded education.

This narrow emphasis on urban design, at the expense of the fundamental skills required in architectural practice, led to the decision that the program required another new direction. The school of architecture, under the directorship of Jerrold Voss, now has three departments: architecture, landscape architecture and city and regional planning. This seems to be an ideal composition and thereby each department can draw on the strengths of others and in fact, such is the case.

At re-directing the emphasis that the architectural program at Ohio State should take, Robert S. Livelye appointed chairman of the Department of Architecture. His credentials are impressive, with a balance between professional practice and teaching that gives me reason to believe Ohio State is in good hands.

Livelye believes that architecture is multidisciplined, and he will concentrate on a balanced program. There is a basic body of knowledge which must be studied and not dabbed with. In the past, teaching assistants assumed a major teaching load in the design studios. Livelye plans to get the faculty back into the studios. He plans to use the design studios to apply the information from the other disciplines and synthesize design with this practical knowledge. Space planning and arrangements are not enough; the student must know that buildings are a product, so to speak, and must serve the needs of the client and public in general. In addition to this, the student must be exposed to management considerations, including time and resources. The student must have knowledge of history to avoid re-inventing the architectural wheel. This new program will integrate the technique of building with the art of design. The student will be taught how to put it all together, with the ultimate goal being that elusive commodity called architecture. How can you argue with that goal?

We all recognize that the practice of architecture involves art, science and business, which can be defined many different ways by different people. This new program at Ohio State will give carefully measured quantities of each, in a matrix that synthesizes the total. Good design is the goal, nurtured and supported by technology, blended with knowledge of the workings of our free enterprise system.

Ohio State was also fortunate to receive a large grant from IBM to further an innovative program in computers and their application to architecture. The computer is viewed here as a tool and not an end unto itself. If a student is interested in the high tech use of computers in architecture, this facet of the program is very strong.

What should schools teach

In terms of architectural education in general, I hold that there are three levels of attainment. They are skill, understanding and knowledge. The dictionary defines skill as "the ability to use one's knowledge effectively and readily in execution, performance, distinction, mastery." That says it all. While a suitable goal, I am not sure that the university should be charged with this assignment. This level of attainment will probably be realized by native ability or practice, without university input—assuming that the basic ingredients are there.

On the other hand, understanding is the responsibility of the university and the student, with particular emphasis on the student. Again, Webster says that this is "to have thorough or technical acquaintance with, or expertness, in the practice of" and further states "a mental grasp, comprehension, and the power of comprehending." In my view, understanding is the keystone of any educational process.

My definition of knowledge is quite narrow and is not totally in agreement with the broad scope of the dictionary. I prefer the specific definition of Webster, which states "the fact or condition of being aware of something." The student should have an awareness of his environment and its impact upon design without necessarily understanding the inner working of the free enterprise system. The same for other support disciplines.

No one ever said that it is easy to teach architecture. There is just too much to do and learn—and so little time to do it. The architect of today is expected to be an artist, demonstrate the expertise of a scientist and operate as a businessman. This is a formidable assignment to accomplish in a few short years, during which the student is also infused with social sciences, language, and all of the other things which an architectural student is expected to appreciate. Maybe it just cannot be done in a structured way. Perhaps the student should be given a palette of tools, left to choose those which are comfortable and which can be mastered, then turned loose to develop the skills of the craft through experience and actual use. But this method may be a little hazardous, and in our litigious society could completely inundate the courts. It also may be expensive tuition.

What conclusions can one assume

I cannot speak for architectural education across the land, but in Ohio it is alive and healthy. Enrollment is up and support for higher education at the government level is improving. There is a healthy diversification of programs available, and there is a continuing dialogue between the schools and the practicing profession. I don't think we can relax, but speaking for this practitioner, we can feel comfortable.
Canada announces plans for two major museum projects

The Canadian government recently unveiled models of two new buildings for the National Gallery of Canada and the National Museum of Man. Designed by Moshe Safdie & Associates in collaboration with the Parkin Partnership, the National Gallery in Ottawa (photo top) will house 322,000 square feet of space for the display of the country's largest collection of Canadian, American, and European art. The sandstone and glass museum will be located across the street from the Gothic Revival Notre-Dame Basilica on a promontory in the Ottawa River overlooking Parliament Hill. An entrance pavilion near the Basilica opens onto a glazed ramp leading to the Great Hall—a contemporary glass version of Canada's Parliamentary Library which serves as an entry foyer to two floors of galleries grouped around three courts (photo left).

The 420,000-square-foot National Museum of Man (photo above) will be situated directly across the river from the Safdie complex in Hull, Quebec. Designed by Douglas Cardinal, Ltd., in joint venture with Tétrault, Parent, Languedoc & Associates, the striking new museum of Canadian anthropology, history, and folk art will be, according to Cardinal, "a symbolic form [that] will speak of the emergence of this continent, its features sculpted by the winds, the rivers, the glaciers." Within the structure's undulating masonry shell the architects have designed vast, flexible halls of varying heights where museum curators will fabricate contextual settings for the collections.
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West Week '84 to examine the design world according to California

Continuing the pattern developed over the past few years, West Week 1984 will combine a contract market of the 30 member firms housed at the Pacific Design Center with a major symposium on current design ideas and philosophies. The theme of this year's event, scheduled for March 22-24 at the landmark West Hollywood center, is "Gateway to the World," a reference to Los Angeles' role as host to the 1984 Olympic Games. The conference will feature a series of programs called International Stature: Products, Places and Reputations—developed by PDC2, the West Coast contract furniture manufacturers association—that will highlight work by important architects and designers with special emphasis on California's influence on the design world.

Most West Week programming will be held at the Blue Whale or at the West Hollywood Auditorium. On Tuesday, March 22 at 11:30 Stanley Abercrombie will moderate a panel discussion on the California difference in painting, design, light, and living; at 2:30 Charles Gandee will chair a general discussion on the international stature of California architecture and design; at 4:00 Lella Vignelli will introduce Joseph D'Urso and his work while at 5:00 Pilar Viladas will do the same for Robert A.M. Stern; and at 6:00 an historical review moderated by Charles Jencks will include D'Urso, Vignell, Bruce Graham, Hans Hollein, and Wolf Von Eckardt.

On Friday at 1:30 Hollein will chair a charrette of California design including participants Andrew Batey, Eric Moss, Rob Quigley, and Johannes Van Tilburg; at 2:45 Carol and Roy Doumani will present their Venice beach house by Robert Graham; and 4:00 Von Eckardt and Bruce Graham will discuss the recent work of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; and at 5:00 Abercrombie and Robert Siegel will review the architecture of Gwathmey Siegel & Associates.

On Saturday at 12:00 Stern will discuss the work of Hans Hollein with the Viennese architect. Later that afternoon there will be two multi-image audio-visual presentations—the first an exploration of Los Angeles' emerging identity between 1932 and 1984, and the second a preview of the architectural, interior, and graphic designs created for this year's Olympics. At 7:00 that evening the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art will host a reception at the museum's new temporary headquarters.

For fuller details on dates and times of these and other programs, write to the Office of Public Relations, Pacific Design Center, 6857 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif. 90068, or call 213/657-8800. Record will feature complete coverage of West Week activities in the New products section of the May issue.

East meets west

The origins of modern Chicago are examined in "Compact Comfort: Apartments and Bungalows in Chicago, 1890-1940," currently on view through April 17 at the Chicago Historical Society. Organized by Society curators Wim de Wit and Sabra Clark, the exhibit features models, drawings, historic photographs, period real-estate brochures, and advertisements that illustrate how a wave of new residential construction in the early 20th century transformed Chicago from a city of mansions and row houses into a community dominated by smaller, more efficient apartments, flats, and bungalows. A central theme of the exhibit is the influence of the Arts & Crafts and Domestic Science movements on residential architecture of the period.

A riverfront park for New York is proposed

Three conceptual alternatives for Westway State Park, a 98-acre public waterfront greenspace that will extend along the Hudson River from the edge of Battery Park City in lower Manhattan northward to 34th Street, were recently unveiled by New York Governor Mario Cuomo. The park is an integral part of the controversial Westway project, a proposal to build on Hudson River landfill a depressed and covered interstate motor route that would replace the razed West Side Highway. Designed by Clarke & Rapuano in joint venture with Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown, the three alternatives all feature a linear configuration of continuous waterfront esplanades over the highway combined with open play areas, plazas for public events, and recreational facilities. Because the entire Westway proposal must still face a variety of review processes and impact studies, work on the park is not expected to begin until 1989. In the meantime the architects' drawings are available for public viewing during business hours at the offices of the Westway Management Group, 5 Penn Plaza, New York City.
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Alexandria: commercial contextualism

Located on a prominent corner site in the Old Town section of Alexandria, 1101 King Street is a seven-story office and retail condominium complex designed by Zinser & Dunn Associates to blend in with the brick architecture of this historic Washington suburb. Although the architects have dubbed the 200,000-square-foot structure "Edwardian," the building exhibits a variety of details that, in truth, defy any specific stylistic classification. No matter: 1011 King Street represents a continuing trend by architects and developers working in older urban and suburban areas to plan projects that defer to their surroundings. The question of style in this case is less critical than the issue of compatibility.

Boston: common sense

The Boston Redevelopment Authority has announced plans for a mixed-use residential and commercial complex on the last developable parcel fronting the Boston Public Garden. The 493,000-square-foot, red-brick and stone structure by The Architects Collaborative features a seven-story office and retail block along the Garden backed by a 12-story condominium wing.

Miami: reclaiming the waterfront

Although the commercial rejuvenation of Miami over the last ten years has enhanced the city's reputation as an international business center, little has been done to help a declining downtown shopping district compete with the retail malls that dot this sprawling metropolitan area. That situation may soon change if a proposal by the Rouse Company, the people who brought you Harborplace in Baltimore, Ponceuil Hall Marketplace in Boston, and South Street Seaport in New York, sees the light of day. Working with architects Benjamin Thompson & Associates and Spillia Candela & Partners, Rouse seeks to redevelop verdant, but rundown Bayfront Park into a retail market known as the Bayside Specialty Center. The 225,000-square-foot, C-shaped complex on Biscayne Bay will include two-story north and south pavilions housing space for 200 small merchants; a central market square; a landscaped pier/park sheltering a marina; and a terraced garage for 1,200 cars. There are provisions to link the center to the rest of downtown via an extension of the city's elevated rapid transit system.

Dallas: ever bigger, ever higher

Allied Bank Tower is the first phase of a development project located on the northern edge of downtown Dallas that will eventually consist of three office buildings and a luxury hotel. For the proposal's initial stages two sculpted 60-story towers sheathed in reflective glass will be set at right angles to each other on a landscaped plaza. Each building will house 1.2 million square feet of office space and will be, at 720 feet tall, among the city's loftiest skyscrapers. Architects for the project are I.M. Pei & Partners in joint venture with Harry Weese & Associates and the landscape architecture firm of Kiley-Walker.
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AIA honors ten

Ten men and women have been elected honorary members of the American Institute of Architects in recognition of their contributions to the architectural profession or related fields. The individuals are James Marston Fitch, founder of the country's first graduate program in historic preservation at Columbia University; Mildred Friedman, design curator at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Gerald D. Hines, owner of a Houston-based development firm known for its architecturally distinguished projects; Lee Koppel, executive director of the Long Island Regional Planning Board; U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of N.Y., author and chief sponsor of the Public Buildings Act of 1979; Michael J. Pitta, director of the Design Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts; John F. Robin, chairman of Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority; Leon R. Strauss, founder and head of Pantheon Corporation, a St. Louis development firm; U.S. Rep. Sidney R. Yates (D-Ill.), a major supporter in Congress of Federal grants for historic preservation; and Kathleen Davis, executive director of the Orange County Chapter/AIA.

Raymond Hood is focus of Whitney show

The skyscrapers of Raymond Hood, one of America's best-known architects of the 1920s and 1930s, are the subject of an exhibition currently on view through March 7 at the midtown branch of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Curated by Carol Willis, "Raymond Hood: City of Towers" is a collection of 24 drawings and photographs that illustrate how five of the architect's most distinguished buildings—the Tribune Tower in Chicago and the American Radiator, Daily News, McGraw-Hill, and RCA buildings in New York—exemplified the ornamented vertical tower as the ideal skyscraper form versus the setback structures advocated by many of Hood's contemporaries. The show also includes sketches of Hood's visionary proposals.

One man's follies

Although the bucolic Berkshire foothills of northwestern Connecticut have inspired many artistic creations over the years, few are as evocative as the pair of wood constructions recently erected by Mike Cadwell, a young architect from New Haven. Cadwell calls his structures lyrical, and he has named them according to the seasons. The spring lyric (photo left) is a "bridge-box" that contains two rooftop banquets and a tall ladderback chair from which a waterfall is visible; the fall lyric (photo right) is an "ark-tower" housing a fold-down desk in its prow and cabinets within thick walls. As contemporary adaptations of the historic architectural folly, the lyrics are "buildings without a program but with an emotive or imaginative intent," according to Cadwell.
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GLASS DIVISION

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Design awards/competitions:
Chicago Chapter/AIA
1983 Distinguished Building Awards

1. Orchard Lofts Unit #2, Chicago, Illinois; Schroeder/ Guertis Associates, Architects. The problem facing the architects was how to convert a freestanding, two-story masonry and timber factory building and an adjoining 45-foot-wide lot into six town houses and two apartments. The solution, exemplified by the winning design pictured above, was to place a three-story “house” into the interior that defines a central lightwell, provides vertical circulation, and divides the living space from the kitchen and the master bedroom from the study.

2. Area 2 Police Center, Chicago, Illinois; City of Chicago, Bureau of Architecture, with Murphy/Jahn, Architects (see RECORD, January 1983, pages 105-107). Located near the industrial warehouses of the city’s Pullman district, this low-slung facility consolidates several interrelated police and court functions. Public entry into the complex is through a courtyard adorned by a suspended acrylic sculpture. In order to create a feeling of openness not generally associated with buildings of this type, the architects made extensive use of glass blocks and bands of clear glass that alternate with blue insulated metal panels.

3. Private Residence, Winnetka, Illinois; David Hovey, Architect. An industrial esthetic inspired both the interior and exterior of a 5,400-square-foot residence for the architect and his family. Clad in 1/8-inch-thick fiberboard sheets, the structure is entered through a landscaped courtyard enclosed by a high corrugated metal wall. In order to provide an open living area uninterrupted by load-bearing elements, the architect utilized exposed, punched steel joists that were painted red to contrast with the silver color of galvanized steel deck.

4. North Shore Congregation Israel Addition, Glencoe, Illinois; Hammond Beeby and Babka, Architects (see RECORD, June 1983, pages 104-113). The existing synagogue by Minoru Yamasaki is situated on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan and consists of a 1,000-seat sanctuary and administrative and school space. The new addition houses a circular 300-seat sanctuary, social hall, study, reception room, and kitchen. Its volume balances that of the earlier school wing, while its dignified dark brown brick facade matches the masonry of the existing structure.

5. Pinewood Farm Addition, Shields Township, Illinois; Frederick Phillips & Associates, Architects. Although this one-and-one-half-story wing exhibits a strongly individual architectural presence, its sympathetic forms and materials harmonize well with an existing farmhouse. High windows and narrow openings allow light to penetrate the structure but ensure privacy near the front door. A circular drum housing a stair to the basement was inspired by silos and other storage facilities on the property.
Design awards/competitions, continued

San Francisco Chapter/AIA
1983 Honor Awards

1. 750 Bush Street
Condominiums, San Francisco, California; Donald MacDonald, Architect. Located on a steep hill near downtown, this 16-story, 60-unit condominium tower is extensively glazed to take full advantage of its south-facing site. The architect placed apartment living areas in the building's brightly lit front, while bedrooms are at the rear, away from traffic noise. The jury's verdict: "A stylish fit for the Nob Hill apartment house district that exploits the view potential of its location."

2. 90 New Montgomery Street,
San Francisco, California; Gensler & Associates, Architects. A 15-story office building was planned for one of the few remaining areas of the city's financial district still characterized by low- and mid-rise structures of the early 20th century. The design objective was to create a contemporary building that deferred to the traditional architecture of its surroundings. Although the jurors felt that a glazed dormer atop the structure seemed somewhat unrelated to the overall design, they called the project "a successful effort to fit a new office tower into an historic context by [using] the scale and detail of its older neighbors."

3. Hall House, Blue Lake
Springs, California; Donald MacDonald, Architect. A mountainous site in northern California is minimally disturbed by a three-bedroom, two-bath vacation house that employs the technology commonly used to erect ski-lift towers—i.e. a simple system of prefabricated Cor-ten steel members transported to the site and set into six concrete footings. The jurors called the project "a strong constructivist solution designed for easy erection in a remote area."

4. Sundome, San Francisco,
California; Reid & Taries Associates, Architects. This proposal for a solid-dome stadium cover addresses the city's need for an all-weather athletic facility to replace wind-swept, fog-bound Candlestick Park. The architects' solution is a fixed roof with clerestory windows that are calculated to emit no direct sunlight onto the playing field. The jurors found the idea "striking," but questioned the effect that patterns of light might have on the players' performance.
Five projects by four Atlanta firms were cited in the 1983 awards program of the Georgia Association, AIA. Jurors for the eleventh annual event were Jaquelin T. Robertson, FAIA, dean of the University of Virginia School of Architecture; Andres Duany, AIA, of Andres Duany & Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, Architects; W.G. Clark, AIA; Harry C. Wolf, of Wolf Associates; Peter Eisenman, FAIA, of Eisenman/Robertson, Architects; and Robert Duspi, chairman of the graduate program at the University of Virginia School of Architecture.

1. MARTA Peachtree Center Station, Atlanta, Georgia; Toombs, Amisano & Wells, Architects. The jury praised the granite-walled rapid-transit facility for its “technological sophistication combined with an overpowering idea of place, history, and archaeology. The juxtaposition of the manmade and natural order of things makes poetry of all the rest. Clearly a project of national significance.”

2. Edison Mall Renovation, Ft. Myers, Florida; Cooper, Carry & Associates, Architects. In order to upgrade an existing 18-year-old strip shopping center into a regional mall, the architects placed a new two-story top-lit arcade along the building’s western facade that unifies small store frontages and shades shoppers from the Florida sun.

3. The Mall at Green Hills Renovation, Nashville, Tennessee; Cooper, Carry & Associates, Architects. The architects converted a postwar linear shopping center into an enclosed mall by capping an existing open-air service alley with pyramidal skylights and furnishing new courtyards with trees, seasonal plantings, fountains, and seating.

4. Academy of Medicine Expansion, Atlanta, Georgia; Surber Barber Moomy Architects. The jury called the architects’ expansion scheme “a restrained reworking of an extraordinarily refined building.

Their hand is best seen as it reinforces the original qualities—a sublimation of ego that represents a cultural maturity rarely encountered in adaptive reuse projects.”

5. Tallahassee City Hall, Tallahassee, Florida; Heery & Heery, Architects. The jurors lauded the “inherent urbanism” of a brick-clad structure that is intended to serve as a link between Tallahassee’s small-scale central business district and the adjacent State Capitol complex. A two-story screen relates to the established facades of the historic downtown and serves as a public door at the end of the city’s Jefferson Street axis. “A handsome product,” noted the jury.
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Return to tradition

When asked to comment on what Newsweek magazine recently termed a “counterrevolution” in ecclesiastical architecture, the Reverend Arnold A. Fenton, rector of St. Matthew’s Parish Church (cover and below), simply noted: “I haven’t been asked to do a wedding in a bowling alley for a long time.” While Father Fenton’s response is oblique, it nonetheless captures the essence of the change in attitude between the American religious community of the ’60s and ’70s, and the American religious community of the ’80s. The secular trend that swept churches and synagogues during the last two decades (inspiring congregations to seek social and political “relevance” in nontraditional religious practices) has ended. Not surprisingly, the nontraditional ecclesiastical architecture spawned during the period has also gone the way of the folk mass and the “Peace” and “Love” banners. In short, people once again want to be married in a church, not in a bowling alley; and people once again want said churches to look like churches.

Though the three churches included in this portfolio are unique responses to their place, the circumstances of their construction, and the aspirations of the congregations who built them, they all bespeak a return to traditional religious imagery. Father Fenton’s St. Matthew’s Parish Church, for example, is a contemporary California hybrid of the classic nave-and-transept model, designed by architects Moore Ruble Yudell in “collaboration” with 200 members of the Pacific Palisades parish. Immanuel Episcopal Church in old New Castle, Delaware, on the other hand, is a meticulous, if not-quite-faithful reconstruction of an 18th-century church destroyed by fire. And Charles Tapley & Associates’ sanctuary addition to Christ the King Lutheran Church in Houston was designed not only to accommodate that inner-city congregation’s modest expansion, but also the “Normanesque, proto-Gothic” building it adjoins.

Happily, none of the three look “counterrevolutionary.” They look like churches. Charles K. Gandee
Design by congregation

When the vestry of St. Matthew’s Parish Church drew up a contract for Charles Moore to design their new, $2.2-million sanctuary, they included a proviso stipulating that construction would not begin until two-thirds of St. Matthew’s 350 parishioners approved the schematic design. Though many of his colleagues would have balked, Moore signed without flinching. He knew he’d get the vote. He’d let the parishioners design the building.

Some 200 members of the Pacific Palisades parish eagerly participated in the four design workshops Moore and partners John Ruble and Buzz Yudell conducted in the St. Matthew’s Parish School gymnasium. The agenda included every conceivable planning and design issue, from siting and seating to finances and finishes. While the mixture of three architects, a full retinue of consultants, and 200 end-users is surely a volatile one, in his article recounting the Sunday-afternoon workshops (pages 102-106) Moore fails to mention a single explosion. We can attribute this omission either to Moore’s selective recall, or to his insistence on a clear definition of roles: it was the parishioners’ responsibility to “define”; the architects’, to “refine.” Moore cautions would-be participatory designers: “The secret of making all this work is not to be committed beforehand to some scheme you feel obliged to defend...otherwise, [the architect] is just going to be in constant conflict with the people who are forming their own minds.”

Not surprisingly, the parishioners were divided in their “definition” of a new sanctuary: one faction argued for a lofty, symmetrical church with a minimum of glass and wood; another, for a rustic, informal building with generous views to the southern California landscape. The solution these two factions and the architects finally arrived at mingles contemporary and traditional forms: intimate amphitheater seating and a hybrid nave-and-transept enclosure. Although Father Arnold A. Fenton, rector of St. Matthew’s, is generous in his praise of the new church, the process by which it was conceived is, in his opinion, not without its price: “Four years, and we’re not done yet!” Thinking it over, however, Father Fenton adds, “If it lasts 300 years, who cares?”

There is a happy postscript to the vestry’s original contract with the architects. When Moore Ruble Yudell presented the schematic design to their constituency, they didn’t receive 66 per cent of the vote, they received 83 per cent. C.K.G.
Unless you're looking at the roof or the axonometric, you won't know there is a cruciform at the heart of St. Matthew's Parish Church. For the classic ecclesiastical shape is carefully hidden behind a series of low, hipped-roof additions to its base. According to the architects, this "modified Latin cross" parti (emphasis on the modified) is a direct response to the client's request for semicircular seating in a traditionally configured sanctuary. But not only do the heavily glazed additions neatly accommodate the preferred plan, they also introduce a domestic scale to the otherwise grandly scaled sanctuary, a fact not unwelcome to a congregation divided between the desire for intimacy and the desire for awe-inspiring grandeur.
Rather than point out to the congregation that their request for a primarily wood interior was incompatible with their request for superb acoustics, the architects devised a battens-and-graincutting system—applied to four-inch-thick plaster walls—which creates the desired appearance without compromising the desired acoustics (photo right). Because St. Matthew's choir serves not to perform but to help the congregation sing the liturgy, they (and a 36-foot-high pipe organ) have been situated at the rear of the nave, on axis with the altar (plan right). Both altar and choir are grandly framed by ornamented steel “triumphal arches” that also carry the sanctuary’s major structural support—a crossing of two steel trusses (sections right). Although there are few windows in the nave, the west (altar) elevation is nearly transparent. The heavy glazing responds not only to the view of a cloister, but to the fact that St. Matthew's has no air conditioning; operable windows work in conjunction with operable ridge skylights to cross-ventilate the church. Though the rector, Father Arnold A. Fenton, appreciates the energy savings, he does report: “The congregation is easily distracted by the view during sermons.”
Though there is little overtly ecclesiastical about the exterior of St. Matthew's, (at least from Bicentennial Avenue), the congregation doesn't mind—for they preferred their church to be as unobtrusive as possible in its primarily residential environs. Assuming to the cause is consultant Tina Beebe's monochromatic green palette; as time goes by, and the landscaping matures, St. Matthew's will further meld with the verdant southern California landscape.

St. Matthew's Parish Church
Pacific Palisades, California
Owner:
Parish of St. Matthew
Architects:
Moore Ruble Yudell, Architects &
Planners—Charles W. Moore, John
Ruble, Razz; Yudell, project
Designers: John Rubble, project
Manager; J. Timothy Feltch, associate project manager; Robert
Flock, Andrea George, Skye
Iwatsuki, Peter Zingg, project staff
Engineers:
Kurty & Szymansky (structural);
Salvino & Associates (mechanical);
Aenelvet, Inc. (electrical)
Consultants:
Jim Burns (planning); Tina Beebe
(colors/interiors); Campbell and
Campbell (landscape); Richard C.
Peters (lighting); Jane Marquis
(stained glass)
General Contractor:
Mestell and Sons
Working together to make something

By Charles W. Moore, FAIA

Charles Moore would have us believe that he and partners John Ruble and Buzz Yudell did not design St. Matthew's Parish Church. And though we may be suspicious of the claim (could 280 parishioners possibly have designed the $2.5 million sanctuary?), we are nonetheless intrigued by the argument. C.K.G.

The Episcopal Church encompasses a broad variety of theological views—generally classified as high church and low church. In addition to differences in the formality of service, there are differences in matters affecting design—for example, whether a crucifix or a cross is used, whether Stations of the Cross are included, and whether a reredos or rood screen is provided.

The members of the Parish of St. Matthew in Pacific Palisades, an elegant section of the Los Angeles basin on the way to Malibu, embrace a particularly wide variety of views about theology (and every other subject). So when their old A-frame church, designed by Quincy Jones, was consumed in a forest fire, there were a great many opinions about what the new church should be like: how big it should be; where on a beautiful 37-acre site it should be located; how much reference it should have to a prayer garden that was an important part of the earlier building...indeed what the whole should look like.

The committee formed to search for an architect wrote into its rules that the new building—its siting, its detail, and its plan—would have to have a two-thirds positive vote of the congregation. We were selected (partly because we were among the few architects willing to accept in our contract the two-thirds mandate, but we were sufficiently excited about doing the church to accept that challenge). It seemed to us that the only hope for getting a two-thirds agreement was that the building should be designed not by a group of architects and then "sold" to the parish, but rather that it should be designed by all the members of the parish who were interested in participating.

We went about setting up four, all-day Sunday workshops, spaced about a month apart. Between 150 and 200 people from a parish of 350 or so came each time. To lead the workshops, we invited our friend Jim Burns, who, with Lawrence Halprin, had invented the "Take-Part" workshop process with which we were familiar.

The first workshop, on a sunny Sunday, was devoted to what we call in our California mellow-speak an "awareness walk," in which everybody who participated filled up a workbook with observations about the many places on the property where a new church might be sited.

Later on that day, people were provided with a set of sixth-grade materials that we had assembled—Fruit-Loops, parsley, cellophane, and the like, to make models of the church they wanted.

A month later, we returned with a model kit of parts, including groups of pews, altar, bell tower, choir and other elements, interior and exterior, that had been mentioned by them in the models that constituted the churches of their images. That was the magic day. There were seven tables of 15 to 20 parishioners each; each table went away with the pieces that we had made of their images, and each table came back with (miraculously) the same plan—a half-circle or half-ellipse of pews around the altar to put the parishioners as close to the altar as possible in order to share in a service that all wanted to share in. But the pews did not go more than half-way around, since by that time the people were quite vocal that they did not wish to look at the altar and see fellow parishioners beyond. Some wanted to see the prayer garden beyond, others were anxious to see the rector and others officiating without the distraction of the beautiful southern
The vitality of the familiar

The most immediate physical fact to influence the design of the new Christ the King Lutheran Church in Houston was the presence of the existing church, an outgrown building described by the architect as "a small, Norman-esque, proto-Gothic stone structure with considerable visual quality." In deference to the older building, which remains as the parish hall, the new stone walls echo the old, composed of rock-faced gray Texas limestone flecked with fossilized shells.

Stylistically, the new church incorporates an assortment of remembered religious buildings: the ceiling of the nave suggests the hammer-beam roofs of English Gothic; the curved north front with its oeil-de-boeuf recalls the English Renaissance. This stylistic mixture of chronologically progressive styles was deliberately effected to reflect the progressive growth and change of the congregation.

The unusual plan of the sanctuary—a rectangular Romanesque basilica with rounded corners at the altar, a Gothic cruciform with dormered transepts at the roof—derived from liturgical usages developed by the congregation in its old church. To foster a sense of intimate community, worshipers sit on all four sides of the altar, which occupies a place directly below the rooftop crossing. Pews brought from the old church seat most of the communicants along the long walls, while chairs at the ends of the nave accommodate overflow and the choir; the musicians thus become, literally as well as symbolically, part of the congregation. Chairs and liturgical furniture can be moved to create an aisle for special occasions.

While the form of the church roof owes its steep pitch and high ridge to the trussed ceiling and dormered transepts, the low flaring eaves take their scale from the parish hall. Acoustical concerns also figured largely in shaping the church. Not only do the choir and organist take their music seriously; the congregation actively seeks outside groups to perform in the church. The relative narrowness and height of the nave thence emerged from a need to put the hard plaster walls in close opposition so that music rises to the wood ceiling deck and trusses and then from all directions to the listeners' ears.

A new arcade ties the two buildings together and gives covered access to the narthex. The arcade also composes one side of a three-sided courtyard, which offers the surrounding residential neighborhood a quiet view and at the same time imposes a quiet distance between congregants and worldly traffic. G. A.
A buttressed arcade (above) leads from the old church to a new entrance door with beveled limestone surround. The narthex within houses a small chapel for daily services during the week. The interior of the nave (opposite) is less modest than its plain white walls and wood decked ceiling at first suggest: wood arches and tie beams overhead evoke the antiquity and importance of Gothic hammer-beam roofs, and the intarsia and brass liturgical furniture—altar, communion railing, pulpit and baptismal font—were designed by the architects to assure a similarly contrasting grandeur. (The small building next door, as shown in the plan, belongs to the church, which currently leases it to a florist.)
Risen from the ashes

Four years ago this month, sparks from a marsh fire blew onto the wooden roof shingles of Immanuel Episcopal Church in New Castle, Delaware, igniting a blaze that rapidly consumed all but the exterior masonry walls of nave, chancel, transept, and bell tower (photo left). Founded at the turn of the 18th century, Immanuel is said to be this country’s oldest Episcopal church in continuous use, a heritage that steel the emotional resolve of parishioners to salvage the charred shell, even though firemen and local authorities urged immediate demolition.

The instability of the ruin made the task of rebuilding particularly arduous, requiring the architect to piece together fragments of the past while upgrading the entire structure and mechanical systems to current standards. As groundwork for this process, John Milner Associates measured, drew, and labeled all debris, and conducted thorough archaeological and documentary research. Their investigations yielded detailed accounts of three major phases of church construction, in 1703, 1820 and 1860, and determined the original character of vanished elements such as oak roof trusses, steeple framing, and Georgian pew layouts. Fortuitous discoveries exposed by fire damage included gravestones that had long been hidden under raised floors, and a pew end buried behind chancel paneling.

The parish Reconstruction Committee and Milner Associates decided against restoring the building to its exact appearance just before the fire, since by 1860 some of the most distinguished architectural features—especially in the interior—had been destroyed or marred by Victorian and 20th-century alterations. If a pure restoration were possible, it was agreed, the ideal period to recreate would be circa 1820-22, when William Strickland substantially expanded the church. However, because modern liturgical procedure, optimum seating capacity, and organ and choir placement necessitated the retention of a polygonal apse and other extensions dating from 1860 and later, the architects arrived at a workable compromise that manifests the building’s complex history. The exterior of the church nearly reproduces its prefire state, with new stucco matched to surviving wall surfaces and a clay tile nave roof that simulates wood shingles. Behind the familiar facades, a hodgepodge of mismatched millwork and fixtures has been replaced with a pristine interior—part restoration, part adaptation—that evokes the neoclassical spirit of the 1820s (photos overleaf). From on high, bells recast in England ring the changes once again. D.B.
Buried treasure

Construction is now under way for the Smithsonian Institution's Center for African, Near Eastern and Asian Culture. Known as the Quadrangle Project, it will provide 368,000 square feet for the National Museum of African Art, presently housed in a series of row houses on Capitol Hill; the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, which will be a repository of Oriental and Near Eastern art placed adjacent to the collection of Eastern art in the Freer Gallery; and space for conferences, major traveling exhibitions, classrooms and offices.

To be completed by early 1986, 96 per cent of the space is to be built underground. The center will have only three elements visible in light and air—two pavilions and a kiosk which will ornament a handsome garden in a space already partially framed by the original Smithsonian Building, the Arts and Industries Building and the Freer Gallery of Art.

The fact that the Smithsonian's two new major museums are for the most part to be hidden underneath a garden is a victory for the various national and local watchdog organizations determined that the quadrangle behind the Smithsonian should remain predominately as open space. This group comprises a formidable list: The Sierra Club, Don't Tear It Down Committee, The Victorian Society in America, Committee of One Hundred on the Federal City, National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Joint Committee on Landmarks for the District of Columbia, National Capital Planning Commission and the United States Commission of Fine Arts. The botanical solution is a victory as well for the Smithsonian and its secretary S. Dillon Ripley, who were willing to preserve as much of the open space as possible but not at the expense of a properly functioning museum.

The triumph was handed to the advisory and regulatory bodies and to the Smithsonian by the latter's architects, Shepley Bullfinch Richardson and Abbott, and specifically by the design team headed by Jean Paul Carlhian, Richard Potter and Robert Hollaran. After many trips back to the drafting board and model shop to refine the concept, the architects have achieved what appears to be a highly successful solution to the immensely complex problem of making a major museum work underground. Additionally they have invented three elegant garden structures (sketch at left and detail opposite), which by possessing their own enchantment should successfully lure the museum public downward to the subterranean treasure trove.

And the garden itself will be marvelous. In the words of design partner Carlhian: "We have tried to encompass, within a unified whole, three basic aspects of the history of landscape architecture—the western half representing the Oriental approach, the center parterre embodying Victorian concepts, and the eastern half alluding to Islamic thoughts. We think we have resolved the conflict between the NCPC’s desire to see the garden remain open and unified, the Smithsonian’s desire to maintain the east and west theme gardens as appropriate settings for the pavilions, and the Fine Arts Commission’s concern that the 19th-century-style parterre, similar to the one that had existed in the Victorian Garden before construction began, be effectively contained by appropriate plant material."

A $3-million pledge from Enid A. Haupt will finance the design and construction of the garden, which will also serve as an interlink with the Mall and Independence Avenue by means of a system of winding walkways. The project itself will cost $75 million and Congress has agreed in principle to sharing this cost equally with the Smithsonian, which has secured commitments of almost $35 million from foreign governments and the private sector. Mildred F. Schwertz
The 4.2-acre quadrangular site is defined by three registered landmarks: on the north by the original Smithsonian Building (the "Castle") designed by James Renwick (1855), on the east by the Arts and Industries Building (1881) designed by Cass Gilbert and Scholze, and on the west by the Freer Gallery of Art (1925) designed by Charles A. Platt. To the south, on the opposite side of Independence Avenue and spanning Tenth Street, is the Forrestal Building (1956) by Curtis and Davis, Fordsay and Hassay Associates, and Frank Gris & Sons. The scheme consists of a pair of small pavilions, symmetrically disposed on either side of the north-south axis of Tenth Street along the north side of Independence Avenue. The pavilions serve as entrances to three stories of underground facilities while respecting the
The two small pavilions, 64 by 94 feet in plan, are relatively low (averaging 37 feet high), yet will screen the lower levels of the Forrestal Building as viewed from the gardens to the east and west of the principal axial vista, reducing as Carlitian puts it, "the adverse effect of such an overpowering structure whose north facade remains always ominously dark." (See section at the middle of the opposite page.) The pavilions carry out their architectural obligations to bring about a happy reconciliation between the Victorian styles of the Castle and the Arts and Industries Building on the one hand and the Neoclassic Freer on the other. Extensive analysis of the three surrounding landmarks and studious scrutiny of their proportions led to delicate adjustments in the positioning of the pavilions and to subtle refinements in their architectural expression. Because 96 per cent of the total space required by the program will be located below ground within a three-story building called upon to bear the unusually heavy load of a tree-planted garden, a construction system of relatively short spans was called for. A 30-foot-square grid, having proved to be the most...
rational and economical answer, became the generating factor in the overall dimensioning of the pavilions and of their internal organization. The next decision was how best to locate this grid within a space boasting two nonparallel facades, a tree whose root formation had to be protected, and the fragile footings of the two Victorian landmarks. Consistent with the demands of a large mechanical room, the grid was positioned so as to allow an exact alignment of the east-west center line of the African pavilion with the middle of the center bay of the southwest wing of the Arts and Industries Building in a precise 90-degree relationship with its facade. The two pavilions, thus positioned in the quadrangle, allow an unimpeded view of the Castle's south facade.
According to Caltlian, a principal clue to the discovery of a correct proportional system and an appropriate architectural expression for the pavilions was to be found in the roof lines of the landmark structures: "The Arts and Industries Building features a series of asserting pyramidal roof forms while the Freer sits contentedly within the confines of a Renaissance palazzo flat-roof container. We decided on a series of cupolas for the roof of one of the pavilions as a gesture to the Freer. The cupola, as everyone knows, is a feature often identified with Italian Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces. Furthermore, the Freer's facade, based upon a module of circular arches, provides additional justification for the dome treatment." The other pavilion will be roofed by six pyramids as a gesture to the Arts and Industries Building. Curiously, SRAA have put the domes on the pavilion next to the Arts and Industries Building and the pyramids on the pavilion that neighbors the Freer. The architects are apparently saying that since Charles Platt in 1893 could juxtapose a cream-colored granite Florentine palazzo against red-brick Victorian and get away with it, a little juxtaposing of their own would be more truly contextual. As seen in the drawings below, the center portion of the east facade of the Freer relates to the pavilion modules, as do the seven-arch proportions of the southwest wing of the Arts and Industries Building. The corner line of both pavilions is 23 feet above grade, roughly in alignment with significant landings on the adjoining landmarks.
The scale of the pavilions, despite their small size, is monumental. The facades were proportioned after the 30-foot structural grid, the over-all footprint, and the average height of 37 feet had been chosen. The cornice height for both pavilions was determined by the desirable hemispherical shape for the domes on the African pavilion. A set of proportional relationships, based on the golden mean, was applied to the module using the square and its diagonals as a generator. The arched openings are based on the classical doctrines of the 17th-century French mathematician and engineer Nicolas-François Blondel. The proportions of the Oriental pavilion are similar, except that the openings were given a pyramidal configuration in deference to the pyramidal outline of the roof.
The sections below and the pavilion floor plans opposite indicate the configurations of two of the three grand staircases within the quadrangle development. For both pavilions, descent starts in a straight run framed in limestone. The stairs then split into a pair of smaller runs which form a monumental descent within a central shaft sheathed in limestone. The steps follow a diagonal pattern within the Oriental portion of the museum and a circular one within the African. The skylight surmounting each staircase will be re-ignited along its periphery by a battery of powerful incandescent downlights, which will bathe the limestone facing with such a level of brilliant intensity as to turn it into a rallying point of light. As can be seen in the ceiling plans (opposite page top) the skylined and pyramidal ceilings will be caffered. At the northwest corner of the garden will be a kiosk to serve as the public entrance to the third basement level, which will often function as an education and conference center during hours when the rest of the museum is closed. Its stairs (opposite page bottom right) will be located within a solid limestone cylinder around which the columns and steps winds, serpentine fashion.

Carthas acknowledges that Donato Bramante's Tempietto of St. Peter as well as a sketch for a garden pavilion by Humphrey Repton were much in his mind when he designed the kiosk and stair.
Bowing to the East

Though never among the cultists of modernism, architect Edward Larrabee Barnes has certainly been among the convinced. So his comment that his design for the Park Avenue headquarters of The Asia Society was shaped by its "subject matter" as much as by formal and functional considerations commands attention.

Founded by the late John D. Rockefeller III, The Asia Society seeks to heighten American consciousness of Asian life and culture. Its new building is both the administrative focus of the society's informational programs and the locus of its cultural offerings, most notably a stunning collection of Asian art.

This multiplicity of function is expressed in a building that combines three lower floors of public space, including a below-grade auditorium as well as galleries for the society's permanent art holdings and visiting exhibitions, with five floors of office space and an upper level given over to meeting rooms—a triad reflected in the facade's division into the classical formation of base, shaft, and capital.

More importantly (and more subtly), though, the facade also reflects the building's broader subject matter: Asia itself. Traveling in India shortly before the project was commissioned, Barnes was struck by the pervasive use in Muslim architecture of surface ornament formed by contrasting materials set flush and patterned in reverses and checkerboards. His reinterpretation of this decorative device for the Asia Society building, which is clad in reversed fields and columns of polished and thermal-finished granite, is strikingly effective not only for its Eastern overtones but because it simultaneously emphasizes and refutes the classical triad of the principal facade through the far-from-classical tension set up by the visual discontinuity of the columns.

The timely influence of Barnes's Eastern sojourn is also felt in the entrance gallery (photos overleaf), which announces immediately the building's character—at once a repository for art and a hub for cultural and informational exchange. Functionally, this quality is reflected in the introductory space by the presence of both a bookshop offering works on Asian art and affairs and a mezzanine gallery displaying monumental stone sculptures. But it is the display aspect that dominates spatially.

Giving rein to the impulse to evoke the settings for which such sculptures were created, Barnes fashioned here a lofty vaulted room that purposely recalls the similarly vaulted rock tombs of India. (The ceiling curve is also very much a formal element, however, as is evident from its repetition in the curve of the cantilevered mezzanine and in the recurring lunar windows that punctuate the building facade.) To the same end the sculptures are bathed in a warm but subdued light and surrounded by the rich, almost rosy, sand tones that characterize all the building's public areas, as well as its quintessentially public facades.

Nor did Barnes slant the Western component of his "subject matter"—a corner site on a still-cohesive stretch of upper Park Avenue—though in this case the structure pays its respects to its various neighbors through its massing and composition. On Park Avenue, which Barnes sees as "a major hallway," the building presents a strong formal facade that maintains the street line and reasserts the height of older buildings nearby. On the side street, however, the mass fades away, stepping back to create a second-level garden terrace that complements the handsome old houses on the tree-lined block.

The sycamores that, along with a wisteria-laden trellis, shade the terrace are in fact indicative of the grace with which the Asia Society headquarters makes its bow to the East while remaining firmly rooted in its surround: no exotic Asiatic specimens these, but common New York street trees. Margaret Gaskie
To host the busy round of lectures, seminars, and conferences that are a key component of The Asia Society's mission of information exchange, the new headquarters boasts in addition to a below-grade 260-seat auditorium—suitable for lectures and films as well as performances of music, dance, and drama—a top-floor suite dedicated to meeting rooms for groups of all sizes. At the core of the suite is a members' lounge (below) guarded by two pedestalled loggriffs, the totem of the society. In a variation on the palette established in Barnes's public areas, interior design consultant Todd Williams, who also executed the interiors of the office floors, has here set a rug woven in China to an antique pattern against an elegant floor of rosewood inlaid with brass strips. Silk wall coverings are carried.
through from the lounge to the adjoining board room on the south (below) and the larger conference-seminar room on the north (bottom opposite), both of which can be set off by sliding doors. Although the dominant feature of the conference room is the curve of the lunar window, additional accents are the grace notes of incidental jade-green lacquer wall panels and chair seats set against the rosy apricot of walls and carpets. In the wing off the main meeting area are offices, storage spaces, a serving pantry, and a small seminar room whose curving inner wall repeats the arc of yet another lunar window.

The Asia Society
New York City
Owner:
The Asia Society
Architects:
Edward Larrabee Barnes
Architects—John M. Y. Lee, partner-in-charge; Richard M.
Ridge, project architect
Engineers:
Severud-Perrone-Szejfecz-Sturm
(structural); Lehr Associates
(mechanical); Cerami Associates
(acoustical)
Consultants:
Todd Williams (interiors); Donald
L. Bliss (lighting); Will Szabo
Associates (audiovisual); Joseph M.
Chapman (security); Kiyoshi Kanae
(graphics); Brunneman-Lorelli
Associates (theater); Zion & Breen
Associates (landscape)
Contractor:
Morse/Diesel, Inc.
Desert fantasy
The Vintage Club
Indian Wells, California
Fisher-Friedman Associates, Architects
It could almost be a mirage. From one angle, it’s a cluster of pyramids rising incongruously from an expanse of green. From a distance, it’s a line of peaks nestled at the foot of the Santa Rosa Mountains. And close up, it dissolves into an airy pavilion floating on a shimmering lake. It’s no accident that the Vintage Club combines elements of desert, mountain and seaside resorts. As the focal point of a golf-oriented community in Indian Wells, California, a few miles southeast of Palm Springs, it is the playground of those who are wealthy enough or influential enough to expect to be spared such choices.

From the moment a visitor arrives, he hears the sound of water—cascading down the facades of gatehouse and clubhouse, tumbling over weirs, rushing from fountains inside the building and out. He enters the clubhouse over one bridge (photo below) and leaves it on his golf cart over another (photo below right). For the clubhouse sits amidst seven acres of man-made lakes— the ultimate luxury in the desert, but in this instance a practicality as well: the lakes provide cooling for the air conditioning, serve as a reservoir for golf course irrigation, and as retention ponds for runoff from sudden downpours. But most important, the lakes turn the Vintage Club into an oasis—a fitting place to escape the rigors of everyday life.

The main public areas of the 84,000-square-foot clubhouse—including the dining room, the men’s grill and the main lounge—have glass walls overlooking the lake (and, of course, the golf course beyond). To allow diners in all parts of the dining area to enjoy the views, five different levels—one of them so low that the water outside is at tabletop height—were created. Lattice screens slide to create intimate spaces without obstructing the views.

Despite its lacustrine setting, the clubhouse also celebrates its mountain and desert environs. The two-story concrete structure, with travertine infill, is organized on a 24-foot grid covered by a series of wood-framed pyramidal roofs that echo the nearby mountains, as do the surrounding smaller pyramids, of Douglas fir glulams and concrete, that act as trellises and sunscreens. All of the materials—from sun-bleached trellises to matching concrete structure; plum-colored slate floors; pale oak interior appointments; carpets custom-designed in mauves, pinks, beiges and taupes; and chairs of wicker and cane—were chosen to echo the desert and mountain colors. The effect is understated and serene, in contrast to the extravagantly green golf course and glittering water just outside. Natalie Gerardi
Partial site plan (below left) shows clubhouse (1) oriented east-west with its main entrance on axis with Eisenhower Mountain (not shown) and set into an artificial lake system. From restaurant and lounge areas, visitors can view play on the 18-hole Scottish-style “mountain” course (2). To the south of the clubhouse complex is a second 18-hole course (3) with desert landscaping. Both were designed by Tom Fazio. Now under construction is a swim and tennis complex (4) that will include an Olympic-size pool and a tournament court with stadium seating. Housing includes sizplexes (5) and patio homes (6) built by the developer and custom homes built on lots along the perimeter of both golf courses (not shown on plan). The entire development covers 712 acres and has 30 acres of lakes.
Sun shading posed a problem that was solved inside the building with moveable lattice screens (visible in lounge area, photo 1), and outside with concrete-and-wood trellis pyramids (3, 5, 6 and 8). Additional shading will come when climbing plants (visible in photo 2) mature. Indoor-outdoor feeling of clubhouse is evident in dining room (4) and main lounge (5). Note the extensive butt glazing set off by a spandrel painted in an auto-body shop to achieve the desired BMW color and the skylights, which were covered with lattice work in keeping with outdoor trellises. Outdoor dining is available on shaded patios and on a peninsula that juts into the lake (6). Photos 2 and 3 show the golf starter’s box, which extends over the lake from the pro shop. Lower floor of the building is used for administration offices, golf cart storage, maintenance, etc.

The Vintage Club
Indian Wells, California
Owner:
Vintage Properties
Architects:
Fisher Friedman Associates—A.
Robert Fisher, Rodney Friedman—partners-in-charge; Robert J.
Geering, principal-in-charge
Interior designer:
Environmental Planning &
Research, Inc.
Engineers:
Glamac & Associates (mechanical/
electrical); Robinson, Meier, Jewett & Associates (structural); Jones &
Tilson (civil)
General contractor:
Embry Development & Realty
Consultants:
Anthony M. Gazzard & Associates
(landscape); Richard Chaix
(fountains); Ralph Hutzenga
(kitchen)

1. Pro shop
2. Women’s dressing room/lounge
3. Men’s dressing room/lounge
4. Service court
5. Kitchen
6. Board room
7. Reception and manager’s office
8. Lounges
9. Dining
10. Golf cart bridge

Photos 1, 4, 7, & Russell MacMaster;
photos 2, 3, 5, & F/Shop Photo;
photo 6: Charles Callister.
An uphill design for downtown housing

With excusable hyperbole, Rick Sundberg of Olson/Walker Architects once called the vacant lot where Hillelimb Court now stands "the world's crummiest site to put a building on." Few architects would disagree that this 27,000-square-foot plot of land near Seattle's waterfront is indeed dauntingly steep, or that the noisy viaduct of the Alaska Way at its western boundary, a huge eyesore that nearly blocks the view over Puget Sound, is a serious handicap. The City of Seattle, former owner of the property, programmed this location for a 200-car parking garage to serve the bustling Pike Place Market, a short walk uphill to the east via Pike Hillelimb, a public stairway linking marketplace and waterfront (see site plan). Municipal authorities welcomed development proposals that combined parking with other uses, so long as no structure would exceed prescribed height limits or disrupt the visual continuity of older buildings in the Pike Place Market Urban Renewal District.

The successful scheme advanced by Olson/Walker and the Cornerstone Development Company masses four stories of parking within the 45-foot grade-change as a podium, above which a roughly U-shaped complex of 35 condominium units and two street-level shops encloses a garden courtyard (plan and section overleaf). This introverted layout creates a quiet haven that turns its back on the roaring traffic of the viaduct. Because the courtyard is accessible only through the eastern gatehouse pavilion, yet visible from many levels of the Hillelimb steps (photos below and opposite), it is at once a private domain and an ornament to the city. Only the uppermost apartments are high enough for views over the highway towards the water (photo below), but everyone surveys the inner garden from balconies, terraces, or floor-to-ceiling windows. Though both structure and materials recall local industrial prototypes, the general effect of a low-rise domestic enclave with a fountain at its center was modeled on the squares of European hill towns.

A poured-in-place reinforced concrete frame—exposed indoors and out—strengthens the apparent continuity of individual living quarters and the communal garden, and relates Hillelimb Court to similarly constructed loft buildings nearby. Glass block walls afford privacy and muffle street noise, while storefront glazing sections (in both residential and retail areas), pipe railings, and corrugated metal enrich a palette of tough but comely materials. Olson/Walker accomplished its modest triumph over urban adversity at a cost of $55 per square foot. D.B.
The 35 condominium units range in size from 520 to 1,150 square feet, and offer seven options for single-level and duplex layouts. Fireplaces are standard equipment, and every apartment has at least one courtyard view (as seen from the living room of a ground-floor duplex, photo opposite right). No less distinctive are the spaces allocated for commercial use, such as the glass-walled winding stairway in the entry pavilion (photo opposite left) that leads to a second-story office suite. Intent on avoiding the monotony and disorientation of many apartment complexes, Olson/Walker faced front doors onto the courtyard or balconies rather than into corridors. Where it was impossible to avoid exposure to the elevated highway, vine-clad trellises screen the view (below). Mechanical shafts are encased in corrugated metal painted a shade of dusty pink that the architects selected through on-site experimentation.
Hillclimb Court Condominiums
Seattle, Washington
Owner:
Cornerstone Development Company
Architects:
Olson/Walker Architects P.S.
Gordon Walker and James W. P.
Olson, principal; Richard
Sundberg, project architect,
Richard Wordell, Tom Kassack,
Todd Heistman, project team
Engineers:
Ratti/Fossatti Associates P. S.
(structural); Stern Associates
(mechanical); Sparling & Associates
(electrical); Towne Richards &
Chaudiere Inc. (mechanical)
Landscape architects:
Thomas L. Berger & Associates
Interior design/model units:
Jean Jongewaard
General contractor:
Gall Landau Young
The telling detail, I: houses by Hugh Newell Jacobsen

For architecture as an art, the building is the medium. The art includes such weighty visual and conceptual concerns as form and context, to be sure, but the medium, like all other artistic media, requires technical expertness beyond the ordinary if the artist is to convince others of his mastery.

Hugh Newell Jacobsen spends much of his artistic vigor on such aspects of architecture as composition, massing, reference and jokes—remember the telescoping house with one modern side and one Colonial side? (If not, see RECORD, mid-May 1981, and below.) But he does not expect a first-rate building to take shape merely from a good idea and joie de vivre. Good detailing is equally important.

Thoughtful detailing may involve such grave issues as the design of an entire wall, where questions inevitably arise about the effective joining of disparate materials, about the admission of natural ventilation to combat condensation and the simultaneous exclusion of rainwater and bugs, about the incorporation of mechanical necessities like outdoor illumination and air-conditioning ducts. Details may even affect a building's physique: by day, a grid of metal mullions supporting a reflective glass curtain wall establishes one rhythm; by night, the lighted reveals of deep internal structural fins establish a far different rhythm (again, see below).

Jacobsen is not an architect who delights in the exposure of technical tricks. He wants them invisible, so that the building appears a seamless, slightly magical whole. Thus gutters hide within walls behind parapets, and venting slots seem to be scribed ornament below the eaves.

This passion for detailing—and invisibility—encompasses smaller, everyday elements as well. These devices often look deceptively artless. Typically, Jacobsen's tall doors have no bucks or visible tracks overhead—no disfiguring hardware on the smooth ceiling, please. If a return air plenum should be needed, evenly spaced wood strips can serve both air conditioning and esthetics at the same time.

Joie de vivre itself demands most careful detailing. A mirror-lined oriel is only a fetching notion until the designer figures out which materials to use and what dimensions to give them and how to turn the corners cleanly.

All of Jacobsen's details shown on these pages were designed for houses. In next month's issue, we shall publish still other details for nonresidential buildings. Grace Anderson
Wall with concealed gutter and rain slot
A new generation of high-security cylindrical locksets

Long regarded as one of the most conservative segments of the American building-supply industry, manufacturers of door hardware are being pushed to develop more technologically sophisticated products by the combined forces of a rising national crime rate and increasingly stringent state codes for handicapped accessibility. The recently introduced Corbin
700 and Russwin 900 Series Security Bolt locksets address these concerns. Designed for a variety of commercial, residential, and institutional installations, the cylindrical locksets feature a unique single-bolt mechanism that not only operates in a 90-deg. throw latch position, but also can be extended to a 1-in. deadbolt position by key or inside turnpiece. The units are manufactured of cast bronze and stainless steel and fit a standard 2-in. cylindrical door cutout. Their lever-handle mechanisms—available in either straight or return design—are said to withstand 1,000 lb of vertical torque, yet need only a 20-deg. rotation to retract the bolt. The lock meets the revised building requirements of the American National Standards Institute, which state a preference for lever, push-type, or U-shaped handles over knobs, as well as most Federal and state handicapped regulations. Russwin and Corbin Divs./Emhart Hardware Group, Berlin, Conn. Circle 360 on reader service card

Reinterpreting the acoustical ceiling grid

Superfince is the latest manifestation of manufacturers’ persistent quest to combine the cost-effectiveness and flexibility of lay-in ceiling panels with an uninterrupted, monolithic appearance. The new commercial system by Armstrong incorporates intricately scored geometric patterns on 2-ft-square paneling that are supported by a narrow 1/4-in.-wide metal grid that virtually disappears into the score lines. The five available panel designs illustrated at right include Superfince 1100, four 12-in. by 12-in. modules scored into 1-in. by 1-in. squares; Superfince 1500, four 12-in. by 12-in. modules scored into 3-in. by 3-in. squares; Superfince 1600, four 12-in. by 12-in. modules scored into

6-in. by 6-in. squares; Superfince 2000 panels scored into 2-in. linear strips; and Superfince 2200 panels scored into 2-in. squares. Panel and grid systems are offered in matching colors of white, adobe, and parchment. Armstrong World Industries, Inc., Lancaster, Pa. Circle 361 on reader service card

More products on page 155

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