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The cover photograph of the D.C.A. Active Park in Sunrise is by George Miller, Miller Photography. The park was designed by Michael A. Shiff & Associates.

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If architecture is the best tangible evidence of how man has lived throughout history, then the discovery of the site of the de Soto encampment less than a mile from my office, certainly has the potential to offer the clearest picture of true vernacular architecture.

Hernando de Soto, on an expedition chartered by the King of Spain, sailed into Tampa Bay in search of places to settle and riches for Spain. He traveled north through Florida and, according to the written account of Garcilaso de la Vega who interviewed many of the expedition's survivors, de Soto and his men arrived in what is now Tallahassee in October, 1539. One-hundred-and-forty-three days later they departed, leaving behind what is proving to be a remarkably clear picture of their tenure in North Florida.

The Apalachee Indians who inhabited the area prior to European exploration built round houses approximately 25 feet in diameter. This is the type of structure the de Soto party would have encountered. Based on archeological findings, it is assumed that the Spanish built rectangular structures approximately 35 by 45 feet which were not too different from the missions they built in Florida 100 years later. There are further archeological indications that upright posts were lashed together, infilled with wattle and daub and roofed with palmetto fronds. Some nails were found, obviously brought from Europe along with iron tools. The buildings seem to have been an interesting combination of European technology combined with the use of on-site materials and construction ideas probably gleaned from the native inhabitants.

The relevance of the de Soto site to archeologists, architects and historians is clear. But, for the rest of us, the casual observers, the site should be no less important. The fact that "de Soto Slept Here" could help insure our place in history and may do for Florida what George Washington did for all those New England inns.

Diane D. Greer

NEWS

McRae New Dean of Mississippi State

Professor John McRae, AIA, Chairman of the Department of Architecture at the University of Florida, has accepted a position as Dean of the School of Architecture, Mississippi State University, Starkville.

McRae has been on the faculty at UF since 1967 and Chairman since 1982. His research and consulting interests have focused on gerontology and he recently served as Chairman of the Florida Legislative Committee on Housing for the Elderly.

McRae, a native of Mississippi, assumed his duties July 1.

New Commissions

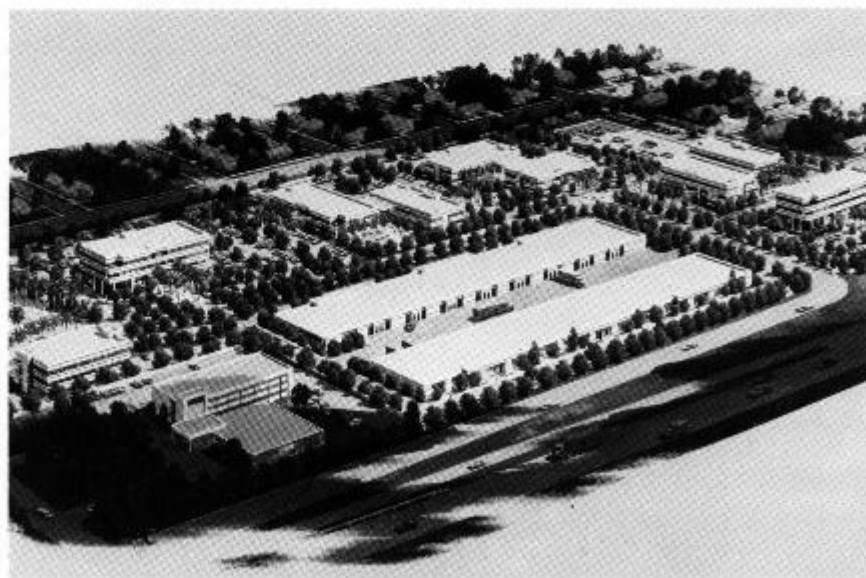
Miller Associates has just completed the renovation of University Shoppes, a 15,000 s.f. shopping center in Winter Park. The firm has also been selected to design the Shoppes at Maitland, a 20,000 s.f. retail facility and they will provide architectural services for Walmart Plaza in Maitland. • JMB Property Management Corporation of Chicago and recent purchaser of Arvida from Disney has selected **Keith C. Hock, AIA Architects** to perform inspection services regarding their purchase of apartments in Pompano Beach. • Hollywood's Military Circle, an island on Hollywood Blvd. which once housed a military academy, may soon be known as Presidential Circle and contain a landmark office structure with 7-story, lighted, see-through atrium. The project will be designed by **Barretta & Associates** and associate architect **Arthur Frimet**. • **Benjamin P. Butera, AIA**, has been selected to design the new Remax Headquarters building in Altamonte. The firm has just completed the Dayas Auto Body building in Longwood. Dayas

services such as autos as Rolls Royce, Porsche and Mercedes.

The Stewart Corporation Architects, in association with **Diedrich & Associates Architects of Atlanta**, recently completed designs for Marksborough of Florida's clubhouse, information center and tennis/fitness center at Hunter's Green in Tampa. • **The Interior Design Department of Oliver-Glidden & Partners** recently completed installation on the 1,700 s.f. office of Dr. Richard Margolies at the Gardens Medical Plaza in Palm Beach Gardens. • **Schenkel & Shultz, Inc. Architects** will do the master planning of a new 65-acre office park in Orlando. In addition, the firm has been awarded an open end contract to provide architectural and engineering services for the U.S. Navy at the Naval Training Center in Orlando. **Schenkel & Shultz** has also been selected by the Greater Orlando



Ground has been broken for the new corporate headquarters for **Gee & Jensen, Engineers-Architects-Planners**, in Palm Beach Lakes.



Artist's rendering of **ParkCentre**, a 26-acre suburban office park in South Florida designed by **Baldwin & Sackman & Associates**.

Aviation Authority for an indefinite term open end contract as part of their \$400,000 expansion program. • **The Architectural Partnership Inc.** has completed contract documents for the new Pembroke Pines City Hall, a 70,000 s.f. complex of three buildings.

Ground has been broken for the second phase of ParkCentre, a one story, 193,000 s.f. office/showroom/warehouse facility created by **Baldwin + Sackman & Associates**. The \$50 million, 26-acre office park, being developed by Loys Charbonnet and Donald Gache, is strategically located at the Golden Glades Interchange in Northern Dade County. • **The Design Advocates, Inc.** has been selected by The Radnor Corporation to design a clubhouse complex for the \$30 million waterfront community, Edgewater Landing. • **Mudano Associates** has been commissioned to design the 121,000 s.f. Tower Oaks Terrace Shopping Plaza planned for Pasco County. The project is being developed by Rosewood Properties of Dallas. • The Hillsborough County School Board has selected **Hamm Woodroffe Corporation Architects** for the renovations and additions to the Egypt Lake Elementary School in Tampa.

Oliver-Glidden & Partners Design Department will coordinate the remodeling and renovation of J. B. Hanauer & Company's North Miami Branch Office. • Ground has been broken for the new corporate headquarters of **Gee & Jenson, Engineers-Architects-Planners, Inc.** in Palm Beach Lakes. Interiors will feature predominantly open floor space appropriate for professional design functions. • Construction began in early April on Island Club, Melbourne's only new beachside community designed by **Fugleberg Koch Architects**. The 10.7 acre site plan focuses on the project's two lakes. • Construction began in April on the 65,000 s.f. specialty retail center, Esplanade at Coral Square, designed by **Currie Schneider Associates**



The renovation of Palm Beach Junior College Performing Arts Center by Schwab & Twitty Architects received a first place FAME award.

AIA, PA. The firm has also been chosen to design the second phase of the Catalina Center resort and hotel in Boynton Beach and they designed the interior spaces for the new office of Paramount Engineering in Delray Beach. • A 108-unit apartment project, dubbed The Fountainhouse, is being designed by **Baldwin + Sackman & Associates**. The new project will be in the block adjoining the Miami Lakes shopping center and is being developed by The Graham Companies of Miami Lakes. • **Schwab & Twitty Interiors** have been commissioned to do the space planning and prepare the construction documents for Esperante, a 295,000 s.f. mixed-use project in West Palm Beach. The same firm will be doing the interior architectural plans for the offices of First Wisconsin Trust Company, the largest financial service organization in Wisconsin. The Florida office will be located in West Palm Beach. • **The Design Advocates, Inc.** has been selected by Algonquin Development, Inc. to design a waterfront condominium in Naples. The project will have

three buildings totaling thirty-three units. • **Fugleberg Koch Architects** is working on three apartment developments in South Florida for Picerno Development Corporation. The three communities are in Sunrise, Davie and Deerfield and feature similar design themes with each apartment containing a solarium.

Alyo International Architects has been selected to design a 14,000 s.f. shopping center, fast food restaurant and 86-unit motel on U.S. 41, north of Port Charlotte. Alyo is also currently designing a 72-unit motel on I-75 in Ellenton. • **Fugleberg Koch Architects** is designing three Muffler Man facilities in the Orlando area that will feature unusual design details and colorful graphics. Developer/owner for the projects is LaKenDon, Inc. and the construction cost per shop is \$150,000.

Awards

The Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission recently recognized **The Design Advocates, Inc.** for three of their

local projects, including Lake Ellen Landings, a single family attached dwelling development, Reeves Import Motorcars Showroom, a commercial development and Pinebrook Business Park, an industrial complex. Projects are judged on the impact they have on the quality of life in Tampa and future impact on the Florida environment.

Slattery & Root Architects, PA, and **Angles Esteban Associates** were honored recently at the 1987 PABA GEM (Guild for Excellence in Marketing) Awards Banquet. The awards competition is sponsored by the Florida Atlantic Builders Association. **Slattery & Root** received an award for the "Best Custom Single Family Architecture For A Private Residence Under \$300,000" and for the "Best Commercial Remodeling," that being for the renovation of the Boca Bank Building in Boca Raton.

Angles Esteban received an award for "Best Overall Development/Single Family Custom Home Design" for Barcelona in Boca Raton and "Best Overall Development/Single Family Attached from \$80,000" for Verona, a village in Deerfield Beach.

Slattery & Root Architects, PA, and the Coral Springs Animal Hospital in Coral Springs were honored by receiving a national award in the Veterinary Economics' Hospital Design Competition. The award was complemented by the fact that it was one of only three chosen from over 100 submittals in the country.

"FAME" Awards were presented by the Florida Building Industry for Achievement in Marketing Excellence. Recipients were The Design Advocates for Old Ponte Vedra Beach, The Terraces in Naples and Santiago's Urban Dwelling Units in Tampa; Angles Esteban Associ-

ates for the Steiner Residence in Miami, Charlan, Brock & Associates for Heathrow's Devon Green, Sabal Point's Sabal Park Apartments and the luxury Winter Park infill, McIntyre Place, Robert M. Swedroe, AIA, PA, for the Williams Island Tower, The Evans Group for the Market at Sandestin, Park Plaza in Naples, Bonita Bay near Naples, Cross Creek in Plantation and a number of other sites around the state and Schwab & Twitty Architects, Inc. for Trump Plaza in West Palm Beach, the renovation of the Palm Beach Junior College Auditorium and Aquarina Beach Club in Melbourne.

The Florida Central Chapter, AIA, presented its 1987 Awards for Design Excellence to the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute by Bentler/Heery Architects, Rivergate Office Park by Rowe-Holmes Associates Architects, Inc., Ocean Center by Ellerbe Architects and

Engineers, Inc., the Library for the University of South Florida in Sarasota by Harvard, Jolly, Marcet and Associates, Architects, PA, AIA, and the John D. Floyd Elementary School by Ranon and Partners, Inc.

BOOKS

Shaping the City

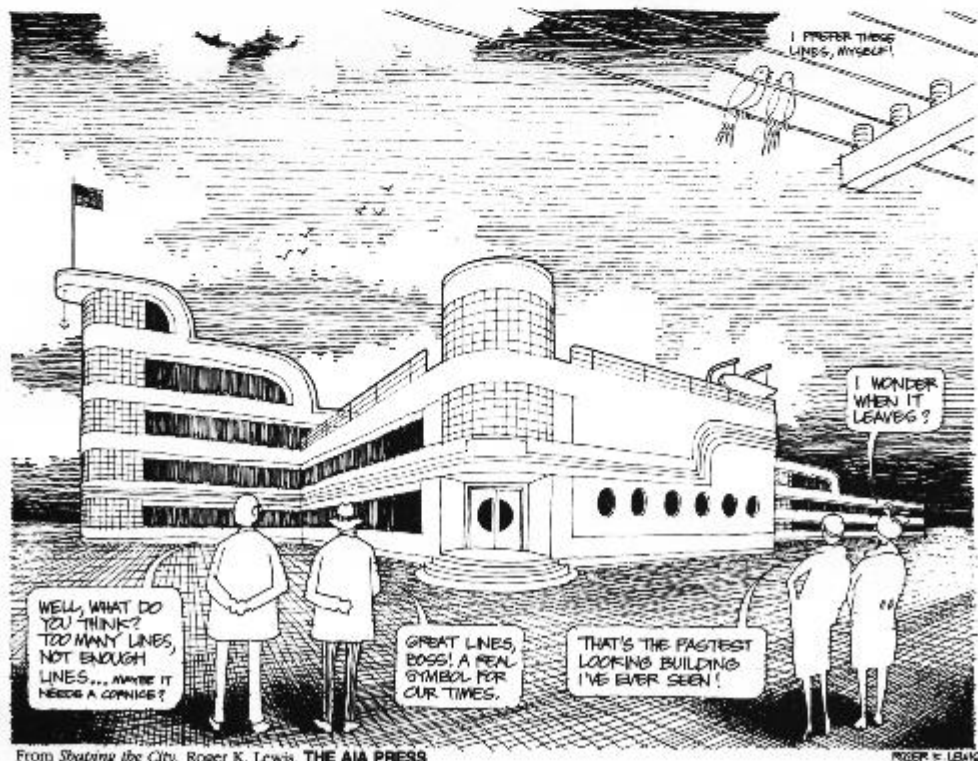
By Roger K. Lewis, FAIA (AIA Press, \$14.95, or \$10.50 for AIA members)

Quality of life and quality of design issues are addressed by architect Roger K. Lewis, FAIA, in his new book, *Shaping the City*, which was published in May by the AIA Press. The book is a series of essays which were originally published in Lewis' weekly columns in the *Washington Post*. The *Post* columns, which dealt with architectural design and urban planning, are

principally drawn from sources in the Washington area, yet the overall themes expressed in the book apply to cities across America. Lewis also joins in current architectural design and urban planning debates, discussing, for example, the controversial designs for the Guggenheim and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City.

Geared for the general reader as well as the architect, *Shaping the City* informs and entertains with 72 pen-and-ink cartoons. The 324-page collection of essays and drawings includes: creating America's Capitol, streetscapes, celebrating commerce, "home-sweet-home," the city's architecture, historic preservation, the architect's task and the development process.

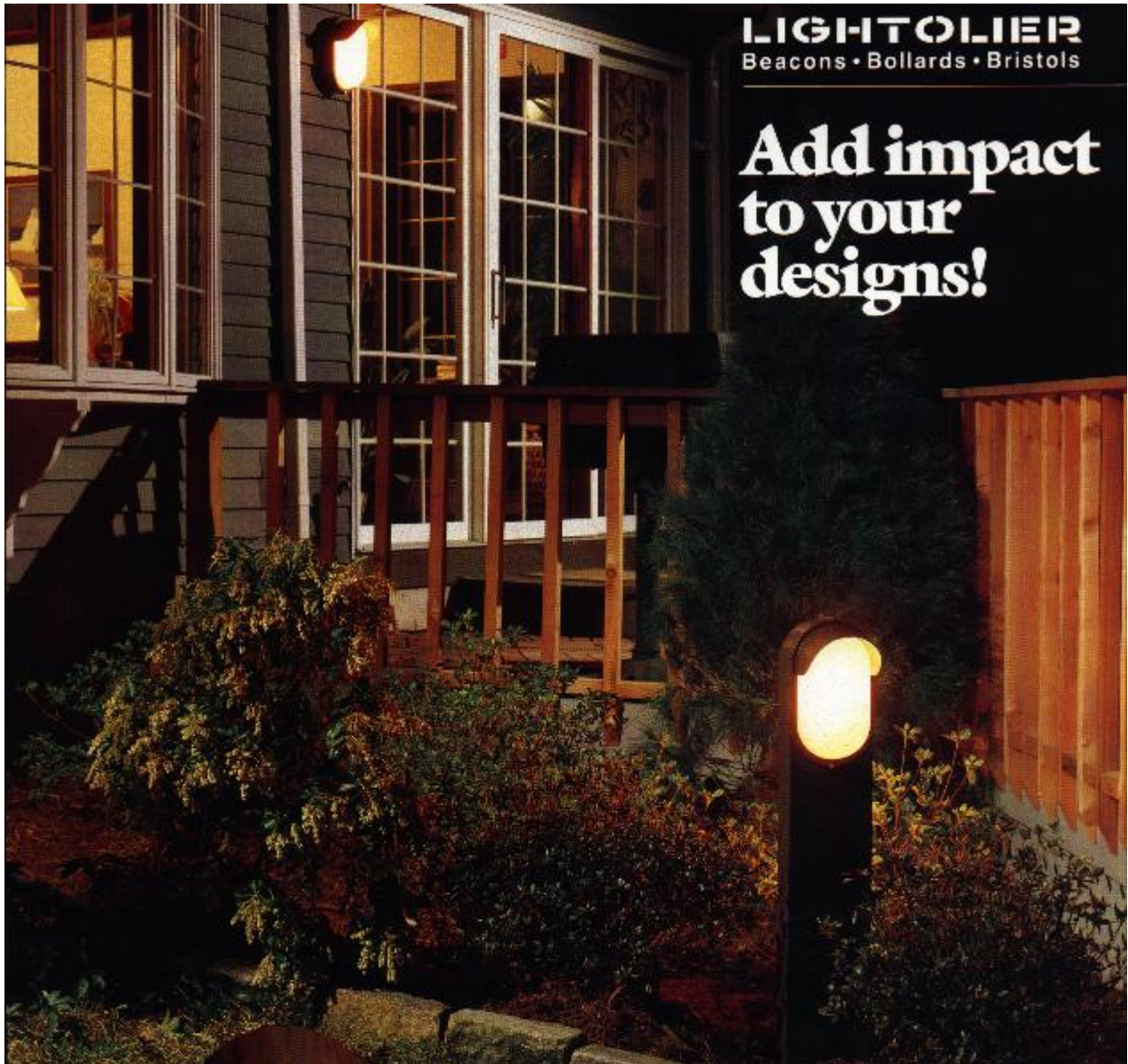
Shaping the City is available through the AIA Bookstore, 1735 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006. There is a \$3.00 shipping charge.



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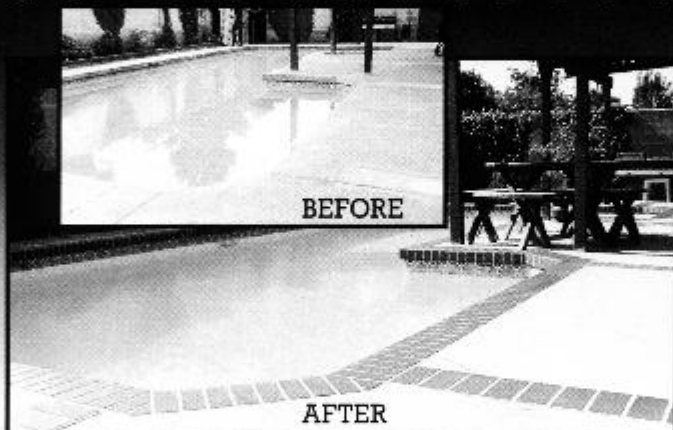


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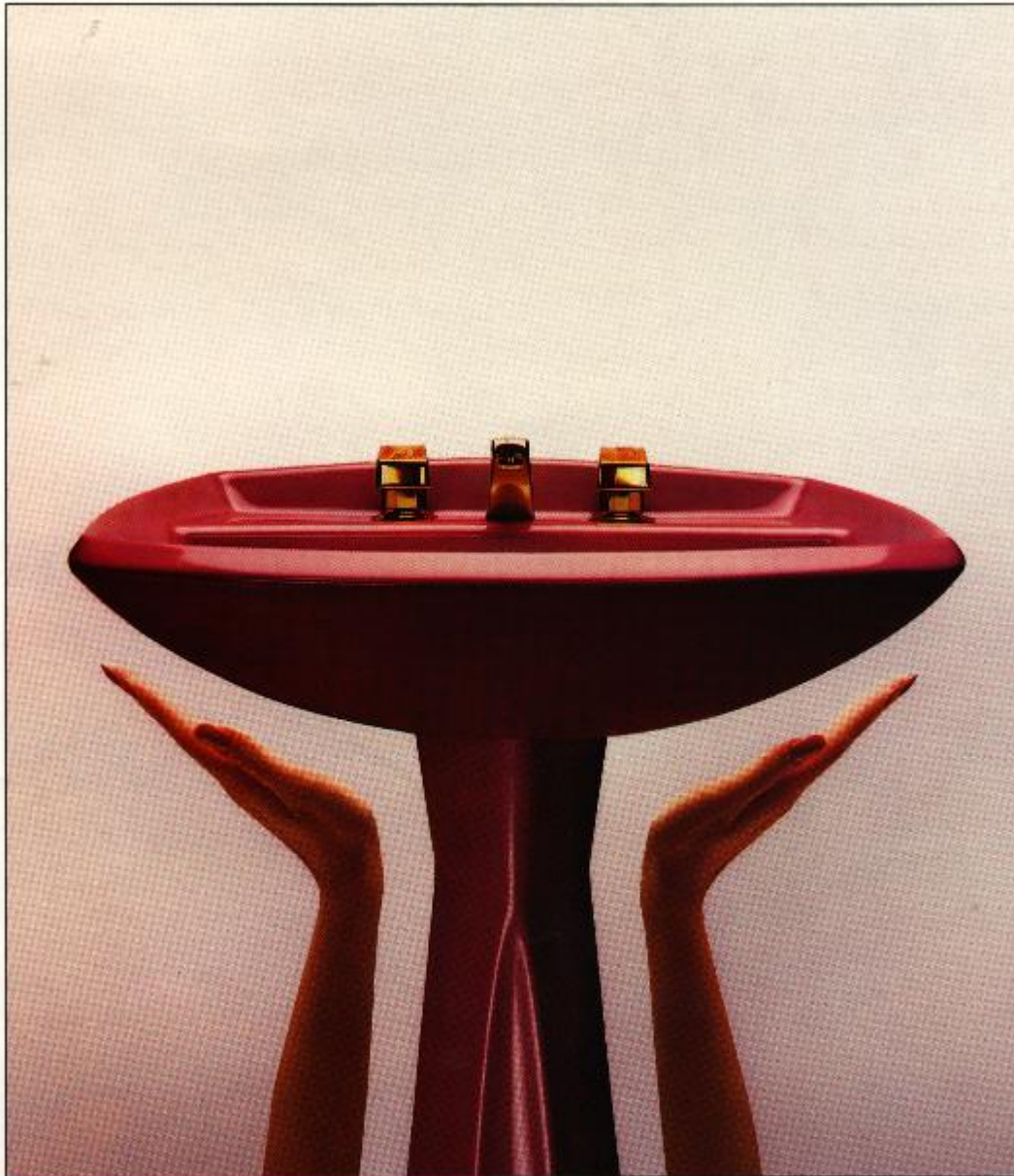
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OFFICE PRACTICE AIDS

A Slip and Fall Primer

by Dr. Randall I. Atlas, AIA

This is the first in a three part series on stair design and stair system safety.

Falls are the second leading cause of accidental death in both the home and public places in the United States. Only motor vehicle accidents kill more people. In 1985, 11,300 people were killed in falls. This represents about twelve percent of the accidental death toll. Of these, 6,100 people were killed in falls in and around the home and 3,800 were killed in falls in public places. There are 200,000 to 300,000 disabling injuries in work-related falls each year according to National Safety Council estimates and the Bureau of Labor Statistics has named slipping, or loss of footing, as the primary event involved in a fall. An additional 25% named loss of balance or losing grip on the object they were holding as the reason for a fall. More than four out of five accidents occurred while going down stairs. Slippery surfaces were by far the most common hazard cited in the falls.

When attorneys refer to slip and fall accidents, they can include: 1) slippery surface falls, 2) stairway falls, 3) balcony or landing falls, 4) ramp falls, 5) foreign object-caused falls, 6) parking lot falls, 7) sidewalk falls, and 8) bathtub-shower falls.

The most important points attorneys look for in liability and negligence cases are: 1) presence or absence of handrails and guardrails, 2) adequate lighting and barriers, 3) presence of a non-slip surface, 4) adequacy of landing areas, 5) field of vision, health status and behavior of the victim, 6) biomechanics of the fall, weather conditions and maintenance.

There are a number of items which are recognized as design and construction failures acting as contributors in stair fall accidents. Some of these are winders,



open risers, single steps, doors opening onto stairways, low headroom, high thresholds, low riser heights, poor lighting, handrails that are not continuous, unmarked brick, terrazzo, waxed treads or marble, loose carpet and walls or posts intruding into stairwells.

While it may not seem that many of these issues are the re-

sult of design, there have been a lot of judgements awarded that cost the architect money. Most experts agree that proper stair design lessens the probability of accidents. However, since there is no consensus on exactly what a safe stair entails, standard setting organizations are focusing their attention on proper sizing of risers and treads, shapes of

nosings, size and placement of landings, dimensions of handrails, etc.

There is a need for warning people so that they are not surprised by stairs. Changes in floor surfaces, an extension of a wall decoration or an inclination of a handrail are ways in which people can be cued. Visual confusion, misleading information and distractions must be avoided. For example, people are particularly prone to falling if any of the following factors exist:

- They fail to observe a stairway when the change in levels connected by the stairway is small.
- A stairway is in an unexpected position behind a doorway.
- The person is distracted by light from outdoors, or street scenes.
- The person doesn't realize the danger of one or two isolated steps.
- The person is impaired by glare caused by windows, or skylights, or stairs just inside a doorway.

Riser height, which is the vertical distance from one tread surface to the adjacent tread surface, has considerable effect on the way the pedestrian's foot will land on a stair tread. If the riser is too high, it will cause the foot coming off of it to land further out on the tread below. If the riser is too low, it will cause the foot coming off of it to land further back on the tread. Thus, a high riser will result in the ball of the foot landing where there is little or no tread surface to support it and a lower riser will result in the back of the foot being caught on the tread surface. The result is a mis-step and usually, a fall.

It is imperative that in the future there be little or no variation between riser systems (most codes require uniformity in risers within a $\frac{3}{16}$ inch). Studies of stair accidents have indicated that the majority of stairs on which acci-

Continued on page 29

Les Arts Decoratifs L'Hotel de la Mer

The Edison Hotel Miami Beach, Florida

Architect: Beilinson Architect, P.A.

Engineer: Bhamani, Ford & Associates

Historical Consultants: Sarah Eaton, City of Miami Planning Dept.

Owner: Breakwater/Edison, Ltd.

The term "Art Deco" originated in 1925 during an International Exhibition for Applied Arts which was held in Paris that year. The displays of artistic work including glass, bookbinding, ceramics, textiles, wrought iron and other decorative arts was called the "Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes," and its abbreviated title "Art Deco" gave the style its official name. The 1925 Arts Exposition brought to the front, as never before, American ingenuity and cultural expression that reflected a new modernism with a phenomenal range of derivative influences.

In her book, *Tropical Deco: The Architecture and Design of Old Miami Beach*, Laura Cerwinske describes some of these influences: "Within this range of new expression were merged the patterning, color and geometry of Egyptian and Aztec cultures; the dynamism and syncopated rhythms of jazz; the romance associated with ocean liners like the Normandie and Ile de France; the glamour of the automobile and the speed of the locomotive; daring and streamlined visions of aerodynamics; the new realms of fantasy opened up by the movies and later by animation; the intellectual and fictional stimuli of science inspired by H.G. Wells and Buck Rogers movies; the use of new indus-

trialized materials such as chrome, glass, polished bronze and stainless steel in high design."

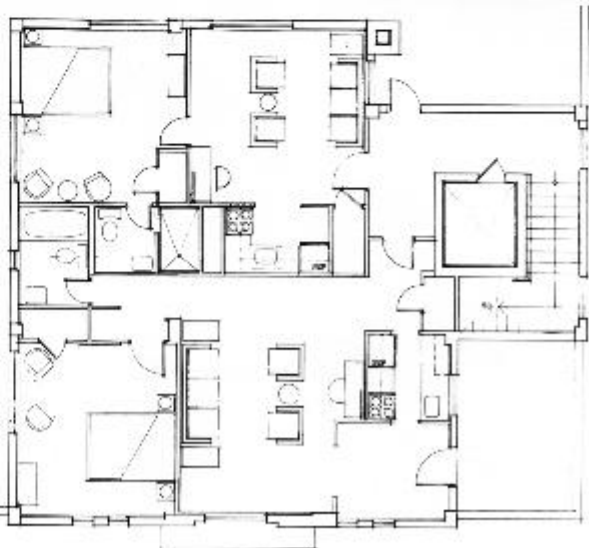
The Mediterranean Revival style seen in the facade of the Edison Hotel, c. 1935, represents both the fantasy and modernism of the Art Deco style and the influence of an earlier Mediterranean style that had existed in Florida since the early 1920's.

The four-story Edison Hotel is the product of a synthesis of several cultural forces. It echoes an American obsession with decorative ornamentation, interest in the exotic cultures of the Mayans, Aztecs and Egyptians, the assimilation of European style and fascination with speed and geometric patterns. Examples of this synthesis exist in the Aztec-inspired crisscross pattern below the first and second story windows. The Mediterranean-inspired arcade and Venetian spiraled columns add a touch of fantasy.

The restoration of the Edison involved returning the building to full functioning capacity as a 69-room hotel with two penthouse suites, an 80-seat restaurant and poolside beverage service. Located on Ocean Drive in Miami Beach's Art Deco District which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the hotel's design is characteristic of a tropical Art Deco style that flourished in South Florida during the real estate boom of the 1920's and 30's.

The architectural restoration sought to completely update the CBS-constructed building without modifying any of the original architectural features.

Beilinson Architects paid careful attention to the interior and exterior masonry, particularly in the arches where layers of multi-colored paint were





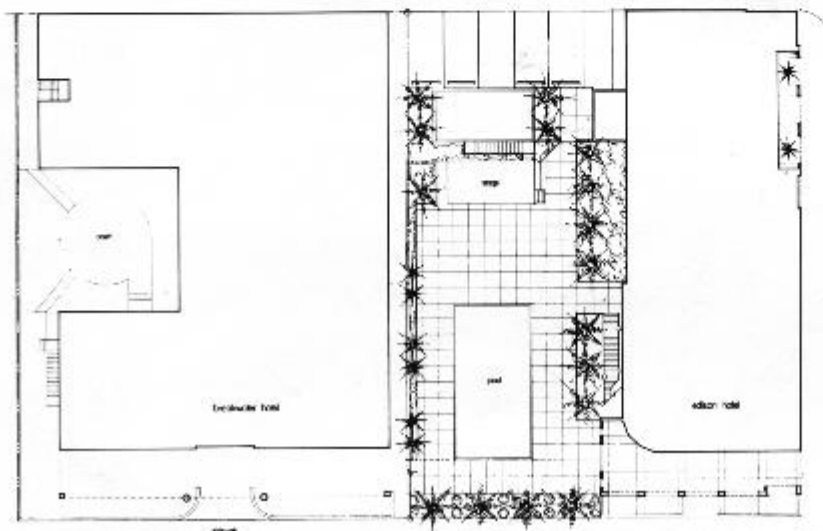
stripped from the masonry down to the original stucco. A sealer-primer was applied to the cleaned surface that reacts chemically and physically with the original stucco surface to provide an integrated weather-resistant surface without removing any of the original texture. The surface is then finished with a pigmented cementitious coating that penetrates into the primer and provides a permanent finish.

The interior of the Edison did not require gutting. However, walls were opened to replace galvanized waterlines with new copper lines. New PVC waste-lines were installed in place of old cast iron lines. Hallway ceilings were dropped six inches to accommodate sprinkler and alarm systems. A ductless air-conditioning system was installed thereby negating the need for lowering bedroom ceilings and changing the original scale of the guest rooms.

Original hotel furniture was reupholstered and restored including the original wooden Venetian window blinds and the Otis elevator with its brass control panel and accordion gate.

Esther L. Perez

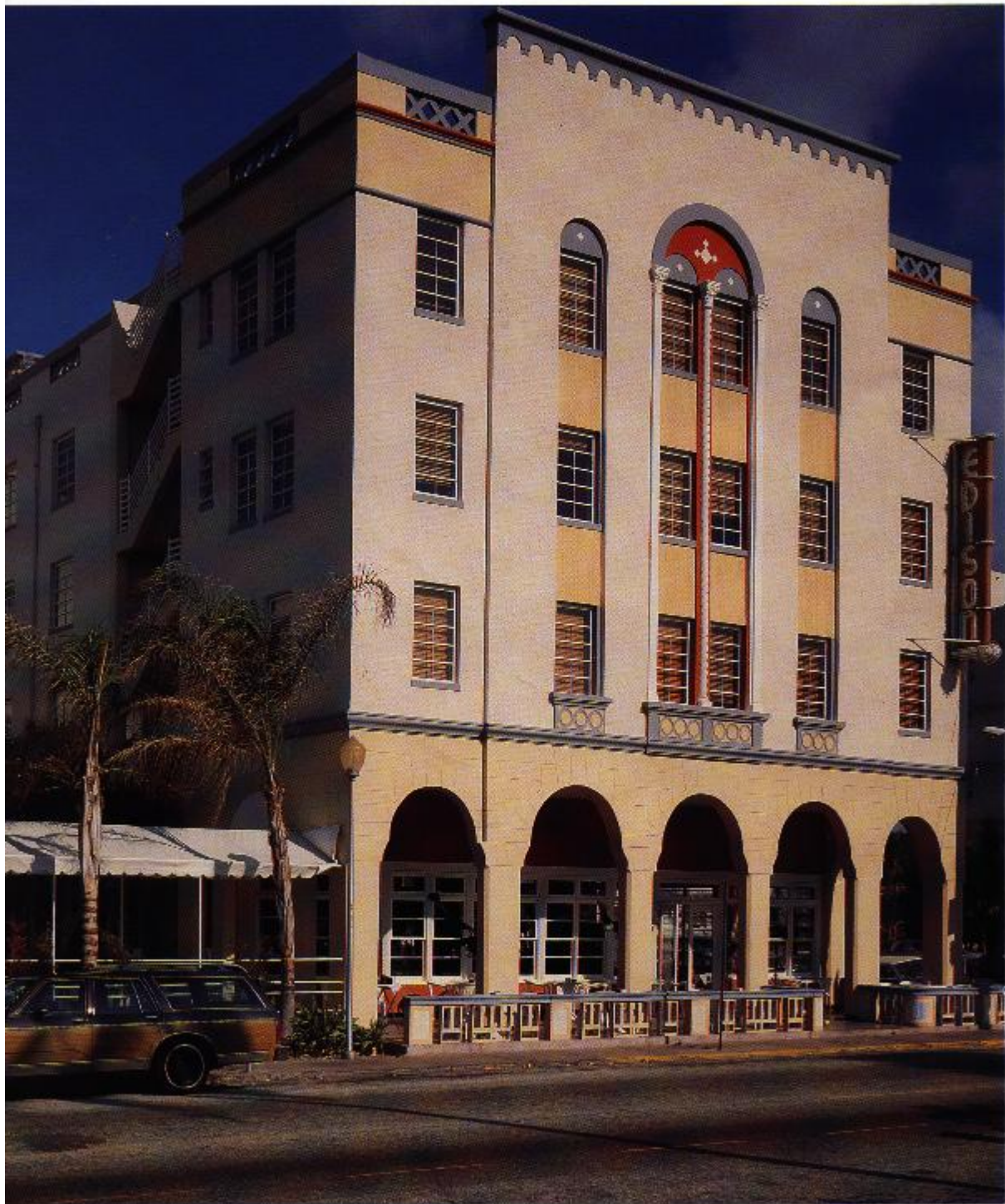
The author is a writer living in Miami. She is associated with Beilinson Architects and the Dade Heritage Trust.



Top photo; The block containing the Edison and Breakwater Hotels, c. 1938. Drawing, opposite; Post-house plan for Edison. Left, site plan showing juxtaposition of hotels with common pool area. Drawings courtesy of Beilinson Architects.

Opposite, Edison Hotel from southwest, fully restored. This page, top: Pool/patio area which is common to the Edison and Breuker Hotels. Bottom: Dining room. Note the Art Deco details on pilasters. Photos by Seth Benson.





A pyramidal adaptation of "Florida Cracker"

The Reeve Residence Tampa, Florida

Architects: Reeve, Yamada & Associates

Project Designer: Edward M. Reeve, AIA

Consulting Engineers: H. M. Long & Associates, structural; Burton & Rolley, mechanical and electrical

Landscape Architect: Wayne Pitts

Interior Designer: Edward M. Reeve, AIA

In response to a conventional suburban lot with limited ground level views and minimal existing foliage, architect Ed Reeve designed an introverted scheme occupying the bulk of the site and focusing the house around a screened pool. The form of the house, which Reeve designed in both scale and materials to blend with others in the neighborhood, resembles a 4-sided pyramid. It contains 3,800 a. f. and consists of a single-story perimeter massing which harmonizes with the prevailing neighborhood scale. The roof culminates in a three-story tall pyramid form capped with a pinwheel light/ventilation monitor cluster at the apex.

The modular 70' by 70' first floor plan is zoned spatially into the formal dining, living room, guest area on the east and the informal family room and kitchen on the west. Sliding doors access the entire level to a common lanai/pool area.

Taking its cue from the historic "cracker box" houses of early Florida, the plan is designed with a steep pitched roof, deep overhangs at the windows and generous ventilation of the major spaces through the lanai. Vertically, the structure is designed to provide a natural chimney effect exhausting all spaces via opera-

Photo right: The first floor gallery is one of the house's public spaces. Below: Southeast corner of house and, opposite, the pool were photographed by George Cott.

ble light/ventilation roof monitors. Paddle fans supplement natural ventilation.

Interior spatial composition is designed to counterpoint the regulated, pyramidal-shaped exterior. A variety of public and private spaces permit the residence to be used for entertaining large groups while not interfering with secluded individual spaces. All rooms are spatially interactive which permits a continuous sense of orientation.





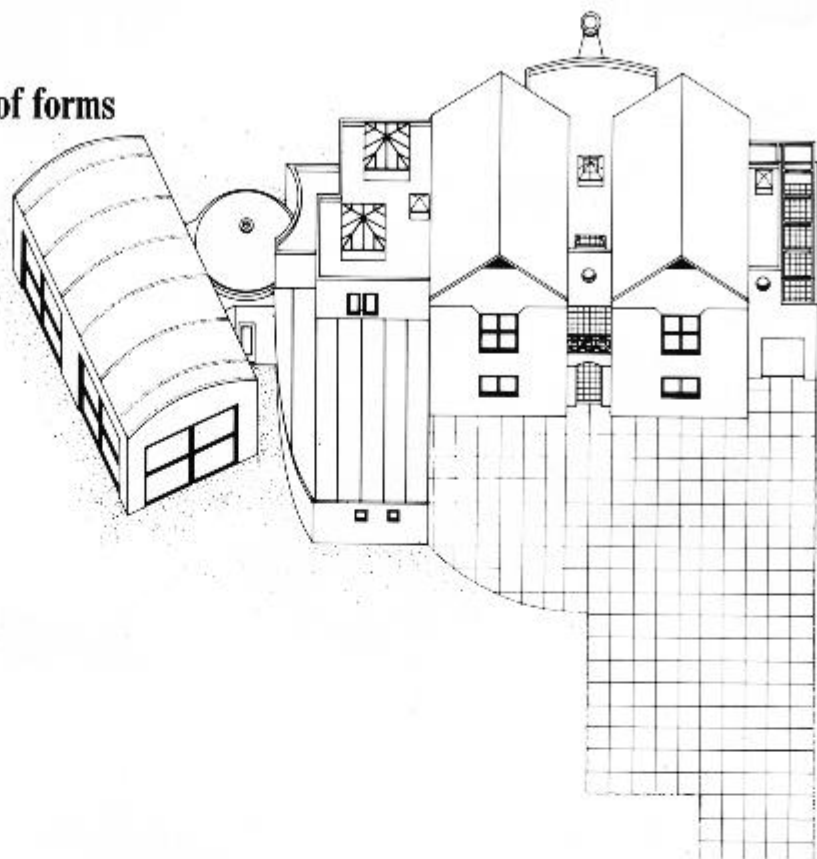
A linear progression of forms

The Odessa House Odessa, Florida

Architect: The Jan Abell•Kenneth Garcia Partnership
Engineer: Courtney Wright, structural; Ray Jones, mechanical and electrical
Contractor: Royalwood Enterprises

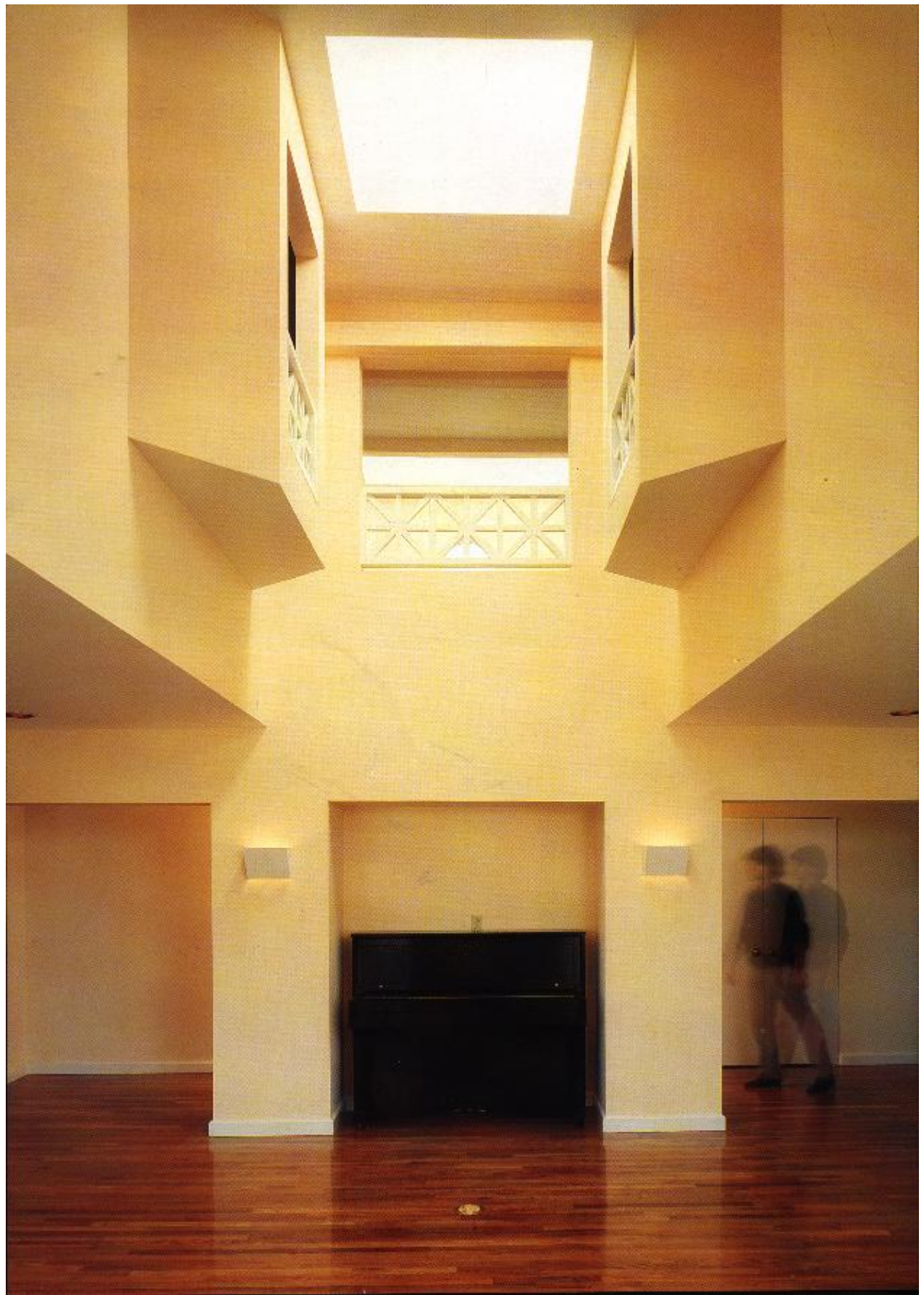
Owner: Drs. Thomas & Elizabeth Okulski

Tampa architects Jan Abell and Kenneth Garcia designed this house for husband and wife, both physicians, in Odessa, Florida, on Lake Keystone. The house, which appears almost as a series of attached "cottages" that are classically treated, spreads luxuriously over the two-and-a-half acre lakefront site. A double row of mature palm trees planted parallel to the house provides a middle ground screen between the house and the lake. The house stretches between property lines in a linear progression of forms that establishes programmatic hierarchies. Entry is between the two dominating elements —



Drawings this page by Abell-Garcia Architects. Photo, opposite page by Walter Smalling, Jr.



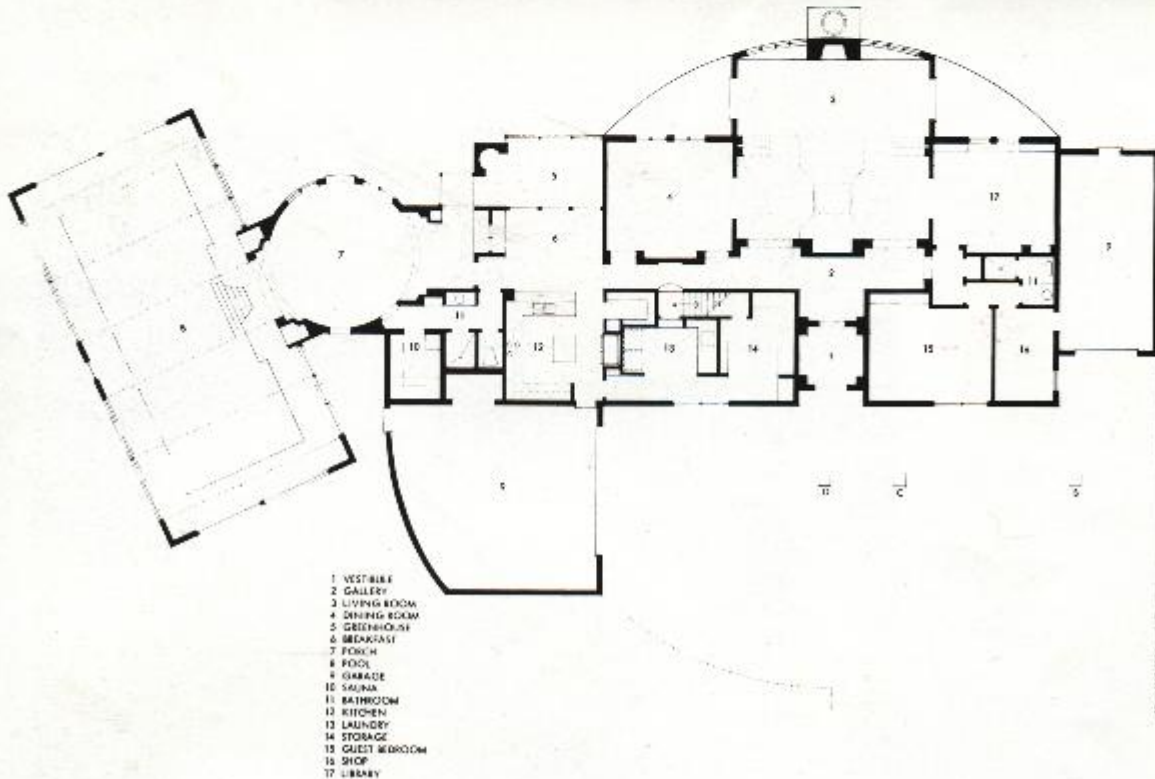


the dual gabled "cottages" which acknowledge two distinct personalities within. Slightly recessed beyond these forms on both front and rear, the residual house unifies and reconciles the many disparate elements to the whole.

Public reception spaces occur at the first floor level, lakeside. Service areas are streetside and private family spaces are on the second level. Flanking the entry area at the second level are spaces for the husband's train collection on the north and the wife's photographic studio and lab on the south. Children's bedrooms are identified by matching hips.



Photo of lakefront view by Walter Smalling, Jr. Plan courtesy of Abell-Garvia Architects.



Classical tradition blends with modern technology in USF Sarasota Library

**USF New College
Library
Sarasota, Florida**

Owner: State of Florida Board of Regents

Architect: Harvard, Jolly, Marcet & Associates, P.A., AIA, St. Petersburg

Principal-in-Charge: Blanchard Jolly, AIA, President

Project Manager: Jonathan Toppe, AIA, Vice President

Project Architect: Steve Heiser, AIA, Associate

Interior Design: Harvard, Jolly, Marcet & Associates, PA, AIA

Consulting Architect: The Architects Collaborative, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts

Landscape Architect: Phil Graham & Company, P.A., St. Petersburg

Contractor: PorCon/KUPCO Construction, Tampa

Mechanical/Electrical Engineer: Best & Associates Engineers, Inc., St. Petersburg

Structural Engineer: Charles Brink/Brink Associates, Inc., Lutz, FL



Top photo: North side of the library shows an arcade opening inside unto the main courtyard and library entrance. Below: Courtyard on southeast side looking toward the building's main entrance. Next page: Interior showing first and second floor reading room and stack areas. Photos by George Cott.

The USF at Sarasota/New College campus represented a unique challenge to the architects, Harvard, Jolly, Marcet & Associates, along with the Architects Collaborative. The campus was divided into a historic bayfront campus and a modern complex adjacent to the airport. A busy highway and a parcel of Ringling Museum property separated the historic bayfront and Hamilton Center campuses. The hope was to unite the two parts of the campus by building a new library and pedestrian bridge over the busy highway, but the plan could not go forward without the support of the Ringling Museum's administration and trustees. The land on which the Library complex stands was transferred to the University by the Ringling Trustees and the two institutions adopted a cooperative

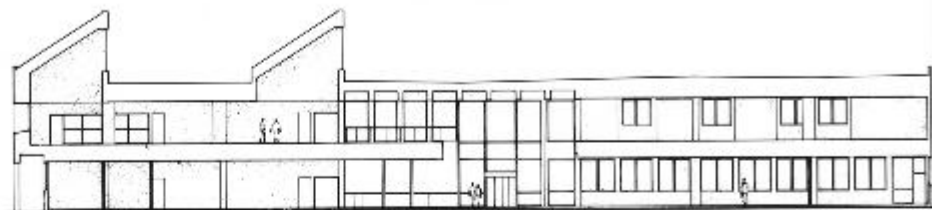




Master Plan concept to enhance the entire educational, cultural, and historic district. Simultaneously, New College Trustee and philanthropist, Dr. Harry Sudakoff, donated funds to the New College Foundation to build a conference and lecture center and to challenge the State to fund the Library and pedestrian bridge. The Sudakoff Center was built as the eastern anchor of the architectural complex which forms a Gateway to Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

The University and the Ringling Museum agreed that the new Library's design should be modern, but in harmony with the overall Mediterranean style of the Ringling estates. The library and pedestrian overpass were to become the unifying elements for the campus stylistically and physically. The architects were also challenged by the need to protect the library against highway and airport noise while working to enhance the district's landscape. Architects were encouraged to adapt elements from the traditional "Ringling" style, such as subtly colored stucco facades, arched window openings and arcades, barrel tile roofs, and patio garden areas. Landscape designers were instructed to emphasize trees and shrubs which would eventually shelter the complex under a canopy of live oaks and native varieties of pine. With 70,000 s.f. and housing for 325,000 volumes, the new two-story Library is six times larger than its predecessor.

The library is a teaching and research center with ample book stacks, periodicals, reference collections, open workspaces, and study carrels throughout. A language laboratory, media center, teleconferencing room, five classrooms, and extensive office and processing space satisfy a variety of academic needs. Classroom wings are designed for



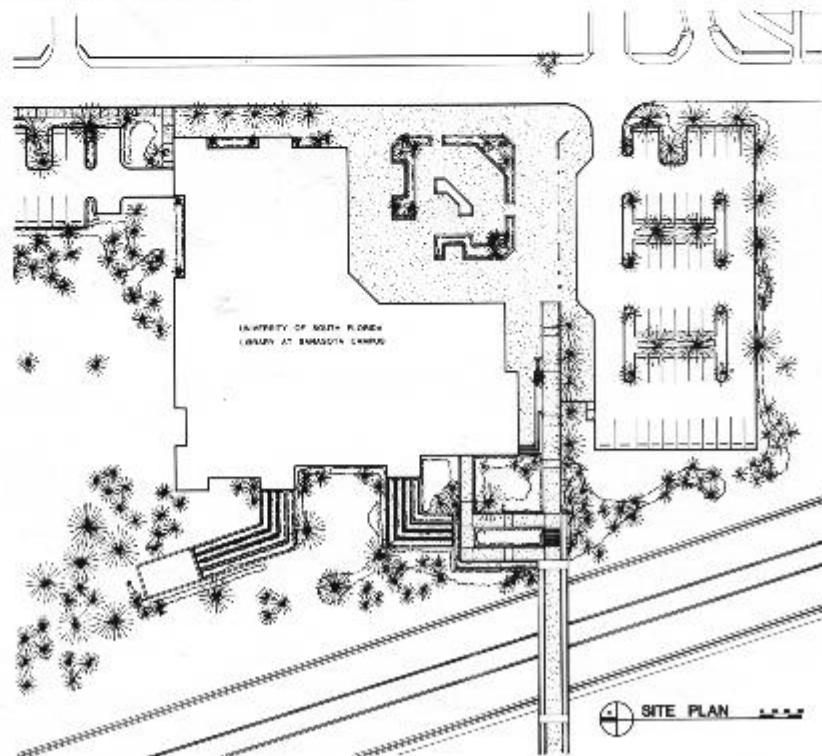
eventual conversion into library space when the collections grow beyond the planned capacity of 400,000 volumes. The building was also engineered with future additions in mind for the 21st century.

The first step in design was to locate the bridge over Route 41 to conform to and reinforce the existing pedestrian circulation on campus. A garden/gathering space was placed ad-

jascent to this walkway and bridge, and this courtyard is the main entrance to the library. The two wings of the library which flank the courtyard have an arcade at ground level for protection from the weather. Stylistically, they complement the Mediterranean theme of the historic part of the campus. This theme was also a motivating force in the design of the building facades which

feature arched openings, stucco walls, and barrel tiles on the sloped portions of the roof. These roof elements are light monitors which face north and considerably enhance the interior spaces as well as reduce the electrical loads. The main lobby of the library is a two-story space which, through the main arch, opens immediately to the garden outdoors.

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A park for the people

D.C.A. Active Park Sunrise, Florida

Architect: Michael A. Shiff & Associates, Inc.

Principal-in-Charge: Michael Shiff

Designer: Laszlo Toth

Job Captain: Irving Tutinick

Engineer: Steven Feller

Landscape Architect: Michael Pirich

General Contractor: Cox & Palmer Construction

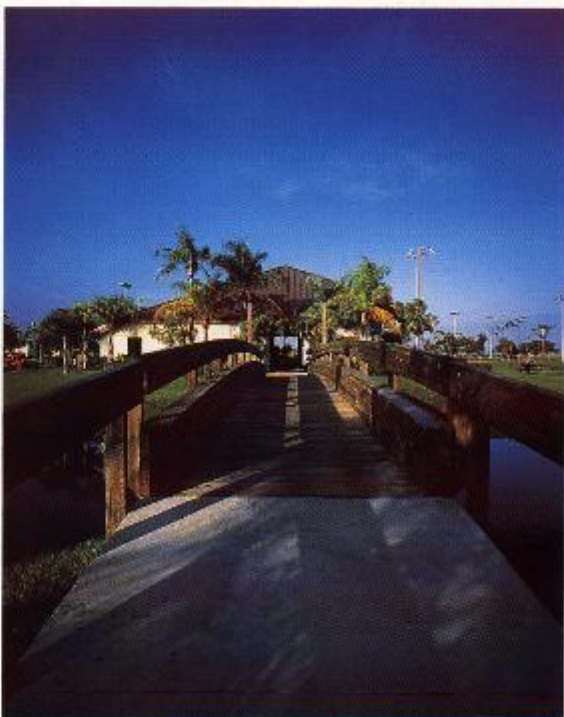
Owner: City of Sunrise

The 50,000 residents of Sunrise, Florida are young couples with growing families and a lot of retirees. Though diverse in age, the population shared a common need for recreational facilities. Until the mid-1980's, that need was being inadequately met by Sunrise's minimal, scattered park facilities. Finally recognizing the problem, the City engaged Michael A. Shiff & Associates, Inc. to prepare a study of the city's recreational needs as well as a Master Plan for growth and construction of new facilities.

Shiff's study showed a need to consolidate many of the city's active recreational programs into one active park which could be built on a 26-acre site which had been donated to the city. By consolidating these programs, the City of Sunrise would be able to provide a wide range of activities in a central location and minimize the staff needed to supervise the activities. The study also indicated the need for a passive park and an outdoor amphitheatre, both of which were subsequently incorporated into a 22-acre facility on a major waterway in Sunrise.

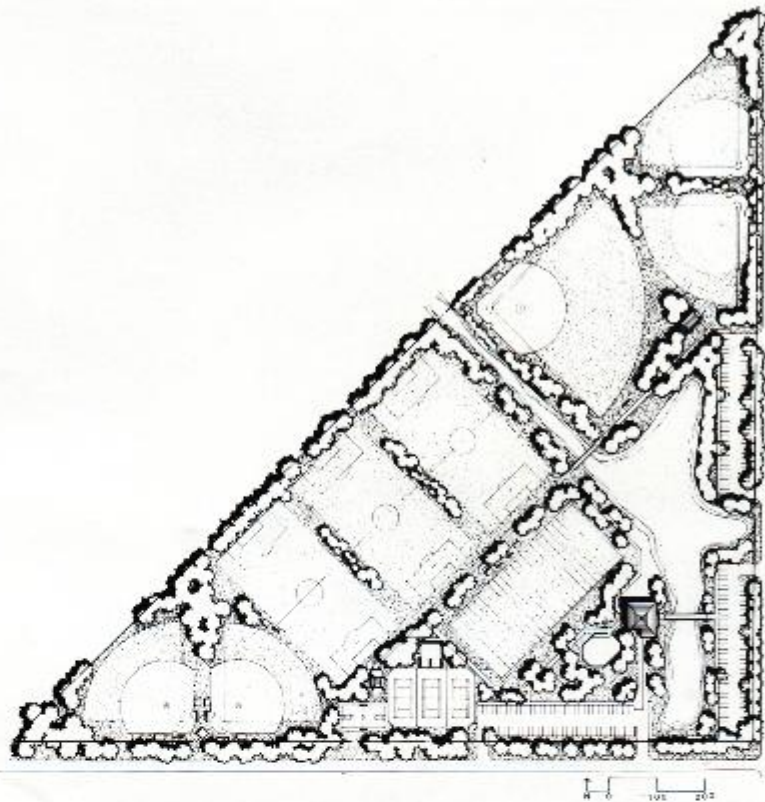
After approving and adopting Shiff's Master Plan, the City used a voter referendum to determine if the citizens were willing to pay for new park facilities. The referendum passed by an overwhelming majority and Shiff and his associates began the design for D.C.A. Active Park (D.C.A. stands for Development Corporation of America, the company which donated the land to the city.)

Photos, top: Front view of recreational center with offices, restrooms and meeting rooms. Right: View of recreation building from pedestrian bridge over lake. Photos by George Miller, Miller Photography.



D.C.A. Park is a 26-acre site in the shape of a triangle. The program called for designing an active park with the utmost utilization of available land. The challenge to the designer was to provide a concept using the rigid shape requirements of specific sports and recreational activities and incorporate them into a site plan that would ultimately take the shape of a right triangle.

A second challenge was to allow for varied recreational programs to take place simultaneously without compromising the safety of the individual activity. Early in the design program the architects decided to limit parking to the perimeter of the site, thus eliminating the conflict between automobile and pedestrian traffic. The major activity areas on the site are connected by a pedestrian spine. Baseball fields were placed in the park's triangular corners and in the center of the park is a two-story recreation building containing the park control booth on the second floor. From this booth, all park activities are visible. Park drainage is handled by a lake which also provides areas for picnicking and other passive activities. The lake was utilized as a major asset and is spanned by two wooden bridges. A measure of the project's success is evidenced by the fact that the City is presently looking for additional parking to handle the large numbers of residents who use the park's five baseball fields, three soccer fields, football field, three tennis courts, two basketball courts and two handball courts, all of which are accessible day and night.



Top: Site plan of D.C.A. courtesy of Michael Shiff Architects. Right: End view of large picnic shelter with restaurant. Photo by George Miller, Miller Photography.

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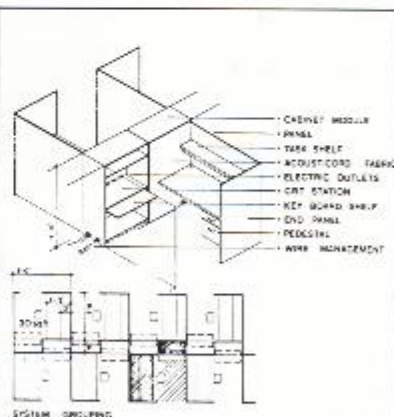
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Continued from page 11

dents occurred had riser height variations. The AIA Design for Aging guide claims that a high percentage of the falls that occur in housing for the elderly can be traced to a simple riser whose height is different from the other uniform risers in the system.


Tread depth is the distance from the front edge of the step to the riser wall at the back, exclusive of the nosing and overhang. Tread depth is critical for the human gait when descending stairs since the ball of the foot must have a firm surface on which to step. If there is too little tread, the ball will slide off the edge of the tread. Too much tread will cause the heel of the opposite foot to get caught on the front portion of the tread as it attempts to clear the surface. Most building codes require uniformity in tread depth within a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch variation. (*South Florida Building Code, 1984: 31-11*).

The brain must properly perceive the change in elevation if it is to successfully negotiate a stairway or ramp. Any variations from what the brain has been taught to expect will result in improper placement of the foot and could result in a slip and fall accident.

While there are slight variations in the minimum dimensions for stairs as specified in the national building codes used in the U.S. (BOCA, SBC, UBC, SFBC), the standards established have provided the necessary critical dimensions that are required for safe use of stairs.

The author is a registered architect in South Florida. He is frequently called as an expert witness on stairway and ramp design with regard to slip and fall accidents.

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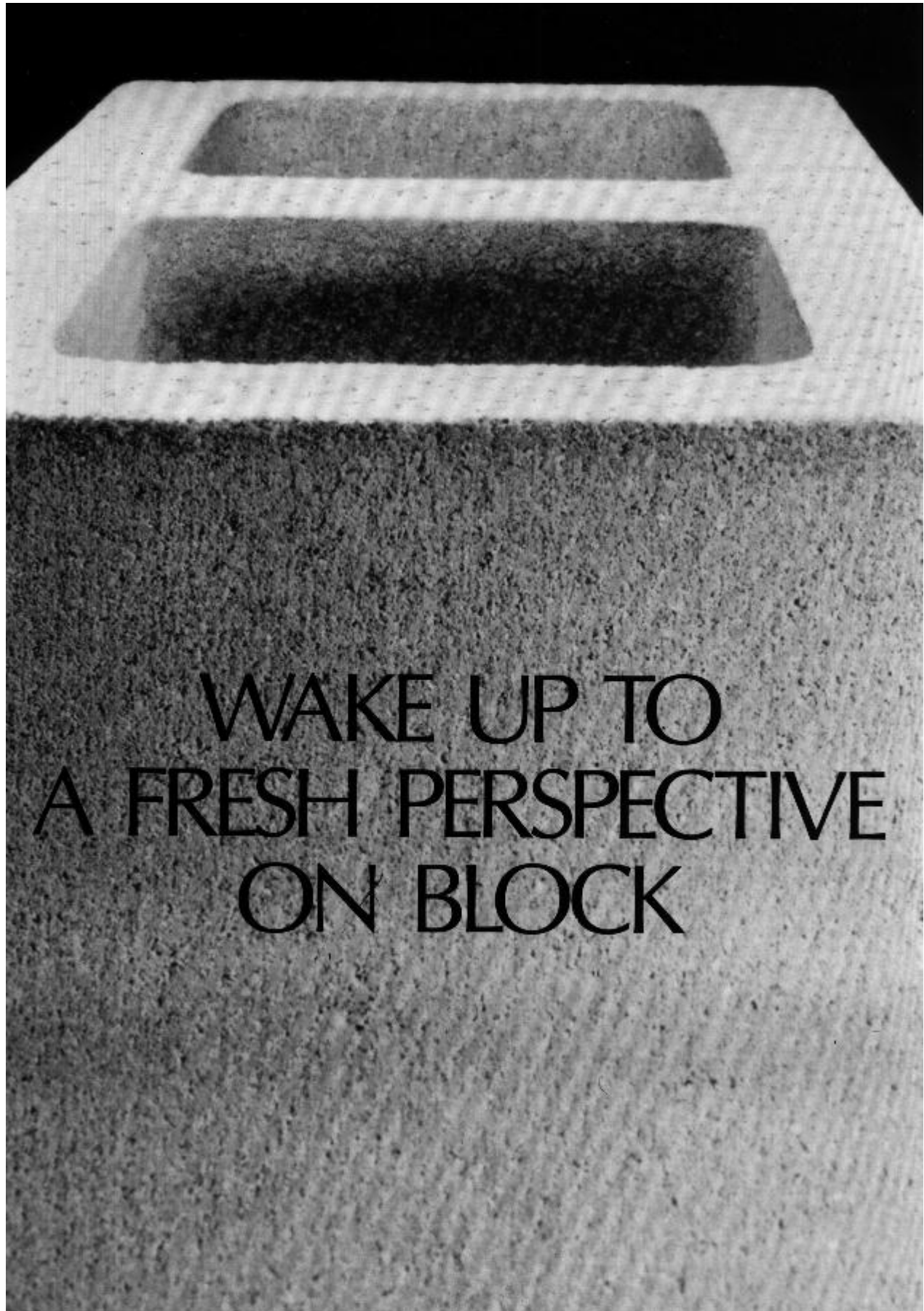
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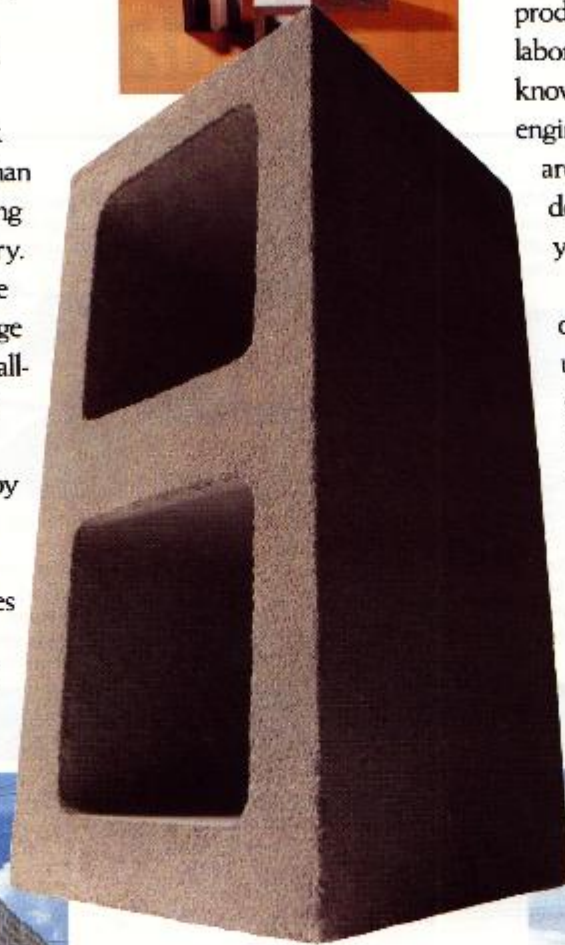
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FLORIDA ARCHITECT July/August 1987

VIEWPOINT

FROM A SKETCHBOOK OF
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DRAWINGS DONE DURING A
10 DAY TRIP THROUGH THE
GREEK CYCLADIC ISLANDS
IN THE AEGEAN SEA, 1983.



SANTORINI (THERA)

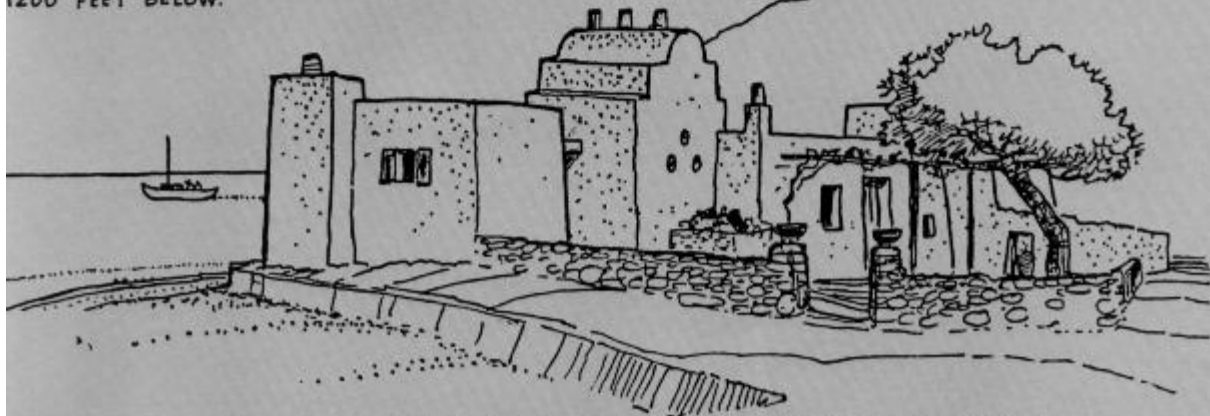
INCREDIBLE ALL-WHITE CITY PERCHED
ON THE RIM OF A VOLCANO THAT
ERUPTED IN 1453 B.C. NARROW STREETS
WITH NO CARS. GOOD RESTAURANTS
FEATURING SEAFOOD AND LOCAL WINE.
SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF THE DEEP BLUE
AEGEAN SEA. BUILDINGS WHITEWASHED
TWICE A YEAR - COLOR ONLY ALLOWED
ON DOORS AND SHUTTERS.

"WHERE GENTLE WAVES WASH PEBBLED SHORES
SILENT NOW, HINT OF THERA'S FIERY PAST"



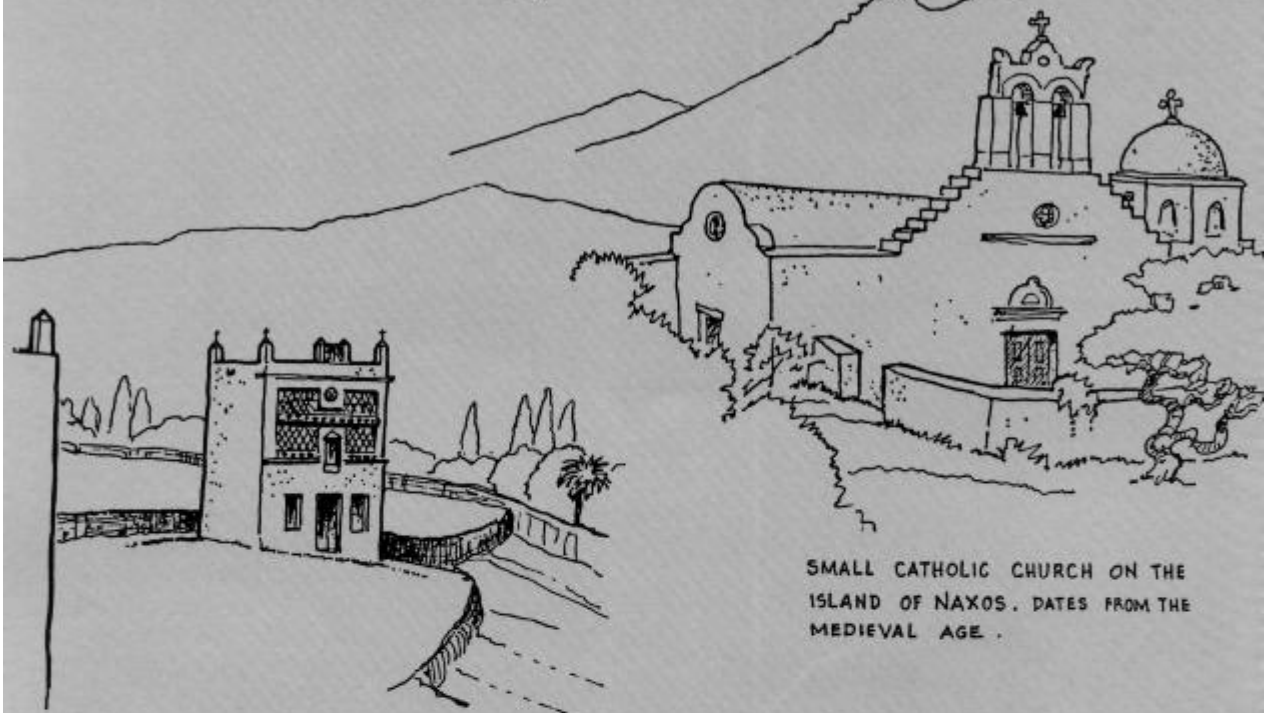
SANTORINI (THERA)

OVERLOOKING THE CALDERA OF THE VOLCANO
1200 FEET BELOW.



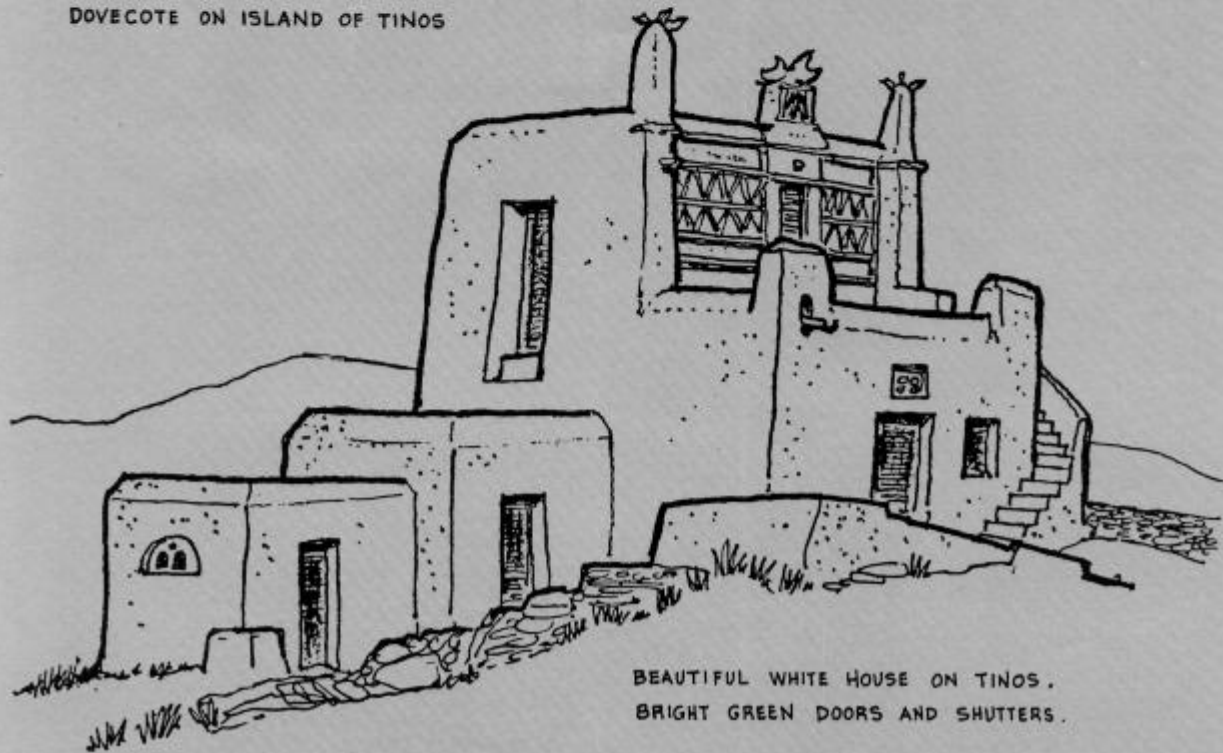
TRADITIONAL GREEK HOUSE AT PLATI YALOS, ISLAND OF SYPHNOS

"WAS IT BUT A DREAM - THAT FROLICING OF GODS AND MEN
IN POSEIDONS VERY HOLY PLACE ?"



SMALL CATHOLIC CHURCH ON THE
ISLAND OF NAXOS . DATES FROM THE
MEDIÉVAL AGE .

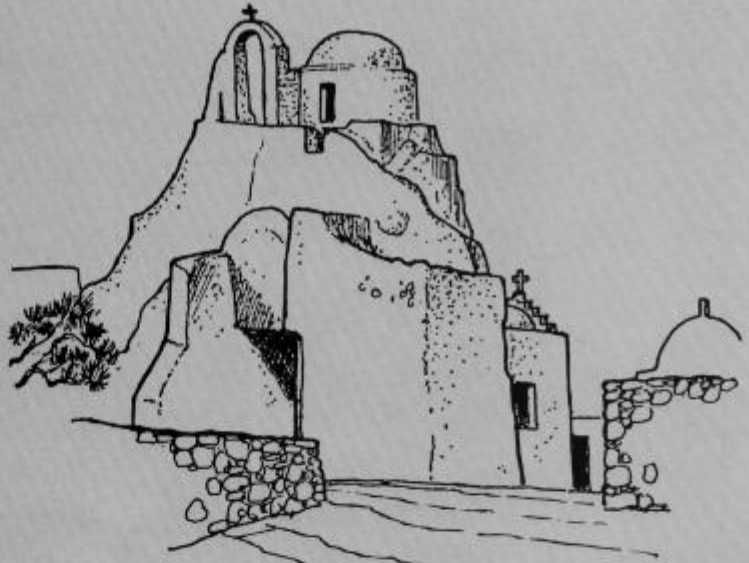
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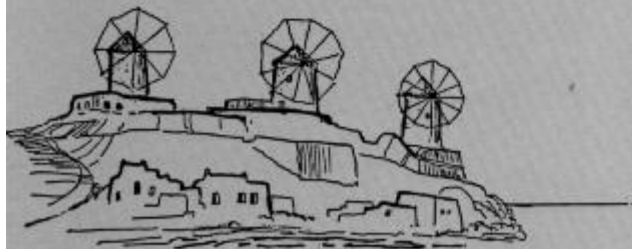


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NOW PRONE, WORN AND SMOOTH"



RUINS OF CLASSICAL GREEK
TEMPLE - SACRED ISLAND OF
DELOS. HOME OF APOLLO.

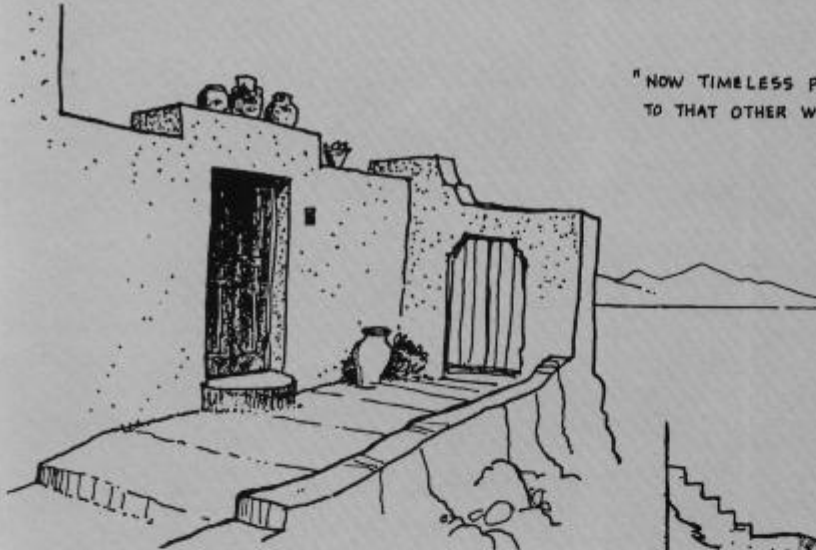


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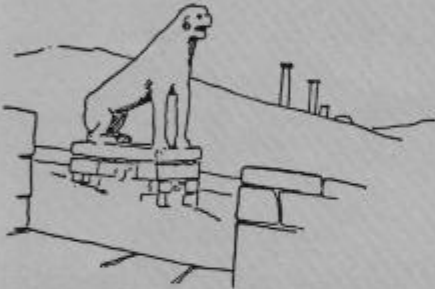


CHURCH OVERLOOKING MYKONOS HARBOUR

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HOUSE WITH BLUE DOOR, SANTORINI



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"WHERE FALLEN MARBLE TELLS A SILENT TALE
AND TWISTED ROCKS SPEAK OF
FAR MORE ANCIENT TIMES..."



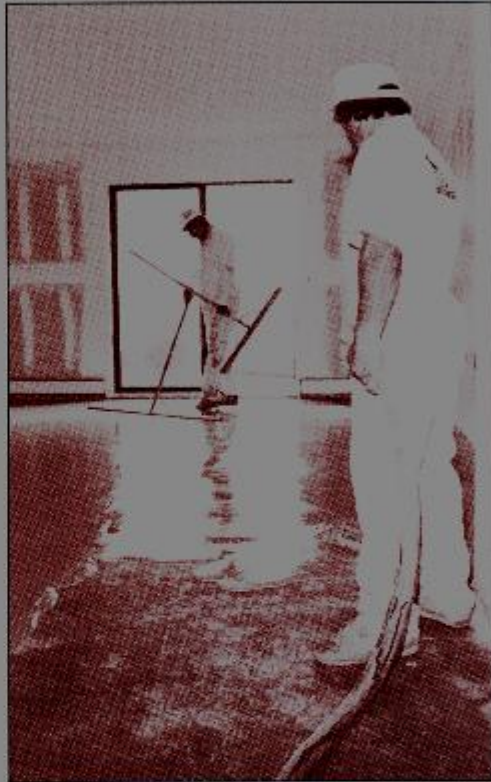
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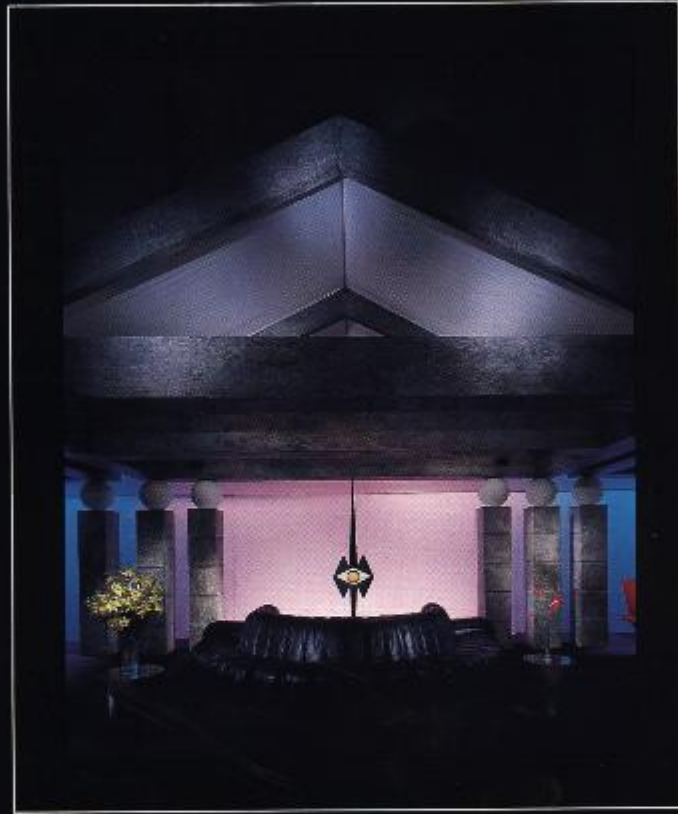


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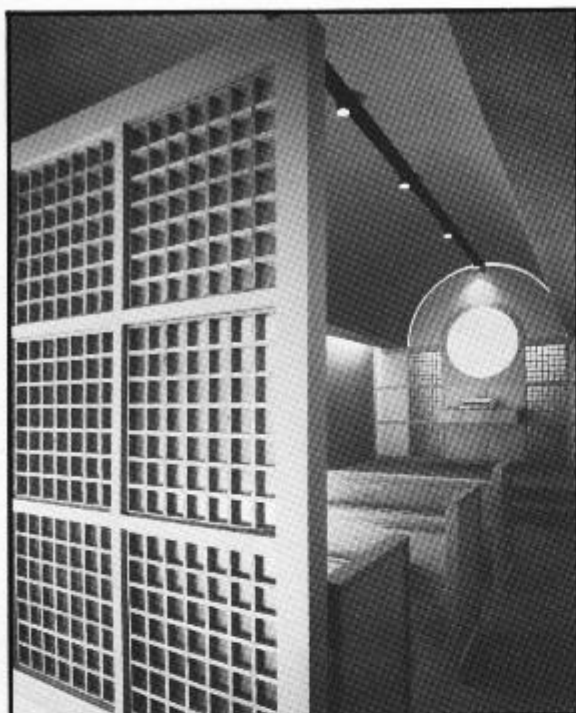
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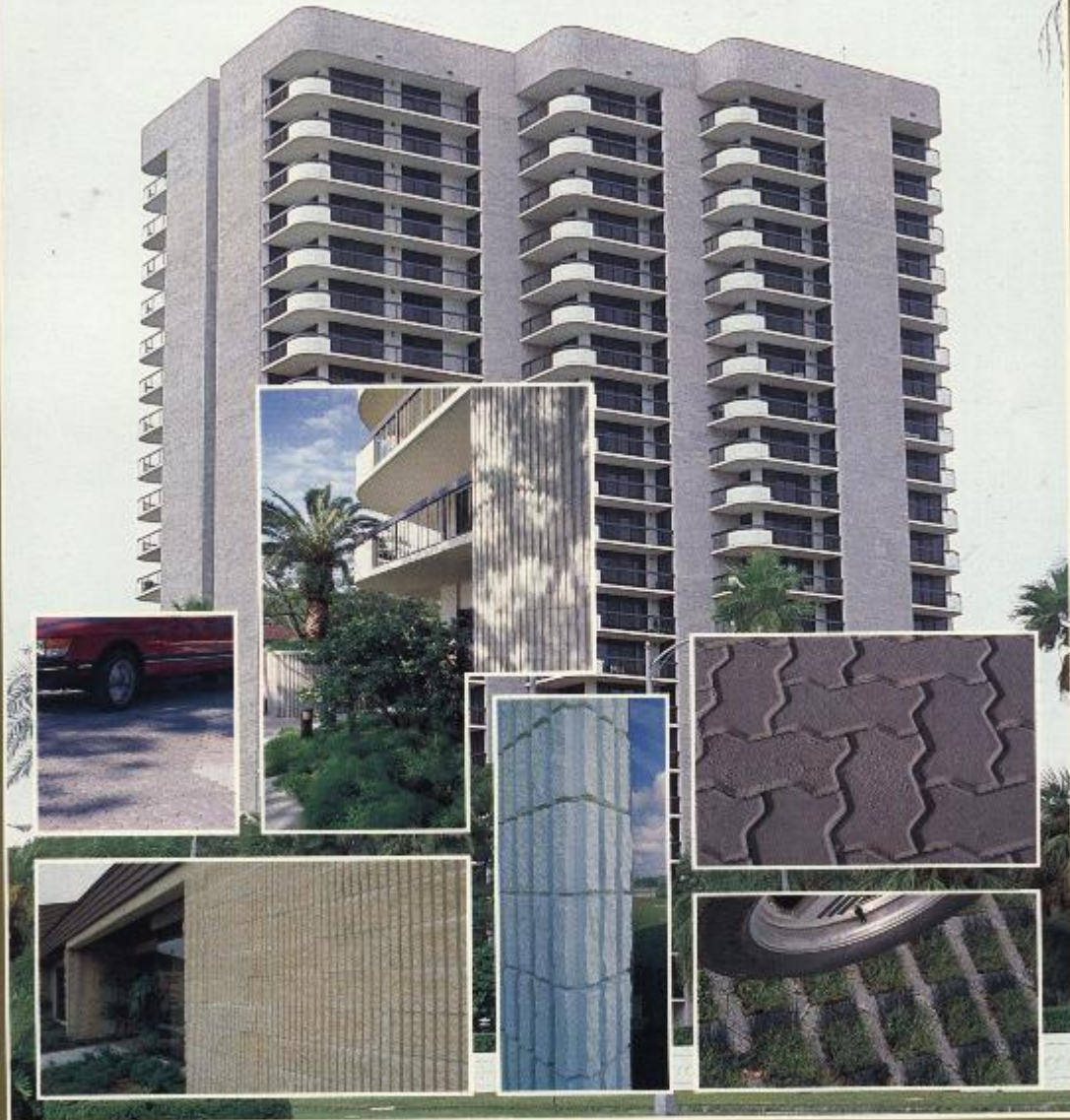
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