CONVENTION COMES TO DALLAS!

Mark your calendar for the National AIA Convention, May 6-9 in Dallas. This is the premier industry event every architect should attend!

Registration is only $50 for AIA members. And you can fulfill your membership education requirement in just four days! The convention provides unique networking opportunities to learn from your peers. You can tour Dallas’ exemplary architecture, and visit over 450 companies at Expo99.

Need to earn LUs?
Take advantage of the two types of classroom programs:

Pre-Convention Workshops
Dallas99 offers 18 half-day workshops. All of these highly-interactive, hands-on programs cost $50 and are offered Wednesday, May 5 from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m.

Seminars
You’ll find 124 seminars in eight time slots, all included with your Dallas99 $50 registration fee. Each is one and a half or two hours long and open to 50 to 300 participants. You will find a broad range of interactive programs with slide and video presentations, panel discussions, and lectures.

Tracks
Seven tracks have been created to help focus your learning:
- DE Design
- PR Practice
- MK Marketing
- MG Management
- EV Environment
- TC Technology
- LC Leadership/Community

Learning Units
Dallas99 continuing education programs are classified according to your experience. Programs are offered on three levels: Entry, Intermediate, and Advanced. You can also earn LUs by participating in workshops, general sessions/loner presentations, professional tours, and special programs and events.

Remember, your registration fee covers all seminars, as well as the many hands-on learning opportunities at AIA Expo99. Questions? Call AIA Continuing Education at 202.626.7333 or check out the AIA Web site at www.aiaonline.com.

AIA NATIONAL BESTOWS AWARD

The Denver Central Public Library has received a 1999 Honor Award for Interior Architecture from The American Institute of Architects. The award is given to outstanding architectural projects that exemplify excellence in design and service to clients and the community.

The interior space was created to invite the library patron to linger and explore, and it successfully avoids any institutional character, although it accommodates thousands of people everyday. The design solution resulted in a new library that presented a bold new face to the public and was still quite intimate in character. It is a building that can support traditional library activities and still address the current library technology involving a complex computer infrastructure.
GRASSROOTS: IT WAS WORTH IT...

I n early February, I had the pleasure of attending “Grassroots” in Washington, D.C. This is AIA’s annual Leadership and Legislative Conference. As always, it was a great experience being in our nation’s capitol. This year was quite different in several aspects from my previous trips.

First, the ongoing impeachment proceedings added an element of urgency and seriousness to the city. Second, AIA had recently replaced our national Executive Vice President/CEO Mark Hurwitz, of the year, with Norman Koontz, FAIA, of the American Architectural Foundation. This occurred in January and the national staff was still somewhat shell-shocked. This, coupled with scheduling difficulties around the impeachment, led to a far greater amount of late-minute schedule and speaker changes. Nevertheless, it was still a very good event.

Wednesday evening, the Western Mountain Region met and discussed several important issues. First, we were asked for juror candidates for the WMR awards this year, if anyone is interested please contact either Joe Jackson or me. Next, we talked about this year’s WMR conference, which will be in late August in Tucson and should be very good. We then discussed the proposed Summit 2000 in Sun Valley, Idaho. This event is planned to include the WMR states, the Pacific Northwest states, California, Hawaii, and Guam. It is still in the developmental stages, but faces a number of challenges including fundraising and lack of national staff support. We’ll keep you updated on that.

Thursday was Government Affairs Day, which started with a great humorous talk by former Senator Al Simpson of Wyoming. Then we went to Capitol Hill to meet with our senators and representatives. This year we focused on six main issues: Livable Communities, Historic Preservation, Accessibility Concerns, Transportation Enhancement Acts, the Community Revitalization Act, and Schools as Centers of Community. The AIA gave us great blueprints featuring sketch vignettes of each of these issues to leave with the senators and representatives. These were a real hit and hopefully will keep architects in the minds of our legislators a little longer. We sometimes wonder if we’re accomplishing much, but I truly believe each little step makes a difference. I’m also continually reminded by Jerry Johnson, our lobbyist, that the more time we can spend with the legislators at home in Colorado, the more effective we will be.

Thursday afternoon, we heard from Robert Waged, Representative from Rhode Island, and he stressed the need to really pursue the Livable Communities issues. He also emphasized the need to work at our local level to pursue the changes. Richard Swett, AIA, now Ambassador to Denmark, encouraged architects to play a bigger role throughout society—not just in building design. He urged us to use our problem-solving skills to “Design programs to be proactive, not just reactive.” In the evening, we had an opportunity to visit the national headquarters and visit with staff one on one. This is a great opportunity to ask pointed questions and try to get information on issues important to Colorado.

Friday began with the Peer Group Breakfast, which groups chapters together of similar size or geographic diversity. I spent most of the time discussing non-dues revenue. It was quite revealing to find most chapters rely on sponsorship, as we do. They use continuing education as a revenue center, or they have kept supplemental dues at the state or local level. (However, most that do this have mandatory CE for licensure.) The chapters I talked with as a whole were nowhere as well organized as we are with fundraising.

The 1999 national candidates were then announced and each gave a speech. This was very exciting for Colorado since John Anderson is a candidate for First Vice President/President Elect. John gave an excellent speech, and I’m sure he welcomes all support from our membership. If he is elected, he will be president during our convention in 2001!

Michael Stanton, FAIA, our 1999 president, talked about the upcoming advertising campaign that began on TV in March. If you check AIA Online, you can find out when the commercials will air. We saw both commercials and they are dynamic! He then talked about “Aligning the Institute for the Millennium,” the AIM project. There are seven initiatives the national board has set to bring the institute into the 21st Century. The effort is exciting, but still needs lots of support.

Norman Koontz, FAIA, the acting CEO, spoke and talked about the importance of sustainability, cultivating relations with our allied organizations.

See PRESIDENT on page 6
D id you know the National AIA Convention is coming to Denver in May 2002? We expect approximately 15,000 architects from around the world to convene in Colorado for this very popular event... a great opportunity for us to showcase architecture in our great state!

AIA Colorado is seeking volunteers to participate at many levels—on the steering committee, on subcommittees and to help plan tours and events. Volunteers do not need to be members (spouses and partners are encouraged to participate). Call AIA Colorado now to find out about the myriad of volunteer opportunities available!

To fund the many programs and activities we will be responsible for as the host chapter, AIA Colorado will most likely implement a mandatory dues assessment during the 2000 and 2001 invoice cycles. This is to provide funding for seed money, additional staff, and other necessary convention-related expenses. In return for the assessment, AIA Colorado members will be given complimentary convention registration. Watch your mail later this Spring for details.

P serve the Finn's marketing and public relations activities. Graham was previously hired Kimberly MacArthur Graham to be the assistant to the curator for the Preserved AIA Award). Please give first priority to the advertisers in Colorado Architect because they have supported AIA Colorado through this publication.

The Denver office of Turner Construction Company has been awarded a contract for the construction of 16 Market Square. The 225,000 square-foot, 8-story luxury master plan and remodeling of the Emergency Department at University Hospital. LBA project manager Dave Gebel, AIA, will be the driving force behind the project, thanks to his long-standing history with University Hospital and impressive background in the design and renovation of health care facilities. Additionally, LBA was awarded the Master Facility Planning Services project for the Denver Health and Hospital Authority. LBA specializes in the design of health care facilities including assisted living and senior living communities. Other projects the firm is currently completing include medical, office, industrial, educational and multi-family residential.

The Editorial Board encourages articles of educational value to our members, rather than those of "direct sales" orientation. Written information may be accompanied by a single photograph or graphic, which may or may not be used when the article is published. You may submit articles to coincide with a particular theme (Call The Newsletter Group 303.737.3331 for an editorial calendar); however, the Editorial Board reserves the right to determine in which issue, if any, the article is actually published. For more information on submission requirements and availability, call Kim Jackson at 303.737.3331.

CL Construction Services has moved to new offices at 2000 South Colorado Boulevard, Tower Two, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80222. Their new phone number is 303.365.6500; new fax is 303.365.6590.

The Hotel Monaco at 17th and Champa Streets in downtown Denver, which opened its doors last October, has received two local awards, honored by both The Downtown Denver Partnership (Award of Excellence) and Historic Denver, Inc. (Community Preservation Award). JG Johnson Architects of Denver were the architects for the historic renovation, and the firm is currently working on another Hotel Monaco in Salt Lake City. On a side note, the AIA in Colorado chose the Hotel Monaco for its recent all-chapter Board Retreat in January.

ARCHITECTS: Please give first priority to the advertisers in Colorado Architect because they have supported AIA Colorado through this publication.

The Editorial Board of Colorado Architect invites all AIA Colorado Professional Affiliate members and past/present advertisers to submit articles for inclusion in future issues of the Colorado Architect. Articles of a maximum 500 words may be submitted directly to The Newsletter Group, 1340 S. Glencoe St., Denver, CO 80222. You may also fax your article to 303.737.3374, or send by e-mail it to newsgrp@rmi.net.

The Editorial Board welcomes all letters. Letters must be signed with name, street address and daytime phone number. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the AIA Colorado Board of Directors or its membership.

LETTERS POLICY

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**CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Blue Maxx Wallsystems ICF Certification Courses, April 8-9

April 8-9 are the dates set for these AIA/CES accredited Blue Maxx Wallsystems Certification Courses in Fort Collins. The cost of $130 includes materials, lunches and breaks. Call 888.478.4608 to register.

Log Building Conference, April 9-11

The American Log Builders Association holds its annual conference at the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs-April 9-11. Builders, architects, designers, engineers and affiliated industry representatives will focus on engineering issues for log buildings. Participants from North America, Asia, Australia and Europe are expected. The deadline to register is March 31. For further information, contact the Log Builders' Association, 800.512.2900 or email logbldassn@aol.com.

Ethiopia — Travels and Anecdotes, April 22

Presented by Howard C. Dutzi at the New Whitney Electric Building, 496 Nevada Mesa View in Colorado Springs. Doors open at 6:30 pm for the 7:00 presentation. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP to AIA Colorado, 800.628.5998.

Autodesk Training Aboard Alaska Cruise, May 22-29

Westark College/Autodesk Training Center presents special training aboard a 7-night Alaska Cruise on the MS Westerdam, May 22-29. AutoCAD Architectural Desktop, AutoCAD LT 98, and 3D VIZ R2 will be presented in this "earn while you learn" program which qualifies for up to 24 AIA/CES Learning Units. For more information, contact Continuing Education, Inc., University at Sea, 800.926.3775 or contactus@continuingeducation.net.

May Update Symposium, May 6

Fall Forecast, October 21

Plan now to participate in two major events being planned by the University of Denver (one in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Commercial Real Estate Expo). For further information, contact the University at 303.871.3432 or visit www.dcb.du.edu/burns.

Environmental Thinking, Spring 1999

This lecture, entitled Environmental Thinking, The Art of Architecture in the Age of Ecology, presented by James Wines, is based on the premise that architecture is at the threshold of revolutionary changes in response to a new Age of Information and Ecology. For lecture registration information, call 212.283.0120 or email stefjo@inter­port.net.

Colorado Construction Projects

April 21

The Cambridge Institute presents this one-day program, designed specifically for construction owners, contractors, subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, architects, engineers and attorneys. Colorado Construction Projects will provide you with practical solutions for partnering, team management and project delivery; managing and preserving construction claims; ensuring contracting compliance; and public vs. private sector contracting. As a member of AIA Colorado, you'll receive a 10% discount off of regular tuition. To request a registration brochure, call 703.790.9995 and mention priority code C2681 or go to www.CambridgeInstitute.com.

NCARB Offers Continuing Education Opportunities

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) professional monograph series makes it easy to earn AIA/CES Learning Units. Their single-topic monographs include an open-book, multiple-choice quiz, which participants return to NCARB for scoring. To learn more about NCARB's self-study program, visit www.ncarb.org/services/cont.htm or call 202.783.6500.

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Urban Design

Morey Bean, AIA/Colorado Architectural Partnership

Newsletter, Nominating, Awards

Duane Boyle, AIA/ASAAP Associates Committee

Carol Sandstrom, Assoc.

AIA/Colorado Architecture Partnership

Membership & Government Affairs

Marr Maples, AIA/The Weitz Company, Inc.

Every committee is hard at work and they are all entitled to big KUDOS! We especially need help with the Awards Gala, contact Rhonda.

Awards

Speaking of awards and newsletters, with the changing of the guard, we neglected to get the winners of the 1998 Design Awards into this publication. My sincere apologies to all. The winners are listed here, and look for write-ups and photographs of the projects in next month’s issue. They are:

CSNA Architects—the St. John’s University Science Building

DLR Group—Fenwick Creek High School

James W. Nakai & Associates—their new office space.

Hagen Cameron Architects—the Family Development Center at UCCS.

Colorado Architecture Partnership—

The Avenue Café

Michael Collins Architect—Colorado Springs Traffic Operations Center

I also want to thank the jury, Jerry Seracuse, FAIA, Clifford Nakai, FAIA, and Don Higginbotham, AIA, for their wonderful participation. Also thanks to Lynn Ellen Braley, Michael Cook, and Richard Gordon for arranging a spectacular event.

It is not too early to be planning your 1999 Design Awards Entry. We have arranged for fantastic panel of jurors, follow this newsletter for more information. As the last design awards of the century, we guarantee they will be worth entering.

More Thanks

Many thanks to the AIA/COO Education Fund for their support of the many worthwhile causes our chapter is involved with. Their grants to fund The Smithsonian Art Exhibition and the South Chapters Blueprint for the Future Education program are sincerely appreciated.

Free Yellow Pages Program

If you are interested in finding out about this program contact Jennifer Moak at (215) 977-1373. Reference the AIA Yellow Page Listing Program.

Speaking of Programs

Elizabeth Wright Ingraham, FAIA, is organizing a program to bring architects, developers, and homebuilders to the table to discuss issues centered on residential development, and the lack of architects involvement in the process. Elizabeth made a presentation to the AIA/COO Board of Directors and is proceeding with their approval. What she needs is your help. Please get involved. Call Marr Maples for more information.

1999 South Chapter Activities

The Programs Committee has put together an exciting assortment of programs for 1999. In fact, they have scheduled activities through March of 2000. Keep an eye on this Newsletter for upcoming events. In the meantime, here are some things to look forward to: Open Houses in March and April. Carnegie Library Renovation Tour and Reception in May. Cliffhouse tour in May. BMMH Historic Preservation Luncheon in June. Thomas Jefferson The Architect in June.

The rest of the year will include a walking tour of Pueblo Architecture, 10 on 10 slide presentations, DPIC slide presentations by Howard Dutzi, Art by Architects evening, and a host of other events. Looking forward to seeing you all at these wonderful events.

Cab Rides

As a final note, I want to share an experience from the Grassroots Conference. During the Cab ride back to the hotel, after enjoying a great evening of dining and discussion in Georgetown, I learned a valuable lesson. The lesson is “Watch what you say in taxi cabs.” The story is as follows: Ned Whitcomb, Dean Loso, my wife Tammy, and I were discussing places we had visited and memorable events of each place. I began discussing a series of business trips to Manchester (as in UK) and how hard it was getting used to driving on the “wrong side” of the road. I finished the story by proclaiming that after a while, I actually enjoyed the thrill of driving on the left, and got quite used to it. Where upon our Washington DC cab driver spoke up and said “Yes, I have been to Vermont and they do drive bad up there.” Then, I think in an effort to show us that he was not about to be out done by a cab driver from Vermont, our driver swerved to the wrong side of the street, and dodging oncoming traffic, proceeded to take us the last three blocks to our hotel. White as ghosts, we all piled out of the cab, and ran for the sanctuary of the hotel lobby.

If you have any questions about what is going on at the South Chapter, please give us a call. We value your feedback, and want to do a good job on your behalf. Keep in touch!
CONTRACTOR'S PERSPECTIVE: PEOPLE KEEP US IN THE BUSINESS!

When I first started in this business, I knew of projects that were very profitable, but this profit came with a price. The contractor and architect drew blood from each other at every turn and when the dust had settled, both team members walked away from the project with money in their pockets, but a relationship destroyed.

Don't think the most important member of the team, the owner, didn't notice those negative feelings. This entity isn't interested in working with individuals who themselves aren't interested in working together.

Therefore, one of the most important byproducts of the project (future work) suffers.

So how do we work together, get along, look good in the eyes of the owner and make a profit? I believe it's a simple formula. If we can remember the other team members are PEOPLE, we're halfway there.

You see, we share with these individuals a lot of the same problems, anxieties, fears, and worries other members of the design and construction team harbor. Whether you're an architect, contractor, engineer or subcontractor, chances are you have a boss who is not paying when you have, or have received dues invoices, or are listed as not paying when you have, or have had any other issue with National Recordkeeping, the CDB is probably at fault. The National Board has finally given up on the current system and will change to a new system next year. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

Friday afternoon, we broke into workshops to discuss specific initiatives, fears, and worries other members of the design and construction team harbor. Whether you're an architect, contractor, engineer or subcontractor, chances are you have a boss who is pestering you to "stay on budget," "process those submittals," "blih - blih - blih!"

Last time I checked, it took all of the people I've mentioned above to make a project a successful project. If we can remember we're dealing with people not machines, we will start to experience what a lot of us look for... A Good Construction Project!

I t never seems to fail. New employees start in this industry, and the inevitable question they ask about this business looks like a like a four thousand pound mirrored disco ball over a dance who's only attendees are a group of Jesuit nuns.

In other words, it's a very awkward question to answer... "What Makes A Good Construction Project." When I first started in this rapidly changing industry, the recession was just rolling into the Southern California area. To me and the rest of the industry, a good construction project was any construction project. Needless to say, they were few and far between.

Furthermore, there was nothing like the feeling you get from going to a empty field in July and walking away from the project with a new building. It isn't by looking good in the eyes of the owner and make a profit. I believe it's a simple formula. If we can remember the other team members are PEOPLE, we're halfway there.

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A MASTER PLAN FOR TRANSFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

—Bill Wenk, Wenk Associates and Elliot March, Associate AIA

LARRY AIR FORCE BASE, located in Denver and Aurora, closed in September, 1994. Transformation and redevelopment of the 1,900 acre site is underway. It is being planned as a mixed-use, urban community that will include an employment center, town center, residences for 3,000 families, an extensive urban park system, and the Higher Education and Advanced Technology (HEAT) Campus.

Wenk Associates, a Denver landscape architecture firm, in conjunction with Barker, Rinker, Seacat Architecture, have been developing the Master Plan for the 156-acre HEAT campus. The HEAT Center partners with businesses and other educational institutions to integrate programs that provide instruction and training in high technology applications. Initiatives on campus include the Colorado Advanced Photonics Technology Center, Rapid Product Development Alliance, the Colorado Venture Center, and others.

The framework includes a series of humanistic and interactive environments. Some existing buildings will go away, others will be renovated; new buildings will be built. The Master Plan calls for a pedestrian friendly campus and landscape fabric that ties old and new elements together. The landscape and built environment will be structured and layered with reference to the site's history and continued evolution—from pre-industry to today.

Traffic-calmed interior streets make the center of the campus pedestrian friendly.

Existing barracks at the former Lowry Air Force Base.

The landscape and built environment will be structured and layered with reference to the site's history and continued evolution—from pre-industry.

SPRING SCHEDULE FOR ARE REVIEW SESSIONS AND BREAKFAST SERIES ANNOUNCED

Six ABE sessions are scheduled from April 10 through June 5. Call the AIA for the full schedule, registration, and costs.

The spring breakfast lecture series will take place April 20 through May 25, the second Tuesday of each week, from 7:30-8:30 AM (breakfast is 7-7:30). The program will again be held at the Design Center. A brochure will be mailed soon to all Denver members listing the topics, registration information, and costs.

If you have any questions about either of these series, please contact Carmella Martinez, AIA program and awards manager, at 303.446.2266.

B Y L A W S M O D I F I E D

The AIA Denver Board of Directors has modified the component bylaws to bring them up to date with current operating procedures of the chapter. The bylaws modifications will be presented for approval at the April 28 AIA Denver member lunch, to be held at 11:30 am at Rodizio Grill. If you would like a copy of the bylaws modifications mailed to you, please call AIA Denver at 303.446.2266.
Creating a Village

Design Workshop has 30 years of experience creating village environments in beautiful and remote parts of the world. The firm's experience also includes community planning and urban design. Todd Johnson, design principal at Design Workshop, states that, "Our mission is and has always been to use the lessons of the village in many different contexts. Villages appeal to people because they provide a density of human experience and the variety of choices within a small area." Design Workshop has used the lessons of the mountain village in urban contexts and in campus planning and design throughout this country and abroad.

Commons in the Central Platte Valley. As metropolitan Denver booms, urban infill is touted as an antidote to urban sprawl. Johnson offers, "This is where the village paradigm can help shape the urban design idea. 'Antidote' has a negative connotation. Making a convenient and beautiful urban village offers a more compelling motivation for in-fill."

Located in the Central Platte Valley next to the Lower Downtown (LoDo) historic district, the Commons covers an area equal to 21 city blocks, or 20 percent of the size of the existing downtown. The plan will orchestrate development comparable in scale and urban character to Boston's Back Bay. Planning teams emphasize an urban village—the city's civic, business, and cultural center.

Initial development of the project will take place during the next ten years. This period will include development and construction of site, utility and information technology infrastructure, renovation of existing structures and some new building development. Final campus development will be driven by campus population and program growth that will require site densification and the elimination of vehicular movement into the campus interior. The campus is ultimately expected to expand to 2 million square feet to accommodate a projected population of 20,000 students.

Village on page 14
The school building had been torched by an arsonist in 1980. Debris from the fire was removed and the remaining floor was utilized as a roof when a temporary roofing membrane and drainage were added. The building was then abandoned to the elements; transient people occasionally broke into the building and wildlife moved in.

Today the Academy is comprised of several old and new structures including the historic school and chapel buildings, historic conservatory; new entry/bridge, new housing addition; and, soon, nine new bungalows. The design team selected the isthmus between the chapel and the main building as the connection. By doing so, it simplified circulation while allowing removal of extraneous additions that had been made to the building over time. Building materials and forms were chosen deliberately to contrast with the historic Academy buildings. The cumulative effect achieved is an elegant architectural statement, framed around one of the most regal historic structures in the state of Colorado.

**Honor Award**


A prefabricated antique, recycled fir timber frame with oak peg connections was erected in 14 days and received prefabricated foam sandwich wall and roof panels 14 days after that. The

[See COBRA on page 10]
With four townhouses, three loft apartments, and four office spaces, Mawson Block is a true "mixed-use" development. Architect: RB+B Architects, Inc.

Mawson Block is a true "mixed-use" development containing four townhouses, three loft apartments, and four office spaces, all within 33,000 square feet. Seven residential units share a common sheltered courtyard, creating intimacy within a busy environment. The shared courtyard also fosters community relationships between the residential tenants and business tenants.

Located on the edge of the historic Old Town District in Fort Collins, the townhouse development seeks to expand the boundaries of this market district as well as creating a stronger eastern entry. The design respects the forms and materials of its historic neighbors. However, it establishes its own place by carefully integrating a contemporary architecture from the sky downward, giving the illusion that the masonry masses lining Mountain Avenue have always existed. Mawson Block acknowledges the need for downtown office and retail space with a pedestrian-friendly streetfront, and further reinforces the fact that life is given to a downtown area day and night only if people actually live in it. The majority of the tenants either have home offices or walk to workplaces within the neighborhood.

COBRA is organized and chaired by Sears Barrett, AIA, owner and principal of Sears Barrett Architects.

Fellowship Nominations Requested

The Fellows Nominating Committee of AIA Denver is seeking suggestions from the membership potential candidates to consider for advancement to Fellowship. Candidates must be a member of AIA and in good standing for minimum of 10 years (cumulative, not consecutive).

Nominations, with a brief supportive statement, are due to the AIA offices by April 15, 1999. Please call AIA Colorado at 303.446.2266 or Dennis Humphries, AIA, at 303.607.0040 if you have questions.

An adaptive reuse of a 100-year-old national register historic building converts a defunct Catholic girls academy into an upscale senior housing complex. Architect: RNL Design.

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OLD BUILDINGS ENJOY NEW LIFE AS RESTAURANTS

S
ince 1994, Downing, Thorpe & James (DTJ) has provided architectural services for the national expansion of Louisville-based Rock Bottom Restaurants and Big River Breweries of Chattanooga. The work has included nearly 50 restaurant and brew pub projects, usually involving the renovation of aging and sometimes historic buildings and tenant spaces.

DTJ's restaurant team has worked in 26 major cities, exploring restaurant and hospitality possibilities of old brick warehouses, turn-of-the-century downtown commercial buildings, private hotel and office spaces; and faking, 1950s office towers. Team members have crawled through dark sub-basements; over asbestos-clad boilers; into duct shafts and light wells; above suspended ceilings; and onto rusting cooling towers on rooftops, where we have also viewed some of the most striking and seldom-seen cityscapes!

Project Coordinator Jim Bray and I share a background in historic preservation architecture, and are energized by these challenging renovations of older buildings. The work seldom allows for pure restorations, but often we are saving and recycling older and historic buildings that otherwise might not be preserved, which is gratifying.

Adapting older and historic buildings for restaurant uses involves a complex collection of issues—including preservation standards, building codes, structural, and mechanical problems. While attempting to preserve original plaster ceiling cornices and cast iron column capitals, we struggle to locate grease traps and exhaust hood ducts in seemingly impossible places.

Assembly occupancies trigger an entire set of code issues related to exiting and accessibility. Also, we frequently encounter fire, acoustical and odor separation issues in the older buildings we occupy. Separating a noisy bar crowd from adjacent tenants can be difficult and the scent of brewing beer or grilling pork chops is not always appealing to those working and living next door!

Additionally the structural requirements associated with 100,000 pounds of brewing equipment can be challenging. The loads must be accommodated all the way to a building's foundation, regardless of how many occupied intervening floors are involved.

Many of these restaurant locations are in historic buildings, where our team has used extra care to preserve architectural character and original materials. Each restaurant requires identity features, such as entrances, canopies, signage, grain silos, patios, etc. that must be distinct but architecturally compatible. We have learned to expect extended negotiations with local historic and design review districts over these features, but have also found such groups generally more flexible and accommodating than 10 to 20 years ago. Today, many preservationists are more focused on the survival of historic buildings than on the "purity" of their preservation.

And although tax credits for historic renovation are no longer a strong reason for doing restaurants in historic buildings, financial incentives are sometimes available. Several of our recent projects have involved federal and state tax incentives associated with historic preservation, usually involving the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Happily, some of DTJ's most challenging and difficult projects have resulted in some of our most successful restaurants. From initial site investigation through schematic design, construction documents, and construction, the team tries to be creative and responsive to unusual situations and to solve problems one at a time. Perhaps these restaurants are successful not only for their excellent food, drink, and service, but because the customers also perceive that a lot of care and work went into creating them!

The Washington DC District Chop House and Denver's Chop House near Coors Field are projects that demonstrate the kinds of challenges—and successful results—DTJ and our clients have experienced in this work.

The District Chop House occupies 11,000 SF in an 1890s bank building, four blocks from the National Mall. The five-story structure had never been "modernized," and so for its first "new tenant," the design team had to deal with basic "core and shell" issues for the entire building. A new mezzanine level was added within the high ceiling of the ornate first floor, and the basement floor was lowered. Foundations were supplemented to accommodate kitchen and brewing equipment loads. The finished restaurant is warm and inviting—classic, not trendy—and has already become a favorite in the busy Capitol. The restaurant's good reviews have almost made us forget the underground river encountered when the basement floor was removed!

Similarly, the Denver Chop House, located in the 1920's Union Pacific Freight Station in the "Stadium District" of Lower Downtown, became the first new user of this previously unrenovated building. The former offices are now the main dining room and lounge; the freight shed is now the bar and brew house; and the rail dock is the outdoor patio. And there's no sign of the forklift that fell through the floor on the first day of construction!

This work has been good for DTJ and its restaurant team, as it provides a continuing stream of interesting projects and associations with many...
MANAGING THE VIRTUAL BUILDING

—Kevin Wichmann, President CADDesigns

Not long ago, only a few large firms were using CAD—and they went to CAD for the promise of productivity gains. A CAD manager sets up the systems that lets staff produce a cohesive, coordinated, and consistent set of working drawings. Creating a virtual building changes the way the industry approaches design and construction.

Once again, we are on the verge of major changes in the industry: A shift toward programs that produce a 3D model or virtual building. This shift has been coming for years, but with recent releases of AutoCAD's Architectural Desktop and wide acceptance of other programs like Graphisoft's ArchiCAD, the 3D virtual building is becoming a reality.

Imagine sitting down at a computer and creating your building. To do this, you have tools that are easy and intuitive and enable you to create a virtual building. Since the building is a 3D entity, you can look at it from any angle (i.e., elevation, section, plan, etc.). If an element is changed in one of the views, this change is reflected throughout the building in every other view. If a cumbersome change in the design does occur late in the process, it is a major task with conventional CAD to update all the drawings that are affected by this change. If your firm uses 3D-based CAD software, it spends more time on the design portion of the project—where changes are less expensive. Also, because more building information is produced up front, better design decisions can be made with greater confidence and avoid many costly changes later in the process. A CAD manager's responsibilities shift from coordinating individual changes to managing the virtual building's design. The virtual building also helps you better present your ideas to clients in a media they can actually better understand.

A CAD manager's task has always been multifaceted. He has to be analytical enough to make sure a system will work for the entire office and daring enough to change so productivity is enhanced. Most CAD programs to date have been complicated and only automate the drafting portion of the design process. The virtual building promises to automate the entire process, from schematic design through construction administration, while allowing a firm to do more work with the same amount of people. Efficiency gains help projects to come in on or under budget—and that means more contribution to your bottom line.
here are so many stars out here that you can burn your eyes if you stare at them long enough. There is also a lot of open space, large historical ranches and sage brush.

Glade Park has long been a forgotten outpost in the broken up canyon and mesa country west of Grand Junction. This northern extension of the Uncompahgre Plateau comprised of open parks, pinion forests and abrupt sandstone canyons has always been ranching country. The Park is over two thousand feet higher than nearby Grand Junction. This is a dry land, but the climate is much more harsh than the Grand Valley below. There are three steep winding roads that connect this region to Grand Junction.

The Glade Store seems to be older than dirt. It was established at the intersection of two dirt roads that arrive at the park from long journeys elsewhere. The store was a successful enterprise for four years before President Taft decreed that there be a Colorado National Monument in 1911.

In the spring of 1973 this longhaired vagabond was caught by a surprise snowstorm in the area. The conversations I had with a local rancher, who had invited me in from the cold for a cup of coffee, were about the big country, big times and too many people who were moving into the region. The conversations this almost bald architect had with ranchers at the Glade Store in the late winter of 1999 were about the big country and the people who had moved into and changed the makeup of the region.

One of the best examples of this change is the residence that was built across from the Glade Store in the mid-1980s. The owner moved there to establish an observatory to study the stars that this area is famous for. The log construction is reminiscent of historical structures while the passive solar greenhouse is a modern twist. This house is everything that the store wasn't for most of its existence. The Internet, satellite dishes and people coming to the area from the outside to attend seminars to learn about the mysteries of space. These events have opened up the insular world of the Park to a culture it had barely experienced for most of the century.

From these early visitors have come a new group of people who wanted to live in these wide open spaces. Last zoning codes and a poor ranching economy led to several of the long time ranches being sold off into parcels. This is a similar scenario to what has played out throughout the West during the past decade. What is different here is that most of the new residents live in the area full time.

A major part of the economy for nearby Grand Junction is based on retirees. Some of these people have also found their way to the top of the mesa. But, the climate and isolation has meant that most of these new settlers are young and independent. Many commute to Grand Junction to work, but others try to eke out a living off of the land.

The Glade Store is the focal point of the community in the Park. This is the only gas station, grocery store and post office between Grand Junction and Moab, Utah. (If you dare to ford the Dolores River, you can drive to Moab from here.) The Historical Pipeline School serves as the community church and center. The isolation belies the fact that the residents have a far-flung network of friends in the Park. They also share an identity of themselves as an extended community apart from the outside world. It became apparent during visits that the locals have disagreements amongst themselves, but will band together against a perceived threat from the outside.

In this era everyone can be as connected as they wish. The nearby community has a satellite dish to connect itself to the outside world, and the store has a huge rack of bright red newspaper boxes to connect the residents to the world.

This climate and isolation will ultimately determine what happens here. There aren't any nearby amenities such as golf courses or trout fishing streams that are the centerpieces for much of the development in the New West. The land can tolerate ranching, but the soil is not very fertile for farming, which limits what people can do.

The residents of this Park realize that they are about to come to a crossroads. There are several questions that remain unanswered. Can the region maintain its dominant close knit community based on ranching and agriculture, or will it become another resort area. What affect will there be on the agricultural community if the Federal Government creates wildernesses in areas that have been used for grazing for 100 years? What effect will the more stringent zoning laws proposed by Mesa County have on an area that has always prided itself for its independence from government? Whatever the result may be the New West has arrived at one of the last bastions of a traditional way of life.
In early February, I attended the AIA National Grassroots Conference with board members from the other chapters in Colorado and AIA Colorado. We lobbied our congress person, met with other board members throughout the country, made contacts with the AIA staff, and learned about the resources available at the national level.

Yet the moment that left the most lasting impression with me was the speech given by Stephen Harvill who is a management consultant. He reinforced my intentions to focus three areas I want to work on and accomplish this year while I am the president of the AIA Colorado West Chapter.

The first and most important is to establish area coordinators in the different communities in the chapter. All politics are local, and the activities in this chapter have to be local—with much support from this board and the state board. The area coordinators will be the starting point for programs, speakers, and activities. I have contacted several architects about becoming an area coordinator, and I have encountered much interest. During the next few months, I will continue to contact architects throughout the chapter to get this program started.

The second area I want to work on and improve is providing opportunities to earn continuing education credit in your community. Currently, there are several program providers that Suzanne Red is working with to provide seminars in different locales. Faxes and mailings will be used to publicize these events. Also, AIA National has compiled several distant learning programs and put them on the Internet. Check out www.aiaonline.com for more information and opportunities.

Finally, to continue the theme that all politics are local, I want to establish, through the area coordinators, a program of "Champions Lunches." This would be similar to the program the State Government Affairs Committee has started on the Front Range. The earliest they can take place will be in late spring because of the schedule of the Colorado State Legislature. On the first day of Grassroots, we had the opportunity to meet and lobby our Senator or Congressperson. These meetings made me realize that the most important contacts and political relations are started at the local level. These contacts have to start by establishing the legitimacy and leadership role that architects have in the design process and construction industry.

For more information about the cost-saving, award-winning possibilities of masonry, call the Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute at 303.691.2141.

[See VILLAGE on page 15]
and Life of Great American Cities," offers us more guidance about creating rich urban environments than any single source. An underlying principle of good urban context is a variety of architecture, fine-grained in scale, and authored by different architects.

The Commons should offer a supply of work to Colorado architects willing to apply good urban design principles to their work. Design Workshop applies these same principles in its planning of another urban village at the end station of the southeast light rail line. Known as the Rampart Range, at the intersection of I-25 and Lincoln Avenue, this urban village is part of a transit-oriented plan, unlike a car-oriented development. Johnson says, "You have the freedom to make a true transit interface. If you think about the end of the line station, you really want it to celebrate the spirit of the whole system." Although this site is unbuilt, it offers a prime opportunity to use transit to create a model urban center in a metropolitan edge condition.

The Denver Commons and Rampart Range represent the opportunity to bracket the light rail southeast leg with appropriate and dense development.

Schedule

Friday, April 15th at noon in the AIA conference room. Anderson Mason Dale, P.C. will feature some recent projects and the visual products they produce in the firm. It should be a great presentation!

1999 Design Communications Committee Schedule

May 20
C.W. Fentress J.H. Bradburn and Associates, P.C.

June 17
H+L Architecture Ltd.

July 15
OZ Architecture

Aug. 19
David Owen Tryba Architects

Sept. 16
OZ Architecture

Oct. 21
Simple Brown Roberts

Nov. 18
Wong Strauch Architects

Dec. 16
Barker Rinker Seacat & Partners, Architects, P.C.

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Karpen Range, at the intersection of I-25 and Lincoln Avenue, this urban village is part of a transit-oriented plan, unlike a car-oriented development. Johnson says, "You have the freedom to make a true transit interface. If you think about the end of the line station, you really want it to celebrate the spirit of the whole system." Although this site is unbuilt, it offers a prime opportunity to use transit to create a model urban center in a metropolitan edge condition.

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**Events**

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<td>6 Noon, 2001 Convention Committee, AIA Office</td>
<td>7 Noon, COTE, AIA Office</td>
<td>8 5:00 PM, Denver Board, AIA Office</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>12 Noon, 2PM, Government Affairs, AIA Office</td>
<td>22 11:30 AM, Denver Member Lunch, Rodizio Grill</td>
<td>24 7:30 AM, Urban Design, AIA Office</td>
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<td>7:00 AM, South Board, Desks, Inc.</td>
<td>15 7:30 AM, Design/Build, AIA Office</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>26 7:00 AM Breakfast Seminar, Design Center</td>
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For more information on any of these events, call AIA Colorado at 800-628-5598, unless otherwise noted.

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**AIA Colorado Launches Membership Contest**

**AIA National Bestows Honor Award**

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Master Plan for Transformation and Technology

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Third Annual COBRA Awards

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Old Buildings Enjoy New Life as Restaurants

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Managing the Virtual Building

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Glade Park and the New West

**PAGE 13**

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

The National AIA Convention is in Dallas May 6-9. See page 1 for more details.

The University of Denver's May Update Symposium is slated for May 6th. See page 4 for details.

The AIA Denver Golf Tournament is August 27, 1999 at Canterbury. Watch your mail for more information.

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**Colorado Architect**

**Architect**

**ARCHITECT**

**Peter A. Orleans, AIA**

**274 Dexter St.**

**Denver, CO 80222-4654**