Cottle Graybeal Yaw Architects Ltd. (CGY) took top honors for outstanding masonry design at the 2000 Steve Dach Architectural Excellence Awards Celebration, sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute (RMMI). CGY's design of a classical stone residence in Aspen won the $1,000 Grand Award for its "stunning and original adaptation of European design traditions to the Rocky Mountain West," according to the RMMI design awards jury.

A $2,000 scholarship was also presented in the winning architect's name to the College of Architecture & Planning, University of Colorado at Denver. More than 300 architects, developers, general contractors, and masonry industry professionals attended the March 2 celebration at the historic Brown Palace Hotel, where seven awards were presented.

Projects that received honor awards were:
- The 15th & Pearl Parking Structure, a brick mixed-use complex on Boulder's Pearl Street Mall, designed by RNL Design and Shears & Leese Architects.
- Holy Family High School, a contemporary school and chapel designed of simple gray block and stucco by David Owen Tryba Architects.
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From a brick mixed-use complex in historic downtown Boulder to a stone office complex in Snowmass, the winning projects "represented the very best of Colored's urban and mountain architecture," said Ron Mason, AIA, president of Anderson Mason Dale Architects and chair of this year's jury. "The projects ranged from the affordable to the monumental, but they all had two things in common: great design and a terrific understanding of natural building materials."

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Conducted settings PAGE 13

Architects wanted for national TV show PAGE 14

Government Affairs: Efforts supported, codes condemned PAGE 15
OF CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES, & THINGS

I hope this issue of Colorado Architect will hit your desk about the same time you finish packing for the 2000 Convention in Philadelphia. It will make a good addition to the books and magazines you always pack for long plane trips... This month, past presidents Ron Abo and Ned White share some thoughts about conventions they have attended—why they are generally very rewarding and downright fun. I share their views and hope that you will take full advantage of the many opportunities for learning, networking, and socializing offered by the Convention.

Our 2001 Colorado Convention Committee will have a sizeable presence in Philadelphia. We figure this is our best chance to see if we have left any major loose ends hanging. Look for the Colorado Booth at the Convention Center. Better yet, stop by and tell Cheri Gerou that you will take a shift manning the booth and spreading the word about our Convention!

“THE 2001 CONVENTION...

AIA Colorado will play host to the architectural world”

2001 Convention just a year away

You don’t have to look at a calendar very long to realize that our own 2001 Convention is only a year and 17 or so days away. Planning for the event is well underway with many exciting ideas developing.

AIA Colorado will be playing host to the architectural world through a bunch of events and activities—a host chapter blowout, er, party—at Colorado’s Ocean Journey, special tours all over the place, exhibits, a 5K run, and a host chapter store and lounge. We also have every intent of decorating the entire city with our Convention stuff. We want everyone to know that the Architects are in town!

As you might guess, successfully pulling off all these events will require a lot of organization and work. On the work side, there will be plenty for everyone to do. Most of the Convention sub-committees are in the process of defining all the tasks, finalizing budgets, and looking for help. So, get involved! We are serious when we say that we want this to be a state-wide event. If you want to turn our Convention into an opportunity to participate, call anybody you can think of to volunteer—Joe Jackson, Susan Buchanan, any of your local chapter officers or board members, or me... We will make sure you are put in touch with the right people.

Welcome, Sonia

On the Convention-organizing side, we have also been making great progress. In particular, the stuff at AIA Colorado has grown by one new—and very important—person, Sonia Riggs, our new convention coordinator. Sonia was hired on to make sure we get everything right. Having served on the committee that interviewed Sonia, I want you to know how fortunate we were to have found her. Sonia knows convention planning. She knows how to organize volunteer resources to get things done. She knows how to “trouble shoot” our ideas and how to be proactive about dealing with potential problems. In short, she knows how to help us! The collective sigh of relief from everyone on the Convention Committee was ample evidence of how welcome she is. Sonia also will be with us in Philadelphia so make a point to meet her.

If, for some unimaginable reason, you happen to miss the National Convention in Philadelphia this year, don’t despair. AIA Colorado’s Annual Design Conference is not that far away. Come October 13th, Aspen will beckon with more opportunities to get together. Rich von Luhrte has accepted a position as Co-Chair with Dennis Humphries and has already made an impression. Rich has expanded the horizon with many ideas for the Conference. He has us all excited about a Conference which will be a wide-ranging and very timely exploration of our profession and its future. It is going to be a great one!

As with the Convention, the Conference sub-committees are also getting organized. We’ll need some help here as well so, if you are in a getting-involved mood, look to the Design Conference as your next opportunity.

If April was for getting things in order, May is for getting started on new things! Get out there and get involved. You’ll enjoy it!
Convention fever reaches new pitch

THOUGHTS FROM A CONVENTION JUNKIE

—I'm really not a convention junkie. Going to a convention or a conference to me is somewhat like exercising. I know it's good for me, I feel better while I'm doing it and I'm glad I did it after I do it, but getting past my initial inertia at times is difficult.

I used to like going to conventions because I was younger and liked to travel to different cities and write off the trip as a business expense. Now I'm older and have seen most cities and like less the hassle of airports, cabs, restaurant food, and living out of a suitcase. But I find conventions and conferences important for my mental health and professional growth.

The day-to-day grind of having a practice and working on projects, constant deadlines, the endless phone messages to return take their toll on my creativity and ability to think about important things. Speakers at conventions talk about what is important. They speak about community, nation, responsibility, integrity, creativity, originality, spirit, truth, and wisdom. BIG TOPICS! These are truly mind-expanding experiences. This is the main reason I go to conventions. It is one of the few opportunities that I have to think in a way that energizes me.

I also always learn something specific. Seminars show how other people do things different than I. It is an opportunity to scrutinize my own methods and process and be more effective. There is always a topic where I can learn something new. If there is a trade show, it is an opportunity to learn about the latest products and services that I don't have the time to pursue in my busy daily workday.

And finally, it's a good time to socialize, meet new people, see people I haven't seen in a long time and generally relax. I love the AIA Colorado Design Conference because it is "old home week." I get to be with those that I miss seeing throughout the year.

IT'S TIME TO CONVENE

—Neil White, AIA
1999 AIA Colorado President

May is convention month. Each year, the American Institute of Architects hosts the national convention in a different major city. In 2000, it's in Philadelphia; 2001—it'll be right in Denver.

Those who have never been to a convention have trouble understanding our excitement about hosting it here in Colorado, and often ask "What's the big deal?"

There are five major reasons and hundreds of minor ones for going. In no particular order, here are the five big ones.

To associate
With anywhere from 10,000 to 20,000 architects, spouses and friends there, it's a great place to talk about architecture with old friends and make new ones.

To hear
The keynote speakers are absolutely tops. AIA always brings in pertinent and significant speakers to give talks on a wide variety of topics. This year Zaha Hadid, Andrew Young, and Christian de Portzamparc will give addresses.

To decide
AIA conducts national business and voting at the convention, so it's a great way to get up to speed on what's going on in Washington and to have a say in how it's done.

Last, and very important—
To have fun
The conventions are great fun. You get to see new sites, meet new people, tour significant projects, attend parties, and generally have a blast!

I sometimes hear the question "what do I get for my AIA membership?" Well, there are all kinds of local benefits, but one of the best things is the national convention. If you haven't been, go! And if you're planning to go, I'll see you in Philadelphia!
CONTINUING EDUCATION & OTHER EVENTS

Deadline fast approaching
AIA members have until September 2000 to report 1998 and 1999 Continuing Education System requirements. AIA Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) requirements for architect members are 18 contact hours each year, 8 of which must be in health, safety, and welfare education (HSW), effective January 1, 2000. This will retroactively affect 1998 and 1999 records as well.

Photography Exhibit
Through May 15
Nurt Wolf and Carl Pletsch will continue to showcase their work at an exhibit titled, "Reflecting Denver: Two Photographers Impressions" at the Denver Central Library. The show runs through May 15 in the Vida Ellison Gallery on the 7th floor of the Library at 10 West 14th Avenue Parkway.

Spring Breakfast Seminar Series
May 5: Universal Design in Housing
May 10: Stapleton—Denver’s next great neighborhood
May 25: The View — Denver's next Great Neighborhood
May 30: Building Your Marketing Infrastructure Phase II: Business Development

Building Your Marketing Infrastructure Phase II: Business Development
May 2, 9 and 16
The Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) Education Committee closes out its six-week education program exploring Marketing Infrastructure on May 16. The series concentrates on advanced marketing and business development techniques specific to the A/E/C industry. Speakers include proven industry leaders; former AIA, ACEC, and AGC presidents; and successful business development professionals from all three disciplines.

Topics include industry-specific marketing strategies, client relationships, and public relations. The series continues on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. May 2 to May 16 at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, 600 S. Colorado Blvd., Denver. (Colorado Blvd., 2 miles north of I-25.) The individual session price is $45 for members and $55 for non-members. Registrations are open. Please call 303-471-6277 or call Anne Neal at 303.695.6006 for more information. annecoach@hotmail.com

ASID Annual Awards Program
May 9
The Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers presents its Annual Meeting and the Second Annual Interior Design Awards presentation on Tuesday, May 9, 2000 at the Denver Design Center. The annual meeting is at 5 pm; cocktail reception is at 6; buffet dinner and, award entries slide show is at 7; presentation of the second annual interior design awards is at 7:45. Cost is $45 a person. To RSVP or for more information, contact Kathy Beck. ASID 303.628.5406.

Mark your Calendar!
May 13
The Hard Hat Ball, Historic Denver’s unique fund raiser, will be May 13th at the Hardware Block in LoDo. Swanky surroundings. For ticket information, please call 303.296.9887.

Annual Update Symposium “2000—A Growth Odyssey”
May 18
Inverness Hotel & Golf Club
Don’t miss the 25th anniversary of the Update Symposium, sponsored by the Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management/Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver.

Sol Trujillo, board chair and CEO, U S WEST, will provide the keynote address. John W Madden, Jr., chair of John Madden Company, will be recognized as honorary Dean of Real Estate and Construction Management for the year 2000.

Mark your Calendar
May 19
The Hard Hat Ball, Historic Denver's unique fund raiser, will be May 13th at the Hardware Block in LoDo. Swanky surroundings. For ticket information, please call 303.296.9887.

The Leadership Seminar Series
May 19th — Leadership, Vision, & Planning
AIA Denver and AIA Colorado extend an invitation to architectural graduates with three or more years of experience to attend this last seminar in the Leadership Series. This program focuses on development of necessary leadership attributes, competencies, and communication skills required of successful firm leaders. The cost per session is $150 for members and $175 for non-members. For more information, contact Sandy Blaha at 750.453.6765.

Teaming for Design/Build
May 19
The Design/Build Committee continues its series of roundtable discussions at the Denver Design Center with the topic of teaming for projects. Program begins at 7:15 a.m. and qualifies for 1.5 learning units. Call the AIA office for more information 303.460.2266.

Mark your Calendar
The 2000 AIA Colorado Design Conference has been scheduled for October 13-15 at the prestigious Aspen Institute. Watch for more details in the following months.

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AIA Denver firm profile:
KLIPP COULSSY JENKS DUBoIS ARCHITECTS

The firm, founded in 1979, is recognized for developing client-responsive, visionary solutions to complex planning and design challenges. In our third decade of service, we are more committed than ever to the firm's original mission: to expand the boundaries of traditional architectural practice.

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Past projects include:
- The Denver Central Library Renovation and Expansion
- Integrated Teaching and Learning Laboratory at University of Colorado at Boulder
- Cultural Arts Complex of Southwest Colorado at Ft. Lewis College
- Oracle Corporation Regional Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Denver West Village in Lakewood, Colorado
- Falcon Creek Middle School in Aurora, Colorado
- Pacific View in Ventura, California

Current projects:
- Colorado Convention Center Hotel in Denver, Colorado
- Legacy High School in Broomfield, Colorado
- Denver Art Museum Expansion Planning, Denver, Colorado
- Graland Country Day School Renovation and Expansion, Denver, Colorado
- Arapahoe Library District Renovation and Expansion Projects, Arapahoe County, Colorado

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ABSTRACTION AND CONSTRUCTIONS: AN EXHIBIT OF FIRST-YEAR DESIGN STUDIO WORK AT UCD

Barbara Ambach and Doris Sung

The Graduate School of Architecture at the University of Colorado at Denver attracts students from various walks of life. They may have training in math, languages, sciences, politics and various other trades, however, most of them have no architectural design background.

The first-year studio in architecture has been designed to introduce students to form and space making, using both the media of two and three dimensions. During the first term, the students learn about architecture as a language; they begin to develop a design process and hone various drafting and model-making skills.

This first semester is broken into three phases, covering the abstract notions of subtractive, additive, and hybrid form making. In each phase, students are asked to create a sculptural piece with no scale, gravity, or program. These pieces are then developed into an architectural form with scale, gravity, and program. The subtractive phase, where material is removed from the solid block of wood, was later translated into a formal garden design. The additive phase, where smaller components are arranged to form a whole, became a tower design. And, the hybrid phase, a mix of both subtractive and additive forms and spaces, produced a "base-camp" for two researchers.

The design of each abstract phase was prompted by a series of words, for example: the subtractive phase with shear, rhythm and stasis; the additive phase with cadence and interaction; and finally, the hybrid phase, with integration and transition. In each case, the first concept was made as a single gesture and was seen as a context to which the following were sequentially added. Consideration was made to the overall consequences for making transformations to each of the previous phases. This method of translating a verbal language into an architectural language made for more sophisticated formal and conceptual developments.

The November 1999 exhibit in the AIA Colorado office displayed the second phase—additive architecture. The abstract sculptural pieces, which hung from the ceiling, were made strictly out of bass wood pieces, as were all models in this studio. Students were asked to incorporate the themes of "cadence" and "interaction," while staying within a 4"x8"x12" envelope. Since there were no tops or bottoms to the pieces, they could be hung arbitrarily and in any order.

The corresponding architectural translations were placed directly below. It is in this portion that site conditions, program, scale, and gravity were introduced. In this case, the program called for a tower to be 40' tall, built in model form at 1/4" scale. The towers were to incorporate three concepts: marker, ascension, and vista. Issues of procession, proportion, scale, and structural integrity were addressed, without compromising aesthetics and creativity.

The final installation was designed to express the ephemeral qualities of the abstract pieces and the vertical nature of the towers. Some would interpret the installation as stalactites and stalagmites, others as snowflakes and piles. We see them as exciting and powerful projects designed by our future architects.

Barbara Ambach and Doris Sung, both Assistant Professors, designed and coordinated this program for the graduate school for the past two years. The Honoraria Instructors for the course were Tom Gallagher, Suzanne Lanyi, and Shawn Mather.

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Integrating technology and design

Technology is becoming an increasingly important element in architecture, design, and planning. The integration of telecommunications and advanced information infrastructures into the design and construction process is changing how spaces are planned, who is involved in the process, and how construction documents and specifications are completed.

**Design and Construction**

Over the past several years, technology has rapidly become intertwined with many types of design practices such as residential, corporate, commercial, institutional, and entertainment. Facility and community planners are integrating technology requirements into corporate and community master plans. There are journals and Web sites devoted to architecture and technology, and a movement to incorporate technology into the Construction Specification Master Format as “Division 17.” Rapidly advancing technologies are substantially changing the design process and becoming a primary driver of infrastructures and design solutions.

**Division 17**

In the current Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) model, technology and communications are usually included at the end of Division 16 (Electrical Requirements). Supporters of the proposed Division 17 model believe that including Technology and Communications as a stand-alone section in the specification will allow designers to more effectively plan and manage technology infrastructures.

The model would include CSI sections on Cable, LAN, WAN, Voice, Audio/Video, Intrusion, Building Communication Systems, Security, Access and Surveillance, and other technology and communication-related sections. Proponents of the model feel that it will improve communications about technology-related requirements with all members of the design team. These requirements would also be communicated through a set of technology drawings that contain telecommunications backbone systems, pathways, layouts, drop locations, detail drawings, etc.

Although Division 17 is not yet an industry standard, designers can apply the ideas of the model by incorporating telecommunications principles and requirements from the initial planning and design stages. Including a technology consultant in the process is often necessary; Howard Feingold, president of Technology Plus, explained that his architectural technology consulting business grosses 400-500 percent over the past five years. “Technology is a piece of a project that most architects have not dealt with in the past,” he said. “Clients are asking for an integration of technology into the project as part of the scope. It is most critical from a business perspective, on all types of projects, that it be addressed.”

Ron Sholar, Principal of the Sholar Group, a Denver-based architecture and technology planning firm, says that uniting technology and architecture is constantly evolving, but has exponentially taken hold in the past several years. The Sholar Group has trademarked the term “architectechology” and is at the forefront of technology/architecture integration in the Front Range area.

**Members in the news**

Michael Brendle Architects has been awarded the contract to renovate the Denver Coliseum, located near Interstate 70. The firm and the City and County of Denver will give the Coliseum an improved sense of identity by humanizing the spaces in and around the structure, said Joseph Montalbano, AIA, project manager for the firm. In other news, the firm announced that it has added Tania Salgado, AIA, and A.J. “Buddy” Poppitt as staff architects.

The California Preservation Foundation honored JG Johnson Architects with a 2000 Preservation Design Award for its work on the historic San Diego Trust & Savings Bank building, now a Marriott boutique hotel. Others credited for the project include Amstar Group, owners of the building, J. Katimann Associates, Denver-based interior design firm, Sage Hospitality Resources, and Marriott International.

Alliance Construction Solutions added four professionals to its firm. Bill Joyner and Troy Netherer are operations managers, Bob Maloney is in business development, and Scott Poulsen joined as project manager.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Matthew H. Anderson, Assoc. AIA
Stark, Comb, Dobelle

Andrew M. Aragon, Assoc. AIA
Coney & Golden Architects

Jennifer Brockle, Assoc. AIA
Roth Sheppard Architects

John Carroll, Assoc. AIA
Roth Sheppard Architects

Jantine Chang, Assoc. AIA
Roth Sheppard Architects

Gabriel Charles Callen, Assoc. AIA
Roth Sheppard Architects

James David Gold, Assoc. AIA
American Tower Corporation

Scott J. Gottman, AIA
Oz Architects

Chris Greshal, PA
Denver Boulder Courters

Mark Guernsey, AIA
The Royal Corporation

James Halbrecht, SA
Brantner Associates LLC

Roger L. Johnson, AIA
Anderson Mason Dale Architects

Joseph G. Lukach, AIA

Siegert Mayers & Associates

David W. O'Brien, AIA
Van Tilburg, Barnard & Soderbergh, AIA

Nathaniel Orr, PA
Orr Construction Company

Tracy Ann Rausmann, Assoc. AIA
Bohler Associates

Lisa A. Ryan, PA
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Tania S. Salgado, AIA
Michael Brendle Architects, PC

Troy R. Schneider, Assoc. AIA
RN1 Design

Kevin T. Stephenson, Assoc. AIA
Roth Sheppard Architects

Scott Alexander Sudik, Assoc. AIA
Coney & Golden Architects

Christopher Tammile, AIA
Lawrence Group Architects

Gusy Wheler, Assoc. AIA
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The Royal Corporation

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A mentoring success story
—Carol Sundstrom, Assoc. AIA
Associate Director, AIA Colorado South

I was lucky enough to know that I wanted to become an architect when I was in the fourth grade, and lucky enough to have parents who encouraged me to accomplish what I wanted to achieve. They obliged me with issues of Architectural Digest to read in the back seat of our car while we were on long vacation drives. After I had read the first two issues cover to cover, they realized how serious I was and invested in a subscription for me.

At that time, Architectural Digest was more architecture-based than interior decoration/art collector focused, and the back of each issue listed the contact information for the architects it featured. Being the only architect that I have always been, I wrote to dozens of them. I asked for more information about their firms and for any advice they would give to a young person planning to enter the field of architecture. Some responded. Others didn't. Some simply sent marketing brochures.

I introduced to design by spending a summer at the Rhode Island School of Design, where I planned to study after my graduation from high school.

Letter-writing campaign created special bond
I wrote my “formula” letter to about 15 of those architects and received the usual mix of responses. This time, though, I wrote a very special letter to Chuck Johnson of Carefree, AZ. His article had a photograph of a house he had completed between Carefree and Phoenix, the Boulder House. It was built into the boulders of the site rather than being built to simply view the boulders from the house as the clients had originally requested (a lesson borrowed from Frank Lloyd Wright).

The article featured an inset of the floor plan that was so beautifully integrated with the site, you could hardly tell where the walls stopped and the boulders started. It was even difficult to coordinate the view shown in the photograph with the plan. Chuck had managed to accomplish all of the principles of good design that my professors had taught me weeks before. I used the new, fancy design language in my letter that I had picked up in studio classes, asking for more information and more photographs.

Not only did Chuck reply, he took interest in me. He was as enthusiastic to learn more about me as I was to learn about him. His first letter requested that I send him one of the design projects I had completed at Rhode Island School of Design. When he received the project, he wrote back saying it would be a great project to explore further and offered to do the project again with me. We completed the project as an “Independent Study” when I was a freshman at RISD, under the supervision of the Department Head of Freshman Counseling and Opportunities to hone my design skills through design studio projects outside the office. Our mentoring relationship has worked because we connected with each other and made the relationship a very personal one. I encourage you to take interest in a young, promising student and take the time to really get to know him or her. Mentoring can—and should—be a symbiotic, lifetime friendship and learning experience.

Carol Sundstrom, Assoc. AIA, is with Colorado Architecture Partnership. Her telephone number is 719.632.2150

Members in the news
Marvin Maples, AIA, Past President of the South Chapter, has resigned from the Weitz Company and has accepted a position as Director of Project Development for NEXERA, Inc., a Colorado Springs-based design-build-development company. His new e-mail address is rckmar@atglglobal.net

New Members
Thomas W. Eyre, Assoc. AIA
James W. Nakai & Associates, PC

A few actually sat down to write a personal note. Antoine Predock and Michael Graves were both in this group. Knowing the celebrity status and impossible schedules that these two keep, it's interesting that the most unlikely to respond were the ones who responded from their hearts.

And then there was the big breakthrough. Architectural Digest published an issue called the “AD 100. An Exclusive Guide to the World's Foremost Architects.” Each architect had a page that detailed his practice, design approach, education, and background. Again, I wrote letters, but I had been
More than materials...

Quality sustainable design involves far more that just buying “green” materials

—James R. Plagmann, AIA
AIA Colorado North Chapter

S
so, you’ve bought insulated windows, linoleum, compact fluorescent lights and recycled-content decking. You’re using wood framing and cellulose insulation. You’re installed high-efficiency HVAC and low-flow plumbing. Is your home sustainable?

Not so fast... Sustainable design and construction is not just a matter of buying the right parts. How those parts are assembled is equal, if not greater, importance.

The first questions to ask yourself about your new project are: Is it necessary? Does it have to be as large as it is? A 10,000-square-foot house for two people, even if it is made of green materials, is probably still wasteful.

In her book, The Not So Big House, architect Sarah Susanka notes that many of her clients are people who owned very large, impressive homes so popular today. However, they found that although they had lots of space, the house lacked the intimacy and comfort necessary to feel like a home. The soaring foyer with marble floors and 20-foot ceilings felt more intimidating than welcoming, and more like an office building than a residence.

Susanka asserts that a home that is well thought out, with finely crafted details and spaces that are actually used every day, is a far better use of clients’ money than one with lots of space without much character or responsiveness to the way the family really lives. This not only achieves the goal of sustainability, but also of fitting the home to the occupants.

Ensure materials are properly integrated. Regarding the materials in this optimally sized house, are they appropriately integrated into the building? Consider the insulated windows. If care is not exercised in their placement, they may be creating a problem instead of a solution. How many windows are you considering? And where are you placing them?

The proper orientation is crucial, since even the best window gain and lose heat. South-facing windows can provide even the best windows gain and lose heat. South-facing windows can provide the necessary cooling, it can also enhance the quality of a space, making it more alive and connecting it with nature. However, the same caveats apply to shading.

Framing can also reduce the effectiveness of your insulation. Just because you are using “R-19” insulation doesn’t mean that your walls have an R-value of 19. The framing creates a thermal bridge for heat or cold to pass through, dramatically reducing the overall R-value of a wall assembly. This is true for wood framing, but even more important for steel members. Adding just 1 inch of rigid insulation on the outside of the framing can boost performance, resulting in energy savings and an increased comfort level.

Clearly, the interest in, and use of “green” materials has had a positive impact on our environment. And selecting green materials that complement a well-conceived design, appropriate to site and program will aid in achieving a quality project. But it is only through the integration and thoughtful orchestration of those elements, and an understanding of the larger view of sustainability that allows a building as a whole to be greater than the sum of its parts.

James R. Plagmann, AIA, is a Project Architect at Terra Verde International, LLC and a member of the Colorado AIA Committee on the Environment. He can be reached at (303) 530-3232.

Members in the news

Terra Verde Development LLC has restructured to Terra Verde International LLC, a privately held company. Co-founder and Principal Architect Mark S. Queripel, AIA, remains as the firm’s Managing Member. Other changes include: James R. Plagmann, AIA, has joined the firm as a project architect and will be responsible for design, project management, and construction observation; Dante Amato, AIA, has joined as a design architect and will be responsible for design and project management; and Nicholas Anthony Dunakse has joined as a draftsman/intern.

Brian Laartz, PA, joins Golden Triangle Construction as vice president and stockholder. Golden Triangle Construction is a front range contractor specializing in providing general contractor and construction management services. A local construction executive veteran, Laartz brings more than 13 years of project management and business development experience to the firm.
New urbanism comes to the Vail Valley

In an age where Americans tend to vacation in quaint, pedestrian towns—while building homes in faceless suburban neighborhoods—efforts to give a sense of place and community are welcomed. Eagle Ranch is a planned community that is located just off I-70, about 20 miles from Vail and 35 miles from Glenwood Springs. It is situated approximately 10 minutes from the Eagle County airport. It is being developed by East-West Partners and Wright and Company.

Loosely modeled after the Disney town of Celebration, the proposed development is actually a mix of New Urbanism principles and contemporary suburban planning. The development is organized into three areas: The Neighborhood Center, with gridded streets, alleys for garages, and small single-family homes. It will have a commercial core with a church, elementary school, supermarket, and movie theater.

The Meadows is a modern suburban area, with cul-de-sac roads serving homes along an Arnold Palmer-designed golf course. The homes will be larger and will have the style and feel of the Neighborhood Center.

The Foothills will have bigger homes located farther from the town core with a more rustic design style. As in Celebration, design and construction will be governed by a strict set of guidelines outlining styles and materials. Houses must be constructed in a Prairie, Craftsman, or Victorian style with porches facing the street and garages on the backs or sides of homes. Sidewalks are required in both the Neighborhood Center and the Meadows and the main mass of the homes must run parallel to the street.

Special efforts have been made to include the town of Eagle residents, while maintaining a sense of separate-ness and Eagle Ranch identity. Current planning includes a community center, an elementary school, gardens, formal landscaped and informal natural park space, a public golf course, and sports fields that will be open to everyone.

The developers of Eagle Ranch have gone to great lengths to provide a viable alternative for developing in the mountains. Its urban town core picks up many cues from the work of planners, such as Duany and Plater-Zyberk and Peter Calthorpe, while the more suburban areas are more typical of resort communities. It may prove to be a good hybrid model for future mountain planning.

Certain questions come up, however, about the impact of new towns on existing mountain communities. Will new developments destroy or support existing towns? Are we destined to build new developments as growth continues, while discarding current town centers? Can we make the communities, which support our ski resorts, pleasant and pedestrian friendly places to live? Can small-scale, livable communities exist only with the support of strip mall commercial centers at the outskirts? How can we, as architects, play an active role in the planning and revitalization of our communities?

If you have any thoughts or comments please e-mail me at rda@vail.net and I plan to include your comments in an upcoming newsletter.
AIA North Chapter firm profile:
KNUDSON GLOSS ARCHITECTS

"Work along the front range and nationally, which gives us the advantage of introducing successful concepts from one region to another."

Principals John Knudson and Jerry Gloss and their 19 talented associates pride themselves on their collectively diverse expertise and backgrounds that they bring to each project. The whole team at Knudson Gloss seems more like a family, leaning on one another's creative and professional abilities to design projects that enhance the lifestyle of every buyer. While proud of our awards, KGA's biggest reward comes from satisfied customers—referrals from a very large and diverse clientele. Long-term clients have consistently turned to Knudson Gloss for all their architectural and land planning needs. John Knudson and Jerry Gloss believe the key to success is their personal involvement in all initial design, design development and working drawings.

Our clients requested a home that reminded them of the familiar East Coast surrounding they had recently left. The design also needed to respond to their desire for a strong relationship between indoor and outdoor spaces, the demands of a busy family, and frequent entertaining. The design achieves a high degree of privacy through the use of berms and setting the home into the south-sloping terrain. Organized along an east-west axis, principle rooms take advantage of the southwest view corridor and open onto the covered mahogany veranda and terrace areas.

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Eileen describes technology features as technology and design. Feingold believes that the process should continue through all stages of design. He observed, "Technology is one of the most significant changes related to technology in the workplace. "Technological changes are impacting the design of the high-performance office," she noted. "Organizations need more connectivity; increased desktop capabilities; and a seamless merging of voice, data, and video."

Henry describes technology features as structured wiring systems and consolidated data distribution systems that enable rapid response to change. These technologies are influencing ways that work is structured, and thus, the structure of work spaces. "More work is being done in teams, which calls for spaces that can morph between use for individuals and use for groups," said Henry. For example, workstations configured around open areas with moveable track walls allow for rapid reconfiguration. With more employees working away from their desks, wireless connections (e.g., cordless local area network) become all the more important.

Accurately assessing the current and future technical requirements of users will begin the process of integrating technology and design. Feingold believes that the process should continue through all stages of design. He observed, "Technology must be dealt with in a comprehensive manner—built into the design."

Eileen March can be reached at eileen@knudson.com.
ARE YOU DESIGNING FOR NEXT-GENERATION NETWORKS?

With proper design and installation, the current generation of computer networks, video, and voice can all share the same cable plant. This has been a boon in design economics, as well as total cost of ownership for the client. The current Category 5 cable standard has lots of room for growth well beyond the current speed of data networks. In fact, Category 5 cable may very well be able to handle two more generations of network hardware.

There is one catch, though.

Category 5 cable plants are very forgiving. Until recently, the fastest data networks installed used just a fraction of Category 5 cable capacity. With the recent adoption of gigabit Ethernet, which is 10 to 100 times faster than current networks, that situation has changed. If the newest networks are to operate at full capacity, it's now essential the cable plant be designed and installed strictly to the Category 5e standard.

Key elements that determine whether cable plants can handle the next generation are:

- Adherence to minimum clearances from power, HVAC, and other systems that radiate energy. This requires adequate spaces for cable pathways for today, along with anticipated applications in the future.
- Adherence to minimum bend radii of cable. It is no longer possible to let cables make very tight 90-degree bends in conduits or other small enclosures.
- Complete adherence to the maximum cable run of 90 meters from the desk to the closet.
- The use of adequately sized data closboards to ensure that cable management can be accomplished without exceeding the specifications.
- Excellent grounding and bonding systems to ensure low signal loss from the electronic equipment supporting the cable plant.
- Interior designers need to follow the same guidelines—the cable pathways of most modular furniture do not follow standards.

Until recently, the cable plant was considered a third-party after-market item that required little design consideration. However, since cable plants now form the core of the income streams for most businesses, the architect should consider the cable plant during the design phase of the building.

J P McLaughlin is a principal at The Geckogroup, an information technology consultancy in Boulder specializing in the application of technology in the AEC industry. His e-mail address is jpm@thegeckogroup.com.

SMPS COLORADO ANNOUNCES ANNUAL AWARDS

At its awards banquet on April 5 at the Top of the Rockies, the SMPS Colorado Chapter announced the winners of the annual marketing awards. Many AIA members and friends were recipients of awards.

Monroe & Newell Engineers Inc. received a Direct Mail Award for its company brochure.

Mortenson & Colorado Construction magazine participated in a joint submission and received a Target Market Promotion Award for their Pepri Center Profile magazine.

W.E. Kiefield Interior Architects received two awards, one for its quarterly newsletter and the other for its elegant project proposal.

AndersonMasonDale Architects received an award for its new company identity program, including the new logo.

And EDAW received a Special Events Award for its piece Suzhou: Shaping an Ancient City for the New China.
CONSTRUCTED SETTINGS

As a teacher, I collect ideas. I read, and while reading, find phrases and sentences that intrigue, whole paragraphs that prime the mind. When I find these captivating ideas, I borrow them. I clip them, and store them.

While reading books about the concept of experience of place and writing by people who are not architects, I come across a paragraph in a piece written by Mary Morris. I found it at the beginning of an essay called "Looking for Home," in the anthology _A Place Called Home_. The paragraph intrigued me—more importantly—suggested a way of organizing that whole of other ideas about the building, the landscape, and our interactions with both that I'd collected over the years.

Morris writes: "Twenty years ago, I sat on a hill overlooking the English countryside, and the 704th Simoneueth Deutschland of the surrounding place, which I gaze on, is a place that is truly a living organism. We are part of it, and it is part of us.

She hints at the fact that the great themes of literature—the objects of literature's grand discourse—are shaped and colored by the actual context within which they are written, and the ideas we work with are inherently contextual, acquiring different meanings and intonations in different places.

She suggests that landscape constructs and shapes a culture. The culture in turn reconstructs and reshapes its landscape—not in culture's explicit terms but in the landscape's particular, enduring terms. She finally implies that landscape may not be the cultural artifact we suppose it to be, but that our culture may well be an artifact of the unique landscapes and settings in which it has evolved and flourished.

Morris' provocative piece proposes a frame of mind that lets us look at and understand what Jose Ortega y Gasset meant when he remarked, "Tell me the landscape in which you live, and I will tell you who you are." Or what Marcel Proust intended when he said, "What do you need new landscapes. What we need are new eyes!" Or what Le Corbusier proposed when he declared, "The latent possibilities Morris raises have a profound effect on our attitudes toward the world. If the qualities of the landscape affect these other things to the extent that they apparently do, then they must have a real and significant effect on the way we build in the settings those landscapes create. The latent qualities of the surrounding place are, as Le Corbusier noted, evident and immediate realities. They must and do influence the character of our buildings, and the myriad settings that house the comedies and tragedies of our lives. We really do, as Ando realized, need to attend to the landscapes in which we build so that we can discover and uncover the architecture that the site itself is seeking; the architecture that becomes our world and our home.

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ARE Review Sessions

The Architectural Record Exam (ARE) Review 2000 schedule continues this month. All review sessions will take place at University of Colorado at Denver's College of Architecture & Planning in Room 490, 1250 14th Street, in Denver.

A registration form was sent to all associate and intern members of AIA Colorado. If you did not receive one or have a colleague who wishes to enroll, please call the AIA to have a form faxed to you 303.446.2266.

This year's schedule continues as follows:

- Saturday, May 6 8-Noon Bldg Design & Tech Mock Exam 8-5
- Thursday, May 11 6:00-8:30 p.m. @ 2-5 p.m. Bldg Design & Tech Review
- Saturday, May 20 8-Noon Mechanical Electrical 1-5 p.m. 8-Noon
- Saturday, June 3 Construction Documents 8-Noon
- Saturday, June 3 Materials & Methods 1-5 p.m.

For questions, please call Christopher Mundy, Assoc. AIA, at 303.762.1354.

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NEW MEMBERS JOIN FOUNDATION

New members are coming to the Foundation following several programs in March, and the trustees are excited to see new interest in architecture from the public. The DFA trustees are committed to bringing its mission to the forefront of Denver's public awareness.

This month, I will meet with the presidents of several foundations while attending the AIA national convention in Philadelphia (May 4-7, 2000). In particular, I will meet with the presidents from Philadelphia and Boston, as well as several other cities with successful foundation enterprises. By so doing, the information gathered will strengthen the DFA and bring new ideas to incorporate. Look for my report next month, right here.

The summer weekend tour schedule, led by trustee Re'Jean Peeples, has been assembled and announced. The schedule is:

- Central Platte and Commons Park: May 20
- University of Denver campus: June 10
- City Park: June 17
- Civic Center: July 13
- Geology of Downtown Denver: July 22
- Central Business District: August 12
- People and Steeples: August 19
- Golden Triangle: September 16
- Auraria Campus: September 23

To attend any of these tours, please call the DFA at 303.779.9193. The DFA is also presenting these tours for the 2001 national convention May 17-20, 2001.

The DFA sponsored the "Art by Architects" program and exhibit in the AIA Gallery. This re-instituted program was led by Steve Carr, AIA. We were thrilled to see 57 works from around the state submitted, with 29 pieces selected for exhibition. The entries ranged from stained glass, oil paintings, watercolor, pen-and-ink drawings, fused glass, and sculpture.

The reception took place Wednesday, April 5 with a large turnout. I hope you had a chance to stop by and see another side of our architects. The foundation plans continuing this program on an annual basis.

The Foundation's sponsorship of the Civic Center Competition Models traveling exhibit has reached an audience of thousands, and is being continued in libraries and other public places around the city. To our surprise, people are completely unaware of this major city project and the competitive design process of selection. You can call the AIA office to be refreshed on the exhibit's schedule and location for May and June.

Feel free to contact the foundation at 303.779.9193 or write to Box 461882, Denver, 80248 for information and involvement.

ARCHITECTS WANTED FOR NATIONAL TV SHOW

Curb Appeal is a prime-time series airing on Home and Garden Television (HGTV), where viewers discover ways to make the most of their home's street-wise potential. Curb Appeal airs on HGTV, Thursdays at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. EST (2:30 and 5:30 p.m. PST), and can be seen in 60 million households nationwide.

Every episode of Curb Appeal includes a "before and after" project, showing dramatic transformations of homes from leading architects and designers across the country. If you have dramatic "before and after" pictures (preferably from the same perspective) of a completed project, the show is interested in reviewing them, for possible inclusion on the program (with mention of your name).

When submitting photos to Curb Appeal, please enclose the following information with photos:

- Company name and architect (with business card)
- Location of the house (i.e., county, city [street address is NOT important])
- Brief description of house style and design dilemma
- Brief explanation of changes made
- Color photos of the "before" project and the "after" project (>6 x >6 or larger)

NOTE: This show is only interested in photos that show the FRONT of homes.

Please mail photos to: Edelman Productions attn: Avelino Pombo "Curb Appeal" 400 Tamal Plaza, Suite 420 Corte Madera, CA 94925 or call 415.924.8000 x12 or e.mail apomb@edelmanproductions.com

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2001 Sponsorship opportunities available!

As you know, the AIA National Convention will be in Denver May 17-19, 2001! Gain tremendous exposure for your products and services by sponsoring special events, the host chapter party, tours, welcome banners, the 5K run, special exhibits, and more.

For a complete list of sponsorship opportunities, contact Sonia Riggs at the AIA office 303.446.2266 or sonia@aiacolorado.org

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STATE'S EFFORTS SUPPORTED, CHECKERBOARD CODES CONDEMned

Colorado was one of five state components that have been awarded Government Affairs Assistance Grants for 2000. The AIA state program serves to enhance the government affairs efforts of state components on key legislative and regulatory initiatives that affect the architectural profession. Grants went to AIA Colorado, AIA Illinois, AIA Kansas, AIA South Carolina, and AIA Tennessee.

A Colorado and AIA Illinois grants were awarded for efforts to oppose the actice registration of interior designers. AIA Kansas' grant will address efforts to adopt a statewide building code and to eliminate the fee cap on architectural services for state projects. A South Carolina was awarded funds to complete the process of transition from '87 AIA contract documents to '97 contract documents for state projects. AIA Tennessee will use the grant to defeat amendments that would weaken the state Architectural Practice Law.

Funding for grants is assessed several times a year to serve the needs of state components as these key issues appear in their states. The next submission date is May 19. Contact Stan Bowman, director, State and Local Affairs, for more information at 202.626.7461 or showman@aia.org.

AIA Board condemns checkerboard codes approach

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), (http://www.nfpa.org) and the International Codes Council (ICC) (http://www.intlcode.org/) have set in motion a state-by-state fight to scuttle the creation of a single set of comprehensive, coordinated, and contemporary codes. The AIA Board of Directors voted to condemn this checkerboard approach, and will continue to press for the adoption of a single family of codes.

Currently, the building and construction industries in the U.S. must struggle with a complex and inefficient regulatory environment. Because no national set of building codes exists, various—and often conflicting—codes have been adopted on a state-by-state basis. Codes are not often designed to work together, and authority for their adoption and enforcement is granted to disparate agencies, which are not obligated to coordinate their efforts with one another.

The AIA believes that competing model codes lead to continuing regulatory conflict and a "checkerboard" of code enforcement that results in an implementation nightmare for architects, engineers, building officials, legislators, contractors, fire officials, and other industry professionals. A single set of codes will actually enhance, not compromise, public health and life safety for consumers by generating more consistent code enforcement—thereby creating a higher standard of construction.

The AIA continues to offer mediation between NFPA and the ICC in an effort to come to a single code agreement. The AIA and more than two dozen other organizations founded the "Get it Together!" coalition, formed to encourage cooperation between NFPA and the ICC. For more information on the adoption of a single set of comprehensive, coordinated, and contemporary codes, contact Stan Bowman at 202.626.7461 or showman@aia.org.

KUDOS TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS!

AIA Colorado expresses sincere appreciation to the following companies who have so generously contributed to the 2000 Corporate Sponsorship Program:

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The above list includes sponsors who have contributed as of March 31, 2000. Please consider these wonderful friends of the AIA for your future needs!