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Thorton Justice Center (above)
Architect: Brinkley Sargent Architects

Denver Coliseum (left)
Architect: Lorimer and Rose with Denver Architect Roland A. Linder

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DEAR MS. SEWARD, MR. SHAW, MR. SLATTERY AND ALL CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Congratulations on a beautiful new magazine. To my delight a building in my Council District 5 was featured. May I add to your list of credits for the sensitive remodeling of the Molkery in Historic Montclair the names of Robert Alson, DCM Supervisor; Tracy Higuera, Project Manager; and Barry Smith, Project Inspector for the Department of Public Works, DCM.

POISED FOR CHANGE

Can you imagine a world where buildings are legally required to produce as much energy as they consume? How about a “green community” where clean travel is enforced and priority is given to electric and fuel-efficient cars?

Futurist Chris Luebkeman, director of global foresight and innovation for London-based ARUP — the largest engineering firm in the world, with 10,000 projects currently in progress — tells us that these Jetson-like predictions are becoming less futuristic fantasy and closer to reality every day. Speaking to a group of Denver architects recently at the Future of Design lecture and as one of the main seminar speakers in last fall's AIA Colorado Design Conference in Colorado Springs, Luebkeman challenged architects to nourish their profession. As architects, he says, “We must help society to make the necessary changes” to continue evolving.

Whether it’s through educating the public via various interactive and engaging vehicles during Architecture Week, or turning an every-day building such as a middle school, town center or light rail facility into a structure prepared to address the needs of our next generation, AIA architects are creating positive change in our built environment here in Colorado, every day.

In this issue, we’ve asked a dozen of your AIA contemporaries to weigh in on their concept of the architect’s evolving role in the built environment. Where do you think your profession is heading? Is the future oversold and under-imagined, as Luebkeman claims it to be? And if so, what should architects be doing about it?

And that green community mentioned earlier? It's already a reality. The Beddington Zero Energy Development—BedZED—is a full eco-community, with 100 homes and as many offices. The site in South London is billed as the most sustainable community in the world. Efficiency measures reduce energy use and renewable energy is generated onsite.

Luebkeman will tell you that there is no such thing as risk-free innovation. It doesn’t exist. So as the architectural community continues to imagine, dream and plan for our future — poised to make changes before the needs actually arise — we’ll all be watching, learning and waiting for the next great inspiration to come our way.

Mark Upshaw, AIA, project director from Denver Parks and Recreation was quoted in your article. The neighbors, who love the renewed building, began to believe that Mr. Upshaw’s commitment to the project might be prolonging the work. They are absolutely thrilled to have this building alive during the day with the Parks' Hands on Denver staff there and to have the building available to the community for meetings and even weddings. You have added stature to a building proud of its recent Historic Denver award, as noted.

To make sure I continue to receive your magazine I have already contacted your subscription staff to unravel the address confusion between myself and Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann. I don't want to miss an issue.

— Councilwoman Marcia Johnson
Council District 5, Denver

SEND LETTERS TO: Jennifer Seward, Editor, Architect Colorado, 2661 Valentina St. Denver, CO 80226, or send email to jenseward@earthlink.net (please send a postal address in your message).

CORRECTION: In the spring issue of Architect Colorado, George Breig, AIA, RT&B Architects, was identified as one of Bill Muchow's former employees. Although he worked in a leadership role on several projects Muchow designed, Breig was actually an employee of Haller & Larson, which shared an office with Muchow and joint-ventured on a number of projects.
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Pictured: Fiona and Imperial Gold Travertine

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ELATI LIGHT RAIL MAINTENANCE FACILITY

ON THE RIGHT

TRANSITIONS EASILY INTO NEIGHBORHOOD
THE RECENTLY COMPLETED ELATI RTD LIGHT RAIL MAINTENANCE FACILITY SETS A NEW DESIGN STANDARD for maintenance buildings and provides a glimpse of future FasTracks projects.

Located at Yale Avenue and Elati Street, at the boundaries of Englewood and Denver, the 125,000-sq-ft facility services RTD’s expanding fleet of light rail trains. Distinguished by its graceful, arcing roofline, the Elati facility provides a human scale facing the residential neighborhood and a rugged industrial façade in the rail yard.

“It’s a facility designed with workers in mind,” said RNL Principal-in-Charge Dick Shiffer, AIA. “It has a lot of natural light for the mechanics, and it’s a wonderful piece of architecture that recognizes that this is a people facility.”

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION

Because it borders residential neighborhoods on the east, the Elati site challenged the team to create a design that would remain sensitive to its community location and still meet specific maintenance and operations needs.

“Each area of the building was designed with consideration for how people experience that particular space, from the layout to the materials used,” said RNL Project Manager Jon Holler. It also needed to ensure that the administrative and maintenance staffs would feel connected within one facility.
"This is one of the best-looking facilities of its kind in the nation."

Jerry Nery
T-REX LRT Engineering Manager

To meet tight budgets, the facility underwent a significant value-engineering effort throughout the design phase that directly impacted the selection of building material systems. While the exterior metal panel in the maintenance bays was originally designed as a precast concrete panel system, the move to more cost-effective metal panels indirectly led to the inclusion of clerestory windows.

“The metal panel system enabled the clerestory to be sculpted into a dual curve, creating a gesture more appropriate to the length and scale of the arcing roof,” explained Project Designer Ron Izzo.

Incorporating brick and stone masonry at the base of the metal panel created functional durability and integrated the use of materials from the administration areas. This allowed for a continuous wrap at the pedestrian level. The structural framework supporting the vaulted roof and the exterior skin was also integrated into the support of working platforms and other systems, defining the function of the building.

The advantages of alternative materials and integration of the structural system set a foundation for cost-effective solutions without sacrificing design opportunities. This approach played a significant role in the way the rest of the building systems were integrated into the design.

MOVING AIR

The roof presented several challenges and opportunities. The design team took advantage of space within the roof volume by bringing major mechanical equipment inside the building. Housing this
indoors added minimal upfront costs, yet provides ongoing savings by reducing operations and maintenance costs.

RNL incorporated a well across the curved roof to meet code requirements, providing a natural location for smoke and heating vents. This solution also allowed roof panels to expand and contract across the length of the roof.

It is a challenge to provide heat and ventilation in any large space since air stratifies in large rooms. To prevent this, the project team installed several giant fans with 12-ft blades, recycling warm air down to the operational floor during winter and reducing cooling loads during summer.

T-REX Facilities Engineer Steve Logan has received positive feedback from technicians who say they have noticed airflow improvement in the pits as a result of this feature.

**A NEIGHBORHOOD ASSET**

The need for efficient lighting also influenced Elati's design. Natural light streams into the maintenance area through the clerestory windows flanking the sides and center aisle, and a concrete hardener with a minimum 60 percent light reflective surface helps reflect overhead light to the underside of vehicle carriages.

The design team opted for white primer on the steel and left the overhead doors as unfinished galvanized steel. In addition to saving money, this approach also provides a clean, cohesive color scheme and brightens the maintenance area.

“The mechanics are the ultimate end-users of this facility and are impressed with the lighting, along with the openness of the pit areas,” said T-REX LRT Engineering Manager Jerry Nery. “This is also one of the best-looking facilities of its kind in the nation.”

The east side of the building required a more human scale, and the barrel-vaulted roof provides an inviting and distinctive entryway defining the public side of the building.

“We looked at several [facilities] while we were planning this one, including the big one in Salt Lake, and it’s like night and day. Ours is much better. The façade looks more like a new recreation center or a school than a maintenance building,” said Nery.

Bob Simpson, community development director for the City of Englewood, said the design provides a “good transition to the neighborhood.”

The overall result is a highly efficient facility that speaks to architectural aesthetics and the pride of the people working in the facility and living in the surrounding neighborhood.

“It’s now part of us,” Simpson said. “It’s a valuable and attractive asset for the neighborhood and we’re pleased to have it in the community.”
Civic grandeur and modest scale meet in Tallyn’s Reach municipal campus
IN THE GROWING COMMUNITY OF TALLYN’S REACH, LOCATED ALONG THE E-470 CORRIDOR IN SOUTHEASTERN AURORA, the new Municipal Services Campus connects residents to the area’s farming roots through an innovative design.

As the new home for the Aurora Public Library, Aurora Fire Department Station No. 13, Aurora Police Department and the city’s 911 dispatch center, the Tallyn’s Reach Municipal Services Campus is a hub of activity.

“The central question was how to take an 80,000-sq-ft complex and drop it into a residential neighborhood so that the building is not overwhelming in terms of scale, and yet maintains a civic quality,” said lead designer Michael Brendle, FAIA, of BrendleAPV.

Initially, the city of Aurora approached Denver-based BrendleAPV with certain specifications, including a “prairie agrarian” theme. The first question was just exactly what that would be.

“We were challenged to understand and define what prairie agrarian meant and create a timeless design,” Brendle said. “As a result, the building is very modern, yet it is of its place. We made no attempt to reject the environment or the surroundings.”

Brendle designed the complex as a series of pavilions, distinguished by varying materials and sloped, gabled and butterfly roofs. Exterior patterns of circular and rectangular shapes work together — even standard book-return slots fit seamlessly into the design.

“This technique is consistent with what farmers did years ago,” Brendle said. “They would build a barn and add a lean-to here, then a shed roof. Eventually, the entire piece grew in a morphic manner.”
FUNCTIONAL AESTHETIC

Completed in August 2004, the building’s public entry centers on a vestibule that opens west and east. Details include Italian light fixtures of aluminum and glass, combining the playful and the sophisticated in an elegant form that subtly hearkens back to the homemade aesthetic of homesteaders.

“From a distance, the entrances are approachable, but inside, the lobby gives a sense of spaciousness and civic grandeur,” Brendle said.

Exterior pine columns appear to support the roof’s white steel canopies. The pine actually sheaths structural steel columns whose footprints are visible at the ground. Other natural materials, including the entryway composed of elemental limestone, define varied pavilions. Copper cladding already has begun to achieve a rich, earth-hued patina that complements the natural surroundings, including stands of Ponderosa pine.

Those details are of utmost importance, said Brendle. “We couldn’t pull off this idea without having each individual piece reinforce the other.”

The landscaping includes native vegetation and ties in with planned greenbelts. Several of the building’s pavilions blend inside and outside spaces, from patios giving exterior access to a glassed conference room that extends into the entry plaza. Sunshades cast patterned shadows, and careful design draws natural light into the center of the building.

As the building flows north, it grows into the landscape, seemingly resting in a hill that minimizes its rise to two stories. At the west, Fire Station No. 13 includes truck and equipment storage and living quarters for firefighters. To the east, the police station hosts 911 dispatch behind aerie-like windows on the second floor.

OTHER NOTABLE PROJECTS BY BRENDLEAPV
> Martin Luther King, Jr. Library & Municipal Services Center, Aurora
> The Blue Cube Residence, Cherry Hills Village
> Aurora Sports Park, Aurora
> Schlessman Family Branch Library, Denver
> Ross Cherry Creek Library, Denver

“The police structure looks inviting, coupled with the security measures that today’s environment requires.”

— Chief Terry Jones
Aurora Police Department
“The dispatch center is state-of-the-art, even in the design, which includes natural and passive lighting on the building’s north side,” said Chief Terry Jones of the Aurora Police Department. “The entire layout is extremely functional. The police structure looks inviting, coupled with the security measures that today’s environment requires.”

PRACTICAL DETAILS

The Tallyn’s Reach branch library centers on a glass spine, elongated to provide western views toward the mountains, explained Brendle. The building’s western entry, which now leads to a traffic circle anchored by a vertical sandstone and glass sculpture, will eventually anchor a planned retail “Main Street” for Tallyn’s Reach.

A low passage for small visitors opens into the children’s library, where a real hot-air balloon brightens the story area. A comfortable reading room includes high ceilings, tall windows and a stone fireplace that appears round, but actually is a half-circle – a structure that can only be built with today’s steel technology, rather than traditional masonry. The resulting fireplace, said Brendle, is thoroughly “of today,” but reinforces the building’s prairie agrarian style.

“The library doesn’t need much signage, because the layout is intuitive,” said Pam Szot, library projects coordinator for the city of Aurora. “Customers navigate it well.”

That attention to practical details distinguishes BrendleAPV’s design philosophy, down to the shallow ledges at the checkout counters that allow a small child to make eye contact with a librarian, or give visitors a spot to set their laptop bag while their hands are full.

The library is intentionally full of light. “When you drive by at night, you get a sense that there’s a lot going on inside,” said Brendle. “All of the details back up the idea that this building has been thoughtfully placed into this neighborhood, yet it doesn’t come off as a dominant place… it has a very close-up scale so that it fits easily into its surroundings.”

TALLYN’S REACH MUNICIPAL SERVICES CAMPUS

LOCATION  Aurora
CONSTRUCTION COST  $15.5 million
SCOPE  80,000 sq. ft
PURPOSE  To provide municipal services, including a library, fire department, police department and 911 dispatch center to the developing Tallyn’s Reach neighborhood
COMPLETION  Aug. 2004

OWNER  City of Aurora
ARCHITECT  BrendleAPV
DEVELOPER  Carma Construction Inc.
MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEER  BCER Engineering
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER  Monroe & Newell Engineers
CIVIL ENGINEER  Icon Engineering
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT  Wenk Associates
ACOUSTICAL DESIGN  David L. Adams Associates
GENERAL CONTRACTOR  Adolfson & Peterson Construction

Architect Colorado
Master planned as a new urbanist community

by Calthorpe & Associates for Forest City, the 4,700-acre former Stapleton Airport in Denver is quickly filling up with homes, schools, parks, green trails, streets and boulevards.

The success of this new community can be attributed in part to the vision and determination of Forest City, the master developer, who turned Stapleton into a national model for its socio-economic diversity, sustainable urban sensibility and focus on green spaces. One of the area’s most successful neighborhoods is the Town Center on Quebec Street and East 29th Avenue.

“Stapleton’s Town Center was planned to sit on the edge of the redevelopment site to achieve several objectives,” said Jim Chrisman, vice president of development for Forest City. “First, we wanted it to serve the under-served community around the site, Forest City, which in turn provided a built-in shopper base while the project was in its infancy. We also wanted to enrich the development with the local and economic diversity this kind of project may not otherwise enjoy.”

While the architectural program and urban design ideas that underlie this mixed-use complex of 13 buildings clearly address these requirements, the Town Center feels organically urban, part of the extended community and the city-at-large.
A NOD TO HISTORY

The Town Center responds to Calthorpe's Beaux Arts master plan by forming a street wall with a contemporary and dynamic vocabulary - a refreshing departure from most current new urbanist models. East 29th Avenue is entered from Quebec Street between two gateway buildings that allow glimpses of the larger structures behind as the street progresses toward the Town Green.

"We wanted to make these two buildings interesting to draw people in but not imposing to the neighborhood across Quebec," said Peter H. Dominick Jr., FAIA, principal of 4240 Architecture, the Denver-based firm that designed the Town Center.

The architecture of the Town Center expresses an aesthetic of both formality and vigor, providing a backdrop to the Town Center's lively Main Street. Single-story retail storefronts give way to residences and small offices above. Terraces for cafes and restaurants spill over onto the large sidewalks.

The buildings' masonry and steel "bones" provide an ordered framework for lively retail signage, awnings and decorations that reinforce street life. The soaring forms and aluminum cladding of the buildings is a subtle nod to the site's aeronautical history. While exhibiting a consistency of materials, each building brings an individuality and independent expression of the common material palette. The result is an urban, lively and youthful atmosphere.

COMMUNITY COMES TO LIFE

Three blocks long, East 29th Avenue is intersected by small streets and pedestrian walkways that lead to parking, neighborhood banks and a grocery store anchoring the site. The streetfront buildings screen from view the parking lots behind them, with both sides of the buildings designed with the same attention to detail. Also, the architects convinced the grocer to build a "box with interest," one that fits visually with the Town Center's architectural details and materials.

Strolling along East 29th Avenue away from Quebec, the street opens to the civic-minded Town Green, the heart of the new community, with its amphitheater lawn and sculptural, crescent-shaped park. Four-story apartment buildings along the park house one- and two-bedroom apartments, facing the Town Green and the rest of the community in sweeping plains-meets-city views. While the park hosts public events and the commercial amenities draw the extended neighborhood into the Town Center, this residential program adds to the community's social diversity.

Since the Town Center's focus is on pedestrian access, the street was narrowed to enhance daily social interaction. The office spaces in the buildings along East 29th reinforce daytime activity and provide an employment base.
EAST 29TH AVENUE TOWN CENTER AT STAPLETON

LOCATION Denver
CONSTRUCTION COST $22.8 million
SCOPE 207,200 sq ft
PURPOSE To create a vibrant and contemporary commercial zone that attracts a diverse population while making a contextual connection between existing and new neighborhoods.
COMPLETION Feb. 2004
OWNER Forest City Stapleton Inc.
ARCHITECT 4240 Architecture Inc.
CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEER S.A. Miro Inc.
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER RG Engineering Consultants Inc.
MECHANICAL ENGINEER J.J. Blank Engineering Co.
ACOUSTICAL Jim Barath
CODE/LIFE SAFETY Roff Jenson & Associates Inc.
GRAPHICS Communication Arts Inc.
LANDSCAPE Nuszer Kopatz
LIGHTING M.E. Engineers Inc.
GENERAL CONTRACTORS Blackinton & Decker Inc./Saunders Construction Inc., JV
MASONRY A.P. Eberlein Co. Inc., V&B Masonry, C. Morgen Masonry
GLASS & GLAZING Metropolitan Glass
DRIWWAL Four Star Drywall
PLUMBING MAI Mechanical, Marquez Mechanical
HVAC Sisemore Inc., Steele Brothers Heating Inc.
ELECTRICAL Lakewood Electric

OTHER NOTABLE PROJECTS BY 4240 ARCHITECTURE
> St. Julien Hotel & Spa, Boulder
> Horizon Pass Lodge at Bachelor Gulch, Avon
> Snow Cloud at Bachelor Gulch, Avon
> Riverfront Park at Central Platte Valley, Denver
> 900 West Pearl, Boulder

GOING GREEN

Following the green mandate of the entire community, the Town Center includes extensive sustainable measures – less parking through shared spaces; storm water drainage through grass swales on site; a construction waste recycling program; formaldehyde-free cabinetry, millwork and paints; 40 percent recycled content in concrete mix; 100 percent recycled steel; tuned glazing on windows; operable windows in office buildings; high-emissivity and reflectivity of the roofing; and sunshade roof extensions.

“One of the major challenges of the project,” said Terry Willis, AIA, 4240’s project manager, “is that our team commenced work without a definitive program and no physical context. As a result, we developed a flexible design that expressed a residential townhouse over a storefront entry but could adapt to an office window wall.”

The no-context situation turned into an asset. The team was able to create a new aesthetic for this community that makes the Town Center a vibrant and contemporary commercial zone to attract a diverse population. The Town Center grew its own identity from a blank slate.
IN-SITU MARRIES FORM AND FUNCTION TO PROVIDE A SEAMLESS TRANSITION TO THE SITE
CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES OFTEN PRODUCE EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS. This is certainly true for the In-Situ corporate headquarters in Fort Collins, designed to meet a tight timeline and strict budget.

In-Situ, from the Latin word meaning “in-place,” is a 28-year-old company in the business of developing, marketing and manufacturing products to monitor water quality in the natural environment. The company’s relocation from Laramie, combined with its continual growth, drove the design of this new 30,000-sq-ft corporate campus on the banks of the Poudre River.

PROVEN PARTNERSHIP

In-Situ President and CEO Bob Blythe selected Fort Collins-based Vaught Frye Architects to deliver his vision. “We worked side by side with Dohn Construction,” said Mark Gausepohl, AIA, project architect with Vaught Frye, who said that a true partnership emerged on the project. “Our meetings were very productive because everyone was collaborating around the same goals. The contractor knew I was being sensitive to the budget, so in turn, they were sensitive to the design and how that design was achieving the owner’s goals.”

The team adhered to a firm schedule for fall occupancy to accommodate the employees enrolling their children in the Fort Collins school system. Several study models were created early in the design process as a tool for the design team and to assist the client in visualizing the project. The architects also used 3D modeling software to create the construction documents.

“This was an incredibly fast project,” explained Gausepohl, noting that the work took just over a year from the start of design to construction completion. “I was often sketching details in the field while the construction team was building it right alongside me, even spray-painting instructions on the ground for the team to follow as questions arose along the way.”

FORM & FUNCTION

To accommodate the owner’s wishes to provide a “best-in-class” experience for customers visiting the facility, and in an effort to provide a stimulating environment for employees, the architect designed a series of pitched roofs that sharply cascade from the top of the building. These dramatic architectural elements also serve several practical purposes – bringing light into the building through clerestory windows, providing a contrast in the building’s overall form and masking the mechanical equipment.
Creating an atmosphere with abundant natural light was paramount to the design. Precast concrete, load-bearing exterior walls and structural insulated panels were employed to deliver economies in both cost and speed of construction while allowing for maximum light.

"Due to the environmental nature of our business, we wanted to not only ensure that our new campus met our more obvious needs of space, but more importantly, portrayed to our customers, our employees and the community that In-Situ is proud to be a steward of the environment," said Blythe.

"We intentionally located our facility on the banks of the Poudre River to provide a place for our customers to learn to deploy our products in the field."

Landscaped paths designed by VFRipley Associates provide a seamless transition to the river, just 100 ft south of the site, where clients can use the company's products to test water quality for themselves.

The building’s interior architecture boasts a wide main staircase that serves as a critical path leading from the lobby to the main conference and training area on the second floor. The placement of the landing within the staircase lends itself to uninterrupted views of the river.

DESIGN SIGNIFICANCE

The use of contrast was a major design theme, evident in the juxtaposition between the general mass of the building, framed in a rectangular shape, and the pitched-roof elements, further enhanced by the deep green coloring and rough-sawn glu-lams.

"The neutral gray segments of the building act as a backdrop, casting the richer and more salient elements into the foreground," Gausepohl said.

"The material selection was very important to the project," added Doug Dohn, co-owner of Dohn Construction. "The feeling of being on the river, views of the mountains, natural daylighting and the use of materials like wood and stone to emphasize the company's mission were all essential."

In keeping with the environmental emphasis, the design purposefully excluded any exotic or endangered woods while the selection of glu-lams allowed for a more sustainable use of wood than a heavy timber structural system.
Midway through design it became evident that meeting the original budget would not be an issue. At that point, In-Situ decided to add additional amenities such as balconies on the west side, enabling formerly enclosed spaces to become exterior areas where employees can step out for a breath of fresh air and take in the beauty of the site.

“The building exemplifies my belief that a constrained budget is no excuse for poor design,” said Gauspohl. “While architects cannot work miracles, imagination, ingenuity and skill can create significant value and meaning in a project.”

After a careful design process and swift construction schedule, the In-Situ building – now home to 75 employees – epitomizes the organization’s commitment to the natural environment and provides a workspace that emphasizes creativity and informal collaboration.
FOX MEADOW MIDDLE SCHOOL MERGES WITH ENVIRONMENT TO ELEVATE LEARNING

Imagine living next to a serenely beautiful 28-acre expanse of wild Colorado open space textured with rolling hills and ancient scrub oak as far as one can see. Picture worn dirt footpaths where neighbors walk their dogs at sunrise and trails that crisscross the terrain of fox and coyote, mingling nature and civilization.

Now envision neighborhood reaction to the announcement that this remarkable place — cherished for its rolling hillsides and lush vegetation — would soon be marred by construction of a new middle school.

As the largest signature project of the 2001 $60 million bond issue for Colorado Springs's Harrison School District No. 2, the Fox Meadow Middle School was programmed to serve 750 students while offering a variety of community spaces for independent use.

PRESERVING THE PEACE

Fortunately, Art Martini, chair of the district's architect selection committee, understood why residents were concerned about the long-term impact of this imposing addition and how a school structure and traffic would affect their beloved "neighborhood park" known for its majestic views of the Front Range.

He also knew that finding the right design firm would be critical to the project's success. The firm ultimately chosen would not only be expected to provide creative solutions on time and within budget, but also to engage and collaborate with multiple groups of passionately invested constituents throughout the complex process.

"It's a very beautiful, unique site. While it's a large property, we were concerned about the land adjacent to the neighborhood, as residents were envisioning a park," said Martini, currently director of the district's bond management. "Although it was zoned for housing, we wanted to be good citizens and take their concerns into account."

It was during the interview with Roger Sauerhagen, AIA, and Gregory Friesen, AIA — principals of
CSNA Architects in Colorado Springs — that the committee knew they had a match.

“We knew CSNA wanted to do great things; that we could plan on a spectacular result,” said Martini. “Roger and Gregory had a keen respect for the site and a heightened sensitivity to the customer and community. We just knew they could do it.”

SCHOOL WITHIN A PARK

From the beginning, the CSNA ticsign team felt the driving concept of this project was to create a “schtw)! within a park.” But before designing the 128,348-sq-ft facility, they first had to develop and program the educational specifications since the district hadn't built a new middle school in over two decades.

“They took the community's input to heart, met patiently with a design advisory group of teachers, neighboring community members and the entire staff multiple times, and integrated everyone's requests beautifully,” said Martini.

“CSNA's design development process was creative and uniquely interactive,” he added. “Like diplomatic boy scouts, they were ‘kind, obedient and reverent.’ And because they gave us great latitude we have a community showcase today.”

In keeping with residents' concerns, only 17 acres were developed, resulting in a minimal impact on vegetation and topography. Today, three striking, wedge-shaped linear forms are strategically placed at the top of existing ridges, and a central gathering space, or rotunda — as a connecting point for the wings — is positioned where the earth's natural creases intersect. By design, all classrooms feature stunning views of the surrounding Colorado landscape and mountain terrain.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

The angular building, bus drop-off, transportation, emergency access, athletic fields and equipment storage were also designed in direct response to existing site conditions. Unique exterior spaces adjacent to the main building include a play area, outdoor art space and separate drop-off for special needs students.

“Project constraints and challenges were myriad and multi-layered,” said Friesen. “In addition to a topographically challenging site and neighborhood adjacency concerns, we faced a wide range of circulation, assembly and functional issues. The overarching needs and desires of nearby residents also factored into our design process.”
“There are so many areas of focus within the confines of this site and structure,” added Sauerhagen. “But as architects, we thrive on that kind of challenge. Because each of our projects is interpreted through a stylistically different signature, no two projects are alike. Fox Meadow Middle School is no exception.”

“The staff and neighbors were overwhelmed with the facility — they just love it,” Martini said. “The school is bright, airy, colorful and laid out with good traffic flow patterns. And the overall design, functionality and views were beyond our expectations — the envy of most restaurants in town.

“Most of all,” he said, “CSNA offered a 100-percent solution for only one fee, making the process much easier for us. Roger and Gregory put a lot of effort into everything. They spent an inordinate amount of time testing colors, materials and designs, and exuded great excitement about maximizing the site itself. But the greatest surprise was when they came in nearly $1 million under budget, ultimately rescuing a number of my other projects.”

PREVIOUS The school’s exterior architectural elements — precast wings and stucco connectors — are artfully merged by the metallic rotunda as it reaches for the Colorado sky. OPPOSITE ABOVE The school’s curvilinear teachers’ lounge and contrasting colors provide a counterpoint to the diagonal, wedge-shaped forms of classroom wings, classroom service modules and the special needs student entry. OPPOSITE BELOW Juxtaposed interior and exterior views of the rotunda reveal Fox Meadow Middle School’s purposeful study in contrasts and merging of angles, curves, colors and materials into a subtly evocative whole. ABOVE A soaring, light-filled reading-niche smoothly joins the circular library with a rectilinear gym and fitness center at the shared public entry. BELOW Fox Meadow’s open, airy, light-filled rotunda is the school’s primary gathering place and social hub for students and staff. The building’s wings and main entrance radiate out from this two-story rotunda at the heart of the school, providing a stimulating meeting space and circulation experience. Framed views and special vistas make this space expansive yet inviting and warm.

FOX MEADOW MIDDLE SCHOOL

LOCATION Colorado Springs
CONSTRUCTION COST $13,044,532
SCOPE 128,348 sq ft
PURPOSE Middle school with capacity for 750 students built on expansive Colorado open space
COMPLETION Aug. 2004
OWNER Harrison School District No. 2
ARCHITECT CSNA Architects
CIVIL ENGINEER Kiowa Engineering
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT Wenk Associates
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER Samberson and Associates
MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEER The RMH Group
GENERAL CONTRACTOR Gerald H. Phipps Inc.
PRECAST Stresscon Corp.
MECHANICAL RK Mechanical Inc.
ELECTRICAL Dynalectric Co.

OTHER NOTABLE PROJECTS BY CSNA ARCHITECTS

> Alpine Village Housing, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
> Broadmoor Events Center, The Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs
> El Paso County Jail Expansion, Colorado Springs
> Integrated Learning Center, Manitou School District 14, Manitou Springs
> Science and Technology Addition, Academy School District 20, Colorado Springs
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Engineer and futurist Chris Luebkeman of London’s ARUP travels the world talking about trends in construction and challenging designers to reinvent themselves as industry leaders. He was a guest speaker at last fall’s AIA Colorado Design Conference and returned to Colorado in February to reprise his message about the evolution of design.

**ARCHITECT COLORADO** > How has the role of the architect changed in the overall construction process?

**CHRIS LUEBKEMAN** > It is diminishing, partly due to internal systemic factors. Among those, the way procurement of the built environment is evolving, and we may soon be sidelined. Contractually, the design profession has moved to protect itself from a lot of the responsibility of delivering a finished product, and the clients are logically gravitating toward those who will take that responsibility – whomever will assume the risk, whether it’s the contractor or whomever.

Then there are external factors – resource depletion, an aging population, increasing connectivity. There are few [design] professionals who, in my opinion, have the broad range of sensitivities to deal with these social implications. That’s why our window of opportunity for positive change is closing.

**ARCHITECT COLORADO** > So what can the profession do to fix that?

**CHRIS LUEBKEMAN** > We need to step up to the plate and present viable visions and solutions that address the major issues. As architects, we can do that if we are conscious enough. We are going to be confronting major issues that will have major consequences on us. I think it’s fantastic that AIA is taking the lead in encouraging the leadership role architects must take as a professional community.

But first we have to understand what leadership is. There are many types of leadership styles. It’s not just for the high and mighty; leadership must start with yourself and then you must decide how you want to lead your life positively. Leadership and political influence are often seen as being the same thing. But you can lead on a project, a job site, in your own community — on all sorts of levels.

We need to make a conscious commitment — a recommitment — toward playing a more positive leadership role.

**ARCHITECT COLORADO** > Is the architectural community poised for that or do they need to make big changes in the way they do business?

**CHRIS LUEBKEMAN** > Yes, we’re poised at a cusp, very close to a tipping point, at the beginning of a major change, especially when we look at 3D design and BIM [building information models] – when these move into common practice — and they’re coming fast, we’ll all have to change our thinking.
"The design industry is being killed by the need for 'risk-free' innovation. It is becoming more about managing risk than creating good buildings."

- Chris Luebkeman, ARUP

**ARCHITECT COLORADO:** What has to happen within the design community for that change in thinking to manifest itself?

**CHRIS LUEBKEMAN:** We have to stop 'bumping,' think about what we're doing, why we're doing it and where we're going. We get into familiar routines, and we need to stop and think about whether what we're doing is what we need to be doing. And we must look around, be more world-aware. These new projects will require new types of materials and methods. At the end of the day, we're creating the world for our clients.

**ARCHITECT COLORADO:** You've talked about architects in the roles of blacksmiths and baumeisters. What will the architect of the future become? How would you fill in the blank?

**CHRIS LUEBKEMAN:** This depends on many things, and their relevance to contemporary society. There are many, many paths, so filling in that blank will have more than one answer. If you asked ten people, you'd get ten different ideals. But architects are trained to be synthesizers, confronting various constraints and creating solutions. We are the ones that have to be thinking about these issues so that when things start to happen, we can say we have some good ideas.
THE EIGHT NEWEST KITCHEN DESIGN TRENDS

A SEMINAR COVERING >>

- Current trends as illustrated by some of the most innovative and creative architects, interior designers and kitchen designers in the country.

- Cutting Edge information on equipment, materials and details, some gleaned from the recent Kitchen and Bath Industry Show.

- What is helping to market the kitchen designs of today, whether you're designing a new home or remodeling an existing structure.

- Updates in Residential Architecture

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Futurist Chris Luebf^emim offers different possibilities for the architect of the future:
Blacksmith – an outdated master craftsman whose skills are no longer important in contemporary society,
Baumeister – a master of the entire art and science of the built environment.
Architect Colorado asked several AIA architects to share their ideas of what the architect of the future will be.

DESIGN PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE MORE IDEA ORIENTED AND GOOD PROBLEM SOLVERS. Technology is neutralizing the importance of the architect as traditionally defined. As technology becomes less expensive and more pervasive, non-architects will utilize it to implement architecture. The pace of change in whole, accelerating at an ever-increasing rate, creates pressure for creative problem-solving. Social issues, the deterioration of the environment and the merging of professional roles create opportunities for leadership. The 'idea,' i.e., one's ability to think in 3D and solve complex problems, will be an increasingly valuable commodity in coming decades - selling what is scarce.

Brian Klipp, FAIA
Principal
klipp

ARCHITECTS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE STRONGER LEADERS IN THE A/E/C INDUSTRY. We are becoming more specialized, less generalists. Our involvement in continuing education is better than ever. Our abilities and understanding of our potential in the political realm have strengthened greatly. We are improving our impact on the economics, technology and politics of good design in our communities. Finally, we are endeavoring to explore new and exciting ways of delivering the 'ahh factor,' a well-designed project that enlivens the spirit.

Cheri Gerou, AIA
2005 AIA Colorado President-Elect
Principal
Gerou & Associates Ltd.
THE PROMINENT ARCHITECT LEADERS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE RESPECTED BUSINESS TEAM COLLABORATORS. The charge of these professionals will be to skillfully and credibly assemble financial, construction, design and engineering teams. They must be able to effectively address technology, time and increasingly sophisticated owner and business interests and create well-planned and financially strong opportunities for exciting, bold and creative architecture. Design will matter, and well-designed projects will be more economically viable than their alternatives. The collaborator architect will be a necessary evolution as AIA architects work to effectively deliver value to our clients.

Chris Green, AIA
Past-President, AIA Colorado
Principal
Ago Studios Inc.

ARCHITECTS OF THE FUTURE MUST RETURN TO THE ROLE OF CREATIVE PROVOCATEUR. It is not enough to be creative in a manner that serves to support an ailing system. Historians often observe that asking the right question is more important than producing the right answer. The right answer to a trivial question remains trivial while the posing of the right question can be the guide to real discovery – to meaningful creativity. That is where architecture should reside. The architect of the future won’t be afraid to get a little gritty.

David Barrett, AIA
2002 AIA Colorado Architect of the Year
Principal
Barrett Studio Architects

DESIGN PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE WILL NEED TO BE FACILITATORS OF THE ENTIRE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS. Architects will need to respond to the changing direction and demographics of the design and construction industry and should take a leadership role in facilitating this process. They will need the ability to adapt to changes in traditional architectural practice, including more outsourcing of services that were traditionally provided in-house, more specialization of project types and more demand for architect-led design-build project delivery systems.

David Lingle, AIA
Principal
Aller-Lingle Architects PC

AS AMERICAN SOCIETY CONTINUES TO DISCOVER OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH THOUGHTFUL DESIGN OF THE PUBLIC REALM AND CAREFULLY PLANNED DENSITY. INFORMED AND TALENTED ARCHITECTS WILL BE AS BUSY AS EVER. Civic leaders, citizens and consumers are becoming increasingly more sophisticated. We are demanding higher levels of design from the products we purchase at Target, for instance, to the homes we live in, our office environments, medical facilities, parks, open space and resort experiences. The social and civic level of design embodied in recent new sports and cultural structures, and in the public spaces connecting all areas of life, suggest an ever-increasing reliance on the profession of architecture. It’s a great time to be a young architect.

David O. Tryba, FAIA
Principal
David Owen Tryba Architects

Every Aspect of Life Brings Risk

Making sure you get the proper financial advice starts with taking an in-depth look at where you are today and where you want to be tomorrow. Helping you reach your financial goals means guiding you in the right direction...with no short cuts. So we don’t risk getting you lost along the way.

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Financial Adviser
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SUCCESSFUL ARCHITECTS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE MORE BROADLY BASED, SAVVY AND EFFECTIVE ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS AND WILL CLEARLY BE THE LEADERS OF THAT PROCESS. They will embrace more responsibility and risk and be able to provide an inclusive array of services from the earliest vision through design, construction, commissioning, occupancy and beyond. The architect who provides today’s limited/traditional services only will ultimately, and possibly soon, be left in the dust or will be limited to an ever-narrower practice.

Why is this the case? Today’s pressures to accept a diversity of roles, including community service, are already enormous and will only increase. We must prepare for that inevitable and exciting future rather than bog down in a dead past.

John D. Anderson, FAIA
Senior Vice President
Anderson Mason Dale Architects

ARCHITECTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ESSENTIAL TO THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL PROJECTS. However, unless we change the way we deliver residential design services, I think we may be almost completely pushed out of that aspect of the field over the next 20 years. It’s time for us to reclaim the leadership role in neighborhood planning and home design - 10,000 identical beige boxes does not make a livable community. I believe there is a need for us to fill.

Scott Rodwin, AIA, LEED AP
2005 President, AIA Colorado North
Principal
Rodwin Architecture

UNFORTUNATELY, MOST DESIGN PROFESSIONALS WILL CHOOSE TO GET OUT OF THE BUSINESS OF MAKING GOOD ARCHITECTURE. A few will continue in the traditional master builder role - and will therefore still be in a position to do good design by making wonderful architecture. A few will become leaders in shaping the urban terrain - an important development, but one that will take their talents away from designing good buildings.

The vast majority of architects, however, will become 'team players.' In other words, in a world in which buildings are commodities rather than embodiments of our community vision, architects will join teams of 'commodity managers.' They will be problem-solvers who make pretty spaces, but their buildings will be unlikely to endure the test of time. They will be reduced to being space-arrangers and ‘aesthetic-ticians.’

Ron Faleide, AIA
President
Faleide Architects PC

DESIGN PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE INTEGRATORS OF MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES - EVEN BEYOND THE MASTER BUILDER. Technological innovations such as digital processes and the effective use of 4D and 5D modeling as complements of traditional 3D modeling will enable master architects to truly model the projects in a 'digital laboratory.' The benefits to customers and the community of this analysis tool will be significant since they will permit full evaluation of functionality, aesthetics and economic considerations before actual construction.

Miguel Burbano de Lara, AIA
2005 President-Elect, AIA Colorado North
Vice President Healthcare Operations
Principal Architect
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ARCHITECTS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE THE LEADERS OF THE BUILDING PROCESS. The most important aspect of a building is ultimately the quality of the design. In addition to today's traditional roles, architects will also need to be well versed in a broader range of issues and knowledge such as financing, sustainability, cost control and digital modeling, just to name a few. Architects must have, however, the ability to collaborate and communicate with a team of multiple experts in their own fields from concept to delivery of the project.

Roger D. Sauerhagen, AIA
2005 President-Elect, AIA Colorado South
CSNA Architects

ARCHITECTS OF THE FUTURE WILL EITHER LEAD OR BE LEFT OUT. If we allow it, the architect's role will slowly be reduced to ensuring life safety compliance for building permit purposes. We must see our buildings in a broad aesthetic, economic and social context. Just as each detail we develop adds or subtracts from the quality of a building, each building adds or subtracts from the beauty and vitality of its surrounding community.

To avoid marginalization, architects must provide leadership by taking advantage of rapidly emerging technologies and the expertise various parties bring to a project while retaining an old-fashioned, one-on-one client service ethic. It's not just about teaming but about the architect stepping forward, eager to collaborate, but also willing to exercise responsible control of a project.

Stuart L. Coppedge, AIA, LEED AP
2005 President, AIA Colorado South
Associate Principal
RTA Architects
COLORADO ARCHITECTS

THE INSPIRATION OF DWAYNE NUZUM (1936-2005)

COLORADO'S ARCHITECTURAL COMMUNITY REMEMBERS A DYNAMIC MENTOR, LEADER AND FRIEND

BY JENNIFER SEWARD

The American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once wrote: “Lives of great men all remind us, we can make our lives sublime, and, departing, leave behind us, footprints on the sands of time.”

If Longfellow were alive today, he would likely consider the footprints of Dwayne Nuzum, AIA, to be of considerable size. Nuzum, a retired professor at the University of Colorado at Denver, died suddenly in January a few weeks after having knee surgery.

A talented academic, architect and artist, Nuzum accomplished more in his career, both personally and professionally, than most people could hope to achieve in several lifetimes. While Nuzum was a familiar face and key leader in both the faculty and administration on all three of the University of Colorado campuses for nearly 40 years, his influence reached into the greater community, touching a myriad of people and projects.

THE FACE BEHIND THE COLLEGE

Attempting to summarize Nuzum's many roles, his close friend, colleague and business partner John Prosser, AIA also a professor at the University of Colorado, recalled him as “an academic, professional, editor, developer, banker, writer, trouble shooter, collaborator, sports enthusiast, mentor, friend, husband, father, and granddad,” adding that “he exemplified service, reason, honor, and stability, and most of all, smiles.”

If this description seems superfluous, it just begins to scratch the surface of all that was Nuzum's life work. “He was, more than any single person, the one who shaped the college as we know it today,” said Mark Gelernter, Associated AIA, dean of the College of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center.

Credited with creating the Graduate School of Architecture at UCD, Nuzum turned the college's formerly five-year bachelor's program into a four-plus-two year combination pre-professional undergraduate and professional master's degree program.

He used the program as a learning laboratory for graduate design and education, developing the concept of putting students to work on real community projects.

“At lunch a week before his very successful knee replacement – just two weeks before he died – we discussed his coming retirement plans and mutually agreed how lucky we two had been to be a part of the golden years of collegiate education,” said Prosser. “And to have participated throughout the evolution of our school from a single undergraduate program at Boulder to a program with six degrees, including a Ph.D. Truly, Dwayne was the key person in this transformation.”

Nuzum was also involved in setting up the Colorado Center for Community Development in
"Dwayne Nuzum, more than any single person, shaped the college as we know it today."
- Mark Gelerrnter, Associate AIA

the 1970s, helped create CU's master's degree program for urban design, and served as acting chancellor at UCD before becoming chancellor at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs from 1986-1992. Nuzum was also the head of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education under former Gov. Roy Romer.

During his career, Nuzum designed homes and apartment buildings in Boulder. He also played a key role in formalizing the Fitzsimons Master Plan in 1999 and provided oversight design review for the Colorado Convention Center expansion.

ARCHITECTURE & ART

Chris Nims, FAIA, is a principal with Denver's David Owen Tryba Architects and the director of mentor and internship programs at CU's College of Architecture and Planning. Nims is also a former student of Nuzum's who later went to work for him at the Boulder design firm of Nuzum Prosser Vetter. Nims said he first met Nuzum - the man he would come to call his mentor - when he was an undergraduate in one of Nuzum's planning courses. The young Prof. Nuzum had just returned from Holland, where he had attended Delft Technical University on a Fulbright scholarship and became the first American to receive a degree in town planning.

"Dwayne had a profound understanding of the dynamics of planning," Nims said. "He'd start out his class with the discussion of water as a planning tool ... spending time educating us on water rights and water laws." Then Nuzum would point out that Denver was founded where the Plains Indians first settled, around water, at the confluence of Cherry Creek and the South Platte River.

Nuzum's passion for architecture and the Old West parlayed nicely into his own art. Many of Nuzum's paintings were about the endangered architecture of the West. He wandered the state to find simple churches, ordinary homes and old commercial buildings that were falling down and then captured them as bright, iconic structures on his canvases.

"Usually, when you'd see a Dwayne Nuzum [painting], it would be a building in Sawatch, Colorado, with a wooden front. The building itself may have been dilapidated beyond redemption, but Dwayne would show it in its best form," said Stephen Savageau, a close friend for more than 30 years. He also owns the Savageau Art Gallery in Denver, where Nuzum exhibited many of his paintings.

"Dwayne had a terrific art collection and a very keen eye," Savageau said.

When he died, Nuzum was stepping down as chair of CU's Urban and Regional Planning Department. He had also just started a long-overdue sabbatical in
mid-December, during which he planned to write a history of the College of Architecture and Planning. Nuzum was looking forward to the opening of a studio, gallery and apartment building he had designed as a place to focus on his painting. As it turned out, this structure — the Prospect Building — was the last completed building of his architectural career.

"Throughout his comprehensive teaching, creative, research and service careers, Dwayne was always beginning new endeavors," Prosser said.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

Nuzum was also a big sports fan, especially basketball. Childhood friend Doug Looney, a former senior writer at Sports Illustrated, shared Nuzum’s love for basketball and took in many CU games with him. The “Boulder boys” grew up at a time when the town’s population was “just 10,000 or less, when everyone knew everyone,” Looney said, and most of the high school boys mowed lawns for the Nuzum family’s landscaping business.

“When you saw Dwayne coming, he was the kind of guy who made you smile,” Looney said. “If you didn’t have a good time with Dwayne Nuzum, the fault was yours, not his.”

“Whenever you ran into him in the hallway, he’d always give you a ‘Wassup!’” said Nims, imitating Nuzum’s lively bellow, and joking that it closely resembled the mating sound of a bull elk.

“It’s hard to think of Dwayne without a cigar, without the sports, and without his (often) irreverent laughter,” said Looney. “One of my greatest memories is of seeing Dwayne running down the court smoking a cigar ... that just about says it all.”

“Dwayne was a delight to be around all of the time,” added Nims. “He was energetic and enthusiastic, constantly positive. The thing that was fascinating to me about Dwayne was that he was politically savvy, but he didn’t take himself too seriously. He could find humor in some of the political situations we create for ourselves.”

“Dwayne was exceptionally brilliant at understanding people and their motivations, and really knew how to get them to work together to get things done,” noted Gelcrnter.

This innate people-skill was one reason that Nuzum’s role on a project or committee was often crucial to its success.

“Dwayne still had a lot left to do,” said Nims. “He had a lot of contributions to make; he just
Dwayne loved life & lived it to its fullest."

- John Prosser, AIA

wasn't through yet. He was taken too early. But when you look back on the contributions he made, they were phenomenal."

Nims keeps a picture of his mentor on his desk as a reminder of Nuzum's many accomplishments. He said it inspires him about what can be done in one person's lifetime.

"Dwayne didn't live as long as we would have wanted, but likely he never wanted as long as he lived," said Prosser. "He loved life and lived it to its fullest. If there is indeed an afterlife, surely Dwayne is once again hitting three-pointers and slam dunks as he always did - on and off the basketball court."

Dwayne Nuzum
A Lifetime of Achievement

- Director, Urban Design Program, University of Colorado
- Chair, Urban and Regional Planning Department, University of Colorado
- Dean of the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado
- Acting Chancellor, University of Colorado at Denver
- Chancellor, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- University of Colorado Governmental / Legislative Relations Director
- Executive Director, Colorado Commission on Higher Education
- Boulder Planning Board
- Boulder City Council (acting mayor)
- University Design Review Board
- President, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
- President, Association of Public College and University Presidents, Colorado
- Board member, Colorado Historical Foundation
- Board member, Colorado Center for Community Development

PREVIOUS LEFT Dwayne Clifton Nuzum
Many of Nuzum's paintings were about the endangered architecture of the West. He wandered the state to find simple churches, ordinary homes and old commercial buildings that were falling down and then captured them as bright, iconic structures on his canvases. Shown here are three of Nuzum's paintings.

PREVIOUS RIGHT American Barn Illinois
OPPOSITE Beer Bear
ABOVE ESQ Downtown Denver
In the arena of project development, creativity and daring are often the exception to the rule. But Denver has always been at the cusp of the frontier—a city where visionary leaders honor the tension between western tradition and daring innovation. Out of this unique milieu comes yet another edgy urban project envisioned by one of Denver’s renaissance men.

Mickey Zeppelin, founder of Denver-based Zeppelin Development Inc., is the developer leading a diverse and talented team in creating a new phase of TAXI, a cutting-edge mixed-use development on the city’s industrial north side.

THE MANY PHASES OF TAXI

In 2000, motivated by a desire to create a “catalyst for change,” Zeppelin purchased the former Yellow Cab taxi garages located on the west bank of the South Platte River at 34th and Ringsby Court. He named the abandoned space “TAXI” and renovated it to house a diverse collection of businesses. The TAXI building remains 100% leased, employing about 100 people, with a mix of tenants that includes small incubator start-ups to medium-sized marketing firms, studios and boutique offices.

The renovated space retains much of its original, industrial-chic character with high-bay doors, sprawling corridors and multiple access points.

Now, Zeppelin wants to take TAXI a step further by creating an initial 134,000-sq-ft addition to house 29 top-floor residences above two floors of business and commercial space. He envisions extensive art and public spaces, including cafes, wine bars and courtyards. Future phases could substantially increase the residential totals to as many as 250 units, an ambitious plan for a mostly undiscovered industrial area 10 minutes from downtown.

“I saw a rare opportunity to do something that would set a new pace for what could happen in Denver—to be at the heart of a new kind of community,” Zeppelin said. “I envisioned a place that exudes pleasure, stimulation and pride; a community where people are living, working and playing together creatively with a sense of freedom and excitement. I wanted people to feel special, in a special place.”

Zeppelin was so drawn to the eclectic TAXI space that he moved his own offices there in July 2001, even though the building’s zany motor-pool aesthetics and
post-industrial landscape might be considered too far out of the mainstream for most developers.

But Zeppelin is not like most other developers. Known for turning lofty musings into meticulous site plans and inspired urban spaces, he has invested a lifetime of heart—and a great deal of his own hard-earned capital—into creating a better city.

Since emerging in the mid-'80s as a vocal leader during the redevelopment heyday of Denver's LoDo, Zeppelin has proven his ability to energize other people's talents around his dynamic vision. At TAXI, that vision includes a risky development process that redefines architectural collaboration.

EDGY DEVELOPER + MADCAP FORMULA = ARCHITECTURAL QUILTING BEE

Zeppelin’s dream of creating a new kind of community at TAXI also required a more creative design process. Rather than simply hiring one architect to serve as his representative and spearhead the project, Zeppelin assembled a team to design it in distinct but complementary pieces, layered and stitched together by an evolving master plan—like an architectural quilt.

He started by turning to an old friend and Zeppelin Development’s main architect, Alan Brown, AIA, who oversaw the redesign of the original TAXI building. Brown, known for his work on the Stapleton redevelopment master plan, is a principal of Eldorado Springs-based Alan Eban Brown Architects.

As the final tenant moved into the original TAXI building in March 2004, Brown completed the initial “gothic-style” site plan for future phases, spreading 12 buildings across the nine-acre site. In the meantime, the city was creating a new plan for the neighborhood—River North—through an expansive rezoning approved in January 2005.

Zeppelin had been quietly touting the project to several other architects since early that year. Then, in a daring move, he decided to expand the TAXI team to include three additional architects, men widely recognized for their creative yet economical designs.

In April 2004, those three—Will Bruder, AIA, founding partner of Phoenix-based Will Bruder Architects Ltd.; David Baker, FAIA, founding partner of San Francisco-based David Baker + Partners; and Harry Teague, AIA, founding partner of Aspen-based Harry Teague Architects—joined the team around the TAXI conference table for the first charrette.

The question on everyone’s mind was: “Why four architects?”

Zeppelin’s answer: “I took this route partially because I’m a little bit insane, but I’m also very curious. Like a mad chemist, I try to mix different combinations together to see if I can come up with something new—it was a bit of an adventure, to say the least.”
CREATING THE CIRCLE

During the early stages of the process, Baker, Teague, Bruder and Brown brought their individual backgrounds and voices into the room. But over time, a truly collaborative resonance emerged—quietly heralding its presence in unexpected moments.

“They are all very ‘real,’ with an ability to apply their ingenuity and creativity in ways that capture the essence of place,” Zeppelin said. “Their past projects offered a sense of empowerment, but with feeling—not merely architecture. And they use a variety of materials in very creative ways.”

The first three charrettes, in April, August and October of 2004, lasted two days each. They got to know each another, defined their shared versus individual contributions and established the architectural vision, process and schedule. Then they began a collaboration about site planning and schematic design.

The one thing they all had in common was Zeppelin’s dream. He wanted to bring the fresh eclecticism of the original TAXI to the project’s later phases, which will encompass a new brand of mixed-use design. The “railroad car-like” forms of the next buildings parallel the existing TAXI in a “bar scheme,” with room between them for landscaping and surface parking. The first and second floors will house commercial and retail uses, with residences on the third floor.

The new units will be thematically tied to the site by the towering presence of the original TAXI communications antenna, whose guy wires will be “notched” into the space of the new building.

“We're letting the environment influence the building,” Bruder said. Exactly who’s designing what pieces, and other elements—such as unit sizes, shapes and materials—are still being determined, but the project is moving forward more quickly now that the team’s dynamics have been worked out.

A BIG REACH

Looking back at those early meetings, Bruder said, “As a group, we're at a ‘hinge-point’ in the development of the New West. We all want to create an
architecture that celebrates both people and place—to create community, take the ordinary and make it extraordinary."

Teague admits to experiencing an architect’s inherent fear of the collaborative peer process, where iconic elements can easily disappear.

"TAXI is a rare event. So why are we normally so afraid of this?" he asked. "Because we’re afraid of losing our individuality. But what I’ve discovered is that I learn something different every time we come together."

Bruder agreed: "Nothing is easy with TAXI. Everything is a big reach ... a big exercise. We have a bunch of ‘quilters’ sitting here at the table. And like with quilting, we take random parts and put them together so no one knows which part is whose."

"By nature, we think we’re exclusive to the ideas; that our work is our reputation. But Mickey had to help us get beyond this," Baker said. "Architecture is not a single moment. A city is created over time, by many different people. So we continue to ask where does individuality fit into a quilt?"

CONTRACTOR AS MASTER QUILTER

Despite the array of architectural talent assembled to design TAXI’s next phase, the architect-of-record works for the project’s general contractor, M.A. Mortenson. Todd Hager, AIA, was brought on board partly because of his familiarity with the 3-D technologies that Mortenson used to build Frank Gehry’s Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and is currently using on Daniel Libeskind’s new Frederick C. Hamilton Building at the Denver Art Museum.

"Zeppelin was interested in our technological ability to reduce risk by clarifying the end-product three-dimensionally," Hager said. "Our role—to ensure that the established budget reflects what’s in the plans—helps the design team identify a bigger, better scope of work while leveraging their expertise toward a better end-product."

Initially, Brown was expected to be the architect-of-record. But the group wanted to aggressively streamline the process and eliminate overlap. Hager’s
background with conflict-resolution "hub" technologies was seen as a major asset, so he was tapped to serve as the architect-of-record.

"The concept of master builder-architect was our model. We wanted to lower risk while [reviving] this historical ideal with its extra level of detail and care," Hager said. "The technology helps us remove the issues and conflicts, so the architects can focus on the finer details of design and the final product."

"As an architect, Todd understands where the architects are going," Zeppelin said. "He's the perfect 'keeper of the model'—a master at translating drawings into reality. It's an aggressive project, so everyone saw the opportunity and embraced the idea."

Speaking more philosophically about the project, Bruder said: "We need to move back into a space where we as architects are collaborators with the contractors and suppliers rather than adversaries. This project got better because we all stepped up to a place where we could each attack this as creatively and professionally as humanly possible."

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**TAXI: DEVELOPMENT**

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**ON THE BOARDS SUBMISSIONS**

For projects that are unbuilt and/or under construction, please submit the following:

- Project description (limit: 250 words)
- 1 rendering or elevation (JPG or TIF, at least 5 x 7 in size: 300+ dpi resolution)
- Photo or rendering credit (individual photographer and/or firm name)
- Project Location
- Owner
- Scope (size, in sq ft)
- Cost (if not confidential)
- Start Date (design & construction)
- Anticipated Completion Date
- Send all submissions to
  Editorial Dept.
  Architect Colorado
  2661 Valentia St.
  Denver, CO 80220
This tear-down/re-build project begins with an existing structure that is both disappointing and uninspiring. The existing foundation will be saved due to budget constraints and an entirely new and dramatic structure will be built upon an outcropping of rocks with incredible views.

The three interlocking pavilions with kite-like roof features provide organization and structure atop the solid rock formations and take advantage of the site's panoramic views. The design progresses from the natural rock base to concrete slab floors to free form, faceted window walls and a protective, organizing roof structure.

Consideration of the area's severe weather and the site's exposure to the elements led to the creation of spaces varying from dramatic to serene. The great room's south-facing glass walls create outdoor-like space inside and lend to an exposed and “hanging on top of the world” experience. Other spaces in the home are more sheltered and provide a more Zen-like and relaxed atmosphere.

Materials include broken-board form cement concrete walls that appear to grow out of boulders, metal siding, timber and glass.

The new Fort Collins Police Services Facility will house the Fort Collins Police Department and include administration, patrol, information services, investigative services, community room and training room and common areas.

This state-of-the-art police building will also project a positive image to the community, conveying a sense of permanence and community pride. The intent of the building will be to bring life to the city of Fort Collins’ vision of a timeless, flexible and contextually and environmentally sensitive civic structure.

Located on a 10-acre site, the facility will include three stories and a special room for community meetings or events, enough parking for approximately 330 vehicles, and achieve at minimum a silver LEED certification.

Aesthetically, the building will fit well into its site and environment, and embody the values of the city of Fort Collins. Its inspiration has come from landforms of the area, natural materials from the region, the unique history of the city, the colors and textures of the environment and the quality of light and the sky.
The Architectural Education Foundation, AIA Colorado (AEF) will present $46,600 in the form of 23 awards, grants and scholarships throughout 2005. Thirteen of these scholarships — $27,600 in all — were presented at this year's Young Architects Awards Gala on April 15. Since the first scholarship was awarded 44 years ago, the foundation has given nearly $800,000 to architectural students and professional architects in Colorado.

Marvin Spam, FAIA, now semi-retired, said the entire Colorado design industry has benefited greatly from the foundation. "The basic premise of the AEF is that education does not really end with your graduation from the university," he said. "It's an ongoing process. The grants recognize there is an ongoing need for scholarships, for learning more about practices. The fund is really a combination of educating upcoming architects, as well as continuing education for the practitioner."

UNUSUAL BEGINNINGS

Oddly enough, the foundation was started as the result of a lawsuit. In the early 1920s, the City and County of Denver was ready to start on its new City and County Building. To win the bid — and compete against a larger faction — five Denver architects banded together to form Allied Architects, an alliance large enough to handle the project. It was a good strategy because the group won the bid and began work on the project.

Design was complete and construction had just begun when the Great Depression hit in 1929. Soon after, the city was faced with financial difficulties and sued the Allied Architects under a statute that didn't allow architects to bid as a group — the city claimed there had to be a lead architect on the project. However, the city had already awarded the contract, and the new City and County Building was eventually completed in 1932. After winning the lawsuit in 1933 and paying their lawyers, the alliance was left with $3,500 for the outstanding fees owed them.

A year later, the men — Robert K. Fuller, FAIA; William E. Fisher, FAIA; George H. Williamson, FAIA; William Bowman, AIA and Fred Montjoy, AIA — pooled their individual portions of the fees to create a trust fund, known today as the Architectural Education Foundation.

They knew it would take some time before the fund would grow enough so that scholarships and grants could be awarded from it, so Fuller invested it during the Depression years and World War II. In 1944, the AEF became linked with...
"The AEF grants recognize the ongoing need for scholarships, for learning more about practices."

— Marvin Sparn, FAIA

AIA Colorado and Fuller was named as its first permanent trustee.

Through smart investments and careful management — often attributed to Fuller's son, Kenneth R. Fuller, FAIA — the AEF fund gained enough in interest and dividends to award its first $600 scholarship in 1961.

Robert K. Fuller II, AIA, principal with Fuller Fuller & Associates, is the third generation of Fuller architects to manage AEF funds.

"After that first [scholarship] award of $600," he said, "the foundation continued to grow and donations were made to supplement it from the families of architects who passed away."

The 501(C)3 endowment now yields enough each year to cover all of its scholarships and grants, and allow for growth and inflation.

"We exclusively support the design community in Colorado," Fuller said. "One part of the mission statement is that everything we do [must] contribute..."
to the architectural knowledge base of Colorado. The contributions by architects, their firms, friends and families are an important part of the continued success and growth of the foundation.”

A BOOST FOR CU-BOULDER

DeVon Carlson, FAIA, dean emeritus of the College of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado at Boulder, met Robert Fuller Sr. “as a very junior, junior member of the Colorado Component of the AIA.”

Carlson started the architecture program in Boulder in the late 1950s. “We were still part of the engineering program then,” he said, “and we decided it would be a good idea to have a group of practitioners to serve as an advisory board. Our chief adviser to the architectural degree program was Robert Sr.

“The foundation certainly helped us a great deal in getting the school established because of the source of scholarship money and [his] advice,” Carlson said. “It helped us in getting accreditation because members of the profession were there to help support students."

Allen Harlow is an assistant chair of the UCB program and a 15-year chair of the department’s undergraduate scholarship committee. While he knows many of the nearly 1,000 undergraduate architectural students on campus, he said, “the number of students who apply is rather finite. They have to gather quite a bit of information and provide a statement of intent for the scholarship.”

AWARDS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Several scholarships are also directed toward either faculty or professional candidates or applicants. The foundation is “tied to the overall process of perpetuating the profession and the quality of the profession,” Harlow said. “I believe it’s just as important as the concept of mentoring and mentorship.”

As a practicing architect, Sparn was presented with a $2,500 Fisher traveling award in 1995. His research stemmed from questions about wood-burning fireplace restrictions in the Colorado mountains.

Sparn had noticed that a lot of coal and wood were burned in fireplaces in Germany and Switzerland. He used the AEF scholarship to study whether there

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Architect: Tobin & Associates, P.C.
Engineer: Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas, Inc.
General Contractor: Cambria Corporation

Owner: City of Cheyenne
Architect: Douglas L. Coates
Engineer: Robert D. Clary, P.E., P.C.
General Contractor: Reiman Corp.
were pollution problems or legal restrictions on coal and wood burning in the two countries.

"It was a very interesting experience," Sparn said. "The scholarships are an incentive for people to learn more about what they're doing."

It's also a marvelous way to give back to a highly rewarding profession. John Rogers, FAIA, principal emeritus at RNL Design, said that giving to the foundation is "a good thing, and architects ought to support that kind of thing. There's always a need for scholarships and research and there's not much funding for architects."

RNL started a policy several years ago that when an occasion such as a funeral calls for flowers to be sent, the firm now donates money to the AEF instead.

"Bob's father Ken would write a nice letter to the recipient, saying we'd made a donation in their family member's name," Rogers said. "I think a number of firms now do that."

How you can help the AEF

Bob Fuller, the third generation of Fullers to manage the AEF, suggests that, "Instead of contributing flowers or gifts when you lose a member of your design team or your family, make a donation to the Architectural Education Foundation."

CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE SENT TO
Architectural Education Foundation
3320 E. 2nd Ave., Denver, CO 80206
303-333-3320
e-mail: fullerarch@rnho.net

AEF 2005 Scholarship Recipients

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS - UNDERGRADUATE
> Crystal Olin, Canon City - Anniversary Scholarship, a $1,500 award for third- or fourth-year studies in the College of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

> Kevin Brodsky, Centennial - AIA Colorado North Chapter Scholarship, a $1,000 award for study to an AIAS member, based on merit, need and contribution to the College of Architecture and Planning.

> Andria Balezatena, Grand Junction - C. Gordon Sweet Scholarship, a $1,500 award for first- or second-year study at the College of Architecture and Planning.

> James Beech, Boulder - Gary G. Landini Scholarship $1,500 award for fourth-year study at the College of Architecture and Planning based upon merit, scholarship and need.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS - GRADUATE

> Luis E. Fraguada, Boulder - Kenneth R. Fuller Scholarship, a $2,000 award to a fourth-year student entering the masters of architecture program at the University of Colorado at Denver.

> Genevieve Kowalski, Lakewood - DeVon M. Carlson Scholarship, a $2,500 award to an exceptional fourth-year student with hand-drawing skills from Colorado entering the masters of architecture program at CU-Denver.

> Sarah Cross, Denver - Robert K. Fuller Scholarship, a $2,000 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning at CU-Denver.

> Christopher Christian, Detroit - William C. Muchow Scholarship, a $2,100 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning at CU-Denver.

> Matthew Shea, Denver - Temple Hoyne Buell Scholarship, a $2,500 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning at CU-Denver.

TRAVELING SCHOLARSHIPS

> Claire Shepherd Lanier, Golden - James M. Hunter Scholarship, a $2,000 award for travel and study in the Americas. Lanier will travel and conduct graduate research into Charles Z. Cluuder, the architect responsible for the unique character of CU's Boulder campus.

> Prof. Peter Schneider, Denver - Fisher Traveling Scholarship Award I, a $2,700 award for travel and study abroad. Schneider will research the theoretical work of Douglas Darden, a young Colorado architect whose work was gaining international acceptance at the time of his death.

> Selma Catovic, Denver - Fisher Traveling Scholarship Award II, a $2,500 award for travel and study abroad. Catovic will conduct architectural documentation and study the wartime reconstruction required for the future rebuilding of post-war Sarajevo, Bosnia.

> Sergey Chudin, Denver - Rodney S. Davis Scholarship, a $4,000 award for travel and study to an individual selected by Davis Partnership, given every other year. Chudin will travel to Russia to research and document Russian wooden architecture.
AIA COLORADO NEWS

> LOOKING AHEAD

AIA COLORADO OFFERS MEMBERS A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

ON THE WEB For a complete listing of all of the upcoming events, programs, workshops, conferences, round tables and more, visit www.aiacolorado.org and click on the calendar link. AIA Colorado's newly designed Web site offers a user-friendly calendar format encompassing all of the chapter and state component events and is searchable by chapter, day or month.

CHALLENGE AND BALANCE: DESIGNING HEALTHY WESTERN COMMUNITIES AIA Colorado West invites you to attend "Challenge and Balance: Designing Healthy Western Communities." The conference will be held at the Two Rivers Convention Center in Grand Junction, June 10-11, where attendees will explore the relationship between community involvement and decision-making and the architecture that results. Good architecture is the result of good planning, and AIA architects' involvement in the planning process is critical in creating well-designed, quality and livable communities.

The 2005 design award winners will be announced during the Annual Awards Gala at the conclusion of the conference on June 11.

TEE TIME AIA Denver's 13th Annual Golf Tournament will be held August 15 at the Hiwan Golf Club in Evergreen. This year's event features a shotgun start and the opportunity to win $10,000 for hitting a hole in one. Lunch will be served before the tournament.

The AIA Colorado North Annual Golf Tournament will be held August 5 at the Lake Valley Golf Club in Longmont. Golf hole contests include longest putt closest to hole, longest drive, shortest drive and closest to water hazard. Dinner will be served and prizes awarded following the tournament.

WESTERN MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CONFERENCE Save the date for the Western Mountain Region Conference held August 25-27 at the Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa. This year's theme, "White Gentleman's Club - What's Missing?" will focus on diversity in the architectural community.

PICNIC PLANNING Check the AIA Web site for future information about the AIA Denver Annual Picnic and Membership Meeting to be held in July for members and their families.

MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AIA Colorado recently mailed members a firm profile verification form for the 2005-2006 Firm Profile and Membership Directory. Qualified firms (those with at least one principal who is an AIA member) will need to return the completed form by the deadline date listed on the form in order to have the firm's complete information included. Individual member listings will automatically be included in the directory. To ensure yours is correct, please take the time to update your contact information now by logging into the Members Only section at www.aia.org.

The 2005 design award winners will be announced during the Annual Awards Gala at the conclusion of the conference on June 11.

For more information about upcoming AIA events, visit the calendar link at www.aiacolorado.org.
NEW FELLOWS ANNOUNCED
THREE AIA DENVER MEMBERS RECEIVE HIGHEST HONOR

Donna A. Bertram, FAIA
Bradley S. Buchanan, FAIA
James P. Leggitt, FAIA

Fellowship is one of the highest honors the American Institute of Architects can bestow upon a member. AIA’s fellowship program was developed to elevate architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society and who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession. Election to fellowship not only recognizes the achievements of architects as individuals, but also acknowledges their significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level.

The AIA Fellows Jury recently elevated 66 members to its prestigious College of Fellows, including AIA Denver’s Donald A. Bertram, FAIA, Bertram and Associates; Bradley S. Buchanan, FAIA, Buchanan Yonushewski Group; and James P. Leggitt, FAIA, RNL Design.

These recently elevated fellows were inducted on May 20 at the AIA 2005 National Convention and Design Exposition in Las Vegas.

Through his voluntary commitment to the profession of architecture, Bertram has united architecture, law and political insight. His unique talents and determined guidance have led the AIA and the profession in the establishment and refinement of laws and contracts locally, regionally and nationally.

By integrating architecture with construction, Buchanan has created and demonstrated expanded roles for architects and, through his advocacy and education efforts, inspired others to become master builders.

For the past three decades, Leggitt has practiced architecture with two primary goals: to improve the practice of hand drawing and to share his discoveries with others in the profession. He has achieved those goals by developing new hybrid drawing techniques that integrate digital technology with traditional drawing processes, saving time and money. He published his findings in a book and has successfully promoted his “you can draw” message to national and international audiences.

Fewer than five percent of AIA members are elected for fellowship nationally. Only 72 Colorado fellows have been elected since 1886, including seven in the past two years. Fewer than 100 fellows are elected annually nationwide.

FUTURE FELLOWS NOMINATIONS ENCOURAGED The elevation to fellowship is conferred on architects with at least 10 years of AIA membership who have made significant contributions in one or more areas related to their profession. There are many deserving candidates in Colorado who need to be identified and encouraged to pursue the two-step process of nomination and election.

Each chapter completes its nomination process by late spring. Once nominated, the AIA Colorado Fellows Task Force conducts a series of work sessions beginning in June to educate and assist the nominees with their submittal preparations. Please help identify and encourage potential candidates by forwarding names of outstanding AIA members to your local chapter for consideration.
This year's Architecture Week, April 15-22, featured a variety of educational and entertaining activities to promote the profession of architecture and educate the public about the community's architectural history. Various events served to highlight the impact AIA architects have on their communities, as well as the diversity and skill of the profession. The week-long affair included community-based projects, student design competitions, exhibits, forums, receptions, lectures and tours of local sites.

The Sixth Annual Young Architects Awards Gala & Beaux Arts Ball kicked off Architecture Week by honoring Colorado's passionate young architects, students and interns (see list of winners on page 61).

The Outside the Box Exhibit at The Wells Fargo Atrium - one of the Doors Open Denver tour sites - showcased the work of the AIA 2004 design award-winning firms. This exhibit educated the public about what AIA member architects can offer both within Colorado and "outside the box" of our state's borders. The MAD Cocktail Reception, the fifth in a series of mixers designed to bring our creative community closer together, was held during the exhibition.

AIA's Fifteenth Annual Box City event took place at the Wellington Webb Municipal Office Building Atrium, another of the Doors Open Denver tour sites. This unique children's event promotes an understanding of historic preservation and urban design by combining art and architecture, creative thinking, city planning, design, construction, fun and learning into one comprehensive educational experience. More than 100 children and their families participated in building a miniature cardboard city.

The Residential Architecture Exhibit hosted at the AIA Colorado office - another of the Doors Open Denver tour sites - showcased models, display boards and photographs of unique residential architecture designed by AIA Colorado architects.
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**WINNERS OF THE 2005 YOUNG ARCHITECTS AWARDS**

**STUDENT PORTFOLIO**
WINNER: Michael Piche, Studio b Architects  
HONORABLE MENTION: Yi-Chien Chu, UCD

**MENTORSHIP**
WINNER: Thom Walsh, AIA, Fentress Bradburn Architects Ltd.

**GRAPHIC-VISUAL COMMUNICATION**
WINNER: Peter Burr, Assoc AIA

**INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**
WINNER: Joe Colistra, AIA, insitu DESIGN

**CRAFTSMANSHIP - ARTISTIC & ARCHITECTURAL**
WINNER: J Bell, UCD  
HONORABLE MENTION: Adam Wright, SA, UCD; Paul Norquist, SA, UCD; and Alan Scheer, SA, UCD

**ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT**
WINNER: Katy Collins, SA, UCD & Niloufar Vakil, SA, UCD  
HONORABLE MENTION: Nicholas Brown, Roth Sheppard Architects

**INTERN OF THE YEAR**
WINNER: Brian Holland, Semple Brown Design

**YOUNG ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR**
WINNER: Collin Kemberlin, AIA, David Owen Tryba Architects

**ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT**
WINNER: Katy Collins, SA, UCD & Niloufar Vakil, SA, UCD  
HONORABLE MENTION: Nicholas Brown, Roth Sheppard Architects
A RISK WORTH TAKING
HELPING THE ARCHITECT OF TOMORROW
MAKE THE MOST OF TECHNOLOGY TODAY

JOHN YONUSHEWSKI, AIA
2005 AIA COLORADO PRESIDENT

Life is inherently risky, and it has been said that there is only one big risk we should avoid at all costs, and that is the risk of doing nothing at all.

Architects have gained a reputation for being risk adverse, and over the years, we have predictably played the part. On the other hand, technology and our owners have changed dramatically in the last 20 years, with the latter constantly pushing us to use the tools now available to envision their dreams and manage their risks.

Yet with all the new tools that technology has offered, little has changed in the way architects deliver their services. Sure, we can create brilliant 3D graphics, but the process by which we deliver our service — i.e. schematic design, design development, construction documents, etc. and the scope of that service — has largely remained unchanged. If we as a profession continue down this stagnant path, the owners, contractors, consultants and tradespeople will most assuredly pass us by and leave us struggling for our own relevance.

"Visualizing the problems of the future is risky business but also a great opportunity."

ENHANCING DESIGN

Architects’ future success will depend on how the advancements in technology can be integrated into the design process by managing financial risks for the owner, the scope and coordination risk for the contractor, and maximizing building performance for the end-user — all the while maintaining design integrity and quality. The architects of the future will need to live in the virtual building world — not just as a means to illustrate their designs but also to enhance each phase of the design process.

Imagine if at schematic design we provided detailed cost, performance and systems modeling of multiple schemes to help owners decide which direction to proceed. Imagine during design development collaborating with the contractors, tradespeople and material suppliers to provide detailed scheduling and cost data that would link to the various models for material selection and detailing. And imagine during the construction documents phase providing construction simulation in a virtual building world from initial excavation to final landscaping, with all components designed to link back to original cost and performance modeling.

The architect, through this enhanced process of technology, collaboration and building information systems, can deliver to the project team great value in cost management, systems coordination, energy usage and building performance — all the while managing risk for the owner, creating value for the construction team and enhancing the design.

EMBRACING CHANGE

Visualizing the problems of the future in an effort to elevate the quality of tomorrow’s communities is risky business but also a great opportunity. Architects have the talent and the ability to realize our undeveloped potential and be used as a valued resource not just for excellence in design but also for how we creatively manage our clients’ risk and challenge their perception of the built environment.

The technology already exists to provide an expanded level of service, and our clients, now more than ever, need our help in navigating the complex world of design, entitlements, sustainability and construction. All that is needed is architects’ ability to embrace change and envision their future as innovative leaders in the creation of the built environment.
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Gilpin County Community Center

Owner: Gilpin County Parks and Recreation

Architect: Sopris Architecture

Structural Engineer: Glenwood Structural And Civil, Inc.

Contractor: Newstrom-Davis Construction Company