When business partners Richard Kughn, Ron Fox and John McCarthy decided to convert the historic Whitney Mansion into a world-class restaurant, they faced a major problem: how to install a heating and cooling system without disturbing the original architectural character of the building.

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But beyond the immediate advantage of being unobtrusive, the Closed Loop System offers other benefits. One of the most important was the ability to heat or cool each dining area independently — almost like having a separate system for each room. Another advantage was substantial savings in installation and operation of the system.

Of course, retrofitting is only one of the many applications for which the Closed Loop System is ideal. You can learn all about them in a brief videocassette featuring several building owners, developers and architects. They'll tell you how they use the system and give their candid comments on its effectiveness.

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Spring 1992

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Congratulations Bill!

About The Cover
The meditation room of this AIA Detroit Honor Award project by Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates is the innermost sanctum sanctorum of this private family chapel.

Photography by: Timothy Hursley

The AIA Detroit Honor Awards Program
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SPRING 1992 • PLACE
Something For Everyone

Is there anyone Governor Engler has not offended? The arts community is furious over funding cuts at the Detroit Institute of Arts and other programs. School districts bristle at his proposals. Universities contemplate double digit tuition increases because of cutbacks in state funding. Architects protest licensing changes and attorneys try to block tort reforms. Is there any hope for our state’s economy and systems?

Yes. The answer is subtle, sometimes invisible yet powerful. It’s research.

Michigan’s corporations and institutions are developing new technology and knowledge that will be our competitive edge. The biotechnology, medical, materials and environmental research happening in the facilities you’ll see in this issue may well provide the cure for AIDS, an electric car, or even clean Great Lakes. Research will not only bring us work, it will improve the quality of life for all people.

Governor Engler must recognize that Michigan’s places for research are symbols of our future. A future with something for everyone.

Carl Roehling, AIA
Lights! Camera! Architecture!

An important new public outreach program is developing in Michigan’s north country. The Upper Peninsula Chapter of AIA Michigan has been working in tandem with WNMU Public TV 13 in Marquette in presenting a live phone-in program called “Ask the Architect.” Part of a comprehensive series of programs allowing Upper Peninsula residents access to a variety of professionals, the series reaches the entire U.P. and part of northern Wisconsin. Funded with a grant from the Michigan Architectural Foundation, each segment of the series consists of a half-hour discussion with three professionals and a moderator. The first broadcast, in Spring 1991, featured questions on a diverse range of topics including fees, services, materials, technology and environmental issues. Fran Rutz, AIA, past-president of the chapter (which has fourteen professional members spread throughout the U.P.), hopes that the program can raise public awareness and correct the tremendous misconception of what architects do. The second segment was scheduled for February 1992 and its results may indicate potential for development of such programs in other chapters throughout the state.

United We Stand...

The Historic Preservation Committee of the AIA Detroit has struggled for nearly three years with one of the most difficult programs facing American cities in recent years: How to deal with historic religious structures that have been abandoned. The committee, chaired by Mike Kirk, AIA, has been working with a team of individuals and organizations which includes Bob Jaeger of the Partners for Sacred Places, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Archdiocese of Detroit. Together, this team is attempting to find a place for these historic buildings in the cities of the 1990s and beyond. After a lengthy study of more than thirty churches, the team has focused its energies on three churches in Detroit: St. Theresa’s, St. Albertus and St. Augustin-St. Monica. Volunteers from the AIA Detroit have been busy preparing measured drawings of all buildings at each of these sites in preparation for a workshop held on April 2-4, 1992. The workshop focused on development of reuse proposals for the structures and the sociological and economic impact of their reuse. The tasks were divided among three teams, each featuring a nationally known design architect and students from the Universities of Michigan and Detroit, and Lawrence Technological University. The results of the workshop will provide the basis for a publication to be distributed by the Partners for Sacred Places to other communities facing similar dilemmas.
Kudos ...

In addition to its coveted design awards, AIA Michigan bestows awards annually to individuals who make positive contributions to Michigan's architectural landscape. At its convention in Grand Rapids in October, AIA Michigan presented its honors for 1991, and the editors of Place magazine wish to congratulate the honorees.

Honorary memberships in AIA Michigan are granted to those who demonstrate commitment to the architectural profession even though they are not architects. Dr. David Armor has a long career as an historian and professor at such institutions as the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Calvin College. In a variety of roles on Mackinac Island, he has served the citizens of Michigan by ensuring the future of this community through his encouragement of the preservation of the architecture of the island. He has also been a good friend to AIA Michigan, which has held its Mid-Summer Conference on the island for more than fifty years.

Mr Fred Blackwood III has earned his honor through close work with the architectural community. While affiliated with Beaver Distributors, he championed the use of ceramic tile in building design. Through this affiliation and the artistic production of his own company, Blackwood Studios, he has contributed to the aesthetic richness of buildings throughout Michigan.

The Robert F. Hastings Award was established by AIA Michigan in 1978 in memory of the former president of the AIA and is conferred upon architects who have contributed to the advancement of the profession. This year the recipient is Thomas Wikle, AIA. He has contributed to the Society and the profession in many ways: through his position as senior architect for Wayne County; his organization of the High School Design Competition of the Michigan Architectural Foundation; and his memberships on the boards of the United Way and AIA Detroit.

The Young Architect Award recognizes contributions to the profession by architects 40 years of age or younger. This year the honor goes to Carl Roehling, AIA, V.P. and director of the commerce division for Smith, Hinchman & Grylls of Detroit. Mr. Roehling is currently secretary of the Michigan Architectural Foundation; he has served several terms on AIA Michigan's Board of Directors; and has served on or chaired several committees for AIA Michigan and AIA National. He was also instrumental in the first issue of Place magazine. His designs have won honors from AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit.

The Gold Medal, highest honor of AIA Michigan, is this year presented to Harold VanDine, FAIA. Mr. VanDine, senior V.P. of architecture and design at Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates in Southfield, has a distinguished career of nearly forty years. Many of his projects have been honored for design excellence, including the Comerica Operations Center in Auburn Hills, and the Oakland Community College campus in Royal Oak. His academic credentials include over 12 years of service to Lawrence Technological University as a lecturer and design critic, as well as service on design juries at the Universities of Detroit and Michigan. He has served on the Board of Directors for both Michigan and AIA Detroit and was honored in 1987 with the AIA Detroit Gold Medal along with a Silver Medal from the Connecticut AIA.
The facility makes a statement which reflects Steelcase's commitment to design excellence in a simple and straightforward expression which is consistent with their product line.

Think back to when you were in school, how did you come up with all those great ideas? Was it at two o'clock in the morning when your paper was due at nine? Or after you bounced off ideas on a roommate? Or over pizza and beer with friends? Chances are pressure got your adrenaline going, but exchanging ideas with others on the spur of the moment can spark a burst of creativity. Research directors understand the value of informal interaction. Making ideas happen is their business. Building owners are concerned with communication, too. One of their most common questions is:

"Besides providing unused lounges, what else can we do to promote communication among those who occupy the building?" It is the architect's mission to design a building that maximizes opportunities for people to communicate with each other.

Each of the projects highlighted here responds to the user's need for interaction. Though their technologies differ, each fosters a culture where people can meet and exchange ideas.

WBDC's organizational concept for the Steelcase Corporate Development Center was to arrange the entire 575,000-square-foot building around a center nucleus. All mutually shared functions are located around the center. In the center of the second (or ground entry) level is an open, two-level space called the Town Square. All employees, no matter what direction they're going in, must proceed through this space. Four atriums continue from the Town Square up diagonally to the top of the building. These provide open views to and from the Town Square to the primary lateral circulation paths.
The facility is organized to maximize the opportunities of the over 800 people involved in the process to interact and communicate with each other!

Communication was also a key issue for Flint Ink Corporation, the third largest manufacturer of printing inks in the United States. They wanted their new R&D facility to promote greater sharing of interdisciplinary knowledge between laboratory professionals, marketing and sales staff, and office personnel. Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates responded by placing labs in a two-story wing with glass-enclosed circulation corridors that parallel a wooded valley. Employee interaction spaces and other support areas overlook a wooded ravine. An elevated walkway from the parking lot and single point entry also encourage employees to mingle.

Amoco Performance Products' business relies on teams of people working together to solve problems. At their new 300,000-square-foot R&D facility in Alpharetta, Georgia, there's plenty of opportunity for face-to-face interaction. Project oriented clusters inside the building contribute to the overall integration of functions. Architect Giffels Associates grouped offices, labs and secretarial areas around skylit atriums in eye-contact proximity. The highly visible stairway in the center of each atrium invites communication.

Communications between employees was a key design issue for all three projects.

Careful integration of building design and site development accomplishes Flint Ink's program requirements while maintaining budget requirements.
The design of this research facility creates an environment where there is greater sharing of interdisciplinary knowledge between lab professionals, marketing and sales staff, and office personnel.

between the two levels. The open organization of the two-level commons also helps bring R&D management and staff together.

Another facility for world-class interaction is the University of Michigan's Medical Science Research Complex in Ann Arbor. Designed by Jickling Lyman Powell Associates, the three buildings (Med Sci I, Med Sci II, Med Sci III) are located on a dense site along the university's existing Medical Campus. The modular plan breaks down the complex into smaller groups to promote interaction. The medical sciences buildings support a combined research staff of over 1,000 people. The triangular buildings house laboratories and support space, animal care facilities, offices and conference rooms. The floors are designed to encourage communication in small groups. A typical floor contains six laboratory suites or Principal Investigator units, and adjacent office and conference areas, all with exposure to the outside.

continues

Natural light streams through the machine-like grid of the lobby walls, enhancing the technical atmosphere of the facility.
The ability for future expansion was a concern, planning for which was undertaken less than a year after construction of this Research Complex began.

Constructed in three phases, the MSRB complex literally defines the northwestern edge of the huge U of M Medical Campus.

Project oriented clusters contribute to the overall integration of functions. The facility layout is complementary to customer discussion and joint projects.
With each of these buildings, you have the sense that something is being accomplished. Their designs motivate people. Ideas can happen. What better marketing tools for Steelcase, Flint Ink, Amoco and the University of Michigan?

Project: Steelcase Corporate Development Center
Gaines Township, Michigan
Architect & Engineer: The WBDC Group
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Contractor: Barnes Construction
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Photography: Balthazar Korab, Ltd.

Project: Flint Ink Corporation Research and Development Facility
Flint, Michigan
Architect & Engineer: Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates
Southfield, Michigan
Contractor: R.E. Dailey & Co.
Southfield, Michigan
Photography: Beth Singer

Project: Research & Development Facility Amoco Performance Products, Inc.
Alpharetta, Georgia
Architect & Engineer: Giffels Associates, Inc.
Southfield, Michigan
Contractor: Barton Malow Company
Photographer: Balthazar Korab, Ltd.

Projects: The University of Michigan Medical Sciences Research Buildings I, II, & III
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Engineers: McWilliam & Keckonen, Inc. (Structural)
Hoyem Basso Associates, Inc. (Mechanical & Electrical, I & II)
Peter Basso & Associates, Inc. (Mechanical, III)
Migrated, Layne & Sachs, Inc. (Electrical, III)
Contractors: DeMaria Building Co. (I)
Palmer-Smith Co./Stolte (II)
M.A. Mortenson (III)
Photography: Steven Graham

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1992
AIA DETROIT
HONOR AWARDS
AIA Detroit, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects, is pleased to present the recipients of its 1992 Honor Awards Program. The annual program, established by the Chapter in 1928, was created to honor works of distinction by its members, bring to public attention outstanding examples of architecture and to recognize those who create it. Of the projects submitted for consideration, the following were selected to receive Honor Awards. Included here also are those individuals who have been elected to receive the newly-established Charles A. Blessing Award; Young Architect of the Year Award; Honorary Affiliate Membership; and Gold Medal, the highest honor the Chapter can bestow upon a member.

**25 Year Award**

**Project:** Beckwith Residence  
**Location:** Franklin, Michigan  
**Architect:** William Kessler and Associates Inc. (Formerly Meathe, Kessler and Associates)  
**Client:** Arthur Beckwith  
**Structural Engineer:** McClurg and Associates  
**Photographer:** Balthazar Korab  
**Jury Comments:**  
An exquisitely built building stylized very much in the vernacular of that era; a hybrid of Mies and Breuer with its simple plan; a prefab notion machined but still crafted; the dynamic roof forms give it a character all its own. The house is beautifully maintained and seems to accommodate comfortably the life styles and furnishings of today.

**Interior Architecture Award**

**Project:** New Corporate Offices, Great Lakes Gas Transmission  
**Location:** Detroit, Michigan  
**Architect:** Kenneth Neumann/Joel Smith and Associates Inc.  
**Client:** Great Lakes Gas Transmission  
**Photographer:** Balthazar Korab  
**Jury Comments:**  
A clear plan that demonstrated considerable restraint with a limited palette; this corporate interior demonstrated a timeless quality that is admirable; the sculptured surfaces are elegantly crafted; from the overall concept to the detail of the fastenings on the paneling, the project is noteworthy.
Honor Award
Project: Chester Street Parking Structure
Location: Birmingham, Michigan
Architect: Luckenbach/Ziegelman and Partners Inc.
Client: City of Birmingham
Contractor: R.E. Dailey
Engineers: Walker Parking Consultants
Landscape Architect: Johnson, Johnson & Roy Inc.
Photographer: Christopher Lark
Jury Comments:
This simple program demonstrates a clarity of intent by the use of materials. It is handsome and carefully adapted to its difficult site. The scale is carefully considered as the bays stagger down the sloping site. The brick and concrete complement each other in a classic way; the lantern corners identify the pedestrian access for both clarity and safety.

Interior Architecture Award
Project: Private Family Chapel
Location: Midwest, USA
Architect: Harley, Ellington, Pierce and Yee Associates Inc.
Client: Withheld
Furniture Builder: Andy Kaliniak
Photographer: Timothy Hursley
Jury Comments:
This small chapel has a thoughtful plan and dynamic concept of a space for private meditation. The quality of all materials and the care with which they are crafted and relate to each other demonstrates that building well transcends style and often the style, because it is personal, becomes secondary.

Honor Award
Project: Merrill Park Townhomes
Location: Birmingham, Michigan
Architect: Victor Saroki & Associates Architects PC
Client: Merrill Park Properties
Contractor: M. George Construction
Landscape Architect: Michael J. Dul and Associates Inc.
Photographer: Beth Singer
Jury Comments:
Although stylistically a literal throwback to another era, these townhomes remind us of the importance of the relationship of buildings (especially housing) to the street. The plans are well handed, the interiors present a variety of spaces without being contrived and the details have been carefully executed.
Gold Medal

The AIA Detroit Gold Medal is the highest honor the Chapter can bestow upon a member. No more than one is granted each year. The award is made in recognition of notable contributions to the AIA or the Detroit Chapter, and outstanding achievement in one or more areas of professional endeavor. The AIA Detroit Gold Medal may be awarded posthumously.

Young Architect

This award is to recognize proficiency and exceptional contributions to the profession by young architects. Nominees must be members of AIA Detroit for at least three years and be 40 years old or younger during the year of the award. They should demonstrate exceptional accomplishment in the profession, dedication to the ideals of the Chapter, contributions to the profession and service to the community.

Charles A. Blessing

Named in honor of our visionary Detroit City Planner, architect, civil engineer and educator, who dedicated his life’s work to the pursuit of increasing the quality of urban life through excellence in city planning and urban design. This award may be given each year to an individual who has exemplified the broad vision, commitment and steady effort demonstrated by Charles A. Blessing, FAIA over the course of his career.

Honorary Affiliate Member

Each year the AIA Detroit invites nominations for Honorary Membership. A person of esteemed character who is not eligible for AIA membership in the Chapter but who has rendered a distinguished service to the profession of architecture or to the arts and sciences allied therewith may be admitted to honorary membership as an Honorary Affiliate Member of the Chapter.

AIA Detroit would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to those individuals and organizations who contributed to this year’s Honor Awards Program. The continued success of this important program is largely due to the generosity of those named below who had made financial contributions at the time of printing.

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URBAN ARCHITECTURE INC.
WOLVERINE MARBLE COMPANY
Once indoors, the high-tech function of the facility is barely noticeable, but at its heart beats a big-league lab.

THE FINAL FOUR

The flow of student traffic makes the new Chemistry Building truly a part of the campus circulation network.

There is a tournament being played among universities right now. It’s not televised and it’s not limited to one year. But, the stakes are higher than any athletic contest. Michigan’s universities are competing for research funds.

With state financial support eroding and demand for top researchers increasing, many universities are scrambling to find new ways to attract top talent and government and corporate grants. Matching corporate pay scales is difficult, so many universities are using their research facilities as marketing tools.

The four facilities featured here range in mission from biotechnology to social interaction and from chemistry to engineering but all share a common cause, to provide a work environment that is functional yet attractive.

The 280,000-square-foot Chemistry Building addition at the University of Michigan has a five-story atrium as its focal point. The atrium serves as an “anchor” for the pedestrian “diagonal” circulation path that goes right through the building. Researchers and students alike enjoy this “winter garden.” Designed by Harley Ellington Pierce Yee, this dramatic facility provides amenities for both students and researchers, as well as the pedestrian visitor. The building becomes part of the campus circulation network and continues...
The dramatic indoor "winter garden" space in Harley Ellington Pierce Yee's Chemistry Building addition at the University of Michigan belies its function as a state-of-the-art research and teaching lab.
therefore succeeds on two levels: as architecture for campus planning and as 21st Century lab space for a world class university.

Wayne State University's new Biological Sciences Building features "generic" state-of-the-art biology laboratories. Offices are grouped together to foster "collegiality" and interaction. All laboratories and offices are served with daylight and views. Despite a tight urban location, the facility provides the amenities that make it an excellent place for research. Ghafari Associates' design solution is simple and efficient, yet well organized. It harmonizes with the diverse structures in this part of the WSU campus.

Team engineering research is in demand and Michigan State University has the facility that will keep them in step. The new 131,000-square-foot addition was linked with a pedestrian bridge to permit researchers to "interact" between "old" functions and new. Television studios and an enlarged library make this facility particularly appealing to staff and grant organizations. Designed by Albert Kahn Associates, this multi-disciplinary complex creates a state-of-the-art learning environment for engineering students and researchers alike at MSU.

The Collaboration Technology Suite, part of the Cognitive Science and Machines Intelligence Laboratory, is an example of university and corporate cooperation. The University of Michigan Business School and
The centerpiece of the Collaboration Technology Suite is a computer-equipped conference room, in which collaborators can use a variety of information technology tools to support meetings. Partners delivered a design with considerable flexibility so that researchers can study the effects of different physical arrangements and different information technologies on the collaborative process.

The architects of these four facilities have helped the University of Michigan, Wayne State University and Michigan State University position themselves to compete successfully in the research tournament. The prizes are top students, world class faculty and a share of the big bucks bonanza of research funds.

Arthur Anderson Consulting developed this computer-equipped Conference Center to study the use of information technology to enhance group productivity. Participants use computers to “talk” to one another and to generate policy, software, designs or other interactive products. Architects Luckenbach/Ziegelman and

An observation area and control room that looks into the conference room will allow researchers to study the behavior of the collaborators.
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OF PAINT

For many new car buyers, choosing the right color is as hard as deciding on the car model. BASF Corporation can help you make up your mind. The German chemical giant was the first to open an applications laboratory featuring two paint lines that allow BASF researchers to duplicate the "real world" conditions of paint lines in any auto assembly plant in the world. But you don't have to go to Germany or New Jersey, headquarters of BASF's Coatings and Colorants Division, to see the latest in automotive coatings and paints. As a partner to the automotive industry, BASF has built a 260,000-square-foot research and development facilities expansion in the Big Three Automakers own backyard in Southfield.

The architect's challenge was to design a facility that would showcase BASF's state-of-the-art technology, promote scientific discovery, and incorporate OEM research operations under one roof on a limited site.

The focal point of the building is the product showroom. New cars and test panels sparkle under baffled skylight specially designed to maximize indirect natural light. Lots of glass and polished granite reinforce the high-tech appeal. The three-story showroom is visible from all floors and has movable partitions that can close off space for meetings or video presentations. Surrounding the central showroom are employee lounges, conference and office space and an entrance lobby. Together, these spaces form a scientific
community center that encourages communication and interaction between people.

Product laboratories are laid out in 40' x 80' modules of four, in semi-open lab blocks, where up to 32 scientists can work freely with each other. Borrowed light between corridors and labs allow scientists to see what is happening inside labs without entering. Each lab block adjoins a vertical utility shaft for planning flexibility.

Approximately 400 highly-trained scientists and technicians work at the Southfield R&D Center—but the building's location on Telegraph Road makes it visible to thousands of people every day. BASF wanted the building design to take advantage of the highly visible site and communicate their high-tech image as the world's leading supplier of OEM.
Organized around a central three-story product showroom, where test panels and automobiles display the latest colors and finishes.
In scale, massing and detail the building is as exacting as the paint products BASF researches. A light network of iron-spot brick with taut ribbons of glass and punched windows accentuates the exterior. The building mass steps down to human scale to reveal a blue-tinted reflective glass curtain wall which subtly curves like a highly-finished automobile. The four-story configuration and four-level parking deck also respond to the size of the expansion on the small existing site.

The R&D expansion not only maximizes BASF Coatings and Colorants Division’s research potential, it promotes Michigan’s image as a research-rich state.

Project: BASF Corporation
Coatings and Colorants Division R & D Center
Southfield, Michigan

Architect & Engineer: Smith Hinchman & Grylls
Associates, Inc.
Detroit, Michigan

Contractor: Turner Construction Co.
Detroit, Michigan

Photography: Christopher Lark
CONGRATULATIONS BILL!

The Michigan Architectural Foundation is pleased to publish the first issue of ARCHITECTURE / EVENTS. The calendar which is to become a regular feature of PLACE magazine, will provide a state-wide picture of activities with architectural interest offered by AIA Michigan chapters and other organizations. In keeping with our primary mission of increasing public awareness of Architecture, this is directed to all with an interest in Architecture and the built environment, as both information and an invitation to participate. Two successful events have already occurred for the month of May. Don't miss the rest.

James B. Shane, AIA
President
Michigan Architectural Foundation

**MAY**

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16 "Michigan Library Museum and Archives" tour conducted by curator Scott Peters. Bus transportation from Flint and lunch will be provided. Sponsored by AIA FLINT.*

30 AIA DETROIT Honor Awards Program held at Cranbrook Academy of Art, speaker Brendan Gill.

**JUNE**

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5,6,7 Arts "Festival" held in downtown Grand Rapids. AIA GRAND VALLEY sponsored events include Chalk the Walk, historic architecture bus tour, and architectural exhibit. Contact Gina at 616 698-0220.

6 Kalamazoo Art Fair, AIA SOUTHWEST participating with their Honor Awards exhibit.

15 Steelcase and Meyer May House tour sponsored by AIA MID-MICHIGAN and Lansing Community College. With special presentation by Eric Lloyd Wright of his grandfathers and fathers works. Contact Jim at 517 483-1356.


**JULY**

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24 South Street Building tour in Kalamazoo. Sponsored by AIA SOUTHWEST. Contact Gregg at 616 343-1356.

24,25 Chalk The Park event held during Ann Arbor Art Fair. Sponsored by AIA HURON VALLEY. Contact Jan at 313 663-1910.

* Michigan Architectural Foundation Members admitted free.

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