# NORTH CAROLINA · ARCHITECTURE SPRING 1995

K-12 ( Educational Facilities



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Reid Park Elementary, in Charlotte, was designed by Clark-Nexsen/Gunn-Hardaway, of Charlotte. The K-12 educational facilities feature begins on page 7.



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## AUGUST 10-12 • ASHEVILLE, N.C.

This year's AIA North Carolina Summer Design Conference will take place August 10-12 at the Grove Park Inn nestled in the purple mountains of Asheville, North Carolina.

This year's conference theme is "Colors," and the conference will offer three days of education intended to provide architects with a vivid variety of multifaceted experiences.

Curtis W. Fentress, AIA, of Denver, whose credits include the much-discussed new Denver airport terminal, and Terrence M. McDermott, the chief executive officer of The American Institute of Architects, will speak the first day of the conference. The conference program will also cover design issues from green architecture to grey architecture, discussions on color theory and current color trends, as well as some excellent seminars on organization and management.

For some variety, several half-day tour/workshop events will be offered. The 1995 Summer Design Conference kicks off mid-afternoon, Thursday, August 10 with the official opening that evening at a Colorful Reception in the exhibit hall. Two continental breakfasts and a lunch will be served in the exhibit hall during the conference. Sponsors and exhibitors are invited to participate in all activities, including a golf tournament Saturday, to encourage interaction with AIA North Carolina members.

The 1995 Design Awards, Tower Awards and Kamphoefner Prize will be presented Saturday evening August 12.

Watch your mailbox for complete registration information.

# Legislative Report

N.C. school needs top \$5 billion

he enduring legacy of the 1995 General Assembly may well be that of tax cuts and downsizing state government bureaucracies. The attention of legislators, however, in recent weeks has turned increasingly to two burning issues; i.e. the critical need for public school buildings and how to pay for them.

A host of bills have been introduced and a variety of solutions proposed to build K-12 schools

ranging from statewide bond referendums or local onecent sales tax options to earmarking the proceeds from a lottery. Before the legislators head home this summer, there's a decent chance one or more of these ideas will become a reality.

A Department of Public Instruction study says there are \$5.6 billion worth of critical K-12 needs. These include thousands of North Carolina schools built before 1960 which are outdated, unsafe and virtually impossible to renovate in a cost-efficient manner. More than 20,000 extra students will enroll in N.C. schools every year between now and 2003.

In recent years, voters in Wake and Mecklenburg Counties have approved hundreds of millions of dollars in local school bond referendums. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools have another \$300 million-plus bond issue on a local ballot in May. Both Wake and Mecklenburg Counties, though stretched for classroom space, possess the necessary critical mass in population and tax base to fund major school building initiatives.

> By contrast, many other North Carolina counties simply lack the necessary local dollars. Although local governments are traditionally responsible for paying for their own school buildings, the General Assembly in the 1980s earmarked tax revenues for school construction. A legislative staff study says two half-cent sales tax increases and a hike in the corporate income tax will provide \$3.3 billion for school construction between 1983 and 2002. The rural needs, though, will not yet be fully addressed.

#### Second Baby Boom Fuels Fire

Adding to the school crunch is a "second baby boom." Those children born between 1945 and 1960 are now having children of their own. Statewide enrollment began to increase in 1991, and by 2003 it is expected to be 15.6 percent higher than the 1993 enrollment. More than 20,000 extra students will enroll in North Carolina schools every year between now and 2003. The projected increase is especially intense in Wake and Mecklenburg Counties, the state's two prime spots for corporate relocations and job-driven migration.

#### Pending Lawsuit May Force State Action

Several low-wealth North Carolina counties, though, have filed suit against the state, claiming the state's per-pupil method of allocation unfairly deprives students who live in economically distressed areas from receiving an equal education. With the suit headed for court, the General Assembly may take a preemptive measure.

House Bill 771 offers one possible solution. North Carolina voters would be asked to approve a \$500 million bond issue this fall. Half the money would be distributed on an ability-to-pay basis matching a school district's needs against its per capita income. Much of that money would go to low-wealth counties. The other \$250 million would be distributed on a per-student basis, sending most of that money to urban districts. From a political standpoint, it's important to earmark a large portion of the money for larger counties because the size of their voting constituencies can potentially doom any statewide issue.

At prevailing interest rates, a \$500 million bond issue would cost the state \$877 million in principal and interest over 19 years. HB 771 sponsor Rep. Anne Barnes (D-Orange) is aware her bill runs contrary to the current legislative movement to slash taxes and state spending.

Barnes says, "Children in schools with leaky roofs and crumbling walls do not understand the politics of taxes and cutting. They do not understand why their county has a brand new prison for lawbreakers while they are still in a rusting mobile unit or in the same old building their grandparents used."

House Majority Leader Rep. Leo Daughtry (R-Johnston), a fiscal conservative, says, "The concept (of a statewide school bond issue) is not something I'd be opposed to."

#### **Rising Construction Costs Complicate Matters**

By any measure, building a quality public school is an expensive proposition. Based on recent construction bid figures, it now costs \$5-8 million to build a K-5 school, \$7-9 million for a middle school and upwards of \$15 million for a high school. In addition, building costs have risen 10-12 percent in the last two years due to a red-hot construction economy throughout the Southeast. It's a case of supply and demand as building materials and labor costs have skyrocketed.

A number of general contractors are not submitting bids on North Carolina school projects these days because there's so much work in the private sector and public projects are difficult to complete because of the state's antiquated multi-prime contracting system. With fewer qualified bids to choose from, school systems end up paying more.

School officials in Chatham County found out a \$15 million bond issue approved two years ago won't build now what it would have back in 1992 — before the economy heated up. Chatham voters must now approve \$5 million more just to finish the original projects. Anytime a large number of schools must be built, it's not unusual for well-meaning legislators to ask the question: "Wouldn't it be a good idea and save money if all schools were built from one set of plans?" The answer is no, on both counts.

At least 25 states have tried a method known as "stock plans for schools," and all of those states have abandoned the idea. Why? Stock or standardized plans are inflexible, and they do not save money for taxpayers. Soil conditions and topography vary widely from Murphy to Manteo, and a standardized set of building plans will need to be adapted to fit local conditions. When a standard set of plans is modified, the question of liability becomes extremely cloudy.

No matter what the General Assembly does in terms of state support, local school systems across North Carolina will need to build schools for their children and, in any case, the single best investment in the building process is to hire a qualified architect. A quality design will produce a better learning environment, save energy and properly plan for possible expansion in the future. The true cost of a school should not be measured in its construction price but by its life-cycle costs in terms of maintenance, upkeep, energy use and practicality.



## Get Back To Basics In Building Schools

School system is wasting tax dollars by hiring a building consultant it doesn't need

he following is an editorial originally published in the September 6, 1994, edition of the Charlotte Observer written by James R. Johnson, Jr., AIA, a Charlotte architect who has served as director of school construction and new facilities manager for Mecklenburg County.

In a time of alarm over rising



James R. Johnson, Jr., AIA

taxes and government bureaucracy — a time when the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system needs to build new classroom space as efficiently as possible — should the school board launch a new program that adds yet another layer of bureaucracy of the building process?

That's exactly what it has done.

In 1994, the board decided to commit \$4.2 million in school bond dollars — money that is sorely needed to help revitalize public education — to hire J.A. Jones Construction Co. as an outside "program management consultant" for the school building program.

The consultant is to help manage 18 school projects (including construction of seven new schools and nine additions) over the next four years — at an average cost of \$238,127 per project. A properly sized work force should be able to perform that work for \$40,000 to \$70,000 per project.

#### Staff Of 10 People

J. A. Jones is a local company with a fine reputation as a building contractor. But the school system already has a staff of 10 people to work on school-building projects. A hired consultant is not necessary.

School officials say a consultant is needed because the current staff doesn't have the management experience or expertise to handle such projects. If that's true, hiring a few people with the needed experience would be a more efficient expenditure of money than spending millions in taxpayer dollars.

A program management consultant will only add red tape to the building process. It also blurs the lines of responsibility between the three traditional players in school building projects — the school board staff, the architect and the contractor. The result: an atmosphere where confusion, disputes and delays will certainly occur.

My concern grows out of first hand experience with the school-building bureaucracy. During the mid-60s I served

for 2 1/2 years as director of school construction for then-Superintendent of Schools Craig Phillips.

At that time, a staff of five people coordinated a program that completed 26 school projects within four years — including Olympic and Independence high schools, Quail Hollow Junior High School and Dilworth Elementary. Using this comparison, it certainly seems that today's school system has enough school-building staff if organized efficiently.

Under the title of "overall program management" what does the school board expect for its \$4.2 million?

A review of the contract shows what it won't get. One disclaimer, for instance, stipulates that "the (consultant) shall not be responsible for ... the performance of the work ... technical inspection of the work, or for accuracy or adequacy of any part of the project design."

In addition, there is no methodology that guarantees school projects will be delivered on time and within budget. The contract also doesn't describe remedies that the consultant would pursue if bids should come in over budget. If a project is delayed, the consultant would only be required to "notify" the school staff. And finally, if the program management consultant doesn't produce the school on schedule, there would be no monetary penalty.

That doesn't sound like overall program management.

Terms of the contract should guarantee that intended goals be achieved prior to committing taxpayer money.

Also, since the consultant is an active general contractor, the contract should require full disclosure of possible areas of conflict of interest during all stages of work.

The school board needs to get back to basics. All that is required to build quality schools on time and on budget is a small, experienced staff to represent the owner, an architect and the contractors. This is the traditional and best way to proceed.

#### **Avoiding The Pitfalls**

School board members should become familiar with the details of their program management contract with J.A. Jones. Then they should feel a personal responsibility to stop and implement a more streamlined and efficient process to manage our school-building program. Even now, large sums of money could be saved — dollars better spent on new classrooms than enlarging the bureaucracy.

The opinions expressed in this article are the opinions of James R. Johnson, Jr., AIA, and not necessarily those of North Carolina Architecture or AIA North Carolina.

# K-12 Educational Facilities

## A major challenge for architects

Depending upon the county,

some public school systems

in North Carolina have sev-

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eral layers of bureaucracy

ublic school projects have become a regular source of work for architects in North Carolina. For most of the last decade, paralleling an increase in enrollment, architects across the state have been vigorously pursuing numerous school jobs. But along with the school building boom, a multiheaded client monster has developed.

Depending upon the county, some public school

systems in North Carolina have several layers of bureaucracy which aren't always in sync with each other. That often leaves the architect as the person in the middle, the one who must mitigate the differences. Each group's concerns must be addressed by the architect, building consensus from all sides to make the project work.

And managing differences of opinion can take a lot of time.

One architect who knows a great deal about designing public schools is the current

president of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, John Bowles Knox, AIA. Knox has been working on public school projects since 1960. He and his firm, The Smith Sinnett Associates in Raleigh, have more than \$40 million in projects currently on the board.

"Because of our experience in the school design process, we are used to it more than a newer firm or architect getting into the public school process for the first time," commented Knox. "Working through the committees and school boards, we listen a great deal to what they have to say so that we can do the best job possible. We have worked in 14 different school systems in the state, and each has a different way of handling facilities."

One of the big areas of concern for Knox in the public school design arena is the elimination of the school planning division of the state's Department

> of Public Instruction, which places the responsibility for school facilities in the hands of the individual counties.

"The school planning group has been able to help and keep everything in an orderly process," said Knox. "Most of the smaller counties have no one on staff who understands the process. Ninety percent of the counties will be totally lost. There will be no standard method of building schools."

A familiar scenario for many architects in the planning phase of a school pro-

ject involves the wedding of concept to cost. After a school is planned and designed, sealed construction bids are opened. Especially so in recent months, the bids have been way over budget. School officials then must spend days and weeks pulling their hair out, making cuts and searching for extra cash to balance the bottom line.

Many times that leads the architect to spend a majority of time working with a planning group

instead of dealing directly with the specific problems of one school.

Another major area of concern for architects is the streamlining of the information process in the larger county school systems in North Carolina, cutting through the bureaucracy of several layers of planners and people who are trying to find ways to cut the bottom line.

In the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system, for example, J.A. Jones Construction Company has been hired as a project manager. Rather than working through layers of a bureaucratic process, architects now have one project manager with whom they work.

"The idea in hiring a project manager is to cut through the committees and groups that you have to go through in order to get a project completed," said Kathryn L. Horne, AIA, with Gantt Huberman Architects of Charlotte.

AIA Charlotte has begun an evaluation of the project manager system in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County system to determine if this type of approach should be continued.

This problem changes from county to county, depending on the size of the school system.

Counties like Mecklenburg, Wake and Durham all have multiple school projects being built all the time. By contrast, smaller counties do not have that many school projects underway at one time, so the architect may be able to spend more time working with the system on one project. But because of financial restraints for the smaller counties those projects are few and far between.

Costs for building schools vary a great deal. According to Gerald Knott, a consulting architect with the state Department of Public Instruction, building costs range from \$70 to as high as \$107 per square foot.

One of the largest problems facing the state in the building and renovation of public school facilities is the vast difference in budgets from one county to another. In 1993, long-range planning figures compiled by the Department of Public Instruction showed a need for \$797,887,475 (which includes land acquisition) for school construction projects in Mecklenburg County compared to just \$2,569,405 for Montgomery County.

But even in the larger counties, budgets for school facilities are always tight, offering a special challenge for architects wanting to do their best work for a very important venture.



Zeb Vance Elementary School in Vance County was designed by The Smith Sinnett Associates, PA in Raleigh.

"The hardest thing about designing a school is that you want to do your best work to help provide the best atmosphere for a quality education," said Horne. "But with financial constraints, the schools want you to do a lot with a little. We would like to do more."

Add to the budget constraints the fact that most school facility budgets were developed five years ago during a recession. Prices have increased drastically since that time, adding another dimension to the multiheaded monster.

"It takes so long from the time a project is bid and put into the budget to the time that it is actually built, that it causes a lot of problems," said Horne.

Other challenges that occur when designing a public school facility involve meeting the everchanging needs of the children and accommodating new technology.

"We really push making the schools a place where children will want to come to learn and develop," explained Knox. "We design bright and cheerful facilities and scale things to the age group that we are working with. For example, we use a lot of colors in the elementary schools as well as televisions. We try to make our schools 'children-friendly.'"

For an architect working on a school project, there is a vast difference in working on a private school or a public school. In the private school venture there is only one client, which makes things much easier for the designer. Private school work is treated like any other private job. Instead of working through a school board and several different factions of the school system, the architect is able to work directly with the school principal. Much like a church project, there can be several committees within the school, but it all revolves around the design of one school — the one school the client is interested in developing, not a county system.

"One of the areas that we have found to help the school system save money is to look at other schools we have designed. Or the system may even come to us and say they like a certain school we designed in another county," said Knox. "We then get permission from that county and can save money in using this design as a prototype in another county. We have to make some changes and modifications to fit the area, but it can be a real savings."



Saint Paul's Parish Center Lower School in New Bern was designed by Robert W. Carr, Inc., Architects in Durham.

## The Education Village



#### CHARLOTTE OWNER: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools ARCHITECT: Boney Architects, Inc., Charlotte

he Education Village plan outlines a unique architectural response to an innovative education concept. Located on a single campus adjacent to a major university research park, the Education Village will eventually accommodate 5,200 students from kindergarten through twelfth grade in a village-like setting. The purpose of this plan is to reinforce, through facility location and proximity, the method of sharing teacher resources which will be the hallmark of the Education Village.

In its first phase, the campus will consist of a new elementary school and new high school. This will be followed in a future phase with a second elementary school and middle school. The first elementary school is scheduled to open in 1996, with the high school's opening following in 1997. How these schools relate to each other, which facilities and programs can be shared and where it is essential to keep some other aspects of the facilities separated, have guided the plan's creation. Members of the neighboring corporate community and over 100 teachers, administrators and school system staff members have invigorated this design concept with their involvement.

The master plan responds to a visionary program on a beautifully wooded but challenging site. The high and middle schools are located relatively close to each other, but they are separated by a flowing creek. The elementary schools are more remote, appropriately separated from the older students. All four schools will be connected to facilitate resource sharing. The creek forms a natural focus for the campus plan. Projected to be in a community greenway program, the creek is an active stream bounded by both dramatic rock outcroppings and gently sloped banks. It will provide the school's science and environmental studies programs with a living laboratory for explorations.

Between the elementary schools and high school is a proposed Discovery and Challenge Center which would be used by students and teachers at this campus and be available for use by other school system staffs, students and parents. This center, overlooking the high school on a prominent rise at the center of the campus, will be used for both teacher education and educational research. It will be part of the future phase work on the campus.





## Reid Park Elementary School



#### CHARLOTTE OWNER: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Architect: Clark-Nexsen/Gunn-Hardaway GENERAL CONTRACTOR: N.B. Kahn Construction Co., Charlotte PHOTOGRAPHER: Gordon Schenck

his new elementary school accommodates approximately 850 students in 83,500 square feet. The school contains 32 classrooms for grades K-5, a media center, multipurpose "gymnatorium" with stage, dance/music room, full-service kitchen with a three-shift cafeteria and administration offices. K-1 classes have shared toilet facilities and outside patios, and teachers have separate workroom/offices and team planning areas. The building jointly uses a site with the existing Amay James Elementary, which is a Montessori preschool.

Designing an 83,500 square foot elementary school presented some massing and scale problems which made material choices very important. Brick was selected as the predominant exterior material in an attempt to break down the scale of the school and make it more "friendly" to its young users. The majority of the building is constructed of a closure size brick in a running bond pattern. Horizontal accent stripes help to organize the elevations. A lighter colored modular size brick in a stack bond pattern was used at door and window openings and other infill panels. The smaller scale and stack bond pattern create a different "texture" for the elevations that emphasize all of the building's openings and provide a smaller scale where the users come in contact with the building. Green-glazed accent brick help to visually tie together the exterior walls and the building's roofing and trim. A  $10' \times 10'$  brick sculpture (sculpted by Steve Zouras) located at the main entrance depicts the Reid Park neighborhood as its residents remember it, as well as portraits of Ross Reid, the neighborhood's founder, and Amay James, the area's first school teacher. Above this are depictions of careers in which young students might aspire. The sculpture was intentionally located at children's height to encourage touching and exploring.

Inside, the building is divided into six grade levels, with each grade centered around its own student-sized interior "house." The houses are constructed of masonry with glazed brick stripes. Each house is color coded, and the number of stripes indicates the grade level. This allows each grade level to have its own identity within the larger school. Brick is also used in the lobby and media center to make these spaces open and blur the distinction between interior and exterior spaces.



## Fuquay-Varina Middle School Additions & Renovations



#### **-VARINA** 7 Public School System ssociates, P.A., Charlotte Construction Company, Fayetteville **R:** Tim Buchman

y classroom addition was designed to ior courtyard. This 33,876 square foot addined the facility into a quadrangle. The media nt corner of the site opposite a community tend use. A promenade was developed at the lding and media center, providing an axis to a rd into a future campus entrance.

hrough use of a similar brick pattern and Il which was saved from a demolished turn of at the circulation juncture of the future

#### FUQUAY OWNER: Wake County Architect: Peterson A General Contractor: Hatcher C Photographe

ecause of site restraints, a two-stor enhance the existing campus intertion became the final link that forr center was placed on the promine center which encouraged evening and week interior courtyard linking the classroom but major adjacent street which will be converted

The addition reflects its 1930s character t detailing. A bell tower, utilizing a school be the century classroom building, was placed entrance.





## Saint Paul's Parish Center Lower School



#### **New Bern**

OWNER: Saint Paul's Parish ARCHITECT: Robert W. Carr, Inc., Architects, Durham GENERAL CONTRACTOR: WIMCO Corp., Washington PHOTOGRAPHER: Gordon H. Schenck, Jr.

esigned to compliment the existing sanctuary structure, the construction of Saint Paul's Lower School allows the school's daily academic programs to operate on the new campus. Because the school programs' needed space exceeded the sanctuary in square footage, the facility took on the form of a series of small building wings arranged as single-loaded corridors in a pinwheel fashion. This lessened the impact of the overall building mass. This arrangement also allows natural light to enter the circulation spine and provides full visibility of students from any vantage point when outside the classroom instructional environment. It is anticipated that the center courtyard will be developed for outdoor assembly and as a retreat for the eye as well as a place for intimate small group conversations.

The building is constructed of a heavy timber frame and roof deck, with a brick veneer skin. The HVAC mechanical systems are water source heat pumps, and the various zones are specifically integrated to the architectural scheme for clarity, economy and ease of maintenance.



# Three New Fellows

Dixon, O'Brien and Rook are accepted to the College of Fellows

hree AIA North Carolina members have been accepted to the AIA College of Fellows. They include: F. Dail Dixon, FAIA; William L. O'Brien, Jr., FAIA; and Benjamin T. Rook,

#### FAIA.

The AIA bestows this recognition of fellowship on members who have notably contributed to the advancement of the profession of architecture. With the exception of the Gold Medal, fellowship is the highest honor the AIA can bestow upon a member. Fellows must be nominated and accepted by a select jury of their peers.

Dixon, principal of Dail Dixon & Associates, P.A., in Chapel Hill, was honored as promoting the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession of architecture. Dixon, who has won several AIA state and regional design awards, recognizing his unique skill and vision, was nominated by John L. Atkins, III, FAIA, who described Dixon's architectural style.

"Simplicity of form, clarity of plan, economy of means and response to the site and to his clients characterize the work of Dail Dixon.

"His architecture combines art and pragmatism, precedent and a clear understanding of its time. [As a] designer, craftsman and architect, [he] has fashioned a body of work consistent in its attention to proportion, detail and craft. His keen interest in landscape and the spaces that exist between architecture and site has enriched his work. His mastery of residential scale and light frame construction has enabled evocative design to emerge from prosaic limitations.

"Though his vision as a designer is singular, his approach is collaborative. He has successfully fostered a synergetic approach to design in his practice involving colleagues and clients in the architectural process. He has continued to grow and give as a designer through his experience as a studio teacher," said Atkins.

As head of a small firm, Dixon feels an honor like this is a way to recognize all the architects who have worked so hard to make their work something meaningful.

"Most architects are sole proprietors, and it is a scale where a lot of architects work," explained Dixon. "It is hard for a small firm to work on a multi-million dollar project; so, the homes and small projects are the type of work that make this work important. There are many architects who have blazed a trail prior to me, doing quality work on projects that have gotten them

# ■ F. DAIL DIXON, FAIA ■



#### Education

Clemson University Clemson, S.C. Bachelor of Architecture (1966)

University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, N.C. Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture (1970)

Other Data of Note Alpha Rho Chi Award Clemson University (1966)

Teaching Fellowship University of North Carolina (1969)

#### Practice

North Carolina Registration NCARB Certificate

Visiting Instructor of Architecture North Carolina State University

Partner, Dail Dixon & Associates, P.A. Chapel Hill, N.C. honors and kept things going for younger architects in the business."

Dixon was very pleased to have his work judged as worthy of a Fellows honor.

"It is very gratifying to realize the committee could see the quality of work that we have tried to do over the years," commented Dixon. "And then, to have that work qualify on a national scale for this type of honor, in any context, is very humbling and special."

O'Brien, of O'Brien/Atkins Associates, P.A., in Research Triangle Park, was honored for his leadership and innovative ideas, including improved options in taking construction bids for public projects in North Carolina. O'Brien was the founding co-partner of O'Brien/Atkins Associates in 1975 and was nominated by Lloyd G. Walter, Jr., FAIA, of Winston-Salem, who writes:

"O'Brien led the effort in the architectural profession and construction industry to change the state's antiquated separate prime bid requirement. The success of the innovative approaches advanced by O'Brien enlightened the State Construction Office allowing for flexible bidding and improved construction delivery methods. This enabled departure from the past cumbersome public bid situations in North Carolina," said Walter. "As president of the N.C. State University School of Design Foundation, O'Brien worked continuously to instill in developers, contractors, building material suppliers and others in construction the realization that an investment in architectural education today can lead to better designed and detailed buildings. As a result of O'Brien's tenacity, he led the construction and design communities to establish a one million dollar endowment," said Walter.

On a local level, O'Brien has shown the same tireless effort to promote architects. "As chairman of Chapel Hill's Community Appearance Commission, O'Brien worked tirelessly to help local developers understand how good architectural design principles lead to improved visual qualities in their projects without an adverse financial impact. Guidelines for blending the architectural, landscaped and graphic elements of a project resulted from his efforts," said Walter.

For O'Brien, being honored by his fellow architects meant more to him than the honor itself.

"Recognition by your peers is something very special," said O'Brien from his Research Triangle Park office. "Sometimes you put a lot of long hours and a lot of work into a profession, and an honor like this is the only tangible thing you receive."

# WILLIAM L. O'BRIEN, JR., FAIA



#### Education

North Carolina State University School of Design Raleigh, N.C. Bachelor of Architecture (1962)

#### Other Data of Note

Town of Chapel Hill, N.C. Community Appearance Commission Commission Member (1976-1983) Chairman (1980-1983)

North Carolina State University School of Design Foundation Board Member (1985-1988) President (1987-1988)

Chapel Hill Residential Retirement Center-Board of Directors Member (1988-Present) Planning Committee Member (1991-Present) Planning Committee Chairman (1991-1993)

Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. - Board of Directors Member (1986-Present) Audit Committee Member (1987-1992) Executive Compensation Committee Member (1992-Present)

#### Practice

O'Brien is registered or licensed to practice architecture in the following states: North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, Florida, New Jersey, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, New York and Vermont.

Founding co-partner of O'Brien/Atkins Associates, P.A., Research Triangle Park For O'Brien, building and putting together a successful firm like O'Brien/Atkins made the honor even more special.

"It means a lot for the firm," explained O'Brien. "I feel we have put together a very special team over the years, and this is truly a team honor for the firm."

Rook, of Odell Associates, Inc., in Charlotte, was especially recognized for his work with architects within large firms. Rook, who has received 28 awards for various projects, was nominated for Fellowship by former AIA National President S. Scott Ferebee, Jr., FAIA, of Charlotte, who wrote the following digest of Rook's achievements in the nominating form.

"From design instructor to CEO of a large firm, Ben Rook has focused his career on developing young architects capable of leading the owner's team toward a vision and solution that produces outstanding community enhancing architecture.

"Upon graduation from Clemson University, Rook joined Odell Associates serving as a key member of the design team on two major award-winning projects, the Hampton Roads Coliseum and the Burlington Industries Corporate Headquarters.

"Following an interlude of military service and five years of graduate work and teaching, he [became] head of Odell's new office in Greenville, S.C., [marketing] projects with design opportunities and receiving numerous awards and recognitions for his work.

"He became the 'banner carrier' for quality design firmwide and was named its president in 1983 and chairman/CEO in 1986. Under his leadership, the firm has produced outstanding design work and received more than 70 design awards. He has remained the principal-in-charge of design and takes an active role in the process," said Ferebee.

"In receiving the Fellow designation, your work has received a quality check from those in the profession," said Rook. "I think the Fellows set the standard for the profession. The people who have chosen you as a Fellow have looked at all the criteria very carefully to choose you as a leader. The honor of receiving a Fellowship is the recognition that makes all the work worthwile."

"His design of the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville, S. C., was so outstanding that he was selected to design 12 major replacement and expansion/renovation hospitals for the Shriners nationwide. These highly acclaimed projects clearly demonstrate that innovative design can accelerate the healing of children's bodies while tending to their minds and spiritual well being," said Ferebee.

"This honor is the zenith in terms of the recognition that you receive from your peers," Rook explained. "It shows there is something to caring not only about your work as an architect but to be interested in the advancement of the profession from a non-architect perspective."

# BENJAMIN T. ROOK, FAIA



#### Education

Clemson University Clemson, S.C. Bachelor of Architecture (1968)

Clemson University Clemson, S.C. Master of Architecture in Health Care Facility Planning and Design (1974)

Graduate School of Design Harvard University Cambridge, Mass. Master of Design in Real Estate Development and Urban Design (1990)

\* Presently working towards Doctorate Degree in Design

#### Other Data of Note

American Institute of Architects, Scholastic Award from the Henry Adams Fund for Excellence in the Study of Architecture, Clemson University (1974)

Tau Sigma Delta - National Honor Society for the Arts and Architecture

Gamma Beta Phi - National Honor Society

#### Practice

Rook is registered or licensed to practice architecture in the following states: Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Odell Associates Inc., Charlotte

# AIA Calendar

5-8	Friday-Monday	AIA Convention	Atlanta, Ga.
		June	
22	Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting	Raleigh
		July	
14	Friday	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilmington
		August	
10	Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting	Asheville
10-12	Thursday-Saturday	Summer Design Conference	Asheville
12	Saturday	Design Awards Banquet	Asheville
		September	
28	Thursday	Executive Committee Meeting	Raleigh
		October	
12	Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting	Asheville
13-15	Friday-Sunday	AIA/AGC Meeting	Hound Ears
		November	
2-3	Thursday-Friday	SAR Planning Retreat	Kiawah Island
10-11	Friday-Saturday	AIA `96 Planning Retreat	Graylyn, Winston-Salem
		December	
14	Thursday	Joint Boards Meeting	TBA



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More than 250 AIA members are part of the AIA North Carolina minuteman network. Minuteman members receive periodic fax updates on key legislative issues and are asked to contact their legislators on specific issues.

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# Off The Drawing Board

Moser Mayer Phoenix Associates receives national historic preservation award

oser Mayer Phoenix Associates of Greensboro has received a National Trust for Historic Preservation Honor Award for its design work on the renovation of seven buildings in downtown Burlington since 1987. Its first project was the former U.S. Post Office, which was restored and converted into corporate headquarters for Roche Biomedical Laboratories.

• Robert S. Griffin, AIA, of Asheville has received the 1994 Robert E. Stipe Professional Award from Preservation North Carolina. The Stipe Award is the highest how working professi



Robert S. Griffin, AIA

The Stipe Award is the highest honor presented to working professionals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to promote historic preservation as part of their job responsibilities.

• Four winners were selected in the AIA Eastern Section Design Awards program. Honor awards were presented to the following:

Project: Adaptive Reuse, 136 Person St., Fayetteville Architect: **Robert W. Ferris**, **AIA**, Fayetteville



Burlington's former U.S. Post Office was restored and converted into corporate headquarters for Roche Biomedical Laboratories by Moser Mayer Phoenix Associates of Greensboro.



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#### D R A W I N G B O A R D

*Project:* Cumberland Emergency Medical Service Facility, Fayetteville *Architect:* Shuller and Associates, Fayetteville

Project: Washington High School Performing Arts Center, Washington Architect: **Applegate Architects**, New Bern

Project: Pitt County Memorial Hospital Computer Center, Greenville Architect: **The East Group**, Greenville

Marvin J. Malecha, FAIA, and Christos A. Saccopoulos, AIA, of the North Carolina State University School of Design judged the entries.

• Several AIA North Carolina members are among the 1995 officers for the N.C. Chapter of the National **Organization of Minority Architects** (NOMA). These include Joseph H. Yongue, AIA, president; Patricia E. Harris, AIA, vice president; Major S. Sanders, AIA, treasurer; Kenneth Martin, AIA, secretary; and Douglas J. Freeman, AIA, parliamentarian. In addition, Patricia Harris received an honor for Community Involvement at the annual awards banquet of NC/NOMA. Associate member Ashley O. Hernandez, Jr., was honored as the Outstanding Intern.

• Perry A. Peterson, AIA, is the new president of the AIA Winston-Salem section. Peterson replaces Layne Adams, Jr., AIA, who resigned the position because of a job change. Peterson is with Newman & Jones, PA, and his address is P.O. Box 203, Winston-Salem, NC 27102. The phone number is (910) 725-1346, and the fax is (910) 725-8527.

• Kurt Floyd Lent, AIA, of Pittsboro received an award from Bowlers Journal International magazine



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# North Carolina Architecture

# 1995 Editorial Calendar

### Summer Issue

Residential Design The best in recent single-family homes in North Carolina

Fall Issue Annual AIA North Carolina Design Awards Includes a look at all 1995 design award winners in the state

Winter Issue Health Care Facilities Recent projects in one of the fastest-growing building types



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D R A W I N G B O A

for designing the "Best New U.S. Bowling Center — Interior." Lent was honored for his Mardi Gras project in Durham County.

• **Robert L. Powell, AIA,** of Greensboro has been appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. to serve on the N.C. Alternative Energy Corporation Board of Directors. Powell was nominated for the position by AIA North Carolina President John B. Knox, AIA.

• William A. Burgin, AIA, of Salisbury has been appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education.

• J. Aubrey Kirby, AIA, of Winston-Salem has been selected as a member of the board of visitors for High Point University in High Point. • The nine-minute AIA North Carolina videotape, **"Creating Value By Design,"** won an award from the Columbus International Film and Video Festival in the category of best promotional video. The video is used as a public outreach tool and was produced by NAPRO Communications of Raleigh.

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• **Cesar Pelli, FAIA,** of New Haven, Conn., is the 1995 winner of the AIA Gold Medal. Pelli was honored at the Institute's Accent on Architecture ceremony January 31. Among his work is the NationsBank headquarters in Charlotte and the Wake Forest University Law School in Winston-Salem.

• Kenneth C. Mayer, Jr., AIA, and Carl P. Myatt, AIA, of Greensboro have been appointed to a long-range comprehensive planning task force for Guilford



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• Moore+Burton Architects, PA, of Raleigh has received a Visual Image Award from the Town of Garner for its design of the Chadwick Apartments in Garner. Moore+Burton also received a Housing N.C. Award for Affordable Multifamily Housing from the N.C. Housing Finance Agency in honor of its work on the Willow Pond Apartments complex in Wilmington.

• John Sawyer Architects of Wilmington has received the Outstanding New Facility award from the N.C. Public Library Directors Association. Sawyer's firm was honored for its work on the Leland Library project in Brunswick County.

• Eric W. Lee, AIA, of Waynesville has been appointed to serve on the regional board for the Western North Carolina Health Alliance. Lieutenant Governor Dennis Wicker is the board's presiding officer.

• John K. Farkas, AIA, of Greenville has been appointed vice-chairman of the Community Appearance Commission in Greenville. Farkas has been a commission member for three years and will serve as chairman in 1996.

#### In Memoriam

• James F. Kluttz, AIA, of Rockwell died October 27 at Rowan Memorial Hospital. The 60year-old Kluttz was an architect in

28 NORTH CAROLINA ARCHITECTURE

Rowan County since 1960. A U.S. Army veteran, Kluttz was a graduate of the North Carolina State University School of Design.

• **R. Mayne Albright,** an Honorary Affiliate of AIA North Carolina, died December 20 at Plantation Estates Medical Center in Charlotte. Albright, the former legal counsel for AIA North Carolina, was 84. Albright practiced law in Raleigh from 1948 until his retirement in 1982. A cofounder of the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, Albright typically defended the rights of the poor and working class.

• Marshall P. McDowell, AIA, of Charlotte and an emeritus member of the Chapter died December 28 after a battle with lung cancer. McDowell served as the town of Weddington's zoning adminstrator from 1987 until about one month prior to his death. Serving on Union County's original planning board, McDowell helped to set the growth pattern and development for the county. McDowell is probably best remembered for his work in the restoration of the old Union County courthouse in Monroe.

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