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Architects: Architects Collaborative, Inc.
The following letter was received in late December 1974:

Dear Friends:

I write you this year at a time when, more than ever, we must renew our traditional American values of hope and optimism. Throughout our history, we have had many temporary setbacks, both economic and political, but we have always moved forward.

That a few men may have abused the privileges of high office is no cause for wholesale disillusionment with our system of government. The character of our country has been forged in the crucible of adversity. Let's learn once again from the lessons of the past, and reaffirm the essential greatness of our democratic institutions.

America is still a nation of hard working, honest people who love their families and their neighbors, love their work, and believe in honesty and integrity, and have faith in their future and the future of our country.

And so, it is with every warm thought possible that we hope and pray that the Joy and Spirit of the Holiday Season will remain with you throughout the entire year, together with Health, Happiness and Success in all your endeavors.

With best wishes and warmest personal regards.

Sincerely, Frank S. Judson
President, Stroheim & Romann

It is worthy of thought and dedication. Dedication of ourselves to the job of country. This nation belongs to each citizen, not to the strip miners, power lobbies, or manufacturers of poorly designed, overly bulky gasoline gulpers.

If we need to save our nation by a little economic belt tightening and fuel economy, let us do it, but not by taxing the poor through the imposition of a high penalty gasoline tax (those who can afford to buy a new Cadillac can afford its appalling appetite for fuel).

Rather, let us be absolutely realistic: ban all imports of over-priced Middle East oil; ration the consumption at home to insure the proper and equitable use of our own reserves; devote proper energies towards new power source research; develop a viable mass transit system (in spite of those tax supported antiquarians in the various State Highway Departments) and, if necessary, bring back the horse! But, let us not sell our own soul to the Middle East, as they buy our land and our corporate structure. —JPC
The attractive new office and warehouse building for Tom Growney Equipment Co., in Albuquerque is another example of the advantages of all-concrete construction.

The 64' x 120' building has a column free height of 17'-6".

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Today, local communities are enforcing esthetic standards in their zoning ordinances. And masonry again has become the preferred material for commercial and industrial construction.

Think about how your plan will be accepted by the local zoning board or building department when you can tell them you are using masonry to improve the appearance of the building and the community.

Think about the image you want to create for your business. Think about employee and tenant satisfaction. Then build the beautiful way — with brick and block.

You'll congratulate yourself every time you look at the building... particularly when you're on the way to the bank.
NMSA PRESENTS 1974 PEOPLE AWARDS

At its awards banquet held in Albuquerque on November 30, 1974, outgoing NMSA President, John P. Conron, FAIA, FASID, presented the New Mexico Society of Architects Honor Awards to those people or organizations who have contributed to the enhancement of the New Mexico landscape or cityscape.

To the City of Santa Fe for the complete renovation of the Santa Fe Plaza.

A posthumous award to Dr. Sherman Smith for his dedication and untiring work in the physical and educational development of the University of New Mexico.

To Maudine Karrh, whose many years of devoted service to the students in the Department of Architecture at UNM has enriched the process of education.

To the Albuquerque Journal, New Mexico Building Branch of the Associated General Contractors, the Albuquerque Chapter of AIA and to those citizens of Albuquerque who contributed time, money and muscle in rebuilding the fire ravaged Children's Barn at the Albuquerque Zoo.

To Kevin Munroe, V. B. Price and the City Commission of Albuquerque, as those most instrumental in preventing the destruction of the Ilfeld Building in downtown Albuquerque.

To Dr. Bainbridge Bunting whose contribution to the architectural literature of New Mexico and the nation is literate, lucid and legendary.

To the Central Clearing House, Santa Fe, for its continuing efforts to preserve New Mexico from the overzealous land developer, the often careless power industry and all who would lessen the quality of New Mexico under the pressure of high profit and mis-directed progress.

Also at the banquet, the annual New Mexico Arts Commission Award in the Field of Historic Preservation was presented to Pacheco and Graham, Architects, for the sensitive and skillful restoration of the Church of San Miguel in Socorro, New Mexico. See pages 12-17.

1975 OFFICERS FOR NEW MEXICO AIA

During the past few weeks the various New Mexico components of the American Institute of Architects have held elections for their 1975 officers.

NEW MEXICO SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

President, Bob Campbell; Vice President, Edwin French; Secretary-Treasurer, George Owen.

Directors: Bill Waters, Gene Hunt, Charles Nolan, Jr., Wilbur Harris, Robert Strader, John Conron FAIA/FASID.

SANTA FE CHAPTER, A.I.A.

President, Robert Strader; Vice President, John McHugh; Secretary-Treasurer, Ken Clark, FAIA.

Directors: John Conron, George Owen.

ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER, A.I.A.

President, Gene Hunt; Vice President, Loren Mastin; Secretary, Robert Cohlmeyer; Treasurer, Joe Della Longa.

Directors: Christina Burk, Bill Waters, Chan Graham.

NEW MEXICO SOUTHERN CHAPTER, A.I.A.

President, Wilbur Harris; Vice President, Joel Stout; Secretary-Treasurer, Ronny Nims.

Directors: Charles Nolan, Jr., Edwin French, Kern Smith.
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PRESIDENT’S CHOICE and ROYAL STEREO by Patcraft were the carpets selected by the Presbyterian Hospital Center and the Bank of New Mexico, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for beauty and service in their efficient and modern buildings.

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New Mexico Arts Commission Announces 6th Annual Awards Program

Entries are now being solicited for the annual New Mexico Arts Commission awards program. The awards are given in two categories as outlined below:

1) "AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE" IN NEW CONSTRUCTION

In order to recognize significant and distinguished contributions to the total environment, the New Mexico Arts Commission and the New Mexico Society of Architects have established an annual Award for Excellence for new or recent construction.

The award will be presented to designers of structures which have been built within the state of New Mexico, and which enhance the environment for Man.

2) "AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE" IN THE FIELD OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

It is an established fact that the retention of the historical records of man's achievement is of immense value to present and future generations. Historical buildings, artifacts, and sites are the visual catalogue of that heritage.

Accordingly, the New Mexico Arts Commission and the New Mexico Society of Architects have established an Award for Excellence in the field of Historic Preservation. This award will recognize valuable efforts in the preservation of significant architecture, artifacts, or sites of historical importance. This award can be given to an individual or an organization who has made a significant contribution to the field of Historic Preservation.

The nominations for either award category are not limited to architect designed buildings. Any structure is eligible — a bridge, a dam, a house, a barn, a site, or a monument.

Nominations are solicited from architects, engineers, planners, landscape architects, historical societies, garden clubs — any person or any organization.

The New Mexico Society of Architects undertakes to administer these awards programs. The jury appointed by the New Mexico Society of Architects wants to see all that has been constructed or preserved throughout New Mexico which might warrant consideration for these awards.

No rules or restrictions are placed upon the presentation of entries. It is nominations which are solicited, not expensive and elaborate brochures. However, sufficient pictorial and documentation material must be submitted to explain the nomination to the jury.

The Deadline for Receipt of Nominations is July 1, 1975.

Send to any member of the Jury:

J. Hill, Chairman
Box 342
Silver City, N.M. 88001
388-1571

Bill J. Shelton
335 Jefferson, S.E.
Albuquerque, N.M. 87108
255-9690

Robert Nestor
133 Kearney St.
Santa Fe, N.M. 87501
988-2391

AIA RESEARCH CORP.
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THE ARCHITECTS, TAOS IS ONE OF THE
SUB-CONTRACTORS

The AIA Research Corporation (AIA/RC) has subcontracted with eight architectural firms and two schools of architecture to develop housing design concepts incorporating the use of solar heating and heating/cooling systems.

AIA/RC and its subcontractors are assisting the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the National Bureau of Standards to respond to the general objectives of the Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Act of 1974. The subcontractors will prepare solar design concepts for single-family, low-rise multi-family, and mobile homes. The designs will be included in a document for use by HUD and other federal agencies, researchers, designers, builders, home owners, and the general public concerned with incorporating solar heating and heating/cooling in houses.

The ten subcontractors were chosen from more than 350 firms and 30 schools submitting preliminary proposals. The firms selected are: Community Design Associates, Cos Cob, Conn.; Donald Watson, AIA, Guilford, Conn.; Giffels Associates, Detroit, Mich.; Joint Venture, Denver, Colo.; Massdesign, Cambridge, Mass.; RTL, Inc., Paramount, Calif.; The Architects, Taos of N. M., and Total Environmental Action, Harrisville, N. H.

The two schools are the School of Architecture and Environmental Studies of the University of Detroit and the College of Architecture of Arizona State University.

Each subcontractor will develop conceptual housing designs modified for, or adapted to either different solar systems or different climatic regions. The concepts will include original housing designs as well as modifications of traditional and developer-oriented residential designs, and will examine both existing and innovative solar systems.

The AIA Research Corporation is a non-profit organization founded in 1973 by The American Institute of Architects. Its president is John P. Eberhard, AIA.

The Architects, Taos have contracted to design a housing system which, in every operational mode and under all demand conditions, uses renewable natural energy for the totality of its functions including those control mechanisms required for the management of system heat transport.
A Restoration--
Within the Limits of History
and the
Needs of Contemporary Use

Pacheco and Graham,
Architects

The new grant of Socorro was
given at Belen, November 17, 1817,
to Xavier Garcia and Anselmo Tafoya,
applicants for 70 families.
The first books of records for baptisms,
burials and marriages of
the Socorro church begin with
titles of 1821; this is presumably
the date of completion of San
Miguel Church.
The process of historic restaura­
tion of San Miguel Church in So­
corro began with a parish survey late in 1971.
Questions were asked
regarding the heating and light­
ing, as well as the character of
the furnishings. The basic results
of the survey strongly indicated
a desire to proceed with the reno­
vation of the structure.
One important aspect of the res­
toration program as we began work
on the project, was to achieve a
balance between the historic char­
acter of the Church and its con­
temporary use as a functioning
parish. The newly carpeted floors
are a result of this duality.
With age the old Church had
lost a lot of its original simplicity.
Adobe structures have both a cer­
tain ease of modification and a
requirement for ongoing mainte­
nance. Both of these factors had
left their mark on San Miguel.
The adobe structure, as seen
when all plaster and recent ceil­
ings were removed during the win­
ter of 1972-73, was typical of early
19th century churches of New
Mexico. The clerestory that light­
ed the high altar before the pitched roof was put on during one of the many renovations has been exposed and retained in view, although the light now is artificially supplied.

The wood floor (mud sills, vigas and several layers of old flooring) creaked with age and the imitation tile wainscot on the walls was cracked and falling off in many places. The balcony presented a rather monolithic appearance due to the covering of the structural elements and a well meaning Priest had varnished the interior woodwork which left a high shine finish on the old crossing.

In one exciting afternoon in the summer of 1972 we cautiously pulled at the varnished trim covering a plaster under the balcony. A flashlight was used to peek into the interior. Boxed inside was the old hand carved pilaster from years (Text continued on page 17)

Before. Note the fake doors and arched "nichos" in the towers. See, also, photgraph on page 17.
Photograph on left of restored sanctuary. The new free standing altar was designed and built by Max Chavez of Albuquerque; the old altar behind was restored by members of the Parish. The nichos on either side of the altar were restored in their existing elaborate "gothic" style.
The tin ceiling in the apse was removed to expose the original wood vigas and corbels.

1. Display of exposed stone foundation indicating earlier structure — either Old Indian Temple on which some historians say this church was built or the foundation of the original church as other historians claim.
2. New circular staircase and balcony handrail. Heavy plank floor is original hand hewn, as are the supporting wall pilasters.
5. Position of old support for wall pulpit.
6. Old vigas, corbels and plank ceiling — sandblasted and restored to original color in 1973 — at one time used to support earth insulation on flat roof.
7. Ceiling vigas over apse were covered with tin around 1915-1920 until uncovered during 1973 renovation.
9. Opening for early 17th century door to old Convento (Note charred vigas on lintel of opening).
10. Known grave sites under floor.
11. Indian graves found in this location during excavation by Museum of New Mexico in 1973 indicating possible use of this ground as Indian burial grounds. Would verify fact of historians that church was built on old Indian burial site.
13. North Bell — Tolling Bell.
14. Campo Santo or burial ground — restoration planned in near future.
15. Only remaining gravestone — of MANUEL ARM/JO, (1865) Last Territorial Governor of New Mexico.
16. Side Chapel built by LOS CABALLEROS DE SAN MIGUEL about 1853.
18. It is estimated that a total of 203 Catholics are buried under the floor of the Main Nave as quoted from Fr. Stanley’s “So-corro, the Oasis.”
19. Note: inward, irregular sloping walls, known to be unique in the early New Mexico Mission Churches. During renovation a difference in color was noted in the lower 48”. This area had a red color which may be evidence of its being burned and older than the upper area of the wall, although structure of the adobes themselves are identical.
20. Original windows were smaller and higher than present to guard against attack of Indians. Stained windows from 1944-1949.
Old hand hewn wood lintels above windows are uncovered and left exposed. The carved wood pilasters supporting the balcony had been covered over by painted wood casing during one of the remodelings. The new circular staircase and new balcony handrail are designed in a sensitive, compatible manner.

The photograph below shows the main facade towers after the fake doorways and surrounding stucco were removed.

past. The design program became a game of discovery and investigation.

A tin ceiling was removed from the sanctuary transept to reveal the wood beams and corbels. With removal of the interior plaster several hand hewn wood lintels were revealed. They have been left exposed. An old doorway to an older sacristy was found and exposed, along with a forgotten sepuliturado on the south wall (probably of rather recent vintage.)

We were not allowed to remove any of the recent statuary due to its association with parish families. We were able to move some of the figures to the side chapel along with the Stations of the Cross and greatly simplify the interior of the nave.

Our basic contribution to the project was mainly concerned with this simplification process. The old Church had a character of its own, hidden under years of wear and modification. The new heating, air conditioning and lighting were planned to be as unobtrusive as possible, so as not to compete with the existing.

When driving through Socorro, it's worth a visit. Various items found in the restoration are on display in a lighted niche and the old stone foundation of the building is exposed for viewing. The interior space relationship is exciting (thanks to an earlier Franciscan architect) and the Sanctuary furniture by Max Chavez provides an excellent accommodation to an old — and still functioning parish church.

—C. G.
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NAMED SALES REPS


Century Roof Tile, Inc. was incorporated in February of 1972 and began operations at its new automated plant at 2700 Second S.W. in Albuquerque in August, 1973. The company is owned by local stockholders throughout New Mexico, many of whom are in the construction industry. The use of its products has been widespread with roof applications in commercial buildings, schools, residences and churches. Some major installations are the new Albuquerque High School; Dillon Cottage, State Hospital, Los Lunas; Children's Barn, Albuquerque Zoo and American Southwest Plaza office complex in Albuquerque.

George B. McGill & Co., Inc. was founded in 1964 as a manufacturer's representative for Trus Joist Corporation. The company was incorporated in 1971 when Harold Stephens joined McGill, and since that time it has become a major supplier of roof and floor structural systems. McGill-Stephens, Inc. was founded in El Paso in 1972 and covers southern New Mexico.

The McGill salesmen based in Albuquerque are Harold Stephens, Bill Sutton, Brantley Stephens and George McGill. The El Paso office is headed by Leonard Korinek.

EXHIBITION OF AFRICAN FABRICS IN
SANTA FE THROUGH MAY 18, 1975

An exhibition entitled "African Fabrics: Selections from the Girard Foundation Collection," opened September 29th at the Museum of International Folk Art, a unit of the Museum of New Mexico, in Santa Fe. The exhibition, which includes over 130 examples of contemporary African weaving and textile arts from 16 countries, was assembled and designed by the distinguished architect Alexander Girard. The show was mounted by the Exhibitions Division of the Museum, and funded by the International Folk Art Foundation, a private non-profit organization.

Until very recently, some six to eight years ago, African textiles were largely neglected by American museums, and major public collections were to be found mainly in Europe, notably Basel, Switzerland, and West Berlin, Germany. But during the sixties there developed a strong interest in both the collection and study of these fabrics; a number of museums in the United States formed small, selective collections, and a few held major exhibits. Since that time, a vital contemporary African textile production has been insured by the steadily increasing demand, both among the nationalistic peoples of Africa themselves, and others abroad involved in art, design, and Afro-American culture.

The Girard Foundation Collection contains a wide selection of fabrics from West Africa, including good-quality contemporary kente cloths from Ghana, painted cloths of the Senufo people of Ivory Coast, and Bokolanfini mudcloths from the Bamana people of Mali. Most of the decorated fabrics, whether dyed, embroidered, or appliqued, utilize commercially-woven cloth, while hand-woven textiles are made by men on narrow-band looms commonly used throughout West Africa. This collection also contains numerous indigo-resist textiles of the Djerma, and two of the subdued Ewe kente cloths from Ghana or Togo. The exhibition is by no means limited in scope to West Africa, however, but includes weft-twined textiles from Ethiopia, embroidered Kuba raffia cloths from Zaire, and one spectacular shaped-woven Berber cloak from Morocco.

An outstanding feature of the exhibition is Girard's "imaginary habitat, in which various peoples, dolls, fetishes, Gods and other entities have convened from various parts of the Black Continent." The habitat illustrates the use of textiles in Africa for clothing and other purposes, while delighting adults and children alike with glimpses into miniature marketplaces. These dolls, toys, and miniatures are part of the well-known Girard Foundation Toy Collection which is probably the largest collection of toys in the world. It was assembled by Mr. and Mrs. Girard in their travels over the last 30 years, and is now the property of the Girard Foundation, which was created to conserve and protect it. A portion of the collection was last exhibited in "The Magic of a People" at the 1968 HemisFair in San Antonio, Texas.

Girard notes that this exhibition was arranged for visual impact and aesthetic appeal rather than for geographic or historical continuity. Visitors to the exhibit enter a narrow gallery in which exuberantly colored textiles mounted on wall, ceiling, and partition panels evoke the atmosphere of an African market. Girard comments, "I always keep in mind the way fabrics look in their own environment... Many of these materials are meant to be worn. Since that was not possible, they have been mounted so they can be treated as abstractions, and examined from the viewpoint of pattern and design."

The exhibition will be on view through May 18, 1975.
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Project: Continental National Bank
Architect: B. Rea Nesmith
Contractor: Arrow Construction Co.

---

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There’s been a lot of talk about possible shortages of natural gas for customers of Southern Union. Many of you have asked how serious the situation really is. Here are some straight answers to your questions.

**Q. Will there be enough gas to keep us warm this winter?**

**A. YES!** Southern Union has made sure there will be an ample supply of natural gas for residential, commercial and other high-priority customers. A supply is available not only for this year, but for many years to come.

**Q. How will Southern Union make sure there’s an ample supply of natural gas?**

**A.** To assure a dependable supply of gas for high-priority customers, it may be necessary to curtail service to large-volume, low-priority users during extreme cold weather.

**Q. Will the cost of natural gas be going up?**

**A.** Like all types of fuels, the cost of natural gas will be going up. Because, quite simply, it costs more to find and tap new sources of this precious fuel. And, the cost must be shared by us all. But, remember that natural gas will still be the most economical source of energy obtainable.

**Q. How long must we be careful to conserve natural gas?**

**A.** As long as the demand exceeds the supply, which is not likely to change in the foreseeable future.

We must all get used to the fact that natural gas, like other precious resources, must be conserved.

Because, this winter, and for many winters to come, natural gas will still be your most dependable and economical source of home energy.

If you want the job done right, do it with gas.

SOUTHERN UNION GAS COMPANY
MODERN
SHAPE &
TEXTURE

Achieved with exposed aggregate precast concrete panels...

The attractive new American Savings & Loan Building in Albuquerque features an entire exterior of exposed aggregate warm tone concrete panels.

The panels are 25' in height and 8' wide. The first and second floor members are prestressed concrete double tees.

The 25,000 square foot building serves as branch offices for American Savings plus lease office space.

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