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### **About the Cover**

This beautiful residence, designed by the architectural firm of R.K.R. Hess Associates, was built at the request of the owner of a large private preserve in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. The building, though simple in design, was meant to portray a larger image than the actual size. The complete story for the "Tennis Cottage" can be found on page 26.

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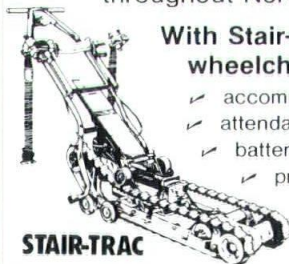
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# The Editor's Letter



The above photograph was taken from the Solomon Butcher Collection, Broken Bow, Nebraska and is of an 1875 Dakota Territory sod house built in a style indigenous to the American Plains. The Civil War veteran, as homesteader, was knowledgeable in the use of wood and masonry but found none of these materials west of the hundredth longitude. Although the designer made attempts to adapt a new material to existing cultural themes, he failed in being able to provide space for such valuable items as chairs, tables, clothes and watermelon.

*"We built a sod up of two rooms with a dirt floor and two doors plastered with mud. We thought it a palace.*

*"He saw some distance ahead of him a little rise of ground and urging his horse forward he made for that. To his surprise he found himself on top of a dugout and the man of the house came rushing out."*

*"Nebraska Pioneer"*

This spring issue of the *Pennsylvania Architect* features seven beautiful residences designed by Pennsylvania architects. The picture above graphically illustrates this to be a most personal form of architecture. Here, the client not only uses the finished product but lives in it and is proud to show it along with his other prized possessions. In most cases, the public's perception of us as architects is that we spend most of our time working on projects like those featured on the following pages. The truth of the matter is that it probably represents the smallest percentage of the work completed in most firms.

The editorial committee chose both large and small projects and, interestingly, found that they had been produced by offices varying in size from one person to those that are among the largest in the state. I was encouraged to see a pleasingly large group of project submissions for consideration. Unfortunately, present limitations on the size of the *Pennsylvania Architect* prevented the committee from including them all. As the magazine continues to develop—and we are getting good feedback—we hope that similar situations can be minimized. Of those residences that are being published, we have asked the designers to explain the problems presented by the project as well as to what extent they feel they were able to solve them.

As a separate feature we are proud to present an Urban Design Assistance Project completed by members of the Bucks County Chapter for the Borough of Perkasié after a fire destroyed a significant area of its central business district. Hopefully, this project report will become a catalyst for the area's redevelopment. Special emergency actions such as this; architects acting as a group, presenting their expertise in urban/regional planning together with architecture and civil engineering explicitly demonstrates a meaningful facet of "Vision 2000." Such efforts can only benefit the community and our profession; both gain in stature. We salute the chapter's fine efforts.

Our summer issue will feature Department of General Services projects. We urge those of you who have done such work to provide us with photographs, sketches or whatever you feel would be appropriate for its inclusion in that issue. We continue, as well, to look for special features for future issues.

Herbert W. Levy, AIA  
Editor-in-Chief



## **H2L2 Cited for Design Award**

H2L2 Architects/Planners has been named a recipient of the 1989 AIA Library Architecture "Award of Excellence" for the design of The Academy of the New Church's Swedenborg Library in Bryn Athyn, PA. Out of 141 submissions nationwide, H2L2 was one of seven firms recognized for the "Award of Excellence."

H2L2's design of the library combines state-of-the-art library service areas — complete with a climate and security controlled area for the Swedenborg archives — with a barn-like structure that complements many of the historic, academic and religious characteristics of the campus. Completed in 1987, the library houses over 100,000 volumes and serves both the community and the Academy. H2L2's master plan of the campus was the underlying guide in the determination of the best site for the library.

The Swedenborg Library has received a total of three national awards and two local awards in the past two years.

The Academy of the New Church is a 100-year-old religious and educational institution that owns a collection of writings by Emmanuel Swedenborg, the Swedish scientist and theologian whose followers founded the Church of the New Jerusalem.

H2L2, formerly known as Harbeson Hough Livingston and Larson, is an 81-year-old architectural, planning and interior design firm whose clientele include a large number of educational institutions.

## **GBQC Wins Award from Environmentalists**

A building designed by the joint venture architecture team of Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham of Philadelphia, PA

and Gresham, Smith & Partners of Birmingham, AL, has won the 1988 Award for Distinguished Service in Environmental Planning conferred by the Industrial Development Research Council.

The Alabama Power Company's Corporate Headquarters was chosen by the national organization for "technological innovation in energy conservation and integrating with the existing environment." Built in downtown Birmingham, the project combines a new, large office structure with the smaller historical home for Alabama Power built in 1925. The unified buildings now house 2500 employees in 1.2 million square feet over two city blocks. Utilizing the latest technological advances in energy usage and management, the facility has a 14,750 ton/hour thermal storage system tapping off-peak power for later use. Until recently, the facility's thermal storage system was the largest in the world to use ice as the cooling storage mechanism. The mechanical/electrical system was designed by Cosentini Associates of New York and Miller and Weaver of Birmingham.

Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham: Architects is a professional practice of architects, structural engineers, and interior and graphic designers. The firm is currently at work on the Franklin Institute Futures Center, Philadelphia; Student Life and Instruction Building for Community College of Philadelphia; and Children's Seashore House, Philadelphia, PA; Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA; and the Leonard N. Stern School of Business for New York University. The firm, which has offices in Philadelphia and Princeton, NJ, received the American Institute of Architects highest honor, the national Architectural Firm Award, in 1979.

## **Astorino Wins Penn State Award**

It was recently announced by Pennsylvania State University that Louis D. Astorino, FAIA, president of L.D. Astorino Associates, a Pittsburgh-based architectural firm, has been awarded the prestigious Arts and Architecture Alumni Achievement Award. Established by the Arts and Architecture Alumni Society of the Pennsylvania State University in 1980, this award recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves in their profession.

Mr. Astorino is only the third architect to receive this award since it was initiated.

Honored alumni are invited back to campus to receive their awards and to participate in special programs planned by their host departments. The award for 1989 will be presented to Mr. Astorino on April 14th.

## **David Lynch & Associates Receives Two Citations**

The \$3.7 million renovation project at Steelton Elementary School has earned some recognition for a Lancaster, PA architectural firm.

David Lynch & Associates received two citations from the American Association of School Administrators during a convention March 2 in Orlando, FL, for its work on the Steelton project and for renovation of the Gettysburg College dining hall.

Renovations at Steelton Elementary School started in 1986 and were completed in a year. Work included restoring an auditorium, complete with the original windows and ceiling.

Lynch's work was selected for recognition by a panel from the American Association of School Administrators and the American Institute of Architects.



# Chapter Assists Perkasie Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania

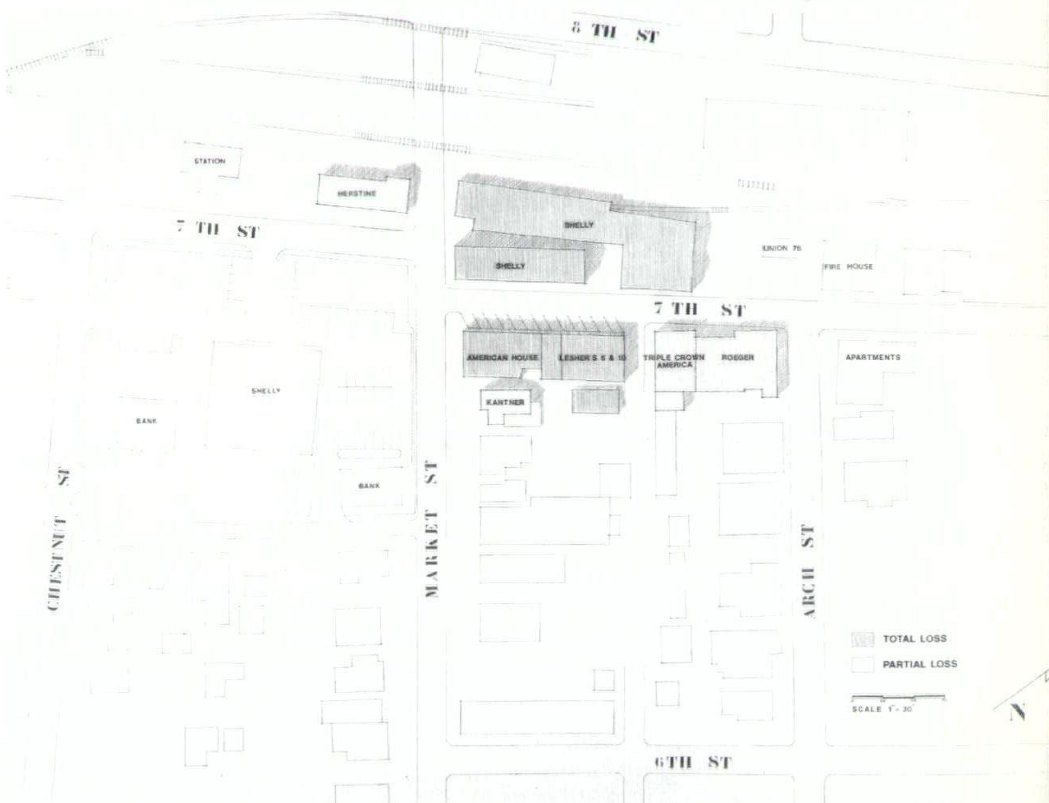
Last year the American Institute of Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects co-convened an international conference in Pittsburgh to study the "remaking" of cities. This intensive conference resulted in a call for architects on both sides of the Atlantic to become more community concerned and to practice "community architecture." It was such a philosophy and call to action that prompted members of the Bucks County Chapter to reach out to the Perkasie community with an offer to help in the aftermath of the June 26, 1988 fire that devastated a significant area of the downtown business district of the borough. Approximately 12 businesses, 13 dwelling units and an undetermined number of apartment residents were displaced by the fire.

Chapter representatives contacted the Borough of Perkasie and offered assistance. The chapter agreed to study the problems and propose a schematic sketch plan and program which could assist the concerned parties in formulating a course of action. Members of the chapter volunteered over 500 hours of time in a two-week period in gathering information, studying options and preparing sketches and reports. Individual property owners, when possible, were interviewed, as well as input solicited from representatives of the Bucks County Planning Commission, Borough Engineer, local real estate agents and residents. Questions of viability and replacement of fire-damaged structures, parking, pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow, building density and future growth were considered.

The team of chapter members brought together a wide range of resources and experience and included associate, regular and emeritus members. Charts, large-scale schematic plans and a comprehensive report were generated and presented

to the borough and property owners. The documents have become a tool for future planning and a catalyst for innovative design solutions for the fire damaged area and the surrounding community.

*Before The Fire*



## Background

### A. The Task

To develop a plan to be used as a tool for guiding property owners and government officials towards recovery from the tragic loss of a significant neighborhood. Can the AIA address both the property owners and the community at large with equal objectivity? Input from the "task force" presented many fragmented thoughts, issues and concerns, both political (zoning) and economic.

### B. Implementation

The efforts of the Bucks County AIA were designed as a "starting point" for the long and continuing effort of effective comprehensive planning, not only by the community but also by architects as they became commissioned by the property owners. The team realized it might be called back at any time to field questions and/or provide advice regarding implementation of an effective plan.

*continues*



A recommendation was made that the Task Force and the Bucks County Planning Commission review potential solutions presented. The Planning Commission could review and analyze individual projects based on informed comparisons with the Bucks County AIA study.

**C. Objectives** — The objectives of the Bucks County AIA program were:

To improve the physical design of the local environment.

To illustrate the importance of regional and rural planning.

To stimulate public action.

To objectively approach long-standing problems with a new perspective unencumbered by existing restraints prejudicing resident design professionals.

To provide new insight for community action.

To make clear and concise recommendations for political and economical feasibility.

To make it all publicly understood.

**D. Specific Goals** — The goals for the Task Force were:

Enhance viability and desire for replacement of structures damaged by the fire.

Increase ability to maximize parking for the downtown area.

Alleviate the hazard at the intersection of 7th Street and Market Street.

Develop the existing railroad siding for passive recreation and additional parking that would serve to extend "links" to public amenities beyond the impact area.

Provide future connection via old trolley right-of-way to the City Park.

### **E. Market Definition**

Perkasie is essentially a residential community. However, it is a borough, organized around a fairly concentrated street-level grouping of homes and shops. It is not a land mass generally associated with the definition of Township. Therefore, the area is limited in scope with defined borders and a high percentage of existing construction.

Perkasie will probably not experience an explosion in population that some townships will. In all likelihood, the population will reach "peak" much earlier than surrounding townships. The strength of its appeal will remain its subdued "town-like" character.

A brief survey indicated mixed residential/commercial uses could be reestablished on the razed areas. This allows maximum opportunity for creating interesting spaces with functional and safer pedestrian accessibility. Also essential was an expanded tax base, generating revenue for the borough through increased housing, commercial office and retail spaces.

Parking is a central issue; a two-edged sword, it permits "access" yet it lowers density because of its spatial demands. An effective Central Business District (CBD) is basically pedestrian in nature. The car enters, parks, and the shopper walks. The CBD must become as "mall" like as possible to maintain convenience for the users.

Since Perkasie's CBD is supported primarily by local trade, residential and commercial, it will not become a "regional retail center." Successful businesses must focus on the support of local "needs."

### **F. Development Concepts**

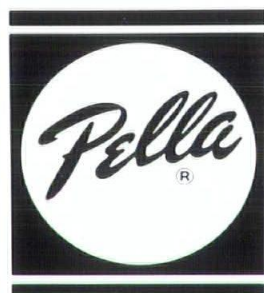
**Town Square** — Increased ability of pedestrian movement and circulation in order to reinforce attractiveness and security of all use types (residential, commercial, etc.). Develop landscaped activities of central spaces and focus on seasonal activities.

Develop "discreet" rather than "continuous" forms of building setbacks and alignments.

Develop gateways to significant areas, recognizing existing ones and creating new ones.

Increase the town's density and compactness. Contrary to popular belief, higher density can be achieved with enhanced focus on livability and accessibility. Provide adequate and well-placed parking.

Respect the railroad as an organizational and historical element of the Borough. Recognize it as a continuing impetus for future growth along an already established corridor linkage for the park system.



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### G. Immediate Action

Property owners and the Borough should recognize that rebuilding exactly what previously existed may not be the best and most valuable current use. While the urge to rebuild that which was lost is honorable, there is more virtue in creating a better place, a place more flexible in today's society and economic environment. It is very important to recognize the property owners' need to restore use and income but also to advance the ambitions of the general community. This is a purpose of zoning.

The borough should move immediately within the current codes and ordinance. Define and grant reliefs by "variance" and "special exceptions" to facilitate redevelopment, then make long-term reevaluations of codes.

The existence of the Central Business District (CBD) should be recognized. The code needs a new section defining Perkasi's CBD as a specific district. It should be specially written to preserve what has current merit and encourage a desirable future. Create a Central Business District which will fully recognize the importance of high density, while maintaining historical architectural character. We recommend a rezoning of that portion of the town centering on the rebuilt core as the borough may deem

appropriate. This effort shall seek to eliminate requirements limiting height, requiring off-street parking, side and front yard setbacks as constrictive and, in commercial districts, eliminate buffer yard/zones. Engage professional services to establish a detailed master plan of the area with specific recommendations on:

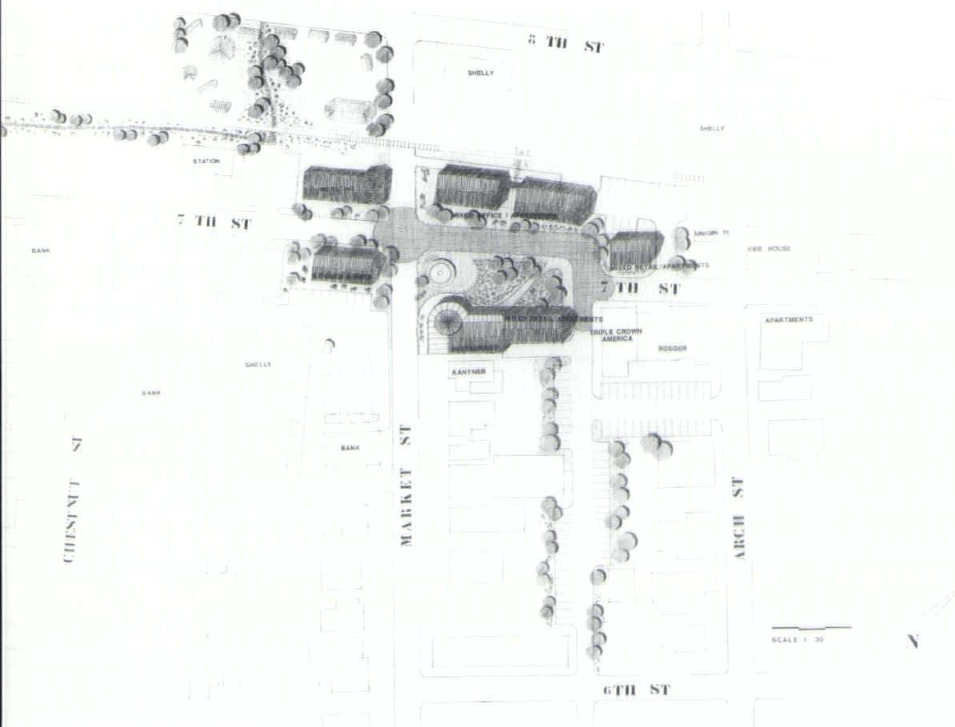
**Parking** — Establish a parking authority to determine how new infill parking and parking structures can be acquired and financed.

**Street Alignment** — Utility modifications, etc.

**Recommended Zoning Modifications** — Variances, exceptions, for each property as required to meet needs of the property and use proposed. This is to be compiled and developed in conjunction with input from other municipalities with successful CBD cores of similar nature.

The Zoning Code should support and encourage local businesses. The survival of the CBD will depend on encouraging residential units close to and within the CBD. Also to be encouraged are businesses with large, stable populations of office workers. These people will support the local merchants and service professions.

*continues*



*After The Fire*

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Residences and apartments are very important. This maintains the viability of the CBD "after hours." Residential development at this scale also finds its support in the two age groups with the most disposable income, the young and the elderly. Disposable income is what supports a CBD. A good resource of information to verify this is the city of Lancaster, PA. Communications with Lancaster's Planning Commission and Chamber of Commerce would be very valuable. Their primary focus has been encouragement of residential units as close to the CBD as possible.

Market Street should be reclassified as a "primary street," and Park and Callowhill should be reclassified as "collector."

The Bucks County Planning Commission should extend its support to the recommendations herein and to other recommendations which will follow from architects individually commissioned by owners.

The Borough should assist the community in the period of adjustment, aiming towards a new, revitalized downtown through incentive programs to build and plan for the future. Explore sources of financial assistance such as grants and aid from federal, state, county and local sources. Provide affected owners with waivers, deferments of taxes, costs of permits, engineering approval fees, etc. Encourage a design competition for the new "Town Square" and monument. This will maintain a focus on Perkasio. Keep Perkasio in the headlines. Make businesses and new retail believe that Perkasio is the place to be.

Underground parking should be considered as a viable option; the proposed new town square and the existing lot may provide an underground level of parking. This feature can be enhanced by a partially open light/air well.

Property owners between 6th and 7th, Arch and Market Streets should be offered incentives from the Borough to transfer rear yard areas towards the alley into municipal parking, thereby acquiring approximately 70 parking spaces. Similar incentives should be offered owners between 5th and 6th, Chestnut and Market Streets, acquiring approximately 60 parking spaces. Ultimately, this latter area can be targeted for an above-ground parking garage.



*In The Future*

## The Design Assistance Team Program

**A.** In recent years, assistance teams have dealt with a wide range of problems, including those of model cities, central business districts, blighted areas, low income neighborhoods, and other areas where emergency situations can be aided by the sense of importance brought about by assistance teams.

**B.** Expertise in urban/regional planning and design as well as architecture and civil engineering can be brought together to meet the needs of emergency situations. This has merit in situations similar to Perkasio Borough, where a fire suddenly destroyed one of its important neighborhoods.

### **C.** The Visits

Upon arrival to the impact area, the team toured the area, then attended meetings with the Borough Task Force Committee, which provided information and feedback to the issues involved.

The team then performed various tasks of sketching, overlaying and exploring options and possibilities for the reconstruction of the area in response to the real issues.

A presentation was set and a public report issued to the borough's task force. Accompanied by charts, large-scale plans and drawings, the report was compiled into useful information for redevelopment and reconstruction of the impact area and surrounding neighborhoods. The report and documents are tools for future planning. Sketches are exploratory, not final designs, since it is not the function of the Bucks County AIA to provide construction documents. Each of ten individual owners has the privilege of commissioning their own design professionals for final documentation of the future of their property.



### **Brager Property**

(Northwest Corner 7th and Market)

#### **Before:**

Approximately 12,000 s.f., three (3) story Victorian building.

First floor: 3 retail stores

Upper floors: 6 apartments

Unused space: 1-2 apartments

#### **Rebuild:**

Save building if cost effective. Would like similar uses with retail and residential mix.

#### **Community Concerns:**

Parking, architectural style.

### **Shelly Property**

(Northeast corner 7th and Market)

#### **Before:**

Four-story and basement, office and warehouse building. Approximately 3,740 s.f./floor (18,700 s.f.) First and second floor used as offices. Basement, third and fourth floor used as warehouse. Balance of site occupied by large, two-story warehouse and mill work shop (s.f. to be calculated).

Site was served with railroad siding. Coal bins along railroad right-of-way. (Ownership?)

#### **Rebuild:**

Would like to rebuild office facilities of approximately 5,000 s.f. and retail store for kitchen and bath equipment of approximately 3,000 s.f. New building should allow for other uses/tenants and expansion.

Warehousing may be relocated off site. Upper floors might be residential use.

#### **Community Concerns:**

Coal bins hold up railroad bed, pedestrian circulation, security at 8th Street for improvements to 7th Street and/or parking.

### **American House**

(Southeast corner 7th and Market)

#### **Before:**

Uses included thirty-one (31) room, three-story hotel with basement, bar, restaurant, kitchen, office. Adjoining uses included bookstore with two apartments above. Porch/arcades on facades.

#### **Rebuild:**

Would like to replace with same architecture but are concerned about cost. Would like to consider using building as Bed and Breakfast with restaurant and several

apartments. Must have minimum twelve (12) rooms to maintain liquor license.

Would like facades to be brick as original.

#### **Community Concerns:**

7th Street alignment, trees, additional parking, widen sidewalks, improve alley.

### **Leshner 5 & 10**

(South side 7th Street)

#### **Before:**

5 & 10 store on first floor with hobby shop in basement. Contained four apartments and warehouse space on second and third floors. Approximately 4,800 s.f./floor (19,200 s.f.)

#### **Rebuild:**

Would like to replace with three-story building of same area. Possibly a larger number of smaller, more efficient apartments.

#### **Community Concerns:**

7th Street alignment, additional parking, widening sidewalks, covered sidewalks.

### **Kantner Property**

(East side Market Street)

#### **Before:**

Funeral home with owner's residence and garage.

#### **Rebuild:**

Plans to build a two-story residence between existing structure and previous location of garage. Garage to be rebuilt.

#### **Community Concerns:**

7th Street alignment. Rebuild community as it was, shops at street level with apartments above. Reclaim some land from railroad. Put utilities in street.

### **Triple Crown America**

(South side 7th Street)

Building damaged. Assumed repairs would be made.

### **Roeger Property**

(Southwest corner 7th and Arch Street)

Building not affected. Owner had requested permission approximately one year ago to utilize second floor for apartments.

### **Participating Members of the Bucks County Chapter AIA**

Ken Rodemer, AIA	David Zayas, AIA
Ann Sutphin, AIA	Bill Jacques, AIA
Lynn Taylor, AIA	Mark Warriner, AIA
George Donovan, AIA	Joe Phillips, AIA
Dana Stetser, AIA	Mike Raphael, AIA
Eric Van Reed, AIA	Phil Lederach, AIA

John Hyrsl, a participant

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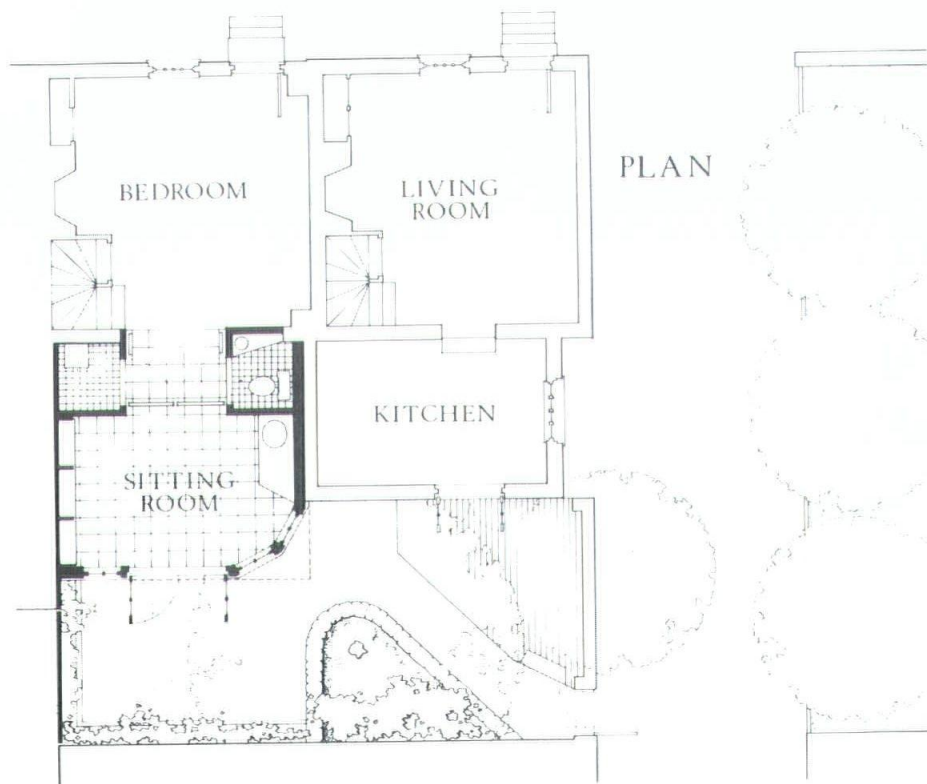
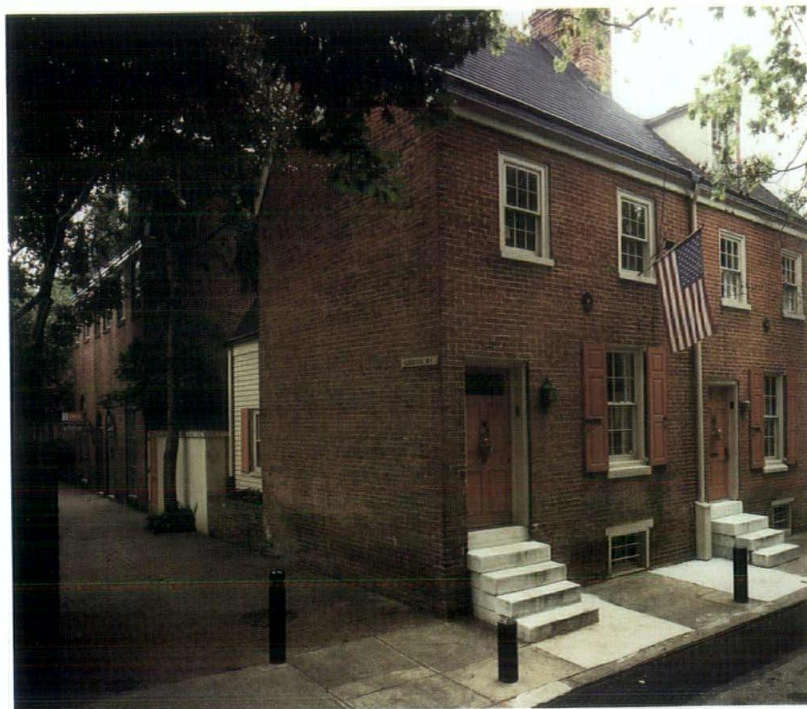
# The Moore Residence

**Architect:** James Oleg Kruhly + Associates

**Contractor:** Sullivan Company

The residence of Norman and Constance Moore consists of two historic "trinity" townhouses built in the early 18th century. The corner property of 419 S. Camac Street in Philadelphia received a two-story addition about 15 years ago which contains a kitchen on the first level and a bedroom on the second floor. Both properties, 419 S. Camac and 421 S. Camac, share a small garden in the rear.

Recently, Norman Moore suffered a stroke which severely disabled him. Confined to a wheelchair, Mr. Moore was not able to live in a situation that involved more than one level. The architect was requested to renovate and design an addition to the 421 S. Camac property which would enable Mr. Moore to live separately on one level with the help of a full-time aide. He would continue to have access to 419 S. Camac through the garden.



A considerable amount of effort was made in the design to accommodate a handicapped client without expressing the functional needs as an intrusion into an otherwise very fragile and delicate 18th century scale. The character of both the very beautiful garden and the existing 18th century spaces needed to remain intact, while a new usage and a new form were introduced into the site.



The following is a list of the key elements of the program:

- Given the very small size of each property, the garden was considered the most sacred element. The new addition was to intrude as little as possible into the garden space.
- The two properties should be maintained as separate properties sharing the garden.
- The new addition would provide the sitting area/living room for the first level of 421 S. Camac Street. The existing first floor room of the original 421 S. Camac historic "trinity" would become the bedroom for Mr. Moore. A new bathroom which would meet the handicapped code would be provided between these two rooms.
- A kitchen which existed in the basement of 421 S. Camac would be renovated for the use of live-in help for Mr. Moore.

The most difficult part of this project was to incorporate a full handicapped bathroom in the very small amount of space that was available. It became clear that the only way to provide for the bathroom was to separate its functions and to take the circulation space necessary in a handicapped bathroom and make that serve the dual function of circulation for the bathroom and the living space. The bathroom was, therefore, separated into two pieces: a toilet with a lavatory and across from it a shower. When the doors to these two rooms are left open they would lock together to form a barrier towards the garden. A separate set of folding doors would close off the view from the street. The remaining space with its 8-in. by 8-in. quarry tile floor will then become the total space for the "handicapped bathroom." When the doors were closed to each of the bathroom pieces and the folding door left stored along the wall, the space would become simply a transitional space between the original historic living room and the new sitting addition.



The new addition was designed to have the maximum amount of openness to the garden. To increase the presence of the garden and the lovely west wall covered with ivy, a large dormer was added onto the one-story addition and a light scoop was carved out of the ceiling. The new sitting room's exterior glass wall bends lightly as an inflection to the adjacent property at 419 S. Camac. This gesture was intended to acknowledge the relationship between the two pieces and allow for a more inclusive view from the new room towards the garden.

The garden was designed to be as open as possible and to have the character of one garden but with two distinct spaces divided by the circulation. Red common Philadelphia brick was used as the paving material. Natural stone was used to create a wall that encloses a planting area as well as serving as the edge to the transition from the low point of the garden entrance to the higher point of the new addition.



photography by Gregory Benson

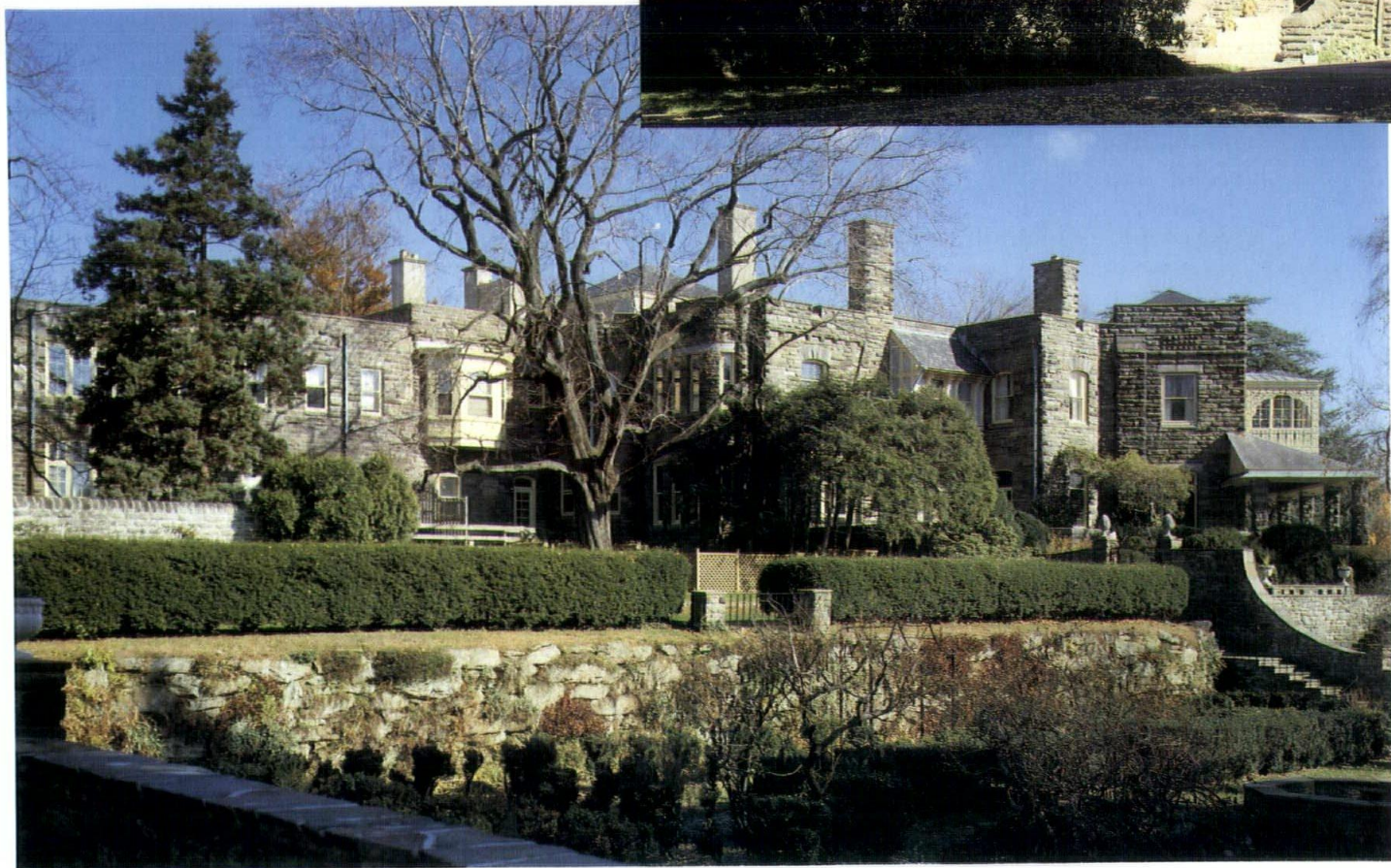


# Druim Moir

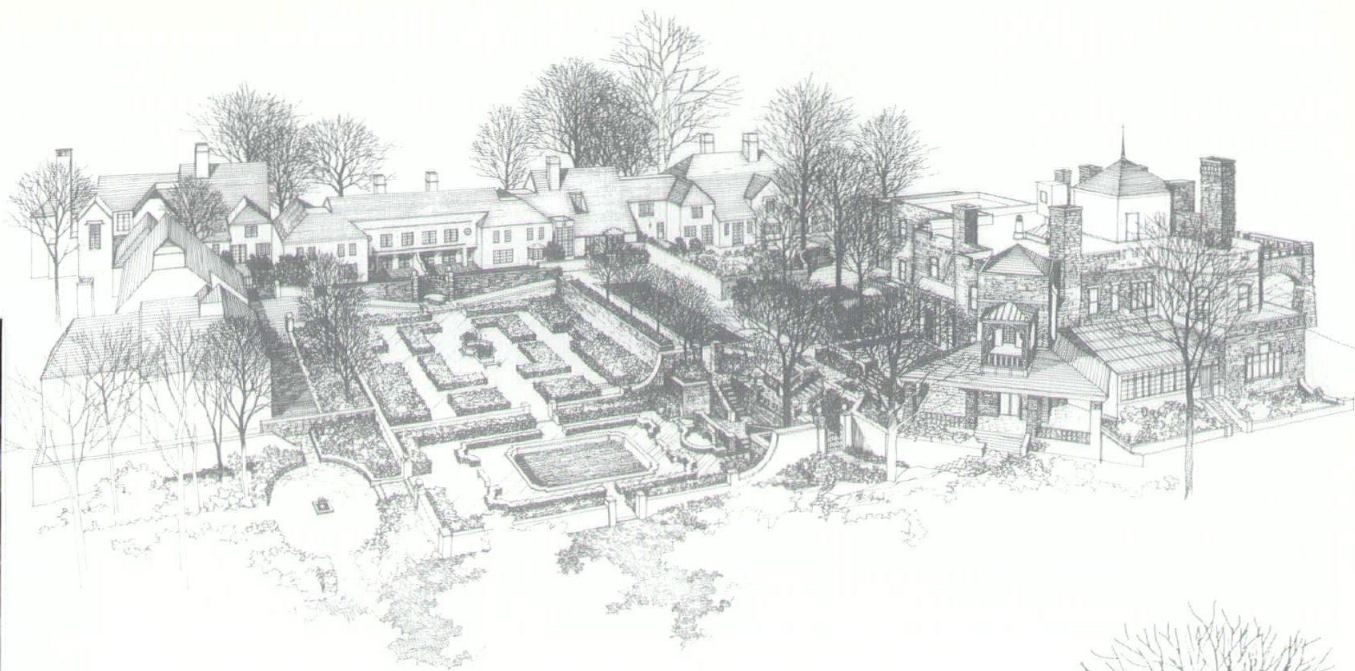
**Architect:** Kise Franks Straw

**Contractor:** Robert E. Lipschutz Associates, Carl Peterson

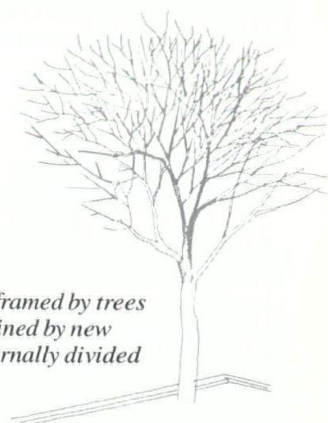
The Romanesque Revival mansion of Druim Moir, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, was completed in 1886 for Chestnut Hill real estate magnate Henry Howard Houston by renowned Philadelphia architects G.W. and W.D. Hewitt. Since 1952, the mansion and its surroundings on a promontory above the Wissahickon Creek were used as a retirement home, but by the mid-1970s, the landmark became underutilized and was threatened with demolition. At that time, a private corporation, formed by Kise and Straw, committed to preserving the mansion and the grounds, and acquired the property for development into a residential site. KKFS's design services were







*The formal garden, once framed by trees and the mansion, is now defined by new houses and the mansion internally divided into three attached houses.*



retained to convert the 34-room mansion into three, single-family houses. In order to preserve the historic appearance of both the exterior and interior, the division into three attached houses was accomplished solely by closing doorways in internal masonry walls. The principal rooms, each fully paneled, were faithfully restored to their original grandeur. Modern kitchens and bathrooms were created out of existing secondary spaces and new mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems were installed unobtrusively.

As part of the master plan for the 20-acre estate, the firm designed a 28-unit, cluster housing plan, carefully sited around the formal gardens designed by Robert Rodes McGoodwin in 1921. Using the provisions of a special city

zoning ordinance, KKFS prepared the development and subdivision plans with 23 new houses clustered in attached groups and placed where service buildings once stood, around the splendid formal garden and along an original drive at the edge of a steep, forested slope. The development plan was completed by the renovation of a carriage house, the division of the mansion into three single-family attached houses, and the restoration of a smaller historic house known as "Brinkwood." Half the land area, including the restored formal garden, remains as open space in common ownership for maintenance by the homeowners. As a result, all the unique landscaped, open space, and forested areas original to the property have been preserved.

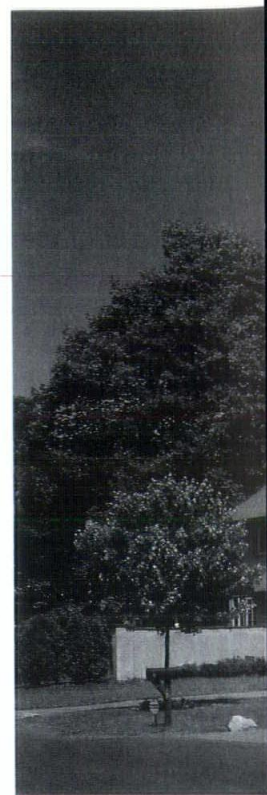
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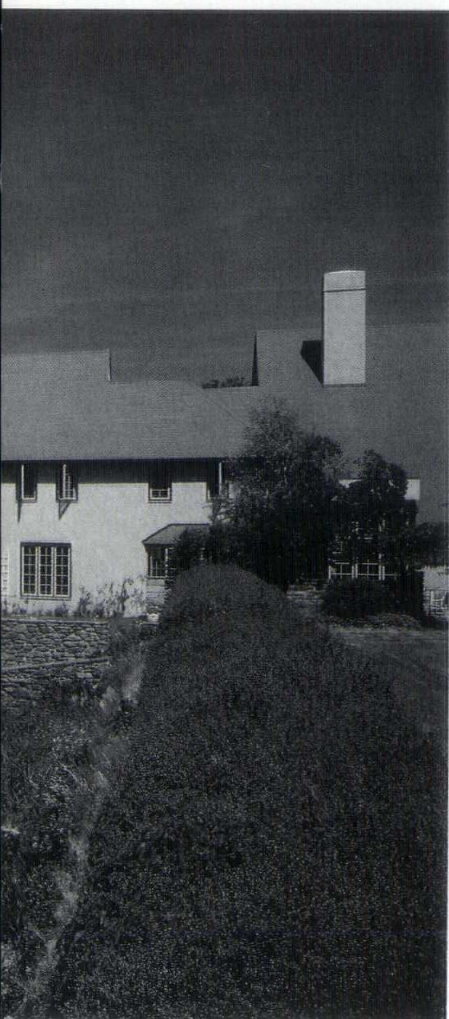
The new houses, each on its own lot, successfully harmonize with the mansion and reflect the traditional building styles and forms that characterize Chestnut Hill's domestic architecture of the early 20th century. Four basic house plans were designed and have been used to make an attached group of seven

houses as well as detached houses. Each house has been varied in plan, roof, or details so that no two are exactly the same. Druim Moir exemplifies the viability of adapting large estates while saving historic amenities and creating a marketable development program.



photography by JDN Photography





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# Campbell Residence

**Architect:** Jacobs/Wyper, Architects

**Contractor:** Cold Mountain Builders



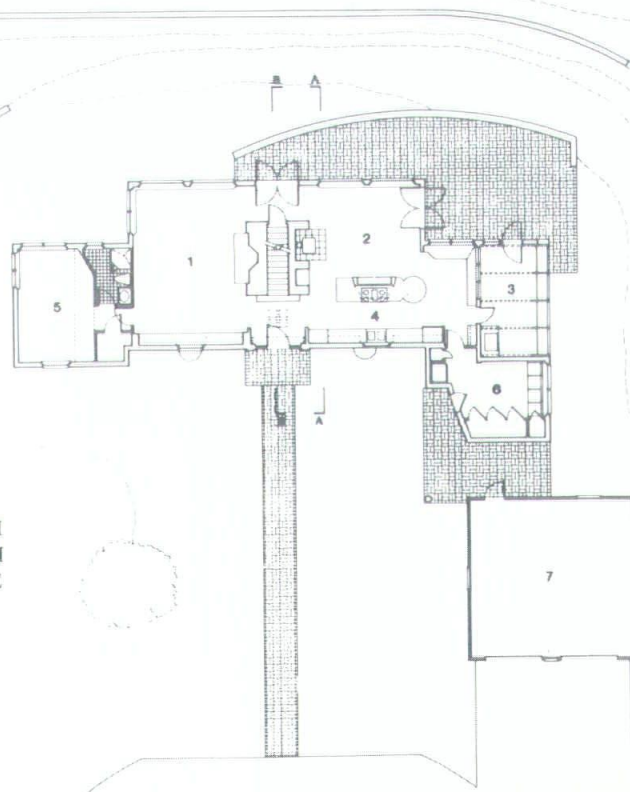
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

This year-round house, situated on 35 acres overlooking Penobscot Bay in Rockport, Maine, was built in the lean and austere formality of the native Georgian architecture. In contrast to the imported shingle style of the summer community, the severity of line and simplicity of plan and detail of this residence places it in the tradition of the small Maine coastal town architecture. Without substantial size, this building achieves some stature through the enlarged scale of its elements (cornice, trim and entrance) and through the slightly skewed symmetry of the main entrance facade.

*continues*

## KEY

1. LIVING ROOM
2. DINING ROOM
3. GREENHOUSE
4. KITCHEN
5. STUDY
6. MUDROOM
7. GARAGE

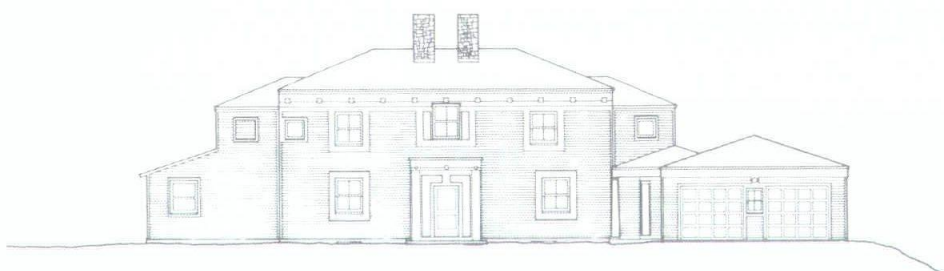






0 25





EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION

The main elevations respond to different demands. That facing the Bay is meant to be legible from a distance on the water and consequently there is a rigid simplicity to the composition of elements. From the pedestrian and vehicular access there is more nuance.

The main block of the house is anchored by two massive granite chimneys, and the plan and massing of the structure can be seen as a series of extensions to this primary core. Each major room partakes of the panoramic view of the Bay by the virtue of its corner exposure.



# Langhorne Smith Studio

**Architect:** Solutions Inc.

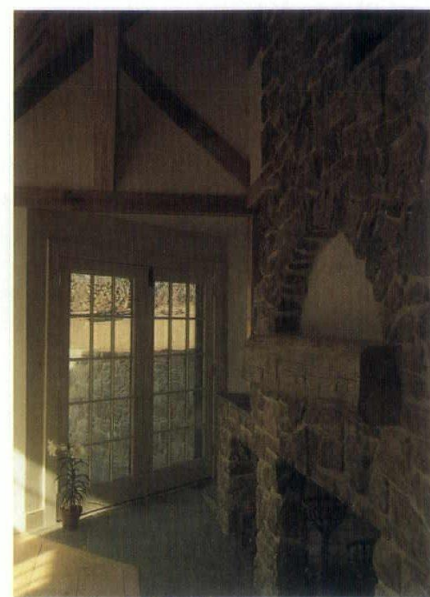
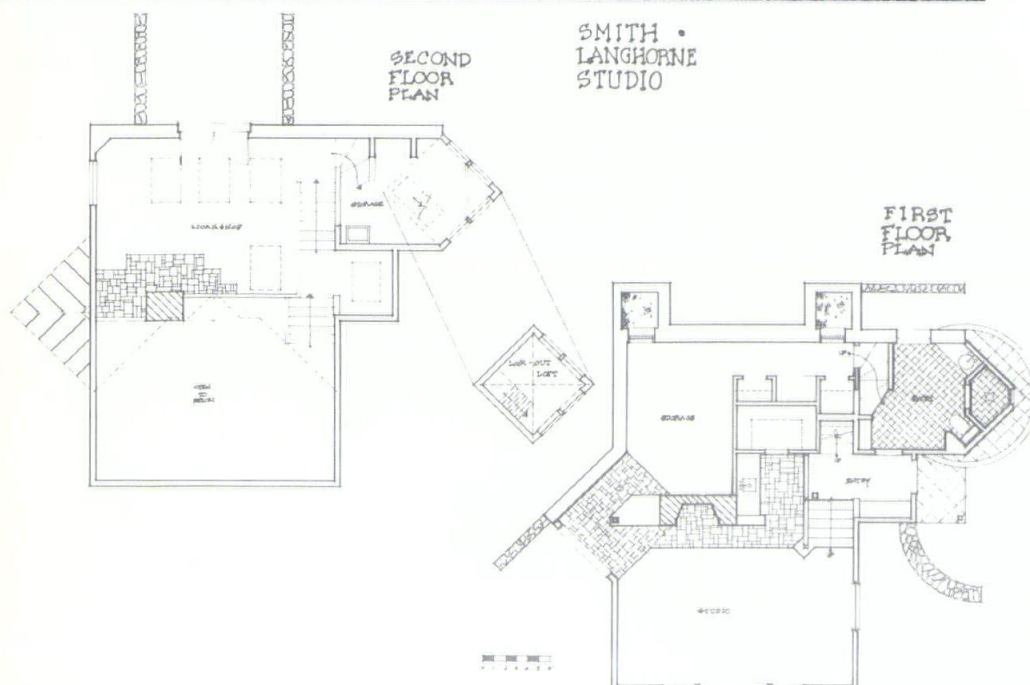
**Contractor:** Mark Hallowell



The design problem was to create an artist's studio as an accessory building on a residential property in Willistown Township, PA. The structure, to be located on a sloping site within an apple orchard, should provide all the studio amenities required by an active painter as well as a changing area for a swimming pool located approximately 100 yards away.

Accessible only by foot, the studio environment should provide a rustic retreat within which the artist's work can be conceived, created and exhibited. The building design and material selection should relate to the indigenous rural architecture often found in agricultural areas of Chester County.

The studio design was generated by the following dominant forces: code limitation, accessibility, orientation, vertical space arrangement and use of natural materials. The building was to be fun.







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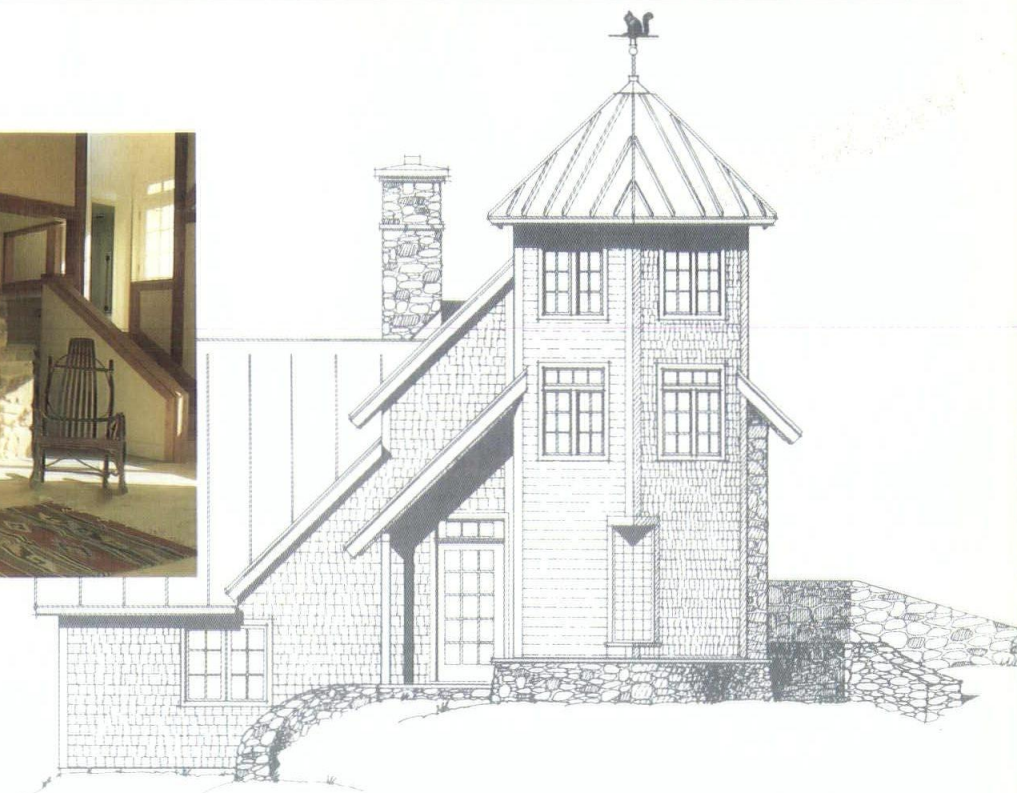








The local zoning code restricts accessory buildings to a floor area no greater than 50 percent of that within the main residence. Due to that limitation, the studio could not exceed 1500 square feet. With the entrance oriented toward the house and pool, the studio spaces became divided between those requiring even north light versus more social areas exposed to the south and west. With the sloping site, the earth retainage evokes the image of a bank barn with spaces organized vertically around a central chimney mass. The structure combines the use of wood and stone masonry walls



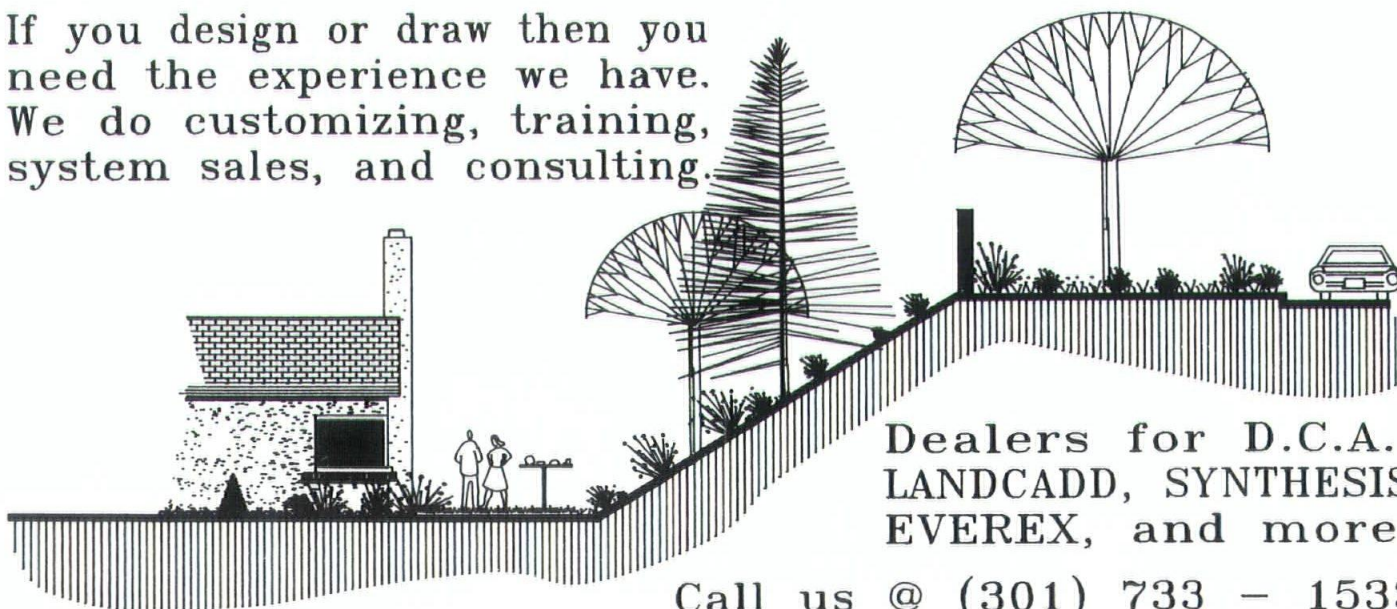
• E A S T • E L E V A T I O N • S C A L E 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

with an exposed oak truss roof frame connected by mortise and tenon. The building is punctuated with a small tower

which highlights its approach as well as providing an important get-away for the artist to contemplate creative ideas.

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The rear of the house "clasps" the front of the house. The front is treated with no roof overhang and has remainders of neo-classical pilasters on the corners. A glass porch is attached to a vertical central section.

The interior is on several levels, so that as the building is penetrated, the ceiling is higher and higher. The living room and bedroom above it are treated as internally-oriented spaces but with lots of glass to take advantage of the view.

The siting and landscaping have been designed to be integral with the building. The terraces and swimming pool form the outdoor rooms of the house. Close views of woods and a splendid, huge white oak are contrasted with distant views of the valley and the hills beyond with glimpses of the Victorian extravaganzas of the Chestnut Hills College buildings.





# Yarnall House

**Architect:** Wallace Roberts & Todd

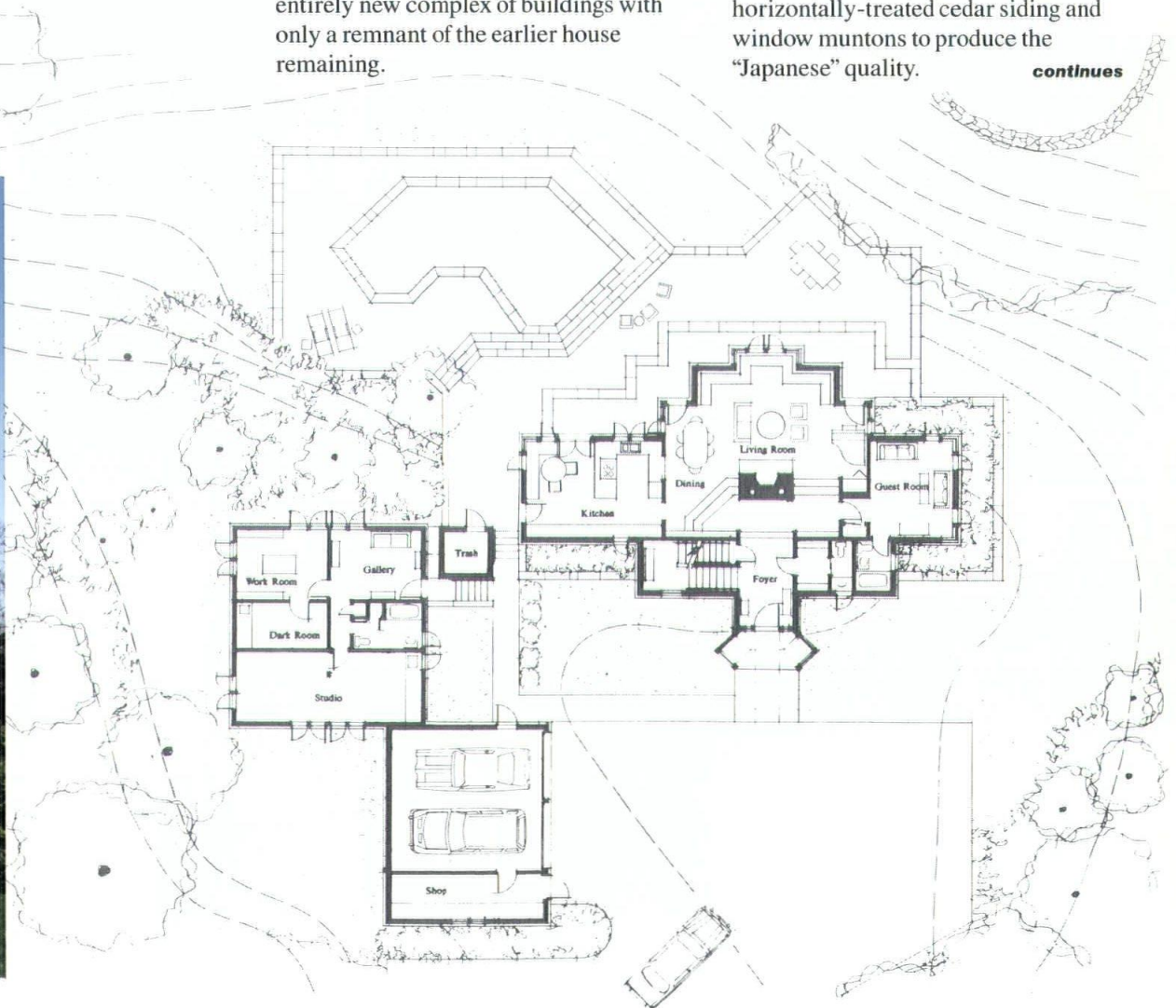
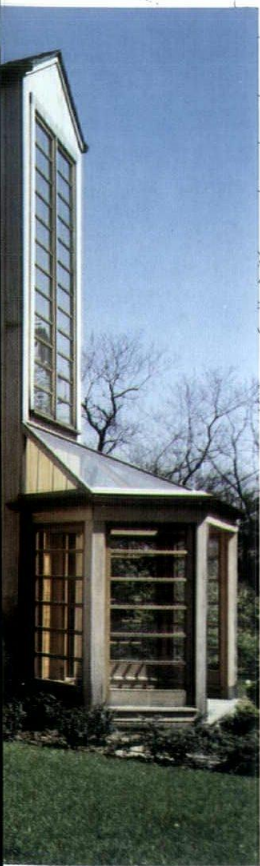
**Contractor:** B.F. Gotwals

Upon purchase of the property, the new owners were faced with an aging 1950's dwelling that was in need of attention and repair. The original house did not take advantage of the marvelous views of the Whitemarsh Valley that the property afforded, nor did it allow for the "indoor-outdoor" living possibilities that characterized the client's lifestyle. Therefore, the decision was made to tear down most of the original house, leaving only a bedroom wing to be rehabilitated for studio and photo darkroom space. What began as a renovation of a 1950's house gradually became an almost entirely new complex of buildings with only a remnant of the earlier house remaining.

The design objective was to produce a "big little house," creating a few large rooms with an open airy feeling about them. The general organization of the house was to have a pronounced front differentiation. This difference was also to be reflected stylistically by the front leaving a "classical," "western" character and the back an "eastern," "Japanese" flavor to it. The roof was also to be an important feature.

The result is a symmetrical "main" building with two asymmetrically attached out-buildings. The central building has five-foot roof overhangs and horizontally-treated cedar siding and window muntins to produce the "Japanese" quality.

*continues*







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# Tennis Cottage

**Architect:** R.K.R. Hess Associates

**Contractor:** Labar Builders, Inc.

This tennis cottage was built at the request of the owner of a large private preserve in the Pocono Mountains. He wanted to construct a tennis court in an open meadow away from the main house and wanted a place to change clothes, shower and entertain guests informally. There was no intention of having living quarters within the building other than overflow guest accommodations.

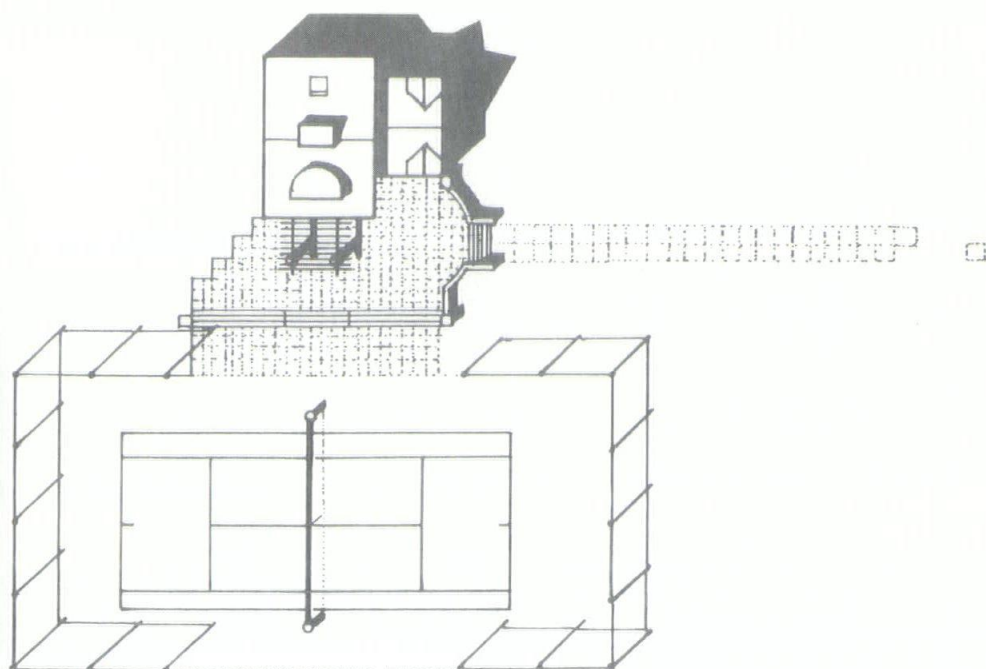
The 1,200-square-foot structure flows gracefully to the outdoors with continuous stone floors and terrace onto the tennis court. Very wide steps down to the court enable the audience to sit and watch games or socialize.

The building, though simple in design, was meant to portray a larger image than the actual size. This was accomplished through the use of oversized proportions, fireplace, columns and high roof line.

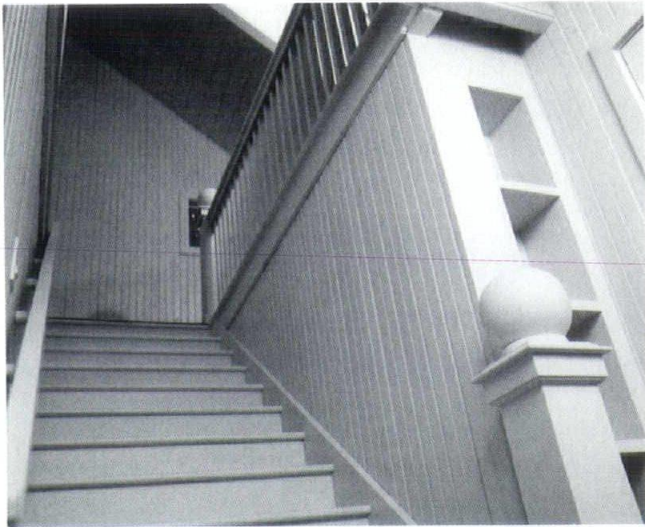
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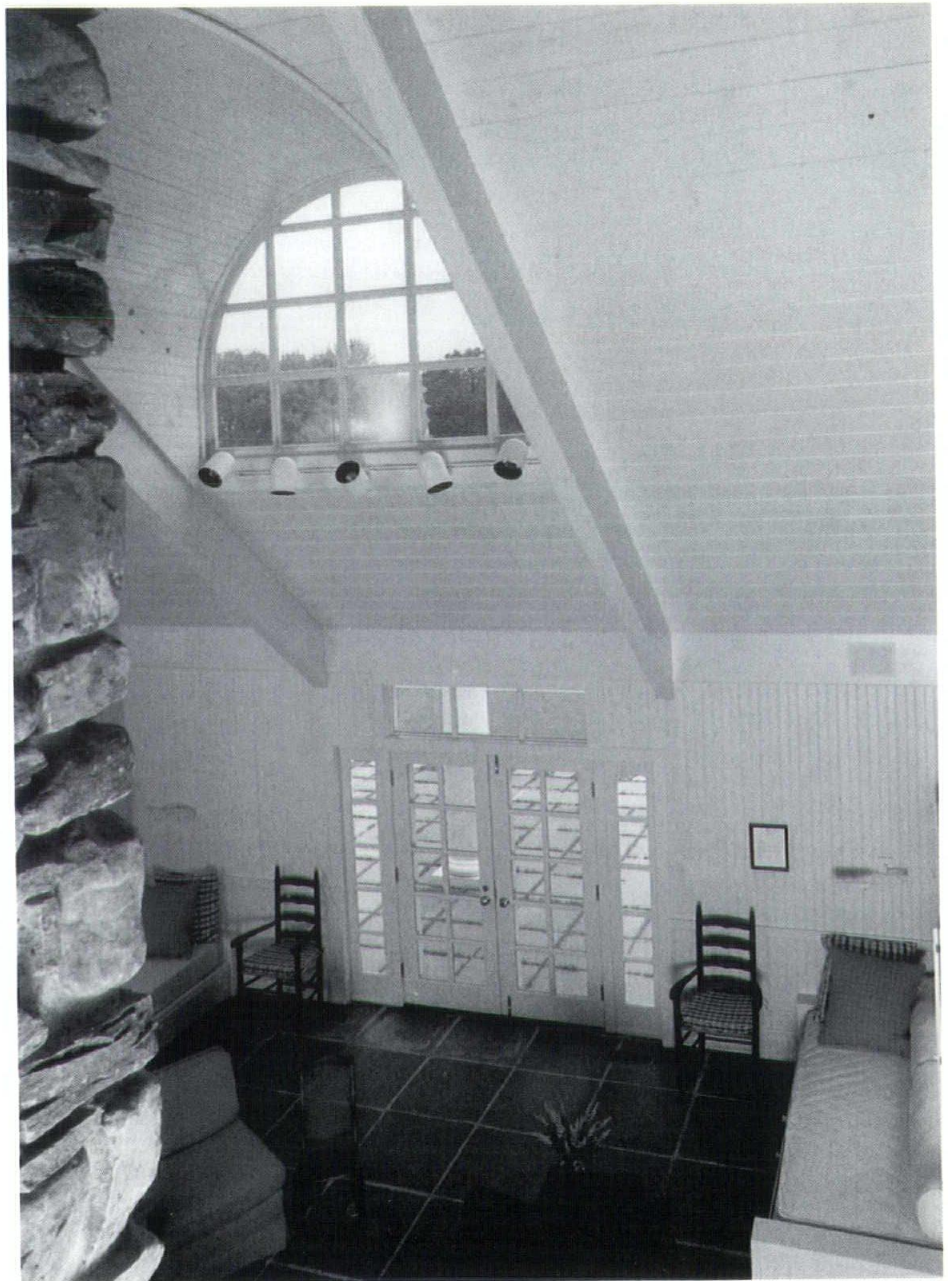






The materials used in construction were chosen for their natural beauty and longevity. The field stone for the walls and chimney were selected from the fence rows on the property. The blue-stone flooring is local to the area. The Italian marble vanity and granite kitchen counter were the only imported stone used. The heavy timber construction with beaded board interiors, cedar trellis and wooden columns were all in keeping with the rustic yet grand feeling of neighboring cottages built during the turn of the century.

The project grew in size and scope in the early stages of design from an uninsulated summer "cabana" to a heated and air-conditioned "play house" that can be used for all seasons. This was designed for a family who are avid sportsmen and this tennis court and cottage adds to the recreational compound they have been creating over many decades.



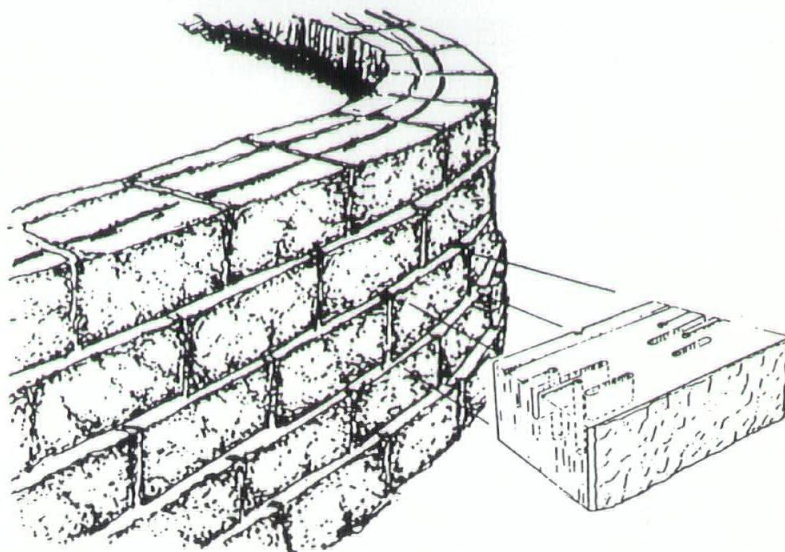


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# House On Siesta Key

**Architect:** Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham

**Contractor:** Cosentino Construction Company, Inc.

The House on Siesta Key was designed for and with one of GBQC's favorite Philadelphia clients, with whom they had worked previously on urban developments. When he asked GBQC to design his year-round house in Florida, he encouraged them to work on everything from the landscape gardens to the stained-glass entry door. The house is a reflection of his lifestyle and taste.

The site is a fascinating combination of dense tropical plantings and open vistas,

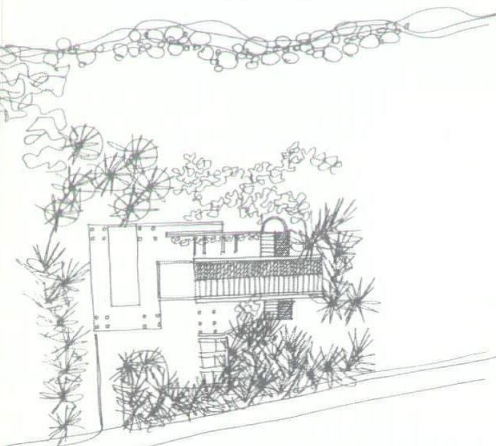
overlooking a rock breakwater and sandy beach along the Gulf of Mexico. Due to flooding conditions, environmental codes required the structure to be unoccupied at ground level. The living rooms, trellised gardens and pool, therefore, are on raised levels. The house itself separates the entrance-drive landscape from the beach-overlook landscape, and each has a distinct character of light, texture, and plantings.







photography by James Rowe



The zoning of the house was the owner's idea, in order to accommodate both noisy and quiet activities. The house plan, therefore, can be read as a social continuum, from the library/music/study on the north, to the family room/pool on the south. Likewise, the living room has two axes. The north-south axis is focused on the hearth, and the east-west axis is focused on the beach and seascape.

Because of the openness of the vista along the key, the massing is intentionally bold and large scale, consisting of a tower and pavilion attached to the linear spine of the house. The trellises are intentionally varied in scale, and are used spatially to define the gardens and pool.

The material and methods of construction are Florida vernacular, such as stucco on concrete block and metal roofing. The roofs and trim are painted white, and the stucco walls are painted cream. These colors were inspired by London's Belgravia district, with respect to the issues of light and shade.

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(from left) Dave Foreman, partner,  
Phillip Foreman, partner, and John  
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