# CAIA REVIEW OF ARCHITECTURE 79/80



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General Contractor: Threatt-Maxwell Construction Co.

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# SCAIA REVIEW OF ARCHITECTURE 79/80

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#### COVER

Interesting patterns formed by the openings in the entrance to architect Thom Penney's house on Mount Pleasant, a 1980 SCAIA Honor Award winner featured in this issue and in **Architectural Record**, the largest American architectural magazine.

#### ABBREVIATED FORMAT

Because of unforeseen budgetary problems, the SCAIA executive committee first delayed publication of this issue and then authorized an abbreviated format. Regular features eliminated were the Previews and As Built sections, the chapter rosters and the reprint from **The Semester Review** of the College of Architecture at Clemson University. The future of this publication is uncertain at present.

#### PERSPECTIVE

#### Page 7

News, views and comments about architecture and the architectural profession in South Carolina.

#### DESIGN AWARDS

Page 9

Seven projects recognized in the 1980 SCAIA awards program for excellence in design.

#### OFFICIAL PUBLICATION SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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# PERSPECTIVE



## VICTORIAN COTTAGE NOW SCAIA OFFICE

A charming Victorian cottage on Richland Street in Columbia became the official home of the SCAIA during the spring when a complete exterior restoration and partial interior renovation project was completed, thus giving the profession the opportunity to be client as well as architect in adaptive reuse.

The property was obtained from architect William Fulmer, who had purchased both the cottage and the Greek Revival Maxcy Gregg House for restoration purposes when they had become threatened by a proposed land development scheme. Fulmer first undertook a restoration/renovation project on the Gregg House to accommodate offices for himself and for several lawyers, and then set about trying to find a suitable buyer next door.

The SCAIA found that the scale of the building met its needs as a chapter office and through the auspices of the Clemson Architectural Foundation arrangements were made for purchase and construction. A matching Federal grant from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History and loans

Imagery Pat Crawford

to the Foundation by chapter members helped to make the project possible. After work by a chapter committee, plans were prepared by Fulmer and Crawford and then a contract for construction was awarded to M. A. Rozbitsky Construction Company.

Now referred to by the Chapter as "The Victorian Cottage", the one story structure has had its front portion completed containing a reception area, administrative office, conference room and library/exhibit room. The rear part of the cottage will be completely finished later to provide executive and clerical offices, restrooms, kitchen and storage. Fireplaces and mantels have been retained in each major room.

The exterior with its front porch embellished with turned columns, spindles and fretwork has been finished in its original color scheme of clay, cream and maroon.

#### RECOGNITION

**F. Earle Gaulden** of Craig, Gaulden and Davis, Greenville, has been named to the State Board of Architectural Examiners by Governor Richard Riley.



H. Harold Tarleton, Jr., and George C. Means, Jr., became Fellows of the American Institute of Architects this June at the national convention in Cincinnati. They join eight other Fellows on the roster of the South Carolina Chapter. Tarleton, founder of The Tarleton-Tankersley Architectural Group of Greenville, and Means, director of the Health Care Facilities Studio at the Clemson College of Architecture, worked together on the design of the G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, featured as an SCAIA award winner on page 14.





#### DEATHS

W. Manchester Hudson of Spartanburg on November 10, 1979. A member of the chapter for over thirty years, his practice included numerous schools.

George E. Lafaye, Jr., of Columbia on January 3, 1980. He was the third and last family member in the current firm of Lafaye Associates from which he retired in 1975.

Vernon S. Hodges of Pendleton on February 5, 1980. Professor emeritus of architectural history in the Clemson College of Architecture, he was made an honorary affiliate member in June 1979. Albert Simons FAIA of Charleston on May 24, 1980. The venerable and respected dean of the profession in South Carolina, he had established his firm in 1920 and carried on an active practice until his recent retirement. Especially noted for his preservation work, he had co-authored two books on low country architecture. Besides holding all of the offices in the SCAIA, he served as regional director and chairman of the Jury of Fellows of the national organization during his sixty-four year membership. He was also a member of the State Board of Architectural Examiners for thirteen years. The new arts center at the College of Charleston (an SCAIA Merit Award winner on page 17) was named in honor of Simons, once referred to as "Charleston's most urbane citizen".

#### AN ARCHITECTURAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC GEM

Columbia's splendid Gothic styled Palmetto Building will be only a memory if plans for a proposed downtown officeconvention center materialize. Its elaborate Washington Street facade, rarely seen in full elevation because of the close proximity of nearby structures, has been masterfully recorded by Russell Maxey in this composite photograph. This building will be included in Maxey's new book, Historic Columbia, Yesterday and Today, in Architectural Photographs, to be published this winter under the sponsorship of the Historic Columbia Foundation. Using selections from more than 4,000 of his own photographs and others collected over his photographic career of more than fifty years, Maxey will compare the city, past and present.



# SCAIA DESIGN AWARDS 1980

Two honor awards and five merit awards were given to South Carolina architectural firms in the 1980 SCAIA design awards program. Selections were made by a jury of Chicago architects headed by Walter Netsch FAIA, the prominent designer in charge of the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. The Charleston firm of Lucas & Stubbs swept the field with three merit awards in the firm name; Thom Penney, a principal of the firm, also won an honor award in his own name for the design of his house.



#### HONOR AWARD

#### THOMPSON E. PENNEY

### CCSH I THE PENNEY HOUSE

Mount Pleasant

**Contractor:** Baker-Hunt Construction Company; **Photography:** Gordon Schenck

#### Architect's Description

Although the site for the house was located in an outlying area of Charleston, designated by the developer as a version of a historic Charleston neighborhood, the program rejected the popular convention of assembling typical elements and details in a caricature of traditional architecture. Instead, the approach was to seek the physical and philosophical characteristics of the eighteenth and nineteenth century Charleston single house (shown in the contact print borders) which are valid responses in our time, and to interpret these in a contemporary building. Like the typical Charleston single house, the residence is sited on an eastwest axis end-on to the street and faces a side yard to the south, thus providing effective cross ventilation from prevailing southeasterly breezes and taking advantage of the optimal southern exposure. The kitchen, which was detached in the days of wood-burning stoves and household servants, has displaced the stair from its traditional central location to a tower on the south. The front elevation is an abstraction of the ever-present form of the Charleston single house. Its proportion is vertical with steeply sloping gable roof and side flat-roofed piazza. The continuity of form has been woven into the fabric of the design. "Ground fa-çades" utilize the major elevations of the house as two dimensional reiterations of the design concept. As with form, the traditional has not been allowed to dictate in choice of materials and details. Rather, the archetype has been used as a tool for discovery, to suggest and confirm those responses which are reasonable for any time in one place.

#### Jury Comments

The presentation and the images past and present of the South Carolina (Charleston, Ed.) single house immediately caught the collective eye of the jury. In a day when contextural designer evaluation can become "fun and games", this clear, handsome structure and the equally simple and direct plans reveal a design contribution and a fine start for the 80's. The building, using the past, reflects today; the forms simple, the geometry and proportion compelling.







CROSS SECTION CCSH 1













# HONOR AWARD ROSENBLUM & ASSOCIATES

#### GARDEN THEATER

Charleston

Project Architect: Jeffrey Rosenblum; Mechanical and Electrical Engineers: George Rast & Associates; Contractor: H. A. DeCosta Construction Company

#### Architect's Description

The Garden Theater was originally opened in 1918. Its original function was that of a performing arts theater and it was used extensively for vaudeville. Later the Garden Theater brought the Charleston premiere of the first talking motion picture, The Jazz Singer, featuring the famous Al Jolson. In the late 40's and early 50's, the theater underwent substantial modification for large screen movies. Following this period, the theater went through a long period of neglect until it was finally closed in the mid 60's. The City of Charleston selected the Garden Theater for renovation due to the lack of a first class moderate-size theater for community use. Also, the City hoped that the renovation of the Garden Theater would spur downtown revitalization in preservation and adaptive re-use, and meet the needs of the community, school groups, the Department of Leisure Services and Spoleto. At the onset of this project, the architect was faced with a shell of a building which had gone through fifty years of alterations, modifications and modernizations, all of which were crumbling and decayed. The electrical, plumbing and heating and air conditioning systems were either non-functional or non-existing. Therefore, the renovation was divided into two main objectives-first, to restore the vital services to the building, and second, and most important, to restore the theater into a contemporary and vibrant playhouse while highlighting the craftsmanship and ornateness of the theater's original grandeur. Much of this was accomplished through the use of rich, alive colors (yellows and reds), new seating and recessed lighting. Construction on this project allowed the general contractor only four months from start to completion for Spoleto 1978.

#### Jury Comments

Today, when restoration, rehabilitation and adaptive re-use are once again as important as new commissions, the jury especially commends this entry. It again recognized the values of the past and living within the framework of existing aesthetics and form developed a fresh, exciting design to give new life to the Garden Theater.





### MERIT AWARD

#### THE TARLETON-TANKERSLEY ARCHITECTURAL GROUP

#### G. WERBER BRYAN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL Columbia

Architects in Charge: Ladson D. Tankersley and H. Harold Tarleton, Jr. FAIA; Consulting Architect: George C. Means, Jr., FAIA; Structural Engineers: Johnson & King; Mechanical Engineers: Bruce Flemming and Associates; Electrical Engineers: Holladay, Coleman, Williams & Associates; Landscape Architect: J. Edward Pinckney Associates; Contractor: Mercury Construction Company; Photography: Gordon Schenck

#### Architects' Description

All elements in this first project of the "village system" were designed to facilitate the treatment process and to encourage social interaction. The 304 bed hospital was developed at a residential scale with eight lodges coupled in units of two with a supportive facility containing therapy and treatment areas. Each lodge houses three groups of twelve patients with spaces for living, eating and general daily tasks in a residential setting. These units constitute the perimeter of the hospital complex and focus into the village center, containing public and therapeutic spaces. The family of roof forms has regional and practical overtones. The wide overhangs consider the local climate and pedestrians.

#### Jury Comments

The open spaces and the site plan were what most jury members liked. The jury realized the complexity of such a commission, the dedication and thoroughness with which it was handled.







## MERIT AWARD LEE AND PARTNERS SALT MARSH COTTAGES

Moss Creek Plantation Hilton Head Island

**Engineers:** Dulohery, Weeks & Gagliano; Landscape Architect: Don Guscio; **Con**tractor: Johnson-Dulaney Builders, Inc.

#### Architects' Description

This forty-two unit project is located on approximately eight acres on a peninsula of land commanding views of surrounding marshes and wetlands. The concept was to produce two-bedroom, built for sale condominium units whose primary function is vacation use. Preservation of the natural features of the site and marsh edge was a major requirement. Development guidelines required that exterior matereials and colors adhere to principles of "landscape blending". Units are clustered in order to achieve a unit density in excess of five per acre. Buildings are elevated for protection against frequent and long term flooding, to minimize damage to existing vegetation and estuaries and to enhance views. Interiors are planned for vacation use with small closet storage areas and built-ins in sleeping areas and open living and day use areas oriented to sundecks and the surrounding marshes.

#### Jury Comments

Excellent floor plans and siting commend this vacation cottage scheme. While each juror would prefer isolation, the site plan resolves much of this problem, and the compactness is ecologically responsible. The siting permits design variety by rotating a common roof mass in the geometric environment.







#### MERIT AWARD

#### LUCAS & STUBBS

#### E. BAY COMMUNITY CENTER Charleston

Principal in Charge: Richard L. Powell; Structural Engineer: William Edwards; Mechanical Engineers: Rosser White Hobbs Davidson; Electrical Engineers: McClellan Kelly, Inc.; Contractor: R. A. Curran Construction Company, Inc.; Photography: Gordon Schenck

#### Architects' Description

This community center for a large, lowincome neighborhood in an inner-city area is the issue of a remarkable parent. Formerly the city's garbage incinerator building, it now houses exercise rooms with shower facilities, craft studios, a library and a game room. A large multipurpose room with adjacent kitchen occupies the third floor with its handsome arched windows. An opening between the second and third floors, once a garbage drop, was converted into a light well serving the low-ceilinged, second level craft studios. The building's twin smokestacks at the new main entrance were retained as sculptural elements reminiscent of its history. Inside, attention was given to zoning for mechanical efficiency and separation of activities, and to durability of materials.

#### Jury Comments

Now this is exciting, adaptive reuse. Who says "You can't make a silk purse"? A deserving award, a fine, useful building . . . design as a part of the political process.





SECOND LEVEL



SCALE 4 8 16 24



THIRD LEVEL



SITE PLAN

## MERIT AWARD LUCAS & STUBBS THE ALBERT SIMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

College of Charleston

Principal in Charge: Sidney W. Stubbs, Jr.; Project Designer: Thompson E. Penney; Structural Engineers: Johnson & King; Mechanical and Electrical Engineers: Poplin Engineers; Soils: Soil Consultants; Acoustical: Bolt, Beranek and Newman; Furnishings: Architectural Interiors; Contractor: Palmetto Construction Co.; Photography: Gordon Schenck

#### Architects' Description

This fine arts center serves the nation's oldest municipal college. In it, a wide variety of spaces accommodating teaching and administration, creative activity and performances is arranged around two prime organizing elements: an entry courtyard and a linear circulation spine. The courtyard, an active transition space frequently enlivened by exhibits and ceremonies, is also the terminus and focal point of a principal pedestrian street through the center of the campus. The spine, which links all major spaces and will provide connections to future construction on either side of the building, widens into a visually permeable back-drop to the courtyard at its midpoint. Here, alternating two-story corridor spaces will house large works of art visible to the courtyard and its campus approach. The massing of the building's components is attentive to the scale and character of neighboring structures.

#### Jury Comments

A handsome major building similar in scale to its neighbors, but enriched with volumetric massing, excellent plan organization, and a bold yet simple character.







## MERIT AWARD LUCAS & STUBBS DORCHESTER COUNTY LIBRARY St. George

Principal in Charge: Vito R. Pascullis; Project Designer: Thompson E. Penney; Structural Engineers: Johnson & King; Mechanical and Electrical Engineers: Owens and Associates; Soils Engineers: Soil Consultants, Inc.; Contractor: Jackson & Steele Construction Co., Inc.; Photography: Gordon Schenck

#### Architects' Description

This library for a small low-country town takes its design theme from the perpendicular gable roofs characteristic of all main street which it occupies. In functional planning and spatial conception, attention was given to the separation of adults and children and to the special needs of the latter. The circular reading pit in the juvenile area is a key element in the effort to suggest to children that reading is an enjoyable and not necessarily formal activity. This circular shape is repeated in gable vents over the children's area and in gable windows and the voids of sheathed wooden trusses over the adult area.

#### Jury Comments

A direct, workable plan for a library with handsome massing and an exterior that is consistent and well executed. The library is a complete building inside and out . . . A totality





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