THE VIRGINIA RECORD MAGAZINE

MAY 1977

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ON OUR COVER is an exterior view of the National D.E.C.A.
(Distributive Education Clubs of America) Headquarters facility,
located in Reston. The project, designed by Benham-Blair-Winesett-
Duke, Inc. of Falls Church, is featured on page 21 of this issue.
(Photograph by J. Alexander)
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In the midst of today’s growing concern over energy, its availability and its conservation, it is important to remember that the cry, while not new, is for real. Ten, fifteen, even twenty years ago, the idea that we were facing energy shortages was raised and the alarm given. At that time, the wolf was not on our doorstep, only coming over the horizon. Even today, the wolf is not to the doorstep, but he is coming through the front gate. All of us, design professionals, owners and users, must be concerned with conservation.

While talk today centers around conservation of energy in new buildings, there is another area of conservation in the built environment which is extremely important. The area of conservation referred to which, for increasingly more important reasons, must be given more than a cursory glance is rehabilitation of existing structures, adaptive reuse if you will. Adaptive reuse can provide for conservation not only of energy but of other resources for which replacement is either non-existent or costly. In testimony given to a House subcommittee on economics, William L. Slayton, Hon. AIA, executive vice president of The American Institute of Architects, has said that AIA recommends that grants for the rehabilitation of existing buildings should give priority to energy-conscious redesign and retrofitting and that Congress, in fiscal 1978, should emphasize rehabilitation of retrofitting over the construction of new facilities.

Adaptive reuse of buildings is an important energy conserving measure. Re-examination of existing buildings for continued usage or for conversion to new uses must assume a greater importance as there is a considerably reduced energy requirement in building materials for the alteration of a building as compared to building replacements. At the same time, it is frequently true that older buildings, designed to be comfortable with less dependence on mechanical systems, can function in the future with this same economy of energy consumption. Preservation of properties in the existing stock of buildings in our cities and towns began with a concern for historical buildings and maintaining them as museum pieces. Out of this concern is growing the awareness that adaptive reuse is a good economic motivator to support conservation goals as well as a viable beginning toward solving some of the ills of our urban areas.

Our cities and towns are suffering from social/economic/political problems: social structures without the reinforcement of organization provided by families; no citizen participation in planning or in volunteerism of all sorts; and higher demands for services with their attendant costs. Rehabilitation and reuse of suitable buildings in the cities and towns, while helping to conserve energy in construction, can be of major importance in helping to solve the cities’ problems. We can, by saving what we have, encourage people to both live and work in the cities as well as encourage new construction next door or down the block.

It is up to design professionals, politicians at all levels, owners and users alike to work together, to consider the alternatives to continued decay and destruction and to achieve energy conservation through better utilization of our existing resources.
With the thought in mind that the majority of the subscribers and readers of this publication are not AIA members and are unaware of the recent changes in the State Organization, we would like to take this opportunity to briefly outline the new Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects.

The AIA in Virginia is presently operating within a framework which will provide the opportunity for united efforts in matters concerning statewide and national issues and at the same time allow the different regions a maximum amount of freedom of expression.

The new organization consists of four Chapters under the umbrella of a State Society. The National Board of Directors of the AIA has approved the establishment of the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects from the members of the Northern Virginia Chapter and the Virginia Chapter. The Board further approved the establishment of three new Chapters from the existing sections of the Virginia Chapter. The four AIA Chapters resulting from these changes are the Northern Virginia Chapter, the James River Chapter, the Blue Ridge Chapter and the Tidewater Chapter.

Each individual AIA member in Virginia is a member of a Chapter, the Virginia Society and the National AIA. In general he works through his Chapter in regard to problems of local practice, local government relations and community affairs. The principal areas of responsibility for the Virginia Society are Administration, Finance, Public Relations and Government Affairs. The AIA National organization works directly with Chapters in regard to issues of local practice, normal membership matters and accreditation of convention delegates, and deals with the Virginia Society in regard to legislative and design issues that are statewide or national in scope.

The Public Relations Committee
Virginia Society, AIA

Edward A. Smith III, AIA

PAGE NINE
After a decade or more of hoping, planning, and fund-raising, and a two year construction period, the new Health Sciences Library at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville was opened to the public on August 8, 1975.

The original library has been well attuned to a relatively small medical school and university. However, by 1970 the sixty-seat medical library had completely outlived its usefulness. The number of medical students had increased by 53%, or from 230 in 1930 to 352 in 1970. Furthermore, almost one-half of the entire collection had to be housed in various storage areas on the grounds of the university, and was not immediately available to users.

LOCATION OF THE NEW LIBRARY

In planning for the new Health Sciences Library, one of the main questions concerned its location. After much consideration, it was decided that the best place would be right in the middle of the medical center complex, between the university hospital and the large medical education, or basic sciences, building, also known as Jordan Hall. The major difficulty was that these buildings were separated by a four-lane highway, Jefferson Park Avenue. Despite this handicap, the decision was made to place the library at a ninety-degree angle to the street and to incorporate into it a pedestrian overpass, or walkway, that would be connected with both the university hospital and the basic sciences building. The new nursing school building, known as McLeod Hall, was situated a short distance from the proposed new site.

During the planning, many objections were raised to constructing a library that would be located, in part, above a busy four-lane highway. It was argued that noise and vibrations caused by the traffic might disturb the readers. Fortunately, the architects were able to insulate the building in such a manner that the user is hardly aware that traffic passes right through the building. Many special features were adopted to eliminate street noises, including car-
peting in all public service areas. Judging from the heavy use that is currently being made of the new library, one can only applaud the decision to place the building right in the middle of the medical center complex.

**VITAL STATISTICS**

Before a more detailed description of the new building is presented, some statistical data may be in order. The Health Sciences Library has an area of 66,250 square feet gross and almost 44,000 square feet net. The cost of the building was just over $3 million. Approximately fifty percent of this amount was financed through a federal grant*. Close to $1 million came from state funding, with the remainder being

*To tell the Virginia Story
contributed by donations from alumni and friends. The cost of construction was $2,350,000 or approximately $35 per square foot. About $400,000 was spent on furnishings and interior equipment. The book storage capacity of the library is about 190,000 volumes, and there are about 500 seats for readers, including about 150 seats in sixteen seminar or viewing rooms of various sizes, 39 at “wet” carrels, and 69 at “dry” carrels. Office and work spaces have accommodations for thirty-five employees.

In planning for the interior layout, the attempt was made to place related functions close to each other. Broadly speaking, the library contains four distinct areas. The largest area, on the bridge level, contains almost 25,000 square feet of net usable space. The ground floor area on the south side of Jefferson Park Avenue is second largest, containing approximately 11,500 square feet of net usable space. A smaller area of less than 6,000 square feet of net usable space is situated on the north side of Jefferson Park Avenue. Finally, a small shipping and receiving area of approximately 1,600 square feet net usable space, complete with a loading dock, is located in the basement level on the south side.

THE BRIDGE LEVEL
The only entrance to the library is off the pedestrian walkway on the bridge level. As the patron enters the library, he passes the circulation desk to his left. Adjoining the desk is the reserve book room, an area of about three hundred net square feet. The patron may enter this area to examine the reserve materials, which are housed on wall shelves and in filing cabinets. As the reserve book room is placed at the far end of the circulation desk, the circulation staff is able to assist the users of both the library and the reserve book area.

Adjoining the reserve book room is a large open office area containing the reference staff of four. The reference area also contains a small, enclosed office for the TWX machine and other terminals. Immediately opposite the reference alcove are the Cardex (TM), the central inventory of the library’s serials collection, and the public catalog.

All of the technical services (acquisitions, gifts and exchanges, serials, binding, and cataloging) are located in a large room behind the circulation and reference areas. There is a staff lounge of approximately 760 net square feet, containing a small kitchen/refrigerator unit and lockers, and also a storage area for office supplies.

An administrative suite, with offices for the director and the associate director, a small conference room, and a secretarial office, is located beside the reference area.

The large reference and bibliography area houses reference books and some indexes and abstracts on shelves. It also contains twelve index tables, each seating six readers, on which the latest volumes of the most important biomedical indexes and abstracts are displayed. There are, in addition, four seminar rooms, or small individual study rooms, as well as a typing room equipped with two free manual typewriters**.

The reference and bibliography area is separated by swinging doors from the periodicals area, in which the serials collection (1950 to date) is shelved. This popular study and browsing area boasts a variety of seats, including tables and chairs of various sizes and “dry” carrels.

One additional special feature on this level deserving mention is the twenty-four-hour reading room. This small area of about 420 net square feet accommodates sixteen readers, who may peruse a small collection of current journals and some reference books. The room, which has access to the outside corridor, is kept open and unsupervised even after the closing of the library, which usually takes place at midnight.

THE GROUND LEVEL
The lower levels of the library may be reached by either elevators or stairways. The current monographs in the biosciences may be found in a large area on the south side. Two additional more or less self-contained library units are located beside the monograph area. The first is the audio-visual information center, displaying a separate charge-out desk, storage and work areas for the staff, thirty-nine “wet” carrels, and

* The granting agency was the Bureau of Health Manpower Education of the National Institutes of Health; the contract number was ICOS-PE-04295-01.
** Two additional typing rooms are located on the ground level.
twelve individual viewing and conference rooms. The rooms are all equipped with seventeen-inch color television receivers and players.

The second unit is the history of medicine and rare book room, containing offices for the curator and his staff, storage stacks, display cases, and reading areas.

On the other side of the street is located an area of approximately six thousand square feet, equipped with carrels and reading tables, as well as the Elecompack (TM) shelves. The latter are motorized book shelves that travel on rails and eliminate most of the aisles existing in regular book stack areas. Special safety bars prevent accidents, or damage to materials which might have accidentally dropped into the aisle. The area could accommodate up to seventy thousand volumes. Currently, it houses the library's serials collection of pre-1950 vintage and a large number of older medical and nursing monographs.

CLOSED-CIRCUIT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

In order to improve supervision by a small staff over large and dispersed areas of the new Health Sciences Library, television cameras were installed in six areas that are far removed from the circulation desk. A monitor at the circulation desk enables the staff to see at a glance how many users are occupying areas such as the history of medicine and rare book room, or the Elecompack room. The availability of this equipment has been helpful, especially during late evening and weekend hours.

CONCLUSIONS

Response of users and staff to the new facility has generally been enthusiastic. For the first time in many decades, it is possible to house the entire collection of over 111,000 volumes in one building. There are now, in addition to the regular work and storage areas, special areas for rare books and audiovisual materials. The audiovisual information center is spacious, consisting of about six thousand net square feet, and containing thirty-nine individual "wet" carrels and twelve viewing and conference rooms.

The Elecompack motorized shelves for little-used serials and monographs, and a closed-circuit television surveillance system, are also novel features for libraries in this area of the country. The new Health Sciences Library promises to play a significant role in providing study space, and in satisfying the informational needs of the University of Virginia Medical Center personnel and of physicians and health workers throughout Virginia.

Andrews Large & Whidden, Inc., of Farmville, was general contractor.

Subcontractors & Suppliers

From Charlottesville were: S.L. Williamson Co., Inc., paving contractor; E.M. Martin, Inc., built-up roof, other roofing, roof insulation, wall insulation & foundation insulation; Charlottesville Glass & Mirror Corp., glass, glazing contractor, windows, window wall & storefront; Olivia & Lazzuri, Inc., ceramic tile; and, Salem M. Eways, Inc., carpet.

Richmond firms were: E.S. Chappell & Son, Inc., caulking Architectural Hardware, Inc., hardware supplier; O’Ferrall, Inc., resilient tile; Brownson Equipment Co., Inc., equipment; Virginia Elevator Co., Inc., elevators; Hungerford, Inc., plumbing/ventilating contractor; and, acoustically suspended porcelain ceiling panels at underside of bridge over Jefferson Park Ave., by Wolverine Porcelain Enameling Co., % The Dages Co.

Others were: Welch Industries, Inc., Va. Beach, piling; Valley Steel Corp., Salem, reinforcing, Phoenix Concrete Products, Inc., Roanoke, precast concrete; Bat Masonry Co., Inc., Lynchburg, masonry contractor; Lynchburg Steel & Specialty Co., Monroe, steel supplier/erection/roof deck, other roof deck, steel grating, miscellaneous metal & handrails; L.R. Brown, Sr., Roanoke, painting contractor & special wall finish; Augusta Steel Corp., Verona, specialties; Magic City Sprinkler, Inc., Roanoke, sprinkler contractor; Brinkley-Ward Electric, Inc., Farmville, electrical contractor; and, Elecompack shelving by Library Bureau Division, Sperry Rand Corp.
ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO
BOATWRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

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HOWARD B. TREVIILIAN, AIA - CONSULTING ARCHITECT ON GOTHIC DETAIL

ROBERT S. SPRATLEY & ASSOCIATES
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ST. CLAIR, CALLAWAY & FRYE
Consulting Engineer, Structural

Interior Design by THE ARCHITECT
Construction Management by C.M. ASSOCIATES

J. L. HOSTINSKY
Exterior Photography

P. A. GORMUS, JR.
Interior Photography

PAGE FOURTEEN
VIRGINIA RECORD

Founded 1878
THE CENTRAL library at the University of Richmond was built in 1954 on a fine site overlooking Westhampton Lake and dominated the campus with its Gothic tower. By 1972 the Boatwright Memorial Library contained 130,000 volumes and provided seats for 302 readers, just 10% of the student body. Books were overflowing shelves, the staff was crowded into inadequate space, and the accommodations for students and faculty were falling behind national standards.

As part of its “Our Time in History” Development Program, the University placed the improvement of the Library high on its agenda for the mid-70s. The concept of what constitutes a good university library had changed dramatically since the original Boatwright Memorial Library was built. The growth in the use of audio-visual materials had to be recognized, in fact, the name of this type of facility had now become “library/learning center,” with all of the new types of informational media—records, tapes, slides, motion pictures, etc. — available in a concentrated learning-resources area. Along with growth in the library’s collection of books, magazines, documents and
manuscripts the library must also provide for the use of microforms of all these media, involving suitably arranged and lighted space for the reading machines.

The program for improving the library called for an increase of the book collection to 500,000 volumes, increase of seating capacity to accommodate 1,000 students and 30 faculty members, equipping the library with materials and facilities to make use of the latest audio-visual and micro learning devices, and providing adequate offices and workrooms for the staff to operate the expanded acquisition, cataloging, reference and circulation activities. The space required for this enlarged program of learning resources was approximately 90,000 sq. ft. gross. The ground floor of the existing library building was occupied by the business offices of the University, so only the three upper floors would be available for continued library use. These floors contained 31,000 sq. ft. of space and the addition was therefore required to have 59,000 sq. ft. of floor area.

The architects had two alternatives for locating the addition to the library. One scheme was to extend the South Wing of the existing building down the sloping grass lawn to the road bordering the lake. Another scheme was to place the addition at the West end of the building, running it down into a
wooded ravine. This plan, which was finally adopted, sacrificed a dozen large trees but preserved the wide sloping lawn down to the lake.

Many problems were presented in designing the most efficient circulation and control plan for the library activities in such an attenuated building. A major problem concerned the location of the main entrance and circulation lobby in the expanded building. Straightforward access at ground level of the existing building, without steps, was most desirable, but the ground floor of the existing building was still to be occupied by business offices, not library functions. The main entrance was placed at the juncture between the old and new buildings, and part of the circulation lobby was developed into a wide stairwell offering a view of the floor above and easy stairs inviting the patron up to the first floor which was a continuous "library floor" for the full length of the old and new buildings.

The addition has two floors above the entrance floor, both connecting to floors of the existing building. There are also two floors in the addition below the entrance floor. The largest floor of the addition is the first story down from the entrance level. This floor extends South from the main building with a wide terrace as its roof. An open court penetrates the terrace, bringing natural light down to the reading areas and providing a setting for sculpture exhibits.

The Gothic design of the existing library building has been generally carried over into the addition, with justifiable liberties taken in the large-windowed bays which look out toward the lake and are exceptionally inviting to readers. The enlarged Boatwright Memorial Library was opened for the Fall Term in 1976.

Job Management was by C.M. Associates, of Houston, Texas.

Subcontractors & Suppliers (Richmond firms unless noted)


Also, Alexander Waterproofing Co., Inc., waterproofing; Superior Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc., built-up roof; Evergreen Slate Co., Granville, N.Y., slate roofing; SDG, Incorporated, glazing contractor; Marmet Corp., windows; Hidell Builder's Supply, Austin, Texas, hardware supplier; Oliva & Lazzuri, Inc., ceramic tile; Manson & Utley, Inc., acoustical treatment & resilient tile; and, Thalhimer's Industrial Sales Corp., Bigelow carpet.

And, Glidewell Bros., Inc., painting contractor & wall covering; MAB Paints, paint supplier; M.A. Bruder & Sons, Inc., Broomall, Pa., paint manufacturer; Dover Elevator Co., elevators; Harris Heating & Plumbing Co., Inc., plumbing/heating/ventilating contractor; and, Ben Collier, Inc., electrical contractor.

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to tell the Virginia Story
This new building for the Public Library for Parkersburg and Wood County opened its doors in February 1976. The site selected for the building posed some challenging problems for the architects, but resulted in an unusual and interesting plan. Bounded on two sides by city streets forming an acute angle, and on the other two sides by property lines creating more odd angles, any conventional rectangular plan was out of the question. The space requirements set forth by the Library Board were such that a single level building was impossible, and even with a two-level plan every square foot available within the zoning setback lines had to be used.

Fortunately the contours of the land were such that a slope of approximately nine feet between opposite corners made it possible to develop a plan with grade-level entrances at each floor.

The main entrance, on the upper level, faces the major highway. A graceful curved ramp from the main entrance plaza leads to an attractive landscaped court at the lower level entrance.

Entering at the main entrance, the circulation desk controls the major public areas: the Adult Reading Room on the right, and the Children's Reading Room on the left. Librarians' offices and a listening room are centrally located, with the bookmobile and extension service offices at the rear of the building. An elevator leads to the lower level which accommodates a great many activities: administrative offices and processing rooms, audio-visual, art, and listening rooms, and a reading room nearly as large as the one above.

At the heart of the lower level is a multi-purpose meeting room, approached through a large exhibit foyer opening out to the landscaped court. These rooms, served by a small kitchenette, provide a much appreciated facility for public functions independent of normal library operations.

Windows are arranged to prevent unwanted sunlight falling on books or readers, yet allowing pleasant outlooks from all reading rooms.

Construction is steel frame, reinforced concrete foundation walls, floor slabs and roof slab. Interior partitions
to tell the Virginia Story
are gypsum drywall on metal studs. Ceilings in reading rooms are composite type accommodating air conditioning diffuser strips, lighting and acoustic material. Building exterior is faced with white rough-textured concrete "split-blocks." Windows and doors are dark bronze anodized aluminum.

Carl E. Stephens Construction Co., of Parkersburg, W.Va., was the general contractor and handled foundations, concrete work, reinforcing, masonry work (Centurial/Marietta Concrete Co., masonry supplier and Briximent, mortar), stonework, carpentry, structural wood and caulking.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
(Parkersburg, W.Va. unless noted)
S.E.T. Excavating, Inc., excavating;
Blacks Total Landscaping, sodding,
seeding, etc. & landscaping;
Brown Asphalt Paving Co., paving contractor;
Criss Concrete Co., concrete supplier;
General Fabricators, Inc., steel supplier & steel joists; Mid-Continent Erection Corp., steel erection & steel roof deck;
Wheeling Steel, wheeling, W.Va., roof deck (other); Parkersburg Lumber Co., millwork & cabinets; Tri-State Roofing & Sheet Metal Co., waterproofing, built-up roof, roofing (other) & foundation insulation; T & F Systems Co., Cleveland, Ohio, roof insulation;
Partitions, Inc. of W.Va., wall insulation, gypsum board contractor & acoustical treatment; and, PPG Industries, glass & glazing contractor.

Also, O.F. Henry Co., Charleston, W.Va., metal doors & frames & hardware supplier; Kavneer windows & window walls; G.A. Glassco, Wheeling, W.Va., ceramic tile & resilient tile; Shenley Floors, Pittsburgh, Pa., carpet; Trec Corp., Dayton, Ohio, painting contractor (Devoe Paint) & wall covering; Dover Elevator Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, elevators; Brewer & Co., Huntington, W.Va., sprinkler contractor; and, Chapman Corp., Washington, Pa., plumbing/heating/ventilating/air conditioning/electrical contractor.

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Blacks Total Landscaping, sodding;
seeding, etc. & landscaping;
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Criss Concrete Co., concrete supplier;
General Fabricators, Inc., steel supplier & steel joists; Mid-Continent Erection Corp., steel erection & steel roof deck;
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RUSSELL D. EMBS - Project Manager
DESIGNERS CONSORTIUM
Interior Design
E. H. GLOVER, INC.
General Contractor
J. ALEXANDER
Photography

to tell the Virginia Story
MAY 1977
PAGE TWENTY-ONE
NATIONAL D.E.C.A. Center is a remarkable example of the Team Concept of Design with the owner as an integral part of the Design Team. Because the Distributive Education Clubs of America represents approximately 50,000 students nationally, the client wanted every member to be free to participate and offer his suggestions. The architects looked upon this cumbersome requirement, not as a problem, but as an opportunity.

The programming stage became the most important phase of the design process, not because the building had any overwhelming functional constraints, but because the building had overwhelming philosophical demands. A series of “Charrette Workshops” were held at all levels of D.E.C.A. with the main theme being the development of a philosophical concept. The client was asked to develop a series of adjectives which best described D.E.C.A.

The list of adjectives was simplified into a consensus shown below. Generally, the building would:
- “emphasize youth” . . . “up to date”
- “warm and welcome”
- “represent D.E.C.A. principles,” i.e., free enterprise

Other:
- Freedom
- Elegance
- Solid, Businesslike
- Responsible, Dignified

The Team proceeded from “Adjectives to Architecture” in its next series of Charrettes . . . Youth was expressed as “up to date,” “fluid,” “sculptural”; “Warm and Welcome” as open, free flow of space, interpenetration of levels; “Freedom, Patriotism and Enterprise” were expressed with graphics.

The Hall of Recognition becomes a gallery leading to the center, or Rotunda, where a “welcome” greeting can be given. All functional spaces (staff offices) wrap around, along, and open into these two major spaces at both levels of the facility with a hierarchical arrangement of public functions, i.e., Library, Conference Center, Dining, etc. and Executive Offices grouped around the Rotunda and normal working departmental offices along the “spinal cord” or “backbone,” the Hall of Recognition. The philosophical expressions were conceived around a rational functional
framework (a 24’ x 24’ structural grid) with spaces which were arranged for efficient traffic for visitors and staff alike. The above architectural concepts were expressed in the simplest “palette” of materials which were compatible with the building’s form. Energy conservation was the prime consideration in selection of the exterior skin or envelope. Horizontal insulated glass bands with 6” steel stud wall containing 6” of batt insulation and metal lath and plaster exterior finish. The lath and plaster expression proved to be extremely compatible with the sculptural form of the facility.

Finally, and not the least important, the building was conceived to be among a series of individual buildings in a campus master plan of Education Associations. To contrast and give individuality to D.E.C.A. and yet be compatible with its neighbors, the architect chose to develop the building color and texture in its entirety to reflect the trim materials of the other facilities and to continue the master plan concepts by placing the building mass at the edge of the “commons” and the parking/autos toward the perimeter service road with connecting pedestrian circulation.

The mechanical system is designed to save energy by
incorporating heat recovery wheels in the exhaust and outside air system.

The highly insulated walls and roof will provide a high resistance to heat transfer which reduces the size of the heating and cooling equipment when compared to a conventional system. The system is designed to give necessary individual controls in the exterior area. The mechanical system is comprised of reciprocating chillers and one air handling unit located in the basement, serves all three floors.

The exterior wall system consists of drywall steel studs, 6" batt insulation and an exposed aggregate and plaster finish, giving a U value of .05. All glass areas are insulated and tinted with large areas shaded by soffits and recessed to minimize solar loads.

E.H. Glover, Inc. of Bailey's Crossroads was general contractor.

Subcontractors & Suppliers

Also, Arlington Woodworking & Lumber Co., Inc., McLean, carpentry, structural wood, millwork & wood doors; Miller Kitchen, Falls Church, cabinets; Peter Gordon Co., Inc., Washington, D.C., waterproofing; Higham Co., Inc.
Alexandria, caulking, painting contractor & wall covering; Perrin & Martin, Inc., Arlington, built-up roof, roof insulation, sheet metal & heating/ventilating/air conditioning contractor; Dodd Brothers, Inc., Falls Church, wall insulation, plaster contractor, gypsum board contractor & finestone; and, Associated Glass Co., Inc., Fairfax, glass, glazing contractor, windows & window walls.


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THE NEW Post Office and Locator at Fort Eustis is designed to combine two separate but related postal functions into an integrated facility. The locator section of this facility complements the normal post office functions by providing a postal holding service for military personnel in transit to and from the installation. Further, the locator maintains address records for personnel currently or previously stationed at Fort Eustis.

The post office and the locator elements are physically situated so that either may operate independently when required but both elements may also work jointly.

The post office contains a customer service area as well as a large open work room and supporting spaces for mail processing and employee convenience. A lookout gallery provides a convenient area for surveillance of work and public areas by postal inspectors.

The locator has general work and record-keeping spaces. It is directly connected to the post office but has its own public and service entrances. The
loading area includes an extended ramp and platform serving both the post office and the locator.

The site chosen for this facility included a grove of oak trees to the north and west. These natural surroundings were retained and the structure was situated on the south half of the site.

The Post Office and Locator was set within the existing Community Center area at Fort Eustis and exterior components as well as general building configuration were selected to blend naturally with the dominant design themes of this building complex. The face brick, for example, is identical to that used on the Main Exchange Building which is the primary element of the Community Center. A four foot wide precast concrete fascia further echoes the theme of this complex.

Massing of the building’s components was consciously chosen to allow a changing pattern of shadows on an otherwise starkly functional facade.


Subcontractors & Suppliers
(Hampton firms unless noted)

RESIDENCE FOR
MR. & MRS. FOY M. KING
THE DESIGN COLLABORATIVE
(FORMERLY ARANYI, MURRELL AND ASSOCIATES)
ARCHITECT
MR. FOY M. KING, Owner/General Contractor
LASZLO ARANYI, Photography
SOMETIME IN 1972, Mr. and Mrs. Foy King came to the architect's office to have a house designed for them.

They had a very nice piece of property in Thalia (Virginia Beach). The lot was a peninsula - surrounded by water on three sides. The trees were so close to each other it was very difficult to get around.

They were contemplating building a two-story house in the usual manner — living area on the first floor and sleeping quarters on the second level. Having walked around the site for awhile, the thought came to mind that if most of the trees were left (which they should be), the first floor living area would have very little view except for tree trunks.

The logical step was to turn the house "upside-down" and have the living area on top, providing a beautiful view. This would also make it possible to have an interesting ceiling line with clerestory windows, skylights, etc., in the living space.

The only task at this point was convincing the client that this was a good solution. This is generally much more
difficult than it sounds. Often there are
good solutions to problems, but if the
solutions are unconventional, the
clients will not accept them. In this
case, however, after the initial shock
and some deliberation, they decided the
advantages far outweighed the draw­
backs.

Today the Kings enjoy an unusual
house. The entire living area is bathed
in natural light coming from all
directions. The trees are visible from
every part of the house. It almost gives
the feeling of living in the trees.

The entrance features a curving stair
suspended from the roof, and the stair
hall is open to the living room above,
making it an inviting entrance and an
easy transition up to the second floor.
The top of the garage doubles as a
huge outdoor deck in the front, and in
the rear there is another deck which has
a tree protruding through it. The bed­
rooms — all five — are on the ground
floor.

Some of the other ideas incorporated
in this home were:

1. Sloping ceilings — In most homes
the attic space is eliminated and that
space is added to the rooms visually.
Even small rooms look large this way.

2. Continue ceiling lines through
several rooms, creating an illusion of
larger rooms.

3. Generous glass areas (insulated
glass, of course) to take advantage of
good views and expand inside space
through long exterior vistas.

4. Combine rooms where privacy or
sound is not a problem. Formal dining
rooms are generally unnecessary.

5. Living rooms become “lived in”
rooms and not just an exhibit area for
expensive museum pieces that no one
dare touch, let alone use. This is usually
a reason for a “family room” where
people feel comfortable. With the high
cost of construction and the energy
shortage, no room should be unused.

Mr. Foy M. King of Virginia Beach,
the owner, acted as his own general con­
tractor.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
Lone Star Industries, Inc., Norfolk.
concrete supplier; Kempsville Building
Materials, Inc., Va. Beach, carpentry
supplier, structural wood, millwork
supplier & wood doors & windows
supplier; King Industries, Va. Beach,
resilient tile, carpet & special flooring;
L & S Heating & Air Conditioning, Ltd.,
Chesapeake, heating/ventilating/air
conditioning contractor; House of
Lighting, Va. Beach, lighting fixtures
supplier; and, AAA Electric Co.,
Norfolk, electrical contractor.
THE BANK OF Smithfield has begun construction of a new 7,550 square foot main office immediately west of its present main office at 103 Main Street, Smithfield. Architecture of the new building has been designed to complement the old courthouse immediately across the street and to coordinate with developing plans for restoration of Old Towne Smithfield.

The new main office will be a two-story Colonial design faced in red brick and will feature seven dormers on the front and rear of the second story, a recessed, brick-columned portico at the Main Street entrance, and twin chimneys flanking each end to lend architectural balance and authenticity to the Colonial design. Brick paving will lead customers to pedestrian accesses through the Main Street entrance and a second entrance at the west end of the building. All exterior lighting on customer entrance sides of the building.
will be lanterns of the type used in the Smithfield beautification program.

Automobiles will have access from Cedar Street at the rear of the site to a parking area for some 58 cars and three drive-in banking lanes at the rear of the new office. The drive-up units will be a visual auto teller system using three staggered lanes which will be served by tellers with remote equipment while providing unobstructed visual contact between teller and customer. The system will be capable of expansion to a fourth lane.

The full service office will offer a covered night depository, safe deposit, and seven in-lobby teller windows.

Interior decor will follow the Colonial theme with touches typical of the period including crown molding and chair rail. A portion of the ceiling above the main banking floor will be recessed and fitted with paired chandeliers.

The second story will house a board room, bookkeeping operations, a record retention vault, and an employee lounge.

Construction of the new office was scheduled to begin in early January and completion is expected in the fourth quarter of 1977. Area subcontractors will be primarily used.

Space in the present main office will continue to be used for support services, but the existing remote drive-in will be razed.

Days Construction Co., Inc., of Salem, is general contractor.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
Blair Brothers, Inc., Suffolk, excavating; Farmers Service Co., Smithfield, concrete contractor; Valley Steel Corp., Salem, reinforcing; Daniels & Ingram Masonry Contractors, Colonial Heights, masonry contractor; Barnum-Bruns Iron Works, Inc., Chesapeake, steel supplier; and Marion Glass & Aluminum, Salem, glass & glazing contractor.

Also, Skyline Paint & Hardware, Roanoke, metal doors & frames & hardware supplier; Hesse & Hurt, Inc., Roanoke, painting contractor & wall covering; R.F. Scott, Smithfield, plumbing/heating/ventilating contractor; B.D. Willard Co., Inc., Hampton, electrical contractor; and, L.F. Chiselbrook, Newport News, correspondence lift.
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THE ANTICIPATION of Roanoke's first full-service General Aviation Facility has come to realization on a 14 acre tract at Woodrum Field.

Formal opening ceremonies were held early in December for the new $1 million complex developed by Piedmont Aviation, Inc. Mr. H.T. Davis, Piedmont President, expressed confidence in the future of general aviation, particularly in Virginia. He noted that the Roanoke operation was the second of four Piedmont operations in the Commonwealth, which include facilities at Richmond, Norfolk and Manassas.

Focal point of the Roanoke operation is the Executive Terminal building. Visitors arriving either by plane from the extensive ramp area or by car have direct access to the plush main lobby which divides the structure into two activities. On one side are the Executive, Marketing and Sales areas. Across the lobby is the pilot support area which includes pilots' lounge, briefing room, Aero-Club, refreshment center and toilets.

The Aero Club concept is a first for the Piedmont organization. The nationally franchised system provides each member access to an economical fleet of all new Beech light aircraft which are professionally maintained by factory-trained personnel. The Club Pro is the Chief flight instructor.

The largest structure within the terminal complex is a 32,000 square foot maintenance and storage hangar. The maintenance section has been configured to assist the highly
qualified personnel in providing the exceptional standards of performance required by the aviation industry.

In addition to the general airframe and engine shops, there is also provided a radio shop, two battery shops, an extensive parts department, maintenance library, offices, locker facilities and customer waiting lounge. Ample materials storage areas are abundant. The aircraft storage section occupies almost one-half of the total hangar and provides heated refuge for several corporate and personal aircraft.

Additional storage capability is provided in the T-hangar building which houses planes in individual compartments. This facility presently has a ten unit capacity, however, expansion ground has been reserved for an additional 70 units.

The hangar facilities are steel frame structures clad in metal siding. Custom steel doors mounted on roller-bearing wheels and power operated enable speedy handling of large aircraft in and out of the main hangar building. The terminal building is wood frame construction with brick veneer and metal fascia. Allexecutive and customer areas are air conditioned.

A fuel farm has been constructed to the east of the main hangar and supplies the growing general aviation fuel demand.

Service and assistance are the hallmark of the Piedmont presence. In addition to the above facility improvement, customer care activities abound. Courtesy transportation is provided around the clock. An outdoor observation patio has been constructed to assist plane watchers to pursue their favorite pastime. The total complex has been provided an elaborate inter-communications network which expedites customer assistance. Piedmont also provides a catering service for transient and home-based aircraft.

Early in 1975 the City of Roanoke selected Piedmont as the fixed base operator at Woodrum Field under a 25 year contract with the city. After project commencement in January of 1976 the design/build delivery was completed 11 months later. The fact that the major team principals are active pilots contributed greatly to a unique understanding and appreciation of the special needs of this type of construction.

Days Construction Co., Inc. of Salem was general contractor and handled sodding, seeding, etc., landscaping, landscaping work, foundations, concrete work, reinforcing, masonry work, steel erection, carpentry, waterproofing, caulking, roof and wall insulation, painting, wall covering and specialties.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
(Salem firms unless noted)

Thomas Brothers, Inc., excavating; L.H. Sawyer Paving Co., Inc., paving contractor; Salem Ready Mix Concrete, Inc., concrete supplier; Webster Brick Co., Inc., Roanoke, masonry supplier; Landmark Lumber & Supply, Inc., mortar; Structural Steel Co., Inc., Roanoke, steel supplier, steel gratting, miscellaneous metal & handrails; Timber Truss Housing Systems, wood doors & structural wood; Piedmont Fabricators, Winston-Salem, N.C., millwork, paneling & cabinets; Armeo Steel Corp., Middletown, Ohio, steel roof deck & other roofing; John H. Hancock, Jr., steel joists; Bud Weaver Sheet Metal Co., Roanoke, sheet metal & ventilating/air conditioning contractor; and, Marion Glass & Aluminum, glass, glazing contractor, windows, window wall & storefront.

Also, Skyline Paint & Hardware, Inc., Roanoke, metal doors & frames & hardware supplier; Acoustical Services, Inc., plaster contractor, gypsum board contractor, acoustical treatment & resilient tile; Feather Tile Co., Roanoke, ceramic tile; Patcraft Mills, Dalton, Ga., carpet; PPG Industries, Inc., Roanoke, paint supplier/manufacturer; Warner Supply Co., Roanoke, plumbing fixture supplier; Dickerson-Trent, Inc., Roanoke, plumbing/heating contractor; Williams Supply Co., Roanoke, lighting fixtures/electrical equipment supplier; Newcomb Electric Co., Inc., Roanoke, electrical contractor; and, Fleming Steel Co., New Castle, Pa., aircraft hangar doors.
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SOME OF THE largest precast and prestressed concrete members ever manufactured in the state were utilized in the construction of this automobile parking facility, erected to serve SCOPE, the Norfolk Cultural and Convention Center, and a proposed convention oriented hotel on the adjacent parcel and the nearby downtown commercial district.

The site contained only 97,730 square feet which necessitated a structure of seven stories to accommodate the 1540 autos the parking garage was designed to serve. Because peak use was expected to exceed greatly the normal parking requirements, the building was designed so that half the structure may be used entirely independently. The other half may be closed, permitting economical, partial operation. The two halves are linked for joint use by means of crossovers mid-way between the second and third levels, fourth and fifth levels, and sixth and seventh levels which allow departing motorists to short circuit the system and enter the egress ramps without climbing all the way to the top.

The site fronted on a single street complicating the efficient flow of traffic. Since it was required that all autos of the full garage be able to exit within 30 minutes after the end of a program at the SCOPE arena, the need for rapid exiting of the garage and the
tion as well as concern for the
just one-half the travel distance and
just four. 360 degree turns instead of

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and, Service Electric Corp. of Va., electrical contractor.

THE WOODBRIDGE Campus of Northern Virginia Community College is part of a statewide network in which each campus is given a theme and curriculum emphasis. The theme of this campus is “ecology” and its curriculum stresses natural and political sciences as they relate to ecological goals in the job market.

With the emphasis on ecology and the natural sciences, The VVKR Partnership developed a master plan which optimized the educational opportunities within the site, and in doing so made the site not only an extension of the classroom, but a living, functioning laboratory, giving the students a realistic learning environment.

Organizing the physical construction to minimize the site impact was a major part of the design development. Access roadways were kept short and parking was terraced to follow existing grades on the barren portion of the site.

Site development helped to generate the academic curriculum. Taking advantage of large watershed areas, streams and a valley, an earth dam and a lake were constructed providing a learning tool as well as a space for aquatic activities in the physical education program.

Service roads double as fire cuts through the woodland and jogging trails link the recreation areas.

“Eco Vans,” which are trucks equipped with scientific equipment roam the site as extensions of the ecology labs, gather samples which are
tested and the data is radioed to the central classroom for detailed analysis. The returning vans then couple to the central labs, adding to the physical space and eliminating duplication of equipment.

The master plan for the campus calls for construction in five phases over a ten year period. Since the overall concept called for a compact, single structure development, the building starting as a single element will grow from both sides. Exterior end walls of the steel and finestone structure are designed to be removable and reusable. The

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to tell the Virginia Story

MAY 1977

master plan phase 5
structural system cantilevers the side walls from interior piers and beams. Final connection of a new section to the existing is with expansion inserts.

By eliminating structural inter-dependency adjacent construction shock will be minimized. The mechanical system is designed to grow incrementally with air handling equipment located over major stairway entries. The compact single structure solution coupled with the use of thermal paned windows helps to minimize heating and cooling costs.

The completed phase one structure houses a library on the fourth floor.
classrooms on the third floor, offices and laboratory space on the second floor and a cafeteria, lounge and service areas on the ground floor. Flexibility is assured by the extensive use of de-mountable partitions on all levels.

Access from the parking areas is provided by an entrance bridge on the fourth floor, which houses a complete learning resource center as well as classroom space.

The natural science laboratories where data received from the "eco-vans" in the field is analyzed.
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PAGE FORTY-SIX VIRGINIA RECORD Founded 1878
north side for direct barrier-free access for the handicapped. The single-building compact solution for the initial phase and for future phases minimizes travel distances and potential barriers for handicapped students. Elevators connect various building levels to facilitate circulation for the physically restricted within the building itself.

Bringing together 100% site utilization with new and carefully planned concepts in education, the planners have created a total learning environment where the students, working in "real life" situations can prepare themselves to provide a better world for the future.

E.H. Glover, Inc. of Baileys Cross Roads, was general contractor.


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Motorist Information Signs for I-81

- The Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation has begun erection of motorist information signs showing available gasoline, food, lodging and camping facilities along Interstate 81.

Such signs were erected in advance of interchanges along Interstate 95 in 1974 as a pilot project that has received considerable commendation by the motoring public. Extension of the signing program to I-81 was approved by the Virginia Highway and Transportation Commission at its November meeting.

The department also will study the other interstate system routes in Virginia to determine if the service should be extended to them later.

Traffic and safety engineer J. P. Mills, Jr. said the department has begun working on a cost estimate to submit to the Federal Highway Administration for funding of the survey that must precede the signing. The department will seek federal funding of 90 percent of the costs involved in both the survey and the signing.

The signs show the name, brand or trademark of the establishments in proximity to the interchanges. Interstate 81’s 325-mile length makes it the longest of the Virginia interstate routes. I-95 carries heavier traffic volumes, however.

For each of the 84 interchanges on I-81, the department must determine the facilities in the four categories of services that are available for participation in the program. The proprietors will be interviewed to determine those who want to be on the program and who meet the criteria as to facilities and hours of operation.

The establishments that qualify must provide their individual panels, with their logotypes, on the signs.

Mills said the signs in advance of the interchanges meet a need to inform motorists of the amenities offered on adjoining roads, and provide an alternative to huge billboards off the right-of-way. The facility signs also are considered a help to businesses established on roads near the interchanges.

In accordance with the new federal standards, Mills said, the I-81 signs will be somewhat larger than those used in the pilot project on I-95. They also will be set farther from the pavement for safety reasons.

They will have the same blue backgrounds and white reflectorized borders, and the messages will be reflectorized for greater visibility at night.

The 1974 project on I-95 made Virginia one of the first two states to make such specific information for travelers a permanent part of their official signing program.
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