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ON OUR COVER is an interior view of the Hidden Valley Country Club Additions and Alterations. The project, by Bowling & Martin Associates, is featured on page 12 of this issue. (Cover photo by Ronald M. Martin)
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GUEST EDITORIAL

REMODELING: PAINS AND PLEASURE

Anyone who has ever rented knows the frustration of not being allowed to make changes or improvements. Even when you own, you are never completely through remodeling or totally satisfied, even if you designed or built yourself. There is always some new idea to try, something to add, or something that could be adjusted.

For most of us, much of the enjoyment of ownership comes from not only being able to effect changes but from doing much of it ourselves. The do-it-yourself spirit is adventuresome and thrifty—and fraught with potential for disaster. Since there are numerous benefits to be derived from doing it yourself, if you do it properly, it might be helpful to discuss some of the pros and cons of remodeling.

First of all, just because you are remodeling and not building from scratch, don't think that you can't make good use of an architect's services. Most architects thoroughly enjoy the challenge of working with an existing structure and refitting it to meet your demands. Such projects tend to stretch their creativity and offer new avenues for trying different ideas. With or without an architect's contribution, it is essential to have a plan before starting. If you begin by setting a goal, and then proceed to the specifics of what you want done to attain this goal, you will save countless hours, dollars, and disappointments. Changing your mind in mid-project can mean expensive modifications. Think it out and make some hard decisions, but don't let your decisions be dictated by intangibles. You may have to adapt some of your dreams to the actual space and materials with which you are working.

While formulating your plans, you might want to think about using some "recycled" materials. Doors, windows, fixtures, and furniture from one part of the house may be useful elsewhere in the new design, and don't overlook such additions as stained glass, French or Dutch doors, or even paneling. One particular addition/alteration which seems to be enjoying a renaissance is the skylight. It adds light, an increased sense of space and can alter the mood of a space with the changes in the weather. It should be, like all other windows, regarded as an energy-efficient device. To provide light, aside from creative uses of glass, there are an amazing variety of fixtures available—from track and recessed lighting to some simple applications of the basics. In combination with lighting, the creative use of mirrors can give the illusion of greatly increased space, often appearing to double the size of a room.

Many remodeling projects are occasioned, at least in part, by the need for added closet space. There is often "found" space under staircases. At times opening walls between rooms can provide added space. And, conversely, adding a full or partial wall within a room can create closet space and/or dressing areas without drastically altering the look of the room. If you can get away from the single-purpose concept of certain rooms, it might make sense to consider combining two or more rooms. When walls are knocked out between, say, kitchens, dining rooms, and family rooms, not only does the whole character of the space change, but the sense of increased space grows enormously. You might also want to investigate whether or not it is feasible to open up a fireplace from one room to another, thereby changing its heating range.

A remodeling job is a whole series of problems to be solved. Some of these problems exist already, and some you create when you start changing things around. Even the best of architects and contractors cannot predict what is behind every wall you want to remove, so be prepared to make some adjustments during the remodeling. In general, it is wise to expect the unexpected with any remodeling project. For instance, we expect that it may take twice as long and cost twice as much as you initially planned. You will, therefore, need some financial flexibility and the ability to live with a dismantled house much longer than you would like.

In the design phase, it is crucial to remember that what looks good on one house or in one location may not work elsewhere. Not every design feature is easily transposable to another structure, so you must be prepared to accept some alterations to your initial concept. When your plans are completed and it is time to talk to the bank about a home repair loan, expect more complications. The
ease of securing financing may decrease in direct proportion to the amount of work you plan to do yourself. Banks normally make such loans based on a contractor's plans, record of service, and reputation. If you take that kind of guarantee away, you may find the bank less enthusiastic about granting a loan. But even on jobs with a bank-approved contractor involved, there can be unforeseen confusions. And there may be any number of other local idiosyncrasies that should be dealt with before you begin tearing things apart. Because of these unexpected intangibles, it is best to overbudget and then expect that it will cost still more. One other point of financial consideration: builders and contractors can usually get the materials much cheaper than you can (unless you are considered a professional by your hardware supplier). This should play a key role in your initial budget projections.

If you do decide to subcontract some of the work, make sure you investigate the contractor carefully. Lending institutions, lawyers, architects, and other professionals can help check a contractor's references. You can personally inspect some of his previous projects. Another area which will require some homework before you start is the body of local rules and regulations, building and housing codes, zoning requirements, fire codes, deed restrictions, and all manner of other ordinances that can bear relevance to your project. You should know all of them before a stone is turned. Here again, architects, lawyers, and good contractors can advise or help.

The subject of local ordinances leads directly into one of the most troublesome areas of do-it-yourself home remodeling: electrical work. This is a field so out of reach for the average home carpenter that most local ordinances mandate the hiring of an electrician to deal with it. Considering the inherent danger in the work and the potential to do harm to more than one's self esteem, there should be little question as to the wisdom of using a professional in this area. Other areas which may be tempting for the do-it-yourself enthusiast but for which professional help should at least be considered include: Moving walls—there is a big difference between a partition and a major structural support, and it may not always be apparent. Wood or concrete floors—refinishing wood floors may sound simple, but it might be best to hire a professional with a power sander, and then fill, stain, and finish to complete the project yourself. Similarly, the apparent ease of pouring concrete may lull the unsuspecting amateur into some conspicuous mistakes: Plumbing—this is an area for the adventurous, but not necessarily a prohibitive one; Roofing repairs—they may sound simple, but many people are injured every year by live wiring, loose shingles, etc.; Central air conditioning installation—since not about the only reasonably safe task for a novice in this job is the installation of some ductwork, a professional's help makes good economic sense.

Although the points listed above are far from all-inclusive, they should awaken sensitivities in some eager do-it-yourself advocates. In addition, there are two small but supremely relevant pieces of advice culled from previous remodeling experiences which should be mentioned. First, when you do compromise ego with practicality and contract out some of the work, pay careful attention to the payment arrangements. Never pay for goods or labor which you have not received. With a reputable, competent contractor, you can make a payable-upon-completion or periodic payment arrangement. Secondly, if you are eager to have your remodeling done in the most efficient manner, do not try to live in a house that is being drastically remodeled. You can carry your involvement too far if you live, sleep, and breathe the mess you make during the day. You may have to turn off your heat, electricity, and/or plumbing for extended periods of time. If you contract out much of the work, it can cost much more if half the house has to be left livable while the other is torn up.

If the information and ideas outlined above have created the impression that there is considerably more to remodeling than meets the eye, that it can be vastly more complicated than it would seem, and that there are potentially as many dangers as rewards, it should also have made it clear that remodeling can be a satisfying as well as complicated undertaking, with many rewards, complications, dangers, and pitfalls along the way. Whether you do your project yourself, contract the entire work, or a combination thereof, we remind you that professional help and advice in the beginning can be of enormous benefit throughout. Call on an architect.
VVKR Incorporated Ranks 38th Nationwide in A/E Firms

VVKR Incorporated, a full service Architectural, Engineering, Planning company, has been ranked 38th A/E firm in the nation, based on total billings, in Building Design and Construction's Fifth Annual 300 Giants Report. VVKR increased its volume in 1980, moving from 45th in the country in 1979. VVKR is the only Washington based firm in the top 50 A/E listings.

VVKR has offices in Norfolk, Roanoke, and Alexandria, and in University Park, Maryland. The firm has two subsidiaries, Construction Management Collaborative, a construction management company, and Design Collaborative, an interior design and space planning company, and a separate division for Energy Services. The firm also has an affiliate office in West Virginia. VVKR's staff now numbers in excess of 250.

In spite of current economic conditions, VVKR continues to grow. Based on third quarter reports, VVKR projects a year-end volume increase in excess of 25%.

During 1980, VVKR's work included the design of office buildings, hospitals, judicial, penal and educational projects, and the provision of energy services. Mr. William F. Vosbeck, Jr., FAIA, President of the firm, attributes current growth to the company's response to client and cost sensitivities, good management and project organization, as well as to adaptability and flexibility to attract high growth markets.

CSI Fall Seminar Scheduled in Roanoke

- The Blue Ridge Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute is co-sponsoring a national seminar entitled "INTERPRETATION & USE OF SPECIFICATIONS" to be held on October 23, 1981 at the Airport Holiday Inn, Roanoke.

The program is designed to appeal to Architects, Engineers, Contractors, Suppliers, Manufacturers, and Owners. The seminar leader is Mr. Sheldon B. Israel, FCSI, CCS, President of Construction Technology Consultants, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Mr. Israel has over twenty years of specialized experience in construction specifications. He is the recipient of several CSI national specification awards and is currently Chairman of the CSI Education Committee, and an instructor at Broward Community College.

For further information, contact:
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Pall Mall
by Ralph Snell, AIA

Climate Controlled . . .

The two words that have brought about the demise of downtown.

It all started with the shopping strips outside of town. A group of small service shops parenthetically bounded by a supermarket and a drug store. The attraction? Do the marketing and stop off at the bakery and the dry cleaners and the ABC store.

The shopping strip could peacefully co-exist with downtown because downtown still had the big department stores, the good clothing shops, the restaurants.


The assault began. People deserted downtown because downtown still had the big department stores, the good clothing shops, the restaurants.


The assault began. People deserted downtown because downtown still had the big department stores, the good clothing shops, the restaurants.

And then the secret weapon was unleashed. . . Air conditioning.

You could have any environment you wanted anywhere at anytime. It could be 68° forever. The climate controlled shopping mall was born. Stores turned blank brick walls to the street, opening instead to climate controlled interior malls. Shop windows disappeared, replaced with sliding glass mall fronts. Single "anchors" disappeared. Replace with "traffic generators." "Amenities" became the catch word.

The pell mell mall palling of America was underway.

Downtown stores closed. Or barely hung on. Meanwhile, malls were being crammed with amenities. Seats and plants and maps. Fountains and banners and kiosks. Clocks and phones and gazebos. Street furniture became a growth industry.


Pavement textures galore. Brick. And granite. And cobbles. All as interpreted in colored concrete, thanks to a texture-making-waffle-iron-variant-paving-simulator.

And the malls were crammed with people—people trying, in vain, to dodge strollers, paving pattern potholes, and assorted amenities. Trying to keep up with the beat of the organist pounding out a disco version of "The Way We Were." Trying to get from traffic generator to traffic generator.

Oh there were some half-hearted attempts to bring life back downtown. The method: Close Main Street. Install bollards. Fill with street furniture. Or, make Main Street wiggly. Allow only public transportation to use it. Revise bus design, as required.

The successes, when they occurred, were unqualified triumphs. There's Baltimore's Harborplace and Boston's Faneuil Hall, the Castor and Pollux of urban waterfront design. There's Ghirardelli Square. The Cannery. There are the rejuvenated historic districts—Richmond's Shockoe Slip and Alexandria's Old Town. In large measure, the attraction in all these areas is a basic human need—even more basic than the need to shop—food. Restaurants are the traffic generators.

And what about the near future? Currently under construction in Washington, D.C. is an entire city block of major buildings—under separate ownership—which will be interconnected within. Sandwiched between Pennsylvania Avenue, "America's Main Street," and F Street, the downtown shopping district, the block's multi-building, multi-level shopping arcade will combine the best qualities of both downtown and the malls. Shop windows and entrances will front on the street, contributing to the downtown street life, while mall fronts will open to interior atria. A captive audience of hotel/theatre/office/press people will give the block 24-hour life.

And that's even before the video game centers are installed.

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to tell the Virginia Story OCTOBER 1981
The program requirements for this project involved reorganizing the basic circulation flow of the plan, and expansion of the Ladies' Locker Room and Lounge, and the additions of a New Cocktail Lounge, Pro Shop, Enclosed Promenade, Front Entrance Portico, and Outside Dining Terrace.

The introduction of sloped slate roof and brick piers and arches on both the front and rear helped bring the complex a more "human scale," and organize the various masses as a unit while minimizing the previously institutional appearance. The addition of the Enclosed Promenade solved the major circulation problems by serving as a "spine" to connect the Ballroom, Dining Room, and Grill Room with the Outside Dining Terrace and New Cocktail Lounge. The old Cocktail Lounge was previously in a relatively obscure location on the front of the building. By constructing a new lounge at the rear and incorporating large glass areas we were able to gain a pleasant southern exposure and capture the magnificent view of the golf course and mountains beyond. This location also allowed the "social functions," i.e. Ballroom, Dining Room, and Cocktail Lounge to be grouped together and become the center of activity for the Club.

Watts & Breakell, Inc. of Roanoke was general contractor and handled foundations, concrete work and carpentry.
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VIRGINIA RECORD
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Wintergreen Plaza
Rockville, Maryland
Morton W. Noble, AIA, P.C.—Architect

Wintergreen Plaza is a new shopping center located on Rockville Pike in Rockville, Maryland, two miles north of White Flint. The 144,881 square foot center is elegantly streetscaped, dramatically lighted and carefully merchandised with the aims of creating a sleek image and of filling a need.

The architectural firm of Morton W. Noble, A.I.A., P.C. saw Wintergreen Plaza as an example of creative new construction in an otherwise unglamorous suburban locale. It is illustrative of a concept aimed at acceptance and success with a variety of publics—citizens' groups, public agencies, financial institutions, merchants and consumers.

Blessed with a promising commercial location—on a heavily traveled local artery in a geographic and logistical center of an affluent suburban community—Wintergreen Plaza still posed major challenges.

The historic pattern of development on Rockville Pike has been scattered strip commercial, often in the worst sense of the phrase. Lack of coordination, garish design, excessive stretches of asphalt parking lots, stores spasmodically dispersed without any relation from logistics or merchandising standpoints—these were some of the problems of such development.

Coincident with the planning of Wintergreen Plaza, the City of Rockville—intent on improving its business district in anticipation of Metro impact—adopted a new Town Center Master Plan with the theme "taming of the strip."

Thus the development challenge for Wintergreen Plaza was to overcome its surroundings by creating a well-conceived, well-designed shopping facility offering to the public the type
A FEW WORDS ABOUT TIME.

A day to come seems longer than a year that's gone.

— Scottish Proverb

Time is but a stream I go fishing in.

— H. D. Thoreau

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.

— Ecclesiastes 3:1 200 B.C.

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feet wide. Substantial planters with red oak benches dot the walks.

Winding through the sidewalks is a stamped, colored concrete which provides running-brick and hexagonal Spanish tile patterns, without the maintenance or safety headaches of those materials.

Under the storefront canopies are bright louvered parabolic fixtures which add to the dressed-up look of the center without being distracting or glaring. Fixtures, which pull down on individually-hung chains, do double-duty as readily available access panels for signage or maintenance.

Signage was strictly controlled, with individually-lettered signs and uniform red faces against the buff-colored cementitious fascia.

Special design attention was given to second floor access with the customers in mind. In addition to convenient elevator access for the general public and the handicapped, several mirrored stairwells are strategically sited to entice shoppers or diners. Numbers of steps, placement of landings, angles of vision (the mirrors are placed to reflect the spectacular domes above) were all taken into careful consideration.

Extensive landscaping and shrubbery was a major commitment, including 20-foot trees. Finally, landscaped earth berms were built up on the more-than-two-football-field-long Rockville Pike frontage, in order to visually screen masses of asphalt and automobiles and to focus attention on the architectural and landscaping elements.

Glen Construction Co., inc. of Rockville, Maryland was general contractor and handled masonry work.

Subcontractors & Suppliers


Also, R. D. Bean, Inc., Beltsville, MD, built-up roof, other roofing & roof insulation; Service Glass Industries, Inc., Frederick, MD, glazing contractor & storefront; The Coca-Cola, Bladensburg, MD, metal doors & frames; Dodd Brothers, Inc., Falls Church, gypsum board contractor; Frederick Tile Co., Frederick, MD, ceramic tile; National Applicators, Inc., Capitol Heights, MD, acoustical treatment; Carpet Decorators, Inc., Bethesda, MD, resilient tile; Bryan & Assoc., Inc., painting contractor; Dover Elevator Co., Rockville, MD elevators; Capital Spinkler Co., Columbia, MD, sprinkler contractor; Deneau Construction, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD and Plumbing Service Co., Ijamsville, MD, plumbing contractors; Plumbing Service Co., Ijamsville, MD, heating/ventilating/air conditioning contractor; Pel-Bern Electric, Inc., Rockville, MD, electrical contractor; D. Compe, Inc., Alexandria, special cementitious coating; and Bohem Manufacturing Co., Inc., skylights.
Harmony Hut Music Store
Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax

Marvin J. Cantor, AIA & Assoc.—Architect

Mechanical/Electrical Engineer. Murray Blitz & Associates • Interior Design, Joyce W. Woodford • General Contractor, Reid and Dunbar Construction, Inc. • Photography, Stuart A. Schwartz.

Site—The site is a tenant space in one of the largest and most modern enclosed shopping malls on the east coast, Fair Oaks, as developed by the Taubman Company on the upper level of the mall.

Program—The store owners were desirous of revising their image to the public in a contemporary mode that implied music, “show business,” records, etc., and yet staying within the guidelines of the mall design criteria which mandated very large “open” parts of the front to maximize customer traffic in and out of the mall main aiseways, built to a very complicated irregular front lease line, all within strict budget costs.

Solution—A “Proscenium” arch effect was arrived at with diminishing arches clad in “earth tone” formica colors of graduated color tints, highlighted by indirect neon lighting framing the opening. The result was a very open entrance, that seemed to provide a “stage-like” setting for the store and thereby connote the image of “show business” the owners desired. The warm colors help dispel the severe lines of the arch, while the indirect lighted beam and coffered ceiling on the interior complement the front treatment and carry to a logical conclusion the image of the entertainment business into the actual selling areas of the store.

Reid and Dunbar Construction, Inc. of Arlington was general contractor and handled concrete supply, carpentry and structural wood.

Subcontractors & Suppliers

to tell the Virginia Story

OCTOBER 1981
17
Pacific Place Shops
Virginia Beach
Brundage-Kroskin & Associates, Inc.—Architect

Mechanical/Electrical Engineer, Bowman and Associates, P.C. • General Contractor, V. C. Barnes Construction.

Pacific Place Shops is a grouping of small, boutique-type stores containing approximately 13,000 square feet and located on a one-acre commercial site at a high traffic intersection in Virginia Beach. The design program required projecting an understated, sophisticated image for the fashion and style oriented tenants. The varying configuration of the canopy roofs and storefronts was intended to emphasize the individuality of the specialty shops while restrained exterior finishes and rigid sign control were used to unify the separate shops into a cohesive entity.

Building scale and material selections were used to minimize commercialism; to create a suburban, residential project character; and to underscore the quality image of the tenants. The construction consists of clear span wood trusses supported by wood frame and masonry bearing walls with a conventional built-up roofing system on a plywood deck except thick butt cedar shakes were used at the cantilevered canopies.

V. C. Barnes Construction of Chesapeake was general contractor and handled foundations, concrete work, masonry work, carpentry, waterproofing, caulkimg, roof/wall/foundation insulation, gypsum board work and resilient tile.

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Arlington, Virginia 22201
Jermantown Square Shopping Center
City of Fairfax
Barkley Pierce O’Malley—Architects

Jermantown Square, a shopping and office center located in Fairfax City, is designed in a traditional style and has as its focus an inviting open garden plaza.

Restaurants, specialty shops and professional offices provide a distinctive village atmosphere. Retail spaces range from 500 square feet to over 3000 square feet while offices are available in units of 1250 square feet per floor. A total of 35,000 square feet of rental space is contained in the center, while a generously landscaped parking lot provides space for 182 automobiles.

Jermantown Square is located in the fastest growing area of Fairfax County, where the population/income level is ranked among the highest average in the nation.

In the immediate vicinity, and making it a major retail center, are the recently opened Fair Oaks Mall, Best Products and K-Mart. Other commercial projects are planned or under construction.

A new government center for Fairfax County is to be developed less than a mile away, providing another attraction to the area. Major corpo-
Rate office parks are under development and in planning in the nearby I-66 corridor. Quality of design and construction was a primary concern of the developer, Jermantown Square Associates, as was evidenced in the carefully designed exterior features creating the village atmosphere. Architects and planners, Barkley Pierce O'Malley, have designed individualized facades for the store and office units, incorporating Colonial brick and traditional moldings, Pella windows and custom wood doors.

The focal point of the project, the brick plaza, contains elaborate landscaping, seating areas and a decorative street clock as a major element. Umbrella covered tables accent the plaza while identifying outdoor dining areas for restaurant patrons.

Interior finishes and features of the retail units include suspended acoustical tile 2' x 4' ceiling systems, strip fluorescent lighting, electric wall outlets, drinking fountains and complete HVAC systems with time clock controls. Separate meters for all utilities are included in each unit.

The buildings are fire resistant rated '3B' according to the BOCA building code and each store building is fully sprinklered to achieve the lowest possible insurance rates for tenants.

Energy conservation measures, also a primary goal of the owner, include twice as much insulation as code requirements, insulating type windows and energy efficient HVAC systems (gas heat, electric A/C). Construction consists of masonry bearing walls, steel frame and joists with an insulating light-weight concrete roof deck. Wood trusses are also used to roof several buildings as well as arcades and pedimented facades.

The project, begun by Falls Church Construction Corporation in the late fall of 1980, was 65 percent leased at the mid-point of construction. The Bacas Company was leasing agent. Completed in September 1981, Jermantown Square is a significant addition to the commercial development in the city of Fairfax.

Falls Church Construction Corp. of Falls Church, the general contractor, also handled masonry, roof drains and floor drains. Subcontractors & Suppliers

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Timlaph Corporation of Virginia
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Richmond, Virginia

OCTOBER 1981
C. W. Francis & Son Realtors
Grand Pavilion Mall, Roanoke
Strang, Downham & Associates, AIA—Architect

Interior Design & Photography, Dan R. Mueller • General Contractor, Martin Brothers Contractors.

C. W. Francis & Son has been in the realty business since 1910 and recently decided to expand its residential sales department in a new branch office located in the rapid growing area of Southern Roanoke.

The new modern office is located at the elbow of the L-shaped Grand Pavilion Mall and designed to invite shoppers into the Gallery area to browse through the illuminated photographs of the local homes for sale.

Innovative management techniques by the company dictated both private and open offices for the sales staff. Those people with the highest sales are rewarded with one of the 12 private offices. The program also includes nine open offices, kitchen facilities, multiple listing computer center, and conference room.

Martin Brothers Contractors, Inc. of Roanoke was general contractor for the project.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
(Roanoke firms unless noted)
J. M. Blair Co., Inc., electrical contractor;
Owen Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Salem, mechanical contractor; Weddle Plumbing & Heating, plumbing contractor; and South Roanoke Lumber Co., millwork.
The Burger King Restaurant is a design surprise; one expects such striking features from an elegant expensive restaurant, not from a nationally recognized fast food chain. This Burger King is an important feature in the mall in which it is located.

The Fair Oaks regional retail center is a 1.4 million square foot development on a 115-acre site at Interstate 66 and Route 50 in Fairfax County, just west of Washington, D.C. The center design includes contemporary sculpture for the interior and very careful attention to landscaping details.

Design of the Burger King allows for efficient food preparation and service while at the same time emphasizing the natural environment with its vertical wood exterior, lattice interior panels, stone fountain, and wood chairs and benches that repeat the vertical wood pattern. The interior plantings, such as trees set in the floor and ferns in the fountain, highlight the earth tones in the tile floor and table tops.

Golden Construction, Inc. of Annandale was general contractor and handled concrete work, masonry work, steel erection, handrails, cabinets, caulking, glazing, plaster & gypsum board work, acoustical treatment and painting.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
Fancy Plants, Inc., Chesapeake, landscaping & landscaping contractor; Adams Concrete Products, Raleigh, NC, concrete supplier, masonry manufacturer & masonry supplier; Riverton Corp., Riverton, mortar; Calhoun Sign Co., Hampton, signs; Media Rep., Lafayette, LA, miscellaneous metal; Herndon Lumber & Millwork, Inc., Herndon, millwork; Forms & Surfaces, Santa Barbara, CA, paneling & special wall finish; Walsh & Koehler Glass Co., Door Div., Mt. Rainier, MD, metal doors & frames & wood doors; Lester's Hardware, Springfield, hardware supplier; Ceramic Tile of Florida, Inc., Virginia Beach, ceramic tile & special flooring; Duron Paints & Wallcoverings, Fairfax, paint supplier/manufacturer; Ideas by Claire, Hampton, wall covering; Fire Protection Systems, Inc., Fairfax, sprinkler contractor; Welch & Rushe Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Hyattsville, MD, plumbing fixture supplier & plumbing contractor; Bay Harbour Mechanical, LTD., Virginia Beach, heating/ventilating/air conditioning contractor; Electrical Suppliers, Inc., Norfolk, lighting fixtures/electrical equipment supplier; and W. J. Whitfield Electrical Co., Virginia Beach, electrical contractor.
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NCR Corporation, an international leader in electronic and computer-controlled business machines, is constructing new marketing facilities in Roanoke and Lynchburg. Specialists in equipment for retail sales, inventory control and financial data processing, NCR is one of the world’s largest suppliers of high technology business machines and computers.

The design/build team is composed of Byron R. Dickson, Architect and Days Construction Company. Their ability to produce a well-conceived design in a cost and time effective manner was a major criteria of the program.

Total building costs are less than $34 per square foot.

Each facility will provide retail sales and user services and house field engineering spaces. Flexibility was a primary consideration. The design provided open plan office areas, demonstration rooms and service, parts and storage area. Each building has provisions for future expansion of 2,400 sq. ft. The buildings contain 7,680 square feet each and will house approximately 33 employees each, in both locations.

(Continued on page 41)
Johnathan's
Sheraton Inn, Military Circle, Norfolk

Thomas Hamilton & Associates—Architect

Mechanical/Electrical Engineer, H. S. Gresham • Interior Design, Thomas Hamilton • General Contractor, C. F. Hardy Building Corp. • Photography, Huffman Studio.

Johnathan's Restaurant is located in the Sheraton Inn at the Military Circle Shopping Center in Norfolk. The project is a combined effort of Omni International Hotels of Atlanta, Georgia and The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

The underlying concept behind this type of institutional food service facility is to provide a space which will service hotel patrons as well as mall shoppers. Included in these services will be breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as a lounge for evening entertainment.

Because of the dual service placed on the facility, it became necessary to provide two entrances: one adjacent to the hotel lobby and the other at the closest feasible point to the mall concourse intersection. Hostess stands with menu storage slots were then provided so a hostess could work the two entrances from a central point.

As the patrons enter from the mall they immediately are routed into the hostess area by the use of brass rails and plant shelves as traffic dividers. The area immediately to the left was at first considered as practically non-functional; however, after careful consideration the space was developed into a windowed Florida style room with park bench seating, wood lattice ceilings and exposed, brightly colored duct work; a very pleasing space for breakfast, lunch or light dinner.

The front dining area is immediately adjacent to the mall walkway. This area is divided from the entry activity and noise by plant shelves and banners. Ceiling fans provide air movement, just enough to give a natural character to the plant leaves. Again, exposed duct work moves across the ceiling of this area to create another diversion for the dining patron. Perhaps the most important detail in this dining area is the oak greenhouse looking into the mall walkway. This element combines to allow natural light from the mall clerestory above, as well as let-
ting the diners casually observe the mall patrons as they walk by. The space, designed also for breakfast, lunch and light dinners, has become a popular spot for an afternoon cocktail.

The front dining area is divided from the lounge area by a single, floor to ceiling partition, however, the partition’s fenestrations allow indirect visual access to the lounge area. A necessary service area was also provided in the front dining area. Concern was expressed by the client; the possibility of this area being an eyesore. Therefore, the space was enclosed as a gazebo and each element of the service area was designed into the space. Also, along the wall adjacent to the lounge, mirrors were set in the window panes in place of clear glass to allow for continuity of design and to shield the service area from the waitress station.

The lounge area and the back bar design became the key for active expression. The client required only the bar to be located where the existing bar had been. The new bar and back bar combine art-deco scollos with a contemporary curve. All lighting in this area was selected for an individual purpose and the combined results provide the general lighting required. Two high seating areas provide walkaround mingling space at the same level as the bar.

A multipurpose platform, visible from the central dining area as well as the lounge, offers evening entertainment which can be seen and enjoyed by each of the areas including the more formal evening portion of the restaurant.

The rear dining area, also separated by plant shelves and banners, is for more formal dining, i.e. dinner date or businessman with an expense account. The furnishings and finishes in this area are somewhat more formal, but not overbearing or inconsistent with the adjacent spaces.

Millwork and consistent flow-through details can be seen throughout the project. Special attention to the light fixtures as well as color and style of light fixture shades provides another element for the diner's subconscious diversion, an important element in restaurant design.

C. F. Hardy Building Corp. of Virginia Beach was general contractor and handled carpentry.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
Burton Lumber Corp., Chesapeake, millwork, cabinets & window wall; Cain-Powers Architectural Art Glass (formerly Creative Stained Glass), Richmond, wood doors; Morris Tile Distributors, Inc., Chesapeake, ceramic tile; John G. Kolbe, Inc., Richmond, carpet & interior furnishings; and A. E. Allen, Richmond, lighting fixtures supplier.
By Dan Beyers

Christmas Eve was not a merry occasion for many older Virginians in 1976 when a popular cafeteria known for good tasting, low priced food closed after 20 years of service.

That day, the S&W Cafeteria in the Seven Corners Shopping Center lost its lease because the management there decided to rejuvenate the mall's image. The successful senior citizen's eatery did not fit into the Seven Corners youth oriented plan.

Having been kicked out in the cold, the owners of the cafeteria found that they were not without friends. The North Carolina firm was deluged with mail from former customers who wanted to see it return to the area. Even former 10th District Congressman, Joseph Fisher volunteered to help the business relocate.

And relocated it did. Four years later it set up shop in the Tower Square Shopping Center in the City of Falls Church. Cafeteria officials were not sold primarily on the location (even though it was a good one, just a little over a mile from the original location) nor did they feel obligated when then Falls Church Mayor, Harold Miller presented the owners with the Key to the City.

What sold the S&W people was the spirit of cooperation that existed between the owner of the Tower Square property, the City of Falls Church and even a next door neighbor.

Convinced that the S&W would bring in a satisfactory amount of tax revenue, the city collaborated with the Newcomb Broadcasting Co., owner of the shopping center, to undertake an extensive beautification project.

The city put overhead utility lines underground, replaced concrete curbs, gutters, sidewalks and entrances and completed the landscaping along the perimeter of the front parking lot.
Newcomb Broadcasting which also owns the WFAX radio station on the property, renovated the facade of the shopping center based on a design by Barkley Pierce O'Malley, Architects and Planners. Included in this renovation was the resurfacing and landscaping of the front parking lot.

The design centered on a new white aluminum canopy supported by decorative wrought iron columns. The canopy incorporates a deep fascia accented with a wrought iron pattern that frames individual store signs. Because the architectural firm wanted to unify the appearance of the shopping center, they suggested that all store signs be comprised of green letters. This caused problems for one tenant, Drug Fair, which wanted to use its orange logo.

The S&W's neighbor finally agreed with the unifying concept and put up a green lettered logo. Since then the Washington area drug chain has done well enough to extend its lease and expand its merchandise line.

Barkley Pierce O'Malley also designed the interior renovation for the S&W Cafeteria. The Falls Church facility features two major dining areas seating more than 300 persons and a private banquet room accommodating approximately 80 persons. There are two serving lines on either side of the main kitchen and adjacent to this area is the preparation kitchen, pantry and manager's office. A lower level, reached by elevator, houses mechanical rooms, employees lounges, both dry and cool food storage, a freezer and a laundry.

An energy conservation control system is a major new feature of the kitchen. The entire building is air conditioned with heat pumps. The mechanical and electrical engineering were furnished by Hurst and Associates of Falls Church.

The kitchen equipment was furnished by Hood Hotel Supply Corporation of Charlotte, North Carolina. The firm is also responsible for the kitchen design as well as the schematic arrangement of the entire cafeteria.

The total renovation cost S&W about $650,000. The new building facade and landscaped parking lots cost Newcomb Broadcasting approximately $200,000, and the City of Falls Church expended over $200,000 in its improvement work. For its part, the City of Falls Church anticipates a return on its investment within a few years from the increased real estate and restaurant taxes.

The overwhelming acceptance by local customers attests to the success of this significant commercial revitalization project—the result of the cooperative efforts of citizens, business people and municipal officials.

MRC Constructors, Inc. of Alexandria acted as general contractor for the Tower Square Shopping Center renovation, with Zephyr Awning & Window Company, Alexandria, handling the aluminum roof fascia.

John D. Clayborne, Inc. of Falls Church was general contractor for S&W Cafeteria. The firm also handled carpentry. The owner was responsible for carpet and special wallcovering.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
S&W Cafeteria
George Bumsted, Arlington, masonry manufacturer; Arlington Iron Works, Inc., Manassas, steel supplier/erection; Quality Roofing Co., Inc., Manassas, built-up roof; Vienna Glass Co., Vienna, glazing contractor; Dodd Brothers, Inc., Falls Church, gypsum board contractor; Ernest Lee, Mitchellville, MD, ceramic & quarry tile; Southern Floors & Acoustics, Inc., Merrifield, acoustical treatment; Brown Decorating, Fairfax, painting contractor; Dixon Products, Temple Hills, MD, toilet partitions; Schindler-Haughton Elevator Corp., Alexandria, elevators; Dominion Sprinkler Corp., Springfield, sprinkler contractor; F. W. Harris, Inc., Annandale, plumbing fixture supplier & plumbing contractor; Airway Sheet Metal Co., Inc., Great Falls, heating/ventilating/air conditioning contractor; P. E. Wright Electrical Contractors, Inc., DC, MD & VA, lighting fixtures/electrical equipment supplier & electrical contractor; and Hood Hotel Supply Corp., Charlotte, NC, food service equipment.

to tell the Virginia Story
Safeway Store No. 230
Williamsburg
Brundage-Kroskin & Associates, Inc.—Architect

This 40,000 square foot, free-standing, retail food store is located on a three-acre site fronting on heavily traveled Richmond Road in Williamsburg and is highly visible from surrounding public thoroughfares. It was essential that the design provide a finished appearance on all sides and that the delivery and service facilities be placed and screened to avoid any objectionable effect of these facilities on their surroundings.

City authorities mandated that the building design was not to reflect a reproduction of Colonial architecture, but they required that the design and material selections were to harmonize and blend with existing, adjoining buildings. The panelized and banded wall treatments were intended to minimize the scale of this large supermarket.

The building is of steel frame construction with brick veneer on insulated metal studs at exterior walls and a conventional built-up roof on insulated metal deck.

Heindl-Evans, Inc. of Mechanicsville was general contractor and handled foundations, concrete work, carpentry, paneling, waterproofing, foundation insulation and special wall finish (Marlite).

Subcontractors & Suppliers
(Richmond firms unless noted)
Seaboard Contractors, Inc., Mechanicsville, excavating; Colesville Nursery, Inc., Charles City, sodding, seeding, etc., landscaping & landscaping contractor; H & L Paving Contractors.
Williamsburg, paving contractor; Hanover Iron & Steel, Inc., Ashland, reinforcing, steel supplier/erection/roof deck, miscellaneous metal & handrails; Larry A. Smith, Virginia Beach, masonry contractor; Guille Steel Products Co., Inc., Virginia Beach, steel joists; TMS Millwork, millwork & wood doors; Commercial Caulking Co., caulking; and Roof Engineering Corp., Norfolk, built-up metal.

Also, Koppers Co., Inc., Pittsburgh PA, membrane roofing; Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., roof insulation; Hampshire Industries of Va., Inc., Ashland, wall insulation & gypsum board contractor; Richmond Glass Co., glazing contractor & storefront; Fenestra Door Products, Erie, PA, metal doors & frames; Pleasants Hardware, hardware supplier; Granger Tile Co., Norfolk, ceramic & quarry tile; S. B. Smith, Mechanicsville, resilient tile; Steve Biggs Painting Contractor, Virginia Beach, painting contractor; Williams Fire Sprinkler Co., Inc., Williamston, NC, sprinkler contractor; Noland Co., Norfolk, plumbing fixture supplier; CMW Plumbing & Heating Corp., Virginia Beach, plumbing contractor; Bay Harbour Mechanical Ltd., Virginia Beach, heating/ventilating/air conditioning contractor; Westinghouse Electric Supply Co., lighting fixtures supplier; General Electric Co., electrical equipment supplier; and Reliable Electrical Contractors, electrical contractor.

Dock leveler was by Rite Hite Corp. and toilet partitions were by Metpar Toilet Partitions, of Long Island, NY.

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to tell the Virginia Story

OCTOBER 1981
In its transformation from a thriving pre-Civil War textile mill to a trendy 20th century dining and shopping complex, the Brookstown Mill in Winston-Salem, N.C., exemplifies the architect's desire to blend yesterday's values with today's strengths.

The first structure of this mill complex was the Salem Cotton Manufacturing Company, built on Brookstown Avenue in 1830. The mill was equipped with the newest, steam-powered engines, and spinning frames from Baltimore. After succeeding with cotton and later wool, mill owners Francis and Henry Fries refitted the building to include a flour mill. Through the 1840s and '50s, F&H Manufacturing became one of the industrial leaders of the South. The textile mill alone had 7,700 spindles and 450 looms tended by 150 workers.

The War Between the States provided the mill with the job of manufacturing yarn for Confederate forces. After the war, the mill was refitted to produce cotton yarn and flour, and in the 1870s, it added a bleachery to its operation. In the early 20th century, the mill was modernized with new machinery and a new power plant, and it continued to operate until 1956.

In the 1980s, the mill was renovated and transformed into a mixed-use complex, including retail, offices, and residential spaces. The architectural firm Glave Newman Anderson & Associates, Inc. was responsible for the design, and the project architect was Chris Knight. The mechanical and electrical engineering was handled by Landingham Plumbing & Air Conditioning Corp., and the structural engineer was Wm. J. Davis. Frank L. Blum Construction Co. provided the general contracting services.

The transformation of the Brookstown Mill is a testament to the adaptability of historic structures and the importance of preserving our industrial heritage.
erate uniforms; but the war itself hurt the Fries' growing industrial empire: Union troops stole what they could carry off of the wool and cotton industry, and destroyed the rest.

After the war, the company rebounded and built, first, a four-story addition on the northern side of the original structure, then a grain elevator on the western side, and finally, in 1880, a complete new mill adjacent to the original Salem Cotton structure. Later, this became the first cotton mill in the South to use electricity for lighting. By the end of the century, the mill anchored a small industrial complex which included the Wachovia Flour Mill, an ice plant, a cotton warehouse, another cotton mill, and a transformer station.

From 1900 to 1925, the Fries' enterprises expanded into banking, railroads, and hydroelectric power. As these interests grew, the spindles and looms were gradually phased out, until the once-thriving textile mill was turned over completely to storage by the mid-20th century. The owners needed good dry storage space and so the mill complex was in a good state of maintenance when potential developers noticed the building.

Impressed with the commercial retailing capability of the building, the developers formed a consortium (which included Doris and Addie Brown of Chicago, W. A. "Billy" Packer of Winston-Salem, and Richmond architect Jim Gave) and began work on the Brookstown Mill project.

The Mill's history of piecemeal additions had produced a confusing arrangement of buildings with five different levels and an assortment of grade changes. The problem faced by the architects was how to create a natural circulation flow through the maze of buildings.

(Continued on page 42)
Bank of Virginia
Roanoke
Sherertz, Franklin, Crawford, Shaffner—Architect

The new facility for the Bank of Virginia in Roanoke was completed in December 1979. After the bank's management chose to remain at their present corner site, where the bank has been located for more than 30 years, the architect decided to retain their former main entrance location in view of customer familiarity. The owner's desire to build to his property line was a major design problem. Competing banks and the rectangular architecture on the other three corners of two intersecting one-way streets were a prime design consideration.

The 71,000 square foot building (five stories and basement) provides future plans for an overhead pedestrian walkway to a parking structure across Church Street. With the sloping decks of the parking structure visible through the tempered glass, 45° offsets make these decks less noticeable in the lower four floors.

An interesting contrast was provided by the diagonal front placement of the main entrance glass and brick piers, separated from the sidewalks by precast concrete planters. The use of precision brick and raked joints achieves a sense of human scale while the stacking of lights in the building provides uniformity and angular interest highlights. The matching terra cotta sills and copings, earth-tone exterior/interior color schemes and the 60-foot-high suspended brick soffits project a distinctive visual effect.

The stacking of vaults and toilets along First Street and stairs and elevators along Church Street, create vertical masses and, because of size requirements the stacks were capped with the larger computer floor—which provided the sculptural design of the building. To continue the earth-toned color scheme and community...
awareness, original artwork of local artists was procured for use throughout the building. The all-electric building incorporates the latest energy conservation techniques, including the recycling of heat generated by lights and mixing of outside air when appropriate.

J. M. Turner and Co., Inc. of Salem was general contractor and handled excavating, foundations, carpentry and millwork.

Subcontractors & Suppliers
Salem firms were: Salem Ready Mix Concrete, Inc., concrete contractor/supplier; Valley Steel Corp., reinforcing supplier; Masonry Contractors, Inc., masonry contractor & foundation insulation; and Acoustical Services, Inc., wall insulation, plaster contractor, gypsum board contractor, acoustical treatment & resilient tile.

From Roanoke were: Land Design Associates, landscaping & landscaping contractor; Webster Brick Co., Inc., masonry supplier; Fabricated Metals Industries, Inc., miscellaneous metal & handrails; I. N. McNeil Roofing & Sheet Metal Co., Inc., waterproofing, built-up roof, other roofing, roof insulation & sheet metal; W. H. Stovall & Co., Inc., glass, glazing contractor; Mahone, Inc., metal doors & frames; Skyline Paint & Hardware, Inc., electrical contractor; and Bowman Roofing & Repair Service, roofing since 1936.

Others were: Floyd F. Austin, reinforcing installation; Carolina Cast Stone Co., Inc., Greensboro, NC, precast concrete; Stone Creek Brick, Ohio, masonry manufacturer; Kawneer, Harrisonburg, window wall; Standard Tile Co., Inc., Verona, ceramic tile; and Bryant-Durham Electric Co., Inc., Durham, NC, electrical contractor.

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CRAFTS OF EVERY KIND, designed by 138 craftsmen from 12 states and Washington, D.C., will set the stage for Richmond Craft Fair 6. Sponsored by the Hand Work Shop, Inc., this juried exhibit and sale of American crafts will be held at the Richmond Arena November 13-15, 1981.

Times: Friday, November 13, 7-10 p.m.
Saturday, November 14, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sunday, November 15, 12 noon-6 p.m.

Admission: $2.50 for adults
$2.00 for students and seniors
Children under 12 free

For further information write to:
Richmond Craft Fair 6
Hand Work Shop
1001 East Clay Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Or call: (804) 649-9674

Designer crafts featured at the fair will range from raku pottery to quilts to wearable art to stained glass. In addition to the exhibits, the weekend will also include crafts demonstrations, musical entertainment, a children’s craft area, a food fair... and much more.

Craftsmen chosen to participate in Craft Fair 6 were selected on the basis of the quality of their work. Jurors were Wayne Cain, stained glass artist; Virginia McKichnie, owner of the Tomlinson Crafts Collection (Baltimore, Md.); Ray Pierotti, Executive Director of the Sawtooth Center for Visual Design (Winston-Salem, N.C.); Jeff Samvoski, originator of Perpetual Image Picture Blocks, and Joyce Wriston, fiber artist and President of the Richmond Craftsmen Guild.

A total of over $4500 in prize monies, including $100 for Best in Show, will be awarded to the craftsmen. Juror for the fair will be Eudorah Moore, crafts coordinator for the National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Program.

Last year, 10,000 people attended the Craft Fair and the craftsmen realized over $147,000 in sales. Best in Show winner was Richard Rothwell for the arts' Visual Arts Program.

A total of over $4500 in prize monies, including $100 for Best in Show, will be awarded to the craftsmen. Juror for the fair will be Eudorah Moore, crafts coordinator for the National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Program.

As visitors enter the exhibit, there are two doorways—one depicting “Lost Richmond” showing buildings in disrepair, demolished or burned down. In “Lost Richmond” visitors can play the “match-up” by pairing up photos of old buildings no longer in existence—such as the Van Lew Mansion, the Confederate Soldiers’ Home and the Sixth Street Market—with what now exists on their sites. Included in the matches will be a photo of Richmond’s first old City Hall—predecessor to existing old City Hall—built in 1816, by one of the foremost architects of the time, Robert Mills.

Many of Richmond’s lovely old homes and buildings are now only photographic memories, since 50 percent of the city’s ante-bellum houses were “lost” between 1940 and 1950. The second part of the exhibit depicts Historic Richmond Foundation’s accomplishments during the past 25 years with a Time Line—a horizontal vertical file—of clippings, photos and pamphlets. Included in the “Accomplishments” section are the restoration of The Elmira Shelter House on Church Hill—now the Foundation’s headquarters, other Church Hill restorations and Foundation projects elsewhere in the city.

“The Future of Historic Preservation in Richmond” features buildings in the city that could face disrepair, demolition or be neglected in future years.

Carols by Candlelight
Woodlawn Plantation

THE SPIRIT of Christmas past is recreated every December for visitors to historic Woodlawn Plantation. Madrigal singers carol by candlelight in halls decked with boxwood wreaths, pine cone swags, and kissing balls. The dining table is set with china, crystal and festive desserts as it might have been when George Washington’s foster daughter, Neely Custis, and Lawrence Lewis (his favorite nephew) lived there in the early 1800s.

This year’s caroling will be held on December 4 and 12 from 7 to 10 P.M. and on December 6 and 13 from 3 to 6 P.M. The admission fee of $3.00 for adults, and $1.50 for children (through age 15) includes refreshments served by the fire. Free parking.

Woodlawn Plantation, a property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is located 3 miles west of Mount Vernon at the intersection of U.S. Highway #1 and State 235S. Open 7 days a week, 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. with exception of Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day. For more information, call or write the Administrator, Woodlawn Plantation, P.O. Box 37, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0037, (703) 557-7881.

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FOR THE RECORD

Grigg Re-Elected President of Richmond Chapter of NAWIC

- Carolyn Grigg, Executive Secretary at Kjellstrom and Lee, Inc., has been re-elected as President of the Richmond Chapter #141 of the National Association of Women in Construction.

Serving with Ms. Grigg will be Jane Diggs, Assistant Corporate Secretary of Roanoke Engineering Sales Co., Inc., as Vice President; Helen Koon, Office Manager of G. E. Paine Electric Co., Inc., as Recording Secretary; Lou Cobb, Office Manager of The Helfrich Agency, as Corresponding Secretary; and Susan States, Office Administrator at William H. White, Inc., as Treasurer.

In addition, Judy Grigg, Assistant Corporate Secretary and Office Manager of The Builders' Exchange of Richmond, Va., Inc.; Marylou Paine, Corporate Secretary/Treasurer of G. E. Paine Electric Co., Inc.; Barbara McDonald, Assistant Corporate Secretary of Delami Corporation; Mary Lee Kyte, Corporate Secretary of J. W. Kyte Co., Inc.; and Merwin (Happy) Reynolds, Secretary to the Construction Division of The Howard P. Foley Co., Inc., were elected to the Board of Directors.

NAWIC held its 26th Annual Convention in Hawaii on September 9-12, 1981. The national membership figure now exceeds 8,718.

The Richmond Chapter #141, NAWIC, holds a monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of each month.

Flippo and Graves to Head Conservation and Economic Development Board

- Arthur P. Flippo, of Doswell, has been elected Chairman of the State Board of Conservation and Economic Development and H. T. "Ted" N. Graves, of Luray, has been chosen Vice Chairman announced Fred W. Walker, Department Director.

A Conservation Board member since 1973, Flippo is President of Flippo Lumber Corporation, a family owned excelsior and lumber mill company in Hanover County. He is also a member of the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers and Virginia Forestry Association and has been a Board Member of the Virginia Agri-Business Council and Lumber Manufacturer's Association of Virginia.

Graves, President of Luray Caverns Corporation, was appointed to the Board in 1978. Active in various travel organizations, he has served on the Governor's Travel Advisory Committee, and is a member of the Virginia Travel Council and the Virginia Cave Commission.
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We have just experienced the most massive change to our tax laws that has occurred since the Internal Revenue Code was rewritten in 1954. The "Economic Recovery Act of 1981" has a little something for almost everyone, but the changes that will affect business taxes are quite dramatic.

Whenever new laws are passed, there is confusion on what impact the changes will have on you, the taxpayer. The purpose of this article is to give you a brief outline of some of the changes that will affect you the most.

The Act, as it was passed, is several hundred pages long, and the regulations concerning it, that will be written in the next few years, will no doubt add to an already voluminous tax code. However, we can break the changes down into three major categories: Personal, Business, and Estate and Gift Taxes.

PERSONAL TAXES

The personal tax cuts passed, 5% on October 1, 1981, and 10% on July 1, 1982 and 1983, will not make much of a change on your 1981 tax return. As a matter of fact, the tax for 1981 will only be 1.25% less than the 1980 tax on the same amount of income. However, the 10% cuts in 1982 and 1983 will start adding up, and in 1985 the tax rate tables will be adjusted annually to account for inflation.

While the rate cuts won't save you a lot this year, you should be aware of the change in the capital gains tax rate. Effective June 10, 1981, the maximum tax imposed on long term capital gains is 20%. This is the maximum tax that can be incurred on the sale of a long term capital asset and, unless you are in the 50% tax bracket or over, the actual capital gains rate will be lower than the 20%. Speaking of the 50% tax bracket, starting in 1982, it will be the top tax rate. The current maximum individual income tax rate of 70% will be lowered to 50%, and there will be no difference between "earned" and "unearned" income for individuals in the top brackets.

Other personal tax changes coming up are increases in the child care credit, IRA and Keogh limits, the tax-exempt CD's available at Savings and Loans, an increase in the income earned abroad exclusion, charitable contributions deductions for taxpayers not itemizing, two year rollover provision for deferring the gain on the sale of your principal residence, and an increase to $125,000 in the one time exclusion on that house for those aged 55 or over.

BUSINESS

The major change in this new law is the elimination of the concept of depreciation. We now have, effective January 1, 1981, an "accelerated cost recovery system" that discards the idea of estimated useful life of an asset, and gives us set tables that we can use to determine the "recovery" of the cost of an asset. This radical change was made to encourage investment in productive equipment by giving the taxpayer a greater tax deduction than what was available using depreciation.

Basically, there are now only four recovery periods, each one based on the type of property:

- 3 year property—automobiles, light trucks, some equipment
- 5 year property—equipment, heavy vehicles
- 10 year property—public utility property, some barns and sheds
- 15 year property—real property (buildings, houses, warehouses, etc.)

Each recovery period group has its own table on how much is deductible in any given year. For an example, a 5 year asset will give you a 15% deduction in the first year, 22% in the second, and 21% thereafter. In addition, there are three complete sets of tables for property acquired before 1985, during 1985, and after 1985.

While the deductions from the tables are fairly good, especially for real property, in some
cases they may be less than what you currently are taking. If you have been very aggressive in your depreciation deductions, and most of your assets have short lives, you may not benefit from the new system. However, most firms that are capital intensive will realize substantial tax savings as these tables are worked in over the years. Construction contractors should do quite well, but service firms, such as architects and engineers, will not get huge deductions. Property purchased before 1981 will continue to be depreciated under the old method and cannot be converted to the cost recovery system. The recovery system is not mandatory; however, assets not placed in the system must be depreciated using a straight line or units of production method.

Investment credit will now be a full 10% on 5, 10, and 15-year personal property, and 6% on 3-year property. For property disposed of before its full time, there will still be investment credit recapture, prorated on the actual period of use. The tax rates for corporations have also been lowered, in that the existing 17% bracket will be 16% in 1982 and 15% thereafter, and the 20% bracket will be 19% in 1982 and then 18%. In addition, a simplified LIFO inventory, using government published percentages, will be available to small businesses. Changes in the number of shareholders permitted by Sub-S corporations (to 25) and an increase in the accumulated earnings credit for all corporations will be effective in 1982.

Other changes relating to credits for rehabilitation of older buildings and Employee Stock Ownership Plans, expensing of assets when purchased, carryover of Net Operating Losses and unused credits are all in this Act and must be taken into account in your business planning.

ESTATES AND GIFTS

As we all have heard, the new law almost eliminates the estate tax. After 1986, estates of less than $600,000 will not be taxed nor even have to file an estate tax return. In and after 1982, property passed on to the surviving spouse will be completely federal estate tax free, no matter how much is transferred. Since the Virginia estate tax is based on the federal tax, it appears that very few estates will be subject to the Virginia tax. Due to the large revenue loss by the state, I must assume that the state law will be changed in the near future. These same provisions will also apply to gifts made during the lifetime of the donor.

The one big danger here is that people will get complacent and not do any tax planning at all for their estates, not thinking about the fact that the $600,000 limit doesn’t take effect until 1986 and, without a proper will and planning, you still could incur substantial estate taxes.

In summary, we have just made some major changes in the tax law, and it is most important that these changes be reflected in your business and personal planning. Because of the way some of the changes are being phased in, and because of the complexity of the law, it is now more important than ever to sit down with your CPA or financial advisor and do some comprehensive tax planning. The tax law was changed to provide you with tax relief, and you should take every opportunity available to reduce your tax burden and invest your savings to provide for our “economic recovery.”
The structure is pre-engineered steel with brick and steel stud envelope walls. Other exterior materials include brick pavers and insulated glass in aluminum window walls. The client's high emphasis on energy conservation resulted in R-25 roof and walls and the latest state of the art heating, ventilating and air conditioning system. The sites will be heavily landscaped.

Days Construction Co., Inc. of Salem is general contractor for the project.

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Brookstown Mill
(From page 33)
The solution included pulling off many unsuitable accretions, opening up large archways, cleaning the brick and wood, refinishing the heart pine floors to their natural appearance, and structurally reinforcing the buildings. On the retail levels, a light glass storefront system is suspended from the building itself, allowing visitors an uninterrupted view from one end of the Mill to another, eliminating any feeling of being in a shopping mall. The interior courtyard, which originally sloped 15 feet, was regraded totally and turned into a dramatic two-level space. From the highest level, one descends to a circular belvedere overlooking the lower terrace; a grand staircase leads down to this terrace, the outdoor dramatic two-level space. From the highest column from the building. This innovative structural solution is called "an upside-down milking stool" by its designer, Bill Davis, an engineer who is originally from Winston-Salem. The tension rods pull up on the "stool" which supports the center-point of the roughly-square roof.

Frank L. Blum of Winston-Salem, NC, was the general contractor and handledstonework and carpentry. William J. Davis of Richmond was the structural engineer. Ladingham Plumbing and Heating of North Carolina, Inc., Winston-Salem was the consulting mechanical and electrical engineer and plumbing, heating, ventilating, and air conditioning contractor.

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