Everyone has their obsessions. We're no different.
Editor's Page

Carpetbagging in Asia

Architects should pack their principles as well as passports when designing abroad.

ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: Chongqing Tower, Chongqing, China, by Haines Lundberg Waehler; 21st Century Tower, Shanghai, China, by Murphy/Jahn; AVIC Plaza Tower, Shenzhen, China, by Loebl Schlossman & Hackl; Jin Mao Tower, Shanghai, China, by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

Four years ago, when ARCHITECTURE published an issue on American architects working abroad, the projects we discovered were concentrated in Japan. Now, as Japan grapples with a recession, the hottest markets for American firms are in Southeast Asia. Explosive economic growth in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, and China is creating opportunities for lucrative corporate building commissions—the likes of which have not been enjoyed by American architects since the mid-1980s.

Like the Japanese, clients throughout Asia are hiring American architects to create symbols of power and prestige: high rises that seem more at home in Houston and Chicago than in developing cities still struggling to build roads and sewers. In Kuala Lumpur, for example, the petroleum giant Petronus has tapped Cesar Pelli to design the tallest building in the world, which the Malaysian government is touting as a symbol of the once-agricultural country’s industrial progress. Pelli’s pinnacle may be topped, however, by a tower designed by New York-based Haines Lundberg Waehler. Proposed for the city of Chongqing in Sichuan, one of China’s poorest provinces, the building will break through the clouds at 114 stories—50 feet higher than Chicago’s Sears Tower.

These overscaled designs represent only a sampling of the tall buildings sprouting up all over Asia, despite the fact that many Asian cities lack the necessary infrastructure, materials, or skilled labor to build them. In most cases, little thought is given to the environmental and social consequences of high-rise development, which is increasing the density, pollution, and congestion of cities that are already growing faster than any others in history. Such rapid growth, especially in agricultural countries where land is at a premium, may require high-rise housing and offices, but where is the sensitivity to site and context American architects proclaim so loudly at home?

Despite the profession’s growing awareness of sound planning, sustainability, and preservation, these issues seem to be ignored by American architects working in Asia, who are leaving their consciences stateside. Many of the skyscraper exports in Asia seem recycled from the 1980s—designs that got shelved during the recession, now gussied up with minarets and pagoda tops.

Recently, much attention has been paid by the AIA and other professional groups to how U.S. firms can market their services to foreign clients. Beyond teaching architects how to gain a toehold in foreign soil, these groups should also evaluate the full impact of American architectural exports. It is time the profession examined the cultural, environmental, and social effects of practicing abroad, and the questionable ethics of architects carpetbagging in Asia.

Debra Scott

ARCHITECTURE / SEPTEMBER 1994
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Capitol crime
The July 1994 issue of ARCHITECTURE is of the highest quality as usual. In particular, I heartily second your article “Percent for Architecture” (page 15). No matter how we architects approach it, architecture is and always will be “art” as well as “science.” Publishing the letter and photographs regarding Lake/Flato’s Chandler house (page 19) indicates sensitivity of self-policing within the profession and should be openly highlighted when architects cross the “referential” boundary.

On a similar note, Bradford McKee’s article, “Capitol Bias” (page 37), has also violated a boundary—one of presumption; guilty without trial. The majority of the article seems factual, but opinions should be left up to the readers, with charges leveled and proven in the legal system. It’s obvious that McKee’s case is trying to lead one to be sympathetic by equating General Accounting Office numbers to the AIA’s Code of Ethics. George M. White has just been painted as a serious civil rights offender. Without his day in court, is that fair?

McKee’s brief article brings out more questions about the bureaucratic system than about White’s integrity. He may be a poor manager, but what has the Architect of the Capitol’s Office to do with hiring or managing almost 2,000 personnel, from project architects to custodians, in the first place?

To me, the proper focus of the Architect of the Capitol should be on buildings, their design and restoration. His management focus should be on staff restoration professionals and not in the area of building “household” maintenance. McKee’s clamoring for the President of the United States to replace White is somewhat biased and opinionated reporting and seemingly out of his area of expertise.

Policing actions of our fellow architects in the realm of architecture has certain historical documentation. Whether we like it or not, we are “our brother’s keeper” in the “arts” and “science” of the practice of architecture because we are all in it together. Our reputations depend on the “architectural” actions of one another. When we violate these, we bring disdain on the profession and distrust from the world around us.

However, outside the field of architecture, nonarchitectural accusations are not only inappropriate but counterproductive to the profession. This is not meant to be a protection of George White, whom I do not know, but rather a charge to our magazine to refocus on the practice of architecture. Basically, as a professional organization, let’s stick to matters that we can direct and stay clear of those that cause division and should be handled by other systems and other professions.

Johnny W. Cotten, AIA
Cotten Landrum Architects
Corpus Christi, Texas

I read Bradford McKee’s “Protest” with some degree of astonishment.
I am writing to protest the obvious liberal bias in your piece "Capitol Bias." The use of racial profiles showing disparate numbers of minorities in certain positions compared to their numbers in the local work force is not in itself "proof" of bias, but only an indication that such bias may exist.

Discrimination happens to individuals, and consequently, proof of discrimination must come from treatment of individuals.

Your example of the high-voltage electricians is the strongest indicator that bias could exist, but several pieces of the "proof" are missing.

Of the 24.8 percent of minorities holding these jobs in the private sector, how many individuals have applied for work at the Capitol? If none have applied, then no discrimination has occurred. Is there a test that must be taken to rank applicants according to knowledge and ability? If so, where do the minorities rank in the list of applicants? If hiring is done strictly on the basis of such a test, and all new hires happen to be white, then no discrimination has occurred. If minorities of high rank on such a list have been passed over for employment, then that is proof of bias, but no such information is forthcoming in your article.

Your example of the high percentage of black women being employed as custodians seems to indicate that white women are discriminated against for these positions.

You cannot use low percentages of minorities in certain positions as evidence of bias, and then turn around and claim that a high percentage of minorities in another unrelated position is also evidence of the same bias.

How large is the pool of qualified minority applicants for the higher paid positions? Could it be that the relative percentages for white/minority applicants for these positions are exactly the same as the actual numbers of white/minority employees? We don't know these figures, because you haven't reported them. If you really wanted to uncover bias on Capitol Hill, this would be something to look into. If, however, you just want to jump on the white-male-bashing bandwagon by using misleading statistics to further your liberal agenda, then congratulations.

J.L. Tyson
Cape Canaveral, Florida

I have just finished reading the article "Capitol Bias" in your July issue. Having visited the U.S. Capitol before George M. White became Architect of the Capitol and at periodic times since, I can say that the average American citizen has no idea of the debt of gratitude owed White for his work. When he took over, the building was a dump. Now it elegantly represents the best for which our country stands.

It is a sad commentary when a man is taken to task for not having the right number of each kind of body and is not praised for the quality of his contribution to society.

John L. Webb
Ponchatoula, Louisiana
Letters

CAD review re-viewed

I read with dismay the July article on CAD systems (pages 113-117). This article misinforms and does a disservice to members of the profession who depend on magazines such as yours to provide accurate and useful information concerning integrating CAD software in their practices.

By what possible measure are these programs in the top 10 of CAD? With the exception of AutoCAD and MicroStation, I question whether any of them qualify. With the exception of Sonata and A&ES, I also question whether any of them qualify based on their usefulness as architectural tools. VersaCAD for Macintosh, which was listed, was discontinued two years ago.

The author says that changes to architectural CAD software are "more cosmetic than substantive." On what evidence is this based? The body of the article is a series of empty non sequiturs grazing issues such as hardware prices, AutoCAD, and facilities management. If a little knowledge can be a bad thing, this very little knowledge demonstrated by the writer is dangerous.

Given ARCHITECTURE's general practice of not publishing software reviews, I feel that this article was especially damaging to the magazine's reputation as a source of good information, to the dozens of major software developers who have dedicated resources to creating tools specifically for architecture, and to the architects who are attempting to evaluate the myriad of available software and hardware alternatives and select the best one for their practice. David Marlatt, AIA
President, Graphisoft U.S.
South San Francisco, California

It is strange that in your review, Cadkey was represented by its engineering software (CADKEY 7) and not its architectural software. Cadkey's DataCAD is the best value on the market today and, obviously, AutoCAD's worst nightmare. Perhaps that is why it was not represented.

Ray Campbell, AIA, Architect
J. Hyatt Hammond Associates
Greensboro, North Carolina

Your article had about as much meat as would the "Top 10 List" of CAD programs on Letterman. "At a glance" should not mean with eyes closed.

In the article's defense, some information was offered, albeit inconsistently. If the listing was in priority by programs in use, then third-party support could be inferred. Was DataCAD left off as Cadkey's architecturally specific acquisition because it failed to meet top 10 criteria, and if so, why was CADKEY slighted as "not as strong for pure architectural design" when the purchase of DataCAD addressed this and could have been mentioned?

When can our profession expect an intelligent, no-holds-barred, real product evaluation from AIA? A committee could establish relevant criteria: software cost per station, at market average prices; hardware cost per station, at market average prices, for each software manufacturer's minimum recommended platform configuration; recommended training time in cost per hour; a blind test by architects not skilled in CAD for ease of use and relevance to our processes and approach; benchmark tests for specific file sizes for zoom, pan, plot, and load.

Advertisers that don't score high marks may get upset and stop advertising, but isn't that the conflict of interest that the AIA has railed against (as it relates to advertising
and the profession) these many years? Stop the trivia and support your constituency.
Harrison F. Bink, AIA
Partner, Bink & Associates Architects
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

My mouth dropped open when your author, in reviewing the top 10 CAD programs for architecture firms, reviewed CADKEY 7. Why he did not ask the common-sense question, "Why on earth would one of the top 10 best-selling CAD products for architecture firms be a mechanical engineering CAD program?"

Cadkey is the parent company of DataCAD 5, which is an exclusively architectural CAD software product. DataCAD 5 is a great software program at an extraordinarily modest price, and it is no wonder it has made your top 10 list after selling over 25,000 copies in the last six months. But please note, it is DataCAD 5 that should be reviewed in this article, not CADKEY 7. I regret that architects missed the opportunity to read about this fine CAD product due to your oversight.

Even H. Shu, AIA
Shu Associates
Boston, Massachusetts

As the MicroStation product manager for Bentley Systems, I have a keen interest in seeing our products positioned well in print. Imagine my disappointment to see MicroStation misrepresented in the review by Jon Pepper. He wasn't exactly inaccurate, yet he certainly wasn't noting current information. I would suggest that he compiled his information from promotional literature for Version 4, released in February 1991. MicroStation Version 5 has been commercially available since December 1993. In addition, judging from the images that appear above the MicroStation entry, which are not MicroStation at all, Pepper did not sufficiently research our product.

Tom Anderson, AIA
Bentley Systems
Exton, Pennsylvania

Healthcare concerns
I am concerned about the American Institute of Architects' stance on endorsing President Clinton's healthcare proposal (June 1994, page 135). The Institute stands for integrity and professionalism. I am disturbed by the AIA's endorsement of a healthcare plan that was crafted in a secret committee and chaired by someone who is not an elected official—First Lady Hillary Clinton.

The AIA should be an advocate for the practicing architect. Anything that is a detriment to economic viability, autonomy, or professional practice should be fought vigorously. The Institute is wrong by "going along to get along" regarding the current move to "fix" healthcare, and its members should be very careful about supporting a bill in Congress that is worse than the problems it attempts to correct.

Keith Starnes, Associate AIA
Clemson University
College of Architecture
Anderson, South Carolina

News or views?
I found David Dillon's article on projects in Texas by David Schwarz (June 1994, pages 28-29) rather mean-spirited. The pages of ARCHITECTURE are hardly the venue for questionable judgments of persons or practices, especially when disguised as a "news item."

Dillon's opinions of architectural design are what I care to read about, not his opinions of the individuals who design architecture. I find the article unbecoming of your normally high editorial standards.

Mark A. Rabe, AIA
Alexandria, Virginia

Corrections
In the July 1994 issue of ARCHITECTURE, Walter DuFresne photographed the Haber Early Learning Center (page 46); Robert Perron photographed the Latino Youth Development Center (page 48); Tim Griffith photographed the Burton E. Green Child and Family Development Center (pages 80-85).

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**Events**

**September 21**
Deadline for submission of entries to the American Planning Association’s 1995 National Planning Awards. Contact: (202) 872-0611.

**September 21-24**
National Association of Women in Construction’s 1994 convention, in Chicago. Contact: (800) 552-3506.

**September 22-24**
“Houses and Housing,” the 1994 AIA Western Mountain Regional Conference in Jackson, Wyoming. Contact: (307) 745-5322.

**September 23-October 30**
inSITE94, site-specific artworks throughout San Diego County and Tijuana. Contact: (619) 544-1482.

**September 27-28**

**September 27-29**
InterPlan exhibition, covering contract furnishing and interior design, at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City. Contact: (212) 221-0500.

**October 1**
Charles Moore Foundation raffle to endow Moore House and Studio in Austin, Texas. Grand Prize is one week at Sea Ranch. For tickets, contact: Charles W. Moore Foundation c/o Ace Architects, (510) 452-0775.

**October 1**
“Access,” a conference addressing universal design in the kitchen and bathroom, organized by the Cooper-Hewitt. Contact: (212) 860-6868.

**October 4**

**October 4-February 26, 1995**

**October 7-8**

**October 14**
Deadline for entries in the National Association of Home Builders/National Council on Seniors Housing Fourth Annual Best of Seniors Housing Awards Program. Contact: (800) 368-5242, ext. 235.

**October 31**
Deadline for entries in the 1995 Presidential Design Awards, administered by the Design Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts. Contact: (202) 682-5437.

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New Embassies Open in Washington, D.C.

The history of embassy design in Washington, D.C., began with the adaptation of 19th-century brick and stone mansions on Massachusetts Avenue, known as "Embassy Row." In the 1930s, several foreign governments built new embassies on the row, adopting the U.S. fashion of the day, Neo-Georgian architecture, instead of their own national styles; Edwin Lutyens' British Embassy and John J. Whelan's Embassy of Norway (both completed in 1931) are notable examples. Today, three new buildings illustrate a more nationalistic approach: the Finnish and Singapore embassies, and the German ambassador's residence.

Located at 3301 Massachusetts Avenue, the Finnish Embassy occupies a site previously inhabited by a 1950s Federal-style mansion. Designed by the Finnish architectural team of Mikko Heikkinen and Markku Komonen, the new embassy is surrounded by the embassies of Norway and Belgium; the Nunciature of the Holy See (Vatican); and the U.S. Naval Observatory.

A bold steel-and-glass box nestled among its stately masonry neighbors, the Finnish Embassy maximizes an awkward, sloping site, condensing offices, library, and ceremonial room within 4,750 square meters, one-third of which is devoted to parking. Its assemblage of glass block, green-tinted glass, patinated copper and bronze, and polished granite walls conceals a naturalistic haven created behind the building. Replete with natural light, the interior combines the precision of stainless steel nautical detailing with natural wood surfaces. Heikkinen and Komonen's design epitomizes Finland's Modern traditions.

In the 1960s, growing requirements for offices, on-site parking, and security led the State Department to develop an office park for embassies in northwest Washington. Today, the strict guidelines of the 47-acre International Center suggest the new direction of embassy design. Among the first of 23 lots to be developed is the Embassy of Singapore, designed by RTKL Associates. The firm's choice of materials, structure, and landscape reflect Singapore's architectural traditions: The brick and limestone exterior employs teak sunshades and conceals an interior lined with mahogany and cherry, silk wall panels, and custom lighting.

The new German ambassador's residence, located west of Georgetown, harkens back to the grandeur of Washington's Embassy Row. Designed by German architect O.M. Ungers, the hilltop residence is east of the Modern, 95,000-square-foot Chancery, designed by Ungers' teacher, Egon Eiermann, in 1964. While the Chancery conceals itself beneath a cover of trees, the ambassador's residence flaunts terraced landscaping and a reflecting pool with unabashed formality.

The plan and section of the residence are derived from a square. The roof evidences the separation of public and private areas: Segmented pyramidal skylights line the corridors, and copper-sheathed pyramidal roofs cap the square private rooms. Devoid of ornamentation, the pure forms of the residence are the antithesis of the layered, complex Chancery. However, the two adjacent buildings share a disciplined approach to design and a consistency of method. Ungers' manipulation of the square is equivalent to Eiermann's methodical application of layers.

Both Finland and Germany commissioned architects from their native country. For Heikkinen and Komonen, the Finnish Embassy provided the first opportunity to build in America. For O.M. Ungers, the chance to design a residence adjacent to his teacher's building represents Germany's continuity of design. Singapore's selection of RTKL indicates the potential opportunities for American architects in the development of International Center, where Chile, Morocco, Bangladesh, UAE, Brunei, and Malaysia are currently engaged in selecting architects for six of the 23 lots.

This center heralds a new decade of embassy building, but its success as the Embassy Row of the 21st century will depend on continuing cultural exchanges. —Ann C. Sullivan
Details

Robert Peck, group vice president for government affairs, is leaving the AIA to join the Federal Communications Commission as Deputy Chief of Legislative Affairs. Mississippi architect John Robbins has been appointed Executive Director of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, a new division of the National Park Service, located in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Michael Graves has illustrated Mr. Chas and Lisa Sue Meet the Pandas, a children's book written by Fran Lebowitz, to be published in November by Alfred A. Knopf. A film by Terry Black on Indianapolis architect Evans Woollen will air October 2 on public television. CRSS has merged with Helmut, Obata & Kassabaum; the firm will operate as HOK. New York City has selected HOK to head a team of consultants in the Yankee Stadium renovation. Chicago-based Valerio Associates and Train Dewalt have merged to form Valerio Dewalt Train Associates. Portland-based Stastny Architects, with David N. Sloan & Associates of Albuquerque, has been selected to design the new Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum in Ignacio, Colorado. Eskew Filson Architects has been selected to design the National D-Day Museum at the University of New Orleans. Boston-based Machado and Silvetti Associates has won a competition to renovate Langdon and Wilson's 1974 J. Paul Getty Museum in L.A. Their design was selected over those of Spanish architect Juan Navarro Baldeweg; Portuguese architect Álvaro Siza; L.A. designers Hodgetts and Fung, and Franklin D. Israel; and Kallmann McKinnell & Wood of Boston. Langdon Wilson Architecture has been chosen lead architect for the $10 million renovation of the Heard Museum in Phoenix. The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation has presented its annual Village Award to Françoise Bollack Architects for the restoration of the Lesbian & Gay Community Services Center. Former dean of the College of Environmental Design at California State Polytechnic University, Marvin J. Malecha has been named dean of the North Carolina State University School of Design. Suzanne Stephens has resigned as editor of AIA New York's Oculus to attend Cornell University's graduate program in architectural history.
Bauhaus Celebrates 75th Anniversary

When Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus in Weimar, Germany, in 1919, he formalized a standard of education, design, and craftsmanship that became internationally adopted. Political and financial difficulties caused the Bauhaus to move from Weimar to Dessau, Germany, and, in 1932, to Berlin, where the school remained for one year before the Nazis forced it to close. This year, several museums in the United States and Europe are commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Bauhaus with exhibitions, films, and lectures.

In New York, "Bauhaus Workshops: 1919-1933," will be on display at the American Craft Museum through October 9. The exhibition examines the early years of the Bauhaus, when it emphasized craft and decorative objects modeled for machine production. It highlights five disciplines: fiber, ceramics, glass, metal, and wood. From a 1924 ashtray by Marianne Brandt to the textile designs of Anni Albers, the objects illustrate the rigorous tectonics of the German school.

Following the closure of the Bauhaus, many faculty members and students immigrated to America. The Cooper-Hewitt is hosting a symposium on October 15 that chronicles this migration's effect on American design. "The Legacy of the Bauhaus in America" features the premiere screening of Bauhaus in America. The film presents firsthand accounts of the school's influence from several prominent American architects, among them Philip Johnson, Michael Graves, James Ingo Freed, and Stanley Tigerman.

Today, the Bauhaus remains a vital institution in Weimar, on the 1911 campus designed by Henry van de Velde. Originally founded to link local craftspeople with artists, this institution spawned the Modern teachings of Gropius, whose 1926 Bauhaus building in Dessau still functions as a studio facility.

Operating today as the University for Architecture and Building Sciences, the Weimar school recently added a department of design, which offers courses in art, industrial design, and visual communication. Until 1988, a competitive admission process limited enrollment to 30 students per year. Following the unification of Germany, the school now accepts 120 students each year, prompting plans for expanding the original architecture building.

Events celebrating the anniversary include cultural activities throughout Europe. On September 16, Weimar's art museum will premiere an exhibition on the early Bauhaus years, focusing on the work of Johannes Itten, who helped shape the school's curriculum. The exhibit will travel to Berlin's Bauhaus Archives in November; the art museum in Bern, Switzerland, will host the exhibit next February.—A.C.S.
A vast transportation complex will establish a vibrant civic landmark in Bilbao, Spain.

London-based Michael Wilford and Partners has developed a scheme to transform an existing railway station into a new civic center for Bilbao, combining transportation facilities with residential, retail, and commercial development. Recognizing the strategic location of the existing station, the plan incorporates public plazas, pedestrian routes, and grand colonnades to connect the new complex to its surroundings.

A bus station, two railway lines, and a Metro station comprise the interchange. Rail platforms will be relocated in the center of the site; a grand station hall with a skylit oval dome will introduce disembarking visitors to the city. Retail and commercial development are relegated to the perimeter.

Two sculptural elements will register a distinctive profile on the Bilbao skyline. The round world trade center tower will provide a landmark for vehicles; and an 80-meter-high skewed glass cube, containing elevators and escalators, will mark a pedestrian entrance.

Development of individual portions is scheduled to begin in 1996; the 310,000-square-meter station is expected to be completed in the year 2000.—Ann C. Sullivan
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A new factory by Alvaro Siza counters the vitality of Vitra’s Weil am Rhein campus.

Siza Misses at Vitra

Were the factory designed by Alvaro Siza at any industrial site other than Vitra, it would be exemplary for its meticulous detailing and luminous interiors. But Siza has joined Nicholas Grimshaw, Frank Gehry, Zaha Hadid, and Tadao Ando, who have all built on the Weil am Rhein campus of this Swiss-based furniture manufacturer. Structures were in place, the context was charged, and expectations were high.

Siza’s brief was simply to build an industrial shed at the property’s edge, along the hypotenuse of a triangular site. The Portuguese architect responded with a structure based on a square footprint notched out where the hypotenuse slices off one corner. But the building misinterprets the context established by the adjacent Hadid-designed fire station.

Siza kept his building plain and simple, articulate only in the detail. By sheathing the structure in a uniform brick skin, he made an effort to set off the fire station by neutralizing the warehouse. But Siza’s mistake is to believe that visual quiet implies neutrality. With brick, he reinforces the static nature of the box by conferring a sense of weight: His design offers strong inertial resistance to the dynamic forms of Hadid’s structure. Siza’s unresponsive mass virtually stops the flow that Hadid painstakingly culled from the nearby river, railroads, and hillsides.

With the best of intentions, Siza tried to defer to the fire station, and in the deference, he misunderstands it, treating it as a precious object. Moreover, Hadid orchestrated her streamlined forms so that the building and its activities start to urbanize a factory complex that is otherwise internalized. Hundreds of people work at Vitra, yet the site planning hardly gathers people in any way that might be considered civic. Rather than objectifying Hadid’s building, Siza might have picked up on its urbanizing gesture with an invented program, or with offices and showrooms borrowed from the existing factories. Lacking program, he might have inflected the blank walls of the boxy shed to acknowledge the adjacent dynamism of the fire station.

The static nature of Siza’s design monumentalizes the warehouse at a sensitive point in the Vitra campus that Hadid has intensified. Hadid’s building is a sociable runner; it yearns both to fraternize and to pass a baton. Siza, sadly, has retreated into perceived architectural correctness and has missed both the race and the opportunity to foster community.—Joseph Giovannini
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Architects must become more socially responsible, asserts architect Stanley Tigerman.

At the end of the rip-roaring 1980s, economic recession combined with burgeoning social ills to create an economic, social, and cultural watershed for architects. Entry-level jobs dried up virtually overnight, and highly capable veterans working for major firms were summarily dismissed in a rout unheard of since the Great Depression. If real estate developers didn’t go bust, they took refuge in office leasing and management, and the entire American office building sector closed up shop. Despite this emerging climate of unprecedented despair, star architects practiced as if unaware of hard times. I will never forget a lavish New York City opening at the Four Seasons, when some of us inaugurated our $30,000, one-of-a-kind tchotchkes for Swid Powell, only to step out into the cold night, tripping over corrugated containers that were sheltering Manhattan’s homeless population.

But the schizophrenic 1980s did not exist in isolation. The prior decade helped set the stage for a turning point in the architectural profession that would tumble designers out of their ivory towers and into the real world. Other than coming excruciatingly close to closing my own office in the 1974-76 recession, I didn’t believe there was any chance of a lasting ripple effect resulting from those troubled times. Another case, I suppose, of architectural amnesia—the inability to project globally that which impacts locally. After all, even though architects couldn’t build, we could still draw, and art collectors, gallery dealers, and museum curators, both at home and abroad, seemed to be fascinated by what they saw. There didn’t seem to be anything wrong with the theoretical positions emerging from New York’s Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, which situated ideas above building as the center of the discipline, if not the profession, of architecture.

The profession was changing long before creeping alienation was laid at the feet of the long-lived giants of Modernism, who would, in any case, soon be clad in user-friendly Postmodernist clothes. (The memorable precedent of those notorious 1930s Beaux-Arts balls in New York City, replete with architects wearing their buildings, comes to mind.) Understanding architects’ condition of exile, a new generation of teachers and practitioners emerged, honestly and deliberately seeking their roots in a fragmented past, bookended by dislocation and dissatisfaction.
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the "pencil" at the disposition of power brokers. I propose that we institutionalize our accountability by our resolve to externalize the greater good within our individual and collective selves.

This, then, is a call to our beliefs—not our burdens—to exploit our capabilities, not to see how far they can be infinitely extended on our own behalf, but rather how much, and in what ways they can be utilized in situations morally and ethically constituted. In all events, it is safe to say that society's needs now transcend each of our own individual desires. Our Constitution beautifully defines the balance between the individual and the collective, and if there ever was a time when the scale needs to shift in favor of the collective, this is the moment.

But this is not just a call for ethical responsibility to engage in the reconstruction of society. It is also a call to the courageousness within each of us—a call to that indomitable spirit that causes us to "rush in where angels fear to tread." We are needed as we never were before, not only to design, but to implement design strategies in so many areas, from affordable housing, to solutions to homelessness, to sustainable environments, to housing the elderly and the disabled, to havens for battered women and children. It is no longer appropriate to wait for the benevolent client to appear to deliver us to long-awaited meaningful projects: We have it within ourselves to initiate action in a profession far too accustomed to inaction.

Our obligations to reconstruct must be derived from a moral basis for promoting universal design that is nondiscriminatory for use by us all regardless of age, ability, economic status, race, religion, and gender. There is something suitably poignant about a vulnerable discipline uncertain of itself, casting about to redefine its role both intrinsically and extrinsically.

Strategies for architectural practice for the 1990s need to be more than benignly multivalent. The need for a moral and ethical underpinning for practice is also wide-ranging. These strategies include, but are not limited to, selecting clients for reasons not only rationalized by individual gain; initiating projects for the greater good of society; collapsing the distance between design and its delivery systems for those in greatest need; developing theories based on need disseminated to large audiences rather than theories restricted to the arcane for an architectural intelligentsia; and striving for mutuality of purpose between education and practice for the benefit of both the discipline and the practice of architecture. These are the mandates of the 1990s: Architects need only hear their call—and respond.—Stanley Tigerman

Stanley Tigerman, FAIA, is cofounder of Archeworks, a new design laboratory rooted in social cause, which will open this month in Chicago. Projects undertaken by Archeworks' first class will include day-care centers, an enterprise zone in West Humboldt Park, and mixed-use districts in cities.

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PROJECT OWNER/DEVELOPER:
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PROJECT DESIGN TEAM:
ARCHITECT, Spencer/Hoskins Associates
ENGINEER, Robert Bein, William Frost & Associates
ENGINEER, Hillman Biddison & Loewenguth
ENGINEER, Retrofit Originality, Inc.

PROJECT NAME: The Center For Regenerative Studies at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
PROJECT OWNER/DEVELOPER:
California State University
PROJECT DESIGN TEAM:
ARCHITECT, Dougherty + Dougherty
ENGINEER, Store, Matakovich & Wolfberg
ENGINEER, EQE International
CONSULTANT, Peridian International, Inc.
REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

ADAPTING TO PLACE

This issue presents an international portfolio of projects that range in location, program, and scale from a remote house in Australia to an office and gallery block in the heart of Paris. As a group, these buildings document the continuing transformation of Modernism from the puristic, tyrannical approach that shaped the most famous icons of this century to a more expressive manifestation of place. American architects have much to learn from the confidence of these new buildings. For all the constraints of an ancient culture, city, or landscape, foreign architects seem to enjoy greater freedom of expression than their American counterparts, who are all too often subordinated to the authority of developers, contractors, and community review boards. The international projects that follow were shaped as much by public trust and political commitment as by sheer talent.
Between these two areas, initially screened by a short flank of wall, a triangular void brings daylight down to wash the circulatory mechanism of the spine. The architect employs such skewed interstitial spaces throughout the Center for Contemporary Galician Art to dissolve weight and shadowy corners, acting as geometric knuckles. They include a skillfully glazed acute incision between the theater and the street, and the pooled niche beyond the café aligned through to water features in the park. Such special moments are fundamentally dependent upon Siza's generating vectors. As proof, they recur or are retraced, as in the splicing clerestory of the library above the auditorium and in the acute angle of the office corridors.

As the architecture unfolds, panoramic views without the interference of mullions are adjusted to precisely framed interconnections within the volume. The building is about viewing art and about viewing itself and its world—hence the tilted ocular antechamber off the boardroom and over the entry ramp. In the surprisingly extensive lower galleries, intended for photographic and sculptural installations, space has been gouged out to admit light and views. The upper rooms for permanent exhibitions connect to form the art center's principal enfilade, their classic calmness illuminated by beautiful, diffuse light emanating from behind suspended subsidiary ceilings. Much of the outer roof surface becomes an enclosed stone yard for sculpture with a quirky pyramid hiding a slit window to the office corridor below. Here again, Siza combines his minimal palette with provocative geometry to create an unprecedented space, but one which, after meandering through the gentle labyrinth of galleries below, re-presents itself within the entire context of Santiago de Compostela.—Raymund Ryan

Raymund Ryan is a practicing architect who also teaches at the University College in Dublin.
Yirrkala is a remote community with a population just over 500, located in the northern part of Australia beside the Arafura Sea. Glenn Murcutt's house for the Aboriginal artist Mamburra Marika and her husband, Mark Alderton, stands on a narrow spit with a north-facing beach in front and vigorous, freshwater mangroves to the southeast. Under its expansive, corrugated-metal roof, the house resembles a large sand crab. It is like a canoe with sleeping platforms projecting out from the sides like outriggers—a dry, elevated platform exposed to the heat and humidity of the tropics.

Marika's work appears in major collections, including the National Gallery in Canberra. Designing an Aboriginal dwelling presented Murcutt with many challenges because of the differences between white Australian and Aboriginal cultures. Typically, white Australians provide Aborigines with European-style houses and are surprised when they fail. The Marika house bridges this gap.

Murcutt studied his clients' way of life by living with them and sharing their daily experiences. The Marika house is at once Aboriginal and European in its technology. The architect investigated Aboriginal shelters, such as the traditional stringybark hut on stilts, and his solution is a more sophisticated version of this type. Among tribal Aborigines, the best knowledge is practical knowledge which serves life. That is how Murcutt designed the house—to serve life.
The house is the essence of simplicity, but rich in its details. At first glance it appears to be all roof, a practical solution since the sun stands directly overhead for much of the year. The region is also affected by severe cyclones. Murcutt's strategy was to design the house with blow out walls fixed to a strong robust frame so the skeleton would survive even if the walls were destroyed.

Aborigines are nomads who are comfortable living in the open with the minimum of permanent shelter—they are a veranda people. The hinged tallowwood slatted walls of the house allow sea breezes to percolate through the interior and reduce the glare from the harsh sunlight. Nearly 85 feet long, the house's platform is divided lengthwise into three zones: a sitting, cooking, and dining area; a core of bathroom and laundry; and a sleeping area closed off from four sleeping platforms. This arrangement allows the kind of flexibility that is essential when Aborigines are visited by their clan relatives.

Australia is one of the most urbanized societies on earth; half its population is concentrated in three large cities, and 85 percent live within 50 miles of the coast. Marika also lives on the edge of the country, and her house is a kind of veranda in its open, loose arrangement of space.

In rediscovering the veranda, Murcutt has created an autonomous space, separate from the house, which deals with climate and landscape in a way that is capable of being adapted to enable an Aboriginal family to stay in touch physically and spiritually with their country. Sheltering the family from the heavy monsoon downpours, the house excludes and filters the blinding tropical sunlight, while letting the perfumes of the native mango, avocado, breadfruit, and pawpaw drift inside. The house is an open boundary which shares itself with its surroundings.—Philip Drew

Philip Drew is an Australian architectural critic.
Ever since glass could be manufactured in large sheets, architects have dreamed of transparency and lightness, a visual liberation from mass. Despite Mies' famous glass skyscraper drawing, and the wishful thinking of innumerable plexiglass models, glazed buildings have been lumbered with solid visual mass from without. Now, however, the French architect Jean Nouvel has mastered transparency in his new Cartier Foundation building in Paris.

Nouvel has played with ambiguous sensory perception before—with disconcertingly disastrous results at the all-black interior of the Lyons Opera House (ARCHITECTURE, September 1993, pages 74-75). For Cartier, he has created an environment of lightness, whose ambiguous interpenetration of forms and planes of light always delights. Nouvel's esthetic at the Cartier Foundation, splendid in its apparent simplicity, builds upon the elegant high-tech sensibility he expressed at the stainless steel and glass Arabic World Institute in Paris (1987).

Nouvel has built two Swiss factories for Cartier, a company that is so confident in the French architect that the international jeweler appointed him to its Foundation Council. The new home for the Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art in Paris was a dream project from its start in 1991. While Americans are accustomed to corporate clients spending tax-exempt money to create a public image, this is a radical new concept in France. Money was apparently no object. But Cartier...
At the southwest corner, transparent curtain wall, with frameless glass panels held by clips, meets stone building next door (left). Steel structure and diagonal bracing behind the glass are visible, but elusive because of competing reflections.

Below: Glazed plane of north facade prolongation reveals steel fire stair.

Right: Steel columns, tubular X cross-bracing, and mechanical ducts are visible through west wall.

The site, with its former villa and acre of garden on the tree-lined Boulevard Raspail, had historic associations: Chateaubriand lived here, and his massive cedar of Lebanon, planted in 1823, still dominates the center of the boulevard frontage. As an historically protected site, Nouvel had to contain the building within the footprint of the existing house and maintain all existing trees. The planting of new trees will be finished in early 1995, and a stone-edged grassy amphitheater with a hidden stone fountain behind the curve of the steps will fill in the triangular site to the north. The landscaping and building are interwoven; there are no clear visual delimitations between garden and building.

From the street a visitor sees a screen of mature chestnut trees through the six-story-high freestanding wall of frameless, clear-glass panels along the street. Then the eye travels back to other glass surfaces behind the trees, with other trees yet further beyond. The building volume is thus elusive.

Delicate stainless steel exterior fire stairs are set on the short east and west facades, and the elevators at the center of the north facade consist of exterior glass boxes with concealed climber mechanisms. Mechanical equipment is kept underground.

The building's long facades project sideways past the enclosed volume and open fire stairs, into the garden, as well as vertically above the building envelope at the top terrace, so that the window wall, mimicking the street wall, is dissociated from the volume: Sometimes it encloses space, sometimes it is only two-dimensional.

The office block's north and south facades are protected by pierced plastic and metal fabric sunshades, transparent from inside.
These shades are horizontal over the top-floor executive-level wood-planked terrace, and vertical on the other six office levels. The shades are centrally controlled and are either up or down, depending on the sun. Thus, when the sun shines on the principal south facade facing the Boulevard Raspail, when the building might reveal its solidity by reflecting rather than passing the light, it becomes intangible, hiding behind its pale awnings. The gallery level is shaded by the trees, so that one always sees within and through it. The pervasive green-gray palette is both soothing and unified, without high contrasts.

Twenty-six-foot-high glass lights separating two ground-level galleries from the garden slide open, completing the majestic interpenetration of space in the new Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art. The pair of double-height gallery spaces underground are more banal with their walls and ceilings of plaster, although one incorporates three large glazed ceiling bays that can become transparent or can even be opened completely. All the galleries have simple concrete floors that match the chalky soil outside.

Detailing is exquisitely fine, very light, even insubstantial. Stairs to the lobby mezzanine bookstore are constructed of pierced stainless treads with bent nosings, open risers, and thin railings with slim, woven stainless rope balusters. Even the exposed H-section columns are painted light gray, so as to fade visually.

One perverse detail: In the entry hall opposite the main elevators, crude, dark-gray air ducts are semi-enclosed in vulgar metal cages, at odds with their surroundings. It is as if Nouvel found all this lightness of being unbearable and had to rebel.

Cool, serene, many-faceted, subtly rich with glimmering reflections, Jean Nouvel has produced the best jewel in Cartier's extensive collection.—Barbara Shortt

Barbara Shortt is an architect and a writer based in Paris and New York City.
The forest is the essential resource of the Finnish economy, and despite the increasing urban character of the nation, it remains central to Finnish identity. With a research forest and facilities already in place in Punkaharju, near the country's eastern border, the Finnish Forest Museum Foundation initiated plans in the late 1980s to construct a more public venue in which to exhibit technical knowledge and experience of the forest. That vision has now received form in the center's glowing, wood-clad cylinder.

Called Lusto, Finnish for the growth ring of a tree, the Forest Museum design is the result of the 1991 competition-winning entry by young architects Ilmari Lahdelma and Rainer Mahlamäki. Originally from Tampere, the two have now relocated to Helsinki with Partner Mikko Kaira. Their design places a distinctly Modern exhibition and research program on a sloped clearing with a southerly exposure at the head of a small inlet. With few other structures for scale or context, the architects established a cylinder oriented to the north-south axis as a main point of order in the landscape. Exhibition halls of varying heights, a 150-seat auditorium, administrative offices, a café, and services are contained within the cylinder. Arrayed around that form and wedged through it are smaller, orthogonally shaped elements in effective counterpoint: a bridge across a grassed moat to rectangular entrance courts; a long screen wall that doubles as an outdoor theater; and a glass box (right) encloses ramp.

ABOVE: Finnish Forest Museum and Research Center is organized around wood-slatted drum containing galleries, offices, and auditorium. Glass box (right) encloses ramp.

LEFT: Museum is sited with south elevation overlooking lake.

BELOW: A cascade of stairs leads the visitor from café terrace to lower exhibition court and lakeside.

FACING PAGE: Drum's horizontal slats are interrupted by glazed openings and steel details, such as fire escape ladder.
Hôtel du Département  
Marseille, France  
Alsop and Störmer, Architect

ABOVE: Alsop distinguished the ceremonial functions of the Marseille government complex with curved forms. The council chambers are housed in a streetside volume, with a stretched fabric awning (right), and the politicians' offices occupy the distorted cylindrical form on the rooftop.

FACING PAGE: The 935,000-square-foot government building is located in a rundown neighborhood on the north side of Marseille, close to the junction of an elevated highway.

W hy are the council chambers of the new Hôtel du Département in Marseille housed in a blue building that looks like a half-eaten fish on legs? Why do the offices for politicians take the form of a squashed jelly roll hovering above one of two parallel administration blocks? Why are the blocks raised on V- and X-shaped pilotis? For the building's designer, 46-year-old British architect Will Alsop, these are meaningless questions. According to Alsop, the whole Modernist notion of functional design is a myth kept alive by a conspiracy. Architects know in their hearts that form emerges in a mysterious way from the imagination, but they are reluctant to admit it. Alsop simply ignores the myth and accepts the reality.

His ideas come not from a detailed analysis of the problems posed by program, site, and available technology but directly from his imagination. He fills his sketchbooks with dozens of colorful, dreamlike images and then translates them into buildable form.
The client for the Hôtel du Département, or County Hall, is the local government for the region around Marseille known as Les Bouches du Rhône. Previously housed in several buildings scattered around the city, the authority wanted a new, centralized headquarters to improve its efficiency and enhance its image. A prominent site by a highway junction near the center of Marseille that is also served by a Metro station was chosen, and a three-stage international competition was launched. Alsop's design was declared the winner in August 1990 (and has been revised since then).

Alsop's design method rules out analysis and explanation of the conventional kind. But a building either functions satisfactorily or it doesn't, and in these terms, the Hôtel du Département can be pronounced a success. Its bizarre forms may not have any obvious relationship to their function, but neither do they impede the building’s operation in any way. The 935,000-square-foot program called for two kinds of accommodation: council chambers for the politicians, and offices for the administrative staff. The first is housed in the fishlike object known as the délibératif; the second is housed in two parallel rectangular blocks joined by an atrium and known as the administratif.

Actually, the administration blocks of the Hôtel du Département are not bizarre at all, except in quite superficial ways. The atrium, for example, is rather straight and even conventional. Right angles predominate, and a
simple axial symmetry organizes the free-standing elements, like the reception desk, which is elliptical in plan, and the médiatéque, or exhibition room, which is elliptical in section. Inside the administration blocks, the plan is a straightforward double-corridor arrangement with mainly cellular offices.

In the block housing the council chambers, more of Alsop's original weirdness survives, though the smooth cigar shape of the earlier designs has been eroded on the side facing the highway. The full extent of the wrap-around skin of triangular, fish-scale-like steel panels is only appreciable from the upper levels of the office block. Inside, the main debating and assembly spaces, designed by Andrée Putman, determinedly ignore the curved section of the building, concealing it behind flat suspended ceilings and stepped auditorium floors. These spaces are utterly conventional and seem at odds with the subversive intention of Alsop's iconoclastic design.

The Hôtel du Département is Alsop's first major public building. It has enabled his practice to grow from a small atelier to an efficient and experienced organization employing about 50 people. Alsop's German partner, Jan Störmer, joined the practice in 1989 and now runs a thriving branch office in Hamburg. There are more large-scale commissions on the way in Britain, France, and Germany, and we can be sure that Alsop will not give up the struggle to oppose the architecture of "Why?" with the architecture of "Why not?"—Colin Davies
Since the 1950s, the Stuttgart architect Günter Behnisch has applied his penchant for transparency, colliding geometries, lightweight steel construction, and layered spaces and facades in numerous German public buildings. Like Hugo Häring and Hans Scharoun, his predecessors in the German organic tradition, Behnisch strives to reveal the character of materials. The 72-year-old architect prefers concrete, glass, and metal, however, and his planning geometries are even more daring. His best-known buildings include the acrylic-roofed tents of the 1972 Olympic Park in Munich and the daylit, steel-and-glass Plenary Hall for the German Parliament in Bonn (1992).

Some of the best examples of Behnisch's impure, off-beat plans are his schools, whose layered glass facades and careening volumes challenge the rules that seem to govern school design, at least in this country. Instead of the little gabled volumes exploited to obsequity in American elementary schools (the notion, architects insist, is to afford schools a homelike quality), Behnisch's Lorch Elementary School (1988) is composed of intersecting polygons and triangles. Rather than building in brick, a tradition in schoolhouse design in Germany as well as in the United States, Behnisch prefers glass, of which he fabricated the daylit School for the Learning Disabled in Bad Rappenau (1990). In his Luginsland Kindergarten (1990), double-loaded corridors and square windows are discarded.
Tokyo-based architect Arata Isozaki calls his design for the Nagi Museum of Contemporary Art (Nagi MoCA) "the advent of the third-generation art museum." According to Isozaki, the Louvre in Paris and Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York are examples of first- and second-generation museums: The Louvre's grand sequence of monumental salons evolved into MoMA's internalized box of flexible, partitioned lofts.

At Nagi MoCA, Isozaki inverts the traditional role of the museum as a container for art. The architect integrated three site-specific installations into the very form of the building, eliminating the expected distinction between the architectural container and the art contained. The artists, conversely, transformed Isozaki's architecture into geometric, environmental sculpture.

Since Nagi is a remote military town in western Japan, unknown even to most Japanese, Isozaki assumed that few tourists would journey there if the only attraction was a collection of autonomous works by artists already represented in the Tokyo National Museum. The architect therefore suggested commissioning new works by Japanese artists whose international reputations rival his own: Shusaku Arakawa, Kazuo Okazaki, and Aiko Miyawaki. As a result, Nagi MoCA forms a group of permanent, habitable sculptures, tiny curiosities in a vast landscape, all seemingly adrift but forever grounded by an inextricable relationship to nature, architecture, and human experience.

Nagi MoCA's sculptural massing can be described as the material and spatial inversion of Isozaki's most famous museum commission, the 1986 Los Angeles MoCA. At first glance, Nagi MoCA looks like a collection of toys that came out of a box sent from L.A. Isozaki sheathed Nagi MoCA's distinct volumes with steel panels, juxtaposing bright, machine-made objects against a dark, fluid backdrop of mountains. Nagi MoCA thus forms L.A. MoCA's suburban counterpart. Like villa and palazzo, the Japanese museum
expresses external freedom, while its American counterpart defers to urban constraints.

Nagi MoCA is also a formal departure from Isozaki's other Japanese museum designs, including the Okanoyama Graphic Arts Museum in Nishiwaki (1984) and the Hara Museum in Gunma (1988). These buildings are similar to Nagi MoCA in scale and suburban context, yet both the Okanoyama and the Hara museums appear more Western and even Classical in character. With its picturesque massing, striped portico, and interior mosaic courtyard, the Okanoyama Museum owes greater debt to Hadrian's Villa than to Japanese precedent. The Hara Museum, too, while delicately constructed of local timber, commands its site with hierarchical Classical geometries: The museum's symmetrical wings flank a central cubic pavilion, directing the eye upward toward the architect's trademark pyramidal skylight.

Nagi MoCA establishes stronger ties to the Japanese landscape and culture than these earlier works. The building is composed of three pavilionlike volumes—a cube, a crescent, and a cylinder—joined by a rectilinear bar. At the south end of the bar, the cube houses a library and community gallery. A rectangular, flat-roofed skylight above the library serves the functional purpose of blocking direct sun as much as it manifests the architect's poetic intentions. A more expressive skylight such as Isozaki's characteristic glass pyramid would have suggested an affinity with the distant mountains, thereby dominating the entire composition. The eye instead searches for a relationship between the cube, crescent, and cylinder, focusing at last upon the bar itself. Therein lies Miyawaki's "earth room," defined by a riverlike reflecting pool, concrete walls, and a dramatic orientation to the distant peak of Mount Nagi.

The earth room is flanked at the north end by Okazaki's installation, the crescent-shaped "moon room," and Arakawa's more curious space, the cylindrical "sun room." Circular in section and elevated at its southern end, the barrel-like sun room is more disorienting than any interior by Peter Eisenman. Together, the three environmental sculptures represent the forces of the cosmos, like a landscape depicted at day and at night on a Japanese folding screen. Unlike a flat screen or canvas, however, these works command every human sense; their haunting mood derives from a rare collaboration of artists and architects whose command of materials and form taps the elusive qualities of Japanese minimalism.—M. Lindsay Bierman
In 1972, the City of Kitchener, Ontario, bulldozed its venerable, 1925 Beaux-Arts city hall to make way for so-called urban renewal: a brown office tower that dwarfed this industrial town of 160,000. The developer of the tower then erected a shopping mall at its base, atop the lawn of the leveled city hall. Until last year, the local government leased drab offices in the complex. Since the tower did not accommodate ceremonial gatherings, or even an assembly space for the city council, the city staged a 1989 competition to design a new city hall.

The winning scheme is the first major independent public commission for Toronto-based architects Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg (KPMB). Before Bruce Kuwabara, Thomas Payne, Marianne McKenna, and Shirley Blumberg launched KPMB in 1987, they were associates in Barton Myers' former Toronto office. After Myers moved his practice to L.A., KPMB continued to collaborate with him on major projects such as the Art Gallery of Ontario (ARCHITECTURE, November 1993, pages 58-69) and the University of Toronto's Woodsworth College (1992).

Located 60 miles southwest of Toronto, Kitchener is a smaller town than the grandeur of the KPMB-designed city hall would suggest. Similar projects in the United States are diluted by the uniquely American process of public design by committee, which often leads to a politically correct mishmash of ideas or a cost-efficient box adorned with the requisite artwork over the entrance. In
Canada, the design of public buildings is entrusted to the discretion of elected officials.

However, the new city hall houses the public as much as the local government. Its U-shaped massing defines a new urban square, designed to accommodate a crowd of 6,000. This grand public space is Kitchener's version of New York's Rockefeller Center, complete with low-rise volumes that reinforce the pedestrian scale of the street, a tower pushed back to the center of the block, and a broad, flat pool for winter ice skating. In Kitchener, the ground plane of the square is flush with the lobby floor to emphasize spatial continuity and draw the public inward. A rotunda in the lobby, conceived as a theater in the round, functions like the outdoor square as a living room for the city.

Formally, the square conveys the monumental, symbolic power of civic architecture. Yet the building's facades are stripped of any scenographic association with the city hall's Beaux-Arts predecessor. The whole complex recalls the informal monumentality of James Stirling and Michael Wilford's State Gallery and Chamber Theater at Stuttgart, which, in the spirit of high Baroque Classicism, fuses the opposites of freedom and order. At Kitchener City Hall, one alternatively reads the rotunda as the symmetrical focus between two wings and as part of a free arrangement of distinct volumes. This formal yet informal composition manifests Kitchener's political hierarchy: The public occupies center stage in the rotunda and the square;
public representatives occupy the flanks, balanced by a curvaceous council chamber on one side and a rectilinear tower for the city's departments on the other.

Like Stirling and Wilford, KPMB adapted the city hall's plan and section to a procession across the site, as in a French hotel. To mitigate the rise of the land from front to back, the architects incorporate two grand staircases: One wraps the rotunda inside, the other rises from a corner of the square outside. The latter establishes an axis from the gate of a nearby park, up a narrow street, to the front of the city hall. Unfortunately, this uphill sequence from the square culminates in a disjointed aggregate of parterres dominated by uninspired sculpture and signage.

Spatially and tectonically, the architects achieve the difficult task of synthesizing Modernist spatial ambiguity, sculptural form, and industrial materials with the urbane, figural space of Classical urbanism. This rich collage of formal legacies contrasts the cold, pompous abstractions of city halls recently completed elsewhere in Ontario, including Jones & Kirkland’s 1987 Graves-inspired complex for Mississauga, a Toronto suburb.

Given Kitchener’s ongoing economic recession, the $65 million investment in a new city hall and urban square expresses an optimistic commitment to downtown revitalization. Such an expense requires a long-term vision, the kind of strong political leadership and public responsibility that American cities should emulate.—M. Lindsay Bieman
Trisha Wilson, ASID, IBD, founder of Wilson & Associates, Dallas, Texas. Recently inducted into the 1993 Interior Design Hall of Fame for her stunning work in hospitality design, she is a specifier of DuPont Antron carpet fiber.
This month's focus on international architecture continues with a practice feature on American architects in Asia. Fueled by rapidly growing economies, China and countries throughout Southeast Asia are aggressively seeking American design expertise. Our article highlights how practitioners are dealing with foreign codes, business customs, and building technologies.

American architects can learn new glazing strategies from their foreign counterparts, who are pushing the limits of laminated glass. Inventive glazing applications by European and Japanese architects were recognized by the Benedictus Awards, an annual program promoting innovations in laminated glass.

U.S. designers and contractors are discovering that design/build risks are potentially greater than those of conventional project delivery methods. Our design/build series continues with an article that clarifies insurance policies, licensing laws, and liability limits associated with this delivery approach.

No matter where architects practice, poor communication can cause schedule delays and budget overruns. Researchers at Stanford University's Center for Integrated Facility Engineering (CIFE) hope to improve project delivery methods with new computer software linking design to construction. Such innovations should make building easier for architects practicing both here and abroad.
Since the late 1980s downturn in domestic construction, dozens of American architects have pursued new markets in Southeast Asia, where expanding economies and liberalized trade are driving a wave of urban development along the Pacific Rim. Cities such as Shanghai and Shenzhen in China are sprouting dozens of new, American-designed skyscrapers since the Chinese government relaxed its ban against private enterprise in 1991. Jakarta and Surabaya in Indonesia have become magnets for multinational firms drawn by new infrastructure, high-tech industry, and phenomenal growth rates of 8 percent per year. And since February, when the United States lifted its embargo against Vietnam—which, like China, has waivered Communist dogma for freer trade—American architects are joining multinationals in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City to serve Vietnam’s long-shuttered market of 70 million people.

**Adventurous architecture**

To architects in the United States, Southeast Asia represents not merely an alternative to the domestic doldrums, but a gold rush in its own right. Asian clients, through invitational competitions and select negotiations, are tapping American firms to design office buildings, retail centers, housing, hotels, resorts, and entire new towns, creating an aggregate Pacific Rim construction market worth hundreds of billions of dollars. Clients in Asia are affirming their newfound prosperity with high-rise and Modernist statements, offering American architects a programmatical slate that is free of Western doubts about daring, large-scale design.

“The Pacific Rim has a fantastic future,” remarks architect Paul Rudolph, who has been working in Southeast Asia since 1979. “It’s of a magnitude we don’t understand, a kind of inevitable push that comes from the opening up of China. It’s catch-up time for them.”

For all these overseas opportunities, however, American architects are learning that trans-Pacific practice exacts a high procedural toll. It’s a long flight to Asia, even from the West Coast, and firm principals find it difficult to manage projects at home when scouting work around the globe. Some firms well established in Asia send younger associates to run their overseas offices, but their clients, staking everything on familiarity and trust, prefer to see principals personally—and often. As a rule, clients in Asia frown on quick, contractual American business customs.

**Practical realities**

Once Asian projects are under way, logistical problems usually surface. Design specifications and documents throughout the region vary widely from American conventions. Codes don’t always cover the types of structures clients commission. Standard building components such as structural steel and curtain walls are arduous or impossible to procure.

“Asia is a tough place to do business,” admits Bruce Fowle, principal of Fox & Fowle Architects in New York, who is designing buildings in Shanghai and Jakarta. “On the one hand, the clients recognize their need for Western expertise, but on the other hand, you can only go so far.” It took Fox & Fowle six months to gain approval for an office in Shanghai, where the firm was restricted to high-rent areas of the city.

Are Asian projects profitable? Only after years of investment. In the short run, architects must make sure they’re paid in hard currency. RTKL requires retainers and direct wire transfers for work in Indonesia. John Portman & Associates’ $200 million Shanghai Center lost millions of dollars to delays after China’s 1989 Tiananmen Square crisis. Mark R. Miller, of Kaplan/McLaughlin/Diaz in San Francisco, advises architects to wait for jobs for which they feel qualified. “The key is building on successful jobs,” Miller notes. “If you invest more time and less money at first, you’ll be better off.”—Bradford McKee
Chinese clients are planning at least $500 billion in massive commercial complexes, hotels, office towers, and, most urgently, infrastructure. Working in China requires American architects to associate with state-run design institutes. Design reviews involve dozens of officials and can take years. "The presentation process can be quite lengthy and formal," notes Roger Zampell, project director of John Portman & Associates in Atlanta, which started work in China in the early 1980s. "But the Chinese do all negotiating behind the scenes, so there's not much to decide when you get to the public session."

Clients in China want Modernist designs to carry their national profile forward—vernacular gestures conflict with the ahistorical foundations of the Cultural Revolution. "The Chinese have rejected any references we've made to their heritage," says Bruce Fowle of Fox & Fowle Architects in New York. "The Modernist doctrines are more natural to the Chinese sense of pragmatism."

Modern structures, however, require contemporary building components such as curtain wall and low-emissivity glass, for which Chinese building codes make no allowance. "The codes are empirical in nature and haven't caught up with technology," contends Principal Don Hackl of Chicago-based Loebl Schlossman & Hackl.

Design and construction documents can be misinterpreted if not translated properly. Hackl, for example, sent his Chinese colleagues a recommendation for post-tensioned concrete in one structure that was initially misconstrued as precast. American documentation is more highly defined than Chinese drawings, Fowle asserts: "Their design documents are like our schematics."

Architects are advised not to surrender too much information without payment, and not to perform any work on spec. "It's an enormous process of education," Hackl asserts. "Culturally, it's an incredibly interesting experience," he adds, "but for the uninitiated, China can be exploitative from a business standpoint."
LEFT: John Portman & Associates' Dream Lake Mountain Villa complex, in Hangzhou, comprises single-family and clustered residences.

BELOW LEFT: The Callison Partnership's Grand Gateway complex is sited above a Shanghai subway station.


BOTTOM: Fox & Fowle's Jawa Tower will stand on the Bund, Shanghai's historic waterfront promenade.
The world's fifth most populous country, with 180 million people settled on 13,000 islands, Indonesia is swept up in a rapid hurdle toward modernity and Westernization. Jakarta has several large office towers in progress, and clients in Surabaya are building offices, housing, and hotels as Indonesia aims to attract financial service firms and heavy industry with its cheap labor. Such growth is the impetus, for instance, for New York City-based Brennan Beer Gorman/Architects' (BBG/A) new Jakarta Stock Exchange building and the adjacent Jakarta Financial Tower, sited in the rapidly developing, 100-acre Sudirman financial district.

What some architects call a "familial" client culture is called "nepotism" by others. Foreign architects make no decisions unilaterally, and negotiations proceed with utmost diplomacy. "Everything on a project is done by consensus," notes Louis Hedgcock, principal of BBG/A, "and you have to learn ways to make things happen that are acceptable."

Indonesia's major cities are fast developing upon unreliable infrastructure. Brownouts occur frequently in the power grid, explains Rod Henderer, vice president and principal-in-charge of RTKL's Seafer Center hotel and mixed-use project in Surabaya. "We had to provide electrical generation plants in the facility because the grid was incapable providing enough power," Henderer explains. The project also requires its own sewage-treatment plant, a common fixture in Asian urban buildings. "We have to design around what they’re capable of building in Indonesia," Henderer adds. "They don’t have the sophisticated engineering we do, and they can’t afford steel frames, curtain wall, or stone veneers."

Even when clients can afford such materials, Indonesia's market for building products is highly protectionist. High tariffs discourage steel imports, so most superstructures are constructed of concrete. Indonesia's granite and marble are too soft for exteriors. Elevators usually come from Japan, and most mechanical systems are ordered from the U.S.
TOP LEFT: Pei Cobb Freed's twin granite towers of Danamon Square will occupy half of a financial district superblock.

LEFT: Ellerbe Becket's client required daily reviews for its Crystal Garden Tower apartments in Surabaya.

ABOVE: RTKL's Seafar Center mixed-use complex echoes Surabaya's early Modern, Dutch Colonial structures.
Malaysia has an aggressive plan to become fully developed by the year 2020. With high economic growth rates, its government is leaving most improvements in infrastructure and urban centers to the private sector.

Clients in Malaysia value American architects for their experience and prestige, but officially, foreign practitioners are persona non grata and must associate with local architects. "We go there and run the meetings and coordinate all the work, but if the local architect wants something a certain way, he wins," contends Mark R. Miller, director of Asian projects for Kaplan/McLaughlin/Diaz (KMD) in San Francisco, which has designed a developer-driven scheme for the Perdana Rail City in Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia places higher priority on urban design and transportation planning than most Southeast Asian countries, asserts Jeffrey J. McCarthy, partner of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) in Chicago, but "they don't have a terribly strategic plan or structure; they're trying to steer enterprise the right way without dictating development." SOM is designing a 4 million-square-foot mixed-use and transportation hub called Plaza Rakyat in Kuala Lumpur. A boom in development in the central core of the capital has created a claustrophobic thicket of skyscrapers with little open space. "Our objective from the start was to provide public gathering space—some respite within the city," McCarthy explains.

Polyglot culture adds a major dimension to standard building programs. Architect Cesar Pelli based the design of the 88-story twin Petronas Towers—planned as the world's tallest buildings at 450 meters each—upon Islamic geometric principles. "I didn't try to do a native building," Pelli explains. "I tried to design a contemporary building that is respectful of local traditions." Many buildings adhere to Chinese principles of feng shui, whereby the physical arrangement of building elements is believed to affect the future success of the structure.
BELOW: KMD's proposal for Perdana Rail City merges five railroad lines and 10 million square feet of mixed-use space.

BOTTOM: Perdana Rail City site plan incorporates residential area (left).

BELOW RIGHT: Tsao & McKown designed the Menara IMC office tower for a shipping concern in Kuala Lumpur.
Since the United States lifted its embargo against Vietnam in February, only a handful of American architecture firms have ventured into the country. The Hillier Group has designed housing in Hanoi, the capital, where John Portman & Associates is designing a 21-story business center. Vietnam’s Communist leadership, however, has been wooing foreign investors since 1987 and has garnered $7 billion in foreign capital since 1990.

Among the most ambitious joint ventures to date is the plan for a 6,500-acre city center abutting the southern edge of Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, fixed around a new 11-mile-long roadway radiating from the existing city. The Taiwanese-Vietnamese developer, the Phu My Hung Corporation, staged a paid competition and selected the San Francisco office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) as master planners, with Koetter, Kim and Associates of Boston responsible for the urban design of the city’s commercial core.

John Kriken, SOM’s partner-in-charge of the project, explains that this commercial and residential zone adjacent to old Saigon will form strong connections with the former capital city, preserve canals on the site, and establish a southern boundary for urban growth. The Vietnamese take pride in the greenness of the old capital city—which, like Hanoi, has numerous parks and many large trees lining major streets. The plan envisions interconnecting, pedestrian-oriented neighborhoods with housing, retail, hospitals, and schools. Proposed building configurations limit high density and preserve open space in the new zone. Sustainability is built into the plan: “We reserved rights of way to accommodate future developments,” Kriken maintains, “so they won’t have to tear down half their city to go from rubber-tire transit to rail transit.” Kriken adds that the plan was conceived with Vietnam’s limited resources in mind. “We had to think of ways the city could develop the plan incrementally. We’re making conservative suggestions so the plan can be implemented one piece at a time.”
Exploring the Boundaries of Laminated Glass

An AIA-sponsored competition honors innovative glazing in Europe and Japan.

ABOVE RIGHT: Laminated-glass beams of the Louvre’s research labs reveal the material’s structural possibilities.

Architects in this country are probably most familiar with specifying laminated glass as a safety precaution in overhead sloped glazing. But this type of glazing—constructed of a polyvinyl butyral (pvb) resin sandwiched between glass sheets—can be applied to a wider range of elements. In addition to protection against breakage, the pvb interlayer eliminates roughly 99 percent of ultraviolet radiation through the glass and helps reduce glare. It can be tinted to minimize heat buildup in summer and control heat loss in winter and provides an acoustic barrier that dampens noise.

Awards program

Foreign architects, particularly French designers, are specifying laminated glass as a curtain wall; and although the material doesn’t offer greater inherent strength than other types of glazing, its structural potential is being explored in beams and columns.

To recognize such innovative architectural applications of laminated glass, the AIA and Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (AIA/ACSA) Research Council, the manufacturer DuPont, and the International Union of Architects (UIA) created the Benediktus Awards in 1993. According to ACSA President Richard E. McDonough, Cesar Pelli, and Erhard Schütz—awarded the top Benediktus prize to a bank headquarters in France designed by Paris-based architects Odile Decq and Benoît Cornette. The building features a 280-meter-long glazed facade, composed of laminated-glass panels supported by an external truss.

Innovative applications

The other Benediktus Awards reveal the innovative potential of laminated glass: Parisian architects Jérôme Brunet and Eric Saunier’s research laboratories beneath the Louvre (above) incorporate laminated-glass beams supporting a glazed roof; the German parliament complex in Bonn, designed by Stuttgart-based architect Behnisch & Partner, and Parisian architect Dominique Perrault’s design for an office building feature laminated-glass curtain walls; a gas station in Kumamoto, Japan, designed by Shohei Yoh Architects and François Deslaugiers’ funicular stations in Paris incorporate curved laminated-glass canopies.

American glass manufacturers have started exploring new applications of laminated glass, such as pvb interlayers incorporating color and pattern. But European manufacturers promote the material more aggressively, leading such high-tech architects as Jean Nouvel to experiment with laminated glass. These examples should inspire American practitioners to further investigate the potential of this versatile glazing material.—Raul A. Barreneche
The underground research laboratories beneath the Louvre's Carrousel Gardens feature the most innovative application of laminated glass among this year's Benedixus Award winners. Paris-based architects Jérôme Brunet and Eric Saunier designed a three-story structure below a courtyard, organized around an atrium that provides abundant natural light to research and conservation spaces. Instead of glazing the atrium with a typical skylight, Brunet and Saunier designed a flat glass roof supported by structural glass beams. This transparent structure introduces more daylight through the roof to spaces below grade and provides unobstructed views of the historic Louvre buildings surrounding the courtyard.

The duo collaborated with engineers to develop structural glass members that could not only support the load of the roof, but also withstand thermal expansion and resist fire. Following a year of experiments and testing, the architects and engineers devised laminated-glass beams composed of four panels of 15-millimeter-thick clear glass with polyvinyl butyral (pVB) interlayers separating the glass sheets. The beams, each measuring 4.35 meters long by 63 millimeters wide and 0.5 meters deep, can support up to 14 tons with minor deflection. The 12 laminated sections of the flat glass roof are supported by 11 glass beams inserted into aluminum end pockets in the atrium walls.

According to project architect Vincent Marchand, the firm is continuing to investigate the structural potential of laminated glazing. "We're certainly among the first architects in France and maybe in all of Europe to be applying this technology," Marchand asserts. Brunet and Saunier's design for a town hall outside Paris, for example, will incorporate laminated-glass columns, and a factory in Germany will feature prestressed, laminated-glass arches.
Stuttgart-based architect Behnisch & Partner was commissioned by the German government to design an addition to the parliament buildings in Bonn, sited on the banks of the Rhine. The entire plenary complex demonstrates the broad variety of applications of laminated glass, ranging from an exterior cladding and shading material to an interior, acoustically insulated partition.

To take advantage of views of the surrounding landscape and openly reveal the decision-making process inside the plenary hall, the architect chose to wrap the entire rectilinear building in glass. Behnisch specified laminated glass with thicknesses between 38 millimeters and 44 millimeters, to meet the German government's security requirements for bullet-resistant glazing. To regulate the amount of direct sunlight on the south-facing entry facade, Behnisch mounted fixed glass louvers above the entrance.

Within the main building volume, laminated-glass partitions enclose the plenary chambers and provide an acoustical barrier for privacy during parliament sessions. The 1.4-meter-by-2.5-meter glass panels are composed of 43-millimeter-thick, fire-resistant laminated glass.

The architect also inserted a large skylight above the plenary chambers to illuminate the space with natural light and re-create the sense of the outdoors. The 25-meter-by-25-meter skylight is clad in 24-millimeter-thick glass. Behnisch mounted movable glass louvers above the skylight to regulate the amount of direct sunlight and heat radiating into the space below. These external louvers are mounted on steel beams framed onto girders extending over the skylight and are electronically adjusted in response to changing sunlight conditions. Inside, a combination of aluminum-and-glass baffles are suspended from a steel grid beneath the skylight. This lattice diffuses natural light inside the hall.
In designing a bank administration building in northwestern France, Parisian architects Odile Decq and Benoît Cornette wanted to create continuous views of the surrounding countryside through a completely transparent facade. Laminated glass allowed the architects to specify a continuous, 280-meter-long glazed wall without mullions or internal frames. According to the Benedictus Awards jury—which presented the project with this year’s top honor—Decq and Cornette’s laminated-glass curtain wall sensitively responds to light, air, and views.

The building’s three-story south facade is composed of 2-meter-square panels of clear laminated glass. Although Decq and Cornette specified single-pane glass to enclose the lobby, they installed double-glazed panels on the office spaces for increased thermal performance. To support the glass panels composing the facade, steel arms extending from the external trusses are attached to four-pronged steel clips. The clips are then bolted into the corners of the glass panels.

Because the architects eliminated any internal frames in the facade, a repetitive steel truss structure was necessary to laterally stabilize the large glazed expanse. This supporting structure, which the architects note was inspired by the masts and cables of racing yachts, is divided into 12-meter-long bays parallel to the glass and projected 2 meters outside the building. The space between the trusses and the glass envelope also serves as an outdoor arcade.

In addition to stabilizing the facade, the exterior trusses integrate aluminum louvers and motorized fiberglass fabric sunshades that help reduce solar gain on the interior. The placement of these screens outside the facade allowed the architects to shade the air space along the length of the envelope. This shaded buffer provides an additional means of cooling the building interior.
Shohei Yoh specified laminated glass to cover an undulating, concrete-framed canopy over a gas station that serves as an entry beacon to a small Japanese town. By specifying laminated glass, the architect met local safety ordinances mandating a completely fire-resistant structure.

The glass also represents an appropriate means of infilling the irregular, parabolic-shaped canopy. "It's ideal in its capacity to apparently stretch and maintain its shape over the parabolic planes of the canopy," observed the awards jury.

Yoh erected four poured-in-place concrete arches of different heights and depths along the edges of a wedge-shaped site. Although steel and wood framing had initially been considered for the structure, the architect selected concrete—manufactured in an adjoining factory—because of its fire-resistant quality.

A lattice grid of 22-millimeter-diameter, pretensioned steel rods and aluminum channels is stretched between the arches and bolted to the concrete. The rods and channels create a parabolically curved frame to which the glazed skin of the canopy can be attached.

Laminated-glass panels were cut precisely to fit the varying spaces of this metal grid. The individual panels were then mounted to the top flange of the aluminum channels and fastened with structural silicone joints. According to the architect, this flexible joint minimizes the possibility of cracking caused by thermal stress in the glass.

To provide sun shading below the canopy, the architect specified a combination of 8-millimeter-thick laminated float glass with a 0.3-millimeter-thick sheet of perforated stainless steel that filters direct sunlight. A polyester film placed between the glass roof and the metal support structure provides an additional safety measure, keeping broken glass panels in place.
The laminated-glass canopies atop a pair of funicular stations in Paris provide views of the surrounding Montmartre district while recalling the city's signature Art Nouveau Metro entrances. Local architect François Deslaugiers chose to minimize the stations' enclosures and reveal their underlying structures. The curved laminated glass provides the necessary precautions for glazed roofs to meet local safety regulations.

Each of the two twin stations, located at the top and bottom of a hill beneath the church of Sacré-Coeur, features four, 16-meter-long angled steel brackets bolted to concrete bases. The brackets support arched, 20-millimeter-diameter steel tubes and smaller, steel purlins. Together, notes Deslaugiers, these interlocking members create a flexible, bonelike structure over which a transparent glass membrane is then "stretched."

To hold the laminated-glass canopies in place, stainless steel supports with four prongs are fastened to the tubes and purlins. The curved, 1.7-meter-by-2.7-meter panels of 10-millimeter-thick laminated glass are then bolted to the prongs. Along the edges of each canopy, the transparent, laminated-glass panels are fastened to smaller, two-pronged supports. Elastic silicone joints are inserted between the panels to accommodate small expansions and contractions. The glass membrane, notes Deslaugiers, appears to hover above its supports and resembles a "billowing sail stretched taut."

On the ground, Deslaugiers inserted laminated-glass partitions to separate arriving and departing trains and protect waiting passengers. The panels are 3 meters wide by 2 meters high and composed of 16-millimeter-thick laminated tempered glass. They incorporate sliding glass doors that open as a train arrives at the platform. "Since laminated glass stays intact under various stresses," the architect notes, "it is perfect for roofs and impact-resistant partitions."
Parisian architect Dominique Perrault, whose gargantuan glass volumes of the French National Library are currently under construction, was commissioned by the city government to create a new type of office building. Perrault was given an industrial site alongside the tracks of the Austerlitz rail station in Paris. The architect's "industrial town house" combines speculative office and industrial space in a 10-story Modernist block that is clad in clear laminated-glass panels.

Perrault wanted to create a completely transparent glass curtain wall that would reveal the building's concrete structure and expose its flexible mechanical system to the outside. To meet this objective and provide acoustical protection from adjoining train traffic, the architect specified 1.8-square-meter panels of double-paned, clear laminated glass. The panels are supported by aluminum restraining clips attached to aluminum mullions; the mullions, in turn, are bolted to a galvanized steel plate that is cast into the concrete slab at each floor level.

Behind the glazed facade, aluminum brackets fastened to the mullions support cable trays for telecommunications wiring. The trays also shade the glass wall. Above and below the trays, exposed air ducts are similarly attached to the window mullions. By strategically placing the ducts and wiring elements along the building's exterior, the architect was able to create completely flexible interiors.

Because laminated glass helps reduce glare, the internal mechanical elements and exposed precast concrete structure remain visible from the outside, imparting scale and proportion to the continuous glass envelope. The laminated glass in the curtain wall also protects against degradation of the interior by eliminating roughly 99 percent of the ultraviolet radiation passing through the building envelope.
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Legal Risks of Design/Build

Performing architectural and construction services has significant legal implications.

Design/build is a method of project delivery in which one entity signs a single contract accepting full responsibility for both design and construction services for the building. It is historically grounded in the concept of the master builder. Over the past centuries, increased specialization began to establish a separation between design and construction. The architect as a distinct professional in the construction process was ultimately defined in Europe during the Renaissance.

Delivery scenarios
During the 1800s, courts began to require a showing of negligence as the standard for liability of an architect, in contrast to the strict liability to which contractors are subject. Concurrently, the traditional design/award/build model of project delivery came into prominence in the construction industry and, in concert, most contemporary statutory and case law also evolved.

In recent years, however, interest in design/build delivery has grown stronger, and with it a potential blurring of the distinct roles of architect and contractor. As a result, the AIA developed three design/build contract forms, which are currently being revised for publication in late 1994 or early 1995.

Today's architect may participate in design/build under one of several common scenarios:
—The owner contracts with an architect/contractor—for example, an architect acts as the designer/builder, performing both design and construction services;
—The owner contracts with the architect who hires the general contractor as an independent consultant;
—The owner contracts with a contractor who hires an architect as a consultant;
—The owner contracts with a design/build entity which hires an architect and a contractor, each as independent consultants; or
—The owner contracts with a design/build entity or construction company, which employs an architect in-house.

Understanding risks
With the reemergence of design/build, liability issues and the associated legal implications come into new perspective; it is important that the architect understand these issues, their associated risks, and the legal distinctions under these various scenarios.

In traditional project delivery, the architect has well-established fiduciary obligations to a client. The architect performs as an independent consultant in providing plans and specifications, and as an agent of the owner during construction administration. The architect also acts as an arbiter of disputes between contractor and owner.

In a design/build project, these roles are very different. For example, the architect acting as a joint-venture partner with a contractor or as a designer/builder will have a direct
**STANDARD OF CARE**

That degree of care applied to measure the competence of a professional. If the practitioner performs below this level, he or she can be liable for any damage or injury that may result.

**NEGLIGENCE**

Failure to exercise the care that other architects would exercise under the same or similar circumstances.

**STRICT LIABILITY**

Liability imposed by law regardless of fault. Typically applied to manufacturers rather than to service providers.

**UNINSURED LIABILITY**

Liability not covered by a policy.

Financial interest in the project. Financial incentives and economic restraints may affect design decisions, including the selection of materials and the quality of construction. As a consultant to a design/build entity or a contractor, the architect no longer acts solely on behalf of the owner. As an employee of a design/build entity or construction firm, an architect may be even further removed from the client. The architect is challenged to balance these interests, particularly as a professional licensed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the general public.

**Shifts of liability**

In the traditional design/award/build project delivery mode, the architect is not liable for job site safety; nor for the means, methods, and sequences of construction; nor for the acts, errors, or omissions of the contractor or subcontractors which may result from the failure to follow the contract documents or from poor workmanship. The architect is not liable for interpretations and decisions made in good faith regarding owner-contractor disputes. He or she can reject work that does not comply with the contract documents; he or she reviews contractor submittals only for general compliance with these contract documents. These contractual limitations, in turn, limit liability exposure.

In contrast, the architect participating as a designer/builder assumes responsibility for all design and construction matters; is responsible for job site safety and for the means, methods, sequences, and construction defects; and thus is exposed to far greater liability. This is, indeed, the perceived advantage the owner seeks: to hold a single entity liable for all design and construction deficiencies.

In those design/build scenarios in which the architect is subordinate to a contractor, there is frequently a loss of design control. The pressure to control costs often means that only a minimal design effort will be funded. Creative design is often discouraged as a way of keeping the building costs competitive with proposals of other design/build firms. Along with the economic pressure to use cheaper materials and labor, the long-term quality of the resulting building and its life-cycle costs may be detrimentally affected. Such an outcome translates into greater liability exposure for the architect.

**Standard of care**

As long as an architect is providing services under the traditional design/award/build mode, a failure of that architect to perform to the applicable standard of care must be predicated upon a showing of negligence.

Unless an architect gives a written or oral guarantee, the practitioner does not warrant the results of his or her professional services. Generally, the courts consider architects as providing services, not products. Few court decisions have imposed liability on the architect predicated, regardless of negligence, on the legal concepts of implied warranty or strict liability, which are more onerous standards to which a contractor is exposed. An architect acting as a designer/builder, however, could well be held to such standards if he or she is participating in a design/build joint venture or otherwise acting as the entity contracting directly with the owner to provide both design and construction services.

A joint venture is a form of partnership; as a participant in a joint venture, an architect’s liability will be joint and several (he or she can be held responsible for the liability of other partners for full satisfaction of damages regardless of individual fault) and will include liability for all design and construction defects.

With careful attention to contract provisions, an architect subcontracting to a design/build entity or a construction contractor can maintain an “independent contractor” status and stay within the comfortable and insurable negligence standard of care. The scope of work provisions of such a contract deserve particular attention.

Architects’ professional liability insurance covers only claims for damages and expenses
resulting from professional negligence. Unless there is a special endorsement, professional liability "errors and omissions" policies typically do not provide coverage to architects acting in the role of a designer/builder. Contractors cannot be named as additionally insured under professional liability policies; they must secure comprehensive general liability (CGL) insurance to protect themselves against claims for bodily injury and property damage. Such CGL policies generally exclude coverage for design services, although professional liability insurance for incidental design services provided by contractors or subcontractors (such as shop drawings) is available from some insurers. Some carriers also offer professional liability insurance to protect a licensed "in-house" architect employed by a design/build entity or contractor.

Comprehensive coverage

In order to be insured against claims resulting from construction activities, the architect acting as a designer/builder must either secure comprehensive general liability coverage, or, if the architect has subcontracted with a construction contractor to provide design services, assure that he or she is named as additionally insured under that contractor's CGL policy. Some insurers do offer design/build professional liability insurance specifically for design/build firms but, generally, only in those circumstances where the architect is an independent consultant providing design services to a design/build entity or a contractor. Such policies provide coverage for damages arising from negligence in the design and specifications as well as claims for bodily injury and property damage arising from negligent design, but do not provide coverage for claims arising from the failure of the design/build contractor to construct the project in accordance with the plans and specifications. To fill the gaps in coverage, new insurance products will have to be developed to respond to the needs of architects involved in design/build projects.

Under no circumstances is it likely there will ever be coverage for defects in the construction. Thus, the architect assuming the role of a designer/builder is not only exposed to greater and unfamiliar liability, but to uninsured liability as well.

Licensing laws

Every state regulates the practice of architecture, and many states license persons or companies that engage in the construction of buildings. No state, however, specifically licenses design/build entities. Architects should make sure that the design/build mode does not violate a state's applicable registration and licensing laws, since a nonlicensed person cannot provide architectural services. Conversely, in those states requiring a license to engage in construction, an architect performing design/build services may be required to obtain a general contractor's license.

The validity of design/build contracts is not a settled issue in many states. If the designer/builder is not properly licensed to provide the contracted services, the contract may be considered illegal and unenforceable. The legality of the contract may hinge on whether or not the designer/builder itself has agreed to directly "perform" the architectural services or to "furnish," or hire, others to perform the work. It is important to know the applicable law of any given state before participating in a design/build venture.

The liability exposure to an architect participating in design/build will vary depending on the organizational and contractual relationship of the parties. While the risks may be greater than more conventional project delivery methods, they can be managed if understood. Changes in liability concepts, in the law, and in insurance will likely continue in response to the growing demands of design/build.—Kenneth H. Natkin

Kenneth H. Natkin, FAIA, Esq., is a San Francisco attorney who serves as a special master, mediator, and arbiter of construction-related disputes.
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Linking Up the Building Team

New software being developed at Stanford University connects design to engineering and construction.

Surrounded by the bucolic serenity of the Stanford University campus, researchers at the Center for Integrated Facility Engineering (CIFE) are struggling with some of the thorniest problems confronting the construction industry. Today, most new buildings are chronically behind schedule, over budget, and plagued with errors in design and construction—problems attributed to fragmentation within the industry and poor communications between disciplines. According to CIFE Director Paul Teicholz, computer technology may provide the key to improving these communications and to smoothing the information flow required during the building life cycle, from initial planning, through design and documentation, to construction, facility management, and eventual demolition, to construction anew.

Most existing software does little to integrate design information. CAD software tends to mimic traditional drafting processes and lacks the nongraphic data needed for analysis and documentation. Analysis programs are often isolated on islands of automation, with little cohesion between the disparate pieces. "At CIFE," explains Teicholz, "we are working on research projects that link 3D CAD to knowledge-based design systems to facilitate a multidisciplinary design process. We want to educate the construction industry about the ever-increasing importance of integration and how it can be furthered by advanced technology." However, Teicholz adds, "technology alone won't fix this situation. We need to think about radically different ways of working, to produce buildings that operate correctly from the beginning, just as we produce cars that usually work well the first time they're driven." The most successful applications of technology have been undertaken by design/build engineering firms that deliver to an owner a functioning facility, not just a set of drawings. This is aided by highly integrated technology, but very few architects exploit technology to this degree.
Integrative, interdisciplinary software can best be developed by interdisciplinary teams. CIFE brings together under one roof collaborating architects, engineers, builders, and computer scientists. Unlike many academic research centers, CIFE is supported directly by software and hardware developers, whose active participation ensures that "technology transfer" from lab to workplace will happen quickly and effectively. CIFE is also supported by architecture, engineering, and construction firms, and by building and plant owners and operators. These contributing firms send their executives to seminars and selected employees for training and for participation on software development teams.

Experiments in collaboration
One such team, headed by CIFE research associate and structural engineer Renate Fruchter, working with PhD student Mark Clayton, is developing software to support design collaboration. Their Interdisciplinary Communication Medium (ICM) permits several professionals to share a project's electronic 3D building model, each applying his or her own skills and vocabulary. The shared design appears differently on the screen, depending on the expertise of the person working on it. For example, the architect sees room layouts, walls, windows, and doors, while the engineer, working with the same 3D AutoCAD model, sees beams, columns, and footings.

The ICM operates according to a design sequence of proposal, interpretation, critique, and explanation. For example, in a typical process, the architect proposes a conceptual building design by creating a 3D model showing the building's basic form, the partition locations, and the door and window placements. The structural designer proposes a structural frame to accommodate the form. The architect "interprets" the model by identifying those design elements that relate to the analysis of interest, such as egress or energy. The structural engineer interprets the proposed form by identifying the beams, columns, and connections.

In the critique stage, the architectural information is analyzed for its conformance to requirements of egress and energy consumption; the structural design is analyzed for its resistance to loads. Finally, in the explanation stage, any discrepancies between the proposed design and the evaluation are displayed on the original 3D model. For example, where cooling loads are excessive, the display shows color-coded windows that could benefit from shading. A structural design with unacceptable displacement displays an exaggerated view of the columns in deflection. These graphical displays are particularly important in explaining problems to other team members who are not experts in those areas.

Fruchter hopes that ICM will reduce errors and delays by increasing understanding among professionals of different disciplines. She notes that this requires an integration of CAD software with knowledge-based systems. "For supporting creativity," Fruchter explains, "we need CAD graphic systems that provide, in addition to layers, line styles, and pens, support for multicriteria semantics, critiques, and explanations of design."

Linking platforms and sites
Another experiment in interdisciplinary communication is being conducted by CIFE research associate Taha Khedro working with Teicholz and computer science professor Michael Genesereeth. Khedro has developed software programs called "facilitators," which perform translations between the disparate design and analysis software operated by the various design professionals. Khedro's prototype, called CIFE World, links architects, engineers, and contractors in eight applications covering conceptual architectural and structural design; steel beam, column, and footing sizing; cost analysis; construction scheduling; and database management, which feeds information to the other applications.

Results from each design application are sent to facilitator software, which automatically translates the received information and reroutes it in a format suitable for the receiving application. In addition to the basic design data, this information can also include explanations for why certain actions were taken. Although all the data is transmitted electronically, team members still communicate by telephone and negotiate design decisions in traditional ways. The interpretive, intermediary facilitator makes it possible for design professionals to work on different
hardware platforms and in remote locations, yet with the assurance that their work is being shared appropriately and that they are being informed of decisions by the rest of the team.

This software configuration makes it relatively easy to plug in other applications. Khedro notes: "Most often, design applications are integrated through a shared database management system, and a complete data model must be established from the beginning. With this approach, by contrast, the network of facilitators allows systematic and strategic integration where system developers are not forced to integrate all applications at once." Khedro’s future work will focus on enhancing the facilitators to identify design conflicts and enforce constraints, and on issues associated with geographically dispersed workplaces.

**Expanding university research**

In a project sponsored by the Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (CERL) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, researchers at four major universities across the nation are developing an infrastructure for integrating facility design and construction. The applications include an architectural layout and design system developed by Carnegie Mellon University, a structural design environment from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, cost estimating from Stanford, and an energy analysis system developed by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The group will develop models for identifying and resolving conflicts between disciplines, methods for sharing data between unrelated applications running on different hardware platforms, and strategies for collaboration.

**Watching the construction schedule**

Integrating project scheduling with CAD has been the goal of architect and CIFE graduate student Eric Collier, working with civil engineering professor Martin Fischer. He has been working with the Dillingham Construction Company to model the five-building, six-year construction schedule of the San Mateo County Health Center Facility, designed by The Ratcliff Architects of Emeryville, California. Collier’s goal is to make 3D modeling more valuable by providing a planning and communication tool for everyone involved in the construction process of phased demolition, new construction, and renovation.

This project applies software from Jacobus Technology to link the AutoCAD 3D model of the medical facility to the Primavera construction schedule. An animation of the construction process is created by redrawing the model at regular intervals throughout the construction period. Each frame shows an updated construction status according to the associated schedule. The animation displays, in effect, the building being constructed, piece by piece, enabling construction managers to assess coordination between trades and avert potential timing problems.

Processes along the "critical path"—those which, if delayed, will adversely affect the timing of all other processes—are shown in red. As construction proceeds, the actual schedule can be compared to the proposed, and any delays can be identified. The model can also illustrate when and how departments will be relocated during the long construction period. Collier is interested in the trade-offs between the cost and benefits of such modeling. A sufficiently detailed computer model is time-consuming to construct and to link with scheduling data. But this cost is justified if the modeling process unveils even small discrepancies between drawings that would be more costly to correct if not detected until construction begins.

Getting architects to assume more responsibility for construction processes may mean a reversal of current architectural practices, but a few architects have begun to think of this increase as an opportunity instead of a threat. These practitioners have reclaimed some of the responsibility that has been abdicated over the years to consultants, engineers, and builders. And their leadership may increase in the future with a new generation of design and construction software. Through innovative construction communications software, such as that developed at CIFE, architects may be able to increase the quality of buildings while lowering their costs. In addition, they will provide their clients with the data that can be the starting point for better facility management. Teicholz concludes: "If architects can exploit technology to add value to what they deliver to owners, they’ll make a good case for better fees."—B.J. Novitski
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Circle 124 on information card
Alliances between U.S. and foreign architects boost business abroad.

European Consortiums Extend Reach of American Firms

American architects working abroad may benefit from a new business practice recently adopted in Europe: international firm consortiums known as European Economic Interest Groups (EEIGs). These multi-organizational arrangements have many benefits, maintains architect William E. Alisse, director of international operations at The Phillips Janson Group Architects of New York City, which joined an EEIG called Perspective as an affiliate member in June.

Such groups provide contacts and local support in many regions, without requiring a U.S. firm to set up multiple foreign offices, which requires substantial investment, or to look for a local partner for each project, which is time consuming.

Local firms can help with filing requirements; ensure that drawings comply with building codes; and, frequently, develop working drawings or undertake construction administration for the out-of-town practice. Professional service fees for such assistance are negotiated on a project-by-project basis, according to fixed hourly rates provided by each member firm.

For example, The Phillips Janson Group was recently called to prepare a proposal immediately for a project in Italy. Alisse called his firm’s Milan affiliate to check out the site and submitted a response to the Italian client overnight. “Logistically, it would have been impossible to meet this deadline without our local contact,” he admits.—N.B.S.

Brick Hotline

The Brick Institute of America has opened a new automated hotline, called Brick Fax, to provide technical information on brick construction. Brick Fax operates 24 hours a day; seven days a week. Callers choose from a menu of technical papers on brick design, detailing, and construction methods—each supplemented by drawings, photographs, tables, and charts—and the service sends the requested information via fax to the caller. Each paper, which runs from four to 16 pages, costs $2, and requests for information are charged to the caller’s credit card. Browsing the catalog is free. Brick Fax’s number is (703) 620-1200.

Exchange: KPS’s Taylor Plosser, Perov.

Russian Architect Studies U.S. Practice

Architect Fedor Perov of St. Petersburg, Russia, can’t get good materials because they’re too expensive to import. He’s still stuck with the specs provided by the Soviet state. Cash flow is a problem because Russian architects are paid by the project, not a salary. And projects, Perov maintains, have to be completed quickly in Russia to beat inflation of 6 percent to 20 percent per month.

Perov traveled to the United States this summer as part of an international exchange program to learn how capitalists ply their expertise in a free-market economy. His trip was sponsored by the San Francisco-based Center for Citizen Initiatives, a nonprofit group supporting Russia’s new entrepreneurs through direct exchanges with their American counterparts. The 38-year-old Russian spent five weeks with the KPS Group in Birmingham, Alabama, primarily studying American housing types to translate them into affordable models for Russian families.

Perov also learned how American architects manage projects to make profits, and how urban design and development are driven by speculation of market demand. KPS President Gray Plosser explained to Perov the nuances of financial planning in entrepreneurial firms, which actually sets a company’s course in the marketplace—less perfunctory than planning under the old Soviet system, “where plans simply dictated output and budget.” Perov remarks that Russia’s fledgling entrepreneurs have not fully caught on to such strategic practices. “We still compensate according to municipal norms. Of course there is a system of free prices in Russia, but the state system continues to seriously influence all calculations. This is why construction costs in Russia are not declining.”

AIA Publishes Revised Handbook

The AIA recently issued a revised, 12th edition of The Architect’s Handbook of Professional Practice, edited by David Haviland, professor of architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The 1,800-page loose-leaf practice “bible” covers architectural education, career strategies, and ethics; firm management, including start-up, marketing, human resources, financial strategies, computers, and firm transition; and an exhaustive section on projects—how to get them, the best delivery methods, and how to protect your firm from the hidden pitfalls of providing service. The Handbook’s new format allows readers to enter the book at any point and is structured in short passages that direct the reader to additional information on the subject. The cost of the Handbook for AIA members is $140; nonmembers pay $200. Students may purchase an abridged paperback version for $75. To order, call (800) 365-ARCH.

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Circle 126 on information card
Philippe Starck designs bathroom products for German manufacturers.

In 1991, German manufacturers Duravit, Hoesch, and Hansgrohe commissioned French designer Philippe Starck to design a new line of bathroom fixtures. Inspired by the simple, traditional forms of the hand pump, bucket, and washtub, these streamlined products are the latest addition to Starck's prodigious portfolio of interior furnishings.

Duravit manufactures the ceramics and bathroom furniture; Hoesch, the acrylic bath and shower trays; and Hansgrohe, the tap fittings and accessories. Starck-designed accessories include towel racks, soap dishes, toothbrush holders, toilet paper dispensers, and mirrors.

Unveiled this June in the rustic setting of Karmeliter Kloster, a monastery in Frankfurt, Germany, the line will be available in the United States in 1995. For more information about Hansgrohe fixtures and accessories, circle 401 on information card; for Duravit ceramics, bathroom furniture, and accessories and Hoesch acrylic bathtubs and shower trays, circle 402 on information card.

TOP LEFT: The 57-centimeter diameter ceramic wash basin stands on a semipedestal by Duravit with chrome fixtures by Hansgrohe.

TOP CENTER: The 90-centimeter semicircular wash basin can be wall mounted or supported by a floor-standing conical pedestal. Available only in white, the basin is offered with an optional integrated towel rail.

TOP RIGHT: Available only in chrome, the wash basin nozzle by Hansgrohe translates the movement of the hand pump into a single-lever faucet.

ABOVE LEFT: The 58-centimeter wash basin on a vanity unit is shaped like a barrel, clad in pear wood veneer. Flush panels open to reveal a laminated black melamine interior and a glass shelf with chrome rail.

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Prefabricated panels

Construction of lightweight wall panels, constructed of galvanized light-gauge steel. Available in finishes ranging from granite (above), brick, and ceramic tile to glass and aluminum, these prefabricated panels can be applied directly to an existing facade; they are also appropriate for new construction. Eastern's Cygnus method of installation uses structural silicone to adhere the finish to the panel. Circle 403 on information card.

Tinted glass

SuperGrey High-Performance Tinted Float Glass (above), manufactured by Libbey-Owens-Ford, blocks 95 percent of ultraviolet rays, reducing solar heat gain and glare. Ideal for applications near computers, SuperGrey is purported to maintain undistorted exterior views without evidencing an unnatural tint. Available in thicknesses of 3/8, 3/16, or 1/4 inch, SuperGrey can be applied in a single layer or in multiple insulating layers. Circle 404 on information card.

Curtain wall system

Vistawall Architectural Products offers a complete line of curtain wall options with the CW-250 (above), a standard curtain wall system. The face of Vistawall's CW-250 measures 2 1/4 inches and is designed to accommodate 1/8-inch or 1-inch glazing. Interior mullion depths vary according to loading requirements. The system is available in either a painted or an anodized finish. Stainless steel face caps are also available. Circle 405 on information card.

Glass block

Pittsburgh Corning glass block products are available in five patterns that provide varying degrees of visibility and light transmission. The VUE pattern (above) features a smooth, virtually undistorted surface that boasts maximum transparency. In addition to standard 6-, 8-, and 12-inch squares, the VUE pattern is available in rectangular blocks and the TRIDRON 45 degree angular block, for curved configurations. Circle 406 on information card.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS: ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

The Department of Architecture in the College of Environmental Design, University of California at Berkeley, invites applications for two positions at the assistant, associate, or full professor level beginning in the 1995-96 academic year. The appointees will be expected to teach architectural design studios at the undergraduate and graduate levels and to conduct lecture courses in one or more of the major areas of the curriculum. Other duties will include student academic advising, service on department and university committees, and participation in the academic life of the college. The Department would consider an appointment at a fractional percentage from 50-100% with the appointee's other time devoted to his or her professional work. Candidates interested in a fractional percentage must therefore be engaged in professional practice as an architect. Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applicants at the assistant professor level (ladder rank, non-tenured) must hold an M.Arch. or higher-level degree and demonstrate the promise of achievement in teaching, professional practice, and/or research in a second, design-related area of expertise. Applicants for the associate or full professor level (tenured) must also hold the aforementioned degree/s and possess a record of distinguished achievement in teaching, practice, and/or research. The successful candidate must be a capable teacher with the ability to motivate and guide effective design exploration, marshal the appropriate technical information, and shape the intellectual context for design evaluation and criticism.

Application forms for this position are available from the Search Committee Chair, Department of Architecture, University of California at Berkeley, 232 Wurster Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720. Fax your request for an application to (510) 643-5607. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1, 1994.

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Department of Architecture and Urban Design invites applications for the following faculty positions, beginning academic year 95-96.

Architectural Technology. The successful applicant will be expected to teach a combination of the following subjects: building construction, sustainable design, environmental control systems, energy modeling, building climatology, resource efficient building materials and systems, daylighting or acoustics and will be expected to pursue scholarly activities plus applied work or theoretical research.

Computing. The Department seeks applicants with strong qualifications to make fundamental contributions in Computation as it applies to architecture. The application areas include but are not limited to: visualization, urban design, construction technology, computer-aided design, design automation, design theory, knowledge-bases, user interfaces.

The Department of Architecture and Urban Design at UCLA offers four degrees at the graduate level: M.Arch.I, M.Arch.II, M.A. and Ph.D. in Architecture. Associated with the Department is a new Center for Design and Computation, which supports collaborative research in this area.

The successful candidates will be responsible for teaching fundamentals to professionals and advanced courses to research degree students, including the Ph.D. degree, and will also be responsible for expanding research in their area. It is expected that these tenure track appointments will be made at the assistant professor level; however, depending on exceptional qualifications, appointment at a higher rank may be considered.

Candidates are asked to submit an application which includes a curriculum vitae, the names and addresses of at least three referees, and non-returnable samples of work to Jurg Lang, Chair, Department of Architecture and Urban Design, School of the Arts and Architecture, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1467. UCLA is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. The Department of Architecture and Urban Design seeks diversity and encourages women and members of minority groups to apply. Deadline November 1, 1994.
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Circle 128 on information card
Gigli fabrics
A new collection of eight woven fabrics is the result of a collaboration between Italian fashion designer Romeo Gigli and Donghia Textiles. The Islamica pattern (above), available in three colors, is constructed of 52 percent viscose and 48 percent cotton. Woven in France, the fabric is available in 54-inch-wide segments, incorporating four 13 1/2-inch horizontal repeats and a 40-inch vertical repeat.
Circle 411 on information card.

Textured upholstery
With the introduction of Ossian (above), Zimmer+Rohde has revitalized the traditional chenille pattern with a checkerboard of raised 1/4-inch squares. Appropriate for residential and commercial applications, Ossian is composed of 54 percent cotton, 36 percent viscose, and 10 percent polyester. An extensive range of browns, greens, reds, blues, and yellows is represented in Zimmer-Rohde’s palette of 44 colors.
Circle 412 on information card.

Bauhaus-inspired fabric
As part of its year-long celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Bauhaus, KnollTextiles has introduced Pavilion (above), one of three new fabrics in its Bauhaus collection. The flaglike pattern was originally conceived as a carpet design and adapted to an upholstery fabric. Featuring a 6-inch vertical repeat, Pavilion is available in five colors. The material is a blend of 51 percent cotton and 49 percent rayon.
Circle 413 on information card.

Glass window accessories
Mysterious Garden (above), designed by Israeli architect David Palterer for Blome Corporation, is a collection of window hardware that celebrates nature. Each finial and tieback is constructed of hand-blown glass by artisans in Murano, Italy. No two are alike, although each replicates one of Palterer’s original designs: five finials, measuring 6 to 10 inches long; and six tiebacks, measuring 4 to 5 inches long.
Circle 414 on information card.

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Ventilating louvers
Manufacturers of ventilating louvers for 75 years, the Airolite Company has released a new thermal break louver, the Airolite TB18046 (above, left), designed to minimize heat transfer and restrict the formation of condensation. The blades of the TB18046 are adjustable, allowing the louver to function as an insulated wall panel when closed. Airolite has also introduced a new line of acoustic louvers, including the Airolite T9112 (above, right) and the T9212 (above, center). All connections in Airolite’s louvers are welded and provide greater structural stability and resistance to corrosion than those constructed with screws or rivets. The Airolite T9212 features an airfoil blade profile designed to further reduce noise. Both the thermal break louvers and the acoustic louvers may be finished with Kynar 500 resin coatings, available in a wide selection of colors. Circle 415 on information card.

Wall and floor grilles
Kadee Industries offers a complete line of entrance floor mats and ventilation grilles (above). Aluminum entrance grids and roll-up mats are available with carpeted or vinyl inserts. Kadee’s newest products, the Aluminum Bar Clean Tread and the Bronze Bar Clean Tread feature grooved surfaces to remove dirt and moisture from shoes. They are available in standard sizes up to 4 feet by 8 feet, as well as in custom sizes. Resistant to moisture, the Aluminum and Bronze Bar Clean Treads are recommended for ceiling and wall ventilation grilles in commercial building applications. Circle 416 on information card.

Window security
A new line of safety and security window films is designed to withstand turbulent weather, earthquakes, and terrorist acts. Applied to the interior side of windows, LLumar Magnum films hold glass in place and protect people, equipment, and furnishings from broken glass and flying fragments. These laminated polyester films are purported to maintain clear, undistorted vision and block ultraviolet rays. Courtaulds Performance Films manufactures the films in thicknesses of 0.004, 0.007, and 0.011 inches. Circle 417 on information card.

Architectural glass
Cesar Color has introduced Metallics, a new line of architectural glass. Available in 10 semitransparent and 10 opaque colors, the Metallics line is intended to match or complement interior metal surfaces such as brass, bronze, gold, or stainless steel. Typical applications include doorways, railings, elevators, partitions, and furniture. Standard sheet sizes up to 58 inches by 133 inches are available. Designers may specify several configurations, including clear, tinted, annealed, heat treated, flat or bent, and single or double glazed. Circle 418 on information card.

Acrylic glazing
Lightweight, durable, acrylic sheets and polycarbonate sheets manufactured by CYRO Industries offer an alternative to glass-enclosed atriums, skylights, or pedestrian walkways. Acrylic AR abrasion-resistant acrylic sheet boasts four times the impact resistance of glass. Simple and inexpensive to cut, Acrylic AR is available in a variety of transparent and opaque colors. For applications requiring significant strength, Cyrolon AR polycarbonate sheet provides up to 250 times the impact resistance of glass. Sheet sizes range from 4 feet by 8 feet to 5 feet by 10 feet; thicknesses vary from 0.06 to 0.5 inches, depending on panel size. CYRO also offers the Acrylite OP-3 and Cyrolon UVP sheets, which filter 98 percent of ultraviolet rays. Circle 419 on information card.

Important Information About Schuller Phenolic Foam Roof Insulation and Possible Steel Deck Corrosion
From January 1989 to February 1992, we produced UltraGard® Premier, a glass mat faced phenolic foam roof insulation, which is no longer manufactured by us.

Recent observations suggest there is a potential for phenolic foam roof insulation to contribute to the corrosion of steel roof decks. In extreme conditions, where insulation is wet or damaged, the corrosion reaction could progress to a point which could weaken or penetrate an area in the metal deck.

Therefore, where evidence of wet or damaged phenolic insulation exists, or severe deck corrosion is observed, care should be taken in operating equipment, moving heavy loads and walking across the roof.

IF YOU HAVE SCHULLER® PHENOLIC FOAM INSULATION ON YOUR ROOF, PLEASE CALL US AT 1-800-345-9602.

Schuller Roofing Systems Division
Schuller International, Inc.
P.O. Box 5108, Denver, CO 80217

1-800-345-9602
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Mountain Time)

*Schuller phenolic foam insulation was formerly manufactured and marketed by Manville® Roofing Systems.

Circle 42 on information card.
Both in people and in furniture, we stand for quality — through and through. Our experienced designers and craftspeople work with you, taking your ideas and turning them into custom-crafted furniture that fits your clients' lifestyles and their budgets.


Call for our brochure. 1-800-MANHATTAN.

AT MANHATTAN CABINETRY, CRAFTSMANSHIP IS MORE THAN A VENEER.
Follansbee makes its terne-coated stainless available in two finishes—the standard mill finish and a pre-weathered finish. Both will weather to the attractive, gray finish characteristic of TCS.

MILL FINISH. TCS is a reflective silver color when the terne alloy is first applied (see sample). After exposure, it will gradually oxidize to a gray tone in 8 to 24 months.

PRE-WEATHERED FINISH. The pre-weathered TCS finish is a mill-applied wash coat used to limit initial reflectivity, changing from its brownish color (see sample) to a gray tone in approximately 3 months after exposure.

Once TCS has reached its warm, gray finish, weathering virtually stops and the architectural stainless base plate is protected for decades of service. TCS never requires painting and maintenance is minimal.

We will be happy to send you samples of the available TCS finishes. Call us toll-free, 1-800-624-6906.
WHO WE ARE
The Steel Deck Institute is comprised of manufacturers of steel floor and roof decks concerned with cold-formed steel products.

WHAT WE DO
Since 1939 the Steel Deck Institute has provided uniform industry standards for the engineering, design, manufacture, and field usage of steel decks.

SDI PURPOSE
- Develop steel decks engineered for structural soundness and consistent quality, that adapt to a wide range of designs and systems, and are economical in initial and life-cycle costs.
- Initiate design and installation procedures that conform to good construction practices and that meet cost requirements.
- Prepare, review and distribute literature, refer inquiries to appropriate sources, coordinate research and testing, and liaison with other construction industry associations on matters of common interest.
- Maintain a full time Executive Director who supervises the programs developed through the combined efforts of the total membership.

for more information contact the
Steel Deck Institute
P.O. Box 9506 • Canton, OH 44711
Phone (216) 493-7886 • Fax (216) 493-7886

Circle 44 on information card

Last Chance

Did you miss valuable information offered by advertisers in last month's issue of ARCHITECTURE?

The manufacturers listed below were advertisers in last month’s issue. They are anxious to provide you with their latest product information and literature for your planning needs. To receive this information, circle the appropriate numbers on the self-addressed, postage-paid response card. For product literature from advertisers in this issue, circle the appropriate numbers shown on the advertisements.

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Find out more about Dolomiti by Marazzi. Circle No. 31

American Plywood Assn.
Get details on our Innovations in Housing Call for Entries. Circle No. 69

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In today’s designs, it’s the brand that helps architects take value to new heights.

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Not only do they reduce energy costs by up to 40% compared to ordinary F40 lamps on standard magnetic ballasts, they also provide high color rendition of 75-90 to improve lighting quality. And all systems are carefully engineered to provide optimum performance while maintaining maximum reliability. Our broad scope of lamp and ballast combinations also guarantees that we can provide system solutions to meet all your lighting needs.

And these systems are covered by the newest, most comprehensive warranty in the industry – QUICK 60+. With up to 60 months coverage for the ballast plus...up to 24 months coverage for the lamps, this warranty provides an unmatched assurance that the system selected will provide reliable performance.

In fact, we offer the largest selection of energy-efficient, high performance lighting products in the industry. So, when you have a lighting problem, pick up the phone and let us provide the solutions: 1-800-LIGHTBULB.

OSRAM SYLVANIA

TECHNOLOGY BROUGHT TO LIGHT

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Project Credits

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY
GALICIAN ART
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN

ARCHITECT: Alvaro Siza, Porto, Portugal—Alvaro Siza (principal); Joao Fasqueiras, Mona Trautman, Yves Stomp, João Sabugueiro (project development); Jane Considine, Tiago Faria, Anton Graf, Cecilia Lau, Elisábio Miranda, Luís Cardoso, Miguel Nery (design team)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Constructora San José SA
PHOTOGRAPHER: Duccio Malagamba

MARIA HOUSE
YIRKALA, AUSTRALIA

ARCHITECT: Glenn Murcutt, Sydney, Australia—Glenn Murcutt (principal); Simon Thorpe, John Colquhoun (project team/construction)
ENGINEERS: James Taylor & Associates (structural); Nabalco (electrical)
CONSULTANTS: Antax (structural steel); Windworker Company (ventilation)
PHOTOGRAPHER: Reiner Blunck

CARTIER FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
PARIS, FRANCE

ARCHITECT: Jean Nouvel, Emmanuel Cattani & Associates, Paris—Jean Nouvel (principal); Didier Brault (project architect)
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Lothar Baumgarten
ENGINEERS: Ove Arup & Partners (structural); Riedweg & Gendre/Sefca, Chauffage & Ventilation (mechanical); Integral ING, EMI (electrical)
CONSULTANTS: De Buissière Associates (cabinet); Casso & Gaudin (security); Fondaco (foundations); Sirraba (metal framework); Harmon CEM (window walls)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Hepper
PHOTOGRAPHER: Christian Richters, except as noted

FINNISH FOREST MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER
PUNKAHARJU, FINLAND

ARCHITECT: Kaira-Lahdelma-Mahlamäki, Helsinki, Finland—Ilmari Lahdelma, Rainer Mahlamäki (principals-in-charge); Juha Mäki-Jylilä (assistant)
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Gretel Hennigard
ENGINEERS: A. Insinnörit (structural); LVI-Niemi (mechanical); Kalle Hauvalina (electrical)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: A-Rakentajat
COST: $6.35 million
PHOTOGRAPHER: Jussi Tiainen

HÔTEL DU DÉPARTEMENT
MARSEILLE, FRANCE

ARCHITECT: Alsop and Strömer, London—Will Alsop (principal designer); Francis Graves, Stephen Pimbley (project architects)
ENGINEERS: Ove Arup & Partners (structural/mechanical/electrical)
CONSULTANTS: Bureau D’Etudes-OTH Méditerranée (technical); Hanscomb Ltd. (cost estimating); Charles Bové, André Putman (interior design)
COST: $150 million
PHOTOGRAPHER: Paul Rafrey/Arcaid

ÖHRRINGEN COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL
ÖHRRINGEN, GERMANY

ARCHITECT: Behnisch & Partner, Stuttgart, Germany—Günter Behnisch (principal); Dagmar Schork (project architect); Sandra Seibold, Jürgen Martmann, Martina Höh (project team)
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Hans Luz
ENGINEERS: Schlaich, Bergermann & Partner; Fördelbach-Gleichen (structural)
CONSULTANTS: Sigrid Duffner, Armin Gebert, Wolfgang Leukel (site)
PHOTOGRAPHER: Christian Kandzia

NAGI MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
NAGI, OKAYAMA PREFECTURE, JAPAN

ARCHITECT: Arata Isozaki & Associates, Tokyo, Japan—Arata Isozaki (principal); Shuichi Fujie, Ko Ono (design team)
ENGINEERS: Toshio Yanagisawa (structural); Kankyo (mechanical); TL Yamagawa Laboratory (electrical/lighting)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Taisei Corporation
PHOTOGRAPHER: Katsuaki Furudate

KITCHENER CITY HALL
KITCHENER, ONTARIO

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Milus Bollenbergh Teppos Watchorn
ENGINEERS: Yolles Partnership (structural); Merber Corporation (mechanical); Mulvey + Banani (electrical)
CONSULTANT: Rice Brydowe (interiors)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Ellis-Don Construction Ltd.
PHOTOGRAPHER: Timothy Hursley
Curtain Wall
CSI Section 08900

Testing for leakage
Many project specifications written by architects provide for window and curtain wall leakage tests as part of the project quality assurance program. The two most common are the chamber and hose tests. Chamber tests simulate wind-driven rain through a uniform water spray in conjunction with differential pressure. Racks of calibrated nozzles and sealed test chambers with centrifugal blowers provide the water spray and a measurable pressure differential (frequently 6.24 psf). The methods of ASTM E 1105 or AAMA 501.3 are typically followed.

Hose tests use much simpler equipment. The AAMA 501.2 standard method requires only a garden hose with a specially calibrated nozzle and pressure gauge. The procedure calls for spraying 5 feet of window or curtain wall jointery for 5 minutes with the nozzle 12 inches away, and the hose pressure set at 35 psi. If no water leakage is detected from the interior, the next 5 feet of jointery are tested, and so on, until the prescribed area has been completely tested.

To determine how much pressure is applied to the tested area, our firm conducted studies with a manometer port and a standard Monarch B-25 nozzle at perpendicular distances ranging from 4 to 14 inches, and lateral offset distances ranging from 0 to 9 inches. The size of the pressure port varied from 0.125 to 0.345 inch in diameter (see graph below).

We found that the nozzle spray pattern is not uniform and that maximum pressure occurs in a concentric ring 1 to 2 inches radially outward from the center. The maximum pressure generated at a distance of 12 inches is approximately 7.6 psf. Conducting hose tests at distances less than 12 inches can generate pressures considerably higher than typically specified for chamber tests.

Glass and Glazing
CSI Section 08800

Detailing interior glazing
Readily available standard steel sections, common mechanical fasteners, and glass provide architects with the raw ingredients for an interesting, affordable, and simple-to-install interior glazing system. To create such a system that functions well and has esthetic appeal, the architect should carefully consider the steel components and their finishes, the fastening devices, the acoustic quality of the wall, and the glass itself.

Either hot-rolled or cold-rolled steel can be employed for the structural frame. Hot-rolled steel is more appropriate for concealed structural building applications and should be further refined from its factory finish by sandblasting the steel and applying a clear lacquer, a process that produces a natural finish, or by applying paint. Cold-rolled steel is less available than its hot-rolled counterpart and offers less variety of shapes, but it does have the advantage of a smoother, more refined factory finish. With a simple lacquer applied for sealing, cold-rolled steel can be left in its natural state to produce an industrial esthetic (detail above).

The fasteners for this wall system are critical both as the means of connecting the various pieces and as the visual element that projects a high-quality image for the assembly. Fasteners should be specified according to the scale, structural strength, and material palette of the project.

The choice between tempered or plate glass will depend on code issues. To satisfy privacy and esthetic considerations, frosted, tinted-colored, or textured glass may be appropriate. Any caulking of the glass and frame will depend on the degree of acoustic privacy required. In general, glass walls do not offer good acoustic qualities. However, caulking of all joints can greatly improve the acoustic performance. If privacy is not an issue, then caulking is generally not required. However, it does help in isolating sounds caused by vibration. In designing interior glass walls, as with any element of a building, architects’ success depends on attention to details.

Lewis J. Goetz, AIA, and Manouk Maboudian
Greenwell Goetz Architects
Washington, D.C.
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"We chose G-P Dens-Glass Gold to protect the project from moisture. We were not expecting a hurricane."

The architects whose "The Point at Poipu" located on Kauai (pictured while under construction) survived Hurricane Iniki

G-P: You figured you’d use Dens-Glass Gold to keep moisture out of the condos, and it ends up ...

ARCH: ...helping the condos stand up to hurricane force winds as well. The combination of the synthetic plaster we used and the Dens-Glass Gold gave the condos more structural stability than regular gypsum board could have.

G-P: You counted on Dens-Glass Gold for protection from sea spray, right?

ARCH: Yeah, constant sea spray riding in on lovely breezes up to 42 knots. That was a key reason we specified Dens-Glass Gold—paper-face can’t touch it for moisture protection.

G-P: So when Iniki arrived, the condos survived the winds and the rain.

ARCH: Frankly, we were astonished. You know, over 85% of the buildings on the island were damaged. No one would have expected Dens-Glass Gold to withstand that kind of storm. But it is made for high performance. Its construction is totally unique. Silicone and fiberglass, right?

G-P: Silicone-treated core and embedded fiberglass mats front and back, with the gold-colored alkali-resistant coating.

ARCH: And it’s those fiberglass mats that make it more stable than paper-face.

G-P: By the way, G-P backs Dens-Glass Gold with a six-month limited warranty against moisture deterioration when it’s fully exposed to the weather. It’s also warranted for 5 years against manufacturer defects.

G-P: So, you’re a pretty satisfied customer?

ARCH: And you’re a master of understatement.

ARCH: You’re a master of understatement.

*For a free brochure on Dens-Glass Gold, including warranty information, call 1-800-BUILD GP (234-5347), Operator 731. For technical assistance, call 1-800-225-6119. (In Georgia, call (404) 987-5190. Look for us in Sweets, Section #090250/GEN.

Solve it with G-P.

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