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From the Promenade:

The view from the Promenade near my new home in Brooklyn Heights may be New York's finest: the city and its waterfront snap into perspective from across the river. Manhattan's proud towers cluster, then crash toward the water's edge, their juncture fragmented into a splayed collar of docks and piers, cafes, and bubble-topped tennis courts. From this distance, the city looms whole and iconic, the culmination of heroic materialism. The architecture takes your breath away.

The view from the new riverside park in my hometown, Columbus, Mississippi, is more languid. It is amazing that the river is apparent at all. For fifty years, the water's edge lay hidden behind scrubby undergrowth and scattered debris, unapproachable and walled-off below a wonderful, rumbling bridge. Things began to change when a friend of mine, a local architect, stared down at the clutter, rolled up his sleeves, and helped improve the community's perception of itself.

The park did not happen overnight; the idea percolated slowly in one person's consciousness. The genesis of the idea emerged twenty years ago, after my friend had moved back to Columbus from a successful partnership in an urban firm. He did what many architects do: he established a small practice, joined the civic clubs, acquired clients, sat on tedious zoning and planning boards, made buildings, fought for historic preservation and for his downtown. He also realized, with a singular vision, that the riverfront, which lay ninety feet below the main street, deserved to be shared.

Ironically, my friend didn't design the new park. Someone else got the job, but the service he performed was just as vital: he framed the debate that made it possible, then fought for the improvements. The mayor, others in government, and local developers attended a forum the architect and his friends helped sponsor. The river's unfulfilled promise was apparent. Ultimately, after months of meetings and consensus building on the city's and the architect's part, the town's leadership called for change. What began in an individual's commitment broadened into shared vision and collaboration. Today, the park is nearing completion--a modest, humane public space at the community's front door.

There is differentiation of scale, but no hierarchy of values between the two riverfronts. Both count. The small town story is explicit; the city's, exceedingly complex. Whether in sparsely settled mid-America or across the East River, by one architect or a larger group, small actions are additive, weaving community with a seamless effort, uniting those who care about and are committed to the built environment. The little park, as much as the great riverfront, bears witness to design's transformational power for us all.

It is seductive, from the Promenade, to marvel at the city's buildings, the monumental artifacts of human ingenuity and will. However, sometimes the overlooked story is not what architects build at all, but in the influence of their ideas, commitment, and efforts, in my hometown or your own. Robert Ivy
**Pakistan**

### 14th Century Baltit Fort Is Transformed Into Cultural Center

Following a multimillion dollar restoration project, Baltit Fort, one of the most impressively situated and architecturally innovative Medieval castles in the world, has been transformed from a graffiti-riddled, crumbling heap into a museum and cultural center. The new complex will be the focal point of the economic, social, and cultural development of the historic village of Baltit, renamed Karimabad to honor the Aga Khan, whose trust funded the project.

The fort, located at the top of a natural amphitheater in Pakistan's high Hunza Valley, was begun in the 14th century by the ruling Mirs, as a compound of houses with a defensive tower. They found its location ideal—not just because of the ample water supply (essential since the entire valley floor is a mountain desert), but because it was close enough to the Silk Road to raid the trading route. The Mirs used the booty to fund the expansion and improvement of the fort 70 times over 700 years. The last alterations were completed in the early 20th century, when the entire top floor was transformed into a palace. After World War II it remained empty and unmaintained until this present restoration.

According to Jack Kennedy, a spokesperson for the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in Geneva, Switzerland, architects found the structure, though decayed and near collapse, a masterpiece of craftsmanship, thoroughly adapted to site, climate, and function. Its wood construction was conceived to resist earthquakes, a frequent event in the region. During the renovation, original construction techniques and materials were used for repairs whenever possible. In some instances, advanced technology was introduced, such as tie-ropes and geo-mesh soil stabilization, to remedy serious structural problems. Young architects and engineers involved in the project were provided with training in international conservation standards at York University in England and at UNESCO's International Center for Conservation in Rome.

While the museum/cultural center opened in September, the demonstration development project in Karimabad continues as the local community struggles to manage infrastructure problems and environmental pollution. A planning office is also involved in the renovation of historic stone houses, the introduction of modern sanitary facilities and basic services, and the development of guidelines for new houses, shops, and hotels.

The historic Cities Support Programme, an arm of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, is part of the Aga Khan Development Network, a group of nonprofit institutions working to improve living conditions in specific regions of the developing world.

*Katherine Kai-sun Chia & Julie Moline*

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**Miami**

### Architects Plan to Help Rehabilitate East Little Havana

The University of Miami School of Architecture and the School of Medicine's Center for Family Studies are collaborating to rehabilitate East Little Havana, Miami's poorest neighborhood.

The project, funded by a $600,000 Henry R. Luce Fellowship, also involves faculty from the University of Miami's schools of business, education, and law. The schools plan to concurrently regenerate the architectural environment, spur economic growth, and maintain the ethnic character of this predominantly Latino neighborhood.

East Little Havana was chosen, said Miami architecture dean Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, because the university's Center for Family Life had already established a beach-head there. The Center is headed by Jose Szapocznik, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences who has been recognized for his work in family-based interventions in troubled inner-city neighborhoods. "We found strong parallels in how social scientists think about the relationships of individuals and families to the larger community context, and the way architects and urban designers approach individual buildings and neighborhoods in their larger urban context," said Plater-Zyberk.

Preliminary architectural plans call for the rehabilitation of houses, the rerouting of traffic to facilitate a more peaceful pedestrian life, and the conversion of an abandoned warehouse into a crafts market where local artisans would be able to showcase their work. On the social services side, plans call for the development of parent-training programs, venture capital for small business development, and the creation of on-site legal services.

*Beth Dunlop*
**New Housing Prototype for Homeless**

A new prototype for housing the mentally disabled homeless is generating nationwide interest as a cost-effective, user-friendly model for special-needs housing, including residences for AIDS patients, battered women and their children, and the elderly.

As part of a demonstration program conducted by the New York State Office of Mental Health and the Corporation for Supportive Housing, Gran Sultan Associates of New York is building 200 units in four buildings in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Manhattan for homeless adults in recovery from substance abuse. The 40-55 unit buildings, a cross between a traditional SRO-type dwelling and community residence housing, are designed to offer comfort, privacy, and independence. The facilities also provide a group dining room, lounges, offices for social service agencies, and on-site laundries.

The two buildings now open are getting the thumbs-up from residents and from social service agencies, which find them cost-effective to build and maintain. Time Magazine hailed Warren Gran and Joe Sultan as “local heroes.” Forty-six-year-old Edwin P. Alacios, a resident since July, said, “When I saw the apartment I decided I had to change the rest of my life. It made me feel responsible.”

Architect Sultan said the SRO apartments cost about $82,000 to construct, and maintaining a resident costs about $10,000 a year. The tab at a mental institution averages around $100,000 per person per year. The units are small (255-sq-ft) but self-contained, with separate areas for sleeping and eating, a kitchenette, and private bathroom. The buildings were designed not to look cheap or institutional. “We used six different tile colors, 10 different paints, and mixed them up to make each apartment unique,” explained Sultan. “A lot of people think that if you give a homeless person anything, it’s better than nothing. But it isn’t. People are waking up to the fact that stability in housing equates to stability in treatment, and ultimately to integrating people into the community.” The design manual is available through Gran Sultan Associates, 212/205-1560.

*Julie Moline*

**New York City**

**Managers Picked for Add to Airport**

The City of St. Louis has selected project managers Sverdrup/Parsons/Kwame for the proposed $2 billion expansion of Lambert International Airport. The 15-year program will increase capacity and provide for improved all-weather operations for Lambert, one of the 10 busiest airports in the U.S. The selection process involved 11 team proposals and site visits to several cities. Construction is expected to begin in 1998.

Sverdrup’s aviation group has managed expansions at nine of the nation’s 20 largest airports, including current work on a major expansion in Detroit. The Lambert proposal calls for a third parallel runway to allow for all-weather operation, a 2,000-foot runway extension, 20-25 new passenger gates, bringing the total to 100-105 gates, a new 1.3-million-sq-ft terminal, 6,200 new parking spaces, and a new people-mover system.

*Managers Picked for Add to Airport*
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Straw Bale House Design Earns Code Approval Even in Damp Climate

The owner/designer of a 1,500 sq-ft plastered straw bale house in Ship Harbour, Nova Scotia is proving that straw bale construction can be adapted to a damp climate. Completed in November, 1993, Kim Thompson’s two-story home was the first code-approved, load-bearing building of its type in Canada.

The house was built with three-foot overhangs in a sheltered site, with the bales placed a minimum of eight inches above grade. Cement stucco on the interior and exterior walls and the absence of a vapor barrier render the building breathable. A vapor barrier installed underneath the straw bale floor to stop the rising damp has become the house’s only weak spot for moisture penetration. Thompson now recommends that a heavy screen be used in its place.

The two-string bales (14in.by 18in.by 36in.) have an R-value between 30 and 40 during the winter, which is twice that of 6 in. fiberglass in wood frame construction. Thompson says she heats the house by burning four-and-a-half cords of wood annually in an airtight wood stove. The National Research Council and the Technical University of Nova Scotia monitored humidity, insulation, and strength of the walls for a two-year period. Thompson has made the results available in The Straw Bale Handbook. Architect Jennifer Corson, principal of Solterre Design of Halifax, coordinated the testing program and co-wrote the handbook. Straw bale is an excellent option for homeowners who want hands-on involvement in construction, according to Corson. It is also the most energy-efficient material available to complement a passive solar design, she says. However, straw bale is not recommended for either fast track or modular projects. What makes straw bale so environmentally friendly, says Corson, is that it makes use of an annually renewable; naturally growing product that’s normally burned at the end of the season.

Interested parties can use the Internet news group, http://www.solstice.crest.org.straw-bale, or order Straw Bale Construction: A Manual for Maritime Regions. Phone: 902/845-2750; E-mail: aa983@chebucto.ns.ca

Amtrak has provided seed money to create the Great American Station Foundation, a non-profit organization established to promote and facilitate the renovation of railway stations throughout the U.S. The foundation will form financial and technical partnerships with communities to help them rebuild and revive stations, creating both transportation hubs and magnets for business activity in the center city.

The foundation will provide grants and technical expertise, including architectural design assistance, intermodal planning, engineering guidance, and community organization strategies; convey best-case practices and help plan and design a successful retail environment in a renovated station.

Members of the founding board of directors include Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Ellen Guidera, vice president for business development, Disney Consumer Products; Thomas Downs, president, chairman and CEO of Amtrak and David Burwell, president, Rails to Trails Conservancy.

Has American architecture lost its boldness?

According to Pulitzer Prize-winning critic Robert Campbell, the architecture in other countries, particularly countries in East Asia and Europe, is bolder, more intense, and more daring. By comparison, he says, American architecture looks weak and confused [Architectural Record, November 1996, p. 76]. Campbell is not criticizing American architects per se, but rather the cultural, political, and economic environment in which they work.

Do you agree that American architecture has lost its boldness, or do you disagree.

O Agree  O Disagree

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Historic Eagles Auditorium Renovation Is Completed

Seattle-based Callison Partnership and a local repertory company, A Contemporary Theater (ACT), have completed the transformation of the Eagles Auditorium into a new performance complex. The old auditorium, an historic landmark building erected in 1925 for the Fraternal Order of Eagles, had been abandoned for years despite its prime location adjacent to the Convention Center.

The new interior configuration includes a traditional theater and a theater-in-the-round arena stacked in the center of the existing building. A flexible cabaret space is located in the basement. Public spaces are located on the windowed street side; support spaces are located on the blank wall of the adjacent building. The four upper levels are reserved for the Seattle Housing Resource Group’s affordable housing program. Callison took care to maintain the historic features of the original building. New stairs and support areas blend in with the original decor; much of the extensive technical lighting and sound equipment are suspended in the space from a massive steel armature to avoid touching the original fabrics and wall coverings. An atrium lounge at the top of the building, surrounded by scene shops, design studios, rehearsal room, conference areas, and an outdoor terrace area, was designed as the theater company’s “living room” to facilitate interaction between performers from different troupes. The theater’s opening generated enough income to allow Callison to design a new street canopy that gives the refurbished landmark a strong street presence.

Katherine Kai-sun Chia
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New Arts Buildings Serve As Film Sets

The new $15-million School of Filmmaking at the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem is expected to open its doors in September 1997. Designed by Lee Nichols Hepler Architecture of Charlotte, N.C. in association with Backen, Arrigoni, and Ross, Inc. of San Francisco, the 62,000-sq-ft facility consists of three main buildings housing sound stages, an underwater tank for filming, editing and sound studios, and classrooms. Each building facade represents a different architectural scenario, including a rustic mountain cottage, a Louisiana Low Country house, a southern California ranch house, and a New England salt box cottage, so that film students will have a variety of backdrops to work with.

$2.5 Billion School Expansion Program

The School Board of Orange County, Florida has been asked to approve the selection of Heery/Sverdrup as program managers for the planning, design, and construction of a $2.5 billion school expansion program, the largest ever for a public school system in the U.S.

Orange County, one of the fastest-growing school districts in the nation, needs at least 37 new schools over the next 10 years plus extensive renovation of existing buildings, according to David Wofford, Orange County's associate superintendent for Facilities and Transportation.

Heery/Sverdrup, based in Maryland Heights, Missouri, was one of seven groups that participated in a national competition for the contract, and was ranked first by seven of the nine committee members. Work is expected to begin in January, 1997.

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Continuing Education

This Building Types Study is this issue's installment of the AIA/ARCHITECTURAL RECORD Continuing Education Series. You can receive continuing-education credits by studying the learning objectives below, reading the introduction this page and the case studies through page 49, answering the questions on page 165, checking your answers, and returning the self-report form, page 166.

Mark Scher is AIA Director of Continuing Education Programs and Products.

Learning Objectives

After reading the Building Types Study and completing the exercises, you will be able to:

- List six programmatic influences that enable increased worker interaction and cooperation, and give at least three examples of how the project designers responded.
- Describe at least three benefits of these new designs that companies are monitoring to determine whether they should be more widely implemented.
- Identify at least eight environment-related design elements used in the profiled designs.

Manufacturing Collaboration

The clients for the projects shown in this building type study are flouting the broad movement in business to outsource or send employees home to work. They are instead putting people together: factory workers with engineers; R&D with sales. Computer hardware and software companies are leading the way because they are caught in a competitive vice. They must turn out higher and higher quality products on excruciatingly short turnarounds, which means they must lure the best staff and ensure that huge teams work together efficiently.

"Knowledge-based production," is what they call it when engineers help iron out production glitches and line supervisors advise designers. And it is not confined to computers. With cleaner production processes and more hands-on management, it is easier to blur the line between manufacturing and front office. In so doing, companies learn that the generic office building or the windowless builder's-catalog box they used in the past no longer work.

There are common traits that emerge from companies leading this charge. Reorganization is a fact of life, so the ability to flip space from office to manufacturing (and vice versa) is a virtue, as well as the ability to quickly add new facilities or lease unneeded space. Budgets remain close to low-end manufacturing norms, so bare-bones offices are often enlivened by low-cost amenities like daylighting. On the other hand, these companies are upgrading production areas with skylights, natural ventilation, and windows to landscaped views. Companies see these amenities as improving productivity and retaining valued staff. Fitness centers, well-appointed meeting places, and carefully situated and attractively designed coffee bars, break areas, and food-service areas not only express a company commitment to staff, they encourage needed collaboration and solidarity among workers who traditionally operate in separate spheres. Impetus for such amenities may come from the top: the fitness centers and greenery reflect the interests of these companies' often-youthful leadership.

Style is increasingly important. Company logo-ware is sold in appealing stores; retail-style training centers speak to motivated potential employees; expressive buildings are a form of advertising to passersby. It's too early to know how many companies will embrace these trends. Suffice it to say it's a heady time for the architects involved who see an increasing valuation of their skills by the nation's most innovative businesses. James S. Russell

Manufacturers' Sources listed on page 142
Though projects for computer companies lead the new integration of factory and office (these pages, 3Com following), other projects profiled in the following pages are for clients ranging from telecommunications giants to carpet manufacturers.

**Project:** Silicon Graphics, North Charleston Site, Mountain View, California  
**Architect:** Studios Architecture  
**Concept:** The architect worked with the community so that the site not only houses corporate headquarters and R&D facilities, but also accommodates a public park and cultural center. The four buildings include such amenities as a restaurant, fitness center, and theater. They are configured to create internal courtyards and are connected by glass bridges. The expressive elements unite disparate uses and break down scale.

**Project:** Fore Systems, Warrendale, Pennsylvania  
**Architect:** Studios Architecture  
**Concept:** A fast-growing startup company that designs and manufactures computer-networking products is building a new headquarters outside Pittsburgh. The 300,000-sq-ft complex of two-story buildings is linked by bridges on a 67-acre wooded site. Building cutouts and sunshade-protected protrusions bring daylight deep into the large floorplates. If growth continues, a master plan allows the company to double the square footage.

Intimate courtyards and upper-level bridges make it easy to get around the sprawling 500,000-sq-ft campus.

Beneath the four buildings, a one-level structure parks 1,000 cars.
**Project:** Sun Microsystems, Menlo Park, California  
**Architect:** Backen Arrigoni & Ross  
**Concept:** A 1-million-sq-ft campus for a computer maker is focused on a residentially scaled and detailed internal street. The imagery reflects the non-corporate style of this young company. The street is a venue for frequently-held outdoor celebrations. Flexible layouts were critical because the company, like many others in the field, often can’t know which groups will occupy a building until construction is well underway.

**Project:** Hewlett Packard, Roseville, California  
**Architect:** Bottom Duvivier  
**Concept:** To permit rapid expansion for this maker of computer output devices, the building was conceived and constructed as a kit-of-parts. The owner can add modules of space without disrupting occupied areas. The steel-framed system is used for production areas and offices. When making changes or adding space, the company alters only as much of the modular internal and external bay system as is needed.

Outdoor spaces are seen as extensions of internal workspaces (below). Site plan allowed buildings to be added as needed.

Skylit zones between modules (left) define major circulation routes. They are punctuated by planted informal meeting areas. The external panel system (below) is readily removable.

The straightforward truss-framed modules accommodate a variety of assembly procedures (left).
Furniture Maker's Sustainable Setting
An environmental prophet meets a company’s egalitarian design culture.
Landscape architect Pollack Design Associates has created a “living landscape” that evokes nature, but is specifically designed to counter the environmental consequences of the building. Swales, rather than retention ponds (site plan opposite and photos previous pages) help filter stormwater runoff. The central vault announces the building entrance (top and middle left, opposite middle). A meadow of mixed grasses, rather than conventional high-maintenance lawn, extends to the loading-dock (bottom). This is the latest signature building erected in Herman Miller’s home region (map opposite).

Herman Miller Facilities
tretching along a low ridge on a large landscaped site, the new Miller
SQA building looks at first glance like a discreet and tasteful subur­
ban corporate headquarters. The loading docks at the rear of the
building, however, reveal that this is not primarily an office building
but a production facility housing 600 factory workers and 120 white­
collar employees.

Architect William McDonough, known as a prophet of sustainable
design, and his team reconciled environmental concerns with the
client's integrated vision of marketing, design, and production. The
large areas of glass throughout and the generous light-filled break
areas consciously attempt to foster interaction between front office
and factory floor and provide a high-quality interior environment
for everyone. The naturalized prairie and woodland landscape outside
further evidences how the sustainable ideal was played out on this
project.

To anyone who knows SQA's parent company, furniture-maker
Herman Miller of Zeeland, Michigan, the attention to design lavished
on a factory will not be surprising. Because Herman Miller sells
design, the company has been unusually sensitive to the way its build­
ings look and function. Over the last few decades it has commissioned
buildings from many well-known architects, both for sites near its
headquarters in the three-city region of Holland, Grand Rapids, and
Muskegon—the historic heart of contract-furniture manufacturing
(map right)—and for buildings further afield. Significant recent
structures have been designed for the company by Frank Gehry, at
Rocklin, California, outside Sacramento [RECORD, January, 1990,
pages 108-115]; Scogin Elam & Bray, at Roswell, Georgia; and
Nicholas Grimshaw at Chippenham and Bath, England.

Herman Miller's corporate culture owes much to its western
Michigan roots. The area was settled in the 19th century by Dutch
Calvinists, a group that values an entrepreneurial outlook and strives
for a consensus among equals. For Herman Miller this has meant a
strong egalitarian impulse. In 1950, the company adopted the Scanlon
plan, based on ideals developed by labor organizer Joe Scanlon, as a
blueprint for expanding employee participation in decision making.
For the past 15 years, for example, the salary of the Herman Miller
CEO has been limited to a fixed multiple of the factory-worker salary.

A corporate culture of recycling and sustainability
Proverbial Dutch thrift and dislike of waste had led the company to
take a major interest in conservation and recycling long before it was
fashionable in most of corporate America. For example, Herman
Miller stopped using rosewood, which had been a conspicuous feature
of its famous Eames lounge chair, because harvesting the wood con­
tributed to the depletion of tropical hardwood forests. SQA's parent
company also has worked hard to reduce the amount of waste it sends
to landfills and its use of toxic products in manufacturing.

In fact, the principle motive in founding Miller SQA in 1984 was
recycling. First called Tradex, and later renamed Phoenix Designs,
then Miller SQA, the subsidiary company was set up to address the
problem of how to deal with used yet substantially built Herman
Miller furniture when clients wanted new configurations, fabrics, or
finishes. Company officials hit upon the idea of letting customers

Robert Bruegmann is professor of architectural history at the
University of Illinois at Chicago. Author of numerous books, he
has focused recent research on suburban corporate facilities.
trade in their old furniture, then disassembling, reconditioning, reassembling, and reselling it.

In the last half dozen years, however, the business has shifted to include the manufacture of a limited line of new furniture as well. This line is attuned to a marketplace where re-engineering, downsizing, and the demand for quick turnaround are constant. Hence the current company name, SQA, for “Simple, Quick, and Affordable.” Miller SQA represents a re-engineering of the company’s own sales methods. Using high-powered laptop computers, Miller SQA’s sales people lay out furniture and punch up specifications in clients’ offices. Interactive three-dimensional simulations show clients what the systems will look like. The computers also specify all of the needed parts, calculate the costs, and transmit the completed order back to SQA. This software, together with a network of reliable, dedicated local suppliers and an efficient nationwide distribution system, allows SQA to deliver orders in a matter of days rather than weeks, and minimizes warehouse-space needs.

A design process of consensus-building

The growth of this business made a new facility necessary. While “partnering” is now the rage in the building industry, Herman Miller has long involved key players at an early stage of the design process. Company employees formed the design-team nucleus for Miller SQA’s new building. Then came contractor John Keelean of Owen-Ames-Kimball Construction Company, Grand Rapids, whose firm had developed a strong relationship with Herman Miller over several decades. Keelean, along with representatives of the principle subcontractors, helped refine construction costs, then built the structure under a negotiated contract. Finally, the company added several Michigan architects with long experience on Herman Miller buildings, including David VerBurg, president of Holland-based VerBurg and Associates. Miller SQA also retained interior designer Bede VanDyke (once a Herman Miller employee) of VanDyke & Associates, Holland, and landscape architect Peter Pollack, director of design at Ann Arbor-based Pollack Design Associates.

McDonough, head of Charlottesville, Virginia-based William McDonough + Partners and dean of the University of Virginia School of Architecture, was the one team member who had not previously worked with Herman Miller; though he was known to company officials through their mutual involvement in environmental organizations. McDonough deeply believes in the redemptive power of design in a world headed for both spiritual and environmental chaos. It is easy to see that this approach might be too messianic for even the best-intentioned businesses.

But the fit, team-members say, was a good one. They found common ground in the depth of each other’s beliefs, even when they weren’t shared. McDonough believed that he could help move Herman Miller to the next level of sustainability, but he knew the company had to meet its bottom line. For example, McDonough, like other environmental activists, has urged the extension of a sustainability ethic beyond individual buildings to the urban scale, advocating the re-use of existing buildings in already built-up districts. Herman Miller has consistently steered away from big cities and downtown sites. The company’s decision to build on a green-field site is not only consistent with its own history and individualistic, entrepreneurial culture, but emblematic of an emerging form of low-cost, very low-density development. Facilities for Herman Miller and its competitors are spread throughout its large home region, oriented to truck access from uncrowded highways rather than to towns. Western Michigan is a fast-growing rust-belt equivalent to the booming I-85 corridor between North Carolina’s research triangle and Atlanta.

On site, however, the design-and-build team was receptive to McDonough’s approach, and the team did a two-day charrette early in the process to “show that we could do an ecologically intelligent building affordably,” explains McDonough design partner Chris Hays. Thus, Pollack Design Associates’ landscape scheme uses vegetation on the site to filter runoff from parking, and waste-recovery and recycling procedures were used both in construction and in the ongoing manufacturing processes. The research arm of McDonough’s firm also consulted on the environmental impacts of specific building materials and practices, finding, for example, that a low-emissivity coated glazing was optimal compared to more elaborate shading strategies.

Design dissolves barriers between factory and office workers

The typical building section unites a low band of offices in front with a high production block at the rear through a skylit main-corridor “street” (following pages). There are few walls or doors: the local code did not require a fire separation. The corridor fosters intermin-
gling of factory and office workers not only through its attractiveness, but because it houses photocopy and conference areas that everyone uses. In office areas, operable windows provide abundant fresh air, daylight, and views. In the production areas, sunlight pours in through skylights and windows, aided by borrowed light from the corridor (following pages). In these areas, fresh-air supply is about six times code requirements.

The centrally located cafeteria, fitness center, and informal break areas placed along the corridor also encourage interaction. Indeed, at Miller SQA it is almost impossible for the visitor to distinguish between casually dressed company officers and line workers.

On the outside of the building the designers attempted to synthesize a number of “green” strategies. The entrance road winds through a landscape of prairie grasses, wetlands, man-made swales, and clumps of trees that shield the neighboring subdivision from building lights and the bustle of trucks and minimize landscape-maintenance costs. Near the building, the parking lots are punctuated with trees that will eventually form a cooling canopy over the asphalt.

**Facility’s environmental impact will undergo evaluation**

Almost all of these design elements involved a cost premium. At approximately $49 per sq ft, the building came in substantially higher than the average production facility in low-cost western Michigan, according to a company spokesperson. Some of this premium will be recouped in energy savings.

More importantly, the daylighting and indoor-air-quality strategies used at Miller SQA have drawn attention because of their potential productivity advantages. Hard data, however, is largely unavailable, so the U.S. Green Buildings Council, a private advocacy group, has persuaded the U.S. Department of Energy to fund a study. It will compare the new building with an addition to the previous facility, and monitor the incidence of sick days, manufacturing errors, and other aspects of productivity. It is the most sophisticated such monitoring of any American building to date, says James Weiss, a scientist with Pacific Northwest Laboratories, Richland, Wash., the organization that will analyze the collected data. Miller SQA is already convinced that retaining valued staff and increasing productivity will, over the building’s life, dwarf added construction costs.
The attractiveness of the main corridor "street" (below) is key to Miller SQA's non-hierarchical, collaborative culture. Offices and production areas are visually linked (opposite top right). The minimally heated and ventilated corridor creates a buffer between the air-conditioned offices and production areas.

Credits
Miller SQA
Holland, Michigan
Owner: Herman Miller—Mary Dugan, Ed Nagelkirk, Keith Winn (Herman Miller); Biz Norman, Del Ensing, Bob Enders, Fred Guss (Miller SQA)
Architect: William McDonough + Partners, Architects—William McDonough, partner-in-charge; Chris Hays, design partner; Kevin Burke, Roger Schickedantz, project architects; Celia Szabo-Izrvey, job captain; Lisa Borgmeier, Alan Bruton, Allison Ewing, Elke Knoess, Nana Itok, John Quale, design team
Architect of Record: VerBurg & Associates—David VerBurg, president; Craig Slager, James Davis, Michael J. Lubbers, team
Engineers: Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers, Soils and Structures (structural); Quality Air Heating and Cooling (mechanical); Parkway Electric Company (electrical); Shen Milsom & Wilkie (acoustics)
Consultants: Pollack Design Associates (landscape); Van Dyke & Associates (interiors); Environmental Research Group (daylighting/materials analysis); E Source (environmental); Kugler Tillotson Associates (lighting)
General Contractor: Owen-Ames-Kimball

Above: Two views of the "street" that unites manufacturing (left in left photo, right in right photo) and office areas.
Energy conservation techniques include the use of high windows by offices that drive daylight deep into the plan (near right). Sensors dim electric lights when daylight is sufficient. The effect may be boosted if light shelves the company is considering are mounted below the high windows. Lower windows are operable. Using these techniques Miller SQA was able to reduce office air-conditioning loads. Radiant floor heating was installed near windows. Skylights, exterior windows and borrowed light from the "street" bring abundant sun into production areas (bottom).
Clip-Ons Enhance A Factory

A Silicon Valley company upgrades from spec norms, gaining staff-attracting amenities and the flexibility to respond to high-speed technical change.

It’s back to the future time in Silicon Valley,” says Abe Darwish, vice president, world-wide real estate, at 3Com, a fast-growing company that creates tools for networking computers. Darwish is referring to the recently reincarnated notion of the fully integrated plant, in which raw goods go in one side and a finished product comes out the other. Henry Ford’s heroic industrial compound, the River Rouge Plant outside Detroit, has been reborn within the confines of the tilt-up warehouses of the flood plains south of San Francisco. Companies are again looking to architects to make an equivalent to Albert Kahn’s industrial monumentality. For 3Com, Studios Architecture has designed a playful, inexpensive, and scaled-down solution.

The buzz-words now making the rounds in Silicon Valley are “concurrent engineering” and “integrated manufacturing.” The goal is to bring the people who develop, design, make, and sell products into proximity. Instead of a plant overseas and a headquarters building downtown, companies such as 3Com are putting everyone in one place. This trend has been a boon for architects such as Studios, who have tackled similar challenges for Northern Telecom (following story) and Silicon Graphics [RECORD, May 1996, pages 72-79].

The high-tech company required a facility that balanced flexibility, cost, and esthetics and gave 3Com “an edge as a company,” explains Darwish. In the computer business, the rapid pace of technological change means companies may have to switch from office to manufacturing (and vice versa). And they need an “exit strategy”—i.e., the ability to readily lease space if downsizing looms. On the other hand, companies are upgrading from lookalike warehouses and spec office buildings to provide amenities that attract employees in Silicon Valley’s highly competitive job market. At 3Com, the metal container for manufacturing bristles with a black-glass-sheathed health club and cafeteria, as well as conference rooms in bright colors.

For 3Com’s Building 500, the strategy was self-evident, says project architect Erik Sueberkrop, a Studios principal: “The need for flow-through manufacturing makes the building very simple. We then cloaked and camouflaged the box with people-oriented elements that help break down the scale.” Instead of burying the places where people gather inside the building or putting them into a separate building, Studios turned them into “clip-ons,” such as the prominent blue staircases positioned to encourage chance encounters.

Not incidentally, these geometric fragments disguise the bulky 100,000-sq-ft floor plate (plans, following pages). Some of the materials call attention to uniquely public aspects of the building; others reference elements of the existing spec buildings on the campus. Building 500 is at once a billboard of the welcoming ambience the company creates for staff and the emblem of a scrappy competitor.

Aaron Betsky
A canopied entry and black-glass cladding distinguish the fitness and training area from the rest of the metal-sided building (above left and top). An entry in striped concrete (right) evokes adjacent buildings.
Building codes permit unprotected structure, so trusses and deck are exposed to keep costs down. The lighting, sprinklers, and ductwork are carefully, though not rigorously, fitted in (sketch below and photo above), esthetically uniting office and production areas. North-facing sawtooth skylights bring sun into an internal node of meeting spaces (left). "These are our new loft buildings," says Sueberkrop, referring to the structure's inherent programmatic flexibility—office floors can readily turn into assembly lines.
Open, daylit stairs and corridors (above) break down the departmental mentality that the client felt inhibited collaboration. The architect consciously sculpted these “leftover” spaces to draw staff into informal encounters. (Conveniently located coffee bars don't hurt either.) Since the space must be flexible enough to accommodate various office uses as well as manufacturing, these unique spaces are clipped to the extremities of the box-like volume.
Companies like 3Com have increasingly turned to architecture as a means of reaching out to customers and potential employees. Only a few years ago, such companies regarded design as a costly frill. 3Com's training center (left) is a retail-like beacon to visitors. The media wall (middle) not only announces what the company is about, it connects the office areas to the manufacturing space at the rear. 3Com needed a fire separation at the manufacturing line, but the type of construction permitted allows glass areas between a conference room and production lines (bottom).

Credits
3Com Building 500
Santa Clara, California
Architect: Studios
Architecture—
Erik Sueberkrop, principal-in-charge; Cliff Peterson, project architect; Todd Verwers, Jean Pascal Crouzet, Jason Lee, Peter Van Dine, Shirley Perez, Ian Fleetwood, project team
Engineers: Structural Design Engineers (structural)
Consultants: Ken Kay
Associates (landscape); Architecture & Light (lighting); Paoletti (acoustical)
General Contractor: Rudolph & Sletten
Boxes With a Twist

A curving spine unites engineering and manufacturing, enlivening three bleak tilt-up warehouses.

They are the ubiquitous bane of Silicon Valley and many other light industrial parks: one-story rectangles with no scale, no presence on the landscape, and no grace. Their tilt-up concrete or "Butler" building facades give no hint of what goes on inside. Luckily, the very blandness of such constructions offers great opportunities for rebirth at the hands of innovative architects.

Northern Telecom, the Canadian-based telecommunications company, wanted to transform its 300,000-sq-ft, tilt-up behemoth in Santa Clara in order to unite the long-separated engineering and manufacturing segments of its corporate family. The company hired Studios Architecture, a firm that has specialized in bringing life, light, and identity to Silicon Valley buildings. The result is a set of boxes with a twist: a bland container that contains the sinuous geometry of a new internal organization, only a hint of which breaks out into the prevailing landscape of sprawl.

Northern Telecom's original building was constructed in three phases, starting in 1969. The architect was challenged to integrate these disparate building elements and to find an extra 50,000 sq ft of space for new offices. Studios created the new office space by building a mezzanine into an existing manufacturing volume, and brought light into the offices by way of a new central atrium, also carved from the original building. The architect unified the new expanse of open-office cubicles on both floors with a curving yellow wall (following pages) that helps employees orient themselves in the labyrinth. "Just stick to the wall, and you'll eventually find everything you need, from bathrooms to labs," says Studios principal Charles Dilworth.

The yellow wall also provides a sense of whimsy in what is otherwise a relatively undifferentiated interior landscape. Though its shape is expressive, it has a practical derivation. "We had to thread the needle between a whole series of encumbrances of the kind you have even in such a flexible building, including telephone rooms and shear walls," explains Studios principal Erik Sueberkrop.

There is only one grand moment in this whole building, and that is the atrium. Rather than remaining an empty space, this large room is arranged to allow multiple meetings to take place at the same time. Curving wood walls, exposed structure, and the yellow wall turn the space into an interior version of an urban square, where the true work of the community gets done around cafe tables. Cutting out from this core is the one straight axis, a diagonal that leads to a modest new entrance pavilion. At this location, the new architecture—and culture of Northern Telecom—peeks through the bland exterior of the tilt-up box (opposite), signaling that something unusual is going on inside. Like the promise of a new world of technology, the architecture of Northern Telecom breaks through the old, turning yesterday's mistakes into an opportunity for reconstruction. Aaron Betsky
Northern Telecom, Mission Park
Santa Clara, California
Studios Architecture, Architect
Studios unearthed a central gathering space (opposite and 2) from the heart of the old plant and found beauty even in the structure's simple metal trusses. A new entrance stair (1), the spine (4), and a cafeteria line (3) assist wayfinding.

Credits
Northern Telecom, Mission Park Santa Clara, California

Architects Studios Architecture—Erik Sueberkrop, Charles Dilworth, Alan Tom, Kelly Haegglund, Tom Pinkowski, Colin Walker, Lori Clumb, Helen Kim, Jacek Ostoya, project team

Engineers C. H. Wells & Associates (structural); Alfa Tech Bouillion, Air Systems (mechanical, electrical, plumbing)

Contractors E. A. Hathaway
Carpeting Over Old Hierarchies
A carpet company's integrated design, showroom, and production line tell its "quality story."
For Prince Street, a custom-carpet manufacturer, all roads lead to Cartersville, Ga. Formerly housed in three locations in an Atlanta industrial park, this division of Interface Americas corporation needed a facility that mirrored its commitment to change. A new headquarters set in a 23-acre naturalized field beside Georgia Route 61/115 embodies the company's high-minded corporate thinking.

"People make the carpet," says company president Joyce La Valle, when describing the egalitarian environment she oversees. Placing design, showroom, manufacturing, and administration together in the 210,000-sq-ft facility reflects the company's ardent commitment to its employees. How? Apparent hierarchy has been banished from the premises: management and plant workers enter through the showroom, share the same amenities (from conference spaces to toilets), and park in the same lot.

There is a transparency to the plan that encourages employee interaction. Managers and workers wave in passing through a large glazed wall separating offices and mill space. Employees meet informally in a comfortably furnished public reception space that encourages conversation. Sunlight from skylights and an 80-ft-long window wall floods the manufacturing floor—a stark departure from the industrial norm.

This new kind of work setting meant a cultural shift, says La Valle: "It required total buy-in." Some employees were skeptical of management's intentions at first, an attitude that "big sister" was looking over the workforce. Skip Finch, the company's vice president for human resources, underscores how things changed. "It was like a fishbowl. Suddenly, workers could be seen. There was a new sense of honesty and it caused growth... more of a partnership attuned to working conditions."

A funded competition, unusual in the manufacturing world, determined the architect. When Atlanta's Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates was chosen out of a field of four competitors in October 1994, the architect had little time for contemplation. A year later, Prince Street opened, having met its $5.6-million budget. "There was no premium for doing the right thing," says La Valle.

Bill Halter, the project architect, helped devise a plan with a circular design studio as the "non-rational, dynamic center." The location of the design studio on a mezzanine directly above a 120-ft-diameter custom sample lab permits easy interaction between designers and technicians, and reinforces their team relationship. A showroom that curves around the lab doubles as a gallery. Manufacturing, an "ordered, systematic, linear" process, occupies 170,000 adjacent sq ft.

Building health and sustainability concerns permeate the design. The company regarded the new facility as an indoor-air-quality lab. Materials were tested for offgassing of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and anti-microbial agents were added to paints, carpets, floor sealers, fabric wall coverings, ventilation-duct liners, and condenser coils. The sustainability regime includes the natural landscape and the manufacturing area, where skylights and special diffusers reduce electrical loads. Windows are protected by sunshades (opposite).

It is too soon to fully quantify the advantages of the design, but the president asserts that the building "has had an impact on our quality story." According to La Valle, the company has met its financial goals, and claims for workman's compensation are down. Plus, the building is attracting attention. "Other corporations are looking at the way we work," says La Valle. Robert Ivy
1. Entrance
2. Showroom
3. Custom samples
4. Custom lab
5. Multi-purpose
6. Terrace
7. Lunch room
8. "Living room"
9. Conference room
10. Office
11. Standard samples
12. Manufacturing
13. Design studio
A glass-enclosed conference room (below left) can be used for formal meetings, but invites casual use. Similarly, the so-called "living room" (bottom left) doubles as a reception area and meeting place. Windows in the second-story design studio, and in the custom sample lab underneath, overlook the manufacturing plant (below), where the samples are made up. The 24-ft-tall, curved showroom (opposite), which receives abundant daylight through steel-and-glass walls, is a flexible entry space for display, sales, exhibits, and gatherings.

Credit
Prince Street
Cartersville, Georgia

Owners: Prince Street Technologies—Joyce LaValle, president and chief executive officer; The Staubach Company, owner's representative

Architects: Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates—Ray C. Hoover III, principle of record; William R. Halter, Eugene Montezinos, Jeffrey Wierenga, Ashley Black, project team

Engineers: Browder & LeGuizamon (structural); Barrett, Woodyard & Associates (mechanical, electrical, plumbing); RBA Group (civil)

Consultants: Hughes, Good, O'Leary & Ryan (landscape)

General Contractor: Weeks Construction Services
Researching Laboratory Trends

As technology changes and dollars for R&D facilities shrink, new strategies for designing labs have emerged in both the public and private sectors.

By Barbara A. Nadel

From California’s academic medical centers to New Jersey’s pharmaceutical corporate-office parks, a new generation of research laboratories is on the rise. Technology and science, along with competitive market forces and dwindling federal grant money, are driving research facilities toward generic, modular lab spaces with more public amenities. Experts predict the demand for laboratories will remain strong within research and development, academic, and corporate environments.

In mid-1995, an architectural trade magazine that has since ceased publication, sponsored a juried competition for all types and sizes of laboratory projects, both new construction and renovation. Three national lab experts reviewed over 200 submissions. The jurors were: Bruce Carmichael, Sc.D., executive director, facilities development and operations, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven; Steve Copenhagen, CEO, McLellan & Copenhagen Inc., Cupertino, Calif.; and Don Rancy, AIA, director, architecture, planning and design/real estate services, Hoffmann-La Roche Inc., Nutley, N.J.

According to the judges, only a handful of projects successfully integrated technical parameters, programmatic needs, and inspired design solutions. Overall, however, the substantial number of lab projects from both academia and the corporate arena reflect the wide variety of programs and laboratory types being built in this active market segment.

Carnegie Mellon University’s Undergraduate Chemistry Laboratories (1) encourage cross-discipline collaboration by creating an open working environment. Relocatable lab tables replace traditional fixed casework. Exposed overhead utilities maximize system flexibility (2). Utility drops occur only as required at workstations, facilitating future connections, while lowering costs for moving, maintenance, and service. Angled lab benches delineate multiple work zones within a larger space (3). Lab sinks are located at the ends of work stations for greater user access. Safety considerations include separation of student and chemical paths, unobstructed sight lines, and ease of movement around work surfaces and utility drops (4).

Academic research

“There’s a revitalization of science on campus, with more long-range strategic planning for these very complex facilities,” says veteran lab planner Janet Baum, AIA, principal of St. Louis-based Health, Education + Research Associates, Inc. (HERA).

In the past, as prestigious academic medical centers scrambled to recruit top talent, researchers called the shots, asking for—and often getting—cavernous labs and office areas. Today, as federal medical research money becomes scarcer, organizations justify expenditures by examining occupancy patterns and densities. No longer do researchers have a blank slate or a blank check where facilities are concerned. Benchmarks and data bases now measure sq ft per person and quantify productivity per sq ft.

Occupancy patterns in technical building types change frequently. Lab design must anticipate different types of research and building systems, placing greater burdens on architects to understand the nature of research to be conducted and the related engineering processes. “Architects who direct lab design without adequately understanding the issues force compromises that impair

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critical building performance," says Baum.

Yale's research facilities contain standardized lab modules, with carrels at the end of wet benches. "After a while, the labs start to look alike," states Carmichael. "More academic research is genetic and cellular, across multiple disciplines. The nature of this scientific research is driving the design consistency."

Corporate research and development

The highly competitive, market-driven pharmaceutical industry fosters entrepreneurial activity by outsourcing basic research to small start-up labs and universities. These nimble, profit-oriented research incubators develop new products. They need generic lab space designed for flexibility and multi-use applications, with minimal fixed equipment, blank walls, and low fit-up costs.

Although co-locating scientists of different disciplines is difficult due to the nature of fume-hood and mechanical-system requirements, a team-based facility trend is emerging. Chemists have greater hvac needs than biologists; both disciplines need separate labs to guard against cross-contamination. Still, building a single building for each is expensive.

"The trend is toward a small, fragmented group of people managing the R&D process. Discovery yields great promise for biotechnology," says Hoffmann-La Roche's Raney. To further cut costs and boost efficiencies, round-the-clock computerized testing can operate without lab personnel, vacations, or benefits. Within the pharmaceutical industry, the bottom line forces the acceleration of product development and getting new items to market before the competition. One month of sales can pay for an entire facility's project cost. Recruiting and retaining the select, highly-mobile group of top researchers around the country is part of the R&D game. Environmental design and the quality of space are viewed as recruitment tools and employment perks. "University research facilities have raised quality-of-life expectations, through well-designed conferencing facilities, gathering areas, and offices located close to labs, allowing social interaction," Raney adds.

Return on investment

Corporate entities seeking return on investment insist on economic feasibility studies before building new labs. In contrast, government organizations, such as the National Institutes of Health, are subject to congressional oversight, and thus remain acutely sensitive to spending taxpayer money wisely, by not building what one feisty senator terms "gold plated" facilities.

While government agencies and academia do not demand a profit-oriented return on investment, they need their own criteria to assess the value of these facilities. Budgets are increasingly tied to productivity, with grant-dollar production used to determine allowable construction costs per sq ft. While the amount varies by each institution, some use a rule of thumb, applying between $200 and $400 of grant money per sq ft as a goal for academic project construction. This rule is not the sole benchmark, but is a growing factor influencing overall space allocations.

Lab retrofits

"The science community is looking at improved environments. Academic research centers want architectural design qualities carried throughout their projects," says Copenhagen. These qualities—logical organization, public amenities, people spaces, design touches in corridors, a pleasant palette of colors and textures—enhance a lab building. When they are not included, purely

Continues on page 147

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Laboratory Architecture and Design Projects Voted Most Progressive

In 1995, an architectural magazine sponsored a juried competition for laboratory projects. Over 200 projects were submitted for judging by three prominent lab experts; 18 projects received awards. The magazine closed in early 1996, before publishing the winning projects. RECORD is pleased to belatedly acknowledge the winners, below. Projects are listed alphabetically, by architectural firm.


Ellenzweig Associates, Inc. Joslin Diabetes Center, Boston. Labs, animal facilities and public areas added atop existing building.

Ellerbe Becket Company. Earth Sciences and Materials Engineering Building, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Teaching labs, offices.

Garikes Wilson Karlshberger Inc. JMG/R Lyons & Hudson. The J. Bennet Johnston Health and Bioenvironmental Research Building, Tulane University Medical Center, New Orleans. Environmental research labs and offices.


MBT Architecture. Biomedical Sciences Research Building, University of Washington School of Medicine; Seattle. Genetic research labs, vivarium, offices.


Payette Associates, Inc. Stevenson Chemistry Building, Vanderbilt University; Nashville. Synthetic chemistry research and teaching labs.


Robbie/Young + Wright Architects Inc. Chemistry and Computer Science Building, York University, North York, Ontario, Canada. Chemistry and computer science labs, offices, classrooms.

Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle. Biomedical research laboratories, offices.

Biomedical Sciences Research Building Urban context and outdoor connections remain important design elements for research facilities. The laboratory (5) is sited to complement adjacent buildings and maximize magnificent waterfront views in labs and conferencing areas.

Tananbe Research Laboratories The lab (6) is a research refuge for talent in the competitive drug-discovery business. Lab views overlook canyons, the ocean, and mountains. To overcome language barriers in the lab's international staff, a corridor (7) concentrates researchers' traffic patterns.
Joslin Diabetes Center Research and Clinical Facility Expansion  
Capacity was doubled by adding three stories and a penthouse atop a 1974 exposed-concrete building on a restricted urban site—while maintaining operations below (8, 9). Expansion space includes labs for 64 researchers, administrators, diabetes patients, and staff from around the world. The design resolves three entrances on two levels, and accommodates an Eye Institute by raising an existing courtyard 12 ft. A new skylit atrium, elevated landscaped courtyard, and renovated lobby provide daylight while transforming the character of the original building.

Green Earth Sciences Research Laboratory, Stanford University  
The laboratory is designed as a pavilion (10, 11) with a central portal opening onto a plaza, and serves as a gateway to the north/south axis of the near-west campus. To balance the height limitations, campus-plan plaza requirements, and programmatic criteria, 50 percent of the space is below grade. A submerged plaza courtyard provides daylight to surrounding offices and labs. Partial interstitial space at the concourse level facilitates lab renovations without interrupting researchers in adjacent spaces.

Neuroscience Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory  
Located on a steep hill in a residential neighborhood (12,13), the laboratory overlooks the research campus and Long Island Sound. The structure integrates three stories of labs, 60 guest rooms for visiting scientists, and a 150-car parking garage. Each workspace and lab has a harbor view. Outdoor study areas and public spaces are protected from the noise of a nearby highway. Energy conservation measures balance guest room heating and cooling demands with those in the labs.
Walk into The Body Shop anywhere in the world and there, amidst the Mango Body Butter, Brazil Nut Conditioner, and Banana Shampoo, you'll encounter a well-defined, environmentally-minded business philosophy. One that guides both the way The Body Shop conducts itself, and also the expectations it places on the companies with which it elects to do business.

That is why it can be difficult for many companies to get through the door at The Body Shop. Whether they're selling ingredients for the latest in aromatherapy or, well, lightbulbs.

But in OSRAM SYLVANIA, The Body Shop found an ideal business partner. One that could supply the lighting to create the desired store environment, and do so with both a product and a philosophy that was in keeping with The Body Shop's well-known commitment toward environmental responsibility.
Product Reports: new building materials chosen by RECORD editors and a panel of architects. Readers' Choice Awards: our survey identifies preferred products and technical support.
RECORD’s Product Reports—our take on the most interesting building-material introductions of the current year—returns for its 23rd installment. For the 1996 edition, RECORD recruited a “peer review” panel of design professionals to select those new products deemed most important for our architect, interior design, and specifying readers. We thank the panel for its efforts: reviewing hundreds of press releases, graphics, and technical brochures in a single sitting was pretty gruelling! Thanks also to all those manufacturers who took the time to respond to our request for submissions. Their assistance made it possible for us to offer this snapshot of the building-products industry, circa fall, 1996. Firms wanting to make sure they’re on our mailing list to be considered for next year’s edition should drop us a note with the name and full address of the appropriate party. Fax: 212/512-4256, or E-mail blatterm@mcgraw-hill.com.

Selection criteria
Manufacturers were asked to submit information on products new to the market. The panel looked for building products they considered innovations, not just line extensions. Some items were chosen because they filled a perceived need in the marketplace. Environmental and life-safety issues were prominent. One or two were editor’s picks. But note: publication doesn’t imply endorsement.

Some trends among 1996’s crop: solar energy seems to be breaking out of its experimental corral (helped by legislation and utility deregulation) and is becoming a cost-effective supplemental energy option that architects should routinely consider. Others: high-pressure laminate flooring, originally European, now has a distinctive American aspect; there are more metal-roofing options; quick-build prison cells meet a burgeoning need. The pages that follow present building products grouped roughly in specification order. But first, we identify our “Top Five”—those products that the panel considered the most innovative and the most newsworthy—of all those they reviewed.—Joan F. Blatterman

The intrepid panel.
Seated: James von Klemperer is a senior associate partner with Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates. Standing, from left: Raymond Henning, AIA, CSI, is senior consultant architect for The Sweet’s Group, where he advises building-product manufacturers on product information for distribution to architects and specifiers within the annual Sweets Catalog Files. Bradford Perkins, FAIA, AICP, is president of Perkins Eastman Architects PC, a 140-person firm based in New York City and Pittsburgh. Formerly with Perkins & Will, he was also the American managing partner of Llewelyn-Davies International. Robert Schwartz is principal of Robert Schwartz & Associates, a six-member group that provides product-specification and technical consultation services to architectural firms in the New York metropolitan area. Tom Sansone, principal of TAS Design, provides planning and design services for the arts, entertainment, and related fields, with emphasis on highly crafted interior space.

[Note: The Desktop Directory formerly published by ARCHITECTURAL RECORD will be available in 1997 through McGraw-Hill’s Construction Information Group.]
The Top Five

136. Wall-mount faucet
Kohler calls its sleek faucet “Falling Water”—sure to appeal to any architect. And it did: panel members thought having this option could really unclutter sink surfaces. Spout comes in 6-, 9-, and 12-in. lengths; finish options include chrome, brass, and brushed nickel. 414/457-4441. Kohler Co., Kohler, Wis.

137. Industrial-style office
Designed by D’Urbino and Lomazzi to be a “rational” approach to office work, a reconfiguration of the Zero display system uses its characteristic open-web support beam to hold work surfaces, storage shelving—even a small round table for little meetings. Pictured: a computer table, with laminated-panel top set on aluminum legs. 401/724-4470. Zero U.S. Corp., Lincoln, R.I.

138. Photovoltaic curtain wall
The PowerWall is a standardized way to integrate efficient polycrystalline solar cells—and the necessary inverters and connections—into an otherwise conventional curtain-wall frame. Designed for optimal electric production, the photovoltaic panels are opaque. Installed with regular glazing techniques to become part of the building’s weather enclosure, panels meet wind-load, impact, seismic, and air-infiltration tests. 770/449-5555. Kawneer Co., Inc., Norcross, Ga.

139. Solar glazing
Pilkington describes Optisol as an architectural photovoltaic glass that can be incorporated easily into facades, spandrels, windows, and sloped glazings. A resin-laminated makeup developed in Europe, Optisol has two panes of glass sandwiching thin-film photovoltaic cells, and allows varying degrees of view-out and light transmission while generating electrical energy. 202/463-4699. Pilkington Solar Int’l., Washington, D.C.

140. Dual-function ceiling
An elegant combination of two tasks, the Hi-LR Ultima acoustic panel reflects a high level of incident light, making the ceiling particularly suited for indirect-lighting applications. Its non-fissured surface resists scratches and dirt buildup. Maintained-light-reflectance values can be figured into illuminance calculations for reflected ceiling plans. 800/448-1405. Armstrong World Industries, Lancaster, Pa.
Readers' Choice Awards

Readers' Choice Awards are ARCHITECTURAL RECORD's way of recognizing those manufacturers of building products, systems, and materials who make a meaningful contribution to safe and successful architectural projects in this country. We wanted to identify the sources that our readers rely on to furnish competent, good-value products that translate an architectural design or interior scheme into functional, low-maintenance environments.

A survey circulated in the August 1996 issue asked our readers to list their preferences among the building products they worked with, designed for, and specified to meet real-world architectural and interior-design needs. We wanted responses to several types of questions about their experience with building-industry manufacturers, both people and products. The first section of the survey listed 23 product types, presented in specification order. For each of these, from computer tools like CAD software to interior lighting fixtures, the question was the following: Please nominate a single manufacturer whose product best represents—in your opinion—an optimal combination of design/cost/value/service life within this category. The firms that received the most mentions within that category are our winners. In a first ever, we list the recipients of ARCHITECTURAL RECORD's Readers Choice Awards for 1996:

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<th>CAD software</th>
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<td>Autodesk</td>
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<td>Microsoft</td>
<td>Kawneer Co.</td>
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<td>Peripherals</td>
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<td>Hewlett-Packard Co.</td>
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<td>Landscape accessory (TIE)</td>
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<td>Julius Blum &amp; Co.</td>
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<td>Wilsonart International</td>
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<td>Door hardware</td>
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<td>Schlage Lock</td>
<td>Lightolier, Inc.</td>
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The second part of RECORD's survey asked readers about broader aspects of building-product characteristics, and attempted to call out those manufacturers who supplied architects and designers with a superior level of technical education and sales support.

Trouble Shooter The manufacturer most helpful in solving site-specific, design, or technical problems. Three firms received an equal number of mentions: USG Interiors, Pella Corp., and Dryvit Systems.

Green Architecture The best contribution to green architecture—Homasote Co.

ADA Standards The source of products most useful in meeting ADA access standards—Bohrick Corporation.

Most Interesting New Product This question, The most interesting new product used or heard about recently, attracted too many different mentions to call out a "winner." And many times a product type, not a specific manufacturer, was written on the survey. But looking at the comments proved interesting—some of these will be the trends for 1999's Product Reports! Many citations referenced environmental and life-safety issues, or gave new uses for an "old" material. These quotes will convey the idea: Fireproofing decorative paint / Sliding made of fibrous cement / Water-saving flush valves / Light-weight cast concrete / Dry fire-sprinkler systems / HVAC ductwork made of fabric / Solid-plastic toilet partitions / Photovoltaic panels / Engineered-wood beams and joists / Rain-screen EIFS / Foam-filled CMU / Exterior decking made of woodfiber and recycled plastic / Hurricane-proof glass / Autooclaved concrete / All-glass corner windows / Reflective insulation / Fiber-optic lighting.
Light reveals architecture...the TechCenter reveals light.

Our new multi-million dollar TechCenter has been designed to help you become a better user of light. Featuring an extensive array of interactive hands-on exhibits, the TechCenter offers a new way to experience how light and the architectural environment interact. During your visit, you'll gain a greater understanding of lighting technology and design; compare the impact of different lighting on various architectural spaces; plus see how our design, testing and manufacturing facility takes our products from concept to reality. The vision and knowledge displayed in our TechCenter is also present in every product we make. Which is why the readers of Architectural Record have chosen Lightolier as the 1996 Reader's Choice Award Winner in the Interior Lighting Fixture category. To see for yourself how the TechCenter and Lightolier products demonstrate lighting that makes a difference, contact your local Lightolier sales representative.
Our final question on the Readers' Choice ballot asked: Which manufacturer has the best rep? The individual who made a critical contribution to a project, who helped solve a technical or site problem, or who made your design work?

Given the geographic range of the responses, this question drew very individual answers, though a few firms were cited more than once, for different representatives (see list, below). But what we found out was how vital these manufacturers' reps are to the success of individual architects, who rely on these building-product experts for the advice and technical support that can make a project work. Listed below, in alphabetical order by the manufacturer, are many of the individual representatives cited on Readers' Choice ballots.

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<td>C. Brester</td>
<td>Weather Shield Mfg., Inc.</td>
<td>Rob McGregor</td>
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been asking the question, "has working on Windows® 3.1x.

Release 13 also supports AutoCAD Runtime Extension (ARX) applications from developers like KETIV Technologies, Inc., ARCHIBUS, Inc., and Softdesk, Inc. These next generation tools use the object-oriented database in R13 to provide you with a seamless and associative design environment. Plus, R13 has Internet support, so now you can view, send, and share design content over the Internet.

So look into award-winning AutoCAD Release 13 software. Hundreds of thousands are already enjoying its 176 new features. How many more reasons do you need?
141. International software
Allplan FT for Windows is the first specifically North American product from a major European developer. It takes the building design from early sketches through massing studies and modeling, to layout and detailing, to quantity takeoffs, production documentation, presentation graphics, and animation. Object oriented, Allplan FT works with building elements, such as walls, windows, roofs, and doors. Available in 10 different language versions; price: $4,995. Call 800/479-0735. Nemetschek Systems, Inc., Mill Valley, Calif.

142. Rendering program
Artlantis Render delivers fast raytracing, procedural shading, and texture mapping. Includes more than 100 shaders. User can add own pictures of materials, people, and backgrounds. Adjusts lights and camera angles in real time. Operates with Windows '95, Windows NT, and Mac OS, and designed to complement ArchiCAD, ZOOM, and other programs that export 3D DXF files. 415/703-9777. Graphisoft U. S., Inc., San Francisco.

143. ADA software
For guidance through the maze of ADA regulations, ADA Design Assistant integrates with Softdesk’s Auto-Architect to extract all available information from a building design and measure it against critical ADA requirements. For example, doors are checked for clearances and obstructions by recognizing building components and warning of insufficient clearance situations; ramp layouts are aided by a slope calculator: 205/972-9101. Softdesk, Inc., Henniker, N. H.

144. Scheduling software

145. Architectural furniture
The Computer-Aided Design Workstation Bend Top, from Haworth’s new Crossings office collection, comes with extra-wide, wing-like arms to accommodate CAD peripherals and digitizer pads. Designed for the specific needs of CAD users, the workstation top adjusts in proximity to the monitor, the keyboard, and the height of the work station. 616/393-4293. Haworth, Inc., Holland, Mich.

146. Adjustable CAD station
Designed to help reduce the risk of computer-associated health problems, the Proactive computer work station makes the keyboard pad/work station and monitor fully and effortlessly adjustable. Designed to permit constant fine-tuning of the spatial relationship between the “Ergonomic Triangle”: the eyes, the keyboard, and the monitor screen. Adjustments are made at a touch, without motors, cranks, or gas cylinders. Optional keyboard pads accommodate oversize and digitizer applications. Can be retrofitted into popular furniture systems. 215/766-8545. Ergonomic Technology, Inc., Pipersville, Pa.
147. Lighting visualization
The Lightscape Visualization System, a “next generation” lighting and visualization software tool for Windows NT and SGI systems, accurately simulates the behavior and physical properties of lights and materials, delivering unusual scenes of realism and real-time interactivity. Lightscape is compatible with a wide range of 3D modeling and animation packages. 800/343-0073. Lightscape Technologies, Inc., San Jose, Calif.

148. Construction software
FLATLAND 5.0 adapts basic AutoCAD to create architectural construction documents. Features automated wall, door, and window routines, a standardized AIA-compliant layering system, hundreds of standard architectural systems in two-dimensional block form, and features to help cut through production drafting. Includes all standard steel shapes, lumber sizes, bar joists, concrete plank, and metal expansion-joint assemblies. 800/247-2031. Ashcraft Architectural Computer Graphics, Fort Ann, N. Y.

149. Illustration software
WildTools 2.0, a plug-in for PowerCADD, adds over 125 tools and menu commands. The squiggle command produces rough, sketchy-type images. The fillet tool will fillet anything to anything. Door and window tools offer broad options. The scissors, knife, freehand knife, wall trim, trim with object, multi-trim, line break, and nibble tools cut, trim or extend objects. Said to bring to Macintosh equipment capabilities previously available only on other platforms. 910/299-4843. Engineered Software, Greensboro, N. C.

150. Graphic tablet
The NewSketch 1212HR is a high resolution, 12- by 12-in. graphic tablet that translates x-y dimensional data into readable format and transfers it to a computer. Resolution up to 2,540 LPI. Compatible with Summagraphics MM series, Microgrid, Mouse Systems, and Microsoft. Utility programs can improve applications in Windows and DOS. Has four-button puck; a 16-button model is optional. 800/456-7593. Kye International Corp., Ontario, Calif.

151. Inkjet plotters
An inkjet plotter, the TechJET Designer 720c can produce monochrome images at 720- by 720-dpi and color drawings at 360- by 360-dpi on both cut-sheet and roll-feed media; memory can be upgraded to 36 megabytes. Four monochrome plot modes offered. Interchangeable monochrome and color-capable plot head-ink cartridge systems snap in easily. Plotter will work with all popular computers and CAD-system software. D-size: $2,495; E-size: $2,995. Call 800/932-1212. CalComp, Inc., Anaheim, Calif.
**Landscape Accessories**

Site Furniture and Amenities • Paving • Exterior Lighting • Fences and Gates

152. **Subtle landscape fixture**

The Coronado 720 metal-halide exterior light has a mounting stem with a locking mechanism that makes for easy adjustment and aiming. Versatile mounting options include ground, tree, and other surfaces, and permit up- and downlighting, floor and pathway illumination, and spot and accent lighting. Made of a corrosion-resistant aluminum alloy with stainless-steel hardware; finishes include black, bronze, white, and verde. 818/991-2211. Lumière Design & Manufacturing, Inc., Westlake Village, Calif.

153. **Exterior lighting**

The Universe Collection offers four distinct families of fixtures that range from small wall brackets to pedestrian-scaled, pole-mounted luminaires (ALLO 502 is shown), to larger, high-wattage fixtures suitable for streetscapes. All fixtures are made from chromate-primed castings of A356 aluminum that has low copper and iron content to resist corrosion. 714/994-2700. Architectural Area Lighting, La Mirada, Calif.

154. **Wright or Mission style**

The Prairie luminaire comes in two sizes (roofs either 16- or 24-in. square) for outdoor, post-top mounting. The shade has a stylized tree motif reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright designs, particularly when white-acrylic lenses are used. Lamping options include HID and fluorescent sources; photocell control optional. 847/588-3400. Sternberg Vintage Lighting, Niles, Ill.

155. **Architectural steel fencing**

Omega has expanded its manufacturing capabilities to let it collaborate with designers and customize individual “Eurodesign” fence systems incorporating their unusual mesh pattern. Pictured: an enclosure for a retail store with a custom logo insert. Other applications include pedestrian bridges, bicycle paths, parking garages, sports fields, amusement parks, and medium-security detention centers. Fences designed for durability and low maintenance. 800/836-6342. Omega Fence Systems, Inc., Laval, Que, Canada.

156. **Bench seating**

Designed to defy vandals and the elements, Gibraltar Series benches also provide comfortable seating. Wire-grid seats made of electropolished stainless or powdercoated steel are 72-in. long to span sculptural concrete support elements. Concrete bench ends and connecting splices may be specified in two shapes and four colors; there are 16 choices of wire colors. 800/451-0410. Forms + Surfaces, Santa Barbara, Calif.
157. In-pavement lights
Designed for applications where lighting is used to mark walkway, patio, and courtyard perimeters, the Fiberscape Paver System is mounted flush with a paving surface. Fixture heads are fitted to plastic fiber-optic tubing and illuminated by a remote HID or halogen light source. No electrical current is needed at the fixture; all equipment is UL listed for wet-location use. 800/327-7877. Fiberstars, Inc., Fremont, Calif.

158. Concrete paving
Random Slate is the latest in the Bomanite line of colored, textured, and imprinted, cast-in-place architectural concrete paving. The pattern consists of angular-shaped stones in rough dimensions of 18 to 36 in. The design of the tooling is said to make it difficult to find repetition in the imprinted slate pattern. Appropriate for large residential, commercial, and municipal projects. 209/673-2411. Bomanite Corporation, Madera, Calif.

159. Park furniture
Presidio seating and matching litter receptacles are designed to be attractive and durable in unsecured public places. Made with solid-metal rods welded to tubular steel frames, seating may be ordered in any combination of straight or curved units, with or without backs and arms. Litter receptacles are large, 41-gallon units. All pieces are finished in standard Pangard II colors. 800/521-2546. Landscape Forms, Inc., Kalamazoo, Mich.

160. Automatic gate system
The VertiGate makes the best use of tight spaces or hillside sites; it does not need a slide track or room for gate swing or retraction. Powered by 12-volt battery or photovoltaic panels, the barrier lifts up and folds away in nine seconds. Equipment and controls are concealed in masonry pilasters; an electronic safety device stops gate descent when an obstruction is detected. Made of steel and aluminum, gates come in three models for light, medium, and heavy service. 888/428-3787. VertiGate, Fontana, Calif.

161. Interactive fountain
Made by the German firm Kusser Granitwerke, inventors of the Kugel fountain, the Floating Disc Fountain is a granite sculpture with a rounded underside that nestsles in a precisely cut base stone. Propelled solely by a low-pressure water source pumped from beneath the sculpture, the Disc floats and spins on a thin film of water. In turn, the slowly spinning disc may support a sculpture of almost any shape or size. 800/919-0800. Red Hogan Enterprises Inc., Tampa, Fla.

162. Exterior lanterns
The Quadro line of exterior lanterns offers multiple housing variations with two sizes. The Quadrolisk has a lattice pole construction. The larger Quadro 1, pictured, is designed to light traffic routes, public spaces, commercial centers, and business parks. Quadro 2, a pedestrian-scaled luminaire, is for single- or double-pole mounting and wall applications. 800/735-8927. Selux Corporation, Highland, N. Y.
When You Specify EIFS, Specify the Right Dryvit System for Your Project's Needs.
Materials

Concrete • Metal • Lumber • Engineered Wood • Plastic Fabrications • Expansion Control

163. Patterned cover plate
A new decorative option for Wabo aluminum expansion-joint cover plates lets these necessities blend into or complement interior surfaces. Wabografix coatings come in eight standard patterns which simulate the look of granite, marble, and terrazzo, with a finish gloss that mimics the surrounding surface. Custom patterns may be ordered. Pattern will resist heavy foot traffic and cleaning. 904/996-6000. Harris Specialty Chemicals, Inc., Jacksonville, Fla.

164. FRP structural shapes
Standard Chemshape structural shapes include I-beams, wide-flange beams, square and round tubes, square and round bars, flat sheets, channels, angles, concrete embedment angles, tee plates, and threaded rods and nuts. Thermal and electrical nonconductors, shapes are high in strength and corrosion resistant, and can replace stainless steel in corrosive applications. 800/345-5636. Chemgrate Corporation, Woodinville, Wash.

165. Brickwork support
Lintel system conceals steel support for brickwork over flat, curved, or pointed openings. A steel spine spans the opening, and horseshoe plates hang on the spine at every third brick joint. Steel stitching rods inserted through the horseshoe plates and the brick cores tie the brick and the support system together; permits wide spans. 800/323-6896. Halen Anchoring Systems, Converse, Tex.

166. Mortarless glass block
Weck is marketing three extruded-metal BlokUp systems said to speed installation of any size glass-block wall. One permits off-site assembly of window-like panels; another connectable-radius method creates curved block walls. The drawing illustrates a frameless design, with anchor clips that allow for unobstructed installations within an opening. System components include slotted aluminum framing, anchors, and separation strips, as well as silicone sealants. 815/356-8440. Glashaus, Inc., Crystal Lake, Ill.

167. Cast-in-place stone wall
Stone-Crete formwork creates deep-relief “stone” walls using 2- by 6-ft urethane panels mounted on traditional concrete-wall forms. Different rock and stone types (River Rock is shown) can be shaded appropriate colors. Suggested for highway barriers and retention walls as well as residential applications. 800/762-4626. Increte Systems, Inc., Tampa.

168. Posts and columns
A load-bearing steel pipe is at the center of Fypon high-density polymer columns, posts, and balustrades. In classic and contemporary designs for exterior or interior use, columns can support loads up to 12,000 lb. Posts come in three styles, and can be ordered in 8-ft heights, primed and ready for a finish coat. 800/537-5849. Fypon, Stewartstown, Pa.
169. Colorful rail treatment
Brass railings, pedestrian-control standards, and retail and restaurant accessories can be specified with any of 12 very decorative Tattoo designs. Created in-the-round by a unique computer-directed, three-dimensional painting process, the finish is as durable as customary architectural metal finishes. Job-specific designs can be ordered. 800/662-9595. Brass Smith, Inc., Denver.

170. Engineered-wood columns
Made up with glue-laminated wood, Versa-Lam 220 columns are designed to be stronger than conventional lumber at lighter weight. According to the manufacturer, the columns remain straight and true, without twisting, warping, bowing, or cracking. Columns come 48-ft long, in dimensional sizes from 3 1/2 by 3 1/2 in. to 7 by 7 in. 800/232-0788. Boise Cascade Engineered Wood, Boise, Idaho.

171. Veneered heavy timber
Clear Douglas fir veneers applied to glulam timber produce what appears to be a tight-grain, solid sawn timber. Ideal for decorative roof trusses, arches, beams runs, and columns. Broad range of size and length available. 360/676-5658. The G.R. Plume Company, Bellingham, Wash.

172. Glulam made “simple”
A new structural classification grade has been developed to make specifying glued laminated timbers easier. Termed Grade 24F-1.8E, beams and headers can be produced using Douglas fir, southern pine, Hem-Fir, SPF, and other species. Members have proper camber for floor beam-, roof beam-, and header applications, and fit traditional 2- by 4- and 2- by 6-ft framing. Architectural appearance allows use in both exposed and concealed applications. 206/565-6600. APA—The Engineered Wood Association, Tacoma, Wash.

173. Concrete stain
Lithochrome Chemstain creates permanent variegated or translucent color effects on concrete surfaces. Stains react chemically with surface of concrete, replicating the random shadings of natural stone or the patina of age. Recommended for exterior hardscapes, interior floors and walls, and artificial rock and water features. Chemstain comes premixed and ready to use in antique amber, copper patina, dark walnut, faded terracotta, fern green, and weathered bronze colorations. 800/800-9900. L. M. Scofield Company, Los Angeles.

174. Decorative laminates
For use on countertops, casework, and other interior surfaces, Fiber Series plastic laminates are nature-inspired designs influenced by the pronounced textures found on recycled papers and wood pulps. Available in oatmeal, curry, wheat, thyme, and coriander colorations. Sample program offered to design professionals. 800/746-6483. Pionite Decorative Laminates, Auburn, Me.
"CASTELITE WAS THE CLEAR CHOICE..."
for Christ United Methodist Church, Plano, Texas

"It offers so many positives. A big cost savings, ease of erection and the folks at Castelite have been very easy to work with."
Architect, Bruce Woody
Hatfield Halcomb Architects

"We were looking at another type of steel product, but the increased strength of the deeper Castelite members meant that fewer beams could be used. Structural engineering did not suffer and the mechanical engineer still had space for air ducts and wiring."
Engineer, K. S. "Raj" Rajagopalan
Mullen and Powell TechniStructures

"Product quality was good with timely delivery and solid engineering support."
Fabricator, Tommy Reeves
Alpha Industries

"Castelite Steel is great to work with. It requires less bracing and it’s light weight makes it easy to put up. We’ll use it again."
Erector, James Rowan
Mr. Steel, Inc.

The word is out. For stiff floors and attractive roof structures, Castelite™ Beams are a great choice. If you’d like to find out more about this new, cost-effective solution for your next construction project, give us a call at 800-775-4611.

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Circle 22 on inquiry card

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175. FR structural decking
Firestall roof decking is a nailable, UL Class A, fire-rated decking with a face ply of Homasote NCFR. Designed for use as a structural, load-bearing decking in residential and commercial buildings requiring a fire-resistive decking, it can be applied over either steel or wood framing, or a steel deck. Insulation, shingles, or other finish roofing is nailed to the Firestall. Test data available. 800/257-9491. Homasote Co., West Trenton, N.J.

176. Glass-plank stair treads
A prefabricated plank, 91R glass and steel panels have small joints between thin (1- and 1 1/2-in thick) composite-glass pavers that permit maximum flow of light. Units can be used as decklights, stair treads, skybridges, and translucent, vertical walls. Planks weigh about 24 lbs psf, and can support 100 to 150 lbs psf. 800/358-3888. Circle Redmont, Inc., Melbourne, Fla.

177. Rim board
An engineered lumber, FiberStrong Rim Board is made in depths suited to finish-floor systems constructed with Georgia-Pacific’s Wood I beam joists. Available in depths from 9 1/4 to 16 in. and 1 1/8 in.-thick, boards may be used as both rim board and starter joists, eliminating the need for blocking panels and squash blocks at the ends of I-joists. Edge and end sealing ensures dimensional stability. 800/284-5347. Georgia-Pacific Corp., Atlanta.

178. Birch plywood
Made of Finnish birch and marketed in six bright colors as Fin Color Ply, plywood paneling is now offered with a clear, translucent phenolic finish that allows the natural grain to show through. Finished and smooth on both sides, panels have good chemical and wear resistance, and are suitable for cabinetry, furniture, and interior paneling. 310/396-9991. Finland Color Plywood Corp., Venice, Calif.

179. Composite columns
PolyStone columns and balustrades, made of reinforced polyester resins, are inexpensive and durable. Recommended for pergolas, porches, arbors, and other exterior application near water or in areas of extreme weather conditions, columns are fire, and impact, resistant. Material can replicate the crisp detailing of classic capital styles. 910/763-7600. Chadsworth 1.800-COLUMNS, Historic Wilmington, N. C.
180. Egress roof window
Intended for within-reach installations such as attic spaces and lofts, Model GPL roof window is large enough, and opens wide enough—a full 45 degrees—to meet alternative means of egress standards under many codes. Glazing options include heat-strengthened laminated glass; the wood frame comes prefinished with a clear topcoat. Architectural manual offered. 800/283-2831. Velux-America, Inc., Greenwood, S.C.

181. Improved underlayment
Layfast SBS TU 35 is an upgrade on standard #30/#40 roofing felt. Made with more flexible SBS-modified asphalt and reinforced with fiberglass instead of recycled paper, the material is said to improve the long-term waterproof performance of nailable tile, slate, shingles, and other steep-slope roofings. Tested to exceed ASTM D226 for Type II underlayment. Samples: 800/621-9281. MB Technology, Fresno, Calif.

182. Fascia and coping
VersiTrim roof-edge treatments can be specified in aluminum or steel, in a range of architectural finishes to meet exact job performance and appearance requirements. Said to provide maximum wind-uplift protection, some elements have a “non-penetrating” attachment system that eliminates leak points associated with metal fasteners. Line includes fascia, anchor bars, scuppers, and snap-on straight and radius copings. 800/992-7663. Versico, Inc., Akron, Ohio.

183. Exterior trims
Heartland’s matte-finish accessories work with many exterior materials—wood, fiber cement, and hardboard—as well as vinyl siding. The profiles pictured are intended to give a traditional brick-mold look around windows and doors; corner posts come in a new, 20-ft length. 601/728-0261. Heartland Building Products, Memphis, Tenn.

184. Light-weight precast
The Slenderwall panel is said to achieve the strength and rigidity of standard precast concrete panels in a 2-in. thickness. The proprietary panels take up less space in transit; at 28 lbs psf, their lighter weight imposes less load on a structure. Panels are attached to galvanized-steel framework with a “flexible” epoxy-coated connecting anchor designed to compensate for normal building movement and meet current seismic design considerations. Bullnose edges can be cast into the panel itself; face options include aggregate, thin brick, and tile. 540/439-3266. Smith-Midland Corp., Midland, Va.

185. Ceramic-slate roof tile
A fired-clay roofing said to be impervious to moisture and freeze-thaw damage, Celedon Ceramic Slate resembles natural slate. Available in five colorations (Montpelier Green is shown), the interlocking product has the same density as this maker’s premium clay roof tile but is lighter in weight and lower in cost. Unit dimensions: 10 7/8 by 16-in. Nominal thickness: 3/4-in. Product manual and installation video are available without charge to architects. 800/699-9988. CertainTeed/Celedon, New Lexington, Ohio.
Petersen Aluminum Corporation’s SNAP-CLAD Panels feature architectural panel aesthetics as well as structural panel performance. SNAP-CLAD Panels are corrective leveled to provide superior flatness and feature an optional factory-applied sealant bead for improved weather resistance. In addition, SNAP-CLAD Panels carry a UL 90 rating for wind uplift.

SNAP-CLAD Panels feature a 1-3/4" leg height and a continuous interlock for improved structural performance and wind resistance. A concealed fastener clip system has been designed to allow for thermal expansion/contraction while providing excellent hold-down strength.

SNAP-CLAD Panels feature our full-strength PAC-CLAD® finish and are available in a variety of on-center dimensions, fabricated from either .032 aluminum, 24 ga. steel or 22 ga. steel. For more information on SNAP-CLAD Panels, please contact Petersen Aluminum Corporation, 1-800-PAC-CLAD or visit our web site @ http://www.pac-clad.com
186. Roofing/cladding metal
Viromet and Virotin are strong, ductile, and weldable architectural metals developed to provide excellent corrosion resistance while meeting specific environmental standards. A stainless steel (Viromet) or carbon steel (Virotin) substrate coated with a proprietary zinc/tin alloy, the new products detail like Terne metal. Viromet will weather untreated to a gray or light bronze color. Virotin is intended to be painted right after installation. Suitable for roofing and cladding, metals are also available preformed as accessories such as cleats and scuppers. 800/624-6906. Follansbee Steel, Follansbee, W.Va.

187. Precast-wall insulation
ITP Building Insulation offers white polypropylene wrapped semi-rigid fiberglass boards with pvc extrusions designed to hold the insulation in place against precast wall panels. With an R-value of 10, the insulation provides both thermal and acoustic benefits; the white face improves light reflectivity for construction workers on already-enclosed floors. 800/654-3103. Schuller Corp., Denver.

188. Ventilation for roof decks
The Iso-Vent combines insulation and shingle substrate ventilation in one product. The polyisocyanurate foam board lays flat against the roof decking; channels in the upper side remain clear under the nailable plywood or OSB roof substrate, carrying air from soffit to ridge vents. 800/343-1285. NRG Barriers, Portland, Me.

189. Radius cedar panels
A new configuration of Number 1 vertical grain Western Red cedar, 4-ft-long siding panels can be used on exterior walls for either inside or outside curves down to a 3-ft radius. Shingles match the texture and buttline of this maker’s standard 8-ft multi-course panels. [Residence shown designed by Myrvang Architects.] 800/921-9523. Cedar Valley Shingle Systems, Hollister, Calif.

190. Fiber-cement roof panel
A “moderate price” fiber-cement roofing, 48-in.-long Quantum panels are colored throughout, cast in profiles that mimic cedar shakes and natural slate patterns. Material is described as walkable and wind- and hail-resistant, and has a Class A fire rating; weighs 325 lbs. per square. 800/347-3373. Re-Con Building Products, Sumas, Wash.

191. Low-gloss roofing metal
A new Pac-Clad product, 26-gauge steel panels have a full Kynar 500/Hylar 5000 finish applied in a low gloss/low sheen formulation to minimize the appearance of oil canning. Intended for applications that require a superior in-use esthetic, roofing comes in the Colonial Red pictured, as well as Slate Gray, Forest Green, and Matte Black. 800/323-1960. Petersen Aluminum, Elk Grove Village, Ill.

192. Snow/ice dam
An aluminum guard fastens to the standing seam of metal roofing panels without restricting thermal movement, and can retain up to 2,000 lbs. of unmelted snow and ice. Snow Dams can be ordered to fit any seam type and panel width, painted to match the roof.
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193. Heavy-duty mortise locks
For upscale offices, stores, condominiums, retail shops, and hotels, the L-Mediterranean extra-heavy-duty lockset has a mechanism of dichromated steel for strength, long wear, and corrosion resistance. Exposed trim is solid brass, in bright brass, Ultima, and bright chrome finishes. Lever options: Merano (shown), Asti, and Avanti. 415/467-1100. Schlage Lock Company, San Francisco.

194. Smoke-control door
The Ceco Smoke Tech system is designed for openings requiring smoke control, such as room-to-corridor, cross-corridor, elevator lobby, pressurized or non-pressurized stair enclosures, and areas of refuge. Doors are made of 18- or 16-gauge rolled steel with UL or WH labels of 20 minutes to three hours. Gaskets (illustrated) are concealed on the tested and rated frames. Sidelites and transoms are available. 615/661-5030. Ceco Door Products, Brentwood, Tenn.

195. Aluminum fire door
Fire-rated doors and sidelites are now available in aluminum, glazed with wireless SuperLite I fire- and safety-rated glass. A 20-minute, 3- by 9-ft door can have a vision light up to 2,422 sq in. Doors accept standard weight hinges, and mortise or cylinder locksets; the bottom rail adjusts. 800/272-7226. Ragland Manufacturing Co., Houston.

196. Acoustical door
For TV and recording studios, product-test facilities, and high-noise reduction applications without space for sound locks, the Dual Mode door provides extremely high sound-transmission loss performance up to STC 64. The 5-in.-thick door weighs 375 lb, operating on cam-lift hinges. 718/931-8000. Industrial Acoustics Company, Inc., Bronx, N.Y.

197. Fire-door safety feature
The M105A annunciator sounds an alarm and flashes a warning signal when an automatic closing overhead-coiling fire-door is about to drop. For use with the M58A-Model G releasing device, the new alarm insures occupant safety when fire doors are being tested, as required by fire codes. The device may be activated by smoke or heat detectors, fire alarms, or other signals. 800/233-8366. Cornell Iron Works, Inc., Mountaintop, Pa.
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Only RACO has a 20 minute fire rating!
198. **Deadbolt lockset**

TwinBolt provides double-locking security at the push of a button. A lower unit (knob or lever) is linked to an automatic deadbolt. On the inside, a standard lock and deadbolt are activated by a push of the button; on the outside, a single key unlocks both latches at once. The lock has an adjustable chassis to fit different lock/deadbolt placements. Meets ADA accessibility requirements. 414/444-2800. Master Lock Company, Milwaukee.

199. **Fire and smoke seals**

Meeting new fire-door tests, Soft Puff intumescent, fire-door gasketing expands evenly in all directions on exposure to heat, filling even the smallest spaces and blocking flames, smoke, and toxic gases. Controlled expansion will not force open a door; if a door is opened for escape, expansion continues when the door is closed again. The material can be mortised directly into door edges and/or frames, or designed into gasketing systems for new or retrofit applications. 800/635-5335. Zero International, Bronx, N. Y.

200. **Interior door core**

A new residential option, the CraftCore door has a wood-fiber core; though lighter than conventional particle board, it is said to replicate the heft, sound-deadening properties, and easy-swing features of a solid-pine door. 800/446-1694. CraftMaster, Chicago.

201. **Fire-rated doors**

Weyerhaeuser says it offers the first 90-minute, fire-rated doors that eliminate metal edges at the meeting stiles and conceal the vertical rod, letting architects match fire-rated doors to the appearance of other doors on a floor. Incorporating Yale’s 7140 WCD exit device, pairs are available with fire ratings of 20-, 45-, 60-, and 90-minute. 800/869-3667. Weyerhaeuser Door Division, Marshfield, Wis.

202. **Fire-rated floor access**

The Type FR floor door, tested and approved by UL Laboratories in accordance with ASTM E119, preserves the fire rating of a floor system by containing flames and limiting heat transmission to upper floors for two hours. A recessed cover will accept various flooring materials, letting the door blend with its surroundings. 203/934-3636. The Bilco Company, New Haven, Conn.
Nothing conveys the drama of your design like an EFCO® window. Choose from six classic styles: single- and double-hung, top-hinged, projected, casement and sliding. Create a custom shape. Select from 21 standard colors, unlimited custom blends or anodized finishes. And coordinate windows with entrances and storefronts.

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203. Privacy glass
Now commercially available for interior or exterior use, privacy glass changes from frosted to clear at the flip of a switch. A film of electrically sensitive liquid crystals between sheets of glass is wired to standard current. Switch on: crystals line up and create a clear glass. Off: crystals return to a random, unaligned state, and the glass appears frosted. Glazing comes green, gray, bronze, or clear. 507/451-9555. Viracon, Owatonna, Minn.

204. Operable storefront
From Germany, the Solarlux SL50 aluminum system can create a complete storefront with folding doors, windows, matching entrance doors, transoms, and sidelights. Units are available opening either inward or outward; heights to 9 ft are possible. Maker says that air- and water-infiltration and security-performance criteria meet applicable codes; the flush sill is designed for wheelchair access. Powder-coat colors, anodized finishes, and divided-light styles are offered. 800/873-5673. Nana Wall Systems, Inc., Mill Valley, Calif.

205. Folding glass wall
Aluminum-framed Mirage installations appear to be a progression of windows, yet the wall opens easily, accordion style, to give a 92-percent unobstructed opening to outdoors. For use enclosing porches, balconies, swimming pools, restaurants, and storefronts, there are 14 sizes, in widths to 20 ft. 800/447-4938. Skytech Systems, Bloomsburg, Pa.

206. Super-insulating unit
A new option comes pre-glazed in an insulated aluminum frame. Less expensive than existing four-element high-performance glass, the three-part design (two glass lights with a suspended clear spectrally selective film) offers R-Values up to R5. 403/461-4000. Visionwall Technologies, Edmonton, Alberta.

207. Slide-aside entrance
One of several “Phantom Wall” configurations, the PW-90 exterior mall slider permits occasional passage of large objects through a pedestrian entrance. Useful for casinos, shopping malls, automobile showrooms, restaurants, and other retail applications, the entire glazed area slides to the side for easy access for deliveries. 214/551-6162. Vistawall Architectural Products, Terrell, Tex.

208. Gasketed curtain wall
Developed in England, EFCO’s Series 5800 Don Reynolds assembly incorporates the structure of a conventional curtain wall or sloped-glazing system while offering a unique gasketed face. The gaskets, available in a wide range of colors and profiles, add a design element to their weatherproofing function. Series 5800 can be used in many different applications, including punched or ribbon openings and slope glazing. 800/221-4169. EFCO Corporation, Monett, Mo.
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### 209. Free-formed ceiling
Described as a non-modular solution for smooth, flowing runs of gently curved or undulating ceilings, the Aluma-Vault comes in a range of panel configurations, colors, and finish options. The architect needs only to specify a radius for the curves, and quarter-vaults, domes, barrel vaults, and wave-like shapes are made to fit. Panels come in sizes of up to 4- by 10-ft; may be backed with sound-absorbing material. 800/747-8954. Gordon, Inc., Shreveport, La.

### 210. FRG moldings/light coves
Made of fireproof, fiberglass-reinforced gypsum, cornice and cove moldings are available in 10 sculptured patterns that coordinate with USG acoustical ceiling panels. Moldings come in 8-ft lengths, in a choice of smooth white or any of 24 standard colors. 800/950-3839. USG Interiors, Chicago.

### 211. Healthcare floor
BioSpec is a new, homogeneous sheet-vinyl floor developed specifically for the stain- (and germ) resistance appropriate to hospital operating theaters, clean rooms, and other demanding applications. Heat-welding or chemical sealing creates a seamless floor. Available in 30 colors, including low-contrast patterns that call attention to dropped objects. Sample chip program: 609/339-5941. Mannington Commercial, Salem, N.J.

### 212. Medieval esthetic
A time-worn look from Cisa Ceramiche, Le Rocche floor tiles are made in a blend of soft gray and ochre colorations, with distressed edges and mottled effects. Suitable for heavy-traffic floors, the Italian tiles come in four field-tile shapes, both plain colors or with a subtle 13th-century decoration, as well as more-boldly colored insets and corners. For U.S. sources: 212/980-1500. The Italian Tile Center, New York City.

### 213. "Marble" ceramics
A new floor tile for residential and light-commercial use, Marble Classics is said to closely replicate the veining and shading of natural, polished marble. Tile is made in 12- and 16-in. squares, 4- by 12-in. insets, and a coordinating, rectangular wall tile. Sample boards show all five colorways. 800/496-TILE. Inter-ceramic, USA, Garland, Tex.
214. Customized rubber floor
Determined to add more value and decorative options to their line of institutional flooring and accessories, Johnsonite now offers architects and interior designers the opportunity to create project-specific colorways in marble-pattern rubber tiles and stair coverings. The Prima customized floor lets the specifier choose a single background color, plus up to three additional integrated "veining" colors from a total of 29 colors. These colors are picked up as solid-tone accent tile, wall base, transitions, corner guards, and other trim. 800/899-8916. Johnsonite, Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

215. Laminate flooring
Anticipating substantial growth in laminate flooring products, Formica Corporation is placing its trademark on a line of 25 patterns created specifically for the American market. Unlike European styles, Formica's floor will have longer plank lengths and a matte, not glossy, finish. Pictured are sandstone and wood-grain designs from the initial flooring collection, intended for residential and light-commercial spaces. Tongue-and-groove laminate strips glued to each other, and installed as a "floating" floor over any level subfloor. Moisture- and heat-resistant, laminate is suitable for kitchen and bath spaces as well as other residential interiors. Samples: 800/FORMICA. Formica Corp., Cincinnati.

216. Water-based multicolors
Both Polomyx and Zolotone multicolor paint systems are now available in an environmentally benign, low-VOC formulation said to be as durable and colorful as the solvent-based product. 800/773-1667. Surface Protection Industries International, North Billerica, Mass.

217. Low-odor semi-gloss
A minimal-odor enamel rugged enough for institutional settings, HealthSpec is said to reduce maintenance costs by permitting painting during normal business hours, with no need to evacuate building sections, even in hospitals. Available as both egg-shell and semi-gloss enamels, HealthSpec should give one-coat coverage on walls, trim, doors, railings, and cabinets in healthcare, school, and other heavy-use, occupied environments. The Sherwin-Williams Company, Cleveland.

218. Long-span metal ceiling
A new ceiling-panel option, Luxalon comes in lengths up to 19 ft, providing a sleeker, uninterrupted appearance to longer spans. Individual planks are wider, with a choice of a beveled- or reveal-edge treatment. Luxalon ceilings come in any of over 50 colors, and permit four suspension configurations (carrier, lay-on, clip-in, and wide C-grid). Ceilings are said to improve the acoustic performance of airports, retail malls, and lobby spaces; installation system will accommodate lighting-fixture and sprinkler-head requirements. 800/366-4327. Hunter Douglas Architectural Products, Inc., Duluth, Ga.
YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING A LEADER IN DESIGN. THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE WANTING TO TAKE YOUR PLACE. FOR TEN YEARS WE'VE DEVELOPED THE BEST COLORS AND TEXTURES IN THE SOLID SURFACE INDUSTRY. WE HAVE MANY IMITATORS, WHICH ONLY MEANS WE MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT. AVONITE WILL CONTINUE TO INNOVATE WHILE OTHERS CONTINUE TO IMITATE. NO ONE ELSE OFFERS OUR NATURAL BEAUTY AND DESIGN CAPABILITIES. FOR A COLOR OR PATTERN WE DON'T HAVE, SEND US A SAMPLE AND WE'LL MATCH IT.

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219. Tufted-pattern broadloom
The textured-loop pattern used for Lees' Bottega carpeting was made using their proprietary, full-repeat-scroll tufting equipment, a technology said to create carpeting with combinations of pattern, color, and texture not possible before. Constructed with 30-oz. yarn-dyed Antron nylon, Bottega broadloom comes with Unibond moisture-resistant backing. Bottega offers 21 running-line colors, in 12-ft widths for office, retail, and other commercial applications. 800/523-5647. Lees, A Division of Burlington Industries, Inc., Greensboro, N.C.

220. Architectural coating
Described as a “second generation” fluorocarbon, Megaflon is a chemical-cure, high-performance coating for aluminum, steel, concrete, glass, and plastic—including older fluorocarbon surfaces. Offered in both coil-coat (baked-on) and ambient-temperature formulations for site application, finish comes in bright, vivid colors and a range of glosses. Said to maintain color intensity and gloss levels for decades, Megaflon meets AAMA 605.2. 860/274-5857. Keeler & Long, Watertown, Conn.

221. Acrylic-latex finish

222. Three-dimensional ceiling
A standardized approach to creating custom suspended ceilings, the Curvatura system consists of 36 grid segments that can be combined in an “infinite” number of designs. The spaces between the curved grids are filled with flexible panels in perforated or plain metal, woven wire mesh, or translucent fiberglass-reinforced plastic, conformed to the grid with hold-down tabs. A design kit provides templates, component manuals, and computer software to help the architect and interior designer create custom ceilings. 800/950-3839. USG Interiors, Chicago.

223. Laminate planks and tiles
A decorative, durable flooring for kitchens, home offices, and other heavy-use residential spaces, Wilsonart laminate comes in patterns and shapes said to demonstrate the design flexibility of the product. As an essentially photographic process, high-pressure laminate can replicate the appearance of natural materials such as maple, cherry, and oak wood, or the colorations and veining of marble, granite, and terrazzo. These designs can be enhanced and abstracted to create looks unattainable with other materials. Wilsonart offers laminate flooring in plank and tile formats, with interlocking edges for floating-floor installation. 800/433-3222. Wilsonart International, Temple, Tex.
224. Recyclables collection
Described as a cost-effective, multi-container recycling system, The Hi-Rise replaces obsolete trash compactors in mid- and high-rise buildings, and can be installed in new buildings. It automatically compacts up to 900 lbs of trash, and adapts to future sorting requirements. The user pushes the button keyed to the material being discarded—plastic, glass, paper, garbage—and the basement turntable revolves to receive it. 305/624-9222. Hi-Rise Recycling Systems, Inc., Miami.

225. Multi-function walls
Complex design and performance criteria—heavy-weight shelving, plumbing runs, and power distribution—were incorporated into Twin Wall partitions used in a biomedical laboratory (Nottingham Architects). The wall system was able to accommodate custom elements such as windows and impermeable wall/floor joints within a flexible partition that permits ready reconfiguration. 800/990-9255. Dowcraft Corp., Falconer, N.Y.

226. Concealed vaults
These vaults are not only secure—they are hidden. Using a proprietary opening mechanism, which makes the safes virtually invisible, burglar-proof enclosures the size of walk-in closets—up to 11 by 14 ft—can be concealed within a home. The firm’s motto: If they can’t find it, they can’t steal it. Installed prices depend on size of safe and location of project, but might be $15,000 for a 4- by 4- by 8-ft vault. 901/685-1500. Custom Security, Memphis, Tenn.

227. Life-safety package
The Life Safety Net 2000 is an all-in-one fire-protection, security, and hvac-control package. The digital electronic technology used is said to make the control and signal cabinet easy to install and customize, and to reduce its in-place costs in most types of buildings. Meets all appropriate codes, including the New York City Fire Department’s. 718/899-6100. Firecom, Inc., Woodside, N.Y.

228. Ceiling-hung partition
Skyfold is an automatic, vertically folding acoustical partition that stores in the ceiling. Individual rigid panels are independent of the motorized pantograph, weigh only about 50 lbs, and can be replaced if damaged. Loading is evenly distributed, and needs no special structure. The system achieves an STC rating of 48 without floor track or seals. Installation pictured by Rounthwaite, Dick & Hadley, Architects. 514/457-4767. Skyfold Div., Railtech Ltd., Baie d’Urfé, Que., Canada.
Now there's no question which refrigerator goes best with a Viking range.

At long last, the appliance which makes the Viking kitchen complete. The new Viking built-in refrigerator/freezer. It has the professional-style design you'd expect, along with enough food storage space to entertain a small army. Or a few hungry teenagers.

For the ultimate Viking kitchen, you can even add our new wine cooler or undercounter ice machine. The result is much like a fine meal. All elements in complete harmony and uncompromised in presentation.
229. Merchandising display
Designed for in-store display walls and kiosks, System A is based on a recessed carrier which holds the merchandise racks in place by a simple push fit. No twisting or turning is necessary to keep the display straight and level. Distinctive shelf elements and hooks are designed for clothes, hanging items, sports equipment, and shoes. 910/889-2322. Häfele America Co., Archdale, N.C.

230. No more turn crank
A new control option for high-density mobile storage systems like those used in libraries and back-office facilities, Power Assist is operated by a DC motor. The device is said to offer fully automated, easy-to-direct electromechanical operation and safety features at a price comparable to mechanical-assist storage systems. 800/492-3434. Spacesaver Corp., Fort Atkinson, Wis.

231. Double-bent shower
The Neo Solution is described as a stock solution to a custom-surround design problem. Tempered-glass door has a 27-in.-wide clear opening, yet fits into a standard 42-in. angled-corner base. Glass-to-glass hinges and “invisible” vinyl profiles are said to give a floating, all-glass effect. 800/348-8080. Duschqueen, Inc., Wyckoff, N.J.

232. Recognition displays
Donor acknowledgement plaques and memorial walls can be designed with micro V-cut lettering in crystal clear glass. Wallach etching and glass-cutting techniques permit a dramatic, legible display in materials appropriate to the site. A new donor wall mounting system holds interchangeable, stacking blades of V-cut glass sandwiched between two sheets of crystal, and is said to be easy to update and revise. 707/527-1205. The Wallach Glass Studio, Santa Rosa, Calif.

233. High-design cabinetry
Designed by Ferrari stylist Pininfarina and incorporating automotive techniques such as mold-injected polyfoam parts, Snaidero's Ola kitchen features an integral stainless-steel cooktop (by Franke) and built-in lighting. Cabinetry comes in bright lacquer colors like Racing Red, Solar Yellow, and Northern Sea Blue (pictured). 310/516-8499. Snaidero, Los Angeles.

234. Restroom accessories
Made in 13 colors of Hewi's dense nylon material, new 485 accessories have a canted base for mounting on walls and partitions. Items such as soap dispensers are designed for one-hand operation. 717/298-1313. Hewi, Inc., Lancaster, Pa.
235. **Pull-up chair**
Brian Kane designed this rugged stacking chair specifically to take advantage of Xorel fabric's response to heat: He was able to "shrink-wrap" the upholstery over the molded-urethane shell. Intended for abuse-prone settings, including restaurants, the chair has a cold-rolled steel base. The fabric itself is flame-retardant, color-fast, puncture-proof, very abrasion-resistant, and won't support the growth of bacteria, staph, or fungus. The Xorel upholstery used on the chair has a liquid-proof backing, and can be cleaned by wiping with hot water. Built to list at about $550. Call 800/727-6770. Carnegie, Rockville Centre, N. Y.

236. **Fire-rated cellular shade**
For commercial applications requiring a soft fabric window treatment, the Graber Crystal-Pleat Facets cellular shades offer privacy as well as thermal and acoustical control. Of the six colors available, white provides a .25 shading coefficient, a 3.30 R-value, and an NRC acoustical rating of .60. The flame-retardant fabric meets the requirement of the NFPA 701 Small Scale test. 800/327-9798. Springs Window Fashions, Montgomery, Pa.

237. **Upholstery fabric**
Because of its combination of yarns, Triton Stretch fabric is claimed to keep task seating cooler and more comfortable. It is woven from Climatex, a mix of wool, polyester, and ramie that is said to work together to remove heat and moisture from a seating platform's "hot spots." Abrasion tested to 51,000 double rubs, upholstery comes in 13 colors. 800/727-6770. Carnegie, Rockville Centre, N. Y.

238. **Light-filtering roller shade**
A new window treatment designed specifically for contract installations, roller shades are made with flame-retardant, Sheerweave vinyl-coated fiberglass / polyester fabric in a range of openness configurations from 5 to 30 percent. Other materials in the 53-option contract line include Pima, a semi-opaque woven cotton in 12 colors, and four room-darkening vinyl materials laminated to fiberglass. Aluminum fascia panel and brackets come in white, bronze, and ivory; the clutch mechanism is worked by a beaded-metal chain. Swatch program: 800/937-7865. Hunter Douglas Window Fashions, Upper Saddle River, N. J.

239. **Terrace seating**
The Catena chair is designed for heavy-duty outdoor use, such as patio restaurants and corporate courtyards. Made of aluminum and stainless steel to be light weight and corrosion resistant, the chairs are finished with a powder-coat system said to resist chipping, peeling, and fading. Chairs can be stacked up to six high; matching tables and aluminum sunshades are available. 800/521-2546. Landscape Forms, Inc., Kalamazoo, Mich.

240. **Unobtrusive matting**
Enhance 850 walk-off matting, made from a combination of fine-denier nylon and olefin cut-pile, is said to remove, hold, and hide dirt and water tracked into lobby spaces from shoes. Intended for entrances and other floors where carpet had been used, the Enhance product is said to look and seem like broadloom, but with a random, soil-concealing pattern. Most standard sizes can accommodate a logo. 800/852-9722. 3M Commercial Care Division, St. Paul, Minn.
241. **Fabric wall covering**
The fire-retardant, vinyl-coated polyester warp and fill yarns of Animation wall-covering fabric are fused at high temperatures to achieve greater dimensional stability. It can be used for wrapped and acoustical panels as well as stretched wall applications. Ten standard colors and custom colors available. Cleanable with vacuum or a brush and detergent or bleach solution. 212/343-4009. The Knoll Group, New York.

242. **Polypropylene floor tiles**
Kiwi interlocking floor tiles provide a quickly installed, non-slip surface for either long-term or temporary use on any flat surface outdoors or indoors. Particularly suited for car dealerships, the decorative tiles snap together to create a floor surface that can carry even cars and small trucks. Not damaged or stained by most chemicals, oil, grease, brake fluid, or battery acid, 13-in. square tiles come in seven colors. 707/935-3690. Kiwi Tile, Inc. Sonoma, Calif.

243. **Versatile Italian**
Storm is the newest design from Carlo Bartoli for the Italian manufacturer Segis, an extension of his Breeze indoor/outdoor furniture line. A lightweight stackable chair made with a steel frame and molded polypropylene shell in any of 11 colors, Storm can be specified with arms as well as a fold-down table attachment. A 32-page catalog illustrates the full range of Segis seating. 305/960-1100. Loewenstein, Pompano Beach, Fla.

244. **African influenced**
Designer Orlando Diaz-Azcuy says his 1996 furniture collection, intended to mark ten years of work with North Carolina manufacturer HBF, was inspired by the dramatic landscape and tribal arts of Africa. The line includes upholstered seating and lounge groups, as well as occasional pieces, such as the slender-legged Kenya tables, pictured. 704/328-2064. Hickory Business Furniture, Hickory, N. C.

245. **Wood contract furniture**
Moser’s Windward collection represents a new thrust by this maker of mortise-and-tenon residential furnishings to meet the specification and production requirements of the contract marketplace. The initial range, intended for library and corporate use, offers 33 variations of occasional and meeting tables, sectionals, casegoods, and lounge seating. The use of interchangeable design elements is said to increase manufacturing efficiency and allow competitive pricing. 800/708-9710. Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers, Auburn, Me.

246. **Systems furniture**
The Arrio line of height-adjustable desks, mobile tables, screens, storage, and technology support is designed to improve the electronic connectivity of freestanding units in open-plan offices. Lay-in cabling is said to make wiring easy to install and reroute. Options include Work Rails that attach to desks. 800/851-1196. Herman Miller, Inc., Zeeland, Mich.
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247. Precast prison dormitories
Re-designed to provide larger, column-free spaces, the new Maxi-Dorm is a precast-concrete, multiple-occupancy prison cell designed for speedy erection. Units can be designed, manufactured, erected, and ready for occupants in weeks. Cells are stackable, easily relocated, and quickly configured for permanent installation. Walls are insulated, and finished in epoxy. Watch units being placed for a Massachusetts prison: oldcastle-precast.com (Web page). 215/257-8081. Rotondo Precast, Oldcastle Precast East, Inc., Telford, Pa.

248. Giving people a lift
Hill/Climbers travel up and down steep outdoor grades leading to garden, beach, street, or garage. Lifts can go from flat terrain to a 45-deg angle as far as 250 ft. There are two sizes: one 29 in. wide, with two facing seats (pictured); a larger, 50-in.-wide unit will accommodate a wheelchair. Both have a 700-lb capacity. 717/234-8065. Inclinator Company of America, Harrisburg, Pa.

249. Roof isolation curb
The Model ESR sound- and vibration-control curb, with either steel-spring (shown) or air-spring isolators, is described as easy to adjust to field conditions such as weight distribution, variable roof pitches, and obtruding ductwork. For hvac and other rooftop equipment of almost any size, curbs meet 1 g seismic and 200 mph wind-restraint requirements. 614/889-0480. Kinetics Noise Control, Inc., Dublin, Ohio.

250. Materials-handling helper
The Smartwaite, a new Auton motorized lift system, raises and lowers goods, packages, laundry, and food at an efficient speed from floor to floor in institutions and private homes. Used by small artisan shops such as furniture makers, lifts are said to be invaluable as a saver of time, steps, and energy. Reduces the likelihood of damage to goods and equipment moving from floor to floor. Rack and pinion drive provides a smooth, wobble-free operation. 805/257-9282. Auton Company, Valencia, Calif.

251. Hardwood conservatories
Developed in England, modular conservatory kits are said to be easily assembled by a do-it-yourselfer or a professional installer. All units come with safety tempered insulating glass, a triple-wall polycarbonate roof, and double opening French doors. Designed for harsh weather and American snow loads, units meet most local codes. Three styles: Victorian (illustrated), Windsor, and Georgian. 800/963-8700. Hartford Conservatories, Inc., Woburn, Mass.

252. Modular jail cells
Factory-produced, steel-framed cells arrive on site preplumbed, prewired, furnished, equipped, insulated, and factory-finished with a baked-on polymer. Load-bearing steel walls can be bolted together four-high and will support a roof, serve as an exterior wall of a new facility, or become an addition. Lightweight units can be installed on slabs or as a retrofit within an existing structure, regardless of age. Made in sizes of from 60- to 107-sq ft, cells can be customized to meet any level of security. 201/893-0500. Mark Solutions, Inc., Bloomfield, N. J.
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253. Totally self-contained
The Omega Supergrif is truly sleek—but you might have to post how-to-use instructions above it. Water flow from cold through tepid to hot is controlled by moving the integrated curved handle mounted on top of the faucet itself. Designed by Spanish architect Inés Jackson, faucet comes in basin mixer, tub/shower, and bidet configurations; finish options include chrome, anthracite, white, and gold. 800/969-0339. Opella, Inc., Marietta, Ga.

254. Sensor-operated faucet
Sloan's new Optima Plus EBF-85 uses a fiber-optic cable to transmit an infrared beam from the battery-powered control unit, mounted unobtrusively below the counter, to the faucet. Electronics are moisture proof, and allow some installation flexibility; water flow is controlled automatically by two-year-life C batteries. An audible signal indicates a low-power state. 847/671-4300. Sloan Valve Co., Franklin Park, Ill.

255. Totally compliant
A new multiuser washbasin configuration, the Express lavatory requires only one set of plumbing connections. Washbowls and shelf are made of impact-resistant Terreon, a granite-look solid-surface material available in gray, blue, bone, green, and red. Design allows for wheelchair maneuverability; and meets all ADA, ANSI, and UFAS access requirements. Layout options at www.bradleycorp.com (Web page). 414/251-6000. Bradley Corp., Menomonee Falls, Wis.

256. Pressure-balanced valve
Gerber says its new shower valve, which neutralizes sudden changes in water temperature to prevent scald injuries, is also built to resist the wear and deterioration caused by hard water conditions. Loop-style handles meet ADA ease of use requirements; corrosion-resistant fittings are available in models for kitchen, tub, and shower. Gerber Plumbing Fixtures Corp., Chicago.

257. Cleaner hvac systems
Designed with compact housings to fit commercial and institutional hvac systems, ultraviolet light sources are said to solve difficult indoor air-quality problems by sterilizing air, killing microorganisms such as flu and cold viruses, as well as mold and mold products. These new UVC emitter tubes are said to use less power more efficiently than previous models. 310/467-8484. Steril-Aire USA, Inc., Cerritos, Calif.

258. Snow-melt system
A new exterior snow and ice melt system uses Raupex cross-linked polyethylene tubing to circulate a heated glycol mixture beneath pavement, walkways, even helicopter landing pads. Tubing resists repeated bending, solvents, and acids. Cost of system is offset by savings in snow removal, liability exposure, and reduction in salt damage. 703/777-5255. Rehau, Inc., Leesburg, Va.
259. Multichromatic sconce
The Rainbow sconce features dichroic, spectral-glass lenses that reflect vivid bands of green, magenta, blue, and yellow light; a centralized wash of white light provides focused illumination. Comes with a PAR16 Halogen 65-W lamp. Cast-aluminum housing comes black or polished. 800/223-0726. Lightolier, Inc., Fall River, Mass.

260. Computer-area lighting
Futura indirect fixtures represent a new direction for Luxo, long known as a source for direct task lighting. Luminaire styles include this stem-mounted ceiling light, illuminated by a 55W CFL. Futura fixtures have a spectral-metal reflector said to provide uniform uplighting without glare or veiling reflections on computer screens. The line offers a range of mounting options. Clear polycarbonate lens cover protects lamps from dust and damage. 914/987-4433. Luxo Corporation, Port Chester, N. Y.

261. Prismatic-glass sconce
Like other fixtures in Philippe Starck’s Romeo lighting line, his Babe W sconce has a light-catching industrial-glass shade. Stem and bracket are brushed aluminum; a light-diffusing globe shields the low halogen lamp. Glass shade also comes in cobalt blue; pendant and chandelier versions available. 800/939-3567. FLOS USA, Huntington Station, N. Y.

262. Cool display lighting
LSI’s fiber-optic system is designed for museum and retail environments where heat- and UV-sensitive objects are displayed, and for tight architectural spaces such as these niches holding costly handbags. Installations comprise a remote metal-halide or tungsten-halogen light source, bundles of light-carrying, optical-glass fibers, and lighting instruments (lightbars and fixtures). 800/999-9574. Lighting Services, Inc., Stony Point, N. Y.

263. Self-ballast metal halide
Introduced as a working model in 1996, this 22W Rebel is the first metal-halide lamp to contain a miniaturized integrated ballast. Part of the MasterColor, color-stabilized line, it will work as a direct replacement for several 60- and 90-W PAR 38 halogen lamps, but will have a 9,000-hr rated life. 800/631-1259. Philips Lighting, Somerset, N. J.

264. Prewired raceway
Wiremold’s Isoduct aluminum raceway system comes factory wired and cut to specified, job-site lengths. Raceway covers are cut in 12-in. lengths for flexibility in adding outlets and circuits. Said to be easy to install; electricians simply connect the feeds. Available in single- and multi-compartment profiles. Standard finish is a corrosion-resistant architectural anodized; powder-coat colors may be ordered. 860/523-3646. The Wiremold Company, West Hartford, Conn.

265. Indirect pendant lighting
Litedisc Legacy, a nonlinear, indirect pendant, has a light efficiency of 76 net effective lumens per Watt. Available in 29-, 35-, and 41-in. diameters, the luminaire can be mounted within 24 in. of the ceiling. Lamping is three to six T5 fluorescent lamps, depending on fixture size. Bowl-shaped diffusers are acrylic; standard finishes are polished chrome or polished brass, with custom finishes available. 800/732-5213. LAM Lighting Systems, Santa Ana, Calif.
ZUMTOBEL STAFF
THE LIGHT


For more information, call 800-932-0633.
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266. Trunk-mounted series
The ZX Flexible Lighting System includes two attractive, but not intrusive, luminaires suitable for modern office and retail spaces. NRL gives asymmetrical wall-wash lighting; the 1D-S0 (inset) is one of several indirect/direct options with solid or perforated steel sides and an opal acrylic center panel. All luminaires snap onto a powering trunk only 2-in. deep. Catalog demonstrates all fixture options: 800/382-0633. Zumtobel Staff Lighting, Highland, N. Y.

267. Halogen lighting
Tru-Aim Titan MR-16 halogen lamps should produce constant color quality over the rated lamp life—with no color shift or degradation, according to the manufacturer. The reflector has a hard, titanium-oxide coating that ensures constant white color, and uses a capsule that virtually eliminates UV rays. 508/750-2225. Osram Sylvania Inc., Danvers, Mass.

268. Recessed HID pull down
Designed for one ceramic-arc MH-35W or 70W PAR30L lamp, Juno’s 8-in. recessed spot can rotate over 350 deg, and can aim to 90 deg vertically. Prewired with a 60Hz ballast; mounting frame is 17 3/4-in. long by 11 1/2-in. wide. Black baffle and white trim. 847/827-9880. Juno Lighting, Inc., Des Plaines, Ill.

269. Personal light control
The Spacer light-control device can dim or switch incandescent or halogen lighting from anywhere in a room via infrared wireless remote control aimed at a wallbox dimmer. Can recall a preset light level, offers power-failure memory, and has a 10-second fade-to-off. Easy to install for single-pole or multi-location dimming. Useful for homes, offices, and restaurants; up to nine dimmers work on the same circuit. Lutron also makes remote-dimming systems for open-office fluorescent lighting. 610/282-3800. Lutron Electronics Co., Inc., Coopersburg, Pa.

270. Occupancy sensors
More responsive than infrared, two ultrasonic ceiling occupancy sensors offer directional monitoring or omnidirectional sensing. The 6878-1W senses occupancy in a 180-deg field, covering 1,000 sq ft, while a larger unit, 6878-2W, covers about 2,000 sq ft over 360 deg. An ambient-light override option keeps lights off when daylight is sufficient. Suitable for work-area cubicles, rest rooms, or partitioned spaces. 800/323-8920. Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc., Little Neck, N. Y.

271. Cantilevered desk light
The Sonoma task light has a parabolic louvre to reduce glare off work surfaces and VDTs by directing light evenly. An 18-W CFL offers 10,000 hours of life, high lumen output, and a warm, 4100K color temperature; the light goes on at a finger touch. The counterbalanced arm is 34-in. long; an electronic ballast fits in the base. Finish options: black, silver, black marble, and wood grain. 847/520-1060. Waldmann Lighting Co., Wheeling, Ill.


IBI Group, archt — Fleetwood Civic Center, Surrey, B. C. — June BTS, p. 103.


Indicators: See The Profession.


Ivy, Robert, new editor in chief of Architectural Record — Nov., p. 11

J


Jimenez, Carlos, Architecture Studio, archt — Lott House and guest house, Houston, Tex. — Apr. BTS, pp. 90-98

K


Killefer Flammang Purrill Architects, archt — Mid-Valley Regional Library, Los Angeles — June BTS, pp. 102.

Kim, Jinai — "Foreign Competition Sparks Debate" — July, PR, p. 8.

Kitchens and Baths: See The Profession.


Killefer Flammang Purrill Architects, archt — Mid-Valley Regional Library, Los Angeles — June BTS, pp. 102.

Korea Architects and Leonard Parker Associates, archt — Taqiu Trade and Product Exhibition Center, Taegu, South Korea — July, PR, p. 2.


KZF Incorporated, archt and engineer, Michael Graves Architect, associated archt, Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, associated archt and engineer — Engineering Research Center, Cincinnati University, Cincinnati — July, BTS, pp. 88-91.


Lighting: American Queen, Mississippi River — Rodney E. Lay & Associates, naval archt, Randy Burkett Lighting Design, lighting design — "Cap-


Office Buildings, Mid Rise: Beijing American Center, Beijing — Rafael Vifoly Architects, archt — July, PR, p. 2.
Office Practice: See The Profession.
Opinion: "The Boldness Gap: Why America Is Failing BElind Other Countries" — by Robert Campbell


Paradigm, associate archt, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Chicago, archt — Washington University Psychology Building, Saint Louis, Mo. — July, BTS, pp. 84-85.
Vietnam: "Not Yet a Tiger, But Ready to Grow" p. 17.

Parker, Leo, archt of record, Mack Architects, archt — Strommeahl House, Reno, Nov. — Apr. BTS, pp. 72-79.
Parking Structures: Cinema and Parking Complex, National Center for the Arts, Mexico City — Sordo Madaleno Arquitectos, archt — Mar., p. 91.

Products: See The Profession.

THE PROFESSION
Acoustics: "Is There a Quiet Place in the Alternative Office?" — by Dana Holbrook — Nov., pp. 54-57. Agenda: "Can Architecture and Politics Mix?" — Jan.,


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Manufacturers’ Sources

For your convenience in locating building materials and other products shown in this month’s feature articles, RECORD has asked the architects to identify the products specified.

Pages 26-33
Miller/SQA Building, Holland, Mich. William McDonough & Partners, Architects

Pages 34-39
3Com Building 500 Santa Clara, Calif. Studios Architecture, Architect

Pages 40-43
Northern Telecom Mission Park Facility, Santa Clara, Calif.
Studios Architecture, Architect

Pages 44-49
Prince Street, Cartersville, Ga.
Thompson, Ventulet, Stainback & Associates, Architect

Addendum

The point-supported glazing system designed for the Leipzig Trade Fair Center, Leipzig, Germany [RECORD, November 1996, pgs 80-89] was fabricated by MERU Raumstruktur, and is available in the United States from MERU Structures, Inc., Germantown, Wis.
and developer-built residential units, and three sessions of plan review workshops targeted toward builders to help them work more effectively with architects. Call 800/368-5242.

**Through February 16**

An exhibition at New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art surveys the career of Charles Rennie Mackintosh, with 250 works that include photos and drawings of his buildings, furniture, textiles, and the reassembled Ladies' Luncheon Room from Miss Cranston's Ingram Street Tea Rooms. Call 212/535-7710.

**Through February 23**

"An American Embassy in Berlin" examines the recent competition for the American Embassy in the German capital. Models and drawings by all semifinalists as well as the winners, Moore Ruble Yudell and Gruen Associates, are shown at the National Building Museum, Washington, D.C. Call 202/272-2448 or fax 202/272-2564.

**March 6-8**

Six PIAs (Professional Interest Areas) and the AIA risk-management committee is cosponsoring a conference, The Client Connection, at the Westin Tabor Center in Denver. It is endorsed by the AIA Denver, AIA Colorado, and the AIA Denver Design-build Committee. The conference will focus on ways architects can better serve their clients in over 30 seminars, workshops, and programs on design-build, construction and risk management, alternative futures in the profession, and information technology and communications. For information, call 202/626-7482.

**March 19-21**

WestWeek 97 will celebrate European furniture and interior design with major sponsors and keynote speakers from Italy, France, and Spain. Call Ann Videriksen at 310/657-0800 or fax 310/652-8576 for information.

**Competitions**

- Submissions to the biannual Rudy Bruner Award for Excellence in Urban Environment are due December 13. First-prize winner receives $50,000; honorariums of $1,000 go to each of four additional finalists. Contact Bruner/Cott & Associates for an application or more information at 130 Prospect St., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139; phone 617/492-8400 or fax 617/876-4002.

- The Gypsum Association is holding an Excellence in Gypsum Board Design and Construction competition; entries are due December 31. Top awards of $3,000 go to each of the winning teams in non-residential and residential construction using gypsum board. Call 202/289-5440.

- The town of Vail, Colorado, is holding a juried competition for the design, renovation, and integration of a public-art project in a centrally located plaza. Project budget is $300,000. Deadline for submissions is January 6. Call 970/479-8900 for details.

- Entries to the Spectrum International Design Competition, sponsored by the Tile Promotion Board, are due by January 31. Designers, architects, ceramic-tile manufacturers, and others who have influenced the use of ceramic tile are eligible to enter. There is a grand prize of $2,500 for the most outstanding project, first prizes of $1,500, and awards of merit of $1,000 in residential and commercial categories. Call 800/495-5900 or fax 561/743-3160.

- The Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument Advisory Committee is sponsoring a competition to design a monument in commemoration of the Indians who fought to preserve their land. The deadline for submissions is January 13. The first prize is $50,000 and two other prizes are $15,000 and $5,000 each. The jury includes Arthur Amiotte, artist; Paul Hutton, historian; Richard Pohl, landscape architect; Kevin Red Star, artist; and Dennis Sun Rhodes, architect. To register, send a check for $25 to Southwest Parks and Monument Association, Indian Memorial Design Competition, National Parks Service, IMFA-RRM, SSOO, P.O.B. 25287, Denver, CO 80217.
The Crystal Palace succeeds where it was intended to—in the pages of a magazine and the abstract mindset of conceptualized technological expression—outside the day-to-day drudgery of the long-term consequences of reality. Contrast this (as RECORD did) with the next building in the issue—a small-budget academic building by Miller/Hull. It is quietly ingenious with an unperforated roof and even some insulation against the weather.

If “sustainability” means weak, if small budgets make for “compromised” buildings (as Campbell’s words are applied to these projects) then perhaps guilty as charged is the verdict. But there is one reality we should think about: If a structure does not keep the weather out, is it a building or sculpture?

Robert Campbell’s article was one of the more thought-provoking pieces of architectural journalism I have read in some time. I now look at American architects quite differently than I used to. Many of the well-known and influential architects in this country during the first half of this century were not, in spirit, American. Walter Gropius and Mies van der Rohe matured in a very different architectural climate. Both were in their 50s when they arrived here, hardly blank slates. No matter this country’s impact on them, they had a far greater impact on this country and the world. The influence from abroad continued through others such as Richard Neutra and Rudolf Schindler. While we debated styles, the Europeans debated how best to give form to the new world.

I am not ignoring Frank Lloyd Wright, who was America’s greatest architect. Schindler and Neutra worked for Wright and it shows in their work. But Wright was agrarian while the Europeans were urban. Wright’s work was filled with new ideas and forms; that is what got the attention of the Europeans. In the end, however, it was not Wright who taught the world how to redefine architecture. It was the Europeans.

By the early 1960s, some of their influence began to fade. Form began to lose its newness. Robert Venturi admired the early modernists, but saw the revolution was over. Perhaps Louis Kahn took over the title of the American architect after the death of Wright. The presence of the Europeans here would continue to be felt however. The question we really need to ask is not what happened to American architecture, but, rather, what is American about American architecture?

Frank L. Irte
Charlotte, North Carolina

Charles Moore goes on
I enjoyed Robert Ivy’s review of Moore-Anderson’s Washington State History Museum in Tacoma (RECORD, October 1996, pages 70-77). One comment stated: “Washington State History Museum can claim to be Charles Moore’s last project.” Now I am sure that you will soon hear from everyone that has an unbuilt Charles Moore project who believes theirs will be the last.

In 1991-2, Charles Moore designed an ingeniously simple 1,600-sq-ft home for my wife and me, to be built in Austin, Texas. Unfortu-
nately Charles Moore died before we could obtain financing. Now it appears we will get Moore project Pasadena, what an ugly opportunity to feature another last Charles delightful details and a festive air.
Gary and Linda Citron Pasadena, CA 91106

Bad will in Peru
My first reaction to your two-page photo of the new U.S. Peruvian Embassy was “My god, what an ugly building.” The following pages only reinforced that initial impression, as the details are devoid of grace and human scale.

If the current embassy guidelines say “Forget architecture as goodwill ambassador” and instead give the message “Keep out,” it is not just a sad reflection of our times, it is a slap in the face to all who work for peace and cooperation among nations. This enormous ugly box towers like King Kong over the surrounding community, effectively destroying it. How would we react if another country built such a monster in one of our neighborhoods? Even with high security requirements, more sensitive solutions are certainly possible. It sounds like the architect tried, but was forced by the client agency into this simplistic solution. A single firm can only do so much. What is the AIA doing to help the FBO see that an embassy can be beautiful and respond to the scale of its context while still being secure?

I am ashamed that this building stands in another nation’s capital and can only imagine how much damage it does to the positive feelings the inhabitants may have had about us.

Cynthia Richardson, AIA
Richardson Architecture & Planning
Anacortes, WA 98221

Note: ARCHITECTURAL RECORD may edit letters for errors, style, and length, taking care not to change meaning.

Calendar continued from page 112
Colorado 80226-0287. For information, call Barbara-Sutteer at 303/699-2830 or send an e-mail to Barbara_Sutteer@nps.gov.

For an international two-stage competition to design the Oklahoma City Memorial is due by February 10. The new structure will stand on the site of the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil—the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995. Also included are a visitor center, which may be housed in an adjacent existing building. To register, send a letter requesting competition materials and a check for $95 to International Design Competition, Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation, 402 North Robinson Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102. Call 405/748-7488 or 883-1515 locally or 800/491-3522 elsewhere.

Entries for the 1997 DuPont Benedictus Awards for Innovation in Architectural Laminated Glass are due March 8. The competition is sponsored by DuPont, the AIA, and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, and is supported by the International Union of Architects. This year’s jury is comprised of Hugh Newell Jacobson, FAIA; Patricia Patkau, RAIC; and Christian de Portzamparc. Winners from around the world who demonstrate “significant” uses of laminated glass will be announced at the AIA Convention in New Orleans, May 16-18. For information, write Joanna Hanses-Lahr, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20005; call 202/333-5247; or send e-mail to haneslahr@mcmail.com.

The Village of Plainfield, Illinois together with Plainfield Partners Commercial, Ltd., and the township Park District are holding a one-stage competition for the design of a 500-acre town center to be located directly across the Du Page River from the historic downtown. Registration costs $80 and closes March 80. Entries are due May 1. Prizes are $10,000, first, $5,000, second, and $2,500, third. To register, send check or money order to Plainfield Design Competition, Village of Plainfield, 921.46 West Lincoln Highway, Plainfield, Illinois 60544. For information, call 815/436-7093.

Entries are due on April 1 in the one-stage International Design Competition for the Development of David’s Island located in Long Island Sound. The sponsor is the College of New Rochelle. Registration before January 15 costs $85 and $60 thereafter. Jurors include Diana Agrest, Diana Balmori, Deborah Dietrich, Laura Hawkins, Michael Manfredi, and Bradford Perkins. Prizes totaling $5,000 will be distributed among the winners whose entries will be exhibited at the New Rochelle Castle Gallery. For a competition brief, call the gallery at 914/564-6423.

Omission
The rendering of Anshen & Allen’s Shanghai tower design (RECORD, October 1996, page 17) should have been attributed to Robert Watts Illustrator.

The 20th edition of Sir Banister Fletcher’s A HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE is the first major work of history to include an overview of the architectural achievements of the 20th Century and the first book to be given the award of Book of the Century by the American Institute of Architects. BANISTER FLETCHER has been the standard one-volume architectural history for 100 years and continues to give a concise and factual account of world architecture from the earliest times.

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- The coverage of 20th century architecture of North America has been divided into two chapters to allow a fuller coverage of contemporary works.

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Continued from page 51

functional, stark environments result. The challenge for laboratory designers today is to provide “maximum durability and flexibility at minimum cost, with an eye towards how those facilities can support growth and change,” notes William Bernstein, MRAIC, AIA, principal of New York City-based William N. Bernstein & Associates.

On many campuses, outdated, unsafe science buildings remain on-line well beyond their useful lives. However, lab buildings designed over 30 years ago are being renovated to reflect current programmatic, functional, and esthetic needs. Old labs are increasingly decommissioned as technical spaces and are converted to soft-support areas. Additions or adjacent freestanding new buildings can accommodate new spaces, offering more intense utility and engineering needs. Older buildings become backfill, housing basic benchtop research and computer labs.

Role of computers

“The speed of science is faster than ever, with more data, computers, more time on-line, and robotics doing repetitive functions. The dollars per square foot spent per person in laboratory research facilities is increasing in many organizations,” observes Copenhagen. From a safety standpoint, researchers prefer keeping people out of lab environments and in clean, non-contaminated spaces.

Computers and instrumentation are playing larger roles in research. On-line access to data, science journals, and even experiments means researchers spend less time in libraries and labs hunched over notebooks and more time at computerized, ergonomically-designed office work stations. This shift translates into enhanced office environments built at far lower cost than would be possible by placing desks and office space within high-cost lab areas. Wet labs and desk bench space are decreasing, while lab-support and instrument-room space is increasing.

Planning trends

Meeting spaces and break rooms on each floor are no longer considered amenities, but integral functions in both corporate and academic lab facilities. Commercial labs foster intellectual exchange among investigators by providing parklike settings, waterfront views, and indoor atriums to encourage social interaction and cross-fertilization of ideas. Five to six years ago, researchers asked for more power and data connections. Today, these features are integral to new facilities. Continued emphasis on cellular and genetic research will not drive any immediate design changes. Other lab design trends include: centralizing core support facilities, such as glasswashing, in one building location; centralizing common equipment storage rooms on each floor; and evaluating high-tech equipment utilization, so researchers share big-ticket items like electron microscopes.

Getting more by renovating

While fewer government research grants and less federal funding is available for new construction, some money is more readily available for swing-space, phasing, and renovation projects. Yale University, for example, recently considered building a new 200,000 sq ft, $70-million lab facility versus retrofitting 20,000 sq ft of existing space with new mechanical systems for $7 million. The less-costly option won out.

“Renovated space is still functional, though not as flexible as new construction,” Carmichael admits. Available land, project size, complexity, and rising costs will lead to more renovation. Alternatively, academic institutions can raise capital through fundraising, restructuring operations, and incurring debt, through tax-exempt bonds. ■
Architectural record:

World's tallest buildings go up in Malaysia.

Sketch by Cesar Pelli,
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Simpson Strong-Tie

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