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FA/7
Dear Editor:

I found your disciplined article "Florida's Earth Architecture" most gratifying. Several architects have asked about the location, preservation and restoration of several historical sites which briefly are as follows:

Crystal River Complex: near the City of Crystal River clearly shown on road maps; a State Museum at the site explains certain aspects of the Complex; the site is now preserved although bulldozers almost destroyed the South Temple mound by quarrying its shells for local road construction a few years ago and a trailer park encroaches to the southeast. The Complex has been badly eroded by time, rain and vegetation and should be restored carefully to approximate its original grandeur so that it can be perceived more easily by the public.

Lake Jackson: take the road from Tallahassee north toward Havana, about 6 miles beyond I-10 turn right toward Lake Jackson on the road marked "state archaeological site". Three of the seven mounds are protected and well preserved, the remaining four are in private ownership and could be crushed flat tomorrow to provide sanitary landfill fill over neighboring garbage dumps. The entire site should be assembled in public ownership, preserved and restored. Time is running out on our State's best preserved site.

Mount Royal: location withheld because the site is not protected and is being terribly vandalized resulting in accelerated erosion and heedless destruction. The state has surveyed and registered the site as a National landmark, but has not acquired the property unfortunately. Possibly as a Bicentennial project the Putnam County Commissioners could join with the State and/or Federal Government to acquire this exceptionally important site with the view of both eventual architectural restoration and immediate establishment of a public recreation area including a boat ramp on the St. John's River. I have discussed this with Nils Schweizer, FAIA, who is exploring possibilities at the state level.

All of the several hundred pre-Columbian sites in Florida cannot, and should not, be acquired, preserved and restored. But the 3 above and others like them are exceptionally worthy. The Governor should utilize the substantial resources of the Florida State Museum, the Department of History and Archives, the Florida Council for the Arts, the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects and other interested groups and individuals to preserve and restore our State's irreplaceable heritage before vandals and bulldozers destroy what little remains.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM MORGAN, FAIA
Jacksonville

Dear FAAIA:

I would like to express by greatest thank you and appreciation for the $150.00 for my expenses for the National VICA competition in Washington, D.C.

I would like you to know that I had a great time in our nation's capital and saw lots of interesting things which will be in my memory for many years to come.

I am only sorry to say that I did not place in the first three positions in the national contest. I still would like for you to know that your contribution was very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Angela Zahlten

Gentlemen:

Apparently your story about FAPAC in the May/June issue of your Journal was not intended to bring congratulations but money. The purpose of this letter is to commend you for the leadership in waking up to the importance of being much more aware and more active in legislative matters.

As I speak to civic and service organizations, my main point is to make them aware that they have a duty and responsibility to themselves and the public to assist in passing constructive legislation and killing bad legislation.

The legislative process is a continuous and necessary vehicle by which all of us can assist in improving government.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM R. CONWAY
State Representative
District 29

Dear Editor:

As an architect trained in the Beaux Arts System, it appears that architecture has been reduced to such bare bones that it's logical to bury them like dogs bury their bones.

Joe Balis, R.A.
"Locks were designed to keep honest people out?" True? We have all heard that old cliche and, indeed there is some truth in it. However, this is still inadequate reason for selecting anything less than the very best security hardware for any house or building that is worth constructing in the first place.

And what is the "very best" security hardware? Like so many other questions in building design, this one has many answers. Obviously, it is not practical to secure the front entrance of a residence with a mechanism intended for bank vaults. For one thing, the cost would be prohibitive — probably somewhere around five thousand dollars per door. But more importantly, the bank vault look is simply not necessary to foil the average burglar intent on breaking and entering a home.

**What Price Security?**

**BY William R. Brockway, AIA**

### Considerations

So we see that what is right depends on a couple of things. First, it depends upon what is being protected and second, it depends upon who is doing the breaking. Cost is also a consideration, but in comparison to the total cost of the building of its contents, definitely a minor consideration.

For most ordinary situations, homes and small businesses, standard builder's hardware will provide what might be considered adequate security. Why? Simply because the average burglar is not interested in spending all night trying to open a door that may not yield anything much after it is opened. The more difficult you make his entry, the less likely he is to try.

Burglars may be lazy, but they are not stupid. A good strong lock on the front door will do very little good if there are other doors or windows which can be opened with little difficulty. To be really secure, you need to provide approximately equal protection on every possible means of entry to your house, including such uncommon entrances as outside attic stairs, doors to fireplace woodboxes, transoms and all windows.

### Designs and Styles

Locksets come in many different designs and styles, including some that only marginally qualify as security devices. Probably the most common is the key-in-the-knob type lock, in which the locking cylinder is imbedded in the handle that opens the door. This is the most popular type of lock with commercial builders because it is so easy to install. All that is necessary is to drill two holes in the door and slip the lock in place. Takes about 20 minutes.

Unfortunately, most key-in-the-knob locksets (not all, however) are very easily opened by slipping a thin knife blade or celluloid credit card behind the beveled latch bolt and walking in. Takes less time than using the key. If you choose a key-in-the-knob lock, select one that has a deadlocking plunger beside the latch bolt. This little gimmick, when depressed by closing the door, locks the latchbolt in place so that it cannot be withdrawn via the credit card trick.

A better quality lock (usually) is the mortise-type lock in which the lock works are encased in a metal box which is mortised, or set into, the wood of the door itself. A mortise lock cannot be dismantled and removed from the door without opening the door first. Mortise locks may be had with a number of locking devices, including the beveled latch bolt normally used in key-in-the-knob locks. More security is provided by a square cornered dead bolt which, being neither spring loaded nor bevel faced like the usual latch bolt, cannot be pried out of its keeper by ordinary means. Once it is "thrown", or locked, it stays that way until withdrawn by a key.

There are many other types of standard locksets, such as rim locks, cylinder locks without handles, unit locks and the like; however, most of them are merely variations on either the beveled bolt or deadbolt principle and most of what has been said concerning key-in-the-knob and mortise locks applies to these others as well.

### Auxiliary Devices

There are, however, a number of auxiliary locking devices, which might be considered for additional security. The simplest, and one of the best, is the common sliding bolt. These come in two varieties, surface mounted and recessed. This is nothing more than a round or square bolt, sliding in a track either in or on the door, which can be inserted into a keeper on the door frame. It can only be closed or opened from one side, but provides excellent security at very low cost.

Another very good auxiliary locking device is the surface mounted vertical bolt lock. It is operated by a thumbturn on the inside and a key on the outside. In this lock, a vertical sliding bolt travels through mating holes in the lock (on the door) and a keeper (on the jamb), very much like a hinge pin connects the two halves of a common butt hinge. Jimmying the pins in such a lock is virtually impossible, although a talented thief might be able to pick the cylinder.

Probably the least effective auxiliary lock is the familiar chain and keeper which permit you to open the door a few inches to see who is calling late at night. These locks are no stronger than the screws that hold them in place and that is not very strong. If you want to look at a caller before opening, a far better way is to install a fish-eye lens peephole and/or an electric intercom.

### Lock Pickers

Not too much has been said about the problem of locks being picked. Most burglars who prey on houses and small businesses are not lock pickers. It is usually easier to get in some other way. However, lock pickers do exist and a good one can pick a standard duty cylinder lock in less than a minute. If you have the sort of valuables that might attract a lock picker, then high security cylinders in all your locks would be a good investment.
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The Architect Interview:

BY John M. Turner, PH. D.
Santa Fe Community College

The economic life-blood of an architectural firm flows from commissions and contracts with clients. Very often, the contracts are awarded as the result of an interview with a prospective client on a competitive basis with other architectural firms. These interviews (considering only the time elapsed during the actual interview) generally consume very little time; perhaps a half hour to an hour duration. Thus, when one considers the importance of the relatively brief interview to an architectural firm, it is surprising that in many instances, apparently little planning or preparation goes into the presentation.

An invitation extended to an architect to make a presentation before a group is often preceded by submission to that body of such preliminary documents as GSA form 251, brochures, pamphlets, and the like. Little will be said here in regard to these items since the GSA form is fairly standard and experience shows that the majority of brochures and pamphlets have been well prepared.

Suggestion No. 1

When your firm has been invited to appear before the selection committee, determine the date, time and place of the presentation. Be particularly careful to inform yourself as to the amount of time allotted and plan your presentation to remain within that time. This point should be made quite emphatically: courtesy to the interview group and respect for those firms scheduled to follow you require that every effort be made to finish on time. The interview group may indicate some division of the time allotted such as 15-20 minutes for your presentation and 10-15 minutes to answer questions. If such a schedule is not established, leave a few minutes to answer questions anyway. Do not be dismayed if you are given only 15-20 minutes to describe your firm and its accomplishments. If you feel you cannot adequately describe your firm in that length of time, chances are you are dwelling on things of great importance and interest to you, rather than to the interviewing group.

Suggestion No. 2

If possible, visit the site of the interview beforehand and determine how best to make your presentation. Make observations as to seating arrangements — where will the group be seated and where should you stand to address them? Other information you should obtain includes: are there adequate electrical outlets and are they located conveniently? Are there tables available to hold projectors, flip charts or other aids? Are there projection screens in the interview room? Insofar as possible, try to use your own equipment.

This will save you from being faced with unfamiliar or faulty equipment at the last moment (supplied by a well-meaning host) and spoiling what would otherwise have been a winning interview.

Suggestion No. 3

Consider very carefully the individual persons, as well as the total number of people you intend to bring with you to the interview. “The more the merrier” is not a good rule-of-thumb here. It is simply not necessary to bring all the principals of the firm and introduce each of them. Firms which bring too many people to the interview run the risk of creating confusion in the minds of the interview group in later deliberations as to who was representing a given firm. If five to ten firms are being interviewed on the same day, and each firm brings four or five people to represent the firm, the number of individuals the interviewing group needs to keep sorted out becomes unmanageable. Probably no more than two, or in some special cases, three, individuals need to appear before the selection group. In the case of large firms, one principal is sufficient to present an overall picture of the firm’s general capabilities and specific areas of expertise. The architect who would have direct responsibility for the project could then take over. (continued on FA/21)
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THE SHARP CONTRAST BETWEEN A WORN-OUT OLD WHITE HOUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE PROFESSIONAL OFFICE RAISES THE PROJECT TO AN HONOR AWARD IN COMPETITION TO A LARGE FIELD OF ENTRIES. THE JURY’S CONCERN ABOUT SOME CIRCULATION PATTERNS OF THE PLAN ARE OVERCOME BY ADMIRATION FOR THE OVERALL SOLUTION AND THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE ENTIRE COMPOSITION.
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COLOR HAS BEEN USED ON THE INTERIOR IN AN INTERESTING WAY ADDING INTEREST TO THE LARGE OPEN AREAS. THE ARCHITECTURAL ENVIRONMENT APPEARS TO BE WELL SUITED TO AN INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND ALL PRODUCED AT A VERY MODEST BUDGET.

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American Express Regional Center
Architect:
Ferendino Grafton Spillis Candela of Coral Gables

Visitors to the Southern Regional Operations Center of American Express in Plantation, Florida will enter the building through a sky-lit "atrium" lobby with tinted glass ceiling, admitting light from five stories above to the Florida flora growing in planters below.

Senate Dome in Tallahassee

TOPPING OUT the pre-engineered dome over the Senate wing of Florida’s new $45 million state capitol building in Tallahassee are workmen for Elgin Construction Co., the Butler Builder in that area. The Triodetic structural system measures 80-ft. in diameter and corresponds to a similar one to be installed over the house chamber. The project, which is due for completion in 1976, was designed by Edward Durell Stone of New York and Reynolds, Smith & Hills of Jacksonville.

Newsnotes

DESIGN COMPETITION

The FAAIA recently held its 1975 Architectural Competition Awards Program in the Host Hotel, Tampa. From the 92 entries the jury chose six awards of merit and two honorable mentions.

The jury spent two days reviewing the slides and supporting material to narrow the winners to the eight. Above, the members of the jury review one of the entries. They are, left to right, Francis P. Gassner, FAIA of Memphis, Marley Carroll, AIA of Charlotte and Harry A. Golemon, FAIA of Houston.

The eight award winners will be featured in the September/October 1975 THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT.

CLAY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Secretary of State Bruce A. Smathers recently announced the acceptance of the former Clay County Courthouse (January/February 1975 THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT) to the National Register of Historic Places. The architecturally significant old courthouse is one of only four Florida 19th century courthouses still standing. Completed in 1890, the building served as a courthouse for 83 years, until a new courthouse was constructed in 1973.

He also announced the Acceptance of the Florida Southern College Architectural District in Lakeland and the Casa de Josefina in Highland Park to the Register.

The National Register is the nation’s official listing of sites and properties of historical, architectural and cultural significance.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Craig Thomson is the 1975 recipient of the Andrew J. Ferendino Student Scholarship Award, established by the firm of Ferendino/Grafton/Spillis/Candela, Architects, Engineers and Planners, Miami. This award is granted annually to the outstanding student of the University of Florida Department of Architecture.

Craig, born in Inyokern, California, graduated from the University of Florida in 1972, bachelor of design in architecture, with high honors. As a graduate student at the university he is now working for a master of arts in architecture. Craig was selected by the college of architecture faculty as outstanding student to receive this year’s scholarship award.

UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT HEAD

Iowa State University is looking for a Head or Chairperson for the Department of Architecture. The position is a full time job for a permanent professor. This position is vacant as of September 1, 1975 and is to be filled by July 1, 1976.

The qualifications for appointment are, (1) Master of Architecture or equivalent, (2) Architectural Registration in the United States, (3) Administrative or managerial experience, preferably in higher education and (4) teaching experience in an accredited architectural program. Applications are due by October 30, 1975 to:

Rabindra N. Mukerjea, Chairman
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College of Engineering
104 Marston Hall
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Ames, Iowa 50010

In Memoriam

The Association was truly saddened by the passing of R. Daniel Hart, Past President of the Northwest Chapter, AIA, and Past President of the Florida Association of Architects. Mr. Hart took part in the unification of the three AIA Chapters in Florida in the 1940’s which helped to bring our Association to what it is today. We deeply regret the loss of one of our past leaders.
THE ARCHITECT INTERVIEW
(continued from FA/11)

Furthermore, the image projected by your representatives should be weighed. A firm may have on its staff the most brilliant designer in the country, but if that person has an abrasive manner, or appears uncertain or unconvincing, the chances of that firm being selected may be significantly reduced. In this same regard, the interviewee should avoid presenting an impression of over-confidence and glibness lest the image of "con-artist" be projected.

Suggestion No. 4

In selecting the best means for presenting their accomplishments, many firms use photographic slides of buildings they have designed. This is an excellent approach, but several comments are in order. First, it is not necessary to show slides of every building you ever designed! Second, it is doubtful that showing 10 or 20 photos of the same building is beneficial. Third, use only those shots which illustrate some particular technique or show features that are otherwise pertinent to the specific presentation. Fourth, use only good photos. Nothing is more detrimental to an effective presentation than a murky, unfocused scene accompanied by the comment, "If the light were better, you could see how well we handled space relationships in this building."

In choosing slides for the presentation, establish some kind of selection priority. An example of such a system might be (1) recency of construction, (2) relevance to the proposed project, and (3) comparable budget to that of the proposed project.

Suggestion No. 5

Try to anticipate questions that are likely to be asked by the group. Typical questions generally involve such areas as (1) the length of time required for the preparation of design and working drawings and when your architectural firm could begin work on the project, (2) approximate cost per square foot for the proposed construction (or conversely, how much square footage could be constructed within a given budget), (3) potential number of bidders expected to be interested in the project, (4) method used to advertise the project, (5) proposed construction management, supervision and inspection procedures, (6) previous experience with similar projects, and (7) an approximate fee range.

Smaller firms which do not have in-house engineering capabilities should have several alternate consultants in the various technical fields, if possible. The reason for this is the prospective client may have had (or heard of someone who had) unhappy experiences with a consulting firm previously. Thus, it is to the architect's advantage not to be totally committed to that particular firm!

Suggestion No. 6

In preparing for the interview, find out as much as possible about the proposed project. It is not necessary to go to the interview with elaborate printed proposals for handling the project, but it would be advisable to formulate a few thoughts as to specific approaches. The architect must strike a fine balance between the desires of his client on the one hand and good architectural design practices on the other.

In addition, for construction projects involving the expenditure of public funds, the architect must show that he is knowledgeable about pertinent federal, state and local regulations governing such expenditures. This point becomes particularly important in executing contracts between institutions (such as public colleges) and contractors, where the statutory requirements under which the institution operates must prevail over contractual agreements.

Suggestion No. 7

Finally, a few general comments on the interview process: (1) where an institution has existing buildings, don't make derogatory comments about those buildings or the architect who designed them. This is like criticizing someone's children—the parents may be aware of their shortcomings, but they do not appreciate hearing someone else discuss them! (2) When addressing the interview group, talk directly to them by maintaining eye contact. Do not talk to the wall, floor or ceiling. Visual contact helps maintain mental contact. (3) Assume that your audience is composed of intelligent, adult business people who understand why you want to be selected to design their project. It is not necessary to convince them that your sole interest is a desire to "help" them. (4) Adjust your presentation to the group being addressed. The same approach may not work for faculty groups as for trustees or for a group composed of attorneys, engineers or other architects. To this end, determine beforehand, if possible, the composition of the interview group. (5) The use of visual aids has been discussed previously. One final point concerns the use of flip charts. These can be very effective if used properly. The main thing to keep in mind is to limit the amount of information contained on a single chart. For example, if you want to show how certain economic or construction indicators have varied with time, it is confusing to present six to ten of these indices plotted on the same chart, showing monthly variations over a span of several years. The average person would require several minutes to study and comprehend the significance of such a chart. Since you will likely spend less than a minute on that particular chart, the net effect on the group is confusion, or at best, non-comprehension. A good rule-of-thumb would be "keep it simple and straightforward."

Several architectural firms have pointed out to me that they make presentations before selection committees fairly frequently. This fact should further emphasize the importance of preparing for each interview. Putting together an integrated, well-planned presentation demands care and time. Since many of the general points made here should be applicable to most interviews, attention to the details suggested will actually save the firm time and help put its best foot forward to maximize the chance for selection by the interview group.

Calendar

AISC Award Program—submissions due
August 23, 1975

61st Annual FFAIA Convention
October 2-5, 1975

Guild for Religious Architecture
Regional Conference Duke Univ.
October 10-12, 1975

Florida Concrete & Products Assn.
5th Annual Award Program
November 7, 1975

AIA Board Meeting
September 4-13, 1975
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The Florida Association of The American Institute of Architects
61st ANNUAL CONVENTION AND BUILDING PRODUCTS EXHIBITS
Orlando Hyatt House
Kissimmee, Florida
October 2 — October 5, 1975

Further information about the Convention may be obtained from the FAAIA office:
7100 N. Kendall Dr., Suite 203
Miami, Florida 33156