Florida Schools: Models and Solutions
Florida Has A Hot Way Of Keeping Cool In The Summer.

The Capital Circle Office Center in Tallahassee is a mammoth complex with 750,000 square-feet of office space. During the planning stages, the State of Florida had to choose a cooling system—a system that would keep 2,100 state employees cool and comfortable at a low operating cost.

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The Capital Circle Office Center
is served by one 500 ton and one 1,000 ton double effect natural gas-fired absorption chillers that deliver 600,000 CFM of supply air through fourteen air handlers. This equipment provides sensible cooling loads 12 degrees below design temperature and maintains 68 degrees Fahrenheit dry bulb and 55% relative humidity on the hottest day of the year. Estimated operating expenses are lower than with conventional cooling systems.
Florida Schools: Models and Solutions

Features

Shaping Spaces for Learning
Singer Architects' Cresthaven Elementary School, Pompano Beach, was designed as a prototype urban school, secure and neighborhood-friendly.

Teaching Sustainability by Example
Spacecoast Architects, P.A. illustrated a coloring book to teach the students at Ascension Catholic School, Melbourne, about the environmentally friendly architectural features of their new addition.

A Lasting Image for a New Campus
ACAI Associates built an entire Health Professions Division Campus for NovaSoutheastern University, Davie, in record time. Its “green” design and practical programming for all five colleges have won praise from all concerned.

Contemporary Complex Respects History and Culture
For the Escuela de Bellas Artes de Carolina (Carolina Fine Arts School), Carolina, Puerto Rico, Davis, Fuster Arquitectos created a place for contemporary young artists to flourish in an environment that reveres cultural traditions.

Updating a Landmark High School
Randall E. Thron, AIA, describes the process used by BRPH Architects-Engineers, local residents, and the local school board that led to their extensive renovation-construction project at Melbourne High School, Melbourne.

Fresh Designs, Sensible Costs
SCHENKELSHULTZ Architects shows off its new Celebration School, Osceola County, and several models of its prototype school designs, including Highlands Elementary School, Seminole County; Discovery Middle School, Orange County; and Winter Springs High School, Seminole County.

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Now’s The Time To See What It Does

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Florida has a severe shortage of schools. The Florida Department of Education has reported that by the year 2000, 394 new schools will be needed. The estimated cost stands at $3.6 billion. Growth in population, deterioration of existing schools, and neglect have created nothing short of a crisis. The special session of the legislature last fall took up the school crisis and with unusual determination set about the business of correcting the problem. The Legislature came up with a solution; $2.6 billion and a "Soundly Made, Accountable, Reasonable and Thrifty" or "SMART" Schools Clearinghouse. Additionally, the School Infrastructure Thrift Program, is intended to provide incentive to school districts to build schools economically and functionally. My comment: our money should be spent only for smart schools, and they won’t be very smart if they do not provide useful, sustainable, beautiful space. In the words of the ‘Grandma,’ with characteristic south Georgia accent who advertised for a dealer on Tallahassee TV several years ago, “Don’t you buy no ugly truck!”

How will Florida’s school crisis be solved? I believe the best ideas will be provided by our state’s architects, those who are capable of examining the very idea of the school critically. Leading the pack will be those architects who can work outside the conventional packaging that has been replicated over this state for the past decade and more, those architects who can realize economies in construction and energy use while managing to avoid the ‘one size fits all’ mindlessness that abounds in our knee jerk ‘save money’ environment. All the new schools can be smart, if we put capable architects in charge and make the proper up-front investment in good thinking about what should be built.

The seeds of a bright future for schools in Florida are to be found in the pages of this magazine. In the coming rush to build, we must not forget that the places we create must delight in every way. Our schools must always lovingly nurture our precious young people as they grow and learn. The excellent architects whose work is illustrated here help us see that there is a vast array of possibilities for schools. Many more examples abound than could be included in one issue. I hope we will be able to publish more, perhaps in a regular annual issue, as Florida’s architects continue to design outstanding schools.

Roy F. Knight, FAIA
President, AIA/Florida
NEWS
by Cathy Levs, Director of Communications, AIA Florida

Board of Directors


The AIA Florida Board of Directors met in January in Tallahassee for the annual Leadership Summit and winter board meeting. Over 50 architects from Florida were in attendance. 1998 President, Roy Knight, FAIA, outlined an ambitious agenda for the new year. The Board kicked off a comprehensive grassroots legislative network of "Champion Architects." It also voted to approve the 1998 operating budget.

The week included two legislative receptions hosted by AIA Headquarters which provided members the opportunity to speak with Education Commissioner Frank Brogan as well as key members of the House and Senate. The Board hosted a luncheon which featured an update from Senators Katherine Harris and Charles Clary.

Chapter Pullara Awards

Jacki McNicholas, AIA, emcees AIA Orlando's Pullara presentation.

The 1998 Chapter Pullara Awards were presented at the annual Leadership Summit in January. AIA Miami, AIA Jacksonville, AIA Orlando, AIA Florida Southwest and AIA Tampa Bay all presented excellent proposals of 1997 chapter activities in a variety of categories. The 1998 Pullara Honor Award was presented to AIA Florida Southwest for overall excellence in chapter activities. AIA Jacksonville was the winner in the Public Outreach and Awareness category for its "Architecture Celebration Week" activities. The award in the Political Effectiveness category and the Membership/Development category went to AIA Florida Southwest for their "Read the Fine Print" binders and "Return on Investment" promotion, respectively. AIA Tampa Bay was recognized in Other Activities for their publication, Bay Architect.

Preservation Projects

If you have been involved in an outstanding preservation project in the last three years, or if you know of an individual who is a remarkable preservation leader and has helped save a part of local or national heritage, take note. The deadline to submit nominations for the 1998 National Preservation Awards, the nation's preeminent award in preservation, is May 1, 1998.

The annual Preservation Awards program recognizes organizations, companies and individuals active in preservation, rehabilitation, restoration or interpretation of America's architectural and cultural heritage. Up to 15 winners will be honored at the 52nd National Preservation Conference in Savannah, GA, October 20-25, 1998.

Last year's winners included Zuni Pueblo elders and youth, who joined forces to preserve their historic buildings and important cultural traditions; the revitalized Project Row Houses in Houston; the once demolition-threatened Egyptian Theater in Ogden, Utah; and the newly restored USS Constitution in Boston, Mass.


Publications

The Federal Facilities Council, a component of the U.S. National Research Council, has released a new publication, Innovations in Federal Facilities. This document showcases 26 examples of successfully applied innovations in federal facilities and illustrates the potential benefits of improving federal-facilities planning, design, construction and management through innovation.

Organized into "products and technologies" categories, the innovations ranged from concrete admixtures to HVAC control panels to GIS management systems. Each entry is illustrated and briefly described on one page, with a major emphasis on individual contacts who can provide more information. To obtain the document, Technical Report #155, from the National Academy Press, write to: Director, Federal Facilities Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20418, phone: (202) 334-3374; or visit their website at www2.nas.edu/fc.

The Alliance to Save Energy recommends that the United States price energy to reflect the costs of air pollution and climate change impacts in a study released in February. The result of two years of research, the Alliance's new report, Price It Right: Energy Pricing and Fundamental Tax Reform, makes a strong argument for the revenue-neutral shifting of taxes from income and savings to fossil fuels and consumption. Using an advanced model developed by Harvard Professor Dale W. Jorgenson, former chair of the Harvard Economics Department, the Alliance demonstrates the dramatic environmental and economic benefits of repricing energy. Using 1996 as the baseline, the report shows that if price impacts are met or exceeded, the Executive Summary of Price It Right: Energy Pricing and Fundamental Tax Reform can be ordered by calling (615)857-0666 or downloading the document from the Alliance's website at www.ase.org.

Continuing Education

The American Institute of Architects and Fathom Digital Media Design are pleased to announce that orders are being taken for the program called "Success Strategies for Design Professionals."

Success Strategies for Design Professionals is an interactive learning program created to take advantage of the mobility, accessibility and increased information retention possible with multimedia. Published on CD-rom, the program offers the design practitioner the ability to learn at his own pace and in a setting of his own choosing while meeting all the state registration board's and the AIA's guidelines for continuing education.

Included in the program are strategies for successful negotiations, ideas for improving the scope and quality of service, tips on managing the small project, and some thoughts on improved time management. Also included is a special presentation of strategies for financial awareness and practices within the design firm; a must for all designers who want to hone their business skills.

The program features a soundtrack narrated by Dick Estell of National Public Radio's "From the Bookshelf." The user navigates through six sections of graphically rich presentations and then is tested on the information presented. The test offers immediate feedback and scoring. A print-capable "notepad" is offered to allow the user to record thoughts and ideas during the presentations.

Success Strategies for Design Professionals is also useful as a reference manual and a teaching tool for in-firm learning programs. The product meets the requirements of a quality-level three education program as defined by the AIA/CES requirements. Contact Fathom-DMD at (615)244-0101 for more information.
At last, the demand has been met for a thatch that is virtually indestructible. Tropic Top™, a lightweight metal shingle, colorfast, 100% fireproof, installs as easily as ordinary roof shingles, and has the appearance of natural thatch without any of the disadvantages.

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As new schools replace old ones, new priorities in education surface. Buildings that were safe, healthy learning environments for 30 or 40 years are now obsolete. As with the old Cresthaven Elementary School—a rambling 1950s structure without security provisions, air conditioning, or the capacity to accommodate expanding technology—they became overcrowded and sorely outdated.

Design and construction of a replacement for urban Cresthaven offered Singer Architects several challenges, but one in particular stood out: The old school had to remain operational until the new facility opened. Placement of the construction into an occupied site thus became a major factor in the planning and design.

Security, one of the client’s (and today’s) preeminent concerns, was achieved by conceiving the new facility as a protected enclosure. Two two-story classroom buildings face one another across a courtyard space, joined at one end by the cafeteria/auditorium and at the other by the media center. Located symbolically in the heart of the courtyard is the guidance center.

Control was achieved by enabling observation of all public areas of the building, and by providing a single entry point. Students, staff, and visitors entering through the large, welcoming, gathering space must pass the administration suite and move toward the guidance facility. Multiple points of exit are accessible in cases of emergency. The design has been cited as an exemplary use of CPTED (Crime Preven-

Common among Singer projects is the establishment of clean, arresting shapes to rest the eye on. Walkway from the Kindergarten playground leads students into the interior spaces where classroom and courtyard are found. Photograph: Donald Singer, FAIA
Reading semicircle is one of several “horizontal geometries” designed as outdoor activity areas within the courtyards. Photograph: Dan Forer

Designated Through Environmental Design principles.

Within the two 5,000 sf courtyards are hard- and soft-surface areas for learning and playing. The circular top of a geometric totem pole rises above the school as a locator device. All corridors are articulated by openings of corresponding basic geometric shapes that help the children identify the levels of the school (on the second floor, on the first).

Designed as a prototype, Cresthaven’s 82,000 sf facility, accommodates 776 students, but the plan is flexible. In another setting, it can be trimmed down for 680 students, for example, by removing a block of four classrooms, or modified by the addition of various special education options. Poured-in-place floors and open web steel roof joists rest on masonry bearing walls. Operable aluminum window systems provide fenestration, and the roofing is a bituminous built-up system flashed to a parapet. A main chiller plant serving fan coil units in each classroom provides continual air control.

Singer wanted the school to stand out in its location, a largely industrial area surrounded on three sides by monotonous, mostly white warehouses. The architect’s initial concept that the exterior stucco be red was endorsed enthusiastically by the principal but overthrown at a neighborhood meeting, which ended with the “compromise” color of pink.

Architect Don Singer, FAIA, finds that compliments often come from unexpected places. When Cresthaven opened, he presented the principal (“still a happy person,” says Singer) with a framed photograph of the school. Later, he was approached by the head custodian who asked, “Could I get a copy of that photo? I’m real proud of this place.”

Architect: Singer Architects
Principal in charge: Donald Singer, FAIA
Landscape Architect: Stresau Smith & Stresau, P.A.
Structural Engineer: Donnell & Duquesne
Civil Engineer: Flynn Engineering Services, P.A.
Mechanical/Electrical Engineer: Stolley and Associates
General Contractor: ICA Construction Corp.
Owner: School Board of Broward County
Teaching Sustainability by Example

Ascension Catholic School Addition
Melbourne, Florida
Spacecoast Architects, P.A.

What better way for students to learn than by example? From any spot in the 34,500 sf addition to Ascension Catholic School, any Kindergartner to eighth grader can point to examples of energy-saving features: a skylit hallway, lighting fixtures and coordinated switches, north-south windows for maximum daylight without heat gain and natural ventilation, light-colored surfaces to reflect heat. Students have learned about these and other attributes of their school as well as experiencing them, thanks to a coloring book by the architect illustrating its environmentally friendly architectural features and design.

The two-story addition includes administration offices, six regular classrooms, a library, a computer center, art and music rooms, a science lab, and a cafeteria with full kitchen facilities and a stage. Although the new construction more than doubled available space, the energy load for the new facility was calculated at half the requirements for the existing five-year-old 24,500 sf structure it attaches to.

Spacecoast Architects’ built-in energy efficiencies brought the parish nearly $80,000 in rebates from Florida Power & Light. Sustainable design concepts are the cornerstone of all of the firm’s projects, with the goal of producing architecture with low environmental impact, high functionality and satisfaction, and long-term viability. The firm’s philosophy, according to Spacecoast president Lawrence Maxwell, AIA, holds that good architecture must embody the principles of sustainable design. “Sustainable design,” says Maxwell, “need not cost any more, look any different, or compromise any of the functions required of any building.” In fact, at $55/sf, Ascension’s construction cost was less than that of a “no frills” elementary school design built by the local school board. The Ascension addition exemplifies these concepts on a relatively small scale, but with significant results. Siting was the first step in smart use of daylighting, which includes
north/south windows only, shading devices to help diffuse and direct light yet bring in indirect light, a 140-foot translucent hallway skylight that also light classrooms by way of interior clerestory windows, and location of classrooms and offices at window walls. Thick concrete walls and roof and extensive wall and roof-deck insulation were used to produce a thermal lag, or flywheel effect—for example, absorbing the sun's heat in winter and slowly releasing it into the surrounding space to maintain a more constant temperature. Classroom windows open at angles that promote movement of fresh air on cool days. Light fixtures contain three bulbs, and light switches allow for light in electric lighting to supplement daylighting: from no artificial light on bright days to partial or full bulb use on gloomy days or at night.

Central to the energy savings is a new computer-controlled chilled water thermal storage system (which will also cool the old school, church, and parish hall). Installation of an ice storage system to shift the peak energy load was a major factor, and in turn, the FP&L rebate will pay for the ice tanks. For the months when air conditioning is needed, ten 1,600-gallon tanks store ice made during electrical utility off-peak times that is then used for cooling during on-peak school hours.

Creation of light, bright, comfortable school conditions seems to benefit student and staff performance as well as the environment. Students, teachers, and administrators look forward to school in their bright and airy classrooms. What the principal describes as "the glorious light" that fills the interior "will only help to increase students desire to attend school and enhance the potential for learning." Additionally, savings from the energy efficiency of the building will be used to increase teacher salaries and educational programs.

A 140' Kal-wall Skylight with light apertures brings diffused light into second-floor classrooms. Photograph: John Anderson

Architect:
Spacecoast Architects, P.A.

Principal in charge:
Lawrence Maxwell, AIA

Production Director:
Jeffrey Phillips

Structural Engineer:
Frazier Engineering, Inc.

Civil Engineer:
Frazier Engineering, Inc.

Mechanical/Electrical Engineer:
Sklow & Runkel Consulting Engineers

General Contractor:
Clancy & Theys Construction Company, Inc.

Owner:
Catholic Diocese of Orlando
A Lasting Image for a New Campus

Health Professions Division
Campus, NovaSoutheastern
University
Davie, Florida
ACAI Associates, Inc.

Helping to meet the state’s
growing need for higher
education facilities has become
an important goal in the private
sector. With the 1984 merger of
Nova and Southeastern
universities and their creation of
a Health Professions Division
(HPD) came a need to develop,
almost instantly, a new medical
school campus.

ACAI Associates of Fort
Lauderdale stepped in with a
fast track plan to accomplish
this feat: over 750,000 sf of new
construction, including the
Assembly, Library/Lab ("the
Lab"), Clinic, and Administration
buildings, the physical plant, and
a six-level parking structure.
Completed in under 16 months,
on budget and ahead of schedule,
the new campus—a result of
intense cigarettes combined with
value engineering sessions—
establishes a handsome image
for the emerging school, while
embracing energy-saving
materials, structural systems,
and operations.

To institute a walking
campus, the parking garage was
located on the eastern perimeter
of the 21-acre "L" shaped site.
Covered and intersecting walk-
ways, connecting the parking
area and campus buildings,
meet to form a quadrangle: a
landscaped plaza where the
Terry Clock, named for HPD
Chancellor Morton Terry, stands
as a landmark. (Visitors say
experiencing its Carillon chimes
is quite a treat.) Set at an angle
at the center of the campus,
and adding a dynamic twist of
interest, is the Assembly
building.

Built in keeping with
principles of green design,
the Administration, Lab, and
Clinic buildings have identi-
cal construction: reinforced
concrete columns and post-
tensioned beams with concrete
floor and roof slabs and
masonry infill. The exterior
insulation and finishing system
(EIFS) was selected for the
building skin because it
resembles stone, is energy- and
cost-efficient, and requires little
maintenance. Materials and
colors were selected to empha-
size the architectural propor-
tions of the facades and
extensive colonnades.

Balancing the enclosed look
of the Lab and Clinic buildings,
the result of needing window-
less facilities, are bright,
spacious passageways and
lobbies, featuring interior and
exterior facing glass walls, high
ceilings, and clerestory
windows for added daylighting.
Floor designs accent the
interior spaces with colorful
tiles, with color-coding and
distinctive patterning used as a
guide to each college’s class-
room/lab areas.

The Assembly building
contains two large auditoriums
(500 and 250 seats) and eight
125-seat lecture halls. Its
construction, like that of the
physical plant, is concrete post
and beams with steel truss and
joist roofing systems and
composite roof decking. A
standing seam metal roof vault
spans the wide central section.
Two parallel north/south
corridors also serve as connec-
tive walkways between the
Administration and Lab
buildings.

The HPD houses five
Colleges: Osteopathic Medicine,
Optometry, Pharmacy, Allied
Health, and Medical Sciences,
all with state-of-the-art equip-
ment and facilities. Each
department submitted labora-
tory and work area specifi-
cations and requirements to the
architects, which resulted in
practical designs and program-
ning that works. Anatomy lab
areas feature walls treated with
epoxy paint and steel paneling
and seamless, chemical-
resistant vinyl flooring to
facilitate cleaning; and within
the occupational therapy lab
and clinic spaces is a "simula-
tion apartment," equipped with
a full kitchen with household
appliances and a fully fur-
nished bath and bedroom.

Administration building at south; angled Assembly building is the hub; Lab/Library and Clinic at north. Parking structure at east is attached to campus by covered walkway. Photography: Aerial Photography, Inc.

Terry Plaza, Administration Tower at right. The Assembly Build-
ing acts as the campus hub. Photograph: ACAI Associates.
Mechanical systems throughout were designed with an eye toward maximum energy efficiency, including a water-cooled chiller pump system with air handling equipment in each building. A computerized energy management system controls temperatures in each designated zone, and, where practical, entry-controlled automated light switching systems have been installed.

At the Campus Dedication, Dr. Terry recognized the extraordinary accomplishment of ACAI Associates. "Ours is one of the largest single campuses ever built from scratch," the Chancellor said, "and it was built to the design of the people who utilize the facilities."
After the Spanish-American War, at the beginning of this century, the United States assumed control of the internal affairs of its new colonies, including Puerto Rico. A series of reforms, designed to implement a process of “(North) Americanization” of the population included the building of schools. These became, in many ways, symbols of this purpose. Contrary to the custom in Spanish Colonial urban development of locating schools centrally, the new schools transgressed the municipal grid, imposing a suburban approach that contributed to breaking the unity of traditional towns.

Such was the origin of the site in the municipality of Carolina for which Davis, Fuster Arquitectos was commissioned to design the new Fine Arts School. Already on the three-acre “campus,” about four blocks from the town plaza, was one of these 1920s “historic” schools, a small accessory building completed soon after, and two 1960s-1970s “pop-out” schools. Apart from their proximity, the buildings were unrelated.

Within this framework, the architects designed the 63,000 sf complex, incorporating the existing structures as well as relating to the traditional urban center nearby. The new design was intended as an organic “third system,” which would consider the past while at the same time reflecting the reality of the island culture, exploring what the architects called “its tropical, extroverted, baroque, ambiguous, and sensuous nature.”

The Fine Arts School consists of seven structures—those old and refurbished became rectangular anchors around which the new construction intertwines. The 1920s school (A on the plan), historically restored, now houses administration, the drama department, and library. The larger of the later schools (B) has been remodeled for the dance department, while the smaller (C) houses auxiliary
theater functions and adjoins the new 500-seat theater (D). New opposing fan-shaped structures house the art (E) and music (F) departments. For art studios, the shape maximizes natural light and ventilation; for music studios, this shape responds well to acoustical considerations and presented an opportunity to create an adjoining patio that doubles as an amphitheater. The old accessory building is a pleasant cafe-cafeteria (G).

Every space, whether open or enclosed, relates to its immediate surroundings and contributes to maximizing natural lighting and ventilation. Patios and plazas were established throughout the sprawling campus, reminiscent of the mix of indoor-outdoor spaces of Old San Juan. These traditional open spaces are important, whether as a functional complement to an adjacent building, like the amphitheater or patios for each art classroom, as a green space to rest one’s eye, or as the Administration building’s central courtyard, accessed by a graceful staircase and enhanced with a fountain.

Reinforced concrete, the area’s most popular, practical, and inexpensive construction material, formed the basis of construction. Metal roofs, too, are in keeping with the local vernacular styles, as are the ornamental ironwork details and polished and bush-hammered concrete and clay tiles used for finishing.

The school will serve about 900 students from the Municipality of Carolina, offering extracurricular credits in fine arts. The students, who attend other schools in the area for their basic curriculum, generally come to the Fine Arts School in the afternoons. Plans currently include allowing the facility to be used at other times as a community center for the arts.

Architect: Davis, Fuster Arquitectos
Principals in charge: J.R. Coleman-Davis Pagan, AIA, and Nathaniel Fuster-Felix
Project Architect: Nathaniel Fuster-Felix
Structural Engineer: Molina, Garcia & Assoc.
Civil/Site Engineer: EBP Design Group
Mechanical/Electrical Engineers: Rafael Amaral & Raymond Amaral
General Contractor: 3/0 Construction SE
Construction Inspection: José Francisco Quiñones
Owner: Municipality of Carolina, José Aponte-De la Torre, Mayor
Melbourne High School
Melbourne, Florida
BRPH Architects-Engineers, Inc.

Bringing a 44-year-old local landmark high school into the 21st century was the charge given to BRPH Architects-Engineers. A compact site, poor site infrastructure, severe structural deterioration of buildings dating back to 1955, and asbestos were just a few of the challenges presented by the Melbourne High School (Mel High) renovation project. It also presented a unique and exciting opportunity for the firm, and particularly myself (as a 1971 alum), to create a modern learning environment that responds to both local and state education goals.

Adding to the complexity of the project, area residents and the local school board wanted to renovate the school on its original site rather than develop a new campus. Mel High is situated in the heart of the city’s historic shopping district, which is currently being revitalized. While relocating the school to another site was discouraged, the fact of an extremely compact site that housed 26 existing academic buildings added to the challenge.

BRPH began with a condition assessment to analyze existing structures and mechanical and electrical systems to determine whether a) the school was salvageable for remodeling, or b) it had to be completely demolished and rebuilt at another location. The three-month analysis process revealed severe structural deterioration, asbestos, poor roof conditions, inadequate classroom space, deficient wiring, and insufficient mechanical equipment to provide proper air quality.

This information was presented during a series of planning meetings and workshops attended by the principal, assistant principal, teachers, department heads, and school board members. These meetings were conducted over several months and resulted in refined educational program documents and a design solution that responded to and exceeded the client’s expectations.

BRPH used the Castaldi Modernization Formulation Formula (comparing renovation costs with life expectancy of the building) to substantiate the design approach and recommendations for new construction, remodeling, renovation and demolition of existing buildings. Recommendations included extensive renovation of selected buildings and the removal of 13 existing structures, to be replaced with three new ones providing 165,000 square feet of new classrooms. This concentration of new built space allowed for maximum site utilization, future expansion, increased parking, and larger recreational areas, including an outside amphitheater, plazas, and courtyards.

Phase One included construction of the $5.6 million, 53,841 sf Classroom Building 8, which accommodates 609 students. Two stories, constructed with load-bearing masonry and a hollow-core second floor slab with steel roof trusses, it features a classic...
brick facade. Phase One was completed in 12 months with occupancy in January 1997.

Phase Two included construction of two new facilities. Building 1, with 45,151 sf on two floors, contains administrative offices and classroom space for 440 students and establishes a bold new look for the main entrance. Building 9 contains 37,620 sf of vocational classrooms and shop space for 344 students.

Landscaped courtyards serve as central meeting places for students. For the renovated structures requiring new roofs, light-gauge metal framing and a metal roofing system were used to match the roofing architecture of the new buildings. While the original campus originally had three areas for bus loading and unloading, BRPH created a single loading site for 38 buses, which effectively addressed student safety and security issues. Phase Two was completed in December 1997 for a cost of $10 million.

Improvements went beyond “brick and mortar” construction. It has become increasingly important to include cost-effective retrofit solutions to schools that provide integrated telecommunication systems. The Mel High campus has been fully equipped to integrate telephone, intercom, television, media retrieval, computer network, fire alarm, security and HVAC controls to form a series of parallel paths of communication. No longer suffering from educational obsolescence, the new, superbly functional, student- and teacher-friendly Melbourne High School campus once again stands as a monument to education excellence.

Randall E. Thron, AIA, is Senior Vice-President and Director of Operations at BRPH Architects-Engineers, Inc. The firm has constructed more than 55 new schools and has renovated over 250 statewide.
With population growth creating an explosion in school construction, SCHENKELSHULTZ Architects has designed over 16 million sf of new and renovated elementary, middle, high, and university/collegiate facilities. Recognizing that today's schools also function as community centers, the Orlando-based firm's design approach involves a planning team made up of school staff, administrators, architect and facility planners, students, parents, and community members. With a goal of making good designs available at a reasonable cost, the firm has developed several prototypes that, with slight modifications, have been successful in meeting the educational design criteria of various school districts for diverse sites.

Celebration School. (instructional neighborhood plan)

Celebration School. Colorful block, stucco walls, and standing seam metal roofs reference the pre-1940s South Florida school vernacular, while period features such as arcades and louvered sunshades reflect the school's temperate setting (and help maintain air conditioning at an economical level). Photograph: Rich Franco
One such prototype was used most recently for Highlands Elementary School in Seminole County. The two story, 121,000 sf facility is exceptionally cost-effective at just $65/sf. The plan also is being used in Duval, Charlotte, and Orange counties. Merits of the design include flexibility in customizing interior spaces, security, and simple construction methods. Although a one-story version of the plan is also available, with rising real estate costs and land-locked sites, the compact single structure offers optimum site utilization.

Discovery Middle School represents the seventh implementation of a prototype that has been used successfully elsewhere in Orange and in Martin County. Conceived as an “educational village,” with shingled roofed buildings surrounding a “town square,” the 159,000 sf plan offers security through placement of the public access areas on just one side of the centralized courtyard. Orange County’s use of a first-rate construction management team for the school yielded not only a facility of the highest quality construction and durability but shared cost savings.

J. Thomas Chandler, AIA, firm Senior Vice President and a member of the Florida Public School Construction Study Commission, knows what kinds of facilities are needed to accommodate the state’s expanding technology and population. “The design and the quality of construction of Discovery Middle School,” says Chandler, “is an example of a standard that we must accomplish and even improve upon as we progress with the implementation and collaborative approach to educational facilities that will last well into the 21st century.”

At Winter Springs High School, Seminole County, the facility planning team created a multifunctional facility that would take them into the next century. The simple design of the 360,000 sf, $33.5 million high school—its easy to understand, circulate around, maintain, and add on to—was uncomplicated to build, meaning effective use of construction funds. Public spaces, including the Sports Complex, Media Center and Performing Arts Center flank the main Administration Building. Academic clusters housing classrooms and labs were designed to promote growth, flexibility, and sensible use of space. For example, classrooms wrap the outside edge of the clusters, offering views and operable windows, while in the labs, the intensive casework for storage is in the center of the clusters instead of using perimeter wall space. The prototype has been adopted for use in Collier, Manatee, and Brevard counties, too.

A different approach was called for in designing Osceola County’s Celebration School. The goal was to create a state-of-the-art facility with the old-fashioned look and hometown feel of the town of Celebration. The school is divided into ten “neighborhoods,” creating a flexible teaching environment of variously sized interconnected spaces—spaces for quiet

Continued on page 18.
Winter Springs High School. A central main entrance leading into the Administration area provides control and security to visitors and students coming and going from the campus. Photograph: Rich Franco

individual activities, high-activity areas for team teaching and collaborative learning, small- and large-teaching areas, and labs. Core buildings (Administration, Media Center, Guidance Center, and Fine Arts) separate the elementary school from the middle and high schools. Uniting the campus, connecting all areas, inside and out, are a covered pedestrian spine and centralized open plaza.

With the incentives established by the Legislature in House Bill 17.A, embracing frugality along with sound educational planning concepts must be the essence of future Florida school design initiatives, says Chandler. With a new middle school prototype and other designs in the works, SCHENKELSHULTZ will continue to be a leader in this growing movement. 
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FLORIDA/CARIBBEAN ARCHITECT  Spring 1998

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VIEWPOINT
Design/Build: Reducing Conflict, Confusion, and Risk
by Meade Collinsworth, CPCU

Design professionals, real estate developers, and businesses in both the private and public sectors are taking a new approach toward the construction delivery process. The industry is witnessing a shift toward the concept of "design/build" services—an approach aimed at coordinating the efforts of those involved in the construction process.

The design/build delivery process—contracting for a complete product from conception to completion—is an idea whose time has come for many reasons. The benefits are many, but there are also procedures to follow to ensure that the process succeeds.

Benefits include increased control for the architect, consolidation of resources—both financial and human—and greater likelihood of bringing projects to completion under budget and on time. Additional benefits derive from more communication among all parties with regard to contracts and risks as well as improved risk management and the reduction of insurance claims.

Increased control over the entire construction process allows the architect to make adjustments and improvements as the project comes to life. Design/build reduces conflict and confusion. Where traditionally design was the responsibility of the design professional, and construction the contractor, here the owners select an architect/general contractor team. The result is increased communication, and owners have just one party to direct their questions or concerns to.

Typically, the design professional's increased control during the construction process decreases the cost and helps bring the project to completion under budget. Regular presence at the site often enables the architect to make modifications and improvements quickly and without adding costs.

The difference between traditional and design/build processes is one of relationships. Under the traditional delivery system, the owner/client has separate contracts with the design professional and the general contractor. With design/build, the owner/client has one contract with the architect/contractor team. Because of differences inherent in the process, design/build contracts must be modified so that there are no misunderstandings about the rights and responsibilities of the various parties that make up the team. Referred to as Contract Review and Administration, this is an absolutely essential part of the delivery system to mitigate unforeseen confusion and conflicts that may arise. Advice from a qualified attorney and insurance agent/broker is crucial in order for this system to work properly. Use of traditional contracts intended to protect design professionals may be inappropriate for their expanded role in design/build.

In the traditional delivery process, design professionals deal with a Standard of Care, which requires them to act as any prudent person with comparable training, education and experience in the same locale would do in a similar situation. For design/build, besides the Standard of Care, there is the Standard of Warranty and/or Performance, which was previously only the contractor's responsibility.

The design/build process subjects team members to a modern day "law of Hammurabi." In addition to requiring that the team take responsibility for the design, construction, means, methods, procedures, sequences, scheduling and safety, the contract also requires strict warranties and performance standards. For this reason, contract language must be very specific to identify exactly what each team member will do for the owner/client and for each other in order to avoid problems and lawsuits.

Design/build construction documents require extra-careful attention as they allow team members to allocate the design and construction responsibilities among themselves. These documents would include the performance warranties, defects, costs, safety, etc., as opposed to just assuming the responsibility for design and/or construction in the traditional process. The key term here is allocation of risk as opposed to transference of risk, an important consideration, especially when dealing with public entities whose goals may include the transference of risk.

To ensure that the design/build process works, the design professional and the contractor must truly become a team as opposed to separate entities trying to construct a project, as in the traditional process. The design/build team must be in a position to solve all problems efficiently, amicably, and quickly, to the mutual benefit of themselves and the owner, with the least amount of cost, conflict, and time.

Among the economic benefits of the team approach are the reduction of insurance claims and greater attention to risk management. Recent statistics indicate that approximately 70 percent of all claims brought against design professionals are generated by their clients or contractors or others involved in the construction. With the contractor and design professional functioning as a team, the frequency of claims should be reduced.

Clearly, substantial benefits can be realized from use of the design/build approach. Because of increased control for the architect, consolidation of resources, bringing projects to completion under budget, increased communication among all parties with regard to contracts, and the reduction of insurance claims, this method is gaining popularity. It is worth considering that the possibility of a successful endeavor is greatly enhanced when all interested parties are committed to achieving desired goals and objectives. Design/build at its best is a team endeavor, the individual entities of the traditional construction process working together.

Meade Collinsworth is a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) and is president of Collinsworth Alter, Nielson, Fowler & Dowling, Inc., an insurance agency specializing in contractors, architects, and engineers, and related risks. Mr. Collinsworth is a past president of the South Florida chapter of the CPCU Society and is a member of the Florida Association of Insurance Agents.
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<td>Day Rate</td>
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Convention registration is required for all attendees and their spouse or guest. The registration fee includes tickets to the President's Welcome Reception, the Trade Show Extravaganza, Opening Session with keynote speaker, Complimentary CE Sessions, continental breakfasts and daily breaks.

For further information, call
Eileen Johnson, Director of Operations
AIA Florida 850/222-7590
Public building construction offers a critical opportunity to set high standards for buildings. It is the responsibility of community leaders to build well. These people have the fiduciary trust of their constituents to consider. Our leaders must not be free and easy with the public purse. Neither should they approve inadequate, shoddy, uninspiring construction. Value must be of paramount concern whenever public trust is involved.

This issue of Florida/Caribbean Architect, by the examples described, illustrates the value of well-designed public buildings. The range of building types required to meet the public sector need is very broad. Florida’s remarkable talent is well represented in the Pinellas County justice complex; the immense Orange County convention Center; and the Metropolitan Detention Center in Miami. The Orlando parking garage, done in partnership with a church, is a surprising and marvelous opportunity for public art as well.

Good design is a common thread that binds all efforts to make communities pleasant places in which to live. It is important to examine work in the public sector to determine how good building in the public realm represents and reflects a community’s aspirations. Whether these buildings succeed or fail is dependent upon the degree of care and clear thinking devoted to each building, for such are the stuff of good design.

The community must first recognize that architecture is a public art; indeed the most public art. Buildings give immediate presence to a community’s values and standards. If expressions of high ideals are of primary concern, they will be asserted in the form of the resultant building. If expediency and mere “economy” were of foremost consideration, they too will be reflected by the construction. Public pride, beauty, economy, sustainability, and concern for the environment are fundamental to good design. Public buildings represent the public interest and express the nature and character of the public interest involved. All buildings unavoidably reveal the ability of the professional who created them as well as the concern of the client, the public agency, and its ability to support good building.

Qualification-based selection of architects for public work is the first step toward the assurance of high quality in public buildings. In taking their obligations seriously, public officials must carefully select the appropriate designer for each project. It is also incumbent upon these public officials to ensure that the selected firm will be paid well enough to work carefully toward the best possible design. Funding good design is the best possible investment for a community. It is profoundly critical in the public sector that beautiful buildings perform well. Paying the right price for design is important for realizing economics in construction as well as an appropriate expression of public ideals. Shortchanging the thought process is foolish and dangerous. Time and the quality of the designer’s experience, ability, and effort are the critical factors, not the fee charged. Low fees will result in poor service. Society can not afford the results of building carelessly.

Roy F. Knight, FAIA
President, AIA/Florida
Five AIA Florida Members Elected to College of Fellows

The American Institute of Architects elevated five AIA Florida members to the AIA College of Fellows, an honor attained by less than four percent of the organization's membership. This prestigious achievement is conferred on members with at least ten years of continuous membership who have made significant contributions to the profession.

The AIA Florida members honored are Henry C. Alexander, FAIA Miami; I.S. Keith Reeves, FAIA Orlando; Edward J. Seibert, FAIA Florida Gulf Coast; Karl Thorne, FAIA Gainesville; and Daniel Williams, FAIA Miami.

Alexander, Vice President of the Coral Gables firm of Mates, Carreno Rizo & Partners, was honored for his efforts to make the profession of ever increasing service to society through community service. In the wake of Hurricane Andrew, Alexander, as president of AIA Florida, mobilized architects throughout the state to support a massive outreach and recovery effort which focused on the needs of neighborhoods ravaged by the storm.

For his work to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession through design, I.S. Keith Reeves was selected. Reeves, principal of Architects Design Group in Winter Park, has based his career on the premise that each architectural commission is an opportunity to achieve design excellence. He has extensively researched, written, lectured and utilized color in his work because of his recognition of its impact on the built environment and on humans both psychologically and physiologically.

Edward Seibert, principal of Seibert Architects, P.A., was recognized for his work in promoting the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency through design. Seibert's commitment to architecture as art has resulted in consistently provocative and elegant design solutions. His work demonstrates great versatility while he continues to explore and refine his design philosophy of articulate geometry and sculpturally elegant spaces.

For his work to advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training, and practice through education, the College recognized Karl Thorne.

Thorne, of Karl Thorne and Associates in Gainesville, has significantly and positively impacted inner-city communities, and created educational opportunities for third world and minority youth. Throughout his career he has promoted the essence of diversity and enhanced the values and perception of minority architects in the profession and in society.

Daniel Williams, of Daniel Williams Architect in Coconut Grove, was honored for his efforts to increase the connectivity between the urban and natural environments. This improved connection will afford environmental protection while increasing energy efficiency. As an architect and community activist, he has been a driving force in the protection of the Everglades watershed and the creation of regional parks that will provide for a sustainable water supply for Dade County.

Alexander, Reeves, Seibert, Thorne and Williams were invested in the College of Fellows at the 1998 AIA National Convention in San Francisco on May 15.

1998 Legislative Wrap-up
preparing by Mike Huey and Chris Hansen

The Florida Legislature ended the 1998 Regular Session on Friday, May 1, at 6:00 p.m. AIA Florida enjoyed a very productive legislative session thanks to the legislative affairs commission and the grassroots members.

Outlined below is an issue that regarding Florida concentrated its attention on during this session.

Through your response to our calls for action in weekly faxes, AIA Florida generated a great deal of positive attention for our legislative concerns.

1. Statewide Building Code

AIA Florida has been promoting a single statewide building code for years. After months of work by the Governor's Building Codes Study Commission and months of "politicking" by interested parties, the Legislature finally passed a single, unified building code — HB 4181. This legislative issue dominated the 1998 legislative session. Although the Association was one of the principal proponents of the unified code, the bill, as initially drafted, gave local governments disciplinary authority over the professional licenses of architects, engineers and contractors. Unfortunately, the drafters of the bill were convinced by building code officials that architects and engineers were consistently submitting plans and specifications totally inadequate in the area of code compliance and that contractors consistently failed to adhere to codes during construction. Consequently, it became necessary in their minds to give disciplinary power to local governments and this was part of the "bargain" offered to local governments to entice them to accept a single statewide code. AIA Florida was not consulted about this issue before the bill was filed and the Florida Homebuilders Association, while opposed to this particular disciplinary concept, had signed off on the entire bill early on. The House sponsor and representatives of the Building Codes Study Commission advised us that they were unwilling to modify the bill to remove these onerous and duplicative disciplinary provisions so we initiated an all-out lobbying effort to persuade legislators that design professionals consistently design buildings in accordance with all applicable codes and that local disciplinary authority was not only unnecessary but would likely be abused.

Larry Schneider did a great job in scrutinizing the bill and providing us with technical advice. Wayne Drummond, Tom Lewis and Melody Longer as members of the Building Codes Study Commission, were of tremendous assistance in providing background information.

Armed with the background and technical advice, we asked architects around the state to write and call their legislators. Your response was tremendous and, as we persisted in our daily lobbying efforts, we began to see progress. The final critical component of our efforts was to engage Senator Clary in this issue. As the only architect in the Legislature and an advisory member of the Commission, it was essential that he be aligned with our position. He and staff gave this issue top priority completely understanding our concerns and ably assisting us via the coordination of meetings with all interested parties which culminated in your lobbying team rewriting major portions of the legislation to address our concerns. The bill, as passed, contains the following major components.

- The Board of Building Codes and Standards is reconstituted as the Florida Building Commission (FBC);
- The Department of Insurance is required to adopt the Florida Fire Prevention Code and the Life Safety Code;
- Before the 2000 Regular Session, the FBC must sub-
Upon beginning 2001, the Florida Building Code adopted by the Florida Building Commission will be the code used for new construction. The code has been revised and updated to meet the latest building standards. The Florida Building Code is designed to protect public safety and health. The Florida Building Code is based on the International Building Code (IBC), which is a comprehensive code that covers all aspects of building construction. The Florida Building Code also includes provisions for energy conservation, accessibility, and other important considerations.

The Florida Building Code Commission is responsible for the development and adoption of the Florida Building Code. The Commission is made up of representatives from various fields, including construction, engineering, and architecture. The Commission meets regularly to review and update the code to reflect the latest research and best practices. The Florida Building Code is a voluntary code, but it is widely adopted by building contractors and building owners. The code is enforced by local building officials, who are responsible for inspecting buildings and ensuring that they comply with the code.

In 2001, the Florida Building Code was updated to reflect the latest research and best practices. The code was revised to include new provisions for energy conservation and accessibility. The code was also updated to reflect the latest research on building materials and construction methods. The Florida Building Code is a comprehensive code that covers all aspects of building construction. The code is designed to protect public safety and health. The Florida Building Code is adopted by local governments and is enforced by local building officials.

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“The school’s hallways were in constant repair and expensive maintenance due to deterioration plaster and also the sheetrock walls being kicked in by the “karate wanna be kids.” The solution was a customized system utilizing a fiber reinforced gypsum panels covered with Tassoglas and then painted with a high quality latex paint. After 2 years, the school’s maintenance people say the walls still look brand new.” Dick Roos, President, TASSO USA

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Setting New Standards In Wallcovering...Again!
ARCHITECT Thomas S. Marvel

Architect Thomas S. Marvel and art historian María Luisa Moreno have provided a fine special-purpose book about a building type unique to the Catholic Hispanic Caribbean. Their *Architecture of Parish Churches in Puerto Rico* should be a delight to its readers. Anyone that has been to Puerto Rico, has had its or her fill of sunshine and beaches, and escaped from the metropolitan areas into the little towns around the island, will remember the parish churches facing on their plazas. Almost all of these buildings follow the prevailing neoclassic style, but like the towns and plazas where they sit, each church has its own distinguishing features. Visitors will delight in the differences. This is what Puerto Rico is all about.

The authors have excluded the hermitages, non-Catholic churches, and recently built churches outside of the town centers. Thirty-five churches were selected for detailed analysis because of their architectural value and historic significance. Each church is presented with a chronological history and other descriptive information and recorded with fine photographs, floor plans, sections, and section-perspectives. The written text, in both English and Spanish, and all of the graphics are well synchronized for the reader.

After describing the context of churches built in the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, the authors concentrate on those of the 19th century. This is the period of political reform, increase in population, economic improvement, and the involvement of engineers and architects. Since nearly 40 new churches were constructed after 1800 in communities established after that date, these are the buildings that give unique character to this type of architecture.

Architects and engineers will enjoy how the authors have analyzed the churches by presenting descriptions of their structural systems and materials, spatial organizations, and ornamentation. Through the study of each parish church, the authors developed a classification system which led to categories based on spatial organization and structural systems, essentially in the floor plans and cross sections.

Some readers may remember the first paperback version of this book published in 1984. This second edition is of course a repetition of the first, but the hardback format and attractive jacket make it more appealing. Most important is that the graphics are now crystal clear, probably the result of improved printing techniques and better quality paper.

This book should be sought out by potential visitors to Puerto Rico who want to get the most out of their travel experience, by architects and engineers who delight in understanding how buildings work, and by history buffs who enjoy the evolution of events that cause a building to be built.

F. Blair Reeves, FAIA, is a Professor Emeritus, Department of Architecture, University of Florida.

**The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts**

*Florida Theme Issue: Land of Sunshine and Happiness.* Wolfsonian-FIU

424 pages, 434 illus.

Reviewed by George Allen, Hon. AIA

If you’re looking for a good read on the role architecture and interior design played in the promotion and development of Florida, grab your sunglasses, pour yourself a glass of orange juice and grab the new Florida theme issue of *The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts.*

It’s the sort of book that you can read in a long afternoon or in bits and pieces over several months. Either way, the 17 essays with accompanying photographs present a well-written, wonderfully illustrated look at Florida’s amazing growth and development from 1875 to 1945, which is enthralling.

The topics cover a broad and fascinating range, from the selling of Sarasota through architecture and propaganda in the 1920s to Igor Polevitsky’s architectural vision for modern Miami. There is an article by Beth Dunlop on the art and craft of Mediterranean revival architecture and an essay by Dorothy Jenkins Fields tracing Overtown’s vernacular architecture.

But, my favorite is Seth Bramson’s tale of three Henrys—Plant, Flagler and Sanford—and the race to extend rail lines and hotels throughout the state. The work accomplished by these ambitious men set the scene for how the state was developed and how we got to where we are today.

The *Journal* has a pretentious sounding title but an entertaining and attractive presentation. It was founded in 1986 to focus on the arts in everyday life. Covered are furniture, lighting, silver, ceramics, medallions, murals, stained glass, costumes, illustrated books, posters, political drawings, photographs—the full scope of decorative and propaganda arts, including architecture and design.

Governor and Mrs. Lawton Chiles encouraged editor-in-chief and publisher, Cathy Leff, to build the 23rd issue of the book around Florida’s cultural heritage. Guest editor was architectural critic Beth Dunlop, and Jacques Auger was brought in as design director. Contributors include Michael McDonough, Helen Kohen, Joel Hoffman, Catherine Lynn, Michael Kinerk and Dennis Wilhelm, Johanna Lombard, and John Stuart.

This is the first issue of *The Journal* published under the auspices of The Wolfsonian-Florida International University. Copies are available from The Wolfsonian-FIU, 1001 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33139, phone (305) 535-2612, fax (305) 531-2133.

Reviewed by George Allen, Hon. AIA, is a former Executive Vice President of AIA Florida.
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Residence, St. Petersburg, Florida, 13 1/4” Spanish Tile shown

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Preserving the Expression of Old Construction

Holy Cross Catholic Church
Christiansted, St. Croix,
U.S.V.I.
Steven E. Hutchins AIA
Architects, Inc.

A crowd gathered in downtown Christiansted to watch the roof lifted off of Holy Cross Catholic Church. As the intact beams were lowered into the street, revealing centuries-old construction methods, parishioners and curious onlookers hoped for a souvenir. Built in 1748, Holy Cross is one of four large historic churches in the downtown area that have survived hurricanes, fires, dry rot, infestation, and numerous repairs.

Roofless, the old walls loomed 38 feet high in places, their construction now visible: three-feet thick, built of rubble masonry bound with a lime mortar, and finished in smooth lime plaster. The handsome random-set natural stone work had been exposed in recent times when the interior plaster was removed.

In 1848, with the addition of a crossing nave and apse that gave the church its traditional cruciform arrangement, the roof was reframed with new pitch pine timbers using mortise and tenon dowel jointing. At the intersecting ridges, four diagonal partial trusses were joined by a center king post connected with heavy iron plate and square head bolts. Painted pitch pine ceiling boards (later replaced with redwood) followed the angular vaulting of the trusses.

This roof, after withstanding, most recently, Hurricanes Hugo and Marilyn, had come to the end of its useful life. A complete replacement, it was decided, was in order. The goal for the new roof was twofold: to replicate its 1848 appearance while upgrading it to a level of windload resistance 15 percent above UBC standard that would qualify the structure as a storm shelter.

The inherent challenges were clear to Architect Steven E. Hutchins, AIA. A longtime resident of St. Croix, Hutchins was no stranger to the old church roofs, having been there before with his family’s construction company. (Hutchins also maintains an architecture office in Jacksonville.) He knew that developing a sound connection between the new roof and old walls without altering the appearance of the walls, ceilings, parapets, or any other existing element would take some planning and ingenuity. The solution involved concealing a new concrete bond beam within the top of the old walls and embedding steel dowels ranging from 24 to 36 inches to help tie the wall to the bond beam.
Maintaining the identical appearance at the eaves entailed bringing the new roof system to meet the edge of the very fragile existing masonry cornice. To do this, Hutchins employed two kinds of trusses: bolted, built-up girder trusses to span diagonally at the cross vault, and common trusses to span from the girders to the gable ends. Heavy timber at the plate end gave way to lighter "outrigger" members that were channeled with hand tools into the existing masonry to reach the edge without damaging the cornice. Replacement of the gutter system included replicating ornamental metal brackets from one of the few original pieces.

Detailed drawings were required to replicate a number of original features, including reglazing of the gothic arches. To make the 200-year-old church bells ring again, the bell assemblies and gable end ventilators were rebuilt using indigenous "purpleheart" hardwood, selected for its high density, strength, and resistance to rot and infestation. A masonry spire toppled in a hurricane was recreated in concrete, duplicating the shape, taper, and ornamental masonry details of its remaining counterpart, restoring the aspect along Company Street.

Holy Cross is the city's oldest and largest Catholic church. With its architectural heritage again intact, the parish continues its active tradition of community involvement and charitable activities.

**Architect:**
Steven E. Hutchins AIA Architects, Inc.

**Principal in charge:**
Steven E. Hutchins, AIA

**Structural Engineer:**
Richard Taylor—Caribbean Consulting Engineers

**Mechanical/Electrical Engineer:**
Todd W. Carey & Assoc.

**General Contractor:**
Water Wizards, Inc.

**Owner:**
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Growing in Good Form

Orange County Convention Center, Phase III Expansion
Orlando, Florida
Hunton Brady Pryor Maso Architects, P.A. and
Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Assoc.

Orlando is one of the top meeting places in the nation. Staying competitive and keeping up with demand in the fast-growing national and world convention and trade show markets has fostered rapid and sizable growth of area facilities, including the Orange County Convention Center. Since its 1983 completion, the facility has undergone several expansions.

Now almost five times its initial size, Orange County Convention Center has maintained a high level of architectural coherence. A Master Plan, developed in 1992, on the heels of a major Phase II expansion, required that subsequent additions draw on the existing architectural vocabulary. Even so, refinements and compatible expression were encouraged. Far from limiting the architects in Phase III, the plan presented an opportunity to shape and create a large dramatic space. Incorporating the basic palette of pre-cast concrete, aluminum panels, and quality finishes with careful detailing, the architects were able to complement, enhance, and unify the entire facility.

Phase III, completed in 1996 represented an addition of 1.6 million sf to the existing 1 million sf facility. Exhibit halls and meeting rooms make up more than one quarter of the new space, with the remainder given over to specialty and support spaces. These include a 2,650-seat auditorium, 60,000 sf ballroom/multifunction space, a business center, administrative offices, 30,000 sf kitchen and

With its soaring height and curving form, the entrance structure offers an expression of open arms to arriving visitors. Photograph: Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Assoc.
food court, and public circulation spaces.

In accordance with the Master Plan, a line of concourses, meeting rooms, and registration areas extends the full length of the building, opposite and parallel to the exhibition halls. Centrally located around the lobby are the common-use areas. With this arrangement, individual events may lease a large or small section of the building, according to their needs, while retaining access to auditorium, ballroom, food court, and service centers. A driveway extending along the front facade accommodates as many as 60 buses to service the events.

Marking the new entrance is the grand lobby, a daylight 70-foot high atrium. Its sweeping inverted vault ceiling was designed to capture and reflect the natural light that pours into the space from large clerestories on two sides. The full-height glass wall of the main entrance gives out-of-town visitors a panoramic view of sunny skies and lush tropical landscaping. The original entrance lobby, an elegantly curved atrium space at one end of the building, was replicated in scale at the opposite end in Phase III, for balance.

Although the designer of each phase has been able to leave a mark, the completed facility projects the appearance of a single, unified totality. Thanks to the Master Plan, this handsome phased project defies the look of a fast-growing center with a collection of additions.

Architect of Record: Hunton Brady Pryor Maso Architects, P.A.
Design Architect: Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Assoc. (Atlanta)
Principal in charge: Fred H. Pryor, Jr., AIA
Structural Engineer: Walter P. Moore & Associates
Civil Engineer: DAO Engineering, Inc.
Mechanical/Electrical Engineer: CHP & Associates
Construction Management: CRSS/Kelsey/Hardin
Owner: Orange County, Florida

The main entrance was designed to tower above other elements on the building facade, marking its position as the symbolic entrance near the center of the building. Photograph: Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Assoc.

State-of-the-art auditorium/theater seats 2,650, and is one of several centrally located specialty spaces. Photograph: Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Assoc.
A Place for Order and Justice

Pinellas County Criminal Justice Complex
Clearwater, Florida
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, Inc.

Newly enlarged and updated, the Pinellas County Criminal Justice Complex is expected to accommodate operational, functional, personnel, and spatial needs of the county’s criminal justice system for the next 20 years. Included on the four levels of the 500,000 sf structure (350,000 new and 150,000 renovated) are 23 criminal courtrooms, chambers for 27 judges and their staffs, and spacious areas for the efficient operation of the Clerk of Court, State Attorney, and Public Defender. Other offices, security facilities, and public spaces that support the public functions round out the building program.

For its expanded facility, Pinellas County desired a design that recalled the dignified stature of past courthouse architecture in a modern context (while staying in tune with very contemporary cost concerns). This effect is evident from the moment one encounters the main entrance, an updated classic design with columns and a portico topped and flanked by glazed rectangles.

Two elements played a major role in determining the overall design: providing security and representing the dignity of the judicial system. Actually, there are four security systems, integrated but operating independently to accommodate the distinctive needs of the public, staff, judiciary, and prison, helped to determine the intricate layout. Formal public galleries and passageways featuring clean modern lines, handsome (and durable) travertine walls and terrazzo floors, and stately staircases and columns lead into the refined courtroom spaces.

Separate single entrances for the public, staff, judiciary, and prisoners may be monitored and equipped with a bailiff station and x-ray and metal detection equipment. Inside, one finds seamless, if separate, networks of corridors, functional areas, and vertical circulation (stairways, escalators, elevators) for every user group, again meticulously designed with the dual goals of maximum convenience and security. Outside, vehicle circulation and public and protected parking areas are arranged to optimize circulation patterns with regard to the multiple building entries.

A variety of new courts technologies make such partitioning feasible. Staff and the public may access court records throughout the building, even in the courtrooms. Video technologies are used to display court calendars and monitor court proceedings as well as for

Ceremonial court for high-profile trials features contemporary details rendered in traditional materials. Photograph: George Cott, Chroma Inc.

Granite-clad circular vestibule serves as queuing space prior to security checks. Photograph: George Cott, Chroma Inc.
security surveillance. Arrangements by video from remote locations near the jail reduce the cost of transporting prisoners.

The Criminal Justice Complex is located on 20 acres of the southeast corner of the existing court/jail facility in an area bordered by a drainage canal and a light industrial development park. Great care was given to incorporating landscape and natural elements on and around the site. A reflecting pool, lined on either side with native plantings and grasses, serves the practical function of stormwater retention while creating a peaceful connection with 49th Street. Carefully selected indigenous trees and plants also screen service areas, frame roadways, and mitigate "transitions," for example, around parking lots and entrances.

For those who work in the complex and those called in for business or service, the architects have designed an efficient and decorous space intended to respect all aspects of our system of justice.

Architect:
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, Inc.

Associate Architect:
(Existing Building Renovation) Mudano Associates Architects

Project Manager:
Duncan Broyd, RIBA

Design Director:
Philip Dangerfield

Structural Engineer:
Walter P. Moore & Associates

Civil Engineer:
King Engineering

MEP Engineer:
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, Inc.

General Contractor:
Clark Construction

Owner:
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

Largest public access area, two-story gallery leads to Library, Jury Assembly, and Clerks' offices. Photograph: George Cott, Chroma Inc.
A prison is not considered a desirable building type for a Central Business District. So when the Federal Bureau of Prisons planned its Metropolitan Detention Center for a 1.5-acre urban site in downtown Miami, the architect wanted to change this thinking. Design of the facility, an integral part of the city’s Federal Judicial Complex, required experience and sensitivity to neighborhood concerns.

Wolfberg Alvarez and Partners undertook the challenge of designing the 1000-bed high-rise. The Detention Center, which serves as a holding facility for inmates awaiting trial and sentencing, is connected to the U.S. Courthouse and adjacent Federal Law Enforcement Building.

While the design responds to the need for absolute security, the Miami-based firm also addressed the building’s aesthetic impact within the city’s urban fabric. Additional requirements included incorporation of a parking garage and restoration of the historic Chaile Block.

The program goal was to develop a functional, efficient facility within the context of designing federal architecture of stature and permanence. With clean forms and well-articulated details, the Detention Center looks to capture the strength and presence of federal buildings of the past. Its scale and presence on the street are reinforced by a monumental colonnade at the entrance side, and on simple but distinctive multistory facades, potentially stagnant fenestration takes on a strong, interesting pattern. Highlighting the rear facade, instead of protective fencing, are secure glass-block-enclosed recreation decks.

The 564,614 sf Detention Center includes a full range of support facilities: three courtrooms and adjacent facilities; administrative offices; receiving and discharge areas; a health care clinic; storage facilities; and a secure 85,000 SF parking structure for 200 vehicles. Ancillary support facilities were located on the lower floors to create a security buffer between public spaces and the detention cells on the upper floors. Angular interior walls eliminate blind spots and allow for unobstructed lines of sight.

Construction was poured-in-place concrete with architectural precast panel façades. Precast concrete floor and roof joists span to reinforced concrete beams, which, in turn, are supported by reinforced concrete columns. Lateral wind forces are resisted by strategically located reinforced concrete shear walls. The building is supported on a deep foundation system of auger cast piles. The use of precast concrete joists and solid beams in the main building permitted longer spans, which reduced the visual interference of columns, as well as saving time and money.

The Chaile Block was the last full block of early-20th-century construction remaining in Miami when the property was purchased for the Detention Center. William Chaile built Miami’s first “dime store” there around 1915. Unoccupied for

Monumental columns at the entrance reinforce the large scale of the building and its presence on the street. Photograph: ©Everett & Soule
many years, and in an advanced state of disrepair, its five buildings had been exceptional examples of the Masonry Vernacular style of architecture. Their projecting arcades, canopies, and open balconies, were noteworthy adaptations to the Miami climate.

Based on a historic survey and programmatic considerations for the new facility, Wolfberg Alvarez restored the storefronts and demolished the rear portion of the buildings. The Chaille Block now houses administrative offices and training facilities for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Set against the solid facade of the Metropolitan Detention Center, the old buildings, their original colors restored, add a wonderful contrast of scale and detail. A transition bar serves as a backdrop to the identity, scale, and character of the historical restoration. The juxtaposition successfully reinforces each structure’s differences within the totality of the Judicial Complex.

Architect and Engineer: Wolfberg Alvarez and Partners
Principal-in-Charge/Architecture: David A. Wolfberg, AIA
Principal-in-Charge/Engineering: Julio E. Alvarez, PE
Structural, Civil, Mechanical/Electrical Engineer: Wolfberg Alvarez and Partners
General Contractors: Turner Construction Company (Phase 1); The Clark Construction Group, Inc. (formerly George C. Hyman Construction Company) and Cogafar-Impresit USA (Phase 2)
Owner’s Representative (Construction Manager): CRSS Constructors, Inc.
Owner: Federal Bureau of Prisons

Secure pedestrian bridge linking the Detention Center and Courthouse also frames the entrance plaza, front facade, and public entry. Developed in a repeating pattern, the articulation of the cell windows creates a strong and interesting facade treatment. Photograph: ©Everett & Soule

A typical inmate floor includes a split level housing area with activity rooms and a two-story dayroom/recreational area. Photograph: Mark Roskams
A spirit of community partnership in Orlando has resulted in an imposing and practical public facility. The City of Orlando, Orange County, and the First Presbyterian Church had a common problem: inadequate downtown parking. The three unrelated entities joined forces to build a six-story, 865-space parking garage to share. Its unique origin and uncommon design have attracted a good deal of local pride and celebratory attention. From the start, this was not your standard parking garage.

Located at Liberty Street and Jackson Avenue, the Administration Center Garage facility offers a mix of public (city) parking for the Central Business District and employee and guest parking for the county and church. Also housed on the first floor are the Orange County Tag and Downtown Development Board Maintenance offices. Intended for occupancy from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., the project anticipates parking needs for a planned performing arts center. The bright, open, inviting space is enhanced by maximum lighting and visibility on each floor, colorful art work, color-keyed level designations, and glass elevator cabs.

Teamwork was crucial to every aspect of this undertaking. Initiated as a design-build project with DCC Constructors and the Orlando office of Spillis Candela & Partners, the clients’ desire for a safe, high-use, user-friendly facility inspired new applications of historic ornamentation as part of the overall conception. Inside, use of a double helix ramping system permits maximum clear vision on each story for security as well as easy ingress and egress at all levels. Outside, artistic aluminum facades and exterior stair fenestration designed for ventilation, security, and to cover the exterior handrails are reminiscent of turn-of-the-century Vienna. SCP team members used CADD to design the metalwork patterns, which were economically crafted with high-tech computerized waterjet technology. Guiding the architecture from start to finish was the unique concept Spillis Candela calls “the art of parking.”

Post-tension, cast-in-place concrete construction was

Light, bright, user-friendly ambiences features handsome perspectives throughout, bright color-keyed railings, and a kaleidoscopic, six-story, through-the-roof sculpture by Dorothy Gillespie. Photograph: James Loyd, AIA, Spillis Candela & Partners, Inc.
selected for its aesthetically pleasing finish, flexibility in forming complex curves, water impenetrability, and capability to produce flat ceiling slabs at each level. Reinforced concrete, which is fire resistant, durable, and inexpensive to maintain, also provides all of the required structural properties.

The art-in-public-places program, intended to integrate artwork into everyday surroundings, is much in evidence. Parking patrons encounter murals along stairways and throughout the building, and twelve panel insets in the brick facade will feature 20' x 40' banners. Centered in the double helix and visible throughout is a vibrant 63' x 18' sculptural column by Dorothy Gillespie. Composed of 96 painted (inside and out) aluminum panels, hooked together and stabilized by 250,000 yards of post-tension cable, Gillespie’s trademark bright-color sculpture extends the height of the double helix. Red, yellow, blue, or green accents at each level coordinate with color-keyed railings and markers.

With the success of their project, the partners have achieved more than a parking solution. Their commissioning of a unique, thoughtful, and well orchestrated public building, which the design/build team accomplished on time and under budget, sets a new standard for the art of parking.

Imposing corner insets will frame a changing display of banners and murals. Photograph: James Loyd, AIA, Spillis Candela & Partners, Inc.

Window detail. Elegant Old-Vienna-inspired grillwork was used instead of industrial bars to secure the first level. Photograph: James Loyd, AIA, Spillis Candela & Partners, Inc.

Architect: Spillis Candela & Partners, Inc.
Design-Builder: DCC Constructors, Inc.
Project Manager: Thomas H. Hyde, AIA
Landscape Architect: Thomas Lucido & Associates, PA
Structural Engineer: Walter P. Moore & Associates
Civil Engineer: DAO Engineering
Mechanical/Electrical Engineer: HC YU Associates
Owners: City of Orlando, Orange County, & First Presbyterian Church
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Designing Against Crime: The Case for CPTED Training for Architects

by Randall Atlas, Ph.D., A.I.A., CPP

There are three really good reasons why architects need to be trained in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). First, they need to know how to prevent crime in the buildings in order to prevent negligent liability; second, they want to design for the health, safety and welfare of building users against threats of workplace violence, terrorism, and street crime; and third, because they have to design for security for all federal architecture by complying with the GSA Federal Security Standards.

Architects need to know the basic techniques and skills of CPTED to meet the general standards of care of building codes and specific industry standards found in, for example, the lodging and shopping center industries. Accidents and criminal incidents are drawing architects into premises liability lawsuits. Architecture impacts the safety and security of a building in many features, including stairs, ramps, handrails, interior and exterior lighting, floor materials, parking lot design, blind spots and dead-end corridors. The selection of doors, windows, access control systems and building circulation patterns are other safety and security design considerations.

Often, the architect is held accountable for inadequate locks, poor key control, inoperative equipment, inadequate lighting, and systems failures.

The architect is also held accountable for having foreseen or having prior knowledge of designing high-risk buildings in crime prone areas and for not taking adequate precautions. Not only is the architect being held accountable for knowledge of the building types, but also for knowledge of crime trends and the impact to the operational design criteria. Architects must provide the comprehensive security considerations in many types of urban buildings by designing for street- and basement-level protection as well as safe parking, exterior, shipping/receiving, and intake areas.

While premises liability lawsuits were relatively rare in the 1950s and a typical jury award was $10,000, the 1980s jury award was $1.04 million. In 1992, average jury awards rose to $3.35 million and settlements to $545,800. Fifty-eight percent of all civil cases in 1992 were premises liability issues and half of those were inadequate-security claims. Crime in the premises liability suits brought from 1988 to 1992 stemmed from, by location, apartment buildings 23 percent, parking lots 19 percent, hotel and motel rooms 15 percent, stores 9 percent, and restaurants 8 percent. Architects are viewed as having deep pockets because they are often forced to carry insurance. The result is that architects are being successfully dragged into litigation involving third-party premises liability security negligence lawsuits.

Architects want to be informed of all relevant design criteria that could impact the uses, users, and design of the building under contract. Traditionally, the architect is considered the master builder. It is he or she who should start the security design process during the programming phase. Securing premises, people, property, and information begins with a thorough needs assessment to establish the design criteria for the specific project. The first step in designing against terrorism or crime is

Continued on page 24.
to assess the threats and vulnerabilities to the tangible and intangible assets to be protected.

The Oklahoma and World Trade Center bombings increased awareness of the vulnerability to acts of terror, but area crime and workplace violence pose more of an actual threat. Considering that the thrust of criminal justice reform, such as the truth-in-sentencing program, has sputtered under the prison overcrowding situation, released chronic offenders practicing everyday street crime prove more threatening than terrorists planning random attacks. But terrorism is big news. The media cover bombings for weeks with unrelenting enthusiasm if not actual facts. While the personal dramas of terrorist attacks unfold piece by piece, a victim of violent crime in a local urban parking lot, for example, goes unnoticed. Still, any attention to the correlate of the physical environment abetting the criminally inclined helps drive the prevention argument.

CPTED is the effective use and design of the built environment to reduce the opportunity and fear of predatory stranger-to-stranger crime. CPTED uses a multi-tiered approach to increase the effort needed to commit the crime, to increase the risks of being detected while committing a crime, to reduce the rewards for committing the crime, and to remove the excuses for inappropriate behavior. The strategies for achieving these goals include using natural access-control, natural surveillance, legitimate activity support, management and maintenance strategies, and territorial boundaries. Adequate security planning, CPTED, and defensible space planning, are parts of the comprehensive security planning process as compared to a target-hardening orfortressing reaction to criminal incidents.

Despite decades of effort, a national security code or ordinance as part of state or national building codes has never been realized. The threat of premises liability litigation spurs opposition to the adoption of safety/security standards from widespread professional groups. Very few lodging, shopping/retail, building and construction associations have supported minimum safety standards development. An exception is the new General Services Administration (GSA) Security Design Standards for federal government architecture. These standards are fast becoming the industry "standard of care."

Architects have to comply with the GSA Security Design Standards intended to save lives, prevent injury and protect the property and assets. Terrorism has been the major vehicle for change in an otherwise stuck universe of crime prevention. For example, in June 1995, after the bombing of a federal facility in Oklahoma City, President Clinton mandated a basic standard of security for all federal facilities. The mandate states that each federal building shall be upgraded to the minimum security standards as recommended for its audited security level by the Department of Justice. The security design criteria provide a performance-based approach to various building systems and components, from window glazing to structural systems. The GSA standards require a security risk assessment at the early programming stage of all federal projects. Risk factors may be diverse as a building's symbolic importance if it is a highly visible landmark or its function if it is considered vital to national interests. Designers should allow for the capacity to increase responsiveness to a heightened or temporary threat, such as when a courthouse is the site of a high-profile trial.

In partnership with Florida's Attorney General, the Florida CPTED Network (FCN), provides minimum standards for certification and as a resource for premises security design and prevention education for city and county management, law enforcement, and design/planning professionals. In recent years a few dedicated planners and law enforcement professionals in Sarasota and Broward County have initiated cutting-edge ordinances in their communities requiring at least one member of any government project design plan review team to be CPTED trained.

The future of safe neighborhoods and cities is here now. It is time for architects to come on board and embrace safety and security for all buildings and for all planners to incorporate crime prevention through environmental design in every community. 

Randall Atlas, vice-president of Atlas Safety & Security Design Inc., Miami, is a FCN board member, a registered architect in Florida and nationally accredited (NCARB), a certified protection professional (CPP) from the American Society of Industrial Security, and member of the ASIS Security Architecture and Engineering Committee. He received his doctorate in criminology from Florida State University. For more information on CPTED, check the website at www.dynasite.com/atlas, or email ratlas@ix.netcom.com, or call (800) 749-6029, or contact FCN Chairman Ray Wood at The Orange County Sheriff's Office, (407) 354-3925; e-mail: safestecure@msn.com
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You may be a new builder starting your first model home or an experienced developer breaking ground on your latest shopping center...or a contractor, civil engineer or architect seeking expert advice on certain building materials’ performance characteristics. But no matter what your particular interest, you need a reliable partner who knows what’s important to your success.

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Bravo Florida architects! You are truly 'leading in shaping Florida's future'. While AIA works to make a stronger and more unified profession, outstanding architects are enriching the concept of a whole and vital Florida through winning buildings. The actions indicated by works illustrated in this issue speak louder than words, pointing to the relevance of our profession.

This edition of Florida Caribbean Architect presents the results of the awards program that honors many distinguished members of AIA Florida. The Awards program celebrates the excellence which our organization represents—honor earned, not granted, representing the best of our profession's achievements.

That we were blessed with more entrants than ever before, around three hundred, is in many ways a favorable sign. First, it suggests that many architects are busy doing substantial work. Also, it means our AIA Florida awards program is very well regarded, enough so as to warrant the serious participation that has been experienced. That, of course tells us that it is important to keep the program's standard as high as possible. Excellence attracts excellence.

As a mirror, the winning designs this year, point to long term progress in the quality of the architecture architects are delivering. Clearly a uniquely Florida/Caribbean profession of architecture is emerging. Interestingly, entries did not represent mere repetitive imitation, but a work that is place responsive and immensely creative. The profession is able to accomplish significant substantial work, designing buildings that are diverse in purpose and character, and complex and effective in impact. Yet, Florida and Caribbean architects are just as able to carry out modest projects with due attention to refinement, elegance and appropriateness. A church, a major courthouse, a beach house, a school and more. All of it is plainly Florida, and CARIBBEAN.

I want to express my appreciation for each of the winners. You are the true leaders of the profession. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to proclaim your success. Now it is AIA/Florida's duty to help you gain recognition as widely as possible. Broad public awareness of the profession's high standards is crucial to its success and advancement. Whatever benefit comes your way in the form of more commissions has been well earned.

I want to thank all those members and staff whose effort ensured the success of the awards program. Our Awards Chair, Past President John Cochran, worked extensively with Peter Hepner, AIA, and Director of Communications, Cathi Lees to bring this program to fruition. Finally, I want express my gratitude for the wisdom and good judgement of our juries. The juries, which are named on page 11, were key to the good results and their commitment to careful judgement which upheld the highest standards is appreciated as well.

May next year's AIA Florida awards program be an even greater success!
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Since the 1950's, the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects has worked to recognize excellence in architecture and commend the Florida architects who lead the shaping of Florida's future. This year the awards program reached new heights as the Association received a record number of entries from over 200 outstanding firms and individuals. Jurors were faced with the daunting task of selecting just a few winners from dozens of unique and deserving entries.

The Award for Excellence jury of Deborah Berke, AIA; Billie Tsien, AIA; and Tod Williams, FAIA met in New York City to select the projects worthy of recognition in this year's competition. The jury felt that the body of work, as a whole, was far above other state awards programs in which they had been involved. Jurors were challenged by the overall quality of the projects and inasmuch as they celebrated quite a few submissions, there were many others on the edge.

The jurors in the remaining categories were comprised of distinguished individuals in the profession. The 1998 Unbuilt Award jury consisted of Roney Mateu, AIA; William McMinn, FAIA; and Dan Williams, FAIA. The Test of Time jury was comprised of Carl Abbott, FAIA; Andrea Clark Brown, AIA; and Albert E. Alfonso, AIA. The Firm Award jury, headed by last year's recipient, Donald Singer, FAIA; consisted of George Bolge, Director of the Boca Raton Museum of Art; and Dr. Peter Magyar; Founding Director of the Florida Atlantic University School of Architecture.

On behalf of the over 2500 members of AIA Florida, we commend all of the entrants. You truly represent the best in Florida architecture.
1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Duany Plater-Zyberk and Company

San Juan Bautista Mission
Miami, Florida

The jury suggested that this textbook project, complete in all parts, is best described in a statement from the client, the Reverend Jose Luis Menendez.

"When we began to dream about this mission, we envisioned a structure that would reflect the faith of a neighborhood firmly rooted in its Hispanic cultural heritage. The completed sanctuary has far exceeded all of our expectations. Today, this building has become the physical manifestation of the spirit of a community that is struggling towards self-improvement and away from a history of violence and poverty."

Jury comments: "...the center courtyard is one of the most successful parts. Having the courtyard as a gathering space with the low buildings in front makes this truly a neighborhood church. This is a graceful space that is really quite amazing."

Architects: Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk
Consulting Engineer: Pierno-Bosulto
Interior Designer: Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk
Contractor: Andrew Ferrera
Owner or Developer: Archdiocese of Miami
Photographer: Carlos I. Moreles

Scale of Plans

Longitudinal Section, looking towards the tower
Seminole Softball Complex
Altamonte Springs, Florida

1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

C.T. Hsu + Associates

The emphasis is on playfulness in this scorekeeper’s facility—a unique multi-purpose building with softball fields radiating from the centrally located structure. The complex consists of an 8,000 square foot, three story concession and scorekeeper’s building, five tournament quality softball fields, extensive public grounds, parking and a maintenance facility.

The ten-sided scorekeeper’s facility is on axis with both the entry to the park and the main tournament field. Centered within the five playing fields, it houses public restrooms and concession sales on the first floor. The second floor consists of a large meeting room and public balcony with offices and scorekeeper boxes occupying the third floor.

The site for this functional and friendly building is a reclaimed county landfill. This innovative use of public land creates a popular civic amenity for adjacent neighborhoods.

Architect: Timothy McNichols, AIA
Consulting Engineer: Robert Plowfield
Landscape Architect: Clotting, Jackson, Kervher, Anglin, Lopez, Rinehart, Inc., David Berth
Interior Designer: Mary Frith Design
Contractor: Al Strong
Owner or Developer: Bob Chovet, Manager
Photographer: Bob Brown
1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Bronson Residence
Coconut Grove, Florida

Anthony Abbate, AIA

This residential interior renovation of a condominium unit consists of 264 square meters sandwiched between two concrete slabs on the 22nd floor with sweeping eastern and northern views of the bay. With the layout predetermined, the materials were proportioned to each space rather than impose a neutral dimension for all spaces. The attempt was to articulate the spaces and give definition to the experiences of entering, viewing and leaving. The work of Adolf Loos contributed to the perception of space involving not only the sense of sight but also the rest of the senses.

In Loosian schemes where positions of spaces are not equivalent the discrepancy is compensated for by treatment of the wall, ceiling and floor surfaces. This project superimposed additional planes composed of aluminum, glass, maple veneers and chromatic paint applied to plaster to provide visual screening, spatial corrections and surface dimensions.

Architect: Anthony Abbate, AIA
Interior Designer: Anthony Abbate, AIA
Contractor: Steven Bronson
Owner or Developer: Steven Bronson
Photographer: Bill Sanders

Jury comments: "...the detailing of the wooden ceiling is very beautiful. This is a refined piece of work that takes a plan that was not able to be changed and brings life and interest to the spaces."

Jury comments: "...a thoughtful use of detailing and a careful selection of materials"
King Beach House
Grayton Beach, Florida

1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

McWhorter Architects, PA

Creating a fun, easy, yet elegant home for a family was the goal of this single family, residential structure located on the northwest Florida coast. The site adjoins a state park and porches and decks were used liberally to create an ideal getaway for this family with two young children. The decks also provide multiple entertaining spaces with their sweeping views of the Gulf of Mexico.

A play space was created for the children to emphasize convenience to the beach and all its trappings. A ground level bunkroom was designed with space for table tennis, darts and other games out of earshot of the upper bedrooms. The greatroom, with 14-foot high ceilings contains living, dining and kitchen space that mimics the sprawling gulf. The living spaces sit elevated on a precast concrete superstructure, similar to that used in superhighways. It provides a sturdy skeleton to the 2x8 wood framing above.

Jury comments: "...I like the sense of the fragile element floating on top of the solid base."

Jury comments: "...the exterior is successful because you can sense the construction, the precast concrete and the frame that clearly screens the sun and shades the entire structure."

Architect: Carey McWhorter, AIA
Consulting Engineer: John Elmad
Interior Designer: Dr. Andy King
Contractor: Peter Horn
Owner or Developer: Dr. Andy King
Photographer: Coastal Living Magazine
1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Colee Hammock Townhomes
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Anthony Abbate, AIA

This townhome project was conceived as structured spaces that would fit into the historical and natural context of the existing neighborhood, yet meet the demands of security and increased residential density imposed by modern conditions. The 50' x 135' site was bisected to form two long narrow zones with the main pedestrian entrances at the street, vehicular access off the alley and full development of the side yards (resulting from setback requirements) into garden walks and courtyards. The interior spaces explore the maximum potential for natural light and ventilation. Reading nooks in the living and master bedroom areas utilize aluminum window hoods to tone the reflected light entering these small spaces.

Architect: Anthony Abbate, AIA
Consulting Engineer: Murray Bryntesen, PE
Landscape Architect: Fred E. Stresou, ASLA
Interior Designer: Anthony Abbate, AIA
Contractor: Dick Wynn
Owner or Developer: Anthony and Joye Abbate
Photographer: Bill Sanders

Jury comments: "...the elevation shows a sense of invention. The individual elements are carefully composed especially given the tight budget. There is a tautness to this project. Each of the two sides have three orientations that contribute to the sense of complexity of the experience of this house."
Orange County Courthouse Complex
Orlando, Florida

1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

HLM Design

This five building, 1,500,000 square foot complex is located within the central business of downtown Orlando. The 24-level courthouse is comprised of two major parts—the base and the tower. Support functions such as the sally port, judges’ secure parking, the main entrance, rotunda, clerk of court’s offices and six high-volume courtrooms are located in the base. These functions require clear and direct access for large volumes of people. Organized and detailed to convey a sense of purpose, the entry sequence takes the visitor through a landscaped open courtyard into the main courthouse, through security, to a grand rotunda. The rotunda serves as the main orientation point with all circulation emanating from it.

Architect: HLM Design
Consulting Engineer: HLM Design
Landscape Architect: HLM Design
Interior Designer: HLM Design
Contractor: Hubei/TDS/P&D/MDI
Owner or Developer: Orange County Board of Commissioners
Photographer: Hedrich Blessing Photographers

Jury comments: "...this building certainly has a civic presence and a sense of dignity to its facade. It’s strongest on its exterior; in both the side elevation and the front, because of the organization of the various elements. The grand central spaces bring a dignity to the system."
Rowe Architects Incorporated

This school constructed in a rapidly growing bedroom community east of Tampa, is divided into four parts. A lack of architecturally significant buildings in the area generated the goal of creating a school building that would set a precedent for future public and institutional buildings. The school is organized around a central schoolyard that is open to the northeast to take advantage of the views down the gently sloping terrain. The media center holds the prominent position on the schoolyard composition while the multi-purpose and dining spaces open themselves to the view of the site and tree line. The programmatic relationships are satisfied by simple building volumes that are articulated and/or connected by a system of shading devices and glazing, open covered walkways and stair towers.

Architect: Rowe Architects Incorporated
Landscape Architect: Rigall and Parker
Contractor: G.H. Johnson Construction Co.
Owner or Developer: Hillsborough County School Board
Photographer: George Cott

Jury comments: "...there's a sense of community and outreach. It's a plan that makes space, as opposed to circulation, as so many other schools do."

Jury comments: "...this school has an appealing modesty yet an inventiveness reflected in the sunscreens. The planning of the various elements contribute to the solid plan."
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church
Miami, Florida

1998
Award for Excellence

Jury comments: "...the success of this project is the use of natural light brought in throughout the building."

Jury comments: "...the additional chapels and exterior spaces seem to accrue, making a more rich and complex project. The courtyards have a complexity that gives one the sense of entering a secluded and special place."

Sieger Architectural Partnership

A village of individual structures which can be operated independent of each other meets the need of a Catholic parish that worshipped in a school for thirty years while saving funds to build their first dedicated church facility. The buildings are connected by walkways and courtyards designed to make the most of the Florida climate without stifling the breezes or shunting the community at large.

A series of twelve foot wide, mechanically operated drawbridges open from the buildings to the main courtyard to obscure the distinction between exterior and interior space.

Symbolic tetrahedral forms were used throughout the complex. The main sanctuary provides fixed seating, in the round, for 600 people on a gently sloping floor that allows an unobstructed view of the altar from any location.

Architect: Sieger Architectural Partnership
Consulting Engineer: Jose M. Muxo, Jr. P.E.
Landscape Architect: EGS2 Landscape Corporation
Interior Designer: Sieger Architectural Partnership
Contractor: G52 Corporation
Owner or Developer: Archdiocese of Miami
Photographer: John Gillon Photography
Holmes Hepner & Associates

Located on fifteen acres of a gently rolling rural hillside, overlooking an environmentally sensitive prairie, this 2,200 square foot, two story residence bridges the expansive view of the prairie with the densely wooded forest to the north and south.

The composition of the house generates from a longitudinal spine that serves as the horizontal and vertical circulation element. In an effort to create a "barn-like" language, open volumes were created to receive light and capture views from multiple orientations.

All the structural components, both on the interior and exterior, are clearly expressed and presented in an 80" rhythm which became a vocabulary for the detailing decisions of the project. A continuos celestory creates a dramatic level of transparency from most of the spaces in the house.

Project Team: Peter M. Hepner, AIA; Debbie Hepner, Dan Sebreee
Consulting Engineer: Heath Engineering, Inc. and Brink Associates, Inc.
Contractor: Gude Brothers Construction Company
Owner or Developer: Mary Triplett and Mark Herander
Photographer: Chroma, Inc.

Jury comments: "...this house is entirely appropriate for its central Florida location. It's delightful that this house is nestled in a pine grove and that the trees "play" with the house in such a positive way. Of special interest was the owner's statement that after investigating many other options they knew the only way to get what they wanted was to work with an architect. The architect delivered for them the house they wanted, on budget. It supports the idea that when you employ an architect it doesn't make the project more expensive, it just makes it better.
Windsor Town Center
Vero Beach, Florida

1998
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Merrill, Hatch and Pastor Architects

Great care in the site plan, the detailing and the buildings drew jurors to this group of seven structures, which form the entrance to a small village. It is approached from the east through an alley of oaks, from the west four roads converge on and radiate from the site.

The structures were sited to form a small block and to create three gardens—an amphitheater, a raised lawn terrace and a flower garden.

Each structure on its own represents a plan type, with a willful simplicity. Together, they make movement through and around the plan interesting.

Jury comments: "...there is great care in the site plan and the detailing. The buildings have an edge to them that others of this type lack. The spaces that are formed between the buildings and the quality of the buildings themselves are quite rich."
Sierra Cardona Ferrer

Integrating this complex plan into the powerful landscape achieves a sense of it growing out of the ground rather than just being held up.

This modern and spacious 52,000+ square foot structure houses the library and learning resources for the college and is divided into three principal areas: administration, audiovisual and exhibition/reading rooms.

The primary structural system in the administration and audiovisual areas is reinforced concrete slabs and beams over columns and walls. The reading rooms compose two floors of post tensioned slabs and beams supported by reinforced concrete columns and a secondary system of steel joists, metal decking and lightweight concrete.

Jurors felt Sierra Cardona Ferrer created this “extraordinarily successful project with a quality of plan and section rarely achieved with a modest budget.”

Interior Designer: Sierra Cardona Ferrer
Contractor: Aireko Construction Corporation
Owner or Developer: University of Puerto Rico
Photographer: Max Toro
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Tiger Dryvac U.S.A., Inc.
Trenwyl Industries, Inc.
T-Square Reprographics & Imaging Solutions
Virtual 3D, Inc.
W.G. Mills, Inc. Construction Managers
Wilsonart International
YTONG Florida, LTD.
Musical Building, University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Rowe Architects Incorporated

This facility composed of individual practice spaces: band, orchestral, and choral rehearsal studios; music study centers; faculty offices and an administrative suite works with the campus and expresses the functions that are within. The building placement recognizes and encourages development of the proposed campus pedestrian mall as well as the eventual expansion of the Architecture and Fine Arts Complex. A central interior court forms a gathering space that allows all of the floors to participate with each other and encourages communication with non-music students who pass through the complex. This structure exhibits very little change in appearance or function. Only minor modifications have been made to increase security.

Architect: H. Dean Rowe, FAIA
Contact Person: Lorry Wilder, AIA
Owner or Developer: Florida Board of Regents

Jury comments: "...this handsome, complex building is delightful in a way that is very inspiring. It has influenced not only this building type but the way buildings work on a campus. By bringing the outdoors indoors the non-programmed spaces become more satisfying than the programmed spaces. This is a timeless design that gives heart, meaning and soul to the building."
Mateu Family Project
Pinecrest, Florida

1998
TEST OF TIME

10 Year Award

Mateu Carreno Rizo & Partners, Inc.

The sociological idea of this generational environment where the family grows together and stays together in the same compound is embraced in this significant project. The compound is comprised of two independent structures in symbiotic relation along a narrow corner lot. The front house is a compact vertical composition of flowing spaces rendered in a contemporary vocabulary. The back house, almost equal in size, is a horizontal, single story construction of discreet spaces. It is rendered in solid rather than transparent materials and more traditionally detailed. The architect successfully accomplishes the intent to carry on the life of an extended family within a contemporary South Florida context.

Jury comments: "...this project suggests an inquiry and a tension between the two opposing houses so that you are constantly searching for a link, beyond the sociological, to the form. It continues to request the investigation that it requested when it was first designed and that is a very positive aspect. It’s a nice contemporary architectural rendition of the village."

Architect: Roney J. Mateu, AIA
Contact Person: Roney J. Mateu, AIA
Owner or Developer: Roney & Junie Mateu
1998
UNBUILT DESIGN AWARD

American Airlines Arena
Miami, Florida

Arquitectonica International Corp.

Jury: This project is one of the most creative and exciting compositions seen in the mega sports arena type of spaces. It is a clear contribution to the rebirth of downtown Miami. The scale of the individual buildings makes this project a joy to be around. It creates a lively environment for the city around it.

Suzhou Performing Arts Center and Exhibition Hall
Suzhou, China

C.T. Hsu + Associates, P.A.

Jury: This is a sophisticated design that is simple in many ways yet with a fine detail of the big ideas. It is a simple geometric shape that includes a lot of different geometries. Its undulating form contains it without restraining it.
Museum of Natural History
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Meeting Room and Chapel
Oakland Hills, California

1998
UNBUILT DESIGN AWARD

Agrait Betancourt Arquitectos

Jury: The sequence of spaces and the successful use of the ramp is notable in this design. The building plan and shape is very congruent with the use of a museum of natural history. It is a building, which like nature, is not very rigid. The atrium space becomes the organizing element and it contributes to the rich forest of discovery that a museum should be.

Carolina Garcia, AIA

Jury: This sensitive project has a very clean simplicity to it. It seems to have a thoughtful use of internal spaces versus the external spaces which is exciting and crucial. The intriguing hand drawings give a sense of the designer and not just of the computer. The landscaping is very much a part of the design and is integral to the idea behind the building and its reason for existing.
1998
UNBUILT DESIGN AWARD

City of Miami Aviation Terminal and Visitors Center
Miami, Florida

Spillis Candela & Partners, Inc.

Jury: This is a very clear and obvious building to move around in. There is a very successful imagery developed here with the solid base, the clear blue sky and the roof deck area which is synonymous to a cloud. It allows you to view the skyline while becoming an element within the skyline. It’s sculptural and it captures your imagination in both the daytime and nighttime.

Marilys R. Nepomechie, AIA

Jury: This project deals quite well with the scale in a historic city. It is a very complex project within a very restrictive site. The interior area becomes another street for the people inside to use. It has both an internal and external relationship that works well in a foreign city. It’s nice to see an architect who accepts the responsibility to work within this complex, historic city, and who finds a way to add to it, respond to it, be a part of it and yet, be separate from it.

Piazza Isolo
Verona, Italy

Sectional Perspective through Piazza Isolo, Exhibition Hall/Library, underground shops and two levels of parking.
The Florida Agricultural Museum
Flagler County, Florida

1998
UNBUILT DESIGN AWARD

Architects Design Group, Inc.

Jury: The strength of this project is that it is such an obvious, simple manipulation of shapes that are so consistent with the purpose of the building. There is a constraint and sophistication here that is not seen in many projects. The spine of the building is a very contemporary piece and the appendages’ strong references to typical farm buildings create a nice mix. The entire building and the movement through the building is very clear, simple and direct.

A Manual on Conservation Methodology for Historic Building and Structures

Beatriz del Cueto, AIA

Jury: This project is not about a building but a methodology and creation of a bible as to how to really deal with restoration. Many times people who are involved in restoration or preservation do not understand or have any knowledge of how the buildings were originally created. This is an absolutely wonderful opportunity for all of those who work in Puerto Rico to have such a rich resource of information.
1998
FIRM OF THE YEAR AWARD

Arquitectonica: From Hip to Blue Chip

In the late 1970's a brash, young Miami firm began designing buildings that turned heads and stretched the limits of modern architecture. What began as a firm committed to a more lively and up-to-date expression of modern architecture became an internationally known and respected corporation with signature buildings in more than ten countries. Arquitectonica, founded in 1977, has matured and yet, still maintained its exuberance for purposeful and lively design. The flamboyant, hip firm has grown up but shows no signs of mellowing out. Today, principals Laurinda Spear and Bernardo Fort-Brescia guide a staff of over 120 architects with branch offices in seven cities around the world.

After Fort-Brescia, originally from Peru, graduated from Harvard’s Graduate School of Design in the mid-70’s, he headed for a teaching assignment at the University of Miami. Around the same time, Spear completed her graduate work at Columbia’s School of Architecture and Design and returned to Miami to work on her parents’ waterfront home. The two met and collaborated on the Pink House, as her parents’ home became known. It was during this project that they married.

From the “Pink House” experience, Arquitectonica was formed. Spear and Fort-Brescia collaborated with three other architects on Babylon, Arquitectonica’s first project. The project began the firm’s transformation of Miami’s Brickell Avenue. Then in 1982, a 96-unit condominium project, Atlantis, sited on Brickell Avenue brought the firm national recognition. Atlantis, the most photographed of all Arquitectonica’s buildings, became a freeze frame image in the opening sequence of the then-hit television series, Miami Vice. The 20-story slab building, with its red triangle on the roof, has a distinctive 37-foot cube punched out of its middle. The cube serves as a “sky court” for building residents. The court has three elements: a whirlpool, a red spiral staircase and a palm tree. The Atlantis is sited perpendicular to the waterfront so that it can easily be seen from both Brickell Avenue and the ocean.

The flamboyant, hip firm has grown up but shows no signs of mellowing out.
and nearby Interstate 95. This building, more than any other, calls attention to the photographic nature of Arquitectonica’s work. Following the Atlantis was the Palace and then the Imperial, all within the Brickell Avenue area. It was not long before Arquitectonica began showing their muscle nationally and internationally. The design of the Center for Innovative Technology in Virginia and the Banco de Credito in Peru cemented their place among the nation’s top architecture firms.

The firm’s designs have won numerous awards and have been widely published, both nationally and internationally. Arquitectonica’s work has also been exhibited in many major museums in the United States. Arquitectonica demonstrates a strong commitment to AIA’s Intern Development Program. At any given time the firm employs over 45 interns. They also support a Summer Internship Program for college students.

The firm’s community involvement includes participation in the AIDS Walk and Walk America for the March of Dimes. In addition, Arquitectonica regularly contributes to Grove Outreach, which feeds approximately 500 people every week in the West Coconut Grove area. The firm’s principals and professional staff donate their time and service to several community boards in Miami. Firm members are currently active with the Miami Beach Design Review Board, the Dade County Infrastructure Committee, the Dade County Art in Public Places Advisory Board, Leadership Miami and the board of directors for the Miami Children’s Museum.

Throughout its rise to the status of a multi-national corporation, Arquitectonica has maintained its commitment to excellence and innovation. The firm is known worldwide for its ability to design creative solutions with memorable imagery and regional identity. They are dedicated to the design of buildings that meet functional requirements and incorporate state-of-the-art technology and positive imagery. Adding to their cutting edge style, Arquitectonica has achieved “blue-chip” status among the world’s architectural firms.

Jury comments:
Arquitectonica has set standards in the area of spirit and adventure that have become challenges to architects, both young and old. They have sustained a stance of risk taking in each of their significant projects built in the last 20 years. Their commitment to an ideal, as well as to the Greater Miami community and to students of architecture earns them this recognition as 1998 AIA Florida firm of the year.
It had all the potential to be brilliant. But they just didn’t quite get it.

Suddenly, compromises had to be made. But not everywhere. The saving grace was the windows. Because there’s a kindred soul that shares your passion for

the only thing scarier

fine detail. From 7/8” TDL, five hardwood interiors, all the way to the only vinyl window you would ever specify with confidence. Unlike so many others... they get it.

than a blank sheet of paper