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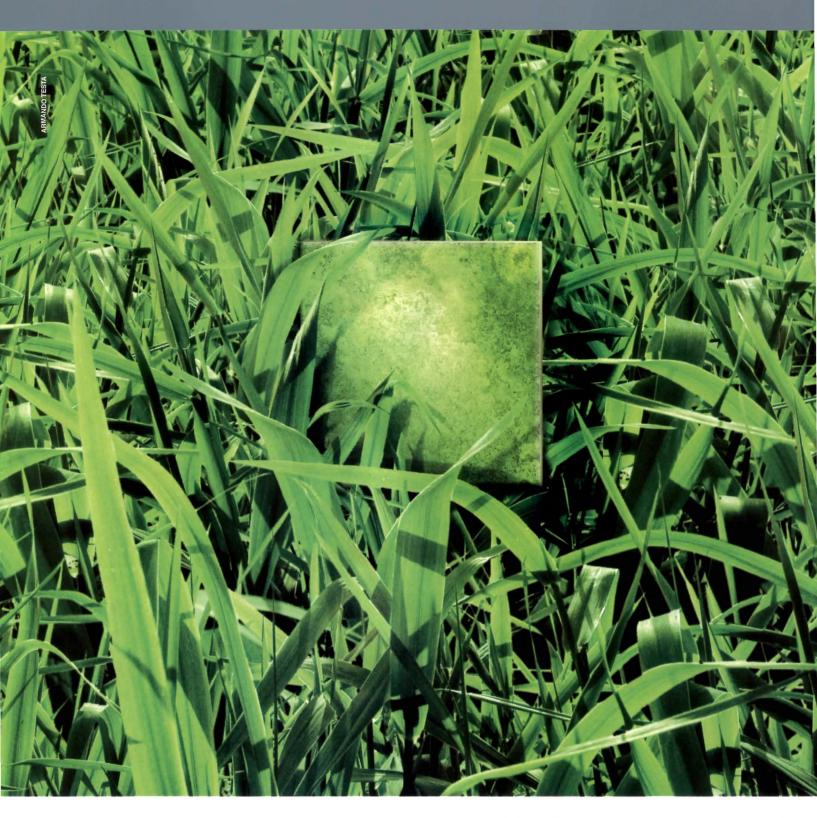


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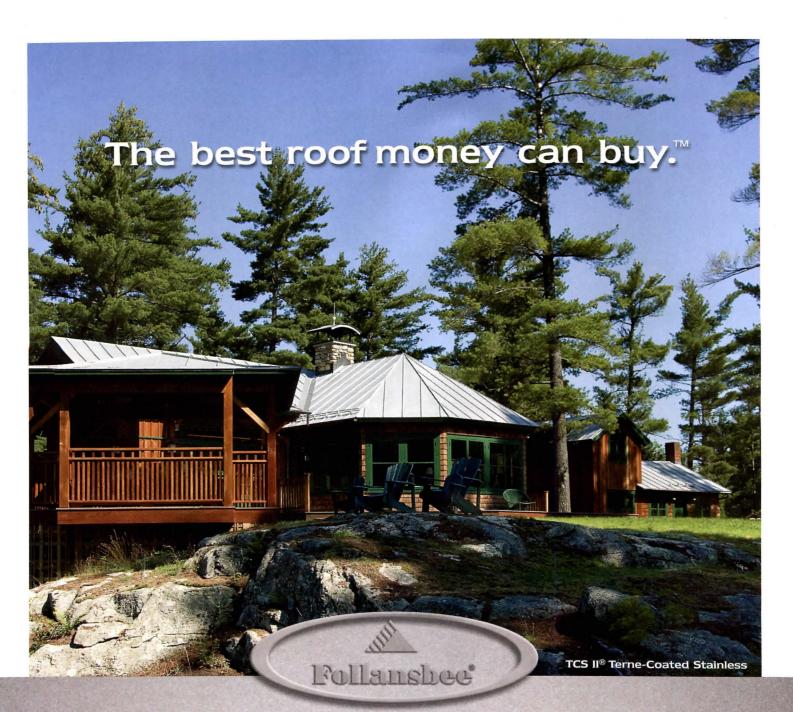






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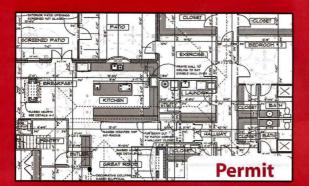
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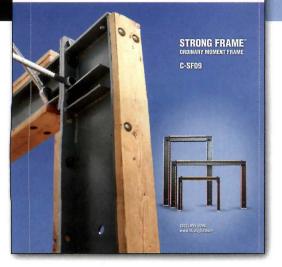
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Tom Kundig's Outpost gets metaphysical in the high desert of Central Idaho. Photo: Tim Bies. Cover photo: Danny Turner.



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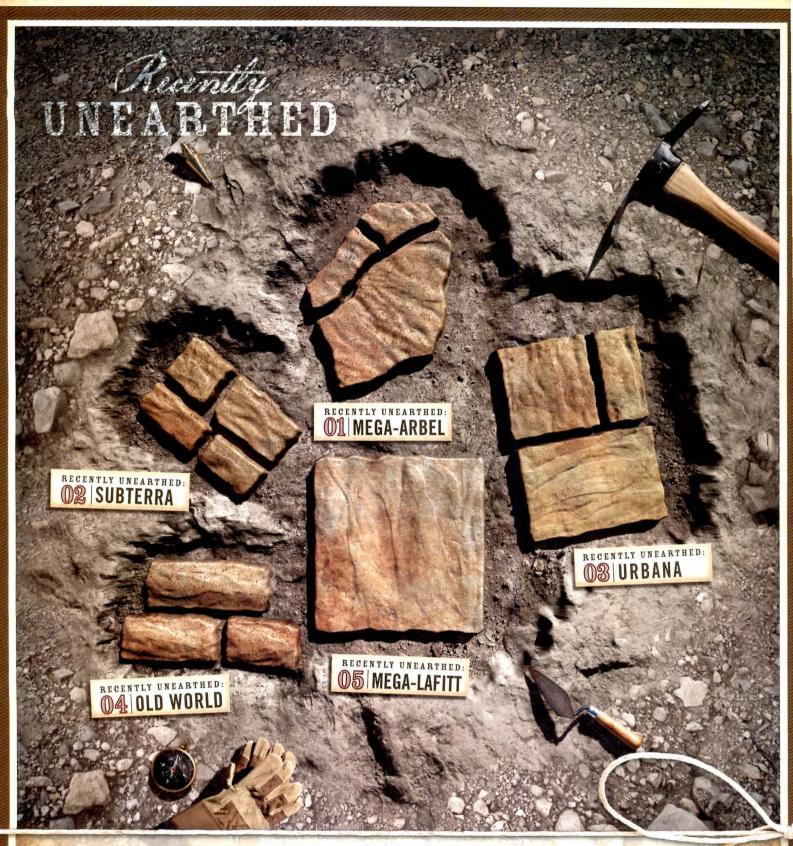
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from the editor

back to the bauhaus box

in the face of tough times, will architecture shed its fanciful curves?

by s. claire conroy

iven the country's dire economic state, many pundits are predicting a shift from the conspicuous consumption of luxury products to more humble displays. Apparently, any new acquisition must also manifest a strong utilitarian streak and a level of pious sobriety. It's all the better if that new thing you buy isn't sexy or is even a tad dowdy.

Going to treat yourself to a new car? Better steer clear of ostentatious Audis and boasting BMWs, even if they're "super ultra low emissions" and thrifty on gas or diesel fuel. Instead, a Prius will fit the bill. It's the librarian with her hair up in a bun—only the glasses never come off and the hairpins stay firmly installed. But you get 48 mpg, city.

What does that mean in the house design realm? Well, one principal with a large firm says architecture in the near future is going to shed its curves, because no client in his right mind will foot the bill anymore for something as gratuitous as Gehry's titanium curlicues. It's back to the Bauhaus box, he suggests—this time with double-pane windows and roofs that don't leak. Right angles will rule the day, and design will deign to lumber's stock dimensions. Everyone will have less of what they want, in keeping with our new dedication to austerity.

I have a hard time believing any of these predictions will take hold in any universal way and for any extended length of time.

Back in 1991, when Washington Dossier, the city magazine I worked for, was on the brink of falling victim to the widespread recession, we made some similar earth-shattering pronouncements about the luxury class. The magazine was founded on covering the social scene in Washington, D.C., especially the superhighway of the very richthe charity ball circuit. The last issue of the magazine, before its owner pulled the plug? It had an all-black cover with white type announcing "The Death of the Charity Ball." We predicted that such frivolous expenditures of money in the name of supporting the less fortunate would no longer be tolerated. People, with their newfound virtue and sensitivity, would write a check instead, with the full amount applied to the needy organization.

That last issue of *Dossier* never made it to the printer, nor to anyone's mailboxes.

<image>

There were no digital editions back then or magazine websites for us to post it to. I have a photocopy of it in a box somewhere in my basement.

Do I need to tell you that charity balls came back in a big way just a short time later? How could Washington society do without the Cancer Ball, the Hope Ball, or my personal favorite, the Eye Ball, for very long? It would be like sawing the rungs off the social ladder. No way up for the aspiring newcomer, and no public stockade for the disgraced wrongdoer. And, as it turned out, if people didn't get something in return, they didn't give as much.

So, no, I don't think all the color and joy will drain

from American architecture. It defies human nature not to strive for higher levels of achievement and greater depths of expression. We are aspirational and inspirational creatures. We just have to add more perspiration to the mix as well. When we make the decision to produce, we have to make a far greater effort to conserve every resource involved: money, energy, materials, land, water.

The first LEED Platinum house—designed by Ray Kappe, FAIA, and built by Steve Glenn's LivingHomes —comes to mind as a case in point. Good and gorgeous, it's got the heart of a Prius and the soul of a Ferrari. ra

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practice

an unsentimental education

architecture schools' hands-on studios move design from the ivory tower to the edges of town.

by cheryl weber

s an undergraduate at Auburn University in 1994, Jonathan Tate, a white suburban kid from Huntsville, Ala., signed up for Rural Studio, where he helped to design one-of-a-kind "charity houses" on a shoestring budget. The universityaffiliated program was only in its second year, but director Samuel Mockbee was a compelling figure who offered two things Tate wanted: exposure to the poverty-stricken rural South and a chance to build something unique. As it turned out, he got more than he expected. "It's not how to hang a door in a frame that I carry with me," says Tate, a partner at New Orleansbased buildingstudio and an adjunct assistant professor of architecture at Tulane University. "It's the strong confidence in who I am as an architect and the role I can play to affect people in this world."

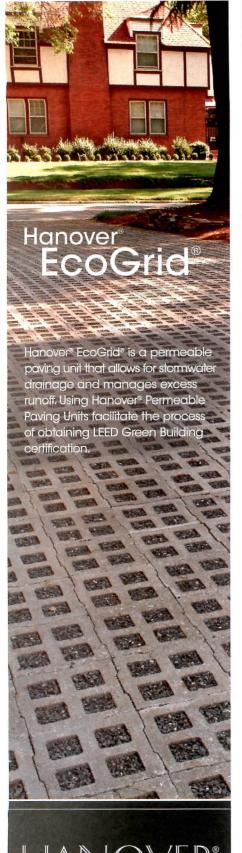
On the West Coast, Geoff Piper chose the University of Washington's architecture program because of the design/build studio offered through BaSiC Initiative. As he worked alongside community folks to build



Daniel Bejar

a library in Mexico in 2000, he, too, became less focused on the pragmatics of building and more attuned to architecture's social power. During the course of his studies, Piper worked with BaSiC Initiative founder and director Sergio Palleroni on several low-income projects, including a straw bale house in South Dakota. Today, he divides his Seattle practice, Fivedot Design/Build, between traditional design/ build/development and nonprofit international projects. (For more on the BaSiC Initiative, see page 20 in the April 2008 issue.)

Just 10 years ago, community-based design/ build studios were a novelty in architecture schools. But now they're commonplace. When Fivedot organizes a project and looks for students to participate, "we're competing against 30 design/ build programs happening over the summer, as opposed to about two when I was going to school," Piper says. It's as though the profession is rediscovering *continued on page 14*



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practice

social agendas after a long hiatus following the failed public housing experiments of the 1960s. It's not that architects didn't care about social issues, Tate says. But in Mockbee's hands, Rural Studio may have marked a point where they could once again be involved, by raising the idea that it was time to get over the stigma and back into the discussion. "For a few decades, architects were afraid to step out and say something about these things, not to mention that there was a period of heavy intellectualizing about what architecture was," he says.

As Mockbee brilliantly illustrated, doing good and doing good architecture can be the same thing. And when students are involved, everyone wins. They get to experience the thrill of building their ideas while also leaving a legacy. But it's not just the hands-on time that's ultimately of value. Community-based design trains budding professionals to work as a team rather than as a single genius architect, to take control over complex real-world conditions, and perhaps most important, to have a greater sense of agency in the world. In short, it exposes them to the side of architecture that schools tend to miss.

mixing altruism and ego

Back in 1995, another designer observed the disconnect between classroom conjecture and real-world design—and decided to do something about it. But The University of Kansas' award-winning Studio 804 was born almost by accident. As professor Dan Rockhill tells it, his firm, Rockhill and Associates, needed help on a project out in the country. He enlisted his students, who were wildly enthusiastic. In 1999, isn't mandatory, Rockhill truly believes that having their hands in the concrete makes his students better architects. And by working in poor communities where there are few English speakers, students see a side of life they never knew existed nearby. "Helping them be accountable to sustainable practices is

"it's not how to hang a door in a frame that i carry with me. it's the strong confidence in who i am as an architect and the role i can play to affect people in this world."

-jonathan tate

Studio 804 was incorporated as a 503(c) organization, and the model evolved over the years. After stickbuilding five affordable houses, the group began designing prefab structures that could be transported to sites farther away. And unlike many school studios, this one is run as a business, without university subsidies. Rockhill borrows money from the community development corporation that sponsors each speculative project. When the house is sold, he pays back the loan with interest and plows any profits back into Studio 804. Meanwhile, he gets a salary from The University of Kansas and students get credit for the course.

Although participation

another thing I feel good about," Rockhill says. "Students are anxious to produce buildings that are responsible to the environment. They're the ones who will bring about change." (For more on Rockhill, *ra*'s 2006 Top Firm Leadership Award winner, see pages 58–63 in the November/December 2006 issue.)

Accountability is the big bonus at Tulane's URBANbuild program, too, according to director Byron Mouton, AIA. In this case, he says, it's about helping each other maintain energy, stay on schedule, and practice diplomacy with colleagues and city agencies. Unlike design studios in which students work on a

good fellows

raduation from architecture school brings with it energy, idealism, and an appetite for self-invention, but it often brings a mountain of debt too. What's a socially conscious young graduate to do? One option is the

Frederick P. Rose Architectural Fellowship. Established by the late developer Frederick P. Rose, of the New York City-headquartered Jonathan Rose Companies, and run by Enterprise Community Partners (ECP), the program pays a community development corporation (CDC) to bring an architect on staff for three years.

ECP chooses the CDCs and drafts the work program, which typically includes the roles of project manager, green guru, and vision keeper. In exchange, recipients receive more than the security of a regular paycheck. In addition to being sponsored for licensing and LEED accreditation, the nine fellows (three are chosen annually) meet several times each year for formal training on such topics as understanding tax credits, how to use a financial calculator, and negotiating skills. "Our goal is to create a next generation of architects who understand the community development process and can be leaders in that field," says fellowship director Katie Swenson.

Through May 1, ECP is accepting applications for the next round of fellowships, which begin in September (www.rosefellowship.org/join). "We look for good designers with a demonstrated commitment to social and environmental justice and an entrepreneurial spirit," Swenson says, adding that this isn't the Peace Corps. "We don't look for people who want an experience, but for people who want to make a career in this work."—*c.w.*

project at their desk and stand up alone to defend it to jurors, fieldwork is all about collaborating. "I like watching these guys figure out how to control their anger and deal with disappointments, but most of all how to come together in support of each other," says Mouton, who became semifamous when a 12-week URBANbuild class was filmed for the reality TV series *Architecture School*, which aired last year on the Sundance Channel.

Occupying the gap between theory and practice can be painful. The documentary-style *Architecture School* series drew some criticism mainly that the finished house didn't blend with the Central City neighborhood and that no locals could afford to buy it. Mouton admits that encouraging innovation within nonprofit parameters can be a tricky balance to achieve. The agency with whom URBANbuild works asks for a 1,200-square-foot, three-bedroom, two-bath home because it's the easiest model for matching low-income buyers with government subsidies. So size and function are nonnegotiable. And to keep things interesting, URBANbuild experiments with different building systems each year. The first house, built in summer 2006, used familiar wood framing to ensure that the project could be completed in 12 weeks with unskilled labor. The second project featured prefab metal panels, the Architecture School house was made with SIPs, and LEED Silver certification is the current project's goal.

But Mouton is unapologetic about giving students a long design rope. "We won't ask a group of 12 students to work for free on a tight schedule and then just produce a Habitat for Humanity house," he says. "What we give them is design opportunity." Sometimes that means allowing students to design special components that aren't cheap but that can be eliminated without compromising the basic scheme if the house is reproduced with paid labor. As hard as URBANbuild works to keep costs low, finding qualified buyers in down-and-out neighborhoods is daunting. "They have to find people who have a perfect credit score and have had the same employer for three years," he says. What's more, "we're trying to resurrect old neighborhoods that are often dangerous, and it's difficult to find buyers who want to take that plunge. It will take a decade of just dropping the seeds into the neighborhoods, and it's a slow, agonizing process." (For more on Mouton and URBANbuild, see page 53 in the August 2007 issue.)

Indeed, a project's location has a huge influence on how funding, construction, and legal terms are structured. Programs located in places with no building codes or officials have very different educational opportunities than those in red tape-entangled urban environments. All. however, share the belief that the logistics can't be handed off as though they were the responsibility of other entities. Students learn to work with trade contractors, understand the process by which a piece of equipment or building material arrives at the site, and the environmental impacts of construction. If they're cutting a material, they need to know the ordering lead time and how and where it's made. "All of those things are abstract until the moment it's your obligation to deliver it to someone," says David Lewis, director of The Design Workshop at Parsons The continued on page 16

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practice

New School for Design, where nine of the design/ build projects in the New York City-based studio's 11-year history have been urban. "More important, your design won't be erected if you don't understand how those things operate and control them."

William Jelen, director of The Catholic University of America School of Architecture and Planning's CUAdc program, agrees. "There's a certain kind of maturity in being able to follow through on a real project, because you have to be responsible and selfmotivated; these are real people's money and lives you're dealing with." He's noticed that students are energized by those dynamics and the deeper understanding that comes from exposure to neighborhoods they never would have visited as an outsider. That's why, for Jelen, an integral part of architecture education is its relationship to clients and the community.

"I always felt that you have all these talents and skills in school that are underutilized in terms of harnessing that creativity and applying it to real-world problems," Jelen says. "In school I wondered why we had to tackle some theoretical problem in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, instead of dealing with issues in Philadelphia." He adds that there is strong ongoing interest in the university's design/build program; some alumni even

jump in on local projects. "A lot of times, young people in architecture firms have little responsibility; this is something they do for debt-strapped graduates to act on their newfound passions. Just ask Wes Janz, Ph.D., RA, associate professor of architecture at

"if there were a methodological study of what has happened with people who've gone through such programs, i'd say the impact would be pretty subtle. even in good times, survival strategies take over."

-david buege

have responsibility for," he explains. "And there's a desire to do something for the common good."

public-spirited entrepreneurship

There's no doubt that for many young, idealistic architects-in-training, designing and building for the disenfranchised is a powerful experience. But does it change their career aspirations? David Buege, one of Rural Studio's first participants, doesn't think so. "If there were a kind of methodological study of what has happened with people who've gone through such programs, I'd say the impact would be pretty subtle," says Buege, director of the architecture program at Philadelphia University. "Even in good times, survival strategies take over."

And in a tough job market, it's even harder Ball State University and co-director of CapAsia, which takes students to South Asia for 11 weeks every other spring. He's also led field trips to border towns in Northern Texas and Skid Row in East Los Angeles, as well as Midwest distress tours to Rust Belt cities that have been failing for years. He says he gets too many e-mails from former students saying they're dissatisfied with their jobs or altogether disillusioned with the profession, like the graduate in Fort Wayne, Ind., who was working on construction documents for a Holiday Inn.

"I say, Just calm down, keep paying off debts, try to be patient, and do some volunteer work," Janz says. But he feels their angst. "As educators we need to have a better answer to *continued on page 19*



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practice

the question, What is this bridge after graduation? If I could, I'd probably bring a social entrepreneurship curriculum to the architecture school, because in the end I think becoming aware of entrepreneurship at an early age might be the foundation piece building by specifying minimum bedroom size and a certain number of closets, so that by the time you're done, you're stuck with a cookie-cutter project to get the tax credit," Smith says. "It's about not letting the client make the wrong decision, which is so often

"i think becoming aware of entrepreneurship at an early age might be the foundation piece students need to create roles for themselves."

—wes janz, ph.d., ra

students need to create roles for themselves."

Ted Smith thinks so too. That's why he created the master's in residential development program for architects at Woodbury University in San Diego. With its focus on affordability, it's one way for socially conscious designers to invent their own opportunities. The premise is simple: Instead of trying to work within the limits imposed by cash-starved community development corporations, architects are taught how to conceive, finance, and sell a project, often leveraging affordability by taking advantage of zoning loopholes. Smith says it creates a different kind of dynamic than simply designing something cool.

"The nonprofit sector puts huge constraints on the case. Very often the goal of affordable housing is to make it look like every other house, but every other house is 50 percent too big. My son grew up with his crib in a closet with the doors removed; it's those sorts of crazy solutions that are efficient."

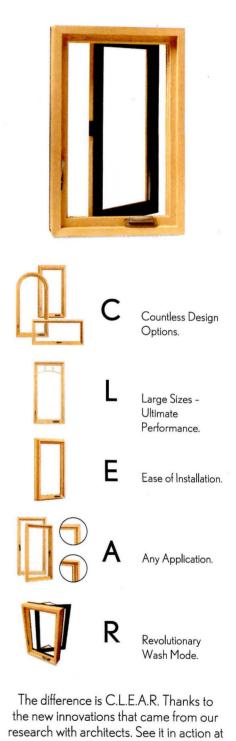
Working with Mockbee's former partner, Coleman Coker, in a practice that serves both mainstream and marginalized clients, Tate says Rural Studio had a profound personal impact. It's taken a good 10 years, he says, to begin to structure his practice nontraditionally, but he sees more young graduates finding ways to do so immediately.

And there's another, perhaps unintended, outcome of community-based university studios: Architects are doing a better job of designing forward-thinking homes that aren't prohibitively expensive. "More and more people are beginning to realize that custom progressive homes are, in fact, accessible," Mouton says. "We're not just training architects to make cool houses; in a culture where most houses are designed by builders, we're showing people that there are affordable options."

Hands-on skills surely give affordability a boost. The Yale School of Architecture's community-based Building Project studio, for example, teaches students to challenge the prevailing notion that architects should not build. "We have quite a few students who've tried to address larger social issues through design/build in their practice," says director Adam Hopfner, who launched his own design/build firm after participating in the program.

The hope is that, with their real-world focus, these studios are creating a different kind of architect -one motivated by imagination and public spirit. "Students coming out are raising interesting questions about how one practices today," says Parsons' Lewis. "We're seeing alumni translating the knowledge they get into design/build or offices with a more immediate relationship to construction economies." That's good news-not just for the profession and nonprofits, but for everyone. ra

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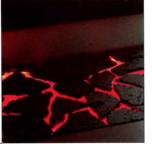
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by meghan drueding, cheryl weber, shelley d. hutchins, bruce d. snider, and nigel f. maynard

t may feel like dreamy nostalgia to peruse these award-winning projects, conceived and built in more felicitous times. You'll certainly encounter some lusciously extravagant flights of fancy and indulgence, as was the tenor of the mid-oughts. We still have a giddy affection for those houses that know no budgetary bounds, that find constraints only in the limits of architectural skill and creativity. Ah, what the mind can imagine and humankind can build! In a pure design competition, is it even fair or relevant to consider what we *should* build in addition to what we *can* build? Well, responsible architects are always pondering these questions.



And no doubt in times to come, the fevered debates will rage even hotter.

Our 10th annual *residential architect* Design Awards received more than 1,100 entries in 16 categories. Just 44 projects were recognized for honors, making RADA the most competitive residential architecture awards program in the country. The jury comprised



Photos (from top): Bruce Damonte, courtesy Minarc, and Paul Warchol Photography

six distinguished architects, including Gary L. Brewer, AIA, Robert A.M. Stern Architects, New York City; William Kreager, FAIA, Mithun, Seattle; Mell Lawrence, FAIA, Mell Lawrence Architects, Austin, Texas; Mark McInturff, FAIA, McInturff Architects, Bethesda, Md.; John Sheehan, AIA, Studio E Architects, San Diego; and John Vetter, AIA, Vetter Denk Architects, Milwaukee. At their discretion, the judges granted no award in the Bath category this year. In all, they bestowed 33 Merit awards, 10 Grand awards, and one Project of the Year award. Coverage begins here and continues in expanded form—with floor plans, more photos, and product specs—on www.residentialarchitect.com next month.

Go ahead, sit back and page through the best of what came before these troubled days. And let us begin to dream anew.

21

residential architect design awards

project of the year

habitat 825, west hollywood, calif.

lorcan o'herlihy architects

culver city, calif.

ssues with neighbors often arise during the design of a new multifamily building. When the neighbor is R.M. Schindler's Kings Road House, those concerns take on an even larger significance. Lorcan O'Herlihy, FAIA, understood as much when he signed on as the architect of this 19-unit condo building in West Hollywood, Calif., *residential architect*'s 2009 Project of the Year. "The site was going to be potentially controversial,



Danny Turner

but very interesting," he says. He was right on both counts. The

MAK Center for Art and Architecture, which operates the Kings Road House next door, strongly opposed the project. Yet the finished building, known as Habitat 825, shows respect for the experimental spirit—as well as the physical space—of its iconic neighbor.

Schindler was drawn to the idea of easing the strict divisions between a building's public and private zones. O'Herlihy, too, likes to question these conventions. He broke Habitat 825's street-facing façade into two pieces, angling one so passersby can catch a

glimpse of the project's internal courtyard. Between the entry and the sidewalk, he and landscape architect Katherine Spitz, AIA, ASLA, placed a series of concrete benches, turning this traditionally private area into semi-public land.



A strategically fragmented street façade (below) opens into a courtyard (bottom and opposite) containing the multifamily project's circulation space.





residential architect / march \cdot april 2009

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23



project of the year continued

Inside the entry gate, the exploration of communal spaces continues. Backed by his enlightened developer client, Richard Loring, Assoc. AIA, O'Herlihy and his team managed to place all the building's circulation in the courtyard. Residents reach their units via extra-wide walkways, which are sized to accommodate outdoor furniture and informal social gatherings. "We wanted to encourage people to deal with the public/private realm," O'Herlihy explains. "They have to engage each other. It changes the equation a little bit."

O'Herlihy and Loring, who doubled as the general contractor, could have filled in the courtyard with more units. If they had, though, residents' access to natural light, fresh air, and casual social interaction would have suffered. The individual condos benefit from the same high-minded approach; each balcony and terrace offers a generous amount of square footage that doesn't count toward the "official" unit size.

To keep Habitat 825 from casting shadows on the Kings Road House, the architects limited the height of its north portion to 30 feet, rather than the permitted 45 feet. Additionally, they cut a substantial void into that side of the building and angled the remaining walls away from the lot line, creating a bit of breathing room between the two properties. While these strategies defer to Schindler's building, Habitat 825 also maintains its own distinct identity. The judges enjoyed its bold exterior color scheme of lime green, white, and black. "It's a fun façade," said one. "I like the playfulness."

The quality that impressed them most, though, was O'Herlihy's willingness to address crucial matters of density, privacy, and public space in multifamily bouging "These are great

space in multifamily housing. "These are great residences from a community point of view," observed one. "This project solves some really tough problems."—*m.d.*

principal in charge: Lorcan O'Herlihy, FAIA, Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects; project manager: Pierre De Angelis, Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects; developer: Richard Loring, Assoc. AIA, Habitat Group Los Angeles, Los Angeles; general contractor: Richard Loring, Assoc. AIA, Archetype, Los Angeles; landscape architect: Katherine Spitz, AIA, ASLA, Katherine Spitz Associates, Marina del Rey, Calif.; project size: 1,250 square feet to 1,850 square feet per unit; site size: 0.46 acre; construction cost: \$240 per square foot; sales price: \$800,000 to \$1 million per unit; units in project: 19; photography: Lawrence Anderson/Esto, except where noted. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for* additional floor plans and products.



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residential architect / march · april 2009

The columns supporting a second-story footbridge resemble the bamboo that flourishes in the courtyard. Scooped-out balconies and terraces (opposite) supply private outdoor rooms.

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10

residential architect design awards

sign awaru

custom / 3,500 square feet or less grand

cinco camp, brewster county, texas

rhotenberry wellen architects

midland, texas

hipping container architecture is nothing new, but adapting the shells for living often undoes their built-in economy. With only minimal modifications, these serve as rugged guest cabins on a West Texas ranch. "We didn't want to leave a scar on that somewhat fragile landscape," Mark T. Wellen, AIA, says of his solution. "If you disfigure the surface, the cacti and low shrubbery can take years to come back."

The containers (one is for storage) were outfitted off site with a rear window and MDF floor, walls, and ceiling—almost like a cigar box. Then they were hauled in, two at a time, on an 18-wheeler and craned into place from the existing road.

Concrete footings for small piers were hand-poured, and floating roofs were popped on for shade. The jaunty roofs allow breezes to cool the units. "Most of our sun is overhead here, so they're largely in the shade," Wellen says. When the containers are occupied, the big doors of each unit swing open and are strapped in place. Closed down, they're impervious to weather and wandering wildlife. What's more, they're a playful mirror image of the boxcars rolling by on distant tracks.

Down in the valley and 45 minutes from the closest town, the cabins are "a romantic and poetic folly. Great fun!" said a judge. "And it looks like it will last forever."—c.w.



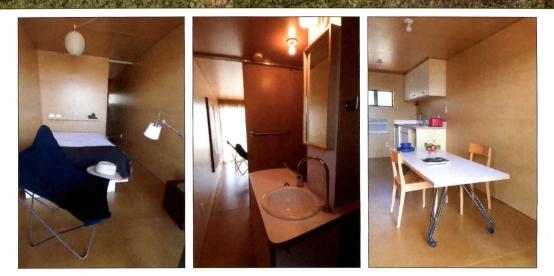
Practical, impervious, and low-tech, the cargocontainer guest cabins are at home on the harsh Texas range. The five containers—three bedrooms, a kitchen, and storage space—are linked by a deck of steel bar grating with built-in bench and barbecue.



residential architect / march · april 2009

The rusted boxes rest lightly on handdug piers. Coplanar floating roofs shield inhabitants from the sun's heat. A rear window and swing-open double doors invite cross-ventilation through the MDF-wrapped interiors.

principal in charge / project architect: Mark T. Wellen, AIA, Rhotenberry Wellen Architects; general contractor: Steve Ekstrom, Ekstrom Construction Co., Midland, Texas; project size: 800 square feet (combined); site size: 3,500 acres; construction cost: \$202 per square foot; photography: Hester + Hardaway. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.



residential architect

design awards

custom / 3,500 square feet or less

grand

cottage, guilford, conn.

gray organschi architecture

new haven, conn.

mall buildings get attention because every detail is exposed, and there's a lot to admire on this accessory cottage in a meadow overlooking Long Island Sound. Working within strict height restrictions and a program that included an accessible ground-floor bedroom and bath, open kitchen, and loft, the project team made every move count. "It became an essay on scarcity," says Alan Organschi, AIA. "How do you, with simple moves, create richness?"

Simple in plan but complex in execution, the building's eaves come apart, corners detach, and the roof plane folds up into a skylight to create headroom and sight views while accommodating upper-story clearances. These innovative gestures heighten the sense of being on the edge of the land. In the loft and the bedroom downstairs, tall corner partitions slide into a pocket in the wall, putting the occupants at one with the rocky perch. The sloped



sod roof is planted with the same sedum species that grows in the meadow, and the interior is wrapped in bleached bamboo.

One judge marveled at the exquisite detailing: "It's like a little music box, organic and joyous. It goes through all these machinations unselfconsciously."—c.w.

On approach, the sod roof tips up, preserving the building's scale while allowing for head clearances upstairs. Transparent eaves help the cottage blend with the landscape.





Sculptural gestures and disappearing corners create playful indoor-outdoor relationships. Partitions slide into the wall, deleting the corners on two floors (bottom).





principal in charge: Alan Organschi, AIA, Gray Organschi Architecture; project architect: Kyle Bradley, RA, Gray Organschi Architecture; project designer: Thomas Sawyer, Gray Organschi Architecture; general contractor: Andy Fowler, Clinton, Conn.; structural engineer: Edward Stanley, Edward Stanley Engineers, Guilford, Conn.; project size: 875 square feet; site size: 3.31 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Courtesy Gray Organschi Architecture. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

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residential architect

design awards

custom / 3,500 square feet or less merit

diamond project, san francisco

terry & terry architecture

berkeley, calif.

ur jury appreciated the light-filled spaces in this house designed by Alex Terry, AIA, for his family. The architect orchestrated the steep site by elevating living areas to the top floor. He placed the kitchen/dining area on grade with the backyard, and oriented the living room to the front, embracing distant vistas with a large covered balcony.

The front and rear walls of the house are mostly glass, maximizing light, ventilation, and views throughout the open plan. Wood floors and ceilings add richness and texture. Thick concrete walls form the sides of the house and encompass a cast-in-place fireplace and precast grooves for the glass panels.

"The trick was keeping materials minimal to give them power," Terry says. "In doing a simple palette, you create calm space."—*s.d.h.* Sandblasted glass walls and railings lend protection and privacy without obscuring light in stairwells and the street-front balcony (right). The balcony adds a few extra feet to the living room and provides sun control for the western exposure.





principal in charge / project architect: Alexander Terry, AIA, Terry & Terry Architecture; general contractor: Ingmar Kauffeldt, Timberline Construction Co., San Francisco; structural engineer: Paul Means, Santos & Urrutia, San Francisco; project size: 2,300 square feet; site size: 0.08 acre; construction cost: \$450 per square foot; photography: Ethan Kaplan Photography. Visit www.residential architect.com for floor plans and products.

Recessed glass walls create "view portals" of the salt marsh, pine forest, and river. At dusk, the etched glass-enclosed shower becomes an oversized outdoor lantern.





principal in charge: David Jameson, FAIA, David Jameson Architect; project designer: Ron Southwick, David Jameson Architect; general contractor: Elwin Collins, C J & E Construction, Church Creek, Md.; project size: 2,200 square feet; site size: 5 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Paul Warchol Photography. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

custom / 3,500 square feet or less merit

hooper's island residence, church creek, md.

david jameson architect

alexandria, va.

ocal barns and fishing shacks inspired the simple volumes and minimally pitched shed roofs of this residence on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Each pod—a lodge, master cabin, and guest cabana—is rotated toward a different river view and cantilevered over concrete plinths to minimize the footprint and satisfy floodplain zoning.

"This landscape is very much like the one I grew up in, and it gave me the opportunity to reacquaint myself with the negative space made by outbuildings, which allows the owners to be at one with nature," says David Jameson, FAIA. The horizontal, lead-coated copper cladding also interacts with nature; its crimped seams create shadow lines when it's sunny, and snowflakes rest there in winter.

The judges pronounced it "a beautiful composition, very handsome and skillfully done."—c.w.

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residential architect

design awards

custom / 3,500 square feet or less merit

sheldon gatehouse, cle elum, wash.

bohlin cywinski jackson

seattle

dark, gated wall lends intrigue to this small house in the forest. Unfussy and simply organized, the house has two wings connected by a boardwalk and interior courtyard. "It seemed right to go into the space through a wall, almost like a veil, and then to find this outdoor room that really is an extension of the wings of the building," says Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA.

One of our judges liked the way the wall creates focus and a "transition from urban life."—c.w.

principal in charge: Robert E. Miller, AIA, LEED AP, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; design principal: Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; project designer: Amy Williams, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; general contractor: Norm Gove, Cambridge Custom, Redmond, Wash.; landscape architect: Randy Allworth, ASLA, Allworth Nussbaum, Seattle; structural engineer: Jim Harris, PCS Structural Solutions, Seattle; project size: 1,611 square feet; site size: 28 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Nic Lehoux. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*



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Bohlin Cywinski Jackson's secluded retreat celebrates the client's love of nature. The entry wall (below) opens to a central courtyard, which mediates between a onebedroom cottage on the left, a guest suite and garage/studio on the right, and the forest beyond.



residential architect design awards

ign await

custom / more than 3,500 square feet

grand

outpost, central idaho

olson sundberg kundig allen architects seattle

n the high-desert landscape of sagebrush, scorching winds, and boundless sky, a house needs to be "hard on the outside, soft on the inside—like a Tootsie Pop," says Tom Kundig, FAIA.

Designed for an artist, this house is a concrete block bunker, but its interior materials—Carrara marble kitchen counters, reclaimed barn wood, and plaster made from natural clays—are earthy and pleasant to touch. The floor plan lives like a studio, with a single large room combining kitchen, dining, and living areas, and above, a mezzanine bedroom supported by an exposed steel beam. It may be a fortress, but it feels like a glass house. Enormous windows on all sides, some as large as 11 feet wide by 8 feet tall, take in the Idaho horizon. That sense of prospect and refuge extends outdoors, where concrete block walls—11 feet high and twice as long as the house—protect the owner's flowers, vegetables, and fruit trees from the resident deer and antelope.

The contrast delighted the jury. "The allée of trees is so controlled and urban, surrounded by wild grasses and deer," said one judge. "You can picture a mountain lion roaming around right outside."—c.w.

principal in charge / project architect: Tom Kundig, FAIA, Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects; project manager: Steven Rainville, AIA, Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects; general contractor: Rick Upham, Upham Construction, Hailey, Idaho; structural engineer: Monte Clark, MCE Structural Consultants, Stevensville, Mont.; project size: 3,686 square feet; site size: 20 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Tim Bies, except where noted. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.









Photos (above and right): Jan Cox

The compact concrete block shell was built quickly and inexpensively. Inside, the steel and recycled fir were left exposed and unfinished, resulting in little waste and low VOCs.



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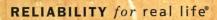
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design awards

custom / more than 3,500 square feet merit

running cedar, orlean, va.

richard williams architects

washington, d.c.

he architect and the owner, a landscape architect, worked in tandem from day one of this project—and it shows. Perched on the edge of a river gorge, the house and guesthouse align from south to north and are linked by a stone wall that serves as a spine. In between, overlapping interior and exterior spaces keep the lush setting front and center.

"We'd flip things back and forth until we found a nice balance between the formality of the house and this pretty rough and rambunctious landscape," says Richard Williams, AIA. "We looked at vernacular forms, stretching the dimensions to a point where it seemed spacious but never out of scale."

One judge said the design "elevates the mundane Virginia farmhouse, yet does so with a complete lack of pretension."-c.w.



A fieldstone wall links the main house (above, right side) and guesthouse of this rural Piedmont property and defines an edge of the rear gardens.

principal in charge: Richard Williams, AIA, Richard Williams Architects; project architect: Timothy Abrams, AIA, LEED AP, Richard Williams Architects; general contractor: Gretchen Yahn, Castlerock Enterprises, Hume, Va.; landscape architect: Richard Arentz, ASLA, Arentz Landscape Architects, Washington, D.C.; interior designer: José Solis, Solis Betancourt, Washington, D.C.; project size: 5,700 square feet (main house), 700 square feet (guesthouse); site size: 85 acres; construction cost: \$297 per square foot; photography: Paul Burk Photography. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*





By wrapping the one-room-deep house around the property, the architects formed a central courtyard and covered terraces. The walled front elevation (left) affords a sense of quiet and seclusion.

custom / more than 3,500 square feet merit

sagaponac house, bridgehampton, n.y.

smith-miller + hawkinson architects

new york city

mith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects challenged convention with this residence in the Houses at Sagaponac development on Long Island, N.Y. "It's addressing the problem of the American suburban dwelling, which is an object on a lot with space all around it," explains Henry Smith-Miller, RA. He and his colleagues pulled the house's two

main masses—a two-story volume containing guest and family quarters and a one-story wing comprising living/dining functions—to the outskirts of the site, creating a series of private outdoor rooms between them.

"It feels generous without being ostentatious," said one judge.—m.d.

principals in charge / project architects: Henry Smith-Miller, RA, and Laurie Hawkinson, RA, Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects; project manager: Luben Dimcheff, Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects; general contractor: Rich Reinhardt, Reinhardt & O'Brien Contracting, Bridgehampton, N.Y.; project size: 3,900 square feet; site size: 1.37 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Michael Moran. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

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design awards

custom / more than 3,500 square feet merit

modern barn, wainscott, n.y.

leroy street studio

new york city



ited by an agricultural preserve in one of Long Island, N.Y.'s most exclusive enclaves, this new building wraps three floors of high-style living in a package that reads from afar as more potato barn than trophy home.

A masterfully detailed skin of teak slats serves as rainscreen siding at insulated walls and as a privacy scrim for open-air decks and porches. A great open-truss roof unifies the whole, which our judges called "a nice reinvestment in the barn as a starting place for a house."—*b.d.s.*

principal in charge / project architect: Marc Turkel, AIA, LEED AP, Leroy Street Studio; general contractor: Thomas Lettieri, Lettieri Construction, Westhampton Beach, N.Y.; landscape architect: Douglas Reed, FASLA, Reed Hilderbrand Associates, Watertown, Mass.; structural engineer: Andrew Renfroe, P.E., Blue Sky Design, New York City; mechanical engineer: Michael McGough, P.E., Laszlo Bodak Engineer, New York City; project size: 6,000 square feet; site size: 2.5 acres; construction cost: \$600 per square foot; photography: Paul Warchol Photography. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.





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residential architect design awards

renovation

grand

woodway residence, woodway, wash.

bohlin cywinski jackson

seattle

he renovation of this vintage mid-century home bears Bohlin Cywinski Jackson's hallmark moves: the choreographed passages, the connection to the land, and the sense both of exuberance and calm. The architects edited more than they added. A new entry-defined by a spine of ipe decking and playful circular skylights-ends in a living room pavilion and a pivoting door to the woodland garden beyond. "We think of our buildings a bit like designing a dance," says Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA. "You come in under those skylights and end in the heart of the building. As you approach the house, you don't know the garden is there." Taller ceilings and a new fireplace make the space soar, and glass walls put the outdoors on constant display. The driveway approach was strengthened, too, with bright red elongated boxes (storage units) that mark the music studio/garage and house. Between the two, a linear concrete wall forms an entry court and screens the bedrooms from view.

"We like to do houses because they have a nice scale," Bohlin says. "We like them to have a kind of ease and calm. It's critical to get those things right." The judges agreed they'd gotten it right. "It's an excellent change," said one. "They've stripped it down, grouped things in boxes, and really opened it up."-c.w.



Glass walls, blackened steel, and teak plywood cabinets let this mid-20th-century home in a Seattle suburb blend with its leafy surroundings. The new skylighted entry ends at the open kitchen/living area and a pivoting door to the garden.



40

residential architect / march · april 2009



principal in charge: Robert E. Miller, AIA, LEED AP, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; design principal: Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; project architect: Steve Mongillo, AIA, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; project designer: Amy Williams, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; general contractor: Michael Bellan, Bellan Construction, Seattle; landscape architect: Randy Allworth, ASLA, Allworth Nussbaum, Seattle; project size: 5,500 square feet; site size: 3.5 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Nic Lehoux. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*







A red fiber-cement-clad storage box defines an edge of the music studio/garage (above) and reappears on the house. The living area's level change and concrete floor reinforce the sense of a pavilion in the woods.





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design awards

renovation

merit

ferrous house, spring prairie, wis.

johnsen schmaling architects

milwaukee



edestrian suburban house turns into a little jewel." That's the way our judges summed up this raised ranch makeover, and we could not have written a better headline. Architects Brian Johnsen, AIA, and Sebastian Schmaling, AIA, retained the building's existing foundation and utility core while raising the roof with a new system of wood-and-steel trusses and a full-length clerestory. Cor-Ten steel wraps the existing exterior walls, while red cedar defines modest but high-impact amendments to the building shell.—*b.d.s.*

A clerestory of energy-efficient, gel-filled polycarbonate fills the interiors with gentle northern light (top). The cedar-sided entry addition periscopes through the house as a circulation spine, emerging at rooftop level in the form of a loftlike study.



principals in charge / project architects: Brian Johnsen, AIA, and Sebastian Schmaling, AIA, Johnsen Schmaling Architects; general contractor: Daniel Fahey, Jorndt-Fahey Remodeling, Williams Bay, Wis.; project size: 1,350 square feet; site size: 0.78 acre; construction cost: \$220 per square foot; photography: Doug Edmunds. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

The addition (top, right side) nestles into the lush landscaping around the existing house (top, left side). The owner uses the new pavilion as a ground-floor den, a second-level master suite, and a top-floor solarium that pops up over the trees.





renovation

merit

ocean beach residence, san francisco

aidlin darling design

san francisco

he client for this San Francisco addition hoped to leave the original 1950s house as unaltered as possible. So Joshua Aidlin, AIA, placed the new, three-story portion within an adjoining tree grove, connecting it to the main house with a minimalist glass bridge. The trees give the steel-clad addition privacy while framing ocean views. "The temptation would have been to fill up the site on the view side," noted a judge, applauding the project's restraint.—*m.d.*

principal in charge: Joshua Aidlin, AIA, Aidlin Darling Design; project architect: Michael Hennessey, LEED AP, Aidlin Darling Design; general contractor: Daniel Pelsinger, Matarozzi/Pelsinger Builders, San Francisco; interior designer: Steven Miller, Steven Miller Design Studio, San Francisco; structural engineer: William Lynch, Berkeley Structural Design, Berkeley, Calif.; project size: 1,800 square feet (addition only); site size: 0.19 acre; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Dwight Eschliman, except where noted. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

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design awards

restoration/preservation merit

four stairs: addition and renovation to a historic virginia farmhouse, great falls, va.

barnes vanze architects

washington, d.c.

resented with a diverse collection of buildings, Barnes Vanze Architects restored the architecturally significant structures and inserted a glassed-in room to unify the house. "We made it look like a porch," says Stephen Vanze, AIA, LEED AP. "It's the only space with modern conveniences." And the space, which comprises the kitchen and family room, is key.

Modern appliances and a flagstone floor update the look, but other details, such as the Douglas fir beams made from trees on site, complement the original structures. A new structural insulated roof increases energy efficiency.

"They brought the house into a 20th-century lifestyle and maintained the richness," said a judge.—*n.f.m.*



Barnes Vanze Architects removed earlier remuddlings of this circa-1730 house and added new baths, efficient circulation, and

a cedar roof, among other improvements.

principal in charge / project architect: Stephen Vanze, AIA, LEED AP, Barnes Vanze Architects; project manager: Stephen Schottler, Barnes Vanze Architects; general contractor: Paul Novak, Baltimore; project size: 3,321 square feet; site size: More than 40 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Anice Hoachlander. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

Guided by the original plans, Sara and Rafi Segal removed some partitions on the second floor to open it to the living areas below. Window profiles were also restored to their original design, improving the sense of connectivity to the outdoors.





principals in charge / project architects: Sara Segal, LEED AP, RMJM, Princeton, N.J., and Rafi Segal, Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, New York City; general contractors: Chris Brenner, Brenner Painting Associates, Ewing, N.J., and Rob Faucett, R. Faucett Construction, Flemington, N.J.; project size: 3,700 square feet; site size: 3.88 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Jeff Tryon. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

restoration/preservation

merit

marcel breuer "house in the garden" (lauck house, 1950), princeton, n.j.

sara segal, leed ap, and rafi segal princeton



few judicious moves reclaimed this vintage Marcel Breuer home, whose design was based on a house he exhibited at The Museum of Modern Art in 1949. Architects Sara Segal, LEED AP, and Rafi Segal restored the house for themselves, using

archival research as a guide in stripping paint from plywood walls, rebuilding partitions, and restoring window profiles.

The Rockefeller Foundation, which owns the exhibit house, supplied a color analysis keyed to today's paint colors. "Breuer had a special blue that was a combination of blue, white, and gray," says Rafi Segal. "The white has a bit of yellow in it, and these nuances make a huge difference."

"This house could easily have been torn down," a judge said of the restoration's rigor. "It's a good precedent that they kept it."-c.w.

design awards

multifamily

grand

22 west condominiums, washington, d.c.

shalom baranes associates

washington, d.c.

he site for this luxury condo building is in a re-emerging section of Washington, D.C., but its location—next to an operating service station and wedged between two converging traffic arteries—made it less than promising.

Instead of resisting the conditions, Shalom Baranes Associates embraced them. The firm's design team inserted a bar-shaped building that blends with its context and created



façades that respond to the street. They even incorporated the eyesore service station. "We came up with this sculptural piece that's topped by a floating garden," says Robert M. Sponseller, AIA.

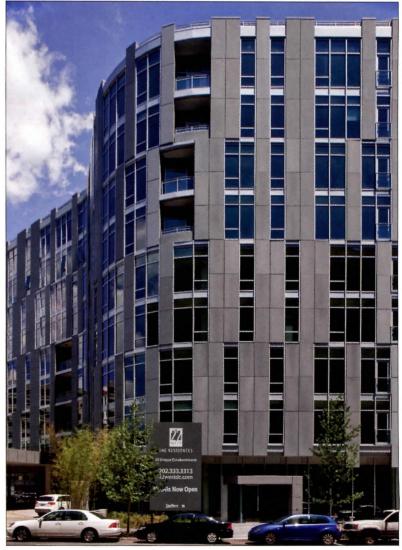
The curvilinear building includes 7,500 square feet of retail and restaurant space, as well as five ground-floor duplexes. "We sought a variance to increase the height of the building to stretch the ground floor, so that everyone is above the [service station's] canopy," Sponseller explains. As a result, every unit has a view of the garden. Eschewing the city's ubiquitous brick cladding, the firm chose a zinc rainscreen system that's installed on a material-

efficient 3-foot module, which offers flexibility for an exterior door or window. The team also recessed portions of the building to carve out balconies and used the roof for additional outdoor space.

"The way the building works on the site ... is remarkable," said one judge. Another added that it "makes good streets and good housing for the people who live there."—*n.f.m.*



Shalom Baranes Associates covered the 22 West condo building in a durable zinc cladding that has a naturally warm patina and inherent green properties. The firm specified a module installation that produces very little waste.



residential architect / march · april 2009



The bar-shaped building responds to its context with ground-floor retail on the busy M Street and 22nd Street sides (above). The design team filled the entire site, inserting the building next to an existing structure on the south side (right).

principal in charge: Shalom Baranes, FAIA, Shalom Baranes Associates; design principal: Robert M. Sponseller, AIA, Shalom Baranes Associates; project managers: John Nammack, AIA, and Barry Habib, AIA, Shalom Baranes Associates; project architect: Juan Tampe, Shalom Baranes Associates; project team: Joseph Boyette, AIA, Chris Hoyt, AIA, Grace Kang, Dan Friedman, and Xin Wang, Shalom Baranes Associates; developer: Anthony Lanier, Eastbanc, Washington, D.C.; general contractor: Tom Hornbaker, Bovis Lend Lease, Bethesda, Md.; landscape architect: Don Hoover, ASLA, Oculus, Washington, D.C.; project size: 950 square feet to 3,000 square feet per unit; site size: 0.65 acre; construction cost: Withheld; sales price: \$830,000 to \$3.9 million per unit; units in project: 95; photography: Maxwell MacKenzie. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.



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design awards

multifamily

merit

the clure project, duluth, minn.

salmela architect

duluth

espite their radical break with tradition, the three black cubes dotting this hillside received no negative feedback from their blue-collar neighbors. No doubt it's because the unassuming homes foster community by making the neglected pocket neighborhood part of the larger one in density and scale. New plat lines respond to elevation shifts and views of the Lake Superior harbor. "There are no lawns, just native grasses running over the whole site," says David Salmela, FAIA. "We intentionally tried to hide

the property lines, so the place has a European courtlike quality." The judges praised Salmela's craftsmanlike use of materials many of them local—and his Scandinavian pragmatism. (For more on this project, see Workspace, page 88.)—*c.w.* Existing rock ledges unify the three houses and make them part of something larger than property lines. The black siding, used as a skateboard surface in parks, is made of recycled paper and resin.

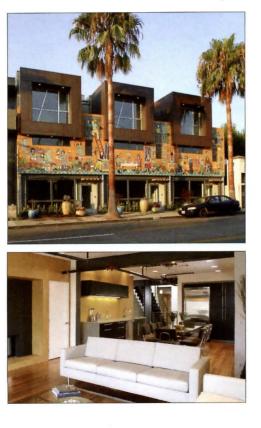




principal in charge / project architect / land planner: David Salmela, FAIA, SALMELA ARCHITECT; general contractor: Brad Holmes, Rod and Sons Carpentry, Gilbert, Minn.; landscape architect: Shane Coen, ASLA, Coen+Partners, Minneapolis; structural engineer: James P. Berry, P.E., Hurst & Henrichs Limited, Duluth, Minn.; civil engineer: David Salo, P.E., Salo Engineering, Duluth; project size: 1,800 square feet to 3,000 square feet per unit; site size: 1.14 acres; construction cost: \$180 to \$230 per square foot; sales price: \$350,000 to \$600,000 per unit; units in project: 3; photography: Peter Bastianelli-Kerze. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

Equinox merged two lots for these live/work lofts. An open ground level welcomes commercial ventures; ample glazing in the steel-clad volume brings light to the private realm.

principal in charge / project architect: Jim Gelfat, Equinox Architecture; developer / general contractor: Frank Murphy, Venice Collaborative, Venice, Calif.; structural engineer: Peter Erdelyi, Peter T. Erdelyi & Associates, Los Angeles; ceramicist: Elaine Carhartt, Altadena, Calif.; project size: 3,400 square feet per unit; site size: 0.12 acre; construction cost: \$225 per square foot; sales price: Withheld; units in project: 3; photography: Dave Teel Photography. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.



multifamily merit

abbot kinney lofts, venice, calif.

equinox architecture

culver city, calif.

rawing inspiration from the eclecticism of Venice, Calif., Equinox Architecture designed Abbot Kinney Lofts as an antidote to the stark white contemporary boxes going up in the neighborhood.

Adaptable to owners' changing needs, the 20-foot-wide units are a mix of exposed elements on the lower levels, but transition to warmer materials and a more residential layout on the upper floors. "The materials are honest and true and pick up on industrial loft living," says Jim Gelfat. The lofts' materials reference the area's commercial pedigree, but a warm, rusted steel-and-ceramic mural depicting Venice street life gives back to the community in a personal way.

The judges praised the connection to the street: "There's a lot going on," said one, "but not too much."—*n.f.m.*

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residential architect design awards

multifamily merit

morris square, charleston, s.c.

allison ramsey architects

beaufort, s.c.



Ilison Ramsey Architects re-energized an abandoned downtown Charleston, S.C., lot with 34 housing units that our judges lauded as "wonderfully contextual." Referencing vernacular architecture, the design team varied the massing and scale of the buildings to harmonize with the existing residential context. "We changed as much as we could as often as we could to make the project look as if it were built over time," says Cooter Ramsey, AIA. The housing types—including single-family, townhouse, and duplex—refresh the transitional neighborhood, while such exterior treatments as stucco, fiber cement, exposed rafter tails, and shutters animate the streets.

The project "breaks down massing into recognizable shapes and forms handsomely," said the judges.—*n.f.m.*

Plyboo flat grain flooring in amber, installed in a private residence in Woodside, California

Using elements of New Urbanism and smart growth, Morris Square fills a missing-tooth lot in Charleston, S.C., with something golden. The architects used "every square inch" of the site for a walkable development that connects all 34 units to existing sidewalks.

principal in charge / project architect: Cooter Ramsey, AIA, Allison Ramsey Architects; project manager: Steve Hand, Allison Ramsey Architects; land planner / developer: Vince Graham, I'On Group, Mount Pleasant, S.C.; general contractor: Cameron Drolet, Chastain Construction, Charleston, S.C.; landscape architect: Patrick Pernell, ASLA, SGA Architecture, Charleston; interior designer: Mary Margarett Nevin, Nevin Interiors, Atlanta; project size: 900 square feet to 2,000 square feet per unit; site size: 1.09 acres; construction cost: Withheld; sales price: \$389,000 to \$725,000 per unit; units in project: 34; photography: Charles Street. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com* for floor plans and products.

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residential architect design awards

corgin award

single-family production / attached grand

house of the papyrii, alys beach, fla.

khoury & vogt architects

alys beach

espite tight constraints, Khoury & Vogt Architects designed this spacious, light-filled house with an efficient plan. Their efforts were much appreciated by our judges. It "does a lot on a very small site," observed one. "It's a really sweet project." The design draws inspiration from the courtyard-style casitas

> "You first enter a zaguan," says Marieanne Khoury-Vogt, AIA, referring to an entry passage leading to a courtyard. "There's a pool on one side and a loggia on the other, so there's ample outdoor space before you even get to the front door." A chimney draws light down into the loggia and reflects it off of a stuccoframed mirror. A second, rear courtyard does double duty as a garden and dining pavilion. Three separate loggias on the second level offer additional outdoor space, while also illuminating

private realms. "Almost

the outdoors," Khoury-

Vogt says.

every room has access to

common in Antigua Guatemala, an architecturally significant city in central Guatemala.



Khoury & Vogt Architects conceived the house as a solid white block with carved-out exterior spaces, such as this second-floor loggia overlooking the Gulf of Mexico.

Situated with a sight line exposure to the gulf, the house is further brightened by Mediterranean-inspired interiors and a material palette of white stucco, Spanish cedar, Dominican shell stone, and colored Cuban concrete tiles. "It has lots of light and speaks eloquently to the anonymity of the city," said a judge.—n.f.m.





52



The house's many outdoor spaces are designed for privacy. Its Moroccan tilework and Latin American and Mediterranean-inspired architectural details celebrate diversity.



principals in charge / project architects: Erik Vogt, AIA, and Marieanne Khoury-Vogt, AIA, Khoury & Vogt Architects; project team: Jamie Van Dyk and Kendall Horne, ASLA, Alys Beach, Alys Beach, Fla.; developer: Jason Comer, Alys Beach, Alys Beach; general contractor: Scott Barnes, Alys Beach Construction, Panama City Beach, Fla.; project size: 2,300 square feet; site size: 0.05 acre; construction cost: \$420 per square foot; sales price: \$1.8 million; photography: Tommy Crow. Visit www.residential architect.com for floor plans and products.



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design awards

single-family production / attached merit

thin flats, philadelphia

plumbob llc

philadelphia

Architect Mark McInturt

Design | Colleen Gove

Photo

Julia Heine

esign/build firm PLUMBOB LLC subdivided two vacant city lots and inserted these eight condos that blend contemporary interiors with energy-efficient, sustainable living. The two-level units have lightfilled, open floor plans and private outdoor spaces in the rear and on the roof. "The condos only measure 18 feet wide, but open spaces were achieved through glass floors and changes in texture," says Howard Steinberg, AIA. An eclectic materials list including tigerwood, solid surface, and bamboo—also helps.

Slated for LEED Platinum approval, the project includes such green features as a sod roof, a water collection system, and solar hot water collectors. It's "got a lot going on for a simple spec townhouse project," said a judge.—n.f.m.

Skylights, glass floors, and efficient floor plans help these row homes live large. An 8-inch-deep green roof, a 6,000-gallon rainwater cistern, and a heat recovery unit promote energy efficiency and conservation.



Courtesy PLUMBOB LLC



principal in charge: Howard Steinberg, AIA, PLUMBOB LLC; project designer: Tim McDonald, PLUMBOB LLC; general contractor: Howard Steinberg, AIA, JIG Inc., Philadelphia; leed consultant: Sam Klein, MaGrann Associates, Philadelphia; project size: 1,940 square feet to 2,280 square feet per unit; site size: 0.2 acre; construction cost: Withheld; sales price: Withheld; units in project: 8; photography: Tim McDonald, except where noted. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

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design awards

single-family production / detached merit

yanonali court, santa barbara, calif.

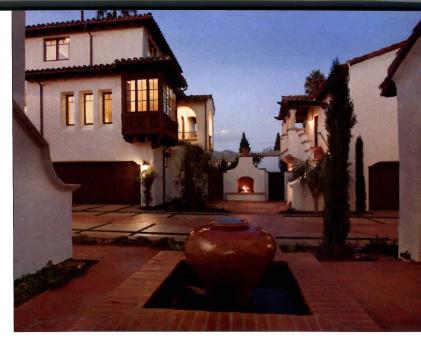
jeffrey berkus architects and b3 architects

aspen, colo., and santa barbara

his Santa Barbara, Calif., infill project stands out for achieving LEED Platinum and doubling the area's typical density, but it also blends smoothly with the neighborhood's Spanish Colonial style and single-family house profile. Jeffrey Berkus, AIA, eased the tight proximity of five houses on a quarter acre of land by including ample public and private outdoor space.

"Creating privacy was a big issue," Berkus explains. "Our main way of accomplishing that was through strategic window placement and plantings, along with well-located terraces, balconies, and roof decks." In addition to individual outdoor areas, Berkus devised alluring shared spaces.

His efforts didn't go unnoticed by our jury, who commended the project's "great site plan" and "nicely handled entry court."—*s.d.h.*



Thoughtfully planned public outdoor spaces encourage community interaction. The central auto court looks more like a sidewalk than a driveway, and pocket courtyards draw people in with a fireplace or fountain.

principal in charge / project architect: Jeffrey Berkus, AIA, Jeffrey Berkus Architects and B3 Architects; general contractor: Steven Berkus, Berkus Construction, Santa Barbara, Calif.; developers: Del Mar Development of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, and Berkus Construction, Santa Barbara; interior designer: Dana Berkus, Dana Berkus Interiors, Santa Barbara; project size: 937 square feet to 2,039 square feet per unit; site size: 0.28 acre; construction cost: \$450 per square foot; sales price: \$1.2 million to \$2.6 million per unit; units in project: 5; photography: Jim Bartsch. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

Ibarra Rosano wields glazing to control views, as well as heat gain. Slot windows frame courtyard vignettes, while a large, north-facing opening along the bedroom gallery maximizes daylight without direct exposure to punishing rays.





principal in charge / project architect: Teresa Rosano, AIA, LEED AP, Ibarra Rosano Design Architects; principal in charge / project designer: Luis Ibarra, Ibarra Rosano Design Architects; general contractor: Page Repp Jr., Repp Design + Construction, Tucson, Ariz.; project size: 2,297 square feet to 2,798 square feet per unit; site size: 1.41 acres; construction cost: \$150 per square foot; sales price: Approximately \$525,000 per unit; units in project: 6; photography: Bill Timmerman. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.

single-family production / detached merit

the six, tucson, ariz.

ibarra rosano design architects tucson

he houses in this Arizona infill development didn't have anywhere to turn. Built on the back sections of deep lots, four of the six face private drives and the fences of nearby buildings. Still, Luis Ibarra and Teresa Rosano, AIA, LEED AP,

wanted to make the most of their native city's outdoor living opportunities, so they stretched narrow floor plans around oversized courtyards. Their approach worked, both to sell the spec houses and to win our judges' approval. "The courtyard is the best thing about it," raved one. "It's a classic Tucson move."

"The design takes advantage of cool desert nights by letting each house open up into a secure, private space," Ibarra explains. L-shaped footprints mean nearly every room flows into the courtyard. Concrete block walls finished in white stucco also were inspired by traditional desert building methods, while interiors offer contemporary living with sleek finishes and airy spaces.—*s.d.h.*

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design awards

affordable

merit

casas las granadas, santa barbara, calif.

peikert group architects

santa barbara

etlev Peikert, AIA, squeezed a long list of "must-haves" onto a tiny piece of land. The building masks a four-story parking garage, offers housing for low- to very low-income workers, and establishes a pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare in downtown Santa Barbara, Calif.

Our judges felt his design achieved all the required goals and more: "It takes care of the garage, creates public and private outdoor space, respects local style, and looks like a pleasant place to live. What's not to like?"

Peikert implemented a sustainable strategy too. The south-facing units have high ceilings and balconies to usher in light. A bicycle station with maintenance equipment and showers encourages cheap eco-conscious transportation while creating a courtyard. "The way all of these elements come together," Peikert says, "makes it a great place to live."—*s.d.h.*

principal in charge / project architect: Detlev Peikert, AIA, Peikert Group Architects; general contractor: Ken Trigueiro, Peoples' Self-Help Housing, San Luis Obispo, Calif.; landscape architect: Phil Suding, Suding Design, Santa Barbara, Calif.; structural engineer: Thomas Long, Thomas Long Engineering, Santa Barbara; project size: 485 square feet to 602 square feet per unit; site size: 0.09 acre; construction cost: \$230 per square foot; rental price: \$560 to \$680 per unit per month; units in project: 12; photography: Emmalee Thomas. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.



Contextual architecture, eco-sensitive amenities, and an inviting pedestrian plan make this low-income project a very good neighbor.



principal in charge: Kevin Wilcock, AIA, David Baker + Partners, Architects; design principal: David Baker, FAIA, LEED AP, David Baker + Partners, Architects; developers: David Neale, The CORE Companies, San Jose, Calif., and Dan Wu, Charities Housing, San Jose; general contractor: David Neale, CORE Builders, San Jose; landscape architect: Kevin Conger, ASLA, LEED AP, CMG Landscape Architecture, San Francisco; project size: 610 square feet to 1,100 square feet per unit; site size: 4.77 acres; construction cost: \$140 per square foot; rental price: \$260 to \$1,185 per unit per month; units in project: 218; photography: www.vantagepointphoto.com. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*:

affordable merit

paseo senter at coyote creek, san jose, calif.

david baker + partners, architects san francisco

avid Baker, FAIA, LEED AP, and Kevin Wilcock, AIA, created a pedestrianfriendly main street through the middle of this affordable housing community a move the judges applauded. The project

combines market-rate apartments with ground-floor, retailstyle services, including a library and a community center. Exterior public spaces are distinguished from the residential sections with boldly colored geometric wall patterns.

"The challenge," Baker says, "was to make architecture out of the common spaces."—*m.d.*

A daring exterior color palette highlights communal areas, such as a main entry and circulation zone, while more neutral hues let the residential components recede into the background.

59



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design awards

adaptive reuse merit

parker flats at gage school, washington, d.c.

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washington, d.c.

onstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS converted an abandoned public school building into 92 loft-style condos with two levels of underground parking. Our judges lauded the results as "skillfully done inside and outside."

Preserving while creating, the design team retained the brick shell, standing seam roof, and wood windows but widened the connection between the two wings, added new dormers, and replaced the mechanical exhaust cupola. The sleek units highlight 11-foot to 14-foot ceilings, 12-foot windows, exposed brick, and Italian ceramic tile.

"We wanted to do modern insertions, so the interiors are simply detailed," says David T. Haresign, AIA.—*n.f.m.*





New amenities, such as Brazilian cherry floors and granite countertops, coexist with old brick and refurbished wood windows in this historic Georgian Revival building. The architects managed to squeeze five additional units into captured attic space.

principal in charge / project architect: David T. Haresign, AIA, Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS; project architect: Jennifer Marca, AIA, Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS; project designer: Joe Corridore, Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS; developer: William Herman, Urban Realty Advisors/Monument Realty, Washington, D.C.; general contractor: Dennis Cotter, James G. Davis Construction Corp., Rockville, Md.; historic architect: Mary Oehrlein, FAIA, Oehrlein & Associates Architects, Washington, D.C.; historic preservationist: Emily Eig, EHT Traceries, Washington, D.C.; project size: 550 square feet to 1,290 square feet per unit; site size: 0.97 acre; construction cost: \$190 per square foot; sales price: \$300,000 to \$600,000 per unit; units in project: 92; photography: Anice Hoachlander. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

















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residential architect design awards

campus housing merit

the gateway, baltimore

rtkl associates

baltimore and london

n an urban site bisected by a major highway, RTKL saw an opportunity to display to tens of thousands of passersby what exactly happens in an art school. The Maryland Institute College of Art building includes living and studio space, and its pixilated drum façade mixes 16 types of glass, reflecting diversity and change. "Baltimore has a lot to do with glass technology," explains Douglas B. McCoach, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, "so we took that as a cue for the exterior."

Facing the highway is a studio tower that showcases artwork in progress, and ground-floor amenities—a café and a black box theater—unite the campus and community. A judge noted that its cloistered organization is a savvy solution to a tough urban site.—*c.w.*



partner in charge: Douglas B. McCoach, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, RTKL Associates; project architects: Mark Kendall, AIA, LEED AP, and Shawn Reichart, AIA, LEED AP, RTKL Associates; general contractor: Eric Heartlove, The Whiting–Turner Contracting Co., Baltimore; landscape architects: Julie Higgins, ASLA, Hord Coplan Macht, Baltimore, and Jonna Lazarus, ASLA, Lazarus Design Associates, Baltimore; mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and structural engineer: James Stewart, RTKL Associates; lighting designer: Glenn Shrum, IALD, Flux Studio, Baltimore; project size: 600 square feet to 900 square feet per unit; site size: 0.75 acre; construction cost: \$255 per square foot; units in project: 63; photography: 2009 RTKL.com/David Whitcomb. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

The three wings of this campus housing project form semi-private courtyards with visual access to the existing green. A modern interpretation of similar buildings on campus, the project uses operable storefront windows to bring in natural light and fresh air.



principal in charge: Scott Kelsey, AIA, CO Architects; design principal: L. Paul Zajfen, FAIA, RIBA, CO Architects; project architect: Susan Conn, CO Architects; general contractor: John Brennan, Bernards, San Fernando, Calif.; landscape architect: Martin Poirier, FASLA, Spurlock Poirier Landscape Architects, San Diego; interior designer: Crystal Martinez, CO Architects; structural engineer: Chuck Whitaker, C.E., John A. Martin & Associates, Los Angeles; mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineer: John Gautrey, P.E., IBE Consulting Engineers, Sherman Oaks, Calif.; project size: 150 square feet to 235 square feet per unit; site size: 1.4 acres; construction cost: \$300 per square foot; units in project: 72; photography: Paul Turang. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

campus housing merit

claremont mckenna college residence hall, claremont, calif.

co architects

los angeles

asked with inserting new student housing among existing 1960s-era structures, CO Architects tucked this new residence hall to one side of the site and configured the building with three wings to create outdoor courtyard spaces. "The building is located on one of the last

remaining green spaces on campus, so we wanted to maintain a connection to the site," says L. Paul Zajfen, FAIA, RIBA.

The solid masonry building shares its color and massing with adjacent structures, but its storefront windows present a more modern profile—one that emphasizes abundant light and pleasing sight lines. The living units are big enough for 12 students and are organized around a shared living room.

Our judges loved the "scale" and the "nice interiors," observing that they create a "comfortable student environment."—n.f.m.

63



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design awards

campus housing merit

ucla southwest campus housing, los angeles

van tilburg, banvard & soderbergh, aia santa monica, calif.

he judges praised the character and scale of this masterplanned graduate student community on the edge of historic Westwood Village in Los Angeles. Orderly, elegant, and inviting, its seven varied buildings match the massing, height, and materials of the adjacent 1920s Spanish Colonial village. "A lot of student housing is very boxy and minimal," says Johannes Van Tilburg, FAIA. "We wanted to create something quite charming, with courtyards in the middle of the complex where students could sit outside."

To preserve the residential character, two-story parking garages are tucked under the taller apartments and hidden with "liner" townhouses. Each building encloses a palm-filled central quad, providing a welcome classical contrast to the vernacular flavor.—c.w.



Articulated cast stone, wood-and-wrought iron balconies, and tile roofs share the architectural character of an adjacent historic village. The at-grade entrance to each two-level parking garage is obscured by walk-up townhouses accessed from the street.

principal in charge: Johannes Van Tilburg, FAIA, Van Tilburg, Banvard & Soderbergh, AIA; project architect: Dennis T. DiBiase, AIA, Van Tilburg, Banvard & Soderbergh, AIA; general contractors: Abe Fassberg, Fassberg, Encino, Calif., Bruce Gordon, Gordon & Williams General Contractors, Irvine, Calif., and Gus Soterpoulos, Swinerton Builders, Los Angeles; project size: 375 square feet to 750 square feet per unit; site size: 11.4 acres; construction cost: \$105 per square foot; units in project: 840; photography: Michael D. Arden. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans.*



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his loft in San Francisco's Mission District was dark and cluttered before Joshua Aidlin, AIA, and his client got their hands on it. Working with a talented contractor and fabricators, they turned it into a well-organized, sunlight-filled home. "It's quite charming," observed a judge. "For a small apartment, it has wonderful details."

Aidlin stripped the space down to its bones and came up with a set of five key, cost-effective architectural moves—with catchy names, no less. The "Cradle," a Douglas fir entry feature that holds home office space, bookshelves, and storage, is interwoven with the "Zipper," a steel-and-wood stair and railing piece. The plate-steel "Hearth" anchors the living room, while the "Stage" is a bilevel, sit-down kitchen counter that lets guests witness the client's formidable culinary skills. And the "Scrim," a wall of translucent sliding panels made from fabric stretched and stapled onto wood frames, supplies privacy and solar shading.

"The materials are very off-the-shelf," Aidlin explains. "Instead of building a lot of infrastructure, we decided to paint everything white and just add furniture elements."—m.d.







principal in charge: Joshua Aidlin, AIA, Aidlin Darling Design; project designer: Ethen Wood, Aidlin Darling Design; general contractor: Monty Montgomery, McVay Construction, San Francisco; project size: 1,530 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Matthew Millman. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com* for floor plans and products.

Most of the apartment's pieces were made in the shop, reducing on-site labor costs. These include the metal stair, the floor-toceiling fabric scrim lining the living room wall, and the translucent plastic panels that screen the loft bedroom upstairs.

68



architectural interiors merit

chuckanut drive residence, bellingham, wash.

the miller hull partnership

seattle

rchitect Bob Hull, FAIA, and his staff judiciously deployed wood detailing inside this Bellingham, Wash., home. Mindful of the client's budget, as well as the aesthetic risks in using too much of one material, they interspersed poured concrete and drywall with a palette of maple, cedar, and Douglas fir. "We tried to detail the house in a simple, not extravagant, way," Hull says.

The project's honey-colored ceilings consist of exposed plywood, roof joists, and skip sheathing. Red and yellow tongue-and-groove paneling echoes the home's exterior siding. And metal-clad wood windows serve to strengthen the link between indoors and out.

"The warmth of the wood palette is great," said a judge. "The interiors are amazing—beautifully detailed."—*m.d.*



principal in charge / design partner: Bob Hull, FAIA, The MillerlHull Partnership; project architect: Jed Edeler, AIA, The MillerlHull Partnership; general contractor: Emerald Builders, Bellingham, Wash.; structural engineer: Perbix Bykonen, Seattle; project size: 1,400 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Benjamin Benschneider. Visit www.residential architect.com for floor plans and products.



The architects continued the home's textured ceiling outside to form an exterior soffit. Dark red paneling in the dining area provides a punch of vibrant color.

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design awards

architectural interiors merit

olympic tower residence, new york city

turett collaborative architects

new york city

he showstopping city views from this Manhattan pied-à-terre created a clear directive for architect Wayne Turett. "The client's main objective was to display the view," he explains. "It comes down to not distracting you when you're looking out the window." So Turett and his team specified a mostly white palette for the ultra-minimalist, 3,400-square-foot apartment, including white lacquered columns, polished white quartz floors, and a glossy, white-painted ceiling.

"It celebrates New York City," remarked a judge. "It really takes glamorous architecture to the extreme, in a fun way."—*m.d.*



The apartment's white columns are more than just stylish structural elements. Some of them also contain retractable flat-screen televisions or conceal the HVAC system, with unobtrusive vertical slits serving as air vents.

principal in charge / project architect: Wayne Turett, Turett Collaborative Architects; project managers: Frank Koester and Ryan Byrnes, Turett Collaborative Architects; general contractor: Robert Naccarato, Bernsohn & Fetner, New York City; interior designer: Christopher Coleman, Christopher Coleman Interior Design, Brooklyn, N.Y.; project size: 3,400 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Thomas Loof. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.

principal in charge: Stephen Muse, FAIA, Muse Architects; project architect: R. Warren Short, AIA, LEED AP, Muse Architects; general contractor: George Fritz, Horizon Builders, Crofton, Md.; Iandscape architect: Jay Graham, FASLA, Graham Landscape Architecture, Annapolis, Md.; interior designer: Carroll A. Frey, Carroll A. Frey Interiors, Baltimore; structural engineer: Wayne C. Bryan, P.E., Ehlert/Bryan, McLean, Va.; project size: 13,973 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Erik Kvalsvik. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*





Sight lines from interior to exterior help relate the home to the surrounding farmland, while high ceilings and wide openings give it a graceful, stately air.

architectural interiors merit

piedmont farm, howard county, md.

muse architects

bethesda, md.

ccording to Stephen Muse, FAIA, the biggest challenge to designing a large house lies in balancing variety and consistency. "The idea is to make the spaces similar enough to hold together but different enough that you have reason to move from room to room," he says. For this residence in Howard County, Md., he and his staff devised historically appropriate trim and millwork profiles that accomplish both goals and also match the rooms' oversized scale.

"Masterfully done," noted a judge. "It's classic and restrained—a beautifully crafted, wellproportioned interior."—*m.d.*

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design awards

outbuilding

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the rolling huts, mazama, wash.

olson sundberg kundig allen architects seattle

om Kundig, FAIA, likens his six Rolling Huts to "a little Thoreau hut on Walden Pond," but Henry David Thoreau never had it so sweet. The cabins, which hover over rusted wheels, each face a different view of the mountains and have butterfly roofs, clerestory windows, plywood walls, and cork floors. A woodburning fireplace supplies heat.

The elevated "wooden tents" resulted from the creative interpretation of a zoning ordinance that allowed only RVs on this spotless slice of wilderness. One house—Delta Shelter, also by Kundig—already stood on the property, and the owner wanted not only guesthouses for friends but units he could rent out to cross-country skiers. Local codes prohibited additional buildings, but previous owners had established a permit allowing 14 parked RVs. Hence the steel wheels, which can roll but are intended to be more sculptural than practical. "As soon as we put the huts on wheels, we discovered that in code they were mobile homes, so we didn't need a building permit," Kundig says, adding, "They've since changed the codes." (For more on Delta Shelter, see pages 56–57 in the May 2006 issue.)

The jury applauded the inventive, low-tech solution. "The idea of a house on wheels is great," said one judge. "It's lovely and minimally invasive."—c.w. On these updated Thoreau huts, clerestory windows bring in views of the mountains while ensuring privacy between units. Guests head to the barn (bottom) for showers.







principal in charge / project architect: Tom Kundig, FAIA, Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects; project manager: Jerry Garcia, Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects; general contractor: Tim Tanner, Seattle; structural engineer: Monte Clark, MCE Structural Consultants, Stevensville, Mont.; project size: 200 square feet per unit; site size: 40 acres; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Tim Bies. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.



residential architect / march · april 2009

outbuilding

grand

the shack at hinkle farm, upper tract, w.v.

broadhurst architects

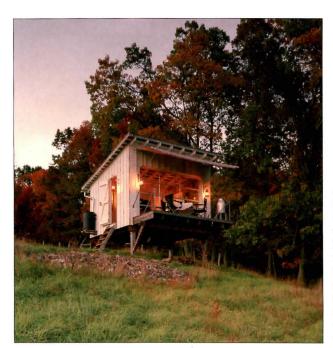
rockville, md.

fter purchasing 27 acres of land in Upper Tract, W.V., Jeffery Broadhurst, AIA, thought long and hard about what to put there. He ultimately came up with a "shack" that may be a step up from camping but still has architectural merit. "It was designed on napkins, envelopes, and church bulletins over three years," the architect jokes. Our judges gave him a Grand award for his tenacity and the simplicity of the outcome.

The off-the-grid retreat consists of a 10-foot-by-14-foot main living area and two 4-foot closets. The materials list is equally modest—just 2x4s, pine siding, and a metal roof. Broadhurst, who built the cabin with help from family, friends, and neighbors, used elemental solutions for daily necessities, such as rainwater collection for an outdoor shower, a wood stove for heat, and a propane burner and tank for hot water. An aluminum garage door and carefully placed windows help ventilate, and a deck doubles the living space in good weather.

Said one judge: It "has a folksy quality without being sentimental." (For more on this project, see page 21 in the July 2008 issue.)—n.f.m.





Architect Jeffery Broadhurst built his vacation retreat on weekends with the help of family and friends. The house features such low-tech solutions as a canvas awning for deck shading and stainless steel sheets and bird spikes for rodent control.



principal in charge / project architect: Jeffery Broadhurst, AIA, Broadhurst Architects; general contractors: Owner, family, and friends, Upper Tract, W.V.; project size: 196 square feet; site size: 27 acres; construction cost: \$45 per square foot; photography: Anice Hoachlander. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

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design awards

outbuilding merit

tower house, leander, texas

andersson•wise architects

austin, texas

ather than remodel an old one-bedroom cottage as their main house, a Texas couple asked Andersson•Wise Architects to convert it into communal living space and to build this new tower for sleeping quarters adjacent to the existing house. Our judges approved of the "cool" result. "The building is really simple," says Chris Wise, AIA. It consists of a first-floor master suite, a second-level guest room and bath, and a large rooftop terrace with a kitchenette. Plywood panels warm the interiors, and a hard-wearing tropical hardwood domesticates the exterior. Mini-split air conditioning units provide cooling, but

the building is sited for natural ventilation.—n.f.m.



This simple sleeping volume offers great views and warm veneer-lined interiors. The architects clad the building in extremely durable massaranduba tropical wood.

principals in charge / project architects: Arthur Andersson, AIA, and Chris Wise, AIA, Andersson•Wise Architects; project manager: Kristen Heaney, Andersson•Wise Architects; general contractor: Curtis Gravatt, Construction Arts, Austin, Texas; structural engineer: Dennis Duffy, Duffy Engineering, Austin; project size: 1,120 square feet; site size: 5 acres; construction cost: \$240 per square foot; photography: Art Gray. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.







outbuilding merit writer's studio, ghent, n.y. wendy evans joseph architecture new york city

dark, quiet, enigmatic shape in the woods, this building responds to a very simple program. "It's mostly about reading and writing, watching the fire, and listening to music," says Wendy Evans Joseph, FAIA, LEED AP.

But in simplicity there is power, and Joseph's distilled forms and highly tuned surfaces imbue familiar elements with iconic force. Our judges noted the deft handling of walnut in building assemblies and sculptural custom furnishings.—*b.d.s.*

With its abstracted building forms and deftly controlled surfaces—matte on the outside, highly polished within—this single-purpose building delivers multiple layers of surprise.

residential architect design awards

kitchen

reykjavik, iceland

minarc

merit

santa monica, calif.



he owner of this penthouse pied-à-terre overlooking the Atlantic Ocean uses it primarily to entertain business colleagues. To that end, Erla Dögg Ingjaldsdóttir, AIA, Assoc. IIDA, and Tryggvi Thorsteinsson, Assoc. AIA, created a dramatic, disappearing kitchen that works equally well for meetings or dinners. "It has everything you need in a kitchen—dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, coffee machine—but it's all hidden," Ingjaldsdóttir explains.

The multipurpose island, for example, conceals four custom stools with backs that mimic file cabinets. Push the stools in and the island morphs from conference table to sleek, stand-up bar. Along the room's textured stone wall, a flip-up section of stainless steel counter reveals a recessed sink and cooktop. That same countertop flows seamlessly into handles for cabinets containing the fridge and other built-in appliances.

"It's a new way to interpret urban kitchens," one judge raved, while another simply liked how the kitchen "does really cool things."—*s.d.h.*



The kitchen wall is solid black lava stone. The material reflects Iceland's volcanic topography and suggests a kind of black box theater for the owner's live/work space.

principal in charge / project architect: Erla Dögg Ingjaldsdóttir, AIA, Assoc. IIDA, Minarc; principal in charge / project designer: Tryggvi Thorsteinsson, Assoc. AIA, Minarc; project size: 1,200 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Courtesy Minarc. *Visit* www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.



Changes in cabinet depth indicate a subtle shift from living space to kitchen (above). Beyond the sleek Murphy bed (inset), etched glass pocket doors screen the combination bath/laundry/closet in this hardworking space.

principal in charge / project architect / interior designer: Jack Hawkins, AIA, LEED AP, Hawkins & Associates; general contractor: Darin Murphy, MB Construction, Reno, Nev.; cabinetmaker: Ben Wilborn, Wilborn Woodworking, Reno; steel fabricator: Paolo Cividino, Tutto Ferro, Reno; project size: 1,000 square feet; construction cost: \$230 per square foot; photography: Asa Gilmore. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products.*

kitchen merit

live, dine, sleep, reno, nev.

hawkins & associates reno

or his own home and kitchen, Jack Hawkins, AIA, LEED AP, "wanted to see how small we could live." The result "really talks about the kitchen as being more than a kitchen," said one judge. "It's art the way it's done," added another.

Hawkins loaded as much storage as possible into custom cabinets that climb step-by-step with a hot-rolled steel stair until they level out at counter height. The smooth steel also works as a low-maintenance backsplash that blends nicely with cast-in-place concrete counters. Steamed beech millwork, which Hawkins used throughout the house for continuity, provides a warm counterpoint to the otherwise raw materials.

"The biggest challenge was talking my wife into having our bed in the kitchen," he chuckles. Much like our jury, however, she quickly fell head over heels for the Murphy bed, along with all of the clever cabinetry.—s.d.h.

kitchen

merit

riverbank residence, stamford, conn.

joeb + partners, architects

greenwich, conn.

oeb Moore, AIA, intended this white-andstainless steel kitchen to both please and surprise. "It's playing off traditional New England kitchens and reinventing them a little bit," he says.

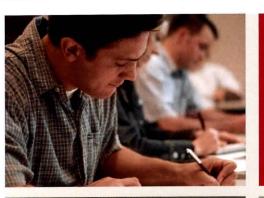
So he exaggerated the room's vertical proportions, stretching the cabinetry a few feet taller than usual. Layers of grooved glass in the cabinet fronts create a spectral effect; from some angles they reveal blurred outlines of the dishes behind them, and from others they turn opaque.

"It's sparkling," said a judge. "The monochromatic color scheme softens its industrial look."—*m.d.*



Striking contrasts—ebonized floors and white cabinets, a mobile island and fixed appliances, contemporary stainless steel and traditional wood—punctuate the elegant room.

principal in charge: Joeb Moore, AIA, Joeb + Partners, Architects; project team: Doug Patt and Tania Ayoub, Joeb + Partners, Architects; general contractor: Joseph Kais, KAIS Custom Builders, Norwalk, Conn.; landscape architect: Diane Devore, ASLA, Devore Associates, Fairfield, Conn.; project size: 350 square feet; construction cost: Withheld; photography: Lorin Klaris Photography. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products*.



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residential architect design awards

architectural design detail grand

kokoris residence, san francisco

jensen architects

san francisco

rchitect Mark Jensen, AIA, took the goal of curb appeal seriously with this façade makeover. Supported by a cantilevered cast-in-place concrete platform, a glass box beckons to passersby and offers glimpses through the house toward stunning vistas of downtown San Francisco and the Bay beyond. "The vestibule is not part of the conditioned space," Jensen explains. "There's a sliding glass door into the house, so it's more of a transparent gateway to celebrate the views out back."

A few inches outside the glass enclosure, a waterfall flows over variegated blue ceramic tiles on the garage wall and into a pool that extends beneath the entire floating front porch. Stairs suspended on a steel riser, a cantilevered overhang with a slot skylight, and a moss-filled band of porous concrete add to the mystique of the entry sequence.

"It takes what would normally be three steps and makes a huge deal out of it," summed up one juror, while another found beauty in "the combination of pattern and clean lines and water."-s.d.h.

principal in charge: Mark Jensen, AIA, Jensen Architects and Jensen & Macy Architects; project architect: Melissa Braisted, LEED AP, Jensen Architects; project designer: Chris Kalos, Jensen Architects; general contractor: Bill Johnstone, Johnstone McAuliffe Construction, Pacifica, Calif.; construction cost: \$500 per square foot; photography: César Rubio. Visit www.residential architect.com for products.







Jensen composed a dramatic entry experience to help guests prepare for stunning views from the front door. The sequence begins with a strip of moss-filled permeable pavers, followed by stairs floating above moving water. It all culminates inside the oversized vitrine, which serves as a diaphanous barrier between public and private spaces.

80

architectural design detail merit

laidley street residence, san francisco

zack / de vito architecture

san francisco

ise de Vito and Jim Zack, AIA, lavished attention on the design of the skylight-topped staircase in their San Francisco townhouse. The result—a glowing transmitter of light, sound, and air—won praise from the judges. "I like the luminous quality," said one.

The couple hand-sanded the staircase's clear acrylic treads and risers to achieve a translucent appearance. Waterjet-cut steel stringers hold these pieces together. A slim mahogany handrail adds warmth, and guardrails of glass and steel usher light into the heart of the house.—*m.d.*

principal in charge / project designer: Lise de Vito, Zack / de Vito Architecture; project architect: Jim Zack, AIA, Zack / de Vito Architecture; general contractor: Jim Zack, AIA, Built Form Construction, San Francisco; construction cost: \$75 per square foot (staircase fabrication and installation only); photography: Bruce Damonte.





The view from the lower level up through the topfloor skylight shows how the staircase distributes light throughout the house. One-inch gaps beneath each riser (left) enhance the effect of airiness and transparency.

architect

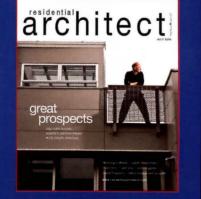
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design awards

on the boards

merit

truro dune house, truro, mass.

ruhl walker architects

boston

he owners of this Cape Cod acreage want to take advantage of its ocean views and white sand beach without damaging the delicate dunes. Making a sensitive situation even trickier is the neighboring Edward Hopper house that overlooks the site through the famous painter's studio window. Brad Walker, AIA, proposed renovating an 1820s house that sits on the inland edge of the lot as a primary residence, then building a retreat on the water. His design features a two-bedroom concrete

base burrowed into the sand and topped by a glass pavilion. The long, narrow footprint barely disturbs the dunes' regular shifting pattern, and existing dune trails link the old and new structures.

Our judges liked how the building acts as "background architecture with a sculptural quality" and called it "a poetic folly."—*s.d.h.*



Active city blocks, semi-public courtyards, and soon-to-come schools and libraries will give this low-income site in New Orleans a new lease on life.

principal in charge: Ronald E. Harwick, AIA, CSI, JHP Architecture / Urban Design; project architect: John Schrader, AIA, LEED AP, JHP Architecture / Urban Design; developer: Noel Khalil, Columbia Residential, Atlanta; project size: 770 square feet to 1,152 square feet per unit; site size: 22.94 acres; construction cost: Projected \$140 per square foot; rental price: \$550 to \$1,050 per unit per month; units in project: 466; rendering: Courtesy JHP Architecture / Urban Design. Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans and products. The owners and their guests will be able to walk along a sea grass-planted roof to enter the glass pavilion on grade, or follow the dune downhill to a private courtyard entrance on the lower level.





principal in charge / project architect: Bradford C. Walker, AIA, Ruhl Walker Architects; project size: 1,400 square feet; site size: 10 acres; construction cost: To be determined; rendering and section: Courtesy Ruhl Walker Architects. *Visit www.residentialarchitect.com for floor plans.*

on the boards merit

the bayou district at park city, new orleans

jhp architecture / urban design dallas

hen Hurricane Katrina roared through New Orleans, it devastated the already deteriorating St. Bernard Housing Development. Fast-track plans to demolish and rebuild the area resulted in this design our judges called "very strong."

The first phase of the project includes 466 rental units, assigned to two- and three-story townhouses and a "mansion" building. JHP Architecture broke up the massing into smaller elements and provided through access to maintain consistency with the existing fabric of New Orleans. "We tried to break the blocks down so it didn't look like the projects," says Ronald E. Harwick, AIA, CSI. The firm also created multiple semi-public spaces, internal parking courts, and a diverse streetscape with stoops and deep galleries.

"It's a remarkably contextual solution for knitting a city back together," said a judge.—*n.f.m.*

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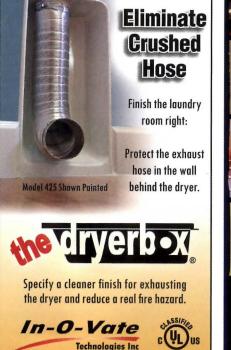
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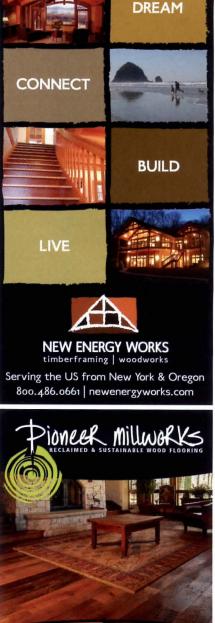
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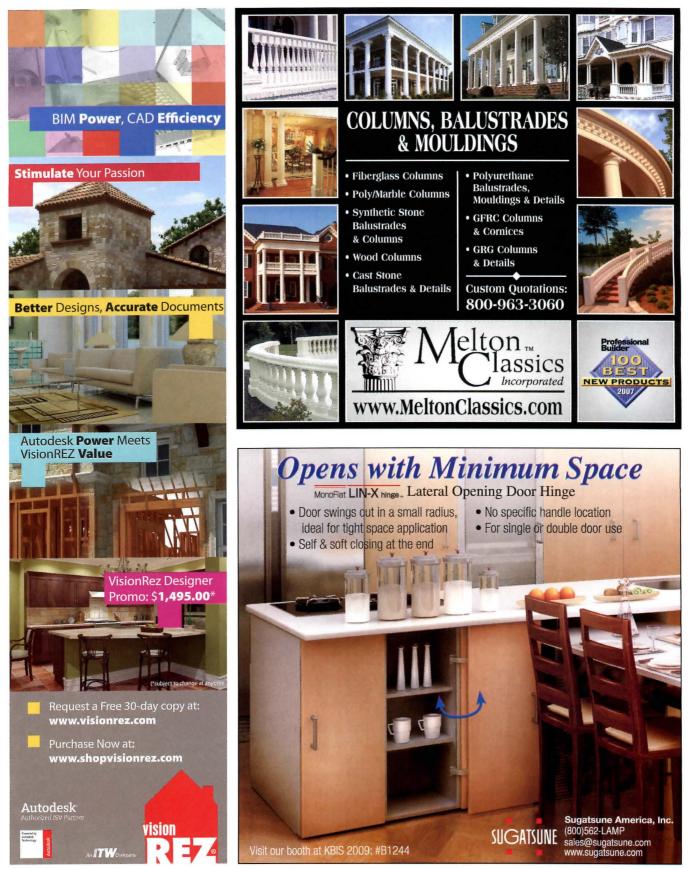


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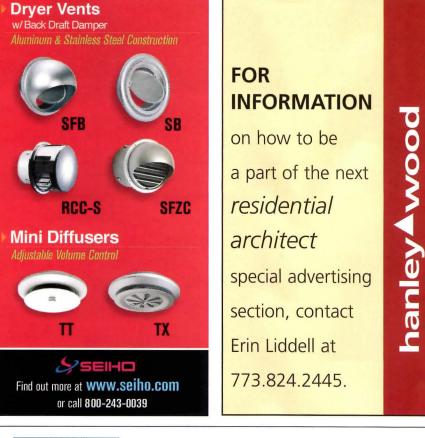


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workspace

salmela architect

www.salmelaarchitect.com

Sun-drenched white walls, taut wood, and trim slate-gray floors are trademarks of David Salmela's Scandinavia-inspired architecture. Add a cobalt blue conference table and precise stacks of white project boxes, and you have his Duluth, Minn., workspace. With its long, oiled birch plywood counter and raw basswood slatted rails, this jewel box of a room typifies the



fresh, yet familiar approach for which the architect has become known. Salmela, FAIA, works on the main level at the long countertop, which doubles as a display shelf for models of active projects. An employee occupies the space a few steps down, and upstairs is an administrative office and storage mezzanine.



"It's really fun to work here," Salmela says of the sunny, groundlevel office in his home, which won a Merit award in this year's *residential*



Photos: Peter Bastianelli-Kerze

architect Design Awards competition (see page 49). Adding to the pleasure is the sight of ships passing in the Duluth–Superior Harbor below. "The windows at my desk are 7 feet square and 2 feet off the floor," Salmela says, "so we have an immense view of the world."—*cheryl weber* AZEK^{*}, the #1 brand of trim, proudly introduces our latest innovation – AZEK Trim with the AZEK Edge[™]. Like all AZEK Products, AZEK Trim with the AZEK Edge is building code listed, perfect for ground contact, and impervious to moisture and insects. To put the power of the AZEK brand to work for you, visit www.azek.com. It's the edge you've been looking for.



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