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DECEMBER 1997

KENNETH R. FULLER, FAIA EMERITUS: A LIVING TREASURE

—Andrea Nicholl, Assoc. AIA

[contents]

Lines & Columns PAGE 5

Denver Apogee PAGE 7

North Chapter PAGE 11

109th Meridian PAGE 13

An Open Letter
to Members and Board PAGE 4

Hagen • Cameron
Architecture Profile PAGE 5

Marvin Sparn, FAIA PAGE 11

Bill Robb, AIA emeritus PAGE 11

Life and Times of
Frances Whitaker PAGE 13

Other Roadside
Attractions PAGE 13

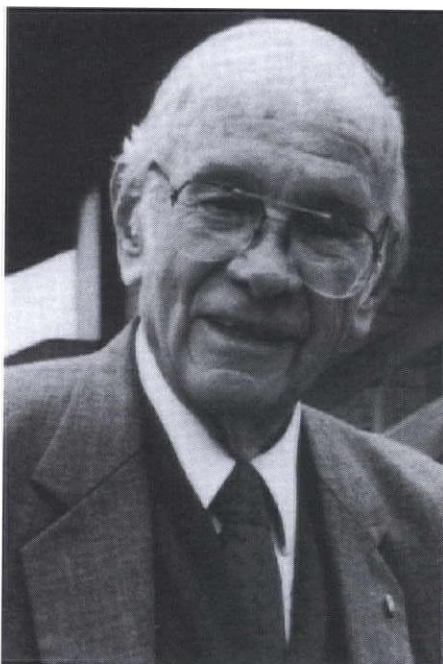
I asked a few well-connected people in the architecture field who they thought of as a "living treasure." Among others, one of the most popular names is Kenneth R. Fuller, FAIA emeritus. I have had the honor of meeting Kenneth Fuller and know what a special presence he brings. It's not just his favorite cap or his sense of humor that make him unique, it is his contribution to the practice of architecture for over 60 years.

Dennis Humphries, AIA, a long-time friend and admirer of Ken, gave us a little background on him. A native of Denver, Ken is the third generation to practice architecture in Colorado. The firm, Fuller Fuller and Associates, traces its origins back to Robert S. Roeschlaub, Colorado's first architect, and is the oldest continuously operating firm in the state. Ken studied architecture at the University of Colorado and the University of Illinois in Urbana, but never completed his degree due to World War II and subsequent family responsibilities. During the war, he served as a civilian Architect/Engineer, designing and supervising Air Force installations. In 1947, he returned to Denver to rejoin the firm, working with his father, Robert K. Fuller; 40 years of architectural practice followed.

In 1966, the Colorado Society of Architects endorsed Ken as the permanent Corporate Trustee and Secretary Treasurer of the Educational Fund. The Fund, conceived in 1934, was initiated by five architects collaborating together on the design of the City and County of Denver building who agreed to contribute the profits of their commission to advance the profession. One of these five men was Ken's father, Robert. The original mission of the Fund was—and is today—the advancement of education in architecture by granting scholarships, prizes and financial aid to deserving students in architecture and to teachers or architects interested in research projects directly related to and of value to the architectural profession.

Ken has received several awards and certificates including, the Colorado Society's Distinguished Service Award

in 1970, and the Colorado Society's Outstanding Service Certificate in 1974. Ken was honored by the University of Colorado Board of Regents in 1995 with the University Medal, the only architect to receive this honor.



Some of Ken's other achievements include:

- ◆ AIA Fellowship (Fellow American Institute of Architects) in 1984
- ◆ Colorado Historical Society - Stephen J. Hart Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in preserving Colorado's Cultural Heritage in 1988
- ◆ Award of Merit - American Association of State and Local History in 1989
- ◆ Colorado Society of Architects - Architect of the Year Award for 1989
- ◆ Listed in 1990's Who's Who in the World in 1990
- ◆ AIA Colorado President's Award in 1996

Over the years, Ken has managed the investments of the trust and grown the principal while providing income to fund an ever-expanding program of awards. He maintains the books, deals with the ever-changing tax and legal issues, solicits donations, participates in the evaluation of applicants for awards and coordinates the awards programs, all while reporting on his activities to AIA Colorado Board of Directors. Ken Fuller has pledged (and continues to pledge at age 84), a great deal of time and energy to the enhancement of others' education. AIA Colorado staff member, Joe Jackson, said, "Whenever I think of Colorado's Living Treasures, one of the first names that comes to mind is Ken Fuller." In his role over the years as permanent trustee of the Educational Fund, Ken has continued to provide financial support and professional guidance to many of our young students and interns. When University of Colorado's President Judith Albino presented Ken with the University Medal, she summed it up by saying, Ken is known as "Mr. Educational Fund."

At the AIA office, everyone knows Ken as a "walking encyclopedia" of Colorado architectural history. A recent Colorado transplant, Joe says, "I know if I have a question about our architectural history, Ken is the first one I turn to. He has the answers, clear back to our first registered architect!"

On behalf of the many people who admire Ken, thank you Kenneth R. Fuller, FAIA emeritus for being a living treasure.

BOULDER EMERGENCY SQUAD ELECTS ZEEB AS CHIEF

Members of the Boulder Emergency Squad (BES) elected Kathryn L. Zeeb, AIA, to a two-year term as Chief. BES is an all-volunteer, technical rescue team, founded in 1964. BES members volunteer several thousand hours each year on calls and in training to provide professional rescue services for residents of

and visitors to Boulder County. Ms. Zeeb has been a member of BES since 1995 and was previously on the Summit County Water Rescue Team for six years. She is a Senior Rescuer, swift-water rescuer, ice rescuer and is trained in technical extrication. Ms. Zeeb is an architect and a principal of the Boulder architectural firm, BVZ Architects.

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EXPERIENCE IS KEY TO TREASURE —Steven Walsh, AIA

Living Treasures are thought of as people who through their past accomplishments, have become valued members of our profession. Sadly, as a professional association, it is often not until they have passed away that we recognize their contribution. Those people didn't have the opportunity to revel in the effect of their legacy, and we as a group did not have the chance to benefit and learn from them as richly as if we could have integrated them into the ongoing planning of our activities while alive.

Only the few who lived and worked in their close circle benefit from a role model sorely needed by us all. The recent retrospective of William Muchow at the AIA Gallery is a case in point. Some of my friends got to work with him and I heard several heart-rending stories about his work and life. In a way, I almost feel cheated that I didn't get to work alongside him in an AIA activity. Happily, I did work with Rodney Davis on the IDP committee several years before his passing.

A Living Treasures program recognizes individuals at a point in their lives and careers where they have accomplished much and hold the promise of even more. If we changed the way we use this rich human resource, not only could the lives of these people be enriched, but their collective abilities could be handed down to future generations in a more meaningful way.

So often we've focused on getting new members, new volunteers and producing new ideas at the risk of ignoring current members' needs and forgetting the rich history of our 140-year-old organization. We should continuously provide new opportunities for our "up and coming" professionals. Yet to ignore the wealth of knowledge and the discipline of good judgment would be

like planting a seed without watering it. We need to combine our veteran practitioners with our newer members' energy and enthusiasm.

Many members have climbed through the AIA organization by serving on local chapter boards and committees; some went on to National AIA leadership. That experience and training should be brought home and focused on Grassroots efforts like our Day at the Capitol lobbying, spearheading innovative programs like the Leadership AIA program, and producing inspiring design conferences. If you're actively involved in the AIA, consider getting into the grassroots efforts to share your knowledge with aspiring members, enrich and expand our AIA mission, and achieve great satisfaction and value in being an AIA member.

If you're not active, Grassroots' activities are a great way to make friends and learn a thing or two. Call the AIA office for a list of activities Statewide. One of our members, Corey Fairbanks, Assoc. AIA, formed a task force and is reviewing the ADA, chapter by chapter, for inclusion in the upcoming Federal modifications process! David Barrett, AIA, led one of the most innovative design conferences in our memory!

As architects, we all have ideas, which we translate into grand visions. I



encourage you to continue imagining an active and vibrant AIA to further the AIA Mission, satisfy your curiosity, and create opportunity for you and others you include in your efforts. As a volunteer organization, everything we do depends on members stepping up to the plate with an idea and the enthusiasm to see it through. Our enthusiastic staff works to reach out to the profession and community to facilitate your efforts. Without this proactive membership, the result is an organization simply maintaining the status quo.

You hold promise for our future prosperity. Our promise is the plans we intend to carry out. Become a "Living Treasure;" aspire to leave a legacy. You'll rediscover the spirit that called you to be an architect. It's been a pleasure serving you this year as your President. For the future, I look forward to being "recycled" into the Grassroots of the AIA. See you there!

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JOHN B ROGERS, FAIA: A LIFETIME OF ARCHITECTURAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

John B Rogers, FAIA, has had a significant effect on the Denver architectural community. He is the founder and a principal of RNL Facilities Corporation, and has practiced for more than 45 years. His nationally recognized design work, business expertise, and civic involvement, along with his continued quest for knowledge, have made him a respected leader, peer, and teacher.

John decided in the ninth grade to become an architect, and earned a B.S. in Architectural Engineering from Kansas State University; a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Texas, Austin; and an MBA from the University of Colorado. Before starting his own practice in Denver in 1956, he worked in the Denver offices of James Sudler, Temple Buell, Raymond Irvine, and Mark Musick.

John's first office was in Cherry Creek at First and Fillmore; his first project was an 8-1/2" x 11" drawing to change a door swing on a church. John and Jerry Nagel (also in private practice) formed a partnership in 1961 and began a renovation and addition to the Colorado National Bank. Vic Langhart merged his firm with theirs in 1966 and RNL was formed. By 1973, the 90-person A/E firm was busy designing the Mountain Bell building at 17th & Curtis and the Police Administration Building & Jail at the Civic Center. After winning the design competition for the Colorado Supreme Court and Colorado Museum, they had all they could do for the next three years.

While engaged with these projects and others, the partners received three buy-out offers. After a detailed study with consultants, the partners decided to transition RNL to their employees. This ownership transition has now been completed using an ESOP. John served as President of the firm for 25 years and then became Chair. Today, he's still a Principal and sits on the

Board of Directors. RNL has continued to grow and change over the years. Several years ago, the structure was reorganized into discipline studios to better serve the special needs of their clients.



RNL created a subsidiary, Interplan, for strategic planning and programming; Design Build West, LLC, a joint venture with M. A. Mortenson Construction Company, Minneapolis; Maintenance Design Group, LLC, for transportation and vehicle maintenance projects; a joint venture with Carter Burgess Engineers, Fort Worth, Texas; and maintains an office in Los Angeles. Some of his projects include the Microwave Towers at Vail and Berthoud Pass, a series of Jefferson County schools, corporate and data centers for Mountain Bell, regional offices for Manville Corporation, a primary addition to the U.S. Mint in Denver, and the *Rocky Mountain News* Building. In 1973, he served as a professional advisor for the national Manville Design Competition for its Denver World Headquarters.

John has thoughtfully and effectively mentored many young architects, some of whom have remained with RNL, and others who have gone on to their own practice. His dedication to architecture has led him to adjunct pursuits that improved his own designs and strengthened his leadership skills. He

served as Regional Director on the National AIA Board from 1979 to 1981, and participated on national committees. He served as AIA Colorado President twice, in 1975 and 1994 and was elected to the College of Fellows in 1979, for excellence in design and public service. As a result of the energy crisis in the early 70's John promoted educational activities for architects in energy conservation, from the AIA Board in Washington, to creating the Energy Conservation & Alternative Center in Denver in 1980. Subsequent designs of the firm included passive and active solar components.

John's scope of influence has been felt locally in the firm, AIA activities, the University of Colorado, and in the community at large. From his post as the first Executive-in-Residence at the College of Business at UCD, he lobbied for and has sponsored a new course for architectural students in the Masters program, "The Business of Architectural Practice." This course is now in its second year and is taught by Dr. Larry Johnston, Finance Professor in the College of Business, and guest speakers for the profession.

John's civic involvement has been prolific in Denver. He served on the Board of Directors of both First Interstate Bank and Union Bank & Trust;

Chaired Mayor Peña's Review Committee for City Planning Agencies, and held other positions related to schools, energy conservation, and historic preservation. Currently, he serves on the Citizens' Advisory Board for the Redevelopment of Stapleton, and is a member of the Landmark Preservation Commission of Denver.

John has continued to volunteer outside the firm. In 1992, he volunteered in Cairo as the International Executive Service Corps. He provided design review services to a local architect and his client for a hotel addition in Heliopolis and a new resort hotel at Hurghada on the Red Sea.

Bette (also an architect) and John have three sons and enjoy five granddaughters—two in New York and three in Denver.

LETTERS POLICY

The Colorado Architect welcomes all letters. Letters must be signed with name, street address and daytime phone number. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the AIA Colorado Board of Directors or its membership.

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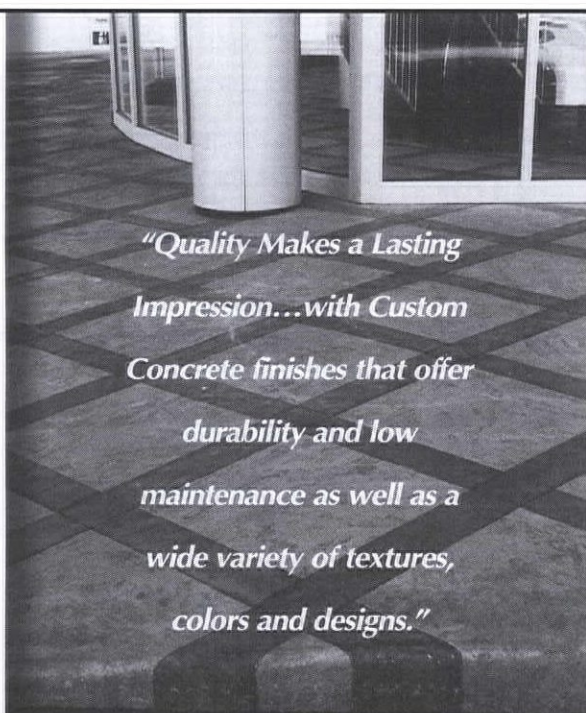
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CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

L 1997 is the final year of the AIA transition start-up. Members have until December 31, 1997, to earn 36 LUs. Thereafter, members are required to earn 36 LUs each calendar year.

What if I don't earn enough LUs, or I earn more than required?

Members who do not earn 36 LUs in one year's cycle may make it up the following year in addition to that year's requirement. If after the second year the total number of required LUs and HSWs has not been met, membership standing will be reviewed. If a member earns more than 36 LUs in a year, the additional LUs may be applied to the following year's requirements (up to 36 additional LUs).

Where can I get help?

Assistance may be obtained from both the national AIA and your local AIA chapter. National AIA has established a hotline to provide a source of information and will respond with requested materials and forms. A recorded message instructs callers to leave a message with their requests. The hotline number is (202)879-3089. You can call directly by dialing (202)626-7436, or email lowthert@aiaemail.aia.org, or fax (202)626-7399.

DID YOU MISS AIA CONVENTION NEW ORLEANS '97?

Now you can recap the convention through continuing education learning units. AIA Convention Continuing Education, The McGraw-Hill Construction Information Group and CNA/Schinnerer have put a CD-ROM for Windows together to make this possible. It has Convention handouts and extracts from the continuing education seminars, the latest AIA/CES information and self-report form, catalog of CES programs and products with a sample multimedia self-study course, and much more. You can check this CD-ROM out for one week for \$20 at the AIA office.

GRAPHISOFT INTERACTIVE CAD COURSE

Whether you're an experienced CAD user or a novice, this demo/CES test is an excellent chance for you to earn some learning units. The total time spent on completing the entire course will probably vary from three to five hours. To complete the course, you will

need access to a computer with at least 16Mb of RAM running either Windows or Macintosh operating system.

Next, you will need to install a copy of the ArchiCAD demo software, a small library of building parts, and the Montara Inn sample project on your hard drive. After you complete the project, you will need to complete the multiple choice test. Correctly answering 70 percent or more is considered "passing." If your test results are below 70 percent, Graphisoft will offer you the opportunity to take a new test. The successful completion of this course earns you 12 learning units. To obtain one of these packages, call AIA at 303.446.2266.

AN OPEN LETTER TO AIA COLORADO MEMBERS AND THE AIA DENVER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

—Marvin Hatami, FAIA

I read with surprise, that the AIA Board of Directors endorsed the "Guide the Ride" initiative. [October issue of *Colorado Architect*]

What was missing in this enthusiastic support? Perhaps a little thing called

urbanism; the surprises and rewards of the unexpected. No one knows where transit lines would be routed or why. What it implied was the "give me the job no matter what" attitude. As a profession supposedly concerned about planning and design, the support disregarded the ramifications and the outcome of the future physical environment of the city. They know that. That's why they formed "Community Responsive Transit Design Workshop." Good luck.

The saga of public transportation in the past 30 years in Denver show it to have been ineffective. The formation of the Regional Transportation District (RTD) and particularly its governing board and inability of its administrative bodies, did not put a dent in highway construction or increases in traffic and sprawl. The creation of the Alternative Service Program in the Guide the Ride proposal is a good indication of treating the symptoms of an ill-conceived public transportation system, not the cause.

No one is opposed to public transportation, facilitating mobility and accessibility. The broad statement of the AIA Board, "Completion of a com-

[See LETTER on page 15]

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Lines & Columns

December 1997

FIRM PROFILE: HAGEN • CAMERON ARCHITECTURE, PC

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In a world where "bigger is better," leaving an established architectural firm to start a new one without any clients or employees seems like swimming against the current. Yet in 1992, after 17 years of working as an employee, Doug Hagen, AIA found himself determined to start anew.

"I had represented other firms as a Project Architect and even as a Principal Architect for many clients from Colorado Springs to Northern Colorado," Doug said, but he was still unsure if anyone would hire him without the backing of an established firm. Two years later, John Cameron, AIA, joined the firm as co-owner, leaving his shareholder position with an established firm to "start over" with the fledgling architectural office.



Colorado Springs Utilities Gas Department - Operations Bldg. Addition & Remodel. 1995 Merit Award - AIA Colorado South Chapter

The firm has grown to 12 employees with five registered architects and a name change that reflects its place as an established architectural firm. "Starting over meant organizing a new company from the ground up, but we've been pushed along by the Colorado economy," said Doug, who gives as much credit to the luck of timing as he does to skill or entrepreneurship. "The amount of building activity in the 90's has allowed us to grow to a respectable size without fear of a shortage of work just around the corner."

Beginning

Six months after starting as a sole proprietorship, the firm received an RFP from a client that knew Doug's work from previous projects. The start-up "firm" prevailed and was awarded a contract to design an addition to the Operations Building for the Gas Department, Colorado Springs Utilities.

This was Doug's first opportunity to recruit architectural employees.

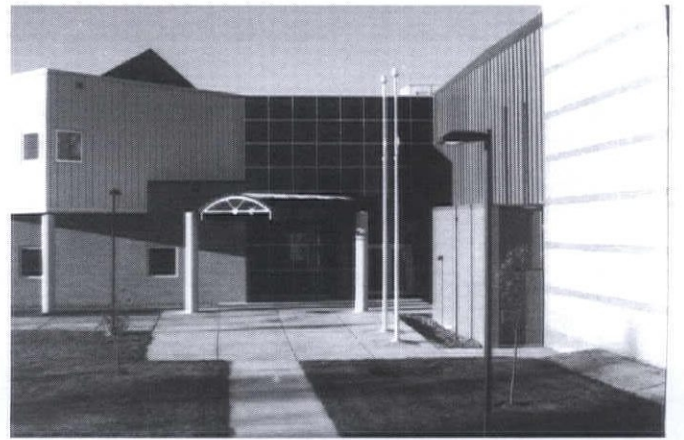
Even with this growth, the firm struggled its first two years and Doug recalls, "We took almost any work, no matter how small or complicated. We also gambled a little, taking low fee planning projects that might help us in the future. Our staff was great and hung in there until something good happened again."

That "something" was a chance to be selected for a large school project in Gilcrest, Colorado. At that time, John Cameron was offered an ownership position in the newly incorporated firm. John accepted and resigned his position with the LKA Partners and he remembers, "Doug and I had measured our chances of winning the big project and then hung on to our hopes while we waited for word from the client." With the Gilcrest project award, the firm earned credibility and gained another opportunity to recruit highly qualified staff.

Five-Year Mark

Hagen • Cameron Architecture PC (HCA) recently completed the design of its largest commission to date, a

school project in the town of Gilcrest. HCA recently finished the new Family Development Center, a \$1.4 million child care facility for CU-Colorado Springs. HCA consulted to RNL on the new Columbine Hall, an \$11 million



Valley High School and Gilcrest Elementary School - Addition and Remodel. 1996 Honor Award - AIA Colorado South Chapter

academic classroom/office building for CU-Colorado Springs. These are the firm's first university projects.

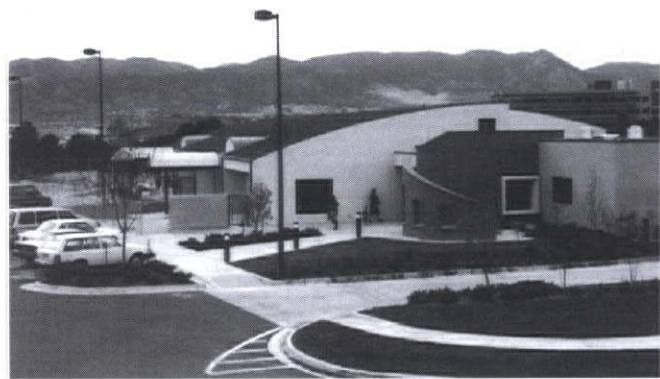
New Building Design

During the last two years, HCA completed a new law building, a new 31-unit senior apartment building for the Colorado Springs Housing Authority, and two University projects. These new buildings are important milestones for Doug, who knows that many times start-up architectural firms have to "pay their dues" on a diet of addition and remodel projects until they build a track record to successfully compete for new buildings. This is often so, even though many remodel projects are harder to design than new buildings.

Public Project Specialty

HCA specializes in public projects with a niche in educational environment design including public schools, university

buildings and libraries. The firm has also developed strong capabilities in industrial and office projects. HCA staff



CU Colorado Springs - New Family Development Center

package of addition and remodel projects at five schools for the Windsor School District, worth over \$11 million in construction cost. Construction was completed last year on the \$10 million

[See HAGEN on page 6]

NEW MEMBER

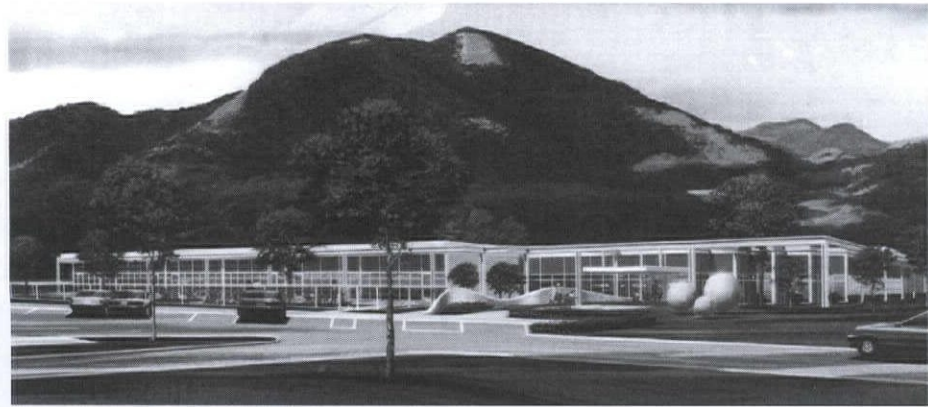
Lynn Ellen Braley, PA
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HOW TO TURN RIGIDITY INTO PLAYFULNESS

—Corine Weiss and Duane Boyle, AIA

When the Air Force Academy received funding for a new child development center (CDC), the question of physical form immediately came to mind. Does the building match the Academy's strict guidelines and resulting review process or does it differ and become less rigid? Add to the problem by siting the facility in an historic district and it was apparent that the design had to meet multiple criteria.

The Challenge: Design a building that fits within the strict guidelines of mod-



ernist architecture, yet be playful and inviting to young children.

The CDC design goals are to design and build a facility that complements the Academy's modernist context, meet the functional requirements and Air Force guidelines for CDCs, respond to the dramatic site and the climate of the Rocky Mountain Front Range, and develop a building that lets children interact with the natural and manmade environment.

A complete design process, which included a design "charette," input from all Academy and Air Force experts and CDC staff, and evaluation of the historical "International Style" by Academy Architects are used to accomplish these goals.

How the challenge was met

Approaching the building entry, one is greeted by "sequence of spaces" through three yellow spherical sculptures in varying sizes and a bright red undulating (in plan and elevation) concrete "wiggle wall." One then moves into a space with open structure above, covered with a bright blue awning. These elements begin the transition from the exterior to the interior of the building. Upon entry into the vestibule and finally the reception area, there is a feeling of still being outside because of all the glass.

The sculptural spheres playfully identify the entrance to the facility and announce the building's mission as a center for children. The red, interactive "wiggle wall" creates a meandering path leading into the building, where it is converted into a change in the floor pattern, back to interactive through the courtyard, and continues into the playground where the concrete wall once again playfully undulates through the playground and provides the barrier

between the preschool and toddler playgrounds. A ribbon flows through the building and is constructed with sensory panels and undulates in plan and elevation.

The Northeast corner of the building was "cut away" to create an enticing sawtooth diagonal, which also identifies the entrance. The structural frame continues unbroken, however, finishing the grid and enclosing a garden-like area within the grid of the building, serving as a transition from outside to inside.

The South and West elevations facing the playground incorporate playfulness by using red and yellow primary colors in the spandrel panels and overhead awnings. Glass block and module changes were also incorporated, while still maintaining the modernist vocabulary. Playgrounds were oriented so children could experience the built environment, wildlife, and nature.

A courtyard was designed that provides a sheltered outdoor space, and abundant natural light into the building. Generous amounts of glass in the classrooms let children feel like they are actually outside. Windows between classrooms let children see activities going on in the other rooms.

Cooling towers and transformers are placed within the building to reduce visual impact on the exterior environment.

Horizontal blinds are sandwiched within the exterior glass to eliminate the possibility of child endangerment. Operable windows were placed above children's reach to fully capitalize on the Colorado climate and fresh air ventilation.

Interiors were designed in a simple manner consistent with modernist design. Primary and secondary colors are creatively used in the care rooms so children can easily identify their rooms.

The project is located within a National Historic District, defined by its Modernist planning and architectural style.

Locating the Child Development Center in the same complex as the Family Support Center and Temporary Lodging Facilities puts families within walking distance from services critical

[HAGEN, from page 5]

have completed many municipal utility, transportation, fleet maintenance, and general city and county facility projects. With growth of the staff, the firm now has corporate project expertise, especially with high-tech projects.

Planning & Programming

The firm excels at long range master planning, facility inventories, programming and fund raising campaigns. Key staff members have expertise in preparing effective and visionary documents that assist clients in planning their short term and long range needs. Examples include University student referendum campaigns, Public School bond issue elections and reports needed for decision making at City Council and County Commissioner meetings.

Major Projects

- ◆ New Family Development Center - CU - Colorado Springs
- ◆ New Columbine Hall (with RNL Design) - CU - Colorado Springs

- ◆ NewNorthwest Elementary (with Slater-Paull Associates) - Colorado Springs School District 11
- ◆ Southview Plaza Senior Apts.-Colorado Springs Housing Authority
- ◆ Martin Drake Power Plant - Colorado Springs Utilities
- ◆ Gas Department Operations Building-Colorado Springs Utilities
- ◆ Lasley Elementary School - Jefferson County School District
- ◆ Welchester Elementary School (with Eric Bartczak Architects) - Jefferson County School District
- ◆ Penrose Library Complex - Pikes Peak Library District
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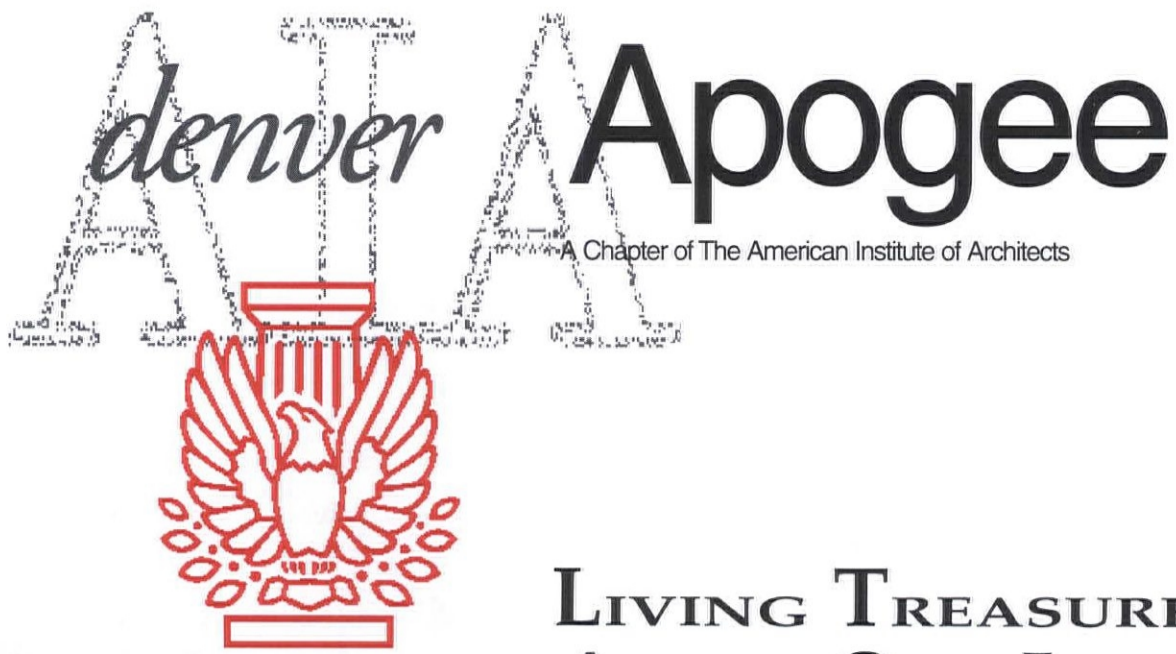


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Turning and turning in the
widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the fal-
coners;
Things fall apart; the centre
cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon
the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is
loosed and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is
drowned;
The best lack all conviction,
while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.
—from *The Second Coming* by
W. B. Yeats

This is an article composed of the thoughts, feelings and experiences of two Denver residents: a second-generation native, and a decade-plus transplant, both non-architects—yet affected and aware of architecture and design in our daily lives. It reflects the effect architects have had on these people as they relate to the city and the state. It's an attempt to bring from the microcosm a statement about the general climate and focus of the growth and development of Denver as a center of commerce, residence, and play—and how we see that architects help direct that flow.

From a native:

I remember always feeling that I looked at Denver differently than other people. When I was in high school, we would pile into a friend's big black car, leave suburbia and drive into the mystery of Downtown Denver. Usually we would go to Rock Island, a club settled among abandoned warehouses on an unlit street in a part of town where normally - you wouldn't dare go. If you were on the 16th Street Mall past 11:30 at night, you were alone. In fact, that is where you could go on a date if you wanted solitude. When I was in art school a few years later, I heard for the first time a phrase that haunted Denver for a long time - "Cow Town." I was offended, and began pointing out every piece of architecture that proved we lived in a modern, thriving, growing city. At that time, the Petroleum Building was the largest building around, and LoDo was a nonexistent term. I always loved the way our city's buildings clustered together and peeked out of downtown's valley—into the mountains beyond.

From a transplant:

I moved to Denver in May of 1985, with money-making opportunities in mind. The oil and gas market crashed here simultaneously, and I was stuck with what most residents at that time experienced—"a tightening up and falling back to old resources" of marketable skills...wondering what could take the place of oil and gas in the economy here. I was most recently a ski bum in Utah and only wanted to live in Denver till late fall when I would return to a ski instructor's job in Utah; I simply wanted to make the most money I could combining temporary jobs and shared housing in an apartment on Yale Avenue near Bible Park. I barely paid attention to political (or architectural) matters in Denver at the time. But my plans changed by early fall and I decided to stay in Denver for the winter.

I began to notice my neighborhood of quickly developing townhouses and condos in the area east of Quebec. On the weekends, I headed for Capitol Hill and a coffee shop called Bloomingdeli's that was across from Rainbow Grocery at Colfax and York. I felt at ease in the urban atmosphere of old and new together, the blending there of ethnicities and lifestyles. During this time, I skied, riding the Gart Brothers bus to different resorts each weekend. I was getting hooked, however reluctantly, on Denver...and Colorado. By October, I was registered with five different temporary agencies and only worked two or three days a week, sometimes none. I was getting worried. I started wondering on a larger scale what was going to happen to Denver's and Colorado's economy.

I began to care about where I lived. I read the newspapers and followed stories on Mayor Peña and his ideas, what his critics had to say. When talk of a new airport began to arise and the debate began, I picked my side. I favored it. Denver would rebuild its economy from within, from a new perspective. This isn't another airport article. I held in my mind a vision for a center called Denver that holds together the fabric of a greater community surrounding it, a center of commerce and vitality, and a sense of community that radiates beyond over city limits, county borders, and ethnic boundaries.

From a native:

In 1989, I moved to New England for five years. I visited home a few times but really had no grasp of the growth occurring in the city or the suburbs. I came back home not only to new buildings, streets, highways and huge malls, but also to a term and style that is everyday now—LoDo. I was so amazed at all those wonderful old buildings that I always treasured, stately and fortresslike, now being filled with modern offerings, coffee houses, big spaces and exposed pipes. It was a meeting and romance of two eras. The sentimental side of me (the one I was often teased for) was sad to hear of all the buildings, in their own right, art work, being brought to the ground to make room for the new. When I was a student intern at the Community Resource Center, one of my duties on occasion was to stay all day in an old Denver fire station on Milwaukee in Capitol Hill, and wait for deliveries to the association moving in there. I spent the time exploring and wondering who else had stared out the huge, curved windows over our skyline. It was eventually converted into a residence and I'm glad to have shared time with that building and the memories of its former residents and activities, and to imagine now its present occupants and how they move in that space. I am sad remembering the now-missing quiet that helped earned the name "Cow Town." I loved Denver not in spite of that but because of it, a city on the verge, full of potential but grounded by realists. I found myself in my own state of evolution, my moods being molded by something as simple (and complex) as a building. I see all this amazing beauty on the face of progress, the colors of the brick and the uninhibited use of wood and metal, and it always reminds me of the mountains, of my years growing up as a Colorado native with my back yard a place to find wood, stone and metal side by side everyday. I once caught myself admiring a piece of new architecture downtown and thinking, "whoever thought of this was successful because it feels right." It felt new, old, alive, vital, functional and beautiful.

From a transplant:

I eventually found a full-time job in a field I'd left 15 years earlier, and moved to Golden Gate Canyon where I lived for eight years. From my home there, I

[See Living Treasures on page 8]

[Living Treasures, from page 7]

viewed Denver's city lights and felt glad to be where I was at the time. But I also felt the isolation of having driven to work for the day and leaving cultural activities in the city behind as I returned home each night. I moved back inside Denver's city limits four years ago to west Washington Park. The shock of leaving my canyon home was softened by the open spaces of the park, its lakes and gardens, and by the distinct neighborhood and culture that is Wash Park. I grew to love the graceful lanes of trees down long sidewalks and the personality of the homes there. The advent of Wild Oats Market & Café became more glue for an already cohesive neighborhood. This summer I moved to Auraria across the street from another city park, Lincoln, and live in a renovated 100-year-old house, one much like the handful of houses preserved on what is now Auraria Campus. From home, I walk past the panorama of Elitch's, St. Cajetan's and St. Elizabeth's Churches, the whole of the downtown skyline, plus a clear view of Mount Evans...to arrive at Larimer Square and music, coffee, food, commerce, art, and lots of people living, working, playing, interacting, and shopping.

I've watched the face of the city change and develop in the 12 years since I moved here. The tension between suburban sprawl and urban renewal continues to provide controversy and vitality. Most of the new buildings in downtown had gone up just prior to the oil-and-gas bust, and the vacancy rate hovered at all-time highs, 30% at times, the lease rates at all-time lows, even ten cents a square foot in some buildings. Then lower downtown was developed into a place teeming with people, style, and activity for every cultural desire, from microbreweries to cigar and wine bars, from baseball to comedy, to Shakespeare on the mall. LoDo became a term that represented a revitalization of a center honoring the commercial hub that it once was. All of

this activity took vision and concept in the minds of committed, talented people to begin building a place to live and work and play. It took comprehensive planning to integrate the social, as well business elements and the cooperation of many groups.

From a native:
 My brother claims he doesn't live in Denver now because of the influx of so many newcomers and the increasing growth and sprawl into the countryside. When we went together to Park Meadows Mall last winter, his reaction to the concept of a mountain resort and the blend of wood, metal and stone was, "it's too commercial, they've gone overboard now." But all the natural beauty and warmth is why people are drawn to Colorado. I think that attraction is always reflected in the people who choose to live here as well as in our architecture. I know little of the process an architect goes through to bring a new idea to the table, but suspect that they would be cut down very quickly if they didn't take into account why people love being here—the constant and ever-changing balance of growth and change, and the need to see and touch nature in their everyday lives. Maybe some people don't notice as I do the color of a massive granite stone contrasting with the soft flexibility of pine, or the clean but inviting angles of the facade of the new library, but I believe they like it because it feels right.

From a transplant:
 We live in architecture from the time we enter the world in a hospital, hopefully one where our mothers were made to feel comfortable or at least safe. We enter school, and the buildings and icons inspire us. We go to work where the environment supports our activity and relationships. We live in our homes where we seek comfort, liveliness, support, inspiration, warmth, function. Finally...as we leave life, we seek to be supported and loved, and that stage of life development is being addressed now as an "environment" to be developed. Architects are artists who must be

socially aware and connected to humanity in a way that other artists are not required to be. Architects are with us daily even if we aren't aware of them and their work. Most people become aware when things don't work, when a building is "sick," when the lighting isn't right, when the stairs are too steep, when a cabinet cannot be reached. When things go smoothly, the function of a building or design of a neighborhood or airport is never brought to conscious thought. It just works. And someone...some architect had a hand in that smooth function and design. The architect as artist suffers in the same way that other artists suffer when they have produced something not understood – sometimes the true test of a genuine work of art is that it is controversial, that it is both loved and hated. For example, controversy surrounded the Denver International Airport, the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Public Library, and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Denver will grow and change and continue to need leaders and visionaries to hold the center, to have conviction and passion and intellect combined, to choose carefully among many paths. The art that we live within, architecture, will lead and follow and listen and help to shape our futures. Can the center hold in these dynamic, volatile times? It is this question that we leave for the architects and designers of the

past, and future, to answer—our living treasures who are solely, and in teams, responsible for the transformation of a great city into an even greater community. Thank you to all of the unnamed living treasures in the Denver chapter!

This article was contributed by Dana Bennett and Michelle Burns.

DESIGN FIRMS PUT A LID ON HUNGER

On November 8, six Denver architectural, landscape, and engineering firms joined a nationwide food drive that was sponsored in part by AIA chapters. The firms built structures from canned and boxed food—this year's theme was Veteran's Day—that was later donated to the Food Bank of the Rockies to help feed the hungry in the Denver metro area.

Ranging from a playground designed by Intergroup, Inc. with Campbell's Tomato Soup cans, to a Rolling Over Hunger tank, built with all kinds of green packages by S.A. Miro, the sixth annual CANSTRUCTION™ Design/Build Competition donated about 5,000 pounds of food to help feed the needy this holiday season.

Other participants included Anderson Mason Dale, Civitas, Inc., Jirsa+Hedrick & Associates, Inc., and Murphy Stevens Architects.

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DESIGN/BUILD COMMITTEE REPORTS

BEN WILKING, CHAIR

How was the last relationship you had during design or construction?

Did things progress as you thought?

Were there preconceptions that were not met between you and the owner?

As architects, we understand the importance of good design, and naturally want to insure that our ideas presented in the drawings and specifications are fulfilled during construction. But do we value the ideas of the owner, or the talents and expertise of the contractor? For over a year, the Design/Build committee met, together with contractors and other professionals related to the field of architecture, to better understand the process of team building and how best to work together. We have found that any team approach relies on relationships, integration, commitment and alliances.

Building relationships is important for the overall success of any project. However, a relationship requires that it be given time, and only improves when each side understands and becomes comfortable with the other. The success of a good architect/contractor relationship includes defining responsibilities for all tasks necessary during design and construction, and managing risk through foresight and being proactive. Having responsibility also insures that issues are resolved, rather than placing the blame on someone else. Integrating services of an architect/contractor team means roles, personalities and risks are understood. When integrated properly, services of a team can be provided such that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Every owner would like a building that performs well over the long term. Therefore, the program must be on target yet flexible, and the maintenance costs minimal. These issues of program and life cycle costs can be evaluated up front by listening to the owner and asking the right questions. The architect that is committed to understanding before being understood insures that both program and design are successful. However, alliances between the architect, owner and contractor don't happen immediately, and only improve when given time. Eventually, successful projects bring on repeat clients. And what better way to work together than to work with someone you can count on based on past experience?

Above are some of the topics discussed at our breakfast round table discussions. If we as architects keep the owner in mind and seek out their interests, we can both meet their needs and educate. Our committee believes that design/build is a delivery approach that places a priority on service for the owner.

If you agree that service is important and desire to expand your horizons regarding Design/Build and other ways to service the client, please join us on the third Thursday of every month at the AIA office at 7:30 a.m. Look for a new agenda soon in the newsletter. Upcoming topics include case studies of projects, leadership, risk vs. reward, and expanding services.

Happy Holidays!

*Joe Andrea
Daphne Peri
Ceresa*

The AIA Staff

DENVER CHAPTER TAKING LEAD ON PROGRAM FOR MINORITY STUDENTS

For the past 16 years, the Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists (CABPES) has provided programs for minority high school students in a wide variety of engineering and scientific disciplines.

This year for the first time, CABPES is able to offer an architectural program aimed at educating, enlightening and encouraging students.

The program, developed and organized by Phillip H. Gerou, FAIA, will provide a group of eleventh- and twelfth-grade students a comprehensive overview of the architectural profession on two evenings per month, from October through April, as well as two field trips to architectural offices and projects. Other AIA Denver members participating in the program include:

Ron Abo, AIA
Bertram Bruton, AIA
Brad Buchanan, AIA
Curt Dale, AIA
Gary Desmond, FAIA
Virginia duBrucq, AIA
Cheri R. Gerou, Assoc. AIA

Dennis Humphries, AIA
Harold Massop, AIA
Ned White, AIA
Jam Wong, AIA

Each architect will present a specific aspect of the profession including design, project management, office management, interiors, marketing, client relations, training, and examination, neighborhood/community leadership, diversified practice and alternative careers. University of Colorado at Denver's Phil Gallegos will present a session on architectural education.

The program will culminate in a design charette to give the students a hands-on opportunity to explore the design process. The final class will allow the students to provide feedback so the curriculum can be improved for future years.

AIA National has long supported diversity in the profession and the Denver Chapter is taking the lead in making those goals a reality. Thank you to each of our members represented.

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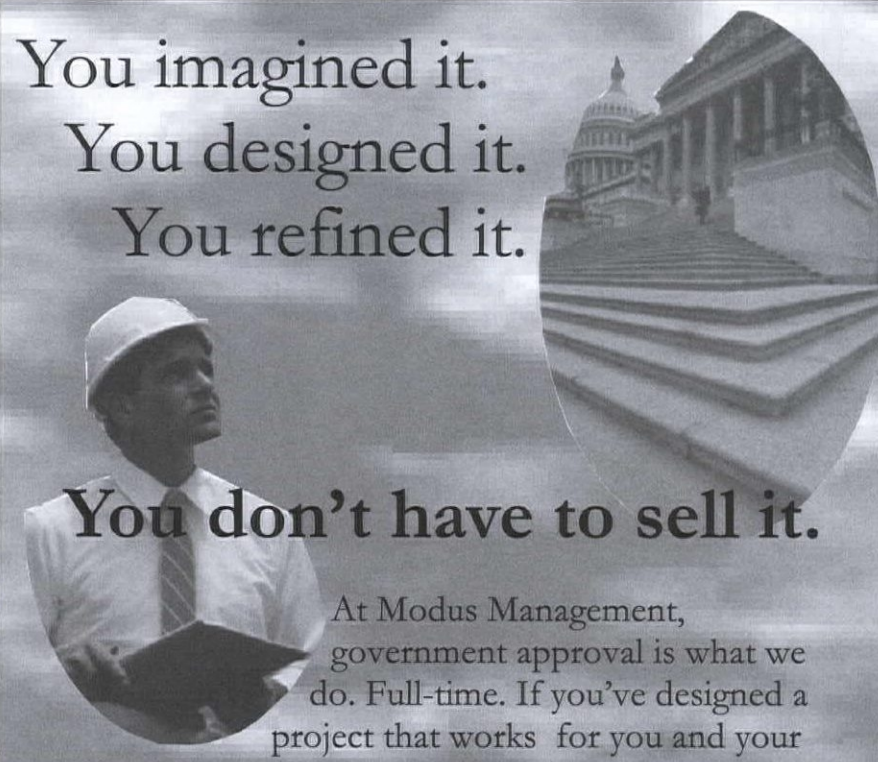
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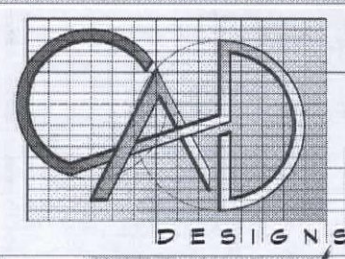
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MARVIN SPARN, FAIA: A LEGENDARY TREASURE

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The Colorado North Chapter is blessed with numerous 'Living Treasures' who deserve special recognition. None, however, is more deserving than Marvin Sparn, FAIA. Marvin's depth and length of involvement in the AIA and the profession of architecture are legendary. While his resume of activities and involvement could run pages and pages, a brief summary should suffice to illustrate the range and diversity of his efforts.

First of all, Marvin has served as the Treasurer and the President of our own Colorado North Chapter, not once, but twice in both positions! He is a former President of AIA Colorado and a former Treasurer of the AIA Western Mountain Region. As an example of his on-going desire to serve the profession, Marvin was elected as Regional Director for the WMR Board of Directors just last summer at the WMR Conference in Sundance, Utah.

He is a founding member, former Chairman, and long-standing active participant on the AIA Colorado Governmental Affairs Committee. Marvin has served as Chair of the AIA Colorado Legislative Subcommittee and the Education Fund Board of Trustees. In his spare time, he serves as the Coordinator of the AIA Colorado Education Fund - Devon M. Carlson Lectureship and as the Co-Chair of the AIA Colorado Fellowship Task Force.

The list could go on and on! Marvin is supposed to be trying out retirement, but his calendar and daily schedule are as solidly packed as ever. Just try to get him on the phone sometime!

For Marvin, serving as the President of the Student Chapter AIA at the University of Colorado was the beginning of a life-long labor of love. Little did he know that arranging for Frank Lloyd Wright's visit to the campus—where he had to stump door-to-door to



Marvin Sparn, FAIA

drum up the required financial support (\$1,200!)—would be a model for so much of the hard work and long hours that to this day continue by serving as a guest lecturer and active stewardship of the AIA Colorado Education Fund.

In addition to his professional activities, Marvin has also maintained a very active community life in and around his beloved Boulder. He is a Head Usher at the Mountain View Methodist Church. He was the founder of the YMCA Senior Citizen Cultural Event Transportation Program, and has served as the President of the Boulder Pow-Wow Rodeo and Community Festival.

While these activities are truly impressive, the characteristic that really sets Marvin Sparn out as a 'living treasure,' however, is his willingness to pitch in to get the job, done and done right! Over the years, he has always been a reliable resource for new ideas and assistance in keeping old ideas on the right track. In a very real sense, Marvin Sparn has become the repository of the architectural memory of the region—a treasured resource of experience, knowledge, and "can do" attitude that has aided the profession in countless ways.

Shamefully, we probably take Marvin for granted in the North Chapter region and even the State. Perhaps this little tribute as an acknowledged 'living treasure' will give him some indication of our sincere appreciation for his efforts and our deep affection for him as one heck of a great guy!

Thanks, Marvin! We look forward to many more years of working with you!

BILL ROBB, AIA EMERITUS ROBB, BRENNER AND BRELIG, INC.

Bill Robb, AIA emeritus has been a 'Living Treasure' in Fort Collins ever since he and his wife Eleanor arrived in the community in 1953. As he laid the foundation for what would be a long and successful practice, Bill became an active participant in the volunteer forces of the community. As a private citizen, his efforts on committees in education, recreation, health care, and Junior Achievement reflect the responsibility he felt toward his adopted community. His activities also included Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, PTA, and other "normal" activities.

Professionally, Bill was one of the original members of the City of Fort Collins Planning and Zoning Board, the Larimer County Regional Planning Committee, and the Colorado North Chapter of the AIA. He served as AIA Colorado North Chapter's President in 1985 and served on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Society of Architects.

In 1987, Bill was presented with the Distinguished Professional Service

Award by the AIA Colorado North Chapter. Also in 1987, for his contributions to education, both professionally and as a private citizen, Bill was presented with an Award of Appreciation by the Poudre School District Board of Education.



Bill Robb, AIA Emeritus

Bill Robb received architectural degrees at both University of Colorado and MIT. He also did graduate work in

[See Robb on page 12]

NEW MEMBERS

- Kelle Ballard, Assoc. AIA
PEH Architects
- Paul Friesen, PA
Weatherall Flexible Stucco
- Shemryn Trapp, Assoc. AIA

THE FRONT RANGE GROWTH FORUM

About 20 North Chapter members were treated to a very interesting evening on September 25th when they took part in the Chapter's Front Range Growth Forum at the Fort Collins Museum. Coordinated by North Chapter's Jim Cox, the Forum provided a setting for some lively conversation about the region's future growth.

The evening began with a welcome from the Mayor of Fort Collins, Ann Azari. Mark Udall, State Representative for District 13, moderated the roundtable discussion and then introduced the other panelists—planning officials from many communities along the Front Range.

The opening comments implied that each of the communities had similar efforts underway with recent updates of local comprehensive plans. Yet each community focused on particular aspects of community growth—Boulder's recent comprehensive rezoning to bring a balance of jobs and housing, Fort Collins' efforts to define urban boundaries that would help existing communities retain a sense of identity and place, Longmont's efforts to maintain a small-town ambiance in the face of some pretty substantial growth, and Lafayette's efforts at preserving the rural areas surrounding the community to give the urban areas an edge and a clear definition. The challenges with all of these efforts obviously were substantial and there were no victory celebrations yet from any of the panelists. There was clear evidence, however, of their very high levels of commitment and their intelligent and thoughtful involvement.

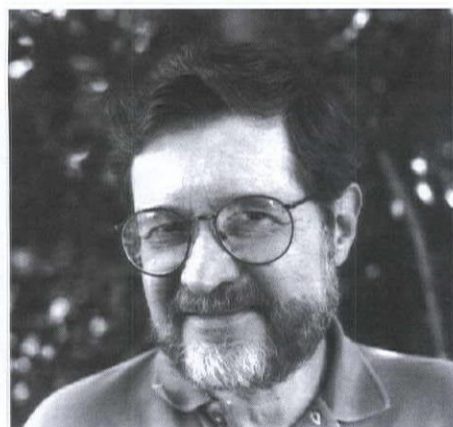
The roundtable discussion involved the audience through a lively question-and-answer session that dealt with traffic congestion, transit, alternative modes of travel, new urbanism, regionalism, personal impact, the state's commitment to maintaining a high quality of life, among others. It was a discussion that could have gone on for quite

a while as the topics were big and the interest level was very high. The next North Chapter-sponsored event could prove to be as lively and thought-provoking as this one. We hope to see you there!

CHAPTER NEWS

AIA Colorado North's Ronald D. Goodman, AIA was recently appointed to the Boulder County Board of Review. He was appointed by County Commissioner, Ron Stewart, to complete the term of former architect member, AIA Colorado North's Liz Bowes-Spiegel, AIA, who resigned several months ago.

The function of the Boulder County Board of Review is to advise the County Commissioners and the Land Use Department on technical matters concerning interpretation of, and relief from, the building codes. In addition, one of the major tasks confronting this Board will be the replacement of the 1994 UBC, the County's current governing code, with the adoption of the newly revised 1997 UBC along with the newly revised International Mechanical and Plumbing Codes.



Ronald D. Goodman, AIA

Ron is also completing his term as a Director of the Colorado North Chapter. Here's hoping this new Board position will not keep him from active involvement in Chapter activities.

[Robb, from page 11]

structural engineering. His university work was interrupted by flying bombers in the European Theater during World War II. (He insists he wasn't responsible for the destruction of any European architectural landmarks.)

After stints with Boulder icon Jim Hunter, and then Bob Ditzen, Bill opened his own office in Fort Collins in 1953 despite the fact that local businessmen told him the town didn't need

program in the future. He was the architect for Fort Collins' new City Hall in 1956 and was chosen again for another new City Hall in 1977. Under his leadership, Bill's firm has won awards for schools, churches, office buildings, and high-density housing projects.

Working in a small community has always been important to Bill, where many clients have been personal acquaintances and friends. His concept of professional service created friends of all his clients. Many of the young

architects that worked for Bill through the years are now principals of their own firms and are numbered among his many friends in the profession.

Bill retired from practice in August 1987. He



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Fort Collins, Colorado

an architect. Bill started his first project for the Poudre School District in 1955 beginning a relationship that continues to this day. He and Eleanor had six kids, helping make sure that there was always a school expansion

still comes to coffee every Friday morning at Robb, Brenner and Breilig, Inc. to make sure that the firm carries on the traditions of hard work and personal service he believes in.

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THE LIFE AND TIMES OF CARBONDALE'S FRANCES WHITAKER

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We are still looking for people to be involved. If you have any interest, call Shira Geller, AIA at 970.925.5444.

The story lies in the hands. Callused hands with black soot lining the finger nails. Hands hardened by beating hot iron with a heavy hammer for 75 years. Hands formed from working within a caldera of heat that have forged a craft and career of metalwork. Few concessions have been made to age. A leather brace is used to give support to a left wrist weakened from holding hot iron for so many countless times. But these hands have transcended a life of hard work.

They are the hands that Frances Whitaker used to accept the prestigious National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment of the Arts on September 23, 1997 in Washington, D.C. Hillary Rodham Clinton presented this award to Mr. Whitaker. He has also received letters of praise from President Clinton and Governor Roy Romer.

For you see, these are the hands of a blacksmith. Mr. Whitaker has spent his entire life working at and teaching the craft of being a blacksmith. His career has now come full circle as he teaches high school students at Colorado Rocky Mountain School in Carbondale the craft he knows so well.

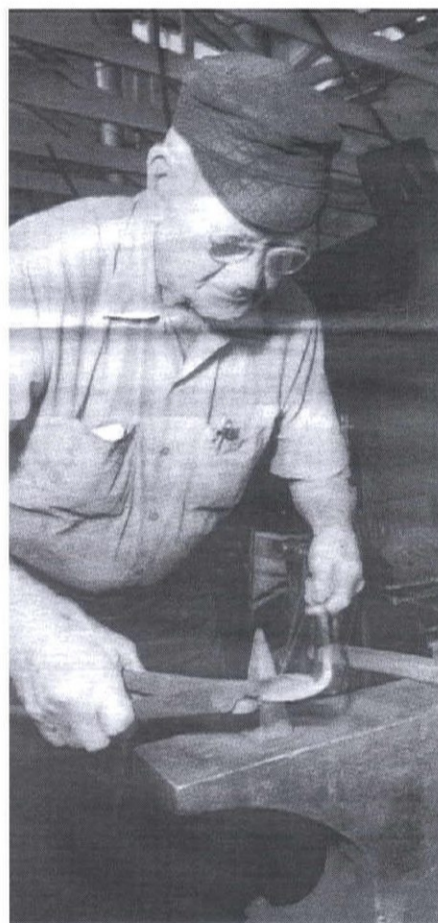
Mr. Whitaker's career as a blacksmith began at the age of 15 in 1922, when he started working on the Federal Reserve Bank in New York City for a master blacksmith named Samuel Yellin. He was introduced to the people involved with this project by his father, who was the editor of *The Journal of the American Institute of Architects*.

He traveled to Germany in 1924 to apprentice a master blacksmith named Julius Schramm. It was there that Mr. Whitaker learned a very important lesson about life through the craft of metalwork. He had designed a stand to hold a sanctuary light, which is a bowl of oil with a floating wick. Master Schramm commented, "This is a pretty good design, Franz. But how are you going to hold the bowl?" Mr. Whitaker replied that he "would put three clips down where they won't be seen."

"Franz, there is never anything that can't be seen." Mr. Whitaker has lived by those words the rest of his life.

Francis Whitaker moved to Aspen from Carmel, California in 1960 after his first marriage broke up. He operated

his Mountain Forge there until 1985. During this time, he created many metal projects for the custom homes built in the area. He stresses that he always made things for the people, the items were not just for sale.



Frances Whitaker, esteemed Carbondale blacksmith, demonstrates the tools and techniques that have faithfully served him through his many years at the forge.

In 1988, he worked out an arrangement with Colorado Rocky Mountain School to purchase his tools and shop, and he would teach classes in blacksmithing. He holds classes for students twice a week. A walk through the rural campus reveals many of the projects the students have completed such as bike racks, chandeliers, and railings.

There are two aspects of Mr. Whitaker's career that stand out. He realized in 1976, after he had attended a National Blacksmith Convention that he had to share his vast wealth of knowledge with others so that the craft would continue. He does this both with his young students and in the master seminars he teaches and attends around the county.

He practices and works at preserving the traditional craft of blacksmithing. He does not use modern methods such as welding and plasma cutters. He believes that his preservation of the traditional form of blacksmithing is the reason he was given the award from the National Endowment of the Arts.

These hands have helped Mr. Whitaker become a major icon in the field of blacksmithing. He has no intention of slowing down, but he has admitted that he wants to be holding a hammer in his hands when he does pass away.

Other Roadside Attractions—

MARGARET DUNCAN BROWN BROWN RANCH, CLARK, COLORADO

The Elk River flows south from the high country of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness until it meets the Yampah River west of Steamboat Springs. Most of its journey is through highlands that are heavily forested with spruce and aspen trees. The aspen forests are laced with parks and springs. As it nears the Yampa, the country evolves into rolling sagebrush-covered hills and valleys.

This fertile valley has been the home to ranchers and farmers for over 100 years. Families can trace their roots in this country back for several generations. Today, as one looks over the land to the west it is easy to squint

and imagine the land being very much the same as it was at the turn of the century. Names have changed, but families and ranches have remained.

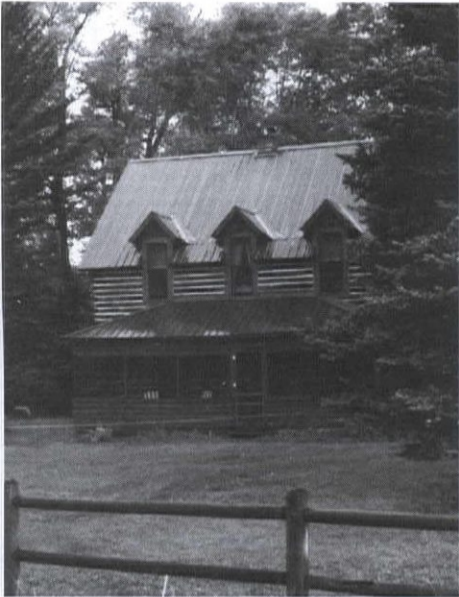
It is in this setting that Margaret Duncan Brown arrived from Cripple Creek, CO with her husband Thornton Brown. In Cripple Creek, he had advanced to the position of resident manager of a bank after starting out as a mining clerk. They were socially active, but both yearned for other challenges and a change of lifestyle. On a vacation to the region in 1914, Mrs. Brown asked a local rancher why he had become a rancher.

[See *ROADSIDE* on page 14]

[ROADSIDE, from page 13]

His immediate answer was, "Because ranching is the most independent life in the world."*

While on vacation a year later, the couple negotiated a deal to purchase a 160-acre ranch located on the banks of the Elk River. They moved into their new home in October 1915 while a snowstorm raged around them. The small cattle and dairy ranch looked much bleaker in October than when



Margaret Duncan Brown Ranch,
Clark, Colorado

they had bought it. In an intuitive sense, she knew this would be her life-long home.

For three years, they had a small dairy operation to help pay for all of the repairs and necessary upgrades. This life of hard work continued until 1918 when Mr. Brown contracted the flu and passed away shortly after Thanksgiving. The stark solitude of silence enveloped Mrs. Brown that winter. What to do? How to stay on all alone? This was a winter of taking stock of who she was and what she wanted to be.

"I once had dreams. I believed in myself and my potentialities. Am I

going to give up, supinely submit to trivialities? Haven't I the mental and moral stamina to go on? Of what use are my ancestry, background and tradition, if I am content to remain mediocre? Have I ever done one original thing in my life? Have I added one little bit to the paean of creation?"*

By the spring of 1919, Mrs. Brown knew she had to stay on. She decided that, although the cattle business was a good business to be in, she was not up to doing it. She sold her herd and took the money to pay off bills and prepare for the future. She also decided that she needed to have more pasture land in order to continue. She proceeded to homestead 160 acres on a hill near her ranch that had a spring. At the same time she began buying sheep and establishing a flock. This process continued until she owned a ranch free and clear that totaled over 700 acres, as well as summer pasture land she had a use permit for from the Forest Service. Some of the work had to be hired out, but she managed to do much of the herding and work around the ranch by herself.

"Please do not let me use physical disabilities as an excuse, nor the fact that I am a woman, but let me remember I am a woman in a man's place; that I must have the guts of a man and the patience of a woman."*

At times the work was oppressive. There were very few chances for a break. The Great Depression made times even harder. Throughout her life two themes developed simultaneously that she recorded in her diary and thoughts. One was a continual introspective inspection of who she was and strived to be. This study continued right to the end. "I find I have to believe in myself more as I get older, much more than I ever have before."*

The other was an awe and respect for the natural beauty and elements that

she lived within. The great divide to the east was always changing with the seasons, but the structure of its grandeur never changed. She thought that once the soul became aware of the true perception of nature, then the adventure of life could begin. This understanding was beyond anything you could buy with money. But, there can also be a little bit of nature wherever we go if we take the time to look. As she grew older, she took the time to savor the small sights and sounds that were always around her.

The ranch still belongs to the Brown family. Margaret Duncan Brown's great grand-niece, Mary Walker, has lived on the ranch for a number of years. The pastures are currently leased to nearby ranchers. There is great pressure to develop the land, but the family has no intention to do so.

As Mary Walker summed it up on a recent visit, "This is hallowed ground. I couldn't imagine it ever being anything but a ranch."



"There are many days when I saw no human being, yet had no sense of loneliness. Often I had the feeling that here I had an integral though humble part in the great design of nature, a feeling of kinship to forces far above and beyond me. This comes, I believe, only to those who live out of doors."*

*The quoted passages used in this article are from the book, *Shepherdess of Elk River Valley*, Margaret Duncan Brown, Golden Bell Press, Denver, CO, 1982. This is a compilation of the many diaries she kept. These diaries now serve as an important historical record of women homesteaders in Routt County.

Margaret Duncan Brown passed away on July 30, 1965 at the age of 83.

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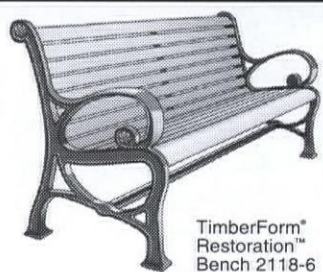


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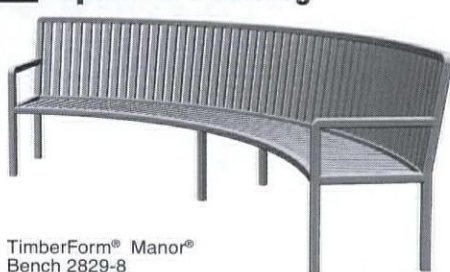
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[LETTER, from page 4]

prehensive transit system in the Denver Metro region is a critical component in effectively addressing transportation and mobility in the region," is valid and undeniable. However, giving carte blanche to RTD would likely result in a pitiful compendium of watered-down solutions, weak attempts to come up with a bad idea and then put it in the wrong place—as in the case of the Santa Fe Corridor.

We do not have an urban growth policy and enforceable urban design regulations to urbanize a coherent city. Fifty percent of the land in the City and County of Denver is vacant; either there are weeds growing or it is used as parking lots. There is no incentive or planning process to develop these vacant lands based on the principles of equilibrium of use, so the public transportation will be useful. There is a sophisticated kind of corruption and erosion of the planning process that goes beyond, and perhaps intertwines with, the simplistic city agencies and the administration of City Hall. This brings us to the case histories of at least two large projects in the city:

1 DIA was lobbied for by real estate interests, 17th Street financial and bonding institutions, engineers and contractors, and unfortunately, by the AIA Denver Chapter, all of whom stood to benefit from its realization. The \$500 million for the land acquisition alone could have overhauled Stapleton, which already had additional runways approved by the FAA. It has claimed that DIA is a success; of course, where else would you go to catch a plane?

2 It is inconceivable that the city would offer \$20 million to the Adams Mark Hotel developer, allowing him to erect a bland, grotesque structure on a handsome piece of property next to the 16th Street Mall, dehumanizing Glenarm and 15th Street. The

question is not why the old Zeckendorf Plaza was razed, but what it is being replaced by?

Denver is in demand for development. In this climate the need is greater than ever for those who should raise their voices and use their abilities to identify the issues and keep some standards of aesthetics and decency operative in the urbanism and design of the city.

Marvin Hatami, FAIA, is Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at the University of Colorado at Denver, School of Architecture and Planning. His letter was intended to be reviewed by members before the Guide the Ride vote.

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- DECEMBER**
- 3 ADAAG Review Committee, 3 PM, AIA offices
 - 4 COBRA submission deadline, 5 PM, AIA offices
 - 4 Committee on the Environment, noon, AIA offices
 - 4 Denver Board of Directors, 5:30 PM, AIA offices
 - 11 COBRA reception, 5:30 PM, AIA offices
 - 12 Government Affairs Committee meeting, 2-5 PM, AIA offices
 - 17 ADAAG Review Committee, 3 PM, AIA offices
 - 17 Colorado ArchiCAD Users Group, 5:30-7 PM, AIA offices
 - 18 Design-Build Committee meeting, 7:30 AM, AIA offices
 - 18 AIA Denver Executive Committee meeting, 5:30 PM, AIA offices
 - 19 Colorado Editorial Board meeting, 11 AM-noon, AIA offices
 - 19 Colorado Finance Committee, noon-2 PM, AIA offices
 - 19 Colorado Board of Directors 2-5 PM, AIA offices
 - 24 AIA offices close at noon
 - 25 AIA offices closed
- JANUARY**
- 1 AIA offices closed
 - 8 Denver Board meeting, 5:30 PM, AIA offices
 - 9 piazzaAIA gallery opening, 5:30 PM, AIA offices
 - 9 West Chapter Board meeting, call AIA at 303.446.2266 for more info.
 - 16 Colorado Board meeting, 2 PM, AIA offices
 - 20 North Chapter Board meeting, call AIA at 303.446.2266 for more info.
 - 21 South Chapter Board meeting, call AIA at 303.446.2266 for more info.
 - 23 Mini-Grassroots at The State Capitol, call AIA at 303.446.2266 for more info.
 - 24 Denver Chapter 5 ASPE presents "The Eleventh Hour" and "Forensic Estimating" seminars. Call Margaret Tews at 303.333.1624 for more info.

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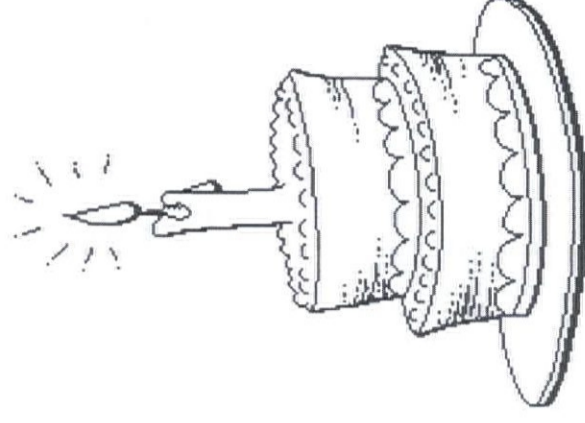
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LIVING TREASURES ISSUE

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AIA Colorado is proud to announce the one-year anniversary of the *Colorado Architect*! Thank you to the 1997 Editorial Board for all your hard work and dedication, and a special thanks to The Newsletter Group for helping make the *Colorado Architect* happen. The Board has consistently met every month this year to define each issue and discuss what you would like to read.

Each issue of the *Colorado Architect* has a specific theme...next year the Editorial Board will be doing this again, repeating some of the more popular themes, and creating some exciting new ones. We hope you enjoy the newsletter as a membership benefit. If you have any comments, please feel free to mail or fax them to the editor at AIA Colorado, 1526 15th Street, Denver, CO 80202 or fax 303.446.0066.



[inside]

Kenneth Fuller, FAIA
emeritus

PAGE 1



Steven Walsh's last
President's letter

PAGE 2



John B Rogers, FAIA

PAGE 3



A Tribute to All our
Living Treasures

PAGE 7

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