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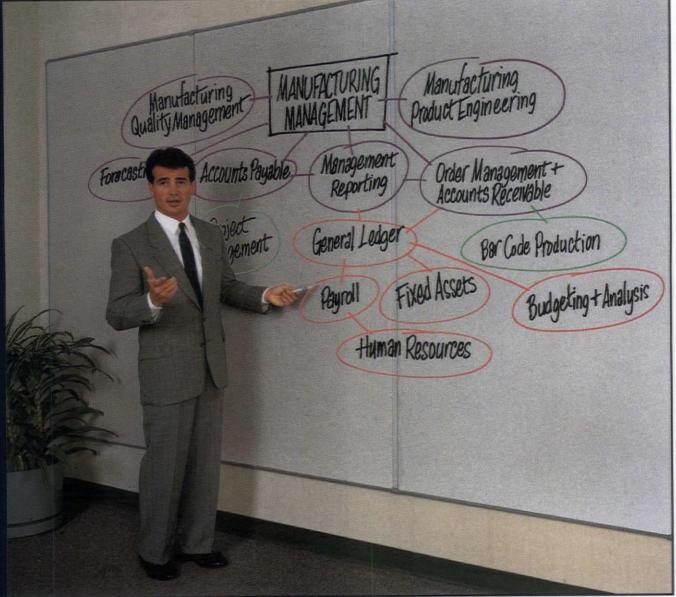
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CONTRACT DESIGN

TRAINING, LIBRARY AND CAFETERIA TABLES A review of tables designed for heavy use with strength, durability and space-saving features.

DESIGN

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- 8 BYE, BYE, DUMB BOX Don't tell Denver's breathtaking Colorado Convention Center, designed by C.W. Fentress J.H. Bradburn & Associates and Loschky, Marquardt & Nesholm, to be one of the faceless, immeasurable convention boxes so many cities have.
- A TASTE OF CULINARY SHOCK Swiss bankers craving Swiss cuisine in America escape to Union Bank of Switzerland's new Manhattan cafeteria, designed by Gensler and Associates/Architects.
- OH SAY, WHAT CAN YOU SEE? RTKL Associates' dramatic design for the Baltimore Area Visitors Center can really flag down tourists.
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- 16 THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE ON THE PLAINS Visit a school that looks and functions as if it really belongs to its children—the remarkable Broken Arrow Elementary School in Shawnee, Kansas, by Abend Singleton Associates.
- 50 NOT QUITE YOUR ALL-AMERICAN HIGH An elite group of Japan's future leaders are being educated in the unique Keio High School, just north of New York City, designed by Haines Lundberg Waehler with Shimizu America/Morse Diesel.
- 56 ILLINOIS AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR CAMPUS

For a preview of how the 21st century's electronic, computerized schools might look, come to the new campus of Illinois Institute of Technology in Wheaton, with interior design by Perkins & Will.

BUSINESS

64 GETTING WORK

Design firms caught in the devastated Texas economy of the 1980s were astonished to find they could actually win new clients and territories without being super salesmen—it's called marketing—which their colleagues can follow in an important new study for the IBD Foundation.

TECHNOLOGY

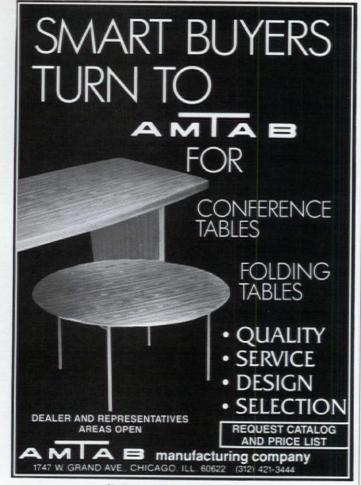
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- **68** THROWING A CLASSIC CURVE AT SHEET METAL How on earth did Architectural Supplements' Planter Wall train sheet metal to extrude, cut and

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Cover Photo: Ceiling detail in Grand Ballroom of Colorado Convention Center, Denver. Photography: Hedrich-Blessing.



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CONTRACT DESIGN ISSN 0010-7831 is published monthly by Gralla Publications, a member of th United Newspapers Group, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036; (212) 869-1300; Fax: (212) 302-6273 Subscription price \$35/one year, \$60/two years for firms and individuals who specify, design, buy o replace contract furnishings. All other U.S. subscriptions \$65/year. All Canadian and Mexican subscriptions \$39/year for qualified subscription and \$67/year for non-trade. All other foreign subscription \$90/year. Single copy \$6. Directory and special issues \$10. The publisher assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by editorial contributions to CONTRACT DESIGN. The publisher reserves the right to reject any advertising not in keeping with the publisher's standards. SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION & ADDRESS CHANGES: Write to Circulation Dept., Room 3201, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036. POSTMASTER Send address changes to CONTRACT Circulation Dept., Room 3201, 1515 Broadway, New York, N 10036; (212) 869-1300. Second Class postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing office

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Guess Who's Coming to School Now?

Veterans of World War II who returned to the nation's campuses in peacetime to resume their studies may think they're seeing a deja vu if they gather at. the entrance to the school of the 1990s-practically everyone is coming to school today. Events at home and abroad have made it clear that Americans of all ages may never outgrow the need for education. Politicians, business and civic leaders, John and Mary Doe, and more than a few architects and interior designers are openly expressing concern over America's deteriorating educational system, our loss of economic competitiveness, mountains of public and private indebtedness, growing disparities in personal income, and the physical decay of inner cities and

infrastructure. Many are pinning their hopes for the future on better education.

Can schools really make a difference against odds like this? Alone, no way. As this month's essay on "Design Goes to School" points out, America is often disappointed in its schools partly because we expect so much from them without giving them adequate support.

But if the United States can find the resolve to assign highest priority to investing in its own people-a big "if" in a recessionary economy-the school buildings that architects and interior designers are asked to create. remodel or restore will become a lot more useful

and interesting. What kind of educational programs might tomorrow's schools be asked to accommodate?

· Intervening in the lives of young families, starting when children are in their preschool years, could bring parents and children to school for lessons in parenting, preschool activities, daycare and family counseling-as well as enlist senior citizens whose time and experience in nurturing might prove priceless.

· Raising the esteem and compensation for teachers in society could attract new, top-flight recruits to school, perhaps with a desire to conduct their own academic research and outreach to organizations to the human spirit and culture as hospitals are to

school levels. ·Confronting the need for retraining and other

beyond academe's walls even at elementary and high

forms of continuing education with investment tax credits for businesses and tax credits for individuals could channel both blue-collar and white-collar workers into school classrooms that might resemble the "real world" more than an ivory tower.

Add up all the possibilities and you may still end up with a facility that resembles the Jeffersonian temple of learning with its dome or cupola and double-loaded corridors that America has always revered as a prototype; a reprise on this theme can be viewed in our current story on "Keeping Yahoos Fit For Life," a new stu-



dent health facility at Jefferson's University of Virginia campus. When Keio University commissioned a new high school in the United States to prepare children of Japanese expatriates for college in Japan-a project featured in this month's article, "Not Ouite Your All-American High"-it sought and received a school that could easily pass for its American counterpart-unless you happen to stroll past the tatami room. And why not?

However, what will emerge from the new constituencies of the school system of the 1990s might also be a true community learning center, as much devoted

the human body. It might be open nearly 24 hours a day for most of the year. It might comprise different types of buildings on a campus, clustered around existing schools or perhaps that reluctant agora of 20th century America, the shopping center.

Best of all for designers, it might be furnished with interiors that respond to a universal spectrum of users and activities with new designs that hold more wonder and promise than educators or designers have ever thought possible. That should keep architects and interior designers happily in attendance for years. S⇒

Roger Yee Editor-in-Chief

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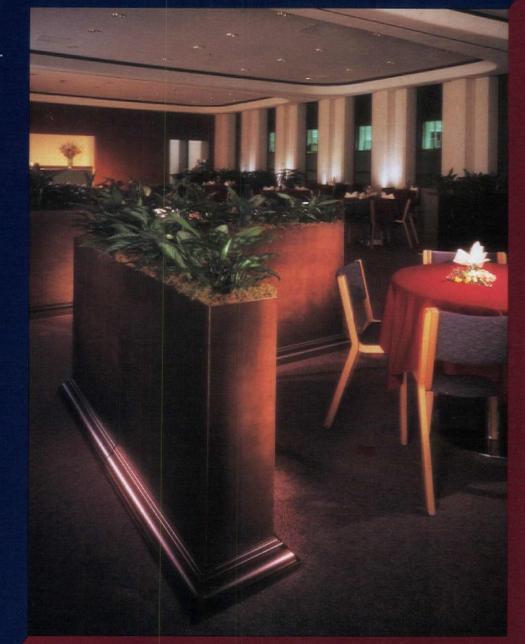
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TRENDS

apers from the pel Polsky-Fixtures urniture ndowment Awards ASID, FIDER and BD Available Now

nsas City - Norman Polsky, chairan of Fixtures Furniture, has nounced that design research pers commissioned through ants from the Joel Polskyxtures Furniture Endowment wards to ASID, FIDER and IBD e now available to designers. ese articles, indexed as referice material in the NCIDQ udy Guide, have contributed to e design profession in various, metimes surprising ways since ey first appeared in 1983; nong these have been revions to the FIDER Standards nd Guidelines for interior sign education as well as actulegislation using the papers as pert testimony.

One of the more notable camples has been the 1989 SID Prize to Dr. Sandra Rawls, EC, for her thesis, "Restroom sage in Selected Public ildings and Facilities." A numr of states, including California nd New York, have already quired public buildings to crease space allotted to strooms for women up to 50% ore than for men based on two s's findings.

An ASID Award went to lius Panero, AIA, ASID, and artin Zelnik, AIA, ASID, in 86 for their book, *Human* mension and Interior Space, hich has become an indispensble tool in the studio.

And the 1988 IBD Award winer, Survival: How 11 Texas rms Coped with Economic saster, by Evagene Bond has ven design professionals verywhere a unique point of ew on coping with receson—based on colleagues who ere there 10 years ahead.

Other highlights include: terior Graphics and Design andards, by Sivon Reznikoff SID, 1987); The Guide to Textiles for Interior Designers, by Dianne R. Jackman (ASID, 1985): Business and Communication Skill Preparation of Interior Design Graduates, by Shannon Tew (FIDER, 1990); and The Effect of Lighting Modes on the Subjective Impression of Interior Spaces, by Virginia Weinhold (IBD, 1990). For a complete list of papers and a lowest quantity price quote for specific papers, designers should enclose their business cards with written requests to: Norman Polsky, Chairman, Fixtures Furniture, 1642 Crystal, Kansas City, Mo. 64126.

The World Arrives—No Kidding—in Chicago in June

Chicago - The International Federation of Interior Architects/ Designers (IFI) will hold its 1991 World Congress from June 11-14 in conjunction with NEOCON 23 at the Merchandise Mart. Founded in 1963 and based in Amsterdam, IFI's World Congress will convene hundreds of designers from more than 30 member countries for this biannual event. The theme of the Congress, "City 2000: A Living Laboratory of Modern Urban Design," will be examined through a series of lectures and field studies. Participants will explore 100 years of Chicago history, culture, architecture and interior design in the Windy City's various neighborhoods.

Chicago will literally be used as the focus of numerous discussions and meetings. Attendees will gather each morning at a unique venue for educational programs and presentations by prominent local and international professionals. In the afternoon, IFI members will take field trips to points of interest throughout the city.

Primary sponsors for the event include the American Society of Interior Designers, the Institute of Business Designers and the Merchandise Mart, with significant underwriting by Haworth, Allied Fibers and The Odyssey, a yacht that will host a three-hour dinner cruise on Lake Michigan for IFI attendees.

All in the Family?

New York - It may be too soon to report concrete details of discussions among the leaders of North America's top professional design associations on consolidating their various constituencies. However, the most recent meeting, held in Haworth's New York showroom, was characterized by open discussion, willingness to compromise and mutual desire to reach agreement. And the talks will go on....

Present at the January 16th gathering were: Jan Johnson, IBD, president, the Governing Board: Betty McKee Treanor, IDEC, chairman, Foundation for Interior Design Research; Michael D. Kroelinger, IBD, president. Institute of Business Designers: Carole Price-Shanis, FISID, president, International Society of Interior Designers: Lynda Tetrault, IDC, vice president, Interior Designers of Canada; Raymond M. Kennedy, ASID, president-elect, American Society of Interior Designers; and Carol Jones, IDC, president, Interior Designers of Canada.

Lighting World International 1991 Goes Dark

New York - Although more than 80 manufacturers had committed themselves to exhibiting at Lighting World 1991, scheduled for the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center from April 24-26, many manufacturers informed the show's management that they would prefer not to hold the event this year.

This leaves the industry with Lightfair, to be held in Chicago from March 5-7, RHIDEC, planned for Los Angeles from April 5-7, and other events to be conducted in 1992.

Commissions and Awards

MMAP, a San Francisco-based interior architecture firm, has been selected to design the 17,000-sq. ft. offices for Industrial Indemnity in San Jose, Calif.

An agreement has been reached between Taisho Kogei, a leading Japanese design and construction company and The International Design Group, a major Canadian design and planning firm, to form a business relationship to collaborate on planning and design projects worldwide.

The Dallas Hilltop Inn, Dallas, has awarded a commission for 292,000 sq. ft. to **Designers II**, an Atlanta design firm, and **Dean**, **Dale & Dean Architects**, a Jackson, Miss., architecture firm.

Contracts for interior design services have been awarded to Wilson & Associates, headquartered in Dallas, by the Hyatt Regency Osaka in Japan and the Hyatt Regency in Indonesia.

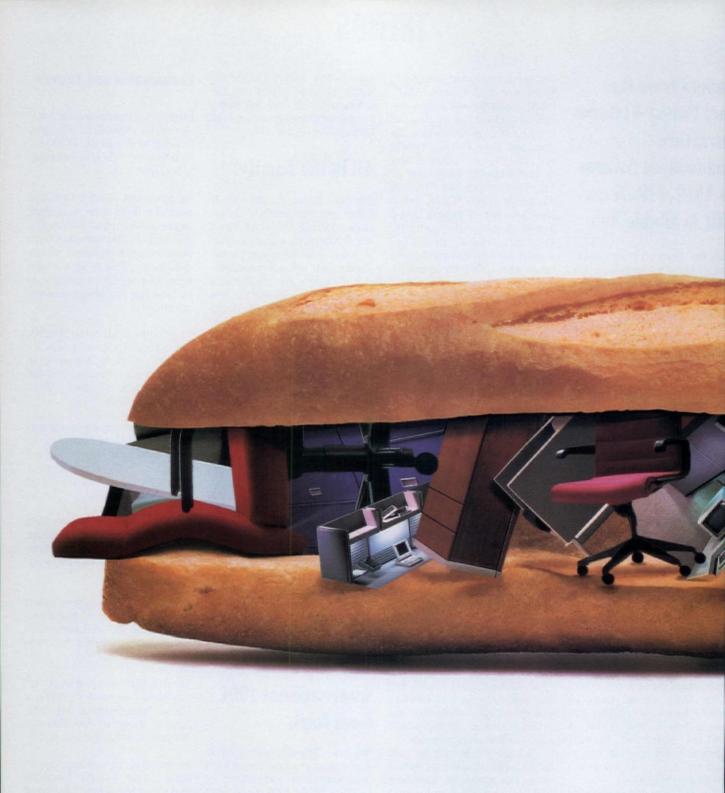
The Trust Company of the West has selected **Orsini Design Associates**, a New York interior design firm, to design its Los Angeles headquarters.

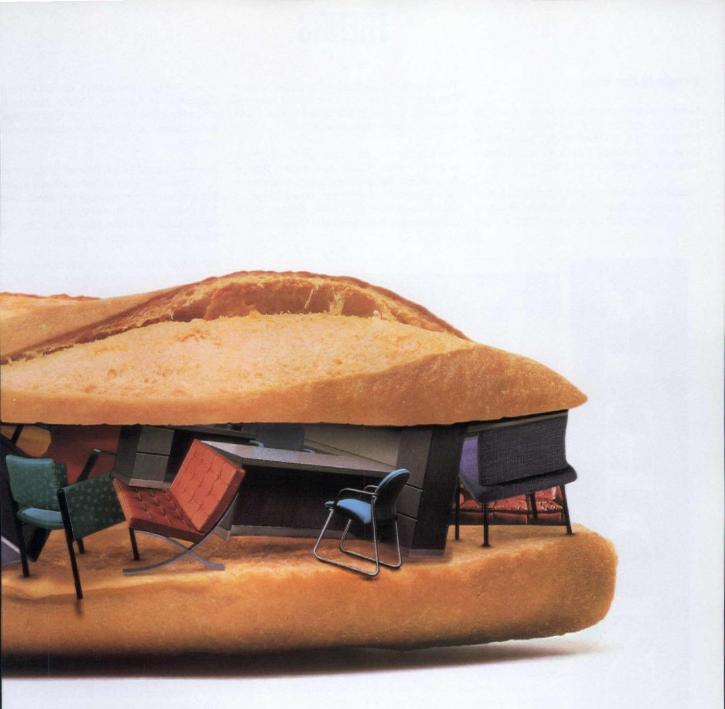
Sverdrup Corporation has been asked to design the new AMTRAK-Long Island Railroad computerized control facility for New York City.

The Travelers Group of Insurance Companies is retaining Al-Five, a Philadelphia-based architecture firm, to design its new offices at Marlton Crossing, Marlton, N.J.

In relocating its headquarters to Falls Church, Va., the American Red Cross has selected **Architectural Interiors Incorporated**, of Washington, D.C., to provide interior design and mechanical/electrical engineering services.

The Mossoviet Executive Committee has announced plans for a 450-room Moscow Sheraton Hotel to be designed by Brennan Beer Gorman, New York architects, in association with Mosproject 2 and Bechtel International.





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TRENDS

People in the News

Eight new associates have been named by Perry Dean Rogers & Partners, Boston, including Frank D. Chirico, Douglas Dick, Jeffrey P. Heyne, David M. Mullen, Bruce D. Rhoades, Catherine Suttle, Joan D. Tommy and Paul C. Viccica.

Phyllis Spittler has been named a vice president of the marketing firm Peel & Thomas, Houston, to serve design and construction firms. The board of directors of The Falick/Klein Partnership, Houston, has named Thomas R. Fannin vice president and Bruce L Laniken, Charles R. Love and Gary S. Owens associates.

The Ritchie Organization, an architecture firm in Newton, Mass., has named Steven F. Fiore, Carlos E. Melendez and Michael P. Roughan to vice presidents/principals; Dana P. Cooper to senior associate; and David H. Deininger, Blair B. Chamberlain and Sharon Gustafson to associates. Marc Daigle, president of Levi/Daigl Enterprise, of Cambridge, Mass., reports th renaming of the architectural firm to Daigle Adelberg Design with the addition of John Adelberg to the firm.

The Institute of Store Planners, Tarrytown N.Y., has elected as its international officer Ruth Mellergaard, international president, Chark A. Raymond, as international vice presiden Patricia Ulicny, international secretary, an Robert Ceretti, international treasurer.

Melinda Poull has been appointed vice presider of Theiss Business Interiors, Ltd., Milwaukee interior design firm.

Coming Events

April 3-5: American Design Drafting Associatio 32nd Annual Convention, Wyndham Paradis Valley Resort, Scottsdale, Ariz; (301) 460 6875.

April 5-7: Restaurant Hotel International Desig Exposition Conference (RHIDEC), Los Angele Convention Center, Los Angeles; (212) 391 9111.

April 24-25: Specifix3—Partners in Design Architecture and Contract Interior Desig Symposium, Washington Design Center; (202 554-5053.

April 25-29: Artexpo, Jacob K. Javits Center New York; (800) 331-5706.

May 7-10: A/E/C Systems 91, 12th Compute and Management Show for the Design an Construction Industry, Washingto Convention Center, Washington, D.C.; (800 451-1196.

May 16-19: International Architecture Boo Fair, American Institute of Architects (AIA National Convention and AIA Expo Washington Convention Center, Washington D.C.; (202) 626-7300.

May 19-22: International Contemporar, Furniture Fair, Jacob K. Javits Conventio Center, New York; (212) 686-6070.

June 11-14: NEOCON 23, The Nationa Exposition of Contract Furnishings Merchandise Mart, Chicago; (312) 527-7782

June 12-14: WorldStore 91, retail store plan ning and design, ExpoCenter, Chicago; (212 391-9111.

June 28-30: 35th Construction Specification: Institute Convention and Exhibit, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego; (703) 684 0300.



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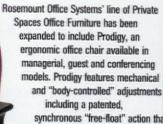
MARKETPLACE

& AWARE: THE DESIGNS



Dakota Jackson has extended his 'CuB-a Collection to include casegoods and tables. The 'CuB-a High Cabinet, characterized by layered surfaces and geometric components, appears to float on four cherry wood legs capped in bronze. Fronted with a sliver of polished and brushed parchment, the doors open to reveal cubed and rectangular components.

Circle No. 225



synchronous "free-float" action the allows seat and back to adjust to the body's movements.

Circle No. 223

MARCH

0 F

The Hazel Siegel jacquard wallcovering line for KnollTextiles uses worsted, spur Olefin, a proprietary yarn system exclusive to Knoll worldwide. The worsted spun yarns provide a smoothness to the seaming indicative of a more expensive, densely woven wallcovering. The line is available in five patterns and 69 colorways.

Circle No. 220

The Profiles modular desk system, designed by William Sklaroff for Roffman, comes in nine distinctive top and reveal details, covering the gamut from traditional to contemporary. The flexible system highlights handsome woodworking in the tradition of the Pennsylvania Dutch craftsmen noted for their love of details.



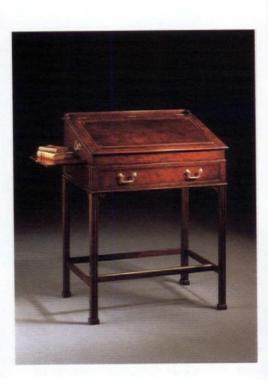
The 18th Century stand up desk from Baker Furniture is available only in mahogany veneers with optional wood or leather tilt top storage units. Pull-out slides, accented with fretwork and brass hardware, are also available. The height will be customized to the owner's specifications.

Circle No. 224



Armstrong World Industries' tegular Fine Fissured Travertone and concealed Georgian Minatone acoustical ceiling tiles are available in seven variegated finishes. The multi-toned paint finishes create visual appeal by imparting a multi-dimensional look to the ceiling while complementing the hues in other interior finishes.

Circle No. 222



Soon to be introduced in pre-dyed colors, DANKO's Fan Chair is a moderately-priced stacking chair with a patented folded seat and back that conform to the sitter. Torsion box construction of seat with mortise and tennon joints make this chair sturdy.

Circle No. 227

Azrock's new slip resistant line of vinyl composition tile offers a safer walking surface than smooth-surfaced flooring. The tile's textured surface forms the first element of slip resistance. Long-lasting traction is achieved with special friction granules dispersed through the tile thickness. Styled in a design that resembles granite, the tile is available in four colors.

Circle No. 221



The Neo Classic upholstery collection by Douglass Industries includes miniflamestitch, textured pin dot, bold check and crepe patterns in a total of 60 in-stock colorways. The woven Antron nylon fabrics with acrylic backing are flame resistant and are also offered with Healthguard antimicrobial finish for superior performance in health care environments.

Circle No. 228

The Oval Magazine Altar by Lugar Designs features mahogany top and legs with cherry ball feet, but can be custom specified in any type of wood or finish. The edges of the tops can be inscribed with laser-cut Morse code messages.

PRODUCT FOCUS

TRAINING, LIBRARY AND CAFETERIA TABLES

Furniture designs of the Western world have come a long way from the massive settles, benches, tables and chests of the Romanesque and Gothic ages, which were hewn from heavy timber and often stubbornly resistant to moving. Paradoxically, the tables specified for use in training, library and cafeteria interiors today must combine the strength and durability of their Medieval ancestors with compact form and spacesaving features. They will get heavy use, as they are pushed about, sat upon, stored away and transported.

When they're not needed, they are often expected to disappear-at least to fold their legs and stow away flat. As for the unusual situations that come their way, such as cafeteria tables at a high school dance when the action gets very hot, you are only limited by your own imagination.

KNOLL INTERNATIONAL

KnollStudio introduces the Pensi Collection by Spanish designer, Jorge Pensi. The collection includes the Toledo Table, offering a futuristic aesthetic. Its stainless steel table top is embellished with a pattern of concentric circles, and its polished aluminum column rests on four pad feet reminiscent of the landing gear of a lunar module.

Circle No. 200



AMERICAN SEATING

The versatile Solar Table Group by American Seating offers a broad range of shapes, sizes, surfaces and edge treatments for varied needs. Wood veneer finishes provide an upscale look while laminated surfaces meet the need for durability. The pedestal base, available in a variety of finishes, adds distinctive styling while maintaining stability.

Circle. No. 216

CUMBERLAND

Cumberland's Sprint Folding Tables can be locked in series end to end or side to sid They are offered in several sizes, with top in a choice of woods and finishes with black reveal, on a polished stainless stee or black stainless steel base.

Circle No. 207



INTREX CORPORATION

Intrex offers its selection of parson tables in sizes from $36 \times 36 \times 29$ in. high to $96 \times 36 \times 29$ in. high. The tables are given extra support by special die cas inner hardware, and are available in Intrex's selection of choice veneers, or a palette of 30 Trexcote Lo-Glare or Hi Gloss polyester resin colors.





HOWE FURNITURE CORP.

The Diffrient Training Table by Howe Furniture solves the safety, maintenance and aesthetic problems associated with loose wires in the training room. A large volume wire trough is accessed from a flip-down modesty panel. Wiring is carried to the floor in a concealed manner by means of an integrated wireway attached to the table leg.

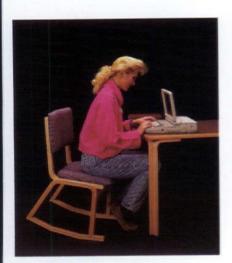
Circle No. 209



SAUDER MANUFACTURING

Sauder Manufacturing has developed a line of tables to coordinate with the company's Plylock chairs. Sauder's table offering includes wood and metal leg styles, a complete range of edge mold treatments, and a variety of laminate which allows for color matching and coordinating to fit any decor.

Circle No. 212



MARCH 1991

FORMS + SURFACES

Cafe Site tables from Forms + Surfaces feature wafer thin tabletops constructed of a durable, high-pressure laminate composite. They are available in round, square and rectangular shapes and a selection of smooth and textured surface colors. The precisely detailed contrasting black edge detail may be specified with a chamfered or radiused profile.

Circle No. 210



JOHNSON INDUSTRIES

The Johnson Seminar Table design by Johnson Industries is one of a vast range of configurations available utilizing seven basic table shapes, nine edge profiles and a variety of leg designs. Material includes laminates, veneers, and Johnson's exclusive Colorcast, Colorflex, and Novastone.

Circle No. 208



FALCON PRODUCTS

Falcon Products' seminar tables combine to create a virtually limitless number of configurations. The tables are available with a wide variety of bases and top treatments to fit all decors.

Circle No. 214



ATELIER INTERNATIONAL

A new addition to the Atelier International product line is the Ingot Table Collection, for general office and foodservice applications. The tables, designed by the Cassina Research and Design Group of Milan, Italy, feature modular cast iron base components, contrasting base ring connectors and a range of top shape and finish options.



STEELCASE

4900 Series Contemporary Tables from Steelcase are designed to be sturdy, durable and versatile. The tables are constructed of rugged fiber board and covered with a laminate that resists scratches and fading. The pedestal base is made of electrically welded steel tubing. The Series 4900 is available in a variety of size, shape and finish options.

Circle No. 203



HBF

Hickory Business Furniture's Ribbon Edge series combines modularity and a crisp outline with high craftsmanship. The collection represents a successful blend between new and traditional, and all pieces are available with multiple pedestal configurations in a wide array of finishes in plain sliced and book matched cherry veneers.

Circle No. 204



VECTA

Vecta's Ballet tables, designed by Douglas Ball, are available with K-bases, for training rooms, or X-bases, suitable for library or conference applications. Both are offered in folding or fixed versions. Table tops may be specified in laminate or veneer with bases in thermoset colors.

Circle No. 217



DOMORE

Domore's Series/System 7 pedestal table offers flexibility for a variety of applications in office, library or cafeteria environments. Round, square and rectangular shapes are each available in a range of sizes. One of three finish colors may be selected to contrast or complement a choice of 19 laminates.

Circle No. 211



KINETICS

Kinetics 400/601 Modular Table Series uses components that allow configurations to change with no tools required. A shared base joins and supports each adjacent surface, providing maximum seating with comfortable leg room all around. Base columns are finished in Kinkote or chrome; a full range of plastic laminate and veneer tops is available.

Circle No. 205



EXECUTIVE OFFICE CONCEPTS

Executive Office Concepts has added a 48-in. diameter top model to its popular P Series Table offerings. P Series tables are designed and engineered for a variety of commercial uses. The tops are available in either self-edged laminate plastic or hardwood edged with wood veneer or laminate plastic inlay.





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Circle 13 on reader service card



BYE, BYE, DUMB BOX

on't tell Denver's breathtaking Colorado Convention Center, designed by C.W. Fentress J.H. Bradburn & Associates and schky, Marquardt & Nesholm, to be one of those usual colorless and tasteless boxes

By Roger Yee

ou can't blame Denver for trying. With over 10,000 trade shows and conventions consuming 7% more ace each year in America, the Mile High ty has thrown its hat in the ring with the ew Colorado Convention Center, designed the architecture firm of C.W. Fentress H. Bradburn & Associates in association ith Loschky, Marquardt & Nesholm. owever, considering the more than 330 invention centers already in place, what's he more or less?

Yes, the Center represents a state-of-thet facility encompassing some 970,000 sq. ft. nd yes, the Center can effectively do just pout anything other convention halls can. at no, the Center is not your usual invention hall as mammoth civic eyesore. If hything, it is astonishingly handsome inside nd out. And it really works.

The Center started life with a bang when e City and County of Denver requested roposals from teams of architects. intractors and developers to produce a site, esign and guaranteed cost for a new privention hall. Given the depressed real state market of Denver in the late 1980s, the erce contest that ensued to win the award -pitting very well-financed teams with prizeinning players against one another-came s no surprise to anyone, least of all the rban Land Institute, the national ganization of real estate professionals hich Denver invited to judge the entries. The inning team of Fentress Bradburn and schky Marquardt, architects, HPA, general intractor, and French & Company, developer, roposed to create a fascinating, two-story ructure on a site just two blocks from enver's main retail area.

"We won the award on logic," Curtis entress, a principal of C.W. Fentress J.H. radburn, believes. "We had to make the enter festive, friendly and exciting on a tight adget. We also wanted it to do the job."

What the jurors found was that the land nosen by his team was within walking istance from hotels, retail, restaurants, ightlife and activities, and was able to ccommodate transportation for both sitors' cars and exhibitors' trucks. As for the cility his team proposed, it would hold up to 5,000 conventioneers largely indoors all day, irround them with a flexible exhibition space



and a wide range of services, and offer them up to three separate, concurrent events—or the ability to make rapid changes that could take them from a local dog show to a national farm equipment exposition in very little time. In short, a winner.

At the heart of the Center's design is a stacking plan with two floors that boldly divides the building's functions into two vertical zones. Some 300,000 sq. ft. of continuous exhibition hall space occupies the upper floor, while 46 meeting rooms and a 35,000-sq. ft. ballroom dominate the ground floor. By splitting these activities apart, Fentress Bradburn and Loschky Marquardt have found a novel way to set up exhibitions quickly and efficiently while allowing public function to proceed without interruption.

The concept is exciting to witness in action. Trucks ascend a ramp to one of 27 truck docks that can handle 70-ft. tractor trailers—and actually drive onto the vast Exhibit Hall. Ease of configuration is key here. As Fentress points out, "Eighty percent of conventions occur in 100,000 sq. ft. or less. This hall can be easily configured to meet that A dramatic example of how the Center has created different personalities for its many areas is the 35,000-sq. ft. ballroom (opposite), which boasts a carpet made to resemble marble and a ceiling fabricated of drywall with fluorescent cove lights that read as "flying saucers." The space can be divided into three parts.

The granite, marble and glass facade of the Colorado Convention Center (above) resembles abstract sculpture against the evening sky. Along with a view of Denver's rising skyline, the site also offers a panorama of the Rocky Mountains—as well as an enticing glimpse of the vast space inside.







demand." Aiding exhibitors in tapping into t building's services are power boxes flush the floor, providing power, air, electricity an all utilities every 30 ft.

Fentress admits that it will be rare have three separate conventions going on once. "It's more likely that you'll have or setting up, one breaking down and one goin on," he says, "or you can divide the space two or just use the whole space." (To mal sure this cast-of-thousands road show ca happen without mishap, the Center employ 60 staff people who monitor ever movement, making sure everyone is in the right place doing the right thing.) Whatever happens, the hall can surely contain it within its 90-ft. wide clear spans between column and its 30-ft. high ceilings.

Activity is equally frenetic on the groun floor. Visitors to the Center can enter on an side, although they will most likely choose one of three main entrances. Conventionee typically register at booths set up in the lobb and then take escalators, stairs or elevator (for barrier-free access) up to the exhibit ha Other visitors may linger along the concours that runs down the central axis of th floor-sampling information displays about what's going on in the Center and arour Denver, reservation booths for skiing a Aspen and Vale, business services such a facsimile, Federal Express and telephones, daycare center and a 400-seat restaurantbefore entering the Center's meeting room and ballrooms.

Sending the tractor trailers upstairs als offers some unexpected dividends on th ground. At the same time space is left saf and clear for pedestrians, the truck docks ac as a porte cocher for buses discharging an receiving passengers, a feature that i particularly appreciated during the snow Denver winter. Another bonus is the structure support given by the ground floor's man columns, which carry the Exhibition Hall' heavy live loads.

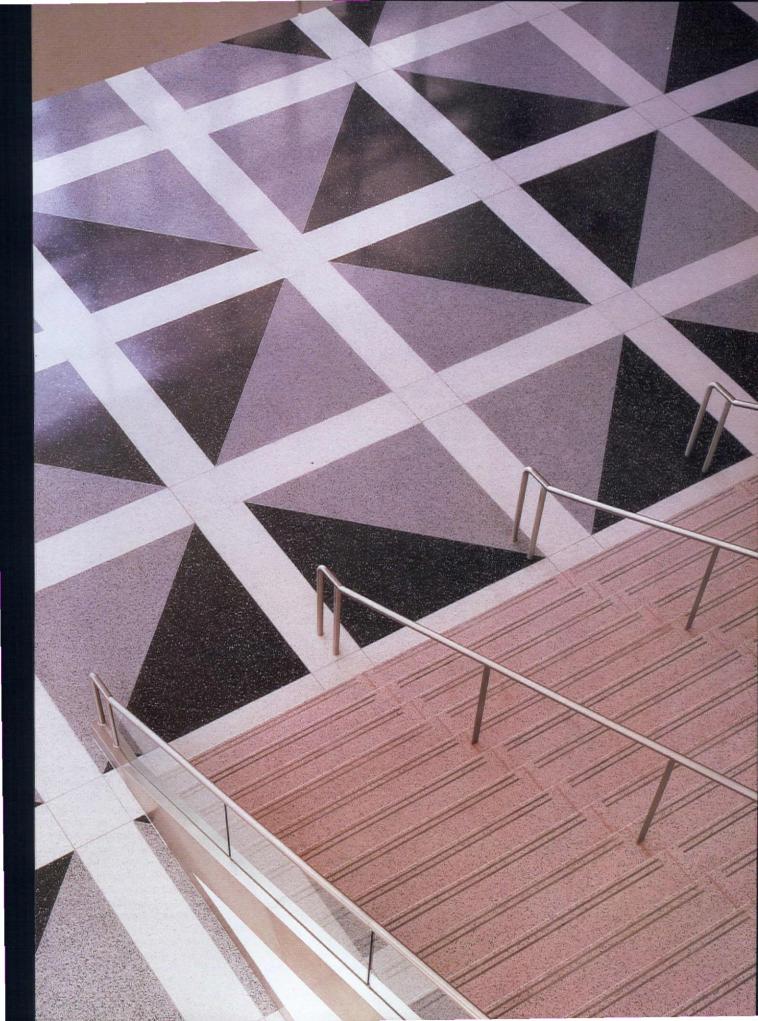
Having so much floor area to fill in just a

The main lobby of the Center (left, top) displays "marblized" carpet and circular lighting fixtures to greet arriving conventioneers. Circling over the lobby's perimeter is cafeteria seating that encourages people-watching by patrons.

Outdoor light, indoor lighting fixtures and light transmitted through frosted glass enliven one of the Center's upper level lobbies (left, middle). Paying attention to such details as the pairing of lighting with columns and permanent walls gives character to space that could have been all too anonymous.

Architecture in the Center's cafeteria (left, bottom) echoes that of the building's facade in this space overlooking the main lobby. Drywall and color are exploited to playful effect here to establish a sidewalk cafe atmosphere.

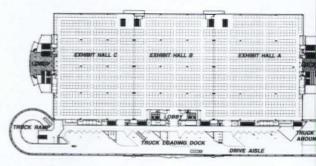
One of the many delightful visual contrasts between materials in the Center is evident on the stairs (opposite) where the flooring repeats the planning grid and adds some geometric variations of its own. Giving the floor design an architectural scale relieves the sheer size of large circulation areas like this.





Frosted glass and a grid of nonstructural columns and beams (above, left) act as a friendly, porous barrier from the commons area in this vignette of the Center's cafeteria. To reduce the institutional character of the setting, the designers have introduced small-scale patterns via fabrics, glass and lighting fixtures. A typical Center corridor (above, right) has double-loaded corridors feeding traffic to conference rooms that can be subdivided into as many as 46 separate facilities. Graphics, applied much like a frieze using raised characters, are kept bold and simple for quick reference.





accelerated design-build timetable of two and a half years from the granting of the award, Fentress Bradburn and Loschky Marquardt knew they would have to work quickly and pragmatically to complete the interior design. "We took a no-nonsense approach to the use of materials," Fentress indicates. "Everything was very economical. It's interesting to see what you can do with drywall, paint and fluorescent lighting, for example."

Visitors invariably respond to the design at once, owing to its powerful use of geometric forms, attractive colors and dramatic lighting. Columns, beams and ceilings are sculpted and successfully used to impart an image to a facility that is theoretically a neutral void until it is transformed by its exhibitions. The color scheme too is pure artistry. ("We have employed a color palette that really represents what we call Colorado colors-neutrals and mattes," says Fentress. "The colors are what help keep the Center from looking too futuristic.") As for the lighting, it serves to orient visitors and to establish an unexpectedly convincing sense of place throughout the facility; almost every room sports its own distinctive custom fixture or built-in architectural illumination.

The Colorado Convention Center opened in April of 1990 to considerable public acclaim. Of course, the ultimate judge of a convention hall is commercial performance. The Center has already hosted a variety of gatherings that have ranged from the sublime (a rocket show for Martin Marietta) to the down-home (a farm equipment expo for the American Egg Growers). Developer David French, of the Denver-based French & Co., calls the project "first class and efficient."

"We have an extremely successful design," says Carol Wallace, executive director of the Convention Center Management Corp. "Meeting planners really like the simplicity; it's a very user-friendly space." Anyone who can buy construction of this quality, delivered at a cost of \$82/ sq. ft. in two and a half years instead of the usual four, should feel very proud indeed. Pity any of the nation's 330 other convention centers who can't make the grade. Э⇒

Project Summary: Colorado Convention Center

Location: Denver, CO. Total area: 970,000 sq. ft. No. of floors: 2. Average floor size: 400,000 + sq. ft. Cost/sq. ft.: \$82. Wallcoverings: Wall Technology,

Armstrong, Maharam. Paint: Benjamin Mod Flooring: Ace Tile. Ceiling tile: Armstrong. Ligh Neon Source. Doors: Jackson Products, Day Door & Millwork. Door hardware: Johnson Meta Glass: EAP, Clover. Window treatments: Car McFall. Work stations: Hon. Work station seating: H Curtis. Lounge seating: Krueger, David Edwar Cafeteria, dining, auditorium seating: Rudd, She Williams, Krueger. Bar stools: Shelby William Upholstery: DesignTex, Brunschwig & Fils, Kn Hendrick, Glen Raven. Conference tables: Sha Cafeteria, dining, training tables: Howe. Drum tab Gilbert. Files: Hon. Architectural woodworking: Day Door & Millwork. Planters and accessories: Bris Botanics, Krueger, Forms & Surfaces. Sign Tamara Kudrycki Designs, Elevators: Mo gomery. HVAC: Critchfield. Fire safety: Adar Security: MMR West, Plumbing fixtures: Kohler, Cl City and County of Denver. Architect: C Fentress J.H. Bradburn & Associates association with Loschky, Marguardt Nesholm. Interior designer: C.W. Fentress J Bradburn & Associates. Structural engineer: Mai & Martin. Mechanical engineer: Critchfield. Elect engineer: Garland D. Cox Associates. Gen contractor: HPA. Lighting designer: Neon Sour Acoustician: Shen Milsom & Associates. Develo French & Co. Photographer: Hedrich Blessing.



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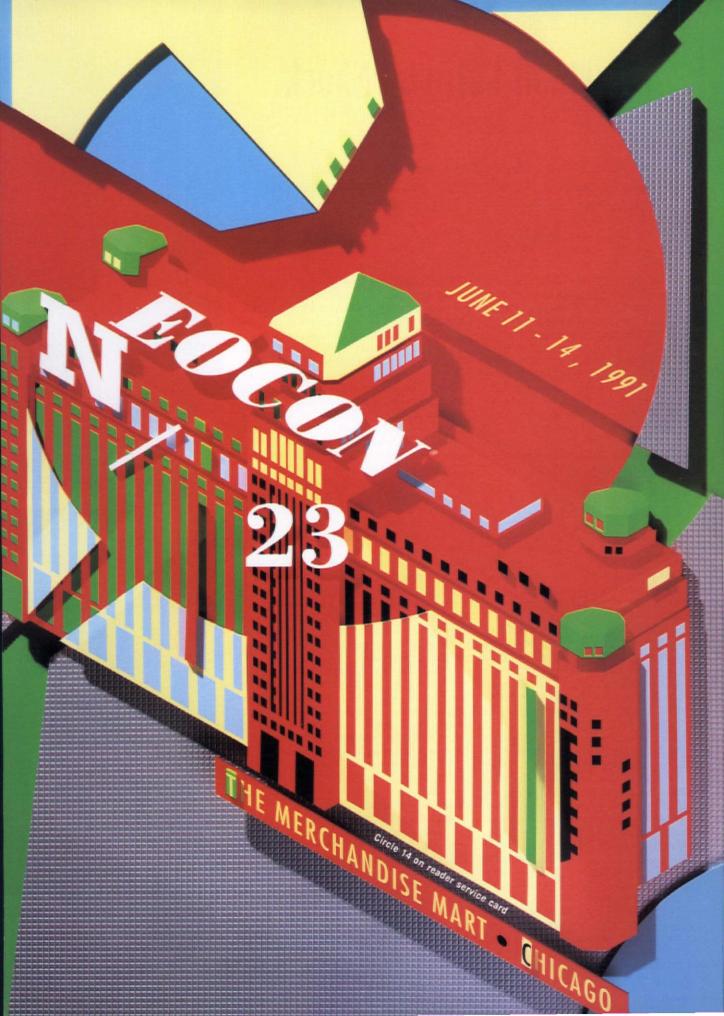
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A Taste of Culinary Shock

Swiss bankers craving Swiss cuisine in America escape to Union Bank of Switzerland's new Manhattan cafeteria, designed by Gensler and Associates/Architects

By Jean Godfrey-June

or employees of the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), coming to America can trigger a case of serious culinary shock: Most American business people dine in dull, institutional corporate cafeterias much like the dreary school and summercamp mess halls they marched through when growing up. For Swiss employees of UBS in New York, however, lunch is still the main meal of the day, thanks to a corporate cafeteria designed by Gensler and Associates/ Architects. UBS's new cafeteria is a place where you can enjoy gourmet food, impeccable service and high design-a far cry from mystery meat and tapioca nudding

But America is not Switzerland, whether in the realms of corporate cafeterias or banking. A writer for UBS's Zurich corporate newsletter observed in 1989 that the New York cafeteria would have to serve two types of clients: "Whereas the Swiss usually distinguish clearly between work and the lunch break, Americans often prefer to just fill a cardboard box with food and eat it at their workstation."

The cafeteria attempts to appease both the cardboard box patron and "the relishing luncher," as the writer puts it, "who seeks to enjoy a decent meal with his party." UBS presented the challenge to Gensler and Associates, the architecture firm the bank has retained to plan, design and/or retrofit its U.S. headquarters over a four-year period.

In fact, Gensler's design represented a second chance for UBS. It had outgrown its small, existing New York cafeteria, which was one-fifth the size of its replacement. In addition, the older space did not reflect the sophistication Gensler was bringing to the rest of the facility, particularly the dramatic ground floor, one of 17 floors UBS occupies in a midtown Manhattan office tower.

Without making specific demands on Gensler in terms of design, UBS sought what Dina Frank, vice president at Gensler, describes as "a beautiful, yet easy to maintain space" where the bank's 1,200 employees could meet in a relaxed setting. How well Gensler succeeded can be gauged by Alan Levine, project manager for UBS, who declares, "The cafeteria has become a focal point for the entire bank—it's worked out incredibly well. You do really feel like you're at a fine restaurant."

Gensler has transformed an office floor with both practicality and stagecraft to make dining at UBS as memorable as it is convenient. Existing structural columns form a colonnade behind which banquettes are placed and partitioned by etched glass panels, creating remarkable privacy within a 200-seat room. Given the cafeteria's high level of design, the private dining rooms represent only a slight upgrade. A separate entrance defined by metal doors with opaque glass panels leads to an executive facility distinguished by fabric-wrapped interior walls, waiters, a private chef and a separate dishwashing area; movable partitions make the 70-seat space extremely easy to rearrange.

Since the building's central core dictates that all activity take place around the perimeter, Gensler's circulation plan for the cafeteria begins at the elevator and continues in one direction around the floor. Employees begin by passing through a security turnstile into the servery. Here, circulation disperses them among separate serving areas to avoid the long lines and impossible bottlenecks of traditional cafeterias.

A diamond-shaped island in the middle of the servery displays the salad bar, dessert bar, espresso bar, soda fountain and a frozen yogurt machine. Other servery areas offer a cold entrees display case, a hot food area where chefs openly prepare dishes, beverage refrigerators and a gourmet sandwich board. "It's absolutely not cafeteria food," says Jacob Bousso, senior associate at Gensler, who takes advantage of meetings with UBS to sample the menu.

Circulation then takes employees through the dining area to the dishwashing area at the very end. The linear sequence of events has been carefully planned, as Levine explains, "so people eating at the tables never have to see lots of people coming by with dirty dishes." An adjacent space at the south end of the building which currently houses a training area has been pre-configured for possible expansion of the dining area.

Obviously, installing a cafeteria 27 floors above Manhattan has had its pros and cons. The view, which Gensler has fully exploited,





More than a room with a view: Frosted glass panels (above) enliven the Union Bank of Switzerland cafeteria's sleek modernity and create a distinct sense of privacy, while the Manhattan skyline beckons from beyond.



is spectacular. On the other hand, installing ventilation and exhaust systems is always far more difficult in the middle of a building than at either the ground or top floors.

A good deal of the budget ended up going into the kitchen for venting and exhaust controls in addition to state-of-the-art equipment. To run this glistening machine, UBS employs approximately 30 kitchen employees, who are managed for the bank by Marriott. "They do an incredible job," says Levine. "The food is always fresh and delicious, prepared in the kitchen itself."

Perhaps the cooks are inspired by the view, essentially the same one seen from the boardroom of Dunn & Bradstreet on the floor just below. Though D&B's board members may never know it, a lot of construction in USB's kitchen was done after hours and on weekends in their boardroom. "We'd go in Friday nights," recalls Bousso, "take a their entire ceiling—ducts, sprinklers conditioning and other systems—and wor our kitchen furiously all weekend. Then we the ceiling back in place, re-painted and re to go by Monday morning."

Gensler admits that the relatively hand UBS has given it to design comes f the trust developed in the course of a year relationship. During this interval, architects have combined what they k about American banking facilities and So culture to create interiors such as the cafeteria—uniquely bridging the between the two societies. "New York shock, there's no way around it," s Christian Breudel, a Swiss employee of now stationed in New York. "But cafeteria lets us have it both ways."

As they say in Manhattan, bon apetit!

Project Summary: Union Bank of Switzerland Cafeteria

Location: New York, NY. Total floor area: 19,000 ft. No. of floors: 1. Total capacity: 200; execu rooms, 70. Architectural woodworking: Nor Ceramic tile: Amsterdam, United Ceran Reception/executive dining room wallcovering: B Kroll, Donghia, Gretchen Bellinger, Mar Canovas. Hardware: Schlage. Executive d reception seating: Atelier International. Exec dining reception upholstery: Unika Vaev. Exec dining reception coffee tables: Scope. Executive d room seating: Brickel. Executive dining room uphols HBF. Cafeteria seating: Stendig. Cafeteria uphols Arc-Com. Cafeteria tables: Johnson Industr Cafeteria banquettes: Shelby Williams. Cafe upholstery: Lee Jofa. Executive dining light Edison, Lightolier, IPI. Custom servery and cove glass: Abbott Glass. Client: Union Banl Switzerland. Interior designer: Gensler a Associates/Architects; Walter A. Hu principal in charge; Dina Frank, des director; Jacob Bousso, project manag Ana Gonzalez, senior project design Imelda Cancio, project designer; Ud Deshmukh, CADD coordinator, Struct engineer: The Office of James Ruderm Mechanical/electrical engineer: Edwards Zuck, PC/Cosentini Associates. Construct manager: Plaza Construction. Art consultant: Ziba DeWeck. Food service consultant: Cini-Li Associates. Restaurant supply contractor: Bra Equipment. Lighting designer: Cline, Bettrid Bernstein. Acoustician: Cerami Associat Signage: Signs of Success. Photograph Wolfgang Hoyt.

Gensler skillfully blended Swiss gentility with America business sense in the diamond-shaped central servery (left, middle)—a foreign element to Swiss accustomed waiters and waitresses. Gensler scattered the servery allowing employees to pick and choose with more leis and fewer lines.

Your I.D., please. Employees of Union Bank of Switzerla use computer-coded cards to get in to their gleaming n cafeteria (left, bottom). The diamond pattern in the terra floor is repeated throughout the space.







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OH SAY, WHAT CAN YOU SEE?

RTKL Associates' dramatic design for the Baltimore Area Visitors Center can flag down tourists-literally-in their cars

By Jennifer Thiele

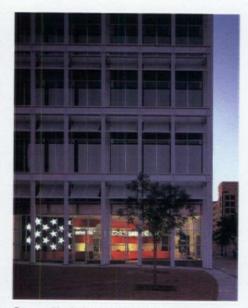
he City of Baltimore may boast one of the nation's finest restored waterfronts. the second jewel in thoroughbred racing's Triple Crown, and some of the best darn crabs around, but if Ina Fleischer, manager of the Baltimore Area Visitors Centers, has her way, the first place visitors will stop in town will be the new office building on the corner of Pratt and Howard Streets, just off Interstate 95. The tower, a contemporary addition to the historic Marsh & McLennan building, listed on the National Historical Register as one of the area's few remaining cast iron facade buildings, houses the Visitors Centers' main branch, designed by RTKL Associates as a pro bono project.

ESIGN

As an organization involved in the city's visitor and convention trade, the location of the newest Visitors Center makes strategic sense. It's across the street from Baltimore's new sports stadium, scheduled to open the first day of baseball season in 1992, and its convention center; it's within blocks of the city's prominent downtown hotel area; it's on the route of a proposed light rail system; it's central to both the Inner Harbor waterfront and the main airport. Fleischer could not ask for a facility that is more in "the dead center of the major tourist area" in Baltimore.

But the prime location was not enough. The association wanted a dramatic design that could reliably capture the attention of pedestrians and drive-in visitors to lure them inside. Not coincidentally, the exterior architecture of the new office tower that houses the Center provided a very appropriate setting. The building is characterized by a white, grid-like framework and a glazed facade, so its ground floor retail space lent itself well to the need for high visibility. So well, in fact, that original concerns about tight space were put aside in favor of the prime location and the opportunity to be seen.

Since the interior would have maximum visibility from the street, RTKL allowed the design of the space to serve a dual purpose, as both an interior statement and an exterior sign. Myers and RTKL project architect Jim Brown immediately envisioned the use of bold interior color and signage that would stand out against the stark facade and consequently catch the interest of passersby, RTKL also wanted to play



From outside, the interior design of the Baltimore Area Visitor's Center has dramatic visual appeal (above). RTKL designed the bold colors and curving lines of the American flag backdrop (opposite) to contrast the building's architecture and catch the attention of passersby.

up the space's visual uniqueness by making it as different as possible from the building's grid-like appearance.

"We had the idea that there should be something about the space that was soft and undulating, as a contrast to the facade," says Myers. "So we started thinking about what types of images would serve this purpose." Happily, this idea fit like a puzzle with another initial design concept—emphasizing Baltimore's importance in American history.

Playing upon the city's significance as the birthplace of the *Star Spangled Banner*, RTKL arrived at a dramatic result: the design's most prominent feature, a full back wall in the form of a billowing American flag. The theme celebrates Baltimore's history at the same time it provides what Fleischer calls a "stunning" visual effect.

Far from being purely decorative, Old Glory is also highly functional. Inside the Center, one of the undulating stripes of the abstract, three-dimensional flag forms the front of a laminated reception desk. Two work stations, comfortably accommodating up to four volunteer workers with behind the-counter storage, and a telephone count are built into the folds of the flag. Another stripe contains the backlit sign that announces the Center's purpose.

The Center manager's glass-walled offic reminiscent of the city's rich tradition of screen-painting, was painted by a local artiwith a Baltimore skyline landscape. This 70 year-old folk art form unique to Baltimor involves the painting of the front pictur windows of homes with pastoral scenes an landscapes to increase privacy withou losing the view.

In terms of interior furnishings, th Visitors Center's requirements have been minimal. The most important functional element is the orderly display and distribution of literature and information accomplished by two freestanding kiosks that supplement the reception desk. Each a equipped with two sides containing brochur racks and two sides with changeable phot frame panels. Together, the kiosk displa units delineate Baltimore's architectural past and present.

Though the Center has only bee functioning for a short time. Fleischer i confident that it is successfully capturing th public's attention. "You can't walk or drive b without seeing it," she insists. And watch ou for traffic to increase dramatically in 1992 when Baltimore's Boys of Summer move int their new home. Until then, at least, th block already has one big hit. S

Project Summary: Baltimore Area Visitors Center

Location: Baltimore, MD. Total floor area: 2,270 so ft. No. of floors: 1. Paint: Benjamin Moore Laminates: Formica, Pionite. Flooring: Armstrong Carpet: Shaw. Display fixtures: Design an Production Inc. Signage: Belzinger Signs. Scree painting: Dee Herget. Client: Baltimore Are Convention and Visitors Association. Buildin architect and interior designer: RTKL Associates Laurent Myers, principal in charge: Jin Brown, project designer/architect. Mechanic engineer: Siegel & Rutherford Inc. Electric: engineer: Walpert Electrical Contractors. Gener contractor: Lawrence Construction. Photographe Hedrich-Blessing, Scott McDonald.



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DESIGN GOES TO SCHOOL

Is design making a difference in the education of America?

By Jean Godfrey-June

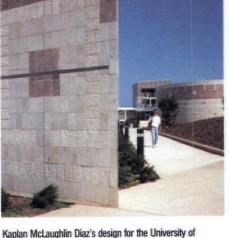
rchitects and interior designers may wonder how design can help America's schools when they encounter statistics e these: One quarter of America's high hool students never graduate; of the maining 2.4 million students, one quarter of em cannot read or write above an 8thade, "functionally literate" level, according the International Association for the aluation of Educational Achievement EEA). At the adult level, the International ading Association reports that 25% of the S. labor force lacks basic reading, writing d math skills. Business is finding the nerican work force too uneducated to do en the most menial of jobs; some set up medial education programs for their aployees, others are forced to look outside e country for workers who can make the ade. After 150 years of turning immigrants o Americans and the children of illiterate rents into literate adults, our education stem appears to have crashed.

It's not that our children are truant. Most gh school graduates have spent between 10 d 14 years sitting in classrooms, apparently arning much less than was taught. What is nerging after perhaps a decade of national ul-searching is that the problem is larger an any one aspect of the system. So none of e many recent proposals, including intensive e-schooling, longer school years, nutrition ograms, more traditional curriculums, less aditional curriculums, voucher systems, acher education, family education—or the sign of educational facilities themselves seems to be the singular answer we seek.

If the sobering statistics aren't enough inspire architects to action, economic cessity may. Approximately 11% of venues for architecture firms come from lucational facilities, as reported by the nerican Institute of Architects. "For some ms, particularly in this difficult economy, esigning educational facilities means aying alive," says Chris Gribbs, director education, historic resources and teriors at the AIA.

What kind of construction budgets are we lking about? The National Education sociation observes that America spent over 4 billion on capital outlays (buildings and





Kaplan McLaughlin Diaz's design for the University of California at San Diego (above) brings students together with smaller piazzas and meeting areas in the tradition of the European city; McLaughlin's work on the student center represents a powerful moneymaking force for the school.

equipment) for public schools in the 1989-1990 school year. Expenditures don't always correlate with academic success, however. Alaska, which leads the nation in expenditures per pupil, ranks 43rd in its high school graduation rate. Minnesota, which is first in high school graduations and fourth in SAT/ACT scores, is only 18th in expenditures per pupil.

On a global scale, the United States outspends Japan by 0.5% on education as a percentage of GNP, yet 87% of Japan's high school seniors are eligible for university as opposed to America's 75%. As U.S. educators will attest, the Japanese build schools whose unadorned simplicity and modest equipment make many of our schools look almost luxurious. And the IAEEA notes that the Land of the Rising Sun somehow stretches its money to cover 243 school days per year, as opposed to our 180.

Sheer dollars are clearly not the answer, nor is trying to model our schools after the Japanese or Europeans, whose homogeneous populations undoubtedly make the job of education easier. Comparisons are deceiving even within our own broad culture. What works for Grosse Pointe, Mich., may be markedly different than what works for East Los Angeles. How the money is spent seems to be almost as significant as the money itself, and this is where architecture and design come in.

Can design produce smarter schools?

While no panacea for education, design does count. The least it can do is to refrain from obstructing the daily activities of educators, children and communities. The best it can do is to support and anticipate what society wants to know. "Design *will* play a major role in a child's life," states Steven Bingler, president of Concordia Architects in New Orleans. "The question is whether that will be a positive or a negative role. Design is not neutral in education."

Socialization is a critical, often unspoken role of a school's design. "Children are extremely impressionistic and a child's surroundings will contribute to character formation," says Jack L. Gordon, a principal of Jack L. Gordon Architects in New York City.

A building can also reinforce what a school is trying to do, says Earl R. Flansburgh, president of Earl R. Flansburgh + Associates in Boston: "School is the first major social event in a child's life: It has a profound impact." Or as Jim Garretson, AIA, vice president of Perkins & Will's New York office, believes, "If you're in a space that you like, you function better, whether you're a teacher or a student."

But how to make those spaces better? Bingler characterizes positive educational experiences as primarily hands-on, like San Francisco's Exploratorium, Baltimore's Aquarium, and Boston's Children's Museum.

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SPENDING ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENT OF GNP		
SWEDEN	7.6	
CANADA	7.4	
U.S.S.R.	7.0	
UNITED STATES	5.6	
UNITED KINGDOM	5.2	
JAPAN	5.1	
W. GERMANY	4.6	
ITALY	4.0	

Source: UNESCO

architecturally-based," he insists. Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia campus, where each pavilion represents a different order of architecture, is a school he likes to cite in which architecture becomes part of the curriculum. Becoming part of the curriculum

"Hands-on experiences are nearly always

Becoming part of the curriculum, however, means architecture will bear responsibility for much more than putting up shelter. "Schools ideally provide a total learning experience," Gordon explains. For example, he points out, a school's organization can contribute to discipline; form, color and texture can encourage creativity; and proper scale makes students comfortable. "If the scale is right," Gordon adds, "it reinforces a child's sense of security, comfort and in turn involvement."

The proper scale ensures accessibility and involves far more than miniature desks and chairs. At almost every level in education, breaking the school down into smaller, more readily understandable units seems to give students of any age a sense of security, comfort and community. "To a first grader, the actual scale of an 800- to 900child school can be truly overwhelming," says Garretson. "Making pods of smaller groups of classrooms keeps the scale at a level they can deal with. The pods can be grouped around larger, common spaces that encourage a feeling of community with the larger group."

In schools designed by Flansburgh's firm, the architects include project spaces, where the small scale of the classroom can be enlarged to share floor area with several other classrooms. "In the typical school it's either your tiny classroom, or it's the entire school," Flansburgh has found. "A shared space allows for a real feeling of community."

Gyo Obata, chairman and head of design at Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum in St. Louis, suggests that architects even consider giving a distinct character to each classroom. "Using different materials and spatial arrangements can make a classroom infinitely more interesting and inspiring," he states. Going further, he urges architects to eliminate corridors and create smaller pods around community areas, thereby changing the traditional scale, to give students a clearer sense of identity and purpose.

Now everyone wants to be principal

Breaking down the school's scale to make it much more flexible is a doubleedged sword for some educators. At the same that budgets are cut and educational demands are increased, the American school has taken on new and formidable responsibilities. Being a place to learn is often just the beginning.

"The school is becoming an extension of the community in much the same way the church used to be, especially in the inner city," says Garretson. "They've taken on much more responsibility—at the same time funds have gotten more and more scarce. Now they feed people two to three times day, run health centers, teach adults as we as children, show parents how to paren provide child care, and offer space for ever type of club and organization imaginable The list goes on and on." Anecdotal evidence of this abounds.

 According to television's Today show 150 high schools across the nation now hav permanent health clinics in their facilities each with a doctor, nurse and mental healt professional.

• *Time* magazine made a grim yet salien contrast in its October 8, 1990 issue: a yea of pre-school costs an average of \$3,000 pe child; a year in prison costs \$16,500. A policy makers recognize the value of pre school child care and education, architect will soon be designing child care spaces whether in the schools themselves or in the corporate sector.

•Flansburgh, whose firm recently completed a large daycare center for John Hancock Insurance, predicts that corporate daycare centers will be the norm in the future, at least until policymakers make daycare an affordable option for the schools themselves to offer.

The demand for space has increased with changing usage: auditoriums need to be bigger, cafeterias must serve breakfast as well as lunch and so forth. "Where school rooms were once rows of desks and a black board at the front, they're now practically the antithesis of that, with all kinds of new technical elements, computers and differen class sizes," says Obata. "Thus, architects need to spend a great deal of time delving into programming." He also finds that ever primary students are being taught in more focused groups, with different teachers for different subjects—necessitating even more flexibility.

With changing uses come longer hours as well. "As major public buildings, schools are open 14-15 hours a day," says Flansburgh "The gym must be accessible by the front o the building, without having to go through the entire school, and the library should also be independently accessible."

Garretson observes that some school boards have come to view changing use as a liability, even going so far as to request that architects design some parts of their facilities to be *less* flexible. "They don't want politicians to be able to come in," he has discovered, "knock down a few walls and cram more kids or activities into spaces that really can't take it."

On the flip side, changing use can be a formidable source of revenue for schools, says Herb McLaughlin, a principal at Kaplan McLaughlin Diaz in San Francisco. "It can be a huge profit center," he feels. "It's important to plan for after-hours use."

According to McLaughlin, an auditorium "or if designed correctly, a ballroom" can probably be rented out at least 50 nights a year, particularly in urban areas. "So you have to design something people are going to want to rent," he says. In truth, college I university student centers can be huge ney makers, if designed to entice. Laughlin's University of California at San ego Student Union grosses over \$22 lion a year in retail. He says that KMD is vays careful to design "one really extacular space that outsiders are going to nt to rent out."

ppiness is two pencil sharpeners instead of -or why teachers must be taught to innovate

How can design firms arrive at what Laughlin refers to as the spaces that sonate in your memory after you've used m?" Participatory planning sessions help ID arrive at concepts that can make a hool's space highly meaningful to its mmunity. "We ask the faculty, the school ard and the students to name the three ost memorable spaces in their town," Laughlin describes. "It starts them nking about architecture. Then when we k, 'What do you want to do with this pool?', they start getting very ambitious." nbition is the key for McLaughlin.

What do students ask for? At a recent high nool project, one student's earnest request is for "a secluded place to make out," Laughlin laughs. Some things never change. Bingler finds that it is often difficult to ise educators' expectations. "Educators e among the great oppressed," he says. ost teachers, when you ask them to really eam about what they'd like, will ask for o pencil sharpeners instead of one. That's out as far as they can think in terms of provements, since they have to fight so rd for even that small an improvement." ough Bingler attributes the attitude to dgets, the "experts" that are often troduced to advise educators on the nstruction of a new school, including cility planners, superintendent office staff d other consultants, can easily channel a pject down very predictable paths.

"Teachers are rarely included in the ocess in a collaborative way," Bingler arges, "in a way that encourages them to eam—outrageously innovative dreams, nich is what it's going to take." Architects Il have to be outrageously innovative emselves, he emphasizes. They may even ve to spend time in the classrooms they are ying to fix—observing and perhaps rticipating.

Flansburgh suggests that since capital sts run somewhere around 5% of a hool's budget, and operating costs, cluding teachers' salaries, take up about %, architects would do well to focus on signs that make teaching easier or more fective. "Teachers in private schools are ten paid less than those at public schools," points out, "So private schools have to d other ways of keeping teachers happy."

Private school teachers often have their vn offices, for example, which make good isiness sense to Flansburgh. "An entire assroom is an incredibly expensive place r teachers to prepare for class," he says

"With small offices for teacher's prep space, you can be making effective use of that classroom throughout the day."

Schools like prisons?

In his State of the Union address of January 31, 1990, President George Bush proclaimed "Every school must offer the kind of disciplined environment that makes it possible for our kids to learn." Bush's rhetoric as "The Education President" is powerful and persuasive. But exactly what does he mean by a "disciplined" environment, and how does he plan to create it in America's classrooms? Can design help teachers in performing the role of the disciplinarian? What architects have learned from experience offers some clues.

•Building a school that everyone loves goes a long way to protecting the school from vandalism, according to almost every architect interviewed for this story. "If students feel like it's their turf, they'll protect it," says McLaughlin, who suggests intense landscaping to deter exterior vandalism. "Say a kid and his spray can have an eightfoot range," he says. "Put up hedges and you've denied him at least three out of that eight, and then do some nice, multicolored brick or stonework. His image will come out very unclear."

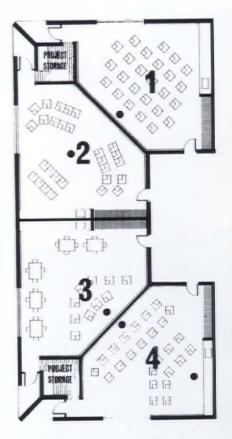
•Gordon finds that design treatments that reinforce function contribute to a satisfying sense of order: "Taken together, a wellorganized design communicates to the student that there are times and places for various levels of activities, thus contributing to a sense of order and discipline."

•Bingler cautions against designing in too much security. "You can start defeating your purpose," he says. "Students will take out revenge on designs they don't like. People don't graffiti things they like. It's a demeaning experience to be in a space that anticipates your committing crimes in it."

• Garretson concurs: "Security and creativity can end up being mutually exclusive. Security, no matter how you slice it, often ends up making the school look more like a prison."

Designing spaces that make it easier to teach and learn, along with specifying reasonably priced furniture and other school products that will stand up to the rigors of educational life, can certainly help. But the design industry, like the rest of corporate America, can and must do more. At stake is the nation's work force and its very survival as an economic power.

Many companies, including those in the design and construction industry, are already sponsoring extensive employee education courses, on-site child care, mentoring programs with local schools, college scholarships and a host of other programs aimed at improving our education system. Our educational investments—like the schools architects and interior designers strive to create—will repay themselves countless times.



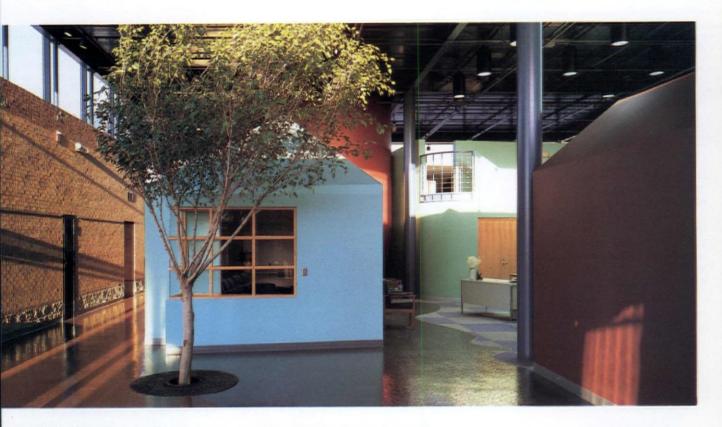
Earl Flansburgh's five-sided classroom (above) was first implemented by his firm 20 years ago for the Gates & Connat school in Acton, Mass., and is still in use today. Space breakdown is as follows: 1) Normal instruction; 2) Small groups; 3) Divided class (normal instruction plus individual project work); 4) Team teaching.



The Children's Village on the Plains

it a school that looks and functions as if it really belongs to its children–the remarkable Broken Arrow Elementary School in Shawnee, Kansas, by Abend Singleton Associates

By Jean Godfrey-June



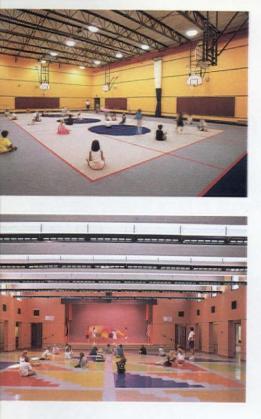
f members of the Shawnee, Kansa and Delaware tribes, who once roamed the northeastern Kansas prairie around mas Johnson's 1839 Shawnee Mission, ald see the quiet suburb that now abits their ancestral home, they'd be rtled to see the community's latest addin. Broken Arrow Elementary School is your everyday little red schoolhouse. designed by Abend Singleton Associates Kansas City, Mo., Broken Arrow manes to combine purple and turquoise lls, soaring blue ceilings and rooms full space age technology with-yesments of the American Indian culture t once thrived there.

Why such ambitious facilities for what Id be Anywhere, USA? Educators like to nt out that the elementary school is one America's front-line institutions, helping izens develop their attitudes toward cation, society and other people. As the nmunity of Shawnee Mission believes, a school like Broken Arrow can make a profound impression on children in many ways, including its visual imagery. In the words of Raj K. Chopra, superintendent of the Shawnee Mission School District, "Even with good teachers and a good curriculum, a bad environment makes it harder to learn."

Clearly more was at stake in Shawnee Mission than providing a clean, well-lighted space. Stephen H. Abend, FAIA, a principal of Abend Singleton, emphasizes, "Schools need to go *beyond* shelter, and worry about things like scale." Indeed, scale proved to be the key to Broken Arrow's design, not only for aesthetic considerations but budgetary ones as well.

Abend Singleton incorporated state-ofthe-art systems, fine art, imaginative architecture and a strong dose of local history into the 750-student, K-6 school —and came in \$400,000 under budget. This is particularly remarkable given the school's 10-acre, steeply-sloped site that is 40% To teach 750 kids how not to be a number, Broken Arrow combines a scale children know with colors and shapes that challenge the imagination. Its village concept is strongest in the administrative wing (opposite and above), where each "building" houses a separate administrative or faculty function.

ESIGN



Even Broken Arrow's gym (top) and activities room (above) defy little-redschoolhouse stereotypes.

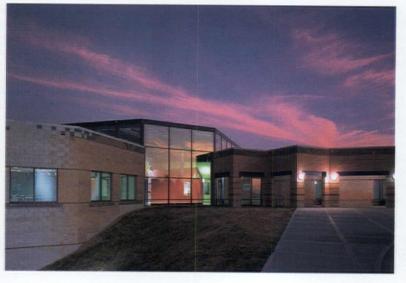
From outside, the entrance (below) glimpses into the little village behind the window; bands of masonry and brickwork patterns reflect the area's American Indian heritage. smaller than current standards. The school has also managed to emerge 20% more efficient than the national average with 100 sq. ft. per student—the largest elementary school in the district and very large by industry standards. "We didn't want the building to be scary, or imposing," says Abend. "With so many children, we didn't want them to end up feeling like a number."

A village concept divides the school's academic, activities and administrative functions into three separate wings, then further scales down the design in the academic wing, where the children spend most of their time. Built around a two-story library/media center, whose cruciform shape creates one-story alcoves for a computer lab. story telling area and group instruction, the academic wing separates each grade into a mini school, with four classrooms grouped around a shared space which serves as an extension for all of the classrooms. This "school within a school" concept increases usable space and creates opportunities for combined class instruction and team teaching.

Teachers may fold back glazed French doors to take advantage of some or all of this shared learning space, allowing them to choose a completely autonomous, private classroom or to combine a room with other sections of the mini-school. The shared learning areas provide computer labs, meeting space, and support spaces. Abend Singleton set each mini school apart with an individualized color scheme and architecturally defined space, its own covered patio or balcony (for outdoor teaching), teaching team offices, storage, toilets and playgrounds.

The activities wing serves as a "Forum" or meeting place. Within it are multipurpose, eating and meeting areas opening onto a courtyard. Also contained within its boundaries is the kindergarten, separated from the rest of the school.

The "village" concept is strongest in the central administrative wing, which houses the main entrance lobby, administration and meeting spaces, and connects all shared program areas. Each administrative and faculty function is housed in its own "building"



within the larger structure. The multi-purpose room, gymnasium, music and art classrooms and library/media center all branch off from the curved perimeter of the "village."

"People are truly impressed when the come through the entryway," reports Betsy Degan, principal of Broken Arrow. "Their mouths drop open, and they look up to try to take in everything at once. Visitors tel me it's a very comfortable, very homey and inviting space."

What teachers like best about the design is its flexibility, particularly the community functions and the shared learning spaces Degan declares, "While design can't make a good teacher out of a bad one, it can make the learning process easier or it can be an obstacle. For instance, if you have to spend half your day telling the children to be quied because the acoustics are bad, you're wasting time that could be spent teaching."

One vivid example of how Broken Arrow has streamlined the learning process can be seen in its alternative solution to the increasingly common computer room Desirable as they are, computer rooms can waste teaching time because students must leave their classrooms to get to them. Worse yet, scheduling them is often a problem for teachers, and schools rarely have money for enough machines. Broken Arrow has no computer room.

"The budget was simply not there." recalls Abend, "not only for the computers themselves, but for the air conditioning electrical wiring and so on." Abend Singletor reduced the total cost of technology about 75% through the "point of use" concept which still realizes the District's goal of one computer per two students. Each minischool's shared learning space is equipped with mobile computer stations, enough for an entire class. A class can employ the computers in the space itself, or move them to computer outlets in each classroom. Thus, the 1:2 ratio is achieved, while the school must only buy one computer per seven children.

Flexibility to accommodate future technology was extremely important. Explains Chopra, "From computers to wiring, we looked towards the future and realized that our needs are bound to change." Under-floor wire management systems serve current computer needs and facilitate their future use as well. Every instructional space has computer outlets with cabling raceways. The district itself has an outstanding team of engineers and other advisors that has coordinated the project with the architects, Chopra adds.

But technology is only part of the picture. Nine areas in the school have been designated specifically for permanent art, created by student-teacher teams. Interior show windows and built-in display fixtures further reinforce the emphasis, as do tack strips provided for easy display of current projects.

In addition, Broken Arrow's architecture reveals itself in understated ways through elements of its construction. Look around





refully and you find an exposed steel roof central administration, red brick stripes at delineate basic concrete masonry walls, and exposed steel lintels supporting masonry ver doorways and arches. Specific details so call attention to the school's historic amesake, the Shawnee Indian Mission, the te and internal activities.

Any contextual cues are subtle and equently indirect, of course. Outside, a asonry "headband" of symbolic patterns ind colors creates a cornice for the entire ructure and marks corner windows, the itrance canopy and the inner courtyard. On it inside, the architects repeat the patterns the drinking fountains, in signage, and yen in a floor design in the cafeteria/ ultipurpose room that recalls the patterns ind colors of nomadic rugs. Many large indows keep the surrounding meadows in orious view, while curving interior walls proughout allow easy observation of the chool's inner workings.

For all the care that has gone into its design, roken Arrow has proved reassuringly easy to are for, thanks to all-masonry construction and mostly carpeted floors. Maintenance is yen simplified by an extremely enthusiastic udent body. "If students see visitors, say, an 'ter-school basketball team, throwing a asketball against a wall or something," Degan pserves, "my crew is all over them."

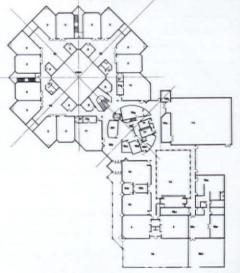
The principal of Broken Arrow finds othing odd about this. "A facility should el like it belongs to children," Betty Degan insists. Apparently a waiting list of teachers, all eager to work at Broken Arrow, couldn't agree more. \Im

Project Summary: Broken Arrow Elementary School

Location: Shawnee, KS. Total floor area: 76,300 sq. ft. No. of floors: 2. Student capacity: 750 students (K-6). Cost/sq. ft.: \$60.72. Paint: Sherwin Williams, Laminate: WilsonArt, Flooring: Kentile, Hanover Slate, Armstrong, Standard Excelsior, Collins & Aikman. Carpet/carpet tile: Mohawk. Ceiling: Armstrong. Doors: Weyerhauser. Door hardware: Sargent, LCN, Monthard. Glass: Cardinal. Window frames: Efco. Window treatments: Levolor. Railings: Doherty Ornamental Iron. Student desks: Existing, refinished. Student seating: Virco. Teacher desks and seating: Hon. Administrative desks and seating: Hon. Lounge seating: Integra. Cafeteria, dining, auditorium seating and tables: Rol-Fol. Library and conference seating: Tesco. Library and conference tables: Jasper. Other seating: Virco. Files: Hon. Cabinetmaking: Arnold Newbanks. Signage: KC Signs. Elevators: Otis. HVAC: Command Air Heat Pumps. Lighting: Daybright, Bega, Sterner (ballasts). Fire safety: National Fire Suppression. Building management system: Staefa. Plumbing fixtures: American Standard. Client: Shawnee Mission Public Schools. Architect and interior designer: Abend Singleton Associates. Structural engineer: Bob D. Campbell & Co. Mechanical/electrical engineer: Gibbens & Swinney. General contractor: Midwest Titan. Lighting designer: Gibbens & Swinney. Photographer: Farshid Assassi.

"Abend Singleton really captured the essence of our thinking with this design," says Superintendent Chopra about Broken Arrow. A drinking fountain's brickwork (above, left) echoes exterior details, while the media center (above, right) enhances the school's sense of community.

The floor plan (below) demonstrates the flexible scale of Broken Arrow Elementary School, with its emphasis on larger shared spaces giving way to more intimately scaled yet adjustable classrooms.





NOT QUITE YOUR ALL-AMERICAN HIGH

An elite group of Japan's future leaders are being educated in a unique school just north of New York City–Keio High School, designed by Haines Lundberg Waehler with Shimizu America/Morse Diesel

By Roger Yee

rasshaimase! Welcome!

Many Americans might be startled to know that Japanese expatriate milies in the United States live an anxious e. After all, food is some 40% cheaper in e States, rent runs between one-fifth and ne-tenth of that back home, our average ouse is 45% bigger, and a round of golf for foursome here costs a fraction of the \$800 would take in Japan. But whereas an merican family returning from abroad ould probably be welcomed home as the lks next door with an exotic touch of class, any Japanese going back to Nihon feel as they are aliens-"returnees" who must uppress acquired Western tastes and ttitudes in order to fit into their omogeneous society again. For Japanese in merica, the recent opening in Purchase, .Y., of Keio High School of New York, esigned by Haines Lundberg Waehler, rchitect, with Shimizu America/Morse iesel, general contractor, offers an unusual pportunity for families and children to njoy the best of both worlds.

What Keio High School, an offshoot of apan's prestigious Keio University, has one is to import the rigorous, traditional apanese high school curriculum to merica. It's a godsend for lucky expatriate milies. Concerned that American schools annot prepare children for admission to p Japanese universities. Japanese parents butinely send their sons and daughters to aturday schools run by the Japanese overnment and local Japanese businesses or intensive schooling in Japanese as well s standard academic subjects. By contrast, eio High School students who maintain neir academic standing are guaranteed laces in Keio University-minus the rueling entrance examinations endured by igh school graduates in Japan.

The High School began to develop in arnest when the University's architecttaffed facility department in Japan roduced a building program and pnceptual design to house 450 students, reluding 250 boarders, on land acquired om Manhattanville College in Westchester ounty, just north of New York City. Haines undberg Waehler (HLW), a respected,



century-old U.S. architecture firm, was selected along with Shimizu America, the U.S. arm of Japanese construction giant Shimizu Corporation, in joint venture with Morse Diesel, one of America's top construction companies, to form a project team with Keio's administration and facility department. With so much expertise on board, Keio asked for and got results—fast.

"We worked very intensely," admits Robert A. Djerejian, AIA, senior managing partner of HLW. "Keio wanted the job done as soon as possible." From schematic design, design development and construction documents through permits and approvals to construction, Keio sprinted to the finish line with few moments to slow it down. There were surprising revelations on both the American and Japanese sides, nevertheless, about how to create a Japanese high school in America. The rotunda and curving staircase at Keio High School (opposite) in Purchase, N.Y., recalls a similar space at Keio University in Tokyo, one of many ways this high school designed by Haines Lundberg Waehler for children of Japanese expatriates has combined U.S. architecture with Japanese spirit.

DESIGN

Even in the Western-style housing so many young Japanese families seem to prefer, you can find a tatami room like this one at Keio (above). Fitting into Japanese society when they return is a deep concern of expatriates, and the tatami room helps keep Keio's high school students in touch with tradition.





A typical Keio classroom (top) looks surprisingly similar to its American counterpart. Among the major differences are the dimensions, smaller in Japan, and the teaching practice of having teachers change classrooms rather than students. Still, Japanese education stresses the basics-plus heavy work loads.

Everybody gets hands-on experience in this well-equipped science lab at Keio (above). Science and mathematics are not regarded in Japan with quite the awe and fear that they inspire in America; achieving universal knowledge within the group rather than inspiring the lone genius is the Japanese goal.

For one thing, all those impressi statistics the Japanese score in high scho are normally accomplished by applying ve straightforward teaching methods within physical plant that can best be described plain vanilla. Japanese children a exhorted, "gambatte"-"do your best"the belief that anyone can learn if he or si tries hard enough. And so they do-working 243 days a year versus 180 in the United States with plenty of homework and jul (cram school) after school in sparta surroundings so that 90% of high scho students graduate and over 99% of all adul achieve literacy. Little wonder that Ke wanted its American high school to mirro winning Japanese counterparts.

Thus, the complex of five two- and thre story buildings encompassing classroom cafeteria, gymnasium, dormitories an administration in 165,000 sq. ft. on 27 acre is remarkably similar to the classic U. educational campus of the 1950s and 1960 In fact, Keio could easily be perceived as a American campus-except for the tearoo in traditional Japanese architectural styl "We arranged the buildings to create a larg and dramatic central lawn that would serv as the focal point as well as the majo circulation space," explains Djerejian. "Th lawn extends to two courtyards, one for th dormitories and the other for the academ buildings."

Inside the Keio campus buildings, HLW ha used space more generously than would b possible in Japan, spreading light and view throughout the interiors. With the assistant of Shimizu America, HLW was able t transform the goals of Mr. Konno, Keio director of facilities, into concrete plans that give the High School spacious classrooms an ancillary facilities, ample central corridors skylighted ceilings and a rotunda that recal Keio University's rotunda.

"We have a close relationship with Keio i Japan," notes Kenji Kido, vice president of Shimizu America. "So we know what th University wants." A design vocabulary of dry wall walls and ceilings, acoustical ceilin tile, carpet, terrazzo, metal window frame and slim blinds has been used to great effect in the new facility, giving Keio interiors that display an almost Shaker-like grace.

To shepherd Keio through the difficu construction documents, permits an approvals, and construction phases of th project, HLW, Shimizu America, Morse Diese and Keio officials, now joined by D Yasumitsu Nihei, headmaster of the Hig School, found themselves obliged to wor closely together. Fortunately, the project team's members proved highly compatibl with one another. Because the Japanes were not accustomed to the lengthy democratic process of presenting a proposa before a local community planning board they had to rely heavily on the experience of HLW and Morse/Diesel in negotiating wit Harrison Township, which has jurisdictio over Purchase.

In fact, the Keio team showed itself to b



a very quick study. It won over Harrison's affluent residents with such resourcefulness n solving problems that the Township granted it permission to build after only one year's review. "We avoided confrontation," 'eports Djerejian, "absorbing what citizens had to say, accepting our fate and working put compromises."

Keio went the full distance to be a good neighbor. An early concern of the Township was ground coverage by construction. "The aw set a 10% maximum on ground coverage," recalls Kido. "Since we needed 65,000 sq. ft. of construction, we enlarged he original 20-acre site by another seven acres." Other important instances were: formitories planned at four stories that were owered to two at the community's request; an architectural style designed to harmonize with neighboring Manhattanville College, which sold Keio its land; and a gymnasium and a cafeteria that were deliberately designed for community use.

With Shimizu America and Morse Diesel anticipating construction bottlenecks and keeping subcontractors on track. construction proceeded briskly and easily in 1989-1990. In the Japanese tradition, special occasions were commemorated during the course of the work. In addition to celebrating the planning board's approval, the Keio team held ceremonies for ground breaking, topping out and opening day.

The 1990-1991 school year started on schedule in September 1990, when Keio's first 120 students, all tenth graders, arrived from homes in the United States and nine other countries to be instructed by a faculty of 16 teachers, mostly from Japan. To enroll, students' families paid \$12,000 tuition plus \$5,000 each for the 85 boarders. Lessons are being conducted in Japanese, and although the work load appears to be very heavy at least by American standards, both faculty and student body appear to be enjoying the new facility very much.

Dr. Nihei has been questioned about whether the work load is indeed too onerous. "We may be asking a heavier work load of our students than some are accustomed to." he diplomatically suggests. "The school is still in an experimental stage." If you were to Community activities can be accommodated in Keio's gymnasium (above) in its outreach to residents of Westchester County. The school's willingness to respect local feelings has made it a model citizen, so that this handsome, Shaker-like space with its exposed trusses and columns serves numerous functions.





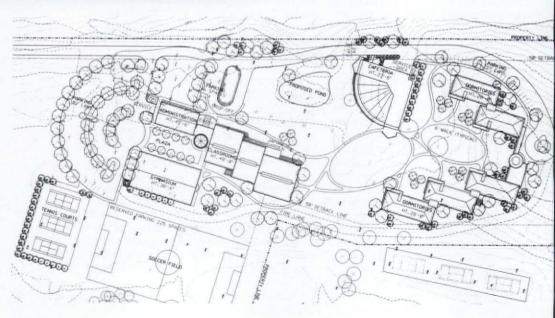
poll the parents of Keio's students, mindful of how critical the "right" hi school and the "right" college are to child's career in Japan, you might he "Gambatte, gambatte!" instead.

Project Summary: Keio High School of New York

Location: Purchase, NY. Total floor area: 165,0 sq. ft. No. of floors: 3, classrooms and a ministration; 2, dormitories; 1, gym a cafeteria. Student capacity: 450. Total cost: \$ million, including land. Paint: Benjam Moore. Laminate: Nevamar. Dry wall: U. Gypsum. Masonry: Glen Gery. Flooring: Terraz: Carpet/carpet tile: Interface, Ceiling: Armstron Doors: Arrow, Armolite, Weyerhaeuser, D hardware: Arrow. Glass: Trane. Window fram Wausau. Window treatments: Tachikaw Furnishings: Not available. Elevators: Dover. HV. Trane. Lighting: Mark, Metalumen, Elliptip Poulsen. Fire safety and security: Simplex. Build management system: Not available. Plumbing fixtur American Standard. Client: Keio Unive sity/Shimizu America Corp. Developer: Mits Fudosan. Architect and interior designer: Hain Lundberg Waehler; David Woods, proje designer; Dominic Carola, project archite Leda Pierce, interior designer. Structu engineer: HLW; Radu Hambasan. Mecha ical/electrical engineer: HLW; John Talamo. Gene contractor: Shimizu America Corp./Morse Dies Inc. Lighting designer: Childs & Scholze. Furnit dealer: Mitsukoshi. Photographer: Peter Paige.

Keio's cafeteria (top) gives students an airy, open place to unwind, interspersing lessons conducted only in Japanese with American meals that remind them where they are; soy sauce bottles sit beside the salt and pepper shakers at each table. The space can be made available to community groups.

Staff dining at Keio (above) overlooks the gracious central lawn that is the main focus of the five-building campus. Keio's architecture, visible through the windows of the dining room, reveals an elegant simplicity that recalls turnof-the-century work by such architects as Wright, Hofmann and Mackintosh.



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Illinois and the Amazing Technicolor Campus

or a preview of how the 21st century's electronic, computerized schools might look, come to the new campus of Illinois Institute of Technology in Wheaton, with interior design by Perkins & Will

By Jennifer Thiele

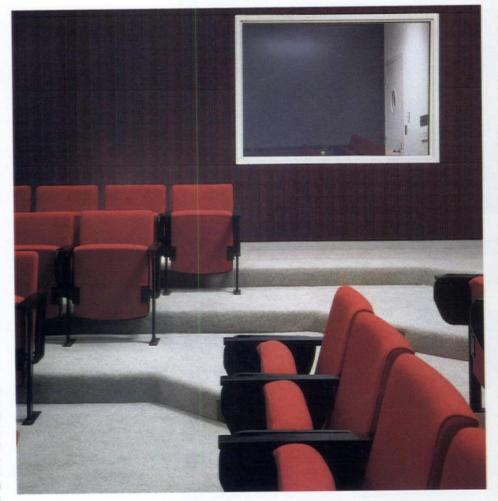
or the college graduate going back to school for continuing education, the return to campus can be an interesting not downright mystifying experience. The dministration of Chicago's Illinois Institute f Technology (IIT) had this thought firmly in ind when it decided to build a satellite ampus to cater to working professionals -people well-accustomed to the business orld-in pursuit of higher education. The hallenge for Perkins & Will, the architecture rm retained by the Institute to handle the terior design and planning for the initial atellite building, was to develop a functional nd effective teaching environment with a orporate ambiance.

Since the IIT Daniel F. and Ada Rice atellite campus is targeted to a different udience from IIT's residential, underraduate-oriented main campus on Chicago's outh Side, a convenient commuting location vas a key factor. The new campus is trategically located on 19 acres of land onated by the Rice Foundation in the thicago suburb of Wheaton. While this epresents an hour's drive from downtown hicago, it is central to a high percentage of ne Windy City's professional population.

The Rice campus building makes a strong ontemporary design statement in the ommunity while maintaining a professional evel of quality, according to Dohn Melenbacher, T's director of physical resources. "Of course he motherhood features of function and aeshetics were paramount," says Melenbacher. But we specifically wanted the design to effect the neighborhood and current styles in rchitecture."

IIT's main campus is steeped in the egendary Bauhaus tradition of its architect, udwig Mies van der Rohe. For the satellite ampus, however, the administration delibrately chose to depart from IIT's International style architecture as well as its traditional ducational environment. "It was a carefully onsidered decision of the university that nstead of continuing the Mies tradition of the lowntown campus, this building would provide a professional environment." says Neil Trankel, senior vice president of Perkins & Vill. "In particular, they did not want a design ocabulary with a collegiate notation to it."

Centered on a two-story atrium lobby



with a grand staircase that greets visitors at the building's main entrance, the interior design of the building immediately suggests a corporate facility. At the same time, the space is also a highly functional school, complete with high-technology laboratories and computing centers, classrooms with video capability (a system known as IITV) and an electronic library. Perkins & Will's lengthy history in both building types is clearly visible here.

Wide circulation corridors punctuated by lounge areas are an integral element of the floor plan. "Your most intense periods of numbers of people are between classes," cautions Melenbacher, "so you must design At the specific request of IIT's administration, Perkins & Will designed the first building of the Rice Campus with a corporate ambiance, as evidenced in the atrium lobby (opposite), with its grand staircase and bold color scheme.

The same color palette used in circulation areas was carried over into the classrooms and auditoriums (above) at the new Rice Campus building. Carpeting was also used in academic areas to enhance the corporate atmosphere.

DESIGN





Though one might envision a typical, workshop-like design for the very technical lab areas (left, top), Perkins & Will managed to infuse an artistic touch through the use of playful accent colors.

Despite its corporate character, the IIT Rice Campus building represents a highly functional academic environment, complete with high technology laboratories, classrooms with video capability and an electronic library (left, bottom). the space for that." Other floor plan detail he singles out for praise include the "neat placement of the library, classrooms and laboratories along two straight corridors of both floors, and the location of the administrative and faculty offices in a central position that is buffered from general academic areas.

Since the building accommodate: evening commuters, Perkins & Will has designed the interior to encouraginteraction between the diverse studen population and the surrounding community A high percentage of space was devoted to non-classroom activity in the form of public gathering areas. "The building acts as a community center," says Frankel.

Although Melenbacher balks at tha label—rightly pointing out that the campus is first and foremost a center for advanced learning—he admits that the new facility serves a vital peripheral function within Wheaton. "The campus provides service to the community," he says. "We want the community to use it." And so Wheaton does through such events as special seminars.

Perkins & Will project designer Dennis St. John was given considerable creative freedom by the IIT administration to develop a new interior aesthetic. St. John in turn recommended the use of simple bui effective interior finishes throughout the new building, selecting bold accent colors, broadloom carpet in classrooms and crisp, professional signage overall in direct contrast to the decidedly institutional milieu of the main campus. His justification: "more playful" colors and surfaces could readily establish a unique corporate identity for the Rice campus.

There is a distinct logic to the rainbow of color, for example. Rounded columns are painted in orange, handrails in racing green and alcoves marked by a deep eggplant color against a neutral backdrop—a composition that could easily win favor with many contemporary businesses. Agrees Melenbacher, "These colors are rather common in corporate environments today."

Every space in the facility has been affected, including the laboratories. "We traditionally identify technology as being in very workshop-like spaces," Frankel indicates. "But since corporate America uses coloration, texture and contrast as part of its environment, we brought color into the labs as well." The busy presence of equipment has understandably dictated the need for an uncomplicated, neutral envelope, but orange has been successfully used to accent the seating while eggplant enlivens the entryways.

Beneath the brightly colored surfaces, massive wire management requirements have called for special raised floors in many areas. One of the most important elements of the wire management system (in fact, of the building as a whole) was the importance of building in easy access and ample capacity for future needs. Since IIT's curriculum will have to respond to the hanging educational requirements of rofessionals, the new building has not been esigned as a single-purpose facility. "It was esigned to have inherent flexibility. It wants be almost a chameleon," says Frankel.

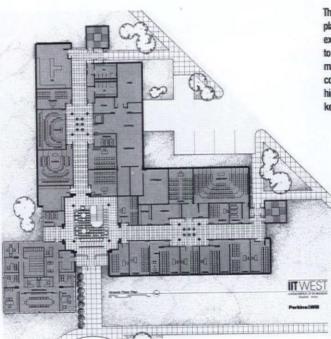
As the Rice campus develops, IIT fully nticipates that the function of this building ill change. "Planning for today and for the ture was important in terms of integration," ays Melenbacher, who points out that plans or expansions on both the north and south des of the building are already underway. In s first semester of use, the building has ready exceeded its intended capacity by 50 tudents.

Color, vitality and creativity might seem o conflict in a technical environment. Was here any concern that, the merging of cience and art into one aesthetic would fail o work for IIT? "Not at all," declares Dohn Ielenbacher. "Color is technological in ature." Or to quote another professional uthority, Mr. Spock, first officer of the tarship Enterprise on television's *Star Trek*, Eminently logical."

roject Summary: Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Campus, linois Institute of Technology

ocation: Wheaton, IL. Total floor area: 52,000 sq. t. No. of floors: 2. Average floor size: 26,000 sq. ft. tudent capacity: 1,000. Cost/sq. ft.: \$125. Vallcoverings: Pollack. Paint: Benjamin Moore, herwin Williams. Laminate: Formica, VilsonArt. Dry wall: U.S. Gypsum. Masonry: Burns & Russell. Flooring: Forbo. Carpet/carpet tile: Prince St. Technologies. Ceiling: Armstrong. oors/window frames: VT Industries, Kawneer. oor hardware: Sargent, Stanley, Von Duprin. lass: Spectrum. Window treatments: Levolor. tailings: David Architectural Metals. Student esks: Office Specialties, Tables Unlimited, mperial Woodworking. Student seating: Krueger, CF. Teacher desks: Allsteel. Teacher seating: Grahl, Krueger. Administrative desks and seating: existing. ounge seating: David Edward, Metropolitan. cafeteria, dining, auditorium seating: JG. Cafeteria, dining, raining tables: Johnson Industries. Seating pholstery: Unika Vaev, Herman Miller, Brickel, pinneybeck, Arc-Com. Library and conference eating: Krueger. Library and conference tables: Touhy. aboratory benches: Kewaunee. Laboratory stools: existing. Files: Office Specialty. Shelving: Borroughs Mfg. Architectural woodworking and abinetmaking: Imperial Woodworking. Planters, ccessories: David Architectural Metals. Signage: Doty. Elevators: Dover. HVAC: Trane. Lighting: ithonia, Elliptipar, Zumtobel, Louis Poulsen, Alkco, Halo. Plumbing: American Standard. Client: Illinois Institute of Technology. Architect: Solomon, Cordwell, Buenz. Interior designer: Perkins & Will; Neil P. Frankel, design principal; Kenneth Susinka, project manager; Dennis St. John, project designer; Anita Ambriz, graphic designer. Structural engineer: Chris Stefanos Associates. Mechanical/electrical engineer: Environmental Systems Design. General contractor: Pepper Construction. Acoustician: Shiner & Associates. Furniture dealer: Desks Inc. Photographer: Gregory Murphey.





The IIT administration is already planning a good deal of physical expansion at the Rice Campus in years to come. In anticipation of change, the massive wiring systems for the computing centers (above) and other high-tech equipment areas had to be kept at their most flexible.



KEEPING WAHOOS FIT FOR LIFE

ne student health programs of a kinder, gentler era no longer work for the University of Virginia, Wiley & Wilson/Metcalf and Malino & Metcalf have responded with the new Elson Student Health Center

By Amy Milshtein

hat's first and foremost on the minds of today's average college students? Classes, current events, the opposite x and beer would probably rank high on e list. Recently, the University of Virginia Charlottesville challenged students to ke a new look at an old subject matter: eir health. To highlight the lesson, the niversity has opened the new Elson udent Health Center, designed by Wiley & ilson/Metcalf and Associates, Joint enture Architects and Engineers with terior design by Malino & Metcalf.

Health has always been an important sue for UVa administrators, faculty and udents alike. However, the old student alth center, with its cramped, dark spaces, aze-like hallways and drab atmosphere comoted more avoidance than wellness. Va students ("Wahoos") often dreaded the ip to the doctor.

"The old building was not originally nceived or constructed as a health care cility," states James Mitchell, assistant iministrator of the Center. "It was small and isafe, with no handicapped access. To top it f, it was difficult to get to. Eventually, the udent body assumed that the health care ey received was as inadequate as the health inter they received it in."

Another catalyst for building a new enter was the University's decision to lmit women in 1971. Practically overnight, he health center faced a need for mecological services and greater patient ivacy. And while enrollment doubled, the rain on the old facility grew more than vo-fold as women generally seek health are more often than men.

Realizing something had to be done, iministrators decided to replace the old ilding with the Elson Student Health Center. he new facility's 21,000 sq. ft., (versus the d center's 8,000 sq. ft.) would house four odules, two for general medicine, one for mecology and one for mental health, as well a laboratories, a four-bed observation area, nd staff offices. New construction also stified a relocation to the "Medical Precinct," ear the school's teaching hospital and other edically related facilities.

Care was taken to blend Elson with its irroundings. Design features such as red

ARCH 1991



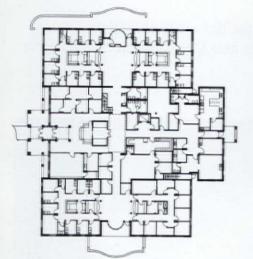
brick, white columns and green metal (simulating weathered copper roofing) complement the campus' Jeffersonian architecture, while terra cotta and stucco echo the theme of the modern surrounding structures.

Inside, the design accommodates treatment and education within the four modular operating units, which are arrayed on the floor plan like the arms of a cross. Each module contains at least eight examining rooms, with the mental health section offering seven offices and one larger space for group therapy. The overall appearance is intentionally domestic and approachable.

"The University wanted a friendly, noninstitutional atmosphere," notes Emily Malino, of Malino & Metcalf. As a result, the designers created private, intimately-scaled settings of wood and laminate to surround patients. Cabinets and casework create an unexpected and pleasant residential ambiance that makes the rooms "userfriendly." Most examination, laboratory and treatment area furnishings are standard, medically approved issue. Yet "We employed 'quasi-residential' style furnishings," Malino points out. "The desks are a little smaller, the chairs are a little more comfortable, and The second-story walls within the Elson Student Health Center soar to an atrium (opposite) that brings natural light to both floors. To eliminate the confusion found in the old UVa health center, administrative offices are grouped on this floor along with a staff lounge.

DESIGN

New paying homage to old, the new Elson Student Health Center (above) respectfully blends in with the University of Virginia's Jeffersonian architecture in Charlottesville. The structure's green metal roof artfully mimics the weathered copper found atop older buildings.





While creating a non-institutional atmosphere for UVa students was foremost, staff areas were not ignored. Case in point, the staff lounge (top, right), equipped with a kitchen and vending area, gives employees a place to "decompress" during the day.

A typical UVa health care provider's office (above) at Elson Student Health Center is placed on the second floor not far from the staff lounge. Its informal, relaxed design by Malino & Metcalf invests the work with dignity and privacy.



the windows afford plenty of natural light."

Colors have been carefully chosen to foster a calm, pleasant atmosphere, with highly saturated colors being shunned in favor of a pastel pallet. Quiet blue soothes in the general medicine and mental health modules, while soft rose pervades in the gynecological module. Art also has its place within the design. Among the many pieces that line the halls are numerous donated student works that make the students feel that the Center belongs to them—and help cut costs. Malino admits that staying within the budget was one of the biggest challenges of the project, so having the student works was an incredible boon.

One place where corners could have been cut but weren't was in the treatment of personnel areas. Working on the theory that happy employees make for happy patients. Malino treated staff spaces in the same friendly, relaxed mode as the others. Administration offices are grouped on the upper level to avoid the chaos prevalent in the old building. A lounge complete with kitchen allows workers to "decompress" during the day. And nurses' stations, which are situated in the building's interior, feature skylights to keep them warm and bright.

The Center's health education programs stress wellness from the moment a student enters the facility: classes in wellness are held in conference rooms in the front of the building, as if to say knowledge is the first step in avoiding disease. Everything from CPR, nutrition and substance abuse to human sexuality is taught after hours in these rooms. "The younger students are just now forming life long health care habits," states Mitchell. "So we want to give them as much education as possible, not only how to deal with the big issues like AIDS, but how to handle the little problems like a cold."

No matter how much education students receive, they still get sick and still need primary health care. The Center has been designed to handle 50,000 visits during the school year as well as an eventual 10 to 15 increase in visits. Mitchell predicts that t facility will fulfill its primary health ca duties for at least the next 10 years.

Judging by patient and staff feedback, t Elson Student Health Center will do comfortably-thanks to two years programming, planning, design and co struction during which client and firm s through many a meeting to hammer o exactly what was needed. "The architect a designer were great," recalls Mitchell, "Th listened to what we said and translated into brick, paint and furnishings." Now t students who come to the center to treat cold, learn about nutrition or just check o the latest exhibit have something common. They all leave with a positiattitude towards health care. UVa, you' passed with flying pastel colors.

Project Summary: University of Virginia Elson Student Health Center

Location: Charlottesville, VA. Total floor are 22,000 sq. ft. No. of floors: 2. Paint: Duro Wallcovering: Borden. Laminate: Nevamar. Floorin Tarkett. Carpet/carpet tile: Milliken. Patient roo seating: Nemschoff. Lounge seating: Kinetic Cafeteria/dining seating: Krueger. Other seatin Mueller. Upholstery: Mueller. Cafeteria/dinin conference tables: Howe. Coffee and side table Kinetics, Mueller. Files and shelving: Steelcas Accessories: Business Accessories. Work station Herman Miller. Desk chairs: Herman Miller. P up chairs: Herman Miller. Elevators: Souther Elevators. Client: University of Virginia. Archite Wiley & Wilson/Metcalf and Associates, Joint Venture Architects and Engineers. Interi designer: Malino & Metcalf, Inc. Lighting design George Sexton. Landscaping: Lester Collin Owner's representatives: Dr. Richard Keeling director, and James Mitchell, administrato Department of Student Health. Photographe Arnold Kramer, interiors; Lautma Photography, exterior.

INTRIGUIN G

SCHUMACHER CONTRACT

GETTING WORK

Design firms caught in the devastated Texas economy of the 1980s were astonished to find they could actually win new clients and territories without being super salesmen—it's called marketing—which their colleagues can follow in an important new study for the IBD Foundation

From the IBD Survival Report edited by Evagene H. Bond

on't put all your eggs in one basket? You're a designer, not a poultry breeder. But suddenly all five of your financial clients, your only firm prospects for 1991 billings, called this week to cancel or postpone work. Want another basket?

When the Texas market for contract design services evaporated in the 1980s, design firms in the Lone Star State swiftly learned the value of that second or third basket. Designers tried such tactics as entering new markets, adding profitable new services, or moving laterally into client sectors similar to those they served. Whatever they did to save themselves, they played roles never taught in design school—one being as strategic planners and marketing managers of businesses that happened to have design services to sell.

With a generous grant from the Joel Polsky/Fixtures Furniture Endowment, The Institute of Business Designers Foundation has produced *The Survival Report*, a detailed examination of how 11 Texas design firms coped with the disastrous decline of the Texas economy in the 1980s—and what today's designers can do to effectively survive and compete—edited by Evagene H. Bond. What follows is the third of a three-part serialization by *Contract Design*, made possible through the cooperation of IBD. It deals with Part II, Work More Efficiently, Chapter 9, On Diversification and Part III, Chapter 13, Marketing, and Chapter 14, Image Building.

Firms that participated in the Report include: Blakeman Design Associates, Austin; The Bommarito Group, Austin; LFI, Austin; Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville, Houston; Schenck Sanford/Southwest, Houston; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Houston; Staffelbach Designs and Associates, Dallas; Vivian/Nichols, Dallas; Weber Design Associates, Dallas; The Whitney Group, Houston; and Ziegler Cooper Inc., Houston.

Whom do you know, what have you done, where are you looking?

Successful diversification seems simple, at least on paper: It depends on a firm's track record, relationships in the industry or region the firm serves, and market conditions. But you must look closer, especially at the market: the size, wealth and desire for services of its potential client base; whether clients prefer a firm oriented toward service or efficiency; the nature of the competition In our profession, the challenge is not in designing 10 new things a day, but in questioning everything we have done before."

-Jo Heinz, Staffelbach Designs

your firm would encounter.

If conditions seem favorable, a design firm has two basic choices for diversification: by client or by geography. What's the most attractive opportunity of the moment? Having many oil clients. Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville diversified into the very similar gas industry. But the firm takes nothing for granted; its director of interior architecture. Marilyn Archer, advises, "Actively monitor your markets and produce your own diversification." Numerous variations on these two themes are possible.

 Add markets, not market share. Identify an industry that has rarely used interior designers and construct a marketing program to capture its work.

• Add profitable services and profit centers.

Marla Bommarito-Crouch, of The Bommari Group, says "Find services others are no offering." She is constantly alert for opportunitie to sell clients such services as post occupand evaluations, maintenance manuals, assistance their own long-range facility planning, facili management, standards guidelines ar productivity studies.

 Build from a steady base. Use specialtisuch as tenant development as a springboard other work, such as high-end or internation projects.

 Diversify laterally. Vivian/Nichols, reasonin that health care facilities require many of the san qualities as hospitality, its specialty, is movin toward hospitals and nursing homes.

 Joint venture. When you need track reco and relationships, join a national or internation team. For instance, Ziegler Cooper is one of the consultants for the new National Airport Termin in Washington, D.C.

 Initiate long-term projects. Devoting time finding clients and funding can result i commissions billing years of fees.

• Specialize—but sell nationally of internationally. The local client base is often n large enough to support a highly specialized firr With most of Vivian/Nichols' work in hospitalit Reggi Nichols declares, "Texas is not the place survive. The doors are shut. We are already national firm. We have to be an international firr and we are looking to Japan and Europe."

•Open a new office. However, don't overloo the management stresses of a merger of acquisition that will be inevitable. An geographical diversification means airplan hopping, which can be exhausting.

•Consider computers. Electronic linkages ma become as common as phone and facsimi connections are today. The Whitney Group's Ga Whitney believes, "The process will affect th whole industry: Vendors, contractors an consultants will all be networked, sharin information."

Marketing is not a four-letter word

A slump brings the need to make har decisions about money. Sales and profits are dow With limited resources, how do you spend it?

"On marketing," said several of the participants in this study. How the money

How it feels to be a hospitality specialist when the local hotel market runs dry:

"Texas is not the place to survive. The doors are shut. We are already a national firm. We have to be an international firm, and we are looking to Japan and Europe."

-Reggi Nichols, Vivian/Nichols

llocated depends on the firm, but in general, firms re spending money and time on software"—finding and qualifying leads, enetrating new markets, selling, remarketing old lients. They are cutting back on or getting more illeage out of "hardware" like brochures.

Good marketing is a matter of methodical lanning, not brilliant salesmanship. The trouble ith planning in boom times is that it doesn't seem elevant when work appears to walk in the door nyway. Washington, D.C. management consultant tuart W. Rose argues that boom thinking is myopic thinking."

A marketing plan that allows a design firm to recast its income, accent its strengths when elling and correct its weaknesses to become more ompetitive should be prepared, tested and vised in good times and bad to remain consistent ith the firm's changing goals. Possible strategies o consider for a marketing plan follow.

 Intensify efforts to find work among present nd recent clients.

· Look for movement in markets.

 Build ongoing relationships by building lists of ecision makers in target markets and contact or pird dog" them. Then follow up contacts regularly, eeping track of key people on the job.

 Join associations where existing clients and otential ones meet.

 Respond to what the market wants and tailor ervices to client needs.

· Qualify leads to make front-end efforts pay.

While large firms have marketing specialists to entify and track leads, small firms follow suit as r as finances permit. But increasingly, principals re realizing they must mobilize everyone on staff s marketers. Principals can only do so much even a recession, and spreading out responsibility for is function reduces a firm's dependence on one r two individuals. Reggi Nichols calls her arketing specialist "a necessary luxury."

Project managers are becoming key figures in arketing and sales for large and small firms. For ne thing, they are in the best position to build elationships and to get early signals about add-on ork. Moreover, sophisticated clients know the nportance of a project manager as hands on diministrator over a firm's principal.

Of course, designers must keep in mind that othing can get them through a recession if they fail cultivate the skills necessary to write a proposal, ake a presentation, negotiate a contract and close a deal. To quote Marilyn Archer, "Interiors is a personal business. People buy people."

Everyone has an image-like it or not

A design firm possesses an image whether it likes it or not, created by the sum of everything it does. Its logo, location, project management, service innovations and high-profile work—everything contributes. So the first way to effectively build an image is to avoid spending time or money projecting a fuzzy or undesirable image. A dose of self analysis, taken by the firm, helps here.

• What is the firm's uniqueness? Ask clients for the answer.

•What message does the firm convey through its market position?

•What can public relations do to foster awareness of a design firm? (Public relations can sometimes win approval for a firm but rarely succeeds at actually securing jobs for it.)

A designer will probably have time if not money during a recession to devote to image-building activities. That being the case, he or she would be wise to consider applying personal tactics, including networking, community service and speech making. Impersonal tactics, including brochures, media publicity and advertising, tend to be more expensive, but they do keep a firm's name before a large number of people at one time.

Personal tactics have the added value of helping you build relationships and acquire information, so they may actually be more costeffective in the long run. If a designer surveys them more broadly, as ways to build image as well as to help create jobs, they may be the tactics of choice. Among the possibilities are: community activities and service on boards, pro bono work, events, feedback, giving and attending parties, and conferences, conventions and meetings.

Karen Toussaint observes that community activities are the traditional way architects get business. "It's easy for interior designers to do this too," she says, "as we tend to be people-motivated to start with. You have to join something you're interested in, get active and find out where you can make a contribution."

Paradoxically, the best impersonal tactics are the most personal. Mailings to special groups, while more expensive, may be more efficient than advertisements or newspaper articles that reach many people not interested in design firms. Of the basic impersonal tactics, brochures are the most expensive—a fact many firms must weigh during a recession. There may be no one "right" way to produce them; while Marilyn Archer feels brochures must show installation photographs, Gary Whitney leaves them out altogether.

Getting good service these days?

Design firms large and small have noticed it: Clients are becoming more sophisticated. In addition, they are moving to control costs by managing the design process more closely, as the increase in the numbers of facility managers shows. Time and budget constraints are likely to rise no matter what the economy's condition.

Where does this leave the design profession? Hopefully, insisting on the highest quality work and service, devising new service strategies as part of the fee and assuming more accountability and responsibility. The day of the loyal client is over. Marla Bommarito-Crouch says, "Selection is on a one-jobat-a-time basis. You must constantly remarket."

There has also been a change in team structure. The facility manager is a key player whose importance can hardly be overestimated. Bommarito-Crouch finds that "For them, design solutions must work. Aesthetics are second. We have to justify the design in terms of its function and cost."

Finally, designers are finding that seeking out information about underlying needs and motivations, not just the facts about the project, will produce better design and more satisfied clients. You can never know too much, they all seem to say. Jo Heinz, of Staffelbach Designs, says, "In our profession, the challenge is not in designing 10 new things a day, but in questioning everything we have done before. Our innovation is to support—and to lead, to awaken awareness—about changes in the corporate environment by challenging ourselves to do it better."

Contract Design is privileged to present this serialization of the full report, which has already been issued to IBD members. Copies of the full report are available to IBD members and nonmembers for \$20.00 each plus \$5.00 shipping and handling by writing to IBD, 341 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654, Attention: Pat Murray; or calling 312/467-1950 or faxing 312/467-0779 with a Visa number.



THE TOUGH LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE A school designed to withstand vandalism, security problems and low maintenance

probably doesn't look like what most designers would expect

By Amy Milshtein

very kid wants to make a mark in school-to break a sports record, graduate at the top of the class, or ke the "most likely to" list in the year ok. All want to do something to ensure t their names will live on. But sometimes king a mark takes on a more literal aning—when students paint their name a wall, punch a hole in the ceiling or rse. Can good design keep these blems in check or even solve them? The answer from architects and interior igners with educational design experience resounding,...maybe, "There are two kinds vandalism," states Tim Scarbrough, of dill Rowlet Scott Sirrine's Greenville, S.C., ice. Scarbrough just completed the gramming for Florida's Dade County ool system, which includes the inner-city ool system, which includes the nuclearly hools of Miami. "They are either bortunistic or determined," he believes. ere is no stopping a determined vandal so employ forgiving materials, heavy ceiling and easy-to-clean masonry. For the ortunistic variety, which is more common, try to cut down on the places where they

vandalize. So we suggest there be no d corners and keep everything well lit." Specifying rugged materials goes without ing, but designers who create a prison-like nosphere may be embarrassed by the ult; it's neither conducive to learning nor ective at solving the problem. "If you piect an image of obvious protection, dents will see it as a challenge, a challenge will eventually lose." states Ezra enkrantz of Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut & itelaw in New York, an architecture firm nmissioned to design a prototype New York plic school for 1,200 pre-kindergarten to grade students. "Instead," he continues, you allow the students to take possession he building and give them a vested interest t, the school is no longer faceless public

Ehrenkrantz's prototype makes every part perty--it becomes theirs." the school student territory. Hallways ome art galleries and classrooms have rior windows so students can look out and their work. "You've got to get the students ake pride and possession of their school le they are young, before the problems



start. Then there is a chance that they never Scarbrough has taken a similar approach. will." states Ehrenkrantz.

CRSS's projects for Dade County schools employ a "student wall" that kids can decorate and call their own. The architects have also tried to get students involved in the planning to give them a sense of ownership. Unfortunately, these work sessions tend to attract the better students. not the individuals usually responsible for vandalism. But Scarbrough has gotten a few

"It was amazing," he recalls. "They would of these kids to speak.

tell us what they did and how they did it. For example, there was a problem with kids getting into a school after hours and tearing it up. They told us how easy it was to get on the up. mey told us now casy it was to get on the roof and get inside." Fencing set up around

Design can also promote security by the roof stopped the problem.

eliminating the opportunities that precipitate problems, as Dr. Ronald Stevens of the National School Safety Center suggests. "New schools should be built with fewer entrances

PS-20 in The Bronx OefD, is one of four prototype schools Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut & Whitelaw designed for the New York City Board of Education. It is scheduled to begin construction this spring. Don't let that warm exterior fool you. The school is surprisingly resilient to vandalism, security and maintenance. Drawing: Mona Brown.

> so access can be easily monitored." he says. "The three hotspots for crime, bathrooms, playgrounds and hallways, should be designed so they can be naturally supervised."

VADIONHO3

Some of Stevens' proposals may seem rather unorthodox. For example, he proposes engineering the bathroom entry without

doors; that way privacy can be maintained without offering the psychological safe haven of being "behind closed doors." Softscaping and landscaping should not provide a place to hide or give access to upper floors. And hallways should be straight with minimal corners and turns, "Not only does it make them safer," Stevens advises, "it makes them

Easy maintenance is another important easier to maintain."

issue schools have to face as shrinking budgets may force the cutting of janitorial personnel. Architects can anticipate this unwanted development by specifying robust materials such as vinyl composite tile (VCT) or heavy-duty carpet for floors. Scarbrough suggests non-permeable tile for bathrooms so that whole areas can be quickly hosed out. Masonry, brick and block tile are favored by Ehrenkrantz for providing rugged, easy-to-

By using a combination of strong clean surfaces.

materials, sensible planning and sensitive design, America's architects and interior designers can produce schools that are clean, safe, learning environments. Hopefully, America's students can in turn leave school as respectful, responsible, educated adults. Obviously many additional issues factor into the equation, but design can and should be able to make a mark of its own on the

schoolhouse. 20

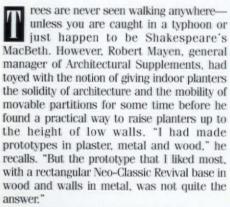
CONTRACT DESIGN 67

Throwing A Classic Curve At Sheet Metal

How on earth did Architectural Supplements' Planter Wall train sheet metal to extrude, cut and join precise

By Roger Yee





Mayen recently found the solution in an all-metal construction that depends on the ability to extrude the Neo-Classic base in sheet metal and then to cut and weld the extrusion into a miter joint at each corner. Pulling this off consistently is not a piece of cake. As Mayen points out, "The extrusion must hold its shape as it takes a precise, razor-sharp cut. Then the pieces must fit together exactly."

A number of key steps were finally taken by toolmakers and other skilled crafts people at Architectural Supplements to integrate everything into a smooth process. An extruder was set up to shape the proper architectural profile in aluminum sheet for the base. A custom jig was assembled to hold the extrusion firmly in place for cutting miter joints. And a carbide saw was modified to cut the extrusion accurately.

When the parts for a base emerge from this process, they are in turn placed into another jig and welded on the inside to form a rectangular frame. Then this sub-assembly is welded or bolted to a sleeve-like wall or box component, also made of aluminum sheet. Finally, the completed unit is spray painted with a baked-on finish. To display plants in the unit, a separate, interchangeable planting pot is inserted at the top.

The product, called Planter Wall, is being shown as part of Architectural Supplements' Neo-Classic Collection. Mayen has been able to offer pedestals, accessories and planters that match it by pairing smaller but similar bases with different superimposing structures. Designers who are specifying Planter Wall for commercial and institutional environments cite its ability to define open space, direct traffic flow and reconfigure quickly while lending an air of dignity and permanence as their design criteria.

If Mayen is to be believed, there are many more problems he would like to solve with Planter Wall-like designs. "There's so much more I'd like to do with this technique," he says. "Just think of boxes, walls and ovals." Anyone like Robert Mayen who can make plants move should be taken seriously. S



The completed Planter Wall of sh metal construction (top, left) is typically deployed to define open space or direct traffic for as longas little-as required.

An Architectural Supplements me worker (top, right) is shown bend the sheet metal for the wall component of Planter Wall.

Almost all the key joints in Plante Wall's sheet metal construction a joined by welding (above) or bolt metal to metal.

FCHNOLOGY

PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE

elcase

e Filing and Storage Guide, a Steelcase pubtion, provides a thorough overview of the hensions and capacities of Steelcase files. A hg and storage tool to help determine furnie needs, the guide is organized into three ctions, including a glossary of the various ms used within the guide. Circle No. 231

rble Institute of America

nension Stones of the World, available from Marble Institute of America, contains over 0 full color plates of eight types of dimenn stone, including granite, limestone, mar-, onyx, quartz-based stone, slate, stone and vertine, plus absorption, density, comprese and flexural strength and hardness test ta as defined by US ASTM standards. He No. 232

rafina Inc.

rafina Inc., a major source for fine marble d stone, provides the Petrafina corporate ochure highlighting the company's capabili-

ARCH 1991

ties, services, Architects & Designers Division and unique ${\rm PetraSystem}.$ Circle No. 234

Capri Lighting

Capri Lighting's new European Collection catalog is a veritable gold mine of Euro-styled, recessed lighting trim ideas. The European Collection comprises crystal, sharply faceted and stepped pyramidian frame trims that lend themselves to unlimited interior design imagination. Circle No. 236

George Kovacs Lighting

George Kovacs Lighting, has released its catalog for 1991. The catalog includes inspired illuminations for table, floor or wall use. Circle No. 235

Buchtal Corporation

A new brochure highlighting Chroma Glazed Ceramic Tiles is available from Buchtal Corporation. The brochure boasts an energetic design with colorful pages and unique folding, and emphasizes Chroma's large selection of sizes (10) and colors (71) through product and installation photography. Technical information includes setting and maintenance recommendations, technical properties and actual sizes and trim. **Circle No. 233**

Dorsett Carpet Mills

The lasting beauty and performance of Dorsett commercial carpets are documented in "Locations." Eleven diverse installation sites from across the United States—from health care to hospitality—are included in the brochure to illustrate the carpets' broad range of practical applications. Circle No. 238

Bobrick Washroom Equipment

Bobrick's 1991 Toilet Compartment catalog features the company's Designer, TrimLine, and DuraLine Series compartments, screens and dividers. Special emphasis on Bobrick's new fire-resistant 1180 Duraline Series solid phenolic compartments is documented with ASTM E-84 test results and new guide specifications. Circle No. 239

CONTRACT DESIGN 69



Silent Gliss Above All

Circle 19 on reader service card

BOOKSHFI F

Architects at War in Japan's Urban Desert

The New Japanese Architecture, by Botond Bognar, 1990. New York: Rizzoli International, 224 pp., \$50,00,

Downtown in Japan often strikes the Westerner as an urban disaster. Not only are the signs in kanii and other Japanese characters, but the typical intersection looks helter-skelter owing to the almost random, non-grid street patterns on which front buildings of all types. You can test your tolerance for ecclecticism by walking through a Tokyo neighborhood, where you will encounter low-rise, traditional structures. Meiji-era copies of Western architecture, early postwar commercial structures of careless design and shoddy construction, as well as mainstream modern high-rises and the occasional, breathtaking tour de force from Japan's avant-garde architects-all cheek by jowl within a few, dense blocks.

In The New Japanese Architecture, Botond Bognar, professor of architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, takes a critical look at where the avant-garde is some 30 years after it first appeared. Readers should be forewarned that this is a very selective review of designers on the cutting edge. accompanied by handsome photography and a demanding, highly theoretical text. More orthodox Modernism, as practiced by a respected independent firm like Nikken Sekkei, design-build giants such

as Kajima, Takenaka or Shimizu, or venerable pioneers like Kenzo Tange, are not represented here.

Today, the avant-garde impulse to fight the city-responding to the amorphous urban landscape since the 1970s with architecture that symbolizes violence, confrontation or retreat-has clearly run its course. Bognar notes, "The defensive attitude and retreat from the urban realm have been replaced by a willingness to confront the megalopolis on its own terms." He JAPANESE ARC adds that, "The latently preserved flexibility, vital energy, dynamics and resilience of the Japanese city are being rediscovered in a new renaissance of urbanism in Japan."

And what a rebirth this is. In page after page, architects both well known in the West and new faces, such as Arata Isozaki, Kisho Kurokawa, and Shin Takamatsu among many, take designers on a wildly unpredictable tour of the new Japanese architecture. When government reformers of the Meiji era urged the Japanese to combine Western knowledge with Japanese spirit, Japanese society would never be the same. As The New Japanese Architecture shows, neither the East nor West has seen design quite like this before. 3>



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BY BOTOND BOGNAR

With essays by Hajime Yalsuda, and Lynne Bread, INTRODUCTION BY JOHN MORRIS DIXO

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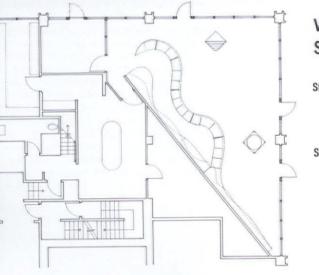
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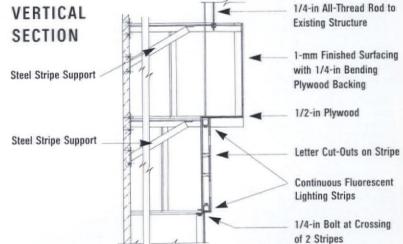
he facade of the office tower housing the Baltimore Area Visitors Center in downtown altimore is sheathed in glass ground level, offering the enter maximum visibility from e street. Taking advantage of the Center's prime location, RTKL created the prominent American flag interior detail (46 ft. long x 12 ft. high) for the Center with a double purpose in mind: to dominate the interior design with a reminder of the city's heritage as the birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner, and to serve as exterior signage to stop passersby and lure them inside.

Each stripe of the threedimensional flag is a separate piece of woodwork with its own curve, painted the appropriate color. One stripe has cutout lettering with a white background for the Center's name; the stars on the flat blue field received the same treatment. The entire flag is mounted on a plywood frame that is supported by steel rods hanging from the slab above and by steel brackets anchored to the back wall. Fluorescent lighting mounted behind the stripes is used to illuminate the lettering. The bottom stripe protrudes dramatically to become a laminated reception counter that follows the curving stripes above. From the outside, the stripe that forms the reception counter is not easily distinguishable from the rest of the flag. A closer look, however, reveals the clever merging of form and function. \Im

Photograph by Scott McDonald, Hedrich-Blessing







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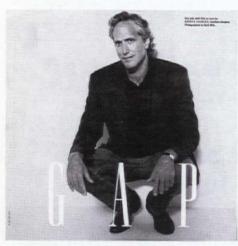
Dakota falls into The Gap

Dakota Jackson

No one ever called Dakota Jackson a back-to-basics kind of guy—until now. The furniture designer recently starred in a clothing ad for The Gap, complete with a black-and-white photo by Herb Ritz. Very back-to-basics.

How are other designers reacting to Jackson's 15 minutes of commercial fame? "They all want to know how to get in one," he reports. It's a mystery to Jackson: "I don't know how they decided on me."

Catching the attention of mainstream America comes on



Jackson

the heels of Jackson's most successful year ever: Ke-zu, his first contract collection, has "gone platinum," and he's filled orders for AmeriTech, Columbia Pictures and Ringling Brothers Circus' headquarters.

In an effort to recreate the old Knoll Studio atmosphere, Jackson has hired three assistant designers. "I want to create a think tank," he says. Since Ke-zu, Jackson has added the 'Cub•a collection, is considering a textile line, and plans to introduce "Vik-ter," a chair in the \$250 price range, in June—a dramatic contrast to Jackson's \$900 average price.

The Gap apparently appreciated Jackson's

design sense, since he got to pick out his own outfit for the shoot. "It was almost scary: I picked something and they were all yelling, 'Fabulous! You look fabulous!" Say cheese, Dakota.

Balancing Act

Denise Scott Brown

From roads and bridges or galleries and gift shops to knives and forks to contract fabrics: Denise Scott Brown, ARIBA, somehow manages to keep everything in perspective. The principal at Venturi Scott Brown Associates in Philadelphia will finally see her firm's winning design for the Sainsbury Wing of England's National Gallery when

> it opens this year in London's Trafalgar Square. The wing houses some of the world's finest Early Renaissance art, and took five years to complete.

> Along with tourists who regularly amass there, Trafalgar must now accommodate more museum goers, who may total 4 million in 1991. Scott Brown says she kept those tourists in mind when designing. "Building in Trafalgar required a lot of analysis," she admits. "The square is defined

more by the activity it surrounds than by building walls."

But museums aren't the half of it. Scott Brown, in collaboration with husband Robert Venturi, has been putting perhaps an equal amount of energy into the decorative arts: fabrics—including a new collection for DesignTex—furnishings, chairs for Knoll and even some silverware.

Perhaps Scott Brown's next museum project could be a package deal—the building and all the exhibits too!

No black sheep here

Iwan Tirtaamidjaja

What does a graduate of the London School of Economics, the University of Indonesia Law School and Yale University, who taught International Law in Indonesia and worked at the United Nations in New York, do for an encore? Become a fabric designer specializing in batiks? For Iwan Tirtaamidjaja, (Tirta for short), the jump was only natural. "I was researching the classical court dances of central Java, and I was drawn to costume patterns and motifs," he says. In 1965 he published a book. Batik, and hasn't looked back since.

Now Indonesia's foremost batik designer, Tirta helped Scalamandré put together its



Tirtaamidjaja

recent Spice Island Collection. "Batik had a reputation for being tacky and ethnic, something only hippies would like," observes Tirta. "I believe that its appeal is more sophisticated, more universal." Obviously others agree, as his fabrics are showing up on furnishings worldwide.

Turning to design must have been difficult for the son of an Indonesian Supreme Court Justice. "I was definitely the black sheep for a while," admits Tirta. Putting the past aside, he points out that his workshops employ hundreds of craftspeople. Who says black sheep can't have their day in court?

Scott Brown



Hartn

Designers—better volunteers than Boy Scouts?

John Hartman

Who would have thought the designers would make great would make great would exist a second s

ferent. "Eve never so this level of dedicat in a volunteer organi tion," he says.

Hiring Hartman experienced fundrais instead of a designer was a telling choice DIFFA's board of dirtors. "When I started couldn't have told y who Jay Spectre, Ja Lenor Larsen or Ma Buatta were," he laug "Now I not only kn that they're incredi

contributors to our cause, bu know what they do in the des world as well." Twelve act DIFFA chapters keep his har full.

Hartman's first move executive director was to we on internal organization a make long-term goals. Tod the fundraising goes on desp economic obstacles. "It's de nitely more difficult to ra money during a recession, I we've got to do it," Hartm says. In his spare time, he reles by gardening, cookin and—remember, this isn't Boy Scouts—restoring furnitin his New Jersey home.

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