AN URBAN FIRE STATION
THESES '83-'84

AN ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL,
PARIS PRIZE COMPETITION '84

TY R. COLE
DEDICATED TO MY MOTHER AND FATHER
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Introduction
Historically, fire stations were in the center of each city. They had their own identity or being a fire station. Equipment was simple and the firefighters all had one goal, to put out fires. The fire station was a lodge, a fraternity if you will, made up of men who volunteered for the job. As time progressed though, especially after the Civil War, fire stations moved from the city to public facilities. Each individual government per city had a facility which had to represent their own political interests. Also, people began migrating from the city to the newly established suburbs. The fire station moved with the population also, out to the suburbs. The fire station became one level, representing suburban houses for the most part. The government system made the fire station uniform and structured, losing much of their identity of the past.

Today, at the turn of the 1800's, there is a strong swing back to the cities - urbanization. With this type of movement, the cities are getting their population count higher than it has been for a decade. With these mass quantities of people migrating back to the urban center, the old fire houses of yesteryear are not sufficient enough to handle. The modern day problems of fire fighting, or the mere fact that our fire houses for the most part have been torn down or reused for something else entirely different.

The purpose of this thesis project is to develop the urban fire station of yesteryear in today's technological context. It should bring back that certain identity that fire stations had by using up to date technology. It should also be a place where an atmosphere can develop between people of the station as well as the public surrounding it.

Not only is there a need for the urban fire station, but also a need for a fire prevention center as well. It should be a place where people can be educated how to prevent hazards and fires. This can be accomplished through media, exhibits, and demonstrations. So, not only does a city have a building which puts out fires but, also a building which helps to prevent fires as well.
GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. **To design a fire station in an urban context**
   - This main thesis proposal is intended for all urban issues and not just issues surrounding the immediate site in Muncie, Ind.

2. **To develop an identity unique as a fire station**
   - To achieve this goal, technology must be examined very closely. Those conclusions will hopefully be an input to that new identity.

3. **The fire station must help to prevent fires as well**
   - By creating the fire position center, exhibits & multi-media can be used to educate the people on preventing fires.

4. **To develop a relationship between private and public zones**
   - These zones need to be integrated so that the public zones do not interfere with areas of the fire station that need to be private. Usage of the small park could be critical to the design.

5. **To make the fire station pleasant enough that the men look forward working**
   - By creating activities such as an exercise room, rooftop garden, and a functional design, this goal can be achieved as long as the fire fighters develop a sense of loyalty among themselves.

6. **To let as many activities in the fire station as possible to be observed**
   - The public is always fascinated by fire trucks, so the building should develop a system which allows the public to view operations without getting in the way.

7. **To create fire fighters private area away from public**
   - To give a place for the men to relax among themselves, creating that fraternity atmosphere.

8. **To make the building energy conscious**
   - In today's energy shortage crisis it is a necessity to think about energy conscious design.
Historical Background

Pre-Civil War (Historical)

- Historically inspired; ornament, verticality

Post-Civil War (Present Day)

- Horizontal lines & band of ribbon windows

Administration

Private - Fraternity or Lodge
- Clubhouses
- Voluntary
- Like garages in appearance

Public - Reflected political design
- Uniform
- Structured
- Had to be more important looking to represent city government.
- "Blended" in w/suburbs

Location - Downtown

- Equipment - Hand power > Horse power > Steam
- 2 levels - Hand poles

Location - Rural

- Equipment - Gasoline power
- One level - Spread out plan

Image of firefighter - Hero's
The Site
The Walnut Plaza lays between two different zones. If Walnut Plaza and surrounding area were to grow back into an urban center, it seems to be a good place for a fire station to help ease the load on the other two stations.

- **Charles St. & Walnut Plaza**
  - **Assets**
    - Urban context
    - Within the mall
    - Children's Museum next door
    - No heavy traffic
    - Could accept small park
  - **Liabilities**
    - West access difficult
    - Takes away some parking

- **Howard St. & Walnut St.**
  - **Assets**
    - Traffic access
    - Open land
    - South urban
    - No constraints
  - **Liabilities**
    - No urban density
    - Open land
    - Like busy in rural
    - No constraints
    - Lose valuable parking
Site/Context Analysis

- Landuse, Boundaries
  - Bank
  - Childrens Museum
  - Parking for Ball Stores
  - Alley
  - Charles St.
  - Pedestrian Mall
- Topography
  - Flat
- Traffic Analysis
  - Vehicles
  - Pedestrian

- Climate Factors
  - Latitude: 33°
  - Winter Design Temp: 2°
  - Avg. Winter Temp: 30.6°
  - Avg. Summer Temp: 73°

- Vegetation
  - Evergreens
  - Ground Cover
  - Deciduous
  - Shrubs
A. Administration Offices

- Chief of Department
- Deputy Chief
- Fire Investigation Department
- Fire Prevention Division

MIN. PER.

120 sq.
100 sq.
100 sq.
120 sq.

B. Fire Station (and Fire Department)

1. Apparatus Room
   - 20' min. width per truck, 30' depth, 13' min. height
   - Doors (14' x 14' recommended)
     - Pumper
     - Ladder Rear Mount
   - 592 sq.
   - 752 sq.

- Fire Clothing Room
- Maintenance
  - Sleep Bunks
  - Battery Chargers
  - Water Tank Fill Connectors
- Maintenance Pit Under Trucks
- Hose Storage Racks & Tower

Considerations:
1. Floor Conc.: 125 lb/sq ft, sufficient drainage
2. Carbon Monoxide provisions

2. Functional Spaces

- Watchroom
  - Overlooks: Apparatus Floor, Entrances, Streetscape
  - Center of alarm facilities, House lights
  - One person there at all times (sleeping quarters)

- Dormitory (Men & Women)
  - Lockers/Washroom/Tufts/Shower/Linen

- Dayroom/Lounge
- Kitchen/Dining
- Fitness Room & Exercise
- Storage
  - Ex) Records
- Utilities
  - Boiler Room
  - Generator (Emergency Power)
  - Electrical & Water Meters

MIN. PER.

360 sq.
50 sq.
100 sq.
B. PUBLIC SPACES

- Lobby
  - Receptionist/Secretary
  - Seating for Visitors

C. FIRE PREVENTION CENTER (TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE)

- Exhibit Space
- Classroom Facility
  - Television & Videotapes
- Conference/Public Area
  - Shared by Administration Offices

D. OFFICE SPACES (RENTAL)

- 2nd, 3rd, 4th Levels above Fire Station
  - Rental to help pay for Bldg.
- Entry/Lobby Core
  - Private Entry for Employees
  - Public Entry/Lobby for Visitors

E. PARKING

- Along Bldg. (Private Spaces)
- 8 Spaces
- 1/2 block away for all others
PROGRAM DIVISION MATRIX

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES
APPARATUS ROOM
WATCHROOM
FIREFIGHTERS AREA
LOBBY (PUBLIC)
FIRE PREVENTION CENTER
OFFICE SPACES
PARKING

KEY
0 NO RELATIONSHIP
1 RELATIONSHIP
* DIRECT RELATIONSHIP
Conceptual Alt.
This concept arranges the buildings in such a way that a courtyard is developed next to the children's museum and the hose tower becomes a centralizing element.

The west side of the fire prevention center and the urban wall are meant to carry the urban fabric along the Walnut Plaza. The tower in the center of the two buildings can serve many purposes. It acts as the central transition space for circulation paths through the site. The tower is the central structure within the spaces. It acts as a communication, hose drying, and identity for the whole complex.

The courtyard space will act as a continuation of open space from across the plaza. It will be used for recreation for firemen as well as for the public. It should be a place to relax from a break from work.
In this scheme the tower becomes the main focal point of the site, giving the fire station an identity that can be seen all throughout Muncie. It could possibly serve also as a hose drying facility, a communication tower, a fire fighter's practice tower, and observations.

The fire prevention center is located next to the children's museum which can help to extend the urban context along the plaza as well as the educational resources next to each other. The main lobby space and fire administration would be located in between the prevention center and the fire station itself.

The fire station would be in the far east building. It would house the trucks and the housing for the fire fighters. Also included within the structure would be rentable office spaces. The courtyard space outside is to act as circulation paths as well as extending the small park.
The circulation paths in this concept become more linear, and the building context along Walnut Plaza are much stronger with the placement of the Prevention Center. Two open spaces (courtyards) are also proposed rather than just the one as in the previous two schemes. One space being mostly for the firefighters, the other more directed to the public.

The urban wall between the Prevention Center and the Children's Museum help to continue the urban fabric to the plaza as well as creating the inner public courtyard. The public courtyard is more directly related to the fire station complex rather than trying to extend the small park from across Walnut Plaza to the site.

The hose tower in this scheme would be strictly functional. It would be used for hoses, and communication mostly.
Choosing a Concept

In trying to begin to pick a concept, one must first consider the landuse and how best it can be approached. If one considers the two extremes — it becomes very obvious the direction one should go. The one extreme land use would be to leave it completely open, such things as a park, conservatory, or any open space concept that could be thought of for this area. The other extreme land use would be to completely fill in the site with buildings to complete the urban fabric; just like the Woolworth building did before it was torn down on this very site.

Though both extreme land uses have their potentials, it seems that a better option for the site would be to fuse the two together into one. That is, half the site closest to the park could be left open for public use and half the site closest to the buildings could be used for fill-in. Concept 2 seems to best fit this type of land use. It best relates to the surrounding area letting people pass through and still allowing the building to exist. The tower also in this concept best relates to the site as identity and position at the same time.
If one draws out a grid onto the site, one can find this grid pattern representing many ideas. The idea of the grid city plan is what first comes to mind. This could be considered at the macro scale of how the urban city is laid out. Then, if one thinks of the micro scale, it seems to fit all the requirements of a building to become part of the block within the urban context. And like any other urban city, Muncie is no different with its grid city plan and its grid plan blocks which make up the whole downtown area.

What does make Muncie unique to most other cities is the uniqueness of the White River's orientation and route through the city. It acts as a connecting point between the city and the north-west residential communities. The river makes many bends and curves throughout its travel through Muncie. The grid plan comes right up to the river, and continues on the other side of its banks. One can see this sort of uniqueness also with this particular site. The site is on the corner which gives it the opportunity of opening out to two different sides with two different/same kind of facades facing it. It seems that a good way in connecting these facades is diagonally, letting the corner open up more for the public as well as to create the third facade. And like the White River being that third element in the city grid, this third facade can be articulated in the same manner. In fact, all diagonal walls could be handled in the same manner also.
BUBBLE DIAGRAMS

- Relationships of the various rooms in program and matrix pot in two-dimensional form.

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

Exhibit
Fire Prevention Center
Classroom
Conf. Control Watch Room
Reception Lobby
Utilities
Hose Tower

1ST LEVEL

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

Kitchen Dining
Study Dining
Lockers
Recreation Times
Dormitory
Showers

2ND LEVEL

10/11/83
Scheme 1
SCHEME 1: DESIGN IDEAS

FLOOR PLANS

- FIRST LEVEL: There are three main entrances from the front facades and one main entrance from the back of the building. The fire prevention center entrance is located directly on the urban plaza (Walnut), keeping in character with the building's and their entrances along the plaza. The fire prevention center is located in the North-West corner of the building on the first level and all of the upper 1.5 level. The spaces are for permanent exhibits, traveling exhibits, and presentations. Exhibits will range from firefighting history & the history of the town's fire stations to teaching exhibits on how to prevent careless fires and different kinds of demonstrations.

- The main entrance into the fire station's administrative offices and control room occurs on a diagonal from the corner of Walnut and Charles Street, emphasizing the main entrance, a lobby space with the receptionist located in the front half of the building. The control board is centrally located with views out to the lobby, the front exterior, the apparatus room, and the administrative rooms. The apparatus room can house four regular pumping engines, or one hook and ladder aerial and two regular pumpers.

- The Charles Street entrance is mainly for the upper third and fourth level rentable office spaces. The entry has a two-story lobby core with elevator and stairs.

- The last entrance into the complex is on the North-East side of the apparatus room. Its main function is for the fire fighters entering to go to the apparatus room, administration offices, or more importantly the fire fighters' residence on the second level. Other functions include office workers entering and leaving the building and the exiting during its use as a fire exit.

- SECOND LEVEL: The second level is the fire fighters quarters. They include sleeping areas for men, women, and the fire chiefs own separate quarters. Separate bathing and rest rooms are provided for each. A T.V. room (day lounge), fitness room, and a study room are provided for the firemen's
Recreation. A dining/kitchen area is provided for the men with intent that regular meals are served to the men who are on duty. Three fire poles are located at three critical areas of the rooms on the second level as well as three critical locations in the apparatus room for quick departures.

The curvilinear diagonal hallway is to accept the curvilinear happenings of the total concept of the building. The hallway connects the front entrance to the exit of the fire stairs with access off to any room within the space.

- Third & Fourth Level: rentable office space occupies these two levels. The only permanent structured space are the two fire stair cores and the hallway which also picks up on the curvilinear. All the open space are for moveable walls and partitions so that the offices will be able to alter the spaces to fit the users requirements.

**SITE**

The site has several different concepts. One main idea is to blend the park idea across the plaza into the area of the firehouse with trees and vegetation. Another concept is to divide the site between public zone and semi-private/semi-public zone. The use of the wall to the tower helps to segregate the two zones. The paths that cross each other come about with the idea of the one entering on the diagonal to emphasize they entry with the other being perpendicular to it cutting across and connecting the two different zones. The paths also create a funnel by widening or narrowing as one walks on the path.

**ELEVATIONS**

The elevations are in sketch form to basically show form and the direction in which I want the facades to take. They in know way describe an urban context relating to other buildings in the area, therefore, more facade studies will be needed in the future.
MODEL

The model was done in a neutral color (white) so that materials and colors did not become the main concern to others. The main purpose of the model is to show the building's form, height relationship, and urban character to the surrounding area.
COMMUNICATIONS

Instruments which are contained in a small metal box that can sense rapid temperature degree differences which will then send microwave signals to the tower. The tower will locate the signal and relay it to the dispatcher in the control room. These small metal boxes act in the same manner as a smoke alarm does today plus the addition of heat sensors and microwave communications for the tower. The metal box should be portable enough that the fire station is able to distribute them to every existing building and when a building is torn down or a new one built, they can get it back and redistribute them. The tower must be tall enough so that it can service the whole town/city. If a maximum is set to the amount of buildings a tower can service, more than one tower could be built in different locations and still be operating to the same control room.
THE TOWER CAN ALSO BE USED AS A SPACE TO GO TO. PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO WALK AROUND IT, THROUGH IT, AND EXPERIENCE IT BY SITTING AROUND IT. THE TOWER SHOULD BE PLACED SO THAT SHADING WILL OCCUR AT DIFFERENT SEATING LOCATIONS AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE DAY SO IF ONE IS HOT, SHADING IS NATURALLY PROVIDED. THE TOWER DOES NOT NEED TO BE A SPACE TO GO UP FOR OBSERVATIONS. THAT PURPOSE NEEDS A STRUCTURE MUCH HIGHER THAN IS REQUIRED HERE.

IDENTITY

THE TOWER SHOULD BE HIGHER THAN THE HIGHEST BUILDING IN TOWN TO BE ABLE TO PICK UP THE SIGNALS FROM EACH BUILDING. FOR THIS REASON THE TOWER WILL ALSO SERVE AS AN IDENTITY MARKER FOR THE FIRE STATION. ONE WILL BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE LOCATION OF THE STATION JUST AS ONE FINDS COURTHOUSES AND CHURCHES IN ANY COMMUNITY.
The Tower can also be used as a Firefighters training facility. This would be a very unique and interesting concept. Unique in the fact that the drill would be in the urban context that would be watched by anyone and everyone at a safe distance. This would help to create excitement and activity in the downtown area.

The way in which the tower would operate is on the principle of a periscope. When not in use, the tower is down to a level which is sufficient for the communications. The day of the drill, the tower can be raised upward for building heights and balconies folding outward. When the drill is over, the tower is lowered back.
The control room will be equipped with computer screens which monitor the signals that are relayed from the tower. It should be equipped with the ability to be programmed to lay out the town/city grid that the particular tower is monitoring. The screen would locate the signal over the particular building which is sending the signal, letting the control room dispatcher know where to send the trucks.

The dispatcher should have everything at his fingertips on the control board. Capabilities of programming the computer with new information is a main function of the board. The dispatcher must also have control of all signal lights at the street crossings which are in the immediate area. He will have the power to make the lights all turn red, allowing rapid descent of the fire trucks. Standard operations such as alarms, house lights, and radio dispatch are also included within the control board.
Fire Truck

Size

The fire truck should be small and short so it can be fast and agile, to be able to be maneuverable through the streets. Today trucks are just too bulky and lack the technology which is available to the design.

Fire Hoses

Instead of the conventional way of fighting fires, using men's lines, technology today could develop heat sensor hoses which are controlled by men at ground level with the aid of the computer. Once the initial fire is under control, firemen can search and put out smaller fires within the building.

Computer

The computer will play a big role in the functioning of the truck. Firemen will be able to call into drawings and fire exits on any particular building. The computer will also send the hoses from heat sensing - mapping room out as hose moves around it. The mapping will designate locations of fires and intensity.
The entrance effect is that of one walking through a series of spaces that continue to widen as one approaches the building. Each space is defined by a series of arches that respond to the entrance of the building. Not only does the path get wider, so does each arch as one approaches the building, creating the three-dimensional widening to each entrance.
EXPANDING PARK - REDESIGN

Originally, the small park across from the site had a wall of a building on its north side to give the park a closed in feeling - an identity. Now a parking lot has replaced the building and the park has lost its previous feeling. Since parking lots are not to be in the Walnut Plaza block according to the Muncie Master Plan and the small park has lost that identity, I believe it is justified to redesign the whole quarter block into a functional green open space.

Since a strong diagonal axis is occurring on the fire station site, that same axis can occur in the park scheme. Keeping in mind that small outdoor concerts occur here in the summer months, this should strongly influence the design, but also can be utilized as a park (green space) when there are no concerts performing.
Facade/ Mat'ls
The facade study is to deal with the urban context around the site, the identity of a fire station to be developed, and this idea of technology is to show through the design of the facades. In the three different designs that I came up with—the Art Deco style had a very strong influence behind each one. The style of Art Deco was not to be the total character of the building but only the driving force behind it so that a new style and image could somehow be adapted to this new type of fire station/fire prevention center.

**South Facade #1**

The idea of trying to get away from a flat facade developed into an arcade surface at the pedestrian level. This also allows some of the structure to punch through as well, giving the building some character. The east corner of the facade terminates to a deco style of design. It also tries to show that the function behind the facade in that the area is more vertical rather than horizontal. The one area that really bothers me is on the second level, above the apparatus room. I'm not satisfied with the way it works in this area, it's just not proportionally right. Another problem I have is that the Art Deco style takes over rather than just helping the design along as my original intentions stated.

**South Facade #2a**

The idea of the Art Deco style helping my design rather than overpowering it really shows up here. Still using the idea of the facade being two planes is showing, but now with a new twist. The facade recedes back now at places where things are happening, such as at the doors, windows, and the elevator core. The structure still shows through, but in a more rhythmic flow. Also now incorporated into the design is at the top of the different elements (i.e. the main lobby, apparatus room & the elevator core) the tops are capped with raised pediments. This idea comes from any urban building that one looks at, the date of the building and/or
THE NAME IS USUALLY INCLUDED IN THIS AREA. THE VERTICALITY IS
REALLY STRESSED NOW AT THE ELEVATOR CORE. THE IDEA OF THE
SQUARE SHOWS UP EVEN MORE IN THIS STUDY AS WELL SO THAT
THE WINDOWS, THE DIFFERENT RECESSED AREAS, & THE ENTRANCES
ALL BECOME PROPORTIONED TO ONE ANOTHER.

SOUTH FACADE #2B

THOUGH A DIFFERENT FACADE STUDY, IT IS DELIBERATELY
TAKEN OFF OF THE SOUTH FACADE STUDY #2A. THIS DEALS MORE
WITH DIRECT ORNAMENTATION IN THE ART DECO STYLE. IT ALSO
DEALS MORE WITH THE RECTILINEAR FORM AT THE RECESSED AREAS
WHICH SEEMS TO GET A BIT TOO BUSY WITH THE SQUARE WINDOWS
ALREADY ESTABLISHED. THE CENTER COLUMN OF THE APPARATUS
ROOM WHICH CAN BE SEEN TO GO ALL THE WAY UP TO THE TOP IS
JUST OVERPOWERING TO THE TOTAL DESIGN OF THE BUILDING.

* THEREFORE, FOR THE REASONS LISTED ABOVE, I CHOSE
FACADE STUDY #2A TO WORK WITH FOR NOW AS THE NEXT STEP
IS TO FIND MATERIALS WHICH WILL BE SUITABLE FOR THIS PROJECT.

EAST (ALLEY) FACADE STUDY

THE ALLEY SIDE AND THE NORTH (PEDESTRIAN WALK) FACADE
SHOULD BE HANDLED IN A SIMILAR WAY BUT IN A DIFFERENT-
SIMPLER STATEMENT THAN THE FRONT FACADE BUT STILL HAVE THE
SAME CHARACTER. SO THIS IDEA OF A CLEANER SURFACE WITH
LESS ORNAMENTATION WAS USED BUT STILL KEEPING THE RECESSED
AREAS WHERE NEEDED FOR WINDOWS. I FELT THAT THE BACK SIDE
OF THE BUILDING NEEDED THIS DIFFERENT STATEMENT TO MAKE IT
WORK WELL.
4. HIGH-TECH (USING BRIGHT COLORS)

The same ideas apply as in the first High-Tech example, but now with the usage of a bright material. When the bright yellow is used with the green recessed panels on the East facade, it becomes very successful, but when it is applied on the front elevation and tower, the dynamics are not near enough. Therefore, maybe the red brick is used on the front facade and the tower, and the yellow panel is used on the east (alley) and north (pedestrian walkway) side. This would also mean that the two different corners where the two materials meet would have to be articulated.
Scheme 2
SCHEME 2 DESIGN IDEAS

FLOOR PLANS

*FIRST LEVEL: Much of the first level floor plan has changed very little. One major that has occurred is between the wall and the fire trucks driveway. Instead of this area being pavement as before, it now has become green area in front, a transition between the green area in front of the main fire administration entrance and the main lobby core entrance on the south-east corner.

A second major change which has occurred in the first level is on the north side by the main entry and the vertical circulation core. In the first scheme this area was very awkward in its attempt. Now the stairwell is tucked back into the main building instead of poking out in the original scheme.

The structure has now been determined as indicated by the red dots on the floor plan. It is to be of reinforced concrete post and beam construction as required of a safety facility in an earthquake zone #2 and in zone 1 of a city. The reinforce concrete is used because it is the most durable in these kind of situations.

*SECOND LEVEL: The second level has taken on a complete new design from scheme 1. I decided the first scheme just didn’t do the job so a new concept had to be developed. I picked up on the exterior circulation paths and used the same orientation for circulation in the firemen’s residence. The main hallway is on axis to the tower and everything else works off of this one main concept.

The floor plan is divided in 3 areas by the circulation: 1) sleeping quarters 2) study area & 3) activities area. The sleeping area has been switched with the activities area so that the sleeping area is not on the street side as it was in scheme 1. Glass block has also been included with the interior scheme in areas such as the dining room, chiefs quarters, and in the dayroom.

Another new concept brought into this scheme is the addition of the outdoor terrace for the firemen.
The first scheme, the fire men had a public zone and a semi-private/semi-public zone, but no private zone where they could get away from the public and still be outdoors. So the addition of the roof terrace should be a welcomed addition to the fire personnel.

Third & Fourth Levels: The rentable office space has changed very little. The hallway has now become more compacted and more functional than before. These two levels of rentable office space account for approximately 20% of the total square footage. The spaces have moveable walls now so that different size rooms may be formed as applicable to a potential renter. Quite conceivably, the local government agencies could fill these spaces instead of outside businesses.

Facades & Section: The facade style and materials that I decided to use for now is the traditional/high-tech design of red brick and green panels. Included now are the west facade, the tower, and a section with the tower in relationship to ball stores.

Model: The model once again is done in white so that the main issue is still about its form and not about materials. The new designed park is also included in the new model to show the urban context relationship. Also, how the facade articulation is included to show relationships to the urban area.
THE PARK

THOUGH THE IDEA OF REDEVELOPING THE EXISTING PARK INTO A MORE FUNCTIONAL ONE, IT WAS DECIDED THAT BECAUSE THERE WERE ACTIVITIES IN MIND WHILE DESIGNING IT, IT LACKED THE QUALITY POTENTIAL. THREE MAJOR ACTIVITIES ARE NOW BEING INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW DESIGN:

1. NOONERS (BROWN BAGGERS)
2. SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERTS
3. MEETING PLACE

-CENTRAL PART OF PLAZA

THE PARK NOW INCORPORATES PLANTERS WHICH DOUBLE AS SKATING AREAS - HELPS TO FULFILL ALL THREE ACTIVITIES. THE CENTRAL DIAGONAL WALK WHICH CUT THROUGH THE MAIN GREEN SPACE HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT TO OPEN UP THE PARK. IT NOW TERMINATES AT THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN A SEMI-CIRCLE PLAZA. THE SLOPE HAS ALSO BEEN DRastically LEVELLED OFF TO A SLIGHT SLOPE NOW, ALLOWING FOR MORE PARK ACTIVITIES.
How that the park has been redesigned as far as in the circulation paths, it's time to get the three-dimensional aspect into it. There is how a pavilion in the north-west corner and a terrace, that follows the same characteristics as the pavilion, along the building on the north side. The pavilion can be used for protection, lighting systems for night activities, or a place for the summer concerts. The terrace could be used for growing Ivy on them so that the building behind will not be so dominate.

Another addition to the park is the element of water and sculpture in the semi-circle plaza. The sculpture symbolizes the 5 ball brothers columns, with water cascading down them into a small pool. The idea comes from the 5 tower columns already existing on Walnut Plaza.

The whole theory behind the park how is to be an urban playground for the city.
THE CUBICLES ARE STRICTLY FOR SLEEPING—HENCE THE COMPACTNESS. THERE IS SPACE FOR STORAGE, DRESSER, CLOTHES HOOKS, AND A BED. THE CLEERESTORY ABOVE IS FOR NATURAL VENTILATION TO ALL OF THE CUBICLES.
The entrance needs to be standardized, whereas before there has been two to three similar designs which never made a true statement. This scheme is much more symmetrical than before. The form still picks up on the square proportions.

The door designs have also come to be something new, rather than just objects. They now pick up on the ideas off of the garage doors by incorporating the square windows. This helps to unify all the different doors to one another as well as to the whole building design.
At one point in time, it was considered that a different material would be used on the front facades as opposed to the material which would be used on the rear facades. The original concept was to keep the rear elevations simple and the front elevations more complex. I thought that the use of materials would help in determining the complexities. But, I've come to the realization that the detailing in the facades should determine whether it is simple or complex, not the material. Therefore, the building will carry the brick all around the structure. This also eliminates the problem of two different materials meeting at the corners.
MY THESIS YEAR HAS BEEN A VERY EXCITING ONE FOR ME PERSONALLY. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY FIVE YEARS AT THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING, I HAVE BEEN REALLY ENTHUSIASTIC WITH WHAT I AM PURSUING IN THE WAY OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN. NEVER BEFORE HAVE I BEEN SO INTERESTED IN A STYLE (POST-MODERNISM) THAT I FEEL IT IS ONLY AT ITS BEGINNING STAGES. IDEAS SUCH AS THE CONFLICT OF GRIDS, LINEAR WALLS & PASTEL COLORS ARE AT THEIR EARLIEST STAGES.

THE FIRST TWO QUARTERS CONSISTED OF A FIRE STATION DESIGN IN A TIGHT URBAN CONTEXT. THIS WAS MY FIRST USE OF POST-MODERN IDEAS AND BECAUSE OF SUCH A TIGHT PROGRAM, I WAS FORCED TO UNDERSTAND THE THEORIES AS THEY ARE TODAY AND USE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF THEM IN THE PROJECT SO NOT TO LITTER, IF YOU WILL, THE WHOLE DESIGN. THE FINAL DESIGN MAY NOT BE THE ULTIMATE IN POST-MODERN DESIGN, BUT IT WAS INTENDED TO BE A STYLE IN ITSELF FROM THE BEGINNING.

THE THIRD QUARTER BECAME MY TIME TO PUSH POST-MODERN TO THE LIMIT AS ONE WILL SEE LATER ON. THE PROJECT WAS A SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE IN COLUMBUS, INDIANA - THE 71ST PARRIS PRIZE COMPETITION. SINCE COLUMBUS IS THE ARCHITECTURAL CAPITAL OF INDIANA, ALWAYS STRESSING FOR THE LATEST IN ARCHITECTURE, IT WAS ONLY APPROPRIATE IN MY MIND TO COME UP WITH THE LATEST IN POST-MODERN DESIGN. I USED ALL THE LATEST DESIGN IDEAS THAT I COULD POSSIBLY USE WITHOUT DESTROYING THE DESIGN. IDEAS INCLUDED:

- LONG LINEARITY
- A WALL
- CONFLICT OF GRIDS
- BUILDINGS ROTATED ON AXIS
- FORMALITY
- A TOWER (FOCAL POINT)

SINCE IT WAS ONLY A 6 WEEK PROJECT AND DESIGN CONSTITUTED FOUR QUICK WEEKS, POST-MODERN IDEAS HAD TO BE LEARNED, DIGESTED, AND SORTED WITH SPEED.

NOW THAT THIS THESIS AND THE COMPETITION ARE COMPLETED, THIS BOOK AT ITS FINAL HOUR, AND MY CAREER AT BALL STATE IS ALL BUT OVER, I LOOK FORWARD FOR THE FIRST TIME TO THE FUTURE IN ARCHITECTURE. THERE MAY BE HOPE FOR ARCHITECTURE AFTER ALL!

[Signature]
4. Progressive Architecture; July 1983; Vol. 7; P.46.
71st Paris Prize Comp.

- A School of Architecture
  Columbus, Indiana
A SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, COLUMBUS, INDIANA

$25,100 in Prizes

Awards

1984 Lloyd Warren Fellowship 70th Prize—$12,000 for approximately 12 months travel and/or study abroad. Second Prize—$7,500 for travel and/or study abroad for approximately 7 months. Third prize—$4,500 for travel and/or study abroad for approximately 4 months. Five Honorable Mentions—$200 each. The successful candidates must present to the NIAE within one month of notification of award a proposed itinerary and study program for approval as it is the intention of the NIAE that these prizes be utilized only for the further education of the winners by travel and/or study abroad. During this time abroad the winners will be required to report on their experiences graphically and in writing on a periodic basis. Should the winners not present to the NIAE a program which merits approval, or should the winners not proceed with the program, the Fellowship or part thereof will be forfeited. The winners must commence their travel within 1 year of the award.

The Arnold A. Arbeit Memorial Prize of $100 will be awarded for outstanding presentation.

Schedule

Any six week period between September 12, 1983 and May 31, 1984 must be selected and dates filed with NIAE prior to submission.

Registration

Official registration form sent on request. Program will be sent upon receipt of completed registration form. No entries will be accepted unless proper application forms are submitted.

Address all inquiries to NIAE, 30 West 22nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Eligibility

1. Participants must have or anticipate receiving a professional degree in architecture from a United States School of Architecture between June 1981 and December 1984.

2. Participant must sign agreement assenting to terms of the Lloyd Warren Fellowship and send it to NIAE.

3. Submission of proof of enrollment will be required of winners.

4. Winners must send a letter to NIAE stating that they and any persons accompanying them on their travels are covered by medical insurance.

5. If a School elects to incorporate this competition problem into its curriculum and to enter the results for judgment at the NIAE, the School must hold a preliminary judgment(s) to select its best projects. The School’s submissions to the NIAE will be limited to a maximum of 30% of the total projects taken for school credit in each design studio including school supervised independent study and this shall be so attested by the faculty person in charge of each design studio. If a student of an entering school elects to take the problem as part of his/her course, he/she must abide by the School’s decision on which of the problems will be submitted to the NIAE. Students who are taking this competition as part of their credited work in a design studio or independent study and do not qualify in the top 30% cannot enter the competition.

Submission

Presentation: Instructions are incorporated in the program. Entry submitted must be the work of one individual, the participant. While it is permissible to receive criticism and do research—the concept and development of the entry must be solely the work and effort of the competitor.

Any submissions not conforming with the presentation and program requirements and Instructions as stated in the program itself will not be eligible for prizes. Delivery: All mailed entries must be postmarked no later than May 31 and must arrive at NIAE office no later than June 8, 1984. All personally delivered entries must arrive at the NIAE office no later than 4:00 P.M. May 31. Competitors whose six week period ends before May 31 must personally deliver their entry or have it postmarked on the last day of the six week period. Entries may be delivered in person or sent by rail, express, etc. . . . but arrangements must be made by competitor to have project delivered to NIAE office (ENTRY SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED "INSIDE DELIVERY SIXTH FLOOR.") Address to: NIAE, Lloyd Warren Fellowship, 30 West 22nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Return of Entries

Winning entries and other selected entries will become the property of NIAE and will be used for educational purposes in a manner solely determined by the NIAE. OTHER ENTRIES WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNLESS PREPAID ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE BY THE COMPETITOR. THE NIAE ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGED OR LOST DRAWINGS. Competitors who wish to have a record of their projects should photograph them before submission.

Judgment

Judgment is tentatively scheduled for June, 1984.
A SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE FOR COLUMBUS, INDIANA

Authors—George Schipporelt and Craig Smith

GENERAL STATEMENT

In the years since World War II, Columbus, Indiana has become a living museum of Contemporary American Architecture. More than 40 public and private buildings have been designed by prominent American architects in this midwestern industrial town of less than 30,000 residents. A 1964 article in the Saturday Evening Post first labeled Columbus the “Athens of the Prairie”, a slogan that has been adopted and helped to create an unprecedented interest in architecture among its local residents. The design of many of the local schools have been experiments in educational design, including examples by Gunnar Birkerts; Harry Weese; The Architects Collaborative; Edward Larrabee Barnes; John M. Johansen; CRS; Mitchell-Giurgola Associates; Hardy, Holzman, Pfeiffer Associates, among others. The relationship of academic achievement to physical environment is shown in the outstanding reputation of the Columbus and Bartholomew County school system.

Considering this background, it seems natural that individuals have decided to endow a School of Architecture in Columbus. The School would be unique as a residential educational experience, where students live and work with full-time and visiting faculty members.

The Academic Program would consist of a two- to three-year course of study open to those students who have completed required non-professional or pre-architectural coursework. Students with degrees in other areas would also be welcome. Certain facilities and resources will be shared with other nearby institutions such as Indiana University in Bloomington. Students would be trained in a manner that encourages a close association between all of the art forms.

CONCEPT

The School will retain only a small staff of permanent faculty members to administer the program and maintain academic consistency. All other faculty will be resident or visiting professionals or professors on sabbatical leave from other institutions.

Faculty and students will reside in the School in close proximity to the design studios. Each student will have permanent space in the studio to allow the establishment of a more personal learning situation.

As a part of the endowment requirements, the School facility will serve as the archive for all drawings, models, and papers associated with architects whose work appears in Columbus. Architects working in Columbus may reside at the school while visiting their projects.

SITE

The site is adjacent to downtown Columbus, bordered by Mill Race Park on the west, the Flatrock River on the north, and US 3/A and Lindsey Street on the east. It is essentially a flat site, just above the river bottomland. The main shopping street, Washington, is only three blocks east of the School. Railroad tracks run between Lindsey Street and the School site and will remain. There are no sidewalks on the adjacent roadways.
**PROGRAM**

Number of students to be between 150 and 180.
Permanent design studio space of 50 square feet per student, which may be open-plan or compartmentized.
Parking spaces associated with housing to be 150; 15 spaces at entry/office, and enclosed spaces for faculty members.
Housing is to be provided for 180; configuration to be 90 rooms for two students each, grouping two rooms together with a living room suite for 45 suites. Suites to be grouped into four or five houses directly accessible to design studio space.
Faculty housing for eight families. Faculty Housing should relate to student “houses”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area In</th>
<th>Sq. Ft.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design studios</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four other classrooms of 600 sq. ft. each</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditorium accessible for public use</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of school office</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight staff offices adjoining design studios</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School lounge</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dining area—Commons, 12 sq. ft. per person</td>
<td>2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen/Service</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit space to be related to lounge, and available for public viewing</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproduction and photo lab</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer center</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor lecture space—partially covered</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives—suppository for Columbus, Indiana</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation center with exercise rooms, lockers, sauna, whirlpool, and two racquetball courts</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

As a demonstration facility the School is expected to be energy efficient. It is planned that the School will be used for special summer “Artist in Residence” programs.
The whole concept of this project is linear. The site, to me, screams for a linear plan to be developed. The second important concept is to create a mini-campus rather than a multi-use single building. With these two ideas in mind, the rest of the project builds off of these two concepts using post-modernism to the fullest.

The site plan is developed so that the school sits like a mini-Greek acropolis with the parking level and the park looking up at it, therefore becoming a terminating object to the park now. The park is allowed to bleed into the site by letting the pond come up to the buildings and penetrate the plaza at one point. The trees are carried in formally to the site and then scattered to various locations.

The architecture school itself is arranged so that the building is on the first long path and the functions within are arranged from public functions towards the front of the building to the student type of spaces in the rear. Thus the outdoor lecture space which is detached from the school becomes the terminating object for the long linear path.

The two level (four buildings - 2 complexes) student housing is arranged so that two buildings each are connected by exterior split courts to allow natural lighting to filter in. The structures are arranged on the second major linear path closest to the park over looking the pond. The design of the student housing is simple and efficient.

The commons/kitchen building became the overall focal point of the site by becoming a ten story structure with the dining & kitchen on the ninth and tenth levels overlooking all of Columbus, Indiana.

The two story recreation center becomes the uniting building which ties the plaza to the students on one end and the faculty housing on the other side, since both use this facility at all times.

Lastly, the faculty housing sits off a little more to themselves over looking the Flatrock River, the school, and the outdoor lecture space. Access to these units are private, away from the rest of the facilities.

The overall organization of the buildings to each other is angling each in such a way to naturally create the plaza.
AND THE PATHS WITH THE EXTERIORS OF EACH BUILDING. THE FACADES AND PLANS USE THE FOUR BASIC GEOMETRICAL SHAPES - CIRCLE, SQUARE, RECTANGLE, & TRIANGLE. THE WALL IS USED TO CREATE THE THIRD DIMENSION OF LINEAR AS WELL AS TO MAKE A STATEMENT TO THE TRAFFIC PASSING BY. POST-MODERN IDEAS ARE USED TO THE MAXIMUM ON PURPOSE FOR THIS PARTICULAR COMPETITION.