design awards

2002

United States Air Force

2002 design awards program

2002

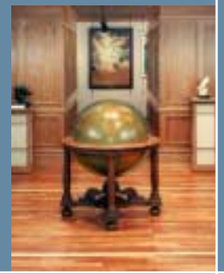
design awards

For more than a quarter century, the USAF Design Awards Program has been the primary tool the Air Force uses to identify the exceptional work of many design professionals. While it is imperative to recognize the award-winning design teams featured in this brochure, the program also communicates the Air Force's principles of design excellence and fosters our reputation for quality facilities and installations.

This year's winners exemplify the variety of facilities the Air Force has in its inventory. From facilities directly affecting our airmen's quality of life, to historic preservation projects, to workplaces and operational facilities, it is clear that our installations are comprised of much more than just random compilations of unrelated buildings and infrastructure. These individual projects are part of an Air Force community that reflects our professional image, while respecting the environment, and serving the functions for which they were designed. Not only must our projects meet schedule, budget and environmental requirements, they must also provide a healthy, durable and flexible working and living environment. We continually strive to be good stewards of our resources, and these projects reflect the Air Force's strong commitment to sustainability.

I congratulate this year's winners, and challenge the Air Force team to benefit from these award-winning projects by capturing the cooperative spirit that led to their selection.

Earnest O. Robbins, II
Major General, USAF
The Civil Engineer



This Annual Report marks the 27th anniversary of the United States Air Force Design Awards Program that was established in 1976 to recognize and promote design excellence. The Air Force sets no limits on the number or type of projects that can compete each year. There are seven project award categories. These include Planning Studies and Design Guides, Housing Community Profiles, Concept Design, Interior Design, Landscape Design, Facility Design, and Military Family Housing.

For each year's competition, an effort is made to secure jurors of the highest professional standards, blending progressive professionals who are knowledgeable of design trends in the private sector with exceptional design professionals currently in government service who understand military terminology and design standards.

With the selection of this year's award winning projects, the Air Force has honored one hundred fifty-one completed facilities, one hundred eighteen concept projects, fifty-five planning and landscape design projects, and fifty-one interior design projects since the program began.

The United States Air Force Design Awards Program is a viable and important program that has become institutionalized within the Air Force. It is widely recognized throughout the federal government and is supported by the enthusiastic participation of notable professionals in the private sector. The program is a proud recipient of the 2000 Federal Design Achievement Award, which recognizes exceptional design achievement from all sectors of the Federal Government.

Honor Awards

Planning Studies and Design Guides

General Plan
Patrick Air Force Base, Florida

Concept Design

Mission Planning Center
MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

Merit Awards

Planning Studies and Design Guides

Operation Snowbird Vision 2000 Area Development Plan
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona

Concept Design

Fitness Center
McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey

Medical Clinic Replacement and Dental Clinic Alteration
Edwards Air Force Base, California

Interior Design

Air Force Weather Heritage Center
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

Armed Forces Recruiting Station
Potomac Mills Mall, Prince William, Virginia

Facility Design

Education Center and Library
Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington

Awards

Citation Awards

Planning Studies and Design Guides

Architectural Compatibility Guide
RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom

Concept Design

Base Theater Renovation
Vandenberg Air Force Base, California

Dormitory/Mission Support Facility
Eskisehir, Turkey

Interior Design

AMC Civil Engineering Suite Renovation
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

Landscape Design

Fort Crook Historic Parade Ground
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

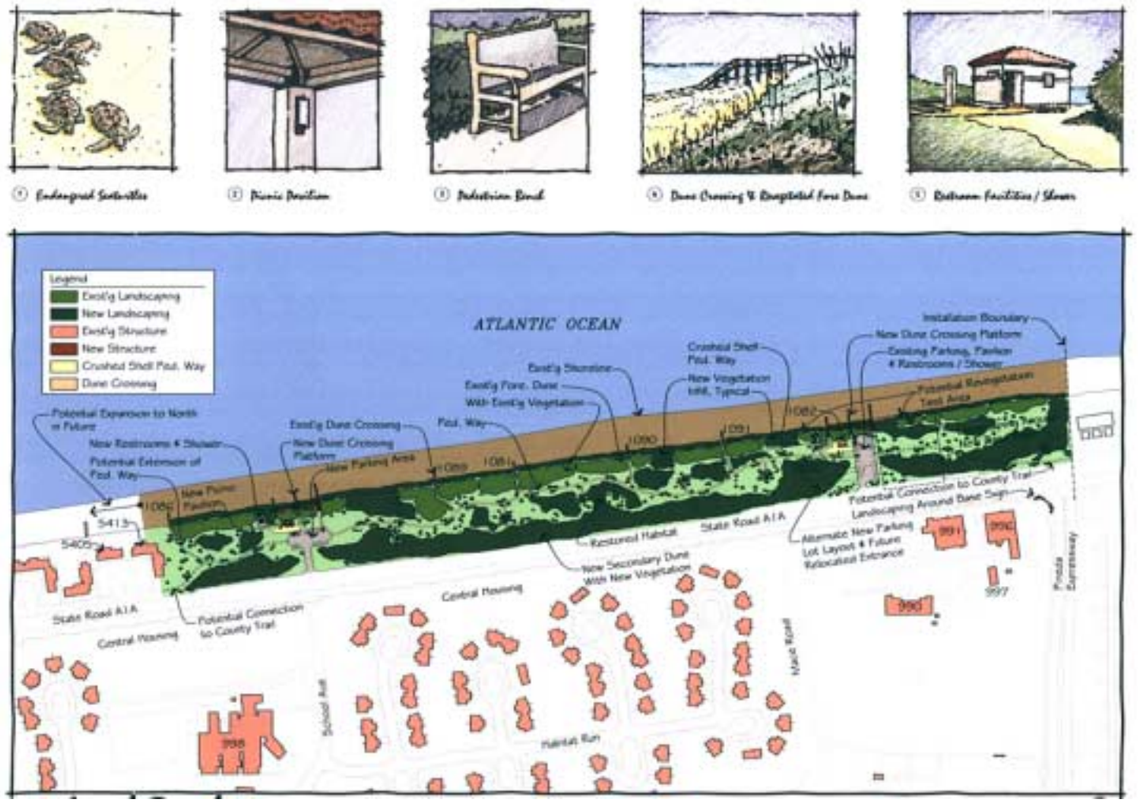
Facility Design

Radar Upgrade
Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

Cape San Blas Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters
Eglin Air Force Base, Florida

Family Housing

Vallenoncello Housing Units
Aviano Air Base, Italy

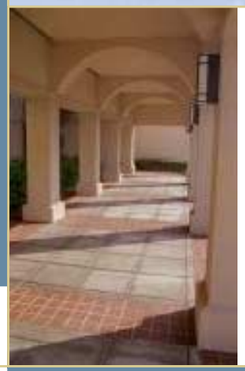


① Endangered Sea turtles ② Picnic Pavilion ③ Pedestrian Bridge ④ Dune Crossing & Revegetated Fore Dune ⑤ Restroom facilities / Shower

General Plan
Patrick Air Force Base, Florida

Design Organization: Higginbotham Briggs & Associates
Using Command: Air Force Space Command
Design Agent: Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
Base Engineer Organization: 45th Civil Engineer Squadron

This General Plan is a tribute to Patrick Air Force Base's good stewardship of its mission, the unique land area the base occupies, and its existing facility resources. The plan very effectively serves as both a comprehensive reference document and a user-friendly tool to guide continued base development. Land Use and Capital Investment are the primary focal points that ensure consistent vision and successful implementation. Area Development Plans were produced and serve as tools to underpin land use decision-making and future development. The plan establishes a dynamic process of exemplary collaborative work efforts between base leadership, planners and facility end- users. It contains specific land use improvements and recommendations that include redevelopment and preservation efforts. It links administrative, training and recreational requirements and maximizes their efficiency. In addition to the General Plan, marketing tools such as the Commander's Summary Field Guide and the Facilities Development Plan Brochure are provided to ensure dissemination of development concerns, and assist prioritizing and securing project funding.



Honor Award

① Small Elevation - Lodging Facility

② Floor Plan - Floors 2-5

③ Entrance Portico

④ Courtyard

Honor Award

Jurors' Comments:

- *Covered broad range big picture to micro level realistic area development plans*
- *Intelligent land use and facility recommendations with great use of simple eye-catching graphics*
- *Organization and presentation brochure design developed in a clear, concise format, which can be updated in-house*

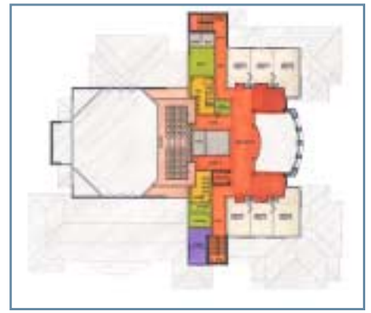
Honor Award — Concept Design

Honor Award

Mission Planning Center
MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

Design Organization: Pond & Company
Using Command: Air Mobility Command
Design Agent: Mobile District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Base Engineer Organization: 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

Designed to facilitate high-level Air Force conferences and mission planning activities, this center balances stringent security and force protection requirements while complying with the installation's architectural compatibility standards. Integrated with existing base buildings, the center embraces sustainability and a South Florida style by incorporating locally produced materials. This 33,000 square foot facility features a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility that can accommodate 135 participants. Secure data and phone port connections are provided throughout the center. Other assembly spaces include a state-of-the-art general auditorium with table seating for 250 participants and theater seating for 100 visitors in the balcony. An elegant two-story Grand Hall is convenient to all of the center's meeting rooms. One building wing specifically accommodates workspace for distinguished visitors. The design achieves cost savings and efficiency by maximizing the capabilities of existing on base facilities. The Mission Planning Center utilizes the catering capabilities of the adjacent Officer's Club and provides connecting walkways and a new plaza with full views of the waterfront.



Jurors' Comments:

- *Thoroughly integrated design solution that creatively applies base architectural standards while addressing key mission requirements*

- *Outstanding example integrating design elements achieving a strong "Air Force" statement while maintaining base and regional compatibility*

- *Project integrates landscaping and design articulation to provide a spectacular human-scaled and inviting facility*

Merit Award — Planning Studies and Design Guides

Merit Award

Operation Snowbird Vision 2000 Area Development Plan
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona

Design Organization: 355th Civil Engineering Squadron
Using Command: Air National Guard
Host Command: Air Combat Command

This Area Development Plan consolidates Arizona National Guard facilities into a cohesive community plan that unites mission requirements, personnel requirements, and future development needs while improving the safety of existing operations. The plan projects an excellent grasp of functional requirements and is proactive in ensuring that land is reserved for future requirements. The plan includes criteria outlining how several organizations can be located within available space without restricting future growth. It also ensures that development does not restrict the present use and future flexibility of base-wide air operations. A brochure is used to promote the capital improvement plan and a three-dimensional model illustrates existing and future mission requirements. Together, these visuals effectively communicate the needs of base tenants to a varied audience of community shareholders.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Efficient and flexible consolidation of existing facilities into a campus environment designed for walking, and brings order and coherence to a previously disjointed plan*

- *Excellent grasp of existing and future mission requirements communicated clearly through the use of a two-dimensional layout and a three-dimensional realistic model*

- *Effective use of foldout brochure for advocating, soliciting and selling the capital improvements plan*

Merit Award — Concept Design

Merit Award

Merit Award

Fitness Center
McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey

Design Organization: Baker and Associates
Using Command: Air Mobility Command
Design Agent: New York District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Base Engineer Organization: 305th Civil Engineer Squadron

With a growing mission and base population, this facility doubles the capacity of the old fitness center by preserving one of the two original gymnasiums. The resulting construction cost savings was sufficient to fund an additional 10,000 square feet of recreation and exercise space. New buildings were integrated with the existing gymnasium by creating a series of vaulted forms that replicate the lines of the existing structure. Functional areas are organized along an airy, light-filled central axis that features high ceilings, a linear curved skylight, and large windows at both ends. The design achieves total integration of the existing fitness center without any visible distinction between the old and new portions of the building.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Use of geometry on exterior facade adds a very interesting, human scale to the complex*

- *Striking contrast between before and after construction conditions*

- *Use of natural lighting will create a bright, inviting space*

Jurors' Comments:

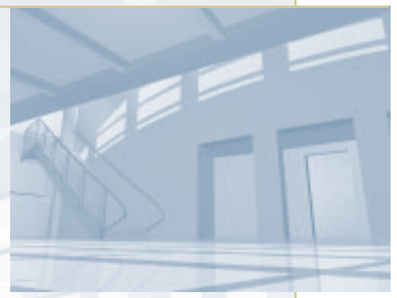
- *Thorough and exceptionally detailed solution that satisfies difficult renovation program requirements*

- *Radial layout of parking and landscaping is well integrated with the interior space*

- *Creative approach to form generation and materials selection*

Merit Award — Concept Design

Merit Award



Medical/Dental Clinic
Edwards Air Force Base, California

Design Organization: Rogers, Lovelock & Fritz, Inc.
Using Command: Air Force Materiel Command
Design Agent: Sacramento District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Design Manager: Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
Program manager: Air Force Surgeon General-Facilities
Base Engineer Organization: 95th Civil Engineer Group

This sophisticated, modern design is compatible with its desert surroundings as well as nearby structures. This compatibility is achieved through the use of barrel-vault roof forms with deep solar control overhangs, recessed windows and inviting, protected entrances. The distinctive roof form borrows its shape from the base's large aircraft hangars. The curvilinear main entrance element aligns with the approach drive and creates a prominent focal point for visitors. Site elements radiate out from the main entrance and walkways connect the new and existing buildings to create a medical campus atmosphere. Native landscaping and terraced parking areas help emphasize the compatibility of the clinic. Although patient and staff functions are positioned on separate sides of the building, they are connected by a circulation corridor that features views of a landscaped courtyard or the open desert beyond.

Merit Award — Interior Design

Merit Award

Air Force Weather Heritage Center
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

Design Organization: 55th Civil Engineering Squadron
Using Command: Air Combat Command

The purpose of the Heritage Center is to showcase weather related artifacts from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. The Center achieves an environment appropriate to the period of time when the instruments being displayed were used or developed. A dramatic and inviting space is provided using the warmth of wood finishes and distinctive recessed squares on the metal ceiling. Wooden benches and period artwork surround an antique globe that serves as the central focus of the area, inviting visitors to step back in time as they view the displays. Special lighting with a fully adjustable intensity range draws the viewer to areas of interest, and portable floor pedestals can easily be repositioned to accommodate various display and storage needs.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Nice feel to the space – wood finishes keep the viewer focused on displays*

- *Good perspective on displays – they draw the viewer in*

- *Nice floor lighting without glare*

Merit Award — Interior Design

Merit Award

Jurors' Comments:

- *Patriotic theme is very well executed*
- *Excellent space planning*
- *Graphics are wonderful*

Armed Forces Recruiting Station
Potomac Mills Mall, Prince William, Virginia

Design Organization: Omaha District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Using Command: Air Education and Training Command

Located in a high volume pedestrian shopping mall, this recruiting facility skillfully creates maximum visual appeal and invites potential recruits to consider a career in the United States military. A vibrant American flag flanked by adjacent glass walls optimizes the Station's minimal mall frontage. The open interior space provides a public lobby filled with a variety of flags, television screens, a 3-station computer kiosk and various military displays to attract visitors. Patriotic colors lead the eye through a corridor to four dynamic office layouts. Because each of these offices competes for the visitor's interest, equal visibility from the lobby area was a challenging design goal. Each office is slightly projected in order to accommodate each Service's name and provide maximum exposure. Each office features coordinated and robust graphics in clear colors. Offices contain versatile desks, storage, equipment areas, and a small seating area. All interior design elements encourage visitor interest and comfort, and project the professional image of today's military.

Merit Award

Merit Award — Facility Design

Merit Award

Education Center and Library
Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington

Design Organization: Bernardo-Wills Architects, PC
Using Command: Air Mobility Command
Design Agent: Seattle District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Base Engineer Organization: 92nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Conveniently located between the Base Exchange/Commissary complex and the dormitory community, this facility combines classroom learning with library research functions. The building is oriented toward a planned pedestrian plaza, but is equally attractive from adjacent roadways. Force protection concerns were addressed by placing the main entrance access off the pedestrian plaza and minimizing window and door opening on the street facade. Balance is achieved between the building's two functional wings by using a rotunda "hinge" that allows for individual operation of either the library or education center. The rotunda entry features a gathering space, lounge, project area, and a reception room. Classrooms are flexible and useful for a variety of educational programs. Several are configured as tiered instructional spaces, while others utilize moveable walls that open to form large auditorium spaces. Computer and technology labs utilized state-of-the-art raceway systems that can expand with future needs. Utilizing earthen berms that surround the building enhances sustainability, force protection, and energy efficiency requirements. The use of reflective low-e bronze tinted glazing and translucent skylights reduce heat and create a comfortable, appealing, and productive environment. Wide roof overhangs enhance solar-shading while floating over a continuous ribbon of high windows.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Strong visual entry by connecting library and education blocks with creative radial entry way*
- *High level of craftsmanship in the detailing and use of materials*
- *Great night presence*

Citation Award — Planning Studies and Design Guides

Architectural Compatibility Guide
RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom

Design Organization: RMJM/Sibley Robinson
Using Command: United States Air Forces Europe
Design Agent: Defence Estates, U.S. Forces
Base Engineer Organization: 48th Civil Engineer Squadron

This Architectural Compatibility Guide corrects the use of incompatible colors and materials that has occurred over time, and updates standards for all aspects of exterior and interior materials, architectural details, colors, signage and landscaping. Additionally, it outlines design prototypes for facility categories such as administrative buildings, warehouses, public buildings, and dormitories. This adaptable tool provides a clear and unified vision for leadership of the long-term architectural and planning goals for RAF Lakenheath. Among the most significant attributes of the new guide are its flexibility and user-friendly format that allows for online access and updates. Although focused on design and materials prototypes, the plan also outlines a broad five-year plan for construction in key areas. This document serves as a unifying model for good installation planning.

Jurors' Comments:

- *User friendly format which can be easily updated in-house, and is accessible online*

- *Tremendous use of the latest technology to demonstrate and communicate a five fiscal year projection of capital improvements and demolitions*

Citation Awards

Jurors' Comments:

- *Superb design that achieved base and regional compatibility*

- *Project reinforces the concept of adaptive re-use of a standard, often bland Air Force facility*

- *Strengthens the concept that alteration/ modification is more economical than new construction*

Citation Award — Concept Design

Base Theater Renovation
Vandenberg Air Force Base, California

Design Organization: Huitt-Zollars
Using Command: Air Force Space Command
Base Engineer Organization: 30th Civil Engineer Squadron

This metamorphic project resurrects and transforms the existing base theater with a new exterior design that ties directly into the developing Central California base vernacular. Accommodating a wide range of entertainment activities, it provides a state-of-the-art venue for the base auditorium, Commander's Call, performing arts and cultural or self-improvement programs. The design incorporates a tower element to define the main entry, and colonnades along the sides and front provide breakout spaces while emphasizing the style of the building. The theater's construction complies with the highest seismic codes, theater technology, and environmental standards. This project is a distinctive and cost effective example of re-use and renovation in lieu of new construction.

Citation Award — Concept Design

Dormitory/Mission Support Facility
Eskisehir, Turkey

Design Organization: Altan & Tuncer Ltd.
Using Command: United States Air Forces Europe
Design Agent: Europe District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Base Engineer Organization: 39th Civil Engineer Squadron

Force protection concerns, architectural compatibility requirements, steep topography, and quality-of-life improvements were all challenging aspects of this design. These formidable goals were addressed by integrating complex and extensive force protection solutions that assure maximum security for personnel. The force protection aspect of the design is blended architecturally with the surrounding Turkish Air Force housing through exterior colors, textures, and finish materials. The terraced design utilizes the sloping site allowing for uninhabited areas to be located below grade on the front foundation wall, while natural light and ventilation is provided for the administrative areas which occur on the same level along the rear of the building. Joint personnel activities can be conducted in privacy on this level at the terraced area outside of the Unit Assembly Room. Terracing of the upper apartment levels provides privacy from outside viewing while allowing occupants to observe the city below.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Achieved striking design solutions under extreme site conditions*

- *Well-executed project given the site issues and security concerns*

- *Image/forms and materials recognize the local influences, while responding to the functional needs of the facility*

Citation Award — Interior Design

AMC Civil Engineering Suite Renovation
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

Design Organization: AMC Design Center
Using Command: Air Mobility Command
Base Engineer Organization: 375th Civil Engineer Squadron

This suite renovation project succeeds in restoring historic building features and creates a professional corporate image with increased square footage and is consistent with Air Mobility Command's interior standards and functional requirements. The blend of wood-grain finishes, subdued colors and comfortable seating arrangements create an ambiance of a distinguished, historic, and professional work environment. The suite features an open and inviting reception area with a vastly improved functional arrangement conducive to productivity and increased communication. Historic photographs of Scott Air Force Base's early days and a Commander's display add to the aesthetics of the design solution. Mechanical, electrical, and communications systems are new and more efficient.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Conference room solution does an excellent job of accommodating more users*

- *Great use of technology*

- *Good retention of historic significance*

Citation Awards

Citation Award — Landscape Design

Fort Crook Historic Parade Ground
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

Design Organization: 55th Civil Engineer Squadron
Using Command: Air Combat Command

The historic value of this parade ground afforded an opportunity to implement a landscape design to define the area's past as a "living museum" and to develop a theme for future designers and developers to follow. The use of landscape planting, open space, and vistas creates an environment for the historic structures of the district consistent with the time in which they were built. Miscellaneous landscape items not present in the historic photos of the area or inconsistent with the early 1900's were removed. The current landscape design incorporates native trees, low shrubs, and planting beds typically found in the plains area of Nebraska. The project integrates history into a parade ground that is a useful space designed for daily use without detracting from the overall historical impact. A comprehensive lighting plan augments and enhances the parade ground's landscaping and enables its use for nighttime events.

Jurors' Comments:

- *Outstanding preservation of military heritage*
- *Designer was sensitive to history of the site and integrated this history into a present day functional, aesthetically pleasing outdoor space*
- *Night lighting provides outstanding definition during sunset hours*

Citation Award — Facility Design

Radar Upgrade
Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

Design Organization: Raytheon Systems Company/RIM Architects, Inc.
Using Command: Air Force Space Command
Design Agent: Alaska District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Base Engineer Organization: 13th Space Warning Squadron

Clear Air Force Station supports the integrated Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment system that provides warning of intercontinental and submarine-launched ballistic missiles. Numerous environmental conditions challenged the designers in upgrading this unique facility. Outdoor air temperatures range from a high of 90 degrees to a low of minus 65 degrees Fahrenheit. The radar faces that are integrated into the building make up the greater portion of two sides of the structure, and create approximately 7000 penetrations through the thermal envelope. These penetrations require mitigation of condensation or frosting in both interior and exterior surfaces through controlled humidity and radar unit heater elements. The facility's mechanical and electrical systems were designed for minimal downtime between failures. Additionally, critical temperature and humidity-controlled environments are designed to exceed standard criteria. Finally the building is designed with built-in elasticity to ensure quick recovery after a seismic event to within one-quarter inch of the original configuration and not cause the radar to be out of alignment. This technical and industrial facility unites function and aesthetics, and creates a striking monolith.

Citation Awards

Jurors' Comments:

- *Clearly communicates "Air Force Power"*
- *A technical showpiece where the function of the facility has defined its form as a functional element of the radar complex*
- *Excellent example of how technical/industrial facilities can have striking aesthetic qualities*

Citation Award — Facility Design

Cape San Blas Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters
Eglin Air Force Base, Florida

Design Organization: Elliott, Marshall, & Innes, P.A.
Using Command: Air Force Materiel Command
Base Engineer Organization: 96th Civil Engineer Group

This extremely challenging renovation project required the removal of both asbestos and lead paint while preserving and restoring the building's historical integrity. Cultural resource personnel and the State Historic Preservation Officer were consulted for guidance throughout the design process, and this project is exemplary of the coordinated efforts between state and federal agencies. Originally comprised of two structures, both were wood frame, two story dwellings with wrap around porches on three sides. The conversion dramatically improved the aesthetics of the building and its surroundings. Cypress lap siding and fiberglass shingles that match the original pattern were used on the exterior. Mechanical, fire suppression, electrical and plumbing systems were replaced, and a handicap bathroom and a washer/dryer closet were added. Beaded paneling on the walls and ceilings and refinished baseboard, crown molding, and wood flooring add an appropriate historical reference to the interior spaces. Subdued, peaceful colors indicative of the Florida Panhandle were used throughout the renovation.

Citation Award

Jurors' Comments:

- *Amazing resuscitation of a historic structure on its death bed after years of neglect*
- *Uses appropriate colors to blend "seaside architecture" with the original form of the restored facility*
- *Superb example of a comprehensive historic restoration effort*

Jurors' Comments:

- *Integrates surrounding context of local area in building form*
- *Excellent recognition of local design precedents*
- *Simple yet very attractive forms with rich color providing individual expression*

Citation Award — Family Housing

Citation Awards

Vallenoncello Housing Units
Aviano Air Base, Italy

Design Organization: Drigo & Associati
Using Command: United States Air Forces Europe
Base Engineer Organization: 31st Civil Engineer Squadron

Constructed under a Build-to-Lease program for off-base housing, this residential design consists of three separate rows of buildings that include three types of housing units. The design blends significant architectural features in the Venetian tradition with modern requirements. Exterior private and common areas, quality finishes, and compatible materials fit this new housing complex into its surrounding residential context. Each housing unit is developed in three main levels with an interior stairway. All units have independent entrances with both front and back yards. Garages, cellars and ancillary rooms are located in the basement, accessible from ground level. The design was tested in strong political waters that feared the creation of an "alien island" out of context with Italian housing conventions. Coordination with municipality representatives, the use of strong and dramatic architectural typologies and superior materials, ensured acceptance by the local residents.

Jury Members

Planning, Urban Design, Landscape Architecture

Mr. Stan Gross (Chair)
Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
Brooks AFB, Texas
Community Planner

Ms. Brenda Roesch, RLA, AICP (Chair)
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Mr. Ron Sharpe, P.E.
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Engineer

Architecture and Engineering

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Architect

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Architect

Interior Design

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Interior Designer

Sandra W. Warner, IIDA
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Brooks Air Force Base, Texas
Interior Designer

Jury Members

Photography/Artist Rendering Credits

Credits

pages 1	Keith B. Fred, AF/ILEEG
pages 4-5	HB&A
pages 6-7	Andrew King
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Acknowledgments

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