

DESIGN

EXCELLENCE *in* ARCHITECTURE

New Orleans firms win top awards

The Louisiana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has presented its Honor Awards for 1994. New Orleans architects won five of the nine awards, including all three of the prestigious Honor Awards of Excellence, given to work that "distinguishes itself through superior overall design quality and function."

Winners of Honor Awards of Excellence and their projects are:

▶ Errol Barron, Errol Barron/Michael Toups Architects. St. James Episcopal Church in Fairhope, Ala., designed as a new church that respects the local architectural style. Termed the "carpenter Gothic," it is closely tied to the Anglican tradition, especially in rural Episcopal churches built between 1860 and 1920. The goal was to create a group of buildings that appear simultaneously old and new.

▶ Ronald C. Filson, Eskew Filson Architects. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park-Environmental Education Center. The building was designed to fit unobtrusively into its natural surroundings. The 8,600 square foot building is set deep into the park woodlands, surrounded by a palmetto swampland and a grove of pecan and oak trees.

▶ E. Eean McNaughton, E. Eean McNaughton Architects. Restoration of the Old Louisiana State Capitol Building whose rich history is interwoven in its restoration. This project included updating the 1880s building to function as a museum and center on government and politics.

Honor Awards were presented to architects whose work is easily distinguishable through exceptional quality and design. Those winners were:

▶ Phares A. Frantz of Koch and Wilson Architects of New Orleans. Restoration of the Cabildo, the state's most historic building, site of the Louisiana Purchase transfer and city hall for Spanish and American city councils. The building was damaged by fire in 1988 and the restoration required reconstructing the mansard roof as it was erected in 1847.

▶ Steven J. Oubre, Architects Southwest of Lafayette. St. Edmonds Roman Catholic Church, Lafayette.

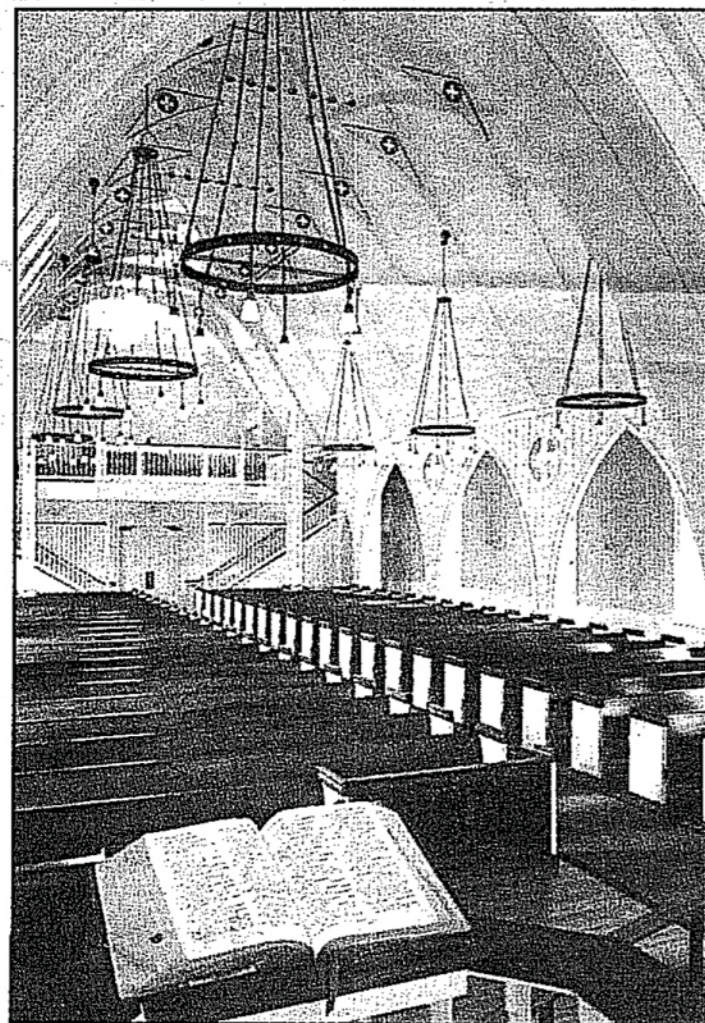
▶ Jeffrey K. Smith, Fauntleroy & Latham Architects and Holly & Smith Architects of Covington (joint venture). Pontchartrain Elementary and Chinchuba Middle schools, both in Mandeville.

▶ Wil Sholar, Morgan, Hill, Sutton & Mitchell of Shreveport. Southwestern Electric Power Co.-Southwestern Division Office, in Shreveport.

Awards of Merit, given for projects that demonstrate a high level of design quality, were presented to:

▶ L. Azeo Torre of Design Consortium Ltd. of New Orleans for the Memphis Zoo & Aquarium.

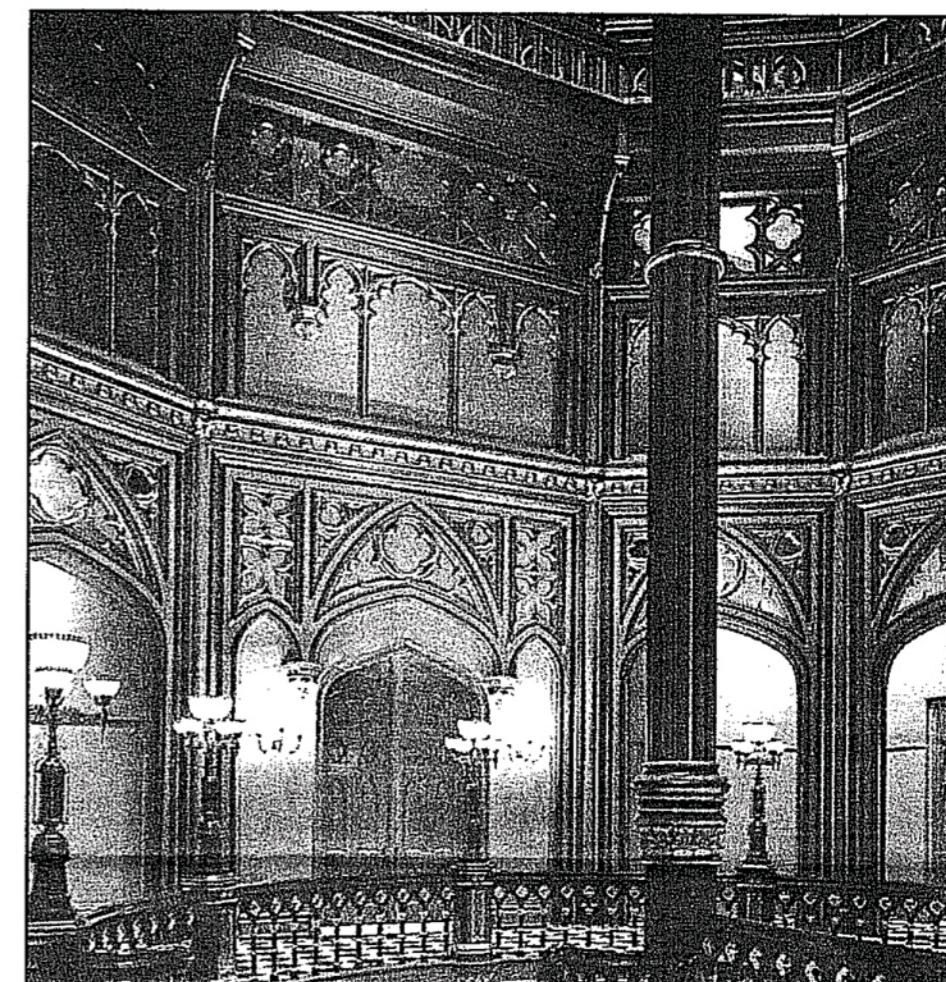
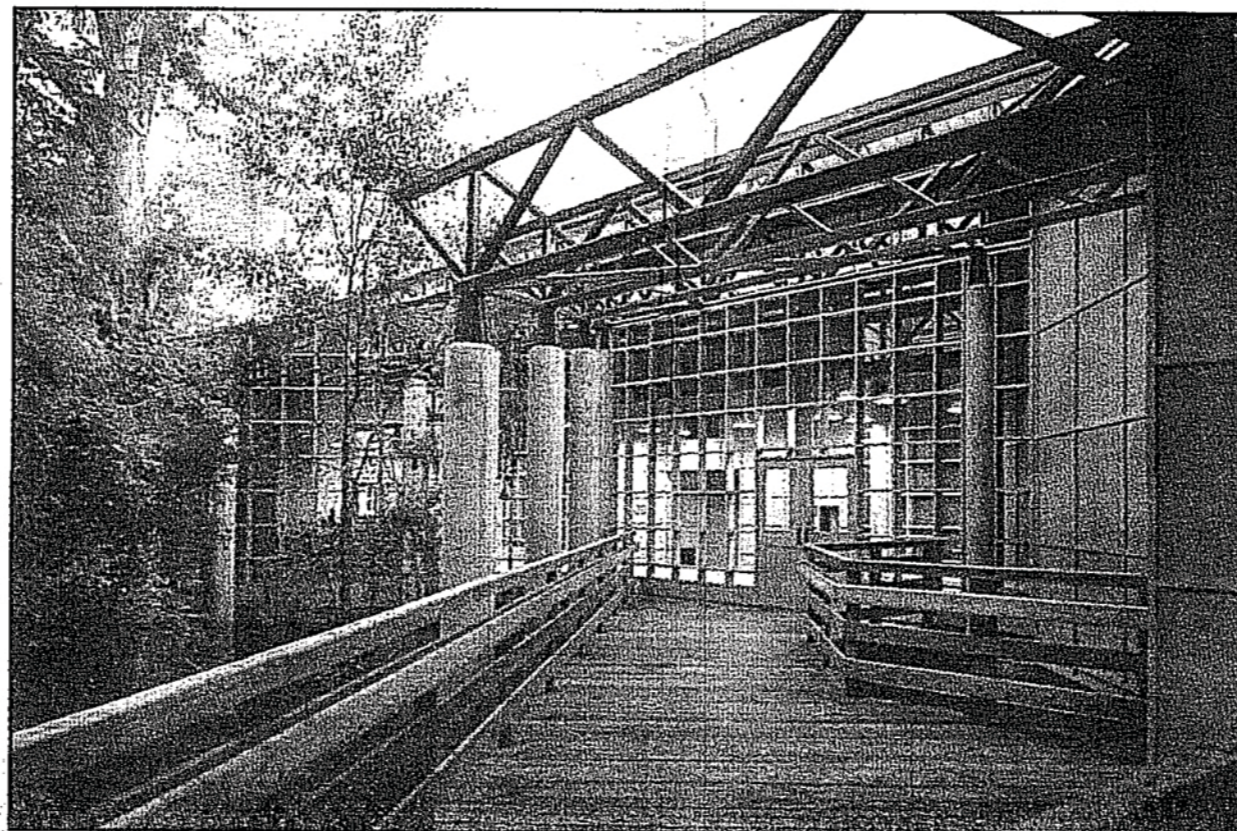
▶ Glenn E. Angelle, of the Angelle Guidry Partnership in Lafayette for the Cecilia Library in Cecilia.



▲ From the outside, St. James Episcopal Church in Fairhope, Ala. appears to be both old and new.

▲ The interior of church respects a local architectural idiom, "carpenter Gothic."

▲ The Jean Lafitte National Historical Park-Environmental Education Center was designed to "bring the indoors outdoors and the outdoors indoors," planners said.



▲ Recreated color design and oak graining in the rotunda and other parts of the restored Old State Capitol building in Baton Rouge are authentic to 1882, when the building was reconstructed. Completed in 1852, it was gutted by fire in 1862.

▼ The most visible and dramatic part of the restoration of the fire damaged Cabildo was reconstruction of the mansard roof.

