



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
College of Architecture  
Historic Resources Imaging Laboratory

30 September 2005

Mark Reddington, FAIA  
Chair, 2006 Jury of Fellows  
The American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-5292

It is my privilege to serve as Sponsor for **Mr. Jack Pyburn, AIA**, who is being nominated by the Georgia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for elevation to the College of Fellows.

Jack Pyburn and I met when he was in my sophomore design studio at Texas A&M University. He was clearly marked as a future leader in the profession. His uniqueness was enhanced by the fact that he was a member of Texas A&M's famed "Texas Aggies" football team, a commitment to two endeavors that challenged even his extraordinary talents. He took time out before his senior year and played for the Miami Dolphins before completing his professional degree! As a result of his outstanding professional accomplishments he has been recognized by his alma mater as an Outstanding Alumnus.

After a time in practice, he entered graduate school at Washington University, Saint Louis, to further hone his knowledge of urban design and architecture. He developed his skills in a major firm, and then opened his own practice. His education and practice have been both dedicated to collaborative, cross-disciplinary teams. He sees architects as curators of the past as well as creators of the new, based on the concept that core architectural values do not change, and that respect for buildings and their makers is an integral part of being an architect.

His recent successful efforts with NAAB to ensure that preservation values are integrated with professional education have deep roots. He has spent time teaching in a variety of programs, provided guest lectures, advised on curricula, and served as an Intern Mentor. He has specifically encouraged students at Texas A&M University, involving a team in a project in the Bahamas that led to the first national legislation to protect architectural heritage.

He is an award-winning practitioner, as well as a researcher concerned with the buildings of the Modern Movement, and the history and development of concrete structures. He is providing leadership in the AIA Historic Resources Committee, and on the Board of DOCOMOMO/US. He continues to work with schools and ACSA, leading 'dialogues' on preservation education in architectural education in Washington, DC and Bath, England, and co-chairing the Cranbrook Teachers' Seminar planned for June 2006.

Jack Pyburn has indeed "promoted the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession through practice, teaching and research in Historic Preservation." I commend this former student, colleague and friend to the Jury with enthusiasm and without reservation.

David G. Woodcock, FAIA, FSA, FAPT  
Professor of Architecture

## Section 1: Summary



### Nomination

**Jack Pyburn, AIA**

**OJP/Architect, Inc., *Historic Preservation Architecture & Planning***  
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**American Institute of Architects**  
**Georgia Chapter, Atlanta**  
Member Since: 1984

### Category of Nomination

To Promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession through  
**Historic Preservation.**

### Sponsor

**David Woodcock, FAIA, FSA, FAPT**

Professor & Director  
Historic Resources Imaging Laboratory,  
Texas A&M University, College of Architecture,  
College Station Texas 77843

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e. [dwoodcock@archmail.tamu.edu](mailto:dwoodcock@archmail.tamu.edu)

### Nominated by

**Atlanta Chapter, American Institute of Architects**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James G. Fausett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "J".

**James G. Fausett, FAIA**  
President

### Date

18 October 2005

## Section 1: Summary

### Nominee's Education

Name/location	Number of years	Degree
C. E. Byrd High School, Shreveport, LA	3	Diploma 1963
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX	5	Bachelor of Architecture 1969
Washington University, St. Louis, MO	2	M. Arch. & Urban Design 1973

### Practice

*States where nominee is licensed to practice architecture:*

Georgia, #5606 / Alabama, #5158 / Florida, #6505 / South Carolina, #5459 / North Carolina, #7784 / Tennessee, #100723 / Kentucky, #5026

*Nominee is engaged in the profession of architecture as:* Firm Owner

After two years of intern architectural experience in Miami, Florida and graduate school, Jack Pyburn joined the St. Louis firm of **Team Four, Inc** in 1973. As a preservation architect, community planner and urban designer, he advanced the state of planning and preservation for several of St. Louis' notable historic districts including the Souard and Lafayette Square districts. His work on the nationally recognized Washington University Redevelopment Program elevated sensitive institutional urban redevelopment with historic neighborhood preservation as its foundation. During this time, Mr. Pyburn wrote the land use guide for the U.S. Air Force NEPA Planning Manual and was a major contributor to the drafting of a new zoning ordinance for the City of St. Louis.

In 1981, Mr. Pyburn became the Principal-in-Charge of a southeast regional office for **EDAW, Inc** in Atlanta, Georgia and a member of its Board of Directors. During his four-year tenure, he managed the site and urban design of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta, prepared numerous countywide and regional preservation, recreation, urban design and land use plans, and produced system-wide planning guidance for use in all branches of the U.S. Department of Defense.

In 1984, he founded **OJP/Architect, Inc.**, a historic preservation architecture and planning firm in Atlanta, Georgia with a focus on historically sensitive adaptive use. Over two decades, he has amassed a portfolio of experience that includes an exceptional breadth of work adapting historic county courthouses, cultural centers and educational buildings to support modern functions while preserving their historic integrity. The firm's experience has been primarily addressing buildings from the 1860's forward, including recent past modern architecture.

"Mr. Pyburn's contribution to preservation of our nation's architectural heritage is well-known. He has worked on a series of National Historic Landmark buildings for the NPS and is widely respected for his knowledge, professionalism, and, most important, his dedication to the preservation of the nation's cultural heritage. *The high quality of his work has become a benchmark for assessing the work of other contractors with the NPS.*"

**Tommy Jones, Cultural Resources Specialist**  
Southeast Regional Office,  
National Park Service

## Section 1: Summary

Nominee

Jack Pyburn, AIA

### Statement of Achievements

Jack Pyburn has accomplished exceptional historical research on the role of modern design and technology in the internationalization of architecture and provides especial preservation leadership through his original research, award-winning practice and effective advocacy.

### Summary of Achievements/ Notable Contributions

"Jack Pyburn's willingness to perform a challenging **research** effort in addition to his professional practice, and to share the results of his research with the architectural and engineering community, is a unique contribution to the field."

**Paul Gaudette, PE, FACI,**  
Preservation Engineer,  
Wiss, Janney, Elstner Assoc.,  
Chicago, IL

"Jack Pyburn has brought to **his work** in Alabama the kind of thoughtfulness that comes from a true understanding of how buildings work. He understands the importance of history as well as architecture, and of maintenance as well as design. No one brings a more thorough set of drawings to the project, which results in better understanding of the problems involved and a better price from the contractor. He understands the value of team work."

**Elizabeth Brown, AIA, Alabama State**  
Historic Preservation Officer

"Jack Pyburn's **advocacy** position in matters and considerations of architectural preservation encompass both historic and contemporary structures of significance. His dedicated and precise execution of each of his preservation projects is reflected in his own successful preservation practice"



**Warren W. Cunningham, FAIA**  
Principal Emeritus, GBQC, PIC,  
Philadelphia Police HQ's, 1960

Jack Pyburn's contributions to historic preservation architecture through research, practice and advocacy are linked by a sustained exploration of the relationship of preservation to **the future**. His **research** has focused on emerging preservation issues and concepts, his **practice** on the future use of historic buildings and his **advocacy** for modern historic resources.

**Research/** Jack Pyburn's 1973 published research "Confronting Suburban Deterioration" considered **the future** issues of an aging and ultimately historically relevant suburbia. His recent examination of architectural precast concrete technology has made him **an expert** in its history and its impact on the internationalization of architecture in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His research revealed that early architectural precast concrete technology facilitated the internationalization of architecture. Mr. Pyburn's precast concrete research was presented in two sessions at the 2004 DOCOMOMO International Conference in New York and is currently being prepared for publication by that organization. In addition, he presented his research to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Precast Concrete Institute in 2004.

**Practice/** In Mr. Pyburn's two decades of preservation architectural practice, he has worked on 23 historic county courthouses whose dates of construction span from 1836 to 1937. This **experience** has provided an opportunity to chart the evolution of design and construction in a single building type and to identify the progression of technology from the origins of industrialization in construction into **the future**. He has disseminated his knowledge of historic courthouses through the authorship of the preservation architectural sections of a "Courthouse Manual" **published** in 1992 by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG). This manual has been the basis for courthouse preservation guidance throughout Georgia for over a decade and in other states. The manual is currently being updated by Mr. Pyburn for the ACCG pro bono.

Adaptive use, **the future** for many historic buildings, has been and continues to be the focus of Mr. Pyburn's historic preservation practice. His approach of aligning function, modern systems and historical significance has consistently produced award-winning preservation of buildings of national, state and local significance.

**Advocacy/** Mr. Pyburn's commitment to advocacy for the preservation of modern movement architecture is linked to his interest in the shared values of preservation and design. As a member of the board of directors of DOCOMOMO/US he provides professional **leadership** by expanding awareness of, appreciation for, and the protection of historically significant modern resources.

As Chair of the AIA/HRC's Historic Preservation Architectural Education Task Group since 2003, Mr. Pyburn has provided the **leadership** that has produced new relationships between the AIA and the academia to integrate preservation values into professional architectural education. His **leadership** led to preservation revisions to the NAAB Student Performance Criteria in 2003, a successful AIA/HRC national symposium on preservation in architectural education in 2004 and an international conference on the subject in 2005. Mr. Pyburn is co-chair of the ACSA/AIA Cranbrook Teacher's Conference in 2006 that will focus on preservation in architectural education.

## Section 2: Accomplishments

### 2.1 Selected Design Projects



#### **Pond Spring (Prehistoric to 1939)** Wheeler, Alabama

**National Register of Historic Places**

*Pond Spring is the home place of General Joe Wheeler, legendary Civil War and Spanish/American War soldier and U.S. Congressman. Jack Pyburn directed a multi-disciplinary team of preservation architects, engineers, planners, landscape architects, historians and archeologists to prepare a master plan for what has been identified as one of the five most important properties in the State of Alabama's inventory of historic properties. The State is proceeding to implement the plan. They have retained Mr. Pyburn and his firm to direct the restoration of the site.*



#### **16th Street Baptist Church (1911)** Birmingham, Alabama

**National Historic Landmark**

*Mr. Pyburn has served as the senior preservation Architect for the development of an initial assessment, a Historic Structure Report and a National Historic Landmark nomination and has served as the Senior Preservation Architect for the exterior restoration of this most significant icon of U.S. Civil Rights history. The landmark nomination is one of the first prepared outside the National Park Service. It has received staff and advisory committee approval and is pending final approval of the Secretary of the Interior in late 2005. Phase one of the exterior restoration is under way.*



#### **Martha Munro Building (1935)**

**National Register Eligible**

State University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Georgia

*Jack Pyburn served as the Historic Preservation Architect for the rehabilitation and adaptive use of the original agricultural education building on this land grant campus in west central Georgia. Originally accommodating what were considered home economics curriculum, the building included a full living unit as a teaching lab, two classrooms and a meeting/performance hall with a small stage. The building was converted to house the Drama Department. The living room/dining room of the teaching residence was converted to a conference room, the rear roof deck was restored and a sprung floor and modern sound and lighting were inserted into the meeting hall.*



#### **County Courthouse (1991)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Haralson County, Georgia

*In 1995, Hurricane Opal hit this already neglected courthouse causing significant damage to the tower roof and exterior building details. Mr. Pyburn directed the restoration of the building's exterior including terracotta and pressed metal details in two phases while coordinating the work with FEMA who provided much of the funding for the building repairs.*



#### **New Plymouth Historic District (c.1776)**

**National Historic District (Bahamas)**

Green Turtle Cay, Bahamas

*With a group of Students and in partnership with the Texas A&M University Historic Resources Laboratory and the Bahamas Department of Archives, Mr. Pyburn organized the first comprehensive historic district survey in the Bahamas. The result of that work placed the village of New Plymouth as the first national historic district in the out islands of the Bahamas.*



#### **Captain Roberts House (c.1825)**

**National Landmark (Bahamas)**

Village of New Plymouth Green Turtle Cay, Bahamas

*As a result of the interest generated by the historic district survey, a private donor stepped forward with the money to preserve the most important house in New Plymouth in 1997. Mr. Pyburn was hired to direct the restoration that included, in addition to the production of construction documents and construction administration, completing the work with materials and specialized preservation labor from the US within 4 months, a schedule typically unattainable in the Bahamas.*



### **McCloud Plantation (1856)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Charleston, South Carolina

The main house, slave quarters and remaining land of the McCloud Plantation are located at the entry of the Charleston Country Club. The Historic Charleston Foundation hired Mr. Pyburn and his former business partner, Dale Jaeger, FASLA, to prepare a strategy for the sensitive development of a portion of the plantation property to generate funds to restore the property's more significant resources.



### **Old Church (1842)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Oxford Georgia

Old Church is one of a limited number of Shrines of the Methodist Church, the second building constructed on the original campus of Emory University before it relocated to Atlanta. Old Church has been the baccalaureate site of Emory University or Emory at Oxford, the university's two-year preparatory campus, since 1842. Mr. Pyburn directed the preservation of this exceptional gothic revival chapel.



### **Bodie Island Lighthouse (1859)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Cape Hatteras National Seashore, North Carolina

Mr. Pyburn was the Senior Preservation Architect for the preparation of a Condition Assessment and Historic Structure Report for the National Park Service. The lighthouse's cast iron had deteriorated and the structure was experiencing significant moisture problems. Mr. Pyburn's recommendations provided guidance for addressing both concerns.

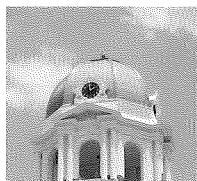


### **Historic District Design Guidelines (1885-2004)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Fort McPherson/Fort Gillem, Georgia

Fort McPherson is one of the oldest posts in the U.S. Army facility inventory. Its historic district is most important in military history. It has served as home for many of important late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Army Generals. Mr. Pyburn directed the preparation of historic district design guidelines. The implementation of the guidelines will produce development that is respectful of the historic district and accommodating of the modern mission of the Army.



### **Courthouse Dome Restoration (1902)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Bartow County, Georgia

As a follow-up to the preparation of a Historic Preservation Plan for the Bartow Courthouse, Mr. Pyburn directed the rehabilitation of the historic dome that serves as a beacon over the county seat of Cartersville. The project corrected structural deterioration, provided a long term roofing membrane and returned the courthouse dome and tower to its earlier splendor.

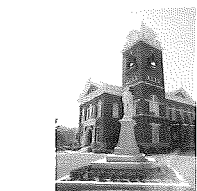


### **Roselawn (1895)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Cartersville, Georgia

Roselawn was the home of Sam Jones, an early very successful Methodist evangelist. In 1895, Rev. Jones lifted a small cottage into the air and constructed a mansion under and around it. Mr. Pyburn directed the exterior restoration of the structure.



### **County Courthouse (1888)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Butts County, Georgia

Jack Pyburn directed the exterior restoration of this historic courthouse including the restoration of the metal fascia and tower ornament, the slate roof, decorative terracotta and masonry. In addition, the historic building was sensitively made ADA accessible.



### **Georgia Institute of Genetics (1943)**

**National Register Eligible**

Cartersville, Georgia

The Georgia Institute of Genetics was a combination of cotton gin and research lab to support one of the most far reaching agricultural experiments of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, single specie cotton farming. Jack Pyburn prepared the guidance for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for the rehabilitation and adaptive use of this specialized structure for academic functions.



### **Hill Hall, Savannah State University (1901)**

**National Register Eligible**

Savannah, Georgia

*Hill Hall is the most significant building on this historically black university campus. The building, built by students and faculty, was significantly damaged by fire during construction. Jack Pyburn assisted the University and the Georgia Board of Regents in assessing the damage and defining a strategy for the structures reconstruction. Critical to this assignment was addressing residual building value for insurance purposes and coordinating with the National Park Service who has invested in the initial preservation work that caused the fire.*

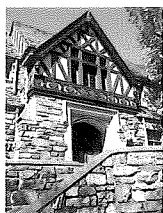


### **Alcovy River Grist Mill (1868)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Gwinnett County, Georgia

*Mr. Pyburn directed the preparation of a Historic Structure Report for the last remaining mill in this rapidly growing Atlanta county. The mill and dam were inundated by a record flood due to upstream development just months after the HSR was completed. He is currently preparing the preservation strategy for the mill, dam and sluiceway as part of a Gwinnett County Park Master Plan.*



### **Swann House (1929)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Birmingham, Alabama

*Theodore Swann, an inventor and entrepreneur made and lost several fortunes. Built for \$1 million in the depths of the depression, the Swann house is a modern concrete structure in a Tudor style wrapping. The roof structure is a steel frame with early nailable cementitious decking. Jack Pyburn has directed preparation of a Historic Structure Report and exterior restoration of the house for private clients.*



### **Pickens County Jail (1965/1907)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Jasper, Georgia

*Historic jails are an important part of local, state and national history. The marble clad Pickens County Jail (Pickens County is the home of Georgia Marble) possesses the characteristics of many early southern jails. The sheriff and his family lived down stairs, the prisoners upstairs. Mr. Pyburn prepared a Preservation Plan for the jail.*



### **Residence Inn (1999)**

**New Construction**

Downtown Historic District, Chattanooga, Tennessee

*Mr. Pyburn was the design architect for a new \$6.5 million hotel in the revitalizing Chattanooga Downtown Historic District adjacent the Aquarium. Located between the Children's Museum and IMAX Theater, the hotel draws inspiration from the adjacent warehouses and yet met all Marriott Hotel standards for room configuration and amenity.*

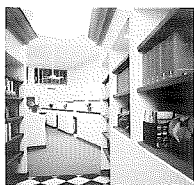


### **Candler Hall (1904)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

*The Candler Hall project was exceptional from several perspectives. The building links the UGA campus to significant military history. The project was an adaptive use assignment to house the first new academic department at the university in 40 years. Finally, the \$2 million project had to be complete within 8 months of the date of Mr. Pyburn's firm being selected for the preservation design assignment. While meeting the budget and schedule, Mr. Pyburn, as Principal in Charge directed the preservation of the buildings significant historic features and the reconfiguring extant conditions to interpret the original duplex layout with its twin entries and stairs. The building was made fully handicapped accessible and received all new systems including state of the art lecture technology*

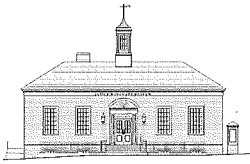


### **119 Washington Street (1927)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Gainesville, Georgia

*Mr. Pyburn and former business partner, Dale Jaeger, FASLA, purchased and rehabilitated this brass-clad storefront just off the downtown Gainesville, Georgia square. They listed the building on the National Register of Historic Places and participated in the Federal historic preservation tax program. Mr. Pyburn adapted the two-story space for a design office while preserving the historic features of the building and restoring the central skylight.*



### **Post Office (1940)**

Cadiz, Kentucky

**National Register of Historic Places**

The small western Kentucky community of Cadiz desired to adapt the vacated post office to an arts center with a significant private grant. Jack Pyburn prepared a Preservation Plan and conceptual design for the project that included the addition of a full performance hall on the rear of the historic structure that was subordinated in height and scale to the small local post office while asserting its own modern identity.

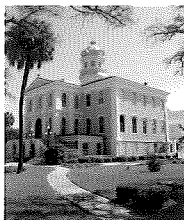


### **Crawford Long Museum (1897/1880/1906)**

Jefferson, Georgia

**National Register of Historic Places**

Mr. Pyburn served as the Preservation Architect to the Crawford W. Long Museum for over 15 years. He directed the initial rehabilitation and restoration of a three building complex that included a general store, the office of Dr. Long (the discoverer of modern anesthesia) and a burned out barbershop. The barbershop was converted to offices, a small gallery and research library.

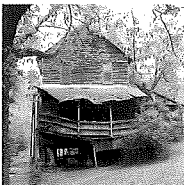


### **Thomas County Courthouse (1858/1885)**

Thomasville, Georgia

**National Register of Historic Places**

The Thomas County courthouse is one of the most architecturally significant courthouses in the State of Georgia. Mr. Pyburn directed the preparation of a Preservation Plan that directed the relocation of the county's judicial functions out of the historic structure, identified county function suitable for the building and defined a scope of improvements and budget for the courthouse that will preserve its historical significance and extend its life for the long term.

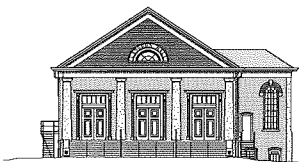


### **Heads Mill (c.1850)**

Hall County, Georgia

**National Register of Historic Places**

Recently liberated from its role as a rural antique shop, this structure has been purchased as a cultural asset to be incorporated into the county's greenway plan. The mill retains a significant amount of the underpinning workings including gears, pulleys and drive shafts, mill stone, raceway and remnants of the dam. Mr. Pyburn prepared the Preservation Plan to guide the restoration of this structure.



### **Langdon Hall (1876)**

Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

**National Register Eligible**

Mr. Pyburn directed the preparation of measured drawings to the standards of the National Historic Building Survey and was the Preservation Architect on the team to adapt Langdon Hall, which had been moved to its current site in the late 1800's from a nearby Women's Academy, from a meeting hall to administrative offices. The HABS drawings of the building were accepted by and are on permanent file at the Library of Congress.



### **Gwinnett County Courthouse (1885)**

Courthouse Square, Lawrenceville, Georgia

**National Register of Historic Places**

Abandoned by one of the fastest growing counties in the 1990's for new facilities, the adaptive use of this historic courthouse for countywide community use was directed by Mr. Pyburn for the County's recreation department. The courtroom was adapted for event rental and the first floor offices for breakout rooms and small art galleries. The basement records room was outfitted for a grill fry restaurant and an adjunct of the county library system reading room was inserted including capacity for data connection with the main library. The square was laid out for events including a gazebo powered for music and outdoor performances in a historic location.



### **Stewart County Courthouse (1896, 1923)**

Lumpkin, Georgia

**National Register of Historic Places**

Partially destroyed by fire in 1922, the original wood Courthouse floor system was replaced using reinforced concrete. Today, the structure is an exceptional example of the dramatic changes in construction materials and methods in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. These changes were documented in a Preservation Plan directed by Mr. Pyburn. Based on that plan, he subsequently directed the exterior restoration of the courthouse, the first phase of a two-phase improvement program.





### **Snyder Federal Courthouse (1935)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Louisville, Kentucky

The General Services Administration retained Mr. Pyburn and his firm to test and refine a new computer based model Building Preservation Plan, the GSA equivalent of the NPS's Historic Structure Report. The Building Preservation Plan is used by Building Manager, Preservation Officials and Architectural consultants in making sound preservation decisions while meeting the functional demands of GSA tenants. The computer based interactive document will be able to be updated by staff and consultants providing up to date information on building conditions and treatment.



### **Belle Mont Plantation (1828)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Tuscumbia, Alabama

Belle Mont Plantation, like several other surviving north Alabama structures, was influenced by the architecture of the tidewater area of Virginia, the origin of many early settlers of the area. Originally, meticulously restored in the 1970's by the late Harvey Jones from north Alabama. Mr. Pyburn had the opportunity to follow the excellent work of Mr. Jones in preparing an assessment for the owner, the Alabama Historical Commission. He also directed the preparation of the first phase of updates of Mr. Jones's restoration work.

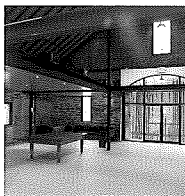


### **Lumpkin County Jail (c.1884)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Dahlonega, Georgia

A unique jail whose cells are constructed of heavy timber walls within a load bearing brick structure was experiencing rising damp and severe brick decomposition. Mr. Pyburn identified the source of the water and provided construction documentation for the correction of the moisture damage including the management of the construction phase of jail improvements.



### **Rock Barn (1906)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Cherokee County, Georgia

Originally a horse barn, the barn was in the possession of the local historical society who had gone through one failed effort to adapt the structure for use as a headquarters and unique community meeting space. In addition, the barn was to exhibit the collection of the society's vintage farm implements. Mr. Pyburn's design for the adapted space includes a ceiling interpreting the original loft on the west half of the otherwise open barn that accommodates more intimate lighting for exhibits and conceals ductwork that supplies the building with conditioned air.



### **Hubbard School (1934)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Forsyth, Georgia

This historically black high school academy was closed in the 1980's and was in near derelict condition. Mr. Pyburn has worked with the alumni association from the school to develop a Preservation Plan and to stabilize the structure. He has followed up with the replacement of the roof and guttering, a critical stabilization action. The association is currently raising money to complete the restoration of the exterior that includes windows, masonry and the entry portico.



### **Randolph County Courthouse (1886)**

**National Register of Historic Places**

Cuthbert, Georgia

This rural county courthouse with its Dutch revival detailing is one of only three courthouses in Georgia designed by the transplanted New York architect William Parkins. With the decline of the agrarian economy in southwest Georgia, the decline of the courthouse and the advances in court technology and security, the county is planning to move the judicial functions to a new facility. Mr. Pyburn has identified the physical needs for the courthouse in a Preservation Plan, proposed a revitalized county use for the building and is currently under construction with the replacement of a failed roof and guttering.

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American Institute of Architects  
Historic Resources Committee



Washington  
University  
in St. Louis



The University of Georgia

## 2.2 Research Conducted

- **Architectural Precast Technology and Its Role in the Internationalization of Architecture**, 2002-2005
- **Philadelphia Police Headquarters, Case Study in Mid Century**, 2004-2005
- **Evolution of Courthouse Design and Construction, 1836-1937**, 1990- Present
- **Confronting Suburban Deterioration**, 1973-1974

## 2.3 Grants Received

- **The Netherland/America Foundation/ 2003** Grant for Research of Mid-Century Architectural Precast Concrete Technology and Its Role in the Internationalization of Architecture/ The grant supported research in the Netherlands of the Schokbeton Precasting System.
- **Association of County Commissioners of Georgia 2003** Grant for evaluation of the cost to rehabilitate all the historic courthouses and city halls in the State of Georgia
- **National Endowment for the Arts Graduate Thesis Fellowship/ 1973** Fellowship supported travel throughout the United States to examine examples of suburban deterioration and the associated issues for future preservation and quality of life.

## 2.4 Leadership Positions Held

- Member/Advisory Group, **National Historic Resources Committee**, American Institute of Architects 2002-2007
- Chair, **Task Group on Historic Preservation Architectural Education**, AIA/Historic Resources Committee, 2003-Present
- Co-Chair, **ACSA/AIA Cranbrook Teacher's Institute**, 2006
- Member/Founding Chair, **Professional Fellows/ Historic Resources Imaging Laboratory**, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University, 1998-Present
- Member/Board of Directors, **DOCOMOMO/US**, 2004-Present
- Member, Properties Committee, **The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation**, 1999-2001
- Member, Advocacy Committee, **The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation**, 2004-Present
- Class of 1975, **Danforth Foundation's St. Louis Leadership Program**

## 2.5 Academic Experience

- Instructor, **Urban Structure & Design**, Forest Park Community College, 1974
- Instructor, **Urban Physical Planning**, Washington University, St. Louis, 1976-1978
- Instructor, **Preservation Practice**, School of Environmental Design, University of Georgia, 1986
- Instructor, **Architectural Detailing**, Interior Design Department, Brenau University, 1992

Southern Polytechnic State University



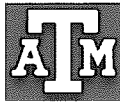
- Lecturer, **Historic Preservation**, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University, 1997-2001
- Lecturer, **Historic Preservation**, Southern Polytechnic State University, College of Architecture, 2002
- Lecturer, **Historic Preservation**, Columbia University, 2004/2005

## 2.6 Jury Experience

- **Philadelphia Athenaeum/National Park Service/ AIA Peterson Prize Jury**, 2004
- **AIA/Washington DC Design Awards (Historic Resources) Jury**, 2004
- **Association for Preservation Technology International, Publication Awards Jury**, 2005

## 2.7 Awards

### National Awards



- **Award for Distinguished Service to the Association for Collegiate Schools of Architecture, International Conference, 2005, Mexico City/** Organizer and Moderator of Panel on the Preservation of Modern Architecture in Canada, the United States and Mexico

- **Outstanding Historic Structure Report/ National Park Service, 2003**, for contributions to the 1960 *Wright Brothers Memorial Visitor Center Historic Structure Report*

- **Outstanding Alumnus**, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University, 2004

### Regional Awards

- **Preservation Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions to Historic Preservation in Georgia, 2005/** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, State of Georgia

- **Award of Merit, AIA/ Alabama, Restoration of the Vulcan Tower**, Birmingham, AL, 2004

- **Outstanding Publication, *Georgia Courthouse Manual***, The Georgia Trust, American Planning Association/ Georgia Chapter, 1993

American Society of Landscape Architects  
Georgia Chapter

- **Outstanding Preservation Project Awards, The Georgia Trust**

- **Historic Canton High School**, Canton, GA, 2004
- **Historic Newton County Courthouse**, Covington, GA, 2004
- **Historic Haralson County Courthouse**, Buchanan, GA, 2003
- **Historic Rock Barn**, Canton, GA, 2001
- **Historic Cherokee County Courthouse**, Canton, GA, 1998
- **Historic Gwinnett County Courthouse**, Lawrenceville, GA, 1993
- **Historic Harris Cabin**, Walton County, GA, 1990
- **119 Washington Street**, Gainesville, GA, 1989
- **Historic Crawford Long Museum**, Jefferson, GA, 1988

- **Outstanding Rehabilitation Project, AIA/Georgia, Historic Gwinnett County Courthouse**, Lawrenceville, GA, 1993

- **Outstanding Rehabilitation Project/ ASLA /Georgia, Historic Gwinnett County Courthouse**, Lawrenceville, GA, 1993





### Local Awards

- **Outstanding Rehabilitation Project, ASID/Georgia, Historic Gwinnett County Courthouse, Lawrenceville, GA, 1993**
- **Honor Award, ASLA /Georgia, Preservation & Development Strategy, McLeod Plantation, Charleston, SC, 1988**
- **Excellence in Community Planning, Mecham Park Neighborhood Plan, Missouri Chapter, American Planning Association, 1974**
- **Excellence in Urban Redevelopment Planning, Union Sarah UDAG Grant Program, Missouri Chapter, American Planning Association, 1981**
- **Excellence in Community Commercial Redevelopment Planning, Webster Groves Downtown Revitalization Plan, Missouri Planning Association, 1981**
- **Award for Outstanding Achievement in Civic/Community Resource Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation of the Federal Courthouse, Tallahassee, FL. Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation, 2005**

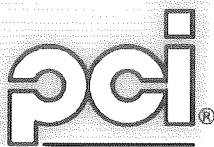
### 2.8 Selected Presentations

- **Confronting Suburban Deterioration, National Convention, American Institute of Planners, San Antonio, Texas, 1974**
- **Preserving the Past/ Building the Future Conference, *Presentation on Historic Preservation Architectural Practice*, AIC/ AIA/HRC/ NCPTT, Alexandria, Louisiana, 1996**
- **National Historic Courthouse Conference, Organizing Committee & Track Leader, Historic Resources Committee/ American Institute of Architects, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1997**
- **Technology & Techniques in Historic Preservation Architecture, State Conference, Alabama/AIA, Mobile, Alabama, 2000**
- **Preserving Modern Architecture, Annual Conference, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, Organizing Committee & Track Leader, Atlanta, Georgia, 2000**
- **Bahamian Historic Districts, Creating a Structure for the Preservation of a Nation's Historic Resources, National Preservation Conference, Antiquities, Monuments & Museums Corporation, Nassau, Bahamas, 2002**
- **Historic Preservation Architectural Education/ A Dialog, AIA/Historic Resources Committee Annual Conference, Conference Co-Chair, 2004**
- **"The Role of Architectural Precast Concrete in the Internationalization of Post War Modernism," VIIIth DOCOMOMO/2004 International Conference, New York, NY, 2004,**
- **"Precast Concrete Technology in Post War Building Construction," VIIIth DOCOMOMO International Conference/ Technology Seminars, New York, NY, 2004**
- **"Mid-Century Architectural Precast Concrete," 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention of the Precast Concrete Institute, Atlanta, GA, 2004**
- **The Philadelphia Police Administration Building, An Icon of Design and Technology, Tradition Building Conference, Philadelphia, PA, April 2005**



"Among Jack Pyburn's many significant projects has been his work to preserve the county court houses of Georgia. Not only are his architectural solutions to the preservation and re-use of these buildings, **outstanding**, but his many years of survey work and educational activities have had a **wide and lasting impact**. Jack has given generously of his time and expertise both in Georgia and nationally to support many initiatives to improve the quality of the built environment."

**Dr. Elizabeth A Lyon**  
Georgia SHPO, retired  
Past Chair, NCPTT Advisory  
Board



- **Commitment: Strategies and Partnerships, Historic Preservation in Professional Architectural Education, An International Dialog, Session Moderator, University of Bath, Bath England, September 2005**

## 2.9 Publications

- Pyburn, Jack H., "**Confronting Suburban Deterioration**," Innovation & Action in Regional Planning, Bureau of Regional Planning Research, Urbana, Illinois, 1972
- Pyburn, Jack H., Ward, Richard C., "**Can the Doctors Heal the City: A Case Study of the Washington University Medical Center Redevelopment Program**," Practicing Planner, American Planning Association, 1977
- Jack Pyburn, AIA, **Various Architectural Projects**, Georgia Architecture, AIA/Georgia, 1985
- Jack Pyburn, AIA and Dale Jaeger, FASLA, **Georgia Courthouse Manual**, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, 1992
- Jack Pyburn, AIA, **Book Review**, Association for Preservation Technology Bulletin 29: 2, Mount Ida Press, 1998
- Jack Pyburn, "**The Role of Architectural Precast Concrete in the Internationalization of Post War Modernism**," Proceedings from the DOCOMOMO/2004 International Conference, New York, NY, 2004, (Forthcoming)



*"Jack Pyburn has given generously of his time and talents in working with numerous public and private groups to support historic preservation.*

*His historic preservation architectural work is regularly used as an example of how buildings should be preserved and adapted for new uses."*

**Dr. W. Ray Luce, Director**  
Historic Preservation Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

## 2.10 Service to Community

- Board of Directors, **Crawford W. Long Museum Association**, Jefferson, GA, 1992-1995. Supported major capital fund drive with architectural services
- Founder, President, **Lake Lanier Rowing Club**, 1990-1996. Emeritus Member, Board of Directors, 1996-Present.
- Board of Directors, **Gainesville-Hall '96**, 1993-1996. Identified venue site and help secure selection of Lake Lanier for 1996 Olympic Rowing Venue. Received **Medal of Honor** from *Federation Internationale des Societes d'Aveiron* (FISA), the International Rowing Federation, for contribution to 1996 Olympic Rowing.
- Boathouse Manager, **Rowing Venue, 1996 Olympics**, Lake Lanier, Gainesville GA.
- Board of Directors, **Lakeview Academy**, 1985-1986, Gainesville GA. Assisted local private school during major facility expansion campaign.
- Board of Directors, **Hall County Historical Society**, 1994. Assisting in reviving struggling local historical society.
- Board of Advisors, **Brenau University**, Gainesville, GA., 1993-1994, Supported University development.

### Section 3: Exhibits



1. Jack Pyburn, "The Role of Architectural Precast Concrete in the Internationalization of Post War Modernism," DOCOMOMO/2004 International Conference, New York, NY, 2004



2. Wright Brother Memorial Visitor Center, 1960, Kill Devil Hill, NC, *National Historic Landmark*



3. Georgia Southwestern State University, 1907-1968, *National Register Historic District (Pending)*



4. Georgia Historic Courthouse Rehabilitation Manual, 1992



5. Vulcan Tower, Birmingham, AL, 1937, *National Historic Landmark*



6. Federal Courthouse, Tallahassee, FL, 1936, *National Historic Landmark*



7. Historic Courthouse, Cherokee County, GA, 1932, *National Register of Historic Places*



8. Canton High School, Canton, GA, 1923/1927, *National Register Eligible*



9. Historic Courthouse, Newton County, GA, 1886, *National Register of Historic Places*



10. Cane River Historical Park, c.1840-1960, *National Register of Historic Places*

## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 1.

#### Mid-Century Architectural Precast Concrete and Its Role in Modern Movement Architecture

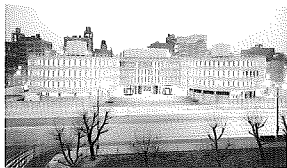
##### Original Research



Completion Date: 2004

Role of Nominee: Primary Researcher/ Author

#### Synopsis



Philadelphia Police Headquarters, GBQC, 1960



"Jack Pyburn is a thoughtful and energetic proponent of serious research into the principals controlling aspects of historically enduring building envelopes and the construction systems and processes which they represent"

**Warren W. Cunningham, FAIA**  
**Principal in Charge, GBQC**  
**Philadelphia Police**  
**Headquarters, 1960**

Mr. Pyburn undertook original research exploring the evolution of architectural precast concrete and its influence on modern movement architecture. The research focused on the Dutch precasting system, Schokbeton that was patented in 1932 in Holland and exported throughout the world including to the United States in 1960. This research included:

- A trip to New York, the location of the first Schokbeton licensee, Eastern Schokbeton to identify pertinent information.
- A trip to New Jersey to interview key employees of Eastern Schokbeton
- Hiring of a research assistant in the Netherlands
- A research trip to Holland to visit Dutch Schokbeton projects and plants
- Interviews with significant Dutch Schokbeton technical representatives instrumental in the export of the precasting technology to the United States and elsewhere worldwide.
- The collection and organization of a vast amount of original documents and papers related to the Schokbeton Precasting System.

The findings from this research linked the early precasting technology in the United States and Schokbeton to John Earley and the Mo-Sa precasting, Precast Building Section, Inc., the brain-child of housing advocate and architect Grosvenor Atterbury and the Sage Foundation, Frank Lloyd Wright, Philip Johnson, Marcel Breuer, John Johansen, Geddes Brecher Qualls and Cunningham and Edward Durrell Stone.

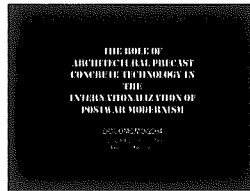
Mr. Pyburn presented his research at the VIIIth International DOCOMOMO Conference in New York City and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Precast Concrete Institute in Atlanta, Georgia in 2004. His research is currently being published in the Proceedings of the VIIIth International DOCOMOMO Conference.

Awards Received: Research Grant, The Netherland/America Foundation

#### Declaration of Responsibility

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included Primary Researcher, Presenter and Author.*

  
Theo Prudon, FAIA, Associate Professor  
Columbia University



## **The Role of Architectural Precast Concrete Technology in the Internationalization of Post-War Modernism**

By: Jack Pyburn, AIA

DOCOMOMO/2004 International Conference

27 September 2004

New York, New York

### **Introduction**

The ability to prefabricate concrete for use as an acceptable exterior building finish was substantially achieved by the mid 1950's. This capability supported the exploration of design and aesthetics beyond modernism's minimalist origins over the subsequent 25 years. In the 1960's and 1970's, the Dutch precasting company, N.V. Schokbeton, and its licenses had a far-reaching collaboration with mid-century modern designers. Schokbeton was an agent of post war modernism by deploying its architectural precasting concepts, processes and custom production equipment worldwide.



### **Antecedents of Mid-Century Architectural Precast Concrete**

Acceptable architectural concrete precasting evolved over the first half of the twentieth century from the work of designers, engineers and builders with divergent objectives and using a variety of mixing and casting methods. One member of that group was New York housing activist and architect, Grosvenor Atterbury (1869-1956).



Working with Fredrick Law Olmstead and with the support of the Russell Sage Foundation, Atterbury developed and applied his concepts for precast housing in the early suburban planned development of Forest Hills Gardens in the Borough of Queens, New York. By 1950, Atterbury's precast concrete system was being produced under the name Precast Building Section, Inc. (PBSI). The PBSI system was engineered to cast large (4' x 8'-10') lightweight concrete panels for affordable housing.

Working parallel with Atterbury in the United States were those exploring concrete's aesthetic potential.



Such was the focus of James Earley (1856-1906), a sculptor, and his son John (1881-1945) working in Rosslyn, Virginia. The "Earley Process", as it came to be known, concentrated on the exposure of aggregate to achieve an architectural concrete finish that Earley referred to as "mosaic".<sup>1</sup> The Earley Studio, in partnership with a New Haven, Connecticut cast stone producer, Dextone, established Mo-Sai Associates in 1940 to license its "mosaic" casting method to other precasters. By 1959 there were fourteen Mo-Sai licensees across the U.S.<sup>2</sup>

In the Netherlands, the Schokbeton precasting system emerged in the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in a region depleted of wood, with an abundance of river rock, with access to lime and with an escalating demand for construction. From its origins, Schokbeton progressed from precasting discrete building components such as delicate

<sup>1</sup> Fredrick W. Cron, *The Man Who Made Concrete Beautiful, A biography of John Joseph Early*, Centennial Publications, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1977.

<sup>2</sup> *Sweets Catalog*, McGraw Hill, New York, New York, 1959



In the Netherlands, the Schokbeton precasting system emerged in the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in a region depleted of wood, with an abundance of river rock, with access to lime and with an escalating demand for construction. From its origins, Schokbeton progressed from precasting discrete building components such as delicate concrete barn windows to complete barns to concrete housing and ultimately to custom architectural precast concrete.

The export of Schokbeton's knowledge and technology internationally is a story linked to post World War II reconstruction in Europe, Cold War defense construction in Greenland, the end of colonialism in Africa and the American building boom of the 1960s.



### **Characteristics of Architectural Precast Concrete**

Concrete's potential as an architectural material is in its three primary qualities; structure, plasticity and finish. Architectural precast concrete is a custom product. It becomes economically competitive in the construction marketplace through repetitive production of building elements. The process of producing architectural precast concrete includes, batch design and mixing, mold design and fabrication, the tying and placing of reinforcing steel, casting, curing, finishing, transport of the product to the job site and erection. This process is complex with significant challenges and risks to achieve consistent concrete quality, uniform finish and undamaged installation.



To produce aesthetically acceptable results, greater control of the entire precasting process was required than could be obtained with in situ casting. To gain the necessary control, the casting process was moved to a plant. In the plant, talented patternmakers could affordably produce quality molds unachievable at a project site. In addition, environmental conditions, mixing, casting and finishing could be highly controlled. However, with precasting,



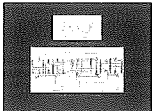
concrete construction became modular to achieve the economic efficiencies of repeated mold use and constrained in size by the necessity to transport finished product to the project site.

To create an acceptable architectural casting requires that concrete be placed in the mold using methods that leave minimal or no voids in the casting and achieves uniform consolidation. At mid-century, vibration, produced by various automated and labor-intensive techniques ranging from probes to surface vibrators, was typically used to achieve acceptable consolidation and appearance.



### **The Schokbeton System**

The Dutch word "schokbeton" means, "shocked concrete." The Schokbeton system was patented in Holland in 1932. Legend has it that an alert craftsman wheel barrowing batched concrete across a bouncing wooden scaffold discovered a fundamental principle of the Schokbeton process. Other reports suggest wheelbarrows with ropes tied through the wheels were used to experiment with the effects of a shock on concrete placement and consolidation. In fact, the Schokbeton approach to precasting was ultimately developed through engineering research and testing. The resulting system produced exceptional castings using engineered mix designs, carefully and creatively constructed molds and the application of controlled shocking during concrete placement.



Schokbeton's distinction in the global field of concrete precasting was in the technological innovation and attention to production details. The Schokbeton system employed a horizontal steel framed shock



table 10 meters, (32.8 feet) by 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) in size. To achieve the shock action, the table was raised and lowered approximately one quarter of an inch two hundred and fifty times a minute. The height of the drop and number of shocks produced by the table were empirically established to achieve an even distribution of force through the casting while avoiding damaging aftershocks. The result was optimally consolidated concrete, evenly



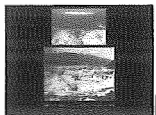
distributed component materials and a uniform finish. In addition, rather than using standard concrete mixing equipment, Schokbeton used rotating upright drums with counter rotating paddles designed for the demanding standards of the glass industry and produced in Germany by Gustav Eirich<sup>3</sup>. In the production process, mix design was a critical step receiving the attention of experienced engineers to select the optimal grading of aggregate and proportioning of component materials. Schokbeton's overall objective was to produce a custom casting that contained the maximum amount of stone and the least amount of cement and water for the optimal finish, strength and economy. Typically, due to the capability of the shock table to consolidate concrete, zero slump concrete was used in Schokbeton castings. The ability to minimize the use of water in the mix to achieve proper placement resulted in consistent high quality castings.

By the mid-1950's, the Schokbeton system was reliably achieving an exceptional architectural precast concrete quality in Western Europe, clearly distinguishing its products from cast in place finish work and that of less disciplined precasters. With its ability to achieve predictable and acceptable results, Schokbeton became exportable.



#### **Schokbeton, an Agent in the Internationalization of Modernism**

The Marshall Plan, charged with the mission to rebuild the European economy after World War II, included a program to identify viable European businesses and match them with opportunity. An entrepreneurial American economist working for the U.S. State Department to implement the economic recovery program, George J. Santry, spotted the potential of Schokbeton and directed them to opportunities for work with the U.S. Corps of Engineers.<sup>4</sup> As the post war mutated into the Cold War, the United States, sought to establish defensive positions against Soviet attack from across the arctic region. It embarked on a secret program to build air bases and communications outposts in Greenland capable of supporting jet aircraft whose range had not yet reached the distance between the continents.



North Atlantic Constructors, a construction consortium led by Kewit Construction Company and using N.V. Schokbeton as its precast concrete subcontractor, was hired to build a number of these facilities including a U.S. Air Force base at Thule, Greenland. Donald Rothenhaus, a young American civil engineer, was placed in charge of receipt and erection of the Schokbeton product at the Thule site.<sup>5</sup>

Upon his return to the United States from Greenland in 1952, Rothenhaus was hired to take over the management of Precast Building Section, Inc. (PBSI)<sup>6</sup>. Despite decades of investment and experimentation, PBSI was not competitive in precast concrete housing or the emerging architectural precast construction market in the New

<sup>3</sup> Abraham Geelhoed, Vice President of Schokbeton Products Corporation and U.S. Technical Representative for Schokbeton between 1960 to 1978, Interviewed by Jack Pyburn, AIA, 26 August 2004, Atlanta, GA.

<sup>4</sup> Abraham Geelhoed, Vice President of Schokbeton Products Corporation and U.S. Technical Representative for Schokbeton between 1960 to 1978, Interviewed by Jack Pyburn, AIA, 14-15 December 2003, Wijk en Aahlberg, Netherlands.

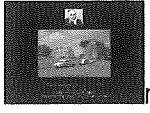
<sup>5</sup> Donald Rothenhaus, *Autobiography*, Unpublished, 2002.

<sup>6</sup> Robert Rheinstein, Interviewed by Telephone by Jack Pyburn, AIA, 31 May 2004, Atlanta, Georgia

York City region. However, using the equipment from the Atterbury process modified with knowledge of Schokbeton's concepts and production methods, Rothenhaus and his colleagues produced notable precast



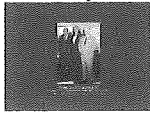
assignments while at PBSI. For example, PBSI cast the only piece of architectural precast on the exterior of Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum, a circular copper coated band at the round clearstory on the



north corner of the building. One of the more demanding assignments produced in PBSI's makeshift plant was one hundred fifty two, twelve foot wide and 60 foot tall triangular structural and architectural panels for the



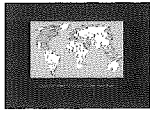
First Presbyterian Church of Stamford, CT designed by Wallace Harrison and his collaborator, Felix Samuley, the British structural engineer for the Penguin Pool at the London Zoo.



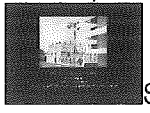
Having completed his State Department assignment and based on his belief in the potential of the Schokbeton system, George Santry acquired the exclusive rights to license the Dutch precasting process in North America in the mid-1950's. Rothenhaus tried to convince his employer at PBSI, the former Housing Authority and Building Commissioner of New York City, Alfred Rheinsein, of the advantages of purchasing a Schokbeton license. After two rejections, Rothenhaus and three professional colleagues purchased the first license to produce Schokbeton in the United States in 1960, under the name of Eastern Schokbeton.<sup>7</sup> Eastern Schokbeton went on to produce work for Marcel Breuer, Philip Johnson, Minoru Yamasaki, Edward Durell Stone, Geddes Brecher Qualls and Cunningham, The Grad Partnership and SOM, to mention a few of a long list of mid-century architects.



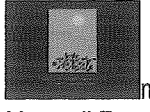
In addition to Eastern Schokbeton, George Santry established licensees in sixteen states from the east coast to Hawaii and Canada during the 1960's. All produced notable work regionally.<sup>8</sup>



Schokbeton exported its technology and methods for precasting to eleven countries across the world and produced projects in scores more. The export of Schokbeton from Holland to parts of the world other than the U.S. illustrates the variety of conditions and circumstances that precipitated the spread of precasting technology and the role of precasting in attempting to adapt modernism to varying cultures and climates. With independence from Great Britain in 1956, the economy of Ghana was opened to international investment. Traditional wood construction had not performed well against Ghana's indigenous termite population. Concrete was a viable alternative.



Schokbeton's interest in Ghana was undoubtedly influenced by the fact that, prior to independence, mid-century architects from Great Britain had transported modernism and the use of concrete in producing it to Ghana. British architects were adapting the principles of modernism to the tropical environment in the spirit of Gropius'



modernist principle of approach over style.<sup>1</sup> British modernists working in Ghana at the time included Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew who published an exceptional book on building with concrete in tropical environments.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Donald Rothenhaus, *Autobiography*, Unpublished, 2002.

<sup>8</sup> Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew, *Tropical Architecture* (New York, Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 1964)



### **The Role of Architectural Precast Concrete in Mid-Century Modern Design**

The 1960's saw the most genuine and far-reaching exploitation of the design potential of architectural precast concrete to date. The precast architecture of this period was defined by the exploration of the boundaries of modernism and the presence of a supportive and versatile architectural precasting production technology.



Marcel Breuer had a significant influence on the sixties generation of modernists. Breuer's influence was exerted through his instruction at Harvard and by his own work. Concrete was Breuer's material of choice.



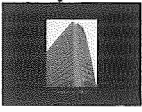
Precasting was a preferred method of assembly both for its sculptural potential and its economy. His architectural career was dominated by the exploration of concrete's relationship with sun and shadow.<sup>9</sup> According to Robert Gatje, his partner, Breuer was enchanted with Schokbeton's casting process.<sup>10</sup> Schokbeton produced buildings for Breuer in the U.S., the Netherlands, Belgium and France.

It was the mid-century modernist architects in the U.S. whose productive years coincided with the maturation of architectural precast concrete as a medium of architectural expression. In their hands, architectural precast concrete became a credible material for expressing the evolving substance of modernism. This generation was a group in charge of a movement in transition.

In over twenty years of production across the world, Schokbeton and its capable competitors, particularly the Mo-Sai Associates group in the U.S., produced an exceptional array of architectural precast concrete projects. The following examples from that body of work were pivotal to the acceptance of precast concrete as a finish architectural product at mid-century. They illustrate the international collaboration between architects and precasters of the time and demonstrate the capabilities of the material and the production process.



The Denver Hilton (1959-1960) designed by I.M. Pei was the first high rise building to use architectural precast panels as the dominant exterior finish building material.<sup>11</sup> Pei used the Mo-Sai process to produce the 22-story, 882-room luxury hotel. The signature thin flat Mo-Sai panels featured exposed aggregate excavated from the site.<sup>12</sup> Beuhner Concrete Products of Salt Lake City, who five years later became the first Schokbeton licensee in the Rocky Mountain region of the U.S., carried out this pioneering architectural precasting assignment.



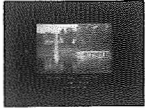
Beyond its scale, the Hilton was significant for seeking to achieve in architectural precast concrete an aesthetic Gordon Bunshaft in the Lever House (1951) and Mies van der Rohe in the Seagrams Building (1959) produced in steel and glass.

<sup>9</sup> Marcel Breuer, *Marcel Breuer: Sun and Shadow*, Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, New York, 1955.

<sup>10</sup> Robert F. Gatje, *Marcel Breuer, A Memoir*, The Monacelli Press, 2000, p. 151.

<sup>11</sup> Abraham Geelhoed, Vice President of Schokbeton Products Corporation and U.S. Technical Representative for Schokbeton from 1960 to 1978, Interviewed by Jack Pyburn, AIA, 14-15 December 2003, Wijk en Aahlberg, Netherlands.

<sup>12</sup> Pei Cobb Freed & Partners, Architects, LLP, available from [www.pcfandp.com/a/p/5204/s.html](http://www.pcfandp.com/a/p/5204/s.html), accessed 23 September 2004.



In 1960, the year Eastern Schokbeton commenced operations, they were hired by Philip Johnson to fabricate a  $\frac{3}{4}$  size study model in the form of a folly over the pond below the Glass House at his New Canaan, CT estate.<sup>11</sup> The structure was designed to explore the manipulation of scale, give an illusion of increased distance

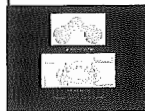


between the house and pond, increase the perceived size of the pond and, according to Philip Johnson, make all the visitors to the folly feel like giants, with its 6' high ceiling clearance.

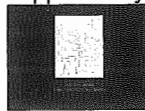
Johnson's experiment illustrates that in 1960, the potential of precasting concrete as an architectural medium was still very much being explored. This project is also an example of modernists moving away from the horizontal planes, volumes and unadorned simplicity of the earlier generations of architects to explore a more expressive modernism that references, if not acknowledges, classicism.



The Philadelphia firm of Geddes Brecher Qualls & Cunningham designed one of the most significant precast concrete buildings in the United States. The Philadelphia Police Headquarters (1961) was the first building in



the United States to use precast concrete in all its significant manifestations, pre-tensioning, post-tensioning, precast structural columns and beams and three story curved architectural and structural wall panels supported by cantilevered precast floor slabs.



The Police Headquarters is a precasting tour de force that was structurally designed by Dr. August Komendant, professor of structural engineering at the University of Pennsylvania and collaborator with Louis Kahn on the Salk Institute. The wall and floor panel design incorporated chases for building systems that produced a clean unencumbered building interior.

Eastern Schokbeton was still in its first year of operation when it received the commission for this project. A precast project of this complexity and scope had not been undertaken in the United States. By this time, however, its Dutch parent, NV Schokbeton, had experience with the full spectrum of precast production. NV Schokbeton collaborated with Eastern Schokbeton on the mold design and construction and Eastern Schokbeton produced the castings and managed the erection.



In his design for the United States Embassy in Dublin, Ireland (1964), John Johansen succeeded as much as any modernist in capturing the plastic qualities of concrete through precasting. The State Department wanted the embassy to be neo-Renaissance in style. Johansen created an "updated example of a traditional rotunda building with an arcaded exterior."<sup>13</sup> The design concept was based on a round plan that responded to the streets



surrounding the small triangular site. His design was characterized by an exceptional architectural precast element that was both structural and sculptural.

<sup>13</sup> John M. Johansen, *John M. Johansen, A Life in the Continuum of Modern Architecture*, (Milano: ARCAEDIZIONI, 1995), p.24.

The casting for this project was carried out in the Kampen, Holland plant of NV Schokbeton. After receiving Johansen's design for the precast elements, Schokbeton built a full-scale mock up of the primary design element to discover proportions different than those expressed in the drawings. Johansen traveled to Holland to collaborate with Schokbeton's engineers to adjust the proportions of this primary structural and sculptural unit. The construction of the mold for this piece was quite challenging. The accommodation of steel to achieve the structural properties added



complexity to the assignment. The ultimate challenge was that of shipping the castings from Holland to Ireland over the North Sea.



The Banque Lambert (1965) project in Brussels was a very important project for NV Schokbeton in Holland and SOM in America. The bank building was a prestigious corporate project by a leading United States design firm whose name would become synonymous with modern corporate architecture. This project helped



establish SOM as a purveyor of corporate design internationally. The honed structural precast upright tees of quartz and white cement were cast in Schokbeton's Kampen, Holland plant. Special stainless steel connections joined the precast elements to produce elevations with a handsome regimented pattern as well as a notable degree of translucency.



### **The Preservation of Mid-Century Architectural Precast Concrete**

Concrete is the only building product that develops its structural and architectural properties during the construction process. Architectural precast concrete is not a building material. It is a building assembly. The precasting process is integral to the character of the assembly. Architectural precast concrete not only possesses physical properties it also embodies a set of technological and economic characteristics of its time. A holistic approach to understanding this building assembly enhances the quality of judgment applied to its preservation.



### **Conclusion**

The decade of the 1960's was a dynamic period for the design and construction of modernist architecture using architectural precast concrete. The internationalization of prefabricated architectural concrete provided mid-century architects a construction assembly with which to explore modern solutions for diverse cultural and climatic environments ranging from the tropical climate and termite infestation in Ghana to arctic Greenland. Concrete's combined structural and plastic qualities offered design potential unavailable in any other material of that time. Due to its focus on the fundamental qualities of concrete and its development of the most advanced precasting technology of the time, Schokbeton was an important contributor to a significant body of modernist architecture at mid-century across the globe.

---

<sup>i i</sup> In the *Scope of Total Architecture*, Walter Gropius stated "My intention is not to introduce a, so to speak, cut and dried 'Modern Style' from Europe but rather to introduce a method of approach which allows one to tackle a problem according to its particular conditions." Walter Gropius, *Scope of Total Architecture*, Collier Books, New York, New York, 1937, p. 17.

<sup>ii</sup> George Santry was advised by Philip Johnson to reside in New Canaan, Connecticut upon his return from the State Department assignments in Europe. New Canaan was where Johnson, Marcel Breuer, John Johansen and other prominent architects of the time resided.

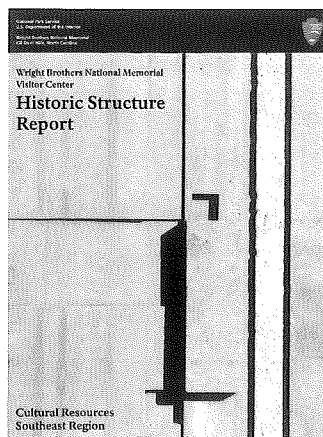


## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 2.

#### **Wright Brothers Memorial Visitor Center, 1960, National Historic Landmark Facilities Assessment, Contributor to Historic Structure Report, Principal Historic Preservation Architect for Phase One Restoration**

**Architecture Firm of Record:** Hartrampf Engineering, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 2001  
**Role of Nominee:** Principal-in-Charge for Historic Preservation Design Firm, Phase One Restoration  
Author, Feature Inventory Component of Historic Structure Report  
Interviewer, Oral History w/ Ehrman Mitchell, FAIA, Architect (with Jon Buono of the SE Regional Office of the National Park Service)



### Synopsis

"In conjunction with NPS development of an Historic Structure Report, Mr. Pyburn conducted a Feature Inventory and Condition Assessment on the Wright Brothers Memorial Visitor's Center, **one of the country's great examples of Modern architecture**. In addition, demonstrating **his dedication** to the work, he was responsible for locating and interviewing the architect for the original building, which provided much new and extremely useful information.

Besides contributing to **an award-winning historic structure report**, Mr. Pyburn designed the first phase of restoration of the building, which began the process of reversing twenty-five years of unsympathetic treatment."

**Tommy Jones, Cultural Resource Specialist**  
SE Region, National Park Service

### Declaration of Responsibility

Mr. Pyburn's preservation architectural work on the modern, cast-in-place concrete National Landmark designated Wright Brothers Memorial Visitor Center included three phases of involvement; building evaluation, preservation planning and phase one restoration. His Facility Assessment documented each architectural component of the building, assessed its condition, identified deficiencies, recommended treatments and identified estimated improvement cost. This assessment became the foundation for the subsequent development of a Historic Structure Report on the property.

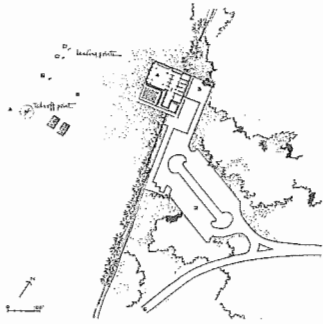
On his own initiative, outside any contractual obligation to the National Park Service and self financed, Mr. Pyburn organized an oral history research trip with a representative of the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service to interview Ehrman Mitchell, FAIA, of Mitchell/Giurgola, designers of the Wright Brother's Memorial Visitor Center. This interview revealed previously undocumented information about the building. For example, Mr. Mitchell revealed that Mario Salvatore was the structural engineer for the daring 40' span, 3" thick concrete thin shell dome over the flight room.

Mr. Pyburn directed the restoration of the upper portion of the landmark visitor center that included a new roof, repair of historically significant concrete work and the reconstruction of the original windows and return to the original orange widow frame color.

**Awards Received:** **Outstanding Historic Structure Report in the National Park Service, 2003**, Given by the National Park Service to Jack Pyburn, AIA for his contribution to Wright Bothers Memorial Visitor Center Historic Structure Report.

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included serving as Historic Preservation Architect for of Phase One Visitor Center Restoration, Primary Authorship of the Facility Inventory, Interview Organizer and primary interviewer of Ehrman Mitchell, FAIA*

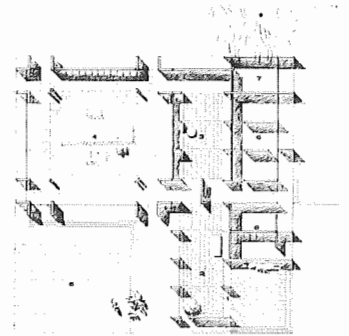
  
**Mr. Tommy Jones, Cultural Resource Specialist**  
**SE Regional Office, National Park Service**



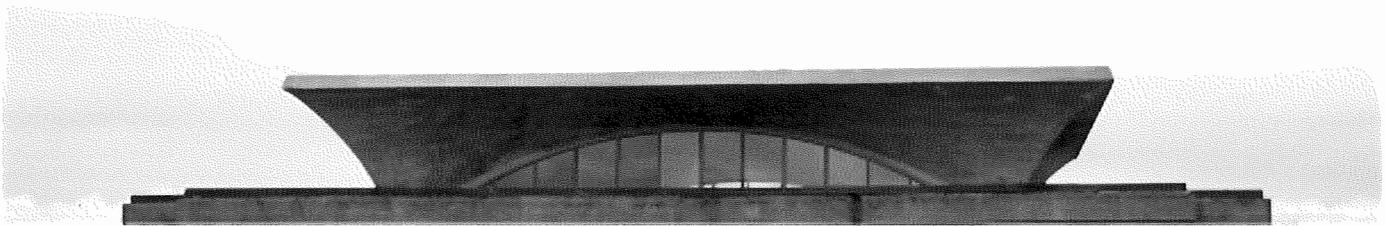
MGA Site Plan (Photo: NPS)



Wright Brothers Memorial Visitor Center, 1960 (Photo: HABS)

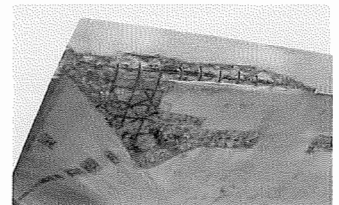
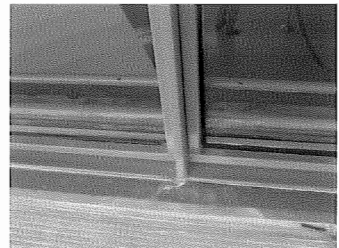


MGA Floor Plan (Photo: NPS)

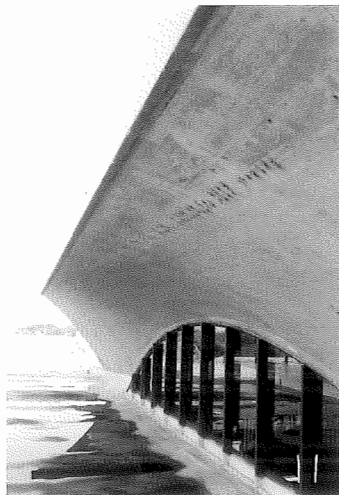


Clearstory/After Restoration

Restoration Window Detail



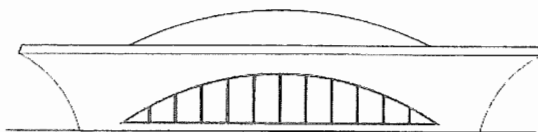
Clearstory Detail/ Before



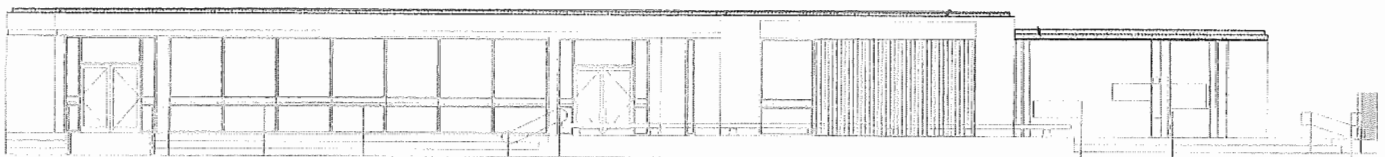
Clearstory & Roof/  
Before Restoration



Clearstory & Roof/ After Restoration



Measured Drawing/ North Elevation (Image: OJP)





## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 3.

#### **Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, Georgia Historic Preservation Architectural and Planning Services**

**Architecture Firm of Record:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 2005  
**Role of Nominee:** Principal in Charge and Senior Historic Preservation Architect

### Synopsis

"Jack Pyburn has made a substantial contribution to the development of planning policy, master planning and historic preservation on the campus of Georgia Southwestern State University. His assistance to the campus and the Georgia Board of Regents as a special consultant in developing design concepts for the reuse of meaningful mid century modern dormitories and new housing in a historic context will greatly benefit the campus. His unique skills at guiding the campus towards a long term view of its historic buildings, landscapes, and modern structures will be invaluable for many years to come as the campus builds upon a future based upon its past."

**Michael Miller, AIA**  
Program Manager, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia

Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century land grant institution. While founded in the first decade of the century, it was not until the late 1950's that the campus experienced its primary period of growth. As a result, there are two historically distinct campus zones, an early 20<sup>th</sup> century zone anchored by a neo-classical administrative building flanked by transitionally influenced structures and a significant yet fully appreciated cluster of mid-century modern academic buildings around an informal quadrangle.

Jack Pyburn's historic preservation architectural contribution to Georgia Southwestern State University has included directing the preparation of a campus historic preservation master plan, a national register historic district nomination, a preservation plan for the 1918 central administration building, Wheatley Hall, the rehabilitation and adaptive use of the mid-century modern student center and the \$4.4 million rehabilitation of the Wheatley Administration, the historic centerpiece of the campus (Currently under construction).

Upgrading the campus housing has been a university priority. There were two challenges in the upgrade; the preservation and rehabilitation of sound and significant mid-century modern dormitories and the insertion of developer standard privatized housing into a formally institutional campus. Jack Pyburn orchestrated the preservation of the modern era housing and as a special consultant to the campus and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, helped shape the design of two new housing developments to appropriately relate to its immediate and historic campus environs.

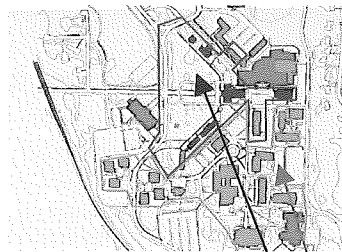
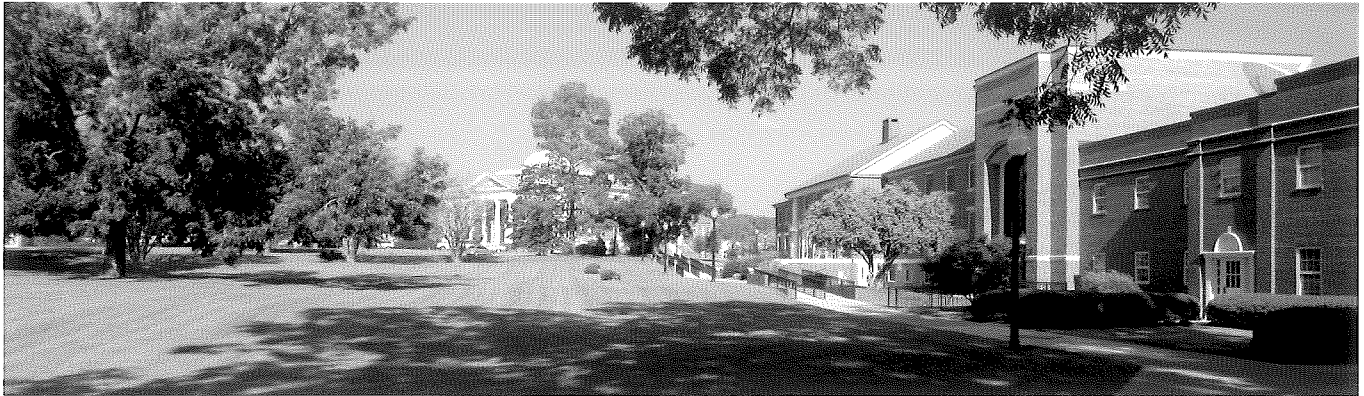
### Declaration of Responsibility

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the projects listed above. That responsibility included principal historic preservation planner for the GSW Campus Master Plan, Principal in Charge for the rehabilitation of the 1967 Marshall Student Center and the 1917 Wheatley Hall and special consultant to the Campus and Board of Regents on the preservation and reuse of mid-century modern housing and the design of new housing in and adjacent to historically sensitive areas of the campus.*

  
Michael Miller, AIA, Program Manager, Office of Facilities  
Board of Regents, University System of Georgia



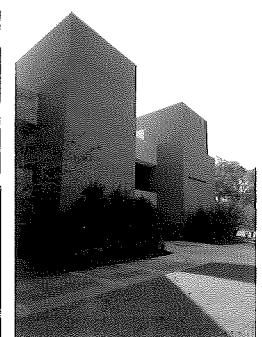
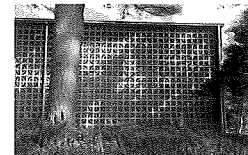
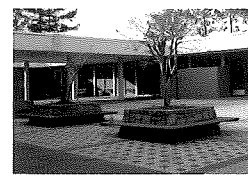
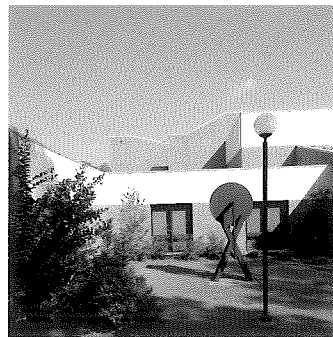
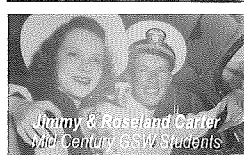
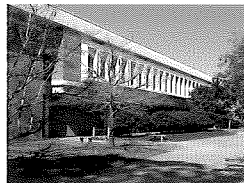
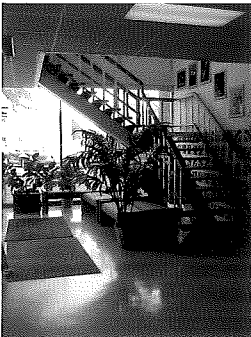
## Campus Historic Preservation Master Plan



*National Register Historic District  
Mid Century Modern Historic District*

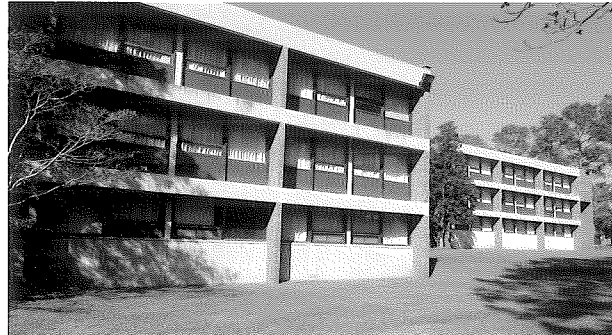
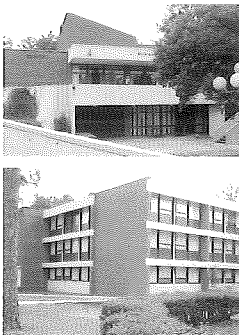


*Transitional Modern Central Campus National Register Historic District Prepared under Mr. Pyburn's direction*



*Future Mid-Century Modern Historic District identified by first Campus Preservation Plan prepared under Jack Pyburn's direction*

## Successful Advocacy for Mid Century Housing Complex



**265 Unit Modernist Complex III and Duncan Hall Mid Residential Complex (1965)/**  
Representing the Board of Regents, Mr. Pyburn successfully advocated for preservation of this important mid century housing complex.

GSW has opted to preserve and reuse these buildings in lieu of demolition as a part of their new joint commitment to preservation and sustainability.

## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 4.

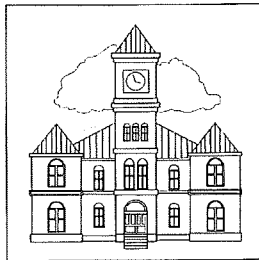
#### Statewide Historic Courthouse Preservation

##### Courthouse Rehabilitation Manual, State of Georgia

Architecture Firm of Record: Jaeger/Pyburn, Inc, Gainesville, GA  
Design Firm: Jaeger/Pyburn, Inc., Gainesville, GA  
Completion Date: 1992  
Role of Nominee: Author/ Preservation Architectural Component

##### Courthouse Rehabilitation Cost Study, State of Georgia

Architecture Firm of Record: OJP/Architect, Inc., Inc, Atlanta, GA  
Design Firm: OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
Completion Date: 2002  
Role of Nominee: Principal-in-Charge, Sr. Preservation Architect



THE  
GEORGIA  
COURTHOUSE  
MANUAL

#### Synopsis

"For over 20 years, Jack Pyburn has committed his historic preservation passion, knowledge and talent to the stewardship of Georgia's historic resources. In particular, his contribution to the preservation of Georgia's historic courthouses is unparalleled. He authored **The Georgia Courthouse Manual**, which has served as **a model for courthouse preservation across the country.**"

**Dr. W. Ray Luce**, Director  
Historic Preservation Division  
Georgia Department of  
Natural Resources

Historic county courthouses are the historic center of community in the U.S. With few exceptions, an image of the historic courthouse dons the letterhead of county governments across the country. The State of Georgia has more counties than any state in the United States except Texas.

Jack Pyburn has had the privilege of working on over 25 historic county courthouses and two Federal courthouses in recent years. He has assembled and disseminated the knowledge and lessons from his vast courthouse rehabilitation experience in a variety of ways starting with his contributions to the Georgia Courthouse Manual. The manual, sponsored by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia, State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs has served for over a decade as a resource for county commissioners in making informed decisions about the management, maintenance and improvement of one of their most significant historic resources. The Courthouse Manual has not only served as a guide for Georgia counties but has also been used by other states, including West Virginia, to develop courthouse improvement guides for their state.

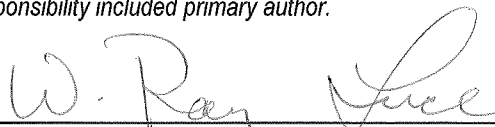
Building off of the foundation of courthouse restoration and rehabilitation experience and the development of the Courthouse Manual in 1992, Mr. Pyburn directed a follow-up statewide study to determine the cost to rehabilitate all the historic courthouses and city halls in the state of Georgia. His findings have been the basis for the development of a specific State county courthouse improvement program through the Governor's office.

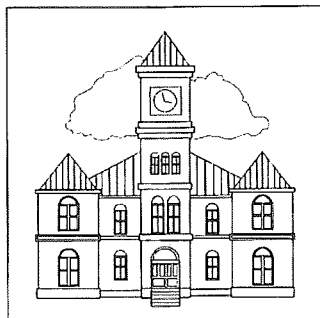
Mr. Pyburn is currently updating the Georgia Courthouse Manual pro bono.

**Awards Received:** Outstanding Publication, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, 1993  
Outstanding Publication, American Planning Association, Georgia Chapter, 1993

#### Declaration of Responsibility

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included primary author.*

  
**Dr. Ray Luce, Director, Historic Preservation Division**  
**Georgia Department of Natural Resources**



# THE GEORGIA COURTHOUSE MANUAL

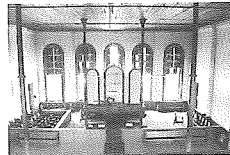
One copy of Courthouse  
Manual provided with  
Submission

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## This Old Courthouse: Rehabilitating It Right

Can an aging courthouse accommodate modern functions while retaining its historic character and atmosphere? While rehabilitation of an old building can be more complex than the design of a new building, the architectural and historic qualities preserved for the enjoyment of current and future generations more than outweigh the extra effort.



### Types of Courthouse Improvements

Both architect and client must understand the distinction between different approaches to working on old buildings. Five approaches to rehabilitation are presented, each with its own pros and cons. The most important factor in choosing the right approach is the condition of the building at the start of the project.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings are the foundation for all rehabilitation work. They are divided into four categories: preservation, restoration, reconstruction, and rehabilitation. Each category has its own set of guidelines.

**Preservation** is "to protect and preserve the historic character and physical integrity of a building by repairing deteriorated portions, and by removing those portions which are incompatible with the historic character of the building." It is the least intrusive approach and is often the most cost-effective.

**Restoration** is "to return a building to its original or as nearly original condition as is reasonably achievable, by removing the later additions and alterations which are not part of the historic character of the building." It is a more intensive approach than preservation.

**Reconstruction** is "to return a building to its original or as nearly original condition, by reconstructing missing or damaged portions of the building." It is the most intensive approach and is often the most costly.

**Rehabilitation** is "to make a building suitable for modern use, while retaining its historic character and physical integrity." It is the most common approach and is often the most cost-effective.

A careful assessment of the building's condition and the needs of the community is essential to choosing the right approach. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings provide a helpful guide.

## Identify What Is Important about Your Courthouse

To make the most of a historic courthouse and protect it as a historic asset, it is important to know what makes it special. This includes:

- Identifying the significant historic events which took place in the courthouse or on its grounds. Perhaps a momentous or unusual event took place there, or a traditional event has been held there for a remarkable period of time.
- Understanding the architectural qualities, the style of the building, its distinctive stylistic features, and the changes made by additions and alterations over the years.
- Identifying the important landscape features that provide the setting for the structure such as mature trees and plantings, historic walls and fences, monuments and memorials; and
- Identifying the relationship of the courthouse to the town over time. Its importance as a feature of the downtown, and its value as a traditional community landmark.

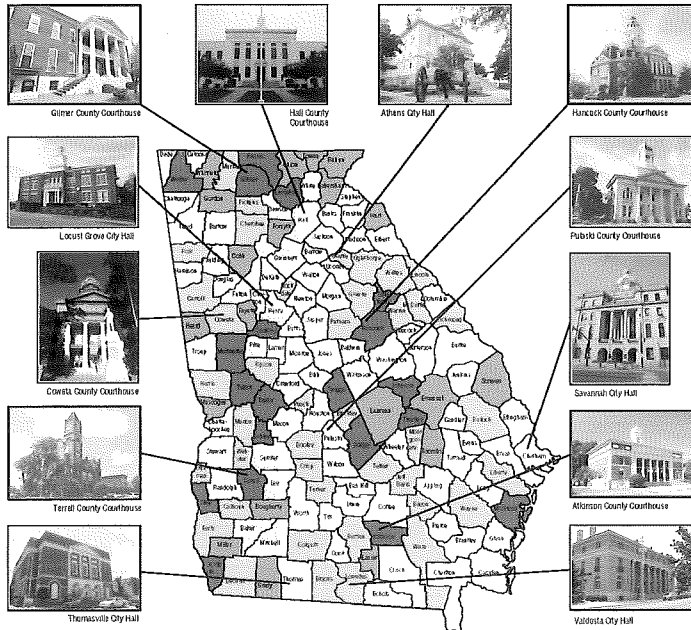
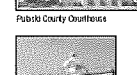
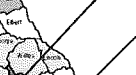
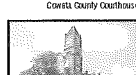
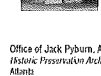
In many cases it is possible to find historic photographs that provide clues as to changes made to the courthouse and the grounds and when they were made. Such photographs can be extremely helpful in identifying early features. They can also provide guidance in determining an appropriate preservation plan.

Estimate of Cost to Rehabilitate  
the Historic County Courthouses  
and City Halls of Georgia

January 2002



Office of Jack Pyburn, Architect, Inc.  
Historic Preservation Architecture  
Atlanta  
www.oiparchitect.com



General Condition of Courthouses &  
City Halls in 2001 \*

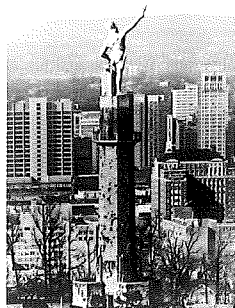
- Poor Condition/At Risk
- Fair Condition/Needs Improvement
- Good Condition/Needs Maintenance
- Not Deemed of Historic Significance at this time

\*Based on information provided by ACRH, OAH, PHD, OIA and OIA/HR

Preserving, Rehabilitating and Using  
Historic Courthouses and City Halls in Georgia  
Project Sponsors  
Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources/ Association County  
Commissioners of Georgia/ Georgia Municipal Association

David P. Foster

## Section 3: Exhibits



### Exhibit 5.

#### **Vulcan Tower (1937), Birmingham, AL**

##### **Restoration**

**Architecture Firm of Record:** HKW & Associates, Birmingham, AL  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 2003  
**Role of Nominee:** Principal Historic Preservation Architect

#### **Synopsis**

After years of aimless existence following its award-winning exhibition at the 1904 St. Louis Worlds Fair, the 54' cast iron Vulcan statue, the largest cast iron statue in the world, was placed on a 120' tower on top of Red Mountain overlooking downtown Birmingham, Alabama. A reinforced concrete tower clad in local sandstone was erected to support what would be a beacon over the city as a reminder of the city's grand industrial past and the importance of vision for the future.

Jack Pyburn served as the principal historic preservation architect to shape the overall Vulcan Park Master Plan to preserve and recapture significant historic qualities of the site. He served as the principal-in-charge for the restoration of the National Landmark tower and the reconstruction of its historic base.

Mr. Pyburn was the designer for the addition of an elevator to the tower observation platform, a challenging design assignment to accommodate universal access, a stipulation of the City of Birmingham that goes against traditional preservation judgment. Given an elevator, it had to be distinctly different from but respectful of, the historic tower and subordinated to the Vulcan's primary orientation over the City to the north. Exposed concrete was used to relate to the concrete frame of the tower and for its soft natural finish. Its shape was derived from the geometry of the tower.

Project challenges included accommodating a demanding programmatic requirement for public visitation to the top of the tower. The stone used on the original tower was no longer quarried. Compatible stone had to be located quarried and finished. Finally, slag and lime mortar used for a brief period of time in the late 1930's was identified and matched to produce the appropriate restoration.

#### **Awards Received:**

**AIA/Alabama, Award of Merit, 2004**

#### **Declaration of Responsibility**

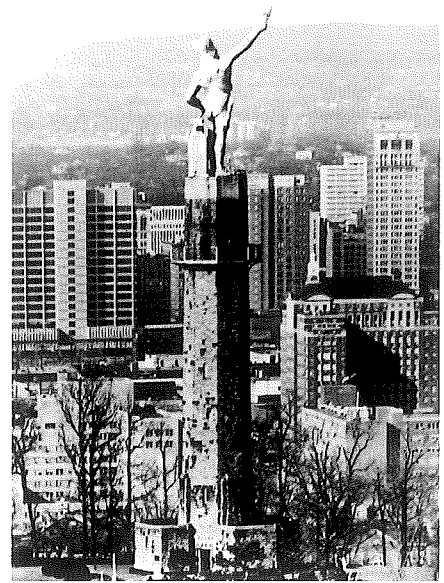
*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included serving as the Historic Preservation Architecture Principal in Charge and Senior Historic Preservation Architect for the Restoration of the Vulcan Tower.*

**Katherine Billmeier, Former Executive Director  
Vulcan Park Foundation**

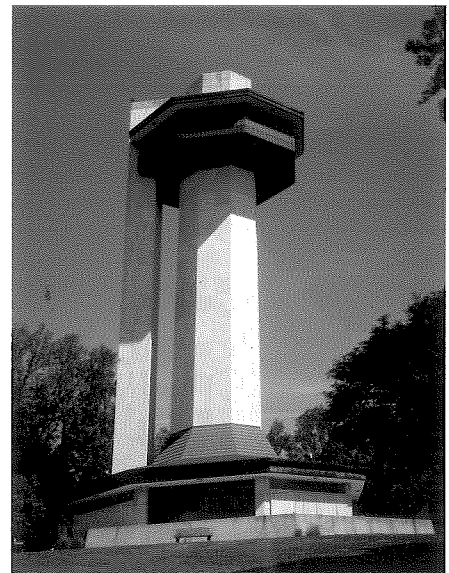




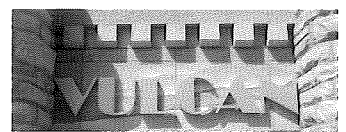
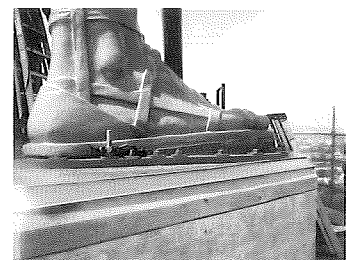
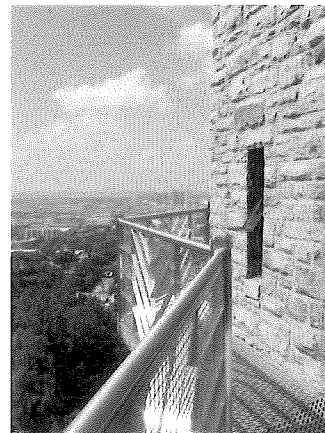
*Restored Vulcan & Tower*



*Vulcan/ c. 1940*

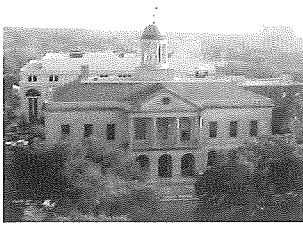


*Vulcan Tower (1970)/ Before Restoration*



*Vulcan Tower/ Details*

### Section 3: Exhibits



#### Exhibit 6.

#### **Federal Courthouse (1937), Tallahassee, FL**

#### ***Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use***

**Architecture Firm of Record:** Akin & Associates, Inc., Tallahassee, FL

**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA

**Completion Date:** 2004

**Role of Nominee:** Principal-in-Charge, Historic Preservation  
Architecture

#### **Synopsis**

The Federal Courthouse in Tallahassee has received numerous modifications over the past decades to accommodate ever-changing judicial demands for technology and security and departmental growth. Jack Pyburn's primary task was to set the framework for the preservation of this National Register building for a design team without historic preservation experience. An initial project approach memorandum became the management tool around which communication took place between Mr. Pyburn and the Architect of Record, the design team subconsultants, GSA project managers and the State Historic Preservation Office.

Ongoing preservation architectural guidance was provided through advanced systematic reviews of deliverables, consultation with the design team in the course of design development and construction document production and periodic site visits.

Following the GSA criteria for the zoning of historic spaces within a courthouse, the focus of the restoration was in the formal postal lobby at the entry of the building. Significant restoration activities in the primary historic spaces included the removal of an inappropriately placed elevator and the restoration of the monumental stair, the restoration of the flooring and the return to the original configuration of the lobby space. The courtroom ceiling was abated of asbestos and replaced to match the original profile and textured finish. The flooring, wall, lighting and millwork were restored in the judge's chambers to match the original building characteristics. Modern technology was integrated into the design with preservation direction from Mr. Pyburn in a way that minimized its impact on historic spaces and building features.

#### ***Awards Received:***

**Award for Outstanding Achievement in  
Civic/Community Resource Rehabilitation, 2005  
Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation**

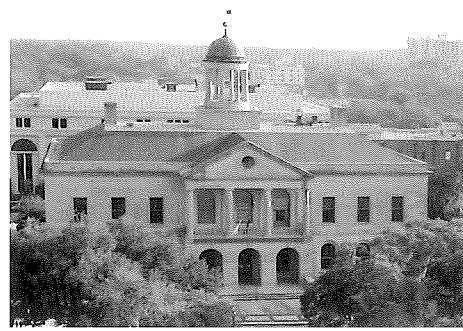
#### **Declaration of Responsibility**

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included:*

  
**Jeffery Jensen, Historic Preservation & Fine Arts Specialist  
Southeast Sunbelt Region, Public Buildings Service  
General Services Administration**



*Restored Exterior with Security Enhancements*



*Exterior Prior to Restoration*



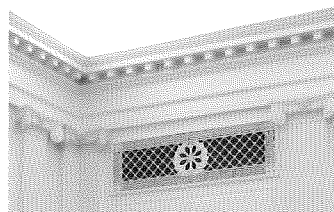
*Monumental Stair Before Restoration*



*Restored Postal Lobby*



*Restored Monumental Stair*



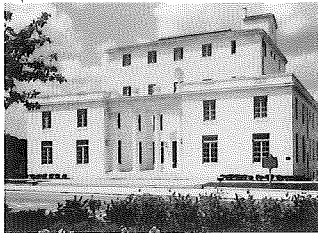
*Restored Courtroom Detail*



### Section 3: Exhibits

#### Exhibit 7.

#### **Historic Cherokee County Courthouse (1932), Canton, Georgia**



**Architecture Firm of Record:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 1997  
**Role of Nominee:** Principal in Charge

**Synopsis** Cherokee County, the home county of Georgia Marble, constructed a new Justice Center to relieve the technological and security pressure on the historic county courthouse. Mr. Pyburn was retained to direct the rehabilitation and reuse of the building for County administration and community functions.

The 1932 courthouse is an early modern reinforced concrete frame and slab structure clad in Georgia white marble. The 5 level courthouse was originally designed to include a jail on the top floor, jury quarters on the fourth floor, the two-story courtroom on the third floor, and public service administrative functions on the first floor and support functions in the basement. The then state of the art building had an early elevator and was reported to have the first steel office furniture in the State of Georgia.

As a result of being squarely in the middle of Atlanta's northward path of growth, the courthouse had been modified and subdivided to keep up with the demands on county government. Partitions, paneling and dropped ceilings were ubiquitous. Fifth floor plumbing had long since destroyed the ornate courtroom ceiling. An additional challenge was that the plaster contained asbestos as a binder.


The design solution was to recapture the building's historic spaces and details, insert compatible functions, sensitively integrate modern electrical, mechanical, data/voice, fire protection and security systems and fit the building out with metal office furniture to produce a modern productive space that recaptures the building's historic qualities.

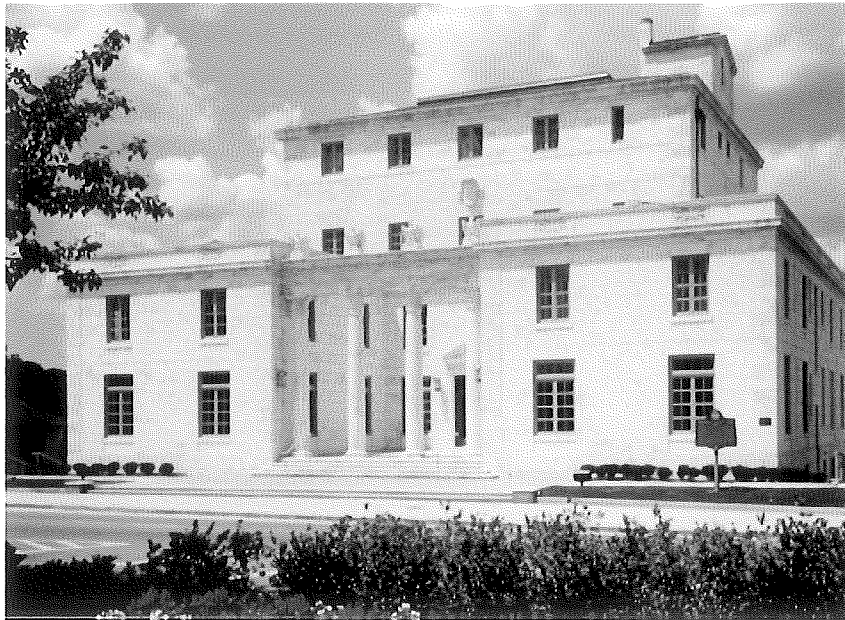
The \$2.3 million project was completed on budget while managing the necessary plaster abatement and including the furniture, fixtures and equipment. The project is a model for shaping the architectural program to achieve modern standards for productivity and the highest standards for historic rehabilitation.

**Awards Received:** Outstanding Rehabilitation Project, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, 1998

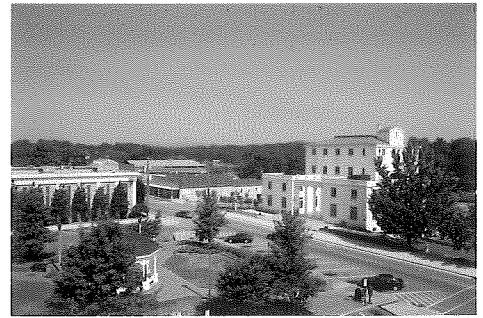
**Declaration of Responsibility**

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included Principal in Charge and Senior Historic Preservation Architect for the Rehabilitation of the Historic Cherokee County Courthouse.*

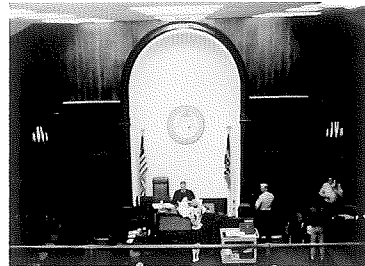
  
**W. A. (Tony) Andrews, AIA**  
**Sr. Associate, OJP/Architect, Inc.**



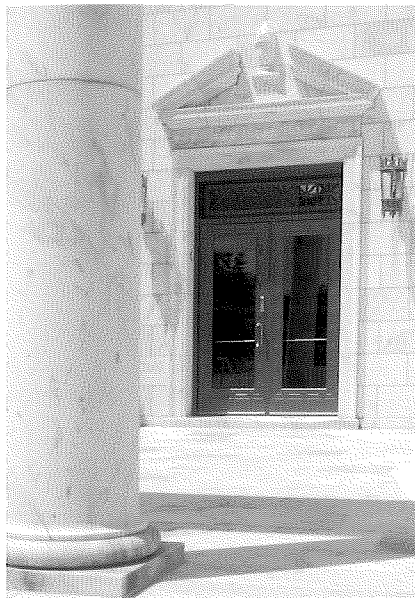
*Rehabilitated Exterior*



*Historic Courthouse Context*



*Courtroom/ Before Restoration*



*Detail/ Front Entry*



*Restored Courtroom*



*Typical Office/ Restored*



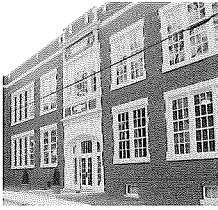
*Typical Office/ Before*

## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 8.

#### **Historic Canton High School (1927, 1932), Canton, Georgia Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use**

**Architecture Firm of Record:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 2004  
**Role of Nominee:** Principal-in-Charge



#### **Synopsis**

This historic high school was threatened with demolition. With the encouragement of the schools alumni association, the board of education decided to keep and adapt the building for system administrative, training and board meeting functions. Jack Pyburn directed the \$5 million rehabilitation and adaptive use of the complex over two phases of design and construction.

"The design of the renovations for the Bldg. 'C' (Old Canton High School) project, the overall appearance of the completed work and the quality building we have received is substantial. We have received many positive comments from community leaders, Alumni members, the news media and many other School Districts around the State of Georgia."

**Jim Sarks**

Supervisor of Construction  
Cherokee County Board of  
Education

The initial phase of the school was constructed in 1927. A science and auditorium expansion was added in 1932. The first building was an unusual modest transitional construction assembly of solid load bearing masonry walls of hollow jumbo brick and precast window trim. With an improved local economy, the science and auditorium wing was a more conventional and substantial load bearing wall assembly with stone detailing. The buildings, particularly the earliest building, had experienced considerable moisture damage from an extended period of neglect and abandonment.

The rehabilitation directed by Mr. Pyburn converted historic classrooms to offices. The use of glass in the upper area of added partitions allowed the volume of the original classroom spaces to be experienced while significantly increasing the productivity of the traditional classroom.

The auditorium uses glass as well to preserve the view of the full volume of the original space while reducing the seating capacity to meet the current and projected group occupancy requirements, accommodate ADA access and produce support training space under the balcony.

The auditorium was fitted out with full presentation technology and the science and original building with modern data/voice links to the system main computers in another building. Modern MEP and fire protection were integrated into the improvements.

**Awards Received:** Outstanding Rehabilitation Project, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, 2004

#### **Declaration of Responsibility**

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above.  
That responsibility included Principal in Charge.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jim Sarks, Supervisor of Construction**  
**Cherokee County Board of Education**



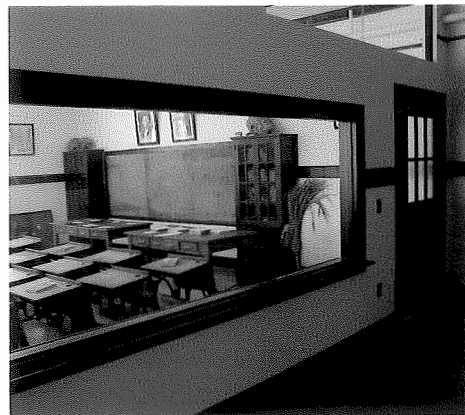
*Rehabilitated Exterior*



*Exterior prior to Rehabilitation*



*Monumental Stair Restored*



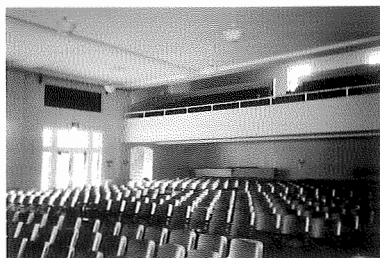
*Historic Classroom Restored*



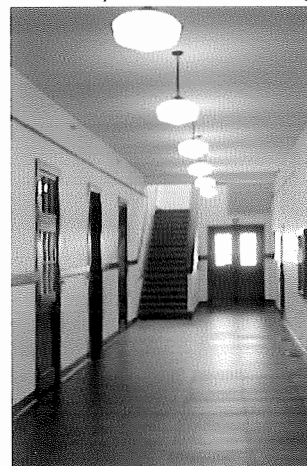
*Historic Stage Adapted for Board of Education Chambers*



*View of Adapted Auditorium from Stage*



*Auditorium Before Rehabilitation*



*Typical Hallway Restored*



*Typical Hallway/ Before*

## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 9.

#### **Historic Newton County Courthouse (1886), Covington, GA Preservation Plan, Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use Architecture & Design Consultant for New Justice Center**

**Architecture Firm of Record:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA

**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA

**Completion Date:** 2003

**Role of Nominee:** Principal in Charge

### Synopsis

"Jack Pyburn knowledge, experience, love of the subject and attention to detail resulted in bringing the "glory" and usefulness back to the *historic Newton County Courthouse* in a financially responsible manner.

**Cheryl Delk, RLA**  
Special Projects Coordinator  
Newton County Board of  
Commissioners

The Newton County Courthouse is one of the few Second Empire Courthouses in Georgia. Like a number of the courthouses Jack Pyburn has rehabilitated, this courthouse had experienced the pressures of county growth that resulted in carving up its historic spaces into a warren of work spaces with inadequate lighting, limited storage and no ability to accommodate modern business technology.

Mr. Pyburn helped the County Commission navigate from being sequestered in this under-cared for structure to occupying a restored courthouse that is configured for efficient modern county administration. This included serving as a consultant on the design of a new justice center that removed the modern security and technology pressures from the historic courtroom, the preparation of a Preservation Plan for the historic courthouse and the design of historically appropriate improvements to the historic courthouse.

The \$3.2 million in improvements included all new building systems, the restoration of the historic courtroom space, restoration of the decorative slate roof, restoration of the pressed metal clock tower. The entire building was rehabilitated to accommodate modern administration functions including the adaptation of the courtroom for county commission and community use.

County administration functions that do not grow in number proportional to the overall county growth were identified as candidate tenants for the structure. This strategy gives the Owner the optimal chance to capture the full investment in the improvements by minimizing the pressure to modify the building.

The Newton County Courthouse was also an interesting project because this late 19<sup>th</sup> century structure possesses an early example of concrete and steel integrated into traditional load bearing masonry construction. The ceilings of the building's vaults were constructed of corrugated metal vaulting covered with concrete.

**Awards Received:** Outstanding Rehabilitation Project, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, 2004

### Declaration of Responsibility

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included Principal in Charge.*



**Cheryl Delk, RLA, Special Projects Manager  
Newton County Board of Commissioners**







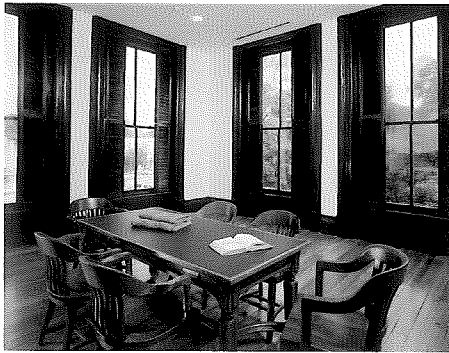
*Monumental Stair Before*



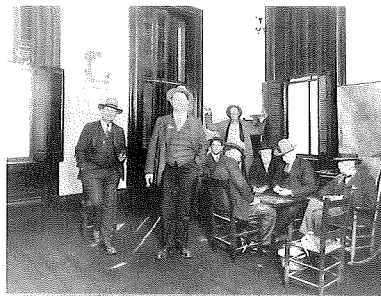
*Monumental Stair/ Restored*



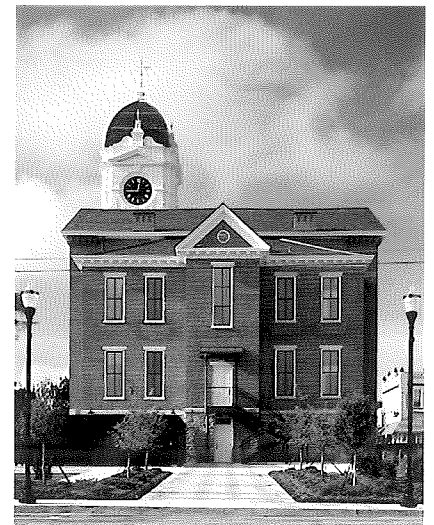
*Restored Historic Courthouse*



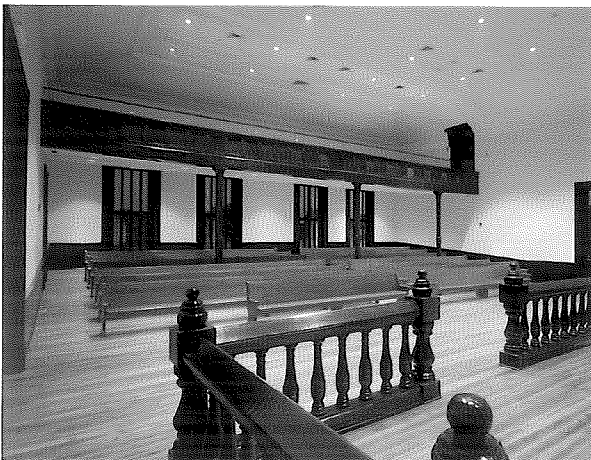
*Tower Office/ Restored*



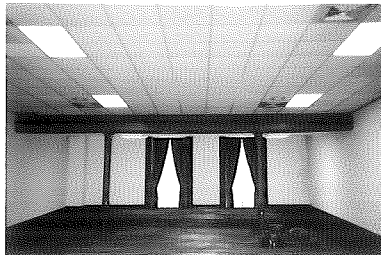
*Historic Photo/ Tower Office*



*Rear Elevation & Landscape*



*Restored & Adapted Courtroom*



*Courtroom/ Before*



*Programming & Schematic Design for Courthouse Expansion*

## Section 3: Exhibits

### Exhibit 10.

#### **Cane River Creole National Historical Park, Natchitoches, LA Thirteen Historic Structure Reports**



**Architecture Firm of Record:** Hartrampf Engineering, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Design Firm:** OJP/Architect, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
**Completion Date:** 2003-2004  
**Role of Nominee:** Historic Preservation Architect Principal in Charge

#### **Synopsis**

"The Cane River Creole National Historical Park has benefited tremendously from Mr. Pyburn's **ground-breaking research and analysis** of buildings at Oakland Plantation and at Magnolia Plantation. Mr. Pyburn demonstrated the range of his knowledge and depth of his understanding of historic vernacular architecture in his work on these buildings. Particularly important was his work on the cotton gin complex at Oakland. Significant portions of the historic gin complex had been lost, but Mr. Pyburn's work provided a **major contribution** to the park's understanding and interpretation of the entire complex."

**Tommy H. Jones, Cultural Resources Specialist**  
Southeast Region, National Park Service

Jack Pyburn served as the Principal Historic Preservation Architect for the preparation of thirteen Historic Structures Reports at Oakland Plantation (9 HSR's) and Magnolia Plantation (4 HSR's) in the Cane River Creole National Historical Park in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. The breadth of this experience is significant from several perspectives. First, the dates of the significant features of properties spanned from the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century settlement of the area to 1960 and the use of early drywall and asbestos siding. Secondly, the depth of knowledge gained, the ability to interrelate the characteristics of each individual structure and the ability to provide guidance for the entire site was exceptional.

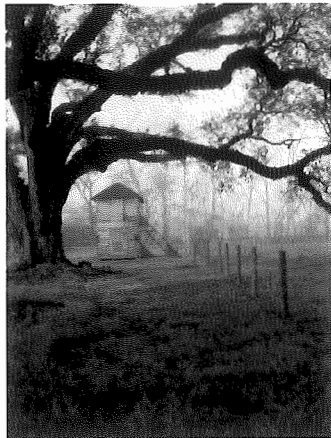
The discovery through research and field assessment of seven distinct periods of modification to the Doctor's House at Oakland Plantation was a particularly rewarding professional experience. The work documented the original Creole Cottage embedded in the larger extent structure including the hewn structural frame with traditional French craftsman markings and bousillage wall assembly.

The project was also exceptional in its inclusion of the collection of support buildings that contribute to an understanding of 19<sup>th</sup> century plantation life. These structures were treated with the same level of thought and care in analysis as the more significant structures.

#### **Declaration of Responsibility**

*I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibilities for the project listed above. That responsibility included Historic Preservation Principal in Charge and Senior Historic Preservation Architect.*

  
**Tommy Jones, Historian, Cultural Resources**  
**Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service**



*Pigeonnier, Magnolia Plantation*



*Overseer's House, Magnolia Plantation*



*Blacksmith's Shop, Magnolia Plantation*



*Carriage House, Magnolia Plantation*



*Overseer's House, Oakland Plantation*



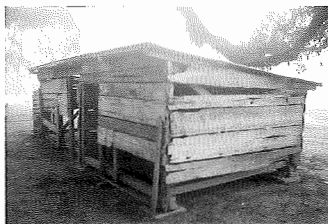
*Cook's House, Oakland Plantation*



*Grist Mill, Oakland Plantation*



*Slave Quarters, Oakland Plantation*



*Chicken Coop, Oakland Plantation*



*Doctor's House, Oakland Plantation*



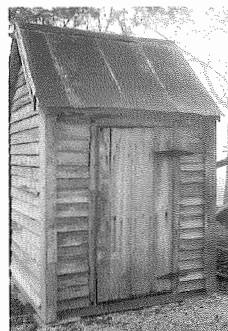
*Bousillage Wall Assembly, Oakland Plantation*



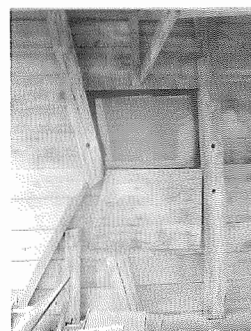
*Seed House, Oakland Plantation*



*Grist Mill, Oakland Plantation*



*Outhouse, Oakland Plantation*



*Detail, Seed House, Oakland Plantation*



*Barn, Oakland Plantation*



## Section 4: List of Reference Letters

1. **Theodore Prudon, PhD, FAIA** Principal, Prudon and Partners, New York City  
**135 West 70<sup>th</sup> Street** Associate Professor, Graduate School of  
**New York, New York 10023** Architecture, Planning and Preservation  
212.721.9502 Columbia University, New York City  
*Relationship: Colleague, Co-Member DOCOMOMO/US Board of Directors*
2. **Joseph K. Oppermann, FAIA** Principal, Joseph K. Opperman, Architect, PA  
**P.O. Box 10417, Salem Station**  
**Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108**  
336.721.1711  
*Relationship: Colleague, Client, Co-Member of Historic Resources Committee Advisory Group*
3. **Sharon Park, FAIA** Chief, Technical Services, National Park Service  
**800 North Capital Sttreet, NW, Rm 200**  
**Washington, DC 20202**  
202.354.2033  
*Relationship: Colleague, Co-Member, AIA/Historic Resources Committee Advisory Group*
4. **Robert Loversidge, FAIA** President & CEO/ Historic Preservation Architect,  
**300 Marconi Boulevard** Schooley Caldwell Associates  
**Columbus, Ohio 43215**  
614.628.0300  
*Relationship: Colleague, Co-Organizer, National Historic Courthouse Conference*
5. **Randall Biallas, AIA** Chief Historical Architect, National Park Service  
**1849 C Street, NW, NC360**  
**Washington, DC, 20240**  
202.354.2061  
*Relationship: Colleague, Client*
6. **T. Gunny Harboe, AIA** Vice President of the Preservation Group  
**401 E. Illinois, Suite 625** The Austin Company, Chicago, Illinois  
**Chicago, Illinois 60611**  
312.373.7790  
*Relationship: Colleague, Co-Member, AIA/HRC Task Group on Historic Preservation Architectural Education*
7. **Donna Robertson, AIA** Dean, College of Architecture  
**Crown Hall, 3360 South State Street** Illinois Institute of Technology  
**Chicago, Illinois 60616**  
312.567.3230  
*Relationship: Colleague, Co-Member, AIA/HRC Task Group on Historic Preservation Architectural Education, Co-Chair, 2004 Symposium on Historic Preservation Architectural Education, Co-Chair, 2006 AIA/ACSA Cranbrook Summer Teachers Institute*