

New Mexico Best of 2008

University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning

Higher Education & Concrete



This five-story, 108,000-sq-ft educational building features a structural system of concrete and steel. The interplay between the architectural concrete walls, structural steel ceiling beams and glazing systems illustrates the complex relationship between plan and section. A cantilevered, architectural concrete wall visible from Route 66 is a highlight of this building. Albuquerque's climate was factored into the construction, so that the massive southern wall and the concrete floors throughout help to stabilize temperature shifts. The overall effect of the building mirrors the stepped forms and earth-colored buildings of the UNM campus as a whole.





Agilia concrete was used in the construction of the building, an added cost that was justified in the final product, which has superior color consistency. To achieve this, extensive mock-up forms and pours were made during the building process. Rebar placement allowed for less than 3/8 in. between bars in many places.

The building itself is an active teaching tool for the students and faculty at UNM, who are visually reminded to consider how building materials and spaces interact in a cohesive pattern. The robust, open and airy construction of the building exposes its structure and is a superior environment in which to study the subject of architecture. The judges were impressed how form, function and utility came together in this striking facility, which illustrates the concept of students actively engaging in learning in the classroom as well as from the intrinsic qualities of the spaces in which they work.

Submitted by: Jaynes Corp. and Antoine Predock Architect PC

Owner: University of New Mexico

Architects:

Antoine Predock Architect PC
John Anderson Architect

Contractor: Jaynes Corp.

Engineers: Chavez-Grievess Consulting Engineers; Bridgers & Paxton Consulting Engineers; Jeff Mortensen & Associates

Concrete: Jaynes Structures

Major Subcontractors:

Franklins Earthmoving;
Western States Fire Protection;
Precision Masonry; Amfab; WW Steel; American National Insulation; National Roofing; Les File Drywall; Harrison Contracting; Western States Glass; Preferred Painting; Hughes Erectors; Yearout Mechanical

New Mexico Best of 2008

Los Alamos County Fire Station #3

Government/Public over \$5 million



Located on a 4.5 acre site in White Rock, Station 3 of the Los Alamos County Fire Department is a 33,000-sq-ft structure built in front of a steep hillside. This innovative structure, with accommodations for 16 firefighters and four officers, required the installation of 33,000 sq ft of post-tensioned waffle-style slab.

The building benefits this enclave in several critical ways, with a training/conference room available to community members and organizations. Support spaces include a command center for emergency response, along with a library and study areas for off-duty firefighters.

Constructed in a single story 25 days ahead of schedule, the complex does not interfere with views of the hillside and seamlessly integrates into the surrounding palette. Masonry systems reflect the natural surroundings while the storefront systems provide natural sun shading.

Longevity and low maintenance were key factors in the construction of the station, with durable exterior materials used to ensure that the community will not be burdened with upkeep of this building, which is designed to accommodate population growth for the next 25 years.

Submitted by: HB Construction and Studio Southwest Architects Inc.

Owner: Los Alamos County Fire Dept.

Architect: Studio Southwest Architects

Contractor: HB Construction

Engineers: Bohannon-Huston Inc.; Chavez-Grievess;

Bridgers and Paxton

Major Subcontractors: Donner

Plumbing & Heating; Lynx Electric

Co.; PCI Contractors; Business

Environments; Cabinets for

Contractors; Queston Construction;

Commercial Storefront & Windows;

Tony's Painting

New Mexico Best of 2008

Ruidoso Main Fire Station

Government/Public under \$5 million



PHOTOS BY: KIRK GITTINGS PHOTOGRAPHY

plan, which provides a crucial unobstructed path to the fire pole and stairs leading to the apparatus bay. Providing a congenial living environment for the firefighters, the space is formed around the concept of allowing as much northern light to filter in to highlight views of the surrounding area.

Long and narrow in the style of a historical longhouse, the station is built in a one-to-seven proportion. A mountain setting is reflected in the skillful use of natural elements including wood. The appearance is light and airy while still maintaining its crucial function.

Comprising 14,500 sq ft, the fire station is an excellent value considering the construction challenges of building in front of a steep mountain, with 14-ft-tall retaining walls shoring up its stability.

Submitted by: Rohde May Keller
McNamara Architecture PC
Owner: Village of Ruidoso
Architect: Rohde May Keller
McNamara Architecture PC
Contractor: White Sands Construction
Engineers: JJK Group; The Response Group; LRA Inc.; FEI Brown Engineering
Subcontractors: ABC Door Co.; Aluminum Door Svc.; American Tradition Constr.; Casteel Auto. Fire Protection; Commercial Roofing; Eagle Rock Contracting; Five G's Steel Erectors; Glass Systems of N.M.; Guardiola Construction; Industrial Commercial Coatings; Noel Co.; Polson & Grady; R & L Straight Line Tile; Sealant Specialists; Sun Ray Construction; Sunwest Gunite

Fire engines are the essence of any firehouse, and as such dictate the very nature of the structure, from the siting to the massing to the finish materials. The Ruidoso Main Fire Station is accented with a clear and linear floor

New Mexico Best of 2008

Paseo del Norte Expansion

Transportation



Featuring 4,700 linear ft of storm drain pipe and 23,500 tons of superpave asphalt, the 2.7-mi Paseo del Norte Extension was constructed with on-street

bicycle lanes and a multi-use trail which are separated from the roadway with a 10-ft-wide landscaped buffer. With a maximum vertical roadway profile slope of 6% required, the vertical cut through an existing basalt escarpment was over 25-ft-deep. This allowed for the addition of a pedestrian and wildlife underpass to the project, helping to preserve the surrounding environment which includes the Petroglyph National Monument.

The roadway section and structural elements needed to stabilize it had to be constructed within a narrow right of way, which called for the use of a combination of a concrete drilled shaft soldier pile retaining wall and ground anchors. Tiered CMU walls provide a three-dimensional feel for drivers traveling through and under the land bridge.

Connecting the west side of

Albuquerque with the rest of the city, this roadway includes a master plan storm drain system and a mainline sanitary sewer line. This project implements a much-needed transportation corridor while meeting the needs of the Native American community and maintaining the natural surroundings.

Submitted by: Wilson & Co.

Owner: City of Albuquerque

Design Engineers: Wilson & Co. Inc.; PB Inc.

Contractor: Salls Brothers Construction Inc.

Subconsultants: AMEC; Kleinfelder

Artists: Jim Hirschfield & Sonia Ishii

Major Subcontractors:

Reiman Corp.; Bixby Electric;

Hayward Baker

Other Funding: AMAFCA; NMUI

New Mexico Best of 2008

Paseo Nuevo Office Complex

Office & Green Project



Formerly home to a City of Albuquerque landfill, this location has been reborn as the Paseo Nuevo Office Complex. This Class A, LEED-certified office complex is 106,000 sq ft and promotes the new urban concept of locating the office building along the street. Uniquely utilizing its west-sloping site, the 400-car parking deck allows access to deck levels with no site space used for ramps. Other innovations include 200 ground-source heat pump wells which heat and cool the building. With numerous balconies and sun shading devices sheltering the high-performance glass from direct solar gain, this green building is accented with a light-col-

ored roof to reduce heat island effect. The landscaping uses native drought-tolerant plants, with organic pest management.

Submitted by: Studio Southwest Architects

Owner: The Skarsgard Firm PC

Architect: Studio Southwest Architects

Contractor: Summit Construction

Engineers: CCI Engineering; Chavez-Grievies; Huitt-Zollars

Major Subcontractors: Hannah Plumbing; Prime Electric; Les File Drywall; Hughes Erectors; TLC; Amfab; Lafarge Concrete; William McPike; Enviroworks

New Mexico Best of 2008

Southwest Gastroenterology Associates

Healthcare



Well-ventilated and welcoming, the Southwest Gastroenterology Associates complex features a fresh, open plan yet consolidates the practice into one building.

Patients have access to diagnosis, on-site procedural services, as well as follow-up care in this 23,500-sq-ft space. An Ambulatory Surgery Center with four endoscopy procedure rooms and a 22-exam room clinic ensure that the healthcare needs of the community are met.

Accenting the exposed insulated structural metal deck ceiling and sculptural lighting fixtures, the interior detail provides a modern yet warm atmosphere for patients and staff. Natural brick, tile and wood textures combine with a vaulted, bright entryway which features a concierge desk where patients and visitors receive information. An all-brick façade underscores cherry wood horizontal trim and paneling, complemented by the use of aluminum sunshades on the exterior of this structure. Large windows allow in natural lighting and encourage patients and staff

to enjoy tranquil views from many different vantage points in the building.

Submitted by: The Hartman + Majewski Design Group

Owner: Southwest Gastroenterology Associates PC

Architect: The Hartman + Majewski Design Group

Contractor: Klinger Constructors

Engineers: QPEC; The Design Group; Arsed Engineering Group; Lopez Engineers

Subcontractors: Alstate Steel; Aztec Grading; Beaty Construction; DKD Electric Co.; Hanna Plumbing & Heating Co.; Lafarge Southwest; OGB Architectural Millwork; Rocky Mountain Roofing; TLC Plumbing; Western Glass & Panels

New Mexico Best of 2008

The Shops at Paseo Crossing

Retail/Hospitality



Designed to be universally accessible for all shoppers while promoting pedestrian traffic, this 56,019-sq-ft retail center brings a wide variety of local and national tenants to serve the far northeastern area of Albuquerque. Bordered on the south by residential development and to the north by a complementary retail development, Paseo Crossing showcases a color palette designed to be compatible with the neighborhood.

While the structures are constructed with conventional steel framing, they are clad in a variety of materials ranging from porcelain tile to pre-cast concrete, offering a diverse selection of available spaces for retail. A high level of finish was achieved by the use of mock-ups and many coordination meetings. Grade changes are absorbed in locations by the use of ramp and stair structures, which also underline sculptural elements and

landscaping. An outdoor patio facing the mountains is located on the corner of this invitingly designed complex.

Submitted by:

Studio Southwest Architects

Owner: Solid Gold Classic Ltd.

Architect: Studio Southwest Architects

Contractor: La Sierra Construction Co.

Engineers: Walla Engineering Ltd.;
CCI-Engineering

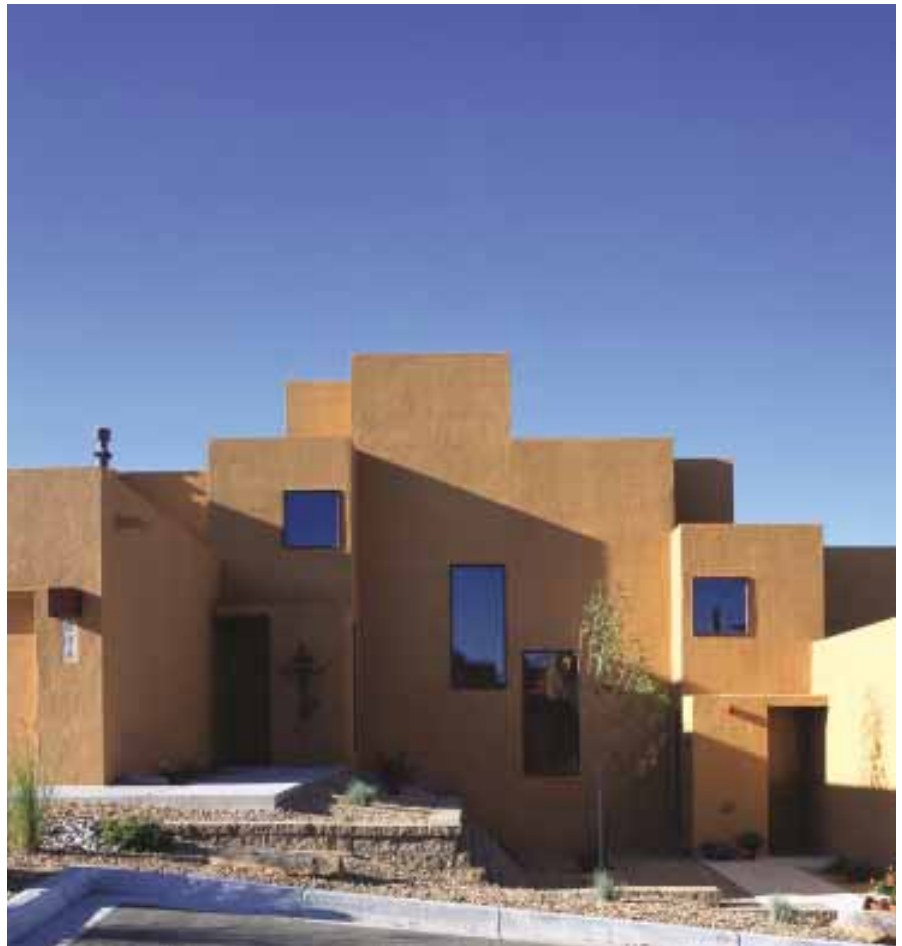
Landscape: The Hilltop Landscape
Architects & Contractors

Subcontractors: Chava Trucking; Mayan
Constr.; Magnum Steel Erectors;
National Roofing; Storefront
Specialties; Selvage Constr.; Elite
Electric; Mastercraft Plumbing &
Heating; Sunshine Plumbing; Mountain
Shadows Constr.; Smithgee Constr.



This multi-phase condominium project consists of 300 units, ranging from 1,000 to 2,200 sq ft. With colors that seamlessly integrate into the surrounding Santa Fe landscape and interiors that reflect attention to detail, this residential complex is fresh while remaining appropriate for its surroundings.

The entrance to the community is representative of a traditional Mexican plaza. Amenities such as an outdoor pool with a hot tub and trademark sculptural elements as well as a clubhouse and fitness center ensure that residents have the complete package when it comes to livability. The loft design of the buildings incorporates flexible use of space, with details including skylights, Valspar over Level Rock flooring and wood-clad windows.



Buildings are wood-frame construction with elastomeric paint, which will stretch and shrink in response to temperature fluctuation without cracking. An anti-freeze fire protection system along with Gypsum concrete floors are just two of the innovative construction elements. Mass grading and the import of 25,000 tons of structural fill paved the way for MSE-stacked retaining walls. Water and landscape preservation were focal points of the project, and a permanent drainage swale was constructed to ensure healthy runoff.

Submitted by:

Gerald Martin General Contractor

Owner: Foothills Estates LLC

Architect:

Dekker/Perich/Sabatini;
Legorreta + Legorreta

Contractor:

Gerald Martin General Contractor

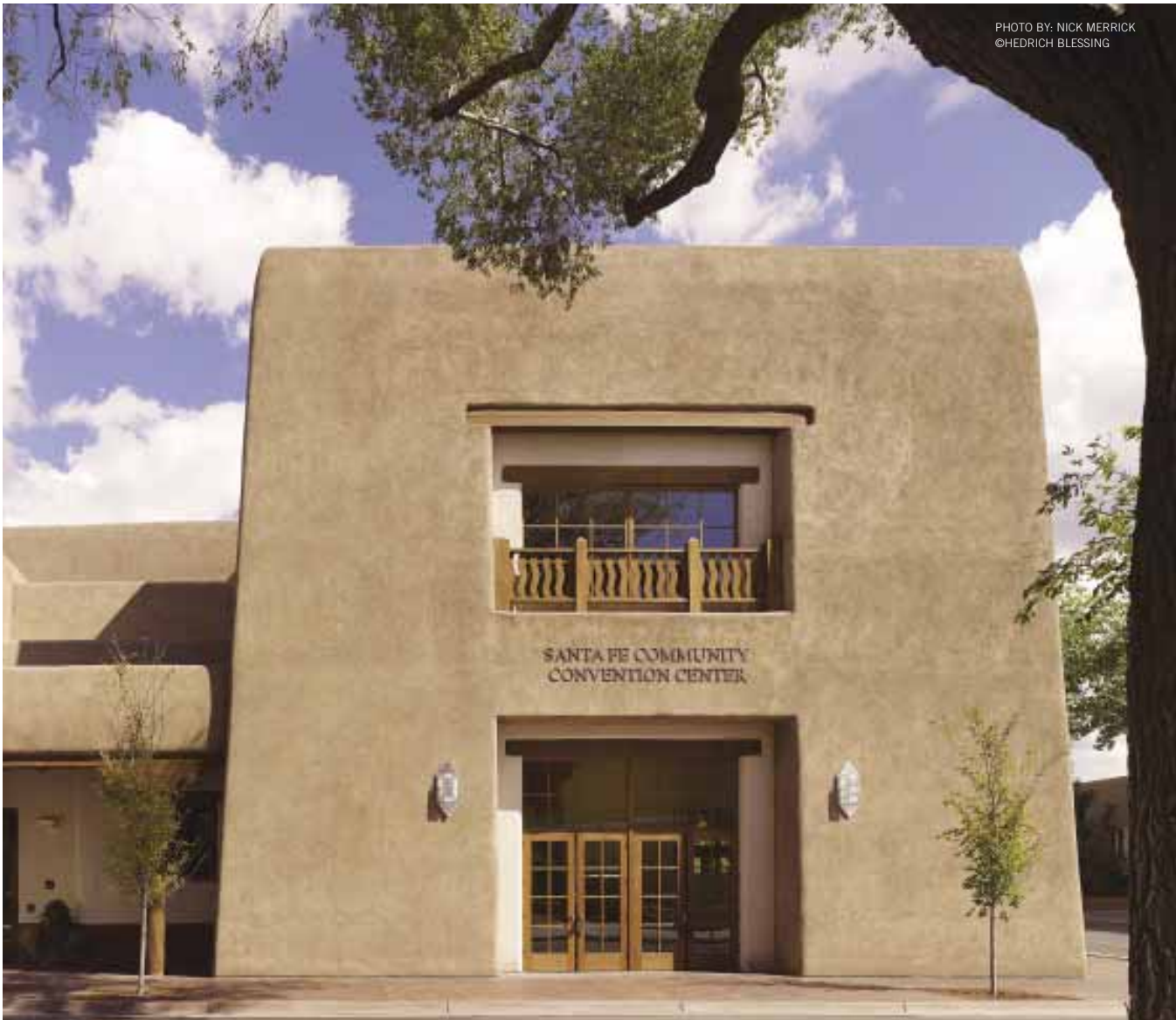
Major Subcontractors: C. Smith

Constr.; Sandia Decorating; Service Electric; Mountain Shadows Constr.; Smith and Sons Mechanical; Mudd Brothers; High Standard Plumbing; Millers Insulation; Pelletier Constr.

New Mexico Best of 2008

Santa Fe Community Convention Center

Best Project Management/Team



Bound on three sides by busy city streets, lack of parking and a tight site in close proximity to other government buildings, the location of the Santa Fe Community Convention Center presented many challenges to its project team. With over 200 workers on site at the

peak of construction, concerns about the respectful preservation of archaeological artifacts took center stage.

In addition to historic preservation, the project team carefully thought through every step of the project to achieve LEED silver certification, from

site selection to the recycling of construction debris.

Accents unique to Santa Fe's culture are emphasized in this community building, including a central courtyard, heavy timber columns and beams and carpets reflecting Native American



tapestries. With national conventions and local events both utilizing this space, Santa Fe's culture will shine at this community center that overcame many difficulties.

Submitted by: Parsons Corp.

Owner: City of Santa Fe

Architect: Fentress Architects;
Spears Architects

General Contractor:
Cameron-Swinerton

Project Manager: Parsons Corp.

Engineers: Chavez-Grieves; Martin &
Martin; Wilson & Co.; M-E Engineers

Major Subcontractors: Coronado
Wrecking & Salvage; Pace Iron Works;
Structural Services; Yearout Mechanical;
Mosher Enterprises; Hark Drilling

New Mexico Best of 2008

Tingley Park Flood Control Facility and Park Reconstruction

Civil/Infrastructure



Solving long-standing flood problems in a way that beautifies the area, the Tingley Park project benefits the neighborhood at large. The existing Tingley Park in downtown Albuquerque was demolished, and in its place a pond was created for detention storage, a new surge inlet structure and emergency

spillway were constructed, and the existing Odor Control Facility was relocated. A weir wall was designed to support the collection system and pump station.

Phase II of the project focused on the creation of a multi-use recreation area for the community. The 10-acre park will yield 25 acre ft of water storage, which will

reduce flooding in the surrounding area. The park was lowered by 5 ft and was graded into several different elevations. Each section was fitted with its own inlet, allowing for rapid drainage into the 96-in. storm drain. Creative solutions to a severe flooding problem as well as construction constraints due to the proximity of the park to the Albuquerque Zoo were gracefully solved in a manner which betters the community in several different ways.

Submitted by: Wilson & Co. Inc.
Engineers and Architects

Owner: City of Albuquerque

Design: Wilson & Co.

Contractor: NM Underground
(Phase I); AS Horner (Phase II)

Landscape Architect: Terra Creatas
Landscape Architects (Phase II)

New Mexico Best of 2008

Los Lunas Silvery Minnow Refugium

Engineering Design



Mimicking the conditions of the Rio Grande River, the Los Lunas Silvery Minnow Refugium is the first fish facility of its kind in the world, designed to save an endangered minnow. The singular framework of the refugium includes a 700-sq-ft office, a 2,000-sq-ft storage building and a 1,500-sq-ft indoor hatchery for silvery minnow spawn.

The 0.5 acre outdoor refugium has a total water volume of 227,000 gallons. Within the refugium, the silvery minnow can choose the habitat it prefers, from deep or shallow water to sunshine or shade. A 458-ft-long stream winds along with widths ranging from 7 to 21 ft. Areas of low-lying vegetated overbank adjacent to the stream will be flooded in the Spring to encourage spawning. Water in the refugium will be recycled but not treated,



with water at the end of the stream flowing into a 15,000-gallon sump. Pumping at rates ranging from 250 to 1,800 gallons per minute, the water will be returned to the headwaters. The project also features overhead avian wire to avoid predation of the fish from waterfowl and a fence to deter other predators.

Submitted by: HDR Engineering
Owner: New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
Design Engineer: HDR Engineering
Contractor: SmithCO Construction
Other Engineers:
Western Technologies;
Surveying Control

New Mexico Best of 2008

Sculptural Elliptical Grand Staircase

Steel



A work of art in steel that stands alone as a functional architectural piece, the sculptural elliptical grand staircase took over two years to complete. Working for months with the structural engineer prior to fabrication, the construction team joined woven metal strips reminiscent of a basket to form the handrail for the staircase. The 0.5-in. by 2-in. flatbar handrail was formed by the use of a recalculated roll, which took the three-dimensional configuration of radius with lift and then flattened it into a new two-dimensional radius. Working to create the graceful arc of the staircase, workers on site heated the metal in place to temperatures up to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit and then twisted the metal using a pair of specially-fabricated tools.

Joining the various components of the staircase into a coherent whole required several patinations. Pre-woven strips and flatbar were initially patinated, and after applying heat or welding the metal, repatination would occur. Finally, a touchup patina was utilized to create a fully integrated look, with a final interior clear coat finish. The overall impact avoids an overworked sculptural piece and instead accents the grand staircase, which appears

as a free-floating, seamless structure.

Submitted by: Kason Group

Owner: Withheld at owner request

Architect: Overland Partners Architects

Contractor: JM Evans Construction

Steel: Kason Group

Engineer: Structural Engineering Solutions

Subcontractors: Albina Pipe Bending Co.; Choice Steel Co.

New Mexico Best of 2008

Career Prep High School

K-12 Education



PHOTOS BY: ALEXANDER VERTIKOFF

Belying the traditional design of a brick-and-mortar school, Career Prep High School meets the needs among the Navajo population in and near Shiprock. Light, bright and creative in design, the school plays with color and texture, with a cumulative effect of framing a community the students want to be included in.

Taking advantage of the blue skies and natural landscape showcased through many windows, the school provides a place for students to learn in general and alternative classrooms. Integrating academic development into crucial vocational training, the school encourages students to choose an area of emphasis to pursue. With paths ranging from arts and communication, health services and industrial and engineering technology, the

school is responding to a significant need within its Native American population. A courtyard that serves as a primary gathering place for students is surrounded by two buildings that have a residential scale. Corridor space that would be used for circulation in a more typical school is here used for group learning, providing space for seminars. The primary focus of the campus is the Career Center, which is a high mass with clerestory windows, and is centrally located with several access points.

Submitted by: FBT Architects
Owner: Central Consolidated Schools w/ Public School Facilities Authority
Architect: FBT Architects
General Contractor: Star Construction
Engineers: Walla Engineering;



ME and E Engineering; Miller Engineering Consultants
Major Subcontractors: Five G's Steel Erectors; Miller Bonded; PTI Electrical Contractors; Home Plumbing & Heating; Castiano Construction; Dar Steel; Star Masonry

New Mexico Best of 2008

St. James Episcopal Church

Renovation/Restoration



PHOTOS BY: TERRY THOMPSON



Intricate detailing is the hallmark of this artistically renovated and expanded church. Retaining the historic look of St. James Episcopal Church was of paramount importance, showcasing the historically significant artifacts within.

During the course of construction, interior and exterior plaster and wood finishes were matched and new stained glass panels were fabricated to seamlessly meld with existing panels. The challenging

demolition phase included the removal of a 28-ft-high, double-thick adobe wall and oversized bond beam, all while maintaining structural integrity of adjacent walls. The new nave and sanctuary additions are comprised of insulating concrete form walls, steel trusses and wood parapets that were joined to the existing adobe structure. New technologies for HVAC, electrical, energy efficiency and telecommunications were extended from the expansion

into the renovation area.

The judges were impressed by the incredible attention to detail taken by the project team to match the materials and techniques used on the original structure. The project was completed on time and within budget due to exceptional planning and teamwork.

Submitted by: Wayne Rutherford
General Contractor Inc.

Owner: Episcopal Diocese of the Upper
Rio Grande

Architect: Nottingham Design
Associates

Contractor: Wayne Rutherford
General Contractor

Engineers:
Walla Engineering Ltd.,
Peak Power Engineering,
Thompson Engineering

Major Subcontractors:
A&S Construction; Brothers
Construction; BVW Inc.; ESQ's Lath
& Plaster; GWC; Jireh Electric;
Johnny's Fabco; L&R Roofing;
Phoenix Mechanical; Rael's
Excavation; Salcido Drywall

New Mexico Best of 2008

Rancho Encantado Resort Hotel

Interior



Once a famous destination hotel, this Santa Fe-area resort has been re-opened with an entirely new design. Warm accents, including knotty Alder doors and casework as well as walnut hardwood floors and woodwork in the commercial

dining room and lodge, underscore the resort's mission to preserve the historical roots of the ranch while offering state-of-the-art amenities. Integral color concrete doors lead into rooms showcasing bamboo and stone tile flooring, kiva fireplaces

and 35-in. flat screen televisions. Floating flame fireplaces in the courtyards and copper roofs on the lodge and spa help create a relaxing atmosphere for hotel guests. With 65 luxury casitas and suites ranging in size from 650 to 1,000 sq ft, the 57-acre property accentuates northern New Mexico's landscape.

Submitted by: Jaynes Corp.

Owner: Canyon Encantado LLC

Architect: Hart Howerton Architects;
Aiken Pate Architects

Contractor: Jaynes Corp.

Major Subcontractors: Chaparral Electric Contractors; Eagle Rock Contracting; F&R Painting; High Desert Forge; Huston Rammed Earth; PCI Contractors; Queston Construction; Ray's Flooring Specialists; Trimco Commercial; Vernon Tile Co.; Yearout Mechanical; Kaufman Fire Protection

New Mexico Best of 2008

Arsenic Removal Demonstration Facility

Mechanical/Electrical



This facility features one of the largest single arsenic removal systems in the U.S. With an overall capacity of 5.2 mgd, this clean facility impressed the judges with its highly organized and detailed process piping. Coagulation/microfiltration technologies are used to remove arsenic by adding the coagulant ferric chloride to form a particle which

then absorbs the arsenic. The microfilter then filters the particle from the water. This completely automated system contains three microfiltration racks with sixty filters each, storage and pumping equipment for four different chemicals and a chemical storage vault. The site also includes a 30,000-gallon raw water control storage tank,

operations building and chemical storage/feed facility.

Housed in a 7,200-sq-ft building, this uniquely detailed system may be viewed from an observation room for visitors to learn about the arsenic removal process.

Submitted by: RMCI

Owner: City of Albuquerque Water Utilities Division

Engineer: Camp Dresser & McKee

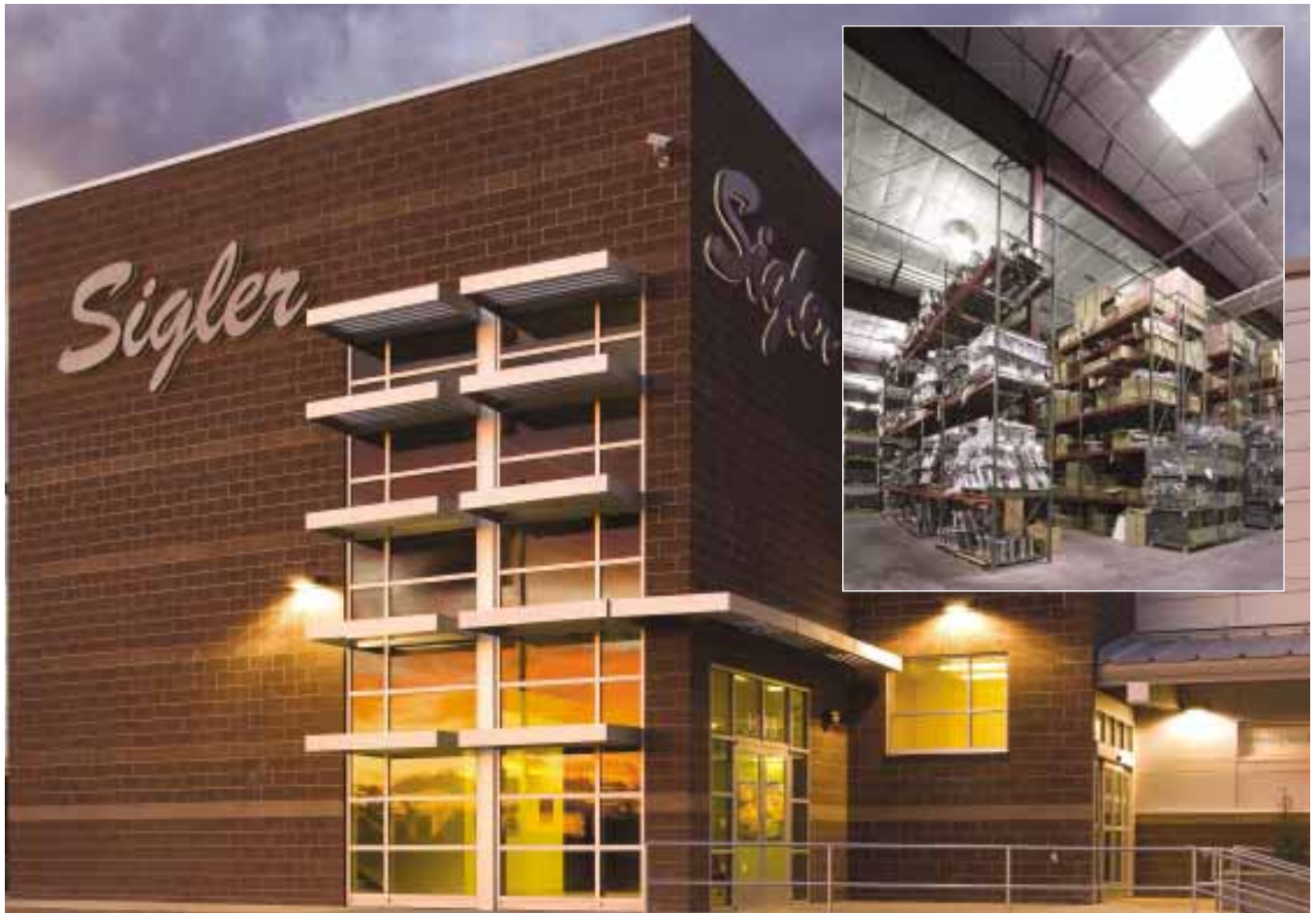
General Contractor: RMCI

Major Subcontractors: Aura Electric; Five G's Steel Erectors; American National Insulation & Sealants; Coating Technologies; D&R Tank Co.; GarVin Construction; McDade Woodcock; Post Tensioning Reinforcing Services; Queston Construction; Rupert Plumbing & Heating

New Mexico Best of 2008

Sigler Wholesale Distributing

Industrial



The well-thought-out design of this 65,000-sq-ft structure includes offices, a retail parts showroom, a warehouse and two loading docks—one for customers and one for deliveries. With excellent access to a major highway, Sigler Wholesale Distributing is conveniently located for easy access from businesses and has high visibility from the freeway.

Each section of the building remains distinctly separate while still allowing for interaction. Composed of different materials, the cohesive yet distinct sections of the façade indicate each separate internal function.

Atypical for traditional buildings of this type, the structure is LEED-NC silver certified. Water harvesting, photosensitive lights, low V.O.C. and recycled material furnishings and fixtures are all features of this energy-efficient building. The site also features low-water-use landscaping and recharging stations for electric vehicles, intended to be used by customers as well as fleet vehicles.

Submitted by: Studio Southwest Architects

Owner: Russell Sigler Inc.

Architect: Studio Southwest Architects

Contractor: CCI Construction

Engineers: Walla Engineering; CCI Engineering

LEED Consultant: Halcom Consulting

Major Subcontractors: Cambro; Heads Up Landscaping; Hughes & Associates; Four Suns Builders; Lentz Painting; Precision Masonry; Southwest Glass & Glazing; Hanna Plumbing; Mechanical Concepts; Northridge Electrical; Business Environments

New Mexico Best of 2008

Red Rock Diversion Channel

Private Project, Other



Tyrone Copper Mine is the site of this drainage channel, constructed between two reclaimed tailings dams. Restoration of the existing diversion channel posed a challenge, as the original had been head-cut up to 60 ft deep, with unusual one-to-one side slopes. The diversion channel's

erosions needed to be restored while preventing further erosion, which could have led to failing banks and exposed tailings from tailings dams. Four small structures, each comprised of 11,000 cu yds of roller compacted concrete (RCC), were used in the channel, with overhead load cranes

putting the RCC in place. This challenge was solved in part by using vibrators to coax the RCC out of the bucket, as well as by using a miniature excavator with a cutting edge to spread the concrete in small areas of the channel. In addition, 1,500 cu yds of grouted rip rap were placed at the site, and 222,000 cu yds of dirt was excavated. Erosion in the channel was arrested with the construction of a flattened channel slope and control of the drop of the water at the structures.

Submitted by: Kiewit New Mexico Co.

Owner: Freeport-McMoRan
Copper & Gold

Engineer: URS Corp.

Contractor: Kiewit New Mexico Co.

Suppliers: Salt River Materials Group;
Southwest Concrete

New Mexico Best of 2008

Mariposa East Commons Park

Landscape/Urban Design



Set within the natural topography of New Mexico, Mariposa East Commons Park is adjacent to mixed use development and links pedestrians to the natural open space system of the planned community of Rio Rancho. At almost five acres, the park's center features a sunken play field of turf grass, which will be irrigated with treated wastewater. The play field is surrounded by spaces such as an amphitheater, a garden, a picnic area and a basketball court. Details such as electrical connections and path lighting make the amphitheater accessible in the evening. A water pop-jet fountain centers the plaza, and encourages play and participation from adults and children. Small trees and a wall surround the contemplative garden to create a sense of privacy and comfort. Challenges included slope and erosion

potential at the point where the park connects with the natural landscape. A unique steep slope revegetation program combined with a small retaining system returns the disturbed areas to their original, natural state.

Submitted by:

High Desert Investment Corp.

Developer: High Desert Invest. Corp.

Designer: Design Workshop

General Contractor: Heads Up Landscape Contractors

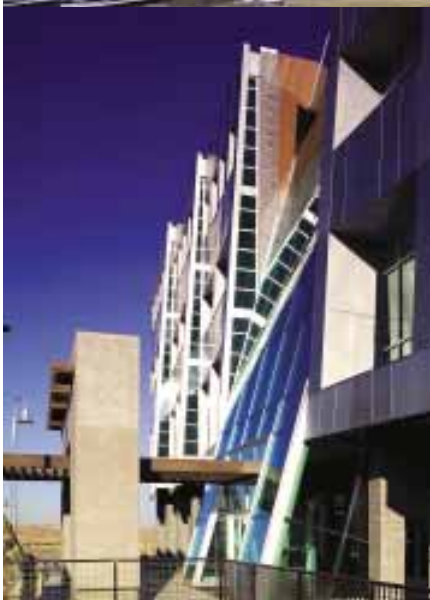
Other Design: Bohannon-Huston; Sites Southwest

Subcontractors: Universal Contractors; Python Construction; Creative Concrete of N.M.; Bixby Electric; Allstate Steel; Woods Site & Playscapes; Roman Fountains; High Mesa Consulting Group

New Mexico Best of 2008

Rio Rancho City Hall

Editor's Choice: Government/Public and Mechanical/Electrical



Incorporating green technology into the design of the 67,000-sq-ft Rio Rancho City Hall was a chief goal of the design team. Sustainable design techniques such as the ground coupled heat pump system transfers heat to and from the ground to

heat and cool the building. Pumped through the pipes in closed loops at 3.3 gallons per minute, the water output produces a temperature of up to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The system can simultaneously extract energy from hot areas and release energy in cool areas, transferring valuable heating and cooling properties throughout the building. Showcased in a glass room on the building's corner, the system educates and inspires the community at large. Saving a substantial amount of water as compared to traditional heat pumps, the system will provide years of free energy to heat and cool the building.

Submitted by: Bridgers & Paxton Consulting Engineers and The Hartman + Majewski Design Group

Owner: City of Rio Rancho

Architect: The Hartman + Majewski Design Group

Contractor:

Gerald Martin General Contractor

Engineers: QPEC Engineering; Bridgers & Paxton

Landscaping:

Sites Southwest; Sequoia Landscaping

Major Subcontractors:

Hanna Plumbing; Noel Co.; Lofland Co. of N.M.; American Tradition; Five G's Steel Erectors; Everguard Roofing; Southwest Glass & Glazing; Les File Drywall <<