

9.02



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**mid day:
from hardy holtzman
to kieran timberlake,
college to tell all
nov. 9**
donald maurice kreis

Middlebury College is impossible to ignore, architecturally speaking. Its granite, spire-studded campus is the very quintessence of Vermont collegiate architecture, yet in recent years the school has mostly steered clear of local architects. Because of its large endowment and niche near the top of America's list of elite undergraduate institutions, Middlebury has the means and the motivation to commission spectacular buildings – yet, in the eyes of some, several of the newer College buildings have been spectacular failures. And three major new campus projects, by Gwathmey Siegel, Tai Soo Kim and Kieran Timberlake, are poised to make new and indelible marks on the Champlain Valley 'skyline.'

It's one thing to be Vermont's biggest architectural client, with all the controversy that status entails. It's quite another to engage the state's architects and architecture students in an open and wide-ranging dialogue about the College's recent architectural choices. Remarkably, Middlebury has chosen to do just that, inviting Vermont's AIA chapter to convene at the campus on Saturday, November 9 for an event entitled "Middlebury Day for Architects: Assessing Recent Design."

Kicking off this all-day event will be a presentation and discussion led by Professor Glenn Andres of the College's History of Art and Architecture Department. Andres, who teaches architectural history and urbanism at Middlebury, with courses on modern and post-modern design, is a key player when it comes to the school's recent architectural projects. He serves as a faculty liaison to the College's facilities planning group, and chairs of the planning and building committees for the new Gwathmey Siegel-designed College library now under construction.

Andres has also had occasion to assess the College's design choices from the outside, having served on the Town of Middlebury's Design Advisory Committee the State Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. He has also mounted two exhibitions and worked on a pair of books about Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer, which designed the College's controversial Center for the Arts, completed in 1992.

Headquarters for the event will be Bicentennial Hall, the school's vast and technologically sophisticated science building that was designed by Payette Associates and completed in 1992. The discussion and dialogue will continue over an informal lunch, which will also feature displays of project models, as well as Middlebury's pre-architectural and environmental programs.

Following lunch, there will be opportunities to experience Middlebury's recent architectural choices first-hand. College officials will lead tours of the Payette science building, the newly completed Ross Commons complex designed by Tai Soo Kim, the Center for the Arts, The Grille (a highly popular student hang-out created by Freeman French Freeman, the only local participants in recent College projects), and (depending on interest) Coffrin Hall, the Edward Larrabee Barnes-designed residential complex that, in 1986, began Middlebury's current and ongoing blizzard of new architecture. Assisting Andres in leading these site visits will be Tom McGinn of the College's facilities planning group and Professor Pieter Broucke, Andres' colleague from the school's art and architectural history department.

"If anyone had told me that gray stone boxes set in lawns could be so beautiful, I would have said they were crazy. Middlebury looks like what everyone thinks an American campus should be but seldom is." So said Robert Venturi about Middlebury, as quoted in the College's 1996 Master Plan as submitted by Wallace Floyd Associates of Boston. The report (available at www.wallacefloyd.com/edu/middlebury/fmp4.htm) also quotes College President John McCardell as committing his institution to marshalling "vast new resources" to improving and expanding the school's facilities.

Plainly, the College has done as McCardell expressly intended. November 9 offers a possibly unprecedented opportunity to assess the extent to which Middlebury has also lived up to the vision of its master plan while reaffirming what everyone thinks an American campus looks like but seldom is. Chapter members will soon be receiving registration materials by mail! (or whatever is appropriate....)

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calendar

Sept. 12: CSI - BUILDING CODES 2002, Interpretations & Issues of Enforcement, location TBD, with Bob Howe, State Fire Marshal, Dept. of Labor & Industry. Interpretations of HCP/Accessibility Codes, Enforcement and code changes this year.

Sept. 14: Registration for AIA Vermont 2002 Design Award Program due at Chapter Office.

Sept. 16: Submissions for "The 2002 Vermont Public Space Awards" due at VT/ASLA c/o Wilbur Smith Associates, 4076 Shelburne Road, Shelburne, VT 05482.

Sept. 25: Vermont Downtown Program is hosting its Annual Downtown Conference at The Radisson Hotel in Burlington. For more information go to:

www.HistoricVermont.org
or call
Sarah Judd at 802-864-6310.

Oct. 10: 5:00 p.m. Joint Meeting with AIA New Hampshire at the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, VT with an exhibition of NH Furniture Masters.

Nov. 1: Entries for AIA Vermont Design Awards due at Chapter Office.

Nov. 9: " Middlebury Day for Architects; Assessing Recent Design." 10:00 a.m. at Bicentennial Hall. The College is generously providing lunch for all attendees.

aiaVT welcomes

Bruce Anderson, AIA of Williston
Shawn Brennan, AIA of Burlington
Jerry Bridges, Assoc. AIA of Williston
Lauren Ferraro, Assoc. AIA of Williston
Steven Roy, Assoc. AIA of Essex Junction

web sites

www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/recycling/c&d.htm
For news on Job Site Waste Reduction Planning and Grants, including last year's grants. The Agency of Natural Resources is offering \$20,000 in grant funding. The purpose is to develop case studies of Vermont builders who save money through waste prevention, reuse and recycling. Applications are due on August 30, 2002. Applications and additional information are also available by calling:

Jim Surwilo at (802) 241-3481
or
Carolyn Grodinsky at (802) 241- 3477.

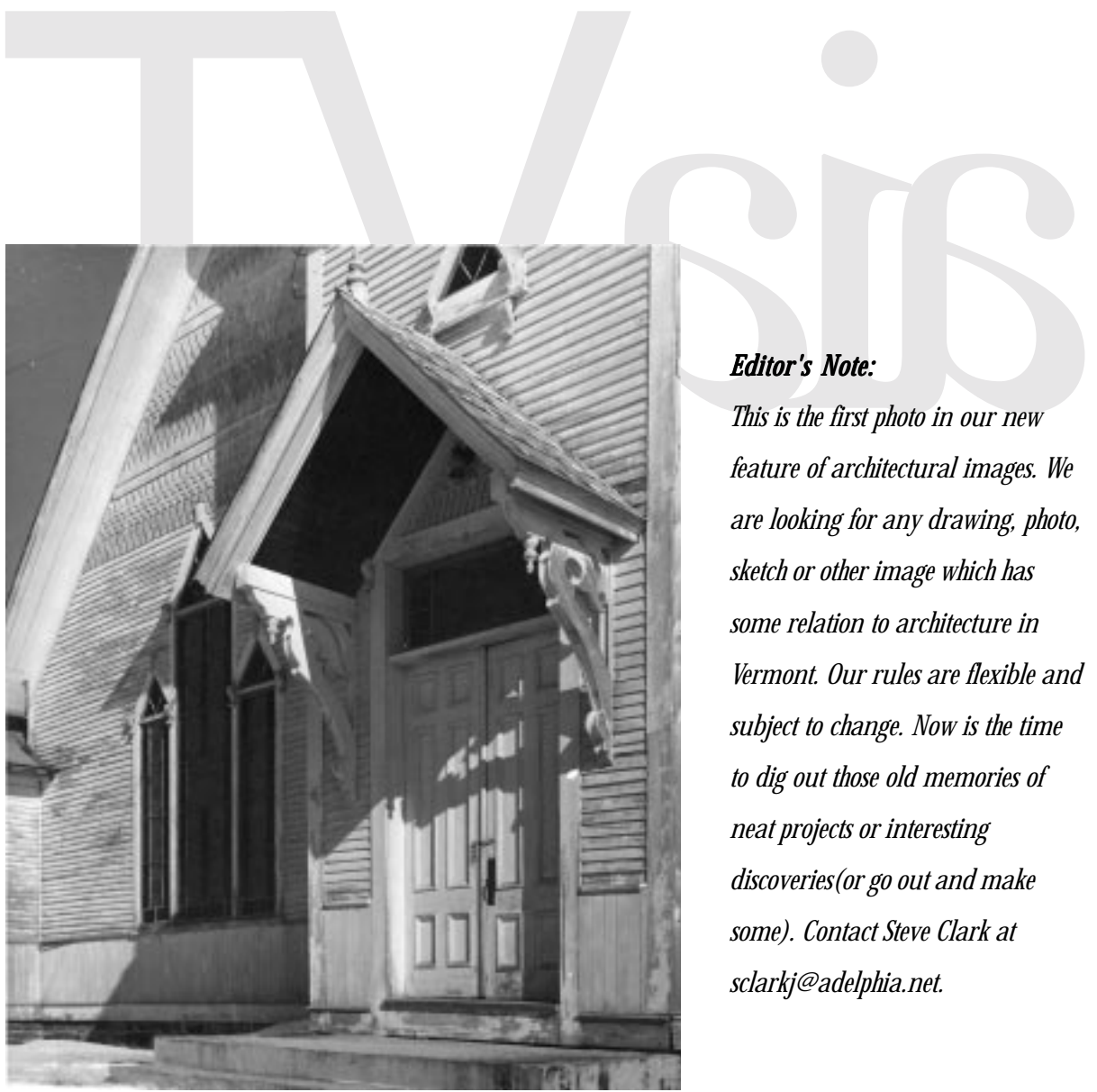
www.eren.doe.gov/buildingstools_directory/
A listing of 245 energy audit programs. www.eren.doe.gov is the home page of the Energy Efficiency Administration.

miscellaneous

CONGRATULATIONS to Frank Guillot, AIA on his election as Second Vice-President of NCARB.

Blu-Ray Bronco 44 blueprint copying machine. Complete set up, including chemicals but has not been used for a few years. \$50. Call: John Bartlett 802-652-9235.

Carol Abrahamson of Sedona, Arizona is inviting Architects to submit some of their designs to a book she is writing "Extraordinary Homes: Built-in Convenience Features That Make Any Home Truly Special". Please call the Chapter Office at: 802-496-3761.



"Lost Architecture?"
Abandoned Church north of Cambridge, ca 1973.
Photograph by Robert Burley, AIA

Editor's Note:

This is the first photo in our new feature of architectural images. We are looking for any drawing, photo, sketch or other image which has some relation to architecture in Vermont. Our rules are flexible and subject to change. Now is the time to dig out those old memories of neat projects or interesting discoveries (or go out and make some). Contact Steve Clark at sclarkj@adelphia.net.

Efficiency Vermont Announces 2003 Design Showcase

Amy Rubin

Efficiency Vermont has issued an invitation to architects to showcase energy efficient designs at its 6th annual conference — Better Buildings By Design 2003. The conference will take place **February 12th and 13th, 2003** at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center.

The poster format showcase will be a key feature of the region's premiere gathering of design and construction professionals. Building upon the success of five Building Solutions conferences, this event is expected to draw more than 500 architects, builders, contractors, designers, developers, electricians and engineers. The showcase will feature the best innovative energy efficient designs in Vermont. Projects will include those already constructed or yet to be built. Full criteria and submission protocols will appear at www.encyvermont.com beginning December 2nd.

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Efficiency Vermont is your statewide energy efficiency utility. It was created by the Vermont Legislature and the Vermont Public Service Board to help all Vermonters reduce energy costs and protect our environment, and is operated by an independent, non-profit organization.

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