In the mid-1980s, we began awarding our Silver Rivets for design excellence every other year, rather than giving them out annually as had been the practice in the past. The economic recession had drastically reduced the amount of construction in the area and, hence, the number of entries in the contest.

As we embarked on the judging for the 1994 contest (which encompasses the years 1992 and 1993), it became obvious how much the construction scene has improved since we made that decision. The number of buildings nominated for review this year was dramatically higher than what we had seen in recent years. And the projects we reviewed were much broader in scope and complexity.

We consider this year’s crop of winners one of our finest ever. We note the large number of well-designed institutional structures, such as the National Wetlands Research Center, the City of Lafayette Public Works Building and the renovated Immaculata diocesan office building. We also were pleased to review a large number of personal residences, an indication of the healthy home-building market.

And most encouraging, we received four entries from architects who had built or renovated new residences for themselves and their families. There is perhaps no clearer sign that conditions have really improved for those who are responsible for the built environment in Acadiana.

Judges for the competition were Edward Cazayoux, chairman of the architecture program at USL, and Richard Baudouin, editor of The Times.

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**SILVER**

**Project Name:** National Wetlands Research Center  
700 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette  
**Owner:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
**Architectural Firm:** Guidry Beazley Ostteen/Architects and Eskew Filson Architects (New Orleans), A Joint Venture  
**Project Architects:** Charles D. Beazley and Allen Eskew  
**General Contractor:** The Lemoine Co.

This research center for a government agency is an excellent project from a design and construction standpoint. The striking, contemporary structure seems to grow organically from the site, which was nothing more than an open field. The design features simple geometric shapes aligned on clearly defined axes. Interior spaces are light, airy and attractive. The addition of a mini wetlands in the front of the structure clearly communicates the function of the work inside.

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**SILVER**

**Project Name:** Renovation of Immaculata Seminary Building  
408 Cannel Ave.  
**Owner:** Catholic Diocese of Lafayette  
**Architectural Firm:** Gossen Architects  
**Project Architects:** Kevin Gossen and Barry LeBlanc  
**General Contractor:** J.B. Mouton & Sons Inc.

This major renovation of the old Immaculata Seminary achieved two objectives. First, an historic Lafayette structure was restored and preserved for future generations through careful refurbishing of the exterior facade and the interior courtyard. Second, the interior of the building was gutted and reconfigured as a contemporary office space for diocesan officials and employees. The architects chose rich materials, excellent colors and a sophisticated lighting scheme to create a dignified feel very appropriate for the religious activities housed therein.
Girard Park is an attractive green space but has lost much of its visual appeal over the years through overuse and poor maintenance. The architects reconstructed the pond and surrounding areas with an eye toward encouraging controlled pedestrian access. Gazebos, pavilions and other open-air spaces were constructed throughout the park in a style reminiscent of the turn of the century. The architect has accomplished a handsome and hopefully lasting revitalization of an important public space for Lafayette.

The architect-owner's growing family necessitated a major addition to the 12-year-old home. Fortunately, future growth had been anticipated in the original plan for the house, so alterations were accomplished with minimal disruption. The owner added a large living/dining area, which was tied into the original kitchen through complementary materials and sight lines. The architect took full advantage of the waterfront location by installing large expanses of glass facing the Bayou Teche.
The architect transformed a small, outmoded kitchen and breakfast nook area into a large cooking space. Functional yet attractive finishes make this an ideal spot for entertaining. Views out onto the pool and garden further enhance this effect.

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The owner-architect transformed a small, outdated structure into an attractive and lively residence for his family. The design attempted to enhance views of the Vermilion River from the home, which was accomplished by adding exterior balconies, changing windows and relocating a gazebo on the rear of the property. Internally, the architect modernized kitchen and bath areas and created more inviting common spaces for entertaining and family gatherings.
Project Name: Acadian Village Shopping Center Facade Renovation
Pinhook at Kaliste Saloom roads
Owner: Michael Maraist
Architectural Firm: David Courville, Architect
Project Architects: David Courville and Edson Davis Jr.
General Contractor: C.M. Miciotto Co.

A playful addition to the facade gives definition and character to an otherwise undistinguished strip shopping mall. Nice use of color and neon lights enhance the attractiveness during both daylight and evening hours.

Project Name: Funeral Home conversion
Youngsville Highway
Owner: David Mortuary Inc.
Architectural Firm: Terry Crochet
Project Architect: Terry Crochet
General Contractor: Francis Meyers

The architect was faced with the challenge of converting a deteriorating former restaurant into a stately and dignified structure for use as a funeral home. The task was accomplished through the addition of well-defined exterior forms with a traditional feel. A rich interior and exterior color scheme completed the transformation.

Project Name: Camellia Cleaners
1899 Pinhook Road (Acadian Village Shopping Center)
Owner: Register Investment
Architectural Firm: David Courville, Architect
Project Architects: David Courville and Edson Davis Jr.
General Contractor: The Reichardt Co. Inc.

This is an interesting adaptation of space for a drive-through and walk-up dry cleaning location. The floor is thrust onto the sidewalk at a 90-degree angle, which blurs the distinction between the inside and the outside of the facility.

[Note: Register Investment is a subsidiary of The Times of Acadiana Inc.]
**HONORABLE MENTION**

Project Name: Saturn of Lafayette auto dealership
4010 Ambassador Caffery Parkway
Owner: Louis B. Mann
Architectural Firm: CRSS Architects (Houston) and Architects Southwest (Consulting)
General Contractor: C.M. Miccioto & Son

This striking, high-tech design was created as a prototype for all Saturn dealerships and adapted for the Ambassador Caffery site by a local firm.
-- HONORABLE MENTION --

Project Name: Used Car Office renovation, 1515 Jefferson St., Lafayette
Owner: Lafayette Motor Co.
Architectural Firm: Guidry Beazley Osteen Architects
Project Architect: Bobby C. Osteen
General Contractor: Walter Camos Construction

Attractive renovation of an unsightly structure.

-- BRONZE --

Project Name: Welcome Center
Evangeline Thruway at Willow Street
Owner: Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission
Architectural Firm: James Broussard & Associates
Project Architect: James Broussard
General Contractor: Al Theriot Construction

The architect has created a hospitable structure for greeting visitors to the city by using vernacular architectural forms and offering expansive views of the adjacent Gateway Lafayette gardens and pond. The Welcome Center orients well to the already existing offices of the tourist commission and completes a very attractive compound of buildings, walkways and landscape features.

-- BRONZE --

Project Name: Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Bassett
1000 Katherine Drive, Opelousas
Architectural Firm: Hamilton and Associates Inc.
Project Architect: Sam W. Hamilton
General Contractor: J.B. Viviano

The design of this Opelousas home was influenced by the owner’s desire for large spaces suitable for a young, active family. The plan is oriented around an attractive kitchen and informal living room which offer visual access to the inside and outside of the home. Nice use of traditional materials and building forms on the exterior.
HONORABLE MENTION

Project Name: Enterprise Center of Louisiana
1419 N.W. Evangeline Thruway
Owner: City of Carencro
Architectural Firm: The Angel Guidry Partnership
Project Architect: Lynn Guidry
General Contractor: The Rudick Company

Attractive, flexible space is easily adaptable for the wide variety of tenants who will use the building.

HONORABLE MENTION

Project Name: The Leather Pouch
436 E. Vermilion St, Lafayette
Owner: Glenn LaValley
Architectural Firm: David Courville, Architect
Project Architects: David Courville and Edson Davis
General Contractor: The Reichardt Co. Inc.

Visually appealing entrance feature gives definition to a simple structure.

1994 SILVER RIVET AWARDS

HONORABLE MENTION

Project Name: Office Building
1210 Walker Road, Lafayette
Owner: City of Lafayette Utilities System
Architectural Firm: Barras Architects Incorporated
(formerly Barras + Breaux)
Project Architect: Robert E. Barras
General Contractor: M.D. Descant Inc.

A strong facade creates visual interest in this municipal office structure.

HONORABLE MENTION

Project Name: Renovation of Ophthalmology Clinic
2611 Rue Iberville, Suite 800
Owner: LaHaye Center for Advanced Eye Care
Architectural Firm: Acadiana Architects
Project Architects: William W. Koetting (Architect), Jill Faul Bellard (Interior Designer) and Kevin Darby (Space Planner)
General Contractor: Weill Construction

Colorful, attractive design is in striking contrast to typically sterile clinical environments.
HONORABLE MENTION

Project Name: Simien and Miniex Law Office
104 Rue Iberville, Lafayette

Owners: Clyde Simien and Ricky Miniex

Architectural Firm: Pecot & Company, Architects

Project Architect: Kirby Pecot (Architect) and Angela Kratzer (Interior Designer)

General Contractor: C.M. Miccioto & Sons Inc.

Elegant interiors make a strong statement about the quality of the law firm housed in the building.