

Art & Science

THE COMMUNITY TECTONICS QUARTERLY

A Master Plan Fulfilled: Maryville Intermediate Taps Community Tectonics Talent

When Community Tectonics was chosen to design Foothills Elementary in Maryville, the architects were challenged to design a school with a residential-looking exterior on a site overlooking the Smoky Mountains. They succeeded with careful design that incorporated a special roofing system and well-positioned windows. Based on that positive experience, Community Tectonics has been chosen once again by Maryville City Schools to design the \$10 million Maryville Intermediate School. To be built adjacent to Foothills Elementary on a site that also overlooks the mountains, the intermediate school will share the same kitchen, bus driveways and play areas.

“Community Tectonics created a master plan for this site, which turned out to be very valuable for us,” says Dr. Mike Dalton, Director of Maryville City Schools. “It enabled us to move quickly and to accommodate growth by showing us a building already at that site. We were able to save time in selection, to match architectural styles and to benefit from Community Tectonics’ familiarity with the project.”

In addition to designing an intermediate school to maximize the mountain views while maintaining a residential character, Jim Coykendall,

“Community Tectonics’ master plan enabled us to move quickly and accommodate growth.”

Mike Dalton, Maryville City Schools

Corporate Vice President of Community Tectonics, worked with the architectural team to meet functional design challenges, as well.

In addition to accommodating predetermined spaces, the design meets the needs of the new intermediate school model for fifth and sixth graders, which creates a “unique half-



step” between the elementary and middle school experience. Plans are to group students into clusters of approximately 100 students each. Fifth graders will see two teachers each day for academics, and sixth graders will be assigned four teachers and change classes for each of the major subject areas. Special areas are being designed for art, music, and other student services.

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**Community
Tectonics**
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architecture • planning • interior design

Tectonics: The Art and Science of Creating Structures



Meet Don Shell

"Community Tectonics has developed a reputation for planning and designing educational facilities that is unequalled in the State of Tennessee," says Don Shell, President of the firm that dates back to 1950.

Shell explains that Community Tectonics is a multi-disciplined firm. "We bring a large number of design disciplines to the table, including architecture, interior design, civil and structural engineering, and planning. From the educational point of view, we are the most comprehensive planning and design firm in Tennessee."

With hundreds of educational projects in their portfolio, Shell notes the firm's ability to help educators and other entities understand their needs today and anticipate their needs of tomorrow.

"In our school work, we believe strongly that the building should complement the educational program," Shell emphasizes. "We understand educational programming, funding mechanisms and cost estimating, curriculums, how to measure the feasibility of renovations, how to accommodate various state mandates, and the pros and cons of various school structures."

Shell has conducted educational facilities master planning for 11 school systems throughout Tennessee. He has been the project principal on more than 50 educational projects over the last 10 years. In addition, his design work encompasses other project types, such as community centers, churches, industrial buildings, office buildings, medical facilities and housing.

He was the first in Tennessee to be recognized by the Council of Educational Facility Planners, International. He is a past president of the East Tennessee Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and is also active in the Tennessee Society of Architects.

"At Community Tectonics, we bring value to the planning process," Shell says. "We're problem solvers. We help our clients face their challenges, set their vision, and develop the plan to achieve their goals."

Grace Baptist Church, Oak Ridge Highway

A new sanctuary for Grace Baptist Church was designed to allow phased development and to incorporate state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems and facilities for radio and television broadcast and recording. Additional parking was developed and an overall site master plan was completed by Community Tectonics in anticipation of future growth. Contractor: Rouse Construction Co.

Project specifics:

- Building area: 62,500 square feet
- Total cost: \$7.8 million (est.)
- Sanctuary capacity: 1,600 initially & 2,200 eventually; choir area of 200

Additional areas: large fellowship lobbies, covered entries and walkways, choir rehearsal room, choir robing areas, orchestra practice room, baptistry dressing areas, bride's room, restrooms.



Gatlinburg Town Square, Phase Three

Originally designed by Community Tectonics as the first high-rise timeshare project in downtown Gatlinburg, the third phase of Gatlinburg Town Square is currently under construction. This residential development includes an addition to the parking garage and an outdoor pool to complement the pre-existing enclosed swimming pool. Contractor: Denark-Smith, Inc.

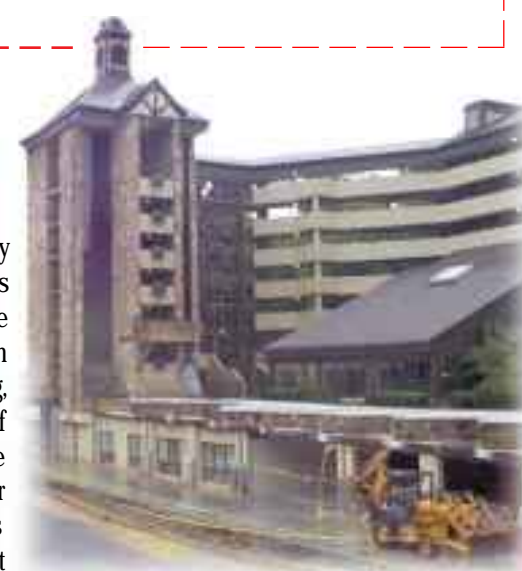
Project specifics:

Forty units, each with:

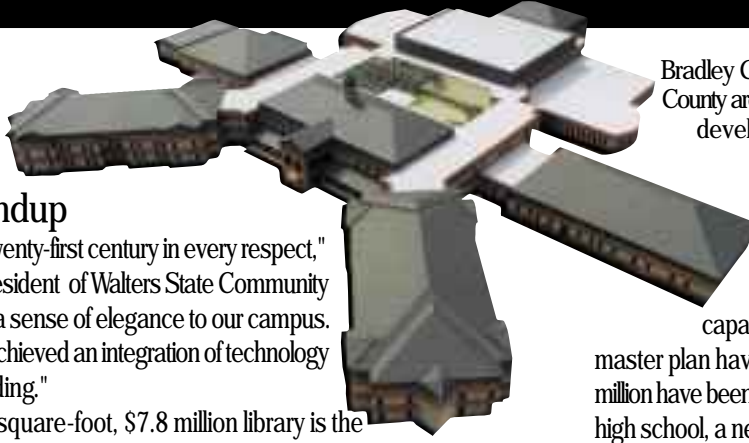
- a master suite with whirlpool spa,
- a second, lock-out bedroom with mini kitchen and bar with whirlpool spa,
- living room with a fireplace, dining area, kitchen area and exterior balconies.

Cost:

- Phase three, to be completed in 1999: \$6.1 million project
- Phase two, completed in 1997: \$3.6 million
- Phase one, completed in 1983: \$2.6 million



which are both Functional and Visually Pleasing.



Bradley County (High school picture to left) and Dickson County are two systems for which Community Tectonics has developed an Educational Facilities Master Plan.

Educational Roundup

"Our new library is just twenty-first century in every respect," says Dr. Jack Campbell, President of Walters State Community College. "The library adds a sense of elegance to our campus. Community Tectonics has achieved an integration of technology with aesthetics in this building."

Walters State's 49,510-square-foot, \$7.8 million library is the latest step in achieving the Educational Facilities Master Plan developed for Walters State by Community Tectonics in the early 1990's. The library serves as the new north anchor of the campus, part of a new quadrangle conceived in the master planning process.

It is this comprehensive and multi-disciplined approach to educational facilities that benefits Community Tectonics' many clients in the business of education. The planning and design firm works with school systems throughout the state to create "Learning Environments" for children and adults.

For example, the Community Tectonics office in Dickson, Tennessee, helped Dickson County with facilities planning to shift the system from a high school with grades 10-12 and a junior high with grades 7-9 to a system with a high school with grades 9-12, a middle school with grades 6-8 and an elementary school with grades K-5. Anticipated growth from 7,596 students in 1997 to 11,577 students by the year 2020 was also considered.

Today, based on rapid growth and fiscal capability, the first two phases of the Dickson County master plan have been implemented. A total of more than \$70 million have been committed to two new elementary schools, a new high school, a new middle school and additions and renovations throughout the system. Community Tectonics is in charge of the schematics and design development for both phases, and construction documentation and administration for phase two.

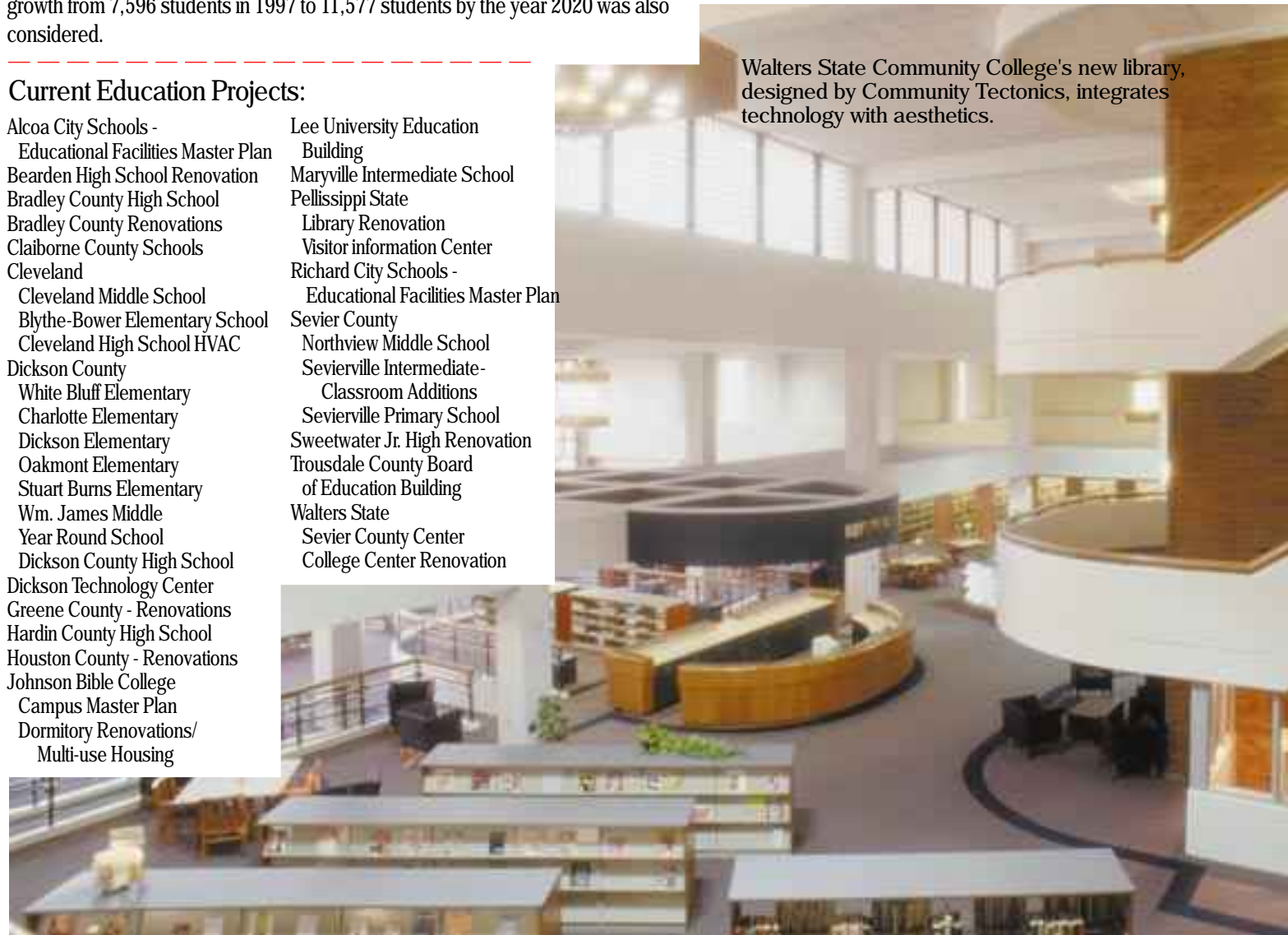
Community Tectonics has developed Educational Facilities Master Plans for 11 school systems and designs for hundreds of individual school systems. Jim Coykendall, Corporate Vice President, explains why.

"We listen," he says. "We understand what it takes to teach and convey information. We put a team together that interacts often with the school system. We create 'Learning Environments' that are effective today and responsive to tomorrow's opportunities."

Current Education Projects:

- | | |
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| Alcoa City Schools -
Educational Facilities Master Plan | Lee University Education
Building |
| Bearden High School Renovation | Maryville Intermediate School |
| Bradley County High School | Pellissippi State
Library Renovation |
| Bradley County Renovations | Visitor Information Center |
| Claiborne County Schools | Richard City Schools -
Educational Facilities Master Plan |
| Cleveland
Cleveland Middle School | Sevier County
Northview Middle School |
| Blythe-Bower Elementary School | Sevierville Intermediate-
Classroom Additions |
| Cleveland High School HVAC | Sevierville Primary School |
| Dickson County
White Bluff Elementary | Sweetwater Jr. High Renovation |
| Charlotte Elementary | Trousdale County Board
of Education Building |
| Dickson Elementary | Walters State
Sevier County Center |
| Oakmont Elementary | College Center Renovation |
| Stuart Burns Elementary | |
| Wm. James Middle | |
| Year Round School | |
| Dickson County High School | |
| Dickson Technology Center | |
| Greene County - Renovations | |
| Hardin County High School | |
| Houston County - Renovations | |
| Johnson Bible College
Campus Master Plan | |
| Dormitory Renovations/
Multi-use Housing | |

Walters State Community College's new library, designed by Community Tectonics, integrates technology with aesthetics.



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Enrollment is expected to number 700 when school opens in the year 2000. The school is being built for 900 students, with plans for future expansion to 1,000 students.

"The design of this school has essentially been an exercise in manipulation



of space. We've put all of the pieces of the puzzle together while allowing the new facility to function internally," says Coykendall.

"The exterior design was set with the elementary school project. At that time, we met with the community, and with their input we came up with an architectural statement that looks like it belongs."

According to Dalton, everyone is pleased with the result. "There was some concern as we added this building that we must make a special effort to maintain the residential character of the building and protect the mountain views. The staff at Community Tectonics is highly professional, yet we enjoy a friendly relationship. They are willing to make that extra effort to meet our needs," Dalton concludes.



Community Tectonics' Jim Coykendall and Don Shell and Maryville City Schools' Mike Dalton review the drawings and model of Maryville Intermediate School.

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