

LOUISIANA'S BEST OF

2006

I-10 Twin Spans Emergency Repair, New Orleans, La.

BEST OF 2006 Judges' Award in Construction

The I-10 Twin Spans over Lake Pontchartrain are a vital link in the transportation infrastructure of the New Orleans region. When the storm surge from Hurricane Katrina damaged these bridges, an important transportation artery was destroyed.

In a region already isolated by floodwaters, the removal of this important roadway added to the troubles of the New Orleans area. Supplies, water, food, and military help had one fewer way to access the flood-ravaged area. Immediate restoration of this roadway was necessary to the region's recovery.

The reconstruction of the twin spans was a symbolic step in the recovery and rebuilding of the New Orleans area.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development assembled a bid package and held a pre-bid meeting on Sept. 7, only eight days after the damage occurred. The project was bid two days later and a contract was awarded the same day, Sept. 9, with the Notice to Proceed issued for Monday, Sept. 12, two weeks to the day of the hurricane.

With only two days between pre-bid meeting and bid opening, the project managers assembled a team of design engineers and subcontractors that would prove to be the best team for this project. The relationship between Boh Bros., DOTD, the design engineer, construction manager and numerous subcontractors was exceptional, resulting in the smooth completion of Phase I of the project – reopening the bridge to vehicular traffic – in only 28 days.

When the project started, New Orleans was still under a mandatory evacuation order, and much of the city was



still under floodwaters. Over 80 percent of Boh's employees were displaced from their residences and living in some type of temporary quarters. Available housing in the vicinity of the project site was practically non-existent.

Phase I of the I-10 Twin Spans Emergency Repair consisted of repairing the eastbound bridge and opening it to two-way traffic, with a schedule of 45 calendar days. The damage to the eastbound bridge included 38 spans that were completely missing or partially submerged in Lake Pontchartrain and 172 spans out of alignment, ranging from 2 in. to 20 ft. Boh Bros. successfully completed Phase I in 28 days – 62% of the allotted time, opening this vital link in the infrastructure of the New Orleans area.

Phase II of the project consisted of repairing the westbound bridge and opening it to traffic. The damage to the west-

bound bridge included 20 spans that were missing or partially submerged and 265 spans out of alignment, ranging from 2 in. to 20 ft. A metal truss bridge was installed in the voids where spans were missing due to damage or due to being relocated to the eastbound bridge during Phase I.

Key Players

Owner: Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Baton Rouge, La.

Contractor: Boh Bros. Construction Co. LLC, New Orleans

Cost: \$29.5 million

Inspection/Construction Management: Volkert & Associates Inc., Mobile, Ala.

Engineer: HNTB, Baton Rouge, La.

LOUISIANA'S BEST OF 2006

Law Offices for Daigle Fisse & Kessenich, Madisonville, La.

BEST OF 2006 Judges' Award in Design

When designing the new offices of Daigle Fisse & Kessenich PLC in Madisonville, La., the architect's design goal was to provide an architecture that was conducive to the core values of the firm's practice. These were to combine the legal skills and litigation experience found in large metropolitan firms with the community values and virtues of a smaller, more personal practice.

A great majority of design focus is given to the attorney client interaction, as well as business to community interface. This is apparent in the special relationship between the main entry lobby, the entry forecourt and the main conference area.

The existing site context consisted of wooded rural residential and farmland. The analysis uncovered a desire for internalized views in order to create a sense of privacy for both occupants and neighbors. Existing vegetation was preserved as much as possible. Trees that were removed were replaced in other areas of the site.

The site analysis also determined that there was a low spot at the center of the site which would need special attention.

Several options were studied involving the organization of five basic program elements: lobby and shared auxiliary spaces at center, principal lawyer office wing (north), additional lawyer office wing (south), conference space and entry court at front.

These program elements were also identified in elevation and three dimensional massing.

The final building footprint focused on the identity of main program elements as well as site axis and known



PHOTO BY MARC LAMKIN PHOTOGRAPHY

constraints within the landscape:

1. The drainage of the site – the water flow on the south side.
2. The relationship of the main building to a future building pad at the front of the site.
3. The requirement that the area be screened from the adjacent residential sites with extensive landscaping. This was a requirement by local ordinance.

A strong need to offer a community interface for formal and informal events developed into, the entry court, lobby and conference area working in harmony for social interaction. Auxiliary service functions are centralized and flanked to the north and south by lawyer office wings.

Large openings to the north minimize solar heat gain while providing a provocative transparent presence to the community. The iconic red monolith marks the beginning of the massing se-

quence and makes for an identifiable marketing image for the firm.

The entry court, lobby and conference provide a continuous dialogue of space which can be opened to each other for communal gatherings. The repetitive rhythm of the bracketed columns reference the wooded rural context. At night the spaces shine like a beacon in the forest.

Key Players

Owner: Daigle Fisse & Kessenich PLC, Madisonville, La.

Architect: Holly & Smith Architects APAC, Hammond, La.

Cost: \$1.2 million

Contractor: MBD Construction Co. Inc., Baton Rouge, La.

LOUISIANA'S BEST OF

2006

State Farm Operations Building, Baton Rouge, La.

BEST Building Project

PHOTO BY HATTEK PHOTOGRAPHICS



The State Farm Operations Building serves as a multi-functional work center for State Farm's business practices including claims, litigation and the call center.

The operations building is a two-story, 68,000-sq.-ft. ground-up office building located in the Towne Centre shopping

center in Baton Rouge, La. The building is a structural steel frame with exterior panel cladding. The exterior panel materials used help to make this project unique. MAPP Construction used a Nichiha Panel, which consists of fiber and cement, as well as a Stenni Panel, made of fiberglass.

The interior materials used were chosen to give the State Farm Operations Building an aesthetically pleasing architectural finish. The owner, Alsation Land Co., wanted to make sure that the building's lobby was the most impressive. To achieve the desired look of this Class A office space, limestone floors with granite diamond inserts were in-

Key Players

Owner: Alsation Land Co., Kansas City, Mo.

Contractor: MAPP Construction LLC, Baton Rouge, La.

Cost: \$6.5 million

Architect: Rees, Masilionis, Turley Architects, Kansas City, Mo.

stalled. The limestone was a neutral color accented with black granite. Overhead, light trays were installed along the ceiling resulting in a reflective image on the floor. Granite slab walls were used to complete the look for the lobby.

The State Farm Operations Building was scheduled to run from September 2005 to September 2006. MAPP Construction began construction in September 2005 and completed the project in June 2006, three months ahead of schedule.

LOUISIANA'S BEST OF

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Tulane University Center Expansion, New Orleans, La.

BEST Education Project



Broadmoor constructed the expansion of the Tulane University Center at its up-town campus in New Orleans.

The renovation, reorganization and expansion will transform the U.C. into a functional center of campus services and activities. Construction has been ongoing on the active campus and

through the cleanup of post-Katrina damage. The project includes an increase in meeting space of about 8,000 sq. ft.; updating of student program space; as well as areas for dining and the campus bookstore.

The new U.C. will see a 40,000-sq.-ft. increase and feature a water wall and natural lighting throughout all levels of the building. The building, renovation and new structure total 135,000 sq. ft.

Conceptually, the project faced two separate, difficult challenges. First, shortly after the selective demolition process began, questionable concrete integral to the existing structure was discovered.

A thorough exploration and remediation plan was developed and implemen-

Key Players

Owner: The Administrators of the Tulane Education Fund, New Orleans

Contractor: Broadmoor, New Orleans

Cost: \$27 million

Architects: Vincent James & Associates Architects, Minneapolis, Minn.; James Carpenter Design Associates, New York, N.Y.; and Wayne Troyer Architect, New Orleans

tation of the work was conducted concurrent with the actual contracted construction activities.

Second, the project suffered a tremendous setback when Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. The need to remove or replace damaged building components, in addition to the associated lead time and loss of manpower, required a philosophical change to the project schedule.

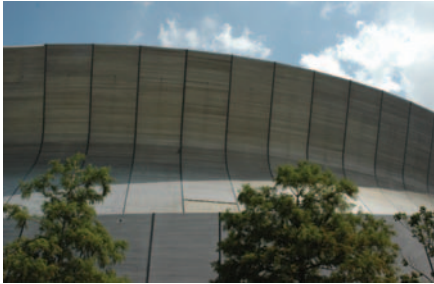
LOUISIANA'S BEST OF

2006

Repairs to Louisiana Superdome, New Orleans, La.

BEST Hurricane Reconstruction Project – Building

PHOTO BY DAVID SPIELMANN



As the largest “dome” constructed in the world in the late 1970s, the Louisiana Superdome has been a major part of the modern history of New Orleans. It represented an aggressive leap into the future of the shaped environment and the future prominence of New Orleans as a modern American City.

The renovations necessary following

Hurricane Katrina were fraught with urgency driven by the public perception regarding the Superdome immediately after the storm. The fast track schedule was also dictated by having the first home game for the New Orleans Saints on national television.

The \$134 million project, with 30 subcontractors, replacement of the entire roof (including metal decking) and a schedule driven by a very public event that would reflect on the recovery of the City of New Orleans, needed superior management and a strong team.

Broadmoor was charged with overseeing all interior work in the Superdome, including 20,000 new seats, new video and

Key Players

Owner: State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge

Contractor: Broadmoor, New Orleans

Cost: \$134 million

Architects: Trahan Architects, Baton Rouge; Billes Architecture LLC and Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects, both of New Orleans.

scoreboards, concession stands and replacement of 750,000 sq. ft. of ceiling tile.

The repairs to the suites on the 300 and 400 levels included the demolition and replacement of all finishes. The suites were demolished and rebuilt with new mechanical, ductwork and grills, electrical with new lighting plans.

The gladiator plenum, a huge ring that circles the interior of the dome and houses instrumentation and air conditioning venting for the cooling system, was also repaired.

LOUISIANA'S BEST OF

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Murphy Oil USA Inc. Rehabilitation, Meraux, La.

BEST Hurricane Reconstruction Project – Industrial



The Murphy Oil Katrina Rebuild Project – just as many other projects along the Gulf Coast – was critical to bringing the area

back economically and bringing online critical production in a supply tight market.

The Murphy Oil Meraux Refinery received significant wind and flood damage due to the storm. The destructive properties of the salt water made this flood extremely vicious and yielded unknown hazards in the rebuild effort.

The project objective was to bring Murphy Meraux Refinery back online in a safe, environmentally sound manner. Murphy management made it very clear that doing this safely was a top priority. To accomplish this, each line-break and equipment assessment had to be handled as if it were a hazardous environment.

To proceed with the clean-flush operation, contractor teams had to begin with

Key Players

Owner: Murphy Oil, Meraux, La.

Contractor: Turner Industries Group, Baton Rouge

Cost: \$75 million

a visual assessment with Murphy’s operations personnel. Due to the circumstances in which the plant was shut-down and the surrounding variables, conditions for a major overhaul were extremely unique.

The logistics of an undertaking of this size project involved balancing manpower and managing of the project, amid the limited contractor work areas, dictated that the refinery rebuild process be evaluated to determine the best path forward.