



COUTANCES CATHEDRAL
Normandy, France

Coutances Cathedral is one of the purest examples of Norman Gothic in existence. This occurred because it was built over an extremely short period of time - 55 years (1220-75), and because the characteristics of Norman architecture are so strong to begin with. It also is one of the most consistent in style Gothic buildings because of the short construction period.

Norman architecture, even in the vernacular, has many tall narrow proportioned elements, usually with tall pointed cone type roofs, all with a stark and sparsely decorated appearance. The Norman cathedrals that were in the Romanesque style such as Abbaye aux Hommes and Abbaye aux Dames, both at Caen, exhibit these characteristics as did the predecessor church at Coutances that burned.

The predecessor was designed by Geoffroy de Montbray, one of the prelate knights that Duke William (the Conqueror) had gathered around him before the invasion and battle of Hastings in

1066, completed the first nave in 1056. The footprint of the building as well as most of the remains from the fire were incorporated and transformed into a Gothic style building.

The west front is framed by two soaring towers composed of multiple, narrow towers, with the flanking ones taller. The view in this edition's limited edition signed print by Ladd P. Ehlinger is of the south transept with the striking octagonal lantern on top of the crossing and a portion of the chevet on the east end with the flying buttresses that daringly leap over the double ambulatory.

Coutances is worth going out of your way to see. It occupies a hillock on the Cotentin peninsula and is the religious and judicial center. The town was originally a Roman settlement named Cosedia. It changed its name to Constantia in the 3C. This Roman name ultimately evolved into the French "Coutances" over the centuries.

E&A CELEBRATES 3 YEARS IN THE WORLD OF WORK PROGRAM

We are proud to be participating again this summer in the Orleans Parish School Board World of Work Academy Program. This has been a successful program and has involved hundred of young students who have spent time with various "mentor" businesses each summer.

Our first student this summer was Darrell Lambert, a 13 year old student at Peters Middle School in New Orleans. He has a 9 year old sister named Sierra, an 11 old sister named Serrita and an uncle's whose name is Doru.

His sisters like to jump rope and ride their bikes and his uncle likes to talk on the phone. He loves to play video games and his favorite subjects in school are Math and Physical Education.

WELCOME ABOARD

Russell B. Robelot has joined E&A's New Orleans office this June. Russell graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture from L.S.U. this June.

Russell is from the Metairie area, attended Archbishop Rummel High School where he was a member of the football, track and wrestling teams. He had a four year perfect attendance record in high school.

Russell brings skills to his employment in AutoCad, MicroStation and FormZ software, and has an interest in furniture design and architectural photography.

NOW PERMANENTLY ABOARD

R. Perrin Ehlinger has permanently joined E&A's Huntsville office since recently graduating from Auburn University in June of 1996. He worked for the firm during summers since he was 11 years old in every capacity one can think, starting with cleaning up, to draftsman, and now to Intern Architect.

He and his wife Catherine chose Huntsville, where she owns and operates a CD Warehouse franchise in the Village on Whitesburg shopping center.

Perrin completed 3 years in engineering at N.C. State, decided he didn't like it, and switched to architecture. This meant starting over - and an additional 5 years. So we know he is diligent and has the desire to be an architect.

DELGADO STUDENT SERVICES AND CLASSROOM BUILDING

The rendering on the reverse is of our design for the above presently out for bid. This is the signature building for Delgado's west bank campus in N.O.



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