



SEASONS GREETINGS

The staff of Ehlinger & Associates extends Seasons Greetings to all of our friends who receive the newsletter. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.



BEAUVAIS CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral of St. Peter in Beauvais is the remnant of the decision of the Bishop of Beauvais in 1225 to build the biggest and highest cathedral of the age. Its vaults were to exceed 157 feet, 6 inches (48 meters) in height, and approximately 57 feet in span. These are the loftiest in Europe.

The choir was begun first in 1238 and completed in 1263. Nine years later a vault collapsed. It was rebuilt and collapsed again in 1284. Work then immediately began on strengthening all components: new buttresses were added, new flying buttresses were added, and additional pillars were added to underpin the structure above. Lancets were added to the windows to strengthen by further subdividing them, and more glass was added to the elevation.

Martin Chambiges began the construction of the transepts and crossing after the Hundred Years War. The design of the south transept facade's gable and rose window, the view in the issue's limited edition signed print by Ladd P. Ehlinger, is attributed to Chambiges. This facade is in the Flamboyant Gothic style, by definition very ornate. It is considered to excel the western front (main facade) of most Gothic Cathedrals, and the carved wooden doors are considered to be masterpieces of Gothic and Renaissance design and workmanship.

Instead of then starting on the nave, Chambiges began to build the crossing tower, an open work spire. It was completed a century later in 1539 and was 36 feet (11 meters) higher than the tower of Strasbourg Cathedral. It too collapsed in 1573, because it had no nave to buttress it on the west.

The structure of Beauvais Cathedral is the most daring of any Gothic Cathedral. It is held together by iron tie rods at the spring line of the arches and vaults which are further strengthened by three tiers of flying buttresses to also remove the thrust. The ambition of the designers / builders to build the biggest and highest cathedral far exceeded their empirical and technical knowledge of structural analysis and design. Rational analysis of structures by mathematics did not become a known science or engineering discipline (statics) until the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The stained glass of Beauvais is of the thirteenth, fourteenth and sixteenth centuries and are considered to be the richest of all Gothic churches. Those in the south transept were created in the Beauvais workshops founded by Ingrand Leprince. The triforium has wonderful hues of green, and the rose window is by Nicolas Leprince. Tapestries are also exhibited in the Cathedral regularly, the tradition having begun because of the weaving workshops of the 18th century that were prevalent in Beauvais.

FOR SCRABBLE BUFFS

Architectural Q, V, X, Y & Z Words

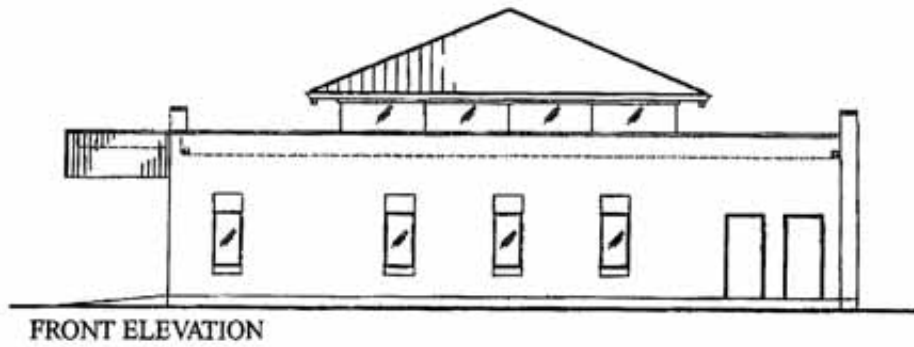
- Qasr** - An arabic style castle or mansion.
- Quadra** - A type of molding on an Ionic base or used in bas-relief.
- Quaggy** - adjective used to describe defective wood, as in quaggy timber.
- Vug** - A pit like cavity in stone, common in dolomite, limestone and marble.
- Xylol** - Hydrocarbon liquid used as a solvent for paints and varnishes.
- Xyst** - A tree-lined walkway.
- Yelm** - A bundle of reeds used in thatching material for a roof.
- Zax** - a slate cutters tool, a hammer with a point at the back of the head for making nail holes in the slate.
- Zeolite** - Chemical compound used in water-softening equipment.
- Zigzag** - ornaments similar to continuous chevrons, or herringbone, or staggered patterns.
- Zwinger** - A protective fortress of an ancient city.

IN THE PINK (HOUSE)

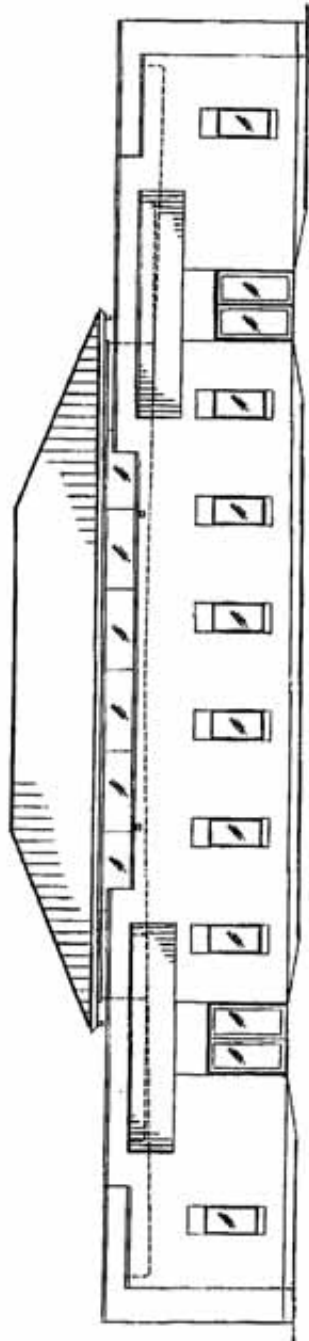
The drawings on the reverse are of the new 7th Ward Senior Center for Jefferson Parish. E&A just completed the Contract Documents and is awaiting the Owner's decision to bid the project. The existing pink wood siding building will be replaced with a steel frame pink brick veneer structure (the ladies love the pink).

SEVENTH WARD SENIOR CENTER

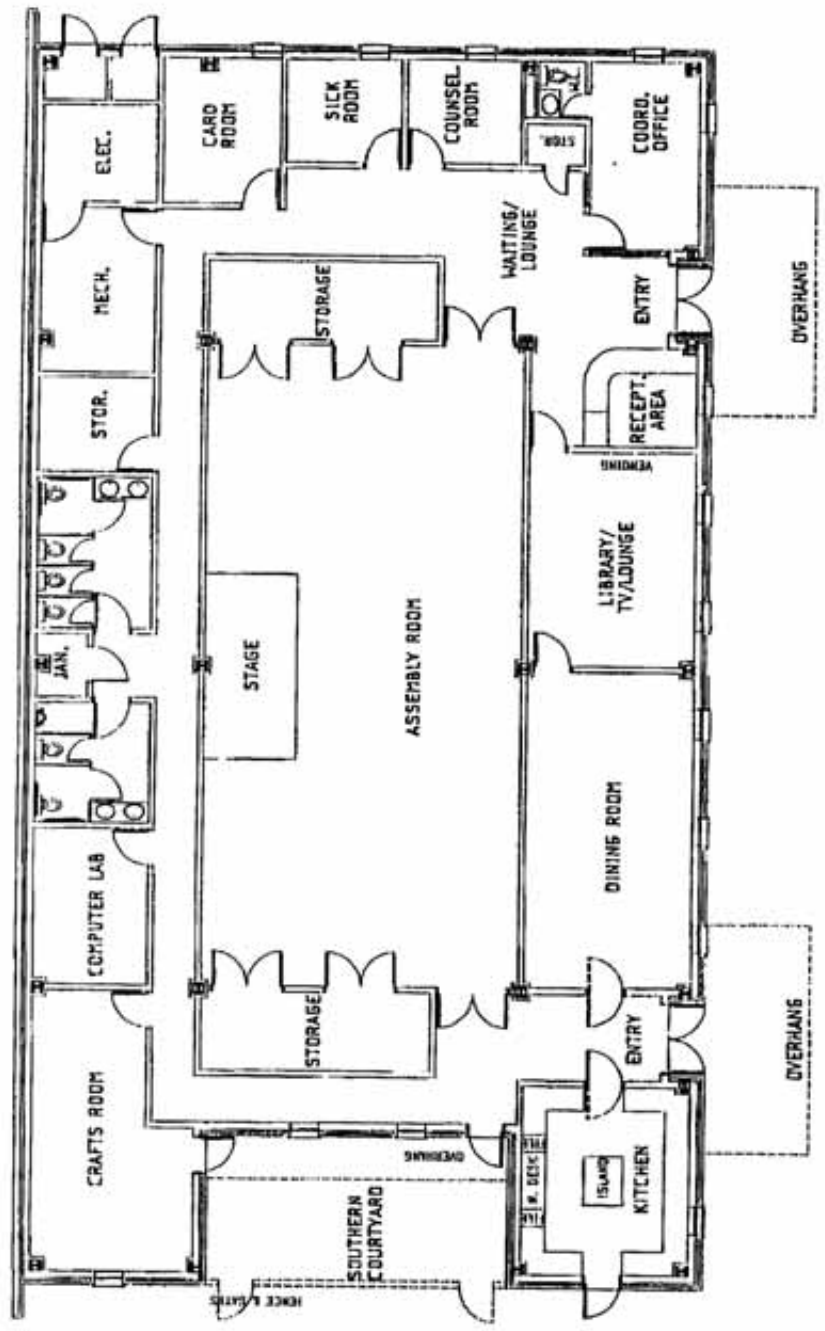
FOR JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA



FRONT ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



FLOOR PLAN