



News: SHOWROOMS

Photography: Lydia Cutter

A Texas Town

The Design District in Dallas is 54 acres of land upon which sit the 33-year-old Decorative Center and the recently completed Contract Design Center. Around these two structures are a collection of "mini-centers" (former warehouses converted into freestanding showrooms), which, with the larger buildings, form a community of residential and contract display facilities.

The transformation of the small warehouses into showrooms was achieved by the architecture firm Sullivan, Key, Merrill in conjunction with DMC Design Construction, a division of the Dallas Market Center, a sister facility to The Design District. Three of these buildings recently debuted as product display space, such as the Hargett Associates facility which opened in January. The architectural collaboration mentioned above also was responsible for the interior design of this furniture and fabric showroom, which features a dramatic staircase that, while linking the ground floor with an upper level, minimizes the interior's 20-ft. ceiling.

A short walk down the road is the David Sutherland/Smith & Watson showroom, which also opened in January. Its interior was the work of Neal Stewart Design Associates with Minton-Corley Interior Design. Also a showcase for furniture and fabrics, this showroom has a residential ambience of an old world variety.

Primarily for carpet display, the Jim Wylie & Company showroom began operation in April, and its interior, not shown, was designed by Middleman + de la Garza + Associates. This building illustrates one of the imaginative design solutions engendered by the conversion process, for here a former loading dock has been transformed into a sun lit terrace.

News continued



Hargett Associates



Jim Wylie & Company



David Sutherland/Smith & Watson