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Liberty Street
Parking Garage
Savannah, GA

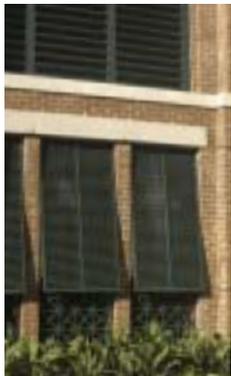
Architect:
Poticny Deering
Felder, PC
Savannah, GA

General Contractor:
Archer Western
Contractors
Atlanta, GA

Masonry Contractor:
Archer Western
Contractors
Atlanta, GA

BRICK

works



**Artful Addition
To Downtown
Savannah Eases
Parking Headaches**

As each year passes, Savannah attracts more businesses and visitors into its bustling downtown historic district. Lured by its graceful squares, rich architectural history and temperate climate, tourists from around the world flood the city. As downtown thrives from the area's brisk growth, a new problem has emerged: lack of parking.

The city called upon Poticny Deering Felder Architecture of Savannah to design a parking structure that would conform to Savannah Landmark Historic District design guidelines while also meeting the urgent parking needs of the city.

“Because of its unit size, brick helps bring a human scale to even a large building like this. Brick is the ‘comfort food’ of building materials.”

Bob Poticny, Poticny Deering Felder, PC



Bob Poticny
*Poticny
Deering
Felder, PC*



John Deering
*Poticny
Deering
Felder, PC*



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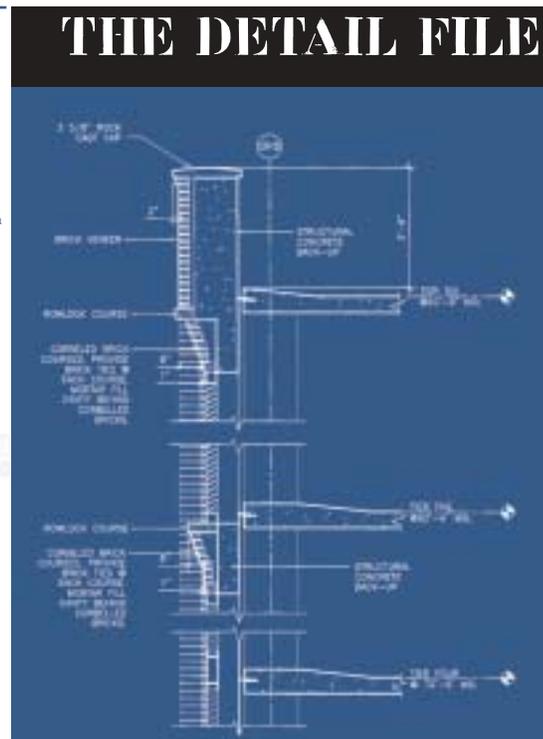
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THE DETAIL FILE

Take a closer look at how the Architect detailed this section.

Of course, this depiction is not to be construed as an exact detailing recommendation by the Brick SouthEast.



The new Liberty Street Parking Garage adds 890 much-needed parking spaces... and a surprisingly artful addition to the downtown Savannah cityscape.

Since most of the buildings in downtown Savannah are brick, the design team of Bob Poticny (project architect) and John Deering (project designer) selected brick as the main building material. The decision proved wise, since the building's footprint exceeds one acre and its length measures up to 200 feet. "The façade of the building had to be broken into smaller bays to meet the guidelines, and brick was the perfect material for meeting that need," said Poticny.

To best accommodate the bays, the design team built a post-tensioned, cast-in-place concrete structure faced in brick. This resolved another challenge: keeping the parking garage within

height limitations set forth by the historic district by minimizing the floor-to-floor height. Taking design cues from nearby historic structures, brown-toned modular brick with sand-colored mortar was set in a variety of patterns. In addition to traditional running bond, stack bond is used at the perimeter of numerous louvers that break up the field. Rowlock coursing and extensive corbelling is used to further modulate and define the large surfaces. Punched openings allow sufficient free area in the façade, eliminating the need to provide a fire sprinkler system.

Among the most striking features of the Liberty Street Parking Garage are numerous painted metal louvers, which mimic the large openings found in nearby train sheds and warehouses on the city's outskirts. Beyond their practical function of covering larger openings to conceal interior lights at night, they also

serve an important design function. "The louvers allow for a change in the façade texture and coordinate exceptionally well with the brick," says Deering. "The contrast of the brick with the industrial look of the dark green louvers is what really sets this building off." Iron grill work and glass showcases, located periodically on the exterior, bring a human scale to this large building.

The Liberty Street Parking Garage has been so well received by the City of Savannah that it won an award from the Historic Savannah Foundation. The design team succeeded in meeting an urgent need for parking while respecting the architectural tradition of the area. "The only complaint we have heard from the city is that people don't know it is a parking garage," Poticny says. "We take that as a compliment."



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