



American Concrete Institute LOUISIANA CHAPTER 2022 AWARDS COMPETITION

Category (Check One):

ENTRY FORM

- Low Rise Structures High Rise Structures Decorative Concrete
 Mid-Rise Structures Infrastructure Repair & Restoration

Name of Project: HOUSEofCARDS
Location: Arnaudville, LA
Project Size (Dimensions, Area, Span): 18' x 18', 20' high
Concrete Quantity – Volume Area Tonnage: Approx. 24 cubic yards
Construction Work Duration: 7 months, 1,296 man-hours – 30 days of pours, 12" lifts 3x per week
Date of Completion: May, 2022

OWNER: Honey Locust Phone: (225) 907-4140
Address: 846 Bungalow Ct. City: New Orleans State: LA Zip: 70119
Contact: Hayden Reilly Title: Director
Email: hayden.reilly@gmail.com

ARCHITECT: UL Lafayette Building Institute Phone: (337) 278-2722
Address: P.O. Box 43628 City: Lafayette State: LA Zip: 70504
Contact: W. Geoff Gjertson, AIA Title: Professor, Architect
Email: william.gjertson@louisiana.edu

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Randy Hebert, PE Phone: (337) 261-1976
Address: 105 Fanny St. City: Lafayette State: LA Zip: 70508
Contact: Randy Hebert Title: Engineer
Email: randy@rjhebertassoc.com

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Student Design/Build Phone: N/A
Address: N/A City: N/A State: N/A Zip: N/A
Contact: N/A Title: N/A
Email: N/A

CONCRETE SUPPLIER(S): Doug Ashy Building Materials Phone: (337) 984-2110
Address: 4950 Johnston St City: Lafayette State: LA Zip: 70503
Contact: John Breaux Title: Manager
Email: johnbreaux@dougashy.com

NOTE: If additional suppliers, subcontractors, or participants are to be recognized, please list on the next page.



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This entry submitted by:

Name: Zachary Broussard Title: Graduate Assistant

Company: University of Louisiana at Lafayette Phone: (337) 523-3903

Address: 1229 Carolyn Drive

City: Abbeville State: Louisiana Zip: 70510

E-mail Address: zachary.broussard1@louisiana.edu

LIST ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS HERE:

(List only the participants who are responsible for concrete related work.)

COMPANY NAME: Lambright Construction, Inc. Phone: (337) 857-5937

Contribution to Project: Slab

(Related to Concrete)

Address: P.O. Box 81098 City: Lafayette State: LA Zip: 70598

Contact: Shay Lambright Title: Owner

Email: shay@lambrightconstruction.com

COMPANY NAME: Alchemco Phone: (985) 966-6490

Contribution to Project: Waterproofing

(Related to Concrete)

Techcrete

Address: N/A City: N/A State: N/A Zip: N/A

Contact: Cal Zenor Title: Owner

Email: calzenor@gmail.com

COMPANY NAME: Absolute Concrete Polishing Phone: (337) 296-1555

Contribution to Project: Concrete Finish Floor

(Related to Concrete)

Address: 334 La Villa Cir. City: Youngsville State: LA Zip: 70592

Contact: Angel Vedovatti Title: Owner

Email: absoluteconcretepolishing@gmail.com

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET:

OVERALL PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (It is a very challenging task for the judges to digest all the information submitted for the awards. This sheet is designed to prevent the judges from overlooking any outstanding characteristic of the project. No one knows about the uniqueness of your project better than you. Be specific and precise in completing these statements.)

The HOUSEofCARDS is a design/build project by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Building Institute in Arnaudville, Louisiana. The project was conceived as a folly on a rural piece of land and serves as an artist's retreat for a non-profit community organization. The concept is that of a 16'x16' self-sufficient Thoreau's Cabin on a Cajun Walden Pond. Concrete was chosen as the primary material for its longevity and durability. In this way and at this small scale, concrete is a sustainable material because it will not require maintenance and will last indefinitely. Twenty-nine third year and graduate architecture students of the University designed and built the HOUSEofCARDS over two semesters. The concrete was mixed in small batches on the site and poured in 12" lifts. The 10" thick walls are insulated in the middle with 2" of polyisocyanurate foam insulation providing a vapor barrier and thermal break. The walls were dyed the color of earth to blend into the site and contextually textured with the salvaged board formwork from a dismantled barn on site. The walls lean at 8 degrees against each other on the corners like a house of cards achieving forced perspectives and scale shifts. Paradoxically, even though the structure is heavy and monolithic, the extensive windows and clerestories imbue the space with lightness as if it had been built with giant's hands from a deck of cards. The polished concrete floors and salvaged pine butcher block countertops and desk provide a relaxing space for artists and scholars to produce their work. The building has water from a well, electricity from a planned solar array, a mini-split heat-pump, and a compost toilet providing self-sufficiency. In addition to hands-on experience in material properties and processes, the students gained expertise in client and consultant relations, subcontractor coordination, budgeting, and scheduling. Within this small rural outpost, solitude and community unite.

CONCRETE DESCRIPTION: (Please include a full description of how you feel that concrete was effectively utilized in the project, for example, sustainability, shortening the time schedule, cost savings, special construction problems and solutions, aesthetics, or an innovative use of concrete.)

The HOUSEofCARDS sought sustainability through longevity and low upkeep. From the project's onset, strategies were researched and (where possible) applied to minimize the carbon footprint of concrete's use at every step. This included the use of fly ash in place of Portland cement, perforated fiberglass paneling in place of reinforcing steel, and in-wall polyisocyanurate insulation to minimize the energy required for climate control. Of these three researched methods, an application of 2" in-wall rigid insulation was applied in the HOUSEofCARDS design. To reduce the level of upkeep required for the structure to the lowest level possible, a new silicate-based surface waterproofing treatment was applied to the building's exterior that will adequately keep water from seeping through the concrete's pores for decades. Aesthetically, the HOUSEofCARDS design effectively contrasted the longevity of concrete with the fragility of a house of cards. The project, which will outlive all of us, appears to lean on itself as if assembled by hand from a deck of cards.

WHY SHOULD THE PROJECT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CONCRETE PROJECT AWARD?

The HOUSEofCARDS serves as an innovative, creative, and artistic use of concrete that educated a large group of architecture students on how it can drive their projects in the future as they become professionals. Its design and construction further educated students and the public when it included research and application of nontraditional integrated systems such as polyisocyanurate insulation within precast walls, silicate-based waterproofing of concrete, and pigmented dye mixed into the material. These efforts created an end product which will be used by artists and creatives for decades – and has shown the public that concrete can be beautiful.

















