

MCCALLIE

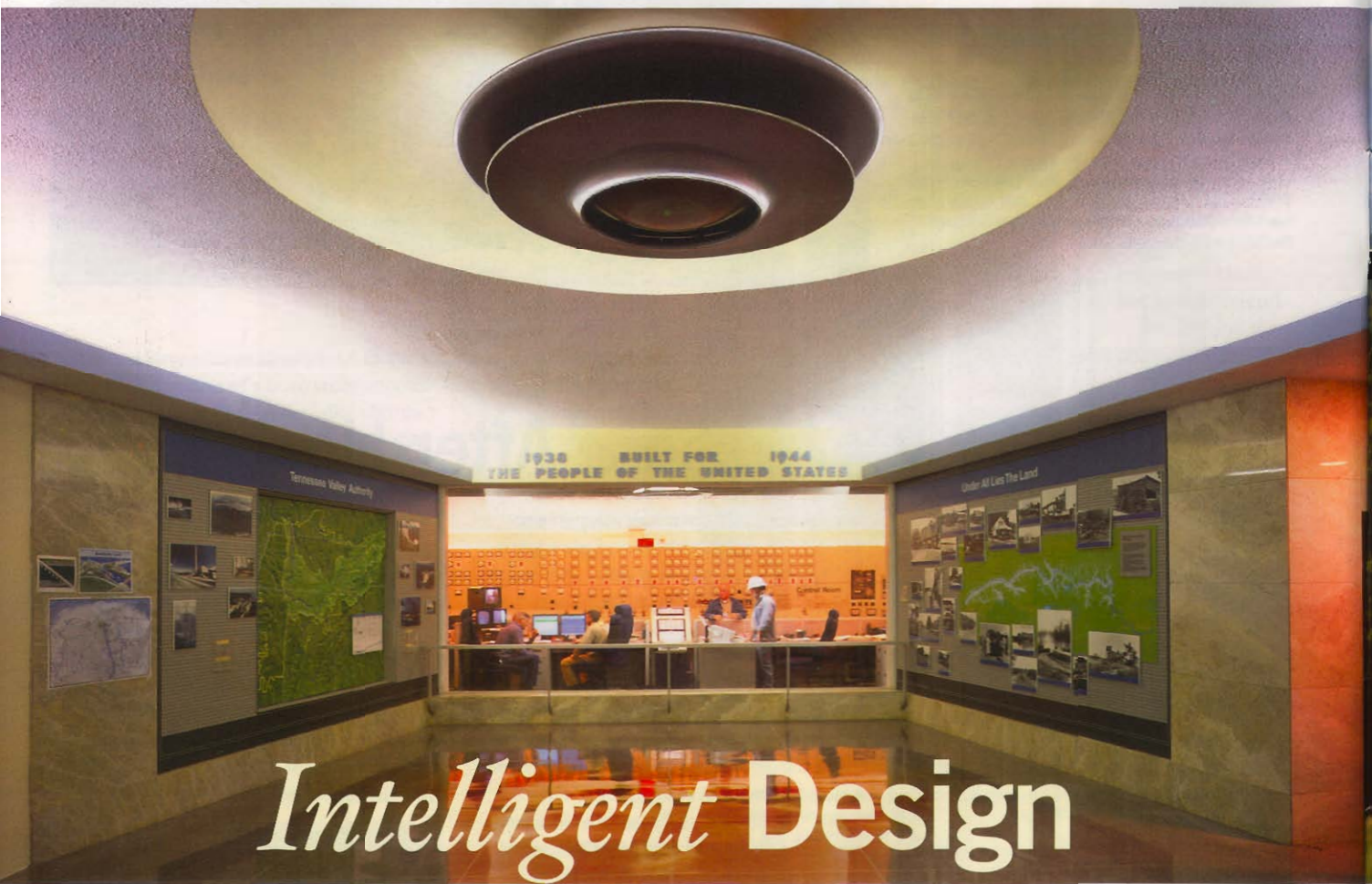
A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF MCCALLIE SCHOOL

A young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket, a blue dress shirt, and a striped tie, is holding a glass beaker filled with a yellow liquid. He is looking upwards at the beaker with a focused expression. The background is a dimly lit laboratory with various pieces of equipment.

Taking the Lead

What Makes A "Real" McCallie Man? | Summer Reading From Alumni Authors | Student Strums Up Change

SPRING/SUMMER 2008



Intelligent Design

In his introduction to the recent volume of essays he compiled and edited, Tim Culvahouse '74 reminisces about childhood trips to his grandfather's riverfront farm north of Chattanooga. The drive to the farm, which had lost nearly 1,000 acres when Watts Bar Dam was closed in 1942, crossed the dam itself and wound through a verdant landscape that had been inti-

mately shaped by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Many years later, as an architecture student, Culvahouse ran across a list, compiled by

the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in honor of the nation's bicentennial, of structures that architects had nominated as the finest architectural examples.

"It was interesting and striking to me that the only thing listed in the state of Tennessee was the Tennessee Valley Authority," he says. "I was then in architecture school and I'd always loved Watts Bar Dam, but I'd never connected the two things and thought of TVA as really good architecture. Ever after that I've been interested in the TVA."

When he began to think about putting together a book on the subject, Culvahouse decided to draw on the expertise of colleagues in his field. He has served as head of the department of architecture at Rhode Island School of Design and associate dean for design and architectural

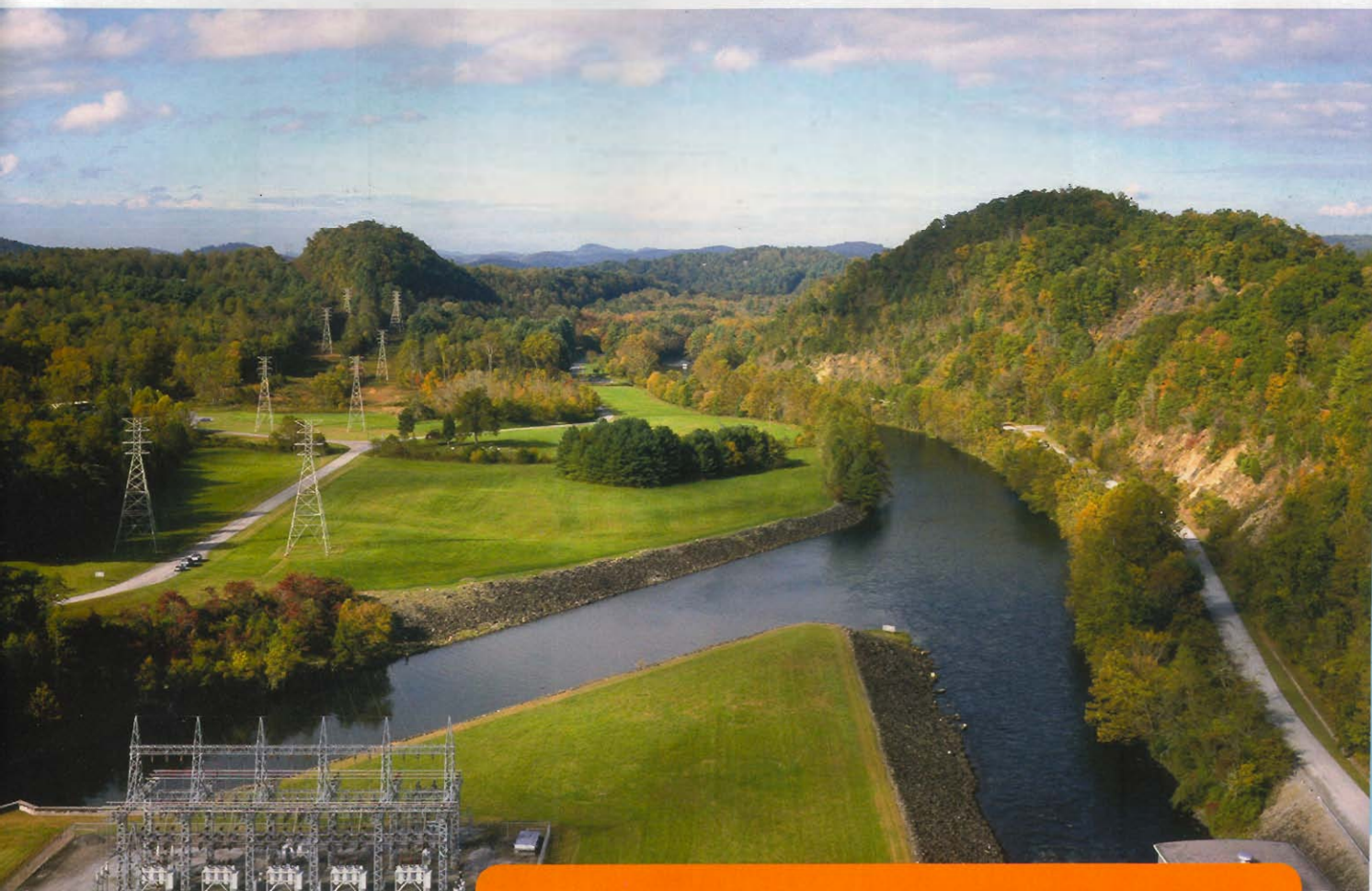
studies at California College of the Arts, where he is still an adjunct professor. He also manages his own consulting firm and serves as the editor of *arcCA* (the journal of the AIA California Council) and as a board member for Public Architecture, a nonprofit group.

The Tennessee Valley Authority: Design and Persuasion includes essays from professors, architects and historians who write with expertise about the ideology of the structures and landscape the TVA created in the wake of the Great Depression and how their design affected public perception of these developments.

Culvahouse was particularly grateful for the contributions of Steven Heller, art director for the *New York Times Book Review*, who explores the TVA's graphic design campaigns to promote its projects, and of Howard Baker '43, who wrote the volume's afterword and contributed one of his own photos of Norris Dam.



➤ *The Tennessee Valley Authority: Design and Persuasion* by Tim Culvahouse '74, with an afterword by Howard Baker '43 published by Princeton Architectural Press



Other Alumni Reads

These volumes by alumni authors have recently been added to the McCallie library's collection.

LIGHTS OUT: The Electricity Crisis, the Global Economy, and What It Means to You
by Jason Makansi '74

Makansi explores the greater ramifications of an everyday resource that most of us take for granted – electricity. He explains the inner workings of our electric supply and production and how our society's increasing dependence on these outdated systems could have serious ramifications down the road. A 25-year veteran of the electricity industry, Makansi is the founder and president of Pearl Street, Inc., a consulting firm that focuses on all aspects of electricity production and delivery.

Low Sweet Notes
by Robert Carl Williams '49

In his first book-length collection of poetry, Williams explores themes from his eclectic life experiences: growing up on a small farm in East Tennessee, serving as a jet fighter pilot in the Korean War and his career as an architect. His poetry is also inspired by the places between which he now splits his time – the high seas and the hills of Vermont.

In Search of Another Country: Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution
by Joseph Crespino '90

An assistant professor of history at Emory University, Crespino turns an academic lens on his home state in this exploration of white conservatives' response to the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's. Drawing on years of research, he helps explain the motivations of this group that is typically vilified and the effect their actions and responses have had on 20th-century politics in America.

The Youth Effect: A Hormone Therapy Revolution
by Dr. Ronald Brown '65

This book serves as a resource to distill conflicting information in the mainstream media about hormone replacement therapy (HRT). Brown has compiled and synthesized medical evidence for and against HRT – for women and men – and offers explanations of various options and recommendations for how to proceed when considering such treatment.

Culvahouse and his colleagues began working on the book several years ago, beginning with a group field trip to far-flung TVA sites in 2002. He has made several subsequent trips with photographer Richard Barnes, whose photographs illustrate the essays.

"I learned a lot from the folks I worked with," he remarks. "Probably the part that I understood the least is how carefully worked out the landscapes are, that you drive into Norris Dam and it isn't by accident that you go through the woods and by the old mill building and come around the corner and there's the dam. It's all sort of a story they've made.

"That's the premise of the book itself, how significant the decision was that the TVA directors made to devote effort and resources to design, both in making good stuff and in showing that to the public."

He adds, "And I learned a lot about how books get put together..." ■