



WELDING SHOP CONVERSION

Location New Braunfels, Texas
Project Type Live\Work Adaptive Re-Use
Year 1998
Size 1,800 SF

The intent of the design and construction was to save the original building - an old welding shop. With a few weeks worth of hot water spray-washing and demolition the building shell was ready for the addition of new construction. The idea was to make sure the new construction was kept separate from the original building. All the new walls and utilities are designed to be discretely inserted into the historically-sensitive shell. The walls are lifted from the floor by setting back the wall board with a recessed galvanized metal base. All the walls appear free- standing by not touching the trusses above. The only object intersecting the building is the green "box" containing the air conditioning system and water heater. Keeping in tune with the previous life of the building, the materials used were selected for their industrial quality. Due to a very limited budget, off-the-shelf fixtures, appliances and casework were used. Custom barn doors were designed and constructed by the owner, using what she affectionately refers to as "Duchamp-lap"—random, overlapping panels of galvanized metal reminiscent of Duchamp's painting.

AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

Dwell Magazine, April 2001

