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Women in the Design World: Work in Progress

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Martha L. Hanlon, AIA / M.Arch, 1986

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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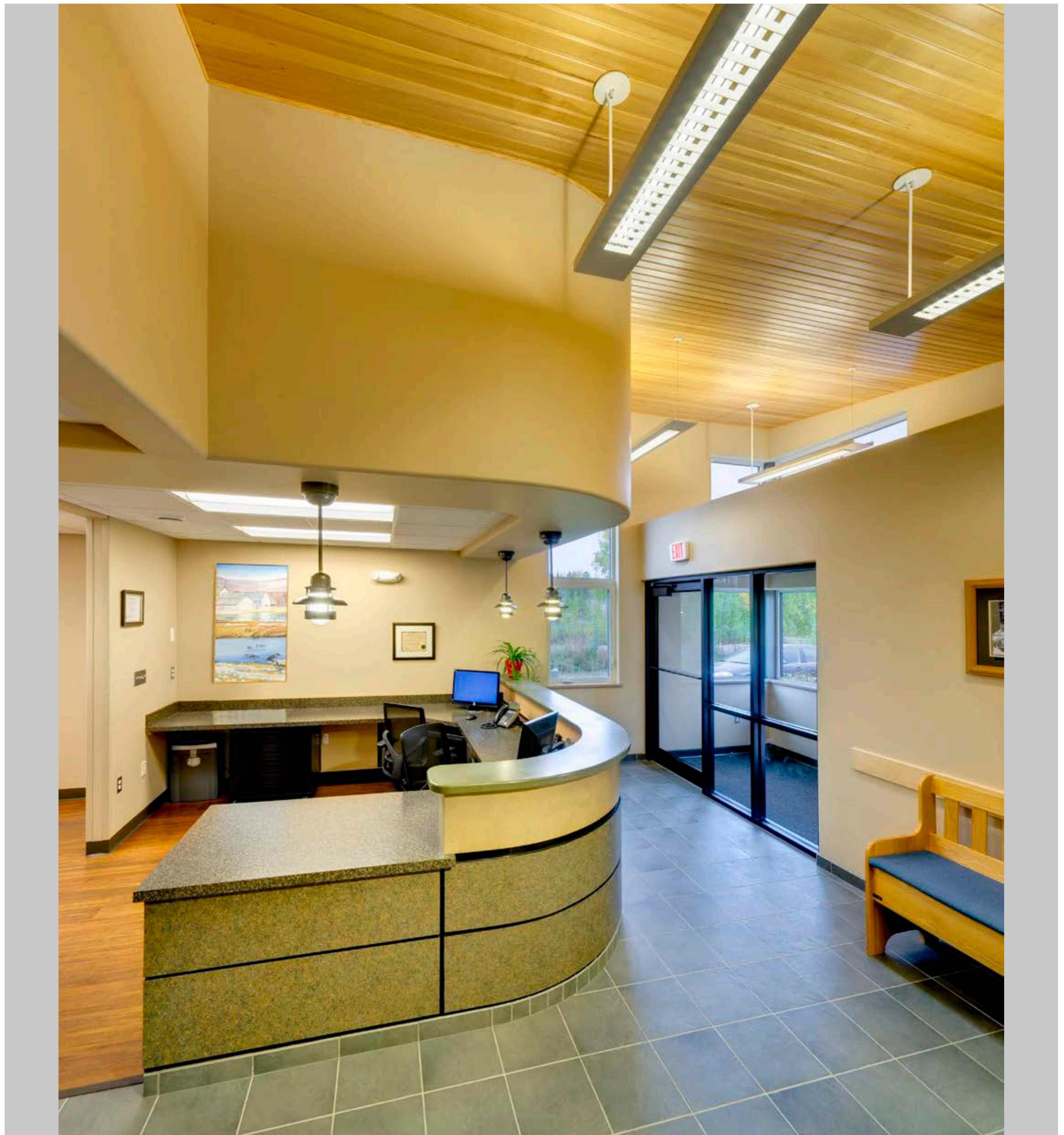
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**NORTH POLE PHYSICAL THERAPY OFFICE
ARCHITECT
2011**

Project scope was to design a 3,500 SF office/efficiency apartment for a physical therapy practice in North Pole, Alaska. The rural, 1-acre site is on the edge of a small town, populated by indistinguishable strip malls, fast-food establishments and log cabins. Design goal was for the building to create a strong, contemporary business image in a banal built landscape. The interior spaces needed to have an open, light feeling, and maintain a connection to the exterior while maximizing comfort for staff and clients. The building is composed of three simple sloping volumes that define the entry, physical therapy gym and efficiency-apartment zones. Strategically placed windows define the corners of the large volumes and frame views to outdoors spaces that are protected from the surrounding development. Color and pattern choices for the exterior skin distinguish the volumes and create a pleasing contrast to the 8-month white, winter landscape.



Alumnae Biography

Since 1998, I have been President of Martha Hanlon Architects, Inc., located in Fairbanks, Alaska. My particular interest is healthcare design. Healthcare facilities are ever-changing and present complex design problems with an opportunity to positively affect large communities of people with almost every project. I discovered my interest in healthcare design

after graduate school, working at Pearce Corporation (Cannon) in St. Louis. I never contemplated Alaska but came on a lark early in my career (1989) and never have left the last frontier. Alaska is a land of huge contrasts and creating contemporary Alaskan architecture is a continual aesthetic and technical challenge.

AWARDS

- ASHE VISTA Award (2009): Infrastructure
- ASHE VISTA Award (2008): New Construction
- AIA Alaska Citation Award (2006): Fairbanks Imaging Center
- AIA Alaska Merit Award (2001): Fairbanks Cancer Treatment Center