Salk Institute
L. Kahn

1959 – 1966
San Diego
Research labs & Offices; reinforced concrete construction
"I did not follow the dictates of the scientists, who said that they are so dedicated to what they are doing that when lunchtime comes all they do is clear away the test tubes from the benches and eat their lunch on these benches. I asked them: was it not a strain with all these noises? And they answered: the noises of the refrigerators are terrible; the noises of centrifuges are terrible; the trickling of the water is terrible. Everything was terrible including the noises of the air-conditioning system. So I would not listen to them as to what should be done. And I realized that there should be a clean air and stainless steel area, and a rug and oak table area. From this realization form became. I separated the studies from the laboratory and placed them over gardens. The garden became outdoor spaces where one can talk. Now one need not spend all the time in the laboratories. When one knows what to do, there is only little time one needs for doing it. It is only when one does not know what to do that it takes so much time. And to know what to do is the secret of it all."

Courtyard space
Building facades facing courtyard
Studies over laboratories facing courtyard
The Institute received the American Institute of Architects Twenty-Five Year Award in 1992.
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
Move views ....
New addition ... In the mid-1990s an east complex was added, with administrative and office structures united by a huge underground reception area and 300-seat auditorium.
New addition ...
Pacific views ...
Pacific views …
Florida Solar Energy Center

1995 Coco, FL on the University of Central Florida/Brevard Community College Campus. Designed to be "the world’s most energy efficient building". Research labs & Offices. Architects Design Group, Inc.
Florida Solar Energy Center

- Maximizes usable space on the building perimeter so daylight can illuminate the interior.
- Controls interior air temperatures based on solar exposure (cool south-facing zones without wasting energy cooling the north side, which doesn’t need it).
- Exposes the smallest east and west facing building surfaces to hot morning and afternoon sun.

Image from: [http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/about/index.htm](http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/about/index.htm)
Florida Solar Energy Center

- The southeast-facing wall of windows gets lots of solar exposure yet lets in very little heat.
- The window-wall is a system that sandwiches a thin, almost-transparent metallic film between double panes of glass.
- The film is spectrally selective; it lets in almost 70 percent of the sun’s visible energy (light), but blocks about 98 percent of the sun’s heat-producing infrared energy.
Florida Solar Energy Center

• Exterior/interior light shelf.
• What happens on cloudy days and at sunset?
• A sensor in the ceiling notices as daylight levels dim. It signals an electronic control that brightens the super-energy-efficient lamps in ceiling fixtures.
• Interior illumination stays at a constant, comfortable working level without wasting energy through unnecessary electrical lighting.
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- Roof monitors are used since skylights are sensible in a hot, humid climate like Coco.
- Projecting 10 feet above the flat roof, each monitor’s north-facing surface is a highly efficient glazing system that lets in cool light from the northern sky but no hot, direct-beam sunlight.
- The light is directed downward into the building’s core to offset the need for interior electrical lighting.

Image from: [http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/about/tour/tourstop1.htm](http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/about/tour/tourstop1.htm)
Sources

- All photos M. Kroelinger except as noted.
- The Salk Institute offers daily guided tours at 11:00am and 12:00pm, including weekends. To arrange for a tour of the Institute call 858-453-4100, ext. 1287 or email fortuna@salk.edu.
- http://www.salk.edu/ (great overview of the architecture)
- http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/fnart/fa267/kahn.html (digital archive on Kahn)
- Facts on FSEC from: http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/