

JOHN HOLBROOK JR.

Visual Snapshot

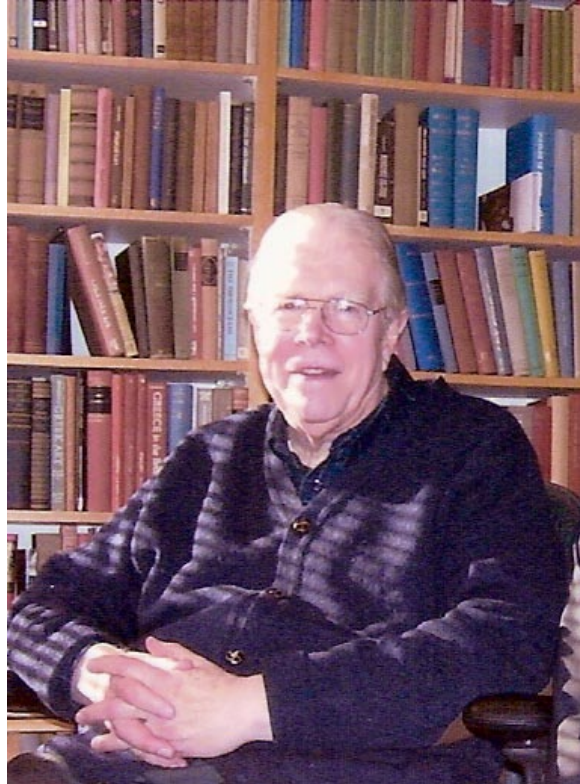


Photo by Tom McHugh, 2009

Verbal Snapshot

A Bible-believing Christian. A husband of one wife since 1961. A father of two daughters. A grandfather of three grandsons and one granddaughter. An experienced architect, planner, and administrator who specializes in (a) architectural, organizational, and strategic planning, (b) financial analysis, accounting, and reporting, and (c) board governance.¹ A skilled moderator of meetings of every kind. An avid reader of non-fiction books.

Before 1980

Education & training: I attended Saint Bernard's School, from which I graduated in 1950 at the end of 7th grade, Saint Paul's School 1950-55, from which I graduated *Cum Laude*, and Yale College 1955-59, where I rowed on the varsity crew and from which I graduated with a B.A. in English Literature. I then spent three years (1959-62) on active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps, where I served in an infantry battalion as a platoon

¹ I am a strong advocate of John Carver's *Policy Governance*.

commander, a company executive officer, and finally the officer in the S-3 section doing all the battalion's operations planning. I attended the Yale School of Art & Architecture 1962-68, from which I graduated with an M.A. in Architecture. While I was pursuing my undergraduate and graduate degrees, I began a life-long study of the ancient world by taking courses in ancient art and architecture, ancient history, and the history of science.

Career: After apprenticeships in several architectural firms, I practiced architecture and developed real estate in Washington DC (1969-1974) and then practiced architecture and farmed in Grafton VT (1974-1980). During these years I also served on several non-profit boards, often as chairman.

Continuing education: I took a course in *Amphibious Warfare* (1964). I also continued my historical studies.

Anni Mirabiles (1980-81)

In 1980, I experienced two dramatic encounters with God: the first converted me from an atheist to a born-again Christian and the second convinced me that the Bible is the Word of God written and therefore completely trustworthy. In the following year, a third encounter with God commissioned me to be an emissary to the Jewish people. As a result of these experiences, I began a lifelong study of the Bible and the focus of my ambitions soon shifted from success as defined by the world to success as defined by the Bible.²

After 1980

Career: I practiced architecture and farmed. I also formed and oversaw a woodworking business until its failure in the recession of 1982, which resulted in the loss of my farm and a move to New York City. There the focus of my professional life shifted from designing buildings to planning of all types. I served as VP of the Episcopal Church Building Fund, where I managed its loan portfolio and taught dioceses and congregations how to organize and plan for building construction. I was a consultant to Merrill Lynch's Corporate Real Estate Department, where I led a strategic planning team that concentrated on the company's space-bank in the NYC metropolitan region. In 1988, became a Merrill Lynch VP and managed the planning and design of its major building projects. I ended my career as a consultant to and then CFO of Chosen People Ministries, where I was responsible for administration, finance, and development. During these years I also served on several church and ministry boards, often as chairman.

² The word "success" appears in the King James Version only once: "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses My servant commanded thee. Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein. For then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (KJ21 Joshua 1:7-9).

Continuing Education: I took courses in *Long Range Planning & Strategic Facilities Management* (1984) and *Strategic Planning for Non-profit organizations* (1988). I also continued my historical and Biblical studies.

Retirement: Since retiring at the end of 2001, I have served on several church and ministry boards, worked on a number of books, and created a website and blog at ABiblicalView.com, where my writings are and will be appearing.