DAYLIGHTING

The IgCC contains specific minimum criteria for daylighting within buildings, although there is a list of exceptions based on particular uses, such as darkrooms or unconditioned spaces, where daylighting is not required. Daylighting is the practice of placing glazing in exterior walls and roof-ceiling assemblies that allow the space the exposure to natural light. Daylighting is a method that makes use of the direct sunlight and diffused sunlight to illuminate a space and provide a supplemental source of heat.

Proper daylighting techniques can also enhance the aesthetic value of the space for the occupants by creating a visually pleasant environment in which to work or gather. Proper design of daylighting will typically require an integrated design in which the needs of the entire building, site, climate zone, glazing, and occupants are considered (Figure 7-9). **[Ref. 808]**

FIGURE 7-9 the sun provides both natural light and supplemental heat in a properly oriented building

You Should Know

Daylighting techniques that allow sunlight into a building during the daytime can provide supplemental heat immediately but also when used to heat up thermal mass, such as interior brick or stone surfaces; these brick or stone surfaces can release stored heat after the sun has gone down. •