

# THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE MOSQUE

## Secondary Architectural Features *cont.*

3. The minbar: a pulpit-like structure that allows the Imam to preach to the congregation from a position visually accessible to all worshippers. Traditionally, these large, elaborate objects had a humble form, consisting of three steps. Only later, due to local cultural influences, did the minbar become a standard feature of mosque design.



The American Muslim Center



Masjid Mu'ath Bin Jabal



Al-Islah Islamic Center

## Communal Features

Diverse innovations have evolved in mosque architecture over the centuries as Muslims have responded to the surroundings in which they live. In American contexts, mosques have acquired new features, such as banquet halls, classrooms, and gymnasiums, all of which meet the demands of new, dynamic congregations.



Playroom at the Unity Center



Library at the Dix Mosque



Playground at the Unity Center



Recreation center



Office in Islamic Center



Classroom



Elevated prayer space for women. The Islamic Center of America