



Figure 26-8. Airbrush renderings can provide vivid color as well as detail. They are often used for special effects, as shown in this highly realistic example. (K.Taylor Architectural Renderings/www.KTaylorRenderings.com)

Realistic Detailing

Most presentation drawings include much more than just a basic perspective drawing. The drafter or artist adds various effects to make the drawing look more realistic. The most important of these are lighting, shading, and entourage.

Lighting

The most basic lighting for a rendered drawing is a light source behind and to one side of the observer. However, the best method for lighting a scene is the triangle lighting method used in traditional photography. This method of lighting uses a *key light* in front of the scene, a

fill light to one side of the scene, and a *backlight* toward the rear of the scene. The key light provides most of the illumination. The fill light is used to remove shadows. The backlight is used to bring the object out of the background.

Airbrush Rendering

Airbrush renderings are frequently produced by professional illustrators. A great deal of practice is required to produce a high-quality rendering using this technique. An airbrush is simply an air nozzle that sprays paint or colored ink. If examined closely, you will find the surface of the rendering is covered with many small dots of color that form subtle shades and shadows. See **Figure 26-8**. Areas not being sprayed should be blocked out with paper or rubber cement to prevent the accidental spraying of these areas.