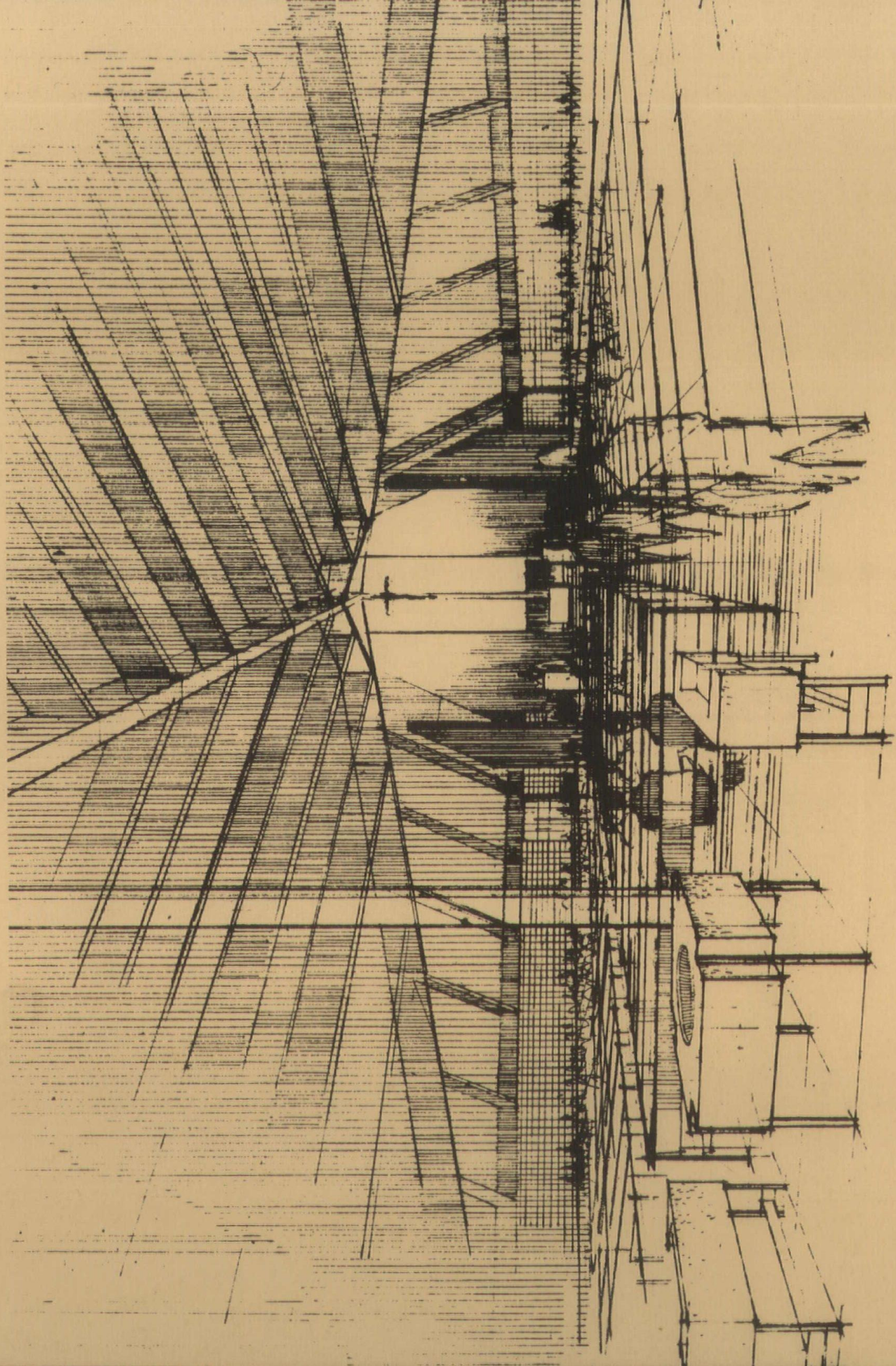


ALABAMA ARCHITECT I



JANUARY — FEBRUARY 1969

ALABAMA ARCHITECT

VOL. 5, NO. 1

JANUARY — FEBRUARY 1969

THE ALABAMA ARCHITECT IS PUBLISHED FOR THE ALABAMA COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS TO ADVANCE THE PROFESSION OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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COVER

Interior Sketch for Christ the King Catholic Student Chapel, Ohio University, Richard G. Millman AIA, Architect.

President's Report

PLANS FOR THE YEAR

Oscar Pardue, President
Alabama Council of Architects

At the beginning of the year, twelve months seems like a long time . . . plenty of time to do most of the work the Council has planned. However, this feeling is like an anesthetic if we persist in letting it give a rosy tint to our expectation of what the Council will accomplish this year.

Two months have elapsed. During this time the architects have had the first quarterly council meeting, and have made plans for the year ahead.

"Grassroots Operation" is history. During January each year Chapter and State Components meet with staff from the American Institute of Architects to hear, plan, and discuss current programs. This year the emphasis is on Public Relations, and strong steps are being taken in this direction. Each of the Chapters will be working in this area—and the Council will add its voice and support.

Among other items under consideration are: 1) the answer to the question of a STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS; 2) the direction of the annual statewide ARCHITECTS CONVENTION; 3) the growth and proper direction of the ALABAMA COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTS; and 4) the improvement of the ALABAMA ARCHITECT magazine, which is the voice of the architects to many different publics.

We will have a committee actively studying these and many other areas of concern. Two other important provinces of study are the students and how the profession can assist them; and the immediate vital problem of Urban affairs. The Auburn Chapter is working with our two Student Chapters, and other architects around the state are lending a hand. We regret the resignation of Dr. J. Ingraham Clark as Dean of the School of Architecture and Fine Arts at Auburn, and hope the profession can be of assistance in securing his successor.

The Birmingham Chapter is taking the lead in a program of Urban Concern. More on this in a future issue of ALABAMA ARCHITECT.

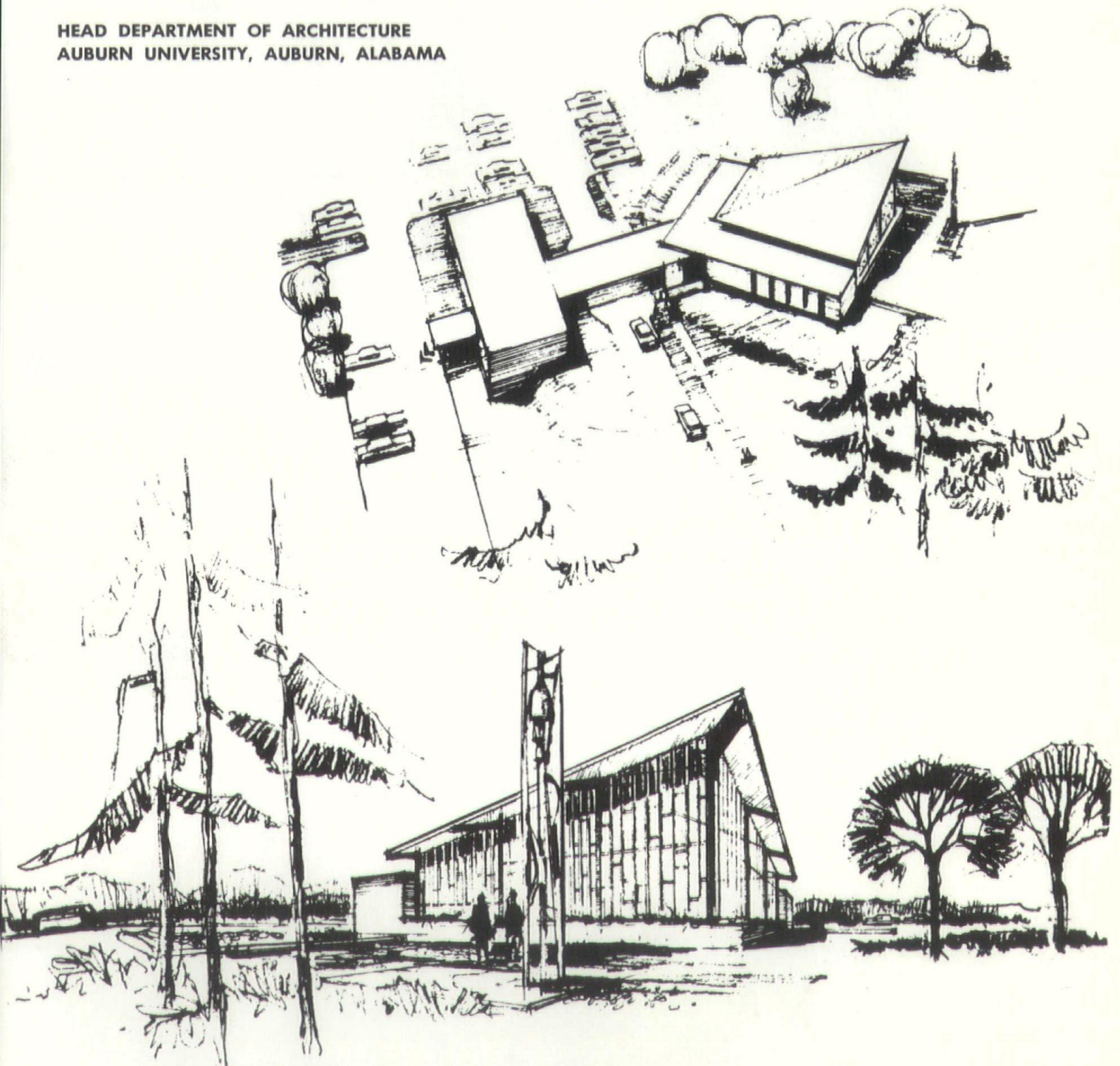
The year 1969 will not be a quiet one for the Council. It will not be a quiet one—if we do our job.

AA

ALABAMA ARCHITECT

A PORTFOLIO OF WORKS BY RICHARD G. MILLMAN A.I.A.

HEAD DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AUBURN, ALABAMA

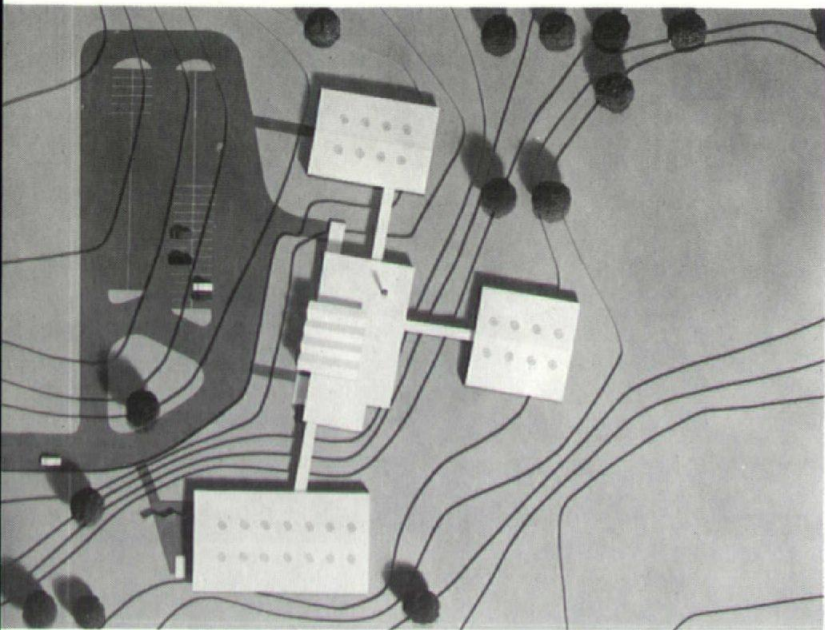


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The Head of the Department of Architecture at
Auburn University, asks the question

EDUCATION FOR ARCHITECTURE . . . WHERE ARE WE?

by Richard G. Millman, AIA

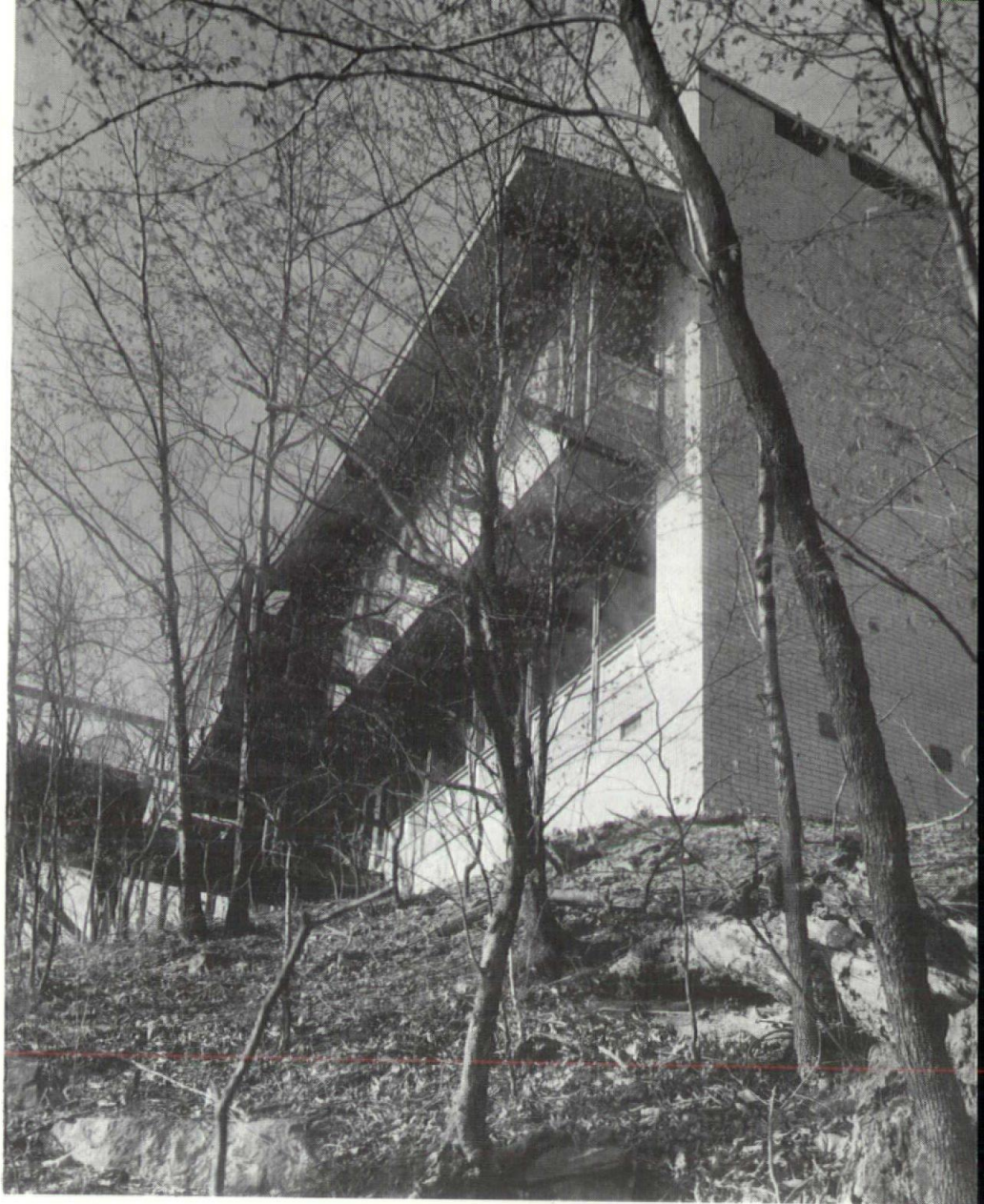
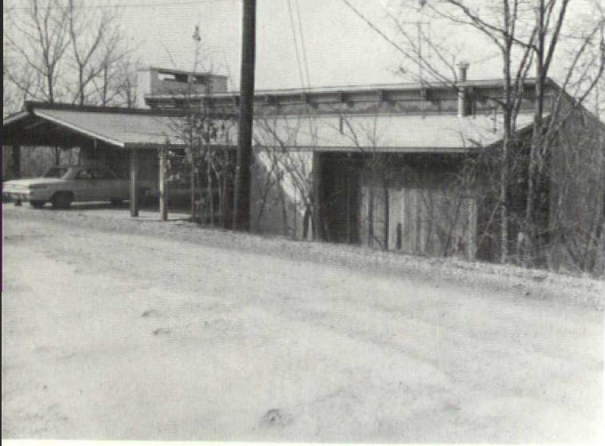
Schools of Architecture all across the United States are currently absorbed in an introspective analysis in the effort to determine strengths and weaknesses and to set new directions. This soul searching has been prompted by a growing awareness that all is not well with our man-made environment; an awareness that the multiplying profusion of physical problems in the cities is not being managed, even in a small way, by the architects and other design professionals. The profession is groping for some kind of definition of its evolving status. We are being challenged to evolve a new kind of architect equal to the new demands which certainly will be made, but without being completely certain as to the form these demands will take.

Architects are in danger of being squeezed out of major responsibility in the new scheme of things by their refusal to give up nostalgic concepts of the architect's traditional role. The professionals and the educators have convinced themselves that they are the defenders of the public taste in matters of environment. (The public is largely unaware of this and goes on shaping things for itself.) In the educational process, we currently place much emphasis on developing an awareness, a sensitivity for "Design", individual expression, the architectural statement, philosophical intent, etc. We have short-changed other basic areas of concern, i.e., the real needs of our society and of humanity in general.

Just what direction, or directions, the profession will take is unclear, but a few situational forces cannot be ignored. The trend toward bigness continues: the clients become corporations or government agencies or cities. The assignments become megastructures, or systems for pre-fabrication, or new towns, or entire campuses. Controls become more restrictive, demanding compliance with "The Plan". The pressure of population growth forces more regulation of land use by the people for the common welfare. The professionals group themselves into super-teams geared for large scale problem solving, and the new problems call for new techniques. Architects become conversant with the sophisticated computerized equipment and discover its application as a tool for the design process.

The implications of these trends for education in the environmental design professions must be extrapolated. We have to find ways, as the Princeton Report suggests, of making the graduate "effective within the real word constraints of present day practice", while, at the same time, making him perceptive of his changing social, economic and scientific milieu. He must be a visionary with a dream of a better world—and a pragmatist, finding a way to take a step toward that world.

AA



RESIDENCE for DR. & MRS. W. V. SNYDER
R. G. MILLMAN, AIA, ARCHITECT

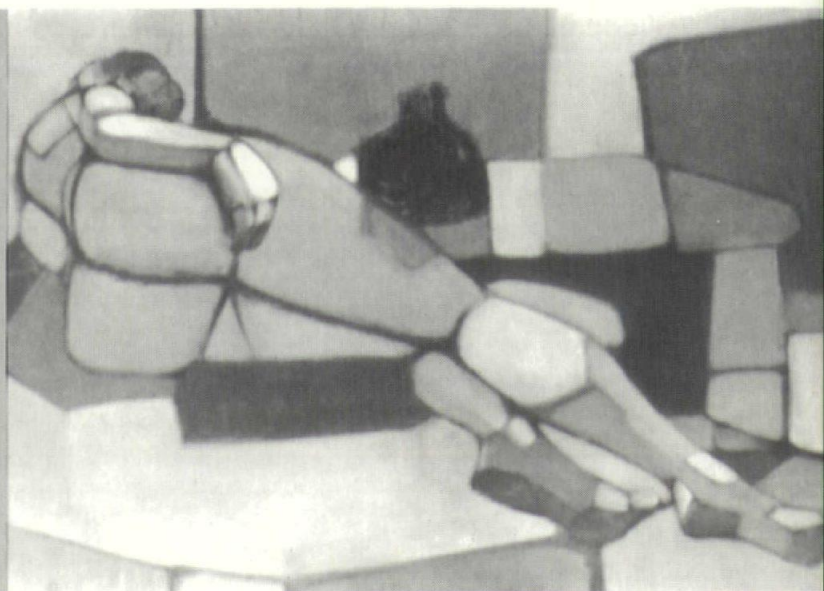


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For me, work in creative art of any kind becomes a sort of emotional research, an experiment with form and color, an enrichment of the vocabulary. The experience sharpens perception and awareness, especially to the effect and quality of light. The freedom to build form and color composition without the confining restrictions of function and structure are a great catharsis. Is there a really good architect who draws poorly?



Paintings and drawings
by Richard Millman



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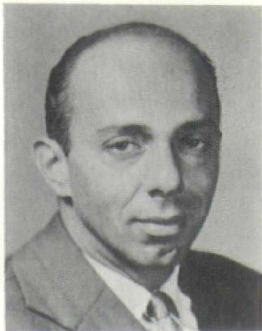
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Imre Halasz Views the Architect's Responsibility



Mr. Halasz appeared on the Convention program in Huntsville in October, 1968

On November 21st you asked me for an article for the ALABAMA ARCHITECT and now I will have to short change you with a substitute in the form of a personal letter.

Looking back at the highly successful conference in Huntsville I feel that any topic and any effort that is attempting to widen the horizon of architects is worthwhile. Although the subject of outer space lends itself sometimes to science fiction type of evasions obscuring the pressing problems of direct architectural professional responsibilities, a lewd midnight telephone call does not discredit the entire telephone system.

I have always believed that architectural responsibility has expanded in scale. Beyond the manipulation of isolated, highly specialized architectural objects, we are responsible for bringing order to whole communities of buildings, for finding adaptable structures for change and growth, and for controlling spaces between and around buildings, as well as within them, for all kinds of people in the environment. This new sense of responsibility organizes a wide range of new data never previously thought relevant to architecture, and helped by the insights contributed by many professions. Thereby the architect has to develop new values and techniques.

The history of civilization was written in its treatment of urban spaces. Once again, the architect is facing his classic task through the demands of a new corporate and municipal clientele. Virgin land, in the past seemingly unlimited, is now being rapidly diminished as a result of our increasing population growth and a new kind of mobility achieved by the spectacular progress of transportation techniques; with rapid urbanization has come the realization that private comfort has too often been pursued at the cost of public wealth and human dignity. There is now a wholly new realm for architectural creativity; these long-neglected but more important values will be the focal problem of architecture for many years to come.

The conference in Huntsville enabled the alert participants to exercise this new intellectual responsibility and I would warmly congratulate you for a forward looking and ambitious enterprise.

Let me point out that this intellectual satisfaction coupled with splendid hospitality made my stay in Huntsville a real pleasure.

AA

—Imre Halasz
Imre & Anthony Halasz, Inc.
Boston, Mass.

Report On AIA Design Committee

by Fritz Woehle, Contributing Member
AIA Commission on Design

Marcel Breuer has designed a building to replace a monument.

While the site of Grand Central has been weakened by the Pan American Building, any further building on that site will dismiss any sense or place for the major entrance to New York City.

The discussion by the Design Committee of the AIA in examining the questions raised by the New York Chapter and others as to the Breuer Building caused this committee to meet in New York, look at the site, visit the architect, meet with the city planners and historic preservation groups to view the problem.

The problem seemed to consist of three parts:

1. CONGESTION of Grand Central by increasing the load some 10,000 persons.
2. AIR RIGHTS above existing buildings.
3. HISTORIC PRESERVATION of Grand Central.

To look at each item briefly: Congestion, which is already a problem, had some improvement in the architects scheme, also by direct connection of the elevator core of the design to the Grand Concourse. As it was seen all adjacent sites to Grand Central would soon bend to the office building but the addition or release by further subway spurs which have been planned must happen soon anyway.

Air rights, an old scheme used many times to secure actually view rights while letting some buildings, churches, etc. be able to afford city taxes was discussed, and the possible transfer of air rights could lead to complete elimination of city zoning.

Historic Preservation by definition in the landmarks laws refers only to the facade, not the guts of a building.

The remaining facade of Grand Central on Park Avenue and 42nd Street, while felt interesting, does not compare with the interior Grand Concourse.

While a report is being written of much interest for all local landmark work, these themes seemed to reappear.

Can Breuer Tower rest on the exterior facade while eating into one side of the Grand Concourse?

To eliminate the facade, should the Breuer Building push the Pan Am Building off the Mountain and have two minor kings? Could one be so bold as to remove the Pan Am Building for a major new historic landmark to top the gateway with a 20th century solution to 20th century problems?

While the market place will win, I hope our report will add to our source of ammunition for good architecture today.

AA

Arch Winter, FAIA, Named Chairman Of 1969 Honor Awards Jury

A Mobile resident and prominent architect, Arch R. Winter, Fellow of The American Institute of Architects and Director of its Gulf States Region, was today named Chairman of the jury for the 1969 Honor Awards of The Institute. The awards are the nation's highest professional recognition for distinguished achievement by American architects.

Serving on the jury with Mr. Winter will be: Ray D. Crites, AIA, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Archibald C. Rogers, FAIA, Baltimore; Hugh Stubbins, FAIA, Cambridge, Mass., and William Turnbull, Jr., AIA, San Francisco. Max O. Urbahn, FAIA, New York City, Director of the New York Region and Chairman of the 1968 jury, will serve as advisor.

Now in its 21st year, the AIA Honor Awards program was established in 1949 "to encourage excellence in architecture and to afford recognition of exceptional merit in recently completed building." AA

Gulf States Regional Convention In Montgomery April 24-25-26

"Should all building necessarily reflect the character of the particular region in which it's constructed?" This is the question architects will be asking at the upcoming 18th annual Gulf States Regional Convention scheduled for Montgomery in April.

Some 400 to 500 persons are expected to be on hand to hear both sides of the question explored. In addition to the stimulating program other planned events include a pre-convention Golf Tournament, student seminars, the always popular Products Exhibits, and the annual Awards Dinner.

Elaborate plans are being made for wives of architects attending. Complete information is being sent to all architects in the five-state Gulf States Region. Exhibitors who are interested may contact the State Council office (205) 264-5305 in Montgomery for reference to the proper committee for handling. AA

PRODUCT NEWS

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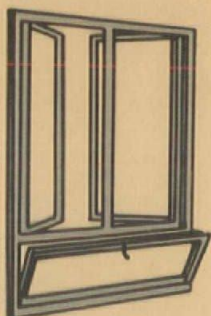
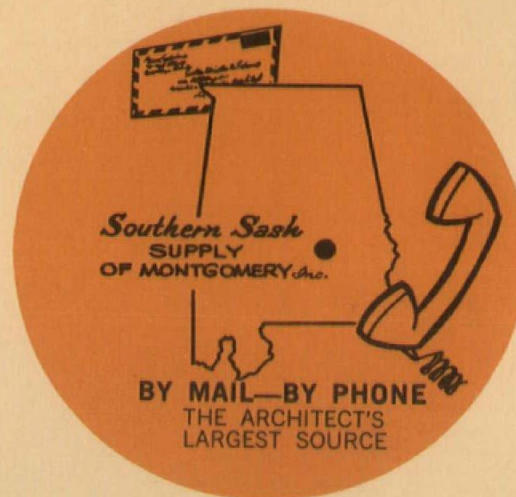
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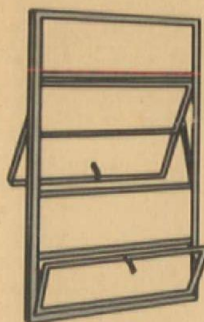
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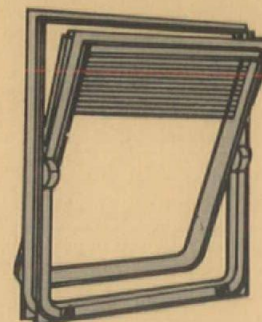
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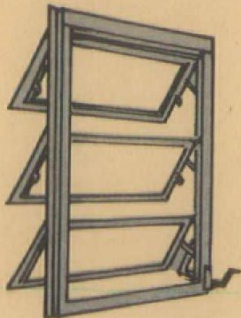
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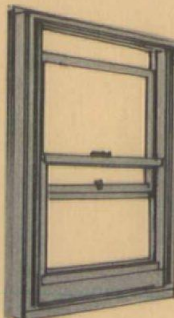
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