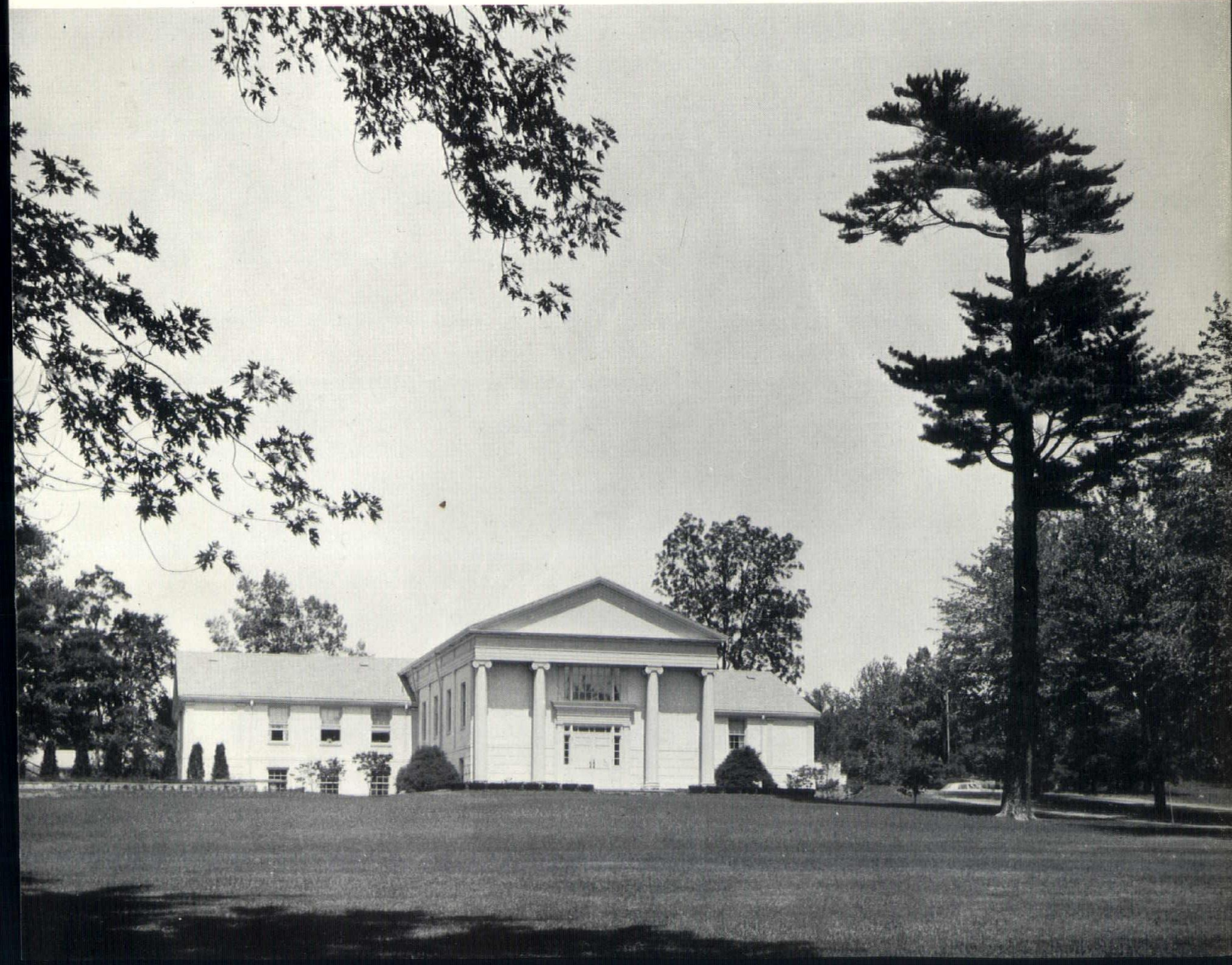


# CONNECTICUT ARCHITECT

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1965

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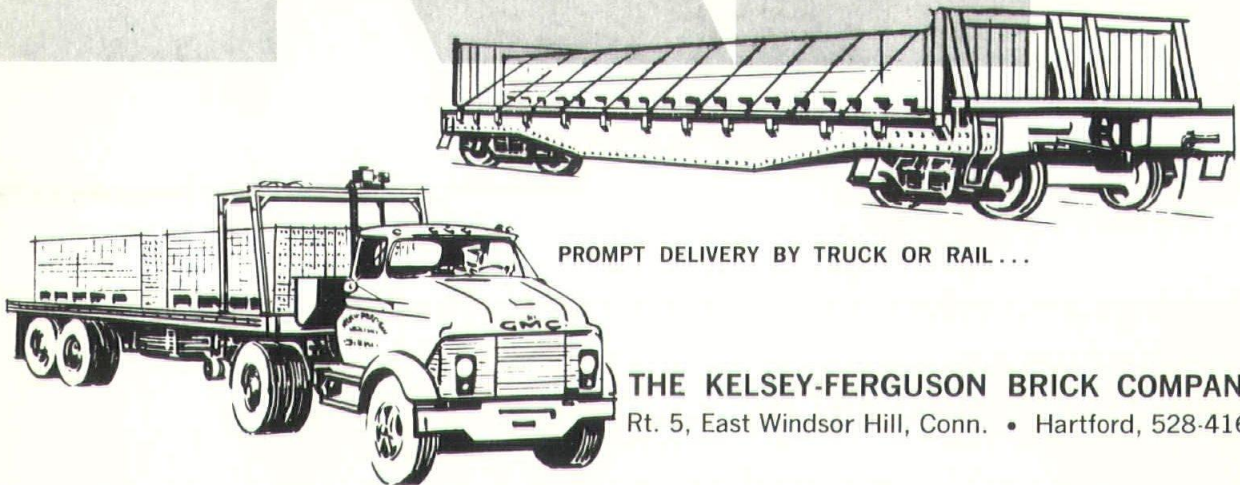


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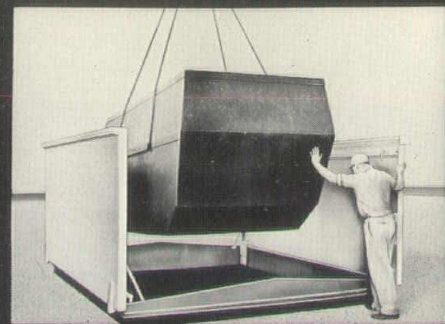
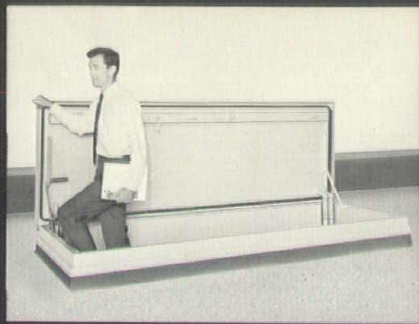
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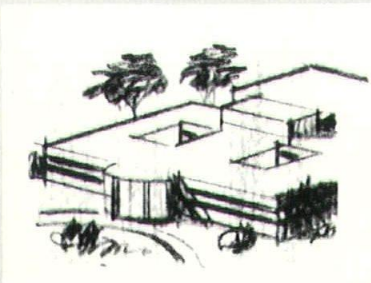
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# INTRODUCING CONNECTICUT ARCHITECT

Andrew S. Cohen  
Chairman, Editorial Board

Many of us in the architectural profession have recognized the need, over the years, for a better means of communication both with each other and — more important — with our public. The Connecticut Society of Architects is sponsoring this magazine with the aim of meeting this need for our members.

The success of *Connecticut Architect* in the months and years ahead will depend as much upon the cooperation of our members as it will upon the efforts of the publishers. While we look to Connecticut Publications, Inc., to produce a magazine of quality, of which we can be proud, the result of their efforts cannot be better than the material we furnish.

In these first issues, the articles feature selected works of the past presidents of the Society. It seems fitting to recognize in this new publication those who have played such significant roles in the history of our Society.

Each past president chose his particular work which is the subject of an article. He made his selection for his own reasons — possibly only because it was current and convenient — and not necessarily because he considers it his best work. The articles placed in this first issue were arrived at simply on a “first come” basis.

Since our roster of past presidents is quite limited, future issues of *Connecticut Architect* will treat the works of many other Society members. In addition, we invite suggestions and contributions from both members and friends for articles of interest and value to our public and to each other.

Our advertisers, in using these pages to direct their messages to you, make this magazine economically feasible. In return, they ask only that you give their messages a fair hearing.

With no apologies for this first effort, it is our hope and goal that *Connecticut Architect* will grow and prosper — earning its place as the voice of the Connecticut Society of Architects.

JOHN DEMPSEY  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HARTFORD

December 15, 1964

Mr. Ralph T. Rowland, President  
Connecticut Society of Architects  
2377 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Rowland:

I am pleased to know of the plans for a new magazine, Connecticut Architect, to be sponsored by the Connecticut Society of Architects.

It is particularly gratifying to me personally that the first issue will include material about the Hampshire Heights housing project in Putnam where I had the honor to serve six terms as mayor. Hampshire Heights is a facility which I was very anxious to have built in Putnam, and I am glad that it is receiving this attention.

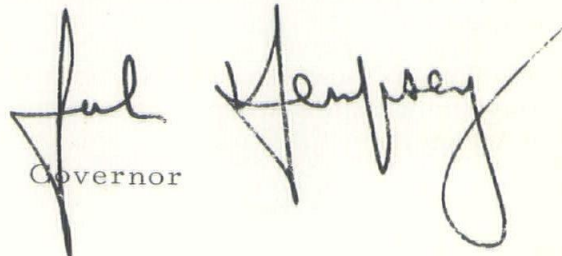
A publication devoted to recognition of important architectural achievement should prove to be of wide interest in Connecticut. We are blessed with a rich architectural heritage and are fortunate that so many excellent examples of the work of competent architects of the past have been preserved.

Worthy of acclaim, also, are numerous public buildings, churches, industrial plants, schools and residences in Connecticut that reflect the capabilities of contemporary architects and remind us of the importance of good architecture to economic and cultural growth.

A magazine reporting regularly on matters of interest to the architectural profession and to such a large segment of the general public will, I am confident, be well received.

I congratulate the Connecticut Society of Architects on their sponsorship of this worthy project. To you, to the members of the Society and the publisher of Connecticut Architect, I extend my best wishes for success.

Sincerely,

  
Governor

D:r

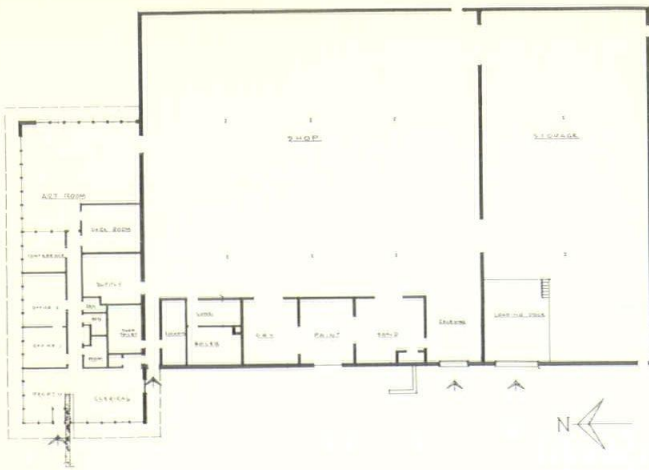
# DESIGN FOR DESIGNER

JOHN OLDHAM STUDIOS, INC.

Wethersfield, Connecticut

SINCLAIR ADAM, ARCHITECT

Adam Associates



When an architect is commissioned to design a building to house an advertising display studio, many special considerations are involved. Display studios notoriously utilize quarters originally planned for some other purpose. The challenge to start from scratch and design a combined office, studio and display manufacturing plant

for John Oldham Studios, Inc. was met and accomplished by Sinclair Adam, A.I.A., of Adam Associates, Hartford.

"This was a case where the client knew exactly what he wanted right at the start. After a number of successful years in the business of creating and manufacturing displays in jerry-built quarters, Mr.

Oldham had definite ideas about what would constitute a satisfactory display studio and shop. The results have proved him right," Mr. Adam said.

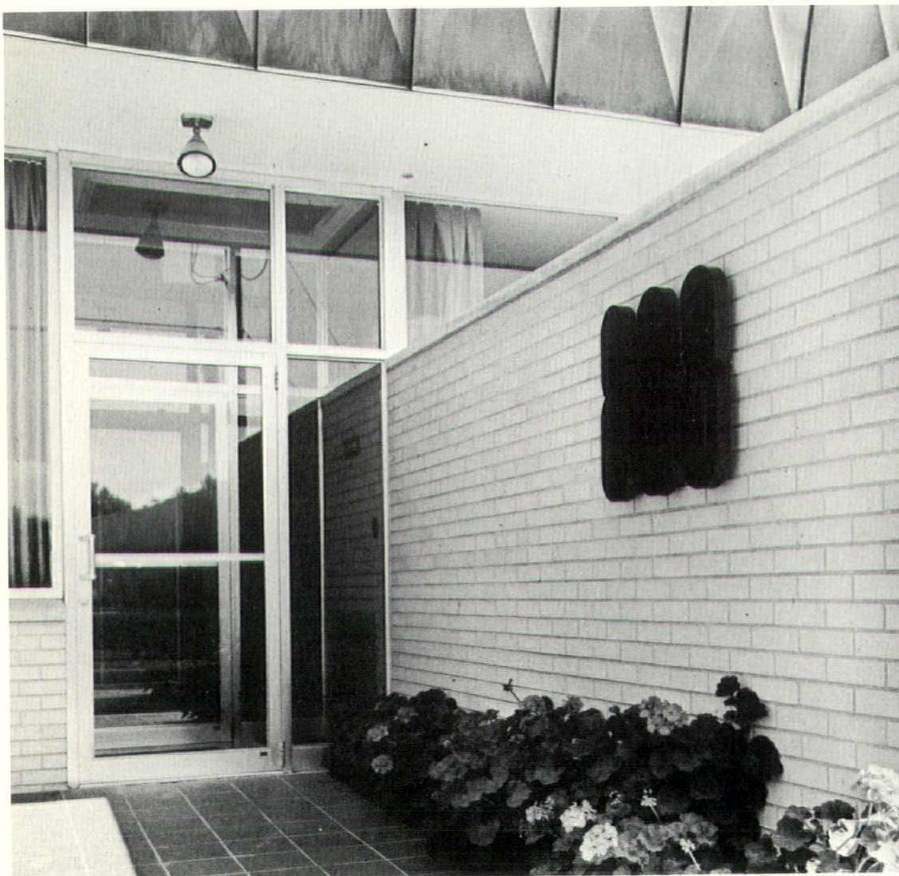
Displays and exhibits represent a significant advertising investment for many commercial and industrial companies. Their use covers the full range from point-of-purchase through displays at conventions and technical meetings to permanent exhibits. Since the displays must both attract and motivate, creative skills and craftsmanship techniques are heavily involved. In addition, it is an inherently rush-rush business.

From an architectural standpoint, this meant a direct flow facility where the artist's design could be quickly and readily translated into a three-dimensional display, ready for packing and shipping in the shortest possible time.

The plot selected for the building in Wethersfield is slightly over four acres. It is located on Wells Road, just off the Berlin Turnpike. Since all shipments in and out were to be by truck, this was an ideal location. Further, there would be room for expansion should it be needed in the future. The site had the added advantage of plenty of parking space for employees and customers, and was still within the Greater Hartford area.

The total building area was to be 18,500 square feet, of which 15,000 square feet would be devoted to

Close-up of entrance showing detail of buffed copper fascia.







Office section fits site and blends with shop section. Screen wall protects office entrance.

manufacturing and storage. The office space was to be air conditioned, and the shop was to have a central ventilating system. The cost worked out to approximately \$10 a square foot.

The building is located in a general industrial area, and because of the nature of the business it would have to be a standout of design itself. The face of the building is light buff brick, and the office overhang has copper fascia. To give the copper an aged appearance, it was buffed with linseed oil.

The structure is 105 feet wide by 144 feet long, plus an office area of 89 by 34 feet. The shop area is 16 feet under steel and is one story with storage space at the rear. There is an enclosed truck loading platform on the west elevation, and truck unloading facilities near the rear storage area. Grades were prepared to provide direct access to the floor area.

The foundation is of reinforced concrete on spread footings, and walls in the shop area are carried

to four inches below the finished floor elevation. The floors in this area are chemically hardened four-inch reinforced concrete, and the interior walls are exposed concrete block.

Structural steel, in accordance with AISC code, is used in the building frame. Column spacing is 24 by 32 feet in the two side bays and 24 by 40 feet in the center bay. The exposed roof deck is one-and-one-half by 20 gauge steel, bonderized and painted. The roof has twenty-year bonded, built-up pitch and gravel surface.

Hollow metal doors in hollow metal frames are used throughout the shop areas, and the large metal overhead doors are motorized. In the shop area, industrial projected steel sash is used, and in the offices the sash is fixed with few operators.

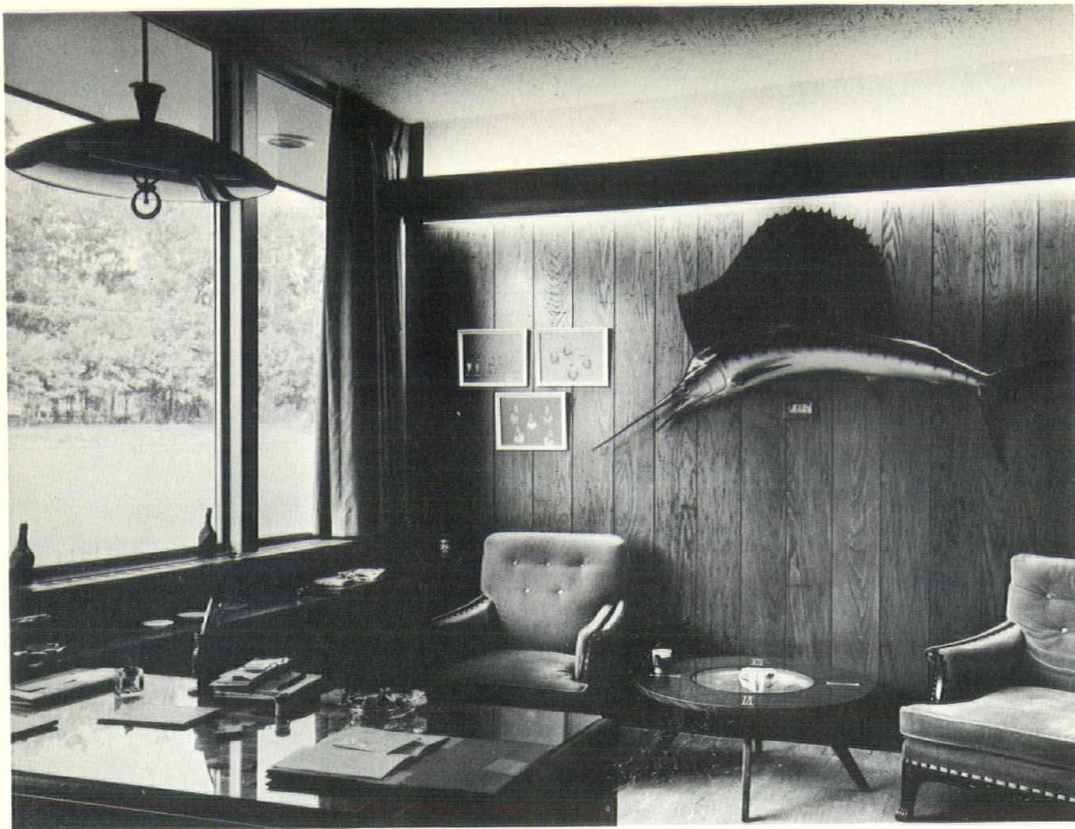
In the shop, direct fired gas unit heaters are used, and roof supply and exhaust fans provide summer ventilation. There is a minimum air change of six times an hour. Offices are air conditioned in sum-

mer, and hot-water-heated in cold weather.

A high band of windows on all four sides of the building provides good distribution of light everywhere in the shop and reduces need for artificial lighting during the day. Shop lighting supplies a minimum illumination of approximately 20 foot candles, with high foot candle lighting in special work areas where it is needed. Explosion-proof lighting is used in the sanding and painting areas. General lighting in the offices is 50 foot candles. Fluorescent lighting is used throughout.

The company's identifying sign is double face and not connected to the building. It stands free as a separate element where it commands attention and complements the crisp lines of the building. Exterior lighting dramatizes the structure, as well as provides functional illumination.

Particular attention was devoted to the design of the office areas so visiting clients would receive a



Mr. Oldham's office has wormy chestnut paneling.



Reception Room. Walls are paneled in oak plywood.

favorable impression. Outstanding plywood veneers were used with the reception area panelled in oak and the other offices in pecan. The president's office has wormy chestnut walls. In the partition dividing offices from the corridor, vinyl covered Homasote panels were set in oak frames. Colors and patterns of vinyl were selected carefully to blend with office decor. In addition to the desirable effect, this entails a minimum of paint and permits minimal maintenance. Vinyl floors were used.

Edward Packtor was general contractor, and metal contracting was done by C. G. Bostwick. Mechanical and electrical engineering was handled by Quinlan Associates of Hartford, and Sinclair Adam did his own structural engineering. He used cantilever construction with bar joists to reduce the weight of steel beams which held the cost to \$1.02 per square foot for steel and roof deck.

Most of the interior furniture and cabinet work was designed and built by John Oldham Studios.

What started as a leisurely schedule turned into a concerted effort for completion. Preliminary sketches were made in August, decision was made in October, and work started on November 12, 1963. The company moved in on April 1, 1964, and was almost immediately in production.

The finished structure presents an attractive appearance, fits its environment, and adds constructively to the atmosphere of the area. Inside, the flow of ideas into plans which are converted into displays proceeds in an orderly and efficient manner as envisioned by the client and designed by the architect.

SINCLAIR ADAM received his degree in architecture from Pennsylvania State University and later studied at Illinois Institute of Technology and University of Pennsylvania. He has had his own practice in the Hartford area since 1956. Mr. Adam was president of CSA in 1962 and is a member of the Executive Committee. He also was a vice president and member of the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Chapter of AIA, and a vice president of the School Facilities Council.

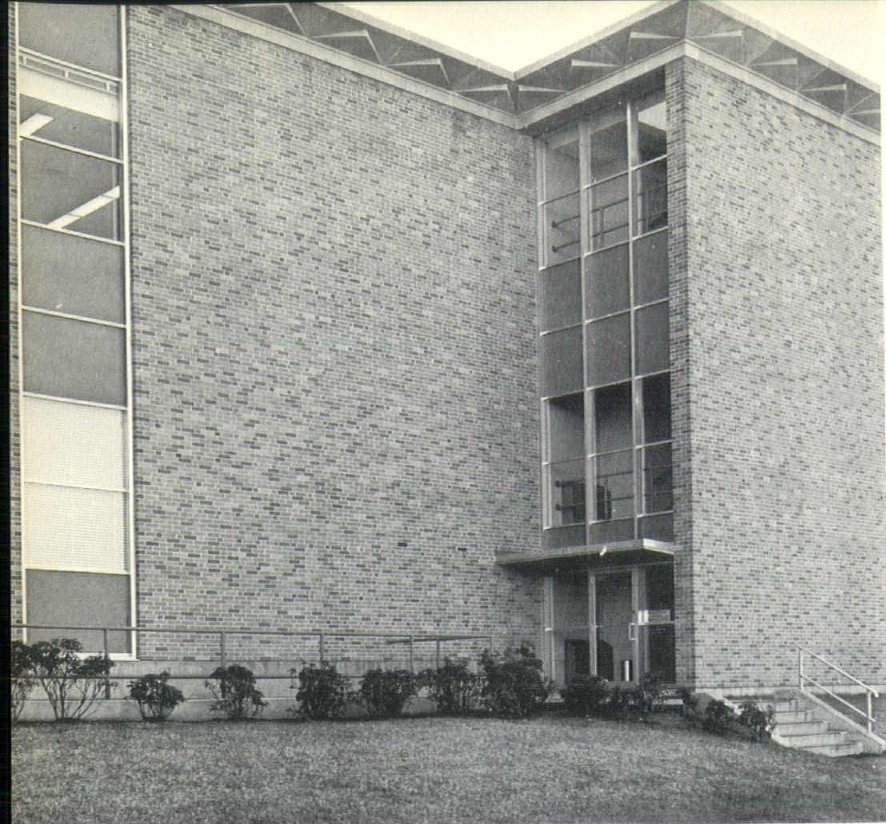


Exhibit and model room. Cabinet work was designed and built by owner.

Entrance to office showing overhang and placement of exterior lighting fixtures.



# HARMONY OF MATERIAL AND COLOR



Side entrance from parking lot. Cornice soffit is multi-faceted.

Original site conditions are shown in this contour map.

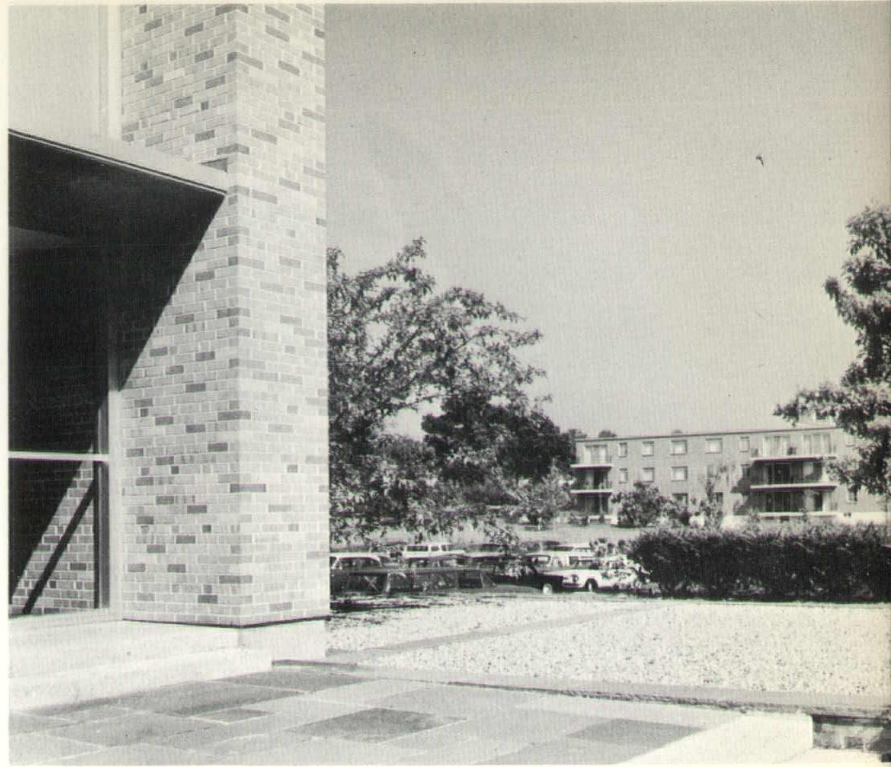
The site of The Southern New England Telephone Company's equipment building in West Hartford was involved with architecture a full decade before conception of the present structure. Here, at the corner of South Main Street and Sedgwick Road in that town, was the proposed location of the Frank Lloyd Wright theater.

The backers of this project petitioned the town for authority to erect a 1,000 seat, octagonal theater, to be designed by Wright. First announced in 1948, the proposal was abandoned in 1950 after many public hearings and court action. The Wright theater was subsequently built in Dallas, Texas, and was opened in 1959.

In contrast, the telephone utility's planned use of the location was "enthusiastically endorsed" by the same groups that had so strenuously opposed the theater project. This response to SNETCo's announce-

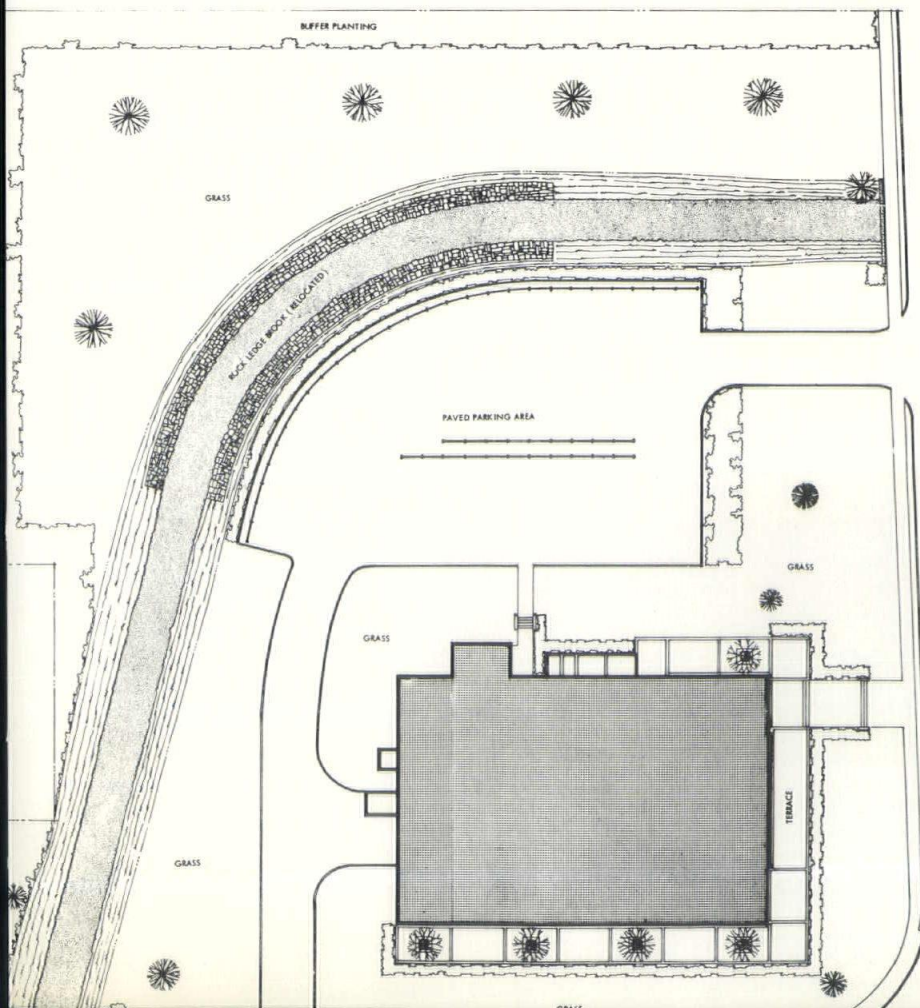


**THE SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND  
TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
West Hartford, Connecticut  
**WALTER H. COCHRAN, ARCHITECT**  
Davis, Cochran & Miller



View from front entrance northerly to neighboring apartment house. Land contour helps screen parking area.

Comparison with site map indicates relocation of Rock Ledge Brook.



ment in 1960 speaks well for the firm's reputation for conforming their designs to the character of the location and the neighborhood.

Both the location and size of utility buildings are largely dictated by technical needs. Thus, the client specifies the mechanical requirements to be accommodated, including bay sizes and ceiling heights. The architect's problem then is to design a package which meets these requirements economically, in keeping with the neighborhood, and with provision for expansion.

This site, in a high-value residential and apartment area, came well equipped with problems of its own. From the street intersection, the plot slopes down to a brook which originally bisected the property diagonally. In addition, there is a deep layer of unstable, clayey silt overlaying a shale ledge as much as 30 feet below grade.

Several plans were considered to



Window wall and entrance set off honed pink granite facing.



Main entrance

accommodate or circumvent the brook. These narrowed down to two alternates:

1. Leaving the brook essentially unchanged, with a bridge between the building and a separated parking area.
2. Moving the brook toward the rear of the lot to permit both building and parking area in the front portion.

The decision was to relocate the brook, thus meeting present needs as well as facilitating provision for future expansion. A by-product of this is an attractive landscaped area which blends with adjacent properties.

The sub-surface condition was overcome without the time or cost of setting piles through the unstable soil. A compacted bed was laid as a floating base for the foundation footings. This consisted of bank-run gravel, compacted in eight-inch layers, to a minimum depth of three feet.

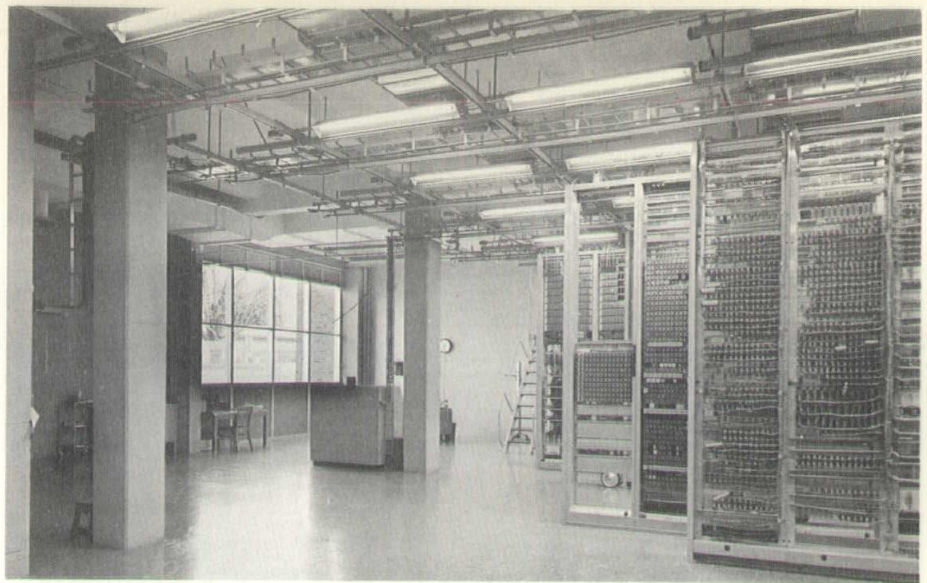
With these two major problems

resolved, attention could be concentrated on other aspects of the client's requirements. These were not inconsiderable. While part of the structure would be used temporarily for office space, at some future time the building would be devoted entirely to automatic switching equipment and, of course, the design must allow for this prospect. Future needs had to be taken into account with provision for horizontal expansion. While all the mechanical service equipment must be within the building, its location had to be planned so additional capacity could be added to serve expanded requirements. Finally, the client had strict specifications for cable and power line sleeves within and through the walls and floors.

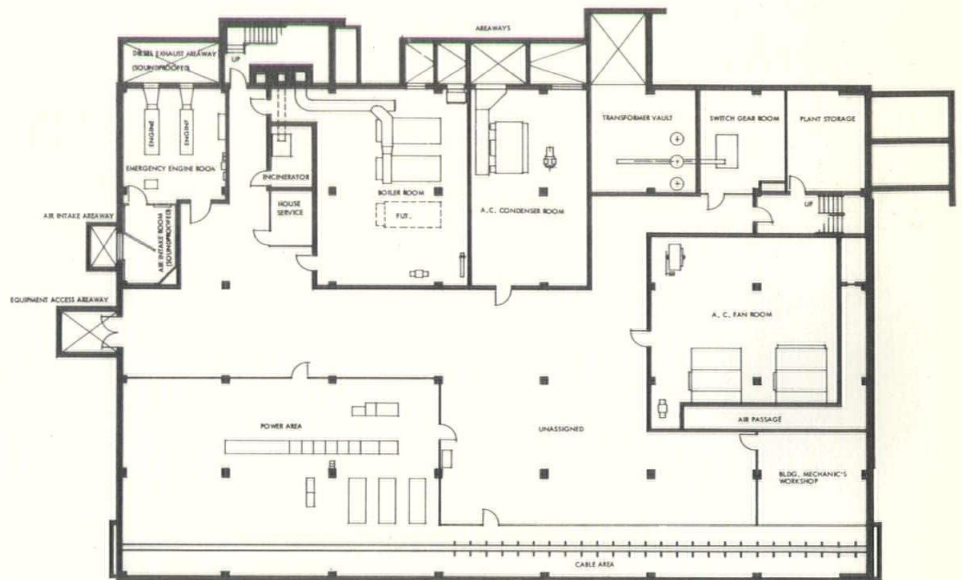
The final design, approved by the client's staff of architects and engineers, called for a two-story and basement building, set back slightly from the street intersection, and with all building faces exposed. The principal expansion direction is planned to the north side, although a small addition could also be made to the rear (west).

The basement floor is largely devoted to mechanical services, including air conditioning equipment and emergency power diesel engine room. The first, street-level floor is entirely given to telephone switching equipment except for the main entrance lobby and some employee facilities. And the top floor provides temporary office space for district maintenance personnel and related supporting space. About one-quarter of this floor is reserved for equipment expansion, and it is contemplated that the whole floor will eventually be occupied by equipment.

The structure is steel frame construction with concrete slabs. The exterior walls — excepting the front — are blended buff range face brick with block back-up. These walls are paneled by vertical aluminum window wall strips. The front (major) elevation is faced with honed Stony Creek pink granite, in a squared off pattern to produce



Portion of switching equipment on first floor.



Basement Floor Plan.

Imposing, utilitarian, good design.



an interesting shadow effect. The facade is accented by recessed windows and the entrance. The cornice is a pre-cast concrete shell, in a buff limestone finish, with poured reinforced light-weight concrete back-up. Pleasing shade and shadows are created by the multi-faceted cornice soffit.

Inside walls are painted concrete masonry, and the floors are asphalt tile over concrete. In the office areas, the concrete ceilings have recessed lighting and lay-in acoustical units.

All the building is year-round air conditioned — as essential for proper functioning of the equipment as for personnel comfort. Heat is provided by two scotch-type steam boilers, with space allowed for addition of a third boiler when required by expansion. The main switch and panel board is custom built to provide automatic change-over to emergency power source in the event of failure of commercial power. The emergency power con-

sists of two diesel engine-powered generators, with the diesels exhausted into a sound-treated area-way.

Outside, a fifteen-foot-wide strip of bluestone and washed pea gravel forms a terrace border on three sides of the building to give a pedestal effect. From this border, grades are blended to create a smooth transition to the varying levels of the site. The landscaping includes screen planting of trees and shrubbery adjacent to the neighboring apartment houses.

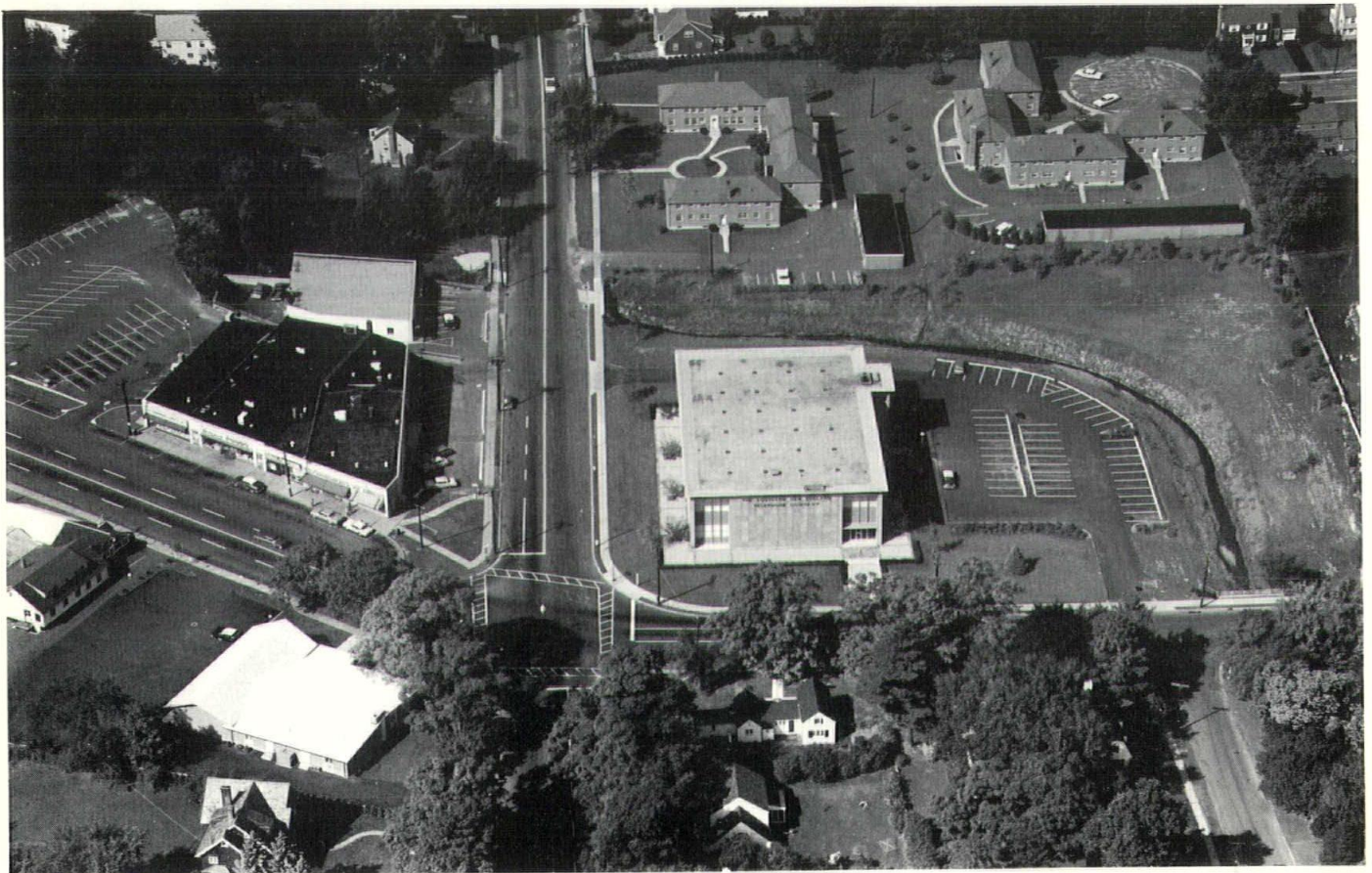
The builder of the West Hartford switching equipment building was Felix Buzzi and Son, Incorporated of Torrington, and the structural engineering work was handled by Henry A. Pfisterer of New Haven. The construction was completed in 1961, at a cost of nearly \$750,000 for its more than 27,000 square feet of productive floor space.

Periodically, the Bell Telephone System holds an Architectural Review for which associated com-

panies throughout the United States and Canada submit photographs and data on recently completed buildings. The 3rd Architectural Review, held last January, considered many buildings of which 267 were screened out for review by a distinguished jury. The judging was based on architectural solution of the problem, relation to the neighborhood, design excellence, costs, identification as a Bell System unit, and adaptability for expansion. This West Hartford building was one of 74 named for an award in this nationwide review as evidence that "good design can be achieved at reasonable cost."

---

WALTER H. COCHRAN is a partner in the office of Davis, Cochran and Miller, New Haven. He received his Bachelor in Fine Arts degree from Yale University and has been practicing architecture in Connecticut for 31 years. He served as president of the Connecticut Society of Architects in 1956-57 and is a member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Cochran is also a member of the American Institute of Architects.



Aerial view indicates siting on plot and relation to neighborhood.



# CSA PRESIDENT RALPH T. ROWLAND

## ISSUES CHALLENGE FOR 1965

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Connecticut Society of Architects at the Yankee Silversmith, Wallingford, on November 19, 1964, incoming President Ralph T. Rowland said there is a need for real progress to be made toward the ideal of good order, safety and beauty in architecture.

"You and I can resolve now to raise this profession, and this Society, to one of the greatest forces of our time and our state for the well-being of our fellow-man. We can halt the decline of our influence, and we can, and we must, cause that influence to advance toward the realization of good order, safety and beauty that this profession is specifically trained to achieve. We owe this to Connecticut, we owe this to our communities, and we owe it to ourselves. Our goal may take years, but it will be realized if we dedicate ourselves seriously to that purpose," he said.

Framing his comments around answers to three questions, Mr. Rowland replied to who we are, why we are here and where we are going. "I suggest that we paraphrase these three great questions of religious philosophy by placing them into the context of architecture."

Mr. Rowland pointed out in answer to the "who" question: "We are architects, and more specifically members of the architectural profession in Connecticut. We choose to band together in friendship and cooperation in a professional or-

ganization known as the Connecticut Society of Architects.

"We are concerned with the quality of the physical environment of our fellow-man — and ourselves. We are trained to create good order, safety and beauty in all man-made components of this environment. We offer our personal services to help realize this idea. We have agreed to help each other through this professional society to effectively perform our services, and collectively help toward the realization of the ideal. While it is not likely we can agree on all specifics, we can accept the general principles," he said.

The question, "why are we here?" was rephrased to, "why are we architects?" Mr. Rowland acknowledged that many individual and personal reasons are involved. These range from the expediency of earning a living to a deep sense of involvement in contributing constructively to man's physical environment.

"I suggest that while we may individually disagree with one or more of these attitudes, we would be mistaken to disavow their existence. I submit that the Society exists for, and has a responsibility to, the practitioner who engages in the profession of architecture only as a means of livelihood, and the Society member who retains his membership only for prestige, as well as those whose objectives are more closely identified with the stated ideals of the profession," Mr. Rowland said.



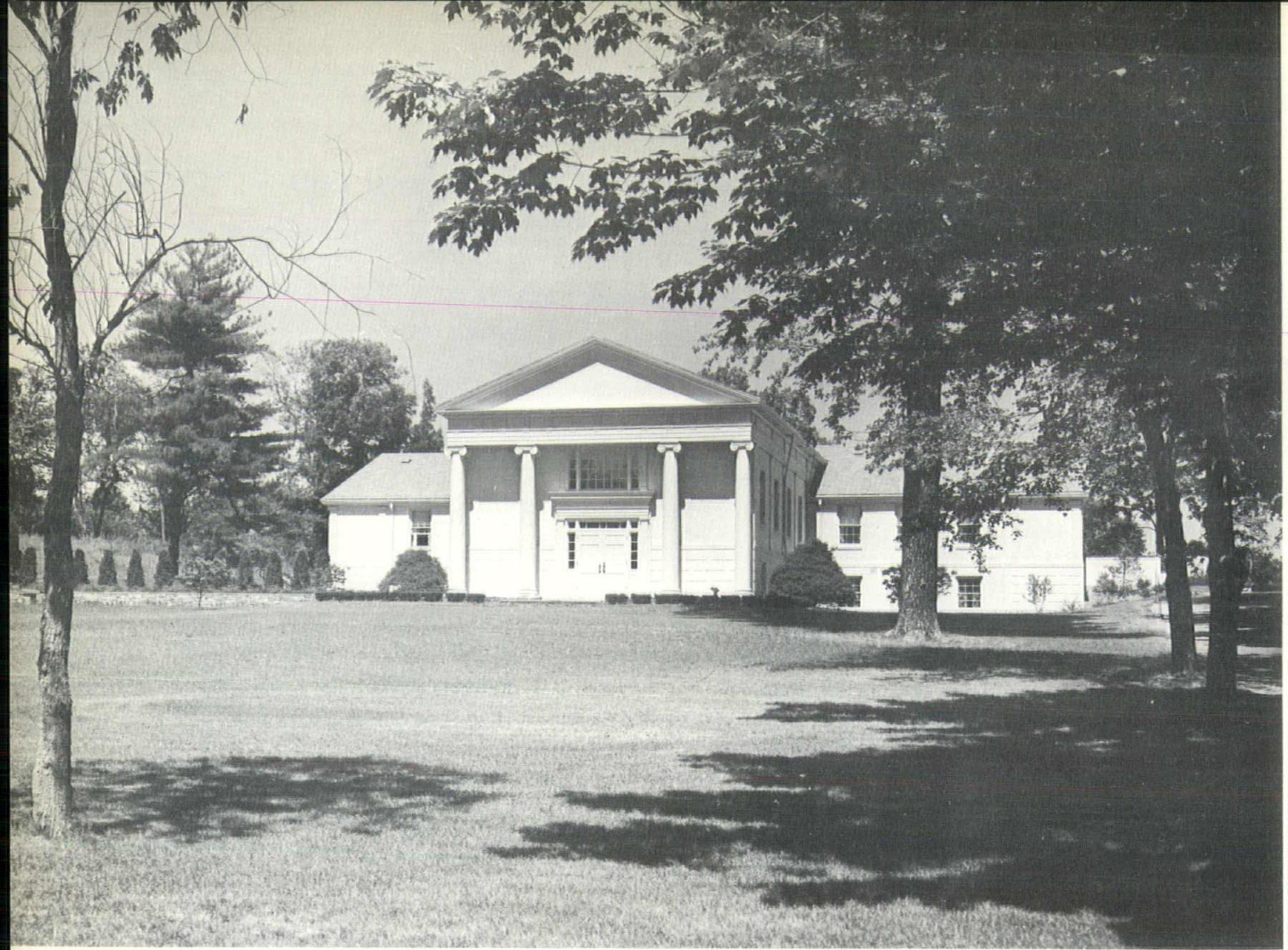
Ralph T. Rowland

### *The Future*

Concerning the direction in which architecture, and more particularly the Connecticut Society of Architects is headed, Mr. Rowland wonders if, "we are really moving in the direction of an ideal physical environment. Or are we making progress in some areas, losing ground in others, with the balance at a standstill.

"It seems to me that for every good building erected in our state, at least a half-dozen mediocre buildings are also constructed, and another dozen or so frankly tasteless buildings are created, as well. This is particularly noticeable in the suburban and remaining rural areas of the state. In the cities and larger towns, some old eye-

*(Please turn to page 36)*



Long view of front elevation shows how Church House fits the site on colonial Madison's green.



Chapel on first floor is traditional colonial in design. It seats nearly 100 persons and is used for weddings, baptisms, and other small, religious gatherings.

# BLENDING NEW WITH OLD

## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HOUSE

Madison, Connecticut

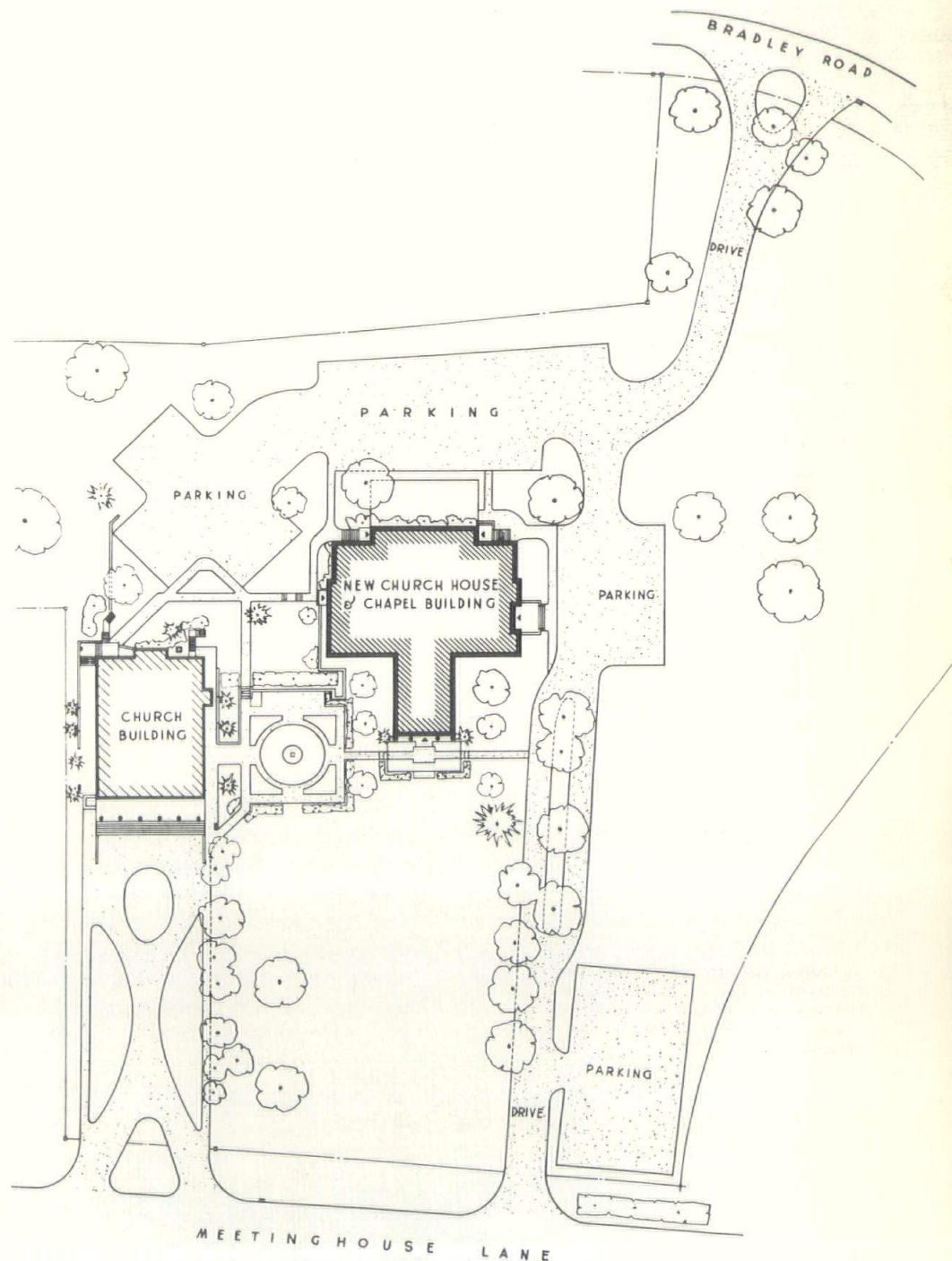
MALCOLM ROBINSON KNOX, ARCHITECT

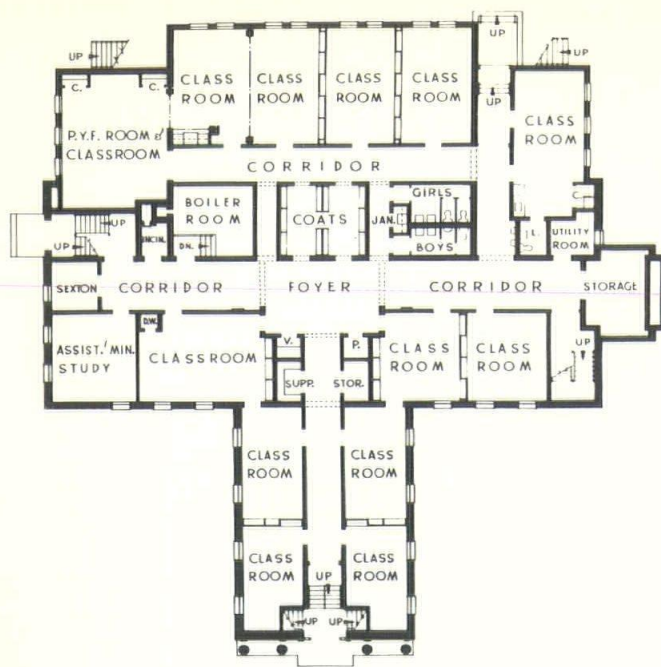
At the Church House dedication of the First Congregational Church of Madison, Malcolm Robinson Knox, A.I.A., had this to say: "Although challenges come rather frequently to an architect, the responsibility here has seemed more serious because of the necessity to balance with great care the future needs and the important site, and to complement with great respect the notable old Meeting House."

Blending the new with the old does present a special challenge. First, the building committee wanted a parish house in which every cubic foot of space would be used, and efficiently used. They wanted modern construction which would have a slow rate of deterioration, would be fire-resistant throughout, and easy to clean and maintain. Also, there had to be harmony with the old Greek revival First Congregational Church, rich in tradition and a proud landmark in this shore community.

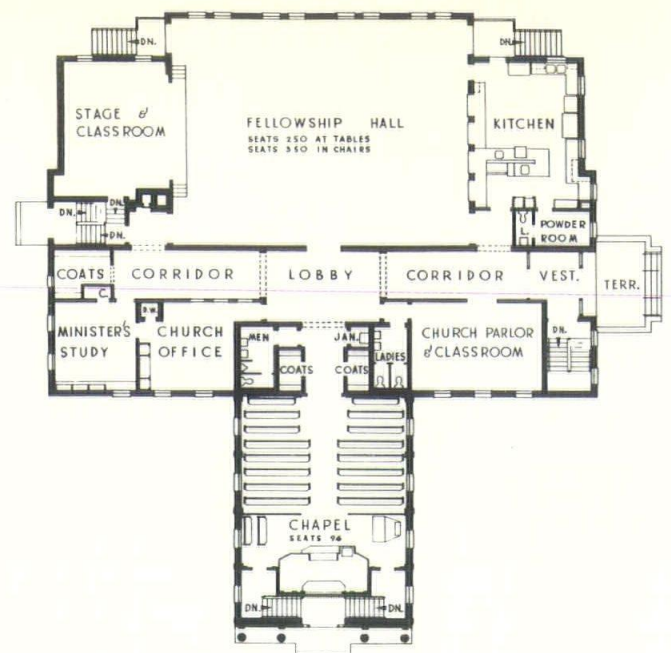
Unhappily, the old manse, located just east of the church, was in the way and had to go. Its classic appearance and historical involvement caused some soul searching on the part of church members and others in the community. There was speculation about how it might be integrated in a new structure, but finally the decision was made to remove it.

Malcolm Knox studied the existing buildings and environment, and measured the present and future needs with members of the building committee. Included in the plan must be a Chapel for small





Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan

weddings, baptisms and receptions. A Fellowship Hall must be of sufficient size and versatility to handle large meetings, suppers, plays, pageants and church school exercises. With more and more families moving to Madison, the need for classroom space was getting critical. The new facilities would serve many other purposes, too. Men's Club meetings, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other groups such as Pilgrim Fellowship would be using the building.

When the decision was made to have a new building, church members and friends supported it by raising \$225,000 on a single Sunday afternoon.

The plan developed by Malcolm Knox called for a new, completely functional building which would enhance the colonial homogeneity of the church's setting. It would make no attempt to imitate the original church, but would complement it instead. It was to be designed and built for rugged use, and to provide for expansion at some future time. The final plan matched the character of Madison, and fitted carefully and respectfully with the church building.

One very important factor, not

uncommon, was the necessity of accomplishing the complete project within a reasonable budget. The builder and the electrical and mechanical contractors were church members, and many local people took part in the actual construction work.

The plot plan took advantage of natural contours and grades. The grade was lowered somewhat north of the church so there would be ground level access to the sanctuary.

The ground floor of the new building contains thirteen classrooms, a study for the assistant minister, storage space, coat room and lavatory facilities for girls and boys, and the heating plant. The first floor has a chapel which seats 96 people, and a Fellowship Hall which seats 250 at tables, or 350 in chairs. It also contains a stage, kitchen, minister's study, church office and church parlor. The parlor and stage are designed to double as classrooms.

Footings and foundations are of reinforced concrete, and the wall-bearing masonry has a white brick exterior over "Waylite" block. The ground floor is a concrete slab, on grade.

Interior walls and partitions consist of painted plaster, painted block, and exposed "Waylite" block. Ceilings are mineral fibre acoustical tile and sprayed acoustical finish on "fire-shield" gypsum board. Floors are vinyl asbestos tile and prefinished oak squares.

Structural glazed tile walls are used in the kitchen and lavatories which have ceramic tile floors. The kitchen, lavatories and Fellowship Hall have mechanical ventilation.

Fellowship Hall, with its large span, has a structural steel roof frame, and the remainder of the building has wood framing. Heavy asphalt shingles over plywood are used for the entire roof. Interior doors are natural finished wood, solid core and painted panelled wood in metal door frames. Exterior doors are wood, glazed and painted. Windows are double hung wood.

Zone hydronic heating, oil fired, uses convectors and "force-flo" units. Lighting throughout the building is a combination of incandescent and fluorescent. The classroom cabinet-wall dividers are of natural finish birch.

(Please turn to page 34)



Meditation walk area may also be used on occasion for out-of-door gatherings. This tastefully landscaped spot lies between church and chapel buildings.



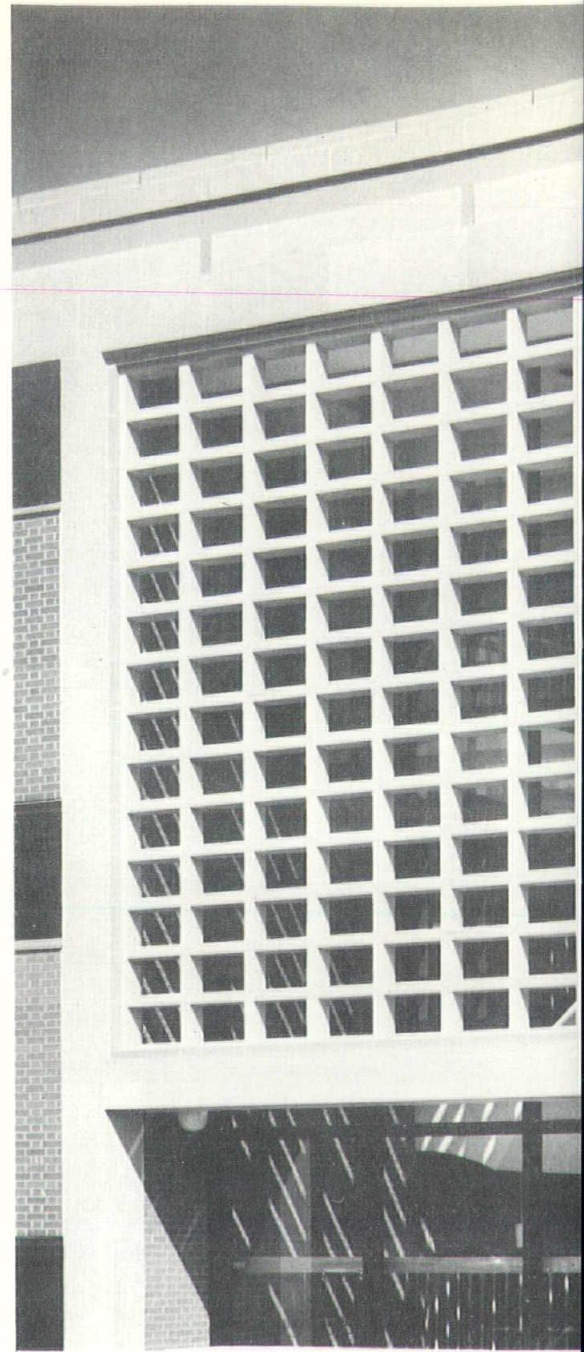
The new Church House complements the Greek Revival lines of the Madison First Congregational Church building.

**UNIVERSITY  
OF  
BRIDGEPORT**

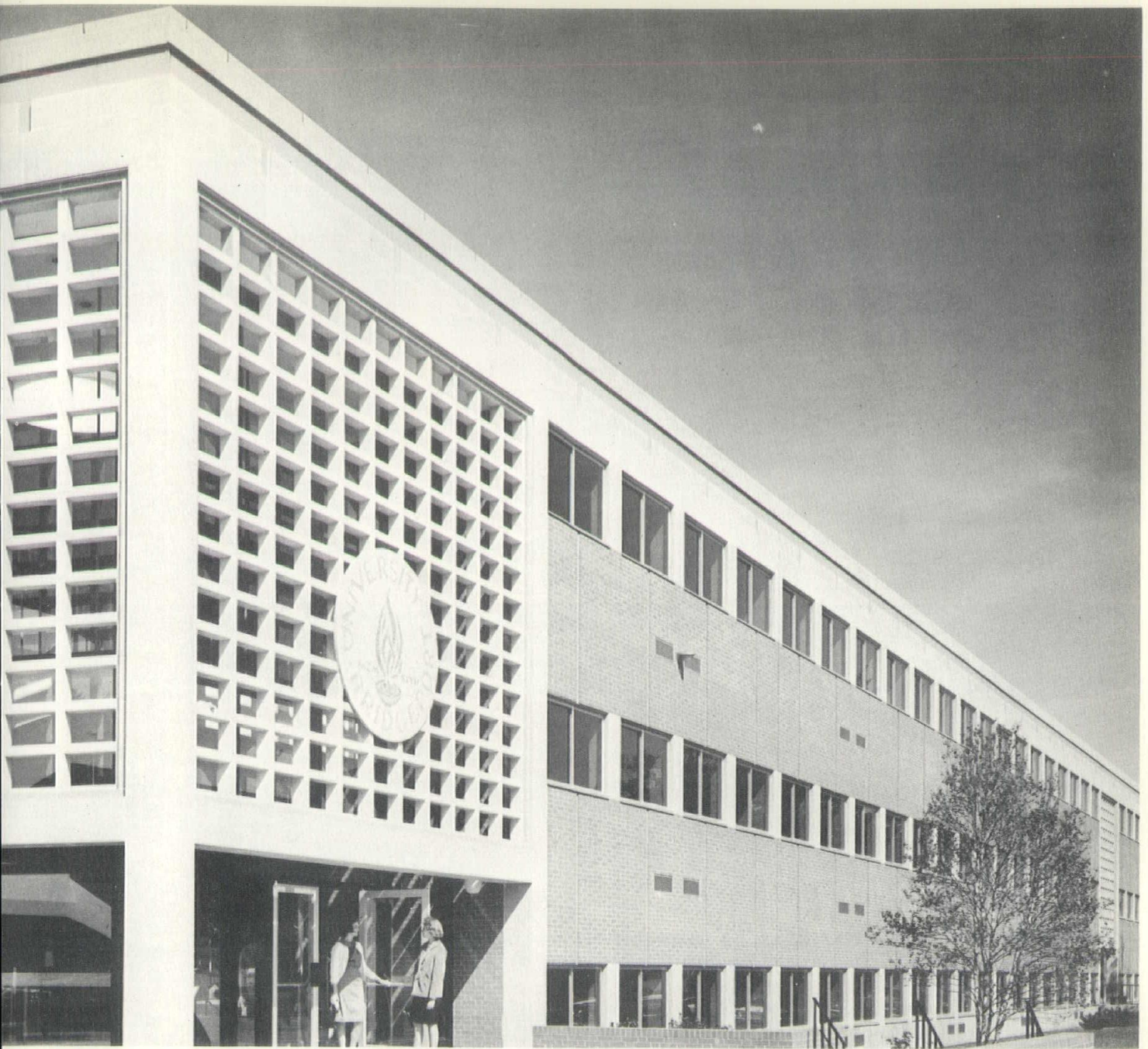
**Classroom and  
Bookstore  
Buildings**

**Bridgeport, Connecticut**

**AUSTIN W. MATHER, ARCHITECT**  
**Lyons & Mather**



Corner entrance of Classroom Building.



The new University of Bridgeport Classroom and Bookstore Buildings, dedicated in July, 1964, represent the first completion in the school's projected ten-year \$17,500,000 development and expansion program.

Designated the College of Business Administration, it is actually a complex comprising three basic units facing on three avenues at the center of the University campus.

The major unit, facing Park Avenue and University Place, is three stories and consists of classrooms and faculty offices. At the main entrance on Park Avenue are the lobby and administrative offices for the evening school. To one side is a single story unit containing two main assembly areas: a large lecture room seating two hundred, and a Case Study Room. The latter is octagonal in shape with tiered seat-

ing for one hundred persons. The Case Study Room has a complete audio-visual system with projection booth and may be controlled from the lecture platform as well as from the booth. These controls provide for house lighting, projection equipment and sound system. Provision is also included for television reception.

The University Bookstore, facing Myrtle Avenue, is connected to the

Classroom building by a free-standing corridor. The Bookstore has a large high-ceiling sales area with six "check-out" counters. A mezzanine floor provides space for offices, other administration facilities, elevator, and storage. This unit also has a basement containing heating, air conditioning and mechanical equipment, as well as large storage areas.

The interior court formed by the three units is utilized for maximum parking facilities, together with landscaping and walk areas. Because of the nature of the site, the buildings have minimum setbacks from each avenue, implying an intimately scaled building with high strip windows and semi-screened entrances for the most part.

The entrance at the corner of the

Classroom building is the principal point of focus of the complex with terrace, the applied University seal at the screen wall, and a striking free-formed curved stairway with cascading fountain. This particular feature was developed through the inspiration of Charles A. Dana, the major benefactor, with Henry W. Littlefield, President of the University.

The building complex has structural steel frame with bar-joist construction, a brick veneer of soft brown tones trimmed with gold and off-white terra cotta and limestone. The windows have horizontal sliding sash.

Approximately 80,000 square feet are provided in the Classroom-Bookstore facility, and the construction cost was \$1,290,000 including

site work but excluding movable equipment. The builder was Vuono-Lione, Incorporated of Stamford, Connecticut.

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AUSTIN W. MATHER is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the firm of Lyons and Mather in Bridgeport. He studied at Pratt Institute and the Beaux Arts Institute of Design. Mr. Mather was president of the Connecticut Society of Architects for two terms and also served as chairman of the Committee of Ethics. He has held several offices, including president, of the Connecticut Chapter, and New England Regional Council, A.I.A., and was a member of the national A.I.A. Committee on Architectural Practice. In the field of city planning, he was a member of the United Nations Site Committee, a consultant to the Fairfield County Planning Association, an officer of the Connecticut Federation of Planning and Zoning Agencies, and a member and officer of the Norwalk Planning Commission. He is presently a member of the Board of Associates of the University of Bridgeport.



Elevation on Park Avenue. Masonry walls at left are of Lecture Room.

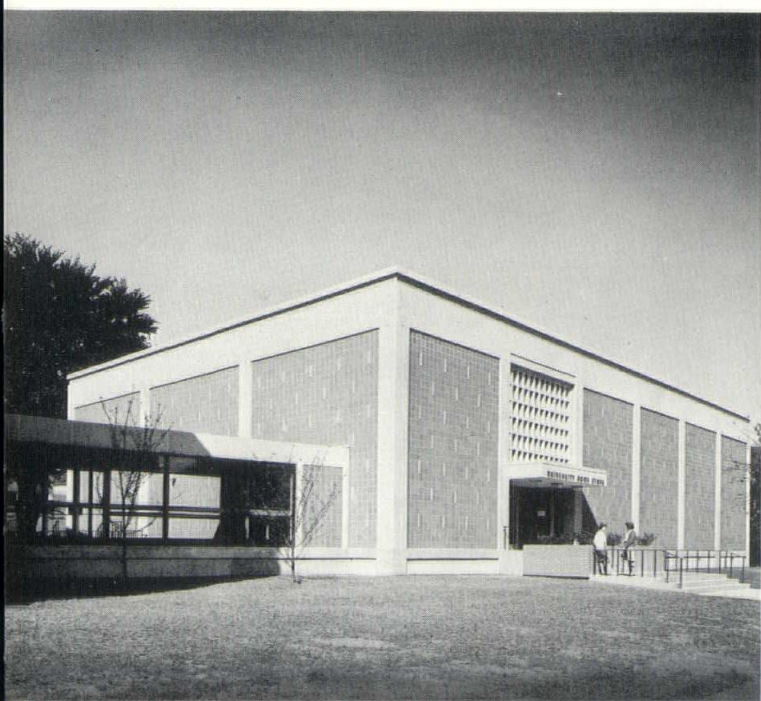
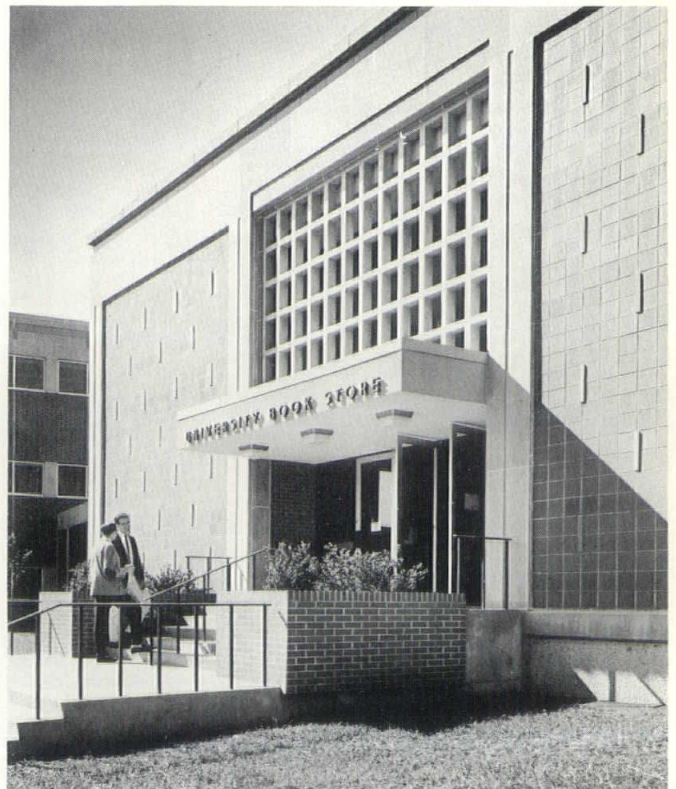


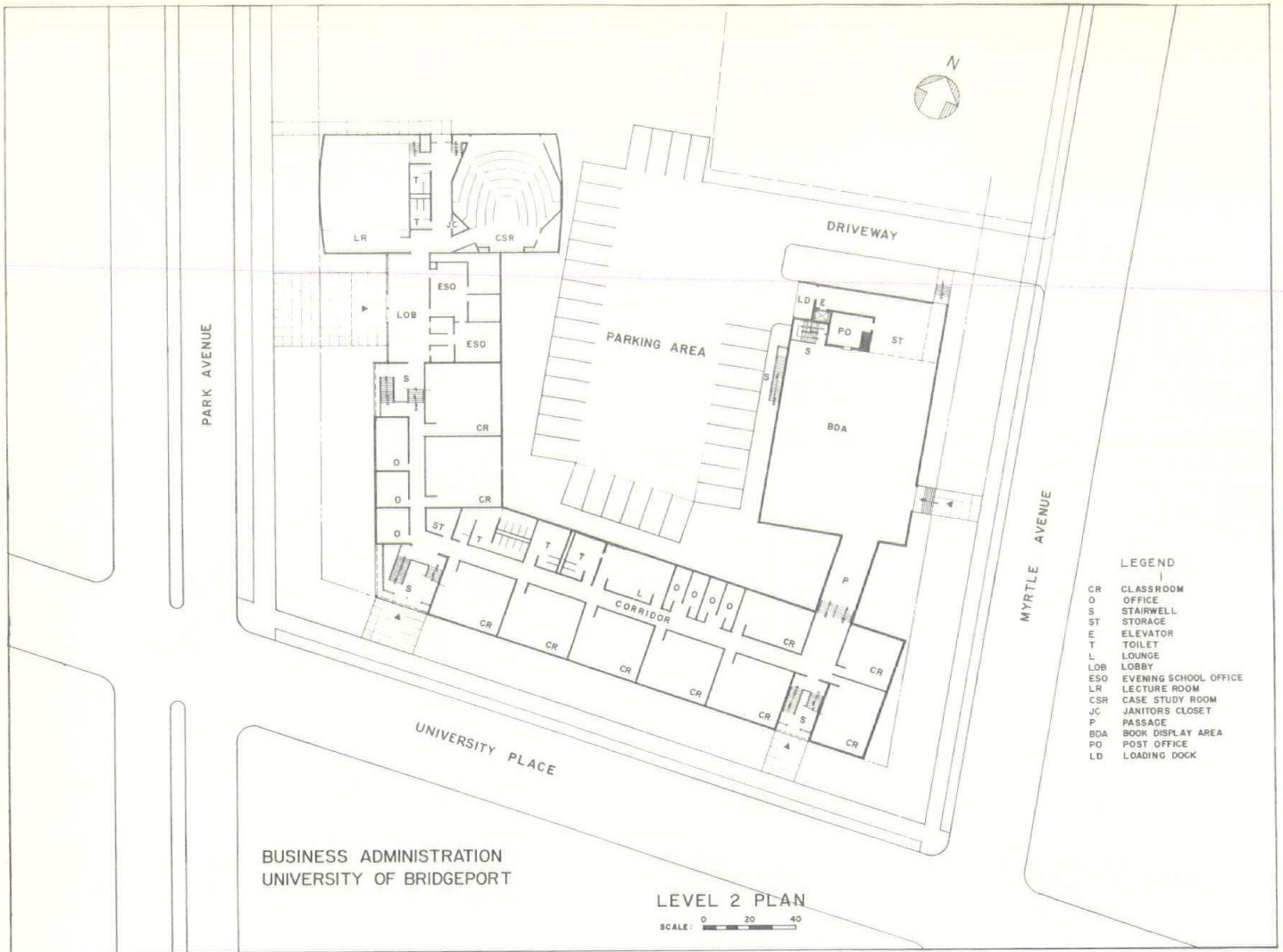


Main sales area of bookstore with mezzanine floor to rear.

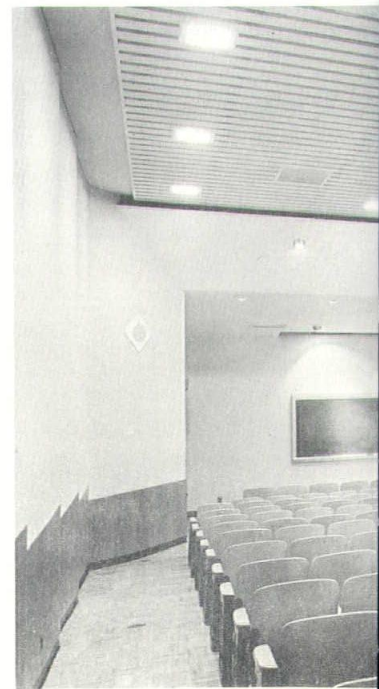
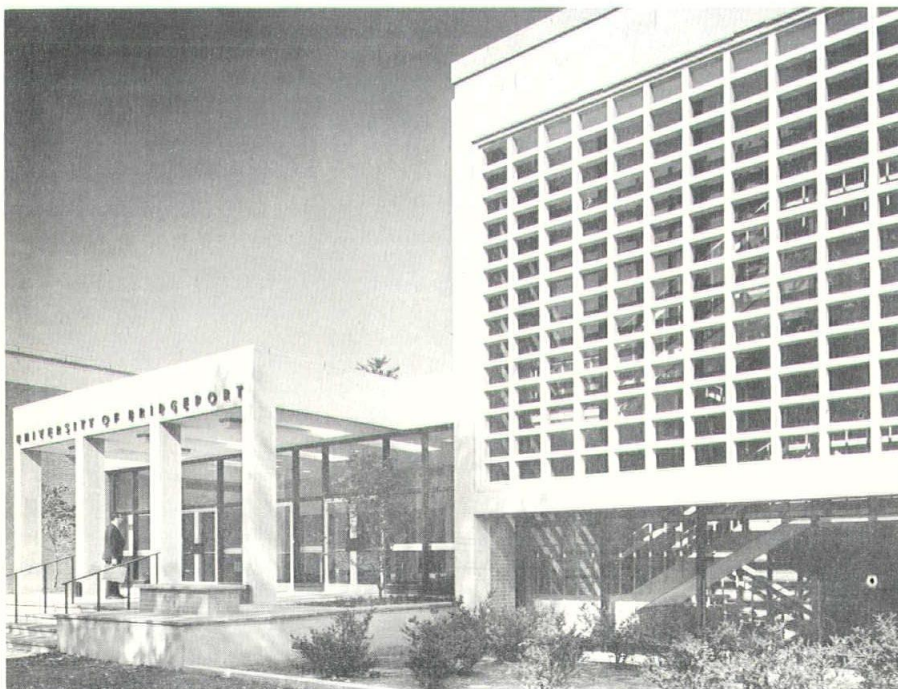
Close-up view of entrance to Bookstore and decorative detail of masonry walls.

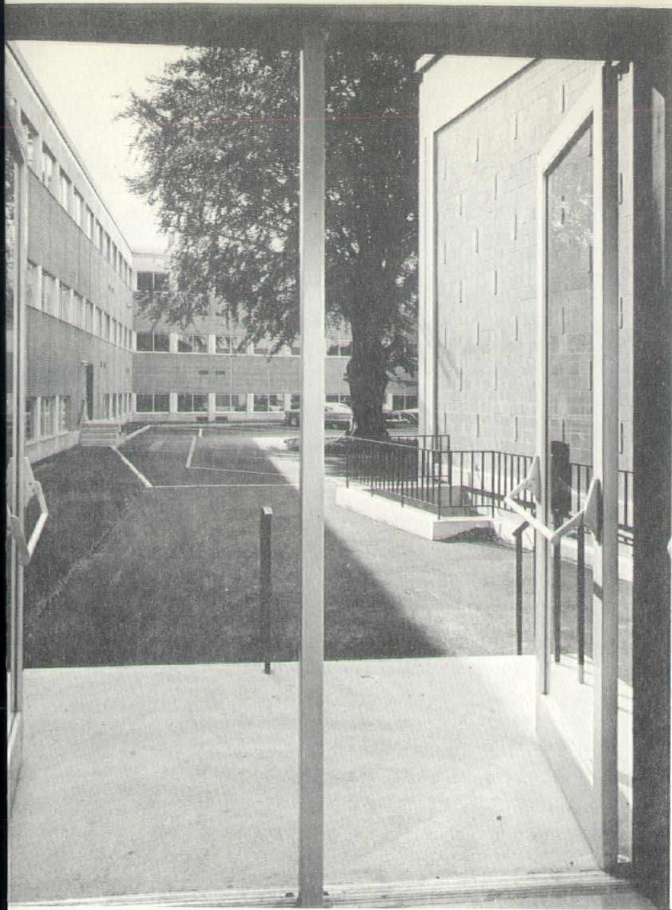
Free-standing corridor connects Bookstore building to main Classroom building.



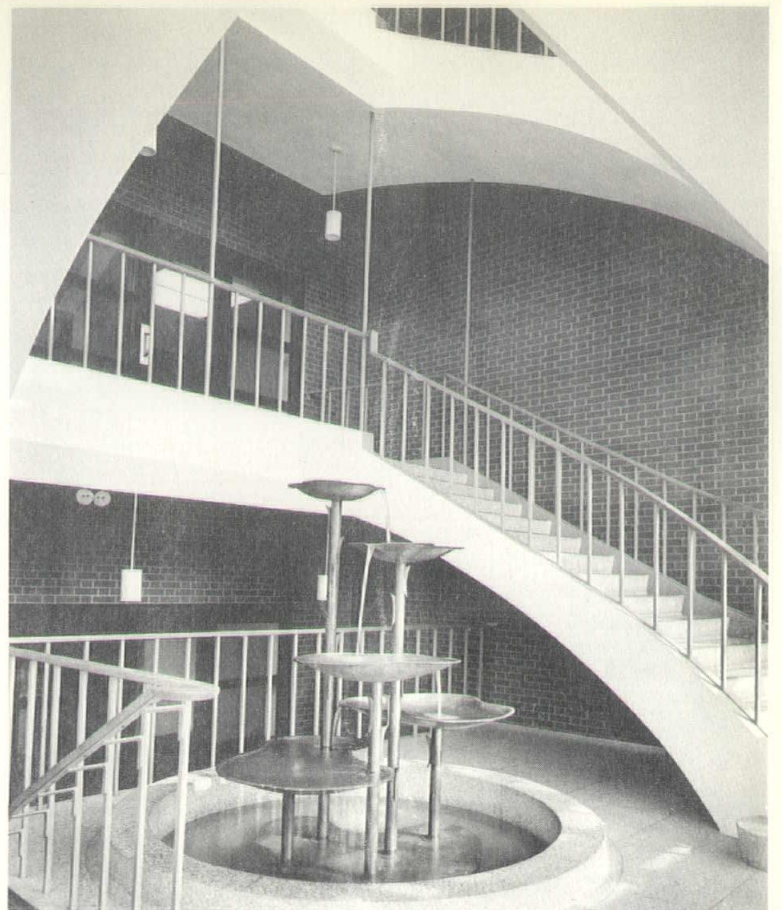


Main entrance to classroom building, with masonry screened wall of glass enclosed stairwell.



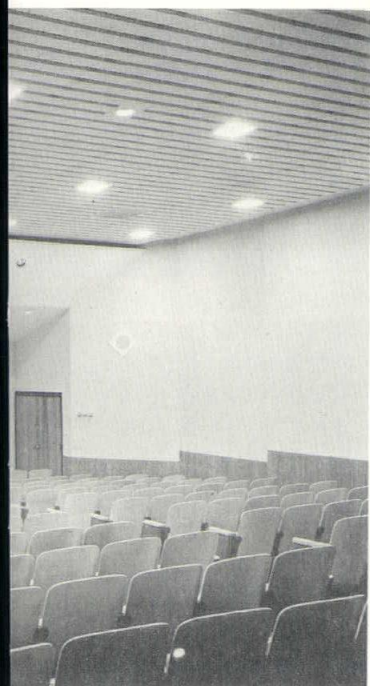


View from corridor to interior court and parking area.

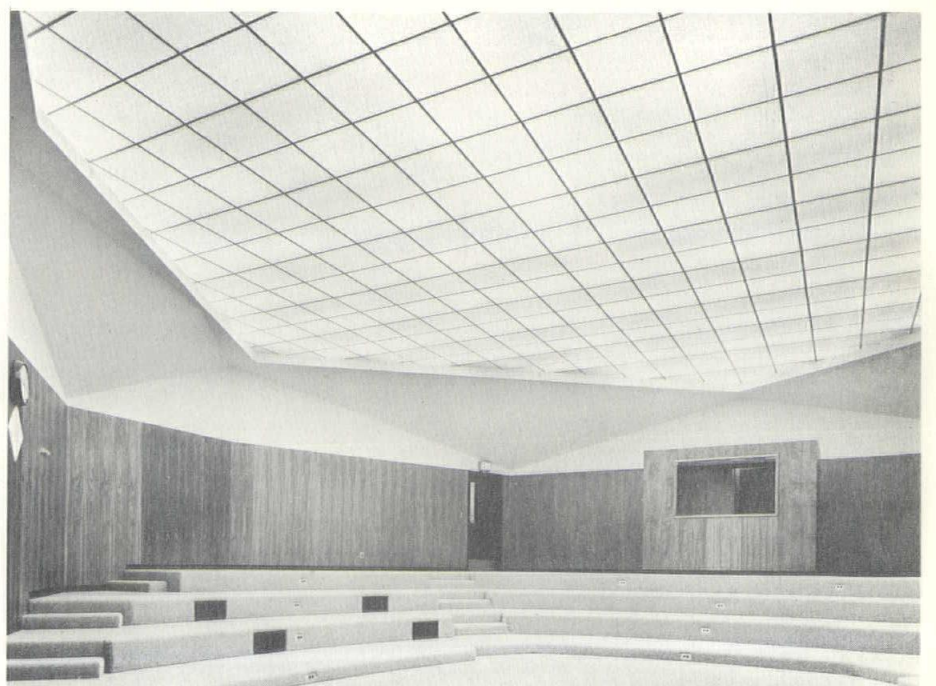


Free-formed curved stairway with cascading fountain, at corner entrance.

Large Lecture Room designed to seat 200 students.



Case Study Room, with striking ceiling, awaits furniture. Note octagonal shape and provision for tiered seating. Projection booth is at rear.





Street in completed development compares closely with rendering on opposite page.

# HIGH STANDARDS – LOW RENTAL

## HAMPSHIRE HEIGHTS HOUSING

Putnam, Connecticut

ARTHUR E. THOMAS, ARCHITECT

Spectacular architecture can be breathtaking. Comfortable, people-oriented architecture can be breath-giving. Five years of use have proved out the planning, design and administration which have resulted in an attractively maintained multiple dwelling community in Northeastern Connecticut.

Government sponsored housing projects are not uncommon in this day, and they are seldom outstanding. Practical, utilitarian, sturdy, adequate – but not outstanding. In Putnam, Connecticut, the Hampshire Heights low rental housing project may well be the exceptional variation from the rule.

Following the devastating 1955 flood, some eleven acres of farm and pasture land on the outskirts of the city of Putnam were designated for emergency housing use. The site is somewhat hilly and contained a wooded area. The vision

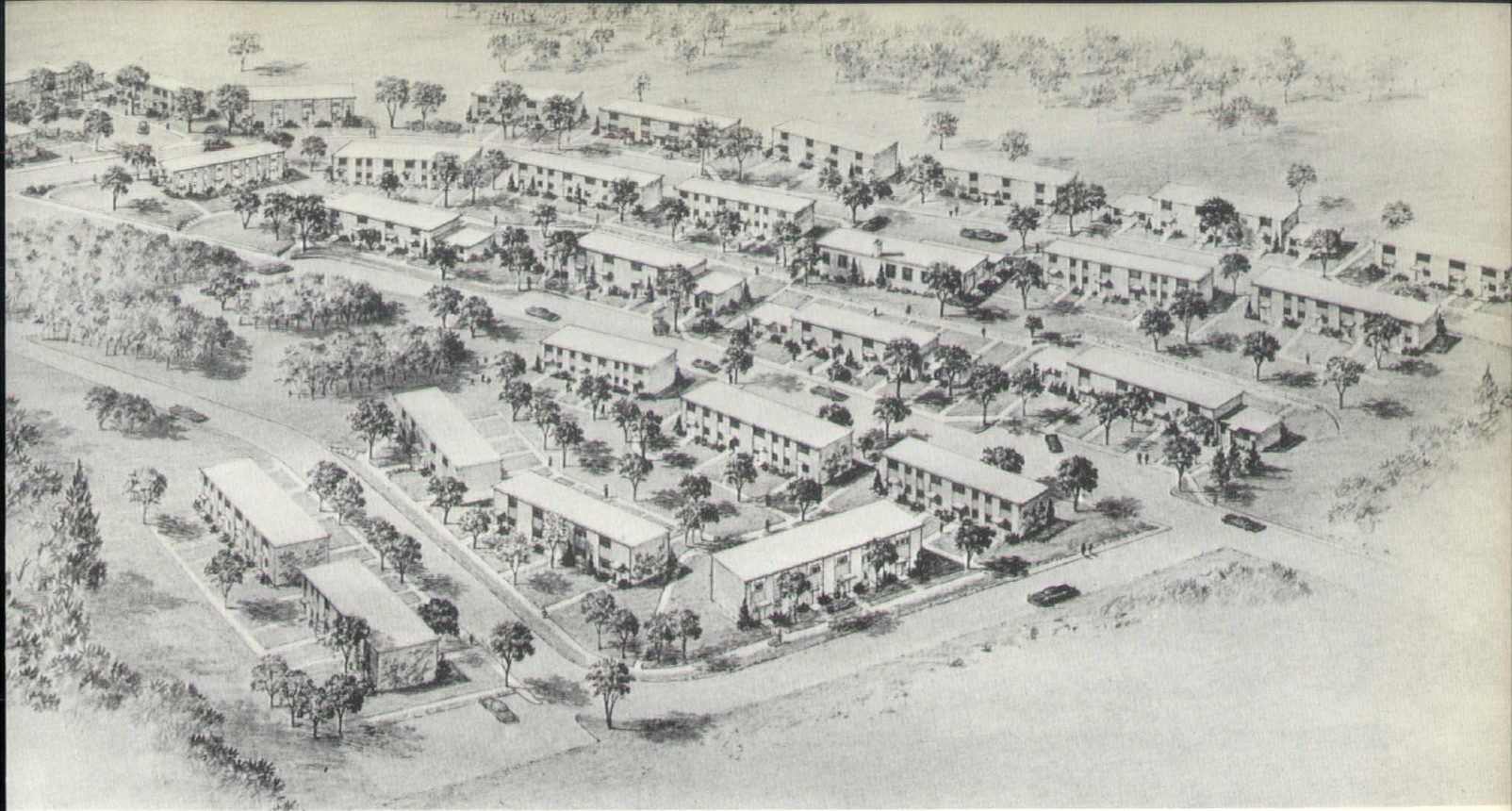
of Putnam's then Mayor John Dempsey and Housing Authority Chairman Robert W. Bulger, translated into a concrete design by Architect Arthur E. Thomas of Norwich, has been completely justified by time.

At the groundbreaking ceremony in May, 1958, the first shovels of earth were turned by Senator (then Governor) Abraham Ribicoff and Governor (then Mayor) John Dempsey. Connecticut's Governor Dempsey played an active part in the preliminary project work, as did Attorney William St. L. Onge, United States Congressman from the Putnam area who also provided much of the initial motivating force.

As common in such public works, State and Federal agency requirements and an extremely limited budget sharply circumscribed the scope of the architect's design efforts. For example, a proposal to incorporate post and beam con-

struction had to be dropped because one of the agencies involved was unfamiliar with this type of work and would not consider it. In the words of Architect Thomas, the project "can almost be considered a victory for the State and Federal agencies involved" rather than a special architectural achievement.

Despite these problems, very livable apartment housing was provided. It is well arranged in plan, comfortable and modern, and contains all essential facilities. The project consists of 28 buildings with four to six dwelling units in each building. Of the total 124 units, 12 are one-bedroom, 12 are four-bedroom, and there are 50 each of two-bedroom and three-bedroom units. Each unit has its own basement where many tenants have installed playrooms and workshops, and each has its own front and rear yard. In many instances, tenants



Artist's rendering prepared during planning stages of Hampshire Heights low-rental housing project.

have done extensive landscaping to improve their homes.

A central community facility houses the heating plant, mechanical equipment and services, a social hall and kitchen, and administrative offices of the Housing Authority.

All buildings are of brick veneer construction with built-up bonded flat roofs. The heating system is forced hot water with cast iron radiation and central temperature controls. Windows are double-hung aluminum. Buildings are two story duplex, with one-bedroom apartments forming one-story additions to some buildings.

The paved roads and walks connect to city streets, and are well lighted. Storm and sanitary sewer lines are also connected to the city system, and fire protection is provided. Within the project site, existing trees were retained in the landscaping wherever possible, and new

ones added sparingly. Playground areas and clothes drying yards are included in the plan.

Interior walls are plastered, and except for kitchens and bathrooms all floors are hardwood.

In a bare description of the physical elements of this low-rental apartment home complex, there is little to distinguish it from countless others across the land. It might, in fact, be classed as a typical public housing project with everyday functional design, built within a limited budget. But, there is a difference which is a credit to Putnam and to the people who make their homes at Hampshire Heights.

Today, the apartments have been occupied for five years. They contrast sharply with many other similar projects which have depreciated and regressed in the same number of years or less. The feelings of the tenants are manifested in many

ways unusual in this type of housing.

Flower gardens abound in season, and each plot is maintained in true "neighborhood" fashion — by the occupants, not by the housing authority. Many physical improvements have been lovingly made by the tenants at their own expense and labor.

In part, this happy result is due to the planning and thought given to placing the buildings on the site. Advantage was taken of the terrain, leaving it as natural as possible. Trees were incorporated in the landscaping program which took every advantage of the existing assets. The open areas give a feeling of roominess rather than man made stripped land. Although of the same design, each building seems to fit the environment and have individual character.

Equally, if not more important, is the attitude of the housing



While buildings adjoin each other closely on both sides of streets,



streets in turn are widely spaced, leaving adequate room to set off buildings,



with open areas for playgrounds,



and off-street parking.

authority and its chairman, Robert W. Bulger. Sometimes referred to as "Mr. Housing Authority," he has somehow managed to instill in the tenants of this particular low-rental project a pride of ownership and an appreciation of what they have in Hampshire Heights. It is unusual, if not unique.

Even the name has a particular flavor. Following the 1955 flood in Putnam, the State of New Hampshire offered aid in the form of temporary housing and financial assistance. The streets of Hampshire Heights are named after New Hampshire towns.

The buildings were constructed by H. U. Bail and Sons of South-

bridge, Massachusetts, whose low bid for the job was \$1,425,900.

The success of this development project which has appreciated in appearance and value over the years has encouraged the community to undertake another low-rental project which is now on the drawing boards. In addition, nearby is an apartment complex for elderly people, also designed by Arthur Thomas and sponsored by the Putnam Housing Authority.

"I am very proud of this low-income project. It is not an architectural gem because it was designed to meet a basic required specification. The limited budget meant we had to work within a

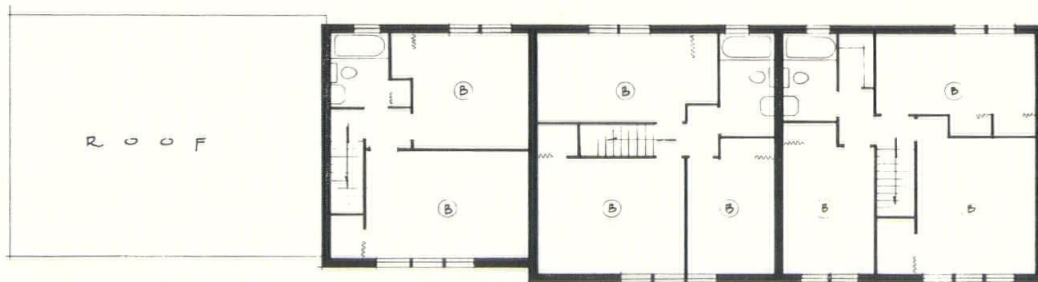
narrow design concept, closely administered by federal agency representatives. It is, however, sound practical architecture which will provide good, comfortable homes for its tenants for many years to come," Mr. Thomas said.

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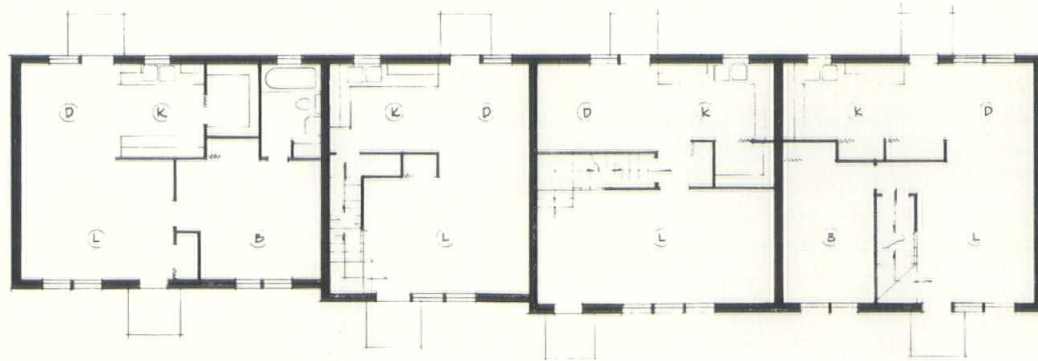
ARTHUR E. THOMAS graduated from Cooper Union School of Architecture and, after a number of years with other firms, opened his own practice in Norwich. He served as President of the Connecticut Society of Architects in 1963 and is a corporate member of Connecticut Chapter, A.I.A. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Thames River Valley Flood Control Commission, Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission, and the Redevelopment Agency of Norwich, and he is a former chairman of the Norwich Planning Commission.



Typical interior views.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

LEGEND

- (B) BED ROOM
- (D) DINING AREA
- (K) KITCHEN
- (L) LIVING AREA
- ① ONE-BED RM. UNIT
- ② TWO-BED RM. UNIT
- ③ THREE-BED RM. UNIT
- ④ FOUR-BED RM. UNIT

# THE TOWN BUILDS A LIBRARY

**PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
Orange, Connecticut

**EBEN B. WOOLLEY, ARCHITECT**

Volunteer is the word for the Orange Public Library. Professional is the word for its design. It was cited as recently as October 1964 in the *New Haven Register*, which stated:

“The bookshelved dwelling built with a ‘house-next-door’ philosophy, demonstrated the modern standards for town libraries when it was completed in 1961.”

The colonial style brick library faces the center Green in Orange. When it was designed by Eben B. Woolley, A.I.A., he was admonished to keep within an extremely modest budget of \$30,000. And he did.

His preliminary sketches were helpful in the town-wide campaign to raise building funds for the library. Volunteers pitched in and did even more than raise and give money. Mrs. Fred Smith, wife of the contractor who constructed the library building at cost, donated a drinking fountain when she learned that the slim budget did not allow for one. Others followed suit and contributed needed items of equipment.

The building is located next to the old Town Hall. It had to be in character with the surrounding structures, but not attempt to ape them. Colonial simplicity had to be combined with provision for maximum use of the small space to handle an annual circulation of over 60,000 books to some 3,000 library card holders.

Eben Woolley accepted this challenge and designed a building which devotes every inch of its interior to productive use, and still



Rendering used in fund raising campaign faithfully depicts completed building.

has charm. He designed a built-in motivational layout which subtly encourages action in an unhurried atmosphere. He had to create a building made to last, but to be constructed with stringent economy.

The building is 60 by 32 feet. The first floor has a ceiling height of just over ten feet, and the ceiling of the second floor is seven-feet-eight-inches. Roof pitch and exterior design and materials contribute to the colonial illusion despite the inherent tallness of the building. Window design and second floor dormers assist the visual height cutting technique.

The building is set back fifty feet from the sidewalk line, and a

semi-circular walk permits pedestrian traffic flow from two directions. A driveway alongside the building gives access to a parking area behind the library. The entire property is 115 by 300 feet. Provision is made for a future addition at the rear of the present building in an area between it and the parking lot.

The basement contains in one corner a fourteen-foot-square heater room reached by interior stairs. The balance of the basement area is a crawl space.

Immediately inside the entrance foyer on the first floor is the general reading room with a control desk located in front of the stack room. To the left is a section of the read-





Colonial simplicity combined with modern library standards.

ing room which can be closed off by a folding partition, and which contains magazines and periodicals and is used for meetings or lectures.

To the right is the children's library area which extends the full depth of the building and can be divided by a folding partition so two programs can be conducted simultaneously. The entire area is separated from the rest of the library by bookcase-sided walls.

Also on the first floor are lavatory facilities, and a janitor's closet equipped with a service sink.

The second floor is designed for a work room and a staff room, and to provide storage space.

The contemplated expansion is needed after only three years, and Mr. Woolley has been commissioned to plan the extension. It will follow the original design and extend to the rear with a width of 32 feet and a depth of approximately the same footage.

Landscaping for the library was

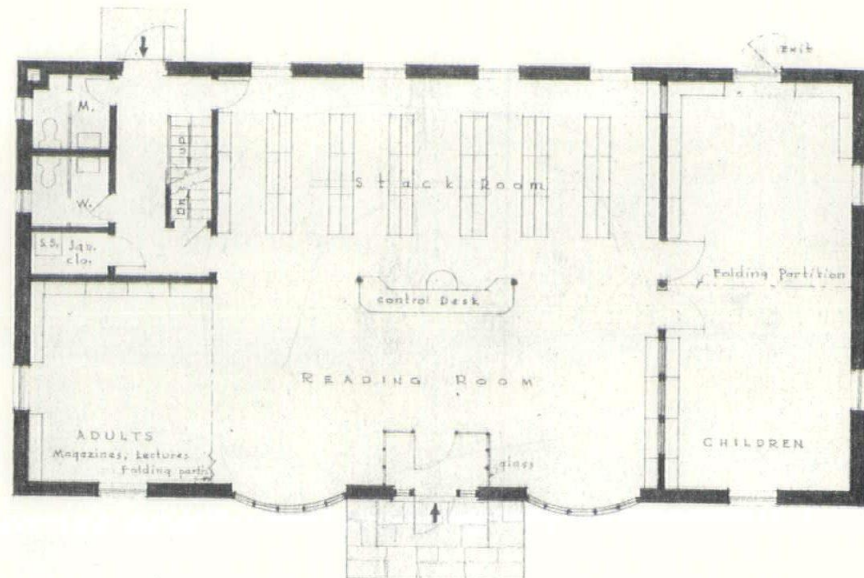
done by the Orange Garden Club whose members' efforts have been rewarded by several prizes for planting arrangements they conceived.

"The tremendous interest and enthusiasm by so many people in Orange was very contagious. It was a pleasant assignment to de-

sign this building for them and for all the people in the community. It was a stimulating experience to see how everyone dug in and worked together to build their library," Mr. Woolley said.

The completed building has in its cornerstone a copy of the folder

*(Please turn to page 36)*



FLOOR PLAN

## Church House

(Continued from page 20)

General contractor and builder of the Church House and Chapel Building was George C. Field Company of Madison, whose president, Herbert T. Clark, had this to say: "The construction of the Parish House was the most thrilling operation ever performed by our company. The exactness of detail designed by the architect has made the building one of real beauty, and a fine example of Greek architecture, the like of which is rarely found anywhere today."

Sidney Evarts of Madison performed the electrical work, and C. S. Anderson handled the plumbing and heating installations. General millwork was supplied by The C. H. Dresser Company, Hartford; structural steel by The Berlin Steel Construction Company, Berlin;

composition floors by Walter Doyle, Guilford; acoustical ceilings by Connecticut Acoustics, West Hartford; building materials by The Tuxis Lumber Company, Madison; and pews by The Winebarger Company, Lynchburg, Virginia.

Katharine M. Stevenson, landscape architect, worked with Mr. Knox. "A very essential part of this landscape planning of the grounds was to provide utilitarian areas for out-of-door gatherings, circulation, approaches and parking of automobiles, and at the same time to keep these areas as attractive as possible," she said.

The landscape planting was done by Grove Gardens, Clinton.

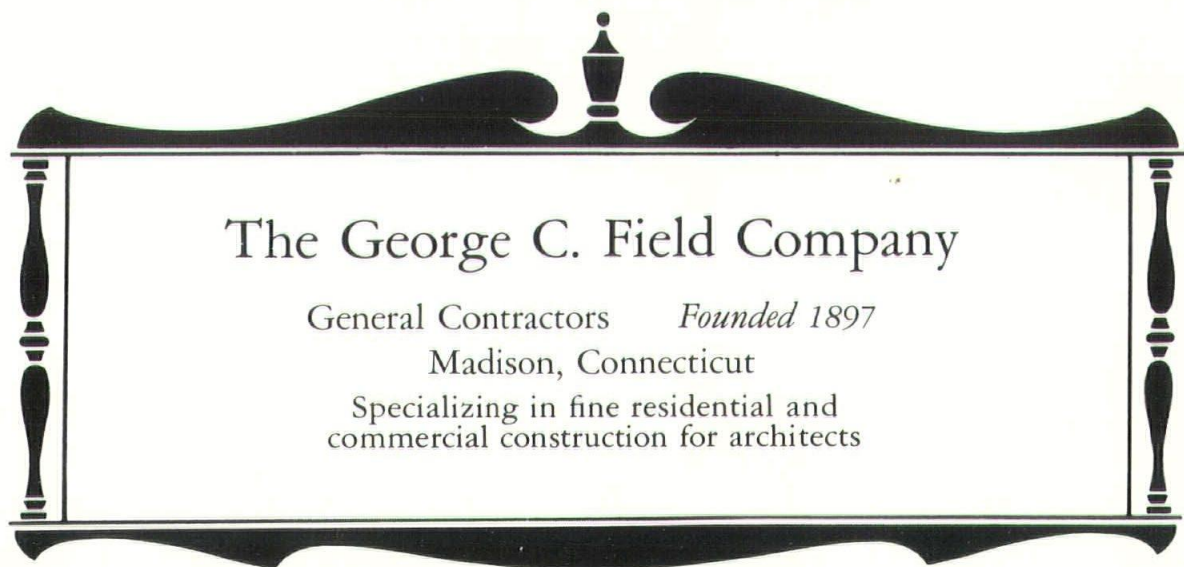
The resulting structure and environment, despite a few early qualms by some Madison residents, presents an integrated and attractive setting. It fits the traditional character of the Madison Green and

presents a unified religious atmosphere which is a pleasure to church members and a credit to the community.

Ample parking facilities have been provided, and these are accessible from two streets. These facilities are located conveniently for access to both the old Meeting House and the new Church House.

After only a few short months, the building presents a feeling that it has always been there, and that it "belongs."

MALCOLM ROBINSON KNOX graduated from Pratt Institute's School of Fine and Applied Arts. After obtaining his registration, he worked with several Connecticut firms, until 1945 when he opened his own office in Hartford. In recent years he has spent the greater proportion of his time in the restoration, renovation and expansion of church buildings. In addition to serving as president of the Connecticut Society of Architects (1960-61), he is a past president of the Hartford Society of Architects and a corporate member of Connecticut Chapter of A.I.A.



# CSA OFFICERS FOR 1965

The Connecticut Society of Architects elected officers and adopted revised by-laws at its annual meeting November 19, at the Yankee Silversmith Inn, Wallingford. Ralph T. Rowland of Hamden was elected president; Cyril K. Smith, Jr., of Northford, first vice president; Richard L. Howland of West Hartford, second vice president; and Carrell S. McNulty of Stamford, secretary. Norman L. Raymond of Stamford was re-elected to a third term as treasurer.

Elected to the Society's Executive Committee were Alton J. Hawley of Bridgeport, Harry M. White of Hartford, David Crego of Fairfield, Edward E. Cherry of New Haven, and Louis Fucito of Waterbury. Under the new by-laws, the immediate past president, Andrew S. Cohen of Waterbury, is a member of the Executive Committee.

The Society's new president, Ralph T. Rowland, is a partner in the firm of Rowland and Griswold, Architects, of Hamden, and has previously served as secretary and vice president of the CSA. Educated at Manhattan College and Columbia University, Mr. Rowland served with the U.S. Navy Seabees in the Southwest Pacific in World War II. He is a registered architect in Connecticut and New York, a member of the American Institute of Architects, past president of the Hamden Chamber of Commerce, past president of the 78th Seabees Association, and treasurer of the Cheshire Democratic Town Committee. Mr. and Mrs. Rowland, the former Bernice Cannizzo, and their four children reside at 201 North Rolling Acres Road in Cheshire. They are members of St. Bridget's Church. Mrs.

Rowland is a past president of the Women's Guild of the Connecticut Society of Architects.

First vice president Cyril K. Smith, Jr., is a practicing architect in Branford, and has previously served as vice president and acting president of the Society. A native of Hartford, Mr. Smith is a graduate of Yale University (1949) and is chairman of the North Branford Planning Commission. He served with the Army Air Corps in World War II, is a member of St. Monica's Church, Northford, and is married to the former Shirley Blake. Mr. and Mrs. Smith reside at Mountain View Terrace in Northford. They are the parents of three daughters.

Richard L. Howland, the Society's second vice president, is a registered architect in Connecticut

*(Please turn to page 37)*



Newly-elected officers and Executive Committee members of the Women's Guild of the Connecticut Society of Architects at Annual Installation Dinner-Dance at the Carriage Drive Restaurant in Hamden on December 5th. Left to right: Mrs. C. Robert Stork, Easton, Executive Committee Member; Mrs. Joseph J. Slovak, Shelton, Executive Committee Member; Mrs. Cyril J. Smith, Jr., Northford, Executive Committee Member; Mrs. Alton J. Hawley, Trumbull, Executive Committee Member and Installing Officer; Mrs. George C. Holm, Easton, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Norman L. Raymond, Stamford, President; Mrs. Ralph T. Rowland, Cheshire, Executive Committee Member and outgoing President; Mrs. Andrew S. Cohen, Middlebury, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Gordon B. Griswold, Stratford, Vice President; Mrs. Robert W. Osteyee, Bridgeport, Executive Committee Member; Mrs. Louis R. Fucito, Waterbury, Executive Committee Member. Mrs. Peter P. Petrofsky, Trumbull, Executive Committee Member, was not present for the photograph.

1965 officers and Executive Committee members of the Connecticut Society of Architects at the Society's Annual Installation Dinner-Dance at the Carriage Drive Restaurant in Hamden December 5th.

Left to right: Cyril J. Smith, Jr., First Vice President; Alton J. Hawley, Executive Committee Member; Louis R. Fucito, Executive Committee Member; Norman L. Raymond, Treasurer; Andrew S. Cohen, Executive Committee Member and outgoing President; Ralph T. Rowland, Hamden, President; Edward E. Cherry, New Haven, Executive Committee Member. Richard L. Howland, Second Vice President and Carrell S. McNulty, Jr., Secretary, were not present for the photograph.



## Rowland Challenge

(Continued from page 17)

sores are being removed and in some cases the new buildings or complexes which replace them are pleasing additions to the cityscape. Elsewhere, it seems, well-designed old buildings are removed in favor of new mediocrity," he explained.

### Roadside Jungles

"Much as we may enthuse over a well-designed new individual building or group of related buildings, we must be aware of the hundreds of unsightly structures added every month to detract more and more from the natural beauty of our state. Our roadsides have become jungles of garish flashing electric signs, pennant-bedecked enameled filling stations, and short order restaurants apparently intended (for some reason I have never understood) to resemble railroad cars that never leave their sidings.

"The business centers of our towns and many cities are a hodge-podge of glass fronts fastened to old houses, front-yard parking lots, and cheap looking shacks with gaudy signs in every window. Our beautiful countryside is fast disappearing, to be replaced with hundreds of preposterous structures, which publicly insult the taste of would-be inhabitants with weird combinations of every building material imaginable, sold under the something-for-everybody title of 'contemporary raised split colonial ranches,'" according to Mr. Rowland.

### Survival Struggle

Mr. Rowland continued: "The architectural profession is today engaged in a quiet but deadly struggle for its very survival. There are no great battles in this struggle, no decisive defeats or victories, and there is not even a distinct foe. The enemy, such as it is, cannot

be directly engaged in battle, for it is a negative force. Our principal opponent is a public apathy which approaches utter unconcern.

"What's to be done? We may continue realizing a degree of individual success, staving off legal challenges to our profession from time to time, occasionally complimenting each other on the quality of our individual buildings, but bequeathing the problem of ultimate survival to future generations of architects.

"Or, we can decide that the influence of our profession has declined far enough. We can decide that man owes it to himself to learn just how fine his environment can be — and we can resolve to teach him. We can decide that the old idea that 'too many architects are a threat to livelihood' is utter nonsense, and do everything possible to encourage young people to enter this profession, so someday architects will number more than a tiny one-five-thousandth part of our population. We can decide to help each other and help our profession, in every possible way, to teach our fellow-citizens just what good building and better environment can mean to them every day.

"We can try to get to know each other better, and urge other architects to take part in our effort. We can decide to stop all-too-constant criticism of each others' supposed transgressions, and encourage each other to higher ethical standards by our example, persuasion and understanding," he emphasized.

## Orange Library

(Continued from page 33)

containing the architect's original rendering of the building, used in the fund raising campaign. It also contains a complete list of everyone who contributed and made the building possible.

"I've designed more impressive and more complex buildings, but I have a very special feeling about the Orange Library. It will always be a favorite of mine not just because of what it is, but also what it represents in community spirit," according to Architect Woolley.

EBEN B. WOOLLEY, A.I.A., has his architecture office in Milford. He attended Pratt Institute and the Yale University Graduate School of Architecture. He was president of the Connecticut Society of Architects in 1958.

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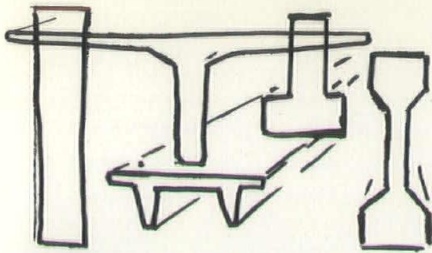
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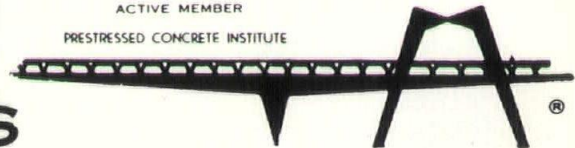
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### CSA Officers

(Continued from page 35)

and New York, and is architect of the School Construction Economy Service, Connecticut State Department of Education. A graduate of Syracuse University (1937), Mr. Howland is a former member of the national public relations committee of the American Institute of Architects, member of the second-prize winning team in the recent National School Fallout Shelter Design Competition (Region 1), author of the "School Building Economy Series" booklets, co-author of "Connecticut School Building Guide", and author of the school building section of the State Fire Safety Code.

Mr. Howland is president of the Hartford Society of Architects and member of the American Institute of Architects, the National Council on Schoolhouse Construction, Northeast Council on Schoolhouse

Construction, and the Connecticut Valley Torch Club. A resident of 25 Foxcroft Road, West Hartford, he is a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Church and is married to the former Gertrude A. Glass. Mr. and Mrs. Howland are the parents of four children.

CSA Secretary Carrell S. McNulty, Jr., is a partner in the firm of Sherwood, Mills and Smith, Architects, of Stamford. Educated at Emory University and University of North Carolina, Mr. McNulty holds Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Science and Urban Planning degrees from Columbia University. A registered architect in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, he is also a member of the Southwestern Regional Planning Agency and is chairman of the membership committee of the Connecticut Chapter, AIA. Mr. McNulty served with the U. S. Navy in the Asiatic theater in World War II. He is a member of the Norfield Congregational Church, Weston, and is married to the former Bar-

bara Brokaw. Mr. and Mrs. McNulty, their son Peter and daughter Susan reside in Weston.

Norman L. Raymond, treasurer of the CSA, is a practicing architect with offices at 615 Main Street, Stamford. Mr. Raymond is a member of the American Institute of

(Please turn to page 38)

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RESOLUTION

Whereas, all members of the Connecticut Society of Architects have been saddened by the sudden and untimely death on September 25, 1964, of the Society's Secretary,

C. ROBERT STORK

and Whereas, the Connecticut Society of Architects wishes to express formally its gratitude for the many and faithful services rendered to the Society by its late Secretary, and wishes to express formally to his family the deep sympathy of all members of the Society,

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Society's expression of gratitude and sympathy be recorded in the minutes of the Society, and a copy of this resolution, suitably inscribed, presented to his family.

CSA Officers

(Continued from page 37)

Architects and is active in the work of the Boy Scouts and civic groups in the Stamford area. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond reside at 36 Crestwood Drive, Stamford.

Andrew S. Cohen, Executive Committee Member, has been president of the Society for the past year and was previously treasurer and vice president. A practicing architect in Waterbury, Mr. Cohen is also a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel, and the Board of Control of the Exchange Club of Waterbury. A graduate of Yale University (1953), Mr. Cohen is married to the former Belle Grogins and resides on Westwood Drive in Middlebury. Mr. and Mrs. Cohen have a son and two daughters.

Executive Committee Member Alton J. Hawley is a vice president of Fletcher-Thompson, Inc., Architects and Engineers, of Bridgeport. Recognized as an authority on reinforced concrete construction, Mr. Hawley has lectured widely on this subject throughout the northeast and has been responsible for the innovation of many new techniques in concrete building construction in this region. Mr. and Mrs. Hawley are residents of 15 Candlewood Road in Trumbull.

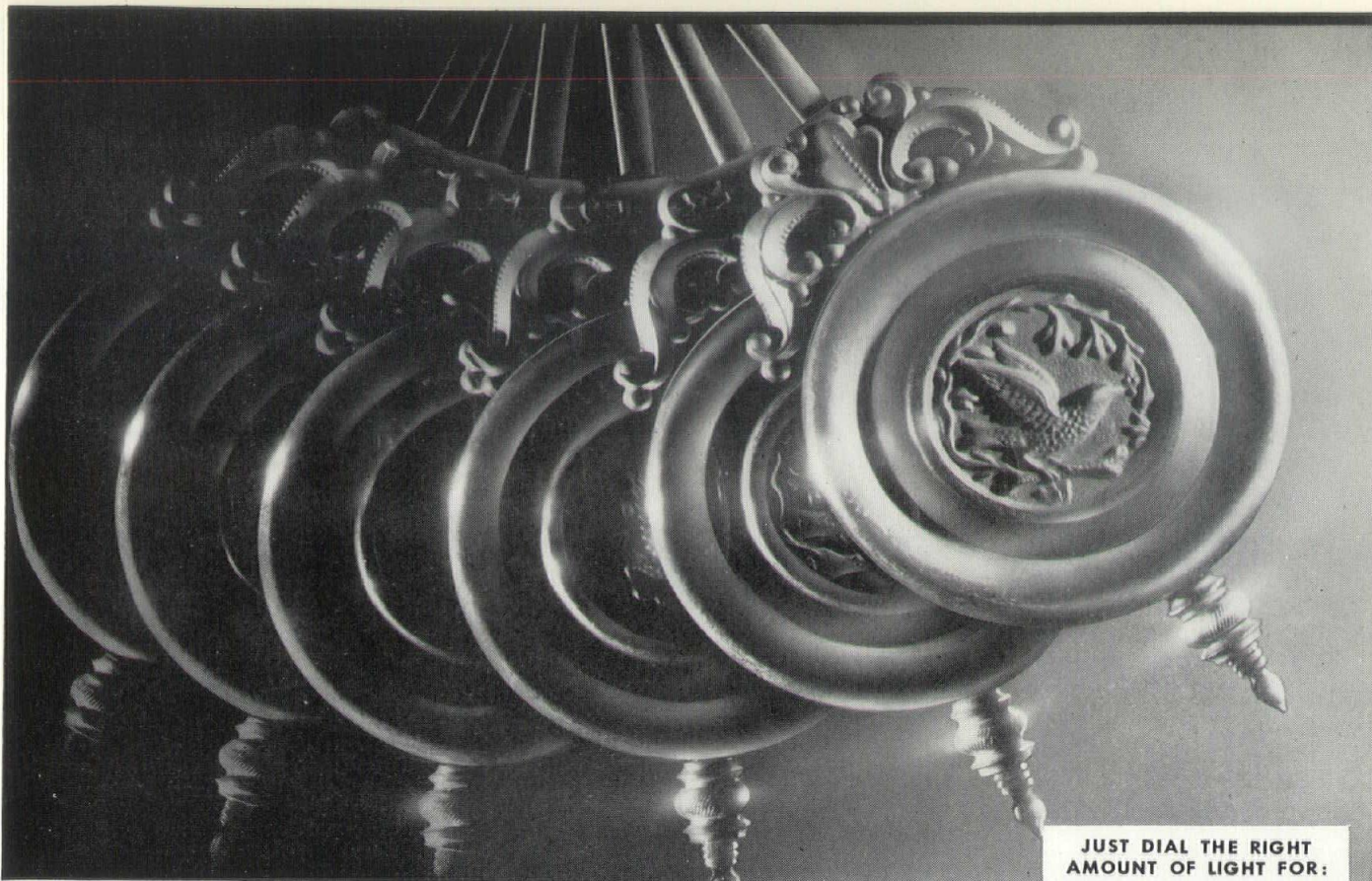
Harvey M. White, executive committee member, is a partner in the firm of Kane and Fairchild Associates, Architects, of Hartford. A graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology (1955), Mr. White is married to the former Joan Michelson. He is a member of the Carnegie Alumni Council, and is a former Chairman of the CSA's

Contracts Committee. Mr. and Mrs. White and their daughter and son live at 73 Avondale Road, West Hartford.

Executive Committee Member David Crego is a practicing architect in Fairfield. A 1954 graduate of Yale University, he is a resident of 130 Brookview Avenue, Fairfield.

Edward E. Cherry, executive committee member, is a practicing architect in New Haven and is a former chairman of the Society's Program Committee. Mr. and Mrs. Cherry reside at 18 Read Street in New Haven.

Executive Committee Member Louis R. Fucito is a practicing architect in Waterbury and has served as architect for many of the school buildings in the Waterbury Area. He and Mrs. Fucito reside at 37 Hillside Avenue, Waterbury.



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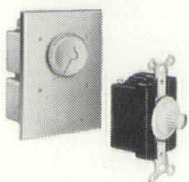
THE TIME OF DAY



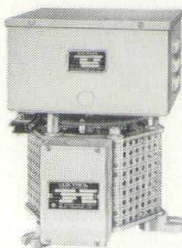
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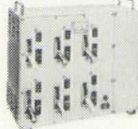
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TYPES FOR  
MOUNTING IN A WALL



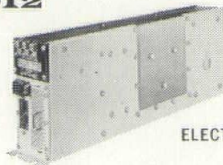
MANUAL AND MOTORIZED



PACKAGED TYPES



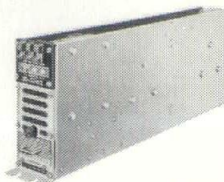
INTERLOCKING TYPES

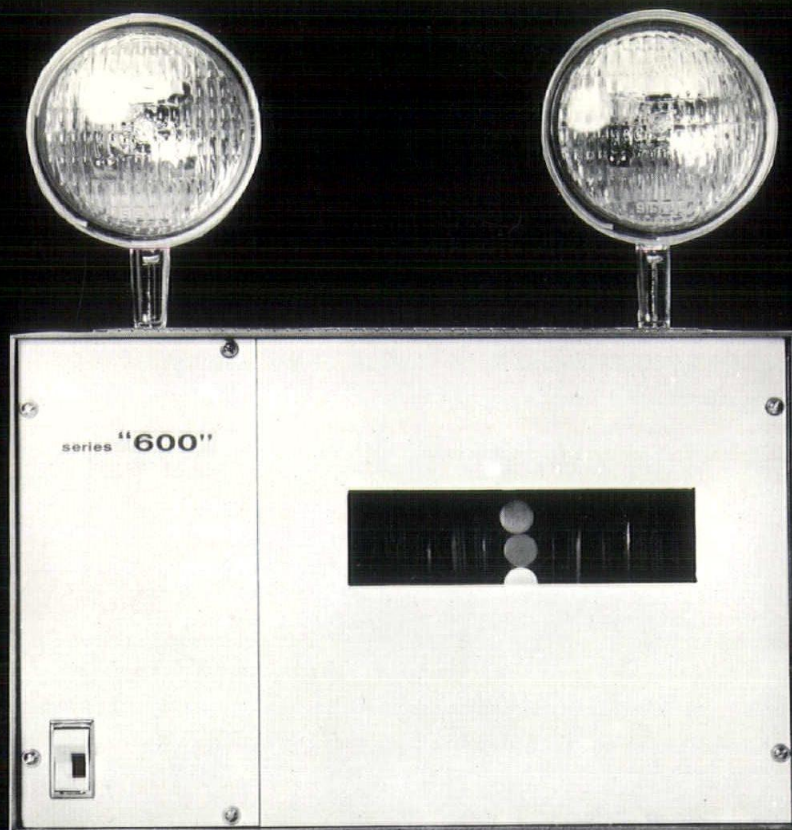


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