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SKYLINES



DECEMBER
1955

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SKYLINES

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Chapter of The American Institute of
Architects.

EDITOR

Betty Mae Brooker
18 East Eleventh Street
Kansas City 6, Missouri

Skylines

Volume Five, Number Ten

December 1955

1955 will soon be a memory . . . but before then, the members of the Chapter still have a couple of things to do.

First on the docket is the December Chapter Meeting. Election time is here, and everyone eligible to vote should get to the meeting and have their say. A quorum is essential; therefore, your presence is essential. Tuesday, December 13, is the time, and The Advertising & Sales Executives Club, 913 Baltimore, is the place. Be sure to be there.

Second, for those of you who have sent for and received formal invitations, the Producers' Council Christmas Party, December 19, at the Town House Hotel. **DON'T FORGET TO TAKE YOUR FORMAL INVITATION. YOU CAN NOT BE ADMITTED WITHOUT IT.**

Remember

December 13—December Chapter Meeting
Election of Officers
Program on Public Relations

December 19—Producers' Council Christmas
Party

and coming in 1956

January 17—January Chapter Meeting
Formal Installation of Chapter
Officers

From Your Public Relations Committee . . .

The Modernfold Company has asked our co-operation in an advertising and publicity effort which is to be presented at intervals on a local level in this area. The ad, which they will have printed in The Kansas City Star, contains no commercial and will be a tribute to Architects in general similar to ads by Minneapolis-Honeywell on a national level.

Our part in this is to furnish them with photographs of building which will be used in the ad with the necessary credit lines. The photographs need not tie in with Modernfold doors, but simply should be examples of contemporary work by local Architects.

This program has been approved by the Executive Committee of the Kansas City Chapter and passed on to the Public Relations Committee to execute.

Please send photographs to Bob Earnheart, Chairman, Public Relations Committee. This program is re-occurring; photos not used the first time probably will be used at a later date.

From Jefferson City . . .

The following regulation was recently adopted by the State Board of Registration for Architects and Professional Engineers.

REGULATION. If any registered architect or registered professional engineer shall release for the purpose of receiving bids and awarding contracts for construction any plans and specifications requiring the approval of the Division of Health, the Department of Education, or other agencies of government, State or local, without such approval, or, shall authorize the beginning of any construction, as described by the plans and specifications which are required to be approved by the Division of Health, the Department of Education, or other agencies of government, State or local, without such approval, he shall be cited to appear before the Board and show cause why his registration should not be suspended or revoked.

Comment on Fort Osage . . .

From Earl H. Reed, F.A.I.A., Chairman, A.I.A. Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings, upon receipt of an illustrated pamphlet on Fort Osage, Missouri, wrote: "I found it so interesting that I am sure the committee will support me in offering heartiest congratulations to Jackson Court authorities, the Native Sons, Inc., James Anderson, George Fuller Green, the architect—and to all others having to do with this fine restoration project . . ."

November Chapter Meeting Sheffield Style

A few weeks ago, on a television quiz program, a young marine won a couple of dollars or so by describing and giving the origin of many viands relished by gourmets. Recently Sheffield Steel Corporation displayed an array of food that might have stumped even the captain.

It was Tuesday, November 15, in the Walnut Room of the Hotel President. The room was alive with Kansas City A.I.A. members attending their regular monthly chapter meeting. The day and the time were the usual day and time, but little else about this meeting was usual.

On this particular November 15, nearly a hundred architects were wine and dined in a manner that would have brought sighs of envy from many a connoisseur. After dinner, members of the Chapter honored Mr. Frederick C. Gunn. Letters of congratulations and gratitude from clients and the Chapter for his contribution to architecture in Kansas City during the past fifty-five years were read.

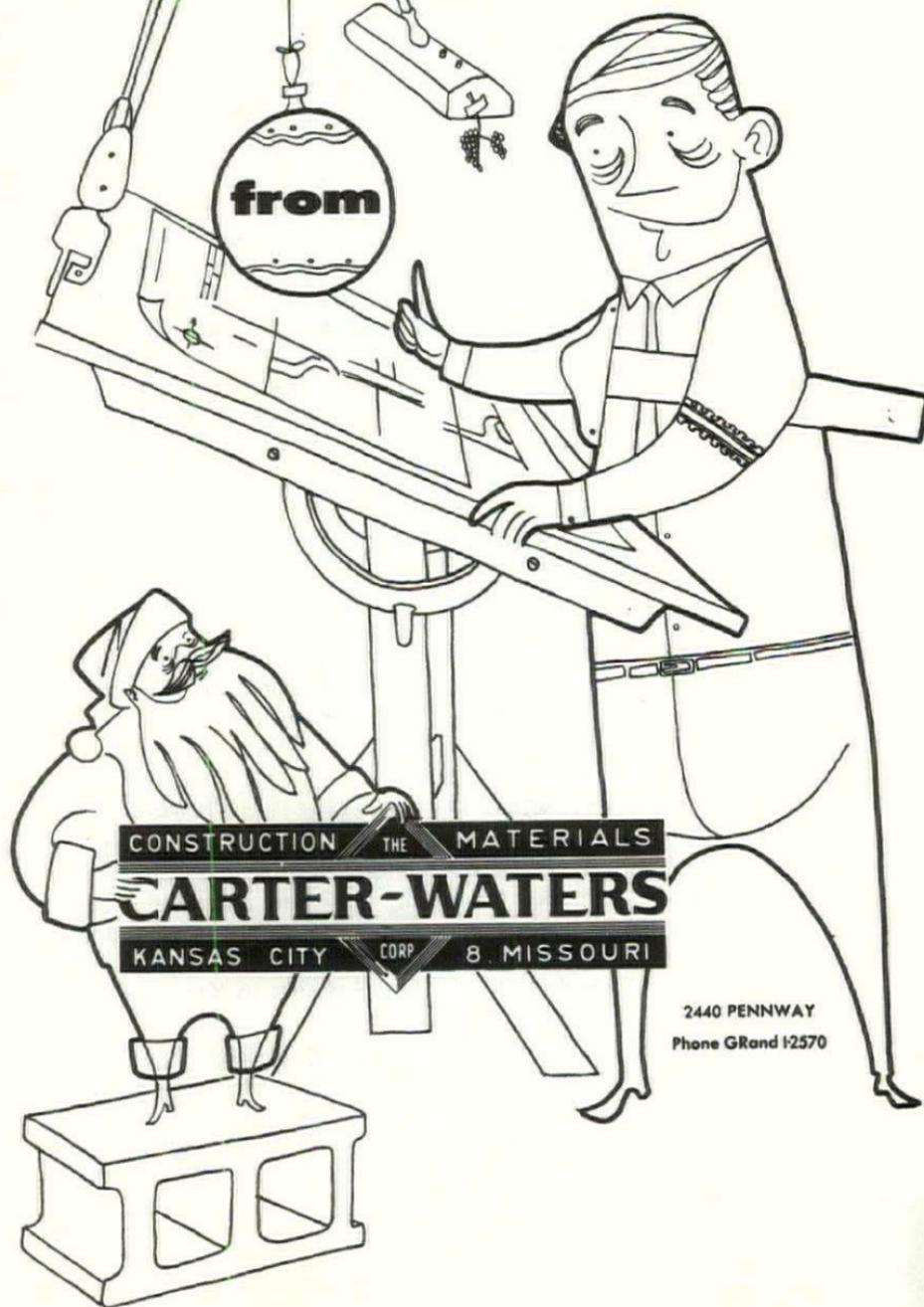
And, the unusual evening did not end there. The members boarded busses and soon were on their way to the Sheffield plant, where they were escorted on a very interesting two-hour tour through the various parts of the plant. After the tour, they again boarded busses and were returned to the hotel.

Although the distaff members of the Chapter could not tour the plant, they had an equally interesting time. They toured the offices and, then, saw a movie, "More Precious Than Gold", which was filmed in the Sheffield plants in Kansas City and Houston.

Thirty or more people of the Sheffield organization were on hand to see that the architects were entertained, and King Winter moving in with his sleet and snow could not make them lose sight of their goal.

To you, Sheffield, from all the architects . . .
Thank You!

SEASON'S GREETINGS



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REPORT

FIRST ANNUAL

STUDENT FORUM PROGRAM

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOVEMBER 21-22, 1955

by I. L. ROARK, Jr., A.I.A., Member, Chapter Affairs Comm.

A real milestone in the history of The Institute occurred November 21-22 at the Octagon in Washington. For the first time a gathering of students representing sixty-one Schools of Architecture was assembled. Probably no better statements can be made than excerpts from "A Greeting" by our President, Mr. George Bain Cummings, as follows:

"The American Institute of Architects, organized nearly a century ago to serve society and the profession of architecture, is remiss in its responsibility until it has entered into communion with the students who, in the course of time, will become The Institute.

"This Forum, representing the student bodies of sixty-one schools of architecture in the United States, as well as The A.I.A., through its Committees and Staff members charged with the functions appropriate to the occasion, is the first organized effort to effect this communion. As such it promises to be historic."

and the "Foreword" of the meeting, as follows:

"The Institute welcomes to The Octagon representative students from all of the architectural schools of the nation, gathered in this Capital City for a two-day deliberation on problems of mutual interest. Much can be done—and should be done—to develop techniques of service in a broad pattern from which will result benefits of permanent value to the profession.

"We cannot expect to arrive at all of the solutions nor can we work out all of the necessary details in this short period. The significant fact is that we are all here to initiate a new movement in architectural organization in this country. Optimum results can be achieved only by frank expressions of opinion. The Institute is

earnestly seeking to learn the viewpoints and suggestions which originate in the collegiate halls and influenced by these, to extend its professional service, within budget limitations, to assist in better equipping the future practitioners of the country to prepare themselves for the always difficult transition from neophyte to seasoned architect.

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"The aim is not entirely unselfish, for by helping the student, The Institute strengthens itself. In so doing it places the profession in a stronger position to discharge its ever-increasing obligation to society."

The two days of the meeting were probably the most stimulating experience of its kind that any Corporate member present has ever been a part of. The greetings and challenge were given by the following:

Executive Director—Edmund Purves, F.A.I.A.

Director of Education—Walter Taylor, A.I.A.

Director of Chapter Affairs—Arthur Holmes, A.I.A.

Director of Professional Relations—Edwin B. Morris, Jr., A.I.A.

Chairman of the Committee on Education—James Hunter, A.I.A.

Chairman of the Chapter Affairs Committee—Beryl Price, A.I.A.

Following this, the meetings were turned over to the students with all members of The Institute removed from the room. During these periods they organized themselves, compared notes concerning common problems, and in the end came forward with a twenty-five point program of action. Some of these they felt fell within their province and could be handled at Student Chapter level. Many others they considered would have to be joint effort of the Student and Senior Chapters; and some, of the Senior Chapters alone.

Our Education Committee presented at this Forum the first bound draft of the "Log Book" project which has been under work for some time. The Students were asked to return to their respective schools and study the format and issue comments. All Chapter Presidents of The Institute will shortly receive the same for Chapter comments. It was announced that a pilot effort is being started in four states. The Log Book is for graduates during their 3 to 5-year experience period toward registration and/or practice.

The students brought forth one of their pressing problems, that of communication between the Chapters. A paper has been attempted with limited success but with financial problems. They asked that The Institute find some way to assist in this matter. The format would be entirely student effort, both editorial and pictorial.

The problem of Student Chapter-Senior Chapter relations is a varying one. Many schools have no contact at all; others are quite active. In our region, St. Louis and Washington University probably have the most active, followed closely by the Kansas and Kansas City Chapters with K.U. and K-State. The others are not as active. The significant thing is, however, that none of these chapters have even scratched the surface if the full job of Architectural Education and professional continuity is to be achieved.

The session was not all business, however, as the students were given short talks. The first was by Nat Owings, of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. He talked as the individual professional at a shoulder-to-shoulder level with the students. A really inspirational talk, it is indeed unfortunate that a transcription was not made. The second talk was by Hugh Stubbins, Jr., who discussed their work on the Berlin Exposition Building. This, of course, proved very interesting since it was covered by use of a model as well as colored slides of the model used during the talk.

Monday evening a smoker was held for the students, staff and the two committees in the Octagon "Kitchen". For those of you who have not been to the Octagon and for those (including myself) who had never been over the entire property, this was a new experience. The Kitchen of the old Batchelor house was in the basement and had a brick floor and open hearth cooking fireplace. The Octagon staff and employees have transformed this area into a sort of keeping room-lounge room group and the result is quite charming. It was at this assembly that the students were able to get acquainted and share their common experiences and point up some of the problems confronting them. Before the evening was over, they were back in the Octagon offices organizing themselves for their Tuesday sessions.

As a result of the Tuesday business session, they organized by dividing the country into six regions. A chairman, secretary and a representative from each of the six regions was designated as a Board. The region which embraces the Central States District is somewhat expanded in that it also includes Illinois University and North Dakota Agricultural College. James Schlueter, a student at Iowa State College, is the student board representative from the region described.

I had a short meeting with the students from our region at the end of the Forum. They were interested in exchange exhibits of student work between the schools of our region and took this on as a project to work on. They were all vitally interested in field trips that could be sponsored by their nearby Institute Chapters. Field trips, as they described them, might be to completed projects, buildings under construction or to offices of various sizes. I would hope that the chapters in our region could work with these student chapters to make these field trips possible. They pointed out that many of the students in the Schools of Architecture had no real picture of "the Offices of—"; surely this interest on their part should receive our attention.

The final afternoon, the Washington Metropolitan Chapter treated the students to a conducted bus tour of the points of interest in Washington, D. C. The Chapter Affairs Committee and the Committee on Education went back into session and delved at some length on the problems confronting the work of each. The one most pressing probably could be summarized as "Operation Pipeline". How can this work, such as the Education Committee is doing at ivory tower level, be filtered down effectively through The Institute and, now, even into the Student Chapters. One thing seems certain, and that is that the Chapter Committees on Education have a real task ahead, and they must be manned by the very best our Chapters have to offer. The Chapter Affairs Committee has the strong feeling that many chapter committees should be set up on a three-year membership basis with Chairmen rotating each year.

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A.I.A. REMOVES RESTRICTIONS AGAINST USE OF ARCHITECTS' PORTRAITS IN ADVERTISING

Members of the American Institute of Architects now have the permission of their national organization to comply with requests of manufacturers who wish to use portraits of architects in their advertising.

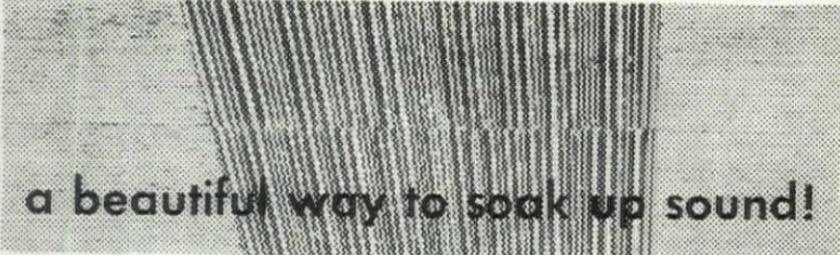
As a result of action taken at the A.I.A. national convention in Minneapolis, the Institute will permit the use of members' portraits in advertising by manufacturers, institutions and commercial firms, so long as that advertising is in good taste and works toward the advancement of the profession of architecture. The resolution passed by the A.I.A. Convention states:

"RESOLVED, That the use of the portrait of an architect in connection with advertising material published by factors of the building industry will be permitted, provided the manner of its use is dignified, neither exaggerated nor misleading, and will be of benefit to the profession or the Institute and that it is not accompanied by any statement by the architect which could be construed as an endorsement of a product or use, and provided the proposed use has been submitted to the Public Relations Committee and has been approved by it prior to its use."

Requests for permission to use portraits in large-scale national advertising programs will first be channeled through the Octagon, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., national A.I.A. headquarters.

Use of architects' portraits in advertising by local concerns will be approved by the A.I.A. Chapter in the area involved.

Chairman of the A.I.A. Public Relations Committee is John Wellborn Root, F.A.I.A., of Chicago. Public relations counsel is Ketchum, Inc., of Pittsburgh, with Anson Campbell serving as account executive. The account is supervised by Walter Megronigle, manager of the Public Relations Division of Ketchum, Inc.



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Election and



1. C. Herrick Hammond

2. J. Monroe Hewlitt

The Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Architects, Kansas City Chapter, was held at the Bellerive Hotel, February 26th, 1930, 4:30 P.M. with the following members present:

E. W. Tanner, A. Kriehn, R. L. Voskamp, G. R. Eckel, H. V. Pennington, E. J. Corman, Thos. Larrick, H. D. Pampel, E. W. Horttor, A. H. Buckley, C. Van Brunt, M. H. Linscott, C. Kivett, F. P. MacArthur, W. S. Aldrich, A. D. James, S. E. Edwards, H. C. Smith, T. J. Mathews, O. D. Lantz, S. W. Bihr, A. S. Owen, J. H. Felt, H. S. Bill, E. W. Allen, L. G. Feil, E. B. Delk, S. Kurfiss, H. H. Dunham.

Guests: C. Herrick Hammond, of Chicago, President, American Institute of Architects; J. Monroe Hewlitt, of New York, Vice-President, American Institute of Architects; Louis LeBaume, of St. Louis, Regional Director

Honor Awards—1930



3. Edward W. Tanner

4. J. C. Nichols

Mr. Tanner made the Annual Report, bringing to mind the work done by the Chapter during the past year, stressing the cooperation of the Chapter, the Officers, and the Executive Committee, regarding all matters coming before the organization during the past year. Mr. Tanner mentioned, as one of the outstanding accomplishments, the meeting at which the Chapter joined with the Real Estate Board at luncheon, when under the auspices of the Chapter, the film "The City of Washington" was shown; and another, the establishment of the system of Honor Awards, whereby architectural work of outstanding merit will be recognized.

The Annual Report of the Secretary was read and ordered spread upon the minutes as follows:

Number of Institute Members	37
Dropped for non-payment of dues	2
Resigned	1
Transferred	1
Elected to Membership	2
Number of Associateship Members	15
Elected to Membership	7
Deceased	1
Number of Honorary Members (Associate)	9
Elected to Membership	1
Deceased	1

Mr. Buckley reported on the work of the joint committee of the Chapter and the League in connection with the Chamber of Commerce and the Builders Association.

Mr. Van Brunt, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, read his report, bringing to the attention of the Chapter the work that had been done by the committee in regard to obtaining further space in the Kansas City Star, giving publicity to articles bearing directly upon the Architectural Profession.

Mr. Tanner stated that we would be favored at our next meeting with a talk and descriptive lantern slides on recent work done by archeologists in the Old World.

Nominations of officers for the ensuing year as recommended by the Nominating Committee were read by the secretary. The president asked for nominations from the floor; there being none, Mr. Henry C. Smith moved that the rules be suspended and that the secretary cast the vote for the Chapter for the officers nominated as follows: Edward W. Tanner, President; Arthur H. Buckley, Vice-President; H. H. Dunham, Secretary; S. W. Bihl, Treasurer; R. L. Voskamp, Member of Executive Committee to serve three years. Motion seconded by Mr. Felt, put to vote and carried.

Mr. Louis LeBaume spoke on several matters of general interest to the Chapters in this district, having just returned from a visit to the Chapters with Messrs. Hammond and Hewlett.

The business meeting was then adjourned.

In addition to the members and guests above recorded, the following guests were present for the dinner and Honor Award Ceremony: R. A. Holland, Merle Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Mindlin, Mr. and Mrs. Rivard, Mr. Slaughter, Rev. Stark, Mr. Hargraves, Alfred Hertz, Mr. Gloyd, J. C. Nichols, Mr. Schumacher, Samuel Greenebaum, Mr. Hoener, Harry Wagner, Mr. Moore, Mr. Johnson, Arthur Keene, J. Schwindler, G. Davidson, W. Rosenbauer, Henry F. Hoit, Mr. Krug and Ruby D. Garrett.

After dinner Mr. Tanner spoke of the purpose of the meeting and introduced Mr. LeBaume, who, with Mr. Bill, of Columbia, and Mr. Bihr, acted as the Honor Award jury. Mr. LeBaume responded with an explanation of the findings of the jury and formally awarded a medal to Greenebaum, Hardy & Schumacher for the Mindlin Store Front on Walnut Street as a business building of outstanding merit. A medal was given to Hoener, Baum & Forsee for the best example in the institutional group, and Honorable Mention to Mrs. Elizabeth Evans Rivard for a residence which she designed. Mrs. Mindlin for Mindlin Store and Rev. Stark for the Christian Church of Hickman Mills, Missouri, were awarded Honor Award Certificates for the building receiving the Honor Awards.

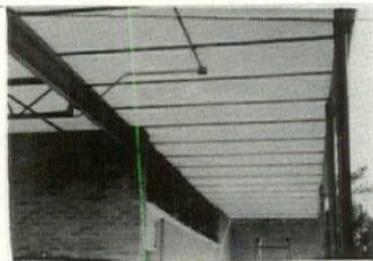
Mr. James Monroe Hewlett was introduced by Mr. Tanner. Mr. Hewlett spoke on the activities and value to the profession at large of the American Institute of Architects, stressing the value of co-operation between all interests involved in the Architectural Profession as well as co-operation between the Architectural Profession and the trades, crafts, contractors and material men and all elements that go to make up the great industry.

(s) **H. H. Dunham**
Secretary

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ST. LOUIS . . . OCTOBER 13-15, 1955

Lawrence G. Linnard on

THE IMPACT OF SITE PLANNING ON DESIGN

Mr. Linnard, of Detroit, Michigan, is Past President of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

What is Site Planning? You've heard the remark—"The most important part of an automobile is the nut that holds the steering wheel." In like manner it can be said that "the most important part of a good site plan—is the Site Planner—whoever the man." And since I am a Landscape Architect, What is Landscape Architecture—by definition? It is generally defined as the science or art of design in developing land and the objects upon it for the greatest human use and enjoyment. Please notice that the word **USE** precedes enjoyment since we must be practical.

I have (at least) 3 objectives today which are as follows:

- A. A plea for better site planning—and if that is accomplished there will be more site planning and I hope much better site planning.
- B. I hope to establish the fact that site planning at its best is usually a collaborative procedure among the planning professions and it usually should be so.
- C. I wish to illustrate the diversity of the field of Site Planning—Landscape Architecture or Land Planning in the various phases and the impact of Site Planning on Design and vice versa.

Stated in simple terms the impact of Site Planning on design is obvious and is as follows:—"Good Site Planning as a result of thorough analysis and subsequent intelligent decisions makes possible and provides for good design resulting in proper space relationship, efficient function and economical operation in orderly arrangement and attractive appearance or in other words, as related to any specific site problem, it is achieving the maximum attainable desirable results.

An Englishman giving a description of the London subway system said, "You can be sucked in most any place in London Town and select any destination of your choosing to be regurgitated." I shall use much more simple language.

Site Planning as a science or an art is, in too many instances, **underestimated** in importance. Poor or mediocre Site Planning is an abuse of the trust placed in us by our clients, since the decisions made at that early state of the planning of any project are basic or fundamental.

Contrary to rather general opinion Site Planning is not simple but comprehensive, it is not a single thing but a multitude of considerations and in order to keep faith with your client, you and I are obligated to be very truthful in dealing with all of the facts pertaining to the situation, also, to be extremely thorough in final selection or determination of the final and appropriate plot plan or site plan. To be both truthful and thorough it is equally essential to be well informed and thus not waste time and effort dealing with only a portion of the facts.

Assuming that you are truthful, thorough and well informed it is essential that the land planner or Site Planner be very clear thinking—and subsequently logical in his conclusions while concentrating with an imaginative mind and resourcefulness that may be somewhat confusing and astonishing to the beginner.

Added assets with which to render the best possible service in site plan design and development, include practical knowledge from experience, wide travel with photographic powers of observation and the habit of keeping abreast of the times to know what has been accomplished elsewhere, if the Site Planner is to keep faith with his client. Sweden today is an Example, as I shall attempt to show you.

The competent Site Planner must have the ability to grasp the possibilities that any site affords whether the character of the site be level or with considerable topography, wooded or barren, spacious or with insufficient space, strategically located for access and transportation, possibility of development with proper grading and drainage among numerous other considerations.

We as a people are guilty of exploiting our national resources. We needlessly waste the good topsoil which is black gold that should be salvaged and reused. Trees that are very valuable to the completed project are allowed to be destroyed at the start of a job, often due to a lack of site planning interest or a realization of site planning values.

I would plead with you to control that all too eager and efficient but destructive bulldozer. To destroy everything at the start with a bulldozer may be the easiest way, but you and I have an obligation to our clients which requires us to think about conservation and preservation as well as creation.

Economy of operation and minimum maintenance are factors you should certainly be thoroughly familiar with while potential erosion and proper gradients usually require much more careful consideration than many project plans receive.

It is my considered opinion that 50% or more of the site plans for projects of land planning today do not take full advantage of the site, and usually this unfortunate situation is not discovered until too late when subsequent operations disclose the lack of efficiency and economy where competent site plan design and development could and would have provided the desired results.

Many examples are evident all around us where the job has suffered. Whether it is residential, commercial, industrial, institutional or other type of projects, the owner is entitled to the best team work that can be obtained from the services of the men to whom the work has been entrusted and too frequently, finds, too late that the team work did not materialize.

Collaboration among the allied professions and technicians is not a guarantee of perfection; but, if conscientiously practiced the results should be equal to the sum total of the best abilities of the professions involved, and most of our finest examples of professional planning are the result of collaboration among the allied professions.

Excellent examples of really fine planning are widespread throughout the country and an interesting example is our National Capitol in Washington, D. C., which is governed by representatives of the allied professions on the National Fine Arts Commission.

The two most recent World Fairs at Chicago and New York were interesting examples of collaboration between the professions considering the relatively short time available for their preparation.

Architects, engineers and others engaged in site planning who are entrusted with important decisions relative to land planning projects have somewhat different viewpoints in approaching site problems.

The Architect is primarily concerned quite naturally with the buildings or structures and their relationship to each other; and the other considerations, including site, quite frequently receive subsequent but **not equal** attention. The engineer is primarily concerned with proper gradients, radii and curves and similar technical requirements. The site planner whether he be trained as a Landscape Architect or Landscape Engineer, if he is competent, frank and forthright, readily acknowledges the special abilities and interests of the Architect and the Engineer as mentioned above. His training has included at least four years in school of Site Planning training regarding space relationship requirements and results, treating of land forms for proper grading and drainage; and he also possesses an inherent feeling and desire to establish an orderly arrangement, attractive appearance and maximum utilization of the area and the physical features, probably through the process of preservation and creation.

If the above facts are true, and our association with architects and engineers over the years substantiate that belief, the best results are usually obtained by coordination and collaboration of the talents of the several planning professions and their services to be rendered as a team in the interest of the client while arriving at the fundamental and final solutions.

I believe that one of the best examples of such collaboration with which most of us are familiar has been made manifest in the site planning design and development of our national parks. Please understand and let me make it perfectly clear that I do not contend that the buildings within the parks are masterpieces of architectural design, but the process of collaboration between the planning professions has successfully contributed an invaluable service which in 1952 and, quoting from the Department of the Interior, recorded an attendance of our American citizens of over 42 million—resulting from intelligent planning for accessibility, careful preservation of natural resources and practical utilization of the areas for present and future generations.

Can we say as much for other projects where we are participants in the planning and particularly the site planning phases?

For the Landscape Architect, a thorough knowledge or understanding of the principles of Site Planning is fundamental in preparation of any comprehensive land planning project. Moreover any competent Landscape Architect in professional practice who has graduated from one of the approximately dozen schools in the United States having accredited courses in Landscape Architecture, has had to complete four consecutive years of study in Site Planning. Following graduation his work, if comprehensive, is a continuation year after year, accumulating practical experience in Site Planning. Now, let me ask you, are you familiar with what are "Fightin' Words" to the Landscape Architect? Let me explain. When the client calls and requests that you meet with the architect and owner on the project site to help determine location of buildings and solve other problems of physical features and after arrival and the usual introductions, the architect says, "Oh yes! Well, we

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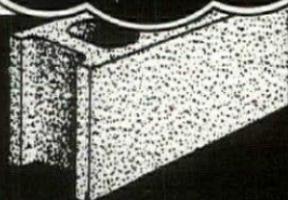
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to All...**



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won't be ready for any planting for sometime but we'll let you know in plenty of time." You instinctively bristle and then count ten—slowly.

A Federal Government directive relative to collaborative planning summarizes the situation wisely by stating that the Site Planning should best be done by the participants who have had the most experience in the field of Site Planning.

You probably have known of incidents as well as I have, where the so-called "Landscape Man" has been requested by the architect to "Plant something to cover up a situation that hasn't worked out too well." Remember, if adequate site planning had been done in the beginning of the planning stage there would be no need to cover up any situations that didn't work out well.

To those of you who may have thought that the work of a Landscape Architect is limited to Horticulture and Planting, may I state that plant material is to the Landscape Architect what wallpaper and paint are to the Architect, a means of applying the finish to a job, whereas the Site Planning includes the locations of buildings, their orientation, proper elevations, singly or in groups, space relationship, efficient arrangement for economic functionings of same, the location and alignment of roads, design and location of parking areas, the molding of ground in grading and drainage problems, and numerous other considerations relative to physical features outside the actual buildings and all are basically important to the Landscape Architect or Site Planner.

THEREFORE — may I repeat once again the 1st two objectives as previously stated:

FIRST — a plea for Better Site Planning and

SECOND — Better Site Planning by collaboration between the allied professions.

"SWEDEN BUILDS" — G. E. Kidder Smith

Following are a few excerpts from this very excellent book.

"There are few countries in the world which can claim distinction, and none which can exceed the degree and quality of modern architecture found in Sweden. It should be further emphasized that this approach includes all design—furniture, household wares, landscaping—not just architecture alone.

"There is a tendency, in the United States especially, to embrace only the architecturally sensational. There is, furthermore, a tendency to consider only the isolated buildings, not the setting or the relation of a building to other structures. Swedish architecture does not work on this sensational or isolated unit basis. Instead, it has concentrated on producing the highest general level of architecture in the world, and one intimately tied to progressive planning and social betterment.

"Because of the progressive land policy, architecture lies not in the isolated building—however good it may be—but in the **space** and **nature** about it. Relation to site and sympathy with environment are among the greatest lessons of Swedish work. Stockholm itself represents the ultimate union of architecture, planning and landscaping, each working for the fullest expression of resources and needs. But architecture everywhere in Sweden is almost always interpenetrated by and subordinate to nature. There is no question here of calling in a landscape architect to coordinate things with a few bushes after the buildings are complete. **He was there before the architect!**

"The one adjective appropriate to describe Swedish architecture —if one must be employed—is CIVILIZED. Specific buildings may in addition be (as they generally are) clean, simple, direct, elegant, light, democratic, sensitive, harmonious, charming, gracious, self-effacing, well built, beautifully detailed, colorful and even playful, but civilized is the generic term for most modern work.

"Sweden's land plan policy and the constant collaboration between architect and landscape architect as site planner, has resulted in what is generally regarded as Stockholm being one of the world's most beautiful and most liveable cities, as well as one of the outstanding examples of good site planning in the world today."

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