

December, 1969

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*The Architect 1970 - 2000 and Beyond*

*The beauty of marble,*



*the durability of concrete . . .*

## TERRAZZO brings an old-world touch to a structure of modern elegance

Textured on the plaza, highly polished for interior floors, traditional terrazzo in a bold new pattern sweeps across the entire ground level of the new administration building of the American College of Surgeons.

The striking design keys the shape and placement of outdoor pools and fountains, provides a pleasing continuity as the building is entered. To achieve the special tones desired, the architects specified both white and grey cement matrices, combined with white, black or

grey marble chips, and black obsidian.

The beauty will last. Terrazzo has exceptional life expectancy, easy maintenance. Everywhere architects are recognizing the esthetic as well as the practical advantages of the age-old terrazzo process. Offering an almost unlimited range of colors and patterns, terrazzo enhances the most modern design ideas.

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An organization to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete



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*of the future and . . .*  
**NEW TOWNS**

From the Isle of Manhattan to the Coast of Gold, from East to West, from North to South, New Towns are sprouting like lapel buttons at a love-in. Real estate promoters, land speculators, banks, corporations, pension funds, supply manufacturers are eyeing what could be a rich market for their treasure, products, and skills. They are joined by a host of unlikely associates; including on occasion civil rights workers, history buffs, power saw wholesalers, pineapple plantation overseers, sociologists, fair housing councils and men who have abandoned hope that the conventional, suburban tract housing market can shelter low and middle-income American families.

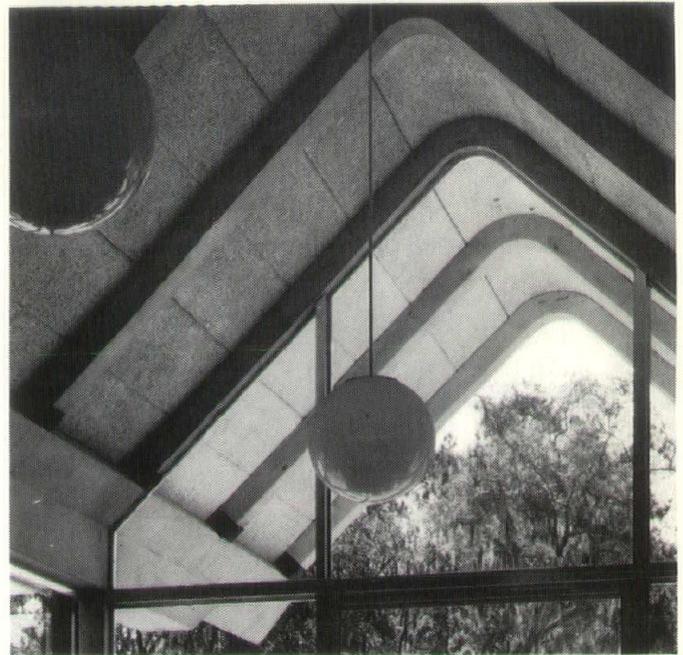
One New Town in Minnesota may be partly covered by a geodesic dome so climate and smog can be controlled. On the Colorado River 10,000 tons of London Bridge are being resurrected so the "instant" Lake Havasu City can have identity and a tourist attraction. In Eastern North Carolina's Black Belt, Floyd McKissick has enlisted architects, planners, and engineers to design Soul City which would house 17,000 persons on 1,800 acres near Warrenton. The House Appropriations Committee wanted to know if Soul City would be segregated; McKissick said no. Architects ask how good design can be summoned to this stage.

**WHAT'S NEW?**

Dynamite of America's urban crisis — the poor left behind in decayed cores, housing increasingly difficult to obtain for more and more Americans and raw land being digested at the rate of one Detroit a year — has given new thrust to New Towns. Otherwise they would remain largely the dream and the problem of speculators. As an escape hatch, New Towns are getting a close look this year from Congress, the Nixon Administration, and professional groups like AIA's Urban Design Committee. The National Committee on Urban Growth Policy, headed by former Alabama Congressman Albert Rains, wants the federal government to heavily back 110 New Towns. The committee got advice from Carl Feiss, FAIA, and Ralph Schwarz, president of AIA's New Urban Design and Development Corp. Sponsored by the League of Cities, Conference of Mayors, Urban America, Inc. and National Association of Counties, the Committee asked national, state, and local help to establish 100 towns averaging 100,000 population plus 10 cities of at least one million each before the year 2000. The landmark Housing Act of 1968 already allows up to \$250 million in loan guarantees to get New Towns going. (So far none of this has been used.) But the Rains Committee, which included such diverse figures as conservative Texas Sen. John Tower, former Fresno Mayor, now Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Assistant Secretary, Floyd Hyde; and Milwaukee Mayor Henry Maier, advocates additional help. State agencies would get federal aid to assemble land in order to beat speculation. Payment on interest and principal would be deferred for 15 years so the New Town cash flow would have time to rise. The New Town concept, said Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, "promises an intellectual undertaking as great as the space age itself."

**EXPERIMENTAL CITY**

The most unusual New Town is being designed by the University of Minnesota's School of Architecture for a site to be announced in 1971. This is to be the experimental city of inventor Athelstan Spilhaus, now president of Philadelphia's Franklin Institute. It is to hold 250,000 persons or more and be at least 100 miles from any existing urban center, explained Professor Walter Vivrette, so that it is free of contamination. The city is to show better ways to move humans, vehicles, and goods; to salvage air, land and water; to manage climate, to communicate and govern. A geodesic dome may cover part of the city to keep out smog and Minnesota's fierce winter. Residents of dream city may be able to perform office work at home by using closed circuit television. Packages and groceries could travel by tube, curtailing cars and trucks and noise, dust and fumes.



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# Capitol Restoration Study Hailed By Architects

The Louisiana Architects Association along with the American Institute of Architects congratulates Congress for ordering a complete engineering investigation of cost and procedures to restore the historic West Front of the U. S. Capitol.

For more than 10 years the Institute, with heavy editorial support from newspapers and other media throughout the country, has urged such a study by independent engineers and other design professionals. Recent efforts have been directed by Francis Lethbridge, FAIA, Vice President of AIA.

A house-Senate Conference Committee has approved spending \$250,000 for the study by private firms which is to take six months. Twenty-five thousand dollars was also approved for emergency repairs to the section which was constructed in 1803 and 1830.

AIA Executive Vice President William L. Slayton said, "We are convinced that the Capitol can be restored and are pleased that Congress will evaluate the cost and feasibility of restoration as opposed to the \$45 million, 4.5-acre expansion planned by Capitol Architect J. George Stewart and his associates."

The Conference Committee also earmarked \$2 million for a start on the expansion but this cannot be used until the restoration study proves restoration is feasible. The Institute has opposed the expansion on grounds it will erase the last remaining exterior walls of the original Capitol building, will damage the noble architecture of the landmark, and will cost more than \$166 per square foot.

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# The Louisiana Architect

Volume VIII  
Number 12

**THE LOUISIANA ARCHITECT**, Official Journal of the Louisiana Architects Association of the American Institute of Architects, is owned by the Louisiana Architects Association, not for profit, and is published monthly, Suite 200, Jack Tar Capitol House Hotel, Baton Rouge, La., telephone 348-4331. Editorial contributions are welcome but publication cannot be guaranteed. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Louisiana Architects Association. Editorial material may be freely reprinted by other official AIA publications, provided full credit is given to the author and to the LOUISIANA ARCHITECT for prior use.

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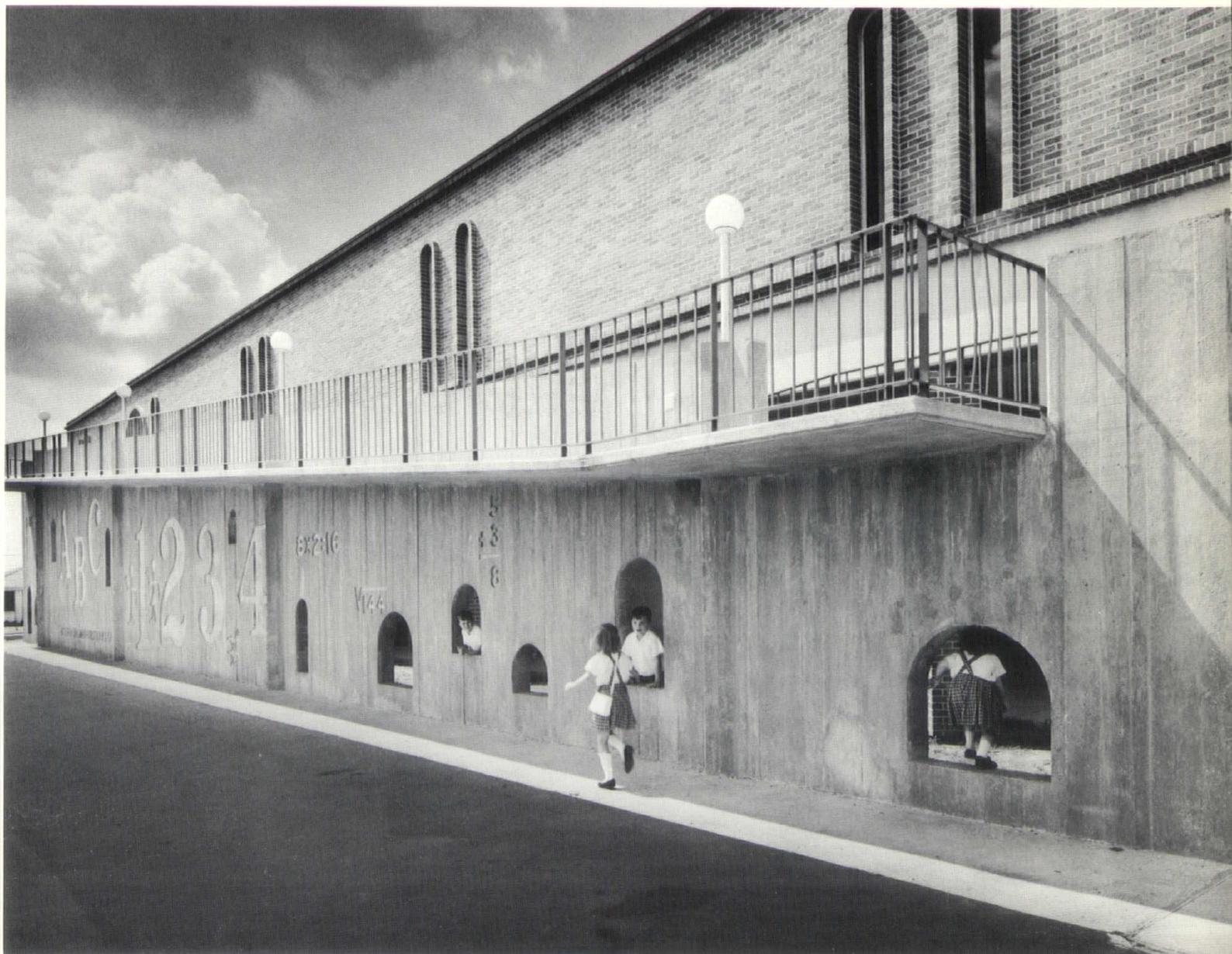
# St. Angela Merici Church and School

METAIRIE, LOUISIANA

CURTIS and DAVIS  
ARCHITECTS

**Jury Comments:**

"The plan provides for the two functions, church and school, in an economical arrangement. This is clearly expressed in the clean exterior. This handsome building is a credit to its neighborhood."



## St. Angela Merici Church and School

An economical and easily expandable solution to the needs of a young and growing parish was sought on this restricted residential site.

The resulting single building satisfies immediate school and church functional requirements with foundations and structure designed for an additional story ultimately providing thirty-two classrooms and a library.

The ground floor church is cruciform in plan with seating in three of the arm and choir and sacristy areas in the fourth. The center of the cross is the sanctuary.

The upper section of the sanctuary pierces the second floor and is topped by a light-admitting dome.

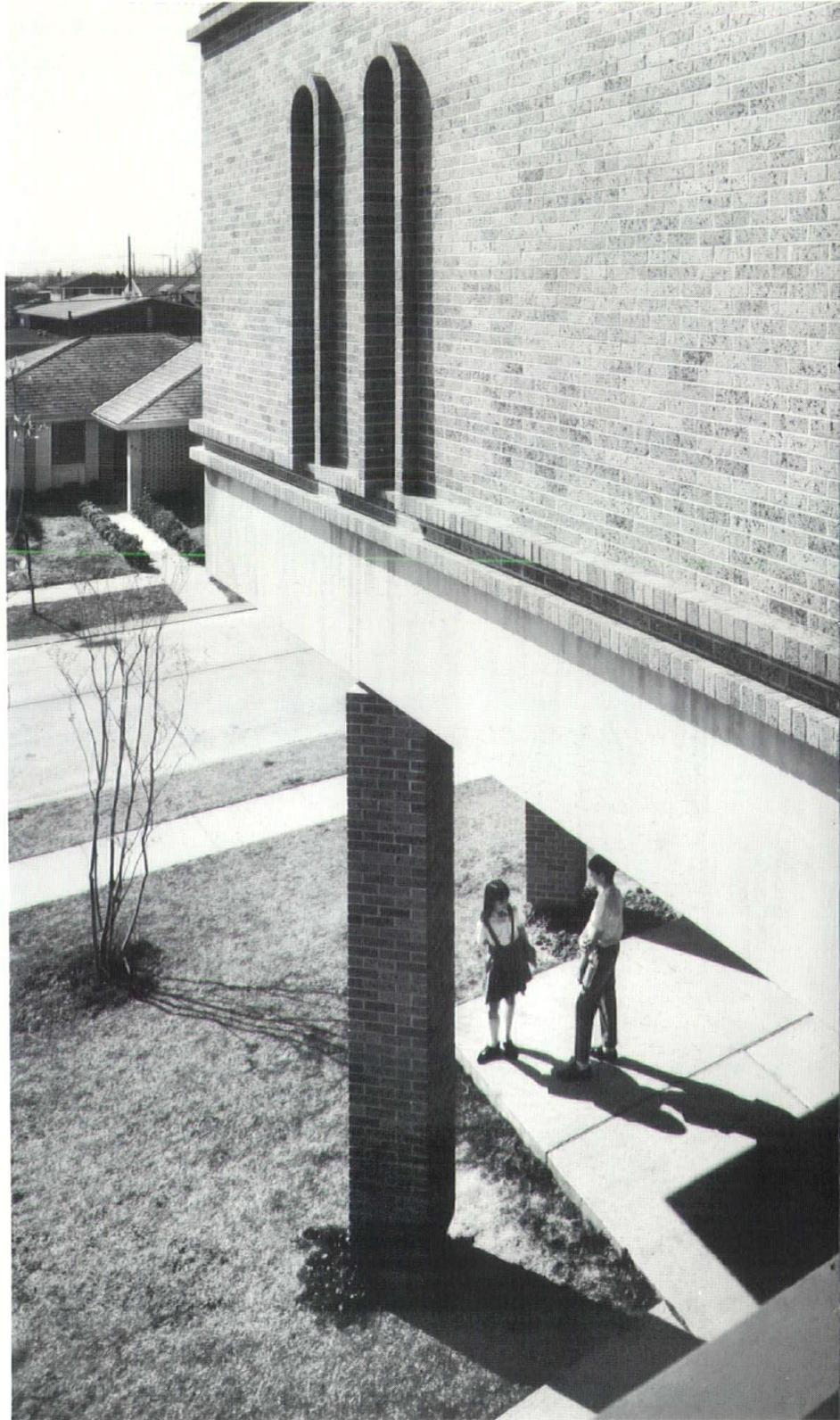
A total of 864 seats is provided in the three naves, purposely shallow to allow intimate participation by the parishioners. Two small side chapels provide for private devotion and special activities. There are four confessionals.

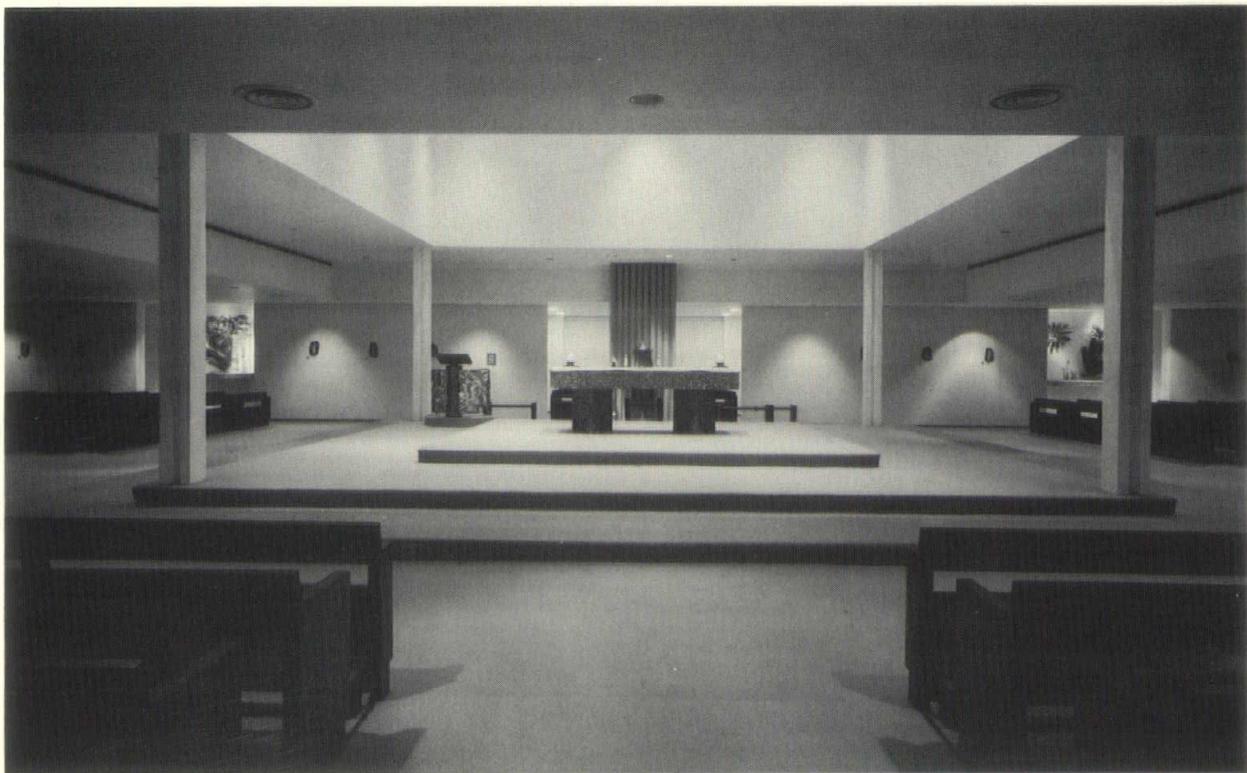
Exterior approaches to each of the naves are emphasized by large open landscape spaces sheltered by the school above.

Four stairways from the open spaces outside the church lead upstairs to the school. A ramp to the second level is provided for the children in the lower grades.

The administrative area contains a small lobby, principal's office, secretary's work room, faculty work room and book storage.

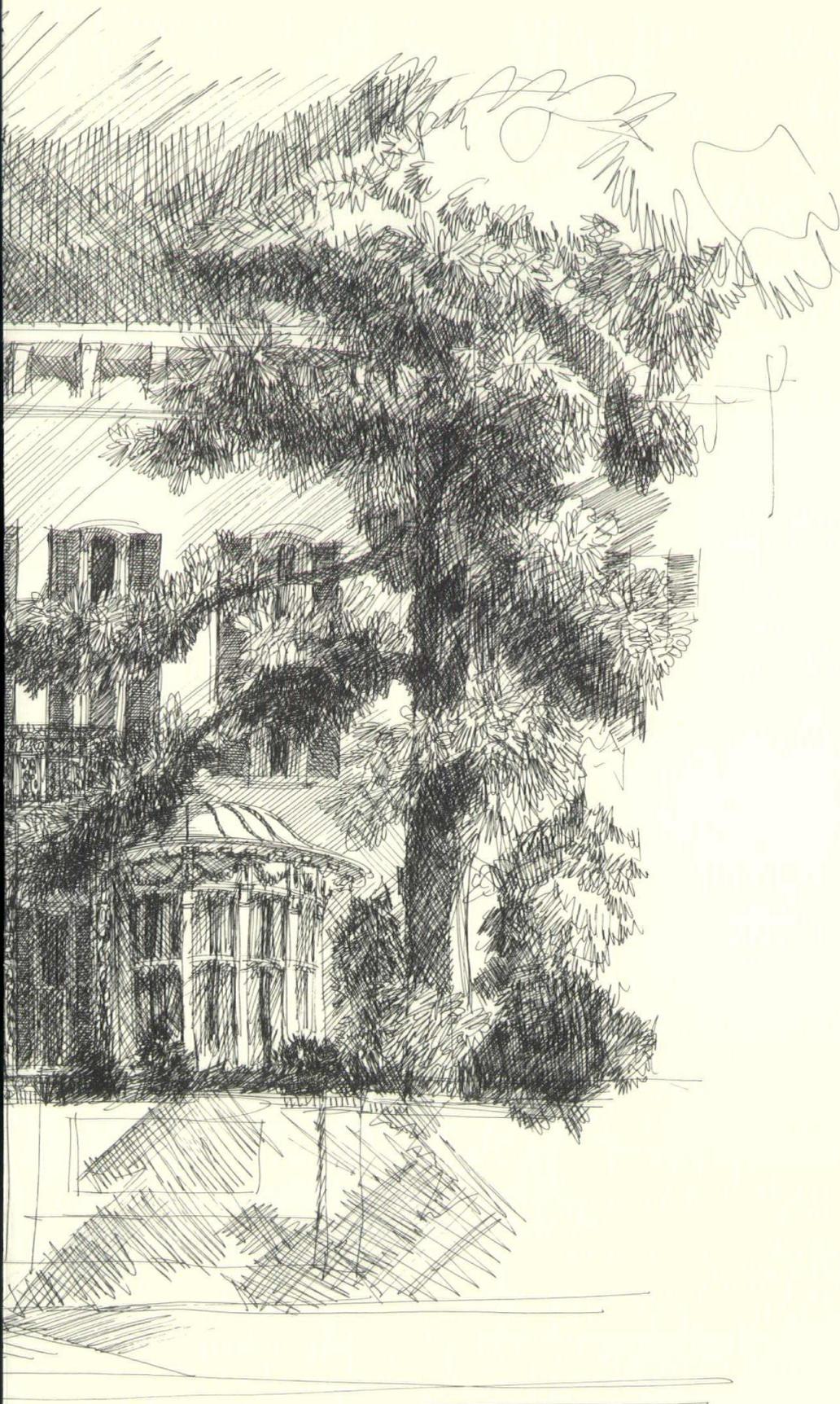
The school is air-conditioned, utilizing the refrigeration capacity of the church. Windows in the school were kept to a minimum, reducing solar heat and operating expenses.





*Photos by Frank Lotz Miller*



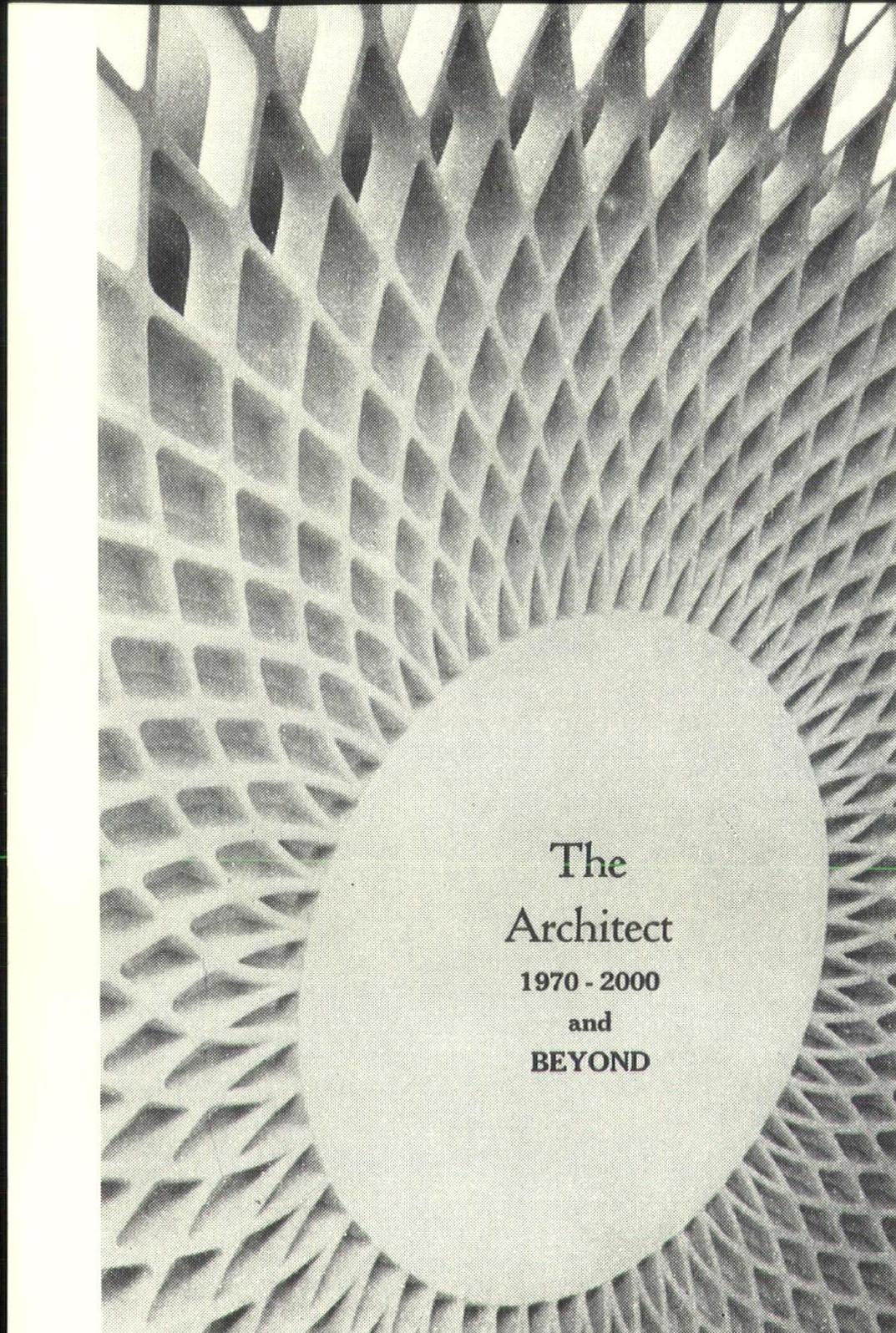


## The Short-Moran House

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Of all the great 19th century urban dwellings built in the Garden District of New Orleans, this continues to draw more attention and favor with architectural admirers. This is probably due to the excellent state of preservation in which it is kept as well as the uniquely soft qualities of this period of architecture and urbanism which it characterizes. Popularly this building is known for its cornstalk fence seen here at lower left, supplied by a famous foundry, Wood & Perot of Philadelphia. The excellence of the other iron work suggests that it may be by the same firm.

The interior of the house originally was Greek Revival and excellent detailing abounds. Additions and changes have been made to the original building but most like the dining bay at right here simply add to the overall interest. Perhaps the finest quality of the house is the sense of scale and light that pervades the magnificent interiors. The building was originally built in 1859 for Colonel Robert Henry Short. It was purchased in 1950 by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Jay Moran and very creatively restored.



The  
Architect  
1970 - 2000  
and  
BEYOND

"IN THE NEXT CENTURY THERE WILL BE NO ARCHITECTS, CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS OR CONTRACTORS AS EXIST TODAY," states a recent newspaper article quoting a man who is head of an engineering consulting firm in New York as well as a center for research and innovation in building at a Southern University. He further states that architects and the construction industry are slaves to ideas 4,000 years old despite all recent scientific advances. In order to escape this mental slavery he says, "the chain of command," will have to be changed.

These are broad eye catching statements, but he neglected to inform us in the article as to the manner in which the

chain of command will have to be changed and who or what will replace the architects, construction engineers and contractors of today. Being less circumspect, I will state my thoughts regarding the future of the profession in more explicit terms.

Predicting the position of the Architect during the period 1970 - 2000 can be achieved with reasonable reliability. The status of the profession beyond the year 2000 can also be predicted with some degree of accuracy provided certain basic assumptions materialize.

These assumptions are:

1. The increasing magnitude of urban areas and resultant complex pressures

within the urban environment will force the team approach for area design solutions.

2. The government will, in some manner, make available necessary funds for research, experimentation and construction necessary to develop new approaches, methods and solutions in many categories of construction.

3. The public in general will demand that the design professions be the coordinators of development involving construction.

4. The design professions will respond to the challenge.

5. The deterioration of our total environment can be reversed.

There is considerable evidence indicating a start has been made toward a sustained drive in the direction of these assumptions. We should see substantial progress by the turn of the century.

As of now, and for the foreseeable future, an analysis of the architectural profession and its future cannot be complete without a parallel analysis of the American Institute of Architects. While there is ample criticism of the Institute from within and from without, as there is of most similar organizations irregardless of their objectives, the fact remains that the AIA is the one professional organization whose membership represents a majority of the architectural profession. (Of 32,000 licensed architects in the United States, 21,000 are corporate members of the A.I.A. and 1,300 additional are professional associates.)

Constructive criticism combined with enlightened and constructive efforts of officers, staff and members is producing a strong current of improvement and action.

The architectural profession in general and the American Institute of Architects in particular have made substantial changes during the past 30 years, mostly for the better. Changes during the next 30 to the year 2000 will be much broader in scope and of greater impact.

A few readily evident examples illustrate the process.

#### Thirty Years Ago

Thirty years ago the profession had generally recovered from the debilitating period of the great depression, yet there was little individual or joint effort toward resolving social problems as they related directly to the profession; the A.I.A. reflected a similar attitude - the relative lack of involvement of the individual members.

Thirty years ago the profession was finally breaking away from the laborious, time consuming process of producing each drawing for construction documents in pencil and then tracing it again with India ink on linen; the A.I.A. was beginning to realize that it could no longer be "relevent" if it continued as a so called "honor and mutual admiration society" for old time practitioners.

#### Today

Today the profession is becoming deeply concerned with the problems of our society and is directing considerable effort in areas where professional knowledge and capability can influence improvement. The A.I.A. has responded to the urging of those who are firmly committed

and is providing strong leadership and encouragement as well as a broad coverage of background information and of the advances of professional achievements in attacking related social problems.

Today the architectural profession is adopting and adapting to the new business office and drafting room techniques now rapidly becoming available. The A.I.A. is leading the way for the majority of architects by publicising, researching, and when proven feasible, supporting the new methods. While, in the process, it is educating the profession and the public to their application.

#### The Next Thirty Years

During the next thirty years the profession will assume a strong role in resolving the social and environmental conditions that threaten to suffocate our civilization. In all related areas the A.I.A. will be leading the profession.

During the next thirty years new techniques will be further developed; they will be available at reasonable cost and used by all offices both large and small. The A.I.A. will continue the strong advance in the broad areas of technological achievement necessary to assure that the response of the architectural profession to the needs of society is progressive, pertinent and competent.

It is popular at the moment to criticize the construction industry for having kept us "slaves to ideas 4000 years old." Yet the construction industry has made great advances in recent years and will continue to do so. A program of accelerated development in some areas is certainly warranted, but do we really want or need a program to change the character of our buildings and the building process to the extent a crash "moon landing" technological advancement program would do?

Mass produced assembly line housing is a near certainty. However, it can be considered an advance only if it meets good esthetic and environmental requirements as well as providing large quantities of badly needed housing at low cost. After all, the automobile is mass produced and in some cases it is beautiful, yet it is the cause of major environmental problems today. Lets proceed more carefully, be more alert to the hazards, as we prepare to travel down that freeway again.

With each step toward more mass production it becomes increasingly important that some of the 4000 year old ideas of design and construction be retained. The delight and the satisfaction in the material and pattern of a stone wall or a paved floor where each unit is selected, fitted and placed by hand can never really have a comparable substitute.

The really worthwhile and lasting advances in the technology of construction must be generated by a joint effort between the design and construction sections of the industry; and the government, in all likelihood, will have to provide the incentive, directly or indirectly.

The time may well be past, at least for the foreseeable future, when the design professions can independently undertake major innovation. With the recent emphasis on professional liability, the cost to the architect or engineer in the event

of even partial failure is far too great to encourage a great leap forward. Progress under these conditions must be by slow, careful steps if one is to avoid serious damage to reputation and practice to say nothing of the potential loss of all worldly goods.

#### The Year 2000 and Beyond

Regardless of the organization chart prepared for a team approach to the design of a large and complex urban project the most influential member will be the man who is best qualified to recognize, encourage and sublimate, in accordance with relative importance, the contribution to be made by each of the participating professions. While these qualifications may be found in any one of the individual team professions of architects, landscape architects, designers, planners, engineers and social scientists, the architect by nature and training is often the best prepared.

By the year 2000, the architectural profession must have made a massive contribution in close collaboration with the other "team" professions in order that we may slow and then reverse the accelerating deterioration of our environment - else there will be little need for our services.

The number of large architectural offices will no doubt increase. It is questionable whether there will be much to encourage the large offices to get larger, if this results in a lessening of design excellence. However, many may become units in large development corporations.

The architect who has the interest and ability to become the prime "coordinator" for large multi-disciplined projects will be in great demand. Few offices, regardless of size, will be able to provide outstanding experts in all of the necessary disciplines or specialized fields. The coordinators will need to rely on the independent professional with a small, but expert staff who has the special knowledge and technique to provide a unique design for one or more areas of the overall concept. The small architectural office will be needed on an increasing scale as part of the team providing a variety of design and technical solutions.

The small architectural firms will form more "joint ventures" among themselves and with other professions to compete with large offices for the multi-disciplinary projects. The basic requirements being an expert coordinator, qualified individuals and firms in the various branches of the professions and the will to work together toward the common goal of the best overall solution, each recognizing the abilities and short comings of his own firm and of the others and each exercising reasonable control of the individual ego.

There should always be the opportunity for the architect who as an individualist wants to practice in relative independence, as does the individual artist, producing works of architectural art to satisfy a growing client's desperate need for well designed and handcrafted personal surroundings to offset the degenerative effect of the masses and the mass produced.

Real craftsmen in many of the trades will increase as computer controlled manu-

Frank Bouldin Hunt, A.I.A.  
President, East Bay Chapter  
American Institute of Architects

facture of modular building components result in shorter working hours and other increased social benefits releasing the more talented from the often frantic push of today to the more leisurely pursuit and the real enjoyment of their crafts.

The educational process will change in some areas, but certainly all architects must not or will not be trained to "think computer" and "systems design." Those who are so oriented will be in demand, but so also will those whose talent can produce beauty of a more personal scale and individual character.

Compensation for architectural and related services will change. Thirty years ago those working in the construction trades were generally better paid than those working in the offices of the design professions. While wages and benefits for both are substantially improved today the disparity still exists. The supply of qualified architects and technicians will be stretched further each year as the world becomes more densely populated and the volume of new construction offsets the increasing volume of production by the profession. This shortage coupled with the expanding demands of the general public for more beauty in their man-made environment will progressively enable the design professions to receive compensation for services in relation to the ever increasing importance of these services.

The American Institute of Architects has provided and will continue to provide the architectural profession with ethical, technical, legal and management guidance and inspiration necessary for the profession to continue to advance with the constantly changing requirements of our society. Many of the best minds, the most skilled and the more dedicated and concerned architects of our time are sacrificing substantial personal gain in order that the profession may continue to improve its ability to perform under the burden of the ever increasing complexity of the requirements placed upon the construction industry.

Responsible students and many of the younger practitioners supported by some of the more experience professionals have severely criticized the A.I.A. and in many cases rightly so. The Institute has responded magnificently and will continue to do so - accomplishments and leadership are limited only by the extent of the interest and participation of its members.

The challenge to the architectural profession and the need of the profession for the unifying force of the American Institute of Architects has never been greater. As the physical and social problems increase their inexorable pressures, the survival of the architects with their unique abilities and the Institute that binds them together becomes of increasingly greater importance to the public. Both will continue to respond with new and vigorous energy, ideas and ideals.

# Creating the House of Worship

OSCAR E. CLOYD

**Mr. Cloyd of Shreveport, Louisiana, is the principal in his own real estate and development company and a member of the Caddo Parish School Board. A graduate of Centenary College, he has served as Assistant to the President and Director of Centenary. Our author was the organizer and for six years pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Shreveport.**

"How does he draw a church? What will our church look like? We want an architect that makes a church look like a church." These may not be the exact words, but statements and questions such as these are almost inevitable with church leaders when they face the task of building. I suppose that an architect must be tempted to quickly respond with the typical likeness that will satisfy the clients. Yet, as tempting as this may be, no professional could be so persuaded.

It is incredible that with the church or synagogue, such struggle should take place. I know of no other group that would insist that their design be suggestive of something of the past. Possibly, the reason is that with an airport, hospital, court house, office, or the multitude of other forms, there is not the emotion which is generated by the church. People relate to their past, and especially to those more dramatic events such as family participation, baptism, marriage, and death. Because the church performs in this arena of life, then we can expect people to be emotionally attracted to the church. The best remembrance is to *look* at that which calls forth those high moments. We are just a few generations, indeed in some cases, once removed from the rural environments. There stood the typical early American box with steeples, and columns for dress. That is a church. That is often what is desired because it represents the security of the past.

Then there is the unconscious reaction to escape from the tremendous pressures placed by living on each man. To go into a building which resembles the traditional provides the escape.

We try to relate to the past, although we are utterly lost

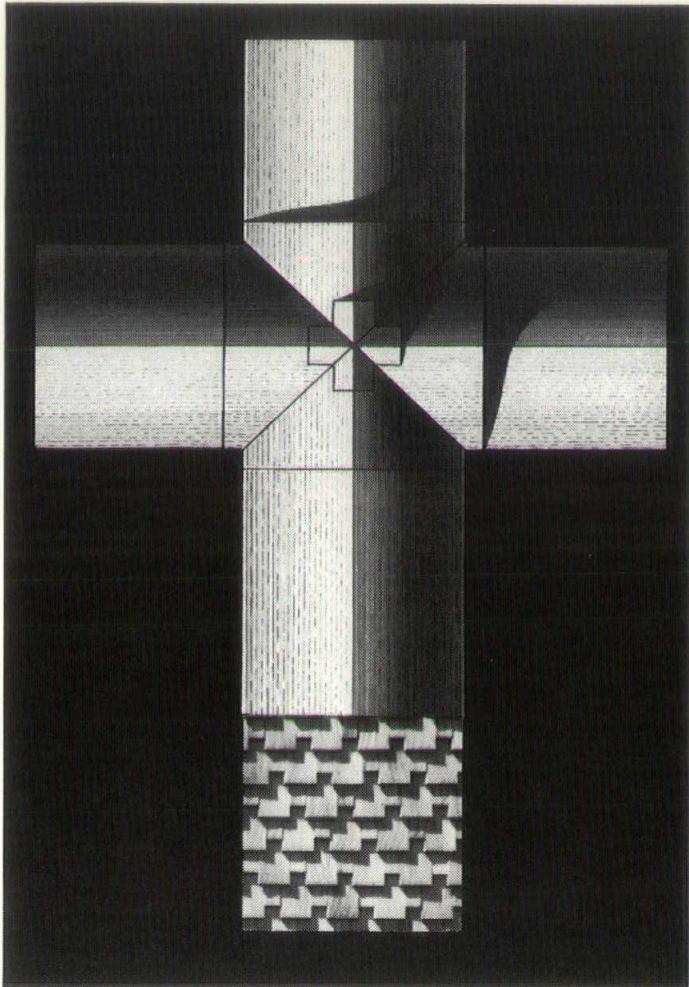
in our effort, for the understanding and implications of the past are gone.

The church stands in the world to perform a particular and unique task. In order to create the proper form for the church, the legitimate question must be raised. What will take place here, and what will be necessary to accomplish this goal? The theological and practical study needed to answer such a question will reveal not only the task of the church, but to a larger measure, it will determine the shape and form which the building becomes.

Form should always follow function. The main function is worship for the congregation; however, because of the various liturgical orders used by the church, there will emerge many forms. The shape of the building will be determined by the need, and reflect the desire of the congregation to worship. The building emerges looking like the church, because it provides the needs for the community gathered with the form needed to be the church — the church today.

As with all else in life, the task is constantly changing, and the tools needed must continuously be recreated to meet the challenge of a new time. This is to say, that no two church buildings would be identical or alike, for each represents something new and different. As the Gothic, the Georgian, and the rural American met needs, and expressed a time in history, so must the forms of today meet the needs and express the day of its creation. The highly abstract art of architecture is called upon to represent time, all time.

There will be judgment against every part of history which does not allow the generations of the future to benefit



from the responsible struggle and creative design represented by the needs of each past generation. Though the church or synagogue serves a particular function, it stands symbolically to testify to the intangible. The building emerges as testimony to faith. It calls to worship those who enter her doors, as well as those who pass by.

Historically, symbols have been used by the church to reflect her message and pursuit of faith. It is extremely valuable to leave something to the imagination, and to allow for the creative power of the divine in each life. Caution should be extended with symbolism however, for if the symbol has no meaning to those around it, then it is meaningless and becomes nothing more than decorations. Once I entered a beautiful new structure where there was much symbolism used, but the guide had to distribute a bulletin with an explanation for most of the symbols. Some of the effect was lost in the shuffle for explanation.

The development of any plan for a congregation need not be designed to last for centuries. A few decades at most is sufficient. Sometimes we propose to plan for the future without adequate knowledge of what that future will demand. Of course, all construction should be structurally sound, and as maintenance-free as possible. However, plans should not be made that would leave the church structure long after the community fades away.

The church and synagogue must demand of herself, her parishioners, and her architect, complete integrity and honesty. No games, no gimmicks are allowed, simply frank and honest representation, even with the raw materials of construction.

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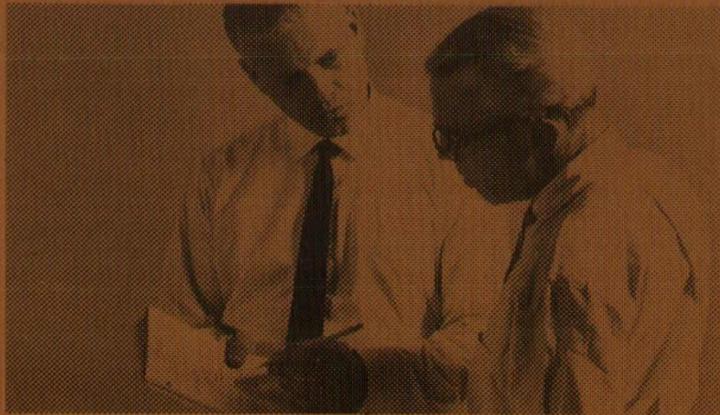
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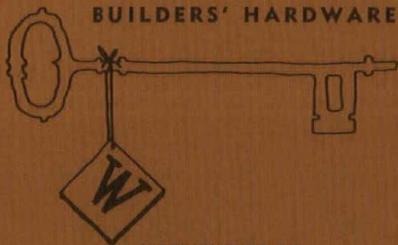
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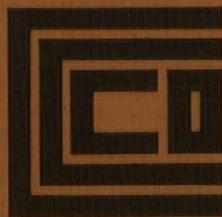
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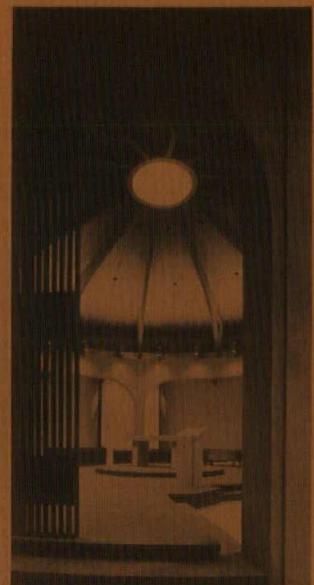


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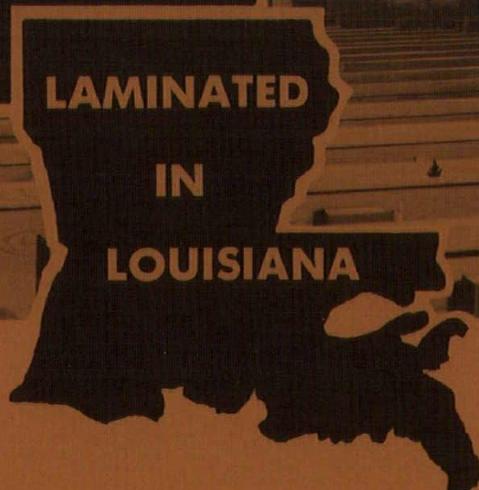
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