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**POTOMAC VALLEY
ARCHITECT**

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CHAPTER OF MARYLAND AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

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The articles in this magazine represent the personal opinions of the authors and/or the editor and should not be construed as representing the viewpoint of the Potomac Valley Chapter, A.I.A.

ON THE COVER

"The Symbol" — drawing by Edwin Bateman Morris, Sr., of the Octagon House, Washington, D. C., National Headquarters of The American Institute of Architects.

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Potomac Valley Chapter welcomes a new Associate member, Jack Russell, of Donald N. Coupard & Associates, Rockville, Maryland.

NEW SIGN ORDINANCE

Partially based on recommendations made by the Beautification Committee, the Montgomery County Attorney's office has drafted a new Sign Ordinance.

A public hearing, prior to enactment, is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. October 31, 1966 in the County Auditorium and every member of the Potomac Valley Chapter is urged to attend and lend support.

This is certainly a giant step in our battle against Community Ugliness, and as practitioners and initiators of this program, it is our professional as well as our civic duty to lend assistance.

Help now so that you will not have to complain later!

A.I.A. Middle Atlantic Regional Convention and Competition

Chapter members are again reminded of the Convention to be held in Williamsburg, Virginia, February 8-10, 1967; and of the Awards Program held in connection with Convention.

The Awards Program will be modelled on the National Awards Program with the same requirements. Pertinent details will be released at a later date.

THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHITECTURE GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Howard University Department of Architecture announces its 1966-67 Guest Lecture Series. These lectures by distinguished practitioners are open to the public and are held at 4 p.m. in the auditorium of the School of Engineering and Architecture, 2300 Sixth Street, N.W.

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 7, 1966 | Nathaniel Owings of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, New York |
| Nov. 18, 1966 | Robert E. Simon, Jr., President, Reston, Virginia Inc. |
| Dec. 2, 1966 | George Nelson, Architect, George Nelson & Co., New York |

WASHINGTON REGIONAL CONFERENCE
ON RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE

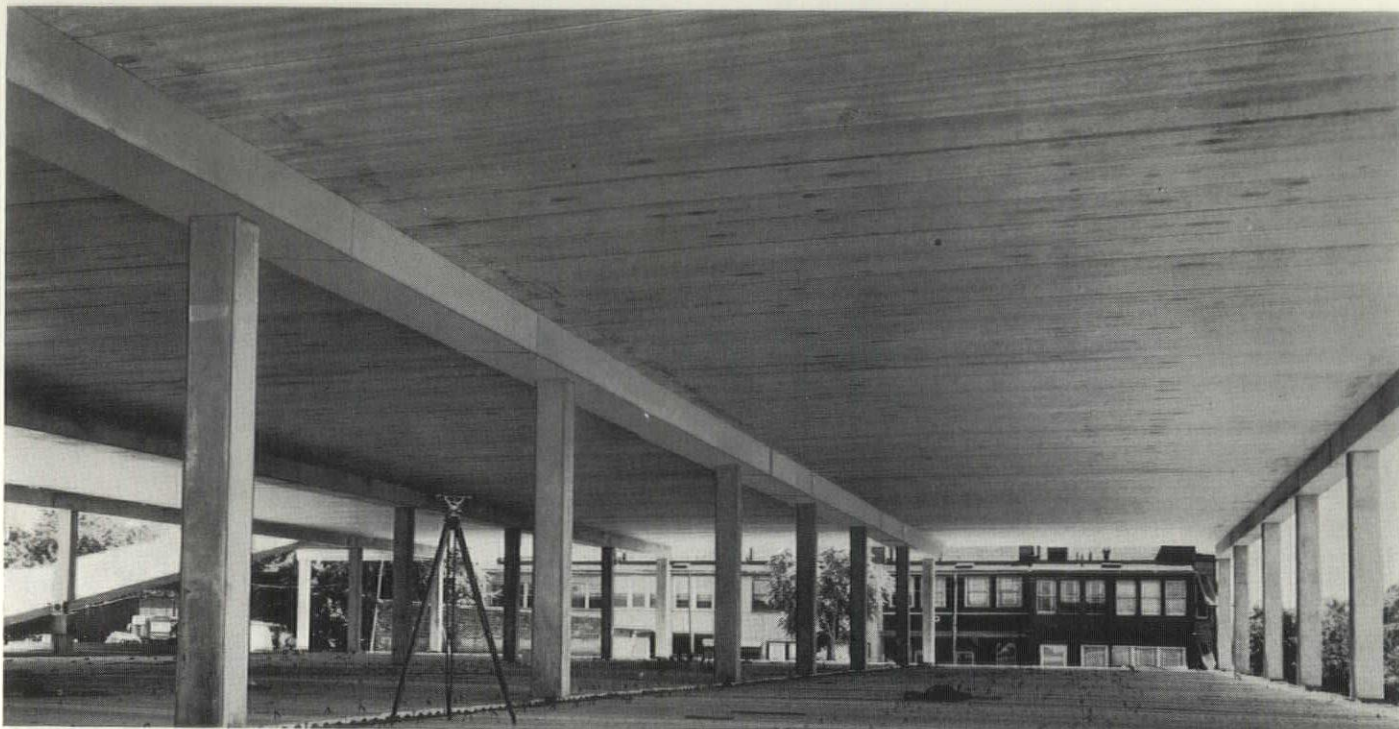
A regional conference on religious architecture is scheduled for November 18 and 19, 1966 at the Memorial Evangelical United Brethren Church, 9226 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, Md. Sponsored by the Guild for Religious Architecture and the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, as well as other AIA chapters in the Middle Atlantic Region, the theme of the conference will be "How Theology and Liturgy Shape Design."

Interfaith in program and participation, it is hoped that the conference will bring together architects, religious leaders and lay people concerned with present and future religious building needs in the area. Mr. Edward A. Sovik, President of the Guild for Religious Architecture and Chairman of the National Committee on Religious Architecture, AIA, will present the keynote address, "What You Believe In, Is What You Build." A series of workshops and seminars has been planned to develop greater understanding of the changing architectural needs of the major faiths.

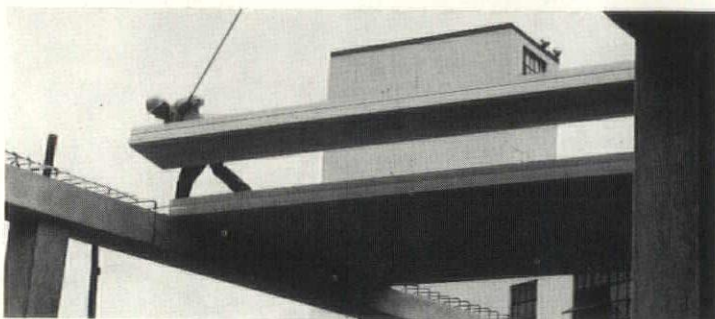
An exhibit of the award-winning architectural designs from the 1965 and 1966 National Conferences on Religious Architecture will be displayed, and an exhibit and discussion of color slides on contemporary religious architecture are included on the conference program.

Mr. Benjamin P. Elliott, 8485 Fenton St., Silver Spring, Md., is General Chairman of the conference, and Mr. Milton Grigg, 910 W. Main St., Charlottesville, Va. is Program Chairman.

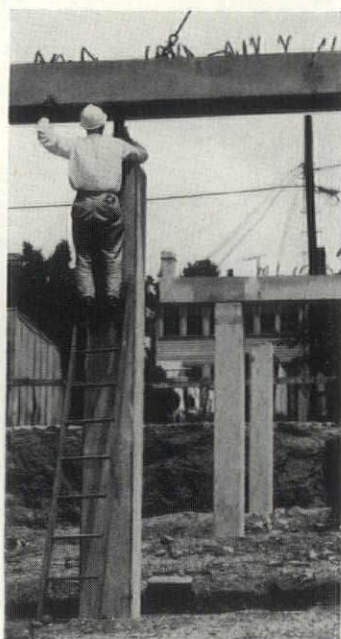
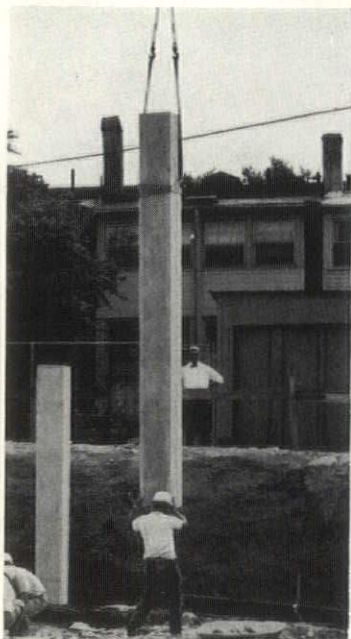
Further information and registration forms may be obtained from the office of the Guild for Religious Architecture, Room 208, 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.



PILLARS OF PROGRESS... **DYNA-FRAME**



Dyna-Frame, a new precast concrete framing system, developed by STRESCON, has been used in the construction of the K & M Corporation Garage in Washington, D. C. Construction was quick and economical, eliminating the need for costly and time-consuming erection and forming of the structural frame with its attendant pouring and bracing problems. The columns are easily erected with the sleeved beams fitting over the columns and a precast floor and roof system laid on the DYNA-FRAME. The finished job presents a clean appearance with each structural member complimenting the other. For more information on DYNA-FRAME, write or call the Strescon Sales Office in your area.



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Edwin Bateman Morris

Eddie Morris and his wife Faith seem to be constantly pre-occupied with the problem of understanding their many friends and of helping them to enjoy life — and in the process, with much effort on their part, to enjoy themselves. Eddie's secret weapon, in the continued undertaking, seems to be unlimited modesty coupled with a sense of humor. His sense of humor is rarely based on mere exaggeration. It is never based on a remark that, however witty, could possibly wound anyone's sensibility — although he may, on occasion, cause Faith to blush in a sudden access of Victorian prudery.

Eddie loves architecture, especially if it's more than 100 years old. He even likes some modern architecture although some of its more frantic examples leave him in a state of puzzlement. But, in these cases, his sense of humor has come to his rescue and he seems incapable of taking the more lurid examples of modern architecture seriously. Perhaps this is just as well, for if he did take them seriously he might become some kind of brooding misanthropist — and, surely, Eddie Morris, misanthropist, would be a contradiction in terms.

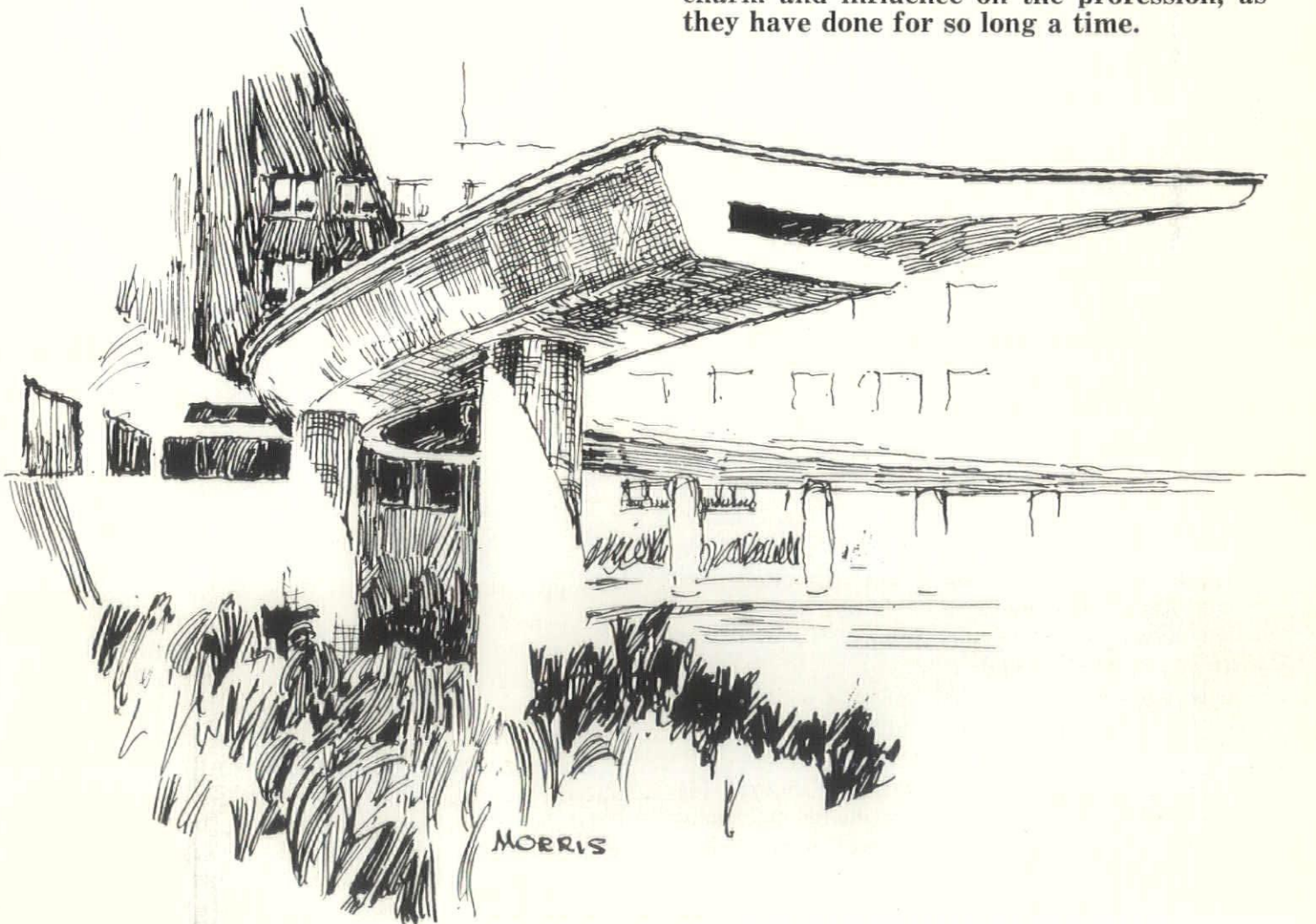
Louis Justement, Sr., F.A.I.A.

For He's A Jolly Good Fellow - A.I.A.

This month P.V.A. is paying homage to the man rather than the art, for during October the Potomac Valley Chapter is honoring at a dinner, one of its most illustrious founders and distinguished members, a grand old man whose name is synonymous with the best traditions of the profession, Edwin Bateman Morris.

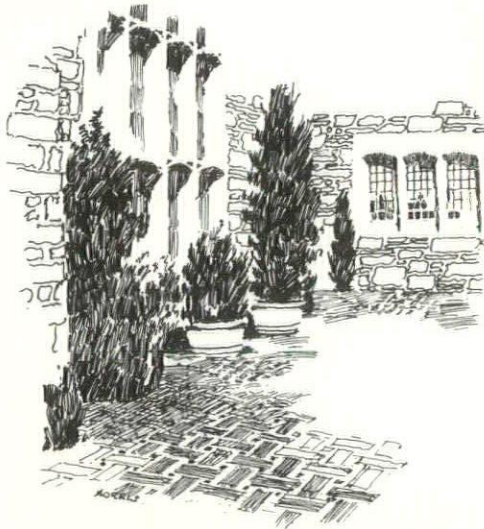
It is no accident that we selected from his folio a drawing of the Octagon House for presentation on this month's cover for, like this structure, he is a symbol to the entire profession, is equally well known to all of its membership and manifests the same endurance and patina as this grand old building.

May they both continue to exert their charm and influence on the profession, as they have done for so long a time.

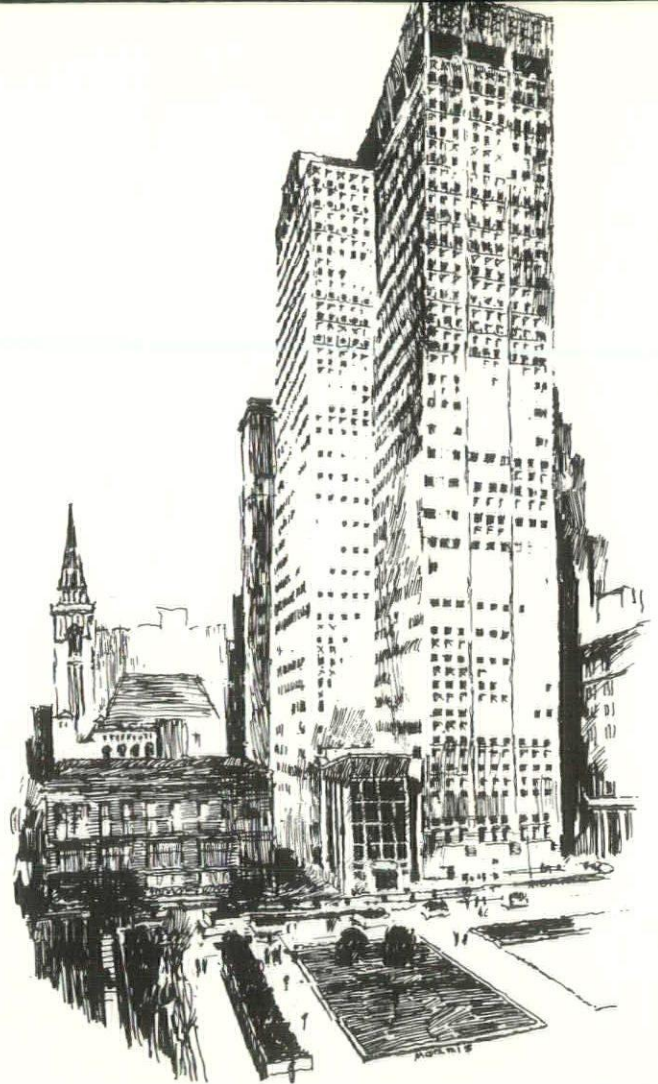




Betsy Ross House



House of Richard Caldwell



Alcoa Building, Pittsburgh, Pa. 1952

A MAN OF MANY FACETS

A biography of Edwin Bateman Morris, Sr., F.A.I.A. would prove as enlightening to his friends as to his casual acquaintances for such is the character of the man that we, who see him frequently, know only what has been revealed to us by his activities.

We knew him first as a tireless worker and charter member of the Potomac Valley Chapter who worked to organize and has remained to see the Chapter flourish.

As a historian, we owe him a debt of gratitude, for his records kept in those early days, when all was action, have proven of great value to us in recent years.

As a delightful speaker and humorist we have enjoyed his wit and improvisation which have enlivened many monthly chapter meetings over the years.

As a writer and illustrator we have enjoyed his articles and drawings, which have illuminated many an issue of Potomac Valley Architect and the A.I.A. Journal.

As gracious host to a nation of Architects we saw another aspect of his surprising personality. His

scrapple breakfasts across the country succeeded in becoming a legendary part of the Annual A.I.A. Conventions. His grace as host coupled with the charm of Mrs. Morris as hostess assured the tremendous success of this annual event and probably contributed immensely to the growth of the scrapple-making industry.

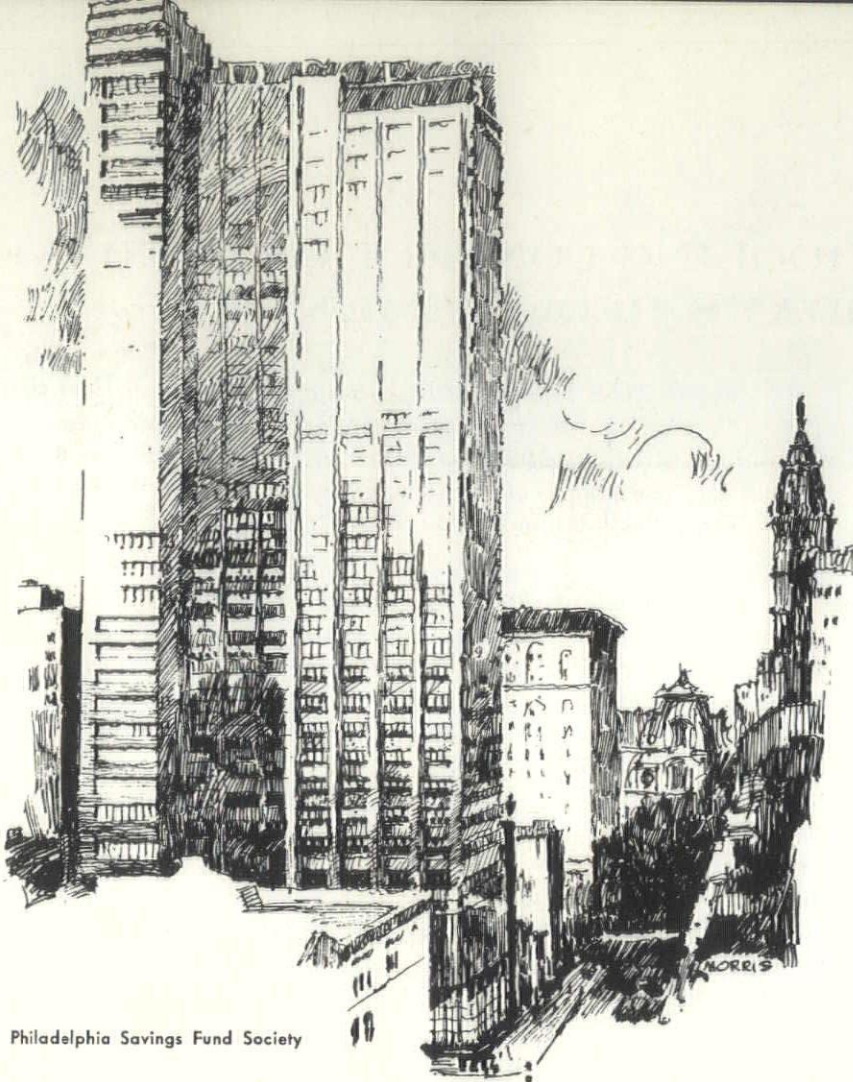
To further make these conventions memorable and to be helpful to out-of-town visitors, he produced his wonderful little series of booklets, profusely illustrated with his ink sketches to acquaint the visitor with the best aspects of the Convention Host City. These memorable little books, collectors items, have been recently incorporated in a hard-to-come-by volume.

We rejoiced at his elevation to Fellowship in May of 1959 for no one merited the honor more.

These are the things that we have witnessed and known, but of his history we knew too little.

He has graciously, only on request, furnished us with a biography which has a few revelations for us.

He was born in Philadelphia on Corinthian Avenue, a street name which could have been instrumental in his decision to study architecture. At the University of



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St. Peter's Church. 1761



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Interior
Independence Hall

Pennsylvania, he played football, and edited the university magazine while pursuing a degree in architecture.

Early experience was gained in several Philadelphia offices prior to his move to Washington where he joined the Office of the Supervising Architect, eventually becoming assistant chief over an organization of about five hundred men. While there, he helped to organize the Association of Federal Architects and edited the "Federal Architect" for fifteen years. This organization presented him with a gold medal for outstanding service to architecture in 1954.

In 1942 he left the government to go with a private organization "to talk with such geniality as I could assume about tile, one of the few construction materials of which one may say there is no perfect substitute." Needless to say, this artist of soft sell managed to win many new friends for the organization and material he so delightfully represented.

Though not a specifications writer, his interest was instrumental in the formation of the Construction Specifications Institute, an organization which has since flourished.

Amidst all of his activity he found the time to pursue an active writing career. The A.I.A. Journal and the Atlantic Monthly have often used his by-line. In addition he has authored a dozen novels one of which was adapted to silent film and later was remade as a "talkie." Marie Dressler and Edward Everett Horton starred in his "Narrow Street" which still crops up occasionally on television.

In Montgomery County, his adopted home, he met and married Mrs. Morris, the former Faith Farquhar. The ceremony took place in 1910 in her home which today we know as Olney Inn. The Morris' have three children, Edwin Bateman Morris, Jr., Mrs. Kay Mills and Mrs. Patty Stabler.

His adopted County, as well as many other counties in the state, have been immortalized in his wonderful published drawings of their famous old landmarks.

Having been filled in on the details of his remarkable life, we of the Potomac Valley Chapter take even greater pride in having him on our team and are led to exclaim - - -

What a Man!

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A SCHOOLING CONCEPT GEARED TO TODAY'S REQUIREMENTS

This report was based on a memorandum from the office of Superintendent of Schools, Montgomery County, Maryland. We are grateful for the kind assistance of Lester J. Welch, Director of School Facilities, in making the material available to us.

The Olney area of Maryland will soon be able to test a new theory in the education of the pre-adolescent, for the Sherwood-Olney Middle School, on completion, will be the first planned on a 5-4-4 concept in Montgomery County.

Prior to its design, an advisory board was appointed to formulate recommendations on educational program requirements and the staffing and organization of a middle school. This twelve member committee explored the possibilities of a flexible school plant, national trends in patterns of school organization, problems of pre-adolescent and adolescent children and the attitudes of school principals dealing with this age group. In addition to an extensive list of reference works used in formulating opinions, several consultants, renowned in their field, were called in.

5-4-4 is the result of much preparation. Simply stated, it is the redivision of elementary grade groupings, removing the ninth grade from a junior high to a high school level while removing the fifth and sixth grades from the elementary level and placing them in the junior high, or middle school level. Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth then comprise the middle level or the middle segment of the 5-4-4 formula.

Instrumental in the reshuffle was the realization that although chronological range is not great, the biological ages vary from 7 years to 18 years, thus creating many of the problems of adjustment to learning. In the present 7-3-3 pattern, children in grades 6 and 9 are out of step with the rest of the school population psychologically, socially and biologically. Fifth and sixth are more compatible with seventh and eighth graders, while divergences tend to decrease between ninth and twelfth grades. Sources checked revealed a rapidly growing trend nationally toward the 5-4-4 pattern of organization.

Some of the causes for a reshuffle have always been present while others have been brought about by an earlier maturing of today's children. Changes between ages 10 and 12 are far less dramatic than the bursts of development during infancy and adolescence. The

social needs of the infant and the emphatic self-assertion of the adolescent are more attention-demanding of the adult world than is the relative docility of the typical 10- to 12-year-old. In general, the pre-adolescent is outwardly receptive to adult direction at home and at school.

The 10- to 12-year-old is in a latency period as far as physical growth is concerned. He has developed his childhood personality and has learned what behaviors at home and in school bring praise or at least eliminate the possibility of reprimand. The 10- to 12-year-old child is seemingly better adjusted than either the young child or the adolescent.

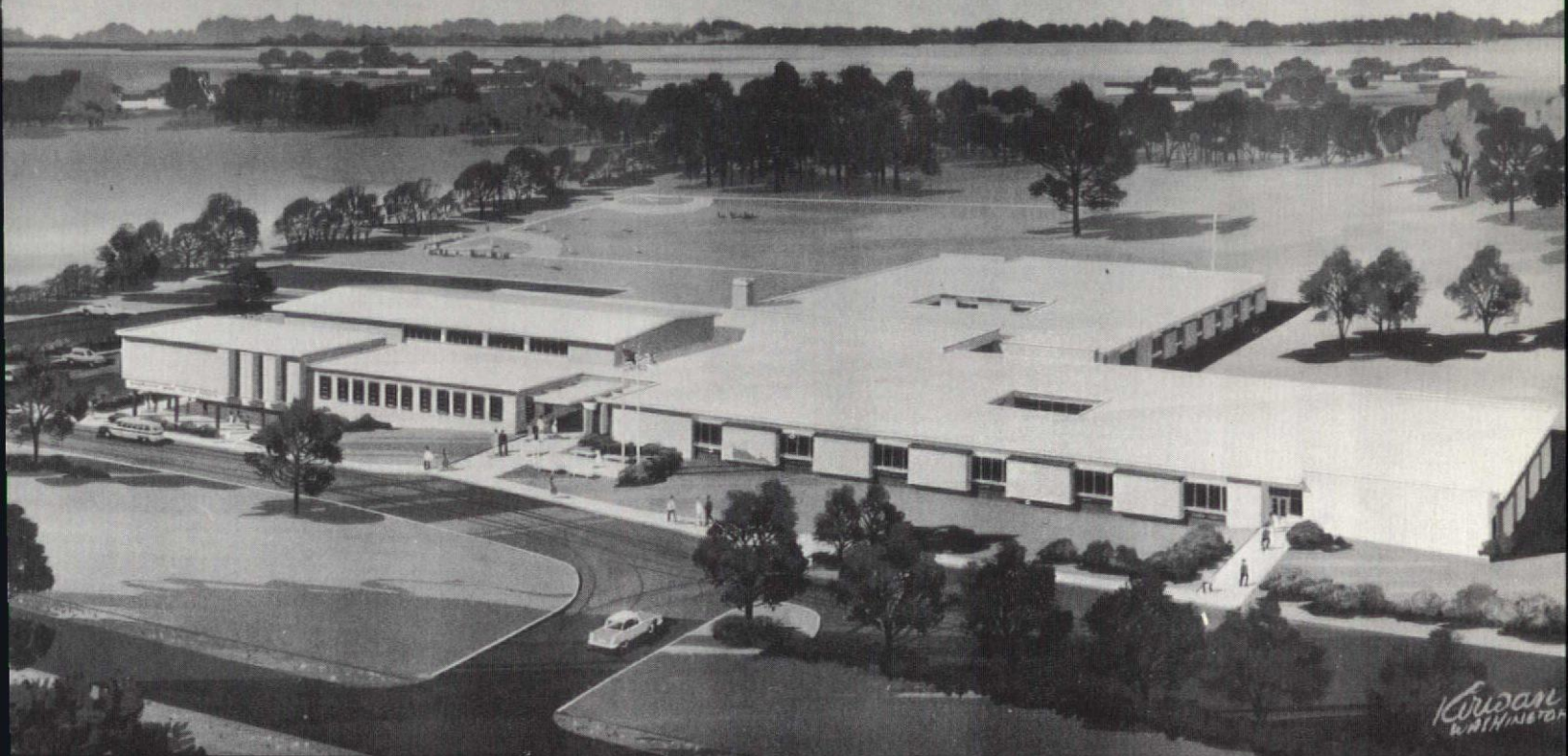
Actually, however, the pre-adolescent child is not standing still psychologically, socially, or intellectually. He has very clearly distinguishing characteristics and needs. His outward tractability belies the conflicts of the developmental phase through which he is passing.

Some characteristics of the pre-adolescent which were considered in curriculum planning are here listed. This is not a complete list, however, but a guide to the thoroughness with which the plans were made.

1. The child in transition is experiencing a general reorientation to adults and to his peers.
2. The childish personality is giving way to a more mature personality structure.
3. Restlessness of the pre-adolescent.
4. Mood instability at this age level.
5. Ambivalence between sophistication and childishness.

These characteristics explored at length demonstrated that the 10- to 14-year-old child can be described in terms that differentiate him from the young child and the adolescent.

The middle school can meet a great educational need if the nature and needs of the children served are sufficiently met. The challenge lies in using the available information to advantage. It is our hope that this will be accomplished at Olney. We shall all keep a watchful eye in that direction.



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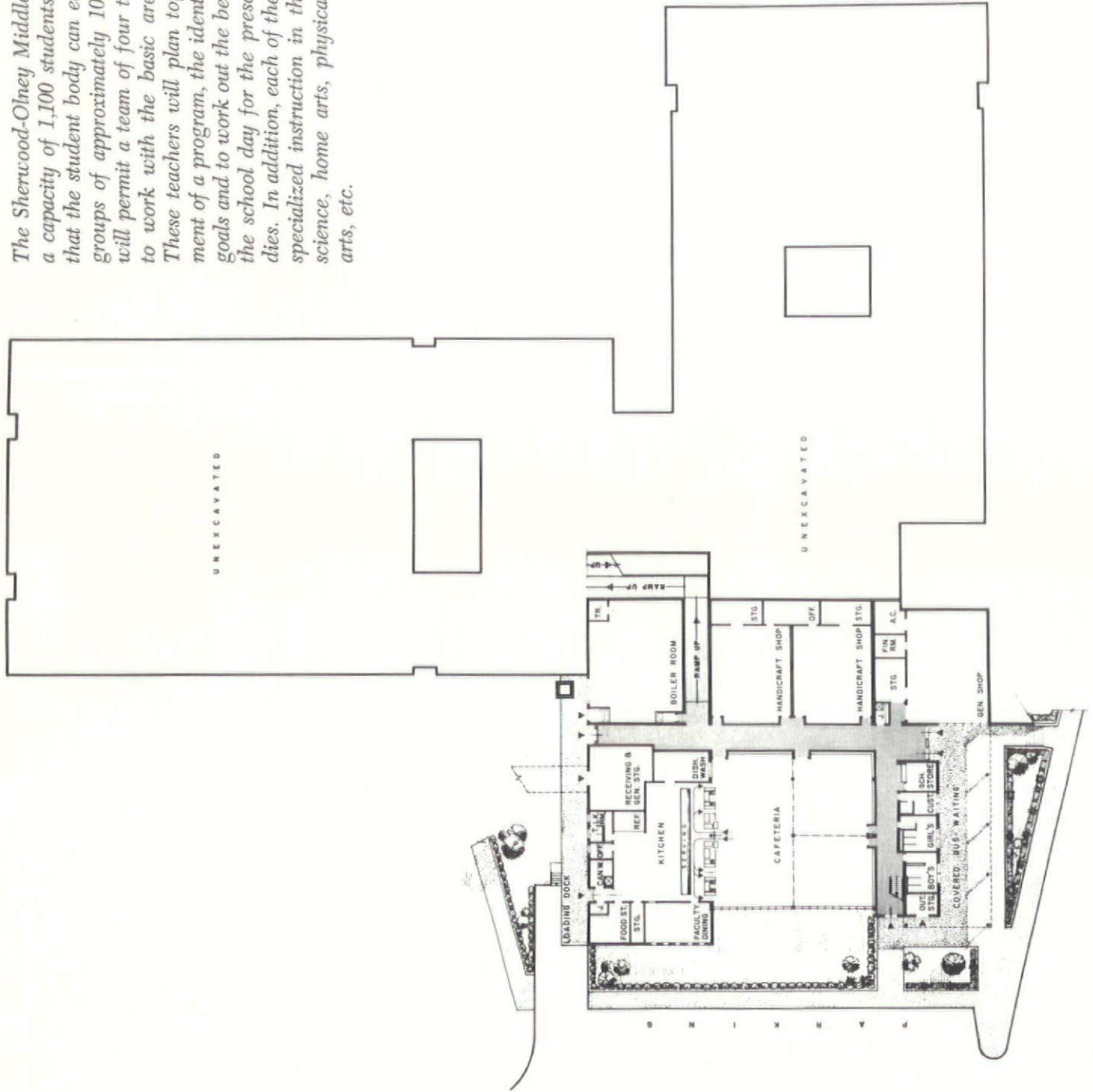
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Montgomery County, Maryland

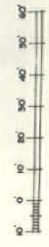
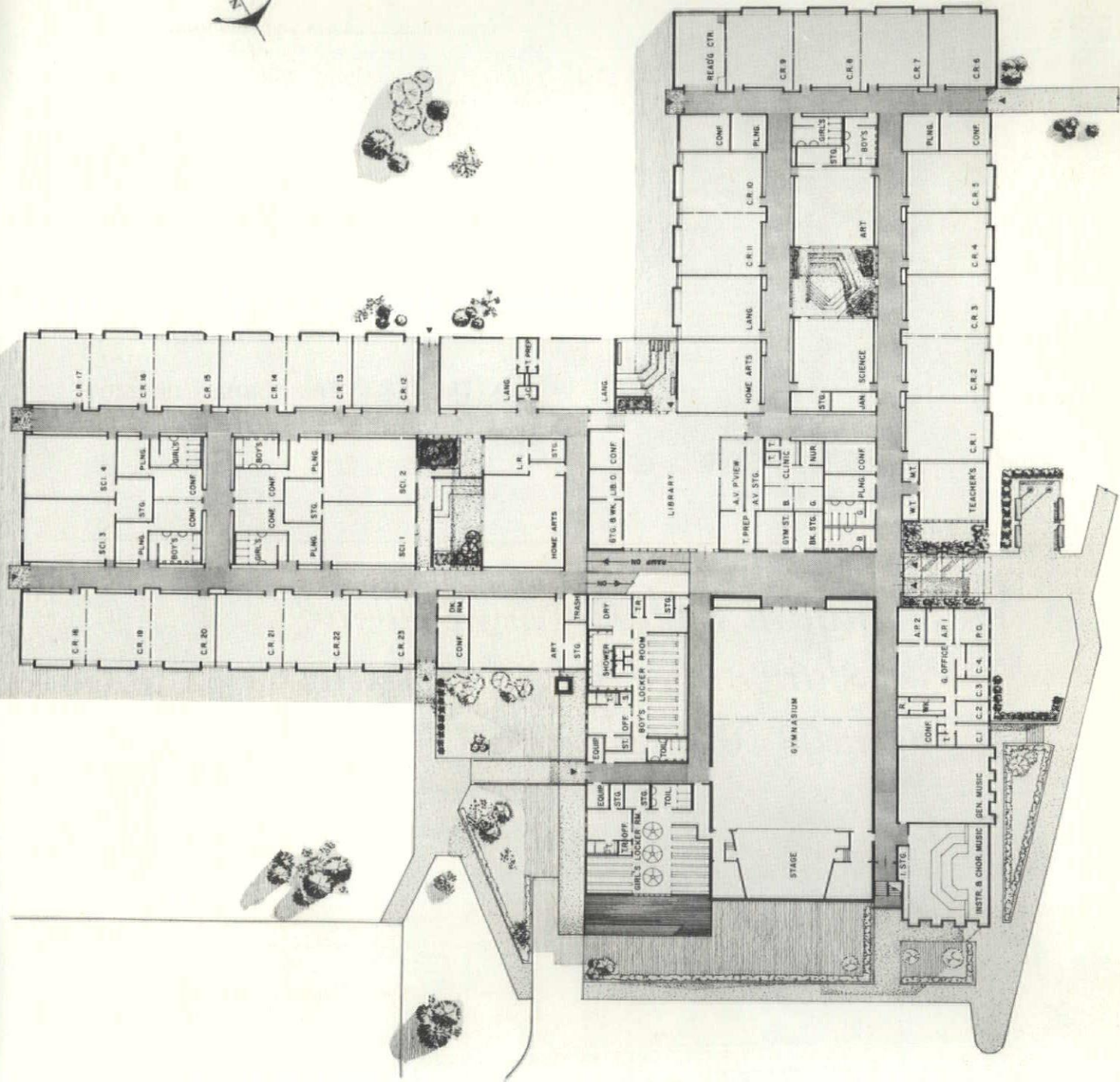
DUANE & LAWRENCE

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The Sherwood-Olney Middle School is planned for a capacity of 1,100 students in the four grades so that the student body can easily be organized into groups of approximately 100 students each. This will permit a team of four teachers to be assigned to work with the basic areas of the curriculum. These teachers will plan together in the development of a program, the identification of the student goals and to work out the best utilization of time in the school day for the prescribed program of studies. In addition, each of the grade levels will have specialized instruction in the fields of art, music, science, home arts, physical education, industrial arts, etc.





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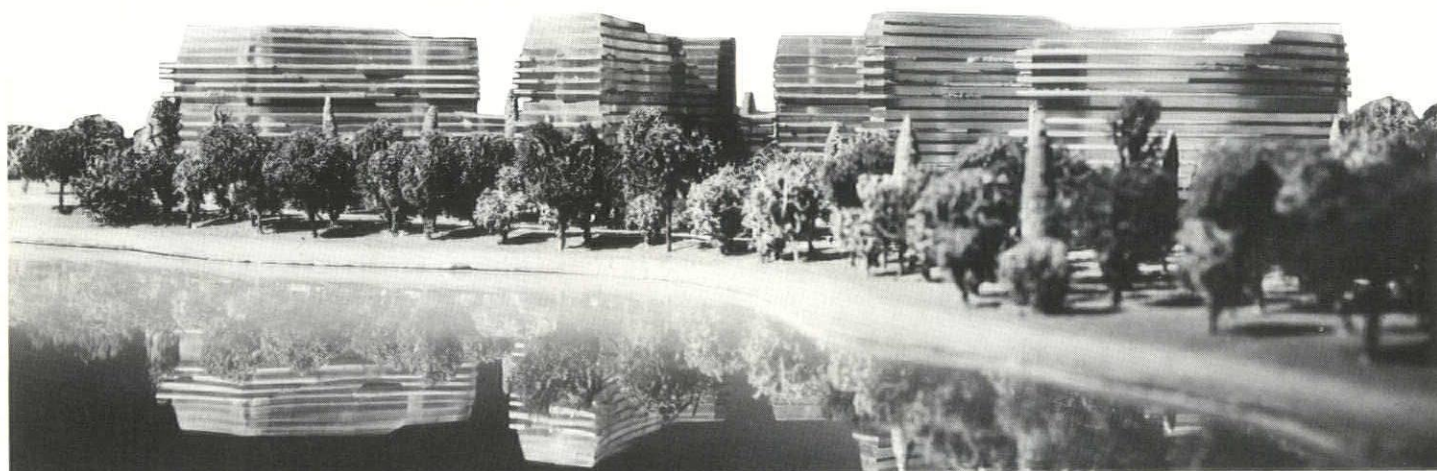


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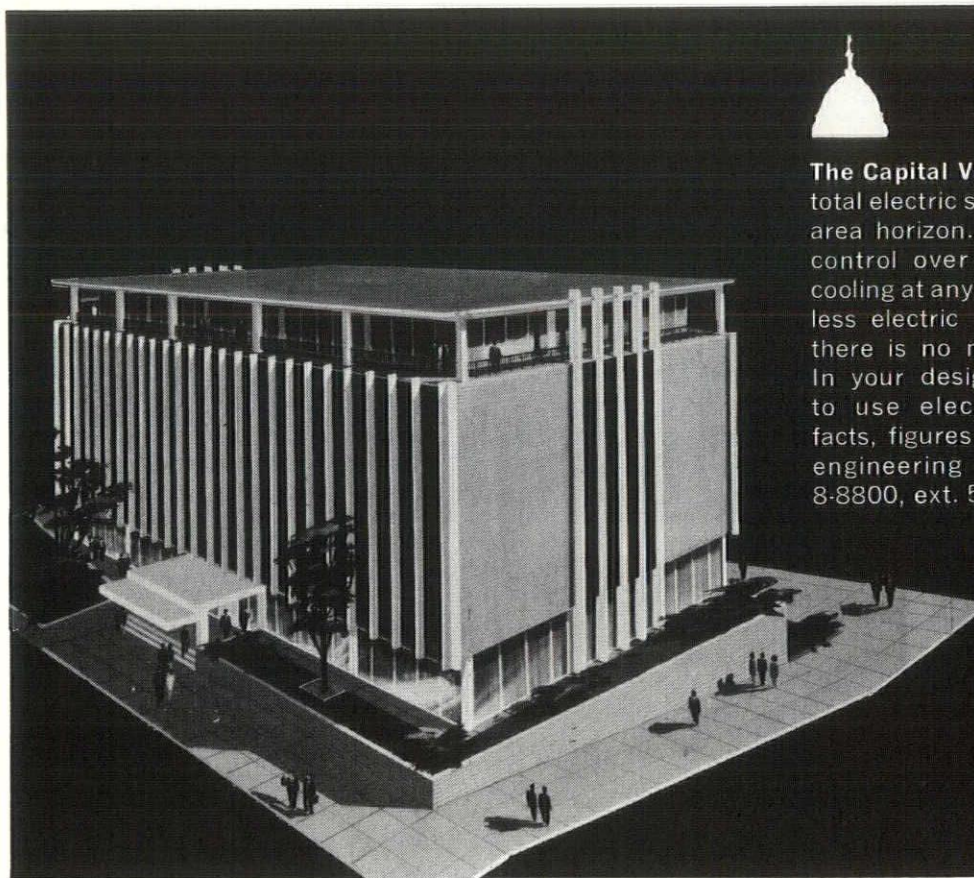
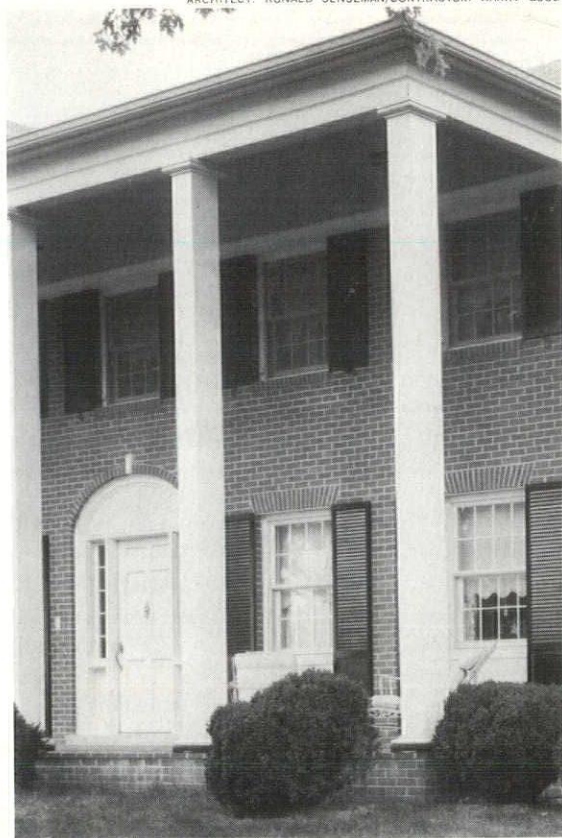
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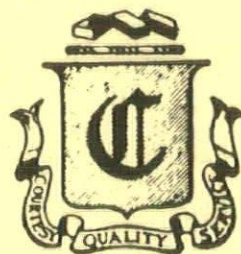
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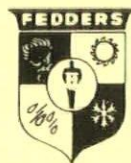
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