



jamaica architect

ISSUE 9:1972

A REVIEW OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE TROPICS

ENVIRONMENT

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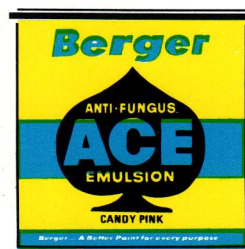
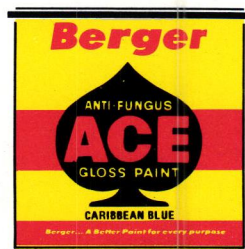
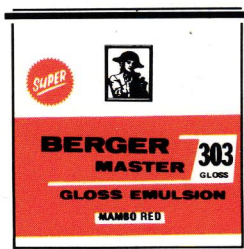
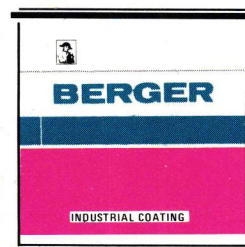
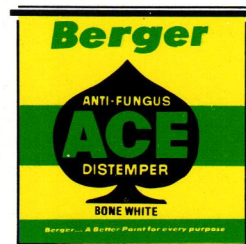
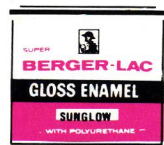
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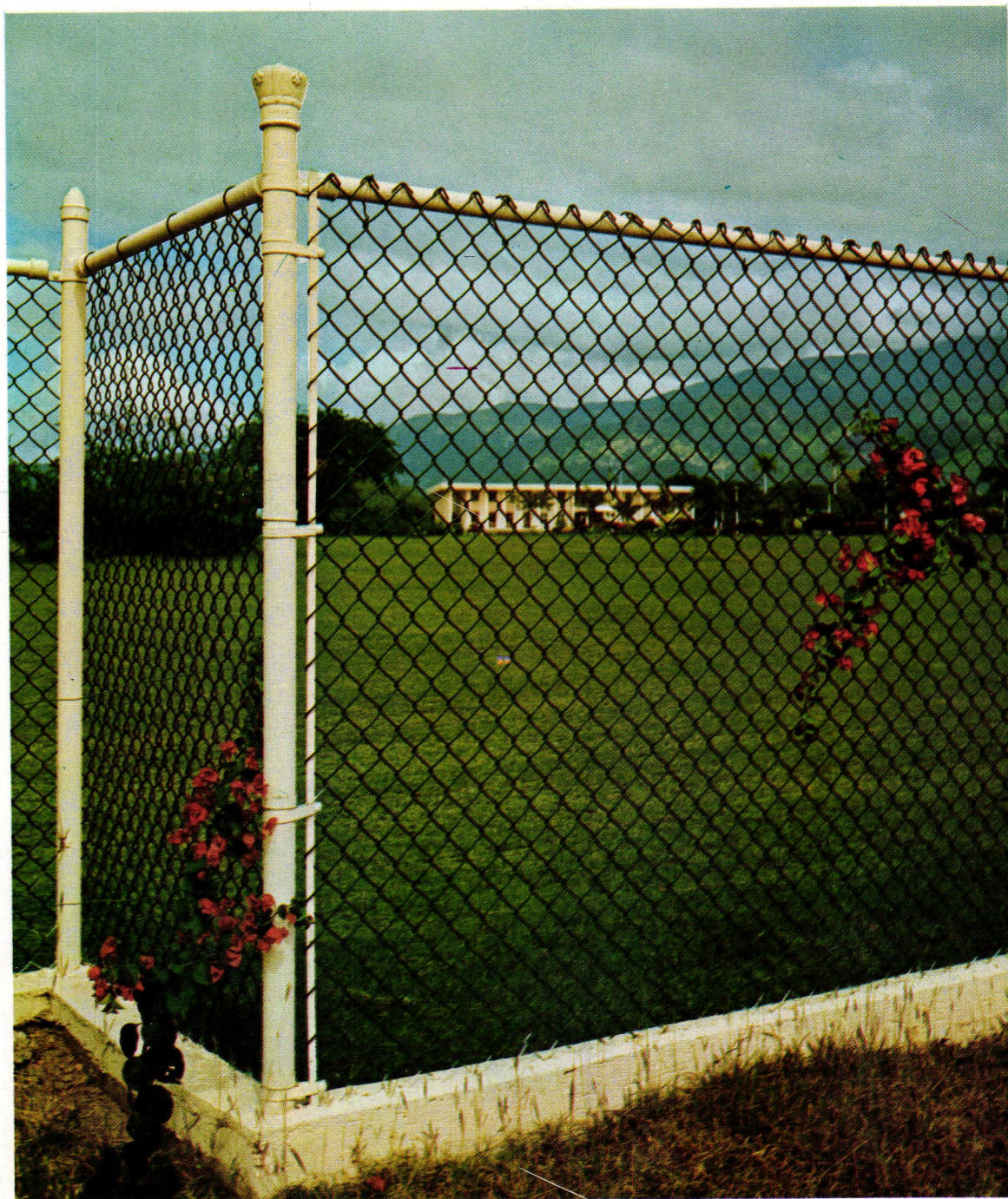
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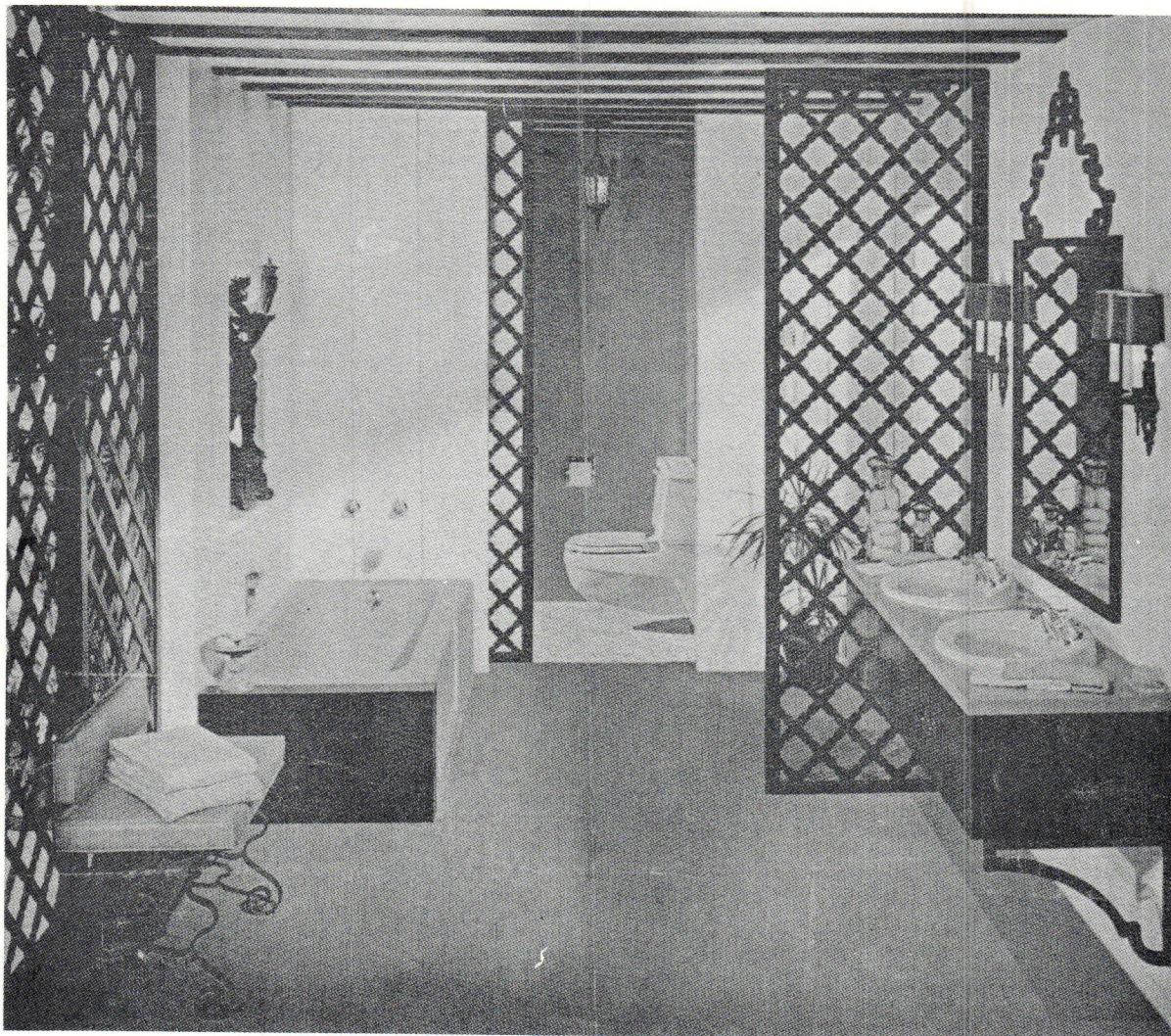
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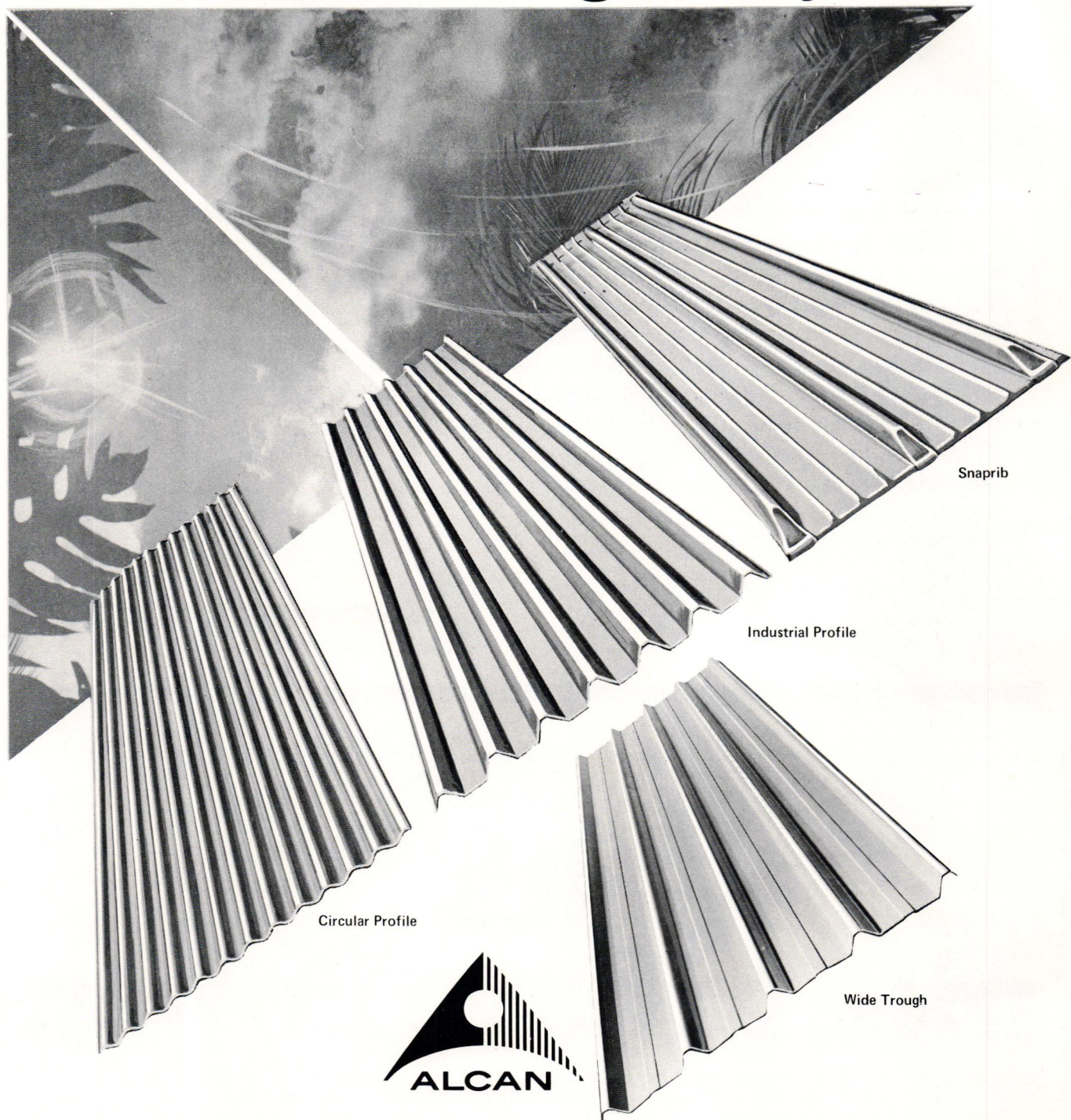
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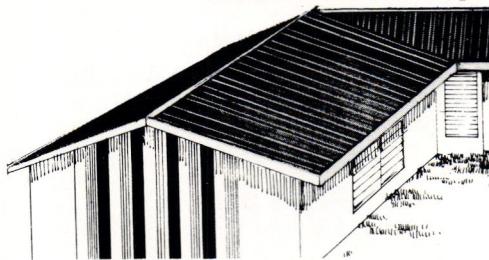


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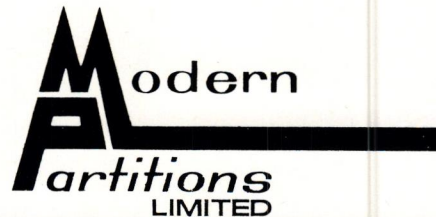
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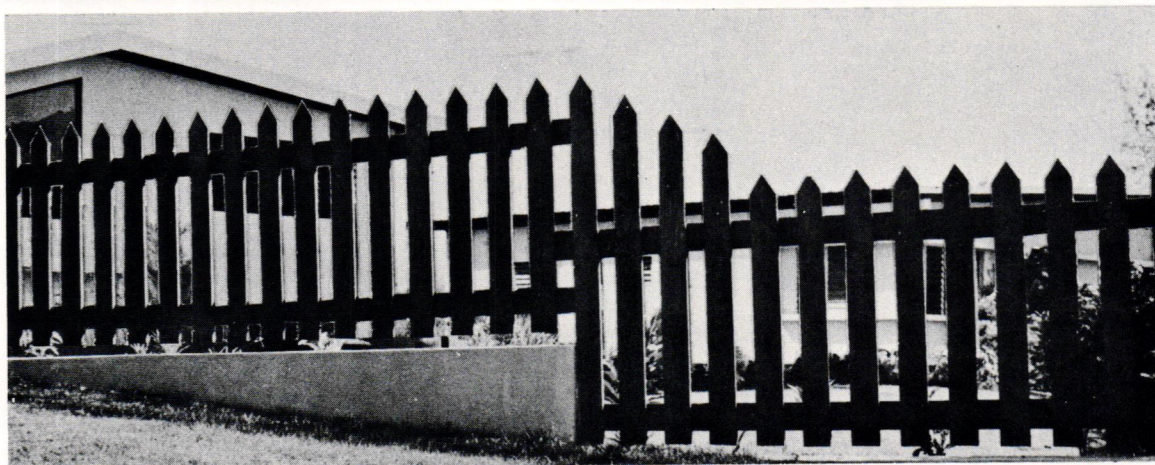
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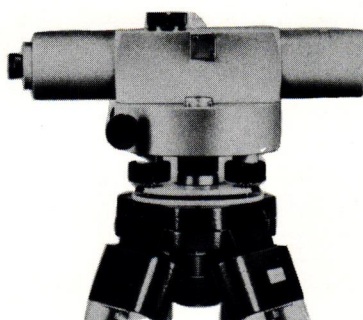
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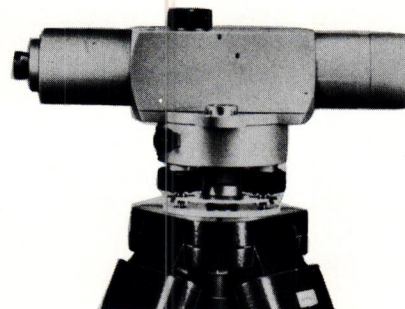
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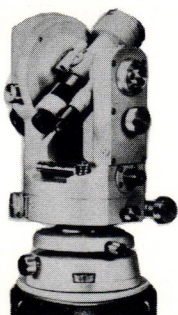


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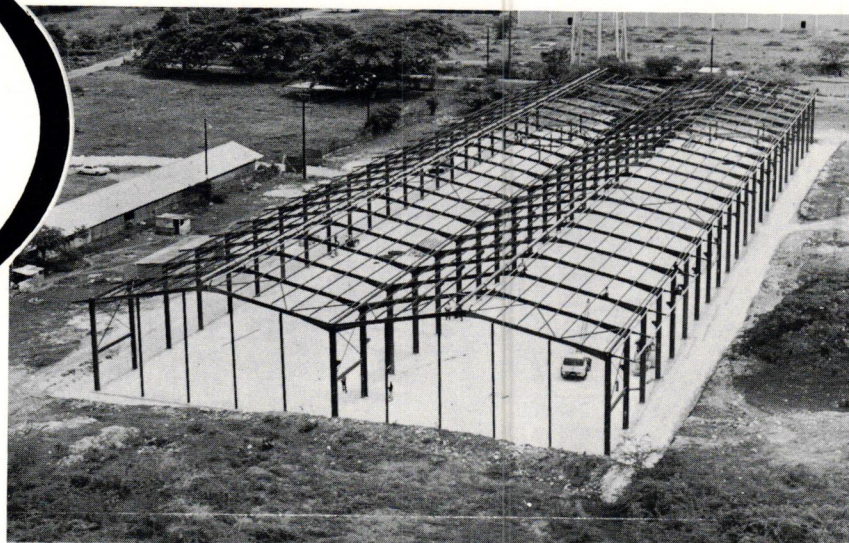
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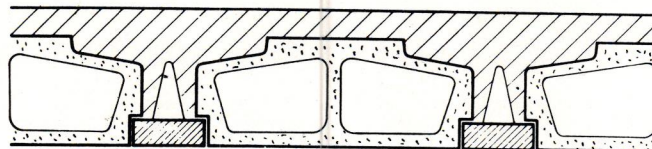
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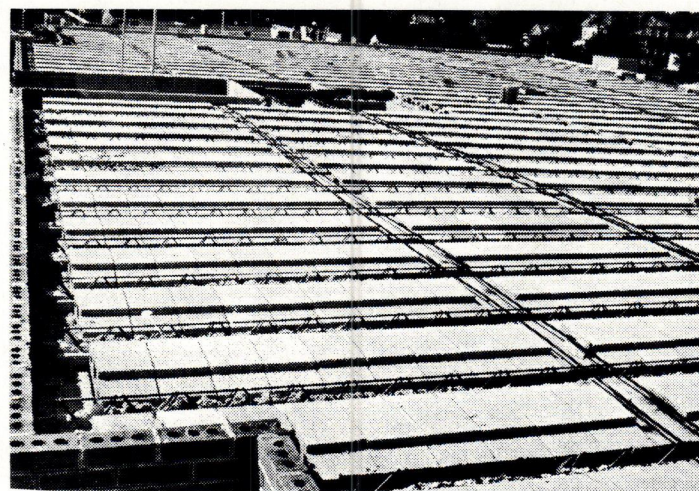


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A REVIEW OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE TROPICS

ISSUE 9 1972

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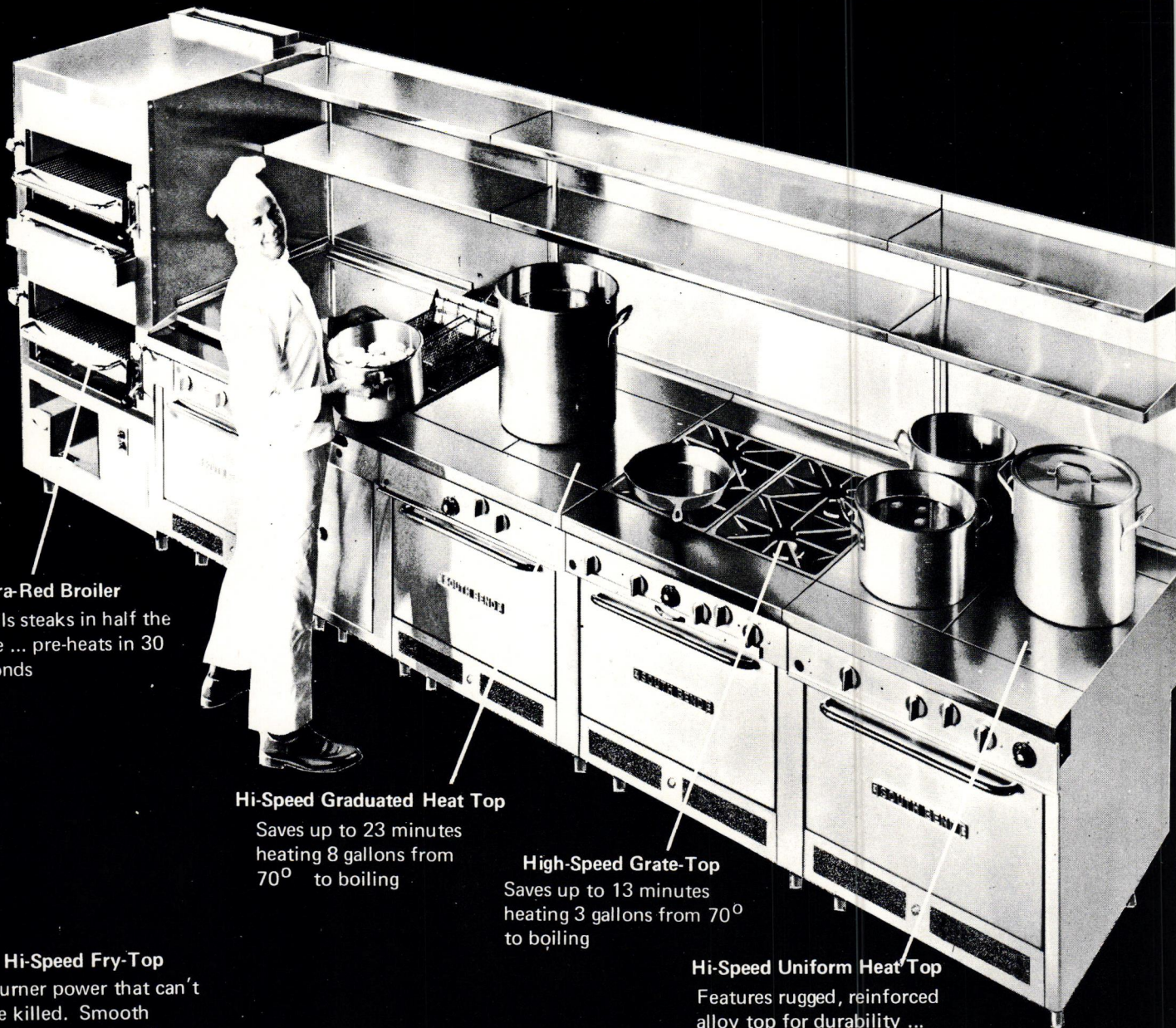
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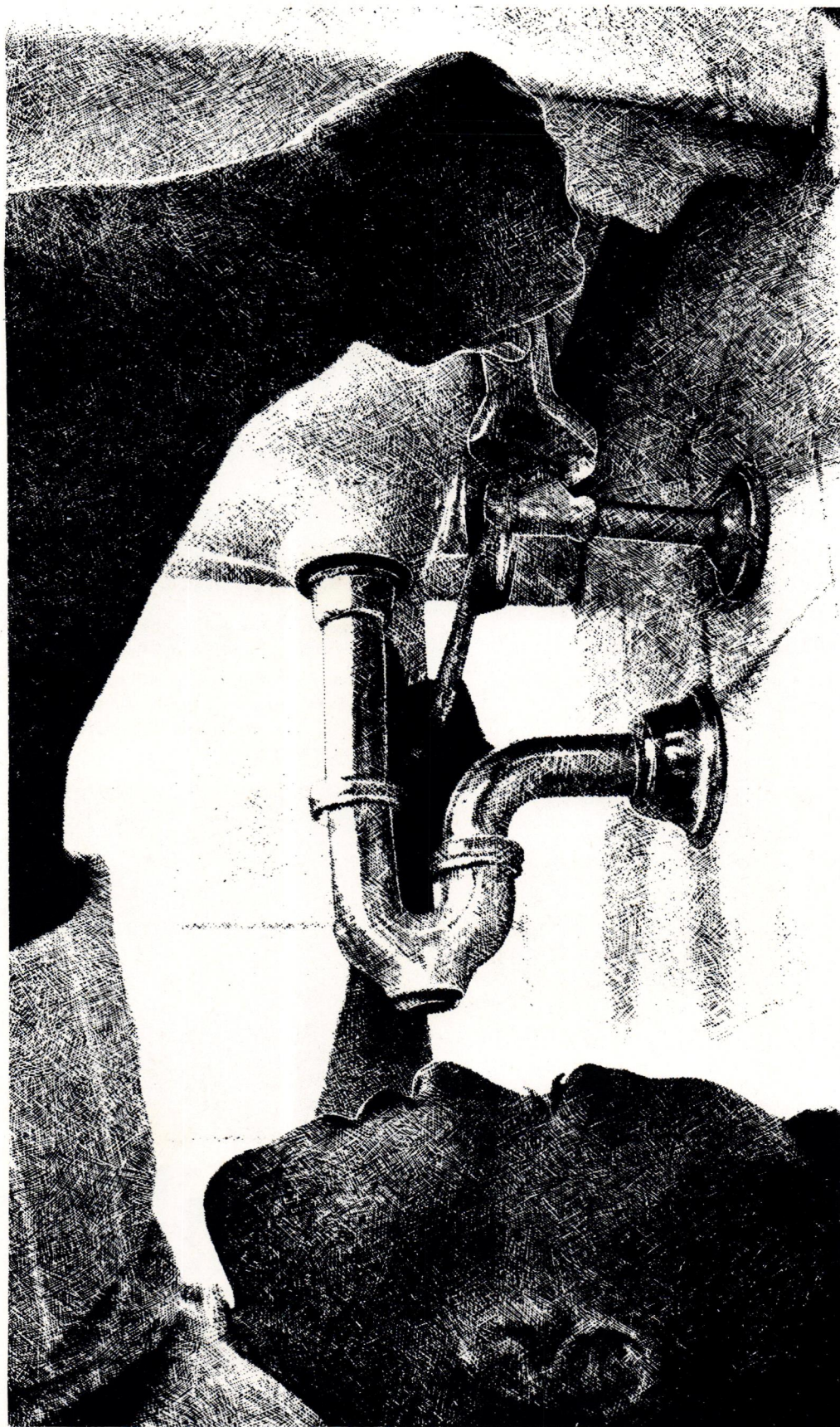
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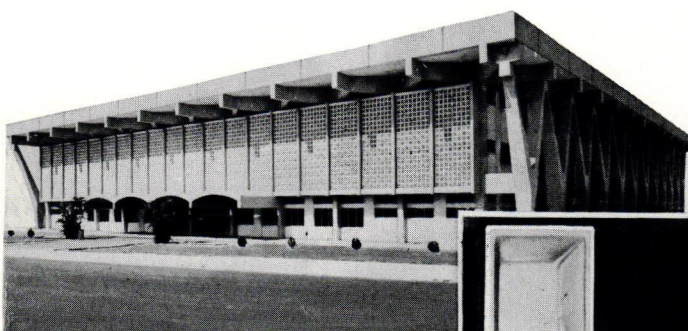
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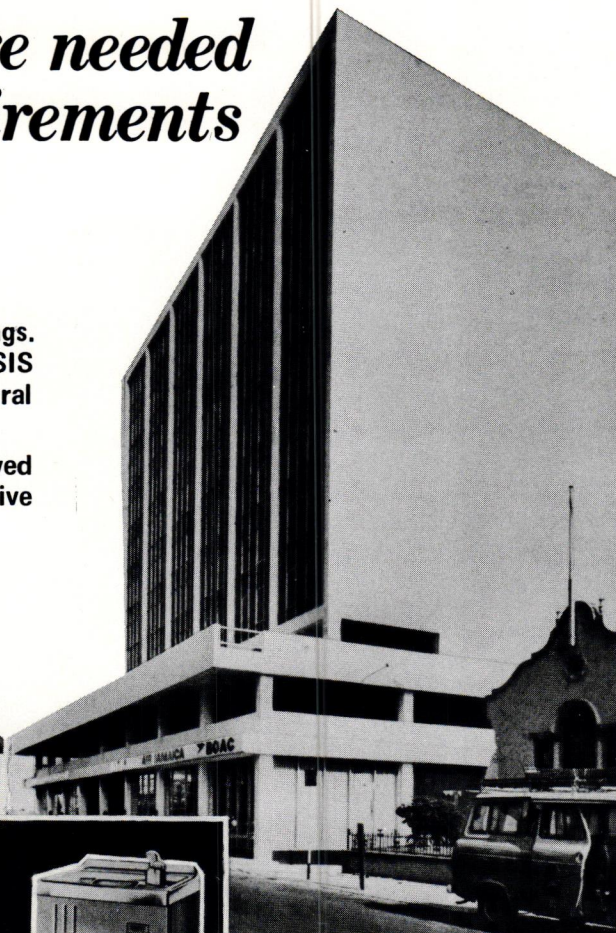
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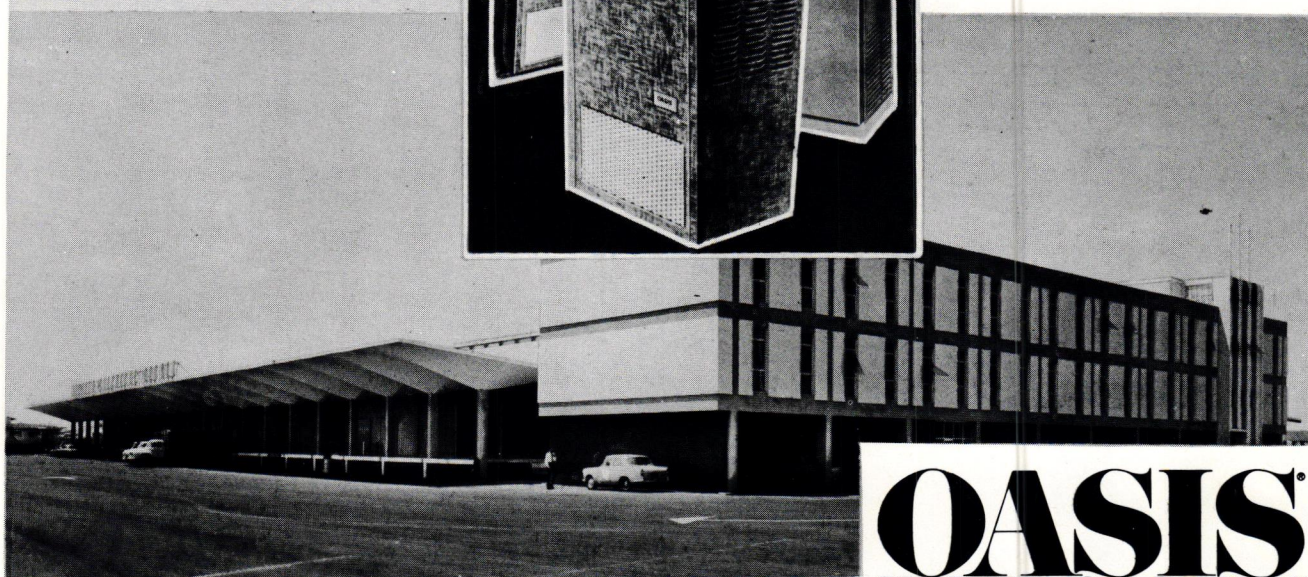
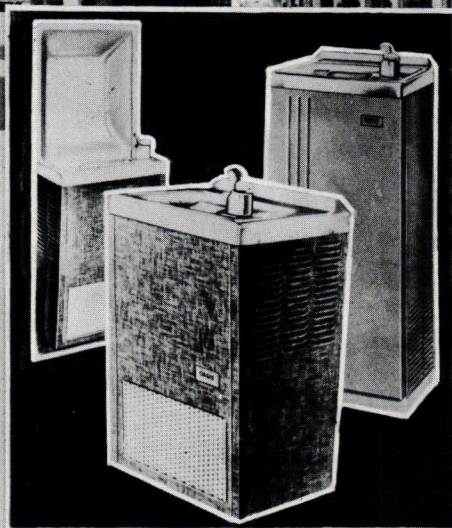
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greed is the creed by Angus Wyman Macdonald, M. Arch. J.S.A.

Most of the world's people are unawakened to the fact that times have already changed. Those who have been sitting around talking of change and revolution are unaware that full revolution has already occurred right beneath their chairs. We have caused it, but we are unaware of it. Let us enlighten ourselves about these changes as they come from an unexpected quarter and they are far more universal and immediate than is widely suspected. People have always assumed that they could have as many children as they could produce, wrest from the Earth, Sky, and Water anything they desired, and shove their wastes anywhere they liked. Overpopulation is the largest single problem in the world today. Useable natural resources are being depleted, and the World, its air, its sea, its earth, is full, yes full, of our wastes. Completely new concepts govern our survival (yes, he said survival.) How ironic that Western Man, the self-styled master of the World, yea, of Nature, now thinks in terms of mere survival. New Concepts such as husbandry and recycling of wastes, and of resources, are inimical to our greedy expansiveness. These new concepts

now, today, there are some ten-thousand fatalities per day due to malnutrition, ' that is, ten to twenty million deaths by starvation per year.' Our so-called renewal resources such as timber are not renewable in a human scale of time as we are presently felling trees which are the result of a seven-hundred to one-thousand-year succession of growth.' They will not be renewed during our lifetime nor during our grandchildren's lifetime.'

already govern the actions of many important sectors of world society; if we as persons do not live by them, we shall, quite simply, not survive! Sounds incredible? Let's take a look at a few of the facts. Even with our modern technology and our so-called Green Revolution our planet does not adequately feed or house three billion people, but at our present rate of growth, World population will reach four billion by 1975¹ and will be six to seven billion in thirty years. Right

As for our non-renewable resources, they are rapidly disappearing.⁶ The Earth's topsoil and arable lands are rapidly decreasing!⁶ There are many times more mouths to feed and many times less acreage suitable for food production. As to pollution, the Biosphere literally cannot hold any more of our wastes without collapsing . . . that is, we have filled everything up so much with our wastes that we are breathing, eating, and drinking our own wastes. Many people live, today, in a septic environment.⁷ Large portions of the world have been polluted to such an extent that the food chain has been destroyed..⁸ That is, the natural mechanisms which produce food have been upset. Pesticides and chemical poisons have already caused deterioration of the environment throughout the globe. We are poisoning the very Hands of Nature that feeds us with the result that we are ingesting poisons. More of us will die each year from poisonous residues in the food we eat, these deaths are often attributed to other causes.⁹ These are not prophecies — these are facts, already history. The Environmental Revolution has challenged the basic fact of Man's existence on the Earth. Either Man changes his ideas, ideals, and his method of living, or he shall become extinct. By Man, I mean you and me. Given these, the Facts of the Environmental Revolution, what are we, as Jamaicans, as Architects, as people, to do? Let us look at Jamaica in the light of the unfolding Environmental Revolution. At least we have not poisoned our soil and our water to the extent that highly developed countries have reached. This is probably due to a lack of money with which to buy insecticides rather than to foresight. At this stage we must make legislation. We have an abundant supply of water which remains to be harnessed. Erosion is a prime problem in our agricultural environment. Our topsoil and watersheds must be preserved by immediate efforts, for with them lies our hope for survival. Our air



is becoming more polluted daily by the proliferation of cars, industrial waste and brush burning. Every morning within recent months a pall of smoke and smog hovers over Kingston, a threatening new-comer to the health and beauty of the city. Legislation must be passed limiting the amount of exhaust emissions from motor vehicles. Police should be empowered to impound offending vehicles.

Although in the past it always seemed unfortunate to be, as economists are pleased to say, "Under-developed" it now appears that Jamaica has come through the first part of the Environmental Revolution relatively unscathed. Perhaps we are in a better position than our over-polluted, over-poisoned, and over-developed brother nations. If we are wise enough to read the writing on the wall we may very well, by careful husbandry of what we have, be ahead in the long run. Among nations Jamaica stands as a small but potentially self-supporting and up-standing country. There is no need for us to imitate countries which have over-developed and irreversibly poisoned their environment. Rather we should take a new tack and develop in a different, and for us more viable, pattern.

Under the new rules of the Environmental Revolution our island can stand on its own two feet. We have a climate which allows us to grow more and varied foods than many of our Northern brother nations. It is now obvious that food, even more than factory goods will be at a premium in the World. Our efforts must be directed towards developing new and efficient ways of distributing, packaging, and marketing varied staple foods grown, without the use of poisons, for a national as well as World market. The so-called cash crops and their heavy and expensive, to us, subsidies must give way to varied and profitable farming based on sound ecological principles. No longer will we be at the mercy of a limited and widely-fluctuating market abroad for a few crops, but we shall be versatile, marketing many different foods, properly packaged, during many seasons. We need to grow crops which will keep us alive so we need import no more chemically treated food from abroad as well as staples to sell on a World market with steadily rising prices for protein and vitamin rich foods. We will no longer depend on international favouritism and artificially high prices in order to export our goods.

If our island is to maintain financial autonomy and political identity we must not try to beat our more specialized brother nations at their own game of industrialism. What is true among individuals is also true among developers, banks, and nations: no one is giving anything away. We have been judging our advancement by the amount of "progress" we buy from abroad. Copying industrialism on a small scale in Jamaica can only be profitable for the nations which transport and sell us the parts. Personal and corporate profits must be balanced against profit to the Island and our society as a whole. If several individuals stand to make a profit by monopolizing and raising prices on goods which could be imported more cheaply than they can be assembled here, are we so rich as a society that we can afford that extra expense? We must accept the packaging and distributing of staple foods for our own consumption and for export as our new industrial challenge rather than attempting to mimic the manufacture of industrial goods at great expense to our overall economy. Agriculture is our strong point in the World of the Environment Revolution and we must act accordingly.

Our nation does not have to become a land of factories and urban slums. Because of Jamaica's natural beauty and climate we already have a major industry in Tourism. The over-developed countries are selling us their idea of progress, but any progress which does not honour our national heritage, natural, architectural, and social, is not true progress. Tourism will suffer if we do not preserve our natural heritage. People who have over-developed their own environments seek the natural beauty of our island. We would be ruining that industry by turning Jamaica into a small version of the large industrialised countries.

Jamaica does not necessarily have to become a reproduction of the 'developed countries to survive in today's World. Governmental and private spending to buy from abroad the so-called earmarks of progress, is a drain on the possibilities of a true Jamaican progress leading to a truly Jamaican environment. Sure we can afford all these things, but only at the expense of our identity and the future of our Island. Borrowing money from abroad is very fashionable as is building multi-storied monuments to so-called progress, but in the end, the ones to benefit are a few individuals, and to suffer is the character and environment of our Island.

If the same amount of energy which goes into the purchase of these trinkets of progress were to be used to establish a progressive educational system and a working agrarian reform including the industries of packaging and distributing food, Jamaicans would have a rockstone base for their culture in the World of the Environmental Revolution which could not be shaken by international price fluctuations or favouritism. Our Island could be self-sufficient because of climate and careful husbandry of its natural resources.

There are several architectural issues involved in an overall sense: respect for the natural environment in an ecological as well as a decorative sense, and respect for Jamaica's architectural history in a design as well as a functional sense. These issues are matters of conscience to our architects. As architects we should see ourselves as translators of the heritage and natural environment. As designers we can use the architectural past and our country's ecology to produce good and lasting architecture.

Building must live with plants indoors and outdoors.



Illustrations by Angus W. Macdonald

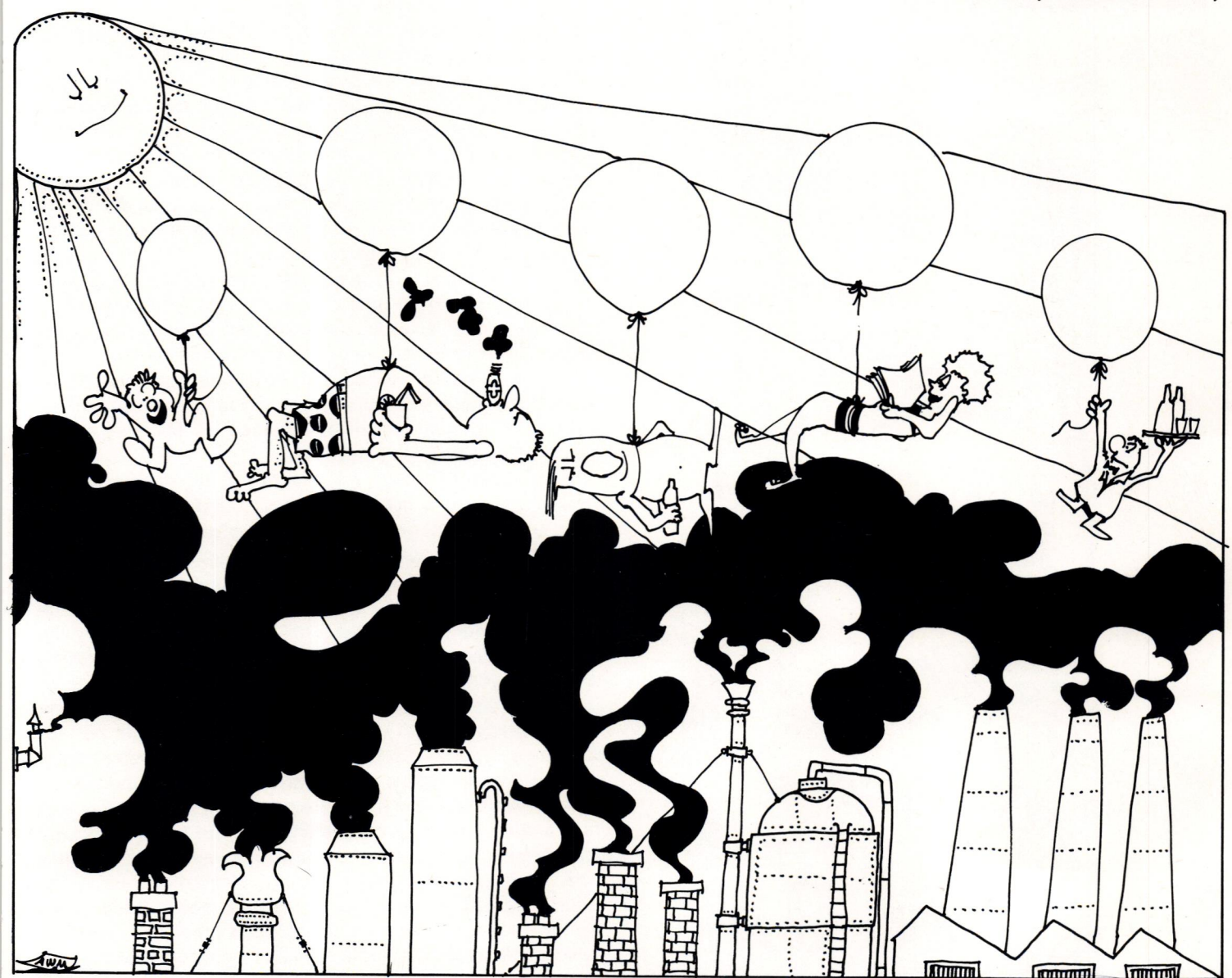
Indiscriminate chopping down of trees for housing developments and parking lots must stop. Indiscriminate terracing of the hillsides must stop. We must take the trouble to design for slopes in ways that will leave the ground cover intact in order to avoid erosion. Building should be designed to be cool, as they were designed in previous years. Such buildings, such cities would free the individual, make his environment more harmonious, negating the cold climate idea of outside versus inside and the resultant mechanisms. Our architecture should remain true to its roots and be an architecture of shady trees, verandahs, indoor plants, and beautiful gardens, a truly tropical architecture.

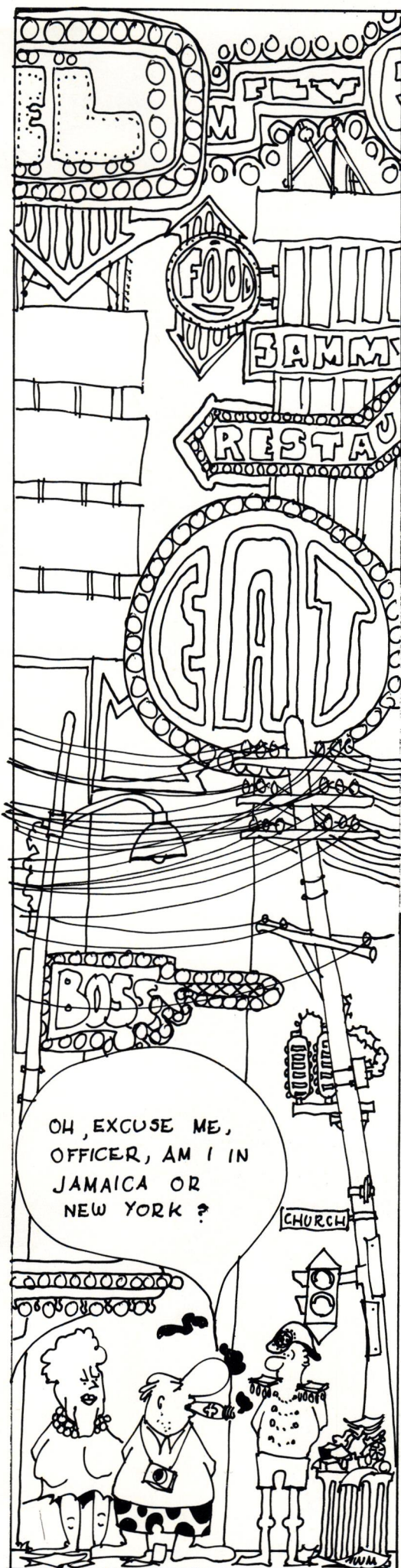
Excessive tree chopping and paving have changed the environment in Kingston. Old-time Jamaicans used to walk comfortably in suits in downtown Kingston. Trees

store cool air under their branches and a breeze moves this air into open windows and onto verandahs. Paved parking lots create heat as do cars. We are lucky in that we still have a capital which is for the most part filled with trees. Let's not mindlessly reverse our heritage for personal gain.

Jamaicans are famous for their love of plants. In even the poorest urban yard one finds plants cultivated in anything which will hold dirt. Why then are we paving our island so fast? Roads can go around shade trees. Parking lots can be gravel rather than asphalt or concrete. Trees can be left in them. Gravel allows each lot to soak up its own rain water, thus raising the water table and eliminating run-off and erosion. Thus water can be stored naturally without expensive dams. Such water can be tapped by wells.

Co-existence of Tourism and Industry





Architects and developers must practice the principle of replacing all topsoil they remove for buildings. This topsoil could go on the roofs where it would form a planted insulating layer, keeping the buildings cool. Vertical walls of several storeys should have planters. Thus the net amount of greenery in a developed area should equal the amount before development. Only thus can we think of development in the Environmental Revolution.

As individuals we have several important contributions to make towards our survival: first we must reduce our birth rate. Jamaica is a finite land; space is understandably limited. Excellent progress has been made in this respect through the establishment of Family Planning Centres and a bold public education campaign. Continued attention must be given to the goal of achieving a zero population growth so that a decent life with adequate work, food, and space can be assured to all Jamaicans.

As individuals we must realize that our responsibility for the environment lies beyond our own yards. Indiscriminate dumping of trash along the roads, burning of brush and unnecessary cutting of underbrush have no place in husbandry. Our precious topsoil is held in place by even the scrubbiest plants — to cut or burn them opens the area to erosion. Topsoil takes a hundred years or so to form, and then only under favourable conditions.¹⁰

Our real contribution as individuals towards our survival in the Environmental Revolution will be to temper the greed with which we attack Nature and with which we amass wealth at Nature's expense. This change in attitude will illuminate some deep psychological problems in our makeup. We assume we have self-control, but actually our actions are the result of cultural conditioning. We have been brainwashed by profit-seekers into believing that it is right to consume all the goodies turned out by the over-industrialized societies. Thus in Jamaica it is considered good to import this and that, and use up whatever baubles are placed on the market. The fact of the matter is however that every car, every gallon of gas or oil, every throw-away package, every kilowatt of electricity not only costs Jamaica, but costs the World. Every resource used in excess shortens our survival time.

It is time to consult our collective conscience. To exploit the land, sea, or air for personal satisfaction or gain, is to literally lessen our chance for survival, not to speak of our children's survival.

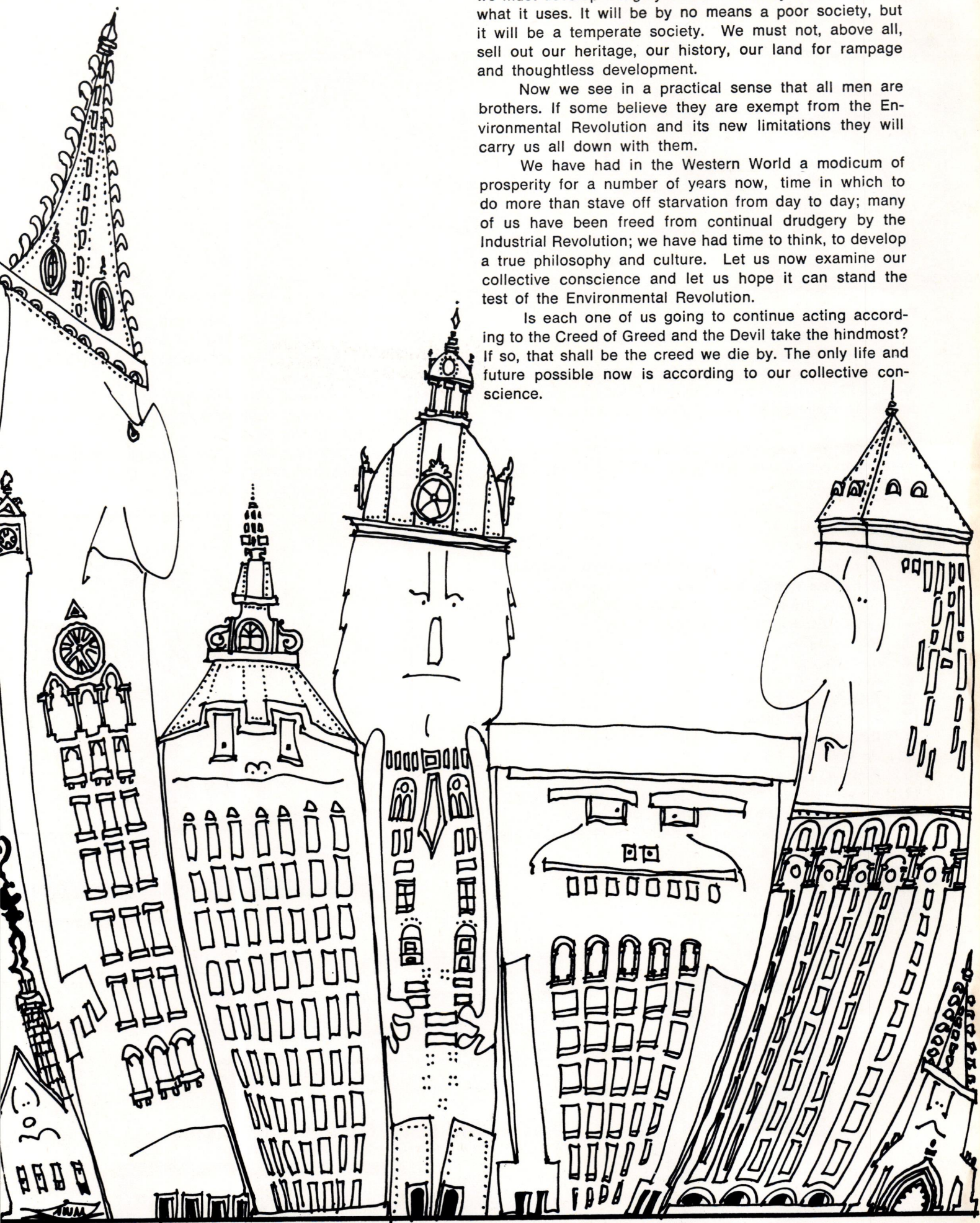
In cave-man days we had to get together a pile of rocks by the cave mouth to protect ourselves against the wild animals. The pile had to be big enough to last the night. Most of us are still hung-up in gathering symbolic rocks (money) enough to last the night, only now, we gather at each other's expense, and the night has become as long as our lives.¹¹ The Environmental Revolution will force us to change our age-old way of thinking and dealing with the World. The psychology of personal hoarding is no longer viable. If we continue to accumulate according to its dictates, we will hoard ourselves right out of existence. The World is no longer an open system as it was in cave-man days. It is past time for us to modernize our thinking. We are now crowded together because of our numbers. If I use up gasoline, pollute the air with my factory smoke, pollute the water with my waste, it hurts you. Enter a new morality forcing Brotherhood upon us. Each of us does not act in a vacuum and therefore our awareness must now encompass each other and we must have compassion for each other, or none of us will live.

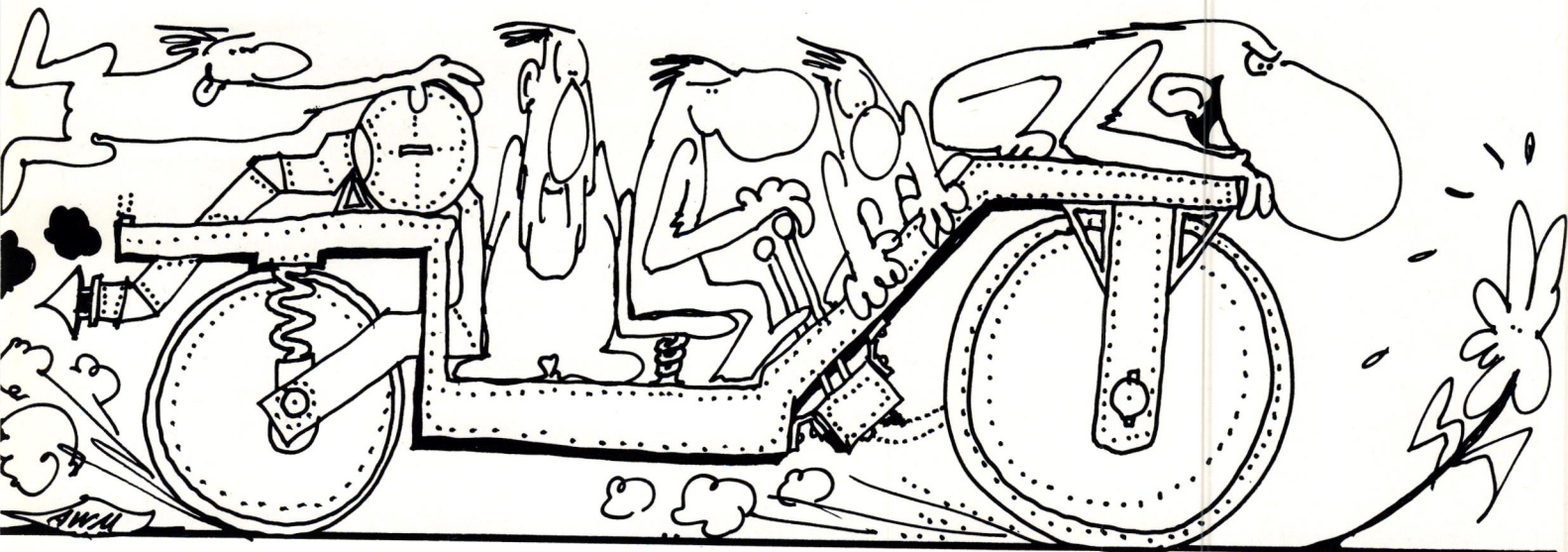
Instead of emulating the so called 'affluent' countries and their ruinous consumption of Natural resources we must develop a highly sensitive society which replaces what it uses. It will be by no means a poor society, but it will be a temperate society. We must not, above all, sell out our heritage, our history, our land for rampage and thoughtless development.

Now we see in a practical sense that all men are brothers. If some believe they are exempt from the Environmental Revolution and its new limitations they will carry us all down with them.

We have had in the Western World a modicum of prosperity for a number of years now, time in which to do more than stave off starvation from day to day; many of us have been freed from continual drudgery by the Industrial Revolution; we have had time to think, to develop a true philosophy and culture. Let us now examine our collective conscience and let us hope it can stand the test of the Environmental Revolution.

Is each one of us going to continue acting according to the Creed of Greed and the Devil take the hindmost? If so, that shall be the creed we die by. The only life and future possible now is according to our collective conscience.





Personal Action Possible

Read these books to get a clear idea of what the Environmental Revolution means.

Take action to reduce your number of future births.

Support Politicians, Developers, and Architects who show sensitivity towards the environment and ecology of our island.

Plant wherever you can; conversely, do not burn or cut underbrush unless you are going to plant there. Plant shade trees.

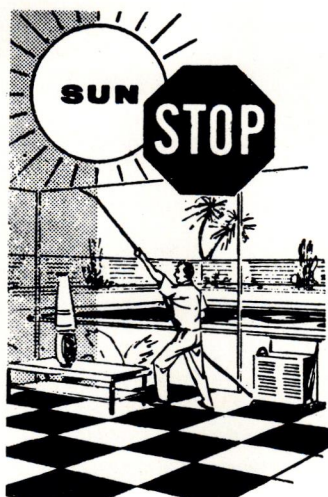
Do not import frivolous luxury items from abroad. Cut down on your use of gasoline and automobiles. Pressure for a modern public transport system. Cut down on your use of electric power.

Tidy up the Island. Put your trash in dog-proof containers. Pressure for punctual garbage collection. Use returnable containers wherever possible.

Think of more possibilities for personal action and get together with your friends . . . take action . . . organize and activate the collective conscience.

Footnotes:

1. Garrett de Bell Ed. **The Environmental Handbook**, Ballantine Books, New York. 1970, p. 176.
2. Rienow, Robert & Leona, **Moment in the Sun**, Ballantine Books, New York, 1970, p. 13.
3. Ibid. p. 239.
4. de Bell : p. 175.
5. Ibid. pp. 107 - 111.
6. Rienow, p. 241.
7. Ibid. pp. 128 - 130.
8. Ibid, p. 248.
9. de Bell : pp. 76 - 91.
10. Rienow, p. 241.
11. Kaiser News, "Ecology the Man Made Planet," Number One of the "Markets of Change Series," 1970, Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp., Oakland Centre, Oakland, Cal.



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Angus W. Macdonald, Guest Editor for this issue of *The Jamaica Architect*, is an American who majored in architecture at Yale University. He graduated in 1964 with a B.A. and went on to study at the Yale School of Architecture. He graduated in 1967 with a Master's degree in Architecture, and was awarded The American Institute of Architects' medal of honour for good studentship.

Mr. Macdonald's Master's thesis proposed apartments opening onto a system of interlocking pedestrian spirals forming courtyards, as a solution for high density low cost housing for Harlem, New York. He proposed reinforced concrete as a basic structural matrix into which the tenants could plug their choice of pre-fabricated fiberglass partitions to form living spaces. Thus, he felt, could self-determination and flexibility within aesthetic perimeters become a part of mass urban housing. This project was designed in the 5-storey vernacular of Harlem's tenements and town houses as a humanistically-scaled alternative to the faceless highrise apartment towers used to house the poor in urban centers. The system was designed to be constructed lot by lot within a given city block and thus would not require re-location of great numbers of people nor a massive one-time investment of public money. Rather it could be carried out, even by private enterprise, as a continuing process of urban renewal incorporating landmarks and buildings not requiring replacement.

In an essay "The Kinetic Aesthetic" Mr. Macdonald defines architectural beauty as the motion through space and time of people working and living within the man-made environment. He feels buildings and landscapes should be designed to prompt beautiful and rhythmic motions of people through them and that this is just as important as the normally considered elements of beauty, shape, colour and texture. Thus he attempts to unite functionalism with formal aesthetics. He says that through their own motions people are brought to self-awareness, and architecture should generate self-awareness in people; beyond accommodation, this is the goal he sees for architecture.

After school, Mr. Macdonald worked for the firm of Harrison and Abramovitz, Architects, in New York and later on did research on a geriatrics center proposed for Connecticut.

Mr. Macdonald moved to Jamaica in 1968 to work for Marvin D. Goodman & Associates and now is an associate of that firm. He is presently engaged in designing a system of pre-fabricated housing using bagasse board, the pressed board made from sugar cane waste. If successful, this form of construction could not only benefit the sugar cane industry, one of Jamaica's economic backbones, but it could also help to fill the demand for rural housing, re-location and temporary housing, as well as permanent homes either in developments, or as assembled by owners and local contractors. As vacation homes, etc., such dwellings may even become an exportable product for Jamaica.

In his spare time Mr. Macdonald is a musician and performs publicly on his self-built, aluminium, 18-string electric guitar, with a Jamaican, Mr. Graham, who plays tabla and drums. They have played their mixture of Indian and American folk music at several Indian weddings as well as at the concert held in honour of the Governor General's Architectural Award this year.

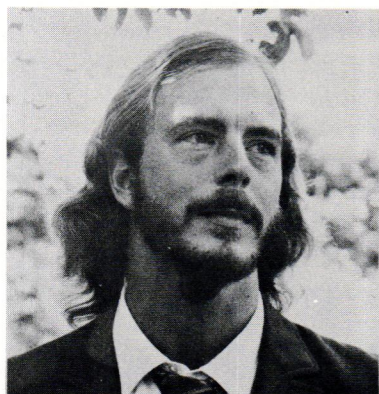
Mr. Macdonald has made several other instruments for himself one of which is a guitar from bamboo which he calls a "bootar". He has also built his own double manual harpsichord following fifteenth century Italian and Flemish designs into which he has inserted ideas of his own. His other home-made musical instruments include a clavichord, plywood guitars, and dulcimers (4 - stringed instruments popular with the hillbillies of Appalachia in the United States).

In addition to all this, he has expanded his activities to the design of furniture and clothes. Mr. Macdonald finds Jamaica a place where there are numerous stimulating people, and an environment of great opportunity for self-expression and growth.

He hopes that this issue of *The Jamaica Architect* will help bring Jamaicans into awareness and appreciation of the fundamental value and uniqueness of their way of life and warn them of the dangers threatening to turn their environment and life style into a faceless copy of other parts of the world. He feels that the future of the Jamaican community and environment is very hopeful when one considers people's personal response to this year's Labour Day refurbishing campaign.

This issue of the *Jamaica Architect* is an action issue. It is an attempt to evoke that same kind of real and personal response in people.

All ideas, criticisms, and thoughts in this issue are offered in hope, love, and thanksgiving.



Angus W. Macdonald

Notes on the Guest Editor

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Photograph of Immaculate Conception Church, Stony Hill courtesy of Rev. Father N. Donahue S.J.



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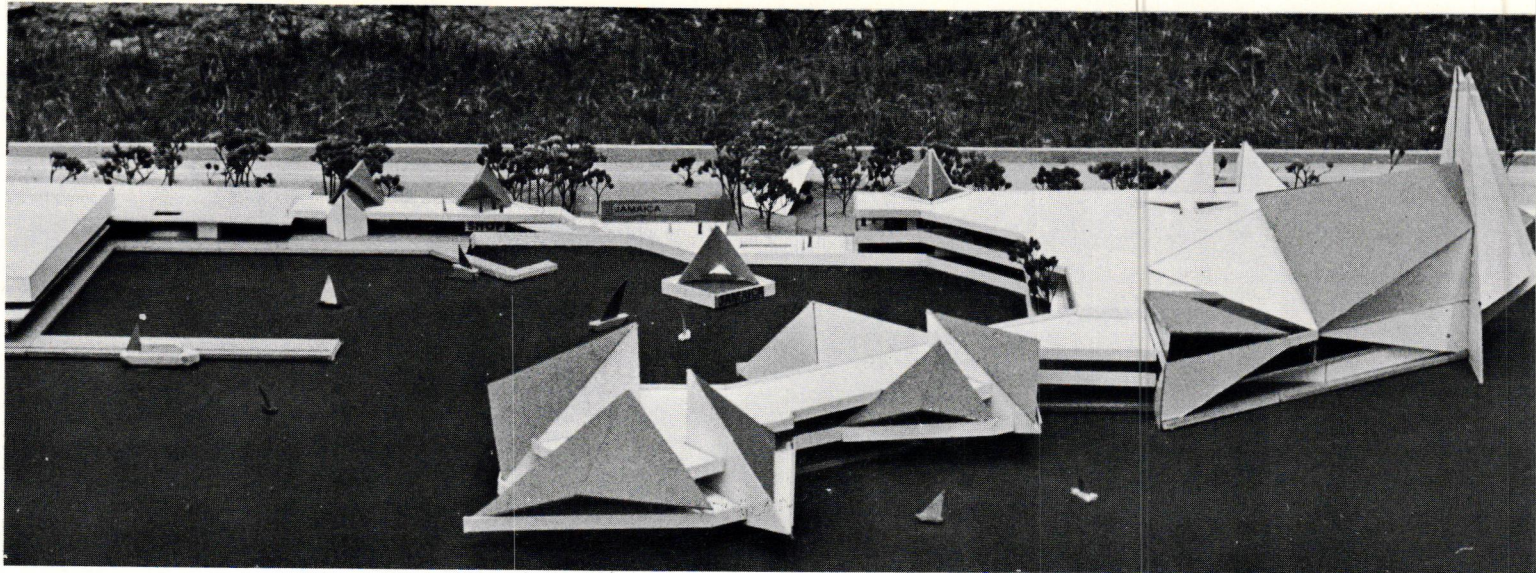
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Model by Aubrey U. Grant Jnr.

A proposal: A CULTURAL CENTRE in Kingston

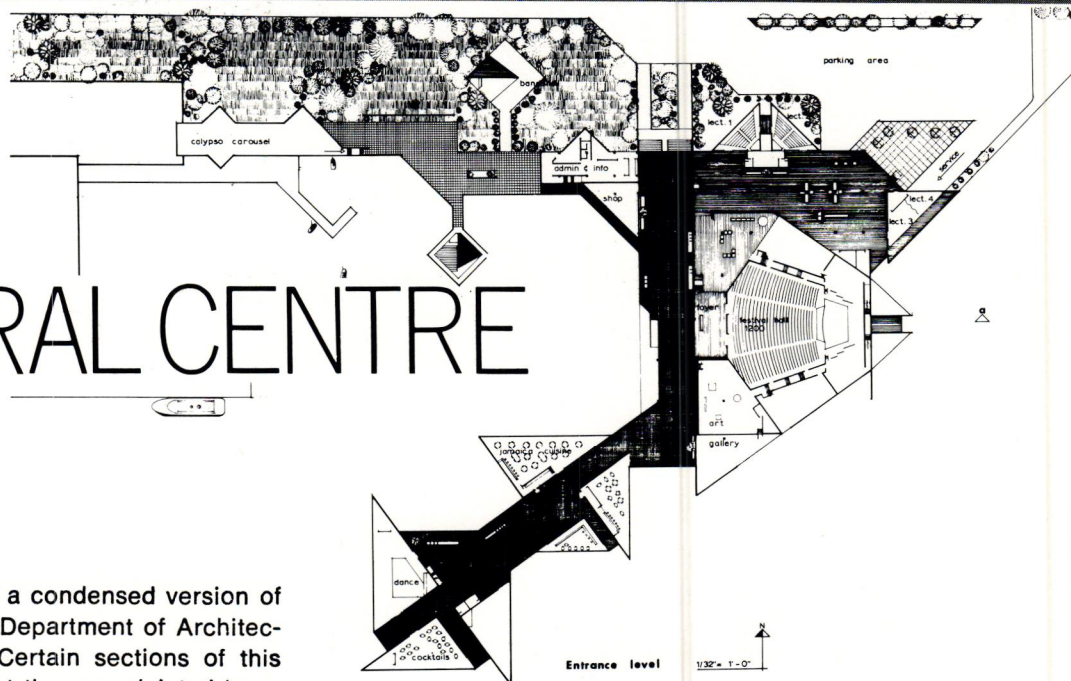
by Aubrey U. Grant, Jnr.
A.A.S. (Bldg. Constr.) B. Arch.
University of Illinois

The report presented here is a condensed version of the thesis report presented to the Department of Architecture at the University of Illinois. Certain sections of this report which were presented at that time are deleted here.

Jamaica, located ninety miles south of Cuba, at a latitude $17\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ north, experiences a warm tropical climate. It is a very mountainous country.

Kingston, the capital of this young nation is the port of entry for most visitors, by plane at the international airport, Palisadoes, and by ship at her famous harbour, the seventh largest in the world. The city is a sprawling colourful blend of sights and sounds truly Caribbean in character. At her back door are the towering Blue Mountains and all around her are evidences of Jamaica's romantic swashbuckling history.

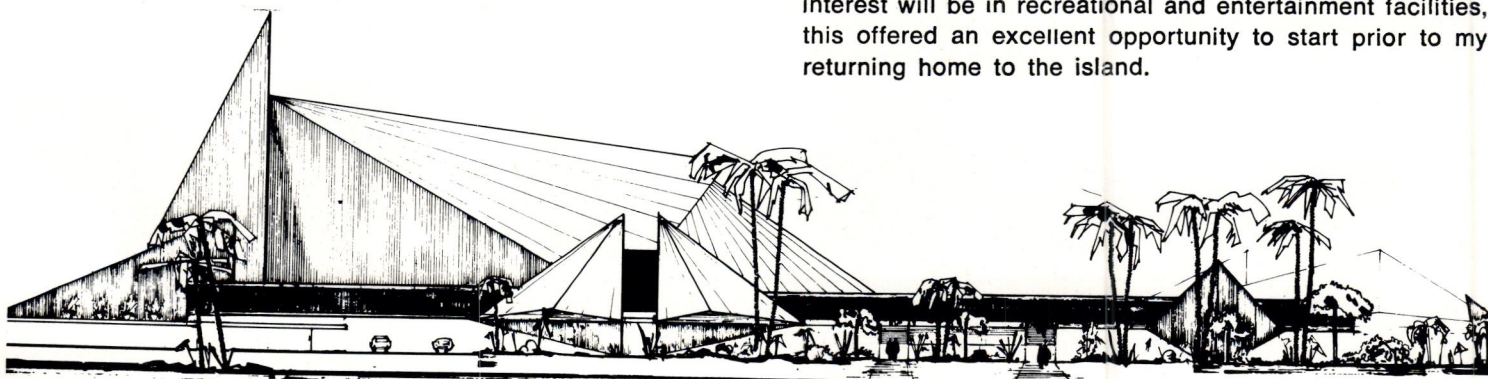
At present the government of Jamaica is engaged in one of its most extensive urban development schemes, namely the Kingston Waterfront Redevelopment. Within this development is proposed a cultural centre and it is

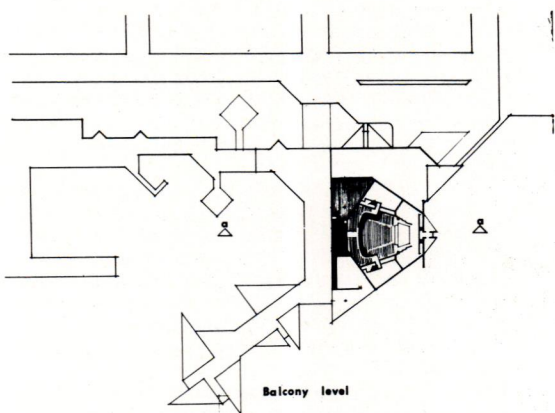
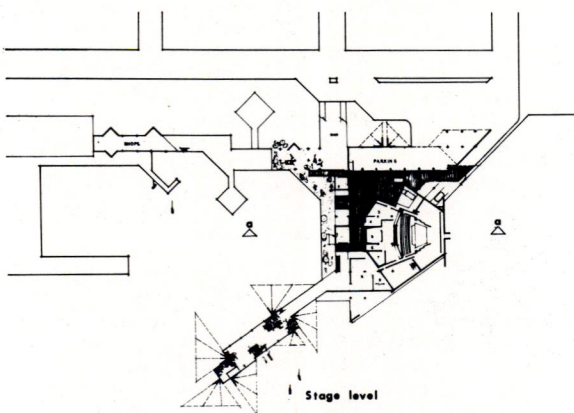
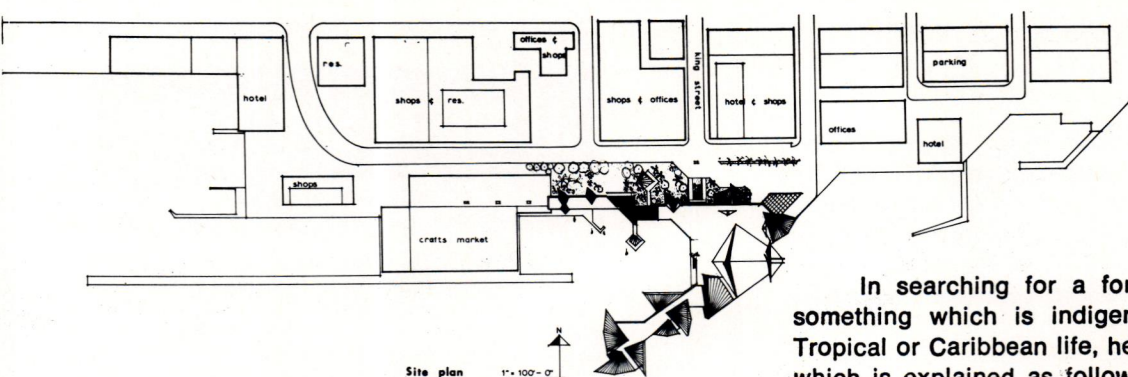


this centre that I have chosen for my design thesis.

It should be stated at this point that the entire scheme for the development of the waterfront has been decided on. The sites for the various activities have been submitted to the government by the urban planners of the development. With this already done I assumed that all research analysis was correct.

The cultural centre is intended to be the focal point of this downtown area, it is to be the generating element of the area day and night for both tourists and residents of the Island. Places in the Island where Jamaican and visitors can mix informally, outside the confines of the resort hotel, are few. This centre is to help alleviate this. The above offers a great challenge and since my main interest will be in recreational and entertainment facilities, this offered an excellent opportunity to start prior to my returning home to the island.





In searching for a form it was my idea to select something which is indigenous to or representative of Tropical or Caribbean life, hence the nature of these forms which is explained as follows:

The forms are representative of sea shells which are found in abundance on the shores of our island. They also represent the sail boats which we always find off our coast. Sailing is an exciting sport which both locals and tourists seem to enjoy.

The forms also represent the wings of sea gulls. The sea gulls hovering above the water seem to suggest the easy and slow atmosphere of the Jamaican way of life.

Lastly, if you will endeavour to examine the coconut or palm trees you will see the resemblance between the two forms. This, I think, is suggestive of the vegetation within this tropical isle of ours. These are my reasons or organs of thought behind the use of these forms.

The structure is of reinforced concrete and timber; certain portions of the roof are covered with stretched canvas.

Festival Hall

The most important element in the Cultural Centre is the Festival hall. This is to be an auditorium of 1,200 seats for dramatic, musical and ballet production. Apart from stage performances, the hall will be used for main sessions of conventions. Because of the nature of the concert hall only one type of performance can take place at any given time. However, the lecture rooms can be used to give small performances on the scale of The Barn Theatre (an existing facility).

Art Gallery

This is intended to be the focal point and the headquarters of all the existing facilities of this nature in Kingston. It will be a place where one can come and obtain information on other art facilities within the city — not only on static arts but also on the plastic arts.

The gallery has facilities for both temporary and permanent exhibits — sculpture and paints. There is also to be a small area for selling post cards and small souvenirs.

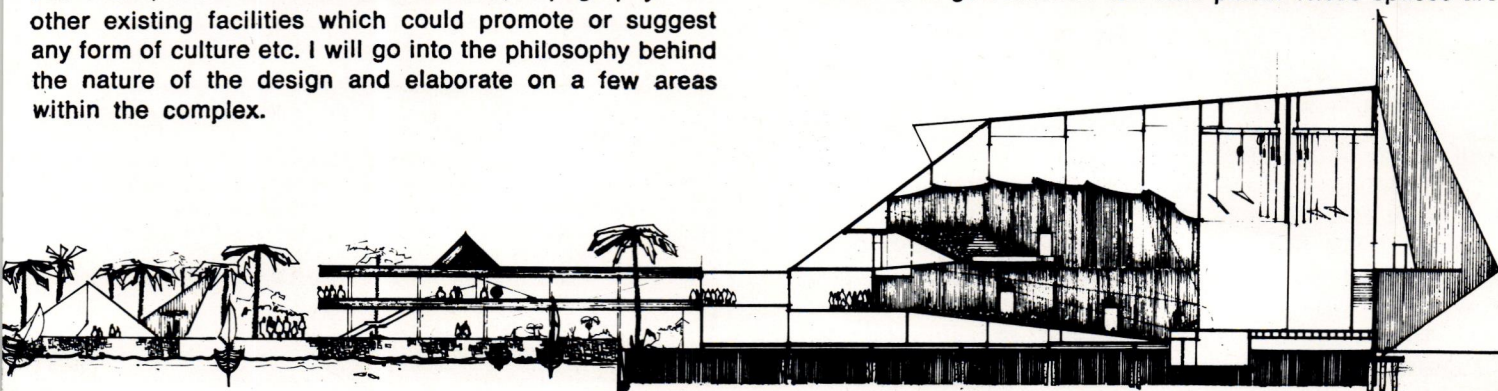
Lecture Rooms

The lecture rooms — four — are of various sizes so that small meetings, conventions and plays that don't attract a large audience can take place. These spaces are

Some of my objectives and considerations in designing this centre were:

1. The cultural centre should facilitate the needs of Jamaicans and tourists.
2. With respect to the climate — it should maintain a high level of physical comfort — in the tropics.
3. Visitors and Jamaicans must share the same amenities.
4. The centre is to be the focus for all the art in Jamaica.
5. It must generate and encourage activity in the area day and night.

Rather than embark upon a lengthy analysis of social intent, the immediate environment, topography and other existing facilities which could promote or suggest any form of culture etc. I will go into the philosophy behind the nature of the design and elaborate on a few areas within the complex.



to be rentable and interiors are flexible to accommodate varying arrangements.

Amphitheatre

A big attraction on Sundays is the playing of Jamaica's Military Band at the Hope Gardens. This activity could take place in this centre, in the open air where at sunset young and old would gather to pass a pleasant evening. The island is noted for limbo dancing and also other creative modern dance. These activities would take place here also.

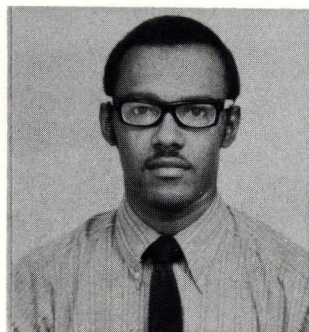
Musicians Kiosks

Jamaican folk music, reggae and calypsoes are enjoyed by residents and tourists. These Kiosks are to provide shelter for small groups of musicians and the spectators who gather to hear them play.

Shops

These are small rentable spaces for the selling of souvenirs, magazines and small works of art. There should be not more than two of these as the centre will be in an area where souvenirs, etc. can be easily purchased.

In closing I would like to express my thanks to the following who supplied me with information and ideas: The Department of Statistics, the Jamaica Information Service, Scientific Research Council and the Kingston Waterfront Redevelopment — Urban Development Corporation.



The author, Mr. Aubrey Grant Jr., worked as a draughtsman with the architectural firm of McMorris, Sibley, Robinson. He says, "I was under the guidance of Mr. Vayden McMorris, who along with my father, was particularly instrumental in my pursuing a course in Architecture. This has resulted in the establishment of the first father and son architectural firm in Jamaica."

NEWS ITEM !

THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF U.I.A. TO BE IN BULGARIA

by Louise McLeod, B.Arch., T.P. (Technion, Israel)

The 11th Congress of the Union of International Architects will take place in Bulgaria, from the 25th to the 30th of September 1972.

It is organized by the Bulgarian section of the U.I.A., and will take place in Varna.

The theme of the Congress is: "Architecture and Leisure", and will be divided into 4 sections as follows:

- 1 — Every day "leisure"
- 2 — Weekly "leisure" — Week ends.
- 3 — Annual "leisure".
- 4 — "Leisure" in developing countries.

Experts on these subjects will present papers to the Congress. Other materials such as: Regulations of the Congress, Rules of the Exhibitions and of the film festival will be sent later.

The Congress will take place during the time when the Black Sea Coast is most animated, sunny and very pleasant. The delegates and guests will be housed in the hotels of the resort "Zlatni Piasazi" (The golden sands) near Varna.

The Bulgarian section of the U.I.A., organizers of this Congress, hopes that all areas will be represented.

students' corner

SELECTION OF SCHOOLS

by Aubrey U. Grant Jr. A.A.S. (Bldg. Constr.), B. Arch.

The formal study of architecture lasts for five years, sometimes longer, depending on the school selected and the students' ability. The student learns a new and highly complex language — the language of design. The vocabulary embraces an almost infinite range of human conditions, materials and equipment. Apart from the technical subjects such as lighting, acoustics, electricity, structural engineering etc. the architectural student is required to do a certain amount of liberal arts and science subjects, which includes the history of man's cultural development, psychology, physics and/or chemistry.

An architect cannot afford to be an uninformed man. He must understand yesterday's architecture in order to be able to create the architecture of today and tomorrow. A secondary or High School academic course, which includes mathematics, history, physics, general sciences, social studies and art, is good preparation for the study of architecture.

Architectural schools have different entrance requirements, but most demand this general background. It is very difficult, at this particular time, to say whether a pass in one A Level Subject and three O Level Subjects will grant you admission to study architecture, because entrance requirements are changing radically in the universities today. The only way to acquire this information is by writing to the accredited school or schools of your choice. I have included a few in this article, but in Jamaica, further information can be obtained from the United States Information Service, the British High Commissioner Chancery, the Canadian High Commission Office, the German Embassy and the Ministry of Education, or from any member of the Jamaica Society of Architects who I can safely say will be willing to assist you.

Beware of the school which says you can receive an architectural degree in two or three years. On the North American Continent the schools are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board, and the schools that are not accredited should be avoided. It is a good idea to write to several schools for catalogs not only to learn about the requirements for admission, but also about the history of the school which is supplied in these and which is sometimes helpful.

The lecture rooms or design studios of schools are not the sole places for learning. Observations and experiences in the world in which the student lives, books, art, the theatre and concert hall all stimulate and contribute to the accumulation of knowledge and the cultivation of the creative impulse which leads to the process of translating building needs into plans for structures.

The following is a list of architectural schools which should be helpful to any prospective architectural student.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.
McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
University of Illinois,
Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, U.S.A.
Ecole D' Architecture De Montreal,
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Pratt Institute,
Brooklyn, New York
Columbia University,
New York, U.S.A.

For students interested in going to Architectural Schools in England, information can be obtained from: The Royal Institute of British Architects, 16 Portland Place, London W.1.N.

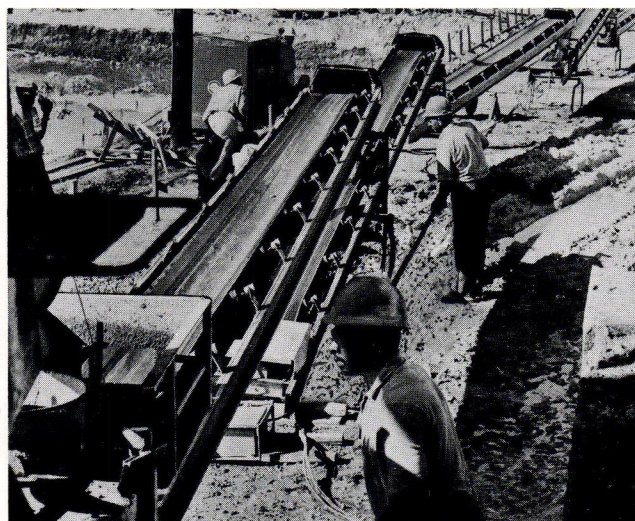
Remember there is plenty of room for the young man or woman with creative ability, enthusiasm, and the capacity for hard work.

An increasing number of students have been attending our open meetings at the Jamaican Society of Architects Centre, 2A Caledonia Crescent, Kingston 5.

There probably will be a lot of questions arising from the above article. These questions should be directed in writing to: "Students Corner", Jamaica Architect, P.O. Box 208, Kingston 10.

Next Issue: "The Syllabus"

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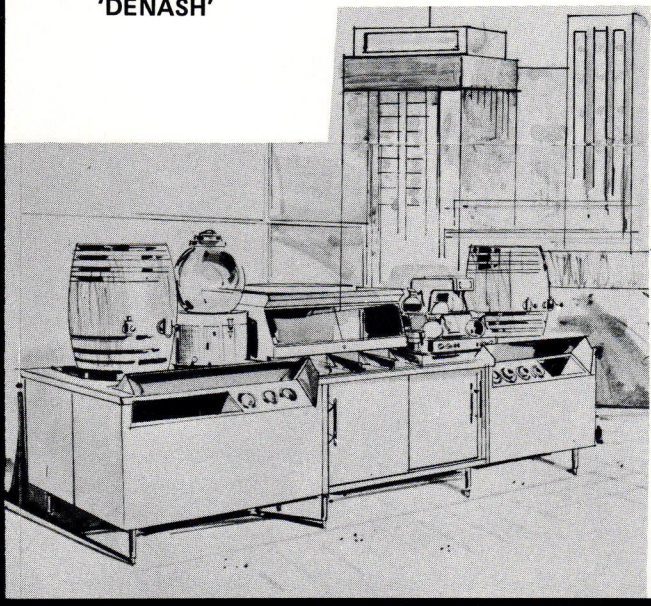
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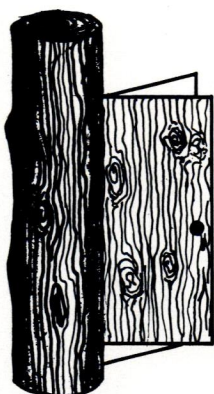
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A Sense of the Whole

by Angus Wyman Macdonald, M.Arch., J.S.A.

Architecture in the overall sense is a definition in physical terms of Man's spiritual relationship with Nature. WHAT WE BELIEVE, WE DO! A wall, a street, a roof, a windows are all elements of our belief about ourselves, about OUR LIVES IN THE UNIVERSE. How do we fit in? In a very graphic sense, we fit in buildings. Buildings express our fitting-in. Architects in their work, express this fitting-in . . . they cannot change it insofar that they are products of and work within the boundaries of society's overall mechanism of fitting-into the Universe, which is sociological and political as well as architectural. Architects, however, may make us "conscious" of this mechanism, in a physical and spiritual sense.

By writing and observing, all of us can fertilize a "consciousness" of our relationship with Nature. "Consciousness" must lead to action on our part, to develop, fashion, and create this relationship, making it meaningful, sensitive, and useful.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

It is the the very basis of our existence.

It is the expression of humanity.

Who is responsible for maintaining it?

On the individual scale: Each of us through personal action. On the social scale: Our politicians and political action in Towns, Parishes, and Nations.

WHAT IS OUR RELATIONSHIP NOW and WHERE ARE WE GOING ?

We are members of a young and growing nation. We are following in the footsteps of other nations, which are more developed. By looking to see where they are, we can see where we shall most likely be. And one of the advantages of our position in this developing country is that we can learn by their mistakes.

In developed countries today there is an ever-growing and painful "consciousness" of their relationship with

nature. There are publications, demonstrations, speeches and TV programmes, all on the subject of air, water, an earth pollution by MAN. The people in these countries are awakening to the fact that their relationship with Nature is by and large not meaningful, sensitive, and useful, but mostly DESTRUCTIVE. They are destroying the intrinsic natural mechanisms which keep men alive on this earth

Plants which make food and air

Wildlife which keeps Nature's delicate systems in balance

Air to breathe

Water to drink

Earth

Sea } to produce the infinite quantity and variety of sustenance for man.

Rivers }

Lakes }

These 'advanced' countries are finally becoming "conscious" of their destructive relationship with nature and are now developing precautionary measures, which are, at their stage of development, both painful and expensive. They are:

On the personal scale by: personal action through information, spread by by communications and the media which will stimulate a "consciousness" of the environment

On the social scale: by enacting legislation controlling Industrial wastes and exhausts. Through legislation; at the town level, to control air pollution by making the burning of brush and garbage illegal, etc. Through conservation of park areas; watersheds, lakes, forests, wildlife, and lands through agricultural controls and methods.

In spite of this, we in Jamaica are heedlessly going along installing the very industries now strictly controlled abroad because of their recognized harmful effect without imposing our own legislative controls; multiplying the number of cars with no thought of the consequences, chopping down trees and paving the ground, expanding in a selfish and haphazard manner with no thought to the possibility that we could avoid the same mistakes and maintain our partnership with nature forever. Must we emulate patterns already shown to be destructive?

There must be some way to encourage us to pause long enough in our growing pains to pay attention to the "consciousness" presently developing in the U.S., U.K. and Japan for instance, to supplement our growth with the necessary controls, products, and legislation NOW!

Architects can help initiate some awareness and action by suggesting new forms which our physical relationship with Nature can take. Responsibility for the financial structure lies with the politicians and with all

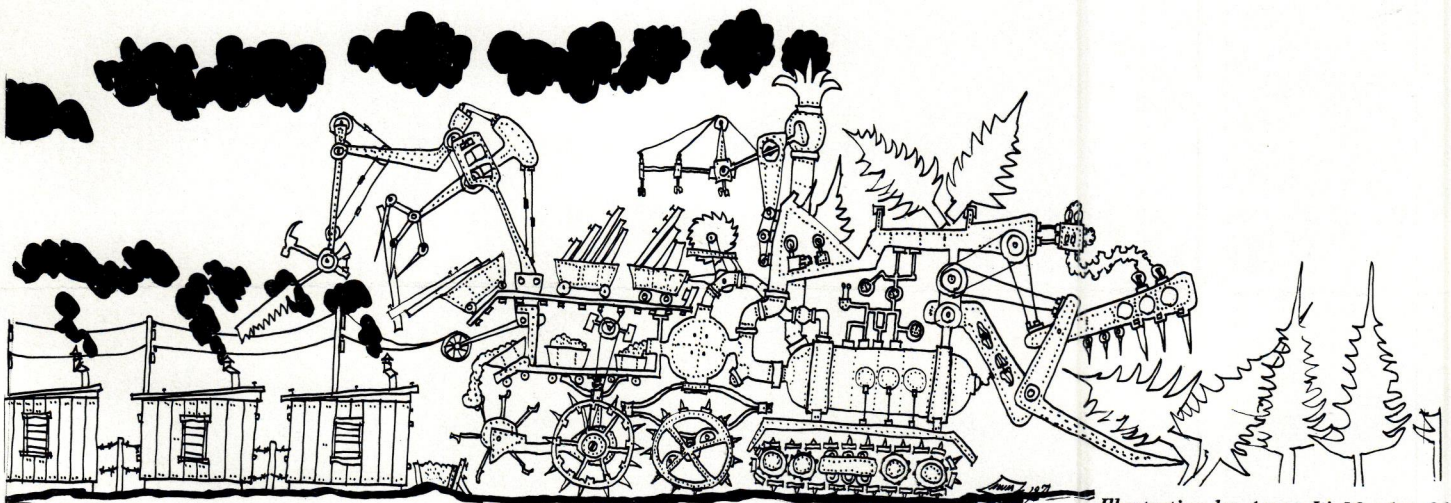


Illustration by Angus W. Macdonald



BE ECO-LOGICAL

LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP POLLUTION

Your living habits and buying power, your letters and your votes will reclaim this earth!

PRODUCT

PROBLEM

ECOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVE

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. DETERGENTS: pre-soaks, water softeners, harsh dishwasher detergent. | Contain phosphates which pollute water and kill animal life by reducing oxygen in our waterways. | Soaps; Vinegar to cut soap film; use one teasp. dishwasher detergent only. |
| 2. HARMFUL CHEMICALS: Spray pesticides, drain and oven cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners. | Contaminate food, harmful to lungs and skin; kills helpful insects (ladybugs, honey bees), pollutes water. | Fly paper, fly swatter; Preventative maintenance (no food wastes lying around). Soap for toilets, ammonia for ovens, elbow grease. |
| 3. PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES: fertilizers with lead arsenate, mercury treated seeds. | DDT and related chemicals spread easily to all parts of globe. Do not degrade, are magnified by passage up the food chain, poison landscape, animals, and people, and are linked to cancer and mutations. | Biological control: ladybugs, predator insects. Aromatic control: marigolds, onions, nasturtiums, herbs. Saucers of beer for slugs and snails. |
| 4. GLASS: non-returnables and all glass containers. | Clog land fill dumps; contribute to litter; useless, expensive production. (In 1969, U.S. threw away 28 billion bottles!) | Buy only returnable beverage bottles. Save and sell miscellaneous glass bottles for recycling. |
| 5. PAPER: plates, napkins, party goods, towels, bags, newspapers, junk mail, coloured facial and toilet tissue. | Comes from trees, a dwindling and expensive resource. Causes water pollution from dump leachate. Dyes and inks pollute and retard decomposition. | Terrycloth towels and napkins. Rags for cleaning. Save newspaper for your paper drive Collector. Buy white tissue! Refuse to buy wastefully packaged goods; save and re-use paper bags — take your own to store. |
| 6. PLASTIC: bags, cups, food containers, polystyrene cups, toys, disposable diapers. | Doesn't degrade readily; when burned, vapor is harmful to health and pollutes air. Exudes harmful chemicals in dumps. Clogs sewage treatment plants. | Don't buy. Re-use what you have:— ice cream cartons, bread sacks. If you must use disposable cups — use paper. |
| 7. ALUMINIUM cans, foil, products. | In 1971, we discarded thousands of cans! Aluminium manufacture consumes electricity, causes air pollution, uses up a finite resource. | If you buy beverages in aluminium cans, flatten and save for recycling. Save and re-use foil. |
| 8. AEROSOLS: furniture polish, deodorant, air fresheners, oven cleaners, spray starch, hair spray. | Propellants dangerous near heat; pollute air we breathe. Tins do not readily degrade. | Manual sprays, similar items in glass bottles, powdered starch. |
| 9. ELECTRICITY: unnecessary lights on, running large appliances from 5-9 p.m. (Peaking power time). | Larger demand justifies nuclear power plants and more dams on more rivers. | Avoid peak hours. Turn off lights and appliances when not in use. Reduce electrical use wherever possible. |
| 10. WASTE disposal — CONSERVATION of natural resources. | Available land for dumps is disappearing, unsanitary, unsightly, damaging to ecology. Sewage treatment plants unable to handle volume; resources are finite. | Re-use and recycle everything; an empty garbage can is a sign of ecological living; the less we throw away, the better our world will be. Use left-over vegetables, egg shells, coffee grounds, etc. for compost. |
| 11. TRANSPORTATION: car, boat, plane, etc. | Ethyl gas, high compression engines, unnecessary trips. The individual in his private car is the major source of air pollution. | Walk, ride a bus, bicycle or car pool. Support mass transit. Drive less. Use lead free gas. Go to the store with your neighbour! |

Information: Courtesy of Educated Consumers Organization (ECO) U.S.A.

Drawing by A. W. Macdonald

of us as individuals for instructing our politicians as to what measures we want taken.

The following suggestions are presented with the facts — they are not dreams; they are possible now, and will be necessities tomorrow. Starting with the large picture: JAMAICA AS A WHOLE:

CONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT:

The mountain slopes around Kingston and other towns, a natural reserve.

Cost: Existing natural growth maintains itself; public areas will need some maintenance.

Method: Legislation now exists in the U.S. whereby the development of properties which are in the public interest may be controlled without the purchase of the property by the Government. This legislation involves the action of a responsible body such as The National Trust Commission already formed in Jamaica to work with Town planning to form the necessary parks and conserved areas throughout the Island.

Necessity: IMMEDIATE: As Kingston becomes more densely developed, interior parks and the

surrounding green hills around Kingston, will become more necessary for the recreation of Jamaicans as well as tourists. It will be too late to reserve these after they are developed. These reservations must be enforced NOW!

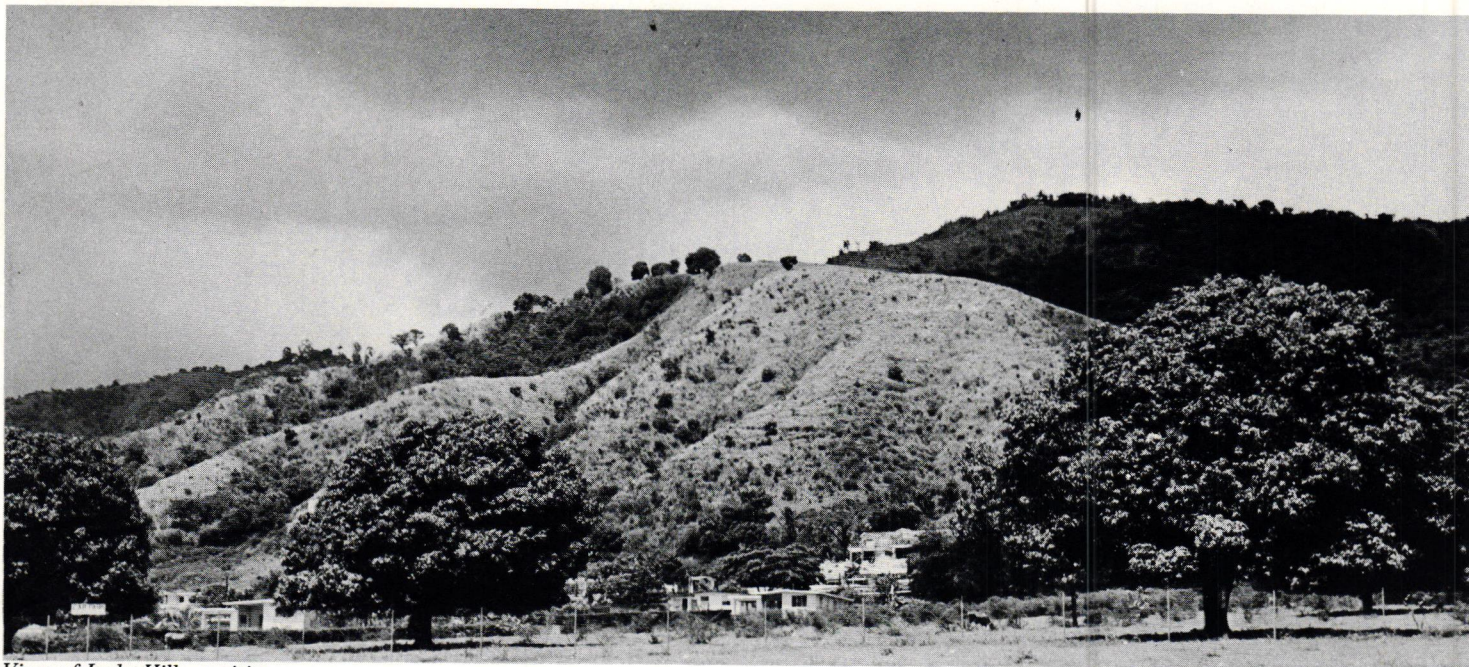
OLD BUILDINGS OF CHARM IN THE CITY AND ELSEWHERE:

These should be preserved and not go the way of the Myrtle Bank Hotel and the Crafts Market. They should be plaqued by the National Trust Commission as is done in the U.S. and in England.

Cost: Nil. Expense is recovered completely.

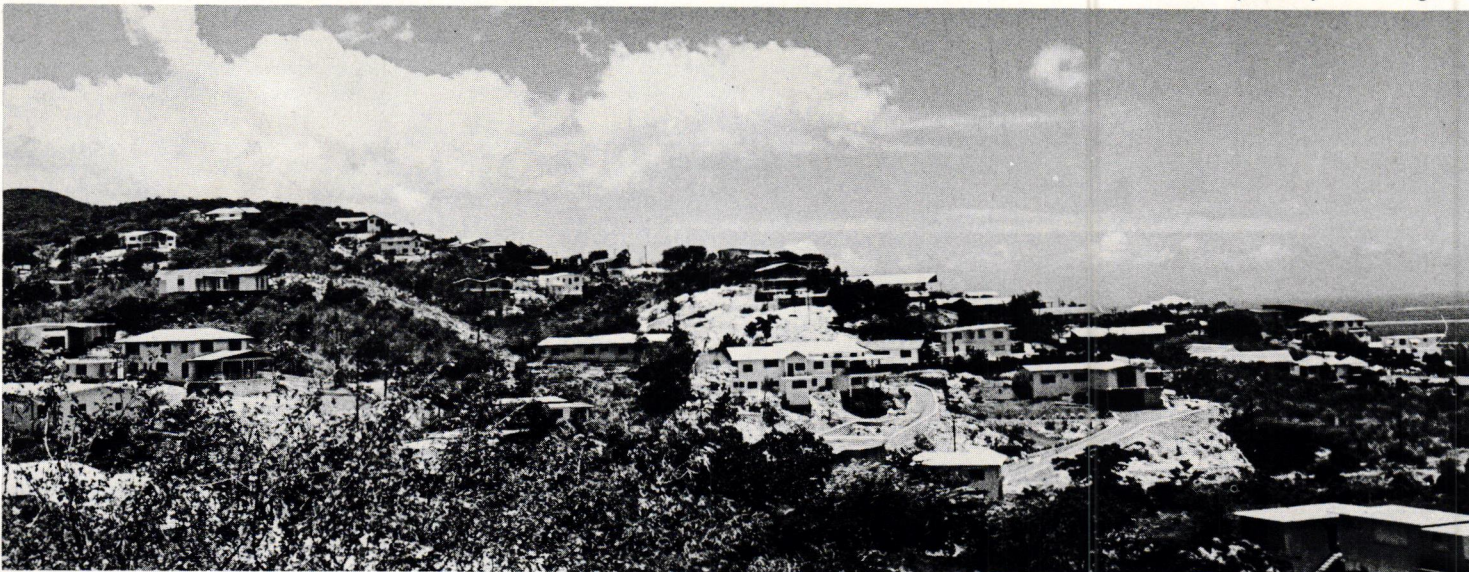
Method: Action by the National Trust Commission and Legislation. The Government need to purchase the property in order to control its development, then lease or sell contingent on retention of character of the building.

Necessity: IMMEDIATE: The national architectural and cultural heritage should be recognized not only for the sake of Jamaicans, but also for the sake of tourists who come

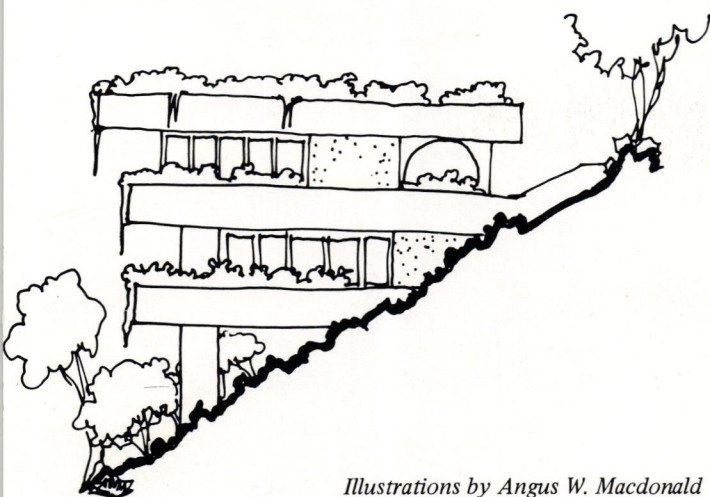
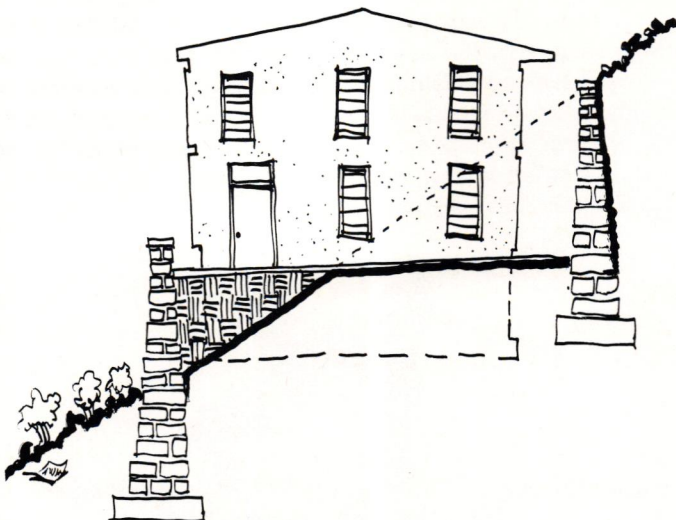


View of Jacks Hill - positive

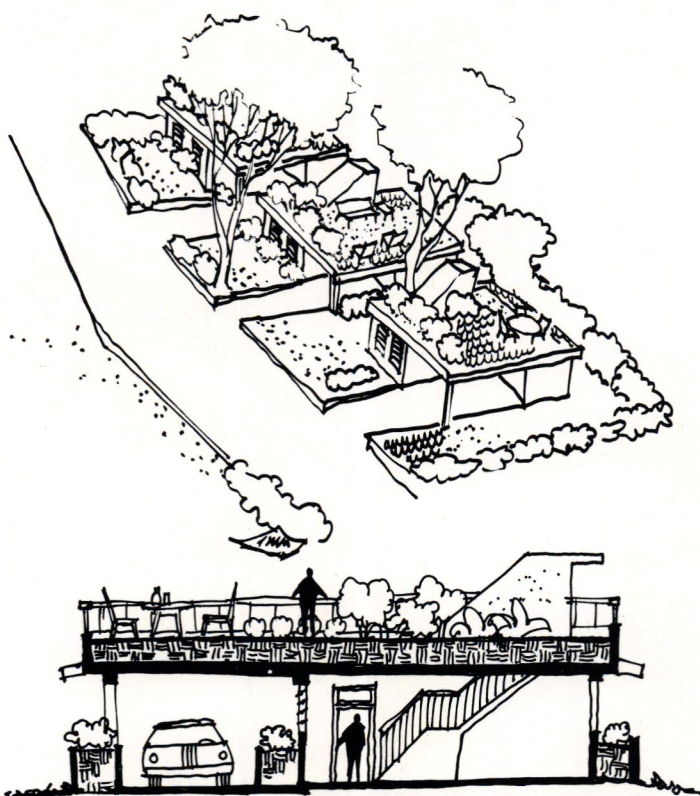
View of Beverly Hills - negative



Photos by John A. Ferguson



Illustrations by Angus W. Macdonald



here to see something Jamaican. That a country which derives a great portion of its income from tourism can demolish and disfigure the charming buildings in its capital city is incredible. The shortsightedness of this form of development cannot be over-emphasized.

ARCHITECTURAL FORM FOR HILLSIDE DEVELOPMENT:

It is not necessary to cut the hillside and build retaining walls in order to build a house suitable for a flat site on the hill. Rather: Design the house to fit the contours of the slope using columns and level changes.

Cost: Nil. Cost of columns and floor slab offset by omission of retaining walls and site-works.

Method: Action by architects, developers, and clients.

Necessity: Allows for man to exist in Nature without destroying the natural value of the land.

ARCHITECTURAL FORM FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

Pave as little as possible; use planters and trees as much as possible. Stop the needless paving of huge areas without greenery. Buildings should have a Jamaican identity, and not be mindless copies of styles which often have nothing to do with tropical climate, Jamaican living, or Jamaican architectural heritage. Development houses could, for instance, have roof gardens so that instead of looking across a mass of concrete, one would look across an expanse of green. Result: more air-making plants, more living space on small lots, cool interiors because of the insulating value of the soil, and home vegetable gardens.

Cost: Nil. Cost of planting offset by less site- and less siteworks.

Method: Action by architects and developers; action also by Town Planner in insisting on greenery. Possible legislation: In France it is against the law to cut down a tree without permission by the local Government authority.

Necessity: Life in the city need not be a succession of ugly buildings and hot parking lots. It is necessary to consider the psychological strain on the inhabitants as well as their physical well-being.

FORM FOR STREET WIDENING AND SIDEWALKS:

In the present method of street widening many trees are destroyed. Must this be so? The trees can be left as a screen between the pedestrians and the traffic.

Cost: Nil. Cost of planting offset by less asphalt works of removing trees.

Method: Action by K.S.A.C.

Necessity: Traffic safety and pedestrian safety. Different levels for pedestrians and traffic would stop people from crossing a street in the middle of a block and eliminate interruption in traffic flow in mid-block. Result: greater traffic flow, greater safety. Pedestrians are somewhat screened from fumes of cars, buses, and trucks. The

ROADS DO NOT HAVE TO GO THROUGH TREES LEAVE THE TREES

street is cooler because of the shade of the trees which have been preserved.

NEW FIXTURES FOR ROADS:

New Bus stops: Domelike structure to cover entrance to bus for rain protection for people entering the bus. Bus stops recessed into widened areas of street to allow space for buses to pull over out of traffic lanes when stopping.

Cost: \$50.00 ea. shelter.
Action: K.S.A.C.

LIGHT WALL BETWEEN PEDESTRIANS AND TRAFFIC:

A wall of concrete block would protect pedestrians from cars and keep people from crossing street at mid-block. Its railing could be a continuous cover over fluorescent lights which light both the street and sidewalk without ugly street lamp poles. The lighting is even, indirect, and without glare.

Cost: \$10.00 linear foot minus cost of conventional street lamps.
Action: K.S.A.C.

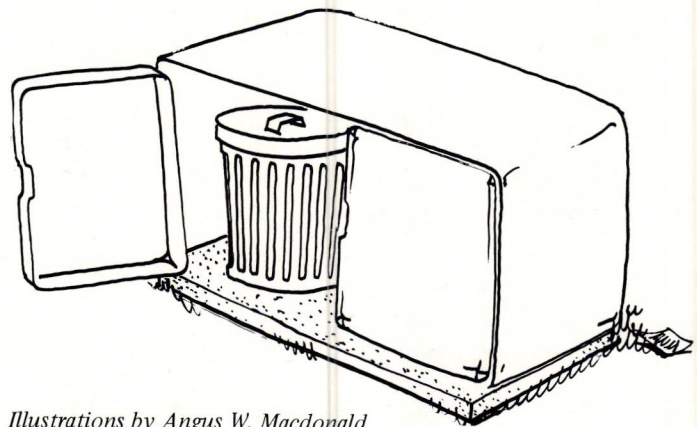
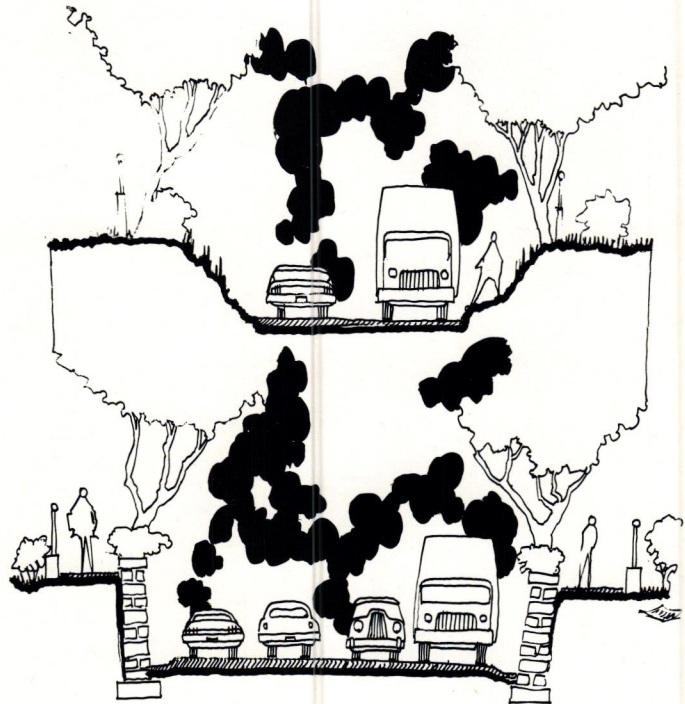
RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL GARBAGE BINS:

Colourful and cleanable dogproof boxes to house garbage cans, made of fibreglass with spring latch doors and anchored to cement pads could be placed on the verge, or at the entrances of properties.

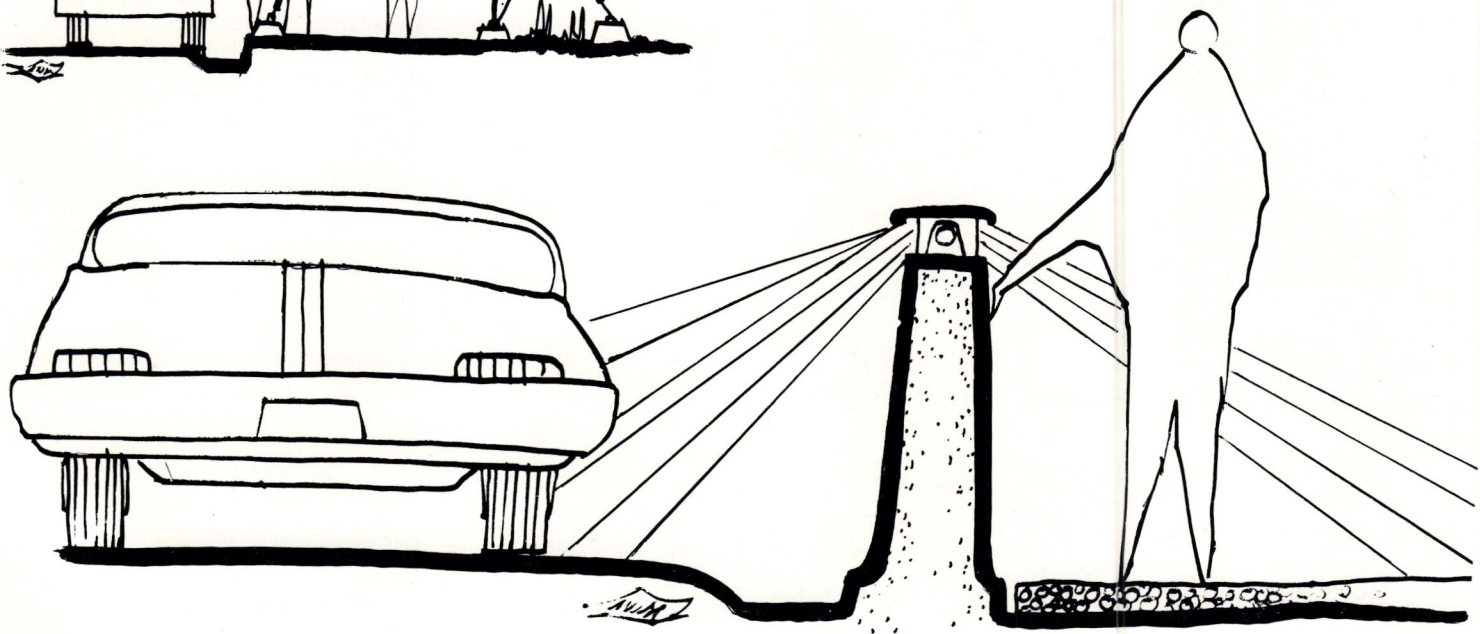
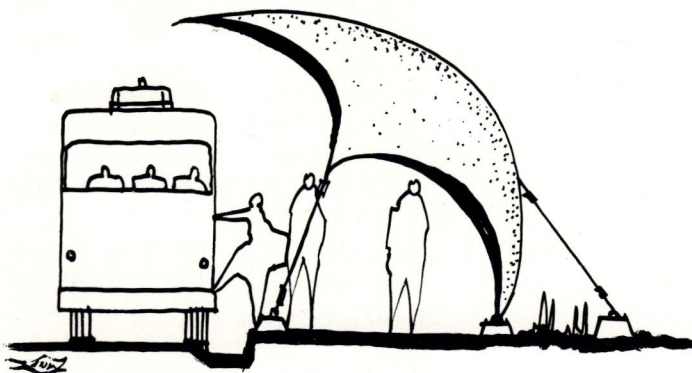
Alternate: build in garbage can boxes on exterior walls of all buildings.

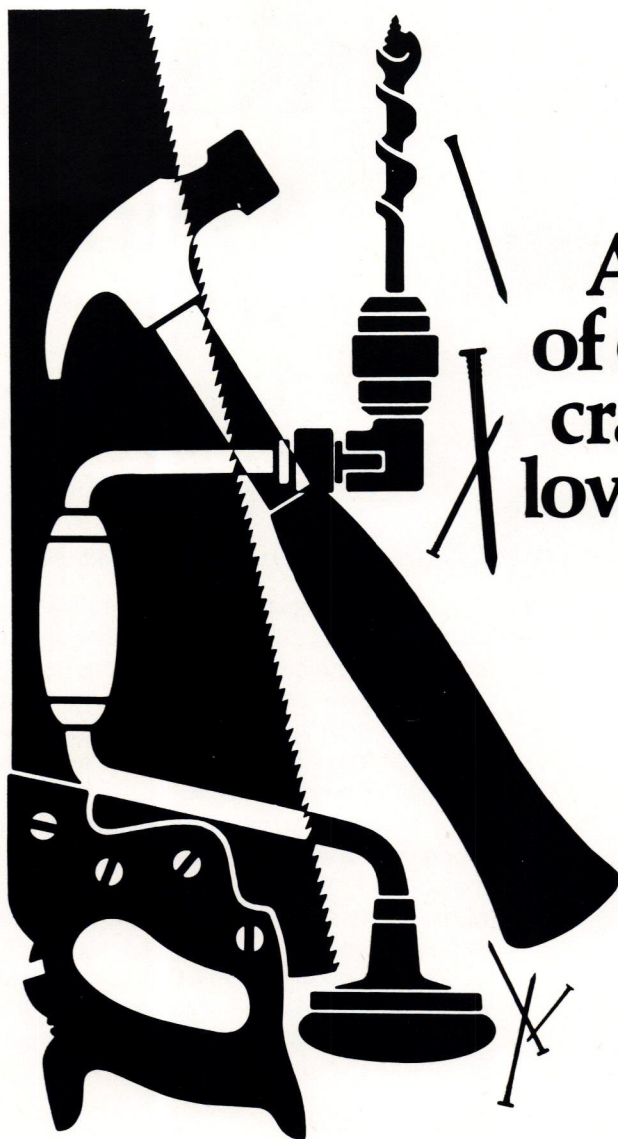
Cost: \$50.00 ea.
Action: Individuals and Architects.

These are suggestions. The goal is a common one; it has to do with the overall value of our lives . . . how we see ourselves as existing in the Universe . . . Negative or Positive. Act on these suggestions. Think of more of them; act on your own ideas. Awaken the "conscience;" your own as well as that of your friends! PROMOTE AN OVER-ALL SENSE OF THE WHOLE!



Illustrations by Angus W. Macdonald





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"GEORGIAN"

A Part of Our Architectural Environment

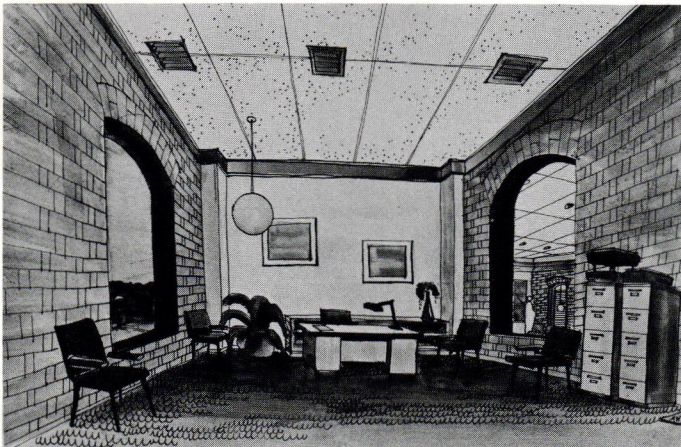
by Geoffrey de Sola Pinto



Drawings by Angus W. Macdonald

This three story brick structure, built 1791, was probably erected under the supervision of the Royal Engineer. It is one of the three known military buildings of this type in the world. The others are on the Morne Fortune in St. Lucia and at Woolwich in England. It is scheduled for preservation but also has a demolition order on it at the present time.

Below: Artist's impression of an interior view of the Barracks Building, as it would look if modernized for office use.



The Georgian style of Architecture represents the largest single coherent historical style in Jamaica other than indigenous, anonymous architecture. As such the Georgian style with its boxy forms, shingle roofs, window coolers, and classical decorative elements comprises at least half of what may be termed the Jamaican architectural environment.

Certain individual buildings and certain complete though limited areas of townscape, in such places as Falmouth and Spanish Town, constitute an important part of the fabric of our history. The conservation and preservation of such sites as covered by the new Development Orders are good examples of Central Government's broad plans. One might well believe that this sort of approach would be an adequate safeguard for their conservation to be assured. But is this the case?

SPANISH TOWN

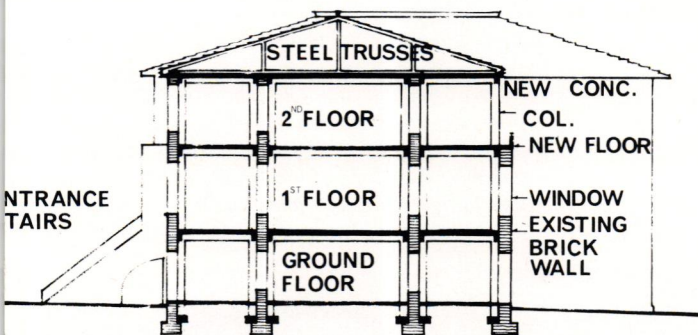
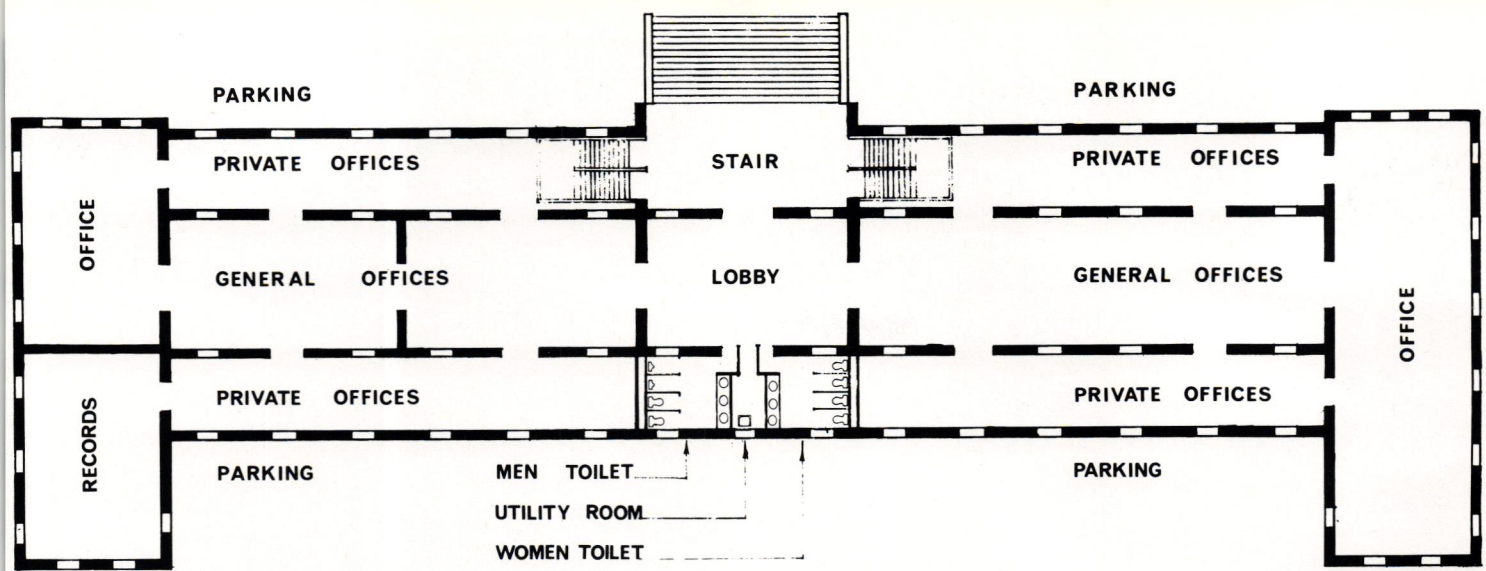
The Development Order on Spanish Town had been recently ratified and in the booklet outlining the order there is reference to historic areas for conservation; only two buildings are specifically referred to and one of these is the Old Barracks Building c1791. Furthermore, this



THE OLD BARRACKS BUILDING, SPANISH TOWN

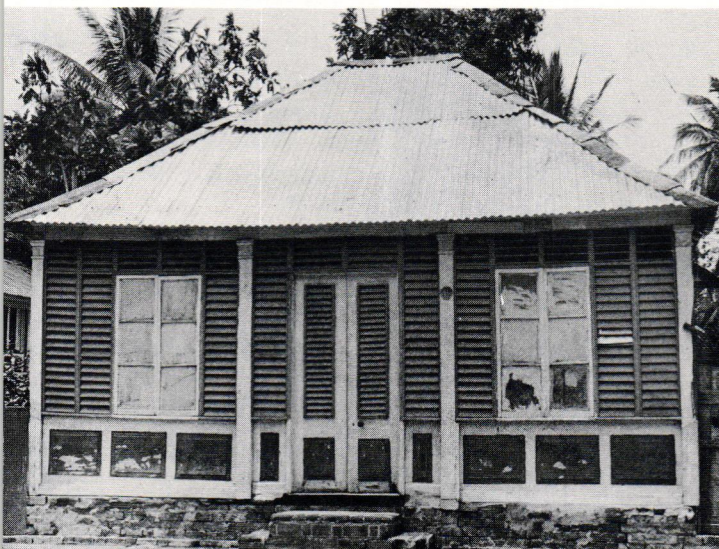
The ground floor of the Barracks Building has an arched arcade both front and rear similar to that at the House of Assembly in the Square, which is only a few chains down the road. The window treatment with coolers is worthy of note.

Photo by A. W. Macdonald



Floor layout, above, and elevation, below, of possible conversion of existing building into modern office space. Drawings by A. W. Macdonald

particular building is also on the list of buildings scheduled for preservation by the Jamaica National Trust Commission, so surely it cannot be menaced — or can it? In October 1970 there was an advertisement in the *Daily Gleaner* seeking tenders for demolition of this very building! This blatant violation of its intended preservation as outlined in the order, was assumed to indicate over-riding circumstances to justify it. The Georgian Society of Jamaica, a private body that is primarily interested in Jamaica's cultural heritage and especially in the preservation of our architectural heritage, wrote a letter indicating that they had resigned from further protest of demolition but requested that materials, being mainly bricks, virtually of the period of Old King's House, Spanish Town, should be



SPANISH TOWN: Old Home showing louvered walls from floor to ceiling. Reproduced by courtesy of WIRL

stored for rebuilding that edifice. No demolition had taken place up to the first Annual Meeting of the Georgian Society of Jamaica when an Action Team (sub-committee) was formed to investigate the situation and was successful in having the building put back on the Preservation List of the Jamaica National Trust Commission.

A significant fact is that this fine building built by Jamaican craftsmen c1791, standing in approximately one and a half acres of land was to be pulled down for the construction of a school. An alternative available site within a few chains has been found by the Georgian Society in order to conserve for future generations, a building of merit from the past. Another significant matter concerning this building is the fact that, **no professional body officially voiced any support whatsoever** to help save this important building — although many individuals from all walks of life, including many architects, have expressed strong views on the matter.

United Nations experts have made detailed recommendations for preservation areas in several centres, including Spanish Town, but the only group that seems to be helping the Jamaica National Trust Commission in this matter is the Georgian Society. The Action Team for the Barracks Building, formed a local chapter in Spanish Town — which stands ready for future action throughout the area and plans to play its part in the preservation and development of sites and monuments for the Nation.

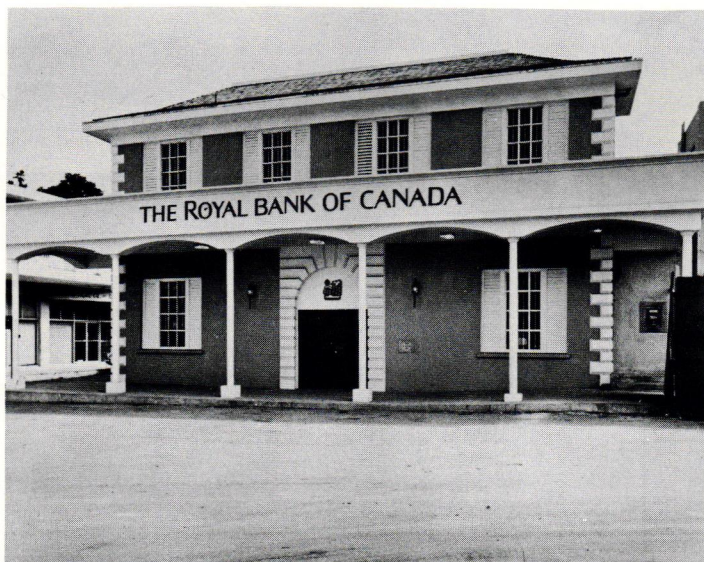
MONTEGO BAY

Many of the buildings around Charles Square were razed by fire in 1968. The local Chapter took a strong stand for the replacement buildings to be compatible with the Court House. Present interest lies in the Dome Building in Montego Bay, and its future restoration. Of great consequence is the part that is now being played by private individuals, to restore red brick and white cut stone buildings of genuine Georgian period. This will greatly enhance their appearance and that of the townscape.

FALMOUTH

Falmouth has some excellent eighteenth century townscape, virtually unscathed by subsequent periods and this has been carefully catalogued in the GSJ's own booklet, "Falmouth 1791-1970". This has received some outstanding reviews in "The Connoisseur", "Appolo", "The London Times", etc. and these all help to encourage and publicize efforts for conservation of Jamaica's cultural heritage.

In this book is a photograph of a delicately propor-



MONTEGO BAY: THE OLD CORINALDI HOUSE IN CHARLES SQUARE *restored and remodeled with improved detailing.* by Courtesy of the Royal Bank of Canada



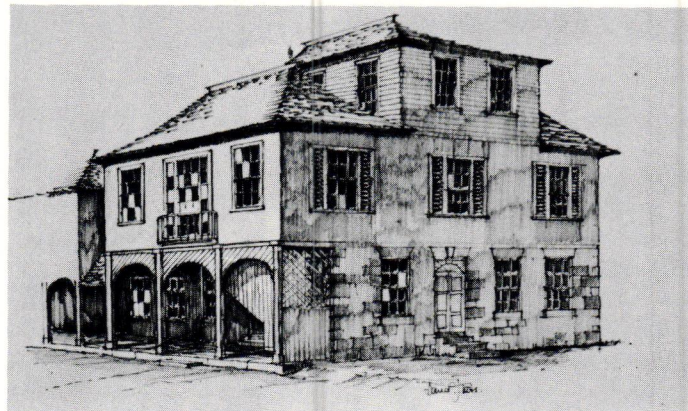
MONTEGO BAY: 2 ORANGE STREET

This building which long stood almost derelict has now been put in good order and restored by Mr. Douglas Cooper of Philadelphia, Old San Juan and Amsterdam. He has recently acquired the adjoining building which is famous in Montego Bay as the site of Miss Hannah's restaurant. But since it has been cleaned and restored the building itself is now a landmark.



FALMOUTH: CORNWALL STREET, looking west from Water Square.

Engraving by Kidd c1840 reproduced through the courtesy of WIRL.



FALMOUTH : MARKET STREET

This traditional building is very unusual as it is one of the only three story ones left in the Island. The fenestration is typical also and is well suited to our tropical climate.

Pen & Ink drawing - Mr David Twiss

Reproduced with permission of the Georgian Society of Jamaica



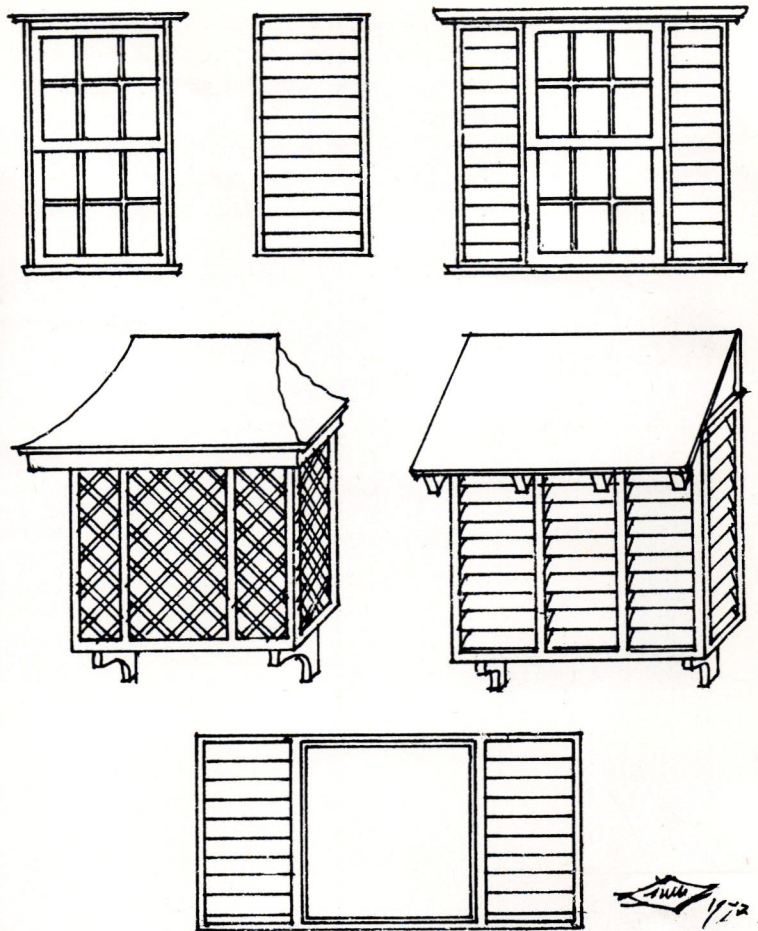
LUCEA : MERCHANT'S HOUSE, which was, until recently, in the centre of the town. The facade of this building is said to be one of the best on any town house in the Island.

Reproduced through the Courtesy of WIRL.

tioned bow shop front in Water Square, one of the only ones left in the Island. Since publication it has been completely torn out, but at least there is now a permanent record of how it looked. Other Georgian features have been more successfully preserved through the private efforts of Georgian Society members.

LUCEA

There are still some good Georgian buildings in Lucea, nicely protected from the rush and bustle of what is often called progress, in the more easily accessible parts of the Island. Until the end of 1968 it enjoyed the distinction of having on its main street an old merchant's town house with one of the finest architectural facades in the Island. A Jamaican architect, specializing in restoration, took some visiting UN experts to see it, only a few months after his last visit, and they found only a heap of rubble! Another fine building had been lost to the Nation! In the absence of legislation it seems that it is only private citizens who can rally public support for conservation.



Above: Windows - drawings by Angus W. Macdonald

Left: KINGSTON: DETAIL OF OFFICE OF THE JAMAICA NATIONAL TRUST COMMISSION, 85 HOPE ROAD, lattice faced coolers in lieu of louvres.

Photo by John Ferguson

WINDOWS AND OUR HERITAGE

In a philosophical sense an architectural style may be said to represent the relationship between man and nature. Architecture is our human ecology for most of us since we spend so much of our time inside buildings. In a given style the most expressive feature of the nature of this ecology is the window, for it is the window which in fact breaks the wall and forms the relationship between inside and outside, between man and his world.

The adaption of Georgian architecture for tropical conditions with its emphasis on light and air, is ideally suited to the climate of the West Indies. It has the charm of its origin in style and proportions, with the added interest of features designed for tropical comfort. The standard double hung sash window flanked on each side by adjustable louvres from top to bottom is an ideal form of ventilation for this climate. Another is the use of jalousies to form complete ventilated walls from floors to ceiling, alternated with frames and sashes.

The "cooler" is said to have originated in Jamaica and is, in effect, a boxing around the window frames fitted with jalousies allowing the windows to open behind them, thus excluding rain and sun but letting in light and air.

The cap and comb arrangement for shingled roofs is another true Jamaican feature.

Over the past twenty years there has been a marked return to some of these features of the Georgian period, and this is especially evident in new buildings on the North Coast. However, it is significant that most of this

Below: KINGSTON STREET SCENE, CHURCH STREET, looking towards the sea. Louvred walls with verticals which produce a rhythm that is stimulating and ventilation which is effective.

Daguerreotype by Duperly. Reproduced by courtesy WIRL.



movement is in houses for people of higher incomes. This is surprising when one realises that in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries each little wooden cottage had its period features adapted from the grander homes. And even to-day there is still evidence of this throughout the Island in anonymous indigenous architecture.

To-day in tropical climates the ever increasing use

of concrete and the problem of heat retention only add to the need for something special in window treatment and ventilation. What we need to-day is preservation and conservation of our old buildings, not just because they form part of our Heritage, but, more important, there is a need for old ideas to be adapted from them for the Jamaica of the seventies.

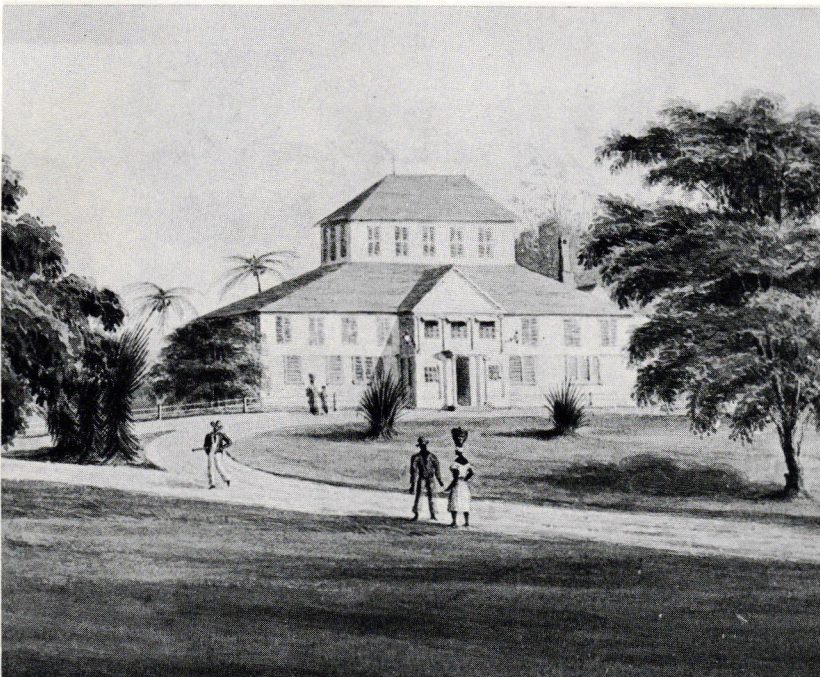


KINGSTON : ADMIRAL PEN, SLIPE ROAD, 1971

Note the transfer of the main entrance door to the first floor by means of a typical flight of steps. Usually these would have been divided half-way into twin flights to the ground at each side and thus save space. In this case, where space is certainly no problem, and cost is, the straight flight is the best answer (It was put in about 1849)

Today it serves, at the other end of the social scale, as a home for the indigent. It is well run by the KSAC but it is very shabby. As a conservation project, one of our many service clubs would be doing a three pronged service by contributing to the preservation of the building with plant and thereby improving the environment of the inmates. In undertaking this work, they might also gather together some volunteers from the institution to work along side with them and continue maintenance to preserve the building.

Pen and Ink drawing by Mr. Peter Rimmer



This unusual building was constructed in red brick and stone up to the first floor and in wood above - the traditional form of construction. It was one of the main centres of society in Jamaica at the turn of the 18th century and Lady Nugent refers to it frequently in her diaries.

Painting by unknown artist - reproduced with kind permission of Barclays Bank DCO Ltd.



KINGSTON: THE GATES AT HOPE GARDENS

Conversation piece:-

"What are you doing?"

"Putting up new gates."

"But I thought you put up new gates three months ago?"

"Yes, but they did not like them, they told me to get new ones."

"Who designed them?"

"Nobody really designed them; I told them I'd give them something with straight bars, and they said 'alright'. So I gave them out."

"How much were they costing?"

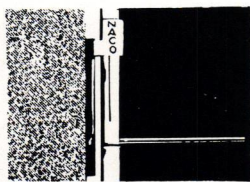
"A thousand dollars."

It would be interesting to know what happened to the other gates - two pairs, in fact. How it is possible to justify spending this sort of money without benefit of designer or design? Thousands of people from all walks of life already have and will continue to enter through these gates in the years to come. One would like to think that consideration was given to the feelings of these people, before public funds are spent in this manner.

These 15 special features have made Naco the world's largest selling louvres

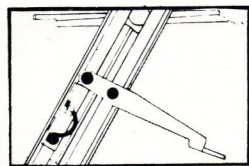
1. LONG-LASTING FLUSH-FITTING CONTROL HANDLE

Naco's neat, flush-fitting, operator ensures trouble free, finger-tip opening and closing. Simple design means fewer moving parts so that there is nothing to get loose and insecure, even after years of constant use.



2. SPECIAL HIGH PERFORMANCE SPRING LOCKING DEVICE

Strong, secure trouble free locking is provided by Naco's exclusive, stainless steel spring locking device which is internally fixed and balanced to ensure long lasting efficiency.



3. TROUBLE FREE OPERATION

Naco louvres give you years and years of absolutely trouble free operation because of superior design and construction which combines large, heavy duty aluminium bearings with heavy gauge paired operating bars that are protected within the channels. Triple riveted assembly provides life long strength and reliability.

4. CLEAN MODERN LINES

Naco's clean, simple design complements the most modern architectural trends and does not have exposed operating parts to collect dust and grime.

5. SELF MULLIONING

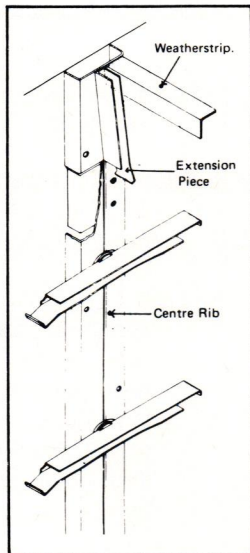
Naco louvres can be self mullioned. Standard left and right hand channels can be easily bolted together to form a self supporting mullion without additional components.

6. EXCLUSIVE WEATHER-PROOFING FEATURE

Weather proofing is provided by Naco's patented continuous centre rib and over-lapping flanged clips which together with Naco weather strips, provide weather tight closure even under severe conditions.

7. EXTENSION PIECES TO FIT ANY OPENING

Where the height of an opening does not coincide exactly with the nearest standard size of louvre frame, the use of Naco extension pieces will allow a perfect fit in any size opening.



8. COMBINATION OF BLADES

With Naco louvres you can combine different types of blades in one window. Metal or wooden blades at the bottom provide security and privacy with glass at the top allowing natural lighting. Other combinations are also possible.

9. TOP QUALITY MATERIALS

Frames, clips and moving parts are manufactured from the finest heavy gauge, maintenance free, corrosion resistant materials to last for years and years.

10. BLADES STAY IN POSITION

Centre pivoting of blade holding clips ensures that Naco louvres are firmly and correctly balanced so that they cannot blow open or closed and remain in selected positions.

11. REMOTE CONTROL OPERATION

Full range of Naco Teleflex gear is available to suit special design requirements.

12. SIMPLE INSTALLATION

Installation is simple, fast and economical—ideal for do-it yourself people. Replacement of broken glass is easy and inexpensive as compared with other types of windows.

13. FULL RANGE OF ACCESSORIES

All standard louvre accessories are available including the special Naco rotary operator particularly useful for insect and air conditioning screened windows.

14. CONTINUING RESEARCH

Naco, as part of a world-wide operation benefits from continuous research carried out by the RTZ Pillar Group into the latest design and construction techniques.

15. BEST VALUE

Naco louvres are the most economical louvres available in Jamaica and represent your best value. Compare and see for yourself.

Look for the name NACO on the handle to be sure of getting the real thing.



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Above: The exterior court spaces defined by the building and property walls provide a spacious area for recreation and outdoor entertaining with complete privacy from passerby.

Concrete slabs set in between a ground cover of crushed stones minimize garden maintenance.

***Privacy and Security
on a Typical
Sub-division Lot***
St. Andrew
RESIDENCE FOR MR. & MRS. DAVID YAP

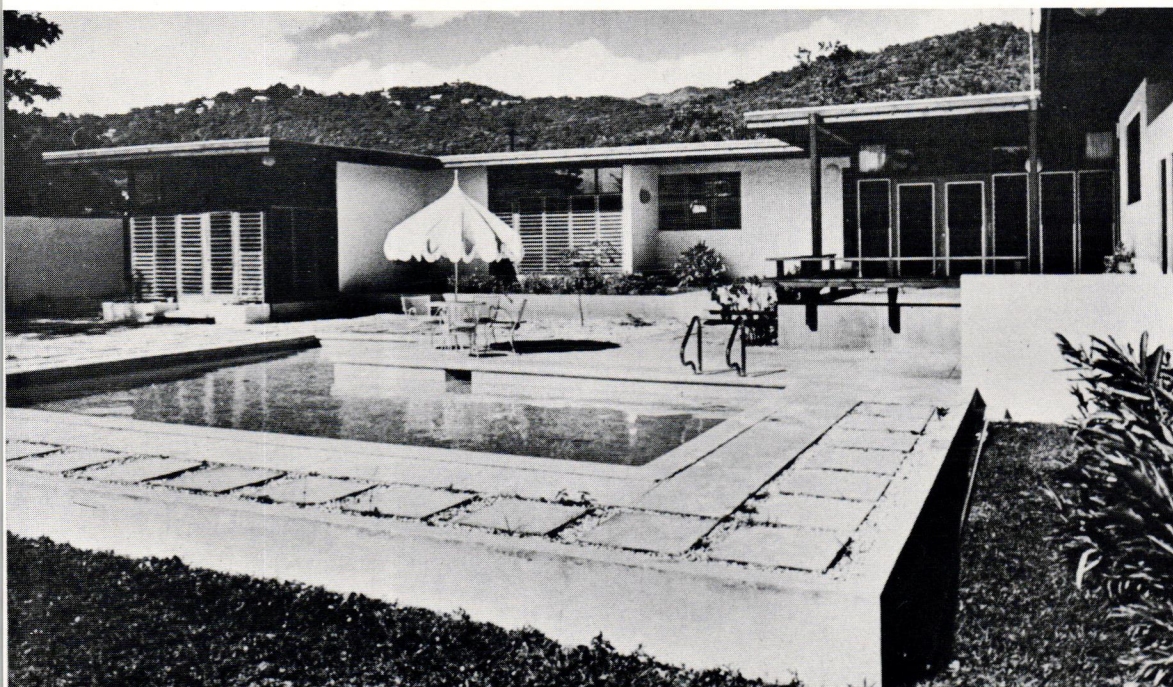
SITE: A half acre corner lot with slight slope and view to the South.

DESIGN PROGRAMME: To provide a compact house for a family of three, with an adjoining living unit for an adult member of the family.

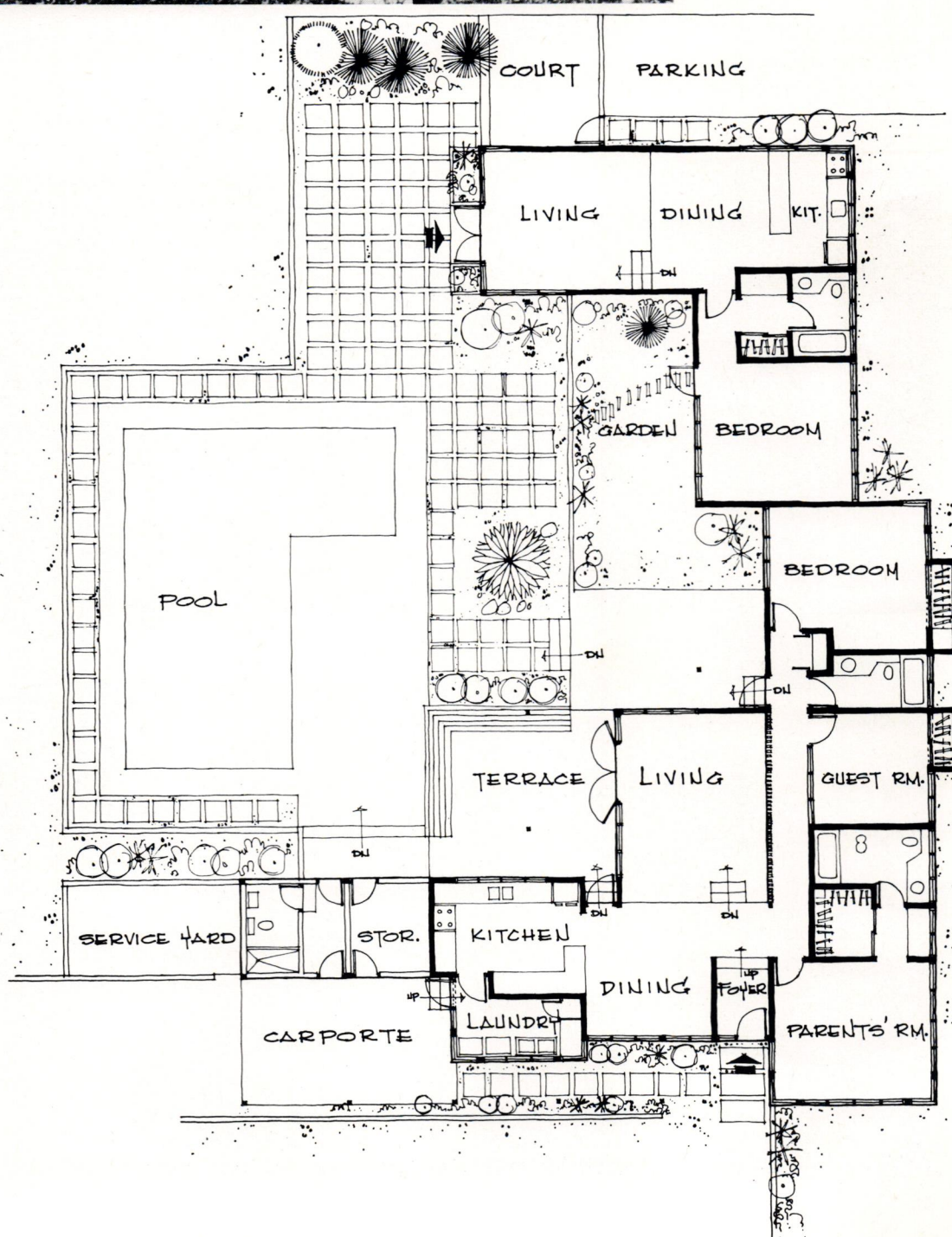
DESIGN FEATURES: The corner site is utilized to provide separate vehicular accesses — one for parents, the other for the adjoining unit. The building is developed around the corner in order to enclose maximum land space for private outdoor living. Garden walls extend from the building to boundaries thus controlling physical access and distinguishing between family use areas and public landscaped areas.

Architects: CLIFTON M. YAP & ASSOCIATES

Contractor: L. G. Subratie Engineers Ltd.

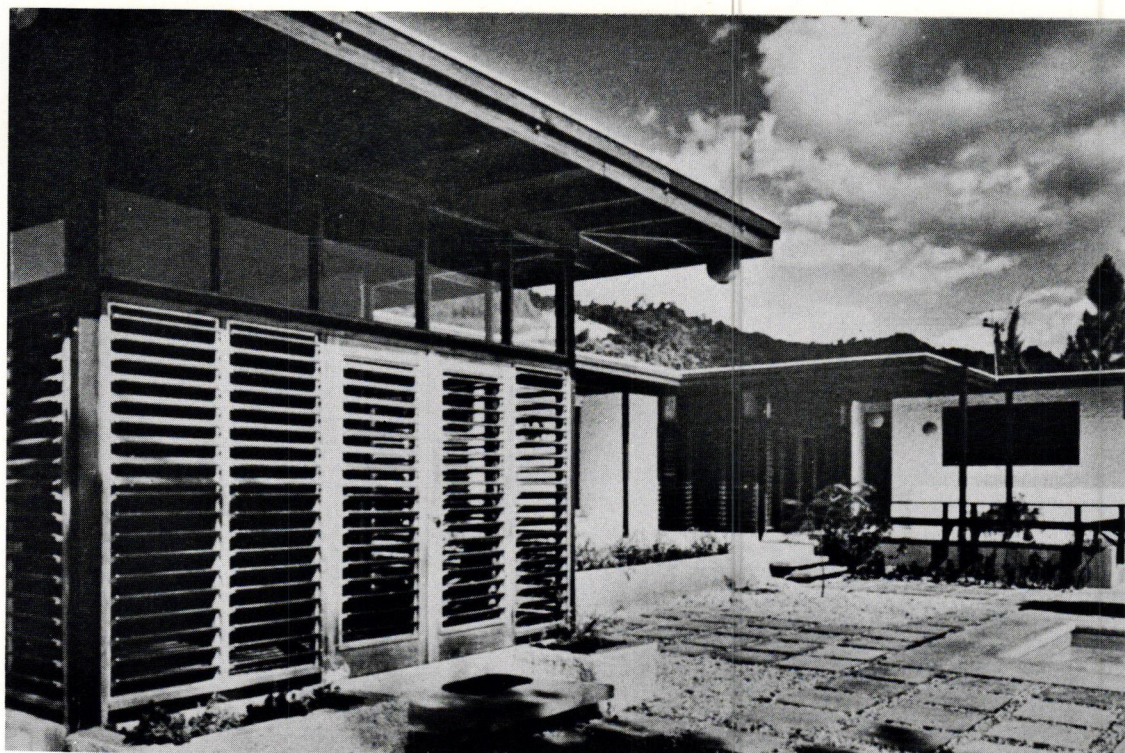


Left: The flat roof was used not only for economy but to avoid obstructing the view of the mountains from the pool and patio areas.



Plan: The building is oriented for maximum cross ventilation with the night breezes entering through the bedrooms and the day breezes through the living activity areas.

Right: Floor to ceiling windows and louvered doors allow for maximum ventilation and integration of interior and outdoor spaces.



Below: High level windows facing roadways allow for natural ventilation while providing visual privacy and security.

Photos by Neville Hylt





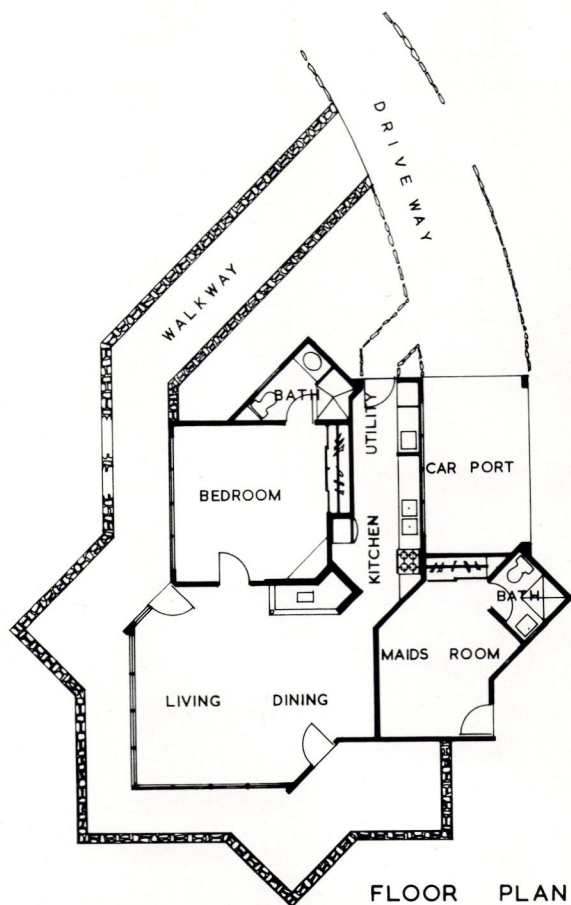
Photo by John A. Ferguson

THE GODFREY RESIDENCE,

This is a one bedroom cottage built on a steeply-sloping, thickly wooded site. Walls at carefully plotted angles to gether with locally produced building components such as redwood jalousies, aluminum sliding windows and roof shingles, all judiciously used, make a quiet and interesting design.

Architects: **MARVIN D. GOODMAN & ASSOCIATES**

Contractor: **Townend and Godfrey Ltd.**



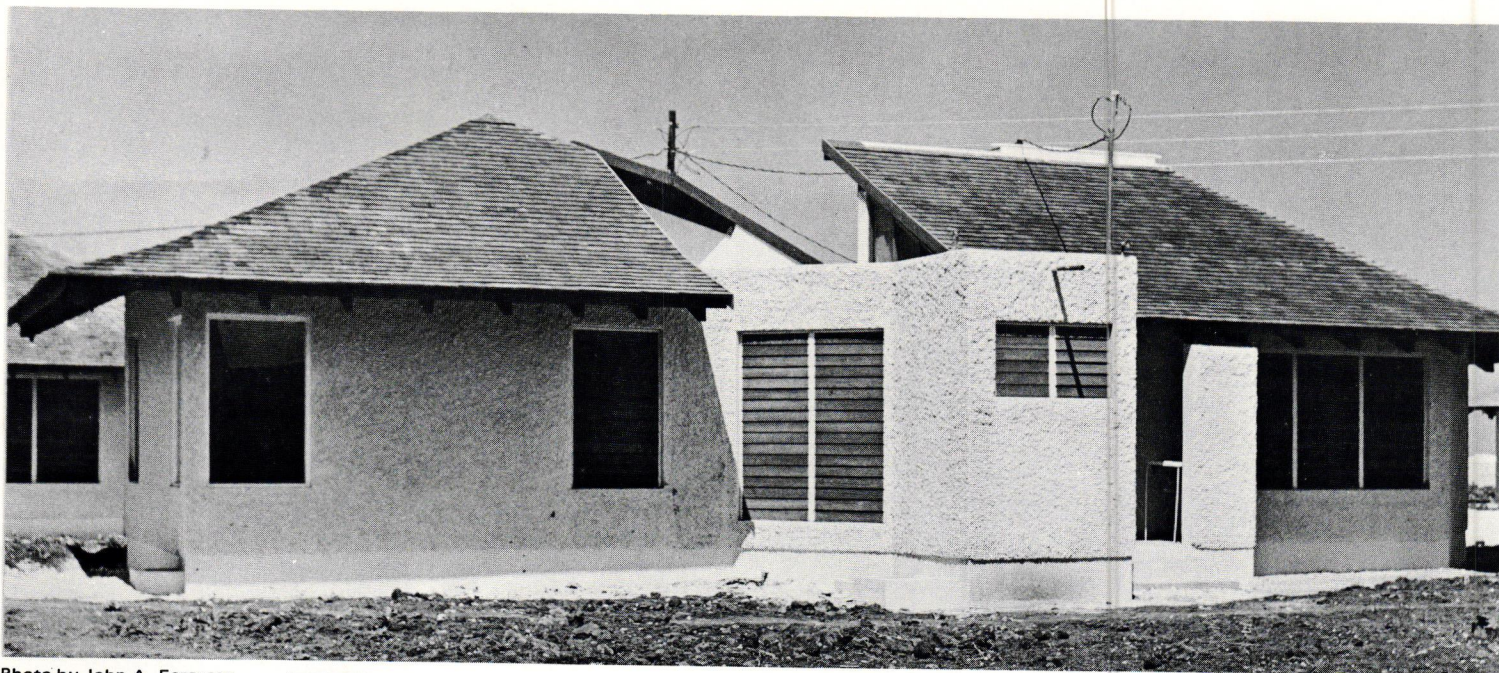
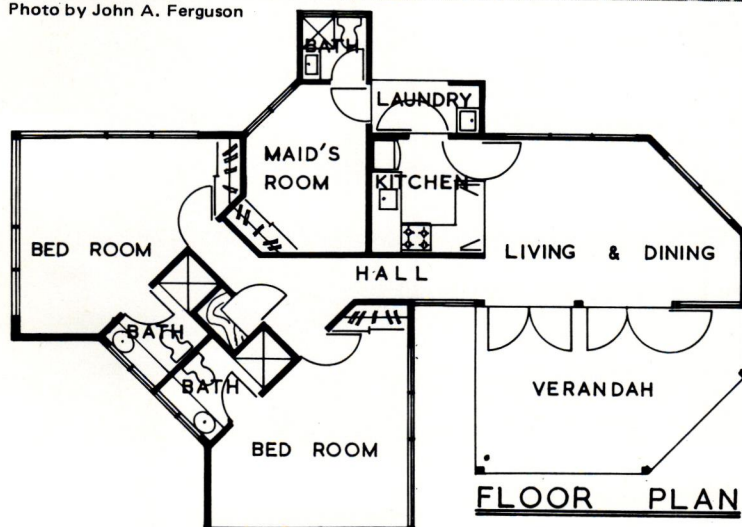


Photo by John A. Ferguson



RESORT COTTAGES, *Duncan Bay*

Although these cottages are small and closely spaced, the diagonals in the plan produce a feeling of interest and variety.

Architects: **MARVIN D. GOODMAN & ASSOCIATES**

Contractor: **Felix Oakley**

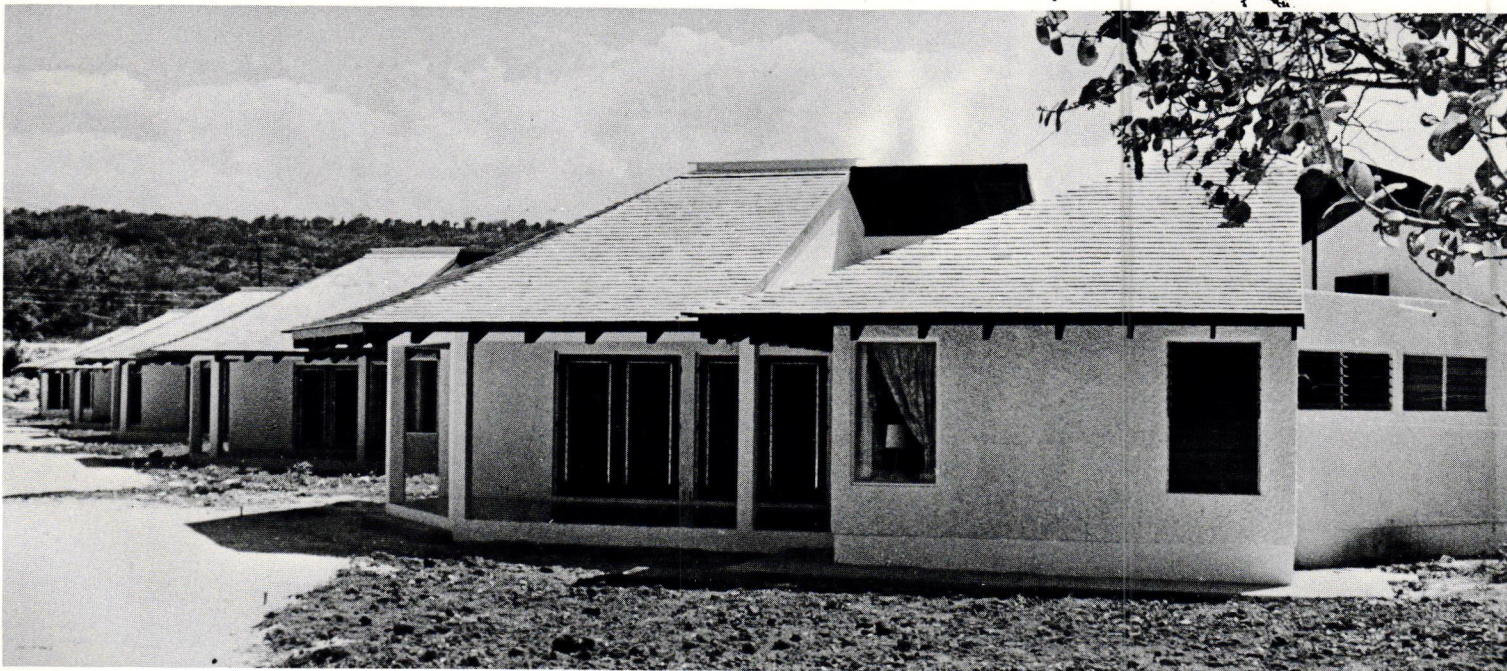
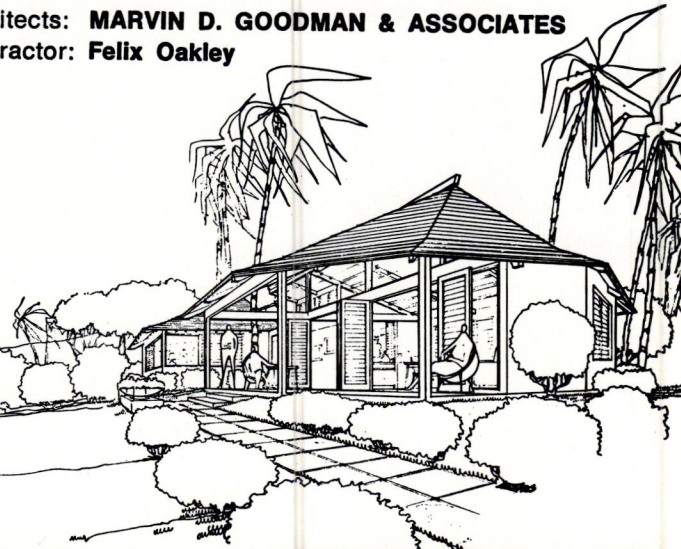


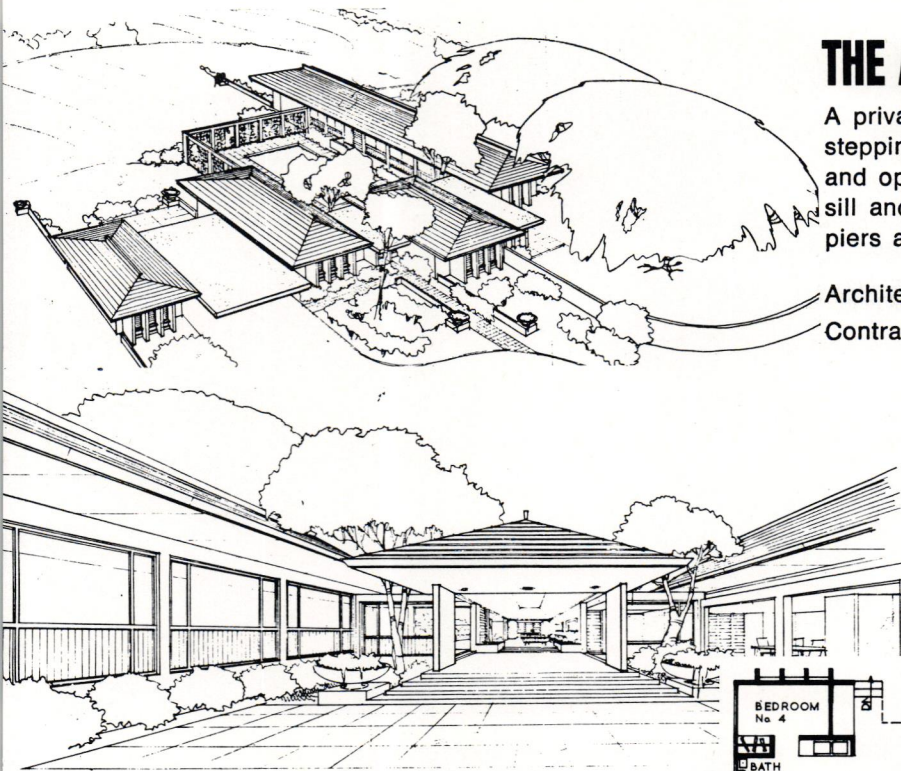
Photo by John A. Ferguson

THE ALEXANDER RESIDENCE

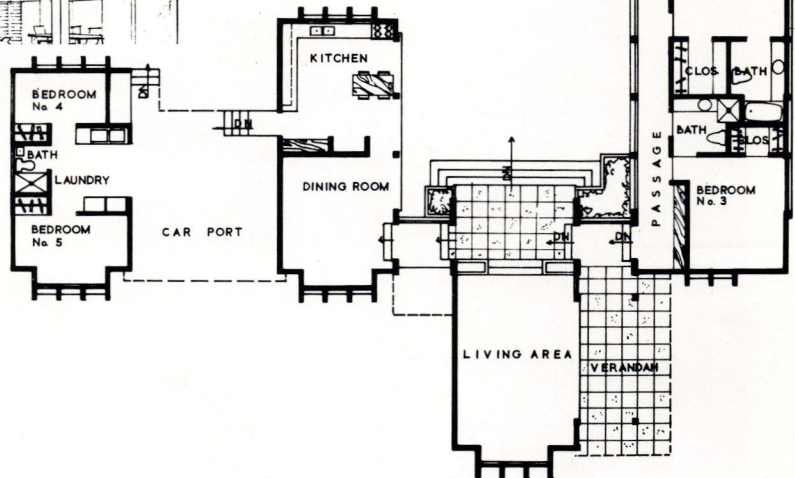
A private dwelling in the form of shingle-roofed pavilions stepping down a graded hillside. Emphasis is on informality and open-living. Design unity is achieved by a horizontal sill and base around the pavilions punctuated by vertical piers at each end.

Architects: **MARVIN D. GOODMAN & ASSOCIATES**

Contractor: **Stafford Carvalho**

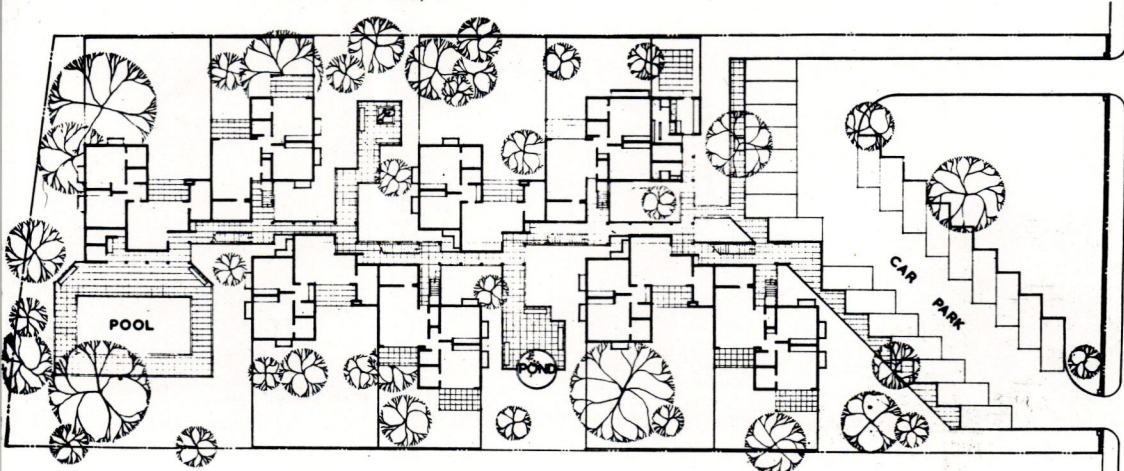
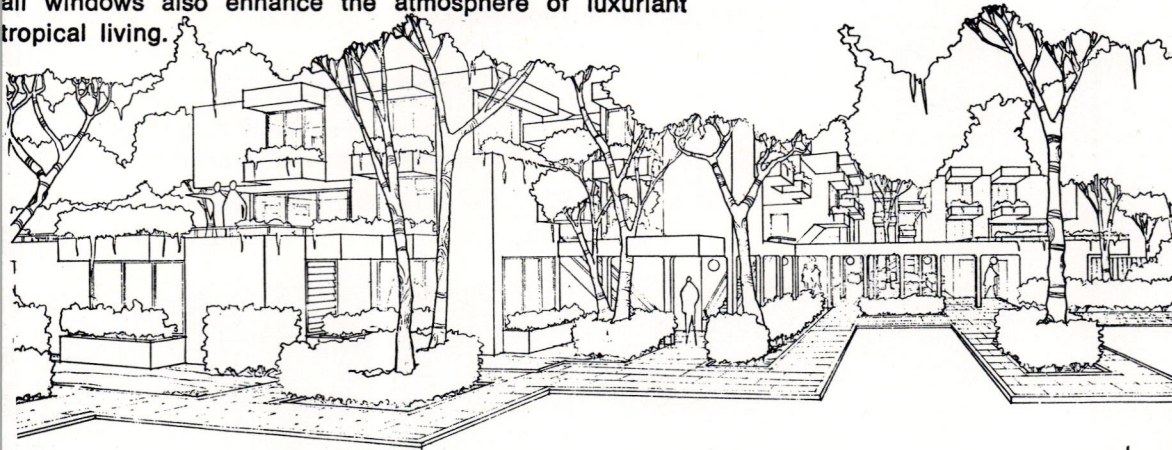


FLOOR PLAN



SAINT JAMES COURT APARTMENTS

A 20-unit apartment house on Kingsway, St. Andrew. Although designed in four repetitive blocks, the appearance is one of informality. A covered walkway invites the visitor through four courtyards around which the apartments are oriented. All ground floor units have large fenced gardens, and all first floor units have large roof terraces with planters. Privacy is achieved by facing the units in various directions. All the large and beautiful trees on the site are retained. Cantelevered planters under all windows also enhance the atmosphere of luxuriant tropical living.



Architects:
**MARVIN D. GOODMAN
& ASSOCIATES**

Contractor:
H. L. Arscott



RABLEY APARTMENTS LTD., *Brandon Hill, Montego Bay*

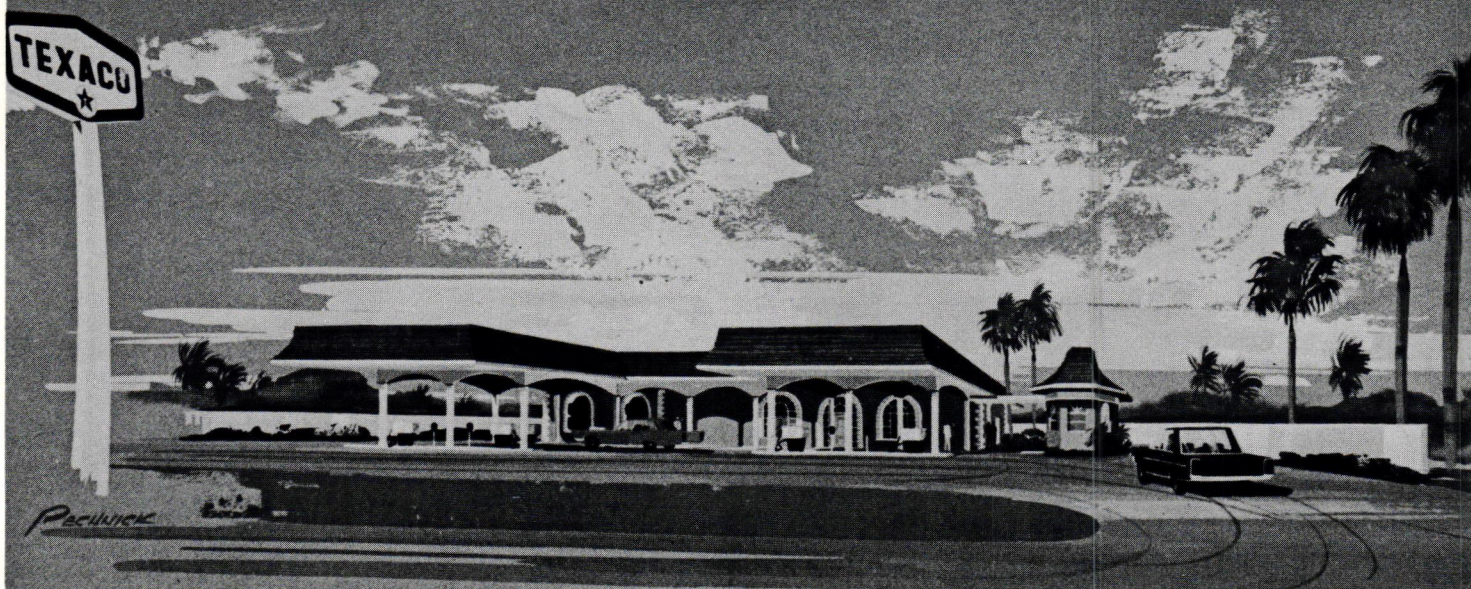
This complex will contain 40 apartments — 14 studio units and 26 single bedroom units. Maid and laundry accommodation is provided. There are also garbage disposal facilities. Landscaping will be an important part of the scheme and a swimming pool will be provided. Full parking areas for all apartments will be provided as required by the Parish Council.

Architects: **SIMPSON/ANSON/GROVE/HAACK & ASSOCIATES**

TEXACO GAS STATION, *Barnett Street, Montego Bay*

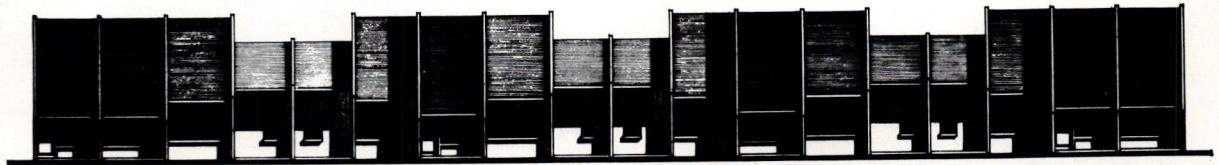
This gas station will be located on the site of an existing station at 107 Barnett Street, next to an old sugar factory.

Architects: **SIMPSON/ANSON/GROVE/HAACK & ASSOCIATES**

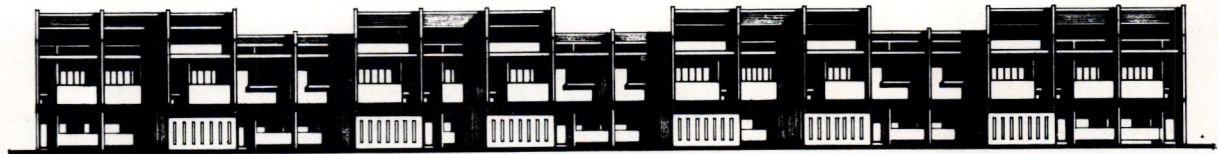


RUTHVEN ROAD APARTMENTS, *St. Andrew* For *Chelsea Investments Ltd.*

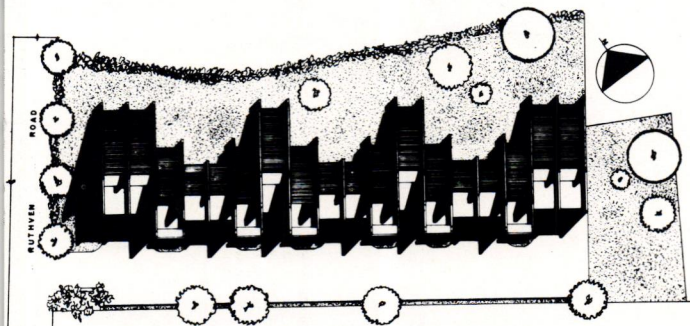
Architects:
**H. D. REPOLE
& ASSOCIATES**



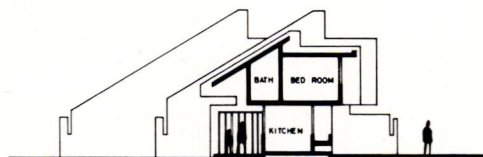
SOUTH ELEVATION



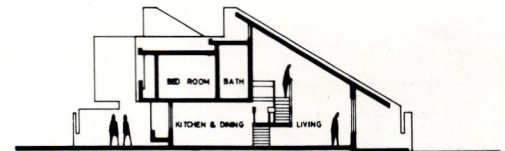
NORTH ELEVATION



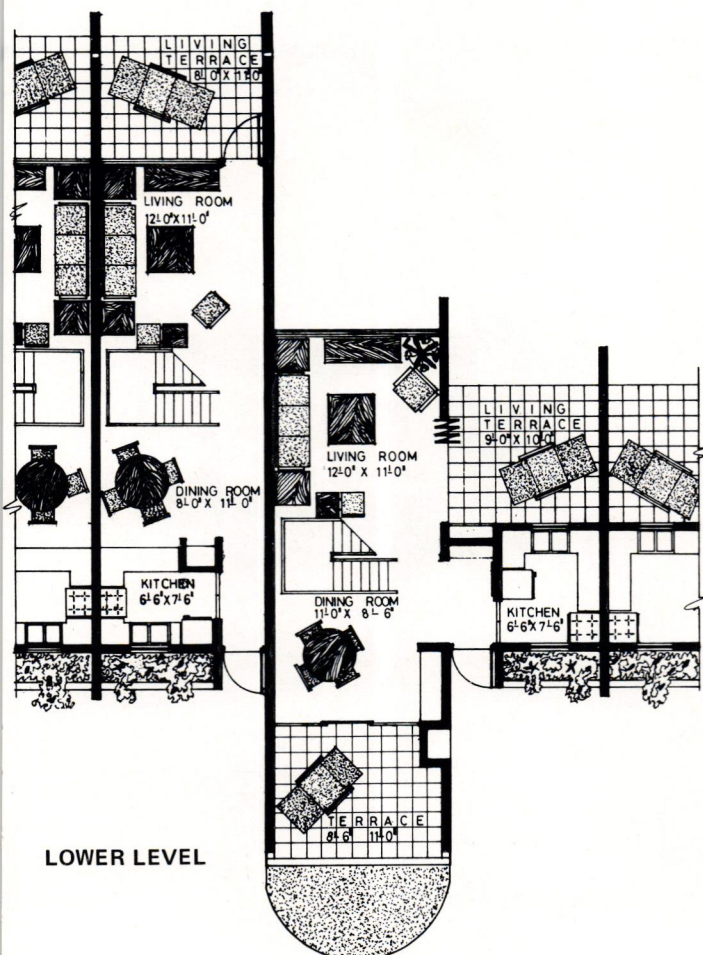
SITE PLAN



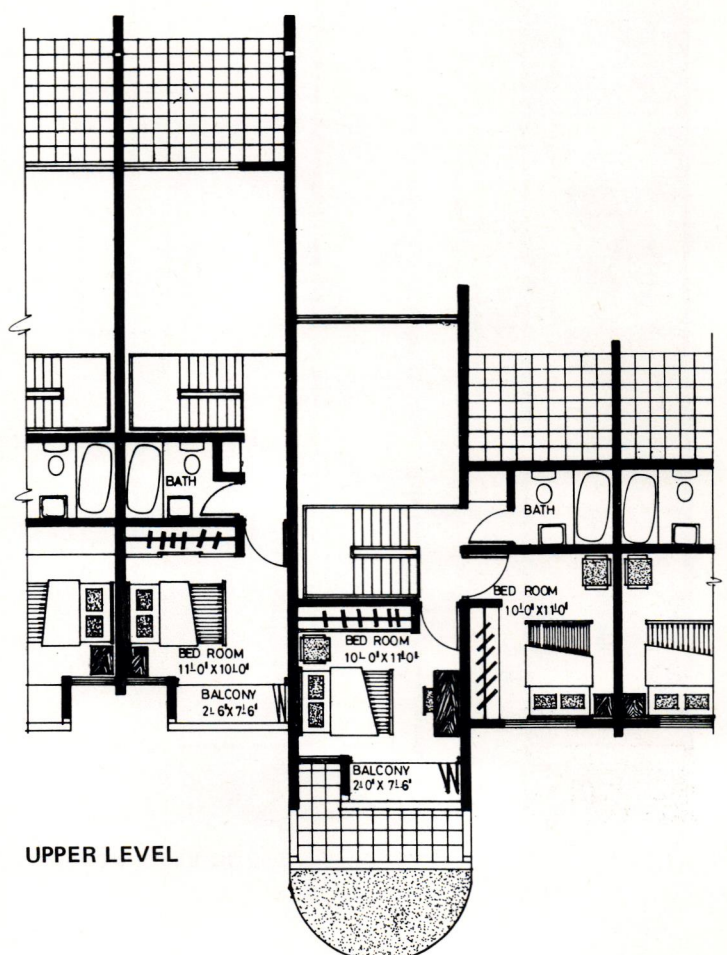
SECTION



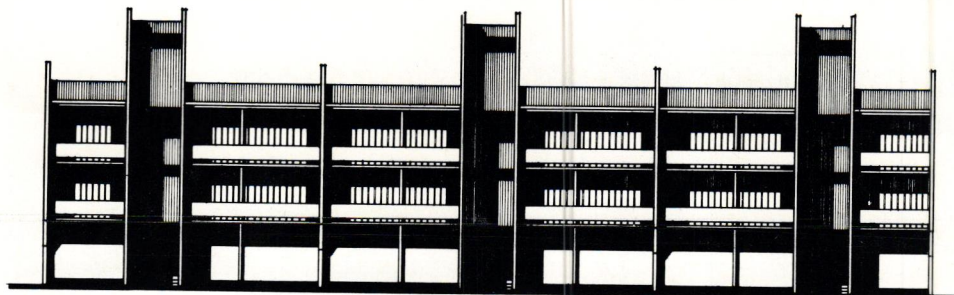
SECTION



LOWER LEVEL



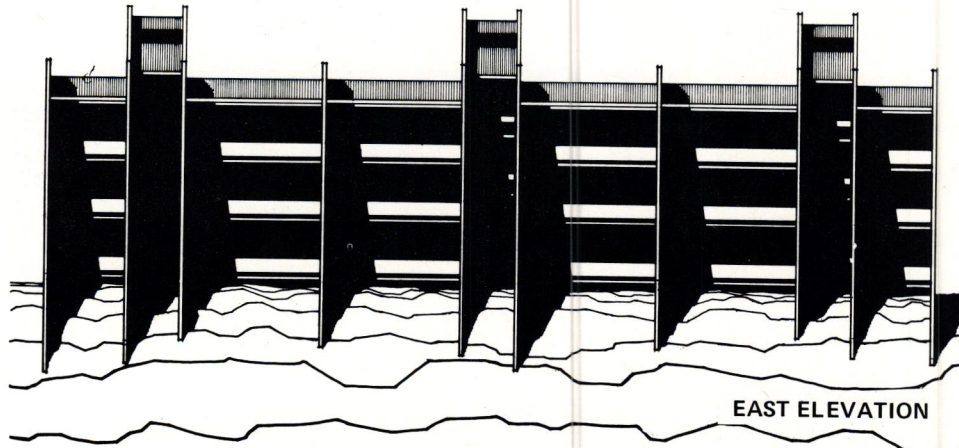
UPPER LEVEL



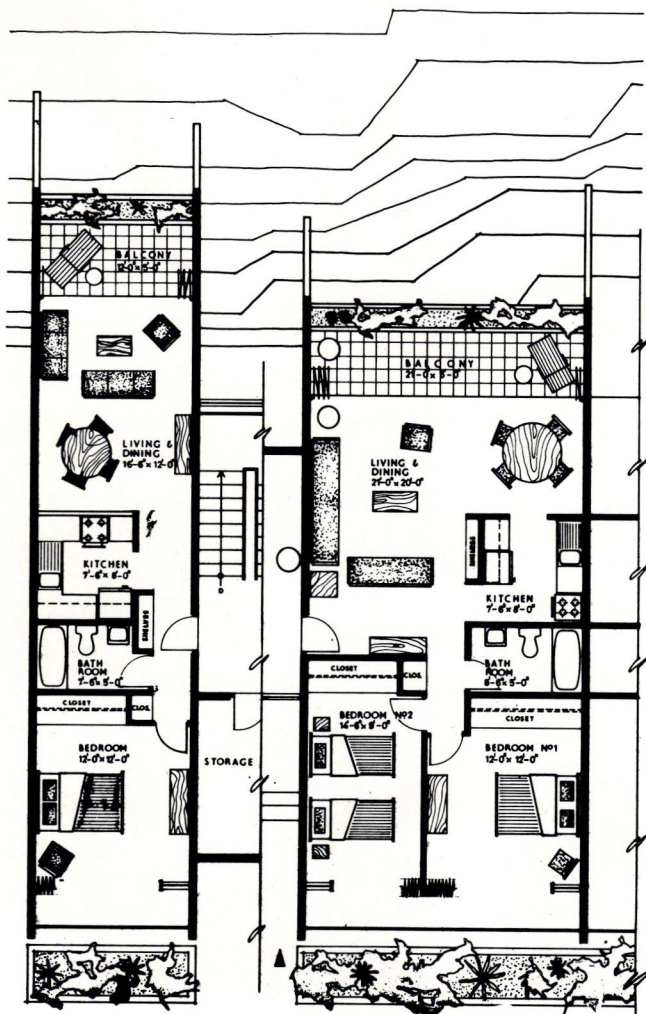
WEST ELEVATION

APARTMENTS FOR NEWLEIGH LTD., *Mandeville*

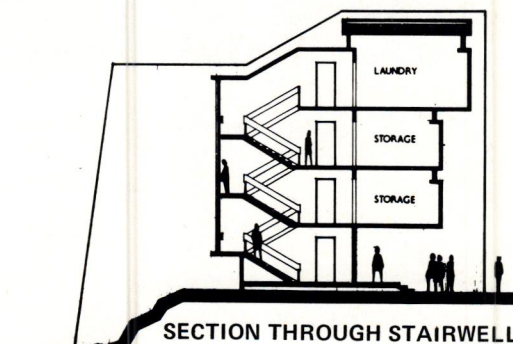
Architects:
H. D. REPOLE & ASSOCIATES



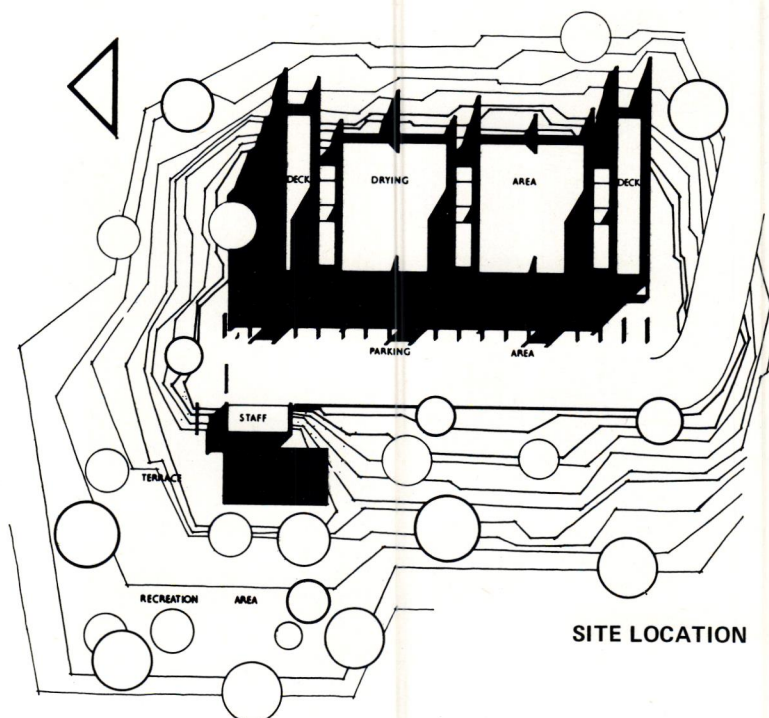
EAST ELEVATION



TYPICAL 1 & 2 BEDROOM UNITS



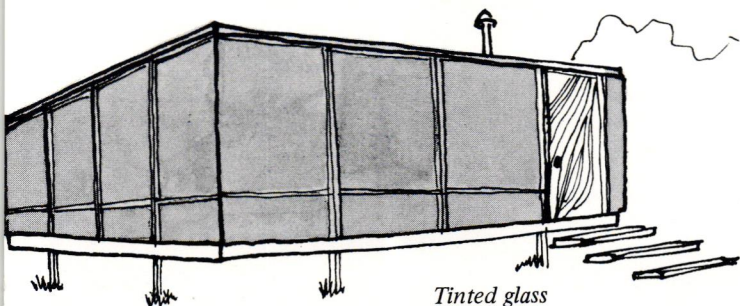
SECTION THROUGH STAIRWELL



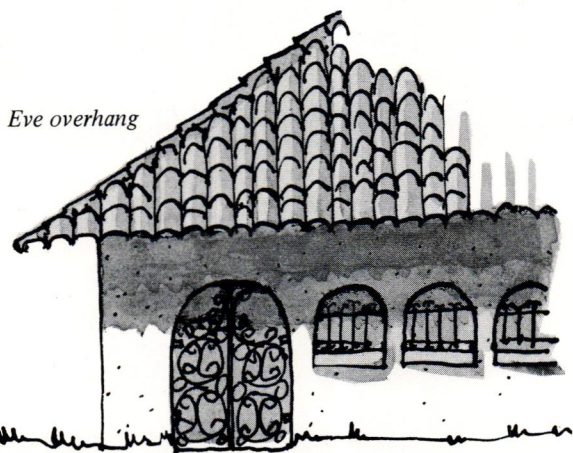
SITE LOCATION



Venetian blinds



Tinted glass



Eave overhang



Window shade

In the present day, however, there are many more choices of materials and techniques, and few things are architecturally inevitable. It is the designer's personal choice which is the decisive factor, rather than external restrictions. For example, let us look at some of the possible solutions available in dealing with a typical problem of tropical architecture: reducing direct sun and glare inside the building. 1) shingled overhang, 2) concrete overhang,

3) canvas awning, 4) shutters, 5) brisesoleil, 6) venetian blinds, 7) tinted glass, 8) eave overhang or 9) the common window shade. Each meets the requirement but each with a different "style" or feeling. In other words, the requirements can be satisfied in several different ways. The designer's stylistic preferences lead him to choose the solution with which he is most sympathetic from the several which are practically and economically feasible.

In spite of the obvious multiplicity of choices, architects persist in believing an appropriate and inevitable solution will come from simply following requirements.

This belief is accompanied by the acceptance of other rules of contemporary architecture: expressing the interior functions of a building on the outside; revealing the types of materials used; clearly showing the structure; removing all ornaments; or rejecting anything which has historical connotations (the latter being a particularly destructive choice in the context of developing countries). Embracing these rules has led to a remarkably consistent style for contemporary building throughout the world. Though it may vary in detail, its spirit is consistent.

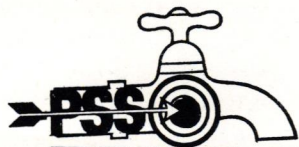
Professional journals have been instrumental in this architectural homogenization. Their international circulation, combined with the professional's desire to be in the vanguard of his profession has made these journals into levelers of taste. What they publicize becomes the model for building throughout the world.

This 'look-alikeness' alone is reason for concern systems and circumstances unrelated to countries such as Jamaica, nevertheless control the shape of architecture being built in these countries. Rules which were intended to produce unique solutions have in fact produced stereotypes. In a very few years, Jamaican resorts will look like Miami, Honolulu, Beirut or scores of other modern tourist cities.

This "look-alikeness" alone is reason for concern in a country such as Jamaica. The man-made charm of this island becomes increasingly important as it continues to encroach on the natural charm. Furthermore the trend toward architectural uniformity belies the originality of the Jamaican personality and the diversity of their architectural tradition.

To realize the architectural goal of achieving a Jamaican character in architecture, designers must look at local traditions. By lovingly examining the local visual traditions (the visual character of Jamaica which the visitor sees) and using portions of these traditions as themes in their work, it may be possible to retain a flavour of this older Jamaican culture. Without a doubt this suggestion will recall the historical copying of the 19th century. Yet it is not my intent to encourage slavish copying, though a mediocre copy of a traditional building in context is easier on the eyes than a mediocre copy of what is now fashionable, reproduced out of context. The more original and inventive designers will, as they have in the past, take a noticeable bow to history, artfully add something of their own, and the result will be a continuation of the past as well as a part of the present.

There are similarities as well as differences among countries. Some say that the similarities should be stressed, to promote understanding. But to accept and take pleasure in the differences among people, as well as in their similarities, may lead to a more profound understanding and tolerance and will certainly lead to a more interesting, lively world through which to travel.



PLUMBRITE

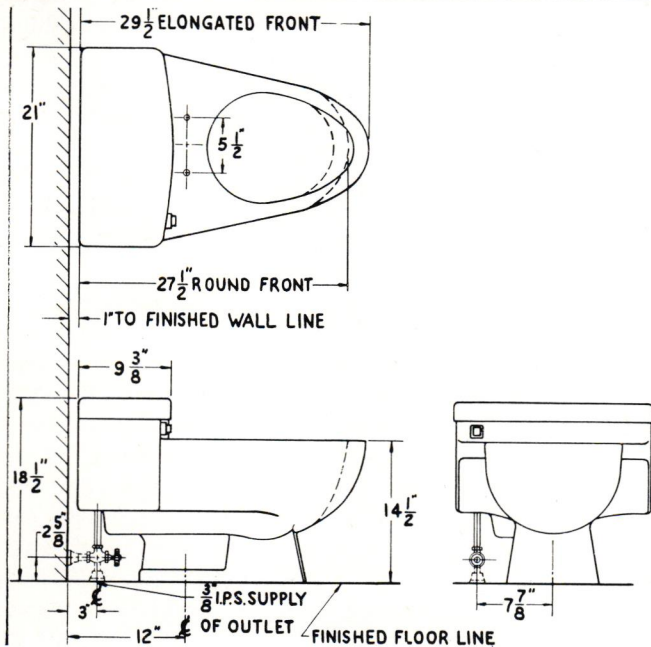
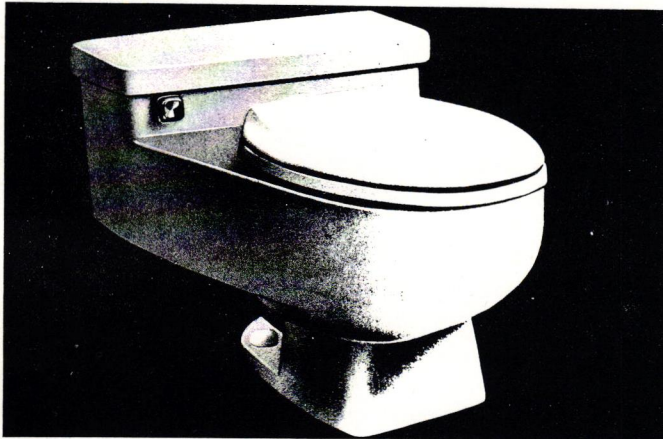
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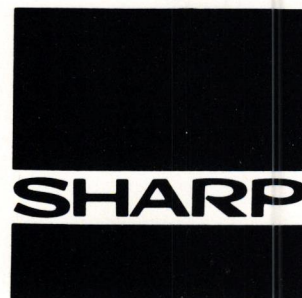
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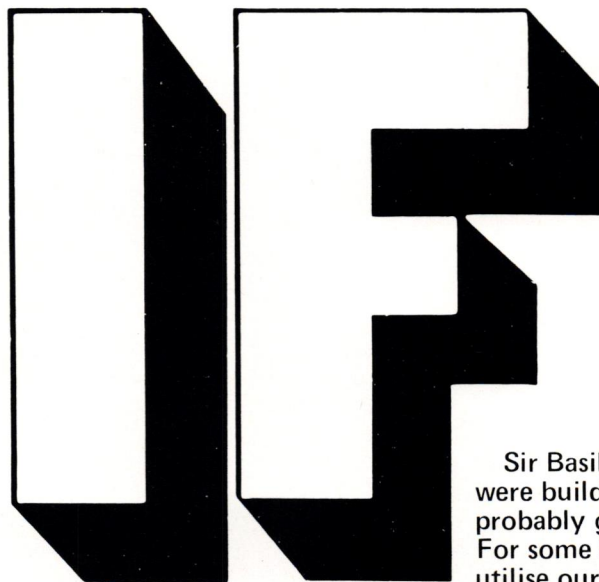
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The most interesting question about the environment is whether man, who is only beginning to realise the danger, will be able to alter from enough of his more dangerous activities to allow for the survival of his species for another generation even.

If not, and if in eliminating himself he doesn't manage to eliminate all other life too, whatever future intelligent life takes over should drop our own proud name for ourselves, *Homo Sapiens*, and call the extinct animal *Homo Pollutens*, and we should deserve it.

Why should we worry about posterity, what has posterity ever done for us? The fact that this question sounds like a joke is all the hope we have to go on, for it means that we take for granted that we are part of a process in time, and that we hold our world in trust for our successors. But are we **good** trustees? Certainly not.

The damage that man has done to the biosphere, that thin film of land, sea and air around the globe which contains all life, is enormous, and the damage goes on at an accelerating pace.

Unfortunately, particularly since the 19th century, man has regarded himself as a demi-god who can conquer nature. The world population has been allowed to rise regardless of the consequences. Fossil fuels, (oil, coal, gas) have been used to increase power, and so with new technologies the scale of man's works has become so great that he can indeed conquer nature — by destroying it. The snag is that he is part of it.

Certainly things cannot go on along their present line of development. The U.S.A. has been estimated already to

ALL WE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO IS THE FUTURE!

by G. C. Hodges,
A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., A.A. Dip.,
Past Pres. J.S.A.

consume 40% more oxygen than is produced there. It is clear that not all countries can reach their apparent goal of having American levels of technology.

One four-engined jet crossing the Atlantic uses 15 tons of oxygen. It takes a lot of plants to make that much, and plants are virtually the only source.

Cities such as New York or Tokyo are becoming, if not uninhabitable, uncomfortable and dangerous.

Examples of this sort are now commonplace. There are a number of known dangers, on the world scale not only oxygen depletion but other such effects as the alteration of the isolating and insulating layers of the upper atmosphere.

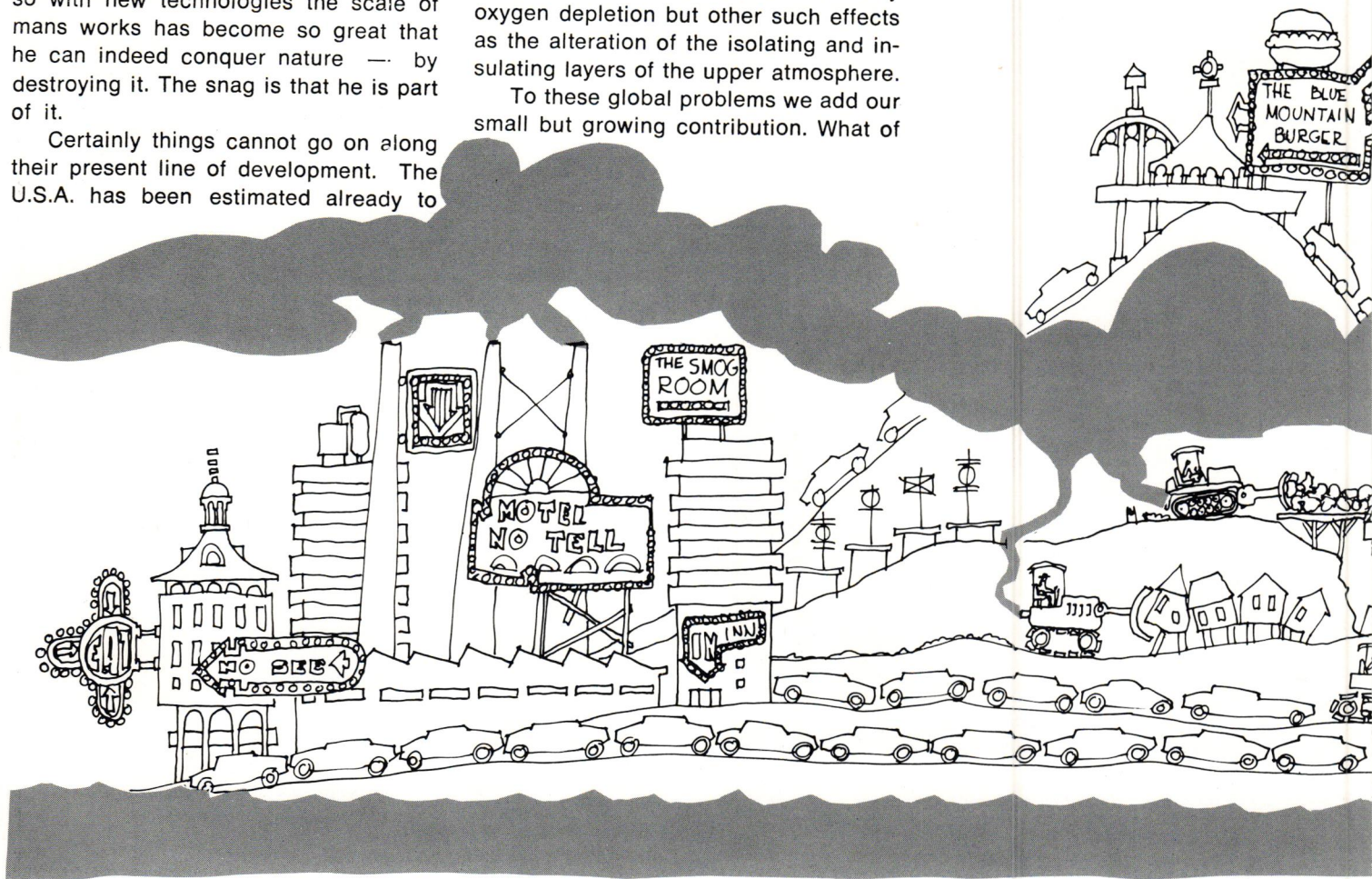
To these global problems we add our small but growing contribution. What of

our Jamaica pollution problems? Compared with heavily industrialised countries we are still in a very happy state. Our island is world renowned for its character and beauty, and with good reason.

We have some advantages. Firstly we can learn from the experience of others and not from making mistakes. One of the main lessons to be learned from their experience is that it is much cheaper not to let it happen than to try to put it right afterwards.

There are also favourable environmental factors, for example the air over Jamaica is usually unstable, so that the possibility of smog is remote. It is true that inversions happen frequently over Kingston, but only for an hour or two early morning and late evening. To see what happens when the dust from the Cement Factory falls of an evening when there is no wind to disperse it, gives an idea of how lucky we are!

Kingston Harbour is a particular problem. It is a remarkable place, nearly 20 square miles, which keeps its own channel clear, in spite of a tide which is measured in inches only. We are so accustomed to getting rid of sewerage and other wastes into the harbour that it is hard to realize that with the growth in our numbers and amount of waste, the harbour can't stand it much longer, the way we have been treating it, and we



shall have to mend our ways or life in it will die. A Committee set up by the Minister of Local Government chaired by Prof. Goodbody is monitoring conditions, and recent proposals on sewerage envisage a long-term removal of all sewage outfalls to outside the harbour.

While water supplies are mostly very pure, water pollution hazards exist from traditional industries, such as dunder from cane factories and from new factories which produce an effluent. The Bauxite factories have to dispose of a highly alkaline mud. Careful watch is kept by the Minister of Health, the Mines Department, Geological Survey Department and others to see that new factories can deal effectively with their wastes and that new ones have proper provision for this.

The Ministry of Health, as part of a regional system, monitors radioactive fallout and certain air impurities. They also have a particular concern with industrial health, since it is at work that a man may come up against the most dangerous exposure.

Noise is an aspect of pollution which, it is recently being realized, has not received enough attention. Relatively low levels of noise (far below those produced by air-horns and loud speakers outside shops!) do permanent damage to hearing. It seems probable that the only reason that patrons can stand the volume of sound in a discotheque is that they have already impaired their hearing, and, like other addicts, require increasing volumes!

It is not easy to control pollution, since it is something that individuals and firms contribute to continually. General public awareness and self-discipline is the only thing that can be really effective, and it is only by a combina-

tion of both individuals and government doing enough of the right things that will stop us gradually drowning in our own wastes.

Garbage is an interesting example. Not so long ago, with most of the population living in villages, there was no waste to speak of. Now Kingston and other town dwellers produce ever increasing amounts of garbage. A banana is well wrapped, the skins turn quickly back to soil, but a detergent is packed in a plastic bottle which takes many years to break down. The detergent itself, incidentally, does not break down the way soap does. In Finland it had to be banned, because where washing was done in lakes, they gradually became lakes of detergent.

Peoples habits are slow to change and so they may empty a bin of garbage over a wall into the next man's yard, or into a gully with no more thought than throwing away a banana skin.

Again, there is a rapid increase in the number of people visiting beaches and beauty spots by vehicles. As numbers of visitors build up, the whole character of an area may change. Examples are easy to think of in Jamaica, while the Yosemite Valley now suffers from smog some weekends!

The physical resource base is limited, and its main elements are quickly listed:—

- * Bauxite
- * Varied scenery and natural environment in a small island
- * A rather limited amount of good agricultural land, and some areas especially suitable for particular crops.

- * A good location for world and regional communications
- * Warm sea, sun, reefs and beaches
- * An interesting history, including buildings of considerable character and variety.

This is a rather meagre list, and little of importance is likely to be added, except perhaps oil.

With the great excess of births over deaths (about 50,000 each year), there is an evident need to develop the limited natural resources of the country fully and rapidly.

Now, there is an idea around that the decision at the Pearly Gates, between heaven, hell or purgatory, is based these days on the one simple question "How much did you contribute to the Gross National Product?"

What matters in developing the country is really the quality of life and that is only partly having enough money. When people talk of the Good Old Days, they forget those aspects of life which have changed for the better, such as better levels of health, and remember the negative aspects, such as increased noise. Such a list of plusses and minuses is long on both sides. The skill of designing and controlling development is to maximize that which will improve the quality of life, and minimize those aspects that will damage it. In essence it is a matter of designing with nature instead of against it.

Obviously Government has a leading role to play in guiding development in this way. It is also a difficult role. Consider, for example a simple case, and see if you could decide a policy. Suppose in an area of scenic beauty, important not only for its amenity, but economically because of tourism, 10 men used to make a living by cutting firewood and charcoal on a stony mountainside, unfit for agriculture.

While this modified the ecology somewhat, it is a large area, and growth about kept pace with their cutting. A reasonably efficient use of the resource base resulted.

Now there are about 100 men (in rural areas each woman has an average of over 4 children, and numbers grow fast). Permanent damage is being done, and the yield is falling. What should be done? Ban cutting? This would put 100 men and their families out of work, most would have to move. Some would cut illegally, and policing would be needed. Some might go over to illegality, such as growing ganja or theft.

Find alternative employment? The trouble is that there are many thousand new jobs needed each year to keep up

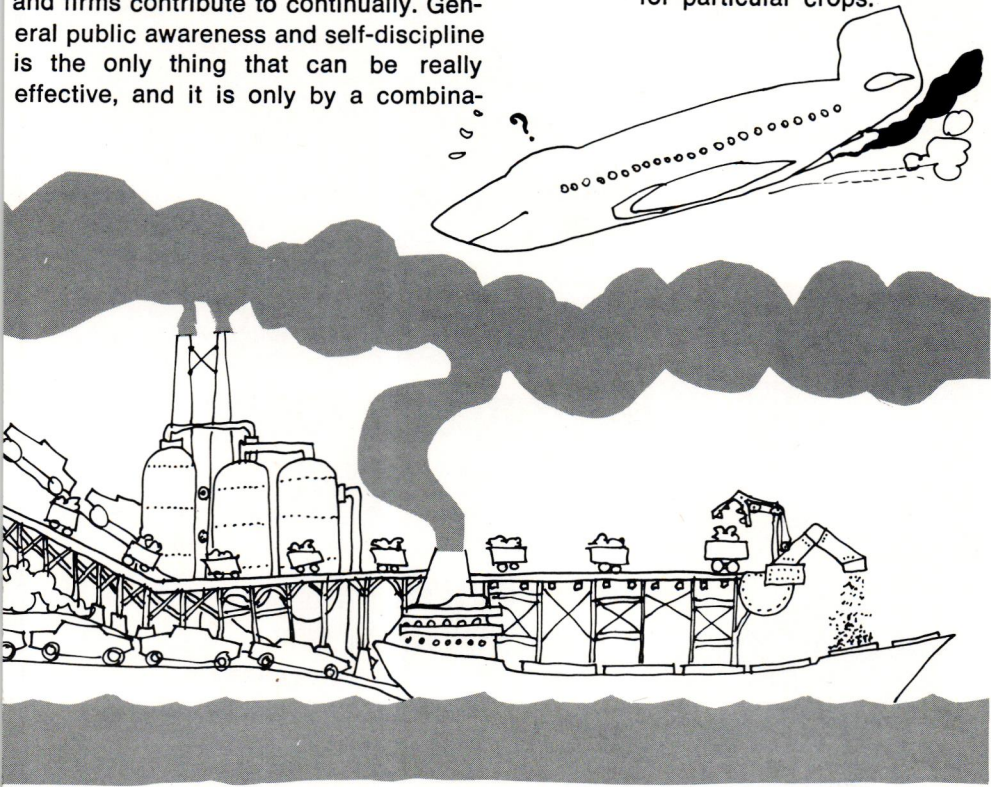
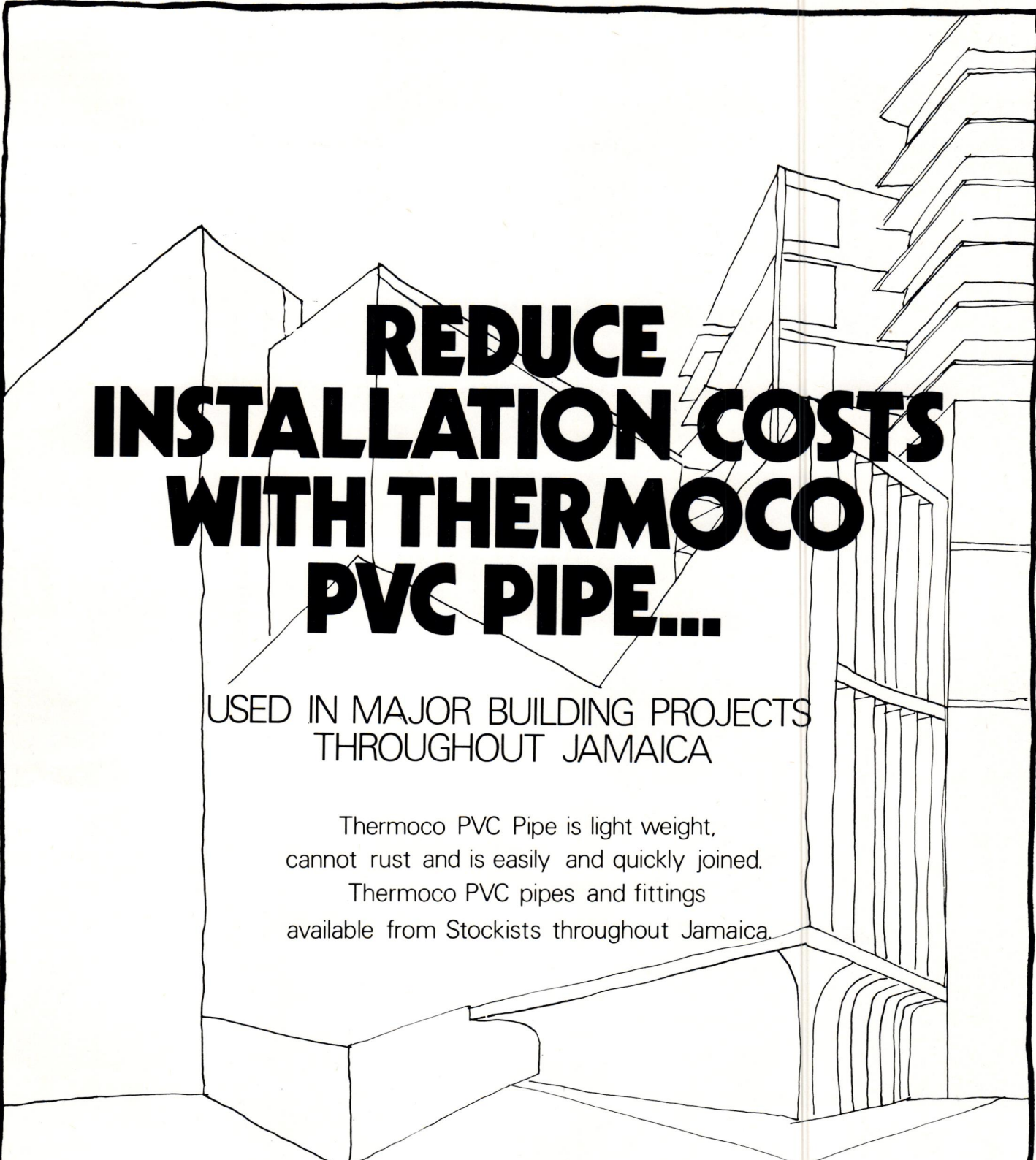


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I. THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

1. The growth of towns destroys the natural environment, and modifies it greatly over a large surrounding area.
2. Living in urban areas, particularly cities, causes man environmental stress.
3. The movement of the urban population by motor vehicle in search of recreation alters the environment of many rural areas, particularly the sea coast.

II. STRESS AND AMENITY IN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Towns provide a stimulating environment for man, but a highly unnatural one.

The general problems of urban environmental stress are ramified, and of great importance, but it is necessary here to try to isolate and simplify physical aspects. For city dwellers, unmodified biological needs, such as the release of aggression, hunting, the need to roam territory, are met in highly modified ways, by parks or watching competitive games, driving cars, horse race gambling, shooting birds, fishing, etc. Where socially acceptable outlets are inadequate, release is likely to take unacceptable forms. The football team and the juvenile gang are both modified hunting packs.

In parts of Kingston because outlets, both social and physical, are particularly inadequate, the Kingston Public Hospital on a hot weekend evening may resemble an army casualty clearing station after a minor battle.

The provision of adequate recreational land and facilities must be seen as a human necessity, not merely as a 'sauce' to make city living 'taste' better.

Land values are a major barrier to the provision of adequate urban recreational space. Where there is a high residential density a correspondingly large amount of land is needed for recreation while the value of the land is also correspondingly high. Where land happens to be available adjacent to such areas, its price is high because of its value for commercial or other purposes. While the cash value for recreation is usually low or negative. Public demand to use it for recreational space is there, but usually unorganized and inarticulate, and the more potent commercial arguments prevail time and again.

It seems essential therefore that sufficient land within and adjacent to the urban fence of Kingston and other towns should be reserved for recreation, and that an agency of government should be given the task of securing the land for this purpose, and see to it that it is not eroded by use for other purposes, either government or private.

III. GROWTH OF TOWNS AND DESTRUCTION AND MODIFICATION OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Jamaica is in a period of rather rapid population expansion and urban growth. Estimates of growth of population 1970-1980 range from 368,400 to 600,400.

The new urban population is likely to be in the order of 300,000 to 500,000. More than half of this increase may be expected in the Kingston region, and the rest of it in towns elsewhere in Jamaica.

Assuming a gross overall density of 10 persons per acre, 30,000 to 50,000 acres of land will be needed for urban purposes during the period.

About 20% of the increase is likely to be accommodated within existing urban areas so that 24,000 to 40,000 acres of new urban land will be needed in the next ten years. Experience in other countries would indicate that this rate of land take is unlikely to decline.

The present urban area of Kingston is about 25,400 acres. This will be increased by about 15 to 30,000 acres in the next 10 years if expansion demand is met. It must be emphasized that all these figures are based on so many imponderables that they can be used for no other purpose than to establish orders of magnitude.

IV. TOWNSMAN'S USE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

Increasing use of motor vehicles (numbers increase at nearly 10% per annum) results in increasing use, by the townsman, of the countryside and beaches for recreation. This causes degrees of breakdown of natural conditions varying from the remote wilderness trail to the intensively used beach, which has more of the character of a city park.

The slogan "Leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but photographs" requires a high degree of sophistication and self-control. Plants are stripped from the countryside. Beaches are littered with the debris of picnics. Birds are shot by an increasing and less discriminating arsenal of guns. Other wildlife is hounded to remote areas and slaughtered.

At present there is little public awareness that this destruction and pollution are undesirable, and such sanctions and controls as do exist are consequently hard to enforce.

In an increasingly urbanized society, the function of the countryside apart from export crops, becomes predominantly to supply the food and recreational needs of the towns.

Much of the countryside is altered to provide for the needs of the towns. The area immediately around the town is particularly affected by outspill from the towns including wastes, and garbage.

In determining areas for urban expansion, care must be taken to avoid, whenever possible, land with good agricultural potential, and areas of particular value for recreation or science. In the vicinity of towns, individual features, such as trees, groups of buildings of architectural character etc. require designation and conservation. Some towns, notably Black River, Falmouth, Spanish Town, St. Ann's Bay and Lucea, have had a pause in their economic growth, and contain settings of great cultural importance which are in danger of destruction by new development.

V. VISUAL AMENITY

The present high rate of population and economic growth together with increased transportation are inevitably causing rapid changes in the appearance of

town and countryside.

Jamaica is renowned for its beauty, and in the scramble for development far too little care is being taken to preserve and enhance the appearance of town and country, and much is being done to destroy it.

There is only one qualified landscape architect working in Jamaica, and only the Urban Development Corporation is engaged in large scale landscape design in areas in which it operates. Some individual buildings of merit are being designed, but even these are showpieces rather than satisfactory parts of landscape or townscape.

Living at higher densities, particularly in towns requires very different social habits from rural life, and urban squalor consequently results from rapid movement to towns.

Similarly, the use of beaches and countryside by town dwellers requires as yet little developed skills, and littering and other deterioration results. Some beach environments are rather fragile and are in danger of destruction by over-use, or changes in their essential character — Dunns River for example.

A. The factors making for the beauty of the country include:—

1. great variety of scenery, often with rapid changes,
2. much open countryside, and many areas of undeveloped mountain and forest, swamps etc.;
3. a wide variety of mature trees, individually imposing, or forming visually beautiful groups;
4. the variety and profusion in some areas of epiphytes, orchids etc.;
5. most roads provide constantly changing views of varying scale and character, and much of the island's beauty can be seen from its roads;
6. The intrusion of inappropriate outdoor advertisement of the Public Works Department are excellent;
7. there is a variety of coastal scenery often enhanced by fishermen's boats and gear;
8. undersea viewing is easy and there are many excellent reefs, among the best in the world;
9. for the northern tourist or visitor, the strangeness and richness of tropical foliage has great impact. This is enhanced by the quality of the sunlight, which produces intense contrast;
10. there is much good historic urban architecture, and several good examples of townscape.

B. The factors tending to counter this are:—

1. The destruction of trees, usually carelessly, often unnecessarily during development work such as putting pole lines, cutting road lines, cleaning building sites.
2. The felling of trees for charcoal burning and timber.
3. The denuding of hillsides for cultivation.
4. The sale and development of beaches and their cutting off from public view.
5. The intrusion of building development into areas of natural beauty.
6. The intrusion of inappropriate outdoor advertising in both town and country.

7. Proliferation of ill co-ordinated and badly designed signs and street furniture in towns and villages.
 8. Fly posting of signs on roadside trees.
 9. The prevalence of urban and village squalor.
 10. The prevalence of abandoned car bodies and other rubbish, including picnic rubbish on beaches.
 11. Unknown disease has wiped out coastal palm trees in areas where they formed an important part of the view and are not likely to be re-planted.
 12. The beauty of accessible reefs is being damaged by uncontrolled collection of corals etc.
 13. Inshore fish are over-exploited, often by illegal means such as dynamiting.
 14. Trees are stripped of orchids etc.
 15. Historic and architecturally pleasing houses and shops in towns and villages are decaying and being pulled down or "modernized".
 16. Intrusions of brashly designed new buildings into urban settings often disfigure them.
 17. Few new buildings or layouts are designed with a landscaping plan.
 18. There is little consideration given to visual aspects in the design of new roads.
- C. What needs to be done to preserve and improve visual amenity includes:—
1. The delineation of areas of natural beauty (including undersea areas) their acquisition by government wherever necessary and sufficient supervision to ensure their total preservation and development of access for public enjoyment.
 2. The development of popular understanding of the need for conservation, including the dangers posed by increased development and population mobility, and the guiding of popular action to improve visual amenity.
 3. The control of the alteration of the exterior appearance of selected buildings and building groups, and the control of new buildings in the vicinity.
 4. The scheduling of important trees and woodland groups for legally enforceable preservation, together with provision for inspection and maintenance work.
 5. The consideration of landscape design in the design and execution in all public works, including roads and pole lines.
 6. The consideration of the effect of new development such as land settlement, housing schemes, forestry, on the appearance of the land.
 7. The control of development of beaches to ensure the preservation and development of their natural beauty and their accessibility to the public.
 8. The prohibition of all outdoor advertising in the countryside and in selected urban areas.
 9. Comprehensive consideration to the views along roads particularly highways including the design of traffic signs, street furniture etc. planting and landscaping, bushing to clear views, selective weeding of banks to preserve worthwhile plants.
 10. Planting and maintenance to replace diseased

trees of landscape importance.

11. The development of a public abhorrence for squalor, including litter of all forms.
 12. The prosecution of those responsible for commercial flyposting along roads.
 13. Laybys and viewing points should be provided along roads, particularly highways, and should be an integral part of road design and landscaping.
 14. The submission and approval of preservation and landscaping plans should be required for all major developments as part of Town Planning approval.
- D. The following immediate action is suggested:—
1. The proper policing of government forests and selected reefs to stop the present indiscriminate destruction.
 2. Public relations work to improve public understanding of the value of conservation and

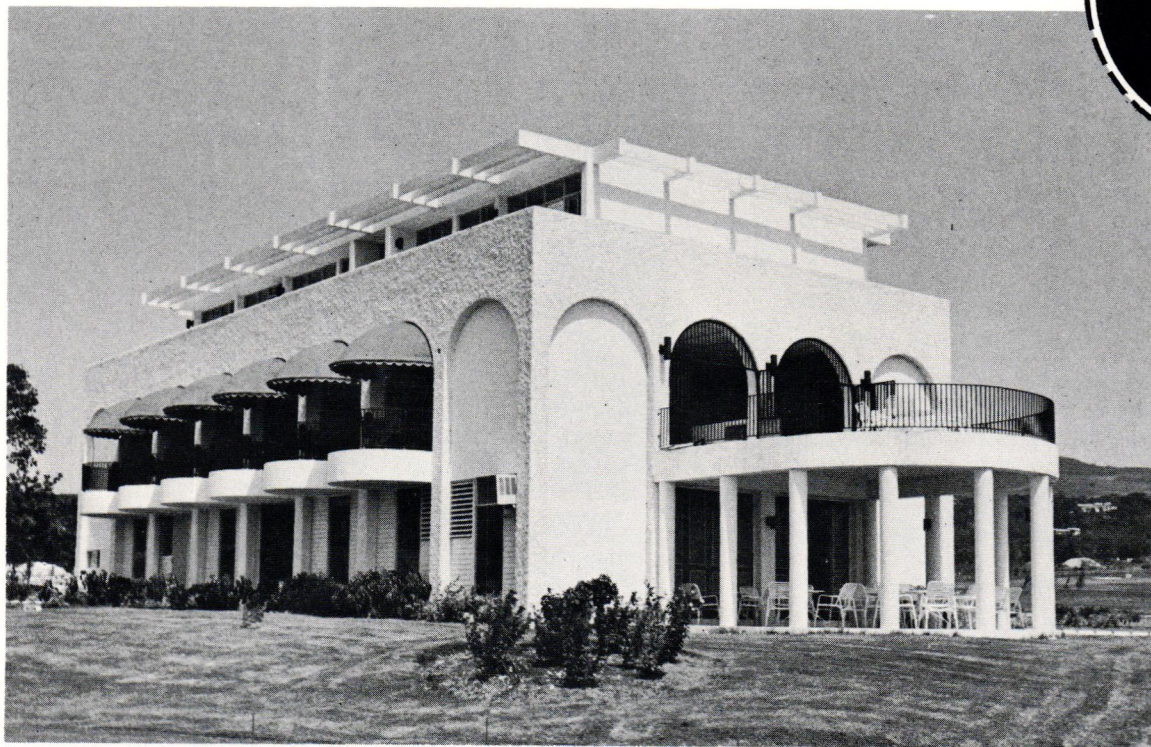
to develop the public conscience.

3. Tree Preservation Orders under the Town and Country Planning law should be made to apply on a greatly increased scale.
4. The Advertisement Regulation law should be firmly used to stop all advertisement on main roads in other areas, the Town and Country Planning law should be used for control.
5. Action should be taken against flyposting.
6. Exclusive beach rights should be given only in exceptional circumstances, and public access to beaches should be maintained and improved.
7. All pole lines and road improvements should be carefully designed to avoid destruction of trees and visual amenity. This will require checking and approval by the appropriate authorities.

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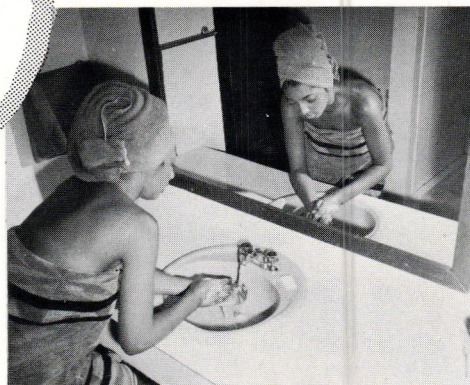
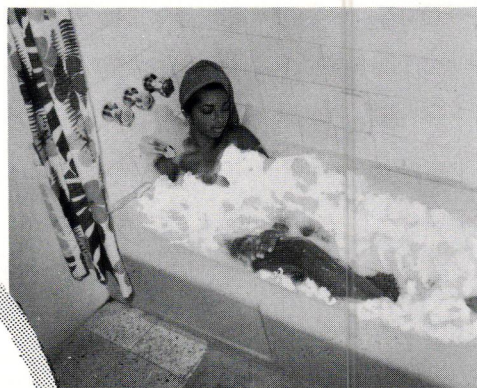
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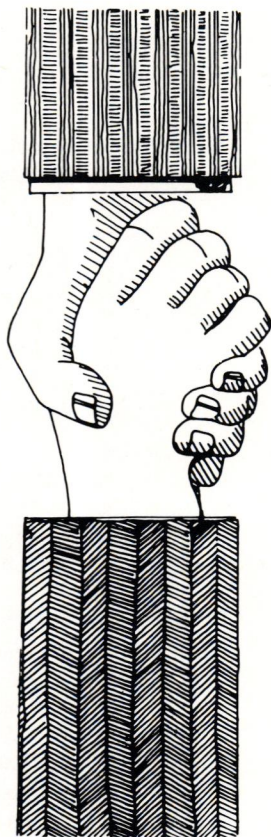


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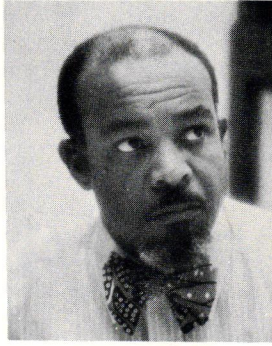
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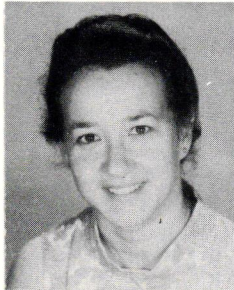
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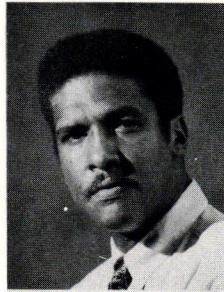
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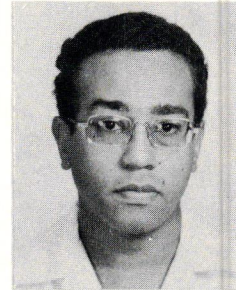
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