

Playing, Reading, Seeing, Eating, Listening or just plain Relaxing . . .

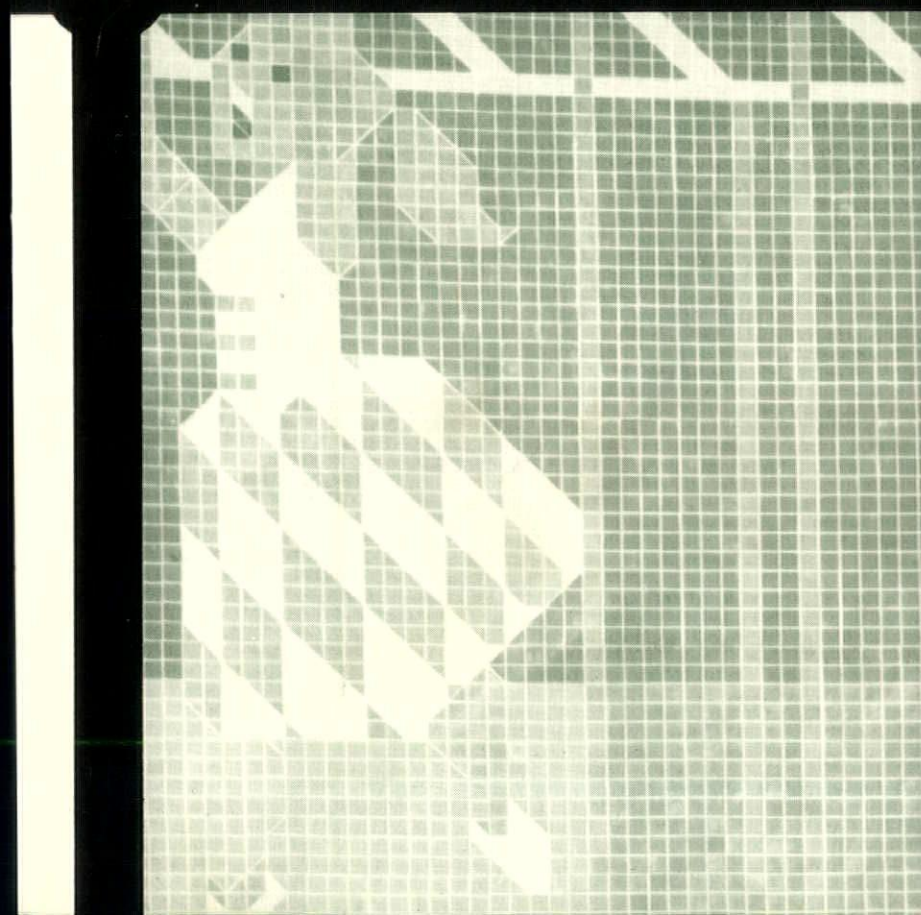
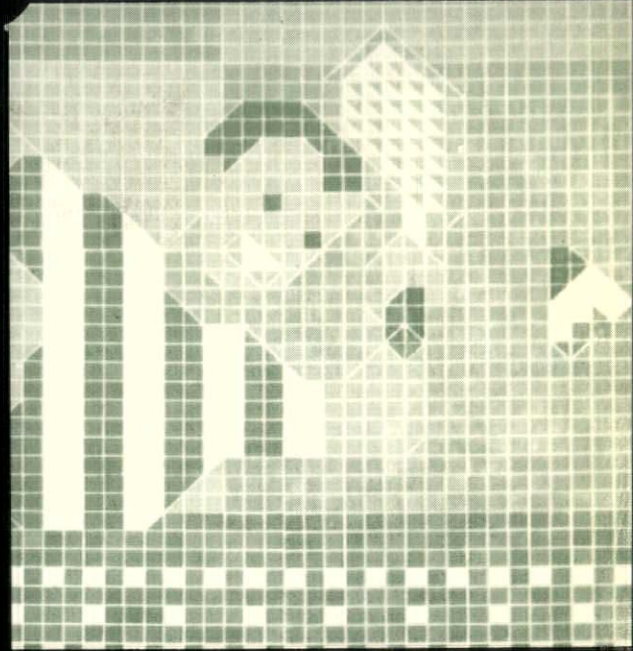
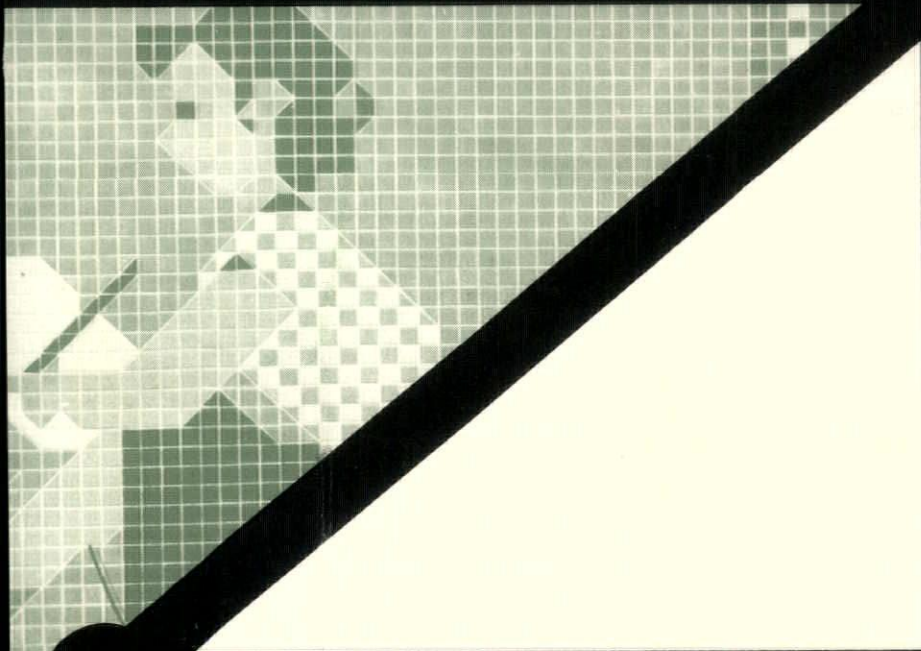
SUMMER  
1960

ARCHITECTS' REPORT

CHESAPEAKE BAY REGION

AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF  
ARCHITECTS

AUG 31 1960





# people in architecture



**Mies Van Der Rohe, FAIA**, designer of the building for Charles Center's Lot No. 7, is one of the world's best known architects. A native of Germany, his international reputation was firmly established in 1939 by his renowned Barcelona Pavilion. He left Germany in 1938 and until 1958 was Director of the Architectural Department of Chicago's Institute of Technology. In the U. S., he is noted for the Seagram Building in New York and other commercial and residential work. Charles Center is fortunate to have its first building executed by this distinguished architect, shown receiving the AIA Gold Medal from outgoing Pres. J. N. Richards.



**Price Day**, the new Editor-in-Chief of the Sunpapers, has a deep interest in architecture dating back to his days at Princeton where he was a student in architecture as an undergraduate. A native of Texas, Mr. Day is a noted magazine writer, and as a newspaperman, he won a Pulitzer Prize for distinguished international reporting on India's independence in 1948. Since 1952, he has been in the editorial department of the Sun, having joined the staff in 1942 as a rewrite man. Mr. Day's appreciation of the architectural profession has already been formally recognized by the Baltimore Chapter when he was cited for his writings.



**Wm. Purnell Hall**, president of the Young Men's Christian Association of Baltimore, received his education at Polytechnic Institute and Johns Hopkins University. He is president of the Maryland Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., a director of the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., the Fidelity-Baltimore National Bank and the Shipbuilders Council of America, and a member of the Council of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. As head of the Baltimore YMCA, Mr. Hall is involved in the very active Buildings For Brotherhood program the YMCA is conducting to provide \$17 million for overseas building construction.



**Christian H. Kahl**, was elected Baltimore County Executive in 1958 and thus returned to public office after five years in private business. Mr. Kahl had formerly served as President of the Board of County Commissioners from 1942 to 1950, and as Commissioner from 1950 to 1953. As chief executive of a phenomenally expanding metropolitan county, Mr. Kahl is responsible for the direction of its varied and extensive building programs. During his administrations the county's first public recreation program was instituted, the Department of Public Works was established and the police and fire bureaus were extensively upgraded.

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William F. Hallstead, *Managing Editor*  
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#### **Exhibit Policy**

- a. An Advisory Board, consisting of four members of the Baltimore Chapter, A.I.A., appointed by the Executive Committee, in addition to other duties, shall sit as outlined below to screen all photographic exhibit and advertising material intended for publication in the ARCHITECTS' REPORT.
- b. The Advisory Board, when sitting as a screening jury, will have as its special Chairman an out-of-state Architect. Since it is the intent that the ARCHITECTS' REPORT be of the highest possible standard and that anything published therein be of credit to the profession, the instructions to the screening jury are to identify material acceptable for publication on the basis of quality, both architectural and photographic, keeping in mind the Editor's intent to display varying categories of work from different parts of the broad area of Maryland and the District of Columbia. It is further intended that acceptance by the screening jury will not in any way imply premiation of Material approved.
- c. The screening jury will further be empowered to make recommendations modifying exhibit material if, in its opinion, such modification improve the standard.
- d. Material which is accepted by the screening jury shall be considered suitable for publication whether included in the next succeeding issue of the ARCHITECTS' REPORT or not. Material accepted will be returned so noted to owner.

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# ARCHITECTS'

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Cover photo: Pupils enroute to the playground will pass this colorful ceramic tile panel, symbol of recreation at the Lida Lee Tall Laboratory School, State Teachers' College at Towson, Md. Now being completed, the new elementary school will open in September. Photo by W. F. Hallstead. Through an oversight, we failed to mention that our Spring Issue cover rendering was by Richard C. Donkervoet.

## RECREATION

It does seem at times that the American confuses his "pursuit of happiness" with his pursuit of relaxation. Day and night he pursues his "happiness" by physical exertion or as a sedentary spectator. And he spends more for it than he spends for anything else, including national defense. Some people envy an activity which appears to develop physical fitness and mental resourcefulness (or should). Others point to it as a sign of physical, mental or moral softness.

For this issue of the *Architects' Report*, we will stay with Mr. Webster's definition of recreation: "Refreshment by means of some pastime; agreeable exercise or the like, affording relaxation and enjoyment." Recreation requires an enormous outlay and an amazing variety of buildings. Swimming pools, gymnasias, clubs, glamorous restaurants, yacht basins, stadia, theaters, skating rinks dot our cities and countryside, supplying what has come to be accepted as a basic community need.

On the following pages, we show some of the solutions to this need for recreational shelter as expressed in the Chesapeake Bay area.

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## DOLLAR BUILDINGS

In this, the middle of the Twentieth Century, the dollar has become our chief building material. Concrete, stone, brick, steel, glass, wood and other traditional building components—including good planning—have become incidental to it. Our concern is mainly with the \$\$\$ worth of building we can put together.

In public work, neither adequacy nor aesthetic impact on the community counts. In fact, a little interest in the latter might get a sponsoring commission into trouble by inviting discussion—better to avoid that; better to stress the two, five or twelve million dollar cost. In commercial or industrial work, the cost per square foot is the unit of measurement, and it is so easy to use—so much easier than the expression of the degree of efficiency, pleasantness of appearance or the improved working conditions created. In education, schools are often erected to keep a community “up” with its neighbors, not to satisfy the needs of the community itself.

It is time in the community of Baltimore for governmental commissions and departments as well as private building committees and boards of directors to study their projects more thoroughly.

A public building is not either practical or inadequate merely because it is big and has had \$12 million spent on it. It should be properly designed, equipped, air conditioned and attractive in a lasting sense. To succeed, it might well be smaller and finer.

A factory is neither a good investment nor a good neighbor merely because it cost \$5 for each square foot. With a little more study, it might have been smaller but more efficient, handsomer—a plant to serve not only as a roof over

an operation but as a powerful free advertisement for the company and as a more sound investment, all within the same budget.

In an earlier editorial, we admitted that four walls and a roof can shelter any need under emergency conditions. But few functions need such emergency treatment. Most functions now demand very special attention, and these demands are fortunately a part of the human desire for special living conditions. The public expects an auditorium to have perfect acoustics; an arena to have good sight lines. The pretty secretary seeks the job with the most attractive working conditions. The working man is beginning to think of that job in the industrial park near his home.

A case in point in the very unusual design of Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum that attracts thousands of visitors each day, something that no “standard” building would have done, regardless of the collection inside. Another example is the small insurance company in Hartford whose new building is so successful that it has won all sorts of awards. Here again so many visitors have been favorably impressed that business has tripled in the first year. No normal channels of advertising could have accomplished such results.

For his own good—and for ours and for the good of the whole community—we ask the client to think before he spends. A little more early study, a little more imagination, a little more time for his architect to plan well and to ferret out the best materials, a little less emphasis on the dollar as the chief component. Building dollars are investments, not expenditures.



*Architect:*  
**Wilson & Christie**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*

MISCHANTON'S RESTAURANT, Eastpoint Shopping Center, Baltimore, Maryland. Seating 200, this restaurant has 3 types of dining areas on the main floor: a sidewalk cafe, a small lounge and the main dining room. The bar is in the basement and there is a connection to a community hall for large gatherings. Decor is changed periodically to highlight featured foreign menus. The setting is informal yet elegant, with strolling musicians creating moods for evening diners. The restaurant won an Association of Commerce Award in 1957 and a 1957 Honor Award, Food Service Contest of Institutions Magazine.



## **MAXIMUM USE THROUGH MINIMUM COST:**

### **Baltimore County's School- Recreation Centers**

Dramatically confirming the burgeoning growth of Baltimore County are the 1960 census figures just released. While Baltimore City lost 26,000 of its population during the past decade, Baltimore County gained an impressive 220,000. This tremendous influx of residents is equal to the entire 1950 population of Norfolk, Va.

Clearly, any public recreation and park program would be severely taxed by this substantial population increase, but in its 1953 Recreation Survey Report, Baltimore County's Board of Recreation foresaw this inpouring of citizens. The current efficiency of its recreation program reflects this early awareness of future needs. Countians are now getting an excellent buy for their tax dollar while the public ownership of land for recreational use is held to a very practical acreage.

The keystone of the Baltimore County recreation program is the provision of dual-use centers designed, built and maintained in coordination with the Department of Education. These facilities, known as School-Recreation Centers, are highly economical because they serve two important public programs with only one plant. Thus, through careful planning for multi-purpose use, the taxpayers get almost twice the value for their outlay as compared with the cost of providing two comparable separate facilities.

The most important unit in the dual-use program is the Neighborhood School-Recreation Center. It generally serves 3,000 to 7,000 people within walking distance. It has as its nucleus the standard 24-room elementary school building and grounds. The school building is architecturally arranged to make accessible to the neighborhood such facilities as the cafeteria, multi-purpose rooms, certain classrooms, music rooms, libraries, health centers and other facilities important to a neighborhood recreation program. Mr. Hubert I. Snyder, Director of Recreation and Parks for the county, points out the fact that many U.S. school facilities stand idle when class hours end because they have not been located, planned or maintained for dual-use. Unless put to other-than-school use, the average elementary school is completely idle 180 days per year and idle from 4 p.m. on during the remaining 185 days. The Baltimore County recreational plan is making wide use of this reservoir of non-class hours.

The Neighborhood School-Recreation Center is expressly designed to serve the needs of education and recreation—not only student recreation but recreation for the entire neighborhood within approximately one-half mile. When classes close for the day, week or year, the school becomes a recreation center—a headquarters for organized baseball, lacrosse, tennis, basketball and other indoor and outdoor play. Selected portions of the school building serve more diversified recreational purposes such as teen centers,

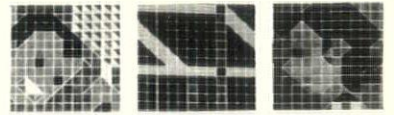
dancing, arts and crafts. The key to this entire program lies in expressly designing school facilities for multi-purpose use. Today Baltimore County has some 90 Neighborhood School-Recreation Centers in operation. Sites are being acquired for an estimated 20 additional centers within the next year.

Another type of dual-use center used to some extent in the county is the Community School-Recreation Center. This recreational facility is built around the junior or senior high school and is located to serve from 12,000 to 40,000 people living within a radius of one mile. Twenty of these are now in use. The Neighborhood and Community School-Recreation Centers currently in operation plus a separate group of 67 locality playgrounds, park areas and playfields place county recreational facilities within a half mile of an estimated 90% of the county's population.

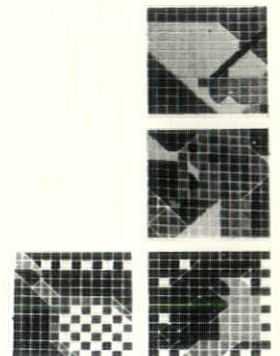
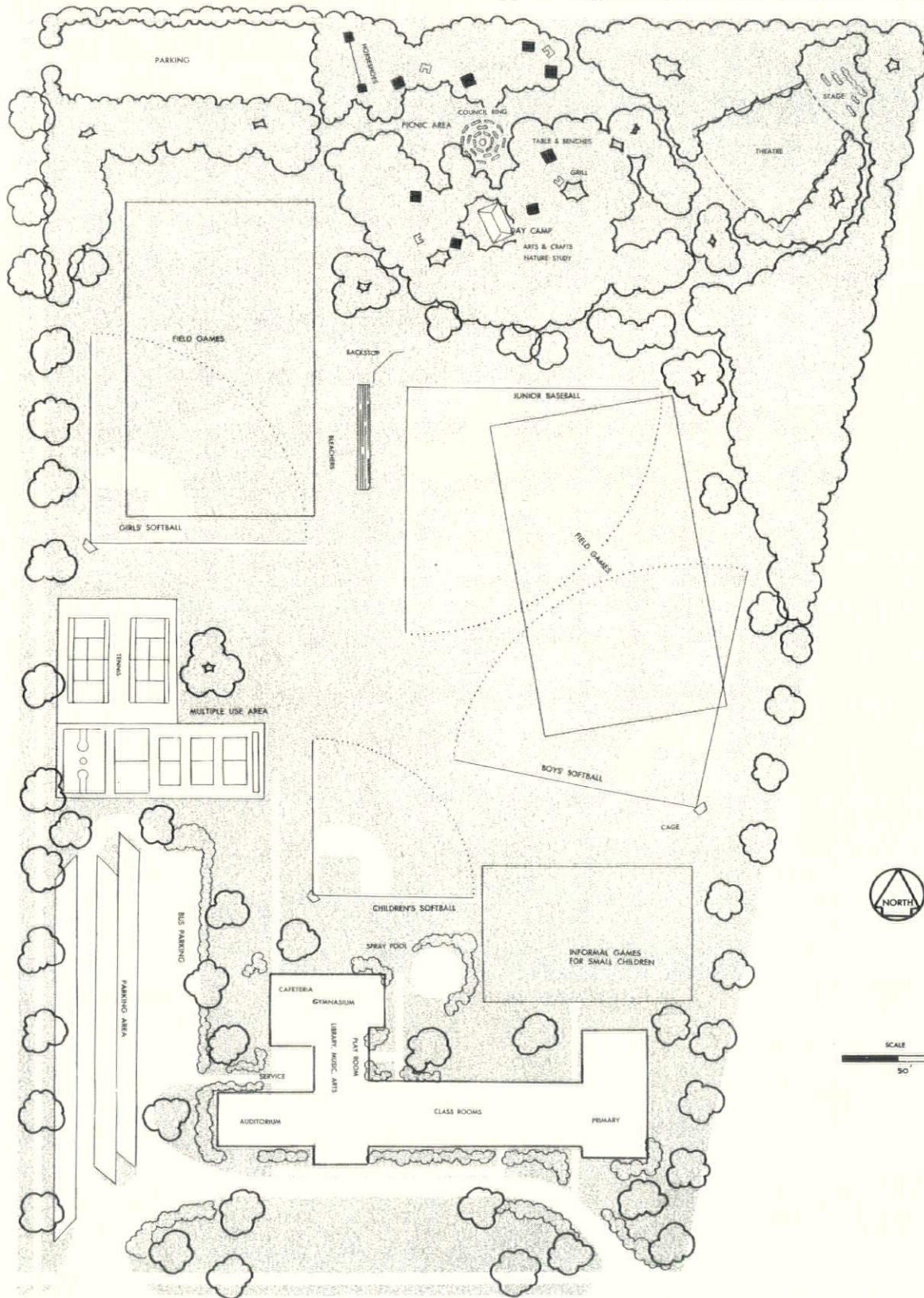
Of special interest to the architect are the challenging design features required to fit school facilities into the recreational program. Because the gymnasium is not a part of the standard county elementary school, the multi-purpose room has been changed in size and shape to make it adaptable as a neighborhood gymnasium. The stage is retained, thus the room fills the needs of both the school and its community. Other architectural features required to incorporate the school facility into the overall recreational program include the provision of outside access to toilets, additional storage areas for sports equipment, an office for the professional recreation center director and the equipping of an adult meeting room in the elementary schools. Mr. Snyder estimates that the incorporation of these recreational features in the planning stages increases the dual-use facility's cost over the cost for only single-use school facilities by a remarkably low 5%.

An imaginative application of the recreation department's dual-use concept is found in the experimental roller skating project to be initiated this fall at the Wellwood School near Pikesville. Here the multi-purpose room will be used during non-school hours as a young peoples' skating rink. The county is conducting experiments with various types of flooring—the floor at the Wellwood School is asphalt tile—and if the roller skating project is a success, future dual-use county elementary school buildings may well be designed with floor areas especially adaptable to roller skating.

The school-recreation program with its governing concept of dual-use facilities has virtually eliminated the need for the construction of separate recreation buildings in Baltimore County. Mr. Snyder states that because of the plan, the county has been able to provide excellent recreational, park and educational facilities yet adhere to a budget of exceptional economy.



Typical neighborhood school recreation center.



## ***Our Alleys—Unruly Stepchildren***

GEORGE E. KOSTRITSKY,  
Project Director, The Planning Council of  
the Greater Baltimore Committee, Inc.

A typical private garden behind an interior row house. Screen fencing, a simple bench and brick paving are enhanced by plantings—all to afford a sense of much-needed privacy.



Back alleys—the unruly stepchildren of our great dense cities—traditionally have been and will continue to be the bane of in-town residential quarters unless architects, planners and city builders use imagination to exploit the possibilities inherent in them.

Most American cities are laid out in a gridiron system with alleys slicing up major blocks into two or more smaller parcels. Today these alleys, used for service ways, are littered with trash and garbage cans even in the best neighborhoods. But despite their present condition, they are important to the social life of the inner city. It is here, through the back door, that much of the necessary community interaction takes place. It is here where children can be safe from street traffic.

The alleys, usually in public ownership, adjoin the private gardens that form part of each row house. They are intimate in scale and lend themselves to various forms of recreation for adult and child. In Baltimore, they are often only 10 feet wide and usually 120 to 180 feet long. Some of them are so designed that modern automobiles cannot possibly use them. These almost impenetrable service cores—once used for horse- and push-carts—could become charming pedestrian ways if their unbroken lengths were subdivided into a series of small courts and activity areas. They could then enhance the private gardens which face on them and provide facilities which are not conveniently found in the dense cores of our cities.

The greatest determinant of the back alley attitude is public and private neglect. Individual effort can transform and has transformed many a backyard jungle into a pleasant and useful town garden. Collective effort is required to reshape an alley. This means that proper paving must be provided, trees planted, and even minimal play equipment installed in order to make the alley into a tree-lined pedestrian walk and a child's play space.

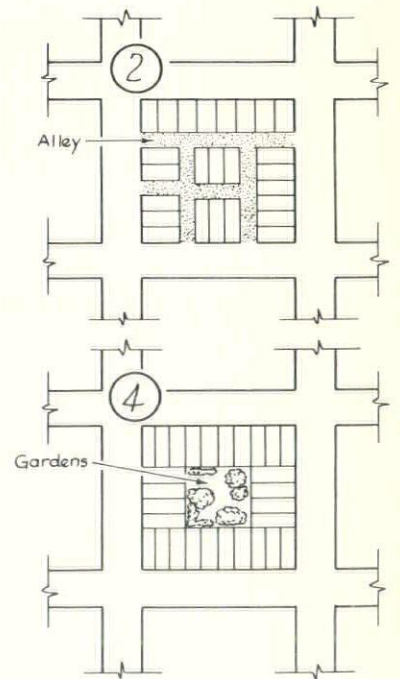
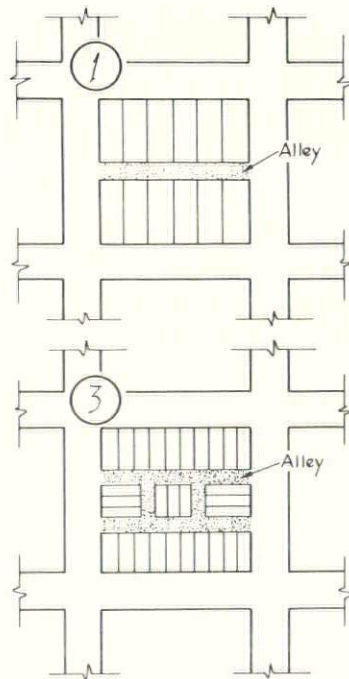
A project for the renewal of such an alley is underway in Baltimore in an area now awaiting Washington's approval as an urban renewal area. Various city agencies are cooperating with the owners to rehabilitate this alley. An informal alley closing has been requested, and when the ordinance is passed by council, the way will be cleared for physical improvement. The residents of this block have given their active support to create something beautiful and useful out of this stepchild of the city—the alley.





A simple sandbox and slide are enough to create a focal point for neighborhood children and bring them together for off-street play.

Sketches 1, 2 and 3 represent typical alley configurations. All can be markedly enhanced by removal of litter and imaginative application of landscaping. Sketch 4 shows an interior court, common in some cities—San Francisco, for example—where private ownership has encouraged the maintenance of attractive gardens. This arrangement is quite similar to the plan suggested by Martin Millspaugh, Assistant Commissioner for the U.S. Urban Renewal Administration, writing in our Spring, 1960, issue. It is patterned after interior courts successfully maintained for centuries in European cities.



## The Challenge of Zoo Architecture

ARTHUR R. WATSON  
Director, Baltimore Zoo



*Mr. Watson is perhaps best known to the public through his many appearances on the country's first regularly scheduled and continuously sponsored zoo TV program here in Baltimore. Director of the Baltimore Zoo since 1948, he has so stimulated interest in the facility that it is well on its way to becoming one of the largest and most complete zoos in the world. With the cooperation of the Department of Recreation and Parks, Mr. Watson is responsible for the priority construction master plan for zoo expansion.*

In any community, we are confronted with various types of institutional building design, and we learn to associate these varied design principals with a definition of building function. It has always been quite easy to identify a church, school, factory or bank by its architectural treatment. Building design in these fields has been heavily influenced by function. About the only institutions that have not exhibited a recognizable style—until very recently—are zoos. Unless outside cages or barred units have been in evidence, many zoo buildings might have passed for structures entirely unrelated to the real purposes of a well-organized public zoo.

In the past, the guiding design criterion for zoo buildings has been the prevention of escape of the housed exhibits resulting in possible injury to the public and to the specimens themselves. That requirement is, of course, still of primary importance. But today's zoo architect must base his designs upon far more intricate considerations than simply the prevention of escape.

Modern zoos have been only recently recognized as simultaneously embodying the characteristics of business establishments, scientific and educational institutions and centers of entertainment. Architectural monuments such as the externally attractive but difficult to operate Elephant House at the Baltimore Zoo are now completely obsolete. This structure was designed to hold one elephant and one hippopotamus in conventional barred cages. But today's zoo must offer more than a display of caged animals. For example, breeding has become an important part of zoo operation. It enables the zoo director to give his charges a well-rounded living situation, and it provides him with surplus animals for trades with other zoos. This consideration alone outmodes the traditional concepts of zoo architecture.

One zoo director has said there is just one zoo building that the architect can design on his own then turn over to the zoo director and anticipate efficient usage. This is the reptile house. It demands neither extensive lighting nor ventilation. In fact, in 1948 the Baltimore Zoo was able

to use regular maintenance funds to convert the virtually abandoned aquarium into today's attractive reptile house. All other exhibits require the closest of coordination between the architect and the zoo director. Designing a facility for animals is unlike anything the architect has previously undertaken. He must begin his commission with a careful study of the animals themselves. Zoo architects have been shocked to learn—sometimes too late—that a chimpanzee can climb a bare tile wall! He can do it by pressing against the two walls in a corner with his hands and feet. Here at the Baltimore Zoo we have seen this ingenious ascent made both frontwards and backwards. Coupled with this ability is the primate's faculty for dismantling mechanical contrivances. Thus a ceiling ventilator grill in the corner of a cage is an attractive challenge to a primate bent on mischief. He has three big factors on his side which the architect must constantly cope with: intelligence, fingers and perhaps most important, plenty of time in which to work. Zoo architecture demands the most intimate attention to detail. When we began having trouble with the mammal house heating plant, we discovered it not to be mechanical failure, but a gorilla with a fantastically long reach who was adjusting the thermostat to suit himself. I have seen another gorilla break a 1-inch steel bar and be able to do so because the arrangement of his cage gave him plenty of leverage.

Our new rock island exhibit housing ground monkeys and other animals demanded specialized architecture. A moat surrounds the island at a depth varying from 1 foot at the island to 4 feet at the moat wall. Though many monkeys can swim, they cannot jump up a wall from 4 feet of water. The wall itself required special attention to expansion joints, and they were designed to eliminate possible finger holds. The rock island is entered through a 200-foot-long access tunnel. The island itself houses animal rooms, a keeper's work and service area, and a small heating plant. Exhibiting animals in a simulated natural habitat, the \$225,000 rock island is far removed from the outdated caged exhibit of the past.

*(Cont'd. on page 25)*



Wading Bird Exhibit

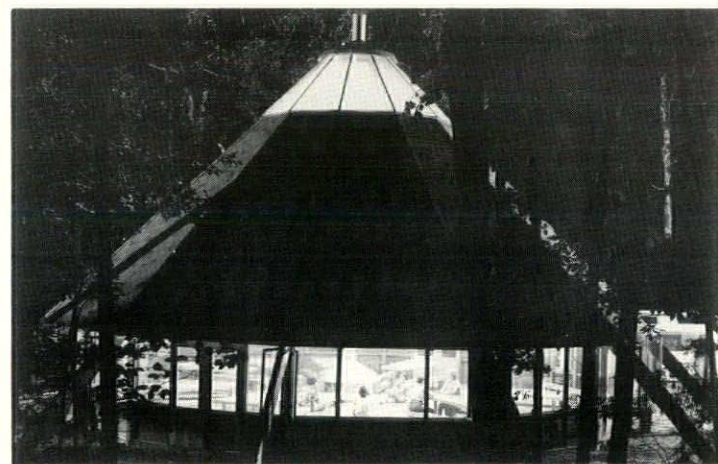
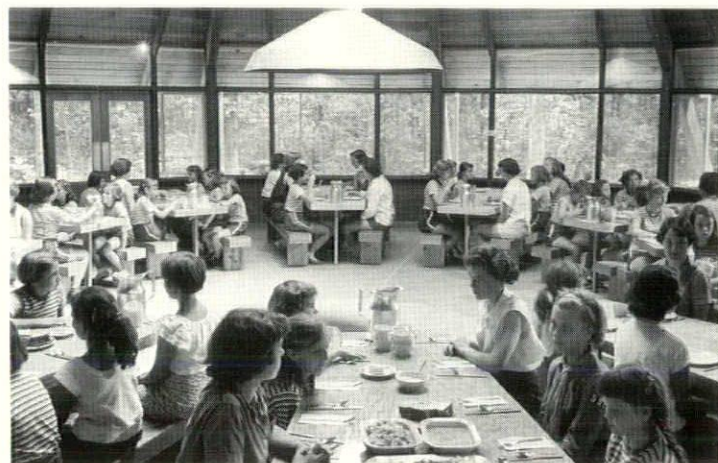
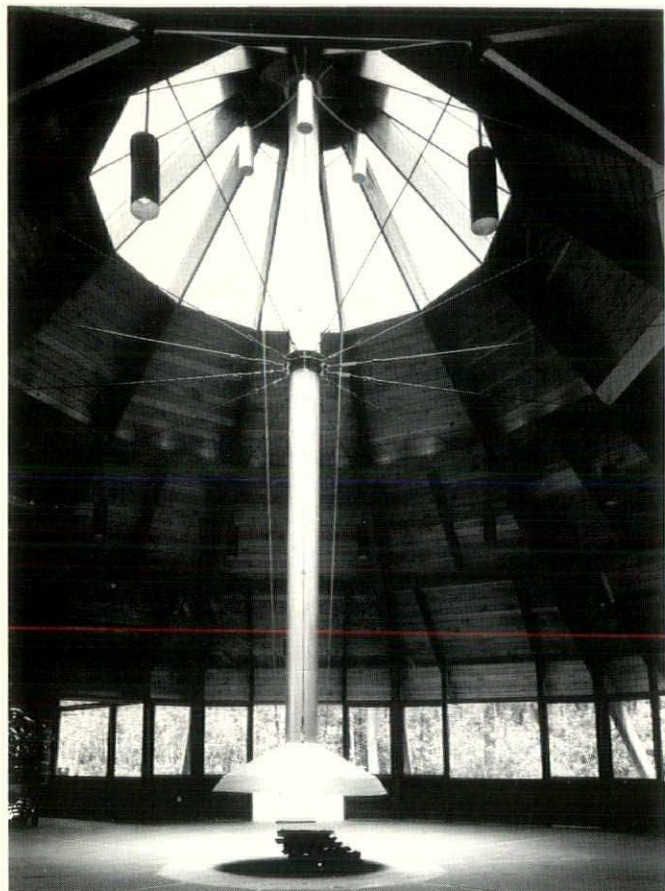


Waterfowl Lake

Rock Island Exhibit



Architect:  
**Rogers, Taliaferro & Lamb**  
Baltimore, Maryland



**GIRL SCOUT LODGE**, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. This twelve-sided conical structure, erected at lowest possible cost using amateur labor, serves as an indoor recreation and dining space. A central fireplace is the focal point of the circular room, and the structure contains kitchen and service facilities. Through the use of the building skin as a structurally integral part, framing members were kept to a minimum size and weight.

*Owner:* Camp Woodlands, Girl Scouts of America. *Builder:* Volunteers of Anne Arundel County. *Cost:* \$10,000.

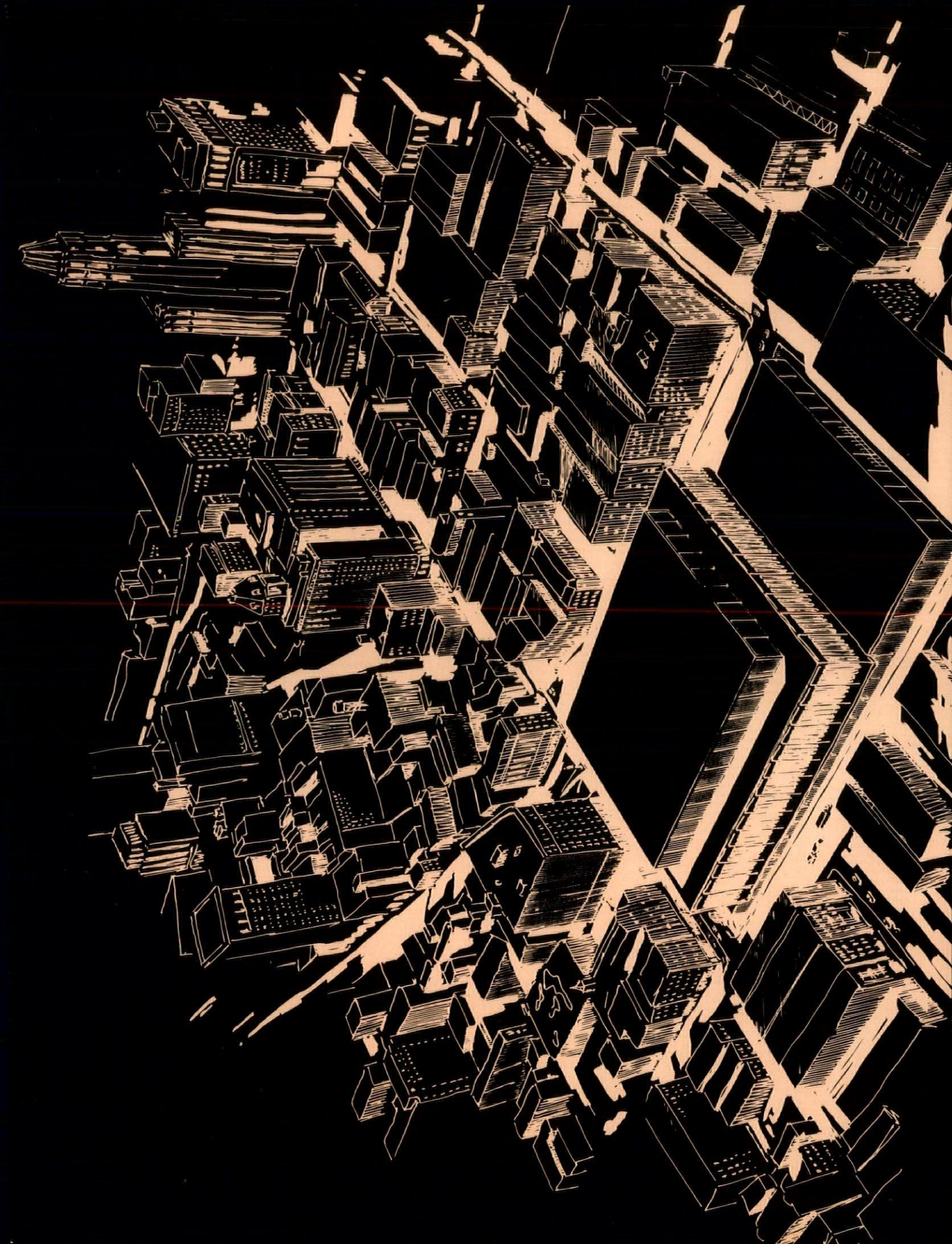
*Architect:*  
**Bonnett & Brandt**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*



COUNTRY CLUB HOUSE, Baltimore County, Maryland. Construction of contemporary design major addition to existing club house building, alterations to existing building and site work. Additional facilities provided are lobby, lounge, card room, bar, dining room, multi-purpose room, two outdoor dining and dancing patios, golfer's grill and related construction.

*Owner:* Bonnie View Country Club. *Mechanical Engineers:* Miller, Schuerholz and Gipe. *General Contractor:* Finglass Construction Co., Inc. *Interior Decorator:* H. Chambers Company.





## Baltimore's Civic Center

BENJAMIN C. MOORE  
Executive Director, Civic Center Commission



*Benjamin C. Moore is exceptionally well qualified for his present position, having served as superintendent of operations for Kiel Municipal Auditorium, St. Louis, Mo.; manager of municipal auditoriums for Denver, Colorado, Sioux City, Iowa, Syracuse, New York, and Spokane, Washington; and as consultant in various phases of public auditorium operation in several other communities both in the U.S. and Canada.*

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Baltimore, as large as it is, has been without a large theatrical facility for so long that many feel it to be a prime location for the most extensive types of presentations. The \$12 million Civic Center will fill not only this need but will also serve the city in other capacities as well.

In fact, in the real sense of the term, this project is actually not a "civic center" at all, but rather a combination auditorium, exposition hall and sports arena—a true multi-purpose building. Incorporated in the Civic Center will be all the facilities to present a well rounded schedule of attractions. Indoor sports and large theatrical productions, including grand opera, will be accommodated on a permanent stage with the proper lighting, atmosphere and mood.

The project will provide all the space needed for expositions and conventions. Open exhibit space on the two levels of the exposition hall side of the building will total 90,000 square feet. The auditorium side will contain an additional 50,000 square feet in corridors, arena floor, stage and side meeting rooms. Another thirty thousand square feet will be available in the rooms and corridors on the third and fourth levels—a total of 170,000 square feet for exhibits. These areas are all to be serviced by the necessary utilities for exhibit booths.

Three service entrances will accommodate any size truck to deliver exhibit materials direct to halls, arena and stage. A freight elevator and two passenger elevators will facilitate deliveries to the second level, and there will be two elevators to convey patrons to the meeting rooms on the upper levels.

Sixteen dressing rooms are planned, two large chorus-team rooms off the side of the stage, a prop room, musicians' room, combination kitchen-commissary, and shop rooms. Thirty meeting rooms—each seating 100 to 700—will be flexible in size through the use of removable partitions. The rooms on the main floor are designed to serve as banquet halls when required. The front lobby to the auditorium will be serviced to upper levels by wide stairways or ramps—and, it is hoped, escalators.

The multi-purpose auditorium idea was conceived with the view of bringing to Baltimore and its community a great variety of attractions in the worlds of sports, theatricals, culture, education, expositions and conventions. Larger seating capacities will help overcome the increasing cost of admission which in the past decade has been responsible for the sharp decline in attendance at many theatrical presentations.

## **The YMCA—Buildings for Brotherhood**

WM. PURNELL HALL

President, The YMCA of Baltimore

Buildings are tangible symbols of the times, the aspirations, social needs and capacities from which they spring. Architecture tells the story of a people's capacity to fulfill its highest and noblest vision.

Just like Egypt's pyramids, Athens' Parthenon, and other architectural marvels depicting the excellence of their times, institutional buildings reflect the character and purpose of their organizations. These change from decade to decade; change because they deal with people.

The architecture of the first YMCA building to be built in America (in 1859), still standing at Pierce and Schroeder Streets in Baltimore, that of the Central Building, constructed in the first decade of this century, the Druid Hill Avenue Branch in 1916, the Levering Hall building on the Hopkins campus in 1929, the North Baltimore and Dundalk "Y" buildings dedicated in the 1950's—reflects the time and stage of development of this century-old movement.

The 1960s will be noted world-wide as a YMCA building era because of the \$17,000,000 Buildings for Brotherhood fund which will be used to assist "Y"s in more than 30 foreign countries to erect new facilities. The project has stimulated an expansion drive that dwarfs anything before attempted by the YMCA. Many Associations abroad are having their first experience in public fund raising. Partial

disbursements of funds from North America have gone to 29 projects. Ten projects are completed. Ground has been broken in 38 localities and local campaigns are underway in 72 cities. There are blueprints in hand for 62 new buildings, and preliminary sketches have been prepared for 50 more.

Since the building campaign was launched in February of 1958, reports of spectacular successes have come from overseas. In Japan a new YMCA student building has been constructed and is in operation. In Singapore, a new Chinese YMCA building is now in use. In India, Korea, Egypt, Turkey and many other countries construction of new facilities has begun.

Since World War II, 16 new nations have come into existence. In Asia alone, over 700,000,000 people have gained their independence. During this same brief period, the ranks of those living under Communist domination rose to 900,000,000—an increase of 600,000,000 in the past dozen years. If the free world is to win the all-important battle of ideas, it must prove to today's youth that it has practical solutions for their problems. This is the guiding spirit of the vast Buildings For Brotherhood program. It is a concerted effort by people of many races, nationalities and faiths to put new YMCA buildings into action in key areas around the world.

*Architect:*

**Elliott and MacIntire**

*Silver Spring, Maryland*

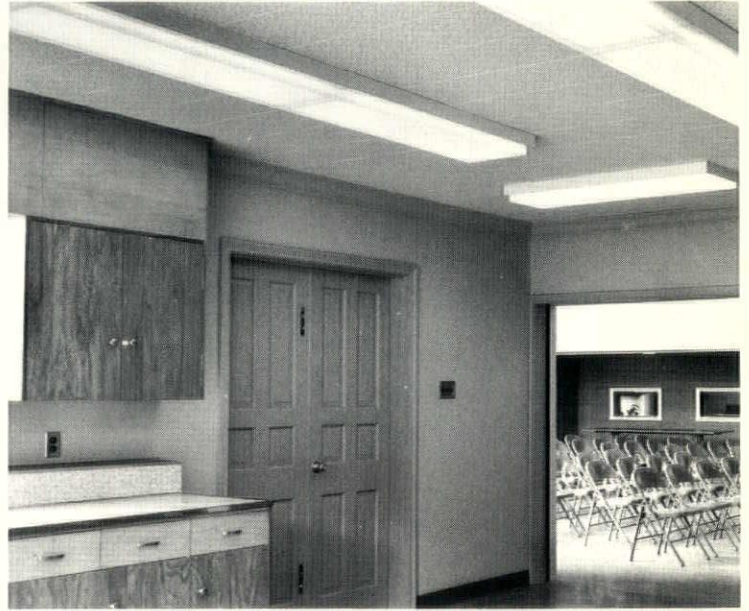
COMMUNITY POOL, Potomac, Maryland. Situated in a minimum 2-acre residential area, this pool is designed for a 300-family membership. The main pool will have 525-meter racing lanes, a deep diving L and a 40' x 45' area for beginners. The building will contain dressing rooms, toilets and showers, office and filtration rooms. The site will accommodate two double tennis courts, a softball field and picnic areas.

*Owner:* Potomac Swimming & Recreation Association, Inc., a community non-profit corporation. *General Contractor:* Duncan Construction Co. Scheduled completion date is August 1, 1960.



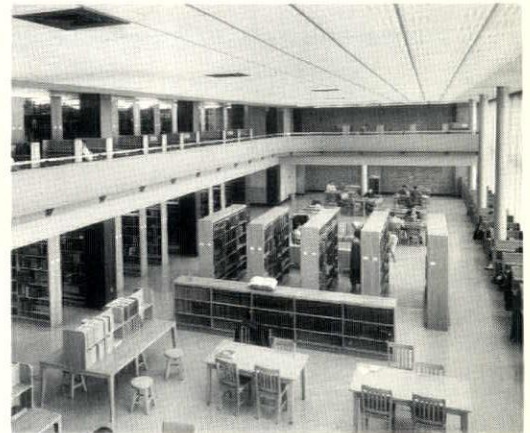


*Architect:*  
**Finney, Dodson, Smeallie,  
Orrick & Associates**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*



**CLUB HOUSE**, Catonsville, Maryland. The first building in the Baltimore District, Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs to be erected specifically for a club house. The building is used for meetings, classes, workshops and social events. *Owner:* Women's Club of Catonsville, Inc.

**ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY READING ROOM**, Towson, Maryland. Reading and study facility for college students. *Owner:* Towson State Teachers College.



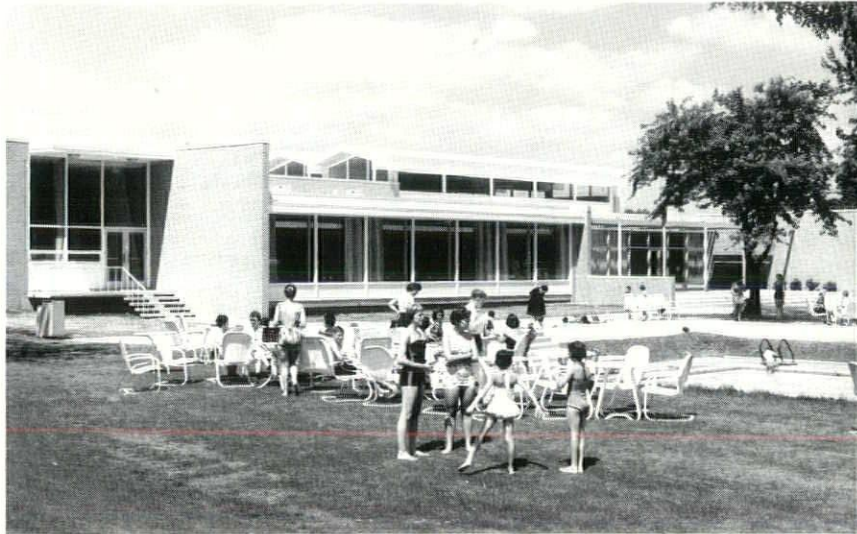
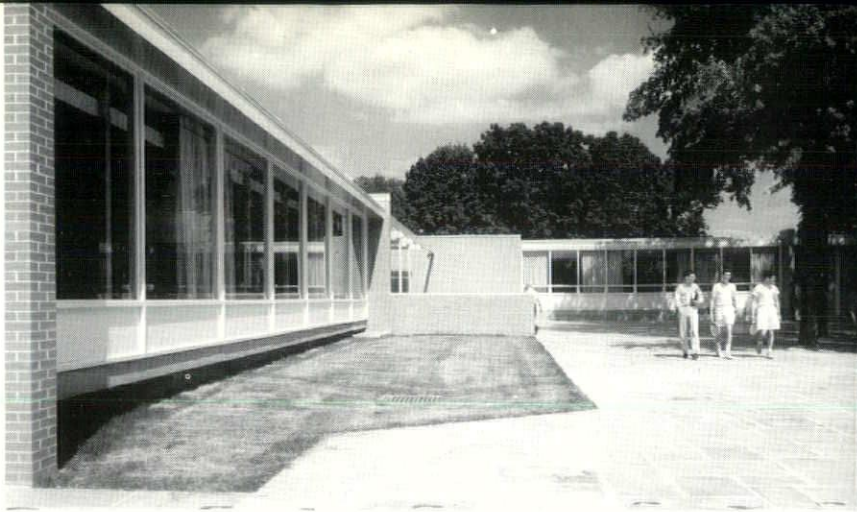
**WALBROOK BRANCH LIBRARY**, Baltimore, Maryland. The first air conditioned branch library in the city, this building is complete on one floor with informal furniture arranged for comfortable reading. *Owner:* Enoch Pratt Free Library, City of Baltimore.



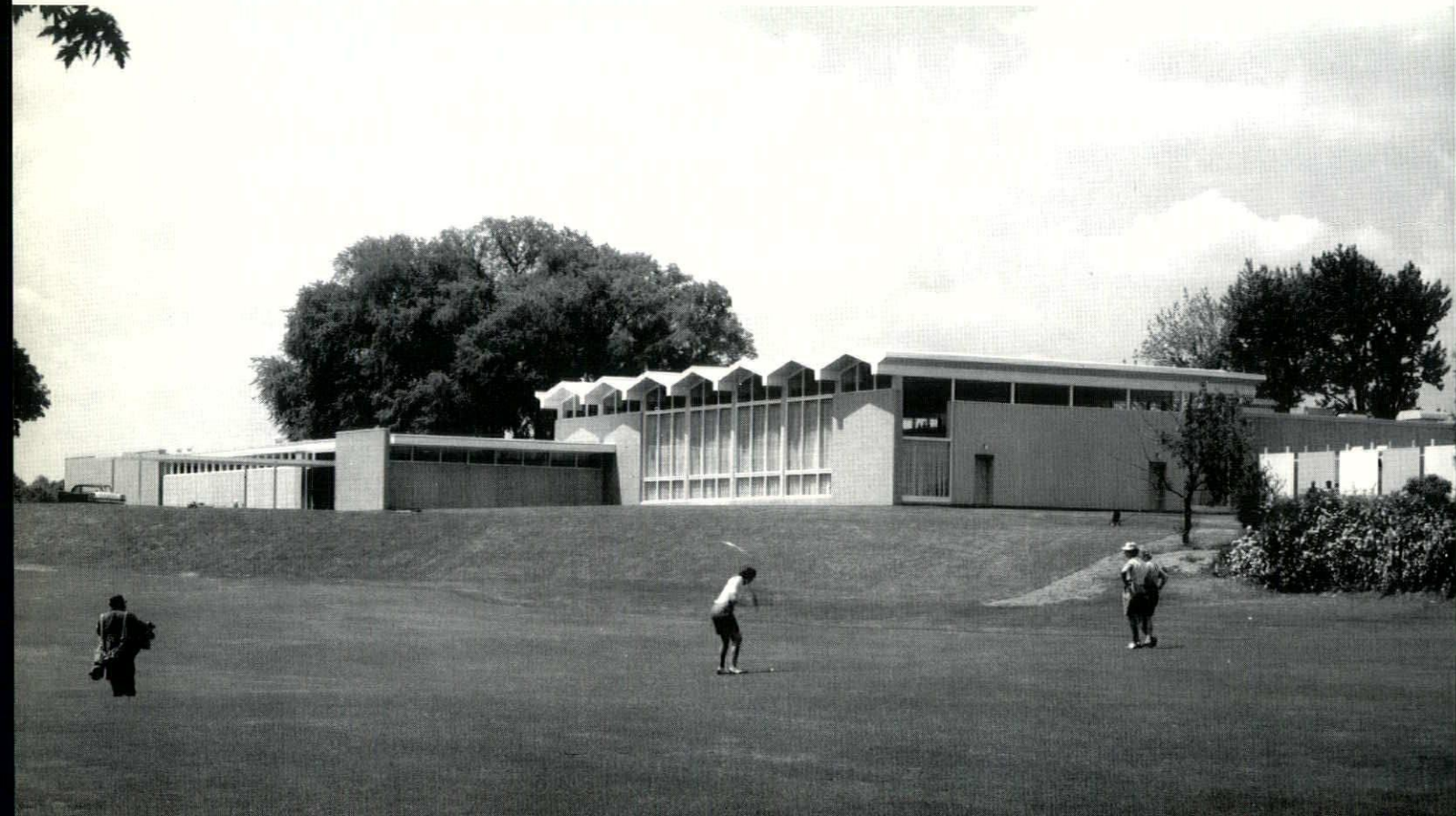
*Architect:*

**Cochran, Stephenson & Wing**

*Baltimore, Maryland*



THE SUBURBAN CLUB, BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND. A completely new, air-conditioned, year-round clubhouse, replacing the original one which was built in 1901. The new building provides recreational and social facilities for approximately 650 members and their families. *Area:* 56,100 sq. ft. *Cubage:* 701,800 cu. ft. *Mechanical Engineers:* Henry Adams, Inc. *Structural Engineers:* Ewell, Nelson & Bomhardt. *Civil Engineers:* Knecht & Maxwell. *Contractor:* Samuel A. Kroll, Inc.

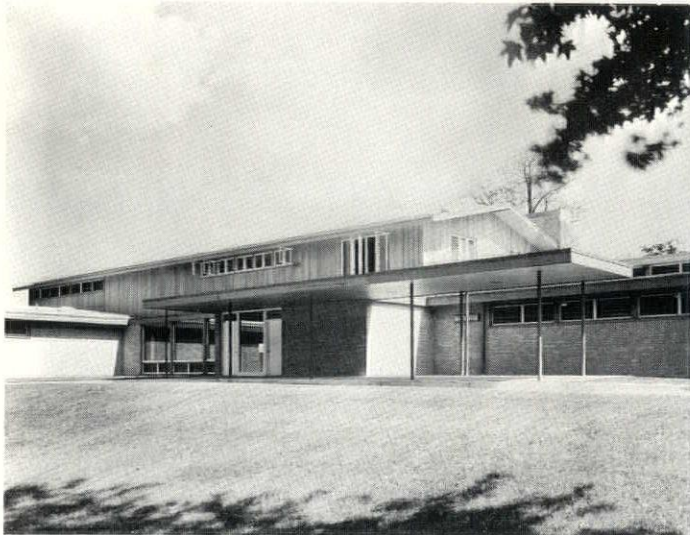


*Architect:*  
**The Office of James R. Edmunds, Jr.**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*

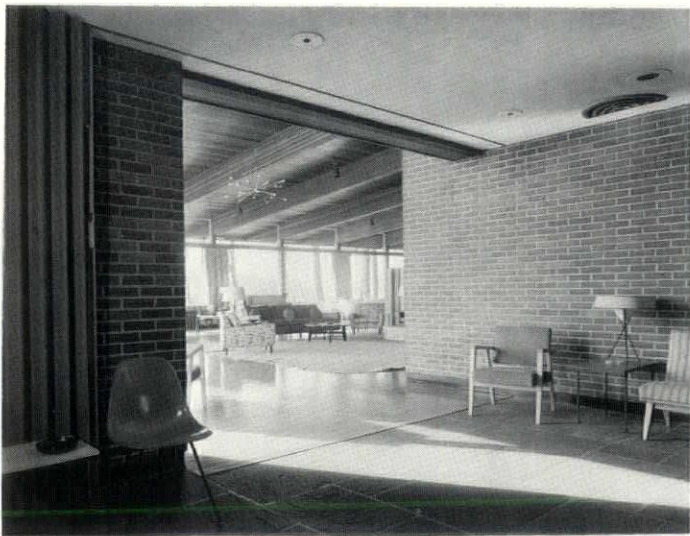


**SPARROWS POINT COUNTRY CLUB**  
Bethlehem Steel Corporation

*Crout, Snyder & Crandall, Structural Engineers*



*McNeill & Baldwin, Mechanical & Electrical Engineers*



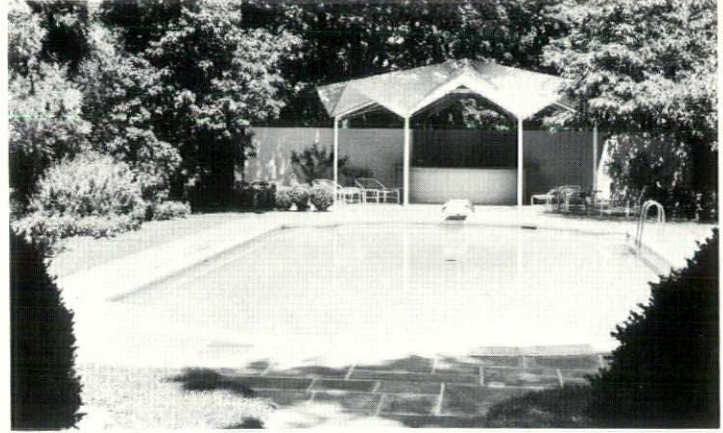
## RECREATION AT HOME

RECREATION AT HOME is one of the driving forces behind the current flight to the suburbs. Its ultimate expression is found in the appearance of the private swimming pool on the mass market. A luxury once reserved for the few, bathing in the "back yard" is an increasingly common pleasure for the many.

On these pages we show several attractive private swimming facilities in the Chesapeake Bay area.

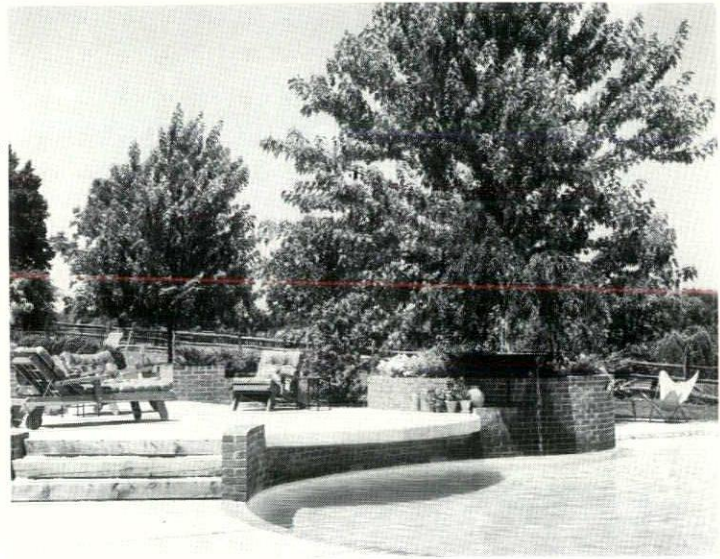
*Architect:*  
**Fisher, Nes, Campbell & Associates**  
Baltimore, Maryland  
*Designer:* Milton Blake

Pavillion and outdoor pool, Greenspring Valley, Maryland.



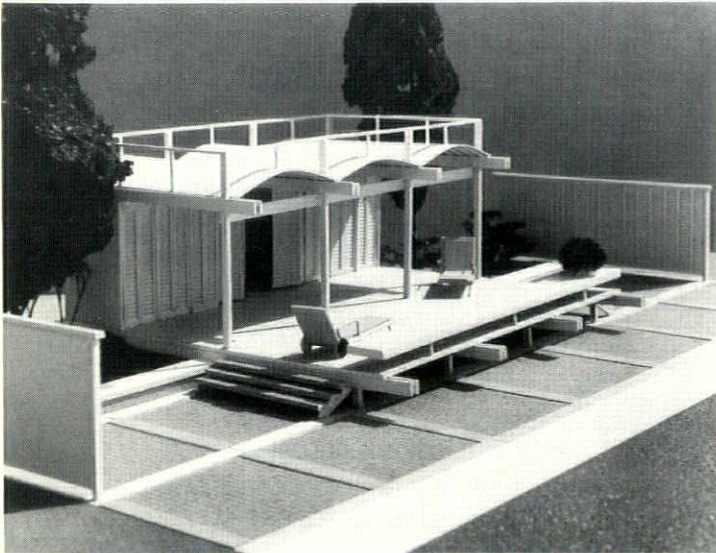
*Landscape Architect:*  
**E. Bruce Baetjer**  
Owings Mills, Maryland

Outdoor pool, Owings Mills, Maryland.

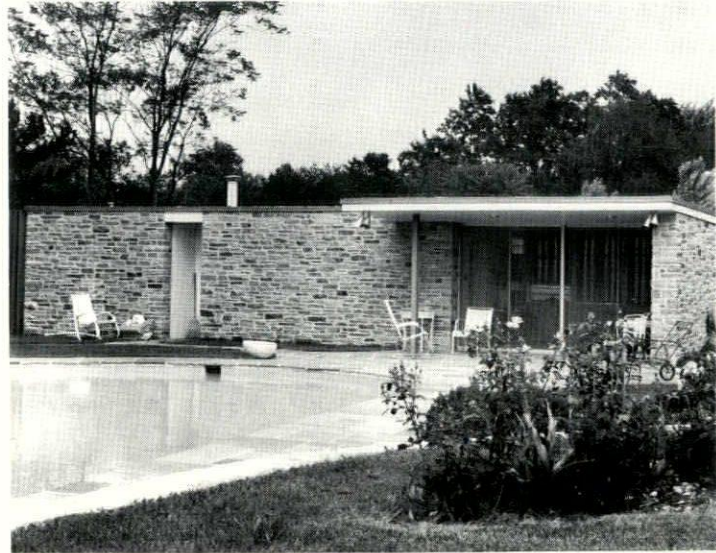


*Architect:*  
**Meyer and Ayers**  
Baltimore, Maryland

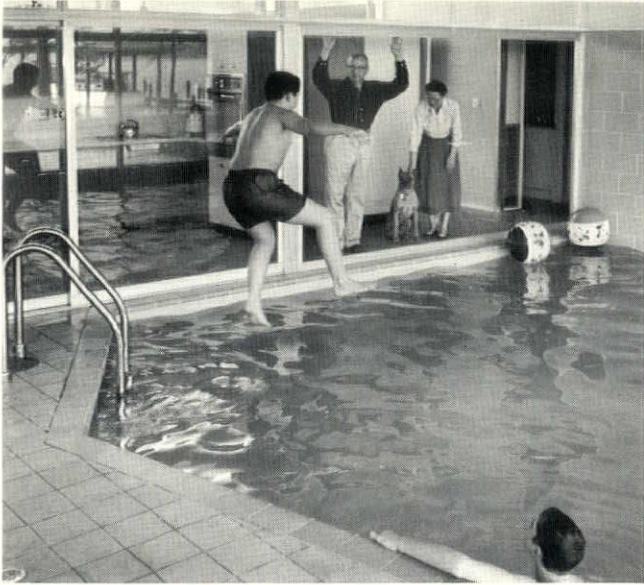
Proposed bathhouse for outdoor pool, Ruxton, Maryland.



Bathhouse for outdoor pool, Baltimore, Maryland.

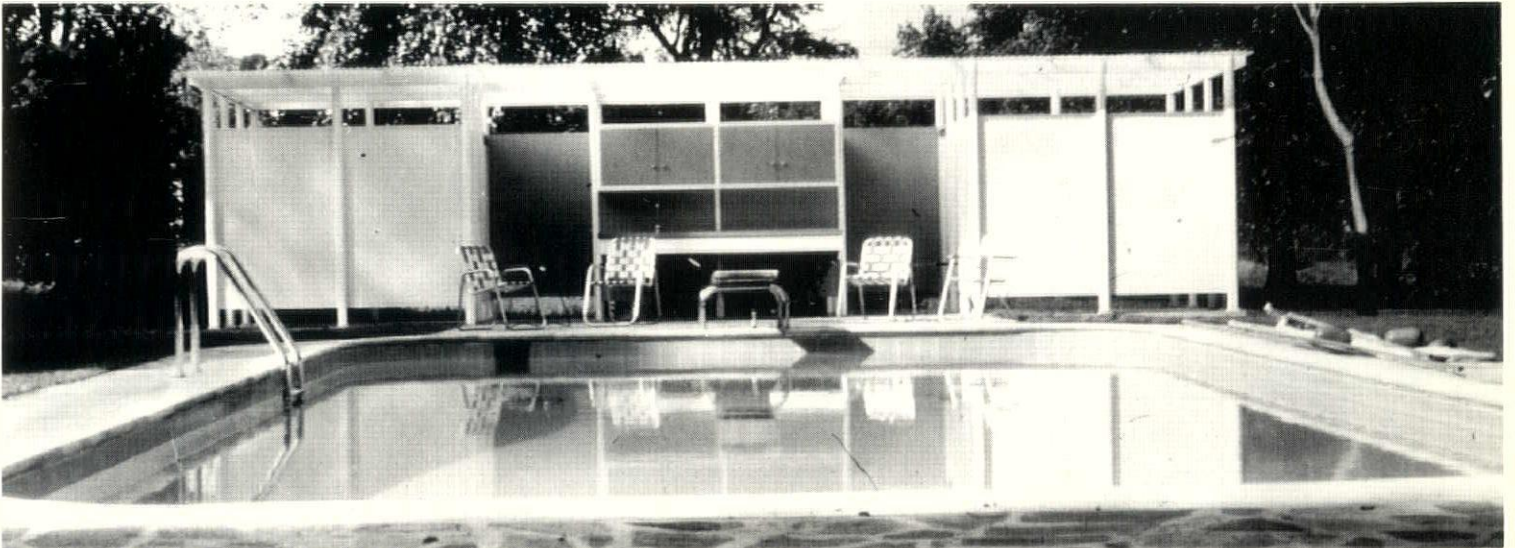


Indoor pool in weekend & vacation house, Easton, Md.



Architect:  
**Wilson and Christie**  
Towson, Maryland

Architect:  
**Locke & Jackson**  
Baltimore, Maryland



Outdoor pool and bathhouse, Stevenson, Maryland.



Architect:  
**Finney, Dodson, Smeallie, Orrick & Associates**  
Baltimore, Maryland

Indoor pool, Towson, Maryland

## POTOMAC VALLEY CHAPTER—

### SECOND BIENNIAL AWARDS COMPETITION

Announced in the Special Awards Issue of the "Potomac Valley Architect" are the winners of the 1960 competition. Jurors **Morris Ketchem, Jr.**, FAIA, New York, **Percival Goodman**, FAIA, New York, and **Alexander Cochran**, AIA, Baltimore, selected the following for Awards of Merit:

**Harold Lionel Esten** for the residence of Miss Bernice Nelson, Clinton, Va.; **Cohen, Haft & Associates** for the residence of Dr. and Mrs. David Eden, Bethesda, Md.; **Joseph Miller** for the Town and Country School, Silver Spring, Md.; **Keyes, Lethbridge & Condon** for the Unitarian Church of Montgomery County, Kensington, Md., and two additional awards to that firm for detail on the Unitarian Church and for Flint Hill Group Housing, Bethesda, Md.

Also announced in the special issue of the "Potomac Valley Architect" are the newly elected officers and directors of the Potomac Valley Chapter: **Stanley H. Arthur**, President; **Jack C. Cohen**, Vice President; **Theodore R. Cromar, Jr.**, Secretary; **Dennis W. Madden**, Treasurer; **Paul Henton Kea**, **John E. Moore** and **Benjamin P. Elliott**, Directors.



Town and Country School, Silver Spring, Md.

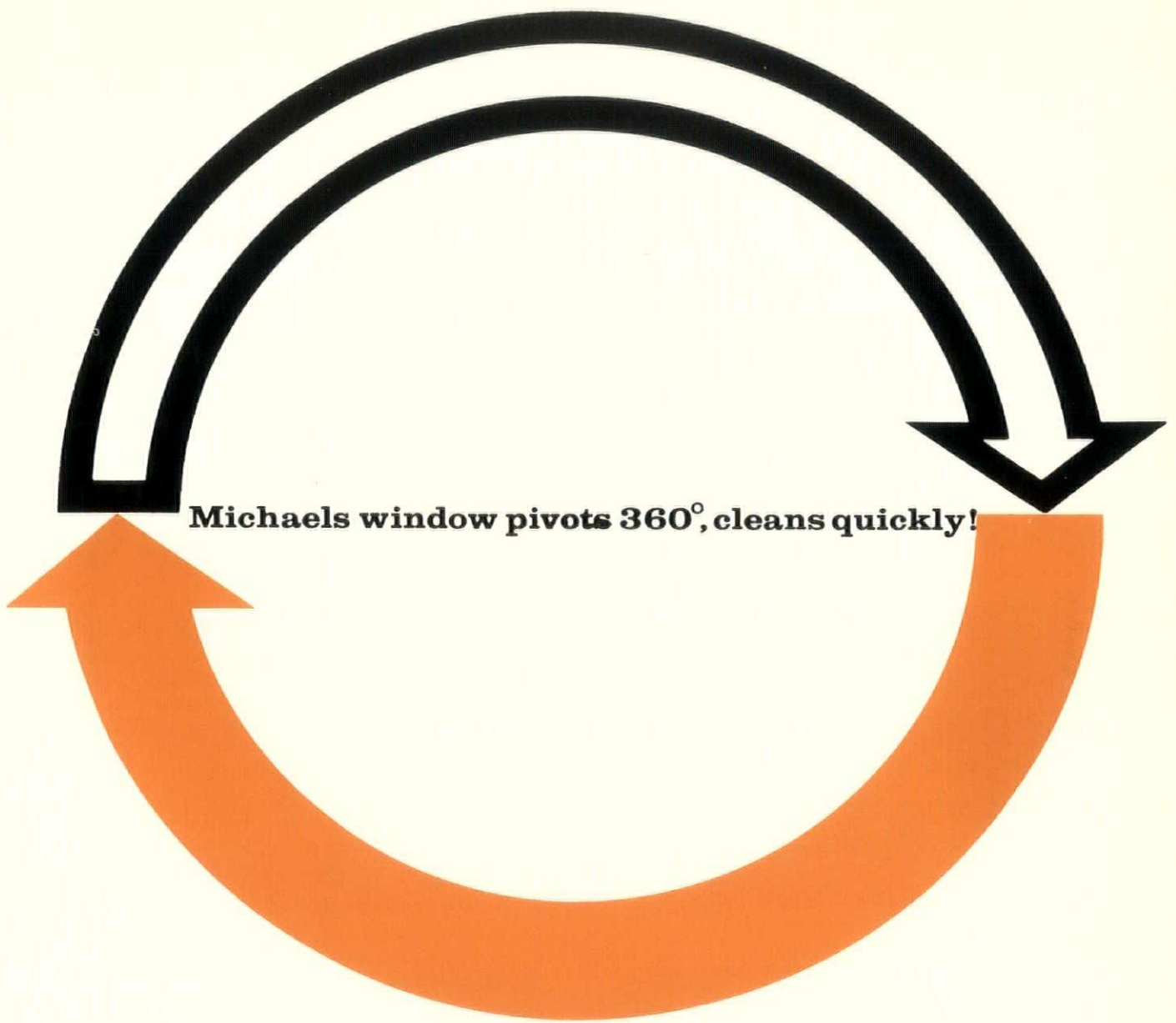
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#### Architect:

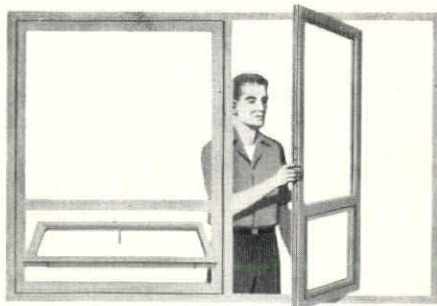
**John Henry Sullivan, Jr.**  
Rockville, Maryland

TEEN CENTER, Elwood Smith Park, Rockville, Maryland. The first of its kind in the Washington-Metropolitan area, this teen center was designed solely for the use of the teen aged population in the Rockville community. The building includes facilities for group meetings, hobby work, games, dancing and other activity under the supervision of the Department of Recreation. The unique roof system is the first use of folded plate plywood roofing in this area and the third use nationwide. The entire roof structure was fabricated on the ground and each section was raised in place in about 30 minutes. *Owner:* City of Rockville, Maryland. *General Contractor:* E. J. Smith Construction Company. *Cost:* \$10 per square foot, excluding utility connections and exterior paving.

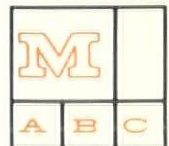




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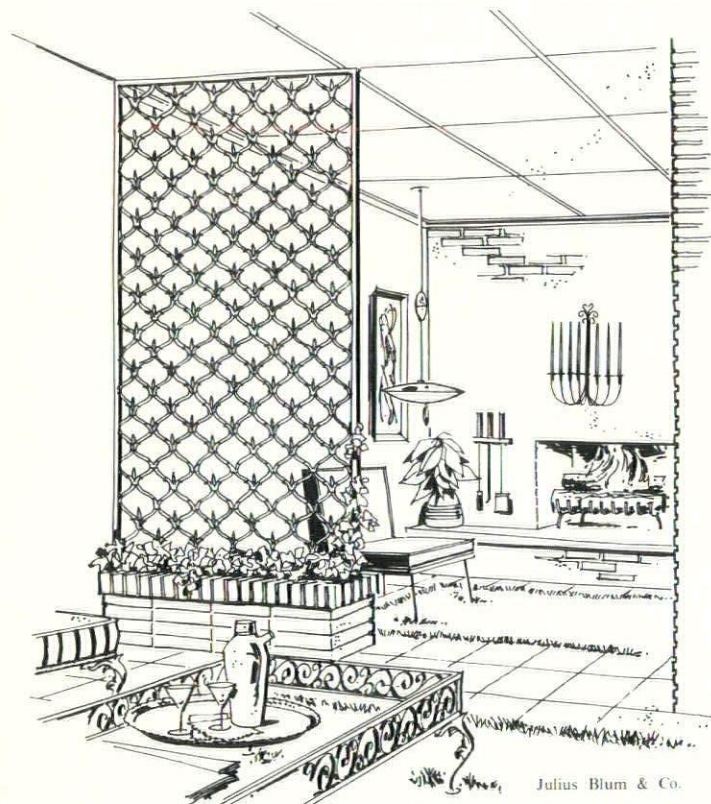


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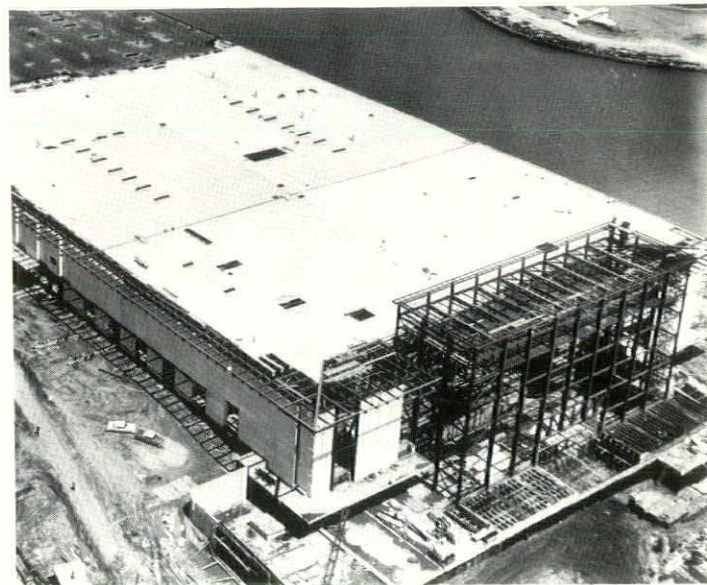
## NEWS BRIEFS

**Julius Blum & Co., Inc.**, Carlstadt, N.J., one of our advertisers, observe their 50th Anniversary this year. The firm was founded by the late Julius Blum in 1910 when he opened a small warehouse in New York City. Originally supplying ornamental iron work, the firm added square tubing in 1913; steel, bronze and aluminum handrail mouldings in the 1920's. In 1936, Julius Blum & Co. introduced the use of non-breakable malleable iron for ornamental cast panels of the New Orleans type, and in 1940, a plastics division was established. A complete line of architectural aluminum and bronze shapes was introduced in 1948.

By 1950, the business moved from its original building to a new structure in Carlstadt which now totals 60,000 square feet in area. The Julius Blum catalog has become a familiar reference book in architectural offices. In 1950, it was awarded a certificate of merit by the Producer's Council.



The **U.S. Gypsum Company** has announced the simultaneous development of 4 more dry-wall partition systems. This brings to 6 the number of systems introduced by U.S.G. so far this year. The new systems are Two-inch Solid Partition System, Double-Solid Partition System, Metal Stud Partition System, and Ceiling and Wall Furring System. Each uses Sheetrock gypsum wallboard as a major component.



Scheduled to open in November, **McCormick Place**—Chicago's new lakefront exposition center—has one of the largest roofs in that city. Nearly 10 acres in extent, it was poured in about 4 weeks—fast erection time for a building a block wide and 3 blocks long. The roof consists of steel reinforced U.S. Gypsum Pyrofill pumped from ground level and poured over a layer of Sheetrock formboard.

The exposition center was designed by Alfred Shaw of Chicago, chief architect, and Edward D. Stone of New York and John W. Root of Chicago, consulting architects.

**J. H. Leroy Chambers**, president of the H. Chambers Company, another ARCHITECTS' REPORT advertiser, has been re-elected National President of the American Institute of Decorators. A Baltimorean by birth, Mr. Chambers entered the interior designing field forty years ago when he joined the H. Chambers Company founded in Baltimore by his father. Some of the best known interior design commissions executed by Mr. Chambers in recent years are the new Commercial Credit Company Building, Baltimore; the Laurel Race Course club house; and the residences and yacht of Mr. and Mrs. Lamot DuPont, Jr., of Wilmington.

The 2nd annual summer show for children at **The Walters Art Gallery** is designed to introduce youngsters to art and to help them enjoy it. The exhibition, "Creative Carnival", illustrates the major steps encountered in the creation of painting, sculpture, ceramics and other media. The Creative Carnival will be open until September 5th.

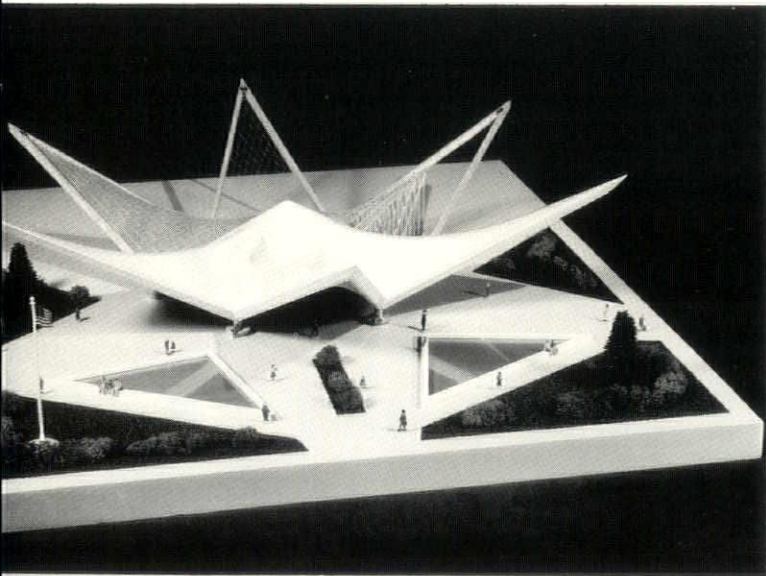


## NEW FREEDOM IN ROOF DESIGN

Plastics engineers have proposed a construction concept that may bring the architect unlimited freedom in the design of thin shell roofs. The application introduces the use of foamed plastic planks as a form for permanent roofs, as thermal insulation and as an effective vapor barrier.

The plastic form boards of foamed polystyrene are bent to the desired roof contour and become an integral part of the roof structure. They also provide a base for interior decoration. The technique is believed feasible for roofs of many sizes and shapes—from homes to great stadiums. The concept will be used in elliptically-shaped elevated concourses at the new Trans-World Airlines Terminal at Idlewild International Airport. The architect is Eero Saarinen of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

At Purdue, engineers are studying adaptations of the construction method for variously shaped structures. One example is a spherical type shell composed of several truncated and skewed hyperbolic paraboloids. Another intriguing possibility involves placing the foamed plastic panels over sculptured earth, casting adequately reinforced concrete thereon and lifting the finished roof into place.



Progressive model of thin shell construction technique. One side shows conventional roof forming techniques with many upright supports. The other side shows hyperbolic paraboloids with use of Styrofoam as the permanent roof form. The star-shape model represents an open pavilion.



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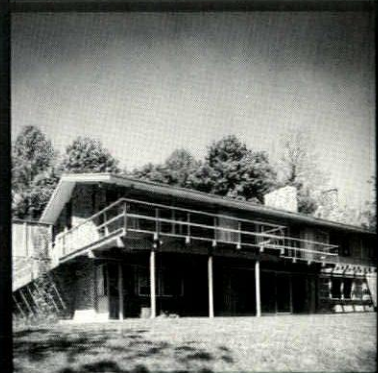
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## **The Challenge of Zoo Architecture**

*(Cont'd from page 8)*

Our wading bird exhibit area offered a design challenge in the heating of the building. To eliminate floor radiators which can be hazardous to birds and difficult to keep free of feathers, the structure is heated with a radiant installation in the ceiling—the largest such single expanse at the time of installation.

Working closely with the architect in the wading bird and waterfowl lake exhibits was the landscape engineer. The wading bird area houses birds that do not eat foliage, but the waterfowl lake is a refuge for geese and other birds that graze. To preserve Baltimore's waterfowl exhibit as one of the few in the country with a lawn around it, the water area has been surrounded with a restrictive hedge. Islands open to the birds are planted with bamboo and other heavy shrubs. These plantings are protected with fencing until they are well established. In these exhibits, not only was specialized architecture required, but specialized landscaping as well.

Following a carefully engineered master plan for expansion, the Baltimore Zoo is already on its way to becoming one of the nation's foremost. Zoo population has increased from 169 in 1948 to the present collection of over 1,000 specimens representing at least 200 species. In the same period, the zoo staff has increased 5-fold from 8 in 1948 to today's 43. The success of this recent and continuing expansion of zoo exhibits and facilities is largely dependent upon the imaginative coordination of the design architects with the zoo staff.

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## **A PARK FOR THE JONES FALLS VALLEY**

A proposal made 56 years ago to establish a park and recreational area along the Jones Falls Valley was given renewed vitality this summer with a \$12,000 fund to finance a detailed study of the project by the Planning Council of the Greater Baltimore Committee, Inc. In 1904, the Municipal Art Society of Baltimore sponsored the Olmstead Report which urged the use of the Valley as a recreational area. This concept was abandoned in 1926 in view of the growing industrial aspect of the area south of 41st Street. North of 41st Street, the area remained as a proposed park in the city's plans, but with the exception of the acquisition of Clyburn Park and some other park property, no major effort was made for its development. The Jones Falls Expressway, now under construction in the Valley, reestablished many opportunities for development of adjacent areas. At the same time, there is a grow-

ing danger that uncoordinated and unplanned growth will have chaotic results in this area of renewed interest. In this light, the Planning Council has urged the creation of a development plan for the Jones Falls Valley. This plan, according to Mr. David Wallace, Director of the Council, should explore the possibility of the development of Falls Road as a four-lane scenic highway, and the establishment of park lands along the Expressway. These park areas could provide the sites for outdoor theaters or concert facilities, nature walks and the like, and a portion of the Valley might be dammed to provide a small lake.

The Municipal Art Society, original sponsor of the 1904 proposal for Jones Falls park development, has voted to support the new study with a grant of \$8,000. The remaining \$4,000 is to be provided by the Baltimore City Park Board.

**END**

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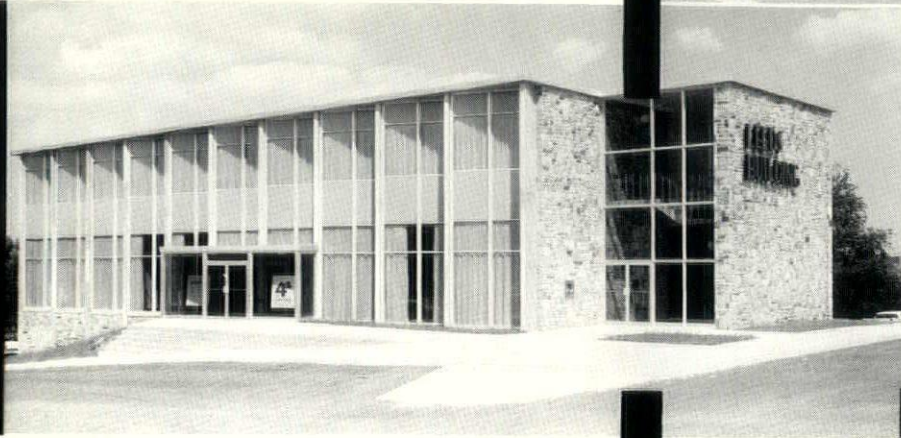
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## ANNAPOLIS CONFERENCE

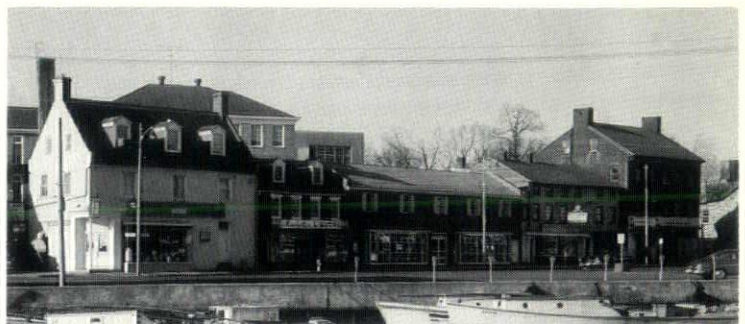
TO EXPLORE THE QUESTION: *How can older American cities such as Annapolis preserve their historic traditions and human values yet meet contemporary pressures for change and modern urban development?*

The Maryland spotlight was on the old city of Annapolis when a recent Roundtable Conference explored the above question. The conference, sponsored by Historic Annapolis, Inc., the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, attracted an important group of panelists. Their suggestions and conclusions may well lead the way to a new and creative concept of planning designed to preserve for the individual the basic values of our civilization.

Many of the panelists visiting Annapolis for the first time commented on the city's unique qualities. **Edmund N. Bacon**, executive director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and moderator of the first panel discussion, called Annapolis "one of the world's greatest cities," and commented that it merited more attention. **Dr. Richard H. Howland**, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, said it was the only city in America where some of the European ideas of city planning were carried out. **Samuel Wilson**, chairman of the preservation committee of the American Institute of Architects, called for preservation of the character of the city.

Other participants in the panel discussions were: **Miss Barbara Wriston** of Boston, president of the Society of Architectural Historians; **Robert J. Kerr III**, newly appointed executive director of Historic Annapolis; **William E. Finley**, director, National Capital Planning Commission, Washington; **Charles E. Peterson**, National Park Service, Philadelphia; **William Ewald**, assistant commissioner,

Housing and Home Finance Agency, Washington; **Richard Steiner**, director, Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency; **William L. Slayton**, vice-president, Webb and Knapp, Inc., New York; **Carl Feiss**, Planning and Urban Renewal Consultant, AIA, Washington; **L. Harvey Poe, Jr.**, vice-chairman, Committee for Annapolis, Inc.; **Mrs. J. M. Wright**, vice-pres., Historic Annapolis, Inc.; **Frederick Gutheim**, president, Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies; **Ronald C. Paape**, executive director and **Melvin B. Schlossman**, chairman, Committee for Annapolis; and **E. L. Johnson**, director, Civic Education Center, St. Louis. Another highlight of the two-day sessions was a dinner meeting on Friday evening. **Dr. Robert D. Calkins**, president of the Brookings Institution, Washington, was the speaker. Among the prominent Baltimoreans attending were **Van Fossen Schwab**, president, Baltimore Chapter, AIA, **Alexander S. Cochran** and **Edward Y. Wing**, **Archibald C. Rogers** and **Charles E. Lamb**, **David Wallace**, **George Kostritsky** of the Planning Council Staff.



## **WE ARE BEING NOTICED AND QUOTED . . .**

Says Louis Azrael in the News-Post, "How would you like to switch the front of your house to the back and vice versa? The idea is suggested for Baltimore by Martin Millspaugh, a Baltimorean who is now Assistant Commissioner of Urban Renewal for the U.S. Government. Writing in the current (Spring, 1960) issue of the excellent magazine published by architects of the Baltimore area, Millspaugh discusses Baltimore's big renewal plans . . . and he suggests, 'Think for a moment how the typical old row-house block would change if the orientation of the houses were reversed with the back door opening to street traffic and the front to the interior of the block.'"

The Sunday Sun of June 19th favored our editor with a write-up of the recent certificate of award by the Baltimore Chapter for his work on the magazine.

The June newsletter published by the Hospital Council of Maryland presented an extensive resume of our hospital issue (Winter 1959-60), and requests for copies of that issue are still coming in. Requests for additional copies of our Spring, 1960, Urban Renewal Issue have reached a total of almost 200 copies. END

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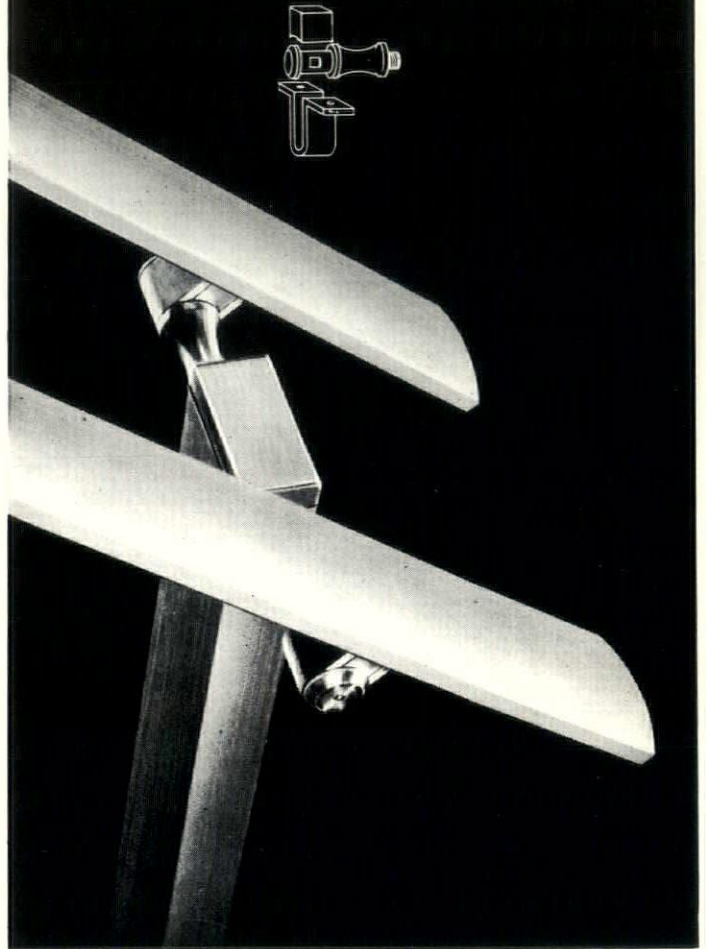
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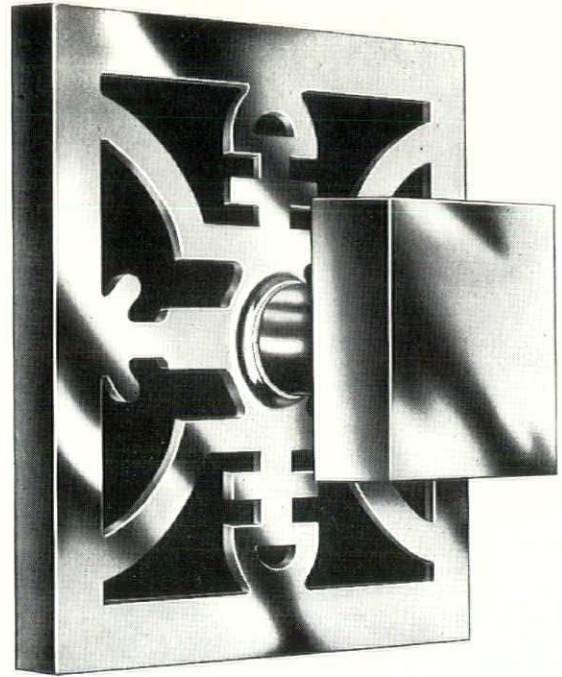
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At its First Annual Silver Award Meeting, held in July at the Baltimore Country Club, the Institute of Masonry Research presented its Silver Award plaque for outstanding building design using masonry to the firm of Fisher, Nes, Campbell & Associates. The award was established this year to focus attention upon the use of masonry in Baltimore area architecture. It will be presented annually to winning members of the Baltimore Chapter, AIA.

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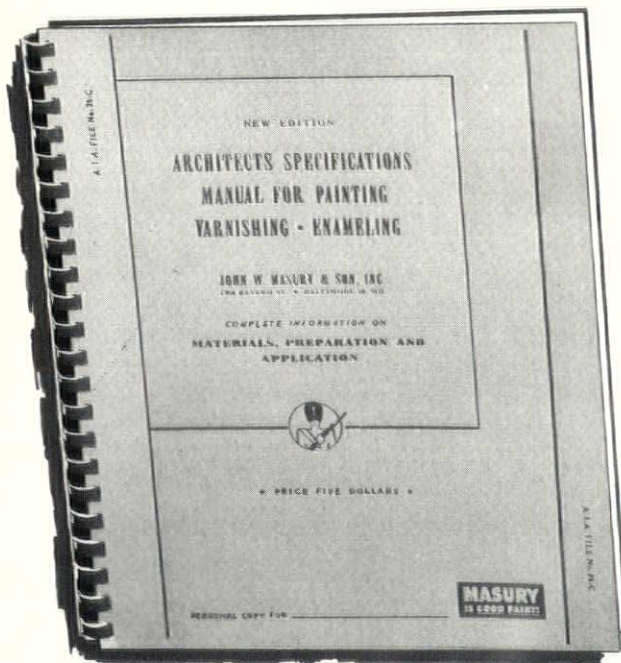
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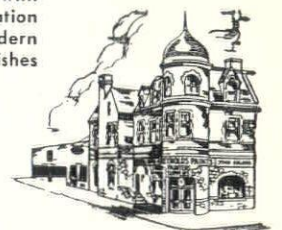
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## CHAPTER NEWS AND NOTES

### ABOUT MEMBERS:

The firm of **Weber, Jacobs & Kelly**, formerly of 505 N. Eutaw Street, has been dissolved and Arthur Weber has opened his own office at 320 W. 24th Street; Norman E. Kelly has opened his office at 2100 N. Charles Street; George C. Jacobs has joined the staff of Harder & Dressel, in Glen Burnie.

Recently the Baltimore Chapter added two new Corporate members—**Charles E. Zimmerman, Jr.**, and **Warren G. Gill**, and two new Associates—**Robert A. Cyr** and **Menasha J. Brodie**.

### RECENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:

Through the services of **Bryden B. Hyde**, of the Office of James R. Edmunds, Jr., the Chapter was able to make recommendations to the Charles Carroll American Heritage Association regarding the restoration of the Charles Carroll Mansion in Baltimore. Through Mr. Hyde's efforts, the Chapter had reports from **Paul Crout**, of Crout, Snyder & Crandall; **Karl Wallace**, of the Wm. T. Lyons Co., Inc.; **Richard P. Tustin**, of the S. J. Martenet Company and **Gary Baldwin** and **Edward White**, of McNeill & Baldwin, on the present condition and possible restoration of the Mansion.

The annual Spring Meeting of the Chapter was held at the l'Hirondelle Club, Ruxton. Our very excellent speaker was **John G. Worman**, design specialist of the Martin Company's Advanced Design Department. His subject: space travel and its relation to our present way of life with the possibilities of future living on the moon. Highlight of the Spring Meeting was the surprise presentation of a Certificate of Award to **Grinnell W. Locke** for his efforts as editor of **Architects' Report**. The Certificate, signed by **Van Fossen Schwab**, Chapter President, and **H. Parker Matthai**, Secretary, was presented to Mr. Locke by **Charles M. Nes, Jr.**, F.A.I.A. shown in the photo reading the inscription. Standing at left are President Schwab and Mrs. Locke.



*To be honored by one's fellow professionals is a heartwarming experience and I am indeed appreciative of this award. Though it is made out in my name, I am glad to see in its text that you are really recognizing the success of the **Architects' Report**, which could not have been possible without the help of many Chapter members, the financial backing of the Chapter, the participation of our advertisers, and the talents of our publishers. Although this is a Chapter effort to which many members have given and will continue to give generously of their time, I would like to thank personally our recent Presidents McLane Fisher,*

*Paul Gaudreau, Arch Rogers and Van Fossen Schwab; the editor's editor, Ian C. MacCallum; John R. Orrick, business manager; Parker Matthai, chairman; and Mrs. Agnes Preston, executive secretary. Without their contributions and the forbearance of my partner, Richard N. Jackson, Jr., there would be no **Architects' Report**.*

*It is most gratifying that our efforts to develop a better understanding and appreciation of good architecture are being successful.*

*This Certificate of Award, for which I am most grateful, will not only remind me of our success to date but also of our obligation to make sure that our efforts in the future are equally effective.*

*Grinnell W. Locke*

### OF MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST:

**William F. Hallstead** has been appointed managing editor of the **Architects' Report** and with this issue has assumed responsibility for day-to-day management of the editorial, business, and advertising details. Mr. Hallstead is a profes-



sional writer and photographer who contributes to more than thirty magazines, mainly in the construction field. 1960 marks the fifth year with the Baltimore Chapter for our efficient, capable, and always sympathetic Executive Secretary, **Mrs. Agnes M. Preston**. Coming to the Chapter on a "trial basis" in 1955, Mrs. Preston has become virtually indispensable.

**The 1960 Annual Conference, American Institute of Planners**—October 23-27, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia . . . **The 1960 Institutions Interiors Award Program**, offering recognition in these categories: General Public Areas, Dining Areas, Private Areas, Sleeping Areas, and Entire Institutions. All entries must be submitted by September 1st. Don Morris is Contest Manager at INSTITUTIONS Magazine, 1801 Prairie Avenue Chicago 16.

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