# LOUISIANA ARCHITECT

DECEMBER

196

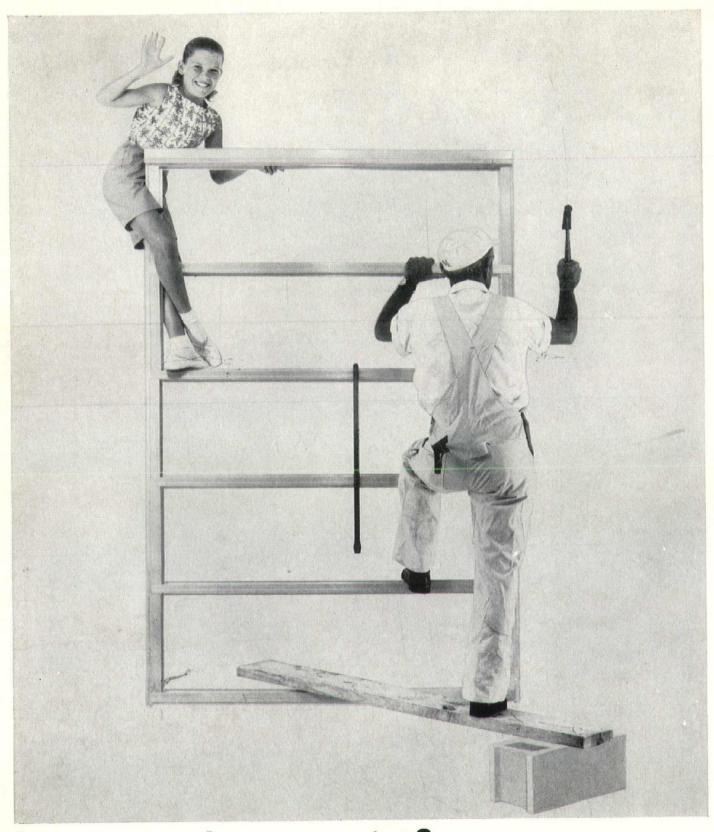
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Boxed steps and patio gain added interest from colorful design.

# LOUISIANA ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2

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A·I·A

GULF STATES REGION 1962 CONFERENCE

PHASE ONE: THE CONVENT

# ST. CHRISTOPHER MARTYR CONVENT AND SCHOOL ADDITION

METAIRIE, LA.

J. BUCHANAN BLITCH, AIA

ARCHITECT

A new school addition and convent constructed in St. Christopher Martyr Parish, Metairie, as part of a 15-year master plan of parish development, were recently honored with an Award of Merit at the Gulf States Regional Conference of the A. I. A.

The master plan established the orderly development of the rapidly growing Catholic Church facilities on a limited site already overburdened with prior construction. Within the framework of this master plan the first two phases have been completed.

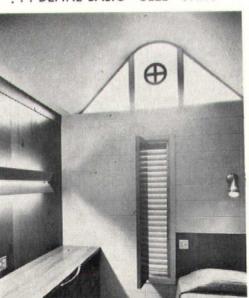
Phase One is a convent for the Marianite Sisters of the Holy Cross, the teaching staff, designed to provide comfortable though austere living accommodations centered about a small chapel symbolizing the true center of dedication and devotion of the nuns. Phase Two is a classroom addition to the existing school plant, the design of which reflects the rhythmic elements of the earlier structure without imitation of its archaic forms.

Pastor of St. Christopher Martyr Parish is Reverend Father Maurice J. Gubler. Both of the completed phases were constructed by Schaff Brothers, Inc.

UNDULATING FOLDED PLATES:



. . . DEFINE BASIC "CELL" UNITS



... ROOF CONTEMPORARY H



#### ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK LOTZ MILLER

The new buildings are of reinforced concrete and masonry construction, with pre-cast folded plate concrete dominating. These undulating units, selected for economy and optimum definition of the basic convent "cell" units, resemble the starched hood of the Marianite habit. They were repeated in the school expansion as a unifying medium to soften the tie-in to the earlier construction.

The convent includes eighteen bedrooms with semiprivate baths, office, waiting room and parlors, modern kitchen and laundry, a striking chapel, and large community-recreation and dining rooms overlooking a private patio-cloister.

An outstanding feature of the convent design is the individual sleeping unit, developed after an extensive study of the highly specialized requirements of the nuns.

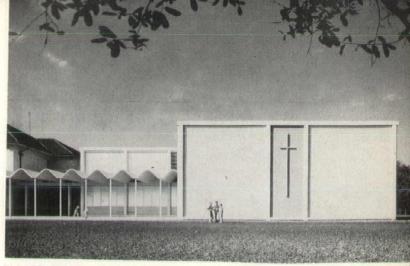
These units include closets for long and short garments, built-in drawer units, space for nun's trunk, built-in desk, niche for bed, and a semi-private bath, all blended together with natural wood and exposed masonry into a private bedroom unique in its comfort, utility, convenience, and beauty.

The convent will ultimately occupy an ecclesiastic complex on the site, for which a new church, Baptistry, rectory, and parking facilities are projected as subsequent phases of the master plan.

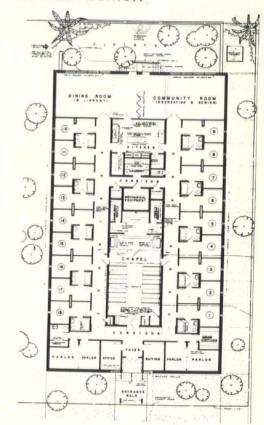
The school addition includes twelve classrooms, office space, first aid room, teachers' lounge and workroom, an all-weather bus unloading dock, and a spacious covered play area convertible overnight into booths for the Parish Fair.

The entire school addition can be closed tightly when desired, without a square inch of glass exposed to the elements.

This is achieved through the use of special solar shade jalousie units, designed by the architect. These units, with outside aluminum slats and inside clear glass slats, allow maximum control of sun, wind, rain, breeze, and glare, and permit room-darkening of all classrooms for visual aids use. In addition they are a formidable barrier against wilful glass breakage, the bane of many post-war schools.



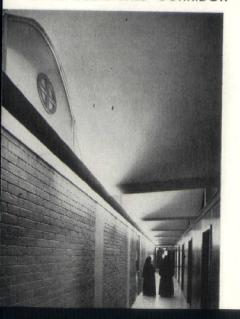
PHASE TWO: THE SCHOOL ADDITION

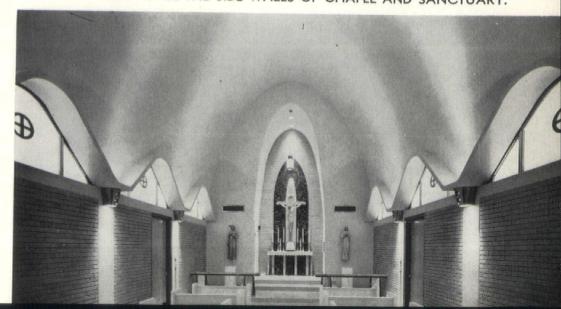


PLAN CONVENT PHASE ONE

#### SHELTER CLOISTERED CORRIDOR







#### **Regional Conference Recipe**



1. First you charter a plane.



2. Then you add refreshments.



3. Bake in the Gulf Stream sun aboard a Norwegian luxury liner.



4. Add a touch of Scandinavian cuisine.





8. Select 17 award winners.

6. Blend outstanding speakers . . .



7. . . . with seasoned panelists.



Identification (left to right)

1. Mrs. Myron Tassin, Mrs. A. R. Blossman, Jr., Mr. Blossman.

(Front) Blossman, George Reitmeyer (Holding pop bottle), Bernard Mason, Owen Brennan, Jr., Mrs. Brennan, Jack Lepperd, Mrs. Lepperd.
 James Ritter, William Bergman, Mrs. August Perez,

James Ritter, William Bergman, Mrs. August Perez, Jr., Mr. Perez.
 Mr. and Mrs. William Scheick.
 Barbara Brennan, Chief Steward, Jean Perez.
 James R. Lucas of Herman Miller.
 William Gillett, past president of Producers Council; Steve Kliment, editor of Architectural and Engineering News; Philip Will, AIA past president.
 Will; Henry Wright, AIA President; J. Roy Carroll, AIA First Vice President; and Scheick.



Cover Nassau with scooters (if you're



Stir in calypso singers at the famed British Colonial Hotel.



11. Add more panels on the voyage back to Charleston.



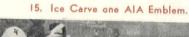
12. And add more panels.



13. Serve an array of Honor Awards winners.



14. Wine and dine . . . naturally.





17. Then pour in a few bottles of anything as you fly back to solid Louisiana ground . . . and arrive refreshed?



Don't forget a dash of sentimentality.

9. (First Row) Shirley Tassin, Barbara Brennan; (Second Row) Brennan, August Perez III, Jean Perez, Mason, with his wife Earline Mason standing behind him; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Blossman

Identification (left to right)

Blossman

10. Unidentified flying objects.

11. Kliment and Perez.

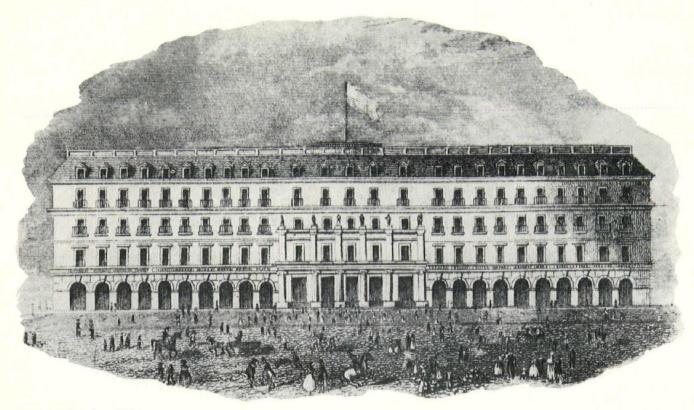
12. John M. Ware; William P. Cox; Jack Carney, Mississippi-Louisiana Brick and Tile Association; and Edward van Amerongen, Portland Cement Association.

13. Carroll.

 Mr. and Mrs. William Evans
 Wright, Will, Scheick, Regional Director G. Scott Smitherman.

16. Mr. and Mrs. Lepperd17. More unidentified flying objects.





St. Louis Hotel - 1840

Royal Orleans - 1958-59



# THE VIEUX CARRE

There are many aspects to the preservation of an historic district. However, of equal concern is the over-all scene and the individual buildings of character, and there is, of course, a direct relationship. The historic scene of the Vieux Carré is compounded of many facets; its quaint and distinctive character springing from Colonial Spanish and French influence mixed with early American.

The preservation laws of the Vieux Carré refer to "such buildings as in the opinion of the Commission shall be deemed to have architectural and historical value." This is interpreted to also mean "buildings of historic architectural value" which tie in the overall scene. Buildings of such character are preserved and restored with considerable attention to authen-

ticity in detail, and examples of this pursuit are illustrated by the Bavly residence. Buildings devoid or despoiled of such architectural character are generally remodelel and restored to suitable traditional style. An example of a new building which recaptures the flavor and spirit of the past is Royal Orleans Hotel.

The St. Louis Hotel of 1840's designed by Architect dePouilly was city's principal auction mart and focal point of Creole social life. After the war it went into decline with the Quarter, was abandoned in early 1900's and became a ghostly habitat of mules and pigeons until it was demolished in 1917.

New Orleanians' long time dream of another such hotel on same site was brought to fruition by the Edgar B. Stern family with a group of new Orleans investors. It is an outstanding example of renaissance of spirit. Influenced by style of old St. Louis Hotel; cornice line, mass, general impression, series of arches on ground floor including five original granite ones, authentic design of iron grillework. In was constructed in 1958-1959 at a cost of approximately \$5 million. The 350-room hotel is owned by the Hotel Corporation af America. Architects were Koch & Wilson and Curtis & Davis and Associated Architects and Engineers.



Bayly Residence 1959 New Orleans, La. 1011 Orleans Bayly Residence

1939





At the early December Awards Meeting of the New Orleans Chapter, Mrs. Bernard Flashpoller was present to receive a plaque in behalf of her father, the late Mr. Guy Stone, a past president of the Chapter. She brought along a treasured memento which may be one of the earliest architectural brochures in existence. Beginning next month, LOUISIANA ARCHITECT will publish pages from this rare book which is entitled, "Examples from the Work of Stone Brothers Architects"—818 Common St., New Orleans, Louisiana. It is dated 1903. The above photo is a reproduction of page I, captioned "Drafting Room—Stone Bros."

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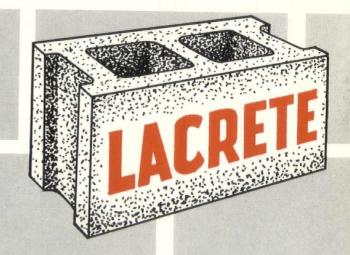
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precast specialties

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#### **MEXICO OR EUROPE?**

Regional AIA architects are invited to participate in architectural education tours to Europe or Mexico City in early Spring of 1963. Regulations now permit a 40% savings in overseas air traffic rates to association groups of 25 or more (wives included). Rate advantages are also available to groups (and couples within such groups) traveling to Mexico City. At a recent LAA Board of Governors meeting, the group authorized a canvass of the membership to learn if enough interest exists to merit organization of either a European or Mexico City tour (or both). Should enough interest come from the Region, formal action may be needed at the Council meeting in January to meet the requirements of the regulations and make participation possible.

Activities with European and Mexican architectural groups will be arranged.

#### Mexico

The cost of this tour will be approximately \$275.00 per person and will include first class jet air transportation from New Orleans, deluxe hotels in both Mexico City and Taxco, and private sightseeing as out-

lined in itinerary. All meals will be included on side trip to Taxco but no meals have been included in Mexico City as there is such a wide variety of fine restaurants to choose from. This rate will also include the cost of the Mexican Tourist card (\$3.00) and transfer of passengers and baggage from the airport to the hotel and return and will include tips for same.

#### Europe

The cost per person will be approximately \$995.00 from New Orleans back to New Orleans. This cost is based on first class hotels, twin bedded rooms with private bath; economy class jet transportation; all meals in Europe except in London, Paris and Rome where breakfast only is provided; transportation of two average sized suitcases (weighing not in excess of 44 lbs.); sightseeing as detailed in the itinerary; hotel taxes; and gratuities to porters, waiters and guides.

Please read the itineraries and make known your wishes by returning the form on the next page. Here's hoping your answer will be either OLE' or Oui, Oui!!! The neighboring residential section "The Pedregal" will be seen, with homes representing the world of tomorrow in design and comfort; some swimming pools, literally scooped out of the lava rocks.

Afternoon tour to include the National Palace, Glass Factory, Cathedral, Archeological Museum, Flower Market, Chapultepec Park and Castle and the residential section of Lomas.

Friday—TAXCO—Overnight trip to Taxco begins at 9:00 A.M. today. The 100 mile drive is over a good highway. Redtiled houses, from Colonial mansions to cottages, rise on one level after another up the steep hillsides, painted white or in rainbow tones. The pink stone church of Santa Prisca is one of the finest examples of Churrigueresque art in the world. You will enjoy roaming the narrow, cobblestone streets and shopping here in the "silver capital" of Mexico. Watch craftsmen fashion the metal into intricate designs. Hotel De La Borda.

Saturday—MEXICO—Return trip in the afternoon will take you to Cuernavaca—playground of Aztec Emperors, Cortes, Maximilian and Carlota, Then back to Maria Isabel Hotel.

Free evening. Enjoy the night life of fabulous Mexico City.

Sunday—MEXICO—After a morning at leisure, visit floating canals of Xochimilco. From your flower-decked boat you will hear the calls of flower vendors and songs of floating musicians.

Back in Mexico City you will continue to the Bullfights,

Monday—MEXICO—Free morning. Be in time for Shrine of Guadalupe and Pyramids of Teotihaucann Tour. First stop: Acolman Monastery, among the finest of early fortress-type churches, dating from 1539. You will continue to the Pyramids and wonder what people built these temples, why and when . . . On return stop at Shrine of Guadalupe.

Tuesday-MEXICO-Day entirely free.

The return flight leaves tonight at 10:50 P.M. and arrives in New Orleans at 12:45 A.M.

#### Mexico City Itinerary

Wednesday—MEXICO CITY—By air—First Class Jet — from New Orleans via Eastern departing at 7:40 P.M. and arriving in Mexico City at 9:48 P.M. After brief customs formalities, you will be transferred to the Maria Isabel Hotel—largest and finest in all of Mexico. Located on famed Reforma Boulevard, in the heart of modern, elegant and sophisticated Mexico City, this hotel is a city within a city.

Thursday—MEXICO CITY—A full day of sightseeing will take you first to the

panorama of Mexico's University City: 80 buildings incorporating the best Indian, Spanish and ultra-modern architecture, with lava stone as the basic building material; a crater shaped stadium which seats over 100,000; sports courts reminiscent of an ancient Mayan city; the world's largest swimming pool with glass roofed rooms underneath; a Liberal Arts building over \(\frac{1}{4}\) mile long, a 12-story library with room for more than a million books, because it has no windows. Walls are solid and covered with stone mosaic telling the story of Mexico. This "City" is the work of 150 of the country's best architects.

#### European Itinerary

lst Day—NEW ORLEANS—Morning departure by jet for New York and connecting jet for London

2nd Day—LONDON — Morning arrival. Transfer to hotel Mount Royal. Balance of day at leisure.

3rd Day—LONDON—Tour: Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, Nelson's Column, Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, Houses of Parliament, Downing Street, Piccadilly Circus, Marble Arch and shopping district.

4th Day—LONDON—Morning free. Afternoon drive along Thames to Windsor Castle, the country residence of English Royalty, built over 800 years ago by William the Conqueror. Then to Hampton Court, a Tudor Castle built for Henry VIII. Overnight steamer to Hook of Holland.

5th Day—THE HAGUE—Sightseeing includes Peace Palace in The Hague and Scheveningen, North Sea Bathing Beach. Amsterdam included. Hotel Terminus.

6th Day—BRUSSELS—Morning drive via Rotterdam and Antwerp to Brussels for lunch, Afternoon — Medieval Square, Town Hall, Royal Palace, St. Gudule Church and Manneken Fountain. Hotel Albert Lier.

7th Day—WIESBADEN— Morning drive to Luxembourg for lunch. Continue via historical Trier, through Moselle Valley and along the Rhine to Wiesbaden. Hotel Taunus. 8th Day—FREIBURG—Motor via Heidelberg for lunch and visit of famed University and Student Prison—also the Castle overlooking Neckar Valley. Hotel Colombi.

9th Day—LUCERNE—Morning drive to Lucerne with afternoon free, Hotel Luzernerhof,

10th Day—INNSBRUCK—Motor via Vaduz for lunch; then by Southern Bavaria to Innsbruck for Night, View the famed Golden Dachel. Hotel Maria Theresia.

11th Day—VENICE—From Innsbruck, drive through the Austrian Tyrol and enter Italy at Brenner Pass. Motor via Vipiteno and Pusteria Valley to Dobbiacco amidst multi-colored peaks of the Dolomites. Motor along Lake of Misurino and Three Crosses Pass to Cortino "Queen of the Dolomites" for lunch. Continue in afternoon to Venice. Hotel Cavalletto.

12th Day—FLORENCE—Morning sightseeing in Venice includes walking tour to St. Mark's Square, Bridge of Sighs, and Doges Palace. In the afternoon, motor to Florence, Hotel Craft.

13th Day—FLORENCE—Capital of Tuscany and Italy's most beautiful city. Visit Uffizi or Pitty Gallery, Baptistery with famous bronze doors by Ghiberti, Medici Chapel, San Lorenzo and Santa Croce. Afternoon free for shopping along Arno.

14th Day — ROME — Morning drive via Siena. Around the Square are medieval

palaces, Gothic Town Hall and Italian Gothic Cathedral. Hotel Montial.

15th Day—ROME—Day's sightseeing embraces 'Trevi Fountain, St. Peters Cathedral, the Forum, Catacombs, Collosseum, etc.

16th Day—PISA—Morning free in Rome. Afternoon drive to Pisa. Hotel Mediterraneo.

17th Day—SAN REMO—Pisa sightseeing includes noted cathedral, the Baptistry and world famous Leaning Tower. Motor via Rapallo and Genoa to San Remo. Residence Principe.

18th Day — NICE — Continue to Monte Carlo and Monaco, Afternoon free, Hotel Angleterre,

19th Day—NICE — Free day to enjoy French Riviera. Overnight train to Paris.

20th Day—PARIS — Morning arrival in Paris—then to Grand Hotel. Afternoon tour includes Opera, Madeleine, Place de la Concorde, Champs Elysees, Arch of Triumph, Eiffel Tower, Invalides with Tomb of Napoleon, etc.

21st Day—PARIS—Morning free. Afternoon to Versailles with hall of Mirrors where Treaty was signed in 1919.

22nd Day—PARIS—Entire day free. In the evening, Folies Bergere.

23rd Day—PARIS—Morning free. In late afternoon, jet to New York. Arrive same day and connect to non-stop jet to New Orleans.

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.... concerning our advertisement with your magazine in October of 1962.

The results of said advertisement were very gratifying. We received inquiries from about fifty architectural firms in the Southern states and even from some as far away as Minnesota and Illinois.

We definitely plan to advertise with you again in the near future.

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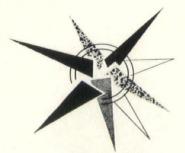
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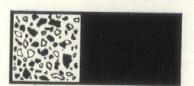
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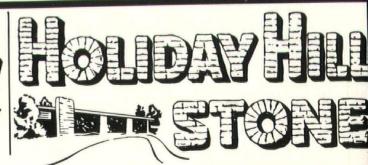
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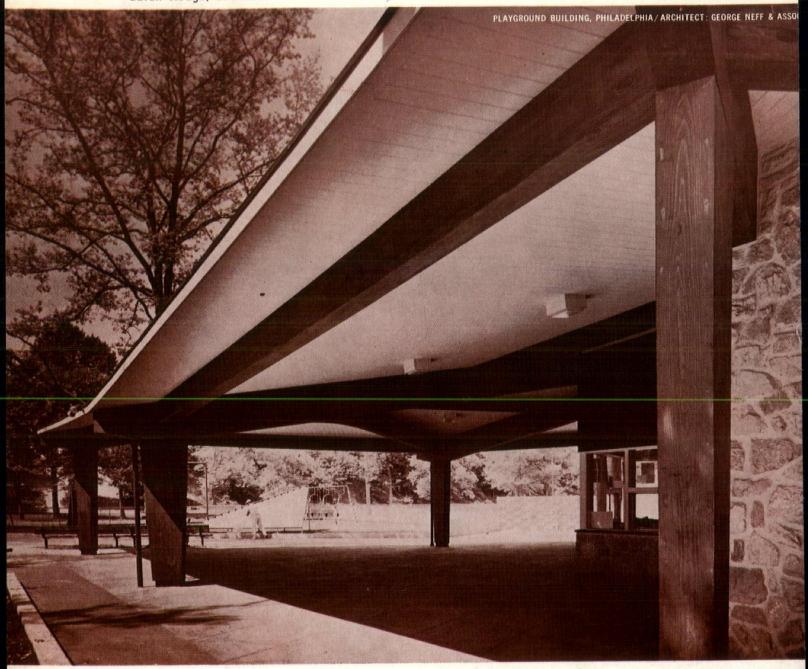
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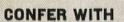
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