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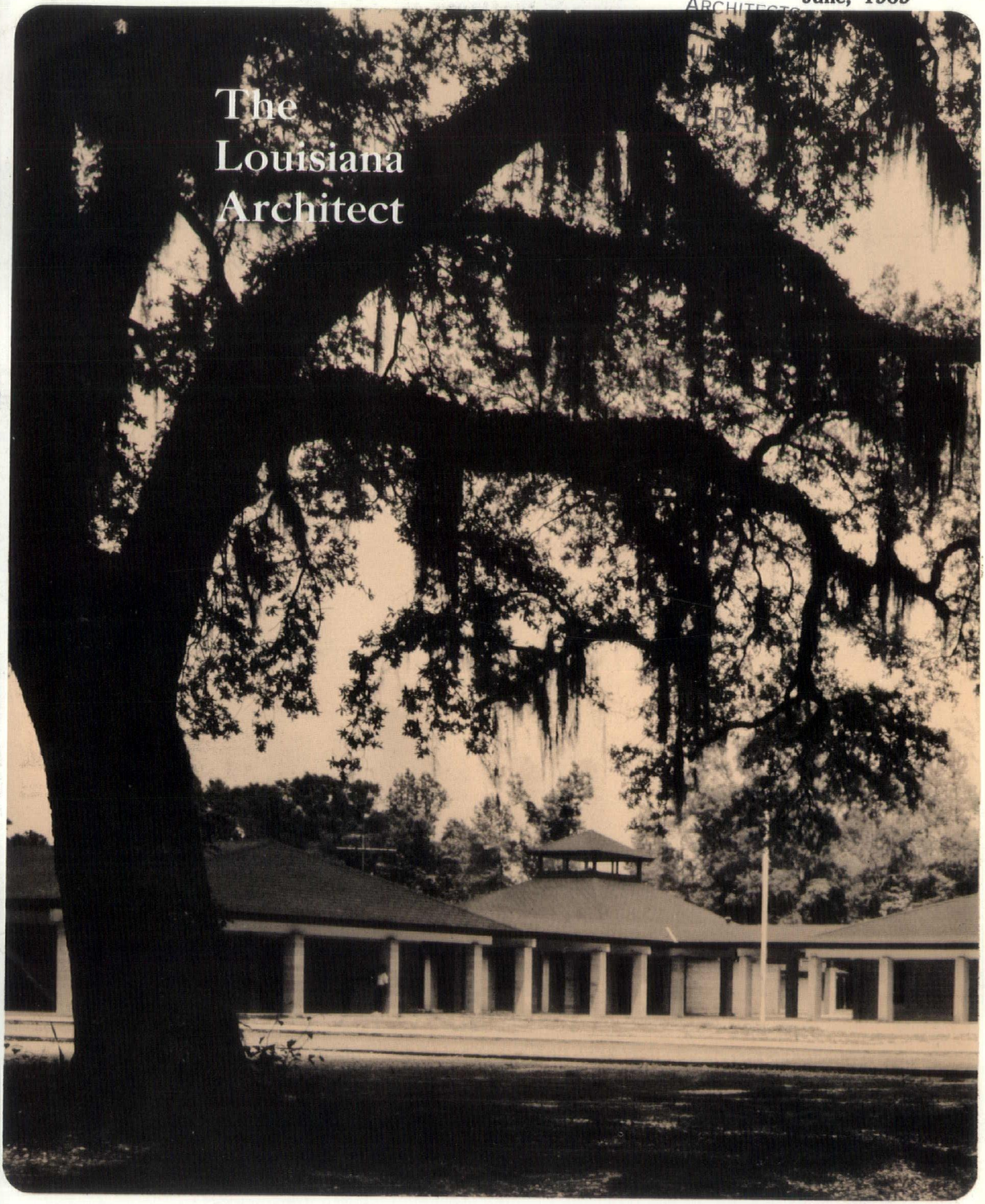
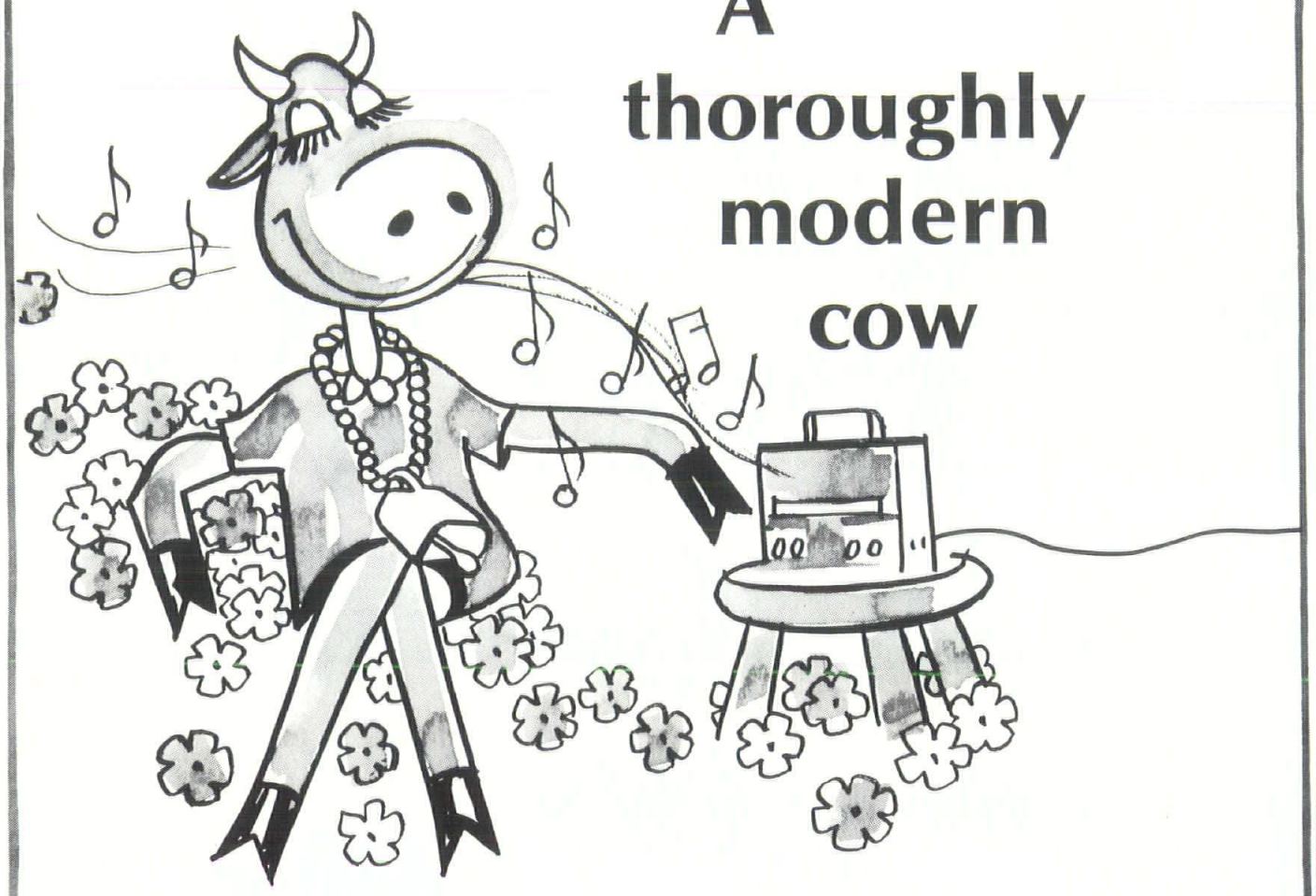
June, 1969

The Louisiana Architect



D. C. Reeves Elementary School, Ponchatoula, La.

A thoroughly modern cow



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The Louisiana Architect

Volume VIII
Number 6

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Senate Bill 80 - Wm. D. Brown

With the signature of Governor McKeithen, Senate Bill 80 will establish into law provision for the Division of Administration to maintain a central listing of all architects, engineers, clerks of the works and attorneys employed or retained by all state agencies. Each state agency is required to report each quarter all of the persons in these professions whom they have hired, along with the nature and duration of the services to be performed and the amount of fees or compensation paid to each.

Those architects who have long wanted to know how state work was being distributed will be pleased to know that these records will be open to the public.

This legislative act will remind many of their dissatisfaction with the whole process of selecting architects for state work. Most would prefer that the responsibility for selecting architects be in the hands of the agency which will actually use the project. They believe that the using agencies are less politically motivated and, because they have to live with the project, will be more interested in screening and selecting the architect with the best qualifications for a particular job.

This problem, along with revisions to the State Fire Marshal's Act and the hireing of architects on a contingent fee basis will be given consideration by the LAA before the next general session of the Legislature.

IN THIS ISSUE

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING CONSULTANTS
Piet Kessels, AIA, Chairman

J. Buchannan Blitch, AIA • *Morton A. Bernstein, AIA*
Francis Kalmbach, AIA • *Pierce M. Meleton, AIA*
C. E. Newman, AIA • *Hugh G. Parker, Jr., AIA*
Gus G. Quinn, Jr., AIA • *Thilo Steinschulte, AIA*

Cover Photo - Dave Gleason

1972, B. S. CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

In September of this year, Louisiana State University will offer a new four year curriculum leading to a B.S. degree in Construction Technology. For the past two years, Mr. O. J. Baker, head of the School of Architecture at L.S.U. has been working with the Associated General Contracotrs to develop this important new program. Its basis lies in the great need for qualified personnel in all areas of construction, our leading national industry.

Mr. Baker says, to meet the need for properly educated and motivated people we hope to produce graduates who have; the discipline to think and reason logically; the technical ability to visualize and solve practical construction problems; the managerial knowledge to make sound decisions and implement them on a prudent, economic basis; the facility to communicate these decisions clearly and concisely; the human understanding to be able to work with all types of people; and the professional stature to provide dynamic leadership in the construction industry and the community.

Students in both Architecture and Construction Technology will have as common required classes, Architecture 113-114, 104 and 108. Either student may schedule courses in the other curriculum as electives.

These students should develop a closer understanding of each others problems and as professionals work together more closely to the benefit of the client.

To encourage a high quality of scholastic excellence, the Baton Rouge Chapter of the Associated General Contractors has established an annual scholarship to an East Baton Rouge High School graduate. The student will receive $500.00 each year for four years of qualified achievement.

CURRICULUM IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

FRESHMAN YEAR

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.	Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
English 1B	3 hrs.	English 1C	3 hrs.
History 1, Geography 1 or Sociology 1	3	History, Geography 2 or Sociology 2	3
Math I or Math II	3	Math 2 or Math 6 or Math 12	3
Business Administration 1 (Intro. to Business)	3	Architecture 2 (Basic Bldg. Materials)	3
Architecture 1 (Intro. to Building Construction)	3	Industrial Education 5	3
Books and Libraries 1	1	Military Science, Air Science or elective	1
Military Science. Air Science or elective	1		16 hrs.
	17 hrs.		

SOPHOMORE YEAR

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.	Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
Economics 55 (Economic Principles)	3 hrs.	Accounting 62 (Elementary Acct.)	3 hrs.
Accounting 61 (Elementary Acct.)	3	Management 72 (Business Communication)	2
Management 71 (Business Communication)	2	Architecture 58 (Structural Concepts)	3
Management 59 (Management Principles)	3	Speech 51	3
Civil Engineering 61, 65 (Elementary Surveying)	3	English 62 (Exposition)	3
Military Science, Air Science, or elective	2	Military Science, Air Science, or elective	2
	16 hrs.		16 hrs.

— — — SUMMER WORK - 1 HR. CREDIT — — —

JUNIOR YEAR

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.	Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
Architecture 113 (Mech. Equipment of Bldgs.)	2 hrs.	Architecture 114 (Mech. Equipment of Bldgs.)	2 hrs.
Architecture 115 (Structural Technology)	3	Architecture 116 (Structural Technology)	3
Management 123 (Business Law)	3	Accounting 124 (Fundamental Tax Problems)	3
Business Finance 132 (Property & Liability Ins.)	3	Economics 125 (Labor Economics)	3
Architecture 119 (Construction Materials & Methods)	2	Architecture 120 (Construction Materials & Methods)	2
Electives	3	Electives	3
	16 hrs.		16 hrs.

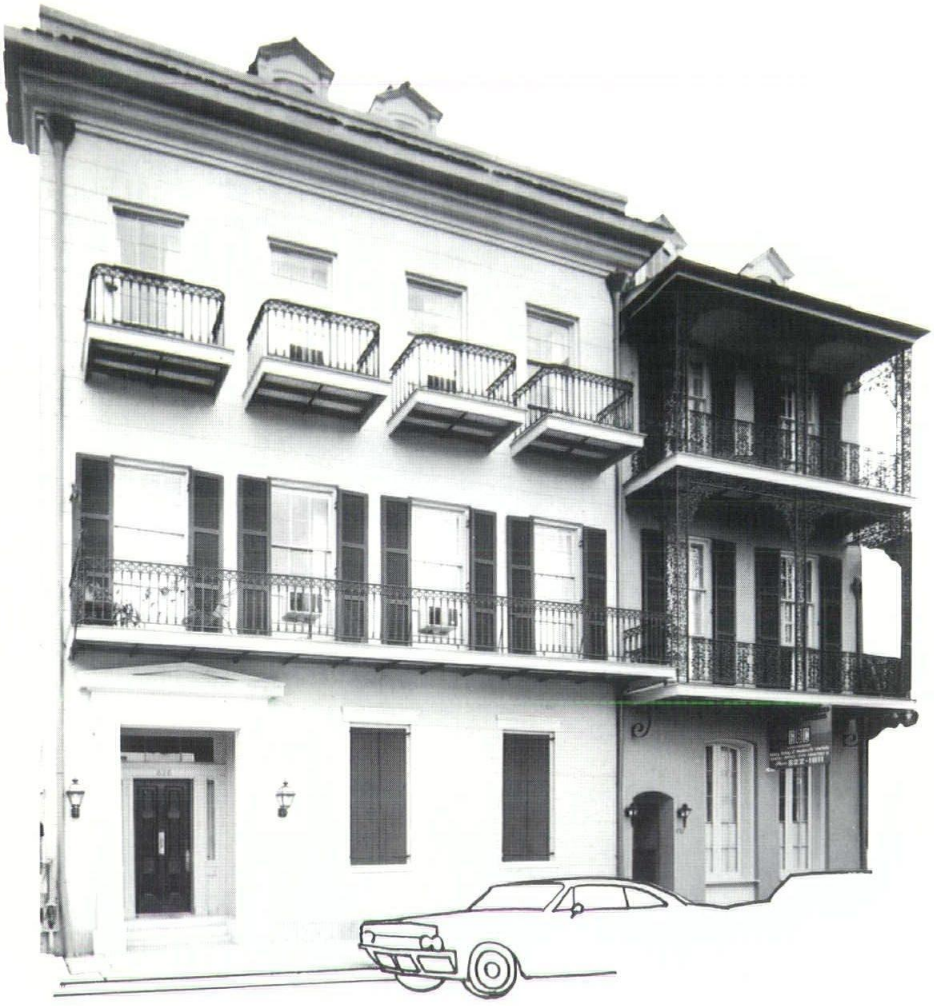
— — — SUMMER WORK - 1 HR. CREDIT — — —

SENIOR YEAR

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.	Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
Architecture 104 (Office Practice & Specs.)	3 hrs.	Architecture 154 (Seminar on Bldg. Construction)	3 hrs.
Architecture 108 (Illumination)	3	Architecture 152 (Estimating & Construction Drawing)	4
Architecture 151 (Estimating &Construction Drawing)	4	Electives	9
Electives	6		16 hrs.
	16 hrs.		

OLIVIER HOUSE

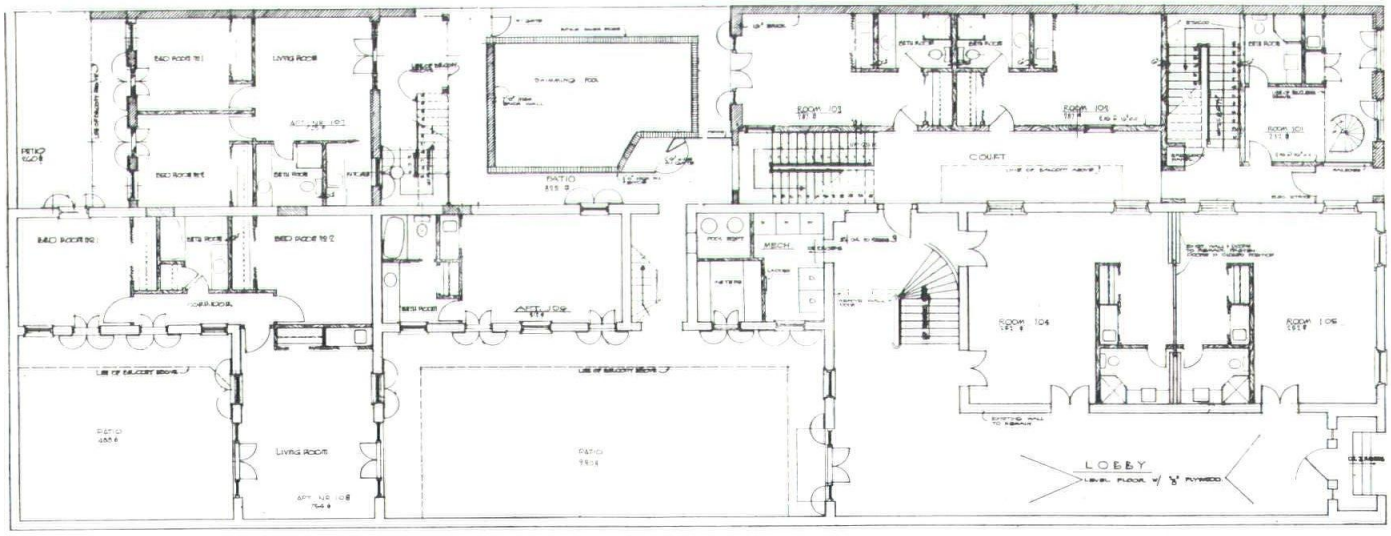
VIEUX CARRE, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

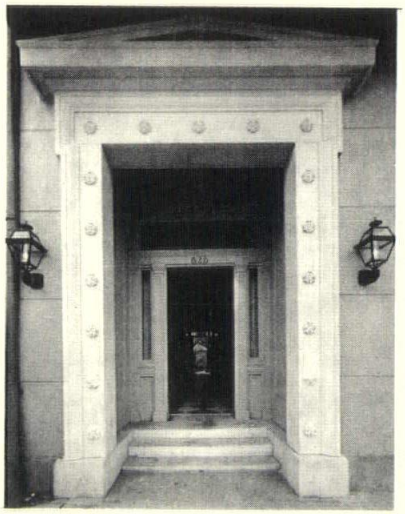


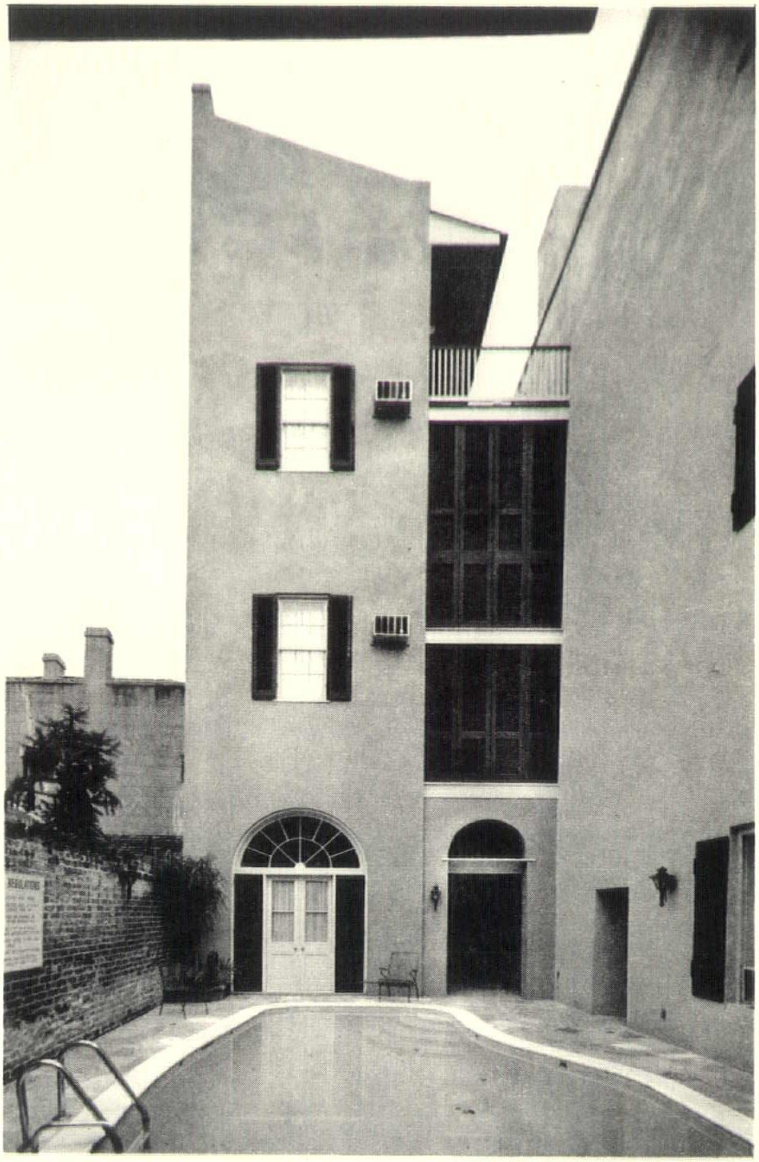
The conversion of the historic Olivier House to contemporary uses presented a challenge to the architect. A vacant yard immediately next door was acquired by the owners for the purpose of constructing apartments. The architect was asked to blend the remodelling and the new construction into a unified design.

Rather than reproduce details and proportions, the Architect has attempted to design a compatible structure which would not overshadow the elegant 125 year old French Quarter townhouse.

A total of 16 apartments and 16 guest rooms has been achieved while maintaining the original double courtyards and adding two more courtyards in the new construction.

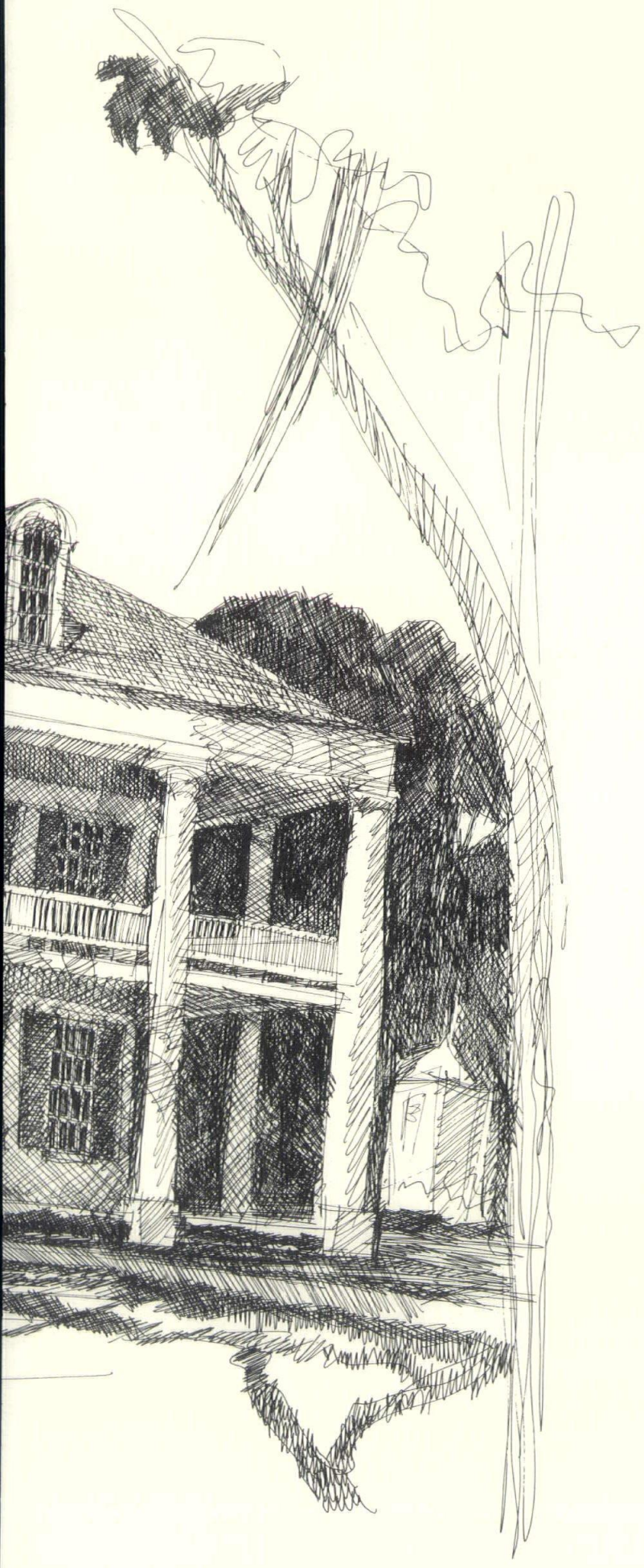






Photos by Frank Lotz Miller


Desmond '69



Houma's House

BURNSIDE, LOUISIANA

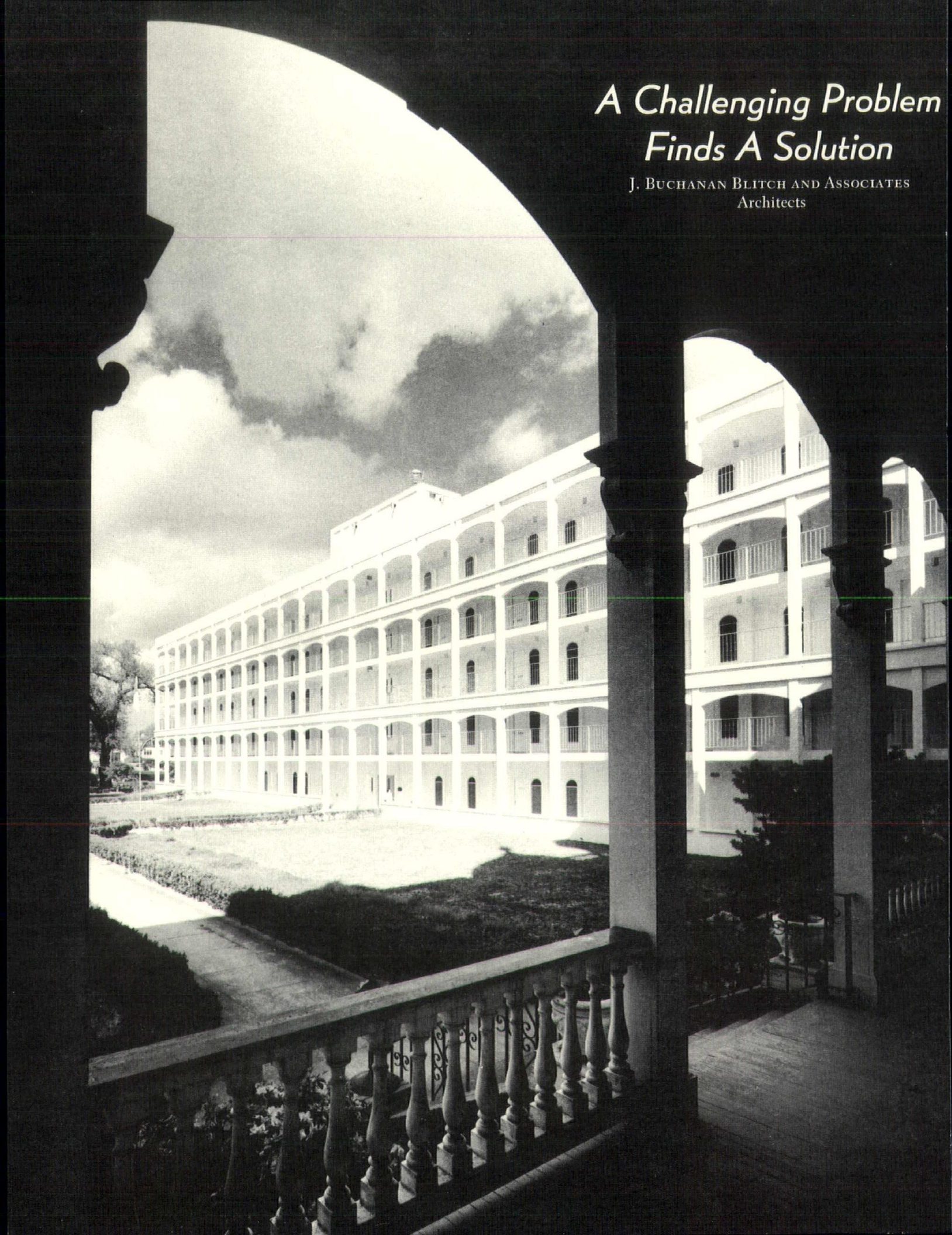
On the river road between New Orleans and Baton Rouge stretches a chain of Louisiana's finest plantation homes. The one pictured here is unique in many ways and is one of those in an excellent state of preservation.

It was originally built in 1840 by John Smith Preston from South Carolina. The glassed-in widow's walk or belvedere reflects a typical east coast element. The other distinguishing features are the particularly generous portico on three sides and the existing garconnieres.

In 1857 John Burnside, an Irish emigrant who had accumulated a hard won fortune in New Orleans, purchased the house and added to it another name, Burnside, as well as a reputation for a new style of hospitality.

The house is now owned and has been restored by Dr. George Crozat of New Orleans.

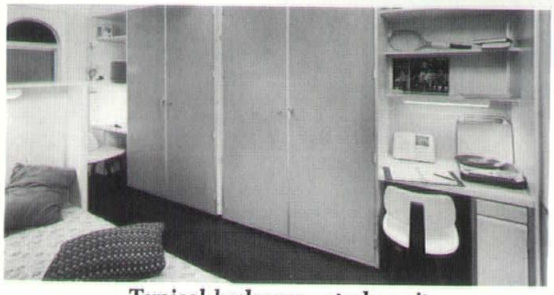
JOHN DESMOND, FAIA



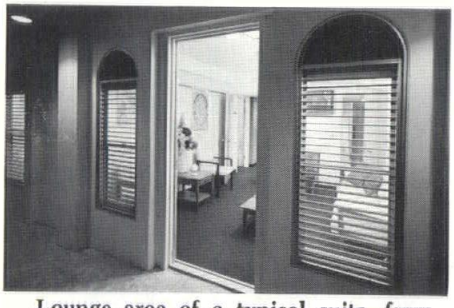
A Challenging Problem Finds A Solution

J. Buchanan Blitch and Associates
Architects

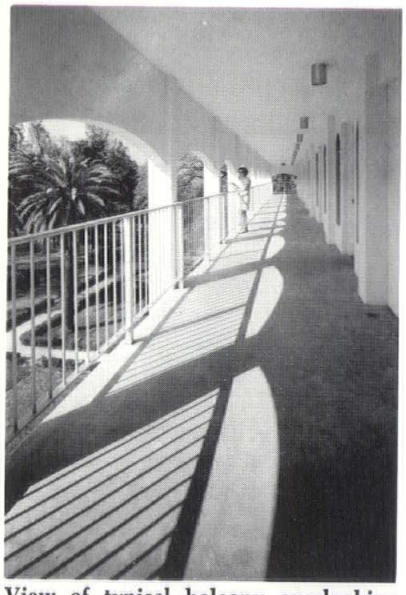
Lounge in typical suite, with multi-use room beyond.



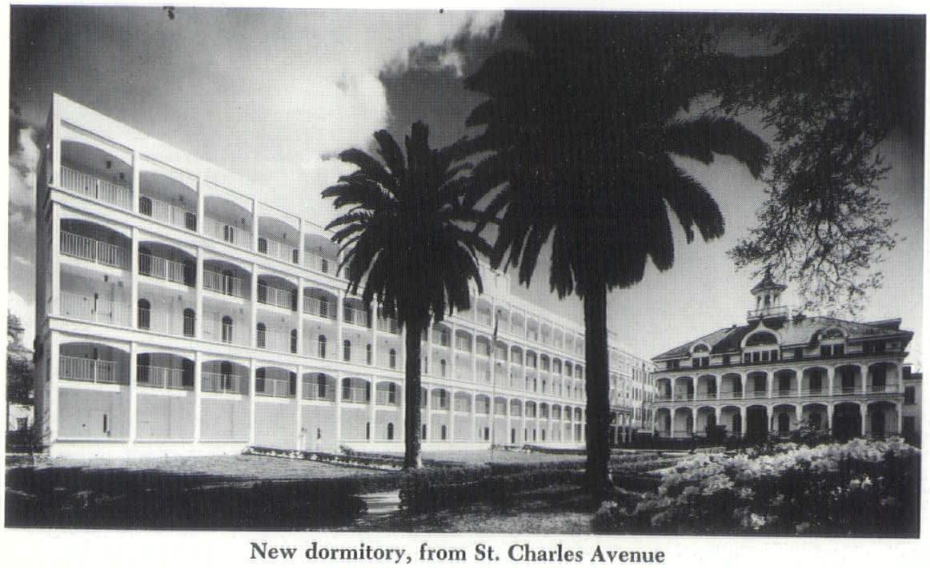
Typical bedroom - study unit.



Lounge area of a typical suite, from balcony.



View of typical balcony overlooking quadrangle.



New dormitory, from St. Charles Avenue

w of new dormitory from balcony of Ante-Bellum Ad-
istration Building.

ST. MARY'S DOMINICAN COLLEGE DORMITORY

New Orleans, La.

Speaking of the new dormitory, Sister Mary Ursula, O.P. President of St. Mary's Dominican College, says, *"In the design of Cabra Hall we feel that the architect has achieved a remarkable blending of the old and the new. The side of the building facing inward reflects gracefully the style of Greenville Hall, the original landmark structure of the College.*
"Internally the design combines a strong functional approach with a feeling of comfort and privacy.
"The College has received many compliments on the appearance of the building, and the resident students in Cabra Hall have reported favorable on its liviability."

The project program called for a 220-bed residence hall to be constructed on a very limited site. With extreme zoning considerations and a mandatory 200 sq. ft. per student limitation. Short span bays with resultant thin slab construction and carefully scaled down floor to ceiling heights permitted construction of a five story structure within the same height as the old adjoining four story dorm.

Maximum consideration was given to subtropical gulf region climate, with its blistering sun, furious rains, and not infrequent hurricanes, adapting in a contemporary structure the same basic regional considerations exployed in the adjoining ante-bellum structure, with emphasis on broad balconies, generous overhangs, and plantation shutters.

The windows, designed by the architect, consist of inner sliding panels and manually controlled extruded aluminum outer shutters. They provide all degrees of sun, rain, and privacy control yet can be shut tight against the hurricane's onslaught.

By eliminating internal corridors and designing a compact semi-private sleep-study unit for each occupant, sufficient space was saved to permit design of a basic 8-student suite with the amenities of luxury accommodations on a tight budget, including multi-use study-dress area, private lounge, shared bath, all with meticulous appointments for student comfort and convenience.

Site Considerations: The total campus is quite small, consisting almost exclusively of the squares in the foreground. The architect was confronted with a master planning situation involving not only construction of the subject dormitory but a future science building and future fine arts center, all within these tight confines and subject to stringent zoning limitations on height, setbacks, etc. The existing campus consisted of a hodge-podge of utterly unrelated structures, including the Civil War vintage buildings in the center, 1920 pseudo-Gothic and mid-50 glass box dorms and a recently erected starkly contemporary library building, interlaced with aged residences adapted to educational functions. The resultant master plan calls for the new dorm to extend into the park-like front campus, relating to existing adjoining dorms, with the science center to be placed next to the library, and the fine arts building at the corner of St. Charles and Lowerline. Acquisition of the dividing street and demolition of the old "mansions" will allow development of a striking campus quadrangle with the new dorm as an "anchor" on the left side, the original administration building in the center and the fine arts center on the far right, with housing administrative, and academic functions clearly defined yet interrelated.

The resultant new dormitory design, as a first step toward bringing order out of confusion, consciously reflects the feeling of grace and security of the historic central structure while recalling through its basic forms and materials the new library building beyond, endeavoring to respect the two most significant campus buildings without being a mockery of either.

Photos by Frank Lotz Miller

frank lotz miller

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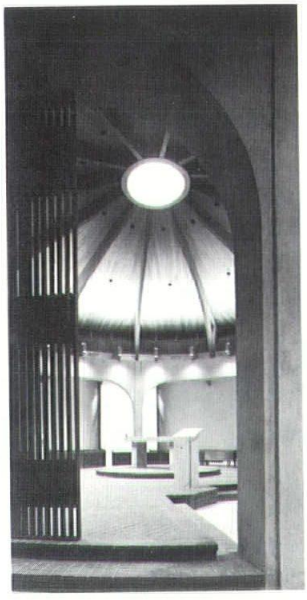

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American Institute Of Architects

1969 HONOR AWARD

D. C. Reeves Elementary School, *Ponchatoula, La.*
Desmond-Miremont-Burks, Architects and Engineers
Andrew Gasaway, Associate

Chicago, Ill., June 22 . . . D. C. Reeves Elementary School in Ponchatoula, Louisiana, a low-cost, rural, campus-type facility, has been selected to receive a 1969 Honor Award by the American Institute of Architects, the 23,000-member national professional society. The award, the nation's highest professional recognition for architectural excellence, is one of only 16 to be given this year.

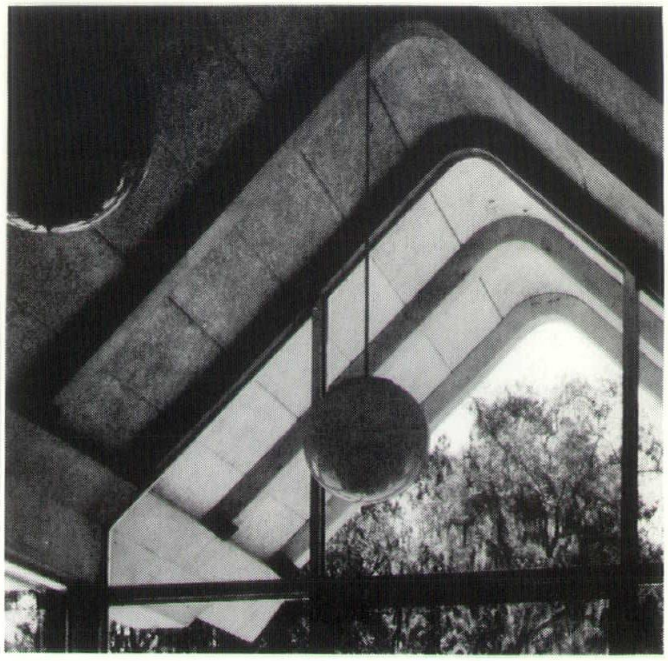
Entered in the awards' program in response to the request of the AIA President for submissions which serve socially oriented problems with modest means, the school was completed at a square-foot cost of only $8.41. Yet, it is a campus-type plan which preserves existing groups of trees between the separate building blocks which are connected with covered walks.

Designed for its bayou-like setting by Desmond-Miremont-Burks, Architects and Engineers, Andrew Gasaway, Associate, of Baton Rouge, the school has low-ceilinged classrooms, high-ceilinged corridors, and trussed library and assembly rooms. Major materials used in the 36,743 square-foot project were concrete foundations and slab, limestone block walls, laminated wood beams, wood roof trusses, double hung windows, and plywood decking.

In selecting the school to receive an Honor Award, the AIA Jury commented, "The result is honest, architectural understatement. Plainly, the measure of this school is the simple sympathetic background it creates for the children who use it.

The D. C. Reeves School has also won honor awards at the 1968 Honor Awards competition of the Louisiana Architects Association and the 1968 Gulf States Region, AIA Honor Awards Competition.

Photo by Dave Gleason



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St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

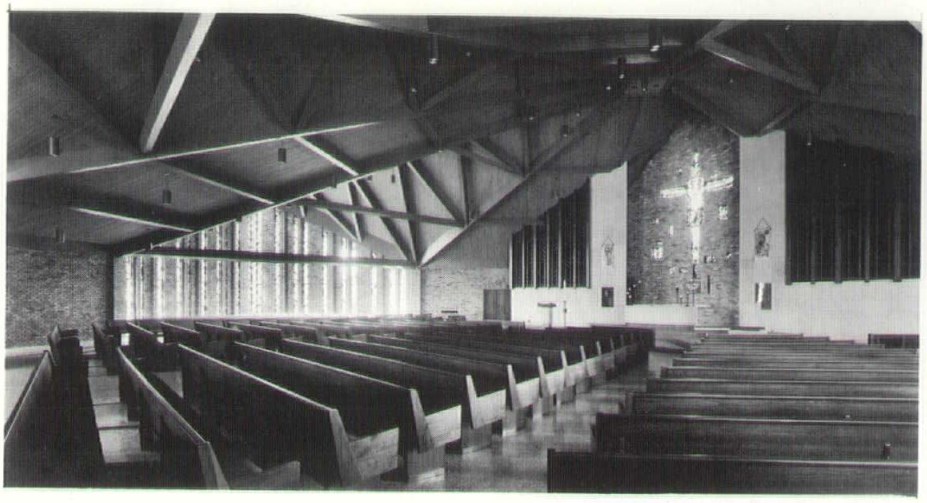
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

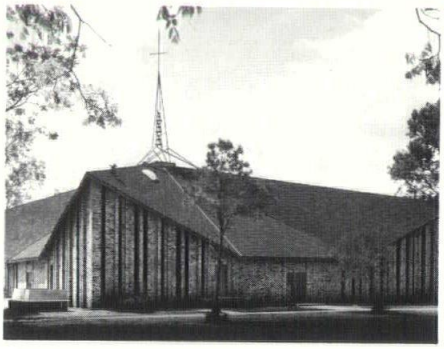
PROGRAM

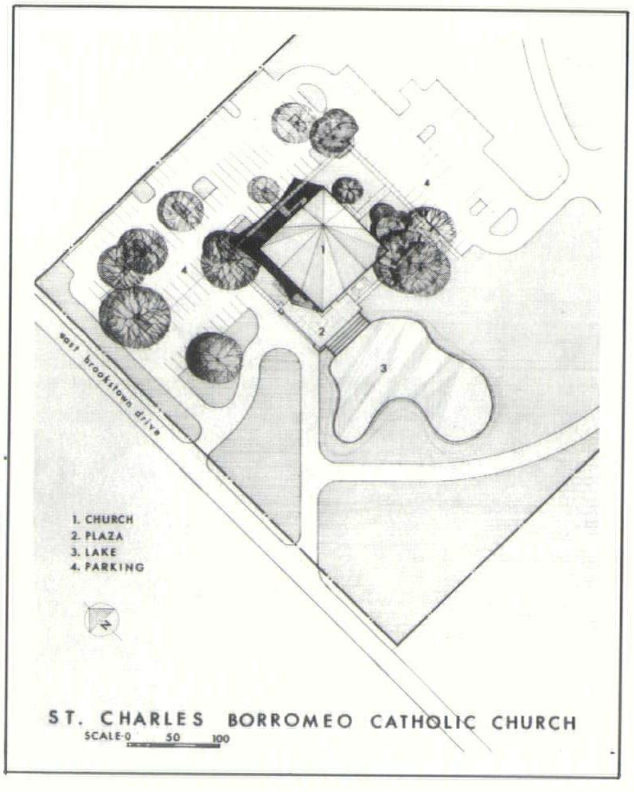
A new Catholic Parish was formed in a residential section of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the construction of a permanent church for 700 persons the immediate goal. The building was to be located on a site with an existing lake and many large, beautiful trees. The parish requirements for the church were strongly coupled with the liturgical changes set forth by the Second Ecumenical Council in Rome with the chief requirement being a closer connection between the people in the congregation and the religious services performed on and around the altar, but still maintaining the importance and dignity of the altar. Other definite requirements were to be a column free interior with a strong focal point, particularly in the ceiling, at the altar, and the baptistry located so people would first pass it upon entering the church.

SOLUTION

It was felt the importance of congregation participation required the seating of as many as possible as close as possible to the altar with the fan shaped layout emerging as the best solution. This led to the natural location of the main entrance and baptistry and the sacristy at opposite corners. Thus comprising the square shape. The central axis runs through the entrance corner, baptismal font, main aisle, altar, and sacristy as a diagonal of the square shape which actually re-orientates it as a diamond shape in plan. With the requirements of altar domination and a focal point in the ceiling over the altar, the welded steel structure was used as the strength of the feeling of both embracing the people and the altar and yet still leading the eye to the sanctuary and altar.



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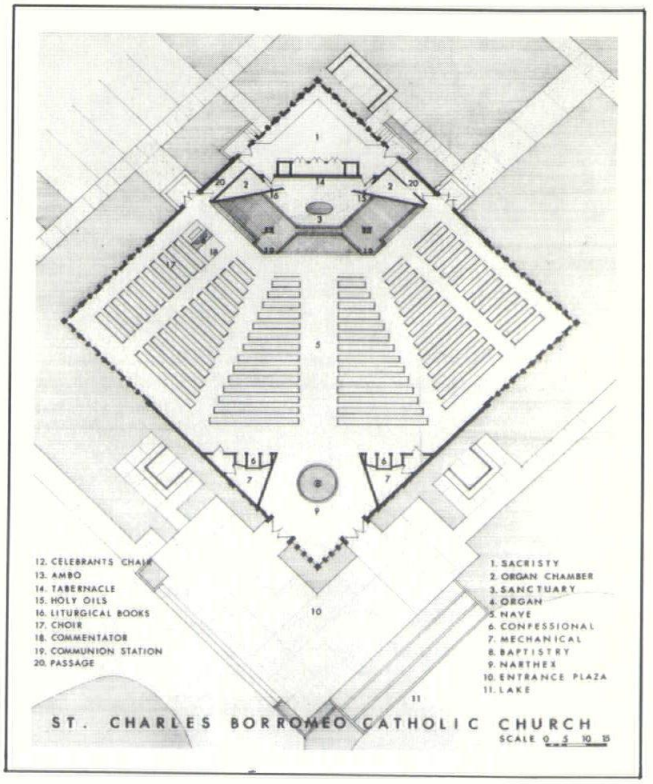
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