LOCAL ARCHITECTS LAUNCH "WAR ON COMMUNITY UGLINESS"

—see Huntsville story, page 7
concrete progress...

cement manufacturers work so many ways to make it happen

MATCHING CONCRETE'S TALENTS TO THE ARCHITECT'S CREATIVENESS

Today's unique concrete shell roofs evidence dramatically how concrete is capturing the imagination of architects—and for that matter, of professionals in every field of construction. Yet, the growing appeal of concrete is no mere happenstance. It has been developed by broadening the versatility of concrete, by enabling builders to exploit its limitless potential—by literally "making progress happen." Major responsibility for this development was taken on years ago in the U.S. and Canada by the manufacturers of portland cement. While competing for sales, they cooperate for progress. Through their Portland Cement Association, they sponsor a development program beyond the resources of any of them individually. Research, basic and applied, conducted in a 10-million-dollar laboratory complex, has enabled concrete to meet the needs of a new era. In the continuously changing technology of construction in every field, concrete users depend on the continuing flow of engineering and technical literature provided—as well as the services of a specialist staff, including 375 field engineers working out of 38 district offices. These services are among the many provided by cement manufacturers, without charge, to users of concrete. They benefit everyone in some way every day at work, at home, on the highway.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
1214 South 20th St., Birmingham, Alabama 35205
An organization to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete

TESTING A NEW TWIST IN CONCRETE. Engineers at RCA Laboratories subject a concrete shell to 10½ tons of load. Findings help architects and construction engineers to broaden their uses of concrete in fresh, bold ways.
message from the president

In this the first issue of the ALABAMA ARCHITECT of 1966, it is certainly in order to express the appreciation of the Council to Hugh Ellis and the other 1965 officers for their outstanding job in making the transition from Chapter to Council. Also praise is due Parker Narrows and his Committee for staging the first State Convention, and to Jay Leavell for the highly professional manner in which he inaugurated this magazine.

We are well into the programs for 1966 and intend to keep up the momentum established by these men in all areas of professional activity. To do this, the dedicated co-operation of all members is required and we earnestly solicit your help.

EDWARD B. BAUMHAUER, AIA
President
Alabama Council AIA

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OPERATION GRASSROOTS!

“Operation Grassroots was a bang-up success!”

So wrote Don Horton, vice president of the Alabama Council AIA to Dan Cowling, regional director of the Gulf States Region AIA.

In doing so, he no doubt echoed the sentiments of the Alabama representatives who attended from the four Chapters and the state Council.

Held in St. Louis on January 30-February 1, “Operation Grassroots” was a new venture for the American Institute of Architects. It was one of three meetings held consecutively in the Eastern, Central, and Western U. S. States represented in the St. Louis meeting besides Alabama were Louisiana, Texas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, and Minnesota.

Main purpose of the two-day seminar was to acquaint new Chapter and State officers with what the Institute is doing in its many fields. An important part of the sessions depended on feedback from architects as a reaction and guidance to the AIA programs.

Said Horton, “I think the entire Alabama delegation came back all fired up and certainly more knowledgeable. The comment I heard most was that they didn’t know the Institute was doing so much.”

HOW AIA FUNCTIONS

Delegates learned that the AIA programs from the Institute level are carried out largely by its five main commissions. These are:

1. Commission on Architectural Design
2. Commission on Professional Practice
3. Commission on Education and Research
4. Commission on Public Affairs
5. Commission on Professional Society

(The Alabama Council has wisely adopted the AIA Commission-Committee Structure to carry forward our programs on the state level.)

WHAT WAS “OPERATION GRASSROOTS”?

“Operation Grassroots” this year replaced the traditional new Chapter presidents’ meeting in Washington, D. C., as well as the annual executive directors’ meeting.

AIA national officers felt it was time to take the program to the local level for information, comment, and action, thus the name “Operation Grassroots.”

The two day seminar provided a two-way forum on an Institute-Chapter-State relationship that would have been exceedingly more difficult on a national rather than regional basis.

Due to the snow which paralyzed much of the eastern seaboard, AIA executive director William Scheick was unable to get out of Washington for the meeting. Genial Robert L. Durham, AIA vice president and Chairman of the Council of Commissioners, ably presided, doing an excellent job of presenting the various program components and simultaneously drawing out comments from attending architects.

The weather lifted in time for snowbound architects to head home on February 2, following a one-day meeting of the Gulf States Regional Executive Council which Dan Cowling had scheduled immediately after the AIA seminar. Present at this session were representatives from Chapter and State organizations in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, as well as Alabama.

All seemed in agreement that the three days had provided fresh insight into problems which architecture as a profession faces in these fast-moving times. How well solutions are found will depend on what happens on the local level from here on out.

ALABAMA ARCHITECT
THE Auburn Foundation for Architecture and the Building Sciences is a non-profit, charitable and educational foundation whose primary purpose is to aid and promote by financial assistance (and otherwise) the educational and research programs for the Department of Architecture and Building Technology at Auburn University.

According to Lawrence Whitten, Birmingham architect and president of the Foundation, during the past several years it has operated on a rather small budget and provided only basic—though commendable—assistance. For example, in 1964-65 total contributions, including deposits from Alabama Chapters and individual firms and corporations, were approximately $5,500. This, plus the previous year's balance of about $3,500 came to a balance of almost $9,000 for the year. Expenditures totaled approximately $5,000 for such things as loans, competitions, travel expenses, equipment, etc. The balance of about $4,000 was carried over to the next fiscal year, Whitten said.

During the past year, however, the members of the Foundation have endeavored to re-activate its program with a completely fresh approach towards its goals and objectives. Significantly, the Foundation has enlarged its concept to include the Building Sciences so that representatives from contractors and builders in the state can participate in its programs.

In establishing the financial goals toward the active support of the school, the Foundation has outlined areas needing annual financial assistance, including:

### Student Programs
- Individual Student Loans: $1,000
- Gift Scholarships: $5,000
- Individual Cash Grants: $1,000

### Faculty Aid—Travel, Research Education
- $5,000

### School-Sponsored Projects
- Student Organizations (AIA, Builders Guild, AID ASID, SCARAB, Architecture and the Arts Council): $3,000
- School Projects (Field trips, banquets, honors programs, exhibits, etc.): $2,000
- Visiting Lecture and Critic Program: $5,000
- Administration Expenses (Fund Raising and Business): $1,000

**TOTAL** $25,000

To maintain the above annual budget and the Foundation's overall objectives, the goal in the initial fund drive is $500,000, with a $25,000 goal each year thereafter. A capital investment of $350,000 would come from the initial $500,000, interest of which is allocated to increase the capital fund each year. Also from the initial fund drive, $100,000 is allocated for new equipment expenditures, such as office equipment, training and teaching aids, transportation equipment, etc., plus $50,000 for a new exhibition facility for the school.

Membership in the Foundation is open to any individual approved by the Board of Directors. Members of the Board are divided into two categories—automatic and elected.

Automatic members are William A. Speer, Dean of the School of Architecture and the Arts at Auburn University; Joseph B. Sarver, Jr., Director of University Development at Auburn; and J. B. Rawls, Executive Secretary of the Alabama Branch, Associated General Contractors of America, Birmingham, Ala.


At the first meeting of the Alabama Council, AIA, for this year in Montgomery in January a report was presented on the Auburn Foundation for Architecture and the Building Sciences. As a result, all four Alabama AIA Chapters soon will be receiving requests to work with the Foundation to raise additional funds for the school. Dean William A. Speer, Auburn University, will help to coordinate the program with the Chapters.
Commission and Committee Structure for 1966 of the Alabama Council AIA

THE ALABAMA COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Special Committees

FINANCE—Paul Speake, Chairman
JUDICIAL LIAISON—Paul Speake, Chairman
MEMBERSHIP—A. Jackson Davis, Chairman
THE BIGGIN FUND—Dean William Speer, Chairman
ALABAMA ARCHITECT MAGAZINE ADVISORY—Fred Renneker, Howard McElhaney, Lloyd Kranert, Thomas Shepherd and Wm. McMinn
COLLEGE OF FELLOWS—Nelson Smith, Chairman
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS—Parker Narrows, Chairman
NOMINATING COMMITTEE—Hugh Ellis, Chairman
COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS—Streeter Wiatt, Chairman
AUBURN FOUNDATION FOR ARCHITECTURE—Lawrence Whitten, Chairman
COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGISTRATION BOARD—A. Jackson Davis

ANNUAL MEETING, BIRMINGHAM, 1966—Allen Bartlett, General Chairman

THE ALABAMA COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COMMISSION ON THE PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

**Commissioner**
- Don Morrison (B)
- Allen Northington* (N)
- Oscar Pardue (B)
- Ross Brown (M)
- John McArthur (Mo)
- Malcolm Smith* (N)
- Allen Bartlett (B)
- Douglas Baker (M)
- Charles McClesky (Mo)
- Arthur Prince* (Mo)
- Robert Rutland (N)
- Nelson Smith (B)
- Mark Tiller (M)

**Commissioner**
- Bill McMinn (M)
- Howell Cobb* (Mo)
- Murray Watson (M)
- Pat Williams* (M)
- William Phelps (Mo)
- William Chambers (B)
- W. R. Dickson (N)
- John Morton* (M)
- John Carey (Mo)
- Charles Davis, Jr. (B)
- A. Jackson Davis (N)

COMMISSION OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

**Commissioner**
- Lloyd Kranert (N)
- Fred Dietz* (Mo)
- Richard Rosenvoid (N)
- Walter Entrekin, Jr. (B)
- Charles Humphries (M)
- Elwyn Reed* (N)
- George Gaunt (B)
- Jim Seay (M)
- Starr Prolsdorffer (Mo)
- Farrow Tittle* (M)
- Carl Burmeister (Mo)
- Paul Speake (B)
- Clyde Fleming (N)

**Commissioner**
- Parker Narrows (M)
- Ed Bondurant* (B)
- Eugene Burr (N)
- Clyde Pearson (M)
- Dillon March (Mo)
- Streeter Wiatt* (M)
- Bill Tune (N)
- Bob Bishop (B)
- Tom Bealle (Mo)
- Virginia March* (Mo)
- Tom Kirkland (M)
- Allison Bailey, Jr. (N)

COMMISSION ON ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

**Commissioner**—Marshall Fischrupp (Mo)

**Aesthetics**
- Tom Jones* (N)
- Bill Williams (B)
- Mark Tiller (M)
- J. Martin Smith (Mo)
- Fritz Woehle* (B)
- Harvie Jones (N)
- Sam Butner (M)
- Ed Faddis (Mo)

**Collaborating Arts**
- Howard Ellis (Mo)
- Charles Schell (N)
- S. D. Collier* (M)
- Sprott Long* (B)
- John Chambliss (M)
- Wm. Letson (Mo)
- Wm. Aycock (N)

* Chairman
(N) North Alabama Chapter
(M) Montgomery Chapter
(B) Birmingham Chapter
(Mo) Mobile Chapter

ALABAMA ARCHITECT
North Alabama Chapter AIA launches its own

WAR ON COMMUNITY UGLINESS

The North Alabama Chapter of The American Institute of Architects has initiated a local “War on Community Ugliness” campaign in Huntsville, in conjunction with the principal program of the National AIA.

According to A. Jackson Davis, past president of the Chapter and under whose administration the “War” was begun, the Chapter has completed 75 per cent of the first of four phases of effort. They are, in order: AWARENESS, COMMITMENT, PLANNING and ACTION.

Gene Burr, chairman of the committee, in introducing a film “No Time for Ugliness” to a recent meeting of the Huntsville Jaycees, commented, “The next ten years may be the most critical decade in the history of our nation. We have suddenly awakened to the fact that the urban centers in which most of us live are badly congested, run-down, inefficient, ugly and generally unliveable. Beautification by flowers and plants will not cover our ugliness. We have very little time in which to reform and prepare for the future that is fast approaching.”

The film “No Time for Ugliness” is now being kept busy through showings at various civic meetings in Huntsville, Florence and Decatur.

The program outline—designed to “turn handicaps into advantages”—consists of 12 steps:

1. Survey and record with photographs good and bad examples in the community—both good and bad.
2. Adoption of protective ordinances for areas such as the proposed Twickenham Historic Preservation District.
3. Adopt a planned thoroughfare program, along with appropriate landscaping.
4. Adopt and continue to use a system for parks and open spaces within the city.
5. Attempt to switch from overhead electrical wiring to underground wires and cables.
7. Urge support of and adopt controlling regulations and ordinances for the city.
8. Develop and secure financing for the fine arts in Huntsville.
9. Emphasize a feasible study and design for mass transit.
10. Concentrate effort into developing aesthetically pleasing and practical pedestrian traffic areas.
11. Urge exploitation of strategic relationship of various urban renewal areas to bring new order and continuity to city growth.
12. Cooperation of all community forces are needed. Such diversified problems demand diversified action for their solutions. We must draw freely upon advice of competent professionals in setting our specific objectives and seek out the particular agency or civic group that can most effectively translate each idea into action.

Thos. A. Jones, commissioner under whose jurisdiction the campaign operates, states that committees are now being organized to implement the above plans. Further progress will be documented in an early issue of Alabama Architect.

January-February 1966
Field Trip to Mobile for Auburn Students Proves Success

Twenty-eight students from the Auburn School of Architecture recently completed a successful two-day field trip to Mobile sponsored by the Alabama Concrete Industries Association. Accompanied by Professors Nick Davis, Paul Darden and Adnan Taspinar, the students boarded the bus at 7 a.m. on Friday at Auburn.

Upon arrival in Mobile, the students, Alabama Concrete officials and several outstanding local architects were guests of Radcliff Materials for lunch.

Included in the agenda on Friday afternoon were trips to the Municipal Auditorium and Theatre; De Tonti Square; the office of Nicholas H. Holmes, Jr., who led the visitors to points of interest historically and architecturally; the Ideal Cement Company’s office; and the final stop for the day, Radcliff Materials’ block plant.

Local architects, who joined the group for dinner, participated in a seminar afterwards. Those attending were: Tom Sheppard, Mobile Chapter President who served as moderator of the panel for the seminar, Starr Proksdorfer, Marshall Fischropp, William T. Donnell and Charles Rogers. According to Tom Sheppard, the seminar was so stimulating that the students kept the architects until past midnight.

Saturday’s agenda included the Office Park Building, the University of Alabama, the Art Gallery in Municipal Park, the First National Bank and the Ideal Cement Plant.

The final stop on the tour were enroute home, the first being a visit to Malbis Plantation to visit their Church of the Presentation of the Theotokos, designed by Fred Woods of Mobile. Mr. Woods made several trips to Greece during the planning of the edifice so that it would be in keeping with the tradition of the Greek Orthodox Church and express the beauty which it has achieved.

The tour group then returned to the Spanish Fort area and visited the Presbyterian Church and courtyard, which won the AIA 1965 Honor Award for its designer Marshall Fischropp of Deitz, Prince and Fischropp, Mobile.

ACIA President Cecil Stallings, Education Chairman Powell Brewton and Executive Secretary J. Allen Jones accompanied the tour for the entire time.

Students and professors felt this worthwhile trip will serve as a stimulus for the students on the project assigned for competition in the ACIA Scholarship to be awarded at their Annual Convention in May.

Montgomery Architect Seeks Post in State Legislature

Howard E. McElhaney, president of the Montgomery Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, has qualified to run for the Alabama Legislature in the Democratic primary in May. He is seeking Place No. 4, which is unoccupied. Howard is a partner in the firm of Tiller, Butner, & McElhaney, Montgomery. He is a 1959 Auburn graduate, and has been in private practice since 1952. Extremely active in civic, religious, cultural and social organizations, he is a past officer of the Montgomery Jaycees, past president of the Dixie Lions Club, a deacon in the Presbyterian Church, member of the Montgomery and Valley Chambers of Commerce, on the board of directors of the Montgomery Academy, and has been a nominee five years for the YMCA “Man of the Year” award.
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Committees Get Underway

Annual Meeting Planned for Birmingham In Fall

Allen L. Bartlett has been named as General Chairman of the Annual Meeting of the Alabama Council of the American Institute of Architects. Birmingham Chapter President Fred Renneker, in making the announcement, said that “the long service of Allen Bartlett to AIA, plus the fact that he has served as president of the state-wide group just two years ago, gives him the knowledge and insight necessary to have a successful state meeting.”

Moving rapidly ahead, Bartlett has already held several meetings of his committee.

A final announcement is expected soon on exact dates and site of the 1966 Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Committee Chairmen:
- General Chairman: Allen L. Bartlett
- Co-Chairman: Fred Renneker
- Registration Chairman: Bill Chambers
- Finance Chairman: Paul Speake
- Meeting Facilities Chairman: John McNabb
- Publicity Chairman: Ed Bondurant
- Educational Exhibits Chairman: Oscar Pardue
- Program Chairman: Lawrence Whitten
- Entertainment Chmn.: Fritz Woehle
- Design Competition Chairman: Bill Williams
- Ladies Activities Chairman: Lynne Woehle

WILL BE 50TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

This year’s Annual Meeting in Birmingham will mark the 50th Anniversary of an Alabama association of Architects affiliated with the American Institute of Architects.

In July of 1916, ten Architects met in Birmingham and founded the Alabama Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. They applied for a Charter, which was granted at National Headquarters at The Octagon, Washington, D.C., in November, 1916.

50th ANNIVERSARY BROCHURE PLANNED

As part of the 50th Anniversary observance, it is planned to publish a Commemorative Booklet. This will serve to document the activities of an affiliated group of the A.I.A. in Alabama since its start in 1916.

A booklet entitled "A HISTORY of THE PRACTICE of ARCHITECTURE in the STATE of ALABAMA in GENERAL, and of THE ALABAMA CHAPTER of THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE of ARCHITECTS in PARTICULAR was published on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary in 1941.*

For some time, the state office has been gathering information for this brochure. Any architect who has information or photos, and who would like to contribute these or other information for the 50th Anniversary Booklet is urged to contact the state office by writing Jay Leavell, Executive Secretary, 501 Guaranty Savings Building, Montgomery, Alabama.

*Several extra copies of the 25th Anniversary booklet are on hand and can be secured without cost from the state office by those interested.

TOUR OF EUROPE PLANNED—Alitalia Airlines has announced a study tour to Europe for architects and urban planners for spring 1966. Designed as a survey of particularly outstanding contributions that England, The Netherlands, Sweden and Finland have made in the fields of architecture and urban planning, redevelopment and renewal, the 18-day tour departs May 16th. The tour cost of $825 includes round-trip jet transportation from New York City, first-class hotel accommodations with private baths, two meals daily, all sightseeing and admission fees, as well as special meetings and lectures. Land usage and the complex sociological and architectural problems of each town’s plans will be discussed at each site by the planners responsible for the project.

The itinerary and additional details are available by writing James Branciforti, Professional Program Director, Alitalia Airlines, 666 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10019.
NEW MEMBERS
and Change of Status

CORPORATE—Thomas G. Joyce, AIA, 704 Terry-Hutchins Building, Huntsville, assigned January 1, 1966, to the North Alabama Chapter AIA.

Newton LeVine, AIA, 350 North College Street, Auburn, assigned December 31, 1965, to the Montgomery Chapter AIA.

Charles B. McCleskey, AIA, 205 North Conception Street, Mobile, member of the Mobile Chapter, from Associate to Corporate.

Charles E. Rogers, AIA, 1010 Merchants National Bank Building, Mobile, assigned December 15, 1965 to the Mobile Chapter.

Louis Stirling, AIA, 3406 Euclid Circle, Huntsville, assigned January 1, 1966, to the Huntsville Chapter.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE—Arthur G. Howard, 738 Dixie Avenue, Florence, member of the North Alabama Chapter AIA.

ASSOCIATE—Walter J. McKee, 401 First National Bank Building, Montgomery, member of the Montgomery Chapter AIA.

Harold Nichols, P. O. Box 4184, Montgomery, member of the Montgomery Chapter AIA.
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