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TELL IT LIKE IT IS—An Editorial

“What’s it all about, Alfie?” and “where’s the playground, Susie?” are questions being asked by current song hits which echo a much deeper social phenomena being voiced by those who ask questions to which answers have been pre-conceived. While dissent (like any other expression of human yearnings) may stir up anger and strife, cause embarrassment or fear, none would dare deny the right to do so in a free society.

The ALABAMA ARCHITECT in the next few pages becomes an avenue of expression for the Architectural students at Auburn to say what they will, to ask questions and give answers, to seek and to search for direction. Our earnest hope is that they find it.

THE ARCHITECT’S CHANGING IMAGE

The American Institute of Architects is not a social club. In Alabama, membership in the A. I. A. is promoted for all classifications. By having as large a representation as possible of the architectural community, the A. I. A. can best meet its responsibility to its membership.

The Architect, as an individual, is generally not well equipped either by training or by inclination to do an adequate job with public relations. Many people cannot pronounce the word “architect,” much less have an understanding of what the architect does. Most people think the architect makes a lot of money because of the fee he applies to the relatively large lump sum cost of a building. Even when the fee is low and the cost of construction is not large, the money derived from this fee looks rather large to the layman.

The A. I. A. can, and should be, the architects’ public relations tool. Local Chapters and the State Council, working in concert with the Institute, can advance the cause for good architecture throughout the state. The Chapters in particular can, by bringing the architects together into a thoughtful group, involve the architectural talents of the community in areas that need the architects’ approach.

All of us are aware of the traditional services offered by the A. I. A. to its members. It is from this relatively new area of public concern, assisted by a good public relations program however, that I feel the “new image” of the architect will evolve. As we awaken to the new challenge and to the uncovered abilities we have as a group to meet the challenge, we will find that our image has already changed and that not only the public, but also we as architects, have a better understanding of architecture.

Oscar Pardue
President
Alabama Council of Architects AIA

May-June 1969
The School of Architecture and Art at Auburn University needs help.

Auburn, Alabama.
students by not fulfilling this particular purpose and by doing so, has failed in its fundamental purpose of "a community of learning whose knowledge may be preserved, disseminated and increased."
"Building and grounds policy on theatre repairs is 'wrap it with tape, put it behind the boards; nobody'll see it there.' The whole thing is that way. It'll blow up any second — it's just wild." "The professor can't change anything. When a faculty member becomes interested in changing the system, he gets bumped. I mean they knock him off — they say 'you're not coming back next year'." "The world is changing; Auburn is not. She's lagging behind in intellectual development; she persecutes the arts as a burdensome stepchild necessary only because they supply another link toward being a major university."
AUBURN ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS TOUR FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES

Sixty-five architectural students from Auburn University, accompanied by their professors and by Dr. J. Ingraham Clark, Dean of the School of Architecture and the Arts, recently completed a tour of plants engaged in the manufacturing of wood material and components used in the building industry. The tour was part of a forest industry educational program designed to acquaint future architects with the availability and versatility of wood products for construction purposes. It is sponsored by the Alabama Forest Products Association in cooperation with the Southern Pine Association.

The program began with a tour of the Normandale Methodist Church, conducted by William Pearson, Architect for the structure, where the students saw the practical use of exposed laminated wood beams and arches used as the primary structural material.

At Greenville, Alabama, students viewed the manufacture of these laminated beams at Timber Structures, Inc., under the guidance of Carlton Whittle, an official of the plant. Later, Timber Structures was host for the group at a luncheon.

The afternoon program included a tour of Union Camp Corporation Woodlands near Chapman, where students saw timber in various stages of growth from seedlings to mature trees, in keeping with land management practices carried out on company lands. The students then toured the sawmill and plywood manufacturing plants of the Building Products Division of Union Camp Corporation at Chapman, under the general supervision of local plant officials, where they observed the manufacturing of Southern Pine lumber and plywood.

That evening, Union Camp was host at a steak dinner for the group on company grounds.

Throughout the tour, the students asked questions reflecting a keen interest in the use of Southern Pine as a primary construction material for use in structures with modern architectural designs.
1969 Honors Day at Auburn

The Honors Day Banquet was held Friday evening, May 23, at the University Motor Lodge in Auburn. All award recipients and organizational officers were honored guests at this affair, which was combined with a meeting of the Auburn Chapter, A.I.A.

Oscar Pardue was present to make the Alabama Council Scholarship award; Hilton Watson, President of the Alabama Forest Products Association, made the Forest Products Design Award. Bill Donovan, District Manager of the Alabama Gas Company, awarded the Alabama Gas Travel Scholarship.

The following is a list of the recipients of awards:

- **AIA MEDAL**—John Dickson Boegel; Ray Kohler Parker (runner-up).
- **ALPHA RHO CHI MEDAL**—David Ray Beard.
- **AIA NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**—Ray Kohler Parker.
- **AIA ALABAMA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP DESIGN COMPETITION AWARD FOR THIRD YEAR STUDENTS**—Randy Diamond.
- **$1500.00 ALABAMA GAS 4TH YEAR DESIGN COMPETITION AWARD FOR THIRD YEAR STUDENTS**—1st prize—Robert Cain ($1000); runners-up: ($100 each) —Michael Benning, Rodney Whatley, Grady Woodson, William Leveille.
- **ALABAMA CONCRETE PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION GIFT FOR 3RD YEAR FIELD PROJECT**—Prize money donated to Department of Architecture by students to buy photo equipment for the Department in the Fall.
- **REYNOLDS METAL DESIGN COMPETITION AWARD**—Ray K. Parker.
- **ALABAMA FOREST PRODUCTS DESIGN COMPETITION FOR 2ND YEAR ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS**—1st prize—Larry Jones; runners-up: Rus Collins, Frank Oliver.

(Continued on next page)
New Dean Named at Auburn

Dean Edwin Keith McPheeters of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, N. Y., will become dean of Auburn University's School of Architecture and Fine Arts on Sept. 1.

Dean McPheeters was a member of the Auburn faculty from 1951-54, leaving for graduate work at Princeton and later to teach at the University of Arkansas.

The Oklahoma native holds the Bachelor of Architecture degree from Oklahoma State University and the Master of Fine Arts from Princeton.

In addition to his broad experience in teaching and private practice with architectural firms, Dean McPheeters is also a painter and musician—Art and Music are two departments which will be under his administration at Auburn.

"We are especially pleased to welcome Dean McPheeters to Auburn University, not only for his experience and competence as an architect, but also for his expressed interest and participation in the other arts. His interest in the administration and development of a total fine arts program was a major factor in attracting him to Auburn," President Harry M. Philpott said.

Dr. Philpott noted that Dean McPheeters holds an outstanding record as a teacher and academic administrator. "His performance at Rensselaer which is recognized as having one of the traditionally outstanding programs in architecture in the nation assures us of his capabilities at these levels."

Dean McPheeters' architectural projects have included the Presbyterian University Center at Fayetteville, Ark., and portions of Designs for Worship 1968 which was featured in a national traveling exhibit of church architecture.

He has had exhibits of one-man shows of his watercolors, and from 1956-66 he was a member of the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra. He is also co-author of two books.

Dean McPheeters has been a designer, draftsman and consultant for various architectural firms in Florida, Alabama, New Jersey and Arkansas and has practiced privately in Fayetteville, Ark.

He is a member of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, a corporate member of the American Institute of Architects and former vice president of the Eastern New York Chapter. He has also belonged to the Florida Artist Group and the Alabama Watercolor Society.

He is listed in Who's Who in American College and University Administration and in Who's Who in America. He belongs to several honor societies, including Scarab, Blue Key and Kappa Kappa Psi.

Dean McPheeters' wife, the former Patricia Foster of Tonkawa, Okla., holds a degree in architecture which she received in the same class as her husband. She also has a degree in mathematics.

The new dean was unanimously recommended to President Philpott by a faculty screening committee.

1969 HONORS DAY (Continued)

SCARAB—GEORGE DONALD TAYLOR MEMORIAL AWARD—Jack Wayne Nix.

FACULTY AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING 5TH YEAR ARCHITECTURE STUDENT—Arthur Berger.

KENNETH H. MURCHISON PRIZE—NATIONAL COMPETITION—Grady L. Woodson.

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