ARCHITECTS' REPORT
CHESAPEAKE BAY REGION

FOUR NEW SCHOOLS

DOWNTOWN BALTIMORE REPORT
ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOL IN BALTIMORE
WILLIAM SARTORIUS, appointed superintendent of Baltimore County's schools in 1961, has compiled thorough experience in Maryland secondary education, beginning in 1934 as a teacher in his native Pocomoke. He served as principal of Ocean City Elementary and High Schools, Sparrows Point High School and Catonsville High School, and has held county and state educational administrative positions.

New school design concepts—as demonstrated in this issue of ARCHITECTS' REPORT—promise an era of varied educational architecture. Mr. Sartorius' 28-year intimacy with the teaching profession and with educational administration will be of inestimable value to architects in the design of Baltimore County schools.

ROBERT B. HOBBS, chairman of the board of Baltimore's First National Bank, bears also the vital responsibilities of the chairmanship of the Greater Baltimore Committee. The group was organized in 1955 to mobilize commercial, industrial and professional leadership to find solutions to some of Baltimore's major problems. The organization is a private, non-profit and highly effective group which has been instrumental in encouraging Baltimore's current renewal, including—in cooperation with the Committee for Downtown—the Charles Center Plan. Nationally prominent in banking circles, Mr. Hobbs is a native of Virginia. His wide interest in civic affairs and his work with the GBC has been of immeasurable benefit to Baltimore.

WILLIAM E. FINLEY, Director of the National Capital Planning Commission since 1958, has sparked a rejuvenation of the commission program as well as the expansion of its staff from 20 in 1957 to almost 60. Mr. Finley has placed special emphasis on the encouragement of higher standards in the design of both public and private improvements in the nation's capital. Under his leadership, the region-wide Year 2000 Plan was prepared. This plan was the first of its type in the U.S. aimed at guiding a major metropolitan area's growth over a long period. Recently recognized by the University of North Carolina as one of the nation's top three planning directors, Mr. Finley, a former Californian, is a distinct asset to this region.

JACOB BLAUSTEIN is the builder of the new Blaustein Building, representing the largest investment of private capital in the current reconstruction of downtown Baltimore. Born in Baltimore, Mr. Blaustein was co-founder of the American Oil Company, now part of Standard Oil (Indiana) of which firm Mr. Blaustein is a director. His active public life has included appointments by President Roosevelt to the 1945 UN Organizational Conference; by President Truman to the Korean War Mobilization Policy Board; by President Eisenhower to the U.S. Delegation to the 10th UN General Assembly; and by President Kennedy to the USO Board of Governors. His demonstrated faith in Baltimore's future is sincerely commended.

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CYNICS BEGONE!
or: BALTIMORE HAS COME A LONG WAY

Four years ago, Issue No. 1, Volume No. 1, of this magazine went to press featuring the most conspicuous items on the local construction scene: schools and the Charles Center project. And did the cynics howl! “Couldn’t we find better schools than these to brag about?” “Did we really think the Charles Center would be built?”

Four years ago, the chief concern of the various boards of education and their architects was to grind out as many standard classrooms on double loaded corridors as their taxpayers could afford and to include the prorata share of cafeterias, gymnasiums and auditoriums. Whatever thought was given to design was concentrated on such elementary problems as selection of materials and orientation. The cost per cubic or square foot was the standard of success and the pupil was a mere statistic.

Four years ago, Baltimore’s business philosophy was still basically to worship the status quo. Paint up, fix up, yes; but tear down and rebuild, no, no, NO!

Today—only four years later—the cynics are on the run.

The four schools published in this issue indicate an entirely different approach to secondary education. The flexibility and variety apparent in their planning and their smaller scale architecture indicate a concern for the pupil and the teacher and recognize various new methods of communication between the two. The cost per pupil has replaced the cost per cubic foot, and what and how the student is taught has become paramount.

Today we all can see that Charles Center is a reality. The completion of Mies van der Rohe’s handsome One Charles Center is no mere symbol; it is a fact—a dynamic part of the new Baltimore.

Not only are other projects* within the area on the drawing boards, but the salutary impact of the Center on its surroundings is already apparent in the 30-story Blaustein Building and in the activities of the Committee for Downtown.

Yes, certain aspects of Baltimore have come a long way in four years. The cynics are retreating fast, and at least some of their successors are busy making the city a much better place in which to work, play and live.

In our last issue, we pointed out that our greatest potential asset—the inner harbor—is at present a civic disgrace. Is it too much to hope that four years from now we may point once again to the harbor—but with pride? A program of harbor renewal is no more impossible than was Charles Center or the revolution in school design.

NEW DIMENSION: 5-SIDED CLASSROOM

ARCHITECT: DODSON, SMEALLIE, ORRICK & ASSOCIATES, BALTIMORE

In early 1964, there will be put to use by 820 East Baltimore children a striking new school designed around a pentagonal classroom concept. This arrangement represents a complete departure from previous elementary school design in the City of Baltimore.

Expected to cost no more than the standard Baltimore elementary school, the new Collington Square School will be divided into two clusters of classrooms and an auditorium-gymnasium-cafeteria building, all connected by enclosed corridors. The five-sided classrooms will be housed in two-story wings with a conventional aggregate-coated flat roof. The roof of the auditorium-gymnasium-cafeteria is to be a precast thin concrete shell of an undulating hyperbolic paraboloid design. The exterior walls of the building will be constructed of pre-fabricated concrete panels and brick.

Chief exponent of the new classroom idea is Dr. George B. Brain, Superintendent of Baltimore City Schools. It is based upon similar classrooms in Bellevue, Washington, where Dr. Brain served as superintendent before coming to Baltimore. Having a fifth side, the new classrooms are intended to permit a more flexible teaching program with each corner as a center of interest. Among other advantages, the arrangement is expected to reduce the noise level below that of the conventional four-sided room in which sound reverberates more easily.

The 24-classroom school will be built on a 3.2-acre site in East Baltimore bounded by Collington Avenue, Oliver Street, Patterson Park Avenue and Hoffman Street. At present, Hoffman Street divides the school site from Collington Square, a park area. Hoffman Street will be closed in that block to combine the open spaces of both the school site and the park.

Working with the architect on the structural plans for the project is the Baltimore firm of J. L. Faisant and Associates, Inc. The mechanical and electrical design is being done by the architect's office. The school will be completed in 1963, and its opening in early 1964 will relieve overcrowding at Schools Nos. 37, 99 and 149.
A CONCEPT FOR COMPACT SCHOOL DESIGN

ARCHITECT: MEYER AND AYERS, BALTIMORE

The site selected for Baltimore’s Northwest High School is handsome and important—handsome because of a hill and a splendid stand of white oak; important because of its location at the intersection of Park Heights Avenue and Fallstaff Road.

On this site will be built a school for 2,000 students from burgeoning Northwest Baltimore. The school will be equipped with a full range of academic departments, a 1200-seat auditorium, a gymnasium, swimming pool, cafeteria and a library.

For this program and the minimum necessary playing fields, the site is small. Against this background of program and site, a compact design was selected making possible a building which could be put on the site with minimum excavation. Most of the white oak could be saved. Corridor length and area could be kept within reasonable proportions. There would be room for playing fields.

The scheme is a simple one in which auditorium, gymnasium and courtyard are enclosed within an envelope of classrooms. Almost all classrooms look out to trees and surrounding playing fields. The central courtyard is flanked on the southwest by the entrance lobbies to the auditorium and gymnasium and on the northeast by the library. There are stair towers and entrances at the corners and at the center of the building which are exposed on the exterior. The cafeteria at ground level looks out into trees along Park Heights Avenue.

The architects have developed for the school a scheme of fenestration reflecting the integration of the mechanical system with the wall. An alternation of fixed glass at the face of the wall and recessed operable sash gives the exterior interest and variety in light and shadow.

Variation in ceiling height, openness and enclosure, light and shadow is intended to enliven the lobbies and the library, and to make the courtyard counterpoint to corridor and classroom.

The school is to be brick with concrete frame. It is the intention to rediscover in the use of such simple and appropriate material the eloquence that Baltimore found in the past in brick unadorned with metals and colored porcelain.

The building is an economical proposal based on a highly workable scheme, but it is intended to recommend itself principally on architectural merit more largely conceived.

Structural engineers for the project are J. L., Faisant and Associates, Baltimore; mechanical engineers are McNeill and Baldwin, Baltimore.
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Baltimore 18

Baltimore 18
An Architectural School in Baltimore
MAJOR STEP TOWARD NATIONAL PROMINENCE

Of the ten largest cities in the United States, only one has no architectural school. That city is Baltimore. Of America’s ten greatest seaports, only one has no architectural school. That seaport is Baltimore. The principal city of the sixth ranking state in population density has no architectural school. Again: Baltimore.

The striking absence of a school of architecture and related design professions in Baltimore is one of the city’s greatest cultural deficiencies. It has forced this major city to play the disheartening game of follow-the-leader in urban planning, civic design and good architecture.

A joint survey by the Washington-Metropolitan, Potomac Valley and Baltimore Chapters of the American Institute of Architects, with assistance from National Headquarters, AIA, has prompted the University of Maryland to take the first steps to form a school of architecture in Maryland. It is essential to the future of Baltimore that this proposed school be made a permanent part of the university’s Metropolitan Baltimore Campus, possibly in an expansion of the existing campus to the Inner Harbor.

BALTIMORE’S GAIN

Baltimore stands to gain immeasurably from a school for the design professions, from its faculty and its student body. Ideas with vitality will originate practical projects with imagination, and these will become the prototypes for the solutions of many complex urban planning and design problems facing us today.

The exchange of ideas between city officials and the school will bring a fresh insight to the city’s needs. This interplay of ideas will be of direct value to the local association of commerce and other organizations in their work of promoting civic value. The impact of brilliant teachers and imaginative students is bound to be felt on the community as the various planning agencies call on them for assistance and advice.

Such constructive design forces are extremely effective in many metropolitan centers. But not in Baltimore.
PHILADELPHIA STORY

Philadelphia has its venerable and nationally famed school of architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. This school has been instrumental in contributing to that city's rebirth. What is to be understood from the fact that the Dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Pennsylvania is also the Chairman of the City Planning Commission of Philadelphia? Is there not a connection to be inferred between this identity of office and the fact that Philadelphia has won national recognition in its recent urban and aesthetic renaissance?

SUPPORT FROM EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE

Were Philadelphia the only case in point, one might dismiss the fruitful interaction between city and school as mere happy coincidence. But there are other successes: Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Cincinnati and New Haven, to name a few. The Baltimore Chapter in its detailed study for this project for a school of architecture directed inquiries to mayors of various American cities and received solid evidence of the benefits to be gained from the urban presence of such institutions:

Cincinnati:

"... I would say without equivocation that a school of architecture and especially one which teaches planning to its advanced students ... is a very definite asset to the city in which it is located. I have worked with students and professors on many occasions when the student problems were selected and completed in a manner which made them useful for public purposes. ... I have known instructors who decided to stay in the community, forming their own offices and adding their architectural contributions to the physical environment."
Chicago:
"... In a broad way ... the presence of institutions concerned with urban design, planning and architecture contributes to public action:

1. Leadership. Educational institutions in Chicago ... were instrumental in formulating a program for renewal . . .

2. Research. Academic institutions in the city that maintain schools of architecture ... provide needed research and stimulate new ideas for urban development. The City of Chicago continues to take advantage of the extensive facilities offered by institutions for this purpose.

3. Professional Resources. The city also benefits from the fact that institutions involved in architecture ... naturally bring together experts whose work is dedicated to finding solutions to urban problems . . ."

San Francisco:
"... The effect of schools of architecture, urban design and city planning in this community has been one of mutual benefit. The institutions have benefitted greatly by their location within an urban area. Students and faculty have available to them materials, research and data, and a field of exploration and experimentation. . . On the other hand, the schools have assisted in the dissemination of ideas and the discussion of problems among members of (the architectural) professions."

New York:
"We can honestly say that our experience in New York indicates that our schools of architecture and planning . . . have helped focus attention on our pressing problems."

These are only a handful of the numerous similar replies received from a wide selection of cities to inquiries by the Baltimore Chapter’s Committee on Education.
IF A SCHOOL NOW EXISTED...

If a school of architecture and design now existed in Baltimore, a number of provocative questions might legitimately be asked:

1. Would the Greater Baltimore Committee have had to foot the not inconsiderable expense of pioneering its own planning staff efforts?
2. Would political leadership and the City Planning Commission interacting with a progressive school have fallen so far behind concerning community needs?
3. Would not the members of the Citizens Planning and Housing Association have derived solid profit from extension courses in civic design and have better served as a functioning liaison between lay civic interest and professional practice?
4. Would the local newspapers in attempting to play a constructive part in the solution of such important problems as the East-West Expressway or the location of the Civic Center have had to play their part by ear? Or, in fact, would these problems ever have arisen?
5. Would the downtown elevated Jones Falls Expressway ever have been approved in its present form? After all, one of similar design has just been removed from the “Bowery” in New York.
6. Would our Urban Renewal Agency be so hampered in its efforts to secure competent professional talent thereby being frustrated in its aim to transform our city into a creative and revenue-producing environment?
7. Would an incinerator and its accompanying heavy and continuous truck traffic have been recommended for location in a planned park?

While an architectural school may not, of itself, prevent unwise decisions on the part of political leadership, increased awareness and knowledge of the forces that shape our environment would, through this school, bring solutions of lasting value to our environment.

BALTIMORE, AN IDEAL LOCATION

The City of Baltimore offers a central state location, readily accessible to large numbers of day students. Important educational institutions already existing in the area offer opportunities for rich faculty structuring and exchange:

- Johns Hopkins University
- Goucher College
- Morgan State
- Maryland Institute of Art
- University of Baltimore
- Baltimore Junior College
- Baltimore Division of the University of Maryland

Excellent research facilities are available:
- Peabody Institute
- Baltimore Museum of Art
- Peale Museum
- Walters Art Gallery
- Enoch Pratt Free Library System

The city itself is a vital laboratory offering the materials of urban life: the complexities of urban development. Like the medical school, a school of architecture derives much of its instruction from life in the city to augment theoretical teaching. Baltimore offers a growing vital metropolitan area where top architects may come both to teach and to practice. Denied the opportunity for a concurrent active practice, many excellent potential instructor-architects would be lost to other communities were Maryland’s school of architecture located anywhere but in an urban area.

A Baltimore location, as compared to College Park, offers far more student job opportunities and readily available instruction from local firms who desire working relationships with the school. As for Washington, that city already has two schools of architecture.
University of Maryland Downtown Baltimore Campus and adjacent area slated for renewal.
THE SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR BACKING

"The greatest obstacle to seemly cities has become the low standard of demand and expectation of their present inhabitants, a direct expression of their having become habituated to the present environment and their incapacity to conceive of any better alternative."

—Frederick Gutheim

The sporadic planning patchwork offered as a palliative to Baltimore's citizens merely postpones decay a little longer. All efforts of business and civic leaders, educators and public officials are doomed to ultimate inefficiency and wastefulness resulting in tax deficits and, not infrequently, to plain oblivion unless these efforts are united with the activities of the trained planner and architect.

A school of the architectural and design professions in Baltimore will be the natural focal point for the cohesion of all these sincere but leaderless and stymied planning endeavors. Only you, the alert citizen, elected official, concerned businessman, the conscientious educator can help Baltimore to save itself from chaotic day-to-day expediencies and to become a truly exciting place in which to live and work.

The 263 members of the Baltimore Chapter, American Institute of Architects, earnestly ask your support in making an architectural school a vital part of Baltimore's future.

—Presented by Committee on Education.
Baltimore Chapter, AIA,
JOHN RUSKIN once said:

It's unwise to pay too much but it is unwise to pay too little.

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BREATHROUGH IN BALTIMORE
A DOWNTOWN PROGRESS REPORT

ONE CHARLES CENTER
Mies van der Rohe, FAIA

THE FUTURE OF CHARLES CENTER

ONE NORTH CHARLES
Vincent G. Kling, FAIA

THE CIVIC CENTER
Arthur G. Odell, Jr., FAIA

RECENT DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY ARCHITECTS' REPORT
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, BALTIMORE CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1. One Charles Center
   Baltimore, Maryland
2. Colonnade Park
   Newark, New Jersey
3. 2400 Lakeview
   Chicago, Illinois
Mies Van Der Rohe, indisputably one of the world's most venerated architects, has managed to provide Baltimore with a contemporary office tower that despite its crisp newness nevertheless reflects an aura of the city's tradition. One Charles Center has been compared to an onyx, a dark jewel in which the face of Baltimore gleams proudly. This may be a romantic allusion, but the building is the conscious antipathy of the familiar glass box often encountered in modern high rise office building design. The structure is a subtle piece of architecture—subtle in the sense that it does not intrude upon its environment. It has appeared seemingly overnight, but it has the grace to behave as if it had always belonged.

One Charles Center is a rental office building with 21 floors of tenant space, one retail floor and two basements for off-street parking and loading. The structure is of reinforced concrete with a two-way, square pan, flat floor slab. The exterior curtain wall and lobby framing are an intriguing custom design of aluminum with a dark brown "hardcoat" finish. Gray tinted plate glass is used in the tower. The plaza deck and walls are of Roman Travertine; the lobby walls are mellow green Tinos.

The building is air conditioned by a high velocity system supplied from both penthouse and basement. The perimeter zones are supplied by induction units, and the interior zones from the central area.

The composition of the typical floor is a result of the desired rental module, a centrally located and tight core, and the arrangement and number of the elevators. The placement of the core in the center of the tower makes the floor easy to divide and minimizes the length of the corridors.

The development of the public areas is a result of the requirements and ideas of the Charles Center program, architectural development acquired through previous projects and the active encouragement of the owner, Metropolitan Structures, and the builder, Metropolitan Builders. This encouragement was strengthened by the work and ingenuity of these people in extending the available resources in order that the building be a dignified addition to the public area of downtown Baltimore.

The selection of materials and color for the building is based upon many factors: availability, past experience, technical limitations and advantages of the times, for example. Their selection was based on the concept of providing an enduring and harmonious structure.

The plaza area is free and open, interrupted only by

(Continued overleaf)
the columns, core and lobby areas necessary for the building's operation. The remaining elements—stairs, planter boxes, canopies, lighting and benches—are visually placed to complete the plaza. Two landscaped areas are located on the plaza, one to the north with larger trees, and the area on the south plaza with low shrubs and vines. Both of these green spaces provide a soft contrast in the marble expanse.

As the various other Charles Center parcels are completed and joined, the grounds of One Charles Center will become part of a new dimension of downtown Baltimore. No longer restricted to the narrow bands of sidewalk along heavily congested streets, the stroller will traverse or tarry along complete pedestrian areas and levels divorced from vehicular traffic. The necessary automobile is still conveniently there—in some cases, only a few steps down. Cars and trucks will enter, park and depart One Charles Center without interfering with pedestrian traffic.

One Charles Center will be a quiet rational addition to central Baltimore. The intent is to return a refined area to the city without neglecting the commercial and retail activities which, after all, form the reason for the Center.

The presence of this first Charles Center building—
ONE CHARLES CENTER
Baltimore, Maryland

ARCHITECT: Mies van der Rohe, Chicago, III.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS: Farkas and Barron, New York, N.Y.

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Just 3½ years after Baltimore’s adoption of the Charles Center project for its downtown core, major milestones have been reached in the execution of the project. Three quarters of the 349 firms slated to move from the area have been relocated; 5/6 of the 189 buildings scheduled for replacement have been acquired for demolition; and over half of these structures have been razed. Most significantly, three development areas have been sold, and negotiations are well under way for the sale of five additional sites. Completion of the project is assured.

Within a matter of months, Development Area 13 in the southern portion of the project will witness the start of construction for a new $20 million Federal office building. The U.S. government has selected for this project three local architectural firms: Fisher, Nes, Campbell & Associates; the Office of James R. Edmunds, Jr.; and Fenton & Lichtig. The building will bring under one roof most of the federal offices presently scattered throughout the city.

Two blocks north, on Liberty Street between Fayette and Lexington, lies Development Area 4—proposed site of a 15-story office tower to be built by the Baltimore Gas & Electric Company. This structure will replace three small buildings in the project area, currently owned by the utility, which will be acquired and razed by the project. Construction of the new building is slated to start in 1963 and the architects are Fisher, Nes, Campbell & Associates.

This fall, further dramatic changes will get under way as negotiations with two other developers are concluded. Development Area 8 will be graced by two new buildings built by Vermont Federal Savings and Loan Association, and Hamburger’s apparel store. Preliminary plans prepared by the Vermont Federal architect, Edward Quigley Rogers, provide for a 6- or 7-story structure of glass and stainless steel at the southeast corner of Fayette and Hanover Streets. Adjacent to the Vermont Federal building, at the southwest corner of Charles and Fayette Streets, will rise the new Hamburger’s store. Preliminary plans prepared by Tyler, Ketcham & Myers show a 3-story building which will bridge Fayette Street and connect to One Charles Center by a series of pedestrian walkways.

Half a block south of Area 8, at the southwest corner of Charles and Baltimore Streets, the old Baltimore Sun Building is scheduled to give way to a new legitimate theatre with 1500-1800 seats. Mr. Morris Mechanic, who has an option to develop Area 15 for this purpose, has directed his architect, John M. Johansen of New York, to design a building complex containing 45,000 to 65,000 square feet of retail space and underground parking for 250 cars.

Within a short stroll from both the proposed theatre and Baltimore’s new Civic Center is the site of another long-
New Beauty for Baltimore

The architect’s rendering tells the story. Here is a building our city can be proud of. Thirty stories high and trim of line, it rises gracefully from a landscaped plaza in the heart of the city. The name: One North Charles—The Blaustein Building.

All Baltimore is aware of the swift progress of steel erection by Bethlehem crews. Aware, too, of the spacious, open look (so typical of steel framing!) that means rentable areas free of interfering columns.

The structure incorporates new economy, too, because the structural steel is ASTM A36 throughout. This higher-strength steel cuts dead weight; cuts steel costs.

Truly, this is an outstanding modern building . . . built with the most modern building material of them all—steel.

BETHLEHEM STEEL
Diagonally opposite One Charles Center, the Blaustein Building (formally termed "One North Charles," but already referred to almost universally as "The Blaustein Building") is the largest effort in Baltimore's renewal to be financed entirely through private investment. Its 30 stories soar 360 feet above the southeast corner of Charles and Fayette Streets. The tower rises cleanly with no offsets or breaks in its facade, its height emphasized by vertically proportioned windows and continuous mullions from the building's base to the top of the penthouse housing equipment.

The office tower plan is a square, 112 feet by 112 feet, designed to provide the maximum of flexible interior office space free of columns. The bolted steel framing permitted wide-bay structural design eliminating columns from the rentable area and providing unbroken space for partitioning.

The building is the first Baltimore office tower to utilize a cellular flooring arrangement for the distribution of wiring systems. Rectangular corrugations in the building's steel floor decking act as raceways for more than 20 miles of wiring serving office telephone and electrical outlets.

Temperature control in the office tower is provided by a combination single duct high velocity system with induction units along the exterior zones. Office floors are divided into four exterior zones and one interior zone. Each of the exterior perimeter zones where the offices are located is controlled by outdoor thermostats, one for each side of the building, and each office has an individual temperature control on the induction units. The lobby and 2-story-high banking area are separately air conditioned.

Electrical power for the office building is supplied by three 1000 KVA transformers, a fourth being available for emergency stand-by. Electrical distribution for the building is divided into three divisions of load: the lobby to the 8th floor, the 8th floor to the 16th floor, and the 16th floor to the penthouse. Each will be served by its own feeder direct from the main distribution switchboard, thereby providing flexibility if certain floors exceed their estimated load.

All offices are lighted from fluorescent fixtures mounted flush with the acoustic tile ceiling to provide a minimum of

(Continued on page 11A)
33 Years of Electrical Progress and Service to a Growing Baltimore

1962—MARYLAND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING: Careful planning resulted in the replacement of two obsolete distribution switchboards in only 35 hours avoiding interruption of tenant operations. Further modernization included wiring for central air conditioning system.

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35 foot candles of illumination throughout the rentable area.

Two banks of four automatic elevators serve all office floors from a central core. The 16th to 25th floors are served by a bank of four elevators traveling at speeds up to 1,000 feet per minute—the fastest elevators in any building on the eastern seaboard outside of New York.

A master television antenna provides leads on every floor for tenant tie-ins. A Muzak system supplies music in the elevators, lobby and other public areas.

The building's facade has been given an interesting treatment to avoid a flat, bland exterior. The vertical floor-to-ceiling gray tinted window panes are mounted outward, flush with the building's face. They are separated by deeply recessed jambs which project inward 14 inches to act as glare-reducing sun breaks. Porcelainized panels face the jambs between the windows and the spandrel lines between floors. These porcelain-enamel steel panels are a combination of sepia brown blended with bottle green and gray with a matte surface. Between the window jambs are the continuous anodized aluminum mullions running in 328-foot strips from the banking area to the roof.

The 25th office floor is enclosed with glass on all four sides, giving one of the most breathtaking views in the city.

The band of glass around the top floor, recalling the band of glass enclosing the banking floor above the lobby, provides transition between the office floors and the 2-story mechanical penthouse.

At ground level, the building is set back 40 feet from Charles Street, leaving 20 percent of the site to an open 3100-square-foot landscaped entrance plaza. The plaza is slightly elevated, paved with terrazzo and landscaped with shrubbery and trees. The plaza wall running the length of the Charles Street frontage is of polished gray granite.

The lobby is entered beneath a large canopy roofed with tinted structural glass affording unobstructed views of the building from street level. The escalator, stair and elevator walls in the lobby are faced with Roman Travertine marble. Structural elements in the lobby and banking floor are sheathed in fine-grained granite.

The lobby itself is 55 feet wide and rises three stories through an open well in the banking floor to a 33-foot height. Lobby shops offer dining, brokerage and other services.

Its soaring lines give the Blaustein Building a monumental quality. Its striking profile and unusual facade, the gray elegance of nearby One Charles Center and the projected Hamburgers store to bridge Fayette Street just west of Charles Street will together create a fascinating street intersection.
America's finest Resilient Flooring
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ONE NORTH CHARLES

Architect: Vincent G. Kling, FAIA

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and PLUMBING in ONE NORTH CHARLES-BLAUSTEIN BUILDING

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... All Centrally Air Conditioned by Baltimore Gas and Electric Steam

Central air conditioning systems operated with our Company's district steam service have been installed in all four buildings shown here. And this one source of energy for year-round cooling and heating comfort will rank high in selection for many new structures that are contributing to the dynamic resurgence of the downtown Baltimore business district.

Architects, builders and engineers have specified steam-operated central air conditioning systems in the buildings shown because they recognize the constant round-the-clock supply of our downtown district steam for satisfactory operation of refrigeration equipment.

Where district steam is not readily available, natural gas cooling equipment provides comparable features and advantages.

Why not discuss year-round comfort control with J. F. Malone? It costs you nothing and can pay dividends in money, satisfaction and a more rentable building. Phone 539-8000, extension 2321.
Under consideration by the city for more than half a century, in the planning stages for over six years, and in actual construction for some fourteen months, Baltimore's Civic Center now is available for ice hockey, ice shows and a limited number of arena events. Early next year, the entire complex—auditorium and exposition hall complete with all trimmings—will become fully operational.

The Civic Center basically is two attached buildings, the auditorium or arena area, and the exposition area, built on a 4-acre tract known as "the Liberty Site." The auditorium/arena—the principal structure in the Center—takes up about 2/3 of the site. The main entrance to the arena section is under a marquee on Baltimore Street near Howard.

A 5-level building, the auditorium has been given a distinctive architectural treatment with a 12-pleated, fluted roof, fast becoming a principal downtown landmark. From the ground level to an overhang at the second level, the auditorium is faced with a gray-buff brick. Porcelain-enamed steel forms the facade from the second level to the roof line. The pleated design of the fluted roof also is covered with porcelain-enamed steel.

The exposition hall, fronting on Lombard Street, is a 2-story rectangular building attached to the south end of the auditorium. Now nearing completion, it is faced with the same gray-buff brick used on the lower portion of the arena. In the exposition hall, the first level contains some 40,000 square feet of exhibition space, with 50,000 square feet of display area on the second level. By conversion of the adjacent auditorium into exhibition space for booths, an additional 70,000 square feet can be obtained.

The main arena in the column-free auditorium section is surrounded on the north, west and east by some 10,000 permanent seats. For some sporting events and for stage presentations, as many as 3,000 temporary seats can be installed on the main floor by the diversified use of portable
THE CIVIC CENTER

(Cont'd from page 15A)

ramps and risers.

The 100-foot by 230-foot arena floor is a concrete slab. Embedded in the concrete are ten miles of pipe making up the freezing unit. Brine pumped through the pipes is brought down to about 22 degrees, then hot water is sprayed over the floor. White paint is sprayed on top of the ice sheet and marked for the activity concerned. Additional water is then applied to bring the total thickness to 3/4 of an inch.

For basketball games, a sectioned maple floor is installed over the concrete slab. This floor can be assembled in 1 1/2 hours.

The arena includes a permanent stage at its south end. The proscenium opening is 80 feet wide and 28 feet high, and on either side of the performing area is sufficient space for the storage of scenery in sequence for multi-set productions.

Stage lighting includes 6 overhead border lights, disappearing footlights, strip lights and other specialized equipment. The auditorium is illuminated by 18 lighting slots in the sawtooth ceiling running the width of the building.

The acoustical treatment of this ceiling consists of sand-finished gypsum panels to reflect the sound on the side of the sawtooth facing south at a 45-degree angle to the stage. On the other side of the sawtooth, facing away from the stage, acoustical tile panels absorb sound. Fibrous acoustical panels have been placed on the walls and on the exposed concrete surfaces in the auditorium. The result is controlled sound through the use of hard and soft surfaces.

With its diversified and flexible facilities, the Civic Center adds a new nationally important dimension to sports, cultural, civic, business, entertainment and convention activities never before realized in Baltimore. The accent is on activity, and the building is designed to accommodate anything from trade shows to national political conventions; from the thrills of ice hockey to the grandeur of the opera.
anticipated facility. Development Area 9-10-11 is slated for a high-rise Hilton hotel of 500-800 rooms, with space for the underground parking of 500 cars. The Hilton Hotel Corporation, in partnership with Metropolitan Structures, Inc., is negotiating for the purchase and development of this site, which will generate liveliness, travel business and, it is hoped, night-time activity in the downtown area. The architect is expected to be William B. Tabler, New York, who has designed many Hilton hotels around the world.

Disposition of Development Areas 1 and 2 and Area 14 is also imminent in 1963:

Areas 1 and 2—located at the northernmost portion of the project at Charles and Saratoga Streets—will be offered in a competition based on architectural design. According to the plan, the developer will be required to construct between 300 and 400 apartment units, underground parking, and a limited amount of retail and commercial space. The city, in turn, will provide the landscaping and design of a public park in Area 2, situated above the underground parking garage and opposite Old St. Paul's Church.

Just north of the Federal office building and east of the proposed theatre is Area 14, which will also be offered competitively in the next few months. Planned to provide underground parking for 750 cars, this facility will serve the new Civic Center, across Hopkins Place to the west, as well as the theatre and office buildings in Charles Center. As in the case of Areas 2 and 6, the City will design and landscape a public park situated above the garage.

Finally, discussions are being held with the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland for construction of a new annex to the Fidelity Building—one of the five existing structures scheduled to remain in the project area. The new annex, to be designed by Jamison & Marcks, will provide space for air-conditioning and mechanical equipment being relocated by the project, as well as retail stores fronting on Charles Street and the future park in Area 2.

Development Area 6, scheduled for an underground garage with a city park on the surface, is slated for construction at about the same time as the Gas and Electric Company building in Area 4.

The remaining sites, in Areas 3, 5, 12 and 16, are planned for high-rise office buildings and will most likely be developed in sequence, to keep pace with the anticipated growth of the Baltimore economy. In the meantime, the sites for these scattered buildings will be attractively landscaped until developers have been selected and construction is ready to begin.

In short, the future for downtown Baltimore has never been brighter. The distinctive first building in Charles Center stands at the threshold of a totally new and vital environment which will characterize the center city within the decade of the sixties.
Recent Downtown Construction

You not only can see its beginnings—you can feel it all around you: the rebirth of a great city. The impact of Charles Center is monumental in its importance, but there is more—far more—going on in central Baltimore reconstruction.

The most predictive forerunner of Baltimore's current transition was the aluminum-clad Commercial Credit Building, rising in articulate simplicity 20 floors above St. Paul Place. This building more than any other set the keynote for the appearance of contemporary office towers in the downtown area. Other interesting commercial structures which have recently contributed to the changing face of Baltimore are the Sunpapers Building at Calvert and Centre Streets; the just-completed Baltimore News-Post Building near the harbor; and the Lane Bryant store nearing completion at Howard and Mulberry.

Baltimore's financial institutions have undertaken ambitious building and renewal programs. The Maryland National Bank (nee the Mathieson Building) has just undergone extensive renovation. The Baltimore Federal Savings and Loan Association at Fayette and St. Paul Streets with its Colonial styling was a pioneer in downtown renewal. In rapid succession, sparkling new downtown buildings have been completed by Union Federal, Loyola Federal, Liberty Federal and Augusta Federal Savings and Loan Associations. The First National Bank has just completed a contemporary style 7-story office building at 19 S. Charles Street, and the Union Trust Company is building a 4-story addition to its present St. Paul Street building. The Maryland National Bank has erected new branch offices at 26th & Charles Streets and at North & Maryland Avenues.

Inspired by the quickening pace of downtown revival, venerable firms such as Hahn Shoes and Lucas Brothers have given their familiar buildings new life. An Architectural Review Board has been created for the guidance of property owners contemplating such modernization.

An unusual new design is found in the new Mercy Hospital Building nearing completion at St. Paul Place. Pressed for building site area, the building widens above the 5th floor level to expand the area of the top 12 floors.

An accomplished fact is the $26 million State Office Building complex in the Mt. Royal Plaza area, formerly a vast slum. The three new buildings, starkly modern in
design, are offset by tree-lined malls and extensively landscaped open spaces.

Adjacent to the State Office Building area is the white limestone and gray granite Baltimore Life Insurance Company building on a landscaped 5-acre tract. It was completed in 1961. Its neighbor a block to the north, now rapidly taking shape, is $7 million Sutton Place, a 300-unit luxury apartment project which will be instrumental in upgrading the living standard of a formerly fine section recently on the skids.

Further northeast, the Baltimore auto fleet management firm of Peterson, Howell & Heather is erecting a dramatic 5-story headquarters on North Charles Street. A few blocks from this site, a 14-floor high-rise apartment building is being readied for occupancy just north of Johns Hopkins. This is one of a number of high-rise dwelling units either under construction or planned in several central Baltimore areas.

Johns Hopkins itself has contributed significantly to Baltimore's renewal with new buildings at the Homewood Campus on Charles Street and at the Johns Hopkins Hospital on Broadway. Latest campus building is the new library, just now getting underway, and Baltimoreans are agreeably startled by the Carnegie Embryology Laboratory at the northwest corner of the Homewood Campus—a distinct yet harmonious departure from the university's Georgian concept. A real asset to east Baltimore is the new Sheraton-Baltimore Inn directly across the street from the Johns Hopkins Hospital. The inn is flanked by hospital staff housing structures and an Episcopal chapel that is a little gem of modern architectural dignity.

Sparking much of the impetus of Baltimore's renewal is the Committee for Downtown, a businessmen's group active for 7 years. In late September this committee retained a Baltimore architectural firm to guide private renovation along the two blocks of Lexington Street between Howard Street and Charles Center. These two blocks will be the first project in a modernization program for the entire downtown area undertaken jointly by the Committee for Downtown and the Baltimore Chapter, AIA. Its purpose is to extend the success of Charles Center over the adjacent blocks.

The continuing new construction and renewal of Baltimore's central area, plus the coming big-scale projects such as the expansion of the University of Maryland's Baltimore Campus, Camden Industrial Park, the Shot Tower Industrial Park and the Peabody Institute expansion are lifting Baltimore toward a nationally recognized elegance she has never before known. And, though this point has not been strongly publicized, the city is losing none of its traditional charm. The construction of today is for the most part remarkably compatible with Baltimore's treasured architectural heritage.

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2. ONE CHARLES CENTER Mies Van der Rohe, FAIA Metropolitan Builders, General Contractors
3. ONE NORTH CHARLES Vincent G. Kling, FAIA, McCloskey, Builders and General Contractors
4. THE CIVIC CENTER Arthur G. O'Dell, Jr., FAIA, Baltimore Contractors, General Contractors

Some Additional Projects:
LEMMEJ JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL John McShane, Builder and General Contractor
U.S. GYPSUM INDUSTRIAL PLANT
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Watch our program, ROLF HERTSGAARD AND THE NEWS, on WBAL-TV, Channel 11, at 7 P.M. Monday through Friday.
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE DESIGNED TODAY

ARCHITECT: McLEOD AND FERRARA, WASHINGTON

Many of the features which are often projected for our schools of the future have been incorporated into a school of today at the Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland, one of Washington, D.C.'s most rapidly developing suburbs.

The architects have attempted to cope with future changes in educational philosophy by designing a really "flexible" school. The entire structural system is designed in such a way that partitions can be rearranged at any time. The school system is presently exploring a new curriculum approach which, upon completion, may require varying size instructional spaces, perhaps with large group spaces for a 100-150 student capacity, while other spaces will only need to hold 10-15 students; or the educational program may necessitate many individual study areas. Thus, it was necessary to plan now for whatever new set of conditions would be needed, in say two or three years, when the study is expected to be completed. To accomplish this, the architects simply placed all of the special subject areas in separate wings, and placed the general subject spaces in a central three-story building block. It will be possible to "sweep-clean" the three floors of the central unit and rearrange the general academic areas on these three floors in any manner required by the new educational program. Similarly, the special areas can be expanded or rearranged without interfering with the work in other parts of the school.

Another step into the future is the fact that the entire school plant can be air-conditioned with the simple addition of cooling equipment. The mechanical and electrical systems have been coordinated into the structure in such a way that regardless of changes in space arrangements in the future, no major and costly changes of mechanical equipment will be needed. Because of a desire to reduce the heat load on the cooling system, but mainly because of the wide variation which may develop in providing larger instructional areas, it was decided to reduce the usual large glass areas and pro-
The Interior of the geodesic fieldhouse. This design permits seating of 2300 people, 1290 more than alternate conventional design.

Sketch above shows present arrangement of typical conventional classroom at Walt Whitman School, with small instruction areas around central large group instruction space.

Sketch above shows same area with all partitions removed except those of toilets and stairhalls. The area is now ready for rearrangement of spaces.

Shown below is the anticipated future arrangement of instructional areas.

Provide smaller windows, for "seeing-out" only. Even so, "solar screens" have been placed out in front of the windows to keep sun heat from entering the rooms, thus making the cost of air-conditioning an economic feasibility.

Another, and perhaps the most interesting, feature of the Walt Whitman High School is the use of a "geodesic" dome for housing the physical education program. The geodesic system was conceived by R. Buckminster Fuller, famous engineer and mathematician. One of the first uses made of this new structural concept was in the U. S. exhibit last year in Moscow. The lightweight structure which can span large areas of space was widely hailed as a great architectural, and propaganda, achievement.

The geodesic structure at Walt Whitman High School houses under its 180-ft. diameter dome a much more flexible physical education program than can usually be achieved in the typical high school gymnasium. The architects were able, by virtue of a grant from the Educational Facilities Laboratories (Ford Foundation) to carry out a research project to determine whether a geodesic fieldhouse could be built for the same or less cost than a typical conventional high school gymnasium. Plans were prepared and bids taken on both types of structures, and it was determined that the geodesic fieldhouse could be built for slightly less cost than the conventional gymnasium, while at the same time providing some 4,000 additional square feet of usable floor space. For example, the fieldhouse can seat 3,500 people as compared with 2,300 for the gymnasium and considerably more exercise space can be obtained in the dome structure than is available in the conventional structure. Needless to say, the school board chose to construct the fieldhouse, and in so doing, may set a precedent for the increasing use of new architectural forms for not only physical education facilities, but other uses besides.

The Walt Whitman High School building will be completed in the Fall of 1962.
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* ARCHITECTS' REPORT is proud to present this dramatic first proposal for what can become one of Baltimore's most unique and valuable buildings. The magazine congratulates Mr. Gipe for this pioneering step toward a long-needed unification of Baltimore's entire construction industry.

UNDER ONE ROOF

ALBERT B. Gipe, President, Consulting Engineers Council of Maryland, Inc., and partner, Miller, Schuerholz & Gipe, Consulting Engineers.

This is a challenge to engineers, architects, builders, sales representatives, trade associations, professional groups and all others related to the construction industry in or around Baltimore and throughout Maryland.

We are concerned about architectural and engineering commissions for local work being given to out-of-town firms.

We are concerned about construction contracts for work in Baltimore being awarded to contractors from New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and other cities.

Surveys have been conducted to find out just why this is so, and the reasons given are many. To name a few: the "Baltimore is a 'branch town'" attitude, the influence of out-of-town experts, poor salesmanship and the lack of unification.

We are all remiss in not having conducted an effective public relations program in the past. We have been too content to sit back and let the work come to us. This era has passed. In these times, we must take the initiative to sell our services and our firms.

As the central effort in a campaign to retain local commissions and contracts, I ask you to visualize a new professional building, an Architectural-Engineering Center—call it what you wish—as an outstanding building in Charles Center. This A-E Center or Construction Building would be a bold new concept not only in aesthetic design but also in function and purpose.

Think of the financial savings to your firm if the architect, engineer, contractor, manufacturer's representative or other organization with whom you do business were located all in the same building. Coordination and project cooperation would be immeasurably improved. Joint ventures could be far more easily formed to allow Baltimore firms to handle projects of any magnitude.

The value in public relations alone which would stem from this enterprise would be tremendous. Where else have those in the construction industry united to such an extent?

The first barriers to such a program will understandably be: Who would coordinate the effort? Who would design the building? What about financing?

To be effective, this must be a combined effort. A board of governors or trustees would be established. A design and construction team from various offices could be selected to judge an architectural design competition. The project would be an unprecedented and fascinating presentation to the general public of the abilities of local talent.

Financing an operation of this magnitude is always a major problem, but there are many ways in which this could be approached. A cooperative financing arrangement with tenants as stockholders may be desirable. A separate management corporation could be established with the tenants leasing from the corporation. Other possibilities include local banking interests, and those of commerce and industry. With a cooperative financing or leasing arrangement, the cost of modern efficient office space may be no more than what we are now paying. The medical profession has been doing this for years in their medical and professional centers.

The downtown area is undergoing a drastic new facelift. We can materially support this well-planned and progressive development and at the same time, promote the use of local firms by both local and outside interests.

This concept of a professional center for the construction industry is not the idea of any developer, promoter or of any group or association. It is one approach to the solution of a few of the problems inherent in the private enterprise system.

Will your firm be interested? Will you explore the idea further? ARCHITECTS' REPORT is acting as the collection point for your suggestions and comment, and the attached card will facilitate your reply.
As a result of the stimulation of the Trump Report* and the leadership of Frederick County's Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James A. Sensenbaugh, the 750-student Brunswick Junior-Senior High School has been a somewhat experimental project from its inception.

The objective at Brunswick is to test the team teaching concept of organization (small group, large group, individual study), test the climate control by air conditioning for an improved teaching environment, and to permit an eventual 12-month teaching program. The architectural problem was to develop a building sufficiently flexible to test the new educational concepts while retaining the possibility of returning to the traditional classroom system when and where desirable.

The plan which evolved is broken into four basic units (academic, gymnasium, auditorium and shop buildings) connected by a cafeteria, kitchen and service element. The building is centrally located on a relatively level, clear site of 30-odd acres overlooking a panorama of farms and mountains.

Dominating the complex, the two-story academic building focuses inward on its central first floor library, an open axis from the main entrance to the primary view. Each teaching department has an individual area of several classroom-module spaces (a number of which open into lecture-sized rooms) plus a larger "material center." The larger than classroom-module materials centers provide a flexible area for individual study, seminar groups, department conferences and teaching machines.

The gymnasium and shop units are conventional teaching elements except for the inclusion of the central boiler plant in the shop building as a teaching example. The auditorium-drama-music building combines the usual band and vocal practice rooms with the stage to provide large dressing rooms for dramatic productions.

Both the flexible space and air conditioning requirements contributed to the design decision to depart from the conventional double-loaded corridor classroom wing building. To minimize heat and cooling loads further and to re-orient teaching spaces inward to the subject of study, large glass areas in the instructional portions of the building were eliminated in favor of insulated masonry panels relieved by narrow windows. These windows merely provide background lighting and visual reference to the outdoors. The classroom-module window spacing is accented by the fresh air intakes for the air conditioning system.

Structural engineers for the project will be Perry and Lamprecht, Baltimore; mechanical engineers will be James Posey Associates, Baltimore.
SALUTE:
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The Baltimore public school system went into operation on September 21st, 1829, using rented rooms. The next year the first school building was erected on Aisquith Street near Fayette. It was about 52 by 72 feet and enclosed one large room, with perhaps a closet and basement. It was estimated to cost $10,000. The one large room derived from the method of instruction which was called the "Lancasterian System" after its originator, Joseph Lancaster, an Englishman who had come to Baltimore. A more common name is the "monitorial system." All the children were in one room but divided into grades, and with only one teacher. Each grade had a monitor who taught the next youngest grade, and was taught in turn by the monitor from the next oldest grade. The teacher did little more than supervise the operation. The simplified Classical Revival style of the early schools was in use on all sorts of buildings in Baltimore at that time, and it seemed appropriate for educational buildings as well.

The oldest school building still standing is the little "McKim Free School" at Baltimore and Aisquith Streets. This was built in 1833-34 as a free charity school by Isaac McKim, but architect William T. Howard lavished more
care on the design and it was said at the time to be “an exact copy of the temple of Theseus at Athens.” It isn’t that close to the ancient design. Howard probably had a copy of Stuart & Revett’s *Antiquities of Athens*, and used the detailed engraving of the Theseum as his model, but the original had two rows of columns under the porch. In other respects it is a 3/4 replica, and very well done. This, too, had only one large room (like the old temple) to suit the monitorial system.

Baltimore’s most unusual public school was on a ship, the former U.S. Ontario. It was the “Public Floating School” and intended to train seamen. It opened in 1857 after the ship had been redesigned for this use, but was discontinued at the time of the Civil War.

The city’s oldest public school building still in use was the Eastern Female High School, at Aisquith and Orleans Streets, now Elementary School No. 116. It was built in 1868 and designed by architect Richard Snowden Andrews, who also designed the old Church of the Redeemer, and was a member of the AIA in 1870. The monitorial system had long since been abandoned, and this school had classrooms like a modern school. The Italian Villa style was fashionable at the time, and the architect probably took his design right out of one of the popular building books such as A. J. Downing’s *Country Villas and Cottages*.

Peale’s Museum on Holliday Street had been used as the City Hall from 1830 to 1875 when the new City Hall was built. The next year the old museum building was renovated as No. 1 Colored Primary School. Thirteen classrooms were provided, and it was said that it was suitable for five hundred students! The net floor space of the building was less than ten thousand square feet. This proved less than satisfactory in practice, and it was vacated in 1887.

—Wilbur H. Hunter, Jr.
The Peale Museum

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Pre-cast wall panel exterior being placed on old Rollman and Harlin buildings by Mabley Department Store, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Panels on Mabley Department Store, Cincinnati, are a combination of blue glass (in this instance, from Bromo Seltzer bottle factory), white quartz and grey granite chips. Architect: A. M. Kinney Associates, Cincinnati.


Erection of pre-cast columns and girders.
POSSIBILITIES OF PRECAST CONCRETE

Written especially for ARCHITECTS’ REPORT By Richard E. Adams, AIA, Marietta Concrete, Martin-Marietta Corporation

Whether he chooses to make his structural forms the hallmark of his design or chooses, rather, to fashion his concept over and around them, today’s enterprising architect can find no more stimulating and rewarding challenge than in the growing possibilities of precast concrete.

Exciting new varieties and combinations of product and application are being deployed in this relatively unmined method of design and construction. They follow so quickly upon one another that the seemingly impossible in one year becomes the newly practical in the next.

Frames, decks, walls . . . panels as long as thirty feet, spanning from column to column and floor to floor . . . exterior and interior panels made either to bear or not to bear loads, which resist wind without supplementary framing, eliminate expensive mullions, grid systems, masonry backing and numerous joints and connections, and which seal without leakage—these are aspects of the precasting concept which are making professional sense with increasing impact.

They are doing more. They are the foundation of a direct and engrossing challenge to the art of the creative architect. The super-structure of this challenge is built of the elements that open new vistas in design. For the recognized plasticity of precast concrete, one of the most practical of building materials, is being enhanced and vitalized by striking new shapes, colors and textures. In some cases, it is the venturesome architect who has grasped the promise of the precasting concept and led the way to intriguing, colorful combinations heretofore unseen. In others, it has been the industry itself, meeting a built-in drive for better ways and more efficient facilities to expand the architectural horizon for its product.

By their nature, precast concrete products have fewer limitations than most other manufactured construction materials. But the dynamism of their progress has had side effects which have helped obscure the very real opportunities inherent in the present state of the art. So fast have technologies developed that the demand has outstripped supply in the pool of designers, precasters and contractors with expert knowledge in the field. The relative lack of formal training in precasting and prestressing available in universities has not permitted as rapid a filling of the pool as could be hoped.

Another condition must bear its shape of the responsibility for the lag between the possible and the actual. This is the lack of precise sets of rules and manuals on precast products. There is nothing comparable, for instance, to the codes which guide shapes, details and specifications in the steel industry.

While such considerations may account for some lag in fully utilizing the possible, they need prove no obstacle to the enterprising architect who can visualize the vital aesthetic effects he can achieve in precast concrete, both on the interior and the exterior of his structure, and who ventures to explore the broad range of qualities precast concrete affords. He will find no lack of product or application, nor will he be at a loss to establish individual character in any form he chooses.

Precasting is still largely a custom industry. It has no pat answers to many of the problems that will confront the designer, for the ways in which he chooses to use precast concrete products are as individual as the work of the moment, and new ways and new products are coming along even as he deliberates.

Precasting is a fertile concept which is only beginning to be exploited fully by the designer. Precast units can be the most durable, economical and most beautiful of building components—weather-tight, maintenance-free, fire-safe, fast of erection—and can give the architect a heady freedom of distinctive design in sizes patterns, shapes, textures and colors that excite and invigorate the imagination. The best precast products and their uses, hence some of our most appealing aesthetic contributions to architecture in the modern age, are yet to be designed and built by imaginative architects, engineers and manufacturers.
RESTORATION ... of older downtown buildings to the latest in modern architectural design can be quickly and economically achieved with Marzaic® exposed aggregate, precast concrete wall panels. An outstanding recent example is the 12-story Mabley Department Store building, Cincinnati, Ohio. This large structure was enclosed in just six week's time with 55,000 sq. ft. of Marzaic panels and presents a new, attractive appearance with its surface of blue glass, white quartz and gray granite chips. Write for our Marzaic Catalog, or See Our Catalog in SWEET'S. Call our nearest office for information.
INTERIOR DESIGN

Front entrance, Calvert Savings & Loan Association, Loch Raven Blvd.

General office area. Paneled screen is of walnut and tinted glass; all upholstery is in blue texture; carpet is in three shades of orange.

Executive office. Draperies are of raw beige Indian silk; rear wall is covered in blue vinyl in alternating parquet; carpet is charcoal tweed.

PROJECT: Calvert Savings & Loan Association, 6800 Loch Raven Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland

Banking institutions are no longer the stodgy, foreboding halls of marble and bronze so prevalent a generation ago. Today, warmth in color and texture invite the depositor to conduct business in less formal surroundings, achieving a more personal relationship between banking personnel and the public.

Calvert Savings and Loan illustrates the close collaboration between architect and interior designer to effect just such an atmosphere in their new structure on Loch Raven Boulevard.

Burnt orange carpet and blue upholstery complement the mellowness of walnut paneling. In the main banking room and general office areas the use of steel frame furniture contributes to the linear emphasis of the architecture. An interesting screen of walnut wood and tinted glass defines working areas without reducing the spacious intent of the architect.

Blue and beige are carried into the board room and executive office to have a continuous flow of color with added interest achieved in the use of grasscloth in the board room and parquet vinyl wall covering in the executive office.

Original art has been strategically located throughout all areas as accents of interest and color.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE—BROADWAY MEDICAL CENTER
ARCHITECTS: Cochran, Stephenson & Wing

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22, 23 Sketches & plan by office of Edw. J. Hofstetter
26, 27 Courtesy Peale Museum
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Demolition, Civic Center Site
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Demetrius N. Mandris of the Towson, Md., architectural firm of Mandris & Sipple, died unexpectedly September 3rd. A member of the Baltimore Chapter, AIA, Mr. Mandris served on the Baltimore County Board of Architectural Review and recently had been appointed to the technical committee on Code Review and Adoption, Baltimore County. Mr. Mandris was noted for his church architecture, having designed the St. Constantine and Helen Church in his native Annapolis, the addition to Baltimore's Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation and many other churches and buildings in this region.

A recent publication of interest to local architects is "The Architecture of Monuments, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Competition" (Thomas H. Creighton, Reinhold Publ. Co., New York). More than 250 photos illustrate more than half of the submitted designs. Among them are these known submissions from members of the Baltimore Chapter: Rutherford Oliver Diehl, architect: p. 170; Rogers, Taliaferro & Lamb, architects; George A. Kostritsky and Roelof Uyttenbogaardt, associates: p. 146; Robert John Sharp, architect; James Alan Weller, Jr., associate: p. 154.

ARCHITECTS' REPORT has been requested to publish the following recommendation of the Building Congress and Exchange: "It is the Building Congress' recommendation that architects and engineers prepare their plans and documents so that all permit fees and service charges required by the government agencies having jurisdiction be paid for by the owner."

Member firms of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc., in Baltimore and vicinity have begun an unusual construction industry advancement program. The plan has five objectives: 1) Employee training in the classroom and on the job; 2) Public relations at all levels; 3) An expanded safety program; 4) Creation of a disaster relief plan coordinated with municipal and state agencies; 5) Promotion of stability of labor-management relations. The program is financed through payments by the contracting employers based on hours worked by members of three labor groups. The plan calls for the collection of 1/2¢ for each hour worked by members of the three unions, and is administered by the Baltimore Builders Chapter, AGC.

M. E. Warren, Annapolis commercial photographer, is completing the assignment of photographing all existing buildings in the Charles Center area. He is compiling a complete negative file, and a set of reference prints will be available at the Pratt Library.

Nominations for the international R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award, the largest in architecture, will be received by the AIA through December, 1962. It will be presented during the AIA convention May 6-10 in Miami. Revised criteria for the award place prime emphasis on distinguished architecture in which sound, effective use is made of aluminum. The basic concept of the award is an honor conferred upon an architect for a significant work of architecture in the creation of which aluminum has been an important contributing factor. An architect may be nominated by anyone, including himself or his firm. Write The Reynolds Award, American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor:
Please accept my congratulations for the very fine summer issue. This is an impressive evidence of creative ferment among Baltimore architects that I had hardly suspected, and it promises well for the future of your fine city with its great potential.

Frederick Gutheim,
President,
WASHINGTON CENTER FOR METROPOLITAN STUDIES

Editor:
This is a note to congratulate you and your associates for producing one of the finest publications I've seen since coming to Baltimore. . . . Your publication is an excellent addition to Baltimore, and I hope you continue the good work.

Herbert G. Bailey, Jr.
Executive Vice-President,
BALTIMORE ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE

Editor:
Please allow me to extend my congratulations on the exceptional presentation of "The Face of the City" in the summer ARCHITECTS' REPORT. Your editorial comment about "the sweat shop of suburbia" awakens us to the fact that our downtown has become an area which our families avoid for their leisure, our businessmen shun for their locations and to which our tourists give a wide berth in their travels. It is only the wide distribution of objective and truly professional thoughts . . . that our civic shame can become our civic pride.

Richard Dunlop,
Baltimore
Our Winter Issue:
The Role of the Consulting Engineer in Architecture

The editorial subject of our Winter issue will be the importance of the consulting engineer in today's architecture. The aptness of this subject is clearly evident in the enthusiastic response we have already had from the Consulting Engineers Council of Maryland, Inc. We have in hand at this early date a wide selection of engineering articles and project stories, and consequently editorial space in the next issue is not as available as has been the case in many past issues. Submissions for our Winter issue are being made jointly by architects and engineers. If you have a project you feel worthy of presentation in Architects' Report, please call Grinnell W. Locke, Editor, TU 9-2727, before submitting the material.