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Getting to and from buildings — homes, offices, stores, entertainment, and recreation areas — becomes an increasingly vigorous challenge to architects, planners, and plain ordinary people. If all the words written about private and public transportation could be placed end-to-end, they would pave the nation. There is an organization which has digested a lot of these words into three reports concerned with costs, public subsidy, and a future look at travel characteristics. The Highway Users Federation, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 has these reports for the asking. And they’re worth the asking — and reading.

We were distressed by an advertisement of a condominium purveyor. It appeared in the New Haven Register and was headlined: “Everybody knew the land was beautiful. Nobody thought we could build on it.” Aside from the advertising writer’s free interpretation of grammar, the ad went on to say: “The only other terrain (other than rocky cliffs) was a salt marsh. First, we filled the marsh and drove piles into it so we could build on it.” Not only is this sort of thing unlawful under present legislation (perhaps the marsh was despoiled before passage of the law), but it flaunts the fact.

This issue of CONNECTICUT ARCHITECT discusses two building additions, a school in Guilford and a club in Waterbury. There is also a story about a new Fishers Island school and a synagogue designed for a small congregation in Simsbury. From his vantage point, Architect Bob Mutrux asks some very interesting questions and professes equally interesting answers. A new practice has been started by Architect Richard Quinn, Russell Gibson vonDohlen add to their staff, and other bits of news round out the issue.

Our next issue will contain the roster of members and associates of the Connecticut Society of Architects AIA. Since we started publishing the names last year, we are entitled to bill this as the second annual directory issue.
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Seventy-five Cents a Copy Four Dollars and Fifty Cents a Year
Faced with the familiar problems of a burgeoning population and its resulting need for new school facilities, Guilford’s school building committee, board of education, and school administration explored with the architects the gamut of alternative solutions. The basic need was for a high school doubled in size and a new middle school.

Carleton Granbery and Perkins & Will, Architects, in cooperation with the representatives of the school system, carefully considered the idea of building a new high school and using the existing one as a middle school. This would have been a simpler and more economical procedure, but other considerations prevailed. The community wanted the high school where it was, centrally located for the town’s population distribution. Further, the existing building was not readily adaptable to the educational program desired for the new middle school.

The decision therefore was to expand the high school building and accomplish this without interfering with the process of education. This interesting challenge was met by the architects with an enveloping technique which provided the required additional spaces around the perimeter of the existing building. This achieved two major solutions; one practical, the other esthetic. New construction was able to proceed throughout the school year without disrupting school sessions. Not a day was missed. Renovation of portions of the existing building and integration of the old and new structures were accomplished during the summer months.

The building functions very well, although it has somewhat extended the traffic flow which developed out of expansion of an already stretched out facility. At the rear of the building, the sloping site made a natural area for the two-story addition which houses a new cafeteria, kitchen, and utilities in its lower level. Access to the playing fields is also at this level.

The new construction of handsome, durable hard-burned brown
brick fulfilled the expressed interest of the community in improving overall appearance and design by concealing the original unadorned concrete block. Where block is still visible, it has been painted charcoal black to blend with the charcoal black enameled metal panels and spandrels in the new design.

Another feature of the "envelope" concept is three triangular courtyards. One is adjacent to the science rooms and contains a greenhouse and planting beds for plant biology work. Another opens solely from the library for use as an outdoor "reading room." These courtyards give an added dimension to the overall concept, provide exterior wall area, and bring light and air to interior wings.

Responding to increasing popularity of tennis, the plan includes four new tennis courts, which are available for community use. And, to break away from the former flat and uninteresting approach, excavated material was used to form contours planted with a row of Norway maples.

Much of the old building was remodeled to provide central facilities required by the two-house system inaugurated with revised plan. Auditorium seating was reoriented with the addition of 150 tablet arm seats to serve as a study hall and large lecture space. The gymnasium was enlarged, and the home economic rooms were updated from the original 1958 plan.
Materials used throughout were chosen for ease of maintenance as well as attractive appearance. Oak trim and cabinet work are sturdy and emanate a warm feeling. Carpeting is used where acoustical control is important in the music rooms, library, auditorium, and administrative offices. The offices are air conditioned for summer use as headquarters of the entire Guilford school system. Corridors in the building are enlivened by brightly colored lockers. Stainless steel and glazed tiles are used throughout the kitchen and locker room facilities.

An overriding concern in design was to achieve economy without sacrificing the quality essential in a school building. The school is rated for 1200 students, with an actual student body of 676 at the time of construction and an anticipated enrollment of 1106 by 1973. This growth means increasing wear and tear which was planned for in the design and its implementation.

The design had the effect of causing a distinct change in the quality of the total environment of the school, adapting to current teaching methods to further the goal of the board of education for “maximum education for all pupils” and the “maximum development of emotional and physical potential for each child.”

The program was developed in 1967 from predictions and information available at that time. The population forecasts are within ten percent of actual, but teaching methods and educational philosophy are always undergoing change. Current curricula planning will necessitate further expansion, specifically in the industrial and vocational arts. In 1967, there were sixty-nine students enrolled in these courses; today three hundred are enrolled. The impetus of these curricula changes came from federal and state levels.

Also, there is a growing interest in music, especially choral work. The library must be enlarged to accommodate changes. Fortunately the school's flexible plan will adapt to change. In planning for the future, School Superintendent Bockman is running quarterly projections on a five-year basis. This method reveals trends in school

Please turn to page 18
We are once more in the throes of completely redesigning a fine building in order to reduce costs and meet the budget. We knew when we started the job that costs were rising; we knew that the client's funds were limited; and we were well aware that granite and carpeting and year-round air-conditioning were not included in our over-enthusiastic preliminary estimates. We went on blithely and naively anyway. In short, we knew better, but still all the expense, loss of time, and humiliation shouldn't have happened to such nice guys.

The architect's recurring problem is not a simple one. Above the head draftsman's desk hangs one of those kooky signs: "Why is it that there is never enough time to do it right, but always enough time to do it over?" Our problem, in this frustrating day of changing ideals, is to decide what is meant exactly by doing it right.

We've come to the conclusion, after much research, introspection, consultation with the Tarot cards, and the toss of our few remaining coins, that the way to do a building right today is to leave out everything except the least expensive materials and to specify it in such a way that the structure is guaranteed to collapse in no more than five years. The result, if done on a soundly planned basis, will far outdo the usual unplanned approach. In other words, each job could be a sort of gigantic architectural "happening," something whose climax could be scheduled in advance, with lights, sound, music.

What I propose is to design each building so that it is beautiful, superb, breathtaking if you will, so that it will make Fortune, or at least the real estate section of the New York Times. And being sure that it will disintegrate at a fixed and early date.

The results of this revolutionary approach to architecture in our time will be tremendous. First, but least important: you will probably hit the budget on the nose the first time around, maybe even a little below, so that a little is left in the old gold mine for planting, and perhaps even a few genuine works of art for the lobby. And your office will get out of the red and the rut you've gotten into by designing "for the ages" (as Ruskin used to say).

Second, you will be eternally rewarded for not adding another permanent monstrosity to the already cluttered horizon. Consider the way styles in buildings change, as they do in cars and dresses. (Watch out for the mini-building, by the way, with pilotis three stories high). The evil that men do (to paraphrase Mark Anthony) will no longer live after them, but it will be bulldozed away either with their bones or well beforehand. We can probably count on some understanding commissioner to clean up our architectural remains at the community's expense.

Most of all, however, is the fact that we will be doing posterity an enormous favor. We must abandon the fatuous notion that we have to build "for the ages." The Ages, indeed! What Ages? The Dark Ages? The Middle Ages? The Seven Ages of Man? What, pray, did the Ages do to inherit, unsolicited, all our clichés, our experiments, our debacles?

By what presumption do we suppose that the Ages want the same thing we do? What are they supposed to do with the personalized stuff we're putting out by the metric ton? How much more grateful would they be if, instead of weighing them down with a mountain of varying modules, a metropolitan mass of streaky concrete, out-dated travertine and leaky curtain wall, we gave them cash!

Cash! Hard cash; sheer, unadulterated money; free of liens, mortgages, probate fees; cash to use for their own follies, their own idea of beauty, their own mistakes, their own idea of utility! Think of the architects who will follow us, who will be speechless with gratitude not only for the number and variety of new projects they will have to work on, but the atmosphere of freedom in which they will be able to work. Please turn to page 20.
Who ever heard of kids having such a good time learning and interacting that they don't want to go home?

It's true. Of the 113 students enrolled this year, all but a few of the very young children elected to carry their lunches so the balance of their free noon period could be spent on special interest projects — or shooting baskets in the gym.

A new school on tiny Fishers Island, New York, some four miles off the coast of Connecticut, is one of the few facilities of its kind in this country where all grades, from nursery through high school, are housed under the same roof in a building designed on a truly open space plan.

A far cry from the old one-room schoolhouse concept (which was open space in another sense — and often included open backhouses), the new Fishers Island School encompasses one unique feature after another: architecturally, academically, philosophically, and financially. It leaves one asking, "who ever heard?"

Who ever heard of a new school completed within budget and on schedule — despite the incredible complications of having to transport every brick, board, and cinder block, as well as construction labor, on the little ferry that serves Fishers Island from New London, a 45-minute boat ride. Further, the building, which cost $1,270,000, was financed entirely by residents of the community — with not a penny in aid from state or federal funds.

It's a rare school that operates day and night, twelve months of the year, as happens at Fishers. This building is the hub of the island's year round recreation program, providing carefully planned space to accommodate weekly cultural events and professional entertainment from the mainland, as well as summer stock; an ambitious adult education program; and continuing activities for students, including athletics, arts and crafts, typing, shop, music, and drama. In this community of some 450 all-year residents and approximately 2,000 summer homeowners, the building is available for meetings.
fund raising events, theatrical productions, or any other group activity — in addition to its basic function of educating up to 180 students a year.

According to Vincent S. Spinella, district principal, the place is so busy they have a difficult time scheduling the cleaning crew.

The school, designed by Charles King & Associates, architects, of Hartford, was awarded a special citation by the American Association of School Administrators and The American Institute of Architects and was selected for display at the 1973 Exhibition of School Architecture in Atlantic City in February, and in San Francisco in March.

Jury comments on the design cited it as a "well developed, workable solution to the difficult problem of satisfying the needs of a relatively small number of students of varying ages and with a wide range of interests." The plan, they felt, was "imaginatively developed to maintain options for a variety of activities without sacrificing high space utilization."

Of the 220 projects selected for exhibit by an eight-member jury of architects and educators, the new Fishers Island School is unusual in more respects than the fact that it encompasses all public school grades.

It is located on a 7-acre site formerly occupied by the Fort Wright Army facility, which has since been demolished. The only building material used in the new school that was not ferried to the island came from one of the old Army warehouses — the steel trusses now supporting the gymnasium/auditorium roof. Everything else was "imported" from the mainland.

Preliminary studies in depth were conducted by the architects, school board, and teachers together in order to design a school which answers the specific education needs of Fishers Island. The school had to house a comparatively small number of students ranging in age from five to eighteen years and, at the same time, incorporate the most modern teaching equipment and facilities. The plan was to abandon the traditional classroom concept of teaching in favor of open space.

The sobering aspect of a thirty to forty percent premium added to all construction costs on the island resulted in a number of preliminary design discards before the final plan evolved, reflecting carefully considered priorities.

Economies were achieved by designing spaces which answer more than one program need, creating areas for maximum utilization — resulting in every-period use, every day. The plan also eliminates costly duplication of equipment, allowing a higher budget share for the purchase of more sophisticated teaching aids in great variety. The island's open space school is designed to achieve child-centered learning — with individual progress reports to parents replacing the traditional letter grade system — and a climate which encourages cooperation among staff members in planning, presenting, and evaluating instruction.
Tradition!

The richness and vitality of a religious and cultural heritage was the inspired basis for the creation of a small wood synagogue on a quiet wooded site in Simsbury.

At the inception of the project, Galliher & Schoenhardt, Architects, sought to develop an understanding for themselves and the congregation which would result in a union of form and function — and tradition. It had to respect the theological and historical basis for synagogue architecture and relate that to the Jewish community of the Farmington valley.

A covenant people with an historic involvement with God, a congregation committed to function together, and the scripture, "I will be their God and they shall be my people," provided guidance for the building's form and character.

It was necessary that the building be small. The present congregation of fifty families and a limited budget dictated its size and the importance of having the building make a strong statement. The simple, symmetrical, geometric form makes this statement, but the practical functional shape relates to traditional forms. Old Polish and Russian wood synagogues often utilized similar forms.

The hexagonal floor plan relates to the symbolic form of the Star of David, but basically it was not chosen for that reason. The hexagon was a shape that was useful in meeting the need for an expansive worship space and particularly suited the plan for a central Bema. The reading from the Torah at the Bema, which includes congregational participation, was to be the focus of worship and a symbol of its centrality in the life of the congregation.

A typical sabbath service has an average attendance of twenty-five persons, but special Holy Day services require a seating capacity of more than ten times that number. It was important that the worship space be comfortable for the regular services without creating a feeling of being lost in a large space. A smaller inner space seats fifty and accomplishes this function.

For the larger services, movable screens and folding partitions are moved to open the perimeter to seat an additional two hundred persons.

This perimeter space is used normally for instruction purposes. For maximum utilization of space, the central assembly area has several functions including worship, teaching, and social functions. The Ark, where the Torah is kept, can be enclosed by hinged panels, so it is not obvious when the space is used for social events. The central space, with its twenty-four-foot-high ceiling and clerestory windows, is light and spacious.

The upper floor area provides the multi-purpose space, instructional space and a lounge with a kitchen. There is a mid-level entry space, and the lower level houses...
the Rabbi's study, kindergarten, service space. Direct access to the exterior is provided for all levels for convenience and safety.

The site seems specially secluded, although adjacent to Bushy Hill Road, a busy thoroughfare. Dense, mature trees covered the four-acre parcel, and the natural topography provided a number of slopes and valleys. Extreme care was taken in site planning to preserve the quality of the natural environment. Retaining walls were used to provide for grade changes with a minimum disturbance to the terrain and natural growth.

The basic structure of the synagogue is laminated wood and wood framing. Red cedar or redwood with natural cedar stain was used for exterior siding and trim, interior ceilings, and clerestory walls. The upper floor is carpeted.

Special design features include a finely detailed elaboration on the Star of David, which covers the entire pair of front entry doors, and an Eternal Light in stained glass which hangs over the Ark and which was designed and constructed personally by the architect.

With a total floor area of 5623 square feet, the building construction was completed in 1971 at a total cost, including sitework, of $146,158, or $26.08 a square foot.

Richard E. Schoenhardt was partner-in-charge for the architects, and Dale H. Cutler, Jr. was project architect. Mechanical engineering was by Burton and Van Houten, and the site planner was Allen W. Hixon & Associates.

GALLIHER & SCHOENHARDT ARCHITECTS of Simsbury was formed as a partnership in 1960 by Roger E. Galllher, AIA, and Richard E. Schoenhardt, AIA. Norman S. Bauer became a partner in 1973. All three partners earned architectural degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and have National Council of Architectural Boards' certifications. The firm's practice is general in nature and has included a wide variety of building types.
Additions to buildings, particularly after a time lapse, present unique challenges to an architect interested in designing function within an attractive and compatible facade. Such a program faced John Damico, Waterbury architect, in the design of a six thousand square foot new building to be added to existing facilities of the Waterbury Elks Club.

Functional access between the new and existing buildings, expansion of inadequate service facilities, and traditional access directly from the parking area to the new grill room and bar were among the basic requirements.

A troika relationship structure was used to influence the finished design direction so it would identify and relate to its site. First, a relationship to the existing building was accomplished by the use of similar masonry materials, arched voids and corbel type crenellations. Second, a relationship to Waterbury's West Main Street was achieved by similar heights and setbacks to those of neighboring buildings, plus a "porch" oriented toward active street life and symbolic parade review. And, third, a relationship to the city which was done with materials and forms similar to its dominant neighborhood symbols, the McKim, Mead, and White buildings.

Both levels of the new building are organized around a private court which serves as a focal point and provides natural light to both levels and an interesting background for various club functions. The lower level contains a grill room and bar, storage areas, office, expanded kitchen and adjunct facilities. It includes, too, a fireplace and provision for sectioned dining. The existing stair was utilized with minor revision to improve access to the basement and to the upper level.

There is direct entry to the lower level from the existing parking space, and service entry is provided by a service drive at the west side of the building.

The upper level houses lounge and reading areas, directors' room, and a flexible dining-cocktail-meeting space. This area is provided with a service niche for dumbwaiters and a portable bar. There are also, a fireplace, adjunct facilities and a porch on this level.
Entry to the upper level is from West Main Street, and a stair provides connection to the lower level and the existing upper lodge rooms. The upper level elevation fronting on West Main Street is basically private to provide insulation from the constant traffic. Roof light monitors are designed to catch light at all daylight hours to illuminate private areas.

Configuration of the building is curvilinear at its northeast corner to distinguish the entry drive from the service drive. Further personalization is accomplished by a shaded entry walk.

The resulting structure and its relationship with the existing one carries out the architect’s intent. “White,” he said, “was strongly guided by sienna and the spirit of this structure intends to be sienese.”

Structural engineering for the project was done by Associated Engineering, and Edward Del Campo & Associates consulted on the mechanical engineering. Harry Wynn was program consultant, and Francis B. Feeley, Elks building committee chairman, was in charge for the owner.

JOHN DAMICO earned his master of architecture at Yale University. Following service in the Office of Paul Rudolph, he established his own practice in Waterbury. Mr. Damico has served as visiting lecturer in fine arts at Quinnipiac College.

Construction Tour

Eight sixth grade students and two advisors from Smith Grammar School, West Hartford, donned hard hats to tour the new $4.3 million YWCA building at Broad Street and Farmington Avenue in Hartford. They were guests of Moore and Salsbury, West Hartford architects, and A. F. Peaslee, Inc., South Windsor construction services firm.

The field trip, held the end of May, was arranged by the World of Work (WOW) program of West Hartford Public Schools. It included a visit to the architect’s offices under the guidance of C. James Lawler.

Mrs. Richard Allcroft, a parent sponsor, said: “WOW gives kids a real life close-up of people at work . . . and exposes sixth graders to various vocations. Most youngsters never get to view how their mothers or fathers earn a living. With this program, a child sees people who know their jobs and enjoy them.”
New Practice

Quinn & Associates, Architects, has opened its office at 37 Jerome Avenue, Bloomfield.

Richard W. Quinn, who was previously an associate partner with Russell Gibson vonDohlen, Inc., is the principal. Mr. Quinn is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and was assistant instructor of design there. He is a member of the board of directors of Connecticut Society of Architects, AIA, a member of the national design committee of the American Institute of Architects, and has received many awards for his design work.

Among current commissions, Mr. Quinn is involved with forty units of housing for the elderly for the Watertown Housing Authority, additions and renovations for the Darien board of education, and residential and commercial projects in the Bloomfield and Hartford areas.

Commercial Mortgages

Northeast Bancorp, Inc., a holding company whose principal subsidiary is Union Trust Company, has formed NBI Mortgage Investment Corporation which will specialize in large commercial mortgage investments, according to Thomas F. Richardson, president of Northeast.

Northeast recently received approval for NBI Mortgage Investment Corporation from the Federal Reserve Board. The new subsidiary officially began operations on July 2. Its headquarters are at 205 Church Street, New Haven.

NBI Mortgage Investment Corporation will deal almost exclusively in large commercial, industrial, and apartment loans of $500,000 and up. The principal source of funds for NBI Mortgage Investment Corporation will be insurance companies, pension funds, and other large institutional investors. The financing of its construction loans and warehousing activities will be derived from commercial paper and bank lines of credit through the parent company.

Related to the formation of this subsidiary will be the assumption of the servicing of a $20 million mortgage portfolio formerly handled by the Roland Kratzer Company of New Haven. Under this arrangement, NBI Mortgage will become the mortgage correspondent for the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company.

Directors of the new subsidiary are Eric R. Hansen, chairman, vice president and a director of Northeast and executive vice president of Union Trust; Eduard Baruch, a director of Northeast; Richard W. Billings, president of Northeast and senior vice president of Union Trust; Thomas F. Richardson, president, chief executive officer and a director of Northeast and Union Trust; and A. Porter Waterman, president of Weepor Company and a director of Northeast. Two additional directors will be elected at a later date.

Senior officers of NBI Mortgage are Eric R. Hansen, chairman; Richard W. Billings, president and treasurer; Edward J. Popkins, senior vice president and chief operating officer; and Roland Kratzer, Jr., vice president. They will be assisted by Bernard F. Williams, Jr., sales representative for the new corporation.

CBC Officers

Robert W. Kallinich, J. H. Hogan, Inc., New Haven, was elected president of the Connecticut Building Congress at its annual meeting on June 14, at Restland Farm, Northford.


Elected to the CBC board of directors for three year terms were William Dwyer, Architects Planning Team, Waterbury; Charles J. Monahan, Earl R. Smith, Inc., Bridgeport; and Paul S. Strubell, Northwest Ventilating, New Britain.
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Scholarship Award
The 1973 Henry A. Pfisterer Memorial Scholarship Award has been won by Joann Ives of South Meriden. The award, sponsored by the Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund, Inc., is for one thousand dollars and is renewable yearly on grades and performance.

Miss Ives will be studying architecture at Cornell University where she took a five week summer course in architecture following her junior year in high school. While at Meriden High School she was a member of the student Senate and drama club stage crew, and participated in competitive swimming. She was president of the National Honor Society while maintaining a 4.0 average with honors in calculus, English, and physics. She is employed as a page at Curtis Memorial Library, Meriden.

Members of the scholarship awards committee include Frank W. Chadwick, Jr., president, First New Haven National Bank; Gerald A. Foster, corporate psychologist, C. N. Flagg and Company, Inc., Meriden; Allen Hubbard of Hubbard, Lawless and Osborne Associates, Inc., New Haven; Augustus G. Kellogg, AIA, Environmental Design Group, New Haven; Ernest McVey, principal, Sleeping Giant Junior High School, Hamden; and John E. Plantinga of Meyer, Strong and Jones, New York City.

School Addition
Continued from page 8
population growth more clearly than the annual basis used in the past.
The Guilford High School enlargement was accomplished for a total cost of $335,000 for alterations and $2,383,500 for new construction. The project figured at $25 a square foot at a time when other area schools were working out to as high as $50 per square foot.

Working with the architects were Pfisterer, Tor & Associates, structural engineers; Hubbard, Lawless & Osborne, mechanical engineers; and Currier, Andersen & Geda, landscape architects. Interior design was by the architects, and furnishings were handled by the school administration.

CARLETON GRANBERY, FAIA, a practicing New Haven architect since 1946, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture at Yale University. Elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1972 with a citation for "distinguished design and service to his community," recent work includes the Abraham Baldwin School, Guilford, and the Crown Street Parking Garage, New Haven. Current educational, institutional, and residential projects are in New York, Vermont, and Connecticut. PERKINS & WILL, Chicago and White Plains, has specialized in school design since 1935 and has over 700 projects throughout the United States.
The upper and lower schools are separated by joint-use areas — the gymnasium/auditorium and resource center (library, audio-visual and language labs) — where, on occasion, all ages meet to share the same facility.

With hallways and walls kept to a minimum throughout the building, there is a sense of freedom in the large open classrooms and in moving from one area to another.

“There are few discipline problems here”, says District Principal Spinella. “Kids like what they’re doing in open space, accepting and enjoying self-directed responsibility. It’s an every day festival of learning; children are happy here.”

Raymond Hunt was project architect for Charles King and Associates. Structural engineering was done by Fraioli, Blum & Yes- selman of New England, Hartford, with Phillip Wessler the partner in charge. Jacob Koton, PE, Bloomfield, was the mechanical engineering consultant.

CHARLES KING & ASSOCIATES started its practice under this name in 1970. Charles A. King, AIA, a graduate of Princeton and Yale, has been a principal in his own firm since 1950 and is president of the American Society for Church Architecture, director at large of the Guild for Religious Architecture, and a member of the Connecticut Society of Architects. Phyllis V. Olson, AIA, is a graduate of University of Hartford and Trinity College and a member of CSA and the Archeological Institute of America. Raymond Hunt, AIA, is a graduate of Nottingham Regional College, England, and he and Ms. Olson became associates of the firm in 1970.

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Voice
Continued from page 9

do it! No more prototypes, no
more renovations, no more addi-
tions, no more faulty master plans!
The client of the future, too,
can start from scratch, and mean-
while enjoy the few amusing ob-
jects d'art he has rescued from
the demolition truck. We be-
queath to him not only a tidy, un-
fettered financial legacy, but a
philosophy likewise free of ata-
vistic encumbrances. And, best of
all, we give them back THE
LAND, the good earth, the same
rocks, rills, woods, and templed
hills, free of asphalt and eyesores,
that our ancestors gave us. And
they will forever enjoy the plant-
ing we managed to squeeze in, be-
cause by then it will just begin to
look impressive.

Now don't just laugh. Think of
our economy, about to be under-
mined by a few selfish mainte-
nance-free materials which threat-
en to wipe out the billions invest-
ed in products that do require up-
keep and, in a society sorely
plagued by automation, contribute
realistically to the reservoir of
back-breaking manual labor.

Furthermore, we will develop a
method of building so light, so
easy to erect (since it must eventu-
ally be borne away), that its
owner can easily afford to change
it to accommodate his moods, like
scenery. In fact, buildings, or at
least facades, may someday be
rented for the occasion, like tux-
edos, to impress the passing bour-
geoisie. It was done in the 17th
Century for Catherine the Great,
so the idea is not new.

Another possibility is the throw-
away facade. They are making
dresses and bed sheets out of pa-
per, why not buildings? For the
brief period in which we live and
love and work, we may as well
live it up. If we can't have Ver-
sailles or Garnier's Opera in the
original, a papier-maché replica
should be good for at least one
week-end's lalla-palooza.

Another perfectly feasible ap-
proach is to make the entire struc-
ture of plastic. We already have
plastic flowers and shrubs, whose
infinite variety cannot be withered
by age nor staled by custom; it
won't be long before full-size trees
are made available. One enter-
prising firm is, in fact, working on
life-size human figures to stand
around buildings to give them an
air of real class.

I would be remiss if I did not
mention one other advantage. It
is for those dedicated individuals
who, by some compunction, are
perennially impelled to join the
placarded procession, regardless of
rain, rhyme, or reason, to save
something, like the "Old Met" or
Penn Station or the Robie Man-
sion. This aspect of humankind
cannot be brusquely swept aside;
I have considered it in proper per-
spective. Certainly there is some
architectural residue to which
progeny has a right.

For these I would suggest a con-
tinuing competition, which would
result in the selection of one build-
ing or group of buildings per gen-
eration. This would be designed
for permanent construction and
would be our contribution to his-
tory's running commentary.

The design would be selected
according to the highest standards
of democratic procedure in order
to ensure the optimum demo-
graphic representations. The de-
sign would be completed, and
funds allotted, but construction
would take place only in the next
generation, and with its majority
approval. Thus we would not find
ourselves trapped — witness the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and the National Shrine in Washington — with structures which are out of date long before they are completed.

This proposal cannot but result in great good for the profession as a whole. It can do harm to no one; it will be a benefit to mankind and give immense pleasure to all, especially those legions who until now never bothered to look at architecture.

And when our time has come, we have a magnificent opportunity to make the truly great gesture, and not just ride away in a rented Caddie, like any old gangster in a mobile florist's shop. We might, depending upon our imagination and our idea of a grand exit, arrange for ourselves to be placed atop our favorite composition, like the Suttees of India, and wind up in a wild newsworthy holocaust. I have now several buildings which I can offer to start the blaze, some recent, some older. It seems a much more exciting exit than to go out unnoticed.

**Government Builder**

Larry F. Roush has been named acting commissioner of the Public Building Service and deputy administrator for Special Projects of the U.S. General Services Administration. Among his responsibilities will be some fifteen hundred construction projects valued at about $1.5 billion.

**Energy Conservation**

An awards program to recognize architects, engineers, and owners of buildings specifically designed or equipped to conserve energy has been announced by Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation. With closing date set for August 31, entry details may be obtained from the company at Fiberglas Tower, Toledo, Ohio 43659.

**Computer Bibliography**

"Computer Application in Planning, Architecture, Design — A Bibliography," part of an extensive research project at Yale University, has been announced by the editor. It contains titles and exact descriptions of over a thousand articles, books, and papers in the field of computer application to environmental design and art, and the addresses of more than 150 related journals. Copies are available at $25 from Erich Bunselmeier, Dipl.-Ing. Architect, 28 Bremen-Horn, Tietjenstr. 71, West Germany.

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RGvD Appointments

John L. Riley has been named vice president and secretary, and Charles T. Bellingrath has been appointed vice president of Russell Gibson vonDahlen, Inc., Architects. Also, Christopher Winsor has joined the West Hartford architectural firm as a project architect, and Robert J. Hill, Jr. as director of public relations.

Mr. Riley, who is responsible for all design operations, programming, site feasibility studies, and educational consulting, is a 1956 architectural graduate of Cornell University. He joined RGvD in 1958 as a staff architect, moved up to associate partner in 1963, and became a full partner in 1968. A member of the Connecticut Society of Architects where he served on the publicity, public relations, and publications committees, he is a former member of the Canton Committee on Redevelopment and the Canton Redevelopment Agency.

Mr. Bellingrath includes direction of new business development and project management among his major responsibilities. He was graduated from Princeton University in 1956 and earned his master of fine arts in architecture degree at Princeton in 1959. During the academic year 1958-59, he held the position of assistant instructor in design. He is a member of the Connecticut Society of Architects where he has served as a member of the design committee.

Mr. Winsor was formerly associated with Jeter & Cook where he was a project architect and specifications writer. He is a 1954 graduate in architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design. He is a charter member and past president of the Construction Specifications Institute, Hartford Chapter, and serves as its newsletter editor. Mr. Winsor is also vice chairman of Hartford's Technical Code Revision Committee, and chairman of the Canton Building Code Board of Appeals and alternate on the zoning commission.

Mr. Hill, a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, joined the firm from his previous association with the Hartford Insurance group where he served as a sales promotion copywriter and publications editor.

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