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Cover: Accompanying the rebirth of the downtown areas in many of Connecticut’s cities has come the necessity for many inner-city institutions to rebuild their facilities to keep pace. An example of this phenomenon is the unprecedented simultaneous construction of new YWCA and YMCA buildings in downtown Hartford. These structures are not only interesting from an architectural point of view: they represent a tremendous statement of faith in the future of downtown. “The New Face of the Y” begins on page 13. Photography by Monica A. Wolff.

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From the President

On October 8, Robert Wilson, Joseph Stein, and I, representing the CSA, will meet in Middlebury, Connecticut, with the leadership of the Connecticut Construction Industry to discuss a wide range of problems and objectives. Although we have met over the years in consort with many of the industry's components, this will be the first time that architects, engineers, general contractors, subcontractors, mechanical subcontractors, material suppliers, labor, finance and business will meet for the purpose of introspection and, hopefully, preparation for the future.

There will be press coverage of this conference and a combined report will be issued and circulated through the Bulletins of each of the attending organizations. It is hoped that the fundamentals discussed and established at Middlebury will be only the beginning of a lasting liaison within our industry—a liaison which can touch on our concerns for increased efficiency and productivity and a better image for the industry, an arrangement on legislative matters as they affect our working conditions and future, a coordination of our educational efforts so that we may better understand each other's problems, and the establishment of a communications system which can not only expose us to these problems, but can also be the vehicle through which we can work together to solve them.

It should be expected that a conference of this type will offer criticisms and suggestions to and for all of us. The CSA Board of Directors is very much behind this type of Forum and is prepared to view the results that come from this one-day session, and to start with the planning and action necessary to improve the lot of the industry and with it the future of the architecture of the State of Connecticut and those of us who work with it and are responsible for it.

David N. LaBau, AIA

From the Executive Director

A record number of 194 people attended the combined CSA-AID-NSID meeting in New Haven on September 19. Over 100 went on tours of Louis Kahn's Mellon Art Center and his Yale Art Gallery, conducted prior to dinner. Macomber Construction Company and the curators at the Yale Art Gallery did an excellent job in handling the much-larger-than-planned crowds for the tours. The theme of the meeting was the late Louis Kahn, and Professor Vincent Scully of Yale gave a fascinating slide presentation on Mr. Kahn and his work.

A committee, under Edward Jeter, is progressing towards the development of legislation for the selection of designers for State work, which will be presented to an Interprofessional Task Force on Designer Selection and, later, to the members of the General Assembly and heads of appropriate State agencies. Hugh Jones and Russell Stecker, both ex-legislators, are serving on this committee, along with Kermit Thompson.

In addition to Michael Buckley's, the chapter's continuing education committee led by William Sapienza has scheduled two evening clinics. On November 13, Robert Keane, CPA, and comptroller of Fletcher Thompson, a large A-E firm, will give a two-hour course on cost determination and control, cash management and relations with creditor institutions. This course is especially designed for the small firm. It will be held at Norwalk State Technical College.

Harold Rosen, FCSI, formerly chief specification writer for Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, will discuss designing with glass, its optimum use and limitations, on December 4 at the Yale School of Architecture's Hastings Hall.

The importance of the October 23 meeting to all members of the chapter cannot be stressed too much. This meeting will be devoted to action on the chapter's recommended fee schedule and action on chapter bylaw changes that have been prepared by Richard Howland. These changes include revisions in both regular and supplemental dues.

The chapter meeting will follow a seminar on Load Bearing Concrete, which is being presented by the Mason Contractor's Association and, like the seminar, will be at Valle's Steak House in Hartford. Plan to attend both the seminar and the chapter meeting.

The 1974 Honor Awards Program has received over 90 submissions — a record.

The judging will take place this month, and the announcements will be made at the annual meeting.

The Lay Person Award Program, only three years old, has also received a record number of nominations. The selections will also be announced at the annual meeting.

Robert Wilson, CSA President-Elect, has selected most of the commissioners who will work with him in 1975. Consequently, he is certain that his chapter organization will be well in place by the end of the year and ready to get the 1975 chapter programs underway at the very beginning of the year.

Please reserve November 20 for the Annual Meeting of the chapter. It is always a big meeting, with a full and varied program. Officers are elected and, therefore, the direction of the chapter will go is determined at that meeting. Plan to attend this meeting and to take an active role in deciding who will be running the chapter in the years to come.

Peter H. Borgemeister

CSA Employment Service

The chapter office runs an employment service through which people looking for work and firms looking for people can get together. It is free, and chapter staff considers it one of the more important functions of the Society. This service's effectiveness is determined by the number of resumes it receives and the number of firms calling it for resumes.

Firms throughout the state are urged to call the chapter office if they need people. The office may know about just the person the firm needs. Firms are also urged to suggest to anyone who contacts them looking for work to send a resume to the CSA office.

The service is working quite well in the New Haven area because firms know about it and use it. It needs more calls from firms outside the New Haven area, and it needs more resumes from people outside the area.

Please help the chapter office help people get work.
The contemporary skyline is the signature of our age. It reveals our major character traits, our individuality index, our strength, and our weaknesses as clearly as a personal symbol inscribed in ink.

What our skyline does not say about us can be found in detail, like an open book, in the fine print of our buildings. The archeographologist, a generation or even a decade hence, will discover more about us than we know ourselves.

He will undoubtedly observe that we are supremely self-assured and adventurous, as expressed in our soaring skyscrapers and our far-flung highways. He will note that we engage in the exchange of goods with a fervor surpassing the most violent religious fanaticism of the past. He will deduce that we believe firmly in the process of education, as evidenced by our massive high schools and our college buildings. And judging by the squalor we live in, he will record that our housekeeping is execrable and that we couldn't care less.

Furthermore, he will remark unequivocally that we lack faith in our ideals. The key to this is that for some time we have produced no useless buildings. We have abandoned that special brand of creativity that has graced man's environment since the first artist, for the least utilitarian of reasons, decorated the wall of a cave. Everything we build today is directed toward a temporal or utilitarian end. Nothing is created for its own sake; nothing is built simply to be enjoyed for its beauty, for its grandeur, or for the way it reflects our dreams and our visions.

It is not that we are lacking in imagination. We have, in fact, indulged in several notable exercises in non-utility. Outstanding among these is the gleaming 700-foot high parabola on the banks of the Mississippi. A jerky elevator ride to its summit is rewarded with no more than a view of the plains surrounding East St. Louis. But the $12-million structure is a symbol of the faith that our spiritual horizon deserves to be enhanced as well as the St. Louis waterfront. Equally impressive are the towers built single-handedly by Simon Rodia in the Watts section of Los Angeles. They are far more significant in the progress of mankind than the riots that took place in their shadow.

Viewed as a whole, however, the architectural perspective of our society is woe-

fully wanting in uselessness. Instead of the cathedral, we have settled for the storefront, a bare strata removed from the catacombs. In place of the palaces of kings, we have three nondescript presidential residences that no one can enter without an FBI clearance. To match the baroque magnificence of the Paris Opera, we offer the shallow profiles of Lincoln Center in New York and the abominable proportions of the Kennedy Center in the nation's capital. Alongside the glorious vastness of Rome's Pantheon, we have the Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, which is, to me, the world's ugliest structure.

In short, we can boast nothing to compare with the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, the monument to Victor Emmanuel in Rome, or the Carl Milles fountains in St. Louis. All is function, pure and unadulterated, within a rigid frame no broader than the dimensions of our appetites and the demands of the gas tank.

We are not only underselling ourselves, but we are also cheating our heirs by denying them a visible, tangible, statement of the belief that our measure of greatness is worthy of posterity's attention.

We are certainly not lacking in subjects. With a little effort, and perhaps a national competition, we could do a lot better than the Great Society, whose sole punctuation mark is a library of dubious merit crammed full of personalia.

We might consider, for example, a monument to "Peace With Honor." What pharaoh, what emperor in the past would have turned down a similar opportunity? Appropriately conceived and properly executed, it could attain its merited stature along with "Blood, Toil, Sweat, and Tears," and "L'Etat, c'est Moi!"

Such a creation would serve no useful purpose whatsoever, but its psychological impact would be incalculable. It would show the world and ourselves that we really believe the things we say and do. It would make us feel justly proud of our times, just as our forefathers did when they erected the Washington Monument, and carved those sculptures on Mount Rushmore.

It would be a substantial and permanently evocative representation of an ideal which, for the moment, is entirely abstract, and whose best chance of perpetuation rests within a square of microfilm and a roll or so of videotape. Furthermore, it would pay for itself from here to eternity in tickets, color slides, and post-cards to those tacit legions in the hinterland.

It is a challenge not to be ignored. Louis Kahn, the internationally renowned architect, phrased it thus to his students: "Don't build what we need; someone else will always take care of that. Build what we want!" His is an echo of the same voice that inspired the murals in the Sistine chapel, Bernini's colonnade, all the great symphonies, operas, plays, memorials, and commemorative monuments of history. All of them were and still are, in a sense, utterly useless. But without them, and all the other works of man that nourish the soul rather than the stomach, our entire civilized environment would be a cultural desert. And that's hardly a skyline worthy of "this great land of ours!"
Twenty-five years ago a major event in the field of architecture happened in New Canaan. Philip Johnson built a totally transparent monument to living — a glass house.

On Sunday, September 22, 1974, the Architectural League of New York gave Johnson's house a birthday party, with the architect as honored guest and four distinguished speakers to honor him.

About 250 guests, mostly from the New York City area, paid $25 per person to tour the grounds of the Connecticut country estate and to hear the remarks of New York drama critic, Brendan Gill; Jacqueline T. Robertson, architect and real estate developer; architectural historian, Vincent Scully; and Architectural League president, Robert Stern.

The curious were afforded an opportunity to explore every corner of four out of the five buildings on the site. Besides the glass house, photographers and architecture lovers delighted in touring an underground art gallery, which houses the owner's large collection of contemporary paintings; an angular, glass-and-white-concrete sculpture gallery, the architect's own favorite; and an open-sided, Greek-like structure in the middle of a heart-shaped pond. The fifth building, a guest house made entirely of brick, was closed to the public. Although the glass house looks lived-in, Johnson confessed that he makes the brick house his home.

Johnson's glass house has a living area of 32 by 56 feet, topped by a ten-and-a-half-foot ceiling. The only enclosed space is a leather-tiled bathroom built inside of a brick cylinder which measures ten feet in diameter. A fireplace backs up to the brick enclosure, and provisions have been made for living, dining, kitchen, and bedroom areas. The symmetrical, glazed rectangle is framed by black, steel beams, and overlooks a pond surrounded by trees. By its location, the transparent house becomes a window on the natural beauty of its surroundings.

Johnson first became attracted to architecture while studying Greek and philosophy at Harvard, and in 1930 he toured European architecture with historian-critic Henry Russell Hitchcock. While preparing their joint literary endeavor, entitled The International Style, Johnson was greatly influenced by Mies's classic approach to design. In 1947 he published Mies van der Rohe and discussed the idea of building a glass structure with his mentor. Before Mies could materialize his dream, Johnson had completed his transparent house in New Canaan. Mies's influence is readily visible; however, unlike Mies's Farnsworth House, Johnson's building is symmetrical and solid in appearance.

The Glass House in New Canaan is an early example of Johnson's work. The Seagram Building and the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center, in addition to the four other structures at his Connecticut estate, definitively illustrate the architect's divergence from the Miesian style.

The Glass House birthday party program was rounded out by an elegant picnic lunch, accompanied by wine and grapes, and followed by cake ceremoniously distributed by the guest of honor. All proceeds benefit the Architectural League of New York, a non-profit multidisciplinary organization representing the design professions and the arts. Founded in 1881, the League sponsors cultural events, exhibitions, lectures, and research projects to stimulate public awareness of architectural and environmental issues.
The headline on a story from the Hartford Courant last June was a shining ray of hope to the otherwise depressed and generally despondent construction industry of Connecticut: "1974-1984: Northeast Utilities Will Spend $6.25 Billion for Construction." As the article by Ray Beauregard, corporate economist for the utility company, pointed out, the magnitude of this commitment to provide additional electric facilities was necessary to supply adequately the energy demands of customers in Connecticut and western Massachusetts over the next decade and beyond.

Nearly $4 billion of the projected amount represented the construction costs for increased nuclear power generation, making this area less dependent on an expensive and largely imported supply of fossil fuel which is today costing in excess of 23 mills per kilowatt-hour. A large part of the remaining $2.25 billion will be spent for expanded substations and distribution lines, while some $60 million will be devoted to the construction of office, service and warehouse/storage facilities in the area.

As architects, engineers, contractors and others in the industry sharpened their pencils to match their already whetted appetite for work, the stock market was continuing a precipitous tumble to its lowest point in more than ten years, high interest rates were evaporating the nearly drained bond markets, and an apparently whimsical decision by the Public Utilities Commission on Northeast's application for rate-increase relief combined to create considerable doubt that the $6.25 billion projection would ever be translated into concrete, brick, steel and glass.

The glowing predictions of the spring have given way in the face of one overwhelming fact: All it takes is the money. The utility has canceled plans for starting any new construction in 1974, according to Fred L. Hecht, Jr., Systems Building Consultant for the Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO). Furthermore, the advanced planning schedule for NUSCO, established following an integrated study of the entire Northeast system in 1969, has had to be revised, leaving serious doubt as to whether services required by projected customer needs over the next decade can be met.

A look at the activities and functions of NUSCO—a small part of the total construction program—is indicative of the company's intelligent approach to the central planning and construction of new facilities. Since the 1966 affiliation between Western Massachusetts Electric, Hartford Electric Light, and Connecticut Light and Power, the growth of the system and the increase in the number of customers has resulted in a continuing process of construction.

The 1969 integrated study, referred to above, provided a town-by-town projection for customers to be served, as well as historical data on existing service facilities and schedules for new construction and renovation projects. Through Mr. Hecht's central planning group, construction programs are written, budgets established, architects and other consultants are selected, and construction supervision provided.

The new Shoreline Service Center at Madison, Connecticut, illustrated here is a typical result of this planning process. A survey of existing facilities between New Haven and the Connecticut River indicated that the building at Branford needed too much expensive renovation work, while that at Essex was already
completed occupied. Thus, a site was selected for a new centralized service facility at Madison, the Essex facility was sold, and the one at Branford retained as a subsidiary for Madison.

In such service facilities, the basic functions are repeated from building to building: an office/administrative portion; a service portion housing meter and service departments, locker rooms, cafeteria, etc; and a shop and storage/warehouse portion. Most of the facilities are of brick and block construction, but each one is given its own individual architectural treatment. At Madison, for example, the architects — Drakos Associates of Hartford — created an exciting facade of smooth-surfaced white limestone, forming a striking contrast with the deep shadows falling on the recessed bronze-glass windows. The boldness of the forms bears a direct relationship to the speed and volume of the traffic passing on the interstate highway. The buildings are sited to follow the natural slope of the terrain, however, and parking areas have been established behind earth berms, leaving the view of the structure unblemished by the sight of automobiles and trucks, while shielding the internal functions from the sound and motion of the highway.

In contrast to the Shoreline structure, the 34,000-square-foot Service Center for CL&P at East Hampton, by DEW Architects of Hartford, is designed to conform to its more relaxed, rural setting. In the warehouse and service areas, the mellow red-orange tones of a natural molded brick are accented by white pre-cast concrete facia panels at the roof line. The pre-cast material is also used in conjunction with bronzed glass in the office/administrative area, which is cantilevered out above the lower level and connected to the parking area by a concrete pedestrian bridge. The existing CL&P building which faces directly on Route 66 has been sold to the town of East Hampton for use as a Town Hall and Police Headquarters.

These two service facilities were designed and under construction before the "Energy Crisis" and the 1974 "Credit Crunch" became household words across the State. For NUSCO, these words meant the postponement of a new divisional service facility at Cheshire — the first such installation in which new techniques for energy conservation were to be tested and proven. The project, designed by Drakos & Greene and Associated Architects, remains on the boards as final working drawings are being completed, but no one is predicting when ground breaking will take place.

In the Cheshire building, glass areas have been greatly reduced, a number of wall systems, have been studied in terms of the greatest heating and cooling efficiency, and the IRMA roofing system has been selected as the alternative to conventional systems. The opportunity to test these theoretical improvements in construction hinges on the question of the company's long-range financial position.

It is obvious from the examples cited here that Northeast Utilities, through its subsidiary NUSCO, is in the business of building structures which are both functional and which make some contribution to the architectural landscape. "We intend to be in these buildings for thirty or forty years," comments Fred Hecht, "and so we are very much concerned with the quality of their construction. We must also seek approval of the individual planning and zoning boards in the various towns in which we build, so we are very aware of our obligation to be good neighbors. We are not in the business of building architectural eyesores."

Under Mr. Hecht's administration, the practice has been developed of selecting architectural and other services from the talent available within Connecticut instead of ranging far afield. "In building facilities which are obviously repetitive in their functions," he says, "we find that the experience of doing one such structure makes the architect far more efficient in the next building he designs. For us, this means a savings of time, effort, and money. Also, since we assume the construction supervision function, it is far (Continued to page 29)
The view from the second-story office on Willimantic’s Main Street is not far different from that in many other small Connecticut cities. Cars parked at meters line both sides of the street. Drug stores, a Five-and-Dime which seems somehow to have survived the exodus of shoppers to the suburbs, a dry goods shop, a shoe store and similar enterprises carry on a rather indifferent business in neglected buildings of late 19th and early 20th-century style. The brick facades with their frills and ornamentation hark back to a more prosperous era of the town’s existence, when the mills were operating at full capacity and the trains made regular stops at the depot down by the river.

But the man who views this scene from his modest office is not at all pessimistic, because his gaze also detects signs of new life. Just across and a way up the street, he sees a new bank building of simple but effective contemporary design. Directly across the street is a building housing two shops — a gift shop and a women’s specialty store — in whose reconstruction he has played a substantial role.

His name is Robert Gantner. He is an architect, and he is a happy man. Why shouldn’t he be — he’s the only architect in town!

Bob Gantner’s is probably typical of many one-man shops in Connecticut and elsewhere. His quarters in the second-floor walkup are by no means the spacious or elegant environs of the big-city firm. The reception area has a minimum of (no) furniture, since this is a place where he works rather than where he impresses visitors. The payroll is simple: there isn’t any. Typing is done outside, and an answering device takes calls when he’s not around. The design studio, with its window on Main Street, is obviously the most important room, with walls covered with renderings and concepts. The drafting tables are piled with sketches and working drawings. The bookcases are stuffed with manuals, code books, note books, and other reference materials. At random intervals on the floor and windowsills are stacks of read and unread architectural magazines. The scene is chaotic, but filled with a sense of order and purpose for the man who works there.

Gantner is an architect who works hard — and, fortunately, one who has work to do. A 1956 graduate of the Syracuse University School of Architecture, he held a series of jobs with firms in Syracuse, New York City and Hartford, before opening his own office in Willimantic in April, 1969. Such a move takes courage, as well as confidence that good training flavored with broad experience and a flair for design will provide the ingredients for success.

Gantner was luckier than most, however, because the home he designed for his family in Coventry was recognized for its excellence by a CSA/AIA Honor Award in 1969. The jury’s comment in making its decision says a great deal about Bob Gantner and his work:

“The excellent response to its site has been accomplished in this residence not only by the varying sequence of spaces from entry court through the house, but also by the use of views that, step by step, reveal the presence of the pond view and by the compatible ordering of natural light. The use of appropriate materials in a simple, clear manner that is consistent in revealing the spatial organization results in an effect that is one of intimate scale and the warmth of human use.”

Unfortunately, such recognition does not necessarily result in enormous commissions. Gantner has done everything—from a fence, to housing additions and remodeling, to a motel in Florida. In fact, the fence was one of his more interesting
projects. "The guy is a doctor who had bought this one-story house near the center of town to use as an office. He obviously couldn't afford to do the whole building over, but he needed an attractive facade which would also provide privacy from the street and neighboring houses. So we just built a high, slatted redwood screen around three sides of the thing."

The addition Gantner designed for the Jenkins residence in Mansfield earned him another CSA/AIA Honor Award in 1971 — the first such prize given for a remodeling project. The two-story addition combines a contemporary feeling with traditional New England forms and materials, and provides the necessary privacy for the four generations of the family living in the house. "The building," commented the jury, "is an exciting and economical solution to an everyday expansion problem."

"Perhaps the most interesting part of being a one-man shop is the variety of work in which you get involved," comments Gantner. He is currently working on two projects which are about as far apart as any architect could wish. The first is the restoration of the Jilson House in conjunction with Willimantic's Redevelopment Authority. With $90,000 in federal funding from HUD and some from the state and municipal governments, the 1825 structure, which has been designated a National Historic Landmark, will be restored as a museum. Also, its location on a triangle of land at one end of Main Street will make it a focal point for the town's central business district. For this job, Bob has even returned to the old practice of doing full-size drawings for the replacement of the building's cornices and moldings.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, Gantner is also designing a $400,000 animal hospital in Bolton, Connecticut, which will house facilities for six veterinarians. "If you take your cat in for inoculations regularly, you never know what kind of work is going to develop," he quips.

It's easy to understand why Bob Gantner is such a happy man. His practice is flourishing while others, with fancier offices and larger payrolls, are struggling to make ends meet. More importantly, he's doing what he likes best — "architecture" in the most complete sense of the word. And he's the only one in town doing it!
CONCERTED LEARNING

NOTES ON CHANGE AND

CONCERTED LEARNING

Change is a biological imperative. We all recognize that organizations and systems must change for survival and growth, yet change within an established organization or client group is particularly debilitating for our profession. Unfortunately, design professionals are product-oriented, and haven't yet focused their analytic capabilities to effect change in processes.

In most organizations, the "force of the steady state" looms as the greatest barrier to change. This force can best be explained as the boundary which surrounds the organization's field of influence, and most groups will expend much more energy to maintain that boundary and remain stable than to effect a change. The force of this steady state is further nurtured by such psychological fears as fear of the unknown, anxiety over loss of the familiar, fear of changes in measures of effect, fear of loss or change in power, and fear of straying from tradition.

Another often fearful result of change is the devaluation of commonly-held philosophies. Every period of human history exhibits certain ideas which have "good currency." Ideas in good currency are unchallenged concepts which are supported vigorously. These unchallenged and unproven ideas constitute "intellectual currency," whose value becomes first devalued, then totally bankrupt through the process of change. This is true of design philosophies, as well as management organizations.

To withstand the shock of substantial and significant change, Lawrence Grenier offers the following:

1. Pressure on top management to initiate action;
2. Some form of intervention at the top, either a new staff member or consultant, which induces reorientation;
3. A diagnosis of the problem areas and an analysis of specific problems;
4. The invention of new solutions for old problems, which guarantees commitment to new courses of action;
5. Experimentation with new solutions and a search for results; and
6. A reinforcement in the system from positive results — thus, the acceptance of new practices.

Herbert Beckhard recasts the characteristics in his recent book on organizational change:

1. Pressure from the environment, internal or external, for change;
2. A strategic person or people are "hurting";
3. Some strategic people are willing to do a diagnosis of the problem;
4. Some willingness to take risks in trying new forms or relationships;
5. A realistic, long-term perspective;
6. A reward for those who made an effort on behalf of change.

John Gardner, the Director of Common Cause, lists a similar set of rules necessary for an effective organization:

1. The organization must have effective program for recruitment and development of talent;
2. The organization must be capable of continuous renewal by providing a hospitable environment for the individual;
3. The organization must have built-in provisions for self-criticism;
4. The organization must have fluidity in the internal structure; and
5. The organization must have means to combat the process by which men become prisoners of their own procedure.

The conditions for successful change demonstrate that a unique form of learning is taking place. "Concerted learning" is a term developed by Donald Schon to portray this kind of an intensive learning process in which groups continually reassess their shared "ideas in good currency", and consciously act to effect change.

Concerted learning is dynamic and synergistic — the sum of an organization's knowledge is greater than the sum of its parts. Because it requires a supportive environment, concerted learning is more difficult to establish than institutional learning. Concerted learning truncates the elapsed time to substantial change in organizations or groups by collapsing the traditional "diffusion cycles" -a process in which new ideas slowly filter down through the residue of bankrupt concepts.

In the past five decades, we have witnessed an extraordinary acceleration in the absorption of technical innovations into production. The modern industrial corporation, responsible for this incredible pace, has clearly adopted some form of concerted learning in force.

Design professionals face rapid, sustained change within their own organizational complexes, and within the built environment itself. Will change be occasioned by the eventual collapse of old concepts and the gradual diffusion of the new? Or by concerted learning? It's fast company, either way.

Michael P. Buckley, CSA

Letters

To the Editor

As Chairmen of the Special Bi-Partisan Legislative Committee investigating the State's leasing practices, we are writing to encourage any of your readers who may have information that would be helpful to our Committee to contact us.

For several years, there have been continuing allegations regarding wrongdoing and excessive profit making when the State leases property from private landowners for State facilities. Our six member Committee was created by the 1974 General Assembly to pursue these allegations, and make any necessary recommendations for action by the full Legislature. Since our organization in June of 1974, we have retained a full professional staff and are in the process of a comprehensive review of all current effective State leases.

It is extremely important to our work that any citizen of Connecticut who has information that he or she believes would be helpful to our investigation to contact us. We will make every attempt to respect the desire of individuals for confidentiality.

Letters may be addressed to Legislative Leasing Committee, P.O. Box 2728, Hartford, Connecticut 06101. The Committee staff can be reached in Hartford at 566-4237, 566-5674, or 566-3123. We would also encourage people with information to feel free to contact either of us personally or the other members of the Investigating Committee who are: Senator Nicholas Lenge of West Hartford, Representative Addo Bonnetti of Torrington, Representative John Groppo of Winsted, and Representative John Mannix of Wilton.

Thank you for your assistance.

Richard A. Dice, State Representative Chairman, Sub-Committee on Leasing

Joseph I. Lieberman, State Senator Vice Chairman, Sub-Committee on Leasing

Correction

In the story entitled "Bank Architecture: The Old and the New at CSB," which appeared in the July-August issue of Connecticut Architect, it was incorrectly stated that J. Capone Construction, Inc. was the general contractor for both the bank's new headquarters in New Haven and its branch office in Cheshire. It has been brought to our attention that the general contractor for the Connecticut Savings Bank building at 55 Church Street, New Haven, was the Gilbane Building Company. J. Capone Construction, Inc. was the general contractor for the renovation of the Governor Foote House, Cheshire.
The spirit of rebirth evident in the reconstruction of the heart of Connecticut's cities cannot be viewed as an isolated phenomenon. It has placed attendant pressures on the institutions which have been part of the fabric of the inner city to keep pace or move out of town, thus abandoning their established roles in the life of the community.

Among those institutions which have faced the question of whether to rebuild outmoded facilities and revitalize their presence as a part of the downtown scene are the YWCA and YMCA. In some instances, movement of population to the suburbs, as well as changes in the socio-economic make-up of the remaining urban population, have made it apparent that, in order to remain viable, the Y's must give up their traditional role and establish suburban facilities which will be needed and better used.

However, in the city of Hartford — and in a number of other metropolitan areas across the state — the response has been "rebuild and stay." The Hartford examples of this response, while not unique, have meant the nearly unprecedented construction at the same time of two new facilities which are as dramatic in their concept as they are in their determination to remain an integral part of the "new downtown."

The keynote of Hartford's new YWCA and YMCA is versatility, and the theme has been echoed in new facilities built in recent years in Middletown, New Britain, Stamford, Waterbury, and in the superb North Branch "Y" in Hamden — a gem of functional design and intelligent planning and use of materials. In all of these buildings, the designers have been faced with a combination of problems: extensive public use, limited site, building security, central control and strict budget.

A Striking YWCA

Flexibility of space and ease of adaptability are very apparent in the new regional YWCA in Hartford, designed by the architectural firm of Moore & Salsbury of Avon. Located at the top of Asylum Hill overlooking downtown Hartford, the YWCA structure consists of two wings joined by a common lobby and meeting area at the street level. The exterior is predominately brick, with...
accents of sand-blasted, precast concrete panels and bronze glass windows.

With typical areas furnished to suit the needs of several different age groups and functions, the designers have allowed interchangeability within the common areas for a wide range of uses, such as classrooms for meal planning, home repairs; herbal medicine, typing and shorthand, law, kids fun day, cake decorating and teen beauty. Other rooms provide areas for babysitting, sewing, crafts, art and lectures. The large all-purpose gym is surfaced with "dyna-turf" for dancing, roller skating, tennis and paddle ball, as well as typical gym uses.

The residential floors of the building are equally versatile. Each floor has a community lounge, kitchenette and laundry facilities. The individual rooms, designed for comfort and easy care, feature spacious bay windows and custom-designed, completely movable furniture by Hodgdon Design Group of Boston, allowing up to six different arrangements in a particular room.

Stressing the building as a "people place," the building committee for the YWCA worked very closely with the architects and interior designers to create a colorful, intimate interior. For example, the lounges with their brightly colored contemporary furnishings are decorated with supergraphic murals in black and white by R.A.O. Contract Sales of New York. Also, straight line hallways have been replaced with irregular, staggered corridors which ensure warmth and privacy.

Although it was two years in construction, the new YWCA cost only $2,000 more than the budgeted amount of $5.5 million, a tribute to the building committee, the architects, and Associated Construction Company, which assumed construction responsibility midway through the project when the original contractor defaulted on the bond.

Controversial YMCA

The Romanesque YMCA building was originally erected at one corner of Hartford's Bushnell Park in 1893 and served as a city landmark for years. The upper floors of the structure had been condemned, however, and it became apparent that the original plans for updating the facility would be impractical. Malmfeldt Associates of Hartford were commissioned to design a new structure which could be built around the existing facility in order to keep the "Y" operational. (A shutdown would have meant a loss of about $500,000 in income.)

Landmarks do not die easily, however. The Hartford Architecture Conservancy, which had not organized in time to save the old Garde Hotel around the corner, made a strong effort to halt the demolition process, but to no avail.

The YMCA reconstruction is being carried out in two stages. The first stage, completed in January, 1974, consists of a compact, eleven-story residential, social and administrative facility. The second stage, started this past summer, will replace the balance of the older facilities except for the gymnasium, pool and handball courts.

One of the chief design problems facing the architects was the necessity of fitting a large building on a cramped site which curves to conform to the street bordering the Park, and to tie the new structure in to the existing athletic wing. Though contemporary in concept, the brick and bronze-glass facade of the new building conforms well to the materials of the older structure. One important factor in creating a gracious entrance was the orientation of the structure toward the park rather than toward the more business-oriented Pearl Street. The spaciousness of the interior lobby is echoed in the many open areas throughout the building. The second floor, for example, features large, multi-purpose rooms for crafts, music, games, and both large and small group meetings. Perhaps the most unique feature of this floor is the chapel which creates a strong, contemporary feeling through the use of fieldstone and stained-glass panels, but retains the pews from the original chapel in the old building. Completion of the second stage of construction is set for the summer of 1975.

It is interesting to note that, over the past 36 years, Malmfeldt Associates have been involved in the design of 19 YMCA buildings in Connecticut and Massachusetts, perhaps a record for a single architectural firm.

Waterbury YMCA

Renovation of the existing facility included refurbishing the entire building, updating dormitory rooms, and converting the old gym to an exercise room, running track and small children's area. New additions are a six lane, 75 foot long pool, handball courts, health club and a larger gym to house adult and older children participation. The pool deck is dual purpose: bleacher area during swim meets — demonstration center during instructional swimming. Extra inserts in the tank walls to hold float lines allow the pool to be divided into more than six different variations for maximum use. The handball court gallery adapts to fencing, judo, archery and other small group activities. Because of the confined space, the architects had to stack the new areas. For example, the pool is built underneath the gym with only the diving area having a high ceiling. The new addition blends in externally with the old building, while the lobby joins both segments.

Middletown YMCA

The Y features pool and health club
The Middletown YMCA features a pool and health club. Architects: Malmfeldt Associates.

additions with area for future expansion. Locker rooms were renovated and a bowling alley was converted into a daycare center. Exposed concrete buttresses blend the new with the old. Wood beams were placed on the ceiling to give a warm, colorful look that is less formal, more inviting and eliminates the rust and maintenance problems of metallic materials. Good acoustics in the pool area are achieved through a perforated transite ceiling with six-inch fiberglass to absorb sound.

New Britain YMCA

Hirsch-Kaestle-Boos Architects directed the Y’s first change in 17 years. The health club was air-conditioned and expanded with new lockers, T.V. and reading lounge, exercise room, nap room, sauna and sun room. Five major areas were created from the basement: a senior high area which functions as a teen center through its multi-purpose lounge/meeting room/program room/game room, two squash courts, two handball courts, (one of each are completely finished), an exercise area in conjunction with the cardiac rehabilitation program from the New Britain General Hospital, and a senior athletic club which is offered at an intermediate price to attract new members. By 1977, the Y is planning to update and refurbish the entire existing facility from the ground up.

Hamden YMCA

Architects Harold Roth and Edward Saad provided a family recreation center which operates with minimal staffing and maintenance in this suburban neighborhood. Their goal of giving the Y a “fresh look” promotes visitor involvement the moment one walks inside. The 25,000 square feet utilize almost indestructible materials: quarry tile floors, single wythe bearing brick supporting exposed poured concrete floor and roof slabs, butcher block woodwork, stainless steel railings, 2 1/4 inch thick solid core doors with 1/4 inch thick mahogany veneers and black anodized aluminum window sash. Because paint abuses from heavy use, Harbison extruded clay brick replaces it on walls. Versatility is evident in the programming of the large community room. It serves meetings, lectures, dog obedience, kids’ games, dancing and kitchen activities. This multi-level building overcomes the fungus problem caused by street shoes by allowing direct access to the pool bleachers, eliminating the necessity of walking on the pool deck. The pool boasts excellent acoustics from a series of ten-foot long baffles. Designed by Bolt, Beanek and Newman, they contain a fiberglass insulating blanket wrapped with white perforated mylar and provide much greater surface area and less reverberation. A skylighted central lobby reduces the use of lights on bright days. The dual-level health club has one day each week set aside for women only.

Stamford YMCA

The Y facility, designed by Warner, Jensen and Adams and opened this past
spring, consists of 100,000 square feet in two sections — a two-floor activities and six-floor residence tower. The first activities floor includes an arts-and-crafts center, three handball/paddleball courts, weightlifting room, athletic club, four locker rooms (men's, women's, businessmen's and boys') and a natatorium or pool. A youth lounge serves as a game/educational center during the day and as a meeting/movie area for adults in the evening. The second floor features a double gym with an indoor running track, wrestling/judo room, general exercise room, a spectator gallery, and an all-purpose room. An outdoor running track is built around an exercise area above the gym. Both running tracks are covered by high density, resilient synthetic turf. The co-ed residence area contains 132 single rooms with private bath. Closed circuit TV and a two-way surveillance system offer maximum control.

Partitions use masonry and epoxy paint for durability. Exterior walls are precast, pre-stressed high strength concrete. The pool area has ceramic tile and stainless steel doors. A heating/cooling recovery system for energy conservation makes use of the air-to-air heat/recovery wheel concept — fresh air intake and spill air meet in separate chambers where the
The common element in the decisions to rebuild and revitalize old facilities and to embark on new construction programs has been the fact that, in order to survive, the YWCA’s and YMCA’s must expand the scope of their programs to keep pace with the demands of the 1970’s. It also reflects new emphasis on the participation of the entire family in “Y” activities and programs. These examples of the response to new challenges make it apparent that the “Y’s” are anxious to regain their positions as a vital part of community life.

The Hartford YMCA
Architects: The Malmfeldt Associates, Hartford
Mechanical and Electrical Engineers: Bemis, Freeman & Sipala, Hartford
Structural Engineers: Onderdonk, Lathrop & Coel, Glastonbury
General Contractors: O&G Building Construction, Inc., Torrington
Interior Design: Building & Furnishings Service of The National Council of the YMCA, New York
Furnishings: Burt, Knust & McCabe Associates, Hartford

The Hartford YWCA
Architects: Moore & Salsbury Associates, Avon
General Contractor: Associated Construction Company, Hartford
Interior Design: Hodgdon Design Group, Inc., Boston
Interior Furniture: Burt, Knust & McCabe Associates, Hartford
CHFA Changes Policy

The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority will now provide funds for conventional mortgages and those insured by private mortgage insurance companies, according to John B. Maylott, CHFA executive director.

Maylott announced the change in policy in late August to members of the Housing Task Force of the New Haven Home Builders Association.

To initially finance the new programs, CHFA will permit lending institutions to divert funds already allocated for issuance of FHA and VA insured mortgages to the new use and will provide an additional $5 million for those allocations.

Mortgages purchased from these funds will carry an interest rate of 7 1/2% plus one-half of one percent insurance premium for insured mortgages. Prospective homeowners must meet CHFA income limits, and the price of the housing purchased may not exceed $39,500, except in Fairfield County, where the price may be up to $43,000.

Maylott added that guidelines and instructions are now being distributed to participating lenders. The guidelines indicate that the new program applies only to new housing, while existing CHFA programs for federally insured mortgages apply to both new and existing residences.

CHFA is a mortgage lending corporation created by the Connecticut General Assembly to assist in the financing of housing for low and moderate income families. At the present time, it has $125 million invested in, committed to, or allocated for the financing of housing in Connecticut.

AIA Inquiry Committee Reports

Since its establishment last May, the National Inquiry Committee of The American Institute of Architects has undertaken investigations of 15 cases involving alleged misconduct by architects, the committee's chairman reported.

Addressing the Board of Directors, F. Carter Williams, FAIA, of Raleigh, North Carolina, stated that eight of the 15 cases are currently active, three others have been held up pending further evidence, and four have been dismissed unless additional evidence in support of the allegation of wrongdoing is found.

Discussing the kinds of judgments his committee is required to make, Williams told the AIA Board, "It is not surprising that one of the basic causes of problems being investigated by the National Inquiry Committee is in the area of political contributions and campaign financing."

The AIA Board voted in May to establish the inquiry committee to investigate matters that appear to involve unprofessional conduct involving a major public interest, such as recent allegations of kickbacks by design professionals seeking public contracts.

Pelli Appointed to Yale Chair

An Argentinian architect and partner in the Los Angeles firm of Gruen Associates has been named to one of the highest chairs at the Yale School of Architecture, it was announced by Dean Herman Spiegel.

Cesar Pelli, who worked with Eero Saarinen from 1954 to 1964 and taught at Yale as the Shepherd professor in 1972, has been appointed William H. Bishop Visiting Professor of Architecture. He is the first man to have been appointed to the two highest chairs at the School.

Born in Argentina in 1926 and graduated from the University of Tucuman there, Pelli came to the United States to study at the University of Illinois, where he received his Master's degree in architecture. An architect of international acclaim, Pelli won first prize in a 1969 competition sponsored by the Republic of Austria and the City of Vienna for a $120 million United Nations building. Two examples of his work in New Haven are the Stiles and Morse Colleges at Yale and the Richard C. Lee High School.

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GSA Orders Structural Review

The U.S. General Service Administration has ordered an inspection of all federally owned and leased buildings under its jurisdiction to determine their structural integrity.

Administrator Arthur F. Sampson said that "as a result of the tragic collapse of a building in Miami, GSA is undertaking a comprehensive review of all floor loadings in GSA controlled space to insure that no area is overloaded or structurally unsafe."

The inspection plan requires that all space be inspected within the next 60 days to identify those buildings which require a detailed structural evaluation. Priority will be given to buildings built prior to 1940, containing over 10,000 square feet of space and above one story in height, to be completed in 30 days. GSA buildings managers are required to develop data on minimum safe floor loading for all space.

In determining buildings requiring further evaluation, consideration will be given to suspected substandard construction, changes in structure, nature of occupancy, changes in occupancy and questionable maintenance of the structure.

For leased buildings, a written certification of the floor load will be made by a registered professional engineer who will furnish calculations and structural drawings substantiating his findings. In those instances where the government’s use is in excess of the designed floor load, appropriate immediate corrective action shall be taken, Sampson said.

ABC Discusses Inflation

The Associated Builders and Contractors has released 11 anti-inflationary guidelines, which assign the responsibility for solving the construction industry's problems to the federal government.

The guidelines include: elimination of non-productive job-site practices; suspension of the Davis-Bacon Act, which imposes maximum wages on government-sponsored projects; prompt and equitable payment to contractors; updating of manpower training practices; elimination of special privileges for construction unions; and the creation of an Under Secretary of Commerce for Construction.

For details, contact the New England Chapter of ABC at 235 Bear Hill Road, Waltham, MA 02154.

AISC Grants Available

The American Institute of Steel Construction announces the availability of four graduate Fellowships in the amount of $3,500 each, to be awarded to civil or architectural engineering students proposing an advanced course of study related to fabricated structural steel.

Commenting on the AISC program, President Van W. Coddington stated that, "The purpose of the Fellowship Award Competition is to encourage expertise in the imaginative use of fabricated structural steel, and to encourage the pursuit of new ideas which will improve the technology of steel construction."

Fellowships will be awarded on the basis of the candidate's proposed course of study, scholastic achievement, and a recommendation by the engineering college faculty. Applications can be obtained from the college's civil or architectural engineering department or from the AISC Committee on Education, and must be received by February 11, 1975. For more information, write to The American Institute of Steel Construction, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020. Winners will be announced by April 15, 1975.
De Cordova Museum Chooses Area Architects

“New Architecture in New England,” an exhibition devoted to contemporary New England architecture, will be presented by the De Cordova Museum in Lincoln, Mass., from November 10, 1974 through January 15, 1975. Organized for the general public, the multimedia slide presentation will allow various views and details to be examined, as they would be by a visitor. The exhibition will focus on about fifty institutional buildings constructed in the last decade. The buildings have been chosen primarily for their aesthetic distinction, in the recognition that the visual quality of our environment remains a major architectural responsibility.

The following are among the selected exhibits and their designers: New Haven Fire Station by Earl Carlin; Phoenix Building (Hartford) by Harrison & Abramowitz; Trinity College Life Sciences Building (Hartford) by Orr, de Cossy & Winder; Choate School Art Center (Wallingford) by I.M. Pei & Partners; Wesleyan Art Center (Middletown) by Roche, Dinkeloo; Heublein Corporate Headquarters (Farmington) by Russell, Gibson, von Dohlen; and American Can Company (Greenwich) by Skidmore, Owings, Merrill.

Each building in the exhibition will be represented by a large mural photograph and by a series of color slides showing the structure together with its surroundings. Several different views will be projected simultaneously on a wide screen, and a voice narrative and recorded local sounds will accompany the projections. In addition to the major, wide-screen presentation for each building, which will emphasize exteriors, there will be smaller viewing stations elsewhere in the Museum galleries where selected interiors will be shown in detail. The slides will give viewers the sense of actually walking in and around each building and will impart a dynamic quality to the entire exhibition. An illustrated catalog-guidebook will supply historical background, supplementary information, and maps.

Photography by David Lowe
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HAC Exhibit

The Hartford Architecture Conservancy (HAC) has organized a photographic exhibit at the Wadsworth Atheneum for the months of October and November. Entitled "Living Downtown, Part I," the display features more than 100 photographs by Sal Lopes of the Goodwin Building, The Linden, and Bushnell Tower.

The Goodwin Building was constructed in 1881 through the efforts of Francis Goodwin, who acquired the site upon the death of his father, James. Francis, together with his brother, James Junius, commissioned New York architects Kimball and Wisedell to design the building which resembles the style of the late 19th century work of English architect Richard N. Shaw. Built of brick in three interconnecting sections, the Goodwin Building occupies one-half of a block and faces Asylum and Haynes Streets. The front section is the most elaborate of the three, with molded and cut brick ornaments, decorated plaques, and terra cotta copings. Originally intended as a mixed residential and commercial structure, where J. P. Morgan stayed when in Hartford, today the building has become home to an artistic and cultural community.

The newly painted Linden Building at 427 Main Street dates back to the mid-1890's and was a choice place to live at the time. In 1910, an ad touted the Linden as the largest apartment house in Connecticut, with 85 apartments having two to seven rooms each with bath. The apartments facing Linden Place had their own verandas overlooking a small grassy park, which has since been replaced by a parking lot. Designed by architect F. S. Newman of Hartford, it was a mixed residential and business address.

The Bushnell Tower, on the corner of Main and Gold Streets, was completed in 1969 by the Bushnell Plaza Development Corp., a subsidiary of Reynolds Metal Company, Richmond, Virginia. Designed by New York architect I. M. Pei, the 27-story Tower contains offices on the ground floor level and apartments which range from efficiencies to two-bedrooms. The original plan called for two identical towers, but recently the Metropolitan District Commission announced plans for a corporate office next to the Tower, which will include medium-rise luxury apartments.

The photographic essay of these three buildings is the work of Sal Lopes, a freelance photographer from Middletown, who studied the art with Richard Benson. He has done photographic illustration for six books, and was awarded a $2,000 grant by the State of Connecticut to initiate programs in poetry and creative arts using photography.

HAC is a non-profit organization, committed to increasing public awareness of the necessity for preserving threatened landmarks.
The depressed state of the building industry in Connecticut was the subject of a day-long conference held at the Preston Hill Inn at Uniroyal Headquarters in Middlebury, on Tuesday, October 8.

Attended by representatives of the State’s leading industrial and residential construction associations, organized labor, the CSA/AIA and engineers in private practice, as well as officials from major manufacturers of building materials, the conference was the result of a six-month effort by the Committee for the Connecticut Construction Industry to assess the state of the industry in the light of the economic and legislative climate, and to map out a plan of action.

Chaired by president David LaBau CSA, the meeting heard an analysis of the current economic situation from Raymond Beauregard, corporate economist for the Northeast Utilities. Mr. Beauregard cited Connecticut’s 6.6% unemployment rate (nearly 1% higher than the national average), a projected slowdown of spending in the defense and capital goods areas, and an unabated rate of inflation as being the determining factors in a gloomy short-range outlook for the industry. He also advised that a forceful program of legislative action, such as a 5% investment tax credit for expenditures on new plant and equipment, would be necessary to turn the situation around.

These sentiments were echoed by Mark Feinberg, Director of Development for the Connecticut Department of Commerce. Mr. Feinberg also stressed the fact that industrial capacity is the key to Connecticut’s economic future, but more than 33% of the manufacturing floor space in the State is more than 50 years old. He pointed out that financing for new industrial development is available through the Connecticut Development Authority, a quasi-public agency which has provided over $200 million in construction funding through the issuance of tax-free bonds.

Leon LaMaire, Vice President and General Counsel of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, described his organization’s role in working with legislators, to promote positive programs which will stimulate the demand for new construction services in industry. John Brotherhood, of the Hartford public relations firm of Lowengard and Brotherhood, pointed out the need for an improved image for the construction industry in general: from labor, which is frequently viewed as an adversary by the contractor and the owner, to the engineer and the architect, who are necessary but expensive participants in the construction process.

The Committee for the Connecticut Construction Industry, organized last April, will pursue its goals through a steering group composed of Mr. LaBau; Arnold Caputo, Vice President, Research and Development, Plasticrete Corporation; Quentin D. Hinton, Business Representative, International Union of Operating Engineers; Frank J. White, Jr., Associated General Contractors of Connecticut; Joseph C. Fagan, Mechanical Contractors Association of Connecticut; William Johnson, New Haven County Home Builders Association; Robert S. Cave, Connecticut Natural Gas Company; Richard Furano, Utility Contractors Association of Connecticut; Marvin Morganbesser, Executive Director, Connecticut Construction Industries Association; and Linda Priestly, Executive Secretary of the Connecticut Building Congress.

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Concrete Construction Seminar

A two-and-one-half day technical seminar, entitled "Quality Concrete for Building Construction," and co-sponsored by the Portland Cement Association and the American Society for Concrete Construction, will be held in Lincolnwood, Illinois, on November 25 through 27.

The seminar is designed to present the latest technical information on quality control of concrete for building construction and to develop better lines of communication among the building team members. The registration fee of $200 includes luncheons and seminar materials.

For registration arrangements or further information, contact the Registrar, Educational Services Department, Portland Cement Association, Old Orchard Road, Skokie, Illinois 60076.

Cassidy Opens Office

James P. Cassidy, AIA, announces the opening of his office at 801 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford.

A Notre Dame graduate, Cassidy received his early training in architecture while still in high school by working with the New York firm of Eggers & Higgins, who designed Saint Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford. Upon graduation from college, he served three years with the Navy as a civil engineer officer. Since then, he has worked with several area architects and as an in-house designer for a large building firm.

Cassidy resides with his wife, Katie, and their two sons in Plainville, where he is a member of Our Lady of Mercy Church and the Rotary Club.

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New Postal Facility in Hartford

A $10,743,000 contract to build a 324,000-square-foot mail processing center in Hartford has been awarded to the Dematteo Construction Company of Hamden, the lowest of eight bidders.

According to U.S. Postal Service officials, the new facility, designed by the Hartford architectural and engineering firm of Dube Associates, will be built on a 22.5-acre site on the north side of West Street, near its intersection with Fish Fry Street.

Site preparation will begin soon, with occupancy scheduled for winter 1976.

Williams Named Design Head

Christopher D. Williams of Middletown has been named head of the design department for Russell Gibson von Dohlen Inc., a West Hartford-based architectural and planning firm.

A 1960 graduate of Cornell University, Williams holds a B.S. degree in architecture. He is a senior warden of St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church in Berlin, and a member of National Marriage Encounter, Inc.

He and his wife, the former Brenda Holmes, live at 379 East Street with their four children.

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As British architect and architectural correspondent for the Observer, the author examines the influences of human culture in design. Advocating the re-establishment of a harmony with nature and concern for the individual, Gardiner cites examples showing how rapid technological advances, mass production, and an increased reliance upon synthetic materials have dehumanized the architect. He also studies the influences of Middle Eastern, Far Eastern, Asian, Indian, European, and American cultures on the evolution of styles, including the effects of political upheavals, migrations, trade, exploration, and the spread of new ideas and philosophies. In an attempt to discover the meaning of the past and relate it to modern conditions, Gardiner concludes that “human requirements...are the inspiration for art: good buildings come from people, and all problems are solved by good design.”


Following the natural progression of an electrical estimate, this practical guide offers examples on how to apply the information, and includes such frequently forgotten components as anchoring materials, fuses, conduit terminals, conductors in panelboards, switches, and motor control centers. The author is a consulting engineer who specializes in electrical estimating and design.


Written in clear, business language by two prominent lawyers, this concise guide shows how to recognize and avoid any potential legal pitfalls well in advance. Dozens of common problem areas are covered, including conflict of interest situations, forms of compensation, “corporate opportunities,” stock options, purchase of company stocks and warrants, “short-swing” profits, personal use of corporate funds, sale of control, loans and dividends, and many other business situations.


The American Iron and Steel Institute presents a condensed version of the design seminar talks recently delivered in Toronto. Gunnar Birkerts of Birmingham, Michigan, spoke on “The Architect as the
Ultimate Synthesizer,” proposing urban planning for three layers of space - below ground, at the surface and above ground. In his “Thoughts on Design,” Marcel Breuer summarized his writings on the architect’s task and individual expression. Constance E. Newman, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commissioner, explained the functions of government in design and the specific responsibilities of her commission; and Frank E. Dudas, a Toronto design consultant, offered “A Very Personal View of the Crisis in Design,” concentrating on conservation of resources. Thomas Willson, the Institute’s senior vice president, concluded the series with the Steel Industry’s “Observations for the Critical Years.” For a free copy of this collection, write to Bruce A. MacKenzie, American Iron and Steel Institute, 1000 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

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Coordinated Systems, Inc.

"The HVAC system, its control system, and the building in which they are installed are inseparable parts of a whole.” However, according to Dick Shadford of Coordinated Systems, Inc. in West Hartford, nearly 95 percent of all existing buildings have HVAC systems which function inefficiently or poorly.

Even before energy conservation became a necessity in 1972 to be precise — CSI was established as a subsidiary company to the engineering firm of vanZelm, Heywood & Shadford to provide “Total Systems Coordination.” The service is an analytical engineering review of all elements comprising today’s sophisticated HVAC and electrical systems, with detailed, on-site performance tests of all functions to determine the causes of inefficiencies and their correctability through adjustment, modification, repair or replacement.

The engineering review includes a comparative study of the original design and the way it serves the present facility. Performance tests include checking calibration, sequencing and operation of temperature controls, and recording such operating data as
pressures, temperatures, flows, speeds, etc. of equipment and systems.

For additional information, contact Mr. Shadford at CSI, 1007 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford.

New Plastics Newsletter

Plastics in Building Construction is a new monthly newsletter providing news and information on products, markets, and technology in this field, and designed for manufacturers of building products and related chemicals and plastics, architects, builders, contractors, building code administrators, government personnel, and college teachers of architecture and building.

In addition to short news items and digests, each issue will include one or two articles, technical papers, or case histories.

Subscriptions to Plastics in Building Construction are $28 a year from the publisher, RD Communications, P.O. Box 42, Georgetown, CT. 06829.

Northeast Utilities
(Continued from page 9)
easier for us to call on local architects to attend job meetings or to make on-site inspections when called for by the contractor."

The factors evident in this analysis of one small part of the Northeast Utilities construction program are not necessarily valid for the company as a whole. However, one fact is perfectly clear: Without an adequate rate structure to pay for both the spiraling costs of fossil fuel and for providing for alternative generating capacity, the utility will be unable to meet Connecticut's energy requirements, either on a short- or long-term basis.

A large part of these funds must obviously come from the industrial and residential consumers of electrical energy. It, therefore, strikes this writer as ludicrous when a candidate for the office of Governor seeks to bring suit against the Utility and the Public Utilities Commission opposing a rate increase which is only two-thirds as large as that requested and some two percent below that which was granted on an interim basis some months ago. It may hurt our pocketbooks now, but what will we do when the lights go out? All it takes is money — or the lack of it.
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**Heavy Fuel Oil**
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- Construction of tanker unloading, piping and transport facilities for United Illuminating Company, New Haven, Conn.
- Construction of piping and mechanical facilities, ARCO tank farm (Atlantic Richfield Co.), New Haven, Conn.

**Liquid Propane**
- Turnkey contractor and design/build assignment for construction of a 400,000-barrel storage facility for a U.S. subsidiary of Gazocnean, a French corporation.

**Natural Gas**
- Construction of piping and mechanical work for new liquefied natural gas plant for Connecticut Natural Gas Company.

**Jet Fuel**
- Construction of two separate jet fueling facilities at Logan International Airport, Boston, Mass. For Delta Airlines and for the base operator.

**Defense**
- Shore power facilities for nuclear submarines, Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics, Groton, Conn.

**Recycling of Materials**
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