

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION
1857-1957



SKYLINE S

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF
ARCHITECTS

SEP 09 1957

LIBRARY

AUGUST

1957

AIA

**KANSAS CITY
CHAPTER**

PRESIDENT

Frank R. Slezak
18 East 11th Street
Kansas City, Missouri

VICE-PRESIDENT

Donald R. Hollis
9423 West 80th Street
Overland Park, Kansas

SECRETARY

Frank Grimaldi
3543 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

TREASURER

Henry D. Krug, Jr.
310 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri

DIRECTORS (1959)

Angus McCallum
1016 Baltimore Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri

DIRECTORS (1958)

William H. Simon
25 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri

DIRECTORS (1957)

Edmund L. Bower
3543 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

KEYLINES

VOL. 7

NO. 8

AUGUST, 1957

CONTENTS	Page
Report	
er Plan for the Kansas	
Central Business District.....	5
Build a House—	
ut an architect" from the	
gan MONTHLY BULLETIN.....	8
Memorial Fountain	
nce information of	
Milles' masterpiece.....	10
es & Jr. Associates Party.....	16
.....	20
ar	20
News.....	21
ooks	22

S is the monthly publication of the Kansas City
of the American Institute of Architects, and mailed
charge.

.....J. DAVID MILLER
OYD OVERLAND PARK, KANS.
.....VOLKMER LITHO CO.

EXPANDED SHALE
concrete

— No. 27 —

CHARTER  MEMBER

1. Lightweight
2. Strength
3. Insulation
4. Fire Insurance
5. Sound Reduction
6. Durable
7. Versatile
8. ECONOMICAL
9. Shock Resistant
10. Minimum Shrinkage
11. Nailable
12. Textured

*"... so much for
so little!"*

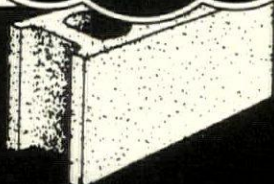
BUILDDEX, INC.
Phone 240
OTTAWA, KANSAS

facts

"For the Public Good"

A recent example was published in "Highway Highlights" by the Highway Commission of Kansas. In replacing the Kansas River crossing near Willard, Kansas, Buildex structural concrete was used for the road deck slab. In reducing the weight of the dead load by 35 pounds per cubic foot "The dollar savings will come in the amount of steel needed to carry the dead weight of the structure" reports George Epps, bridge engineer for the secondary road department.

Buildex expanded shale aggregate will reduce dead loads, thus, less reinforcing steel is needed and smaller footings and foundation walls are required. An exposed Buildex masonry wall eliminates the cost of furring, lathing and plastering by providing a finished wall surface in itself. In being ECONOMICAL Buildex products offer only the best in quality.



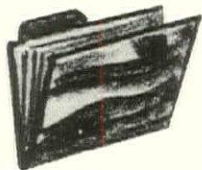


Before you build, see
Shadowal BLOCK
TRADEMARK

... the block with 1000 faces

A revolutionary new building material called Shadowal block now makes possible over one thousand beautifully sculptured concrete masonry patterns. Wherever used, each Shadowal block pattern offers the distinction and high fashion desired by all modern homebuilders plus low cost.

You are invited to see the amazing features of Shadowal block now.



Ask us for your complete
 Shadowal masonry portfolio

CONSTRUCTION THE MATERIALS
CARTER-WATERS
 KANSAS CITY CORP 8. MISSOURI
 2440 Pennway Phone GRand 1-2570

PROGRESS REPORT

MASTER PLAN FOR THE KANSAS CITY CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Joint venture of the K.C. Chapter
AIA and the City Plan Commission

While there have been two articles in the newspaper, a short note in SKYLINES, a Chapter NEWSLETTER, and some information between committees, much of the story of how the Chapter will function in its collaboration with the City Plan Commission in the development of a master plan for the Central Business District is still a mystery to many members.

The current effort is basically the result of Clarence Kivett's serving on the City Plan Commission, and his association with Phil Geissal, Chief Planning Engineer for that body. The Plan Commission outlined the problem (one of its many) and Kivett saw the possibilities for Chapter service. Similar action by AIA Chapters has taken place in many cities throughout the country; in this area, Tulsa and Little Rock are notable examples. From the standpoint of public relations, such a project presents an unequaled as well as a challenging opportunity.

With Dwight Brown as the Chairman of the Community Development Committee and with Clarence Kivett as his principal advisor, a Design Committee was appointed. This group has the following members: Dave Runnels (who has already done considerable work on plans for the CBD), Homer Neville, Ralph Myers, John Murphy, Ward Haylett and Jack Morley, who was employed by the City Plan Commission to act as liaison between the City and the Chapter for this project. John Murphy has been appointed Chairman of this group. The procedure decided upon by the Design Committee was

to hold a series of meetings—three a week—until some agreement could be reached on what the basic design should be.

The basic design by now has been established and the production of the drawings, delineations and two models will be a joint effort of the architects engaged for the summer by the Plan Commission and the help which various architectural offices in the Chapter volunteer. It was originally estimated that the entire project would take well over a year to complete. However, since there is a very important meeting of the Downtown Committee scheduled in early October at which the present and the future of Kansas City's business area will be reviewed, the Plan Commission has decided to make every effort to complete as much of the project as possible for this meeting. The Plan Commission will construct an 8' x 8' model of the entire Downtown District (at 1" equals 100' scale) from the river to 18th Street and from the bluffs on the west to Paseo. The Chapter will construct a model of the Civic Center (at 1" equals 50' scale) and present delineations of the relationship of the Civic Center to the main downtown shopping area.

It was decided to concentrate Chapter activities on the Civic Center area for two reasons: first, Dave Runnels has carried the Civic Center design further than any other element, and this would make an effective presentation comparatively simple; second, because of its public nature, there should be very little opposition with a maximum amount of favorable publicity. It might also be mentioned at this time that the project has the support as well as some financial backing from the Downtown Committee working with Forrest Byars. In the preliminary designs at least, the Civic Center extends from the north side of 11th Street to the Crosstown (15th Street) Trafficway and from McGee to Cherry. Initially this scheme had to be made current by locating the new Public Library in its finally determined position, as well as by making some studies of the affect that the Trafficway will have on the total complex. Considerable study has also been given to the suggested elevated platform of the Plaza; also the amount of parking has been investigated. The future plans for the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Long-Line Building will also be reviewed because of the prominent position of this structure in the proposed Civic Center.

Whether there will be time to study the other areas of the Central Business District in time for the October meeting is still undertermined at this time. There are, of course, a great

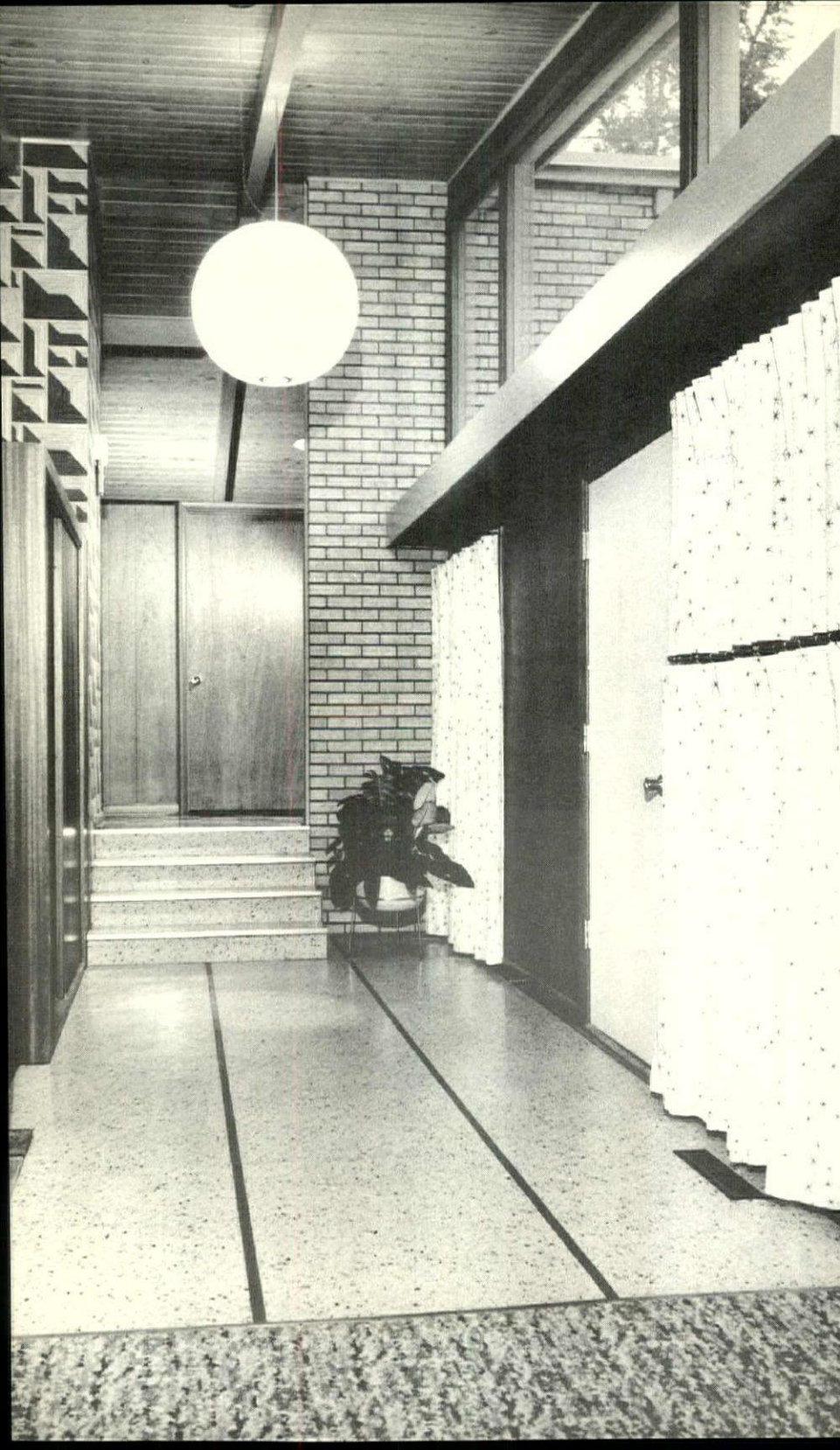
number of factors that must be considered in attempting to arrive at a satisfactory master plan for such a complex area as the entire CBD. To mention a few of the most obvious items: For what length of time is the plan to be made? What is the present, as well as the ultimate land use? How will traffic be affected? (This will be especially important with respect to the new loop which is now under construction.) For how many persons must the design be made and just how will they be employed? How much actual floor area is involved? What are the economic implications in making a forecast of this type? What is the status of public transit? How will service (delivery, pick-up, etc.) for the redesigned area be accomplished?

Once the entire general design has been determined, the specific details must be worked out. How much of the plan is feasible from the standpoint of Street Engineering? Will there be acceptance or opposition from the various businesses affected? How can the financing of such a project be accomplished by the city under its present fiscal policy?

These then are at least some of the factors that have to be studied, and while at times they may appear to be almost insurmountable, if essential commerce is to be attracted to the central city, it is imperative that far-sighted intelligent plans be made.

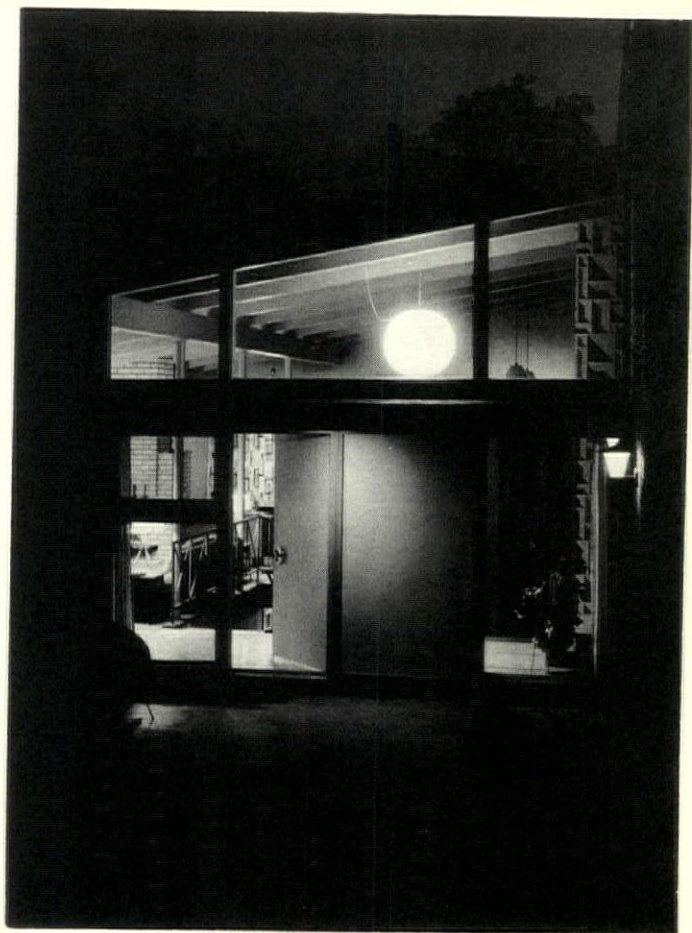
The Kansas City Plan Commission has the reputation of being one of the outstanding ones of this country and it has already anticipated and solved many serious problems; however, with the restricted budget under which it is operating at present, it is practically impossible to proceed without outside assistance. The local Chapter of the AIA is in splendid position to provide an outstanding service here. Aside from the fact that the architects are at least morally obligated to aid the city that provides the bulk of our work there is also, as has already been mentioned, an unprecedented opportunity to contribute to favorable public relations. It has also been suggested that the plan will make an excellent display for the AIA regional meeting in Kansas City a year from October.

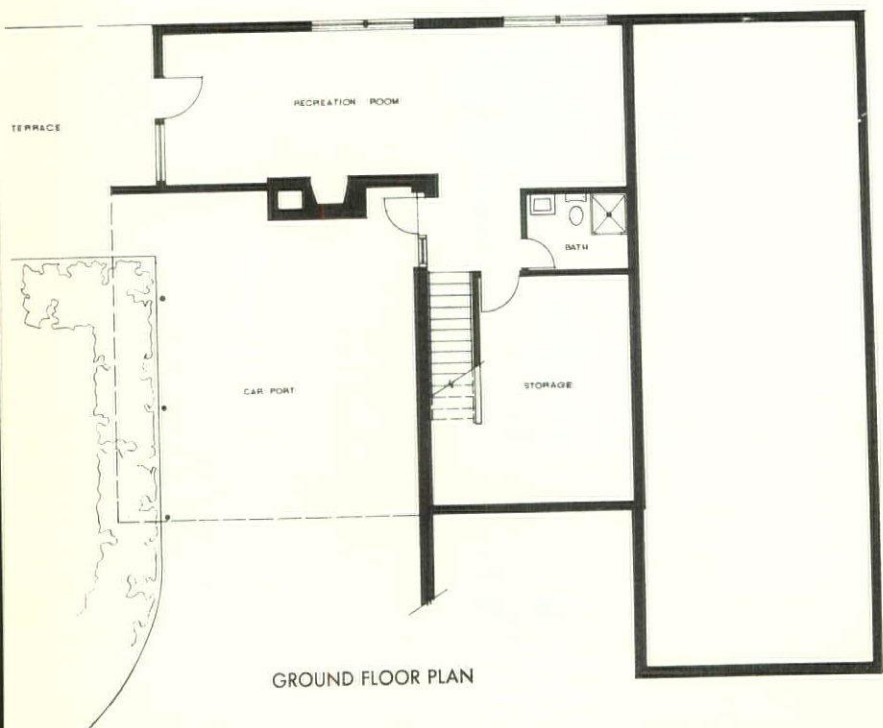
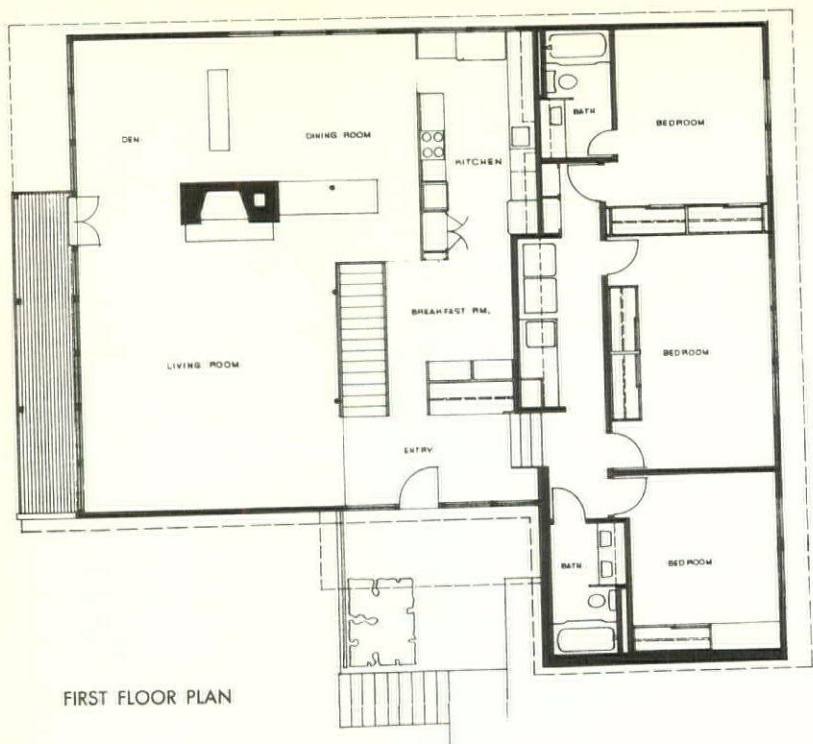
As pointed out in the Chapter NEWSLETTER, the most pressing need still is manpower. Chapter firms are urged to contribute as much drafting help as they can possibly spare. Also any individuals who are interested in this fascinating project are urged to contact Jack Morley for scheduling work which they can contribute at odd hours.



ARCHITECT'S RESIDENCE

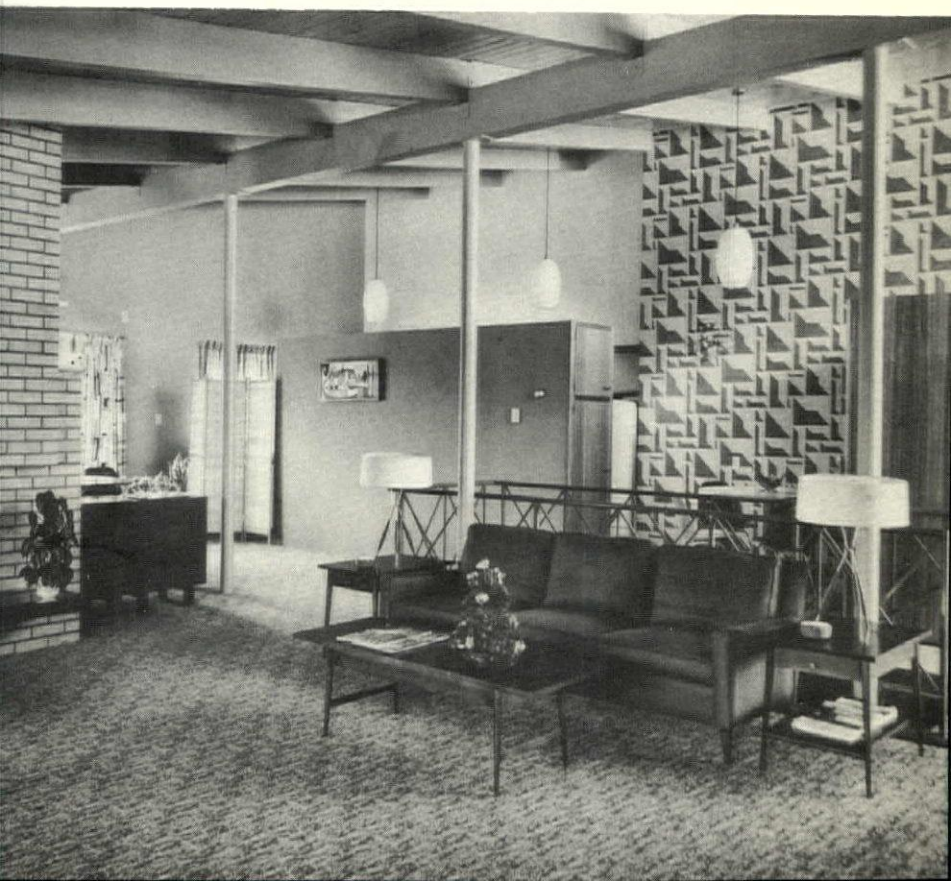
MR. & MRS. HERMAN A. SCHARHAG
1 GREENTREE LANE
KANSAS CITY NORTH, MISSOURI







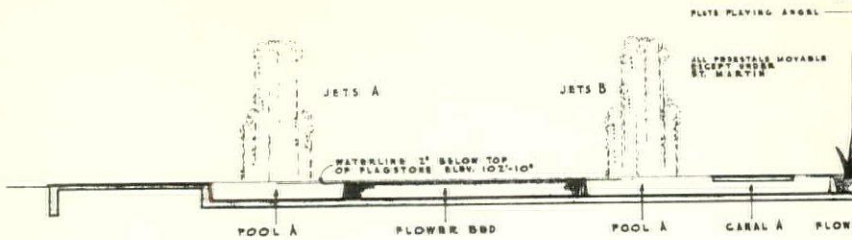
A residence built by Architect Herman A. Scharhag for his family of three children on a very difficult site on the bluffs North across the Missouri River from Kansas City.



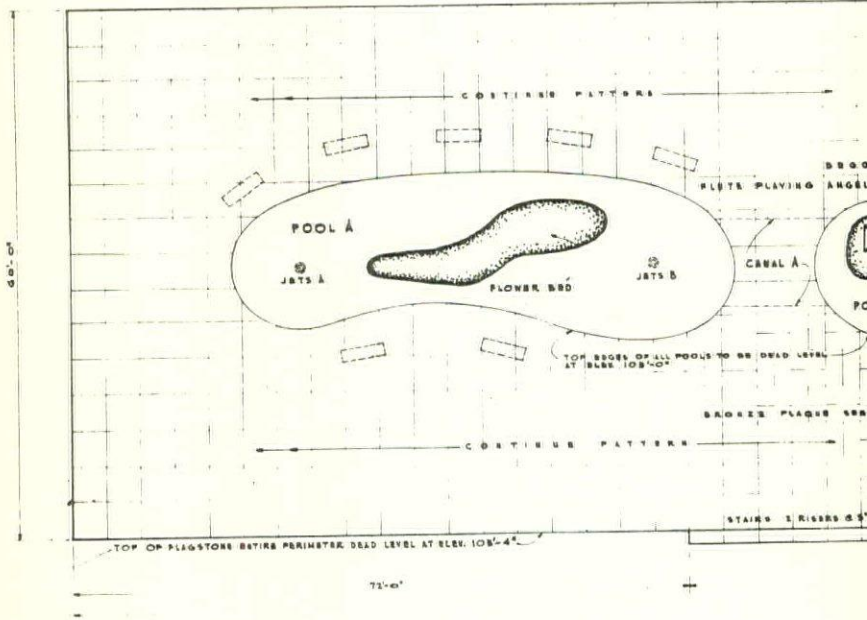


CARL MILLES

The pools and platform for the long awaited Volker Memorial Fountain are scheduled for bidding in September and completion next Spring. Being the last major work of the late Swedish Sculptor and considered by those who have seen the individual pieces to be his greatest, it will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of the Kansas Cityscape. Pictured at the left is the 14' tall central figure of the fountain depicting the Good Samaritan theme, St. Martin of Tours. A Beggar, two Angels, and a Faun complete the bronze sculpture group. On the following page is a plan and section of the fountain platform which will be located on the projected Mall between the Nelson Gallery of Art and the Midwest Research Institute.



E L E V - S E C T.

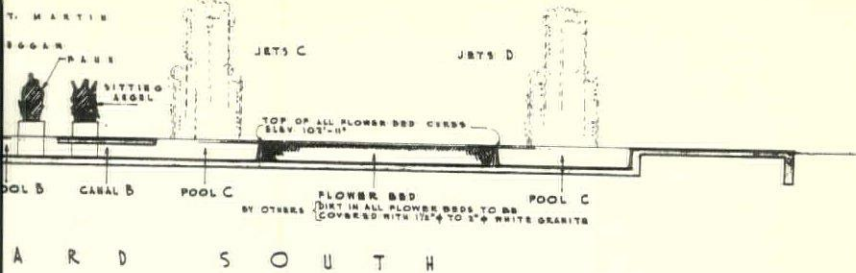


P L A N
S C A L E 1/8" = 1'-0"

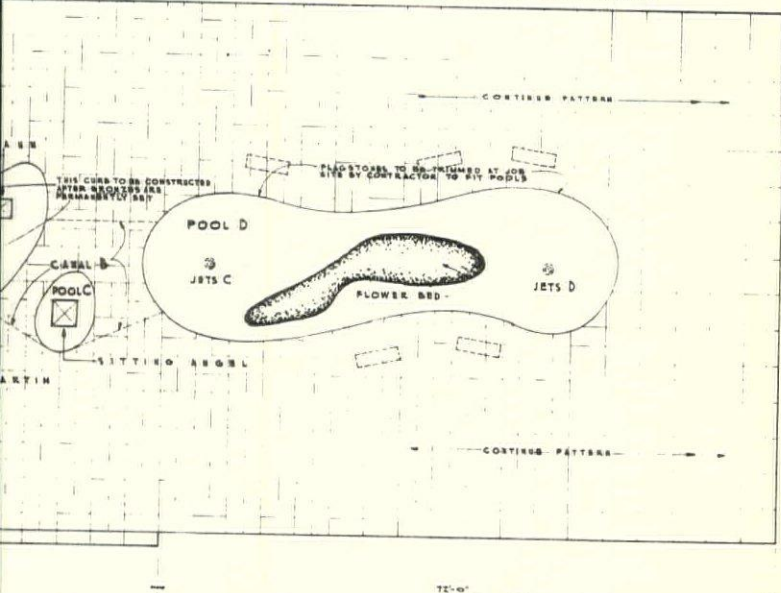
P O O L

VOLKER

MEMO



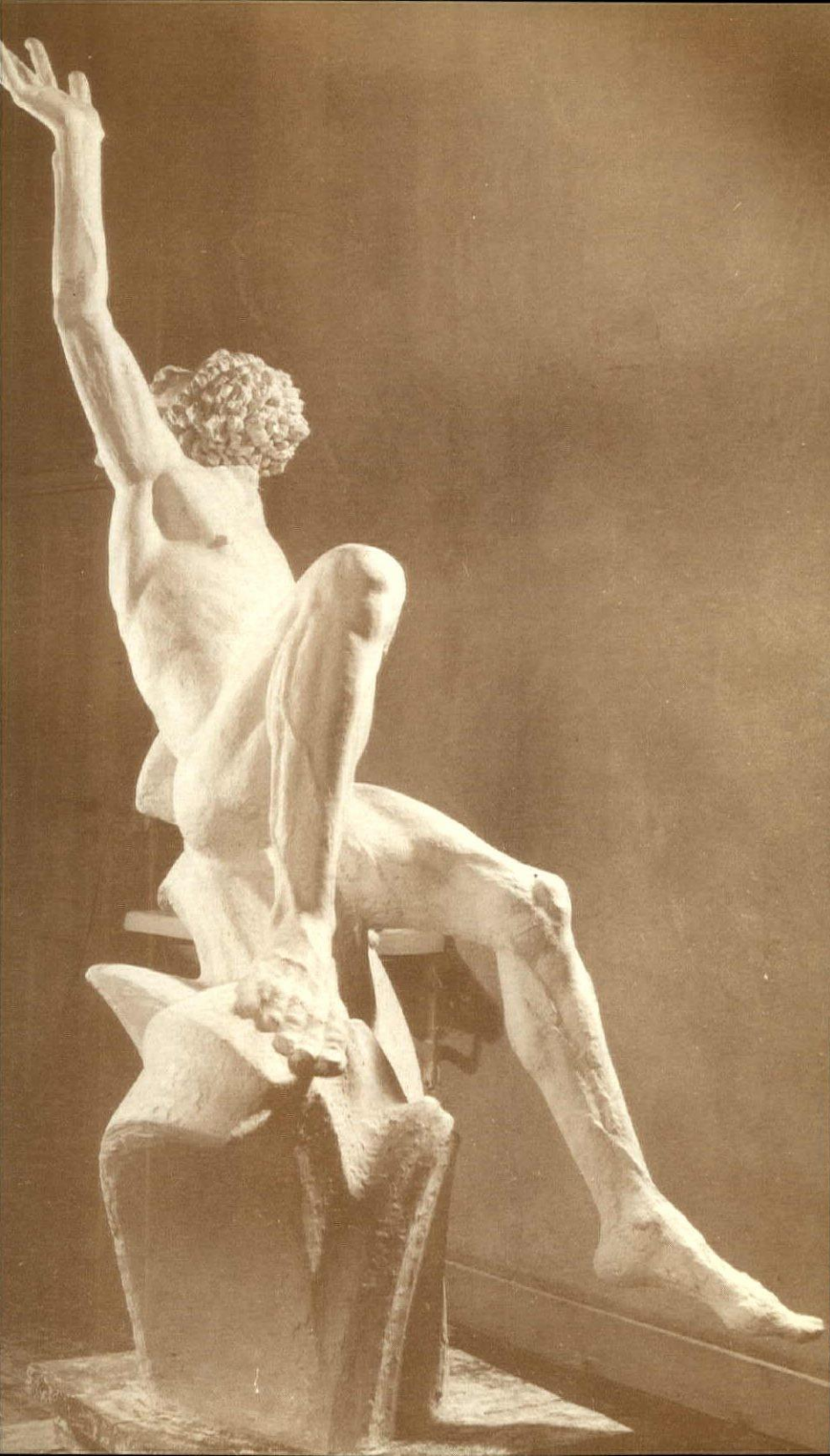
ALL FLAGSTONES TO BE SAME AS AT FALLS CHURCH, VA. - TO MEASURE 25 1/4" x 47 1/4" PLUS 1/4" JTS.



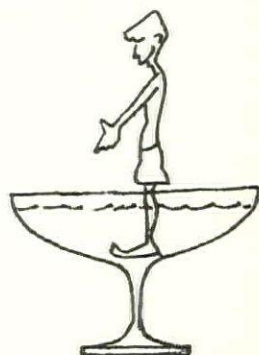
N D P L A T F O R M

AL FOUNTAIN

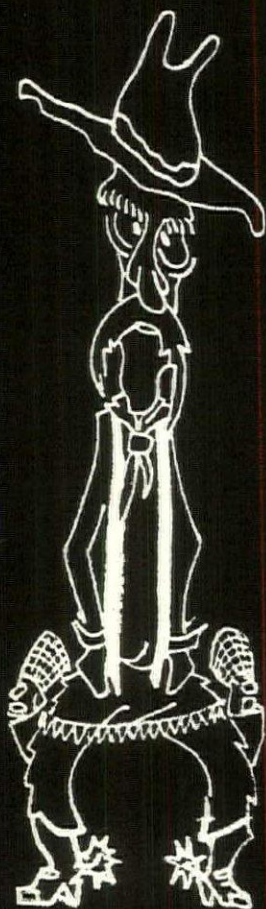
One of the most interesting features of the Volker Fountain is Carl Milles' departure from his earlier more formal pool arrangements. The freeform pools and the high water level (2" below the flagstone surface) will allow a very close relationship of sculpture to water to observer. Being able to actually walk among the figures and the fountain jets promises to be an unusual experience.



ASSOCIATES



SWIMMING OPTIONA



Hard working bartenders are
Roenigk and Roger Blessing w
Ray Voskamp awaits the pour.

JR. ASSOCIATES PARTY

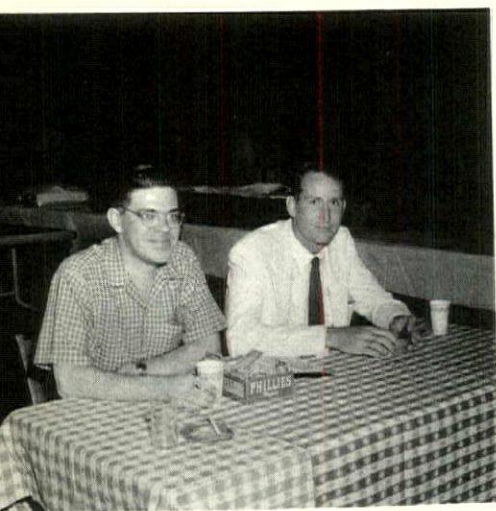
The re-Annual AIA Associates and Jr. Associates Summer Party was held at the Silver Spur Country Club Tuesday night, August 6th. Members and wives of both the Kansas City Chapter AIA and the Producer's Council were treated to a refrigerated evening under the open Western sky.

After a lively cocktail hour a delicious barbecue patio buffet supper (with plenty of hot coffee) was served in a corral setting on checkered tablecloths. The late evening was kept warm with music by the hot Harlan Livingood combo.

Our thanks to Chairman Bob Cowling, Gordon Jarchow, Les Roenigk, and Roger Blessing for making this such a memorable event.

John Jameson's cartoons here sprinkled among the photographs undoubtedly helped also in drawing such a generous crowd.





Party Chairman Bob Cowling & Gordon Jarchow selling tickets at the corral gate.



DRESS INFORMAL



DANCING 9:00-12:00



Huddling around a table keeping warm are Mary Arnold, Mary Newbanks, Mary Curtis, Conrad Curtis, Niles Newbanks, Bob Walker, Bud Arnold, and Myrtle Adkisson.

Engaged in a lively discussion are, left to right: Don Hollis, Frank Slezak, Lora Slezak, Jan Irvin and Jim Irvin.



HOW TO BUILD A HOUSE Without an Architect

Reprinted from the Michigan MONTHLY BULLETIN

1. Let it be known that you own a lot and intend to build. The best way is to let your wife tell it at the Club as a secret. This will produce a prodigious crop of advertising matter which you must study night after night. Then get a large trunk to keep this stuff in. Do not destroy it because it contains so much air that you can use it for insulation.

2. Subscribe to a magazine like "Home Handsome" or "House and Yard." Study each issue diligently. Clip out everything which appeals to you. You may not know much about architecture, but you know what you like. Prepare a scrap-book of all attractive plans. You should now be well advanced in your education.

3. Select nine or ten of your favorite plans from your scrap-book and proceed to combine all the best features of each in a new and original plan. For this you will need cross-section paper and a 6H pencil which must be kept very sharp.

4. If, in your plan, you find the stair running smack against a chimney, or if a bath-room persists in remaining in the very middle of things without a window, or if there is no room for the kitchen sink, do not despair. A good maneuver is to turn your plan upside down and start over. Always remember that the second floor is just above the first, except in Southern California.

5. Do not be disturbed if your plan does not seem to fit your lot. The modern method is to engage a steam shovel to make your lot fit the plan.

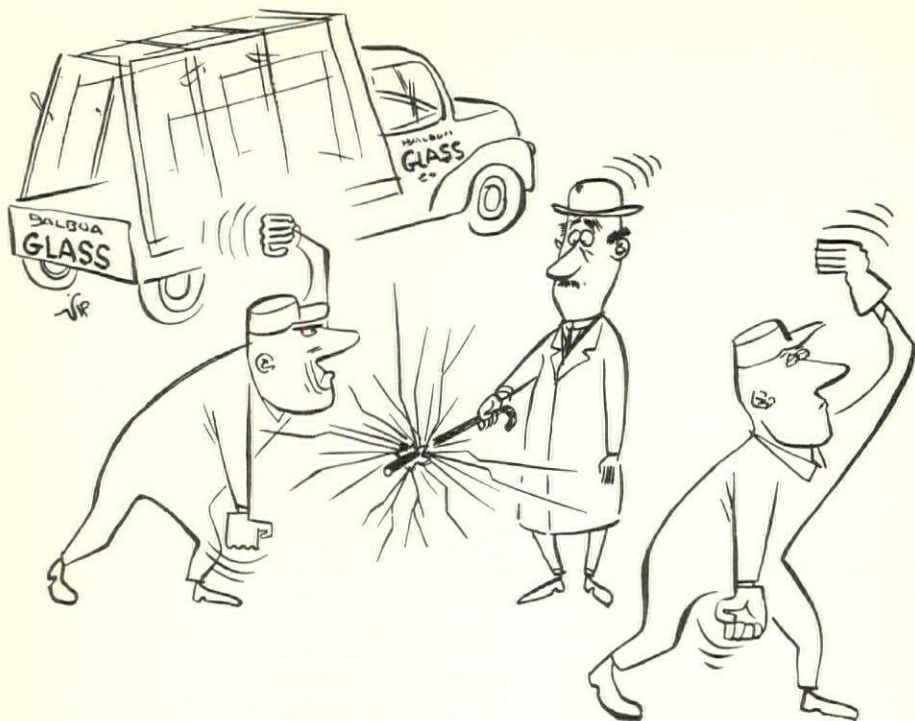
6. Prepare a list of the many short-cuts and devices that should save you money—those unconventional ideas which the regulars in the building game never think of, or stubbornly refuse to adopt.

7. The next problem is the blue-prints. This is one of the silly fetishes in the building business. Somebody has to make the blue prints; although your wife took interior decorating in college, her sketches are always apt to be rather vague. Maybe you can get the F.H.A. to put on a blue-print project.

8. Get some bids on your blue-printed designs. You do not need specifications since it is well known that all houses are built of just about the same materials. When you get your bids, don't forget that even the low bid is too high, and should be drastically deflated. Finally, when you are ready to go ahead, do not go to the expense and trouble of a written contract. A good verbal agreement is all that is necessary. There is a lot of nonsense about contracts, lien laws, building codes, and zoning ordinances, which can be ignored as superfluous.

9. As the job proceeds, do not hesitate to make changes and improvements. Your verbal agreement includes all this; anyhow, the builder will never think of charging for extras.

10. When you have your house-warming, secrete some dictaphones about the house. You will then secure fresh off-the-record criticisms of your work from your guests. You can then judge whether you are a success as a builder. Of course, you will not be present at this house-warming. You will by this time have suffered a nervous breakdown and are on your back muttering. You will soon owe the doctor the money you should have paid an architect, for there is no peace in store for you; every door and window in the house sticks, there is a big crack where one corner has settled; the cellar, like the great Salt Lake, has many inlets for water but no outlets; the front porch has parted company from the house at the roof line, and the sewer refuses to work because it runs up hill. Furthermore, the contractor has failed and you have nobody to fall back on except the fellow who told you you could do a professional job in your spare time and still live!



Lifted from:
 Monthly Bulletin
 Michigan Society of Architects
 Courtesy:
 Pamona Tile Company

CALENDAR

Mechanical Construction Institute.....	September 11
First Fall Chapter Meeting.....	September 17
Meeting of the Downtown Committee at which the Plan for the Central Business District will be presented	October 7

CHAPTER NEWS

Mr. **Anton Tedesko**, Vice President of Roberts and Schaefer Company, and designer of many of this country's thin shell structures (including the St. Louis Air Terminal Building) spoke at the last Chapter meeting in June. It was hoped to present his talk in SKYLINES, but due to failure of tape recorder this is impossible. Mr. Tedesko gave a very interesting survey of thin shell design and many enlightening experiences which he has encountered in this field. Though we cannot present the talk SKYLINES did capture the best joke of the evening. It seems there were two Mexicans who were digging a ditch in New Mexico. Jose turned to Pedro and said, "I am tired of digging ditches. Let's go to California. I hear California is a wonderful place". So Pedro says, "What do you know about California?" Jose answered, "Oh, you stand on the street corner in Los Angeles, and people pick you up, drive you around, take you out to lunch, later on to dinner, treat you to some drinks, and then drive around along the ocean. And then maybe you will be parked there in an open convertible looking at the moon and the waves and it will be simply beautiful". So Pedro asked, "How do you know all these things, Jose? You have never been to California." Jose said, "It's true, I've never been to California, but I had a letter from my sister."

Clarence Kivett recently completed a special summer session of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in City and Regional Planning in order to better his contribution as a member of the Kansas City, Missouri, City Plan Commission.

The Chapter Education Committee is sponsoring a course of instruction for those planning to take the Missouri Registration Examination on September 23 thru 26: **Max Sanford** has offered the use of their air-conditioned office at 800 Westport Road for the meetings scheduled for Monday and Thursday evenings, 7:30 to 9:30 August 26 and 29, September 5, 9, 12, and 16. Architects who have recently taken the examination and who have volunteered to act as instructors are **Ken Coombs, Gene Lefebvre, Dwight Horner, Don Osborn, Jim Mantel, Bill Lin-scott, Ralph Kiene**, and structural engineer **Jim Harrison**. Anyone interested should contact Committee Chairman **Tom Geraugh-ty**, 2500 Johnson Drive, Kansas City 3, Kansas, Skyline 1-2820. There is no cost involved.

There are some extremely interesting meetings coming up in the next year, according to the preview which our new Program Chairman, **Conrad Curtis** gave at the last summer Executive Committee meeting.

Alternate No. 37

Remove the balance of the building.

ERIC MENDELSON

by Arnold Whittick

Dodge \$9.85

This is an inspiring account of the life, works and philosophy of one of the greatest architects of the twentieth century. His genius is carefully traced from the earliest imaginative sketches we are all familiar with—in which with a broad sweep of a pen he crystallized the very function of a building type, creating architectural shapes of great prophesy.

Eric Mendelsohn probably had as large a practice as any architect in Europe when the rise of Hitler forced his move to England. His achievements there, later in Palestine, and lastly in the United States all display an amazing versatility and creative vision. The great unity and spaciousness of his buildings revealed in the many illustrations, along with an intimate glimpse of his design convictions make this a valuable addition to the architectural library.

STRUCTURES

by Pier Luigi Nervi

Dodge \$6.95

Nervi is one of the few remaining master builders who conceive, design, engineer and build their own structures. With his Ferro-cemento, a reinforced concrete of entirely new concept, he has designed some of the largest and most beautiful thin-shell concrete structures in the world.

This book contains many illustra-

tions of his work during the past 30 years, including construction photos of the nearly complete UNESCO Buildings in Paris (Architects Marcel Breuer and Bernard Zehruss). The text is a number of short chapters presenting in simple language his ideas, hopes, and even his mistakes. As stated in translator Mario Salvadori's foreward, "With honest humility, Nervi takes us by the arm and allows us to watch him at work . . . and we come away from this discourse better architects, better engineers, and better men."

ACOUSTICS FOR THE ARCHITECT

by Harold Burris-Meyer
and Lewis Goodfriend

Reinhold \$10.00

Here, at last, is a comprehensive book on acoustics designed to help the Architect:

1. Establish acoustical objectives.
2. Consider acoustics in the preliminary stages.
3. Avoid acoustical pitfalls.
4. Solve run-of-the-mill acoustical problems himself.
5. Become familiar with the more complex acoustical problems for working with consultants and integrating their work with other elements of design.
6. See to it that his client and he understand and agree on acoustical specifications.

Both outstanding leaders in this obscure science, the authors have assembled tables and charts designed to increase a working knowledge of acoustical fundamentals and practice.



hufcor

LAMINATED

folding doors

the
design
that
eventually
had
to be ...

*America's
most beautiful folding door*

Solve your space problems quickly and easily with Hufcor . . . the new folding door that adds livability to every room. Only Hufcor offers these features—



- **UNIQUE CHANGEABILITY**—special "snap-on" assembly permits ready change of color scheme . . . simply substitute another cover.



- **TRIM, CLEAN LINES**—styled with uniform laminated panels for striking simplicity. Equally smart for home or commercial interiors.



- **FULL PRIVACY**—laminated covers provide superior sound reduction . . . assure greater privacy than any other folding door.

Choose from harmonizing colors in a wide range of sizes.

CLAUDE COOKE CO., INC.

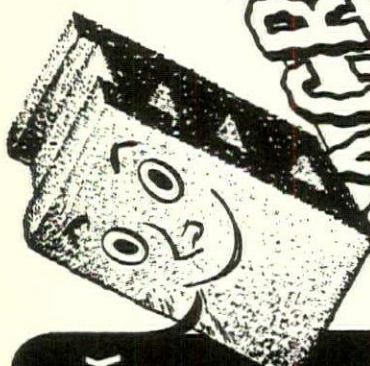
301 N. 7th STREET

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

YES, CONCRETE BLOCK FOUNDATIONS

did stand up better during
the recent DRY, HOT YEARS
because of

**LESS WEIGHT and
LESS CONDENSATION**



CONCRETE
PRODUCTS

VIBRACRETE
USE

CHANNEL SLABS
BEAMS

*New Economy in Construction!
Eliminate Posts!*

Roof and Floor Spans
up to 50' and over

*Call us for information. Our Sales Representatives and
Engineers are anxious to give you detailed information.*

MORE THAN 30 YEARS
EXPERIENCE

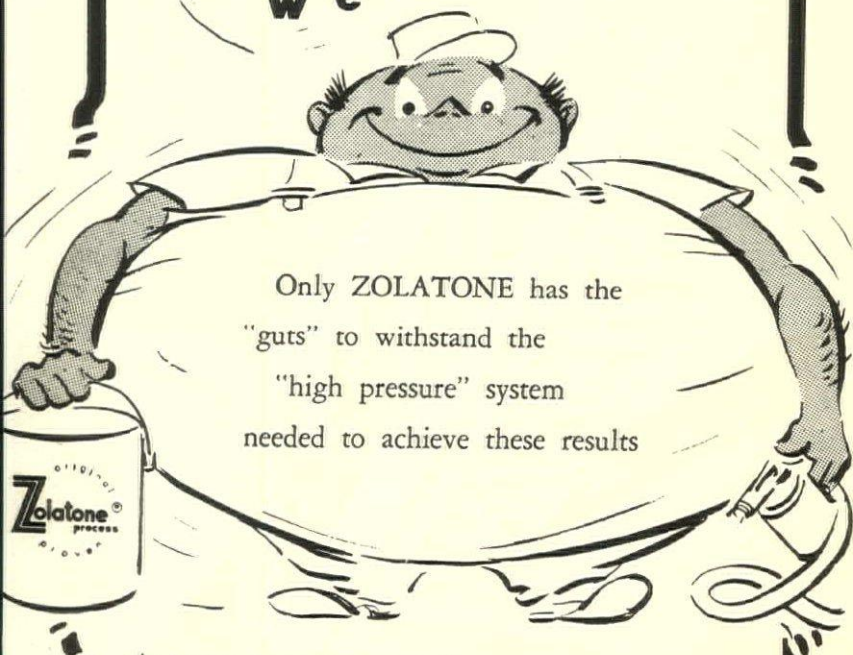
CONCRETE BUILDING UNITS CO.
3405 Terrace St. • Kansas City, Mo.
Phone VA1-5300

CONCRETE BUILDING PRODUCTS CO.

R.R. 1 Harrisonville, Mo.
Phone 118



**GREATER
S-P-R-E-A-D-I-N-G rate
per gallon means
lower applied cost**



Only ZOLATONE has the
"guts" to withstand the
"high pressure" system
needed to achieve these results

- ★ FULL SURFACE COVERAGE
- ★ NO SPATTER EFFECT
- ★ TRUE COLOR PATTERNS
- ★ UP TO 175 OR 200 SQ. FT. PER GALLON

avoid the unknown-use ZOLATONE

ZOLATONE is manufactured only by
PARAMOUNT PAINT & LACQUER CO.

DEVOE OF KANSAS CITY, Inc.

STERLING RONAI
General Manager

200 S. W. Blvd.
Phone VI 2-5672



A NEW CENTURY BECKONS