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In the highly competitive apartment field it's important to have a luxury look. Operational costs are important, too. This apartment building in Houston achieved beauty and low maintenance with Acme Brick Double Walls. A duplicate twelve story structure is now being built. Proof enough?

Acme King Size Brick makes the luxury of brick possible . . . for less money . . . on the inside as well as the exterior.

*Cost Studies are available from your Acme Brick representative.
EDITORIAL

"Never say die" that's the spirit of the LAA in the battle to preserve Louisiana's historical buildings and sites.

Our Historic Preservation Bill (H-630) received strong House Committee and Floor approval but failed by one vote in the eight man Senate Judiciary B Committee. The opposition argument was based on the lack of funds for travel expenses for the preservation committee which would have been established by the bill.

We are working on a plan to carry out the intent of the bill by creating a Historic Preservation Committee under the State Tourist Development Commission. The committee will be composed of representatives from the various historical societies, the LAA and the State colleges and universities.

This non political committee of qualified and enthusiastic preservationists will be charged with investigating and determining what are Louisiana's valued historical buildings and sites. Its further duties will be to establish official markers at historic sites and to encourage private owners, state and local governments to preserve and restore valuable antiquities.

The proposal will be presented at the August 9th meeting of the State Tourist Development Commission in Lake Charles.

The older New England States have long recognized their outstanding architecture and places of historic interest and have passed laws to encourage their preservation. From this they have reaped mountains of tourist dollars, educational benefits and immeasurable enjoyment.

It is appropriate that the architects from historically rich Louisiana take the first steps to preserve buildings they recognize as having values worth preserving for future generations.
The fourth in a series of profiles on Fellows of the American Institute of Architects from Louisiana.

PROFILE OF A FELLOW

JOHN W. LAWRENCE, FAIA

"The AIA's major role is in helping form a national conscience and consensus for the reclamation of human values."

John W. Lawrence, FAIA, Dean of Tulane University School of Architecture is a native of New Orleans and a graduate of Tulane, B.S. Architecture and of Columbia University, M.S. Architecture. He is married and the father of five children. Dean Lawrence was appointed Instructor in Architecture, Tulane University, in 1949, and has served continuously on the faculty since then, during which time the School has changed from one of predominantly local and regional appeal to national prominence with its 150 students drawn from 37 states and several nations abroad. In 1965, The National Observer, publication of Dow-Jones, included the Tulane School in a select list of the best schools of Architecture in the United States.

Since 1960 he has been Professor of Architecture and Dean of the School.

He is a partner in the firm of Lawrence and Saunders, Architects, in which capacity he has been the recipient of many awards for design excellence.

He has served the public and his profession on the Vieux Carre Commission, Commission for Architectural Education of the Southern Regional Education Board, on the National Architectural Accrediting Board, and has acted as consultant to Ford Foundation's Program in the Humanities and the Arts. He has also served as Chairman of the Committee on Creativity in Design for the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and currently serves that organization as National Secretary. He is currently a Design Consultant to the Public Housing Administration of the HHFA.

Dean Lawrence has served for the past six years as principal investigator and administrator for the Vieux Carre Survey under a $90,000 grant from the Edward G. Schlieder Educational Foundation of New Orleans.

His works have been published in leading American and foreign journals and books on contemporary architecture. They have also been included in the Church Guild of America permanent exhibition and traveling exhibit—exhibited at Seattle World's Fair and included in the Architectural League's Exhibition, The Work of Younger Architects and the Gold Medal Exhibition of the Building Arts.

In 1961 he was awarded one of six Cardinal Lacaro Medals for excellence in church design.

In 1963 John W. Lawrence was elected Fellow of the American Institute of Architects for Design.

Commenting on the American Institute of Architects, this Fellow says, "The AIA's major role is in helping form a national conscience and consensus for the reclamation of human values. The problems of this nation are more sociological than architectural. Their solution lies first in sociological and political re-conditioning. Many attitudes and most devices are hopelessly anachronistic.

"If Twentieth Century society can proclaim guidelines, architects can make a same response."
Students of architecture at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette joined the American Institute of Architects in its war on ugliness. The student chapter AIA at USL (SAIA) planned and constructed a small plaza adjacent to Brown Ayres Hall, the Art and Architecture building at USL. The small triangular area had been for years a neglected parcel of earth surrounded by honey suckle creating a bottle-neck for a heavily traveled pedestrian route on the campus and obstructing a natural meeting place for students near the main entrance of the campus cafeteria.

Sparked by the Institute's film, "No Time for Ugliness," the student chapter decided to initiate a program to make the general student body aware of the ugliness within their campus community. The film on ugliness in our cities was shown continuously during one school day in the Student Union Building to kick off the awareness program. Another team of students designed and constructed a large waste paper container of wood and steel to begin the action end of the program and to replace one of the conventional green sheet-metal containers on the campus.

The highlight of "An Appreciation of Architecture 4" was the plaza development. This annual spring program of SAIA consisted of guest speakers, student awards, and open house at the department of architecture. To complete their year's efforts in the War on Ugliness the brick paved plaza was left to the school as a permanent reminder that SAIA cares. Beginning in the spring semester with a design by fifth year students, the plaza was first presented in model form in order to acquire approval of the university through its campus planning committee. After final approval by the administration, construction of the plaza began as materials suppliers and individuals donated brick, sand, concrete and plant material to the war effort. The work was done by the students of architecture after class hours, and the plaza was completed on schedule for the beginning of the annual spring program. Stimulated by these efforts other student organizations have approached SAIA seeking to have benches designed and constructed to be placed on the campus. Following the summer break SAIA plans to continue their War on Ugliness at USL.
The students' plaza development (below) after final completion is shown here from the second floor of Brown Ayres Hall. A Sculpture is being planned for the aggregate filled circle in the center.
SEVEN FIFTH YEAR THESIS PROJECTS

The fifth year class in architecture at USL graduated eight students this June at commencement ceremonies in Lafayette's Blackham Coliseum. After graduation exercises the students' terminal design projects (thesis) were on display in the University Gallery in Brown Ayres Hall. Fifth year students completing terminal design projects were James Firmin, Total Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded; Jerome Gaudet, A City Hall for Lake Charles, Louisiana; Mike Keene, A Satellite City for New Orleans; Jay Mueschke, A Little Theatre for Lafayette; Fabian Patin, A Minimum Custody Correctional Institute; Ralph Stivison, A Pharmaceutical Plant for New Orleans; and William Wadley, Redevelopment of Downtown Lake Charles, Louisiana.
Fourth year design students, under the direction of Russel Dupuis, landscape architect, and fourth year design critic, designed a comprehensive plan for Welsh, Louisiana. The plan includes analytical diagrams, drawings, a model and brochures. These have been recently submitted to the Welsh city officials.

Last year Welsh officials approached the school for assistance, pointing out their concern over losing revenue due to the new Interstate 10. By-passing the community to the north, the high speed beltway has caused Welsh a sharp decline in business along highway 90. There was also a concern over the lack of proper population growth.

The City of Welsh provided a grant of $350 for expenses on the project.

MAJOR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS ARE:
U. S. Interstate Highway 10
U. S. Highway 90, La. Highway 99
(South Adams Street.)
To depend upon or to revere a person because of ability, skill, beauty, affection or intellect for survival breeds no jealousy so long as neither of the above attributes are possessed by the needy person, nor desired by the needy person. Jealousy and envy begin when two or more persons either possess the same attribute or think they do, and they try to vie for attention or try to excel one over the other.

The result is excessive pride, and this begins to stifle the intellect, to impair true skill, to overestimate ability, and to distort the proper goals. In effect, when jealousy or envy motivate the person, he begins, like Arachne, to be unreasonable. He begins to compete with the gods by considering himself divinely talented with no limitations, and, of course, this is dangerous. He will similarly transform himself into a spider to gluttonously devour and destroy his fellow colleagues by assassinating their characters, depreciating their abilities, and using them as pawns and tools for his own self-gratification and success. He will implant himself in a quasi-hierarchy, and trim his clothes with purple.

As a matter of fact, most architects do possess the same abilities and the same skills. Most architects do have similar educational training and approximately the same intellectual mentality. They use the same medium of art and emotion to seek affection and beauty. They turn to the same standards for judging. A clash is inevitable—it is with most professions. Where is the solution to stamp-out professional jealousy? How is harmony established amongst architects? How can the ego of each architect be calmed? Pacified? Satisfied? Subdued?

Actually, the solution is simple. Each architect knows his limitations, and he must admit these limitations to himself. He must not think of himself as the omniscient image, the mirror of perfection that his public relation committee or institute make him out to be. What is his true stature? What are his limitations as an individual?

One should ask: What individual architect has advanced his profession by his own intellect and ability with the discovery of a new principle? Everyday practice leads the architect to use principles discovered or formulated by others. He lives on what others have discovered, and what others lay before him. What new principle in art has the architect advanced? What new formula in mathematics has he devised? What new compound or formula in chemistry does he put forth? What new law in physics does he expound? What new principle in either the arts or the sciences has he thrust into the world?

Another question to nick the ego: What individual architect has advanced his society by his work properly judged? Unfortunately, the structures that will ultimately be called good architecture will be properly judged by time, and not by contemporary juries and groups with the same opinion. Today, awards for good buildings are sometimes sought not for good work but for the status as an award winner. Pride raises his beastly head to scramble for the next step over his brothers.

As an individual citizen ask this: What individual architect has advanced his community in other fields outside architecture? The broad fields of knowledge makes architecture alone a very limited pursuit. How many architects venture beyond the border to live a full community life? How many just laws has the architect helped to make? What is his participation in education, government and community life when no commission is involved?

To live by a moral code or a commercial profit code, one must ask: What individual architect has guided his daily practice by morality rather than profit to insure survival for his fellowman as well as himself? How many commissions will an architect give up so that another needy architect may be commissioned for survival? Does the architect try to “corner the market” with one governing body or board to exclude his colleagues? Too often, profit becomes the goal as the symbol of success and good architecture is relegated solely to the schools.

Finally, what architect is actually a gift to mankind as were Moses, Christ, Mohammed, Leonardo da Vinci, Shakespeare, Newton, Beethoven, Kant, Einstein, and Wright? The truth is, that even though the architect may be his own sun, he will go to his sepulcher in damp darkness, and he will be unnoticed to other generations—from the macroscopic illuminate to the microscopic nonentity.

Little by little, the architect can and ought to reduce himself in stature to realize that he is important as an architect only because his fellow architects exist to make him important. Each with his little contribution make an addition for a group grand total. Each by himself is a nonentity. Can jealousy or envy survive when each has evaluated himself this way?
CURTIS RESIDENCE, NEW ORLEANS

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NEW ORLEANS

Living Room With Patio At Each End
CURTIS RESIDENCE, N. O., LA.

JURY COMMENTS

"This residence embraces a strong and excellent regional expression. The plan is superb and the concept is particularly outstanding in consideration of the limited size of the lot. The use of the gallery as a strong axis in the plan is commendable. There is a beautiful flow of space from area to area and adroit relationship of interior spaces to the gardens. The detailing is artful and well studied."

The structure is basically two living units, surrounded by br walls and connected by a gallery. It is built for a large fam (parents and seven children). All spaces are oriented tow private courtyards, thus allowing the immediate environment be completely controlled. The first unit is a living pavil open in plan, accommodating the facilities used by the fami a group—parlor, music room, dining room, dining patio, fam room and kitchen.

The second unit is a two-story sleeping unit, containing se bedrooms and four baths. Its lower level is depressed to all the gallery to become the intermediate landing of the stair.

photographed by Frank Lotz Miller
"Residential architecture, being architecture, is shaped and influenced by the designer’s philosophy on architecture itself," comments Owner-Designer Curtis. “Our philosophy of architecture is, first and foremost, the insistence upon a plan that is as perfect and functional in convenience and efficiency of arrangement as it can be, then the most honest expression possible of this plan in three dimensions, using and also expressing the most precise structural system that is suitable.”

“Finally, and this is the real trick—the whole is compromised just enough to be mysterious, playful or romantic.”
The new official Roster of Louisiana Architects has been dedicated to former LAA Executive Director, Myron J. Tassin. The very affable Mr. H. D. Ruffin, right, Director of the State Dept. of Occupational Standards and Assistant to Governor McKeithen is shown here presenting a copy of the Roster to Mr. Tassin. Mr. Ruffin has pledged his continuing cooperation with LAA efforts to improve the standards of practice and the status of the architectural profession.

House Bill 100 - To Eliminate Architectural Barriers To The Handicapped with this signing became law. Backers of the Bill shown from left to right standing around Governor John J. McKeithen are: Senator George Tessier; Representative Lillian Walker; Bill Nelson, Executive Secretary, Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped; Victor Busse, President, Louisiana AFL-CIO; Representative Morley Hudson; Dick Thevenot, Executive Director, Louisiana Architects Association.

Governor McKeithen said that any bill backed by individuals and groups with such varied views must be good legislation and hardly warrants being read before signing.

ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE AND THE LAW

A recent decision by the 19th Judicial District Court in the case entitled Capital Bank & Trust Company vs. White, now on appeal to the Court of Appeal for the First Circuit, involves a point of interest to architects in protecting their claims for services rendered.

In this case, Mr. White retained an architect to design a residence. After the work had been started, the owner made a bank loan, and a mortgage was executed on the property. The claims of certain laborers and materialmen for work done before the recordation of the mortgage were paid. The owner later became insolvent, and the bank foreclosed on the mortgage. It denied liability to the materialmen who had supplied materials after recordation of the mortgage and also denied liability to the architect because he had not recorded a lien.

In accordance with prior decisions, the court held that, where any work is done or any material is furnished before a mortgage is recorded, all claims for labor and materials rank ahead of the mortgage, and the bank was responsible for payment of those materialmen who had furnished materials after recordation of the mortgage. The court also held that it was not necessary for the architect to record a notice for his privilege in order to be protected.

This case is on appeal to the Court of Appeal for the First Circuit, and, when that court has completed its review, we will publish a supplemental memorandum.
In Rememberance of Robert L. Miller 1923-1966

Graduate Lake Charles High School - Graduate McNeese Junior College - Attended Tulane University and McNeese State College.

MEMBER - Calcasieu Kiwanis Club - Past President Southwest Louisiana Shrine Club - Lake Charles Lodge 165 - Scottish Rite Masons - El Karubah Shrine Temple - Past President McNeese Alumni Association - Past President Southwest Louisiana Chapter A. I. A. and participant in organization of the Chapter - Past President Salvation Army in First Presbyterian Church of Lake Charles.

FAMILY - Son of Franklin L. Miller (deceased) General Contractor - Wife, Mary Jean (nee) Keith - Four Sons - One Daughter.

No one can know if Bobby Miller's appetite for work had anything to do with his untimely death, but as I heard the shocking news, I remembered that I had often wondered how

one man could work so much. The record enumerated above is testimony to this trait - an intense urge to serve his fellowman.

All who knew him well will recall his zealous drive - in practice, in civic work, in service to the profession he loved so much.

Bobby became an architect the hard way... thru experience and after several years of self-education (while caring nightly for a bed-ridden child).

As an architect, he was so AIA-oriented that he consistently attended LAA board meetings when his chapter president could not fulfill that duty.

Bobby left quickly but he left his profession a lot richer than he found it. His tangible contributions as secretary of the State Board of Examiners will influence the practice of architecture for decades to come. And when Lake Charles and Louisiana architects convene, his mark will be felt almost as strikingly as his absence.

Our hearts and prayers are truly with his wife and children in their profound loss. Their great loss is our great loss, too.

MYRON TASSIN

———

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