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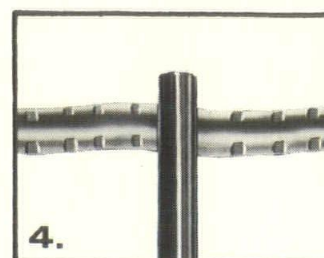
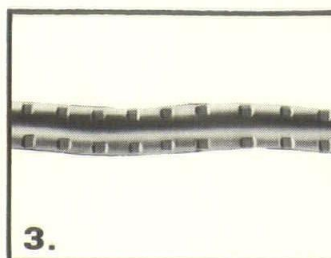
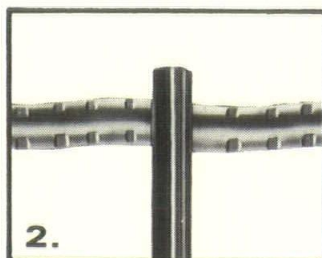
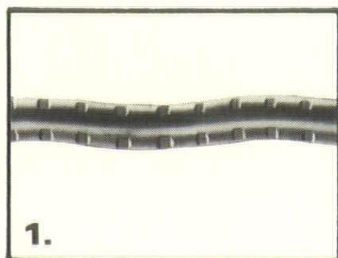
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The Louisiana Architect



September-October, 1971

Gallier House/Bank/Candidates/Court House



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EDITORIAL

There appears to be some encouraging signs that the selection of architects and engineers for state work may yet be removed from the political arena and put on a basis of professional qualifications.

The LAA and the Consulting Engineers Council of Louisiana have had indications that gubernatorial candidates J. Bennett Johnston and Gillis Long would support legislation which would give this long abused patronage plum to a group less motivated by political considerations.

Currently the LAA and CEC of Louisiana, along with the Louisiana Engineering Society and the Construction Industry Legislative Council, are working to get these and other candidates for Governor to publically list as a platform objective: a fair, professional and non-political procedure for choosing the designers of the state's buildings and capital improvements.

We hope the readers of the Louisiana Architect will bring this issue to the attention of the candidates. Through this kind of personal effort perhaps Louisiana can witness an era of reform.

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Cover: Sample of the skill of the early architects of Mexico. Mayan culture, circa 3000 B.C. An LAA architect and his wife attending this year's convention will win a round trip and hotel accommodations for six days in Mexico City and Acapulco.

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GALLIER HOUSE

The Home of a Nineteenth Century New Orleans Architect and a Museum of Regional Architecture by William R. Cullison

One of New Orleans' most handsome restorations is the recently-opened Gallier House Museum, located at 1132 Royal Street in the city's Vieux Carre'. A complex of three buildings, the museum consists of : the newly-refurbished house renowned architect James Gallier, Jr. built for himself and his family in 1857 and two adjacent structures, one of which has been renovated as an exhibition hall housing temporary and permanent displays devoted to local architecture. The project is sponsored by the Ella West Freeman Foundation of New Orleans and is the result of over two years labor.

Born in Huntingdon, England on September 25, 1827, James Gallier, Jr. was the son of Irish architect James Gallier, Sr. and Elizabeth Tyler Gallier. Brought to America by his parents in 1832, he was educated at private academies in New York, Holly Springs, Mississippi, at the University of North Carolina and in the office his father established in New Orleans in 1834. When James Gallier, Sr. retired in late 1849, James, Jr. took over his father's practice, and between this time and his death on May 16, 1868, designed and built many of New Orleans' most noted buildings, among them the famous French Opera House, constructed in 1859 at Bourbon and Toulouse Streets and now destroyed.

Gallier House, 1132 Royal Street, New Orleans. Built in 1857 by noted New Orleans architect, James Gallier, Jr., as his own residence.



Original early perspective sketch for the French Opera House, Bourbon and Toulouse Streets, New Orleans. Gallier and Esterbrook, Architects and Builders. On display in the current exhibition. Drawing contained in the Sylvester Labrot Collection, Special Collections Division, Tulane University Library.

Gallier, Jr.'s own residence is an elegant two-story Vieux Carre' townhouse, distinguished on the exterior by rusticated masonry, a covered cast iron gallery over the sidewalk and a particularly fine marble-floored entrance vestibule with classic cast iron gates. Its interior is noted for its double parlor with ornate plaster decorations and screen of Corinthian pilaster columns. Unfortunately, all of Gallier, Jr.'s furniture was scattered when the house passed from the family's hands in 1917, and none of the original pieces were available for the present restoration. Nonetheless, the house has been furnished and decorated in a manner approximating that of the period when Gallier himself lived there. This was accomplished by following an inventory of items in the house found in the succession accompanying Gallier's will. For further accuracy, walls and moldings were scraped in order that the original colors Gallier had used might be duplicated. Papers, drapes and other decorative features also approximate those in use at the time the house was built.

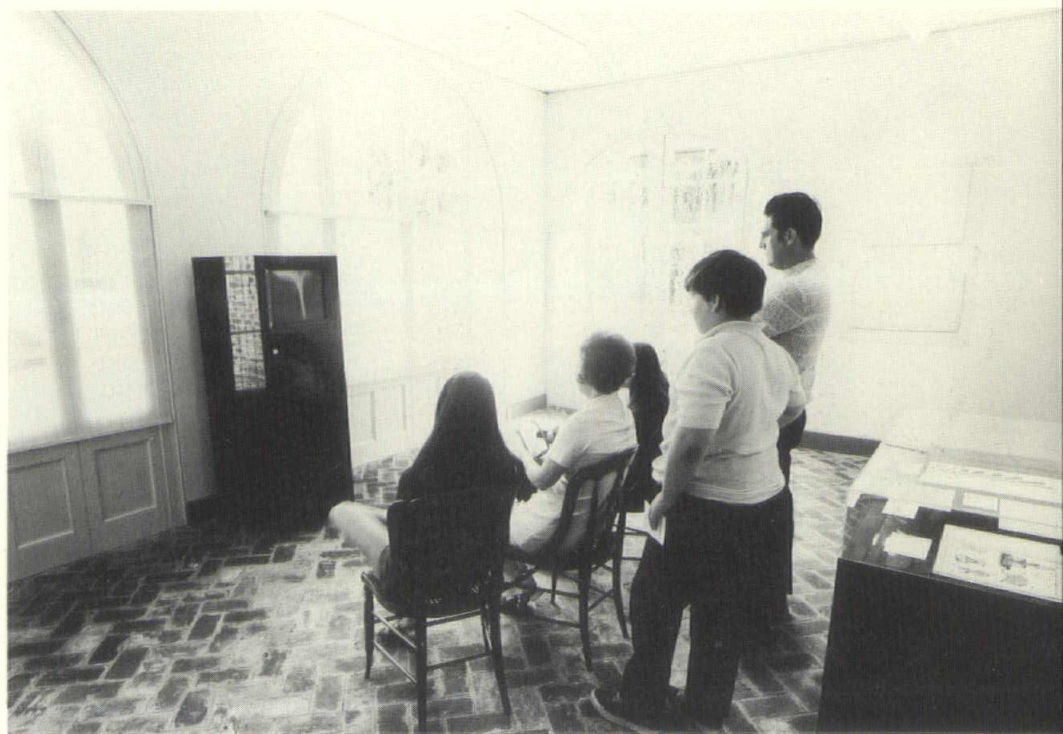
In the adjacent two-story building, an exhibition of material pertaining to Gallier, Jr. and his time is now being presented. Designed and installed by the author, it includes original drawings, prints, photographs, books and manuscripts, most of which were loaned from the Sylvester Labrot Collection of Gallier Drawings and Manuscripts housed in the Special Collections Division of the Tulane University Library. The exhibition is divided into four displays, three of which are housed on the first floor of the building. The first is designed to introduce visitors to James Gallier, Jr. and his family. In addition to family memorabilia, it contains original drawings for and photographs of the most famous of Gallier, Jr.'s works. The second display presents a panorama of New Orleans during the mid-nineteenth century. Included here are old prints of the city, contemporary guides and city directories and old photographs of noted New Orleans buildings. The third display briefly explains nineteenth century building construction and decorative devices. It consists of original construction and detail drawings, pricked paper designs for wooden capitals and ornaments, designs for plaster ceiling cornices and medallions, cast iron catalogues and other material from the Gallier office. Outstanding in this section of the exhibition are two five-minute films (shown by the rear screen projector technique) devoted to the making of ornamental iron and plasterwork.

For those who wish to know more about James Gallier, Jr.'s career, the second floor of the exhibition building contains an in-depth survey of his work. Here are drawings for still-remaining Gallier buildings in styles ranging from the Greek Revival to the picturesque Gothic and Italianate. Most of these are contrasted with elevation and detail photographs of the structures as they now exist. Other items in this part of the exhibition include James Gallier, Jr.'s construction notebook, two scrapbooks of original Gallier sketches, pattern books from the Gallier library and architectural prints and photographs from the Gallier office.



View of first floor of exhibition hall. On display are original drawings by James Gallier, Jr., family memorabilia and material concerning the city of New Orleans during

the mid nineteenth century. View of first floor of exhibition hall with movie on the making of ornamental ironwork.



PHOTOS BY BETSY SWANSON





The Lafayette Building

The Lafayette Building, located in downtown Baton Rouge, is one of the earliest remaining buildings of that city. It is situated almost mid-way between the new and old state capitols. Built on a high bluff facing the Mississippi River and now encompassed by a dynamically growing skyline, it quietly reminds us of the early beginnings of Baton Rouge. Originally it served as the residence of Judge Charles Tessier, first Probate Judge of East Baton Rouge Parish, who acquired the property in the early 1800's through the claim of Richard Devall (Devall Town was named after him). By legend, the Marquis de Lafayette is said to have visited Judge Tessier there in 1825.

It has been restored by Mr. and Mrs. Jules Landry.

JOHN DESMOND, FAIA



NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, GENTILLY WOODS OFFICE — NEW ORLEANS
Architect : Ernest E. Verges and Associates, Inc.

PROGRAM

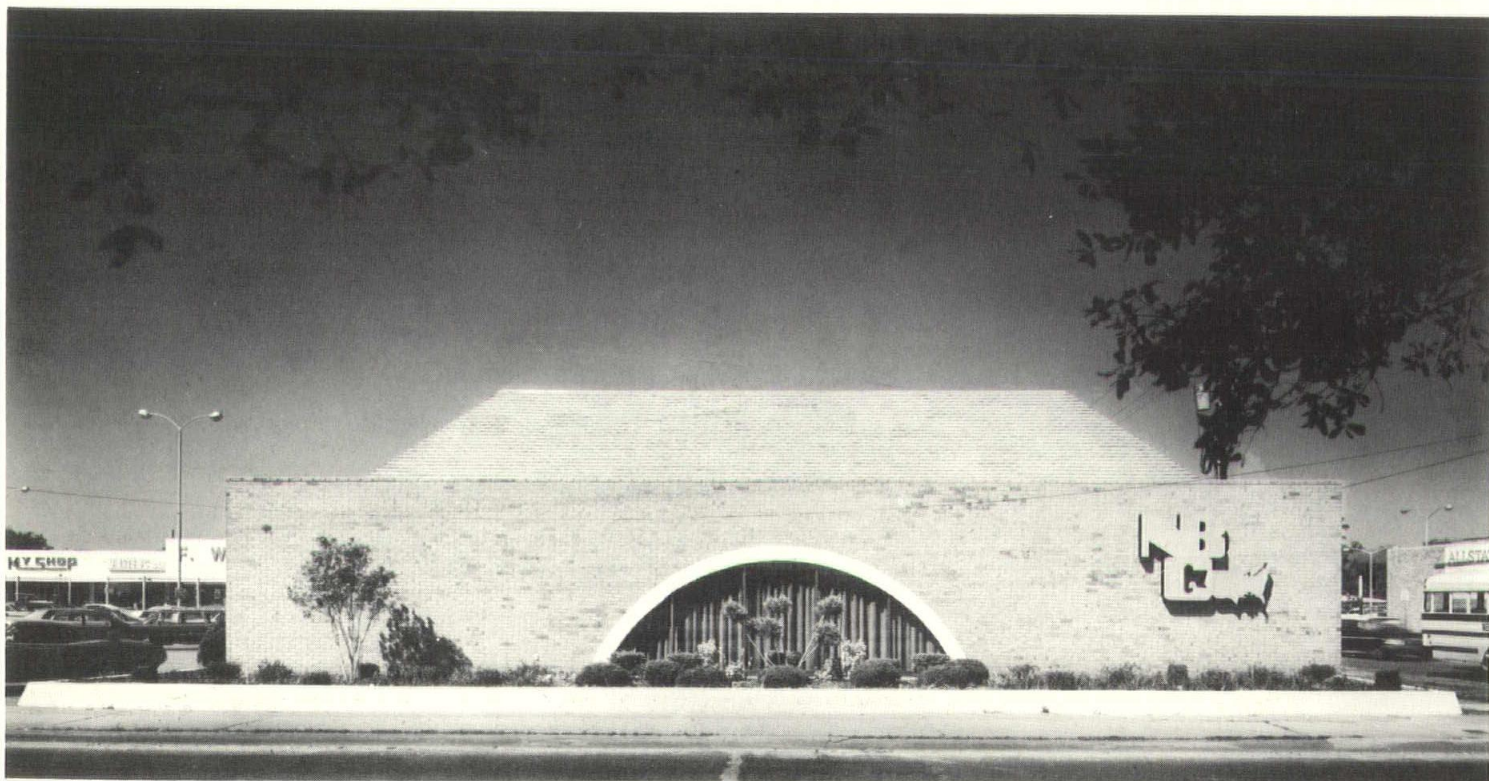
To design a new Branch Bank to replace quarters which had become much too small and was not properly equipped to handle the present motor banking trend. The existing building was required to be kept in operation during the complete construction of the new facility.

DESIGN SOLUTION

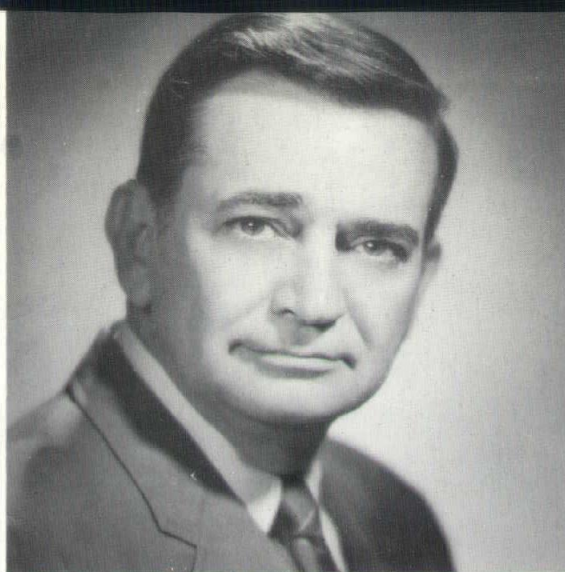
Investigation disclosed that the use of Visual Auto Teller units with one drive-up teller station would be most efficient in the space available. This one station, with either one or two tellers, controls four lanes of drive-up customers.

Since the public space required a high ceiling, it was placed in the center of the main building, with low ceiling areas at each side. This lent itself to a functional arrangement of these spaces. Economy was gained by placing the lounge, toilets and mechanical areas in a mezzanine above the teller's area, which obtained better lighting by a low, luminous ceiling.

It was the intent that the new facility should not have a "cold commercial" appearance, but rather, should reflect a somewhat residential character, more suitable to its neighborhood shopping center surroundings.



PHOTOS BY FRANK LOTZ MILLER

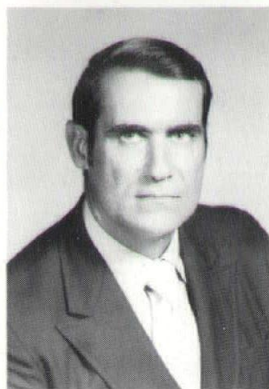


J. BUCHANAN BLITCH, FAIA
For President

is the principal in his own firm in New Orleans. He is currently president of the LAA and has served as vice-president and chairman of the Continuing Education Committee. He was the 1968 general chairman of the State Convention and Products Exhibition. He attended Loyola University, California Polytechnic Institute and holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Tulane. He did undergraduate work in Mexico, France, Belgium and Germany (1937-39). Jim has held numerous positions in the New Orleans Chapter AIA and in the LAA. He is a member of several national honorary architectural societies, and is the holder of numerous awards and citations in architecture and is a Fellow in the AIA.

H. M. "Tim" FAVROT, JR.
For First Vice Pres. / Pres. Designate

is a principal in the firm of Favrot and Shane, Architects in New Orleans. He is a graduate of Culver Military Academy, holds a B.A. in Architecture from Tulane University and a Master of Architecture degree from Harvard University. Now in his second year on the LAA Board of Governors, Tim has also served as Secretary and Treasurer of the New Orleans Chapter, AIA. Since September 1970 he has served as a member of the New Orleans City Planning Commission. He is also active in the city's social and civic activities.

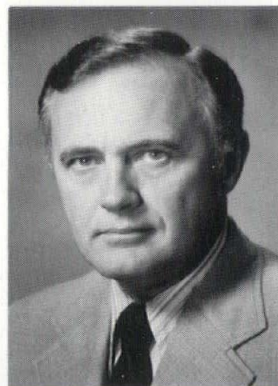
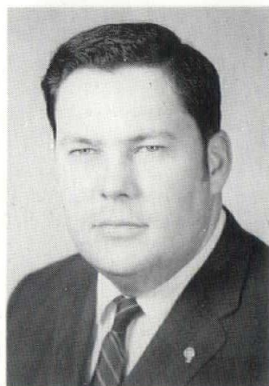


CHARLES E. "Chuck" SCHWING
For First Vice Pres. / Pres. Designate

is the principal in his own firm in Baton Rouge, Louisiana which was founded in 1961. Prior to that time he was a partner in Hughes & Schwing, an associate in Post & Hareless. Chuck holds a B.S. in Engineering and a Bachelor of Architecture both from Georgia Institute of Technology. He also attended Louisiana State University, University of Colorado and the Fontainebleau School of Fine Arts in Fontainebleau, France. He is a past Secretary of the Baton Rouge Chapter of A.I.A., was the 1970 Chairman of the LAA Governmental Affairs Committee, and is presently serving as Secretary-Treasurer of the LAA. Active in civic and community affairs, he is a former Board member of the Louisiana Arts and Science Center, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Directors of Schwing, Inc. He is also a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and is listed in Who's Who in The South & Southwest and Who's Who in Commerce & Industry.

JAMES J. COCHRAN
For Vice President

is a partner in the Lake Charles architectural firm of Cochran, Fugatt, Judice, Platt & Reuhln. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from L.S.U. Jim has served two terms as President of the Southwest Chapter, AIA and as such two years as a member of the LAA Board of Governors. He is a member of the Board of the Calcasieu-Cameron Chapter of the American Red Cross, member of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church and member and past secretary of the Board of the Salvation Army.

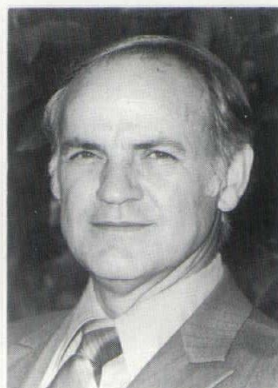


JESSE O. MORGAN, FAIA
For Vice President

is a partner in the firm of Wiener, Morgan and O'Neal Architects, Shreveport. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Tulane University and was awarded the student AIA Medal. In 1970 he was general chairman of the LAA Convention. He has held the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President of the Shreveport Chapter, AIA. In 1969 Jesse was elected to the College of Fellows of the AIA for his contribution to the profession in design.

ROBERT M. COLEMAN
For Secretary / Treasurer

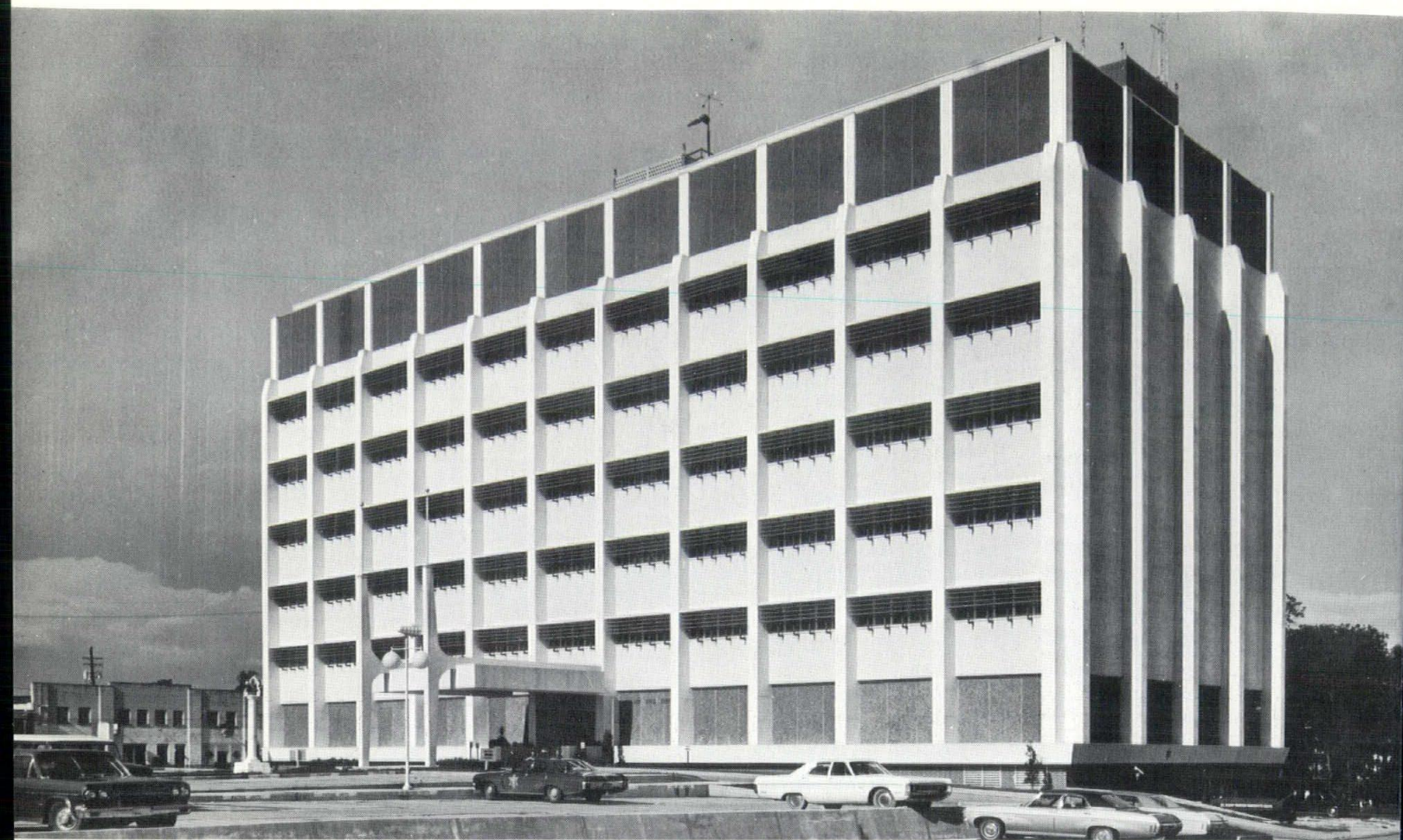
is a principal in the architectural firm of Wilson and Coleman in Baton Rouge. He attended Tulane University and Texas A & M from which he holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree. Bob is a member of the LAA Board of Governors and is a past president of the Baton Rouge Chapter, AIA. He is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Better Business Bureau. Currently he serves on the boards of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce and the Boy Scouts of America. Bob is President of Audubon Ford Co., and Sherwood Forest Nursing Home. He is secretary-treasurer of Executive Properties, Inc. and Vice-President of C-H-N Corp. He serves on the Board of I. H. Rubenstein and Son, Inc.



HAROLD LANE THOMPSON
For Secretary / Treasurer

is the principal in the firm of Harold Thompson & Associates in Baton Rouge. He was president of the student body at University High School in Baton Rouge and held several honors including the Southern AAU Diving Championship. He attended L.S.U. and Kansas State University from which he holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree. Harold has worked for the firm of Manson and Thompson Architects, was a member of the L.S.U. School of Architecture faculty, and was Architectural Advisor for The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board. Before opening his own firm he was a partner in the firm of Thompson and Thompson, Architects.

ON THE STUMP FOR '72



ST. MARY PARISH COURT HOUSE — an answer to hurricane winds

Architect: Lloyd J. Guillory & Associates



The new St. Mary Parish Courthouse was designed to replace the old 1908 courthouse and the even older parish jail which was built prior to the Civil War.

The parish, being the center of offshore oil production, had grown considerably in the past decade, and a much larger building was needed. The program was further complicated by the fact that the Police Jury had decided to build the new building on the same site as the old structure. Since the site was not overly large to begin with, this decision necessitated a high rise structure actually built only three feet from the existing one.

This project involved many political agencies at the parish level, and also included several at the state and federal level, including a Civil Defense Shelter. Hundreds of hours of interviews with department heads and operating staff indicated to us the size and scope of each agencies requirements; even then, there were constant changes while the job was in advanced preliminaries. Finally, each department head was asked to sign a final preliminary plan on his particular department.

The technical problems involved were not too unusual for a project of this size. The building was designed to withstand 200 mile per hour winds, and to be used as a hurricane shelter, so glass areas were kept at a minimum, and even that glass was protected by aluminum slats which provided both sun control, and protection from flying debris in hurricane winds. The two end walls were used as shear walls, resulting in no fenestration on either end.

The jail, located on the top floor, has a prisoner's exercise yard and sun deck on the roof. In the belief that law enforcement and civil defense officials would be using helicopters more and more in the years to come, the building has a heliport on the roof.

PHOTOS BY MIGUEZ



The large column capitals shown in the entrance lobby were salvaged from the old courthouse, and were used as pedestals to hold models of the old and new buildings.



frank lotz miller

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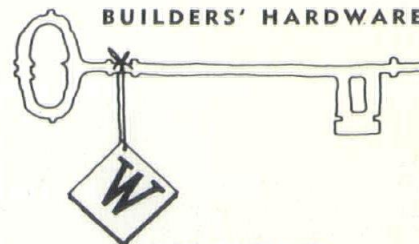
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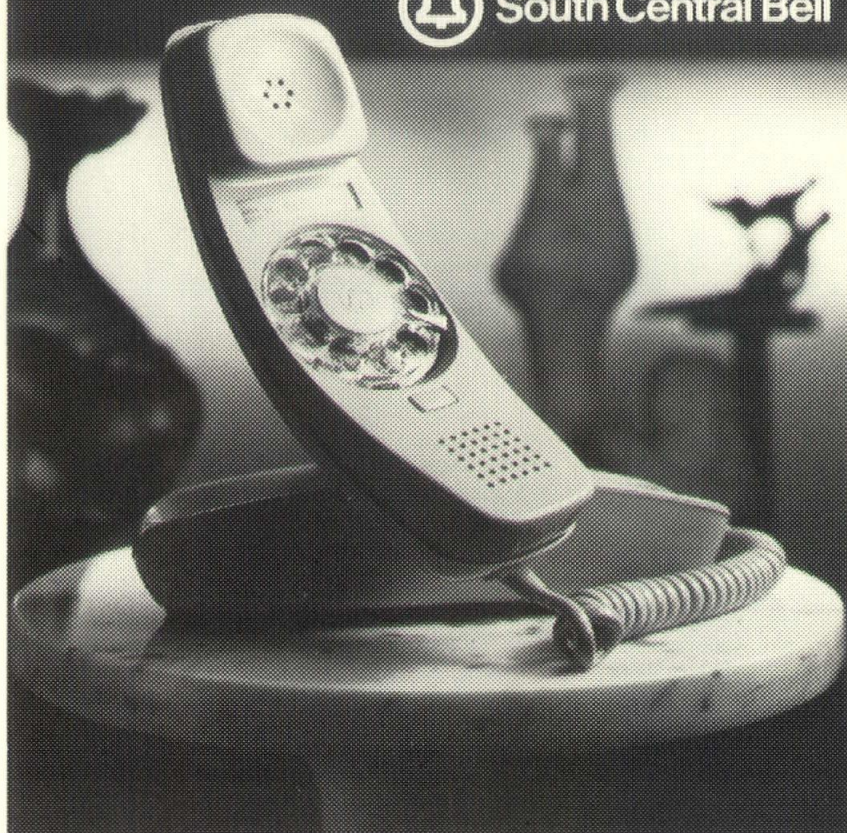
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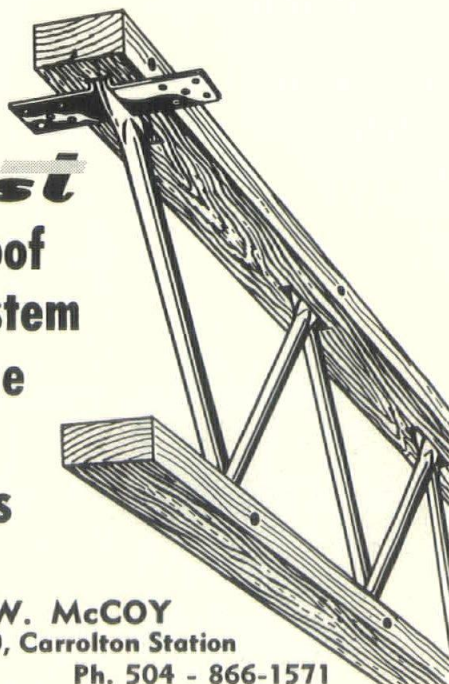


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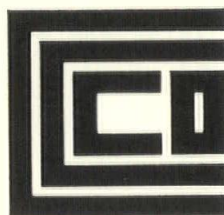


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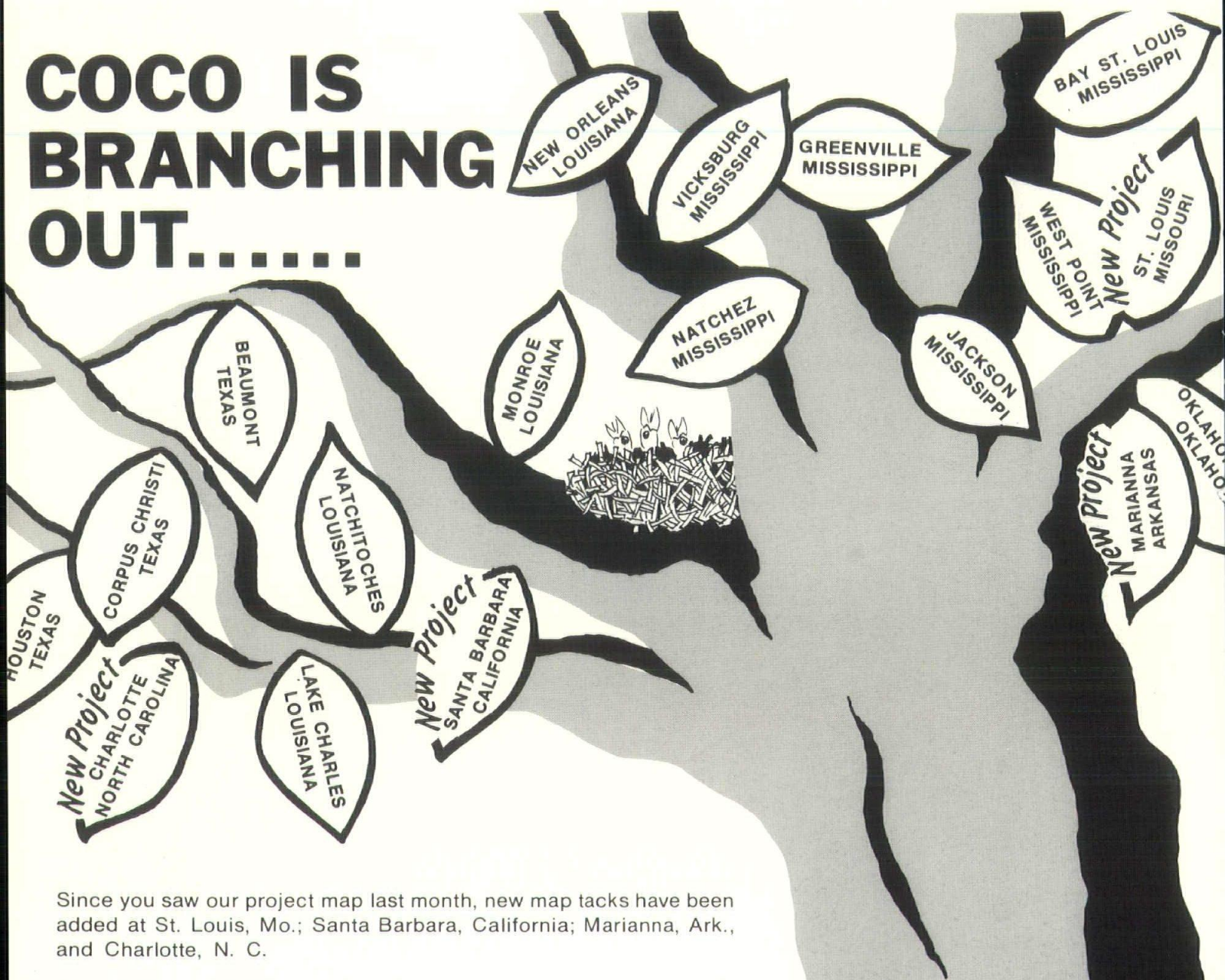
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