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Southern Architect

Volume 4

July 1957

Number 7

CONTENTS

0	President's Message	7
0	Johnston Is Administration Dept. Direct	or 8
•	Architects Award Winning Home— Raleigh	9-11
	Proposed YMCA—Charlotte	12-15
0	NCAIA's Summer Centennial Meeting	16-17
	Two Unit High School—Troutman	18
•	NAHB President Compliments AIA	19
0	Odell's Work Featured	20
0	Gussow Sculpture in Auditorium	21
0	Legal Affairs Report	23
•	NCAIA Membership Changes	23
0	Architects and Builders in the News	25
•	Producer's Council Elects Penrose	27
•	Advertisers Index	30
0	Architectural Calendar	30

COVER

AIA Regional Director Sanford W. Goin of Gainesville, Florida, left, and NCAIA President W. R. James, Jr.

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Southern Architect is the official publication of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and is published monthly by H. J. Stockard, Jr., 122 W. Hargett St., Raleigh, North Carolina, Telephone TEmple 4-4384.

Address all communications to Southern Architect, Post Office Box 408, Raleigh, North Carolina. Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects or the Publisher. Reproduction of any articles, pictures, or any other material appearing in Southern Architect is forbidden without the specific approval of the Publisher.

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June 1, 1957 marked a major milestone in SOLITE history. For on that day the new Leaksville Junction plant was dedicated with ribbon-cutting ceremonies, and went into an operating production schedule of 24 hours a day. 7 days a week.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The general public, in many cases, seems to have little knowledge of the wide scope of an architect's activities in the practice of his profession and it seems appropriate to outline some of his abilities



JAMES

and duties. The too wide prevalence of the conception of an architect as a man living in an ivory tower making pretty sketches to decorate the face of a building is indeed unfortunate and one that we should take every opportunity to correct.

First of all the architect is, of course, an organizer of space for the use and delight of mankind. The scope of the knowledge and abilities required to do this well is wide and encompasses knowl-

edge in many fields. An outline of the processes involved from the conception of a structure to its completion will be helpful in giving the public an understanding of his work.

Needless to say he cannot use his talents without first securing a commission. His selection for a project is usually based on many factors but the most important one is his record of satisfactory performance in the past. After his selection he confers with his client on the scope of the project as to its use, location, space requirements, code limitations, site restrictions, cost and the means of financing. After visiting the site and receiving an engineering survey of the property he prepares schematic studies with recommendations as to type of construction, materials, mechanical equipment and probable cost. Upon general agreement on the

above items he prepares preliminary drawings and outline specifications in sufficient detail to explain the project to his client clearly and to make realistic cost estimates.

When the preliminary documents are approved he proceeds to develop working drawings and specifications which give complete information as to the type and quality of materials to be used, and their proper placement in the structure. He works with engineers to develop and integrate the mechanical parts of the building. One of his most important tasks is to maintain control of all the many parts of the structure, including engineering, and to coordinate them into a unified whole.

When working drawings and specifications are complete and approved the architect secures bids from contractors and, after an analysis of the best interests of his client, recommends the award of contracts.

During the construction period he supervises the erection of the building seeing that all contracts are properly executed. He checks contractor's applications for payment and issues certificates authorizing such payments. When the project is complete he conducts a final inspection and if all terms of the contracts have been fulfilled accepts the completed project on behalf of his client.

This outline is very brief and does not mention many items that are fully covered in our chapter publication "Standards of Architectural Service" but I believe it is comprehensive enough to give a general picture of the practice of architecture today.

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Johnston Heads Department Of Administration

On June 17 Paul Johnston, pictured on the left, was named by Governor Hodges as Director of the Department of Administration, created by the last General Assembly to bring all of the state's fiscal agencies under one agency. Johnston since January 1955 has been Governor Hodges' Administrative Assistant. He is 41, formerly of Smithfield, a former Assistant Director of the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill, a graduate of the University of North Carolina Law School with honors, and he practiced in New York for a time before returning to Chapel Hill.

The legislative act specified that the new Department shall have a Budget Director and a Director of Purchase and Contract. Johnston's first official act was to name as the assistant of the Department, and as Director of the Department's Budgeting Division, David Coltrane, who has for years been Assistant Budget Director (the Governor is Director). Johnston as Director was granted authority to set up, as he deemed necessary, divisions of Architecture and Engineering, Property Control, Administrative Analysis, and Long-Range Planning. Johnston said "I do not believe it will be necessary to activate immediately all of the divisions authorized. In the beginning we will operate with only three divisions." On June 25 he appointed Frank B. Turner, a native of Oxford and for the past ten years Consulting Engineer in the Budget Bureau, as Director of the Property Control Division. This Division will have two branches—Architecture and Engineering and Real Property Control. On June 27 Turner named John E. Davenport, a 29 year old Nashville attorney, as his assistant over the Real Property Control branch. He has not yet named the head of the Architecture and Engineering branch.

NCAIA President James has offered to assist Mr. Turner in attempting to locate a person with proper qualifications to head the Architecture and Engineering branch. The offer was accepted and an announcement was sent to all architects in North Carolina and to the presidents of all AIA Chapters throughout the country. The qualifications requested are as follows: (1) An architectural education and registration; (2) Five years practice in architecture; (3) A broadminded attitude toward design and competence in the technical abilities required for the practice of architecture; (4) Skill in relations with other persons; (5) Age from about 35 to 50 years and (6) Interest in Government work as a career. All applications and inquiries should be sent to Mr. Frank Turner, Property Officer, Property Control Division, Department of Administration, Raleigh, North Carolina.



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This school in Iredell County was constructed under two separate contracts and at two different times. The first part, built by West, contains 12,325 square feet in five classrooms, office and teachers rooms, and toilets. It has brick cavity exterior walls, concrete block interior walls, exposed steel beams forming the roof with poured gypsum deck on acoustical tile formboards. The second wing, built by Wilson, was completed this past January. It contains 16,172 square feet in nine classrooms, library, toilets and storage. It is of brick construction with concrete block back-up, steel beams and insulrock roof construction and, as the first unit, has asphalt tile floor on slab on grade. The combined cost was just under \$200,000 or an average of \$6.98 per square foot.





A Bow To The A.I.A. For A Century Of Progress

By GEO. S. GOODYEAR

President, NAHB

(The following article, reproduced by permission of Mr. Goodyear, who is from Charlotte, North Carolina, appeared in the May "Journal" of the National Association of Home Builders, which was included in the registration kits at AIA's Centennial Meeting in Washington in May.)

One hundred years ago, 13 architects who previously had not been identified professionally as such, met in New York to found the American Institute of Architects. Until their February meeting in 1857, architecture had been the province of any talented, or not so talented, amateur who wished to try his hand. These 13 men set for themselves the task of elevating the vital job of planning the physical environment of communities to a professional status.

From its meager beginning the organization these men founded has grown to one of the most respected and influential professional organizations in the nation. Its membership has grown to 11,-500 trained, professional architects, with 124 autonomous chapters in every section of the United States.

Largely because of its high standards of professional ethics the A.I.A. has been able to take a leading role in improving the American standard of living.

So in this year of its centennial celebration and the month of its convention in Washington, I wish to offer to the A.I.A., on behalf of the membership of the National Association of Home Builders, sincere felicitations.

This is also a fitting occasion to assess the tremendous future responsibility of both buidler and architect in providing the American people with still better housing.

In recent years the NAHB and A.I.A. have worked closely to develop among builders an appreciation of the value of a professional architect and to acquaint architects with the problems peculiar to the home builder's operation.

While all this effort has borne fruit, we still have a long way to go. Many builders still scorn the services of an architect: only a relative handful of architects fully understand and appreciate the home builder's problems sufficiently to work with him in close teamwork.

There can be no doubt that good design in the field of small home construction is as vital today, if not more so, as at any time in history. It is equally evident that the ultimate in home construction, design and efficiency can best be achieved through closely co-ordinated builder-architect teams.

Thus, as we look back on a century of accomplishment for the A.I.A. and doff our hat in recognition, we must not lose sight of the tremendous job ahead. We of the NAHB pledge our continued co-operation with the architects toward the end of providing better homes and neighborhoods for American families.



ODELL'S WORK FEATURED

A full page on the front of the section Editorials and Features of "The Charlotte Observer" on Sunday, June 2nd was titled "Meet Architect A. G. Odell, Jr.—He's Changing our Skyline!" In an article by staff writer Joe Doster, from which the following quotations and above picture are used by permission, NCAIA's former President was praised beginning with the sub-headline "Charlottean Puts Beauty In Buildings".

The article describes the center of downtown as an area where "his firm is building some of the biggest and, according to the awards he's won, best buildings in Charlotte and the South. There's the Public Library, Belk's addition, the Wachovia Building, the Cutter Building at 221 S. Church St., and a remodeling job on Efird's and Eckerds. Add to this the Coliseum-Auditorium, Wilson Junior High School, Double Oaks Elementary School, Eckerds Drug Store and a number of residences in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Leave out the work he has done in other counties and states, and you've still got a mighty impressive list. On the drawing boards are a six million dollar civic center for Baltimore, Garringer High School, the proposed 'Charlottetown' regional shopping center and the Memorial Hospital expansion. With all these to bear the A. G. Odell and Associates trademark, you might expect him to be content. But no. 'What I'd really like to design,' he said, 'is a university'."

The article goes on to say, "Odell, like his architecture, can best be described as contemporary. Odell concedes that all contemporary architecture is not good architecture 'but the bad contemporary is no worse than bad Georgian, bad Gothic or anything else. You don't get contemporary architecture' he said, 'by building picture windows looking out on a busy street or an automobile graveyard. The best way for people to get to know and like good contemporary architecture is to live in it. If they can't live in it, they should see it.' Odell noted that before 1949 there was very little contemporary architecture anywhere but in California and New England. Now, he says, it is available everywhere. He calls State College's School of Design 'without doubt one of the best schools in the country'." The article concludes by calling attention to the prizes awarded the firm. "Among them are Awards of Merit from the American Institute of Architects for Wilson Junior High School and Double Oaks School. Award citation from 'Progressive Architecture' for Wilson Junior High, School Executive Award for Double Oaks and State AIA Awards of Merit for Double Oaks, Auditorium and Coliseum, Bell residence, Addison Building, Wilson Junior High and Charlotte Public Library."



"Astrosoma" Sculpture In New Auditorium

Roy Gussow of the faculty of the School of Design of N. C. State College designed the above aluminum geometric globe for the new Monroe Auditorium at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory. The name is a combination of two Greek words and means "star body", which is appropriate in that stars are predominant in the outer form. The sphere also consists of numerous other forms and geometrical figures, including 120 diamond shapes, 12 pentagonal forms, 20 trinity forms, the cross, the furca and the circle. The nucleus into which the various forms of the sculpture converge and around which they revolve may be called the eye. It has been suggested that it is the open eye of God from which nothing is hidden. A few statistics indicate something of the magnitude and meticulous detail of the sculptors achievement. Of 10 feet in diameter and weighing 300 pounds, the globe consists of 2,280 1/4" aluminum rods of varying lengths totaling approximately a mile, and there are 4,080 welded joints. It is suspended from the 40 foot lobby ceiling at eye level on the second of three floors and within reach of the balcony so that it may be rotated by hand. Red, white and blue lights on each side of it may be operated separately or in combinations to give contrasting appearances and to create various patterns in the shadows on the back wall.



NCAIA MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Additional changes in the roster published in our April issue are: Fred W. Butner, Jr., AlA of Winston-Salem, has moved his office to 655 West Fifth Street in that city.—James M. Edwards, Jr., Arthur McKimmon, II and Robert W. Etheredge, Jr., AlA's of Raleigh, have moved their office to 420 North Boylan Avenue.—Robert H. Stephens, AlA, has notified us that his correcet address is 504 Pollock Street in New Bern—Sam T. Snoddy, Jr., AlA of Charlotte, has moved to Laurinburg. He has formed a partnership with Engineer William E. Andrews, and has as mailing address Box 701 in that city. —Bosworth C. Beckwith, Associate Member of Raleigh, has moved to 206 Davis Building in Wilson.—Henry C. Moore, Associate Member formerly of Winston-Salem and now with the City Planning Commission in Cincinnati, has resigned.—And AIA has notified us that James M. Russell, AIA of Lumberton, has now retired and has terminated membership.



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LEGAL AFFAIRS

Albert L. Haskins, Jr.— F. Carter Williams, Co-chairmen, Legal Affairs Committee

Before construction began on a city school building, the City Building Inspector demanded of the General Contractor the regular fee for a building permit. The Contractor refused to pay it contending that since a public building was involved no municipal building permit or fee is required.

What is the law?

G. S. 160-126 authorizes municipalities to require permits from the City Building Inspector. However, G. S. 143-135.1 reads in part as follows: "Buildings constructed by the State of North Carolina or any agency or institution of the State under plans and specifications approved by the Budget Bureau shall not be subject to inspection by any municipal authorities and to municipal codes and requirements. Inspection fees fixed by municipalities shall not be applicable to such construction, except where inspection is requested by the owning agency."

According to an opinion of the Attorney General of North Carolina dated June 7, 1957, a public school building owned by a county or city board of education is not a state building within the meaning of G. S. 143-135. Since a county or city board of education is not an agency or an institution of the state within contemplation of the statute in question. Therefore a municipality does have the authority to require a building permit and a fee therefor, for construction and inspection of city school buildings.

As to a county public school building erected outside of a municipality, there is no authority for a county to require a building permit. The new Building Code Council, created under Senate Bill 89 ratified on June 6, 1957, may make some provision applicable to school buildings erected in rural areas.

R. Mayne Albright, Attorney NCAIA

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ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS IN THE NEWS

Page Adds Associate

Jesse M. Page, AIA of Raleigh has announced that W. Carstarphen Burgess of Wendell has become an associate in his firm.

Deitrick Opens Branch

William Henley Deitrick, FAIA of Raleigh, announced on June 17 the opening of a branch office in Wilson. Bosworth C. Beckwith, Associate member of NCAIA, is the resident architect in the new office located at 206 Davis Building.

Hall Wins Study Grant

Louise Hall, AIA of Durham and NCAIA Archivist, was granted Sabbatical leave from



Duke and beginning July 1 has 1957-58 Founders Fellowship of the American Association of University Women. A fellow in that organization, Miss Hall attended the meeting of that group in Boston June 23-28. Late this year she will leave for six months study at the Guildhall Library in London.

Boney Honored

Leslie N. Boney, Jr., AIA of Wilmington, has been elected President of the N. C. State College Alumni Association, and Charles H. Wheatley, AIA of Charlotte, has been elected one of 5 directors of the organization.

New Aggregate Plant

The Solite Corporation on June 1 dedicated its 3rd plant, on the Virginia-North Carolina border at Leaksville Junction, Virginia. On the program was N. C.'s Governor Luther Hodges. Twin kilms 135 feet long began 24 hour 7 days a week production following the inspection.





PRODUCER'S COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

The Charlotte chapter of the Producer's Council has elected the following officers to govern the activities of the council for the 57-58 period. Seated, Ray G. Penrose, President; standing left to right, S. M. Auten, Vice President, G. Keith Middleton, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Producer's Council is composed of national manufacturers of products and materials for general construction work. It works closely with the Architectural and Engineering professions and meetings are held from September through May for the purpose of displaying and acquainting the architects and engineers with the products of the membership.





Index of Advertisers

page

	25
Acousti Engineering Co	25
Arnold Stone Company	25
Beaman Engineering Company	3
Borden Brick & Tile Company	26
Boren Clay Products Company	25
Bost Building Equipment Company	28
Brick & Tile Service, Inc.	Back
Carolina Power & Light Company	31
Carolina Solite Corp	6
Carolina Tuff-Lite Corp	22
Charlotte Chemical Laboratories, Inc	24
H. L. Coble Construction Company	24
Concrete Materials, Inc.	4
Dewey Brothers, Inc	29
Dickerson, Inc.	29
Duke Power Company	22
Duncan Printmakers, Inc	28
H & S Lumber Company	28
Isenhour Brick & Tile Co., Inc	26
Kendrick Brick & Tile Company	31
Law-Barrow-Agee Laboratories, Inc	28
The Mabie-Bell Company	28
Ezra Meir & Associates	
McDevitt & Street Company	26
The Moland-Drysdale Company	
Monarch Elevators	29
N. C. Concrete Masonry Association	22
Pine Hall Brick and Pipe Company	29
Public Service Co. of N. C., Inc	
Renfrow Distributing Company	24
Salisbury Lumber & Supply Company	
Snow Lumber Company	
Soule Steel & Iron Company	
Southernair Company	29
Southern Engineering Company	
F. N. Thompson, Inc	
Chas. A. Torrence	
Universal Window Corp.	2

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ARCHITECTURAL CALENDAR

- AUG. 3: N. C. Board of Architecture, Salisbury Country Club, Salisbury.
- AUG. 6, 20: Winston-Salem Council of Architects. El-Cam-Rey Restaurant, Winston-Salem.
- AUG. 7: Charlotte Council of Architects. Chez Montet, Charlotte.
- AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28: Architects Guild of High Point, High Point.
- AUG. 15: Raleigh Council of Architects, S.&W. Cafeteria, Raleigh.
- OCT. 11: Western Council of Architects, Chuck House, Statesville.
- NOV. 10-12: Associated General Contractors of America Carolinas Branch, The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.

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architects know:-





... but plugging takes planning

for present and future needs. All too often when wiring is discussed, your client fails to appreciate fully the wisdom in your advice to plan ahead. They want to live electrically but will not wire for it. In such cases, perhaps we can be of service in helping you persuade the client that he cannot "plug in" for modern living without planning for it. At no obligation, we'd be happy to work with you. Just call your nearest C. P. & L. office.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

St. Michael Episcopal Church, Raleigh, N. C. Leif Valand, AIA, Raleigh

General Contractor: York Building Company, Raleigh



Brick cavity walls, combined with Reinforced Brick Masonry, enabled the designer to incorporate interesting color and texture in this religious structure, while at the same time preserving the quiet dignity associated with church interiors.

BRICK & TILE SERVICE, INC.

A Service of North Carolina's Clay Products Manufacturers Greensboro, North Carolina