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THE NOVEMBER 1957 SOUTHERN ARCHITECT
Southern Architect

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COVER

U. S. Commemorative Stamp Honoring AIA Centennial

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There is a growing tendency among public bodies and building committees to feel the need of expert help and advice in solving both their programming and their planning problems. This is of course admirable in itself, as such bodies seldom have personnel in their own group technically trained to render the required services. Our point of criticism lies in the fact that too often the expert retained is simply someone from a large metropolitan center (the farther away from home the better) who, while quite often is most competent and does a good job, is not necessarily better or even as good as experts locally available. The old saying that a prophet is without honor in his own country seems to have lost none of its validity.

The truth is that the architects, engineers and planners in North Carolina are just as well educated and trained to do good work as those from any other part of the country. Actually our training comes from the same source as that of the experts from, say New York or Chicago. Its often sardonically amusing to meet an imported expert and find that he was in your class at architectural or engineering school when you knew him as Bill or Joe. You find that you still speak the same language and with equal facility.

The purpose of this short article is not to depreciate the talents of professionals from other parts of the country, but instead is a bid for public recognition of the fact that local architects, engineers and planners are just as competent, and in fact have a great advantage over their competitors, in that they are local and thus have a knowledge and understanding of local problems that the imported expert can never have. Further, we are not only closer to his problems at hand and have a more intimate knowledge of them, we will be here from now on and will have to live with the results that we produce. Also, it is axiomatic that given two professionals of equal ability, one living and working close to a project, and another working from a distance, the better result will be obtained by the first. This has been demonstrated time and time again but the lesson learned is often too late. When trouble develops the imported expert is far far away and the home folks are left with their problems and their regrets.

W. R. James, Jr.
President, N. C. Chapter A.I.A.

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This railing designed for an addition to the North Fant Street School, completed in September of 1956, is presented because of its uniqueness and appropriateness.
A club in Caracas with unusual poured concrete roof and open brick wall.

EXHIBITION of VENEZUELAN ARCHITECTURE

On this and the following pages are photographs of some of the panels included in an exhibition of Venezuelan architecture which is being shown in the School of Design Building at N. C. State College November 1-26. The exhibit, first of its kind in the United States, is sponsored by the Venezuelan Society of Architects and the Creole Petroleum Corporation. Sixty large photographic panels, plus a number of enlarged color transparencies, stereo slides, maps and samples have been assembled into a cohesive exhibit unit, resulting in a representative display of several major features of Venezuelan architecture. They portray many of the dramatic social and economic changes that have occurred in that country during the past decade — as reflected in its contemporary architecture. While primary emphasis of the showing is on the modern architecture, several examples of distinguished colonial and neoclassic buildings are also being shown. As a major inter-cultural project, the exhibition combines the efforts of the Society of Venezuelan architects, who selected the buildings shown on display and who designed the panels. A committee consisting of Dr. Cipriano Dominguez, President of the Society of Venezuelan Architects, an artist, a photographer and another architect, worked three months in selecting the buildings and designing the panels. Thirty-four buildings and projects were selected from a wide geographical area within Venezuela. The exhibit illustrates Venezuela’s fast transformation into one of the most modern and progressive nations in the world.

In the brochure which is given those who view the exhibits the Appreciation is written by Richard J. Neutra, FAIA, internationally honored architect of Los Angeles. Mr. Neutra said in part "A short time ago Venezuela would have been best characterized by the lyrical, old-world charm of small town plazas. Now all this seems reversed. Side by side with regional and city planners, well endowed by the administration of Venezuela, architects have served government, industry, commerce and cultural pursuits with a promptness, a grasp of the moment, a presence of mind, perhaps unparalleled any where else.”
Cooperatively owned office building in Caracas.

Typical low income housing project in Caracas.
Low income housing project at Barquisimeto with chapel as integral unit of the project.

Laguna Beach Club on the Caribbean coast at Tanaquarena.
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The South Newton Elementary School has 32,787 square feet to provide for its 300 small children. The scale used kept them in mind: relatively low ceiling lights were planned, as well as dividing the plan into units, courts formed by the location of covered walks, and large wall areas broken by the framing system. Wide overhangs and walkways surrounding all buildings were deemed necessary, and they were extended enough to create outside corridors thus eliminating most interior hallways. Included are six primary classrooms with separate toilets for boys and girls, four elementary classrooms, a library, a gymatorium with stage and boys and girls dressing rooms, a lunch room seating 195 students, a kitchen, principal's office, teachers' lounge, reception room, and first-aid room. Ten additional classrooms will be built when needed to provide a future enrollment of 600. For this reason the gymatorium, lunchroom, kitchen, boiler and fuel room and heating system are sized for the eventual enrollment, making the initial cost a little more than normal.

Materials used in construction are brick in end walls of each wing and as partitions, exposed stacked concrete block under all windows except in the gymatorium where the aluminum curtain wall had porcelain panels, concrete slab floor on grade with vinyl asbestos and ceramic tiles, wood fiber roof deck with built-up roof applied directly on the deck. Extensive use was made of skydomes. The primary classroom has outdoor classrooms which consist simply of a low wall, a bench and a sand pile. The gymatorium, located close to the parking area and easily accessible from the classrooms, has dressing rooms directly behind the stage to serve both physical education activities and auditorium-type activities. A common service drive serves both the fuel room and the kitchen. The fuel room is located on grade to eliminate expensive below grade structure. The total cost was $280,779 or $8.51 per square foot.
The architect had the following to say about the design: "In working out a simple circulation scheme, we kept in mind the primary classrooms should be near primary play area, the elementary rooms near their play area, and the gymtorium and service facilities near the parking and service. The plan divided itself naturally into a Classroom Unit, a Common Use Unit, and an Administrative Unit."
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Arrangement was sought which would separate the entertaining and private areas and still have such facilities as the kitchen and family room handy to each area. The family room is also placed near the entrance for use as an emergency consulting room. Space in the living room is increased by the open hall and use of grey stone and walnut plywood in both rooms. The plank and beam ceiling is exposed except in small areas such as baths. Bedrooms are finished with plasterboard set off with natural wood trim. Other arrangements reflect the owners’ requirements.

The house for Dr. and Mrs. William K. Craig is oriented in order to screen different parts of the site and create a series of outdoor areas to complement the interior plan. A gravel front court is to contain formal plantings of azaleas and camellias. Two rear terraces are provided — one paved for entertaining, the other in turf outside the bedrooms.
This is the fourth in a series of sketches and selected works of the six architects in N. C. who have been elevated by the American Institute of Architects to Fellowship.

Erle Gulick Stillwell was born in Hannibal, Missouri on January 20, 1885. Following his education in public schools he attended the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, the University of North Carolina, Cornell University, and the University of Pennsylvania. He has also studied and traveled in England, Scotland, France, Italy, and Greece. His first practice of the profession was in 1915 as a draftsman in the office of an architect in Atlanta. In 1916 he began private practice with his own firm, which he continued until 1942. In 1942 he became one of the principals in the firm of Six Associates, Inc. of Asheville. In 1950 he was elected President of this firm and has continued as such to date, in addition to continuing individual practice.

Mr. Stillwell became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1916. He served the North Carolina Chapter as Secretary-Treasurer from 1917 to 1921 and again from 1934 to 1937. He served as President of the Chapter in 1922-1923 and again from 1942 to 1944. He holds the signal honor of being the only member ever elected to serve another term in either office. His Fellowship was bestowed in 1942 at the Convention of the American Institute of Architects. The Citation reads as follows “For his work, consistently brilliant in design, and the excellence of his executed work; for his unselfish and effective efforts in elevating the standards of professional practice in his community; and for his valued influence in the field of education.”
SELECTED WORKS OF
ERLE G. STILLWELL, FAIA
NORTH CAROLINA PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

NORMAN T. BUDDINE

This is another of a series of articles giving a sketch of the leaders of various organizations and fields of business with which members of NCAIA are connected.

At the Annual Meeting of the Professional Engineers of North Carolina in Durham last January a native New Yorker who has only been in this state for seven years was installed as President. He is Norman T. Buddine, who during this period has served as Chief Engineer of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in Winston-Salem. Prior to this he spent some years with the Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation of Boston in supervising the design, construction and initial operation phases of major chemical processing programs. He also has practiced as a professional engineer in public utility, oil refining and chemical industries, and in the design and application of heat transfer equipment.

Mr. Buddine is an alumnus of Columbia College with the degree of A.B. and of Columbia School of Mines, Engineering and Chemistry with the degrees of B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and M.E. He is a member of the American Management Association, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the National Society of Professional Engineers. He is a member of the Congregational-Christian Church, is married and the father of two sons. Although he has been in our state a relatively short period of time he has made many friends. During the first part of his administrative year and during PENC's Summer Convention he proved himself a capable and competent leader for the organization in which several N.C.A.I.A. members also belong and in which many architectural-engineering offices have representatives.
UNION GROVE GYMNASIUM
IREDELL COUNTY, N. C.

Tom H. Hutchins, AIA
Statesville, N. C.

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This building containing 9,435 square feet was built at a total cost of $54,225.00, or $5.75 per square foot, which met the problem of a limited budget. Hutchins and Adams, Architects and Engineers, took extreme care in the design and the selection of materials in order to gain the maximum economy. Glued laminated Southern pine wood bents were selected for the roof framing system because they would allow the clear height needed for basketball with a much lower wall height than trusses. The exterior is red common brick, and the roof is asphalt shingles.

A brick wainscot was built up to the door height in the gymnasium room at the ends for ease of maintenance. Painted concrete blocks were used under the windows where bleachers would protect the walls from wear. Heavy timber wood decking was used for the roof and the sub-floor in order to obtain a heavy timber fire insurance rating. The gymnasium playing floor was northern hard maple; toilets and shower rooms have quarry tile floors and wainscots. All other areas have painted masonry walls.

The structure is steam heated from the boiler room in the adjacent high school building. Included in the project was the renovation of the high school boiler room. This included lowering the floor level by 2½ feet, installing double-plaster ceiling, and building a new chimney. A new boiler was installed to serve the high school building and the gymnasium.
An all-North Carolina owned new half million dollar business had its grand opening in Lexington on October 15th. The Mid-State Tile Company, manufacturers of high gloss ceramic wall tile and associated trim tiles, scheduled a luncheon for civic officials, local dignitaries and the press. The plant began operation in July with a small scale production and at present is producing at approximately 80% of capacity.

Officers of the corporation are Fred H. McIntire, Sr., President, a native of Chatham and former Senator from Mecklenburg in 1953; Nesbit P. Rodgers, Executive Vice-President, a graduate of N. C. State College in Ceramic Engineering; John H. Cox, Treasurer, of Raleigh; and Walter M. Fulp, Secretary, of Winston-Salem. There are approximately 40 employees in the operation with a yearly payroll of $300,000.

Between forty and fifty percent of the raw materials used are obtained from within the state - the largest being pyrophyllite, which is mined near Robbins. Feldspar, which is mined near Spruce Pine, is also used, as well as ball clay which is obtained from Tennessee and Kentucky, limestone from Pennsylvania, and talc from New York.

The plant was designed by B. D. Rogers, who works with the architectural firm of W. W. Hook, FAIA of Charlotte, and is a brother of the Executive Vice-President. It was built by the Lexington Industrial Corporation. It is an all-metal building containing 30,000 square feet of floor space and located on approximately 4½ acres of land about ¼ mile south of the city on Highway B. It has railroad as well as highway loading areas.

1. Outside view of plant.
2. Sorting boards for grading quality and color.
3. Removing a carload from tunnel kiln.
4. Preparing for glazing.
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EXAM SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

Ross Shumaker, AIA of Raleigh and Executive Secretary of the N. C. Board of Architecture, has announced that the next written examination of the State Board of Architectural Examination and Registration will be held in Raleigh December 16-19 in the School of Design Drafting Rooms at N. C. State College. He announced the following schedule of times for subjects: December 16th — 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 History and Theory, 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. Site Planning and Composition; December 17th — 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. Architectural Design; December 18th — 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Building Construction and 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. Structural Design, and December 19th — 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Professional Administration and 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. Building Equipment. The subject of the design problem was announced as "A residence".

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ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS IN THE NEWS

AIA Nominations
The first nomination for President of AIA, to succeed Leon Chatelain, Jr. at the 1958 Convention in Cleveland in July, was of Alexander C. Robinson, III, FAIA of Cleveland. Petitions in his behalf have been received from 34 Chapters including North Carolina. Also nominated has been John N. Richards of Toledo, with 7 petitions in support.

For the office of Second Vice-President Herbert C. Millkey of Atlanta has had 6 Chapter petitions from the Southeast including from this Chapter. Robinson was Chairman of the Institute's Centennial Observance Committee, and in September was appointed by President Eisenhower to a six-year term on the National Capital Planning Commission.

President's Travel
AIA President Leon Chatelain, Jr.'s picture and name continues to appear on the speaking trail. The National Board of Directors will hold its Fall Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona November 10-11. Following that he attended the meeting of the Arizona Society of Architects. In February he will address the convention of the Masonry Contractors Association of America in Chicago.

School Chosen
The November issue of the AIA Journal contained a supplement "School Plant Studies". One of the twelve schools pictured was the Wilson Junior High School in Charlotte by A. G. Odell, Jr., FAIA of that city.

James At AGC
President W. R. James, Jr. represented the N. C. Chapter at the Annual Meeting of the Carolinas Branch Associated General Contractors of America, held November 9-13 at the Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia.

Award Extended
AIA has announced that nominations for the 1958 R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award will be accepted until January 15, 1958. Three Spanish Architects won the first award this year of $25,000. To be considered for the award, given for the creative value of any type of structure of aluminum and its potential influence on modern architecture, an architect must be nominated by a Chapter of A.I.A. or any college.

Largest Exhibit
The National Association of Home Builders is expecting a registration of 30,000 for their convention in Chicago January 19-23. All exhibit space in the Conrad-Hilton and Sherman Hotels and the Chicago Coliseum has been assigned to 781 exhibitors, making it the largest and most diversified exhibition of home building materials ever held.

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DEC. 3, 17: Winston-Salem Council of Architects.

DEC. 4: Charlotte Council of Architects. Chez Montet, Charlotte.

DEC. 4, 11, 18: Architects Guild of High Point.
High Point.


DEC. 16, 17, 18, 19: State Board of Architectural Examination and Registration Exams, School of Design, N. C. State College.


JAN. 9-11: Professional Engineers of N. C., Robert E. Lee Hotel, Winston-Salem.

JAN. 14: Western Council of Architects, Shelby.


Make Reservations Early

Annual Meeting

NORTHERN CAROLINA CHAPTER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

JANUARY 16-18, 1958

Robert E. Lee Hotel Winston-Salem, N. C.