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Southern Architect

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COVER

Raleigh home of Architect George Matsumoto chosen for inclusion in U. S. exhibit at Brussels Fair (see pages 14-15).

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER • THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The practice of architecture and the practice of the phases of engineering which have to do with building are very closely related, and each is vital to the successful planning and erection of buildings. Members of each of the two professions must work together to produce the desired results. For most buildings the architect is the captain of the team and it is his duty not only to see that the project is well planned to meet the owners needs for space and esthetic values but also to provide competent engineering services for the mechanical, electrical and structural aspects, either by employing licensed consulting engineering firms or by having such licensed engineering personnel within his own organization. The design of many other projects in connection with public or private utilities, structures, buildings incidental to machines, equipment, processes, etc., should be controlled by an engineer and it is his duty not only to see that the engineering phases of the work meet the owners needs but also to employ licensed architects for those phases of the work having to do with architecture.

The public should realize that the fields of the practice of architecture and the practice of engineering overlap in certain cases but generally are set forth by North Carolina Registration Laws G.S. 83 in the case of the practice of architecture and G.S. 89 in the case of the practice of engineering. These laws were passed to protect the public interest by limiting the planning of structures to those competent in the field. Further protection was added by the last North Carolina Legislature by passage of an amendment to G.S. 160-126 Section I relating to building permits which reads as follows—“No permit shall be issued unless the plans and specifications are identified by the name and address of the author thereof, and where the General Statutes of North Carolina require that plans for certain types of construction be prepared only by a registered architect or a registered engineer, no permit shall be issued unless such plans and specifications bear the North Carolina seal of a registered architect or a registered engineer.”

The North Carolina Chapter of the “American Institute of Architects” and the “Professional Engineers of North Carolina” are working together to develop “A Collaborative Code of Practice of Architecture and Engineering in North Carolina” with the purpose of clarifying further the relations of these two professional groups. We hope that this project can soon be brought to a successful conclusion.

W. R. JAMES, JR., President.
N. C. Chapter A.I.A.

CONGRESSIONAL ANSWER N.C.A.I.A.

On April 2nd the North Carolina Chapter American Institute of Architects sent all North Carolina Congressmen the following wire: “The North Carolina Chapter The American Institute of Architects approves the recent Senate action against advertising adjacent to highways in connection with Senate Bill 3414. We hope you will support this action in the House of Representatives and help to preserve the natural beauty of our countryside as seen from our great highway system.” A near similar message was also sent both N. C. Senators. Answers were received from Senator Ervin and Congressmen Shuford of the Twelfth District, Whitener of the Eleventh District, Jonas of the Tenth District, Alexander of the Ninth District, Kitchin of the Eighth District, Lennon of the Seventh District, Durham of the Sixth District, Scott of the Fifth District, and Cooley of the Fourth District.

Some of the comments are as follows: “I am in complete agreement with your views concerning the billboard section of S 3414, as I do not favor cluttering land adjacent to our highways with billboard jungles.”—“Personally I would be glad to see highways completely free of these unsightly signs.”—“I assure you I am in accordance with your views on this matter and appreciate the wire.”—“The House took action on the Highway Bill April 3rd and voted to accept the Conference Committee report, which included the provision in which you are interested. I voted for the final acceptance of the report.”

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SARASOTA HOSTS REGIONAL AIA MEETING

The 1958 Regional Conference of the American Institute of Architects will be held at Sarasota, Florida April 17 through 19. The conference is planned as a family affair—both for pleasure and an exchange of knowledge. Sanford Goin, regional director of nearby Gainesville, Florida, announced that Leon Chatelain, president of the Institute, will be an honor guest. Architects of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida will attend. And the palm-fringed beauty of Sarasota will act as a fitting backdrop to many pleasant conference sidelines.

An exhibition of works of Architects from the four states will be a high point in the Conference. The Exhibition is being held in the Sarasota Art Association’s galleries during the convention and will remain on public display for one week following the meeting. Invited jurors include: Mr. A. G. Odell, Jr., FAIA of Charlotte, Mr. Paul Malcolm Heffernan, AIA of Atlanta, Georgia, and Mr. Heyward S. Singley, AIA of Columbia, South Carolina.

Taking advantage of Sarasota’s exceptionally lovely April weather, outdoor-indoor dining events and entertainment activities are planned. There will be a “dinner under the stars” at the exclusive Gulf and Bay Club, and a special showing of the Sarasota Sailor Circus following dinner at the city-owner Lido Casino.

Luncheons will be at Lido-Biltmore hotel overlooking the Gulf. Free busses and specially-priced rental cars will be available for those who do not have their own transportation so that they can enjoy the brief causeway drive from municipal auditorium (site of the business meetings and exhibits) and the Gulf-front activities.

There is to be a reception and cocktail party at Ringling Museum—in the beautiful, formal gardens. There will also be two free cocktail parties at the Building Products Exhibit, and several hundred dollars worth of prizes will be given during the conference at the Exhibit.
The conference program deals with the problem of regional growth and the theme for the sessions is "The Architect's New Responsibilities in the Dynamic South." Subjects for roundtable discussion include "How can the architect work more closely with local and regional government?" — "How will architecture be affected by the new highway programs?" — "What about modernizing old communities and building fine new areas?"

Nationally known speakers will conduct exchanges with panels of architects from our own South Atlantic District. Guest moderators and speakers will include: Douglas Haskell, AIA, editor of Architectural Forum, who will serve as keynote speaker; Richard Neutra, FAIA, architectural, school and planning consultant; John Taylor Egan, former U. S. Commissioner of Housing; Paul Rudolph, Alabama born chairman of the School of Architecture of Yale University; Rex Anderson, regional engineer of the Bureau of Public Roads from Atlanta. The panels will reflect a cross-section of the architects of North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida and invitations to participate were sent to some two dozen men including Owen F. Smith, AIA of Raleigh, and Hollis L. Ivey of Lumberton on the panel on "Building New Communities" and David M. Mackintosh, Jr., AIA of Charlotte, on the panel "Working With Government Agencies."

Ladies' activities have been planned to afford them a substantial taste of Sarasota's beaches, attractions and other assets. Their mornings will be free; lunches are planned with a fashion show and a private showing of contemporary furniture and accessories to follow. There will also be a tour of the Ringling Museum and garden, before the reception. The ladies will attend the afternoon cocktail events, the dinners and the final luncheon along with the men.

Prize-winning and much-publicized buildings will be on view to architects who attend. Part of the official program will be a tour of significant architecture in the Sarasota area. Included in the tour will be the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church, designed by Victor Lundy, which won the Award of Merit at last year's AIA Regional Conference at Atlanta, and one of the most photographed and discussed small residence in the United States, Ralph Twitchell and Paul Rudolph's Healey Cottage, pictured at the top of the page to the left. Healey House, with its non-rigid roof, was considered one of the 50 most significant buildings completed since 1900 in a recent magazine article. Virtually every architectural publication in the United States has photographed it since 1951 and one of them aptly described this island residence as "The Sagging Ceiling on Siesta Key."

Another building selected for the tour is a geodesic dome spanning over 140 feet as designed by Jeffrey Lindsay, a former student and associate of Buckminster Fuller. Several other buildings will also be shown on the tour.

Serving on the Conference Advisory Committee was NCAIA President William R. James, Jr., of Winston-Salem.
WILLIAMS AND PAGE HONORED AT RALEIGH COUNCIL

On April 2nd at its Annual Ladies Night Banquet the Raleigh Council of Architects honored two of its members who were among the five chosen by the N. C. AIA Vice President Robert L. Clemmer of Hickory presented certificates to Jesse Page for his design of the auditorium and music building at Central High School in Sanford and to F. Carter Williams for his design of the First National Bank branch office in Raleigh. Certificates were also presented for the Sanford School winning entry to Cecil Elliott, AIA of Raleigh, design consultant, William C. Vick, Contractor of Raleigh and Malcolm A. McLeod, Superintendent on behalf of the owner, and in connection with the Raleigh Bank winning entry to Frank Walser, Contractor of Raleigh, and Gary Underhill, Vice-President of the Bank on behalf of the owner.

Speaker for the evening was Sam Ragan, Executive News Editor of the News and Observer-Raleigh Times publications. Mr. Ragan said "To me architecture is the most satisfying of the arts, and for the last few years the most lively. You who practice it have done much for N. C. What is the role of the artist in today's society? He cannot live unto himself but must be a part of the world he lives in. Art is a communication in trying to extend to all men the joys and woes of life. I am not a great believer in art for arts sake, for you must communicate your ideas. Any artist must work from within himself in relation to society. Opposite to the idea that each generation must recreate the world is the one that this age must save it from destruction. The artist of today capable of communication of good ideas is needed more than at any time in the history of the world. Before closing I would like to pay tribute to the work of Dean Kamphoefner of N. C. State College and his staff, whose work has done far more than any here realize, for it can be felt and seen throughout North Carolina by wonderful structures reflecting new ideas in the minds of men."
TELEPHONE BUILDING
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This 46,300 square foot building is to house the general offices of the headquarters building of the General Telephone Company of the Southeast. It is located on a four and one-half acre site about one and one-half miles north of Durham on U. S. Highway 501. Plans for future expansion somewhat determined the shape of the building, according to the architects. It is air-conditioned throughout the three floors. The one-story portion of the main floor is on grade due to the heavy loads of electronic calculating equipment it contains. An integral part of the plan is the cafeteria, since the location is in a rural area. One unique feature in the building is that there are no operating sash, with fixed glass being used throughout. Exterior materials are aluminum curtain walls with enamel steel panels and heat absorbing glass, brick and cast stone. Total cost of construction, which was begun in March of this year, was $775,000.
Telephone Building (continued)

1. Lobby
2. General Accounting
3. Revenue Accounting
4. Business Machines
5. Executive Offices
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

GROUND FLOOR PLAN
The new 21,920 square feet Elizabethtown Primary School will be located on a new 15 acre site in South Elizabethtown. The site is slightly wooded with 10" pine trees. Total cost of construction is $190,641.

All 10 class rooms contain 950 square feet of floor area, private toilets and open onto terraces for outdoor instruction and play. Prefabricated, movable cabinets, storage units, and book shelves are used throughout the classrooms, permitting the maximum of flexibility in arranging of instructional area. Ceilings are acoustical tile, floors asphalt tile, and walls of masonry block. The multi-purpose room has wood laminated arches, and seats 425 for stage performances, and 225 for lunch room purposes.

The plan includes public offices, principal’s office, teachers’ room, health room, lobby, boiler room, fuel room, toilets, chair storage and dressing area. The building will be heated with a two pipe hot water heating system. Incandescent lighting is used throughout. The principle exterior materials are red brick, aluminum projected sash, porcelain panels and stone.
MATSUMOTO RESIDENCE CHOSEN FOR EXHIBIT AT FAIR

George Matsumoto, AIA of Raleigh, was notified last month by William Alex, Assistant Coordinator of the U. S. State Department’s Building Exhibits Division, that his residence has been chosen as among those to be shown in the U. S. Pavilion of the World’s Fair opening in Brussels this month. A 30 x 40 inch model of the home, built to the specifications of ¼” to 1′, was designed and constructed by Robert F. Geoghegan, of the Model Display Studio in Raleigh. It has been shipped to the Pavilion along with other models of homes, office buildings, schools, churches, hotels, stadia, shopping centers and factories to be shown.

The 26 x 48 foot home, set in a wooded lot of approximately one acre with a stream cutting through the grounds, includes three bedrooms, an L-shaped living-dining area, bath, kitchen, and large screened porch on the first level. On the ground level, there is a studio, car port, furnace, and storage area. The entire grounds are attractively landscaped and terraced, and in front there is a parking area for three cars. The home has been featured in several magazines, including Life, House and Home, Architectural Record, and Better Homes and Gardens.

Professor Matsumoto, of the N. C. State College School of Design, occupied the home in 1954. It was built by Frank Walser, contractor of Raleigh. At AIA’s Centennial Meeting in Washington last May the home was one of two works by N. C. Architects chosen for Honor Awards. Southern Architect carried an article on the award winning residence in the July 1957 issue. The photographs on these pages are reprinted from that issue.
SECRETARY WRITES EASTERN COUNCIL HISTORY

At the last meeting of 1957 Conrad Wessell, AIA of Goldsboro, retiring Secretary of the Eastern Council, presented a history of the group from its beginning. Southern Architect publishes it as a matter of information.

“Following the successful organization of Architectural Councils in Raleigh, Charlotte and Greensboro, it became evident that a single organization covering Eastern North Carolina would be of great benefit to the Architects in the area in their relationship with each other and with the general public. Leslie Boney, Jr., wrote invitations to the 45 registered Architects in the area to determine their desire for a council type organization. At an organizational meeting arranged by A. J. Maxwell’s office in Goldsboro on December 3, 1954, 18 Architects from 6 towns met and discussed the constitutions of the existing councils. Encourage-

ment came from A. G. Odell, NCAIA President and Carter Williams, Raleigh Council President. Officers elected were Arthur Jenkins, President; Leslie Boney, Jr., Vice-President; and Robert Stephens, Secretary & Treasurer. The new officers met with other council’s officials prior to the 1955 NCAIA winter meeting in Chapel Hill.

The first meeting of the Eastern Carolina Council of Architects was held in Fayetteville March 4, 1955 with 19 Architects present. John Knight, AIA Public Relations Chairman, assisted in the organization and spoke on “Public Relations.” The Constitution, as amended, was adopted.

The 1955 summer meeting was held at Wrightsville Beach 10 June with 24 Architects present. With considerable ceremony and complete newspaper and radio coverage, the North Carolina AIA Award was presented to the Boney office and the Owner and Contractors of the “Little Church on the Boardwalk” at Wrightsville Beach. The charter membership was closed with a total of 42 members.

The 1955 fall meeting was held in Kinston, at the Jack Roland residence, on October 14, with 22 present. The Council became involved in its first “fee” discussion and referred the matter to a committee. The meal was provided by a Plywood Manufacturer in return for time to discuss its products and demonstrate their uses.

The winter meeting was held in New Bern on January 13, 1956 with 19 present. AGC representatives, Sullivan and Fox, spoke in favor of the “One Contract System” and discussed with the members the possible cost involved in its use. The discussion also involved complaints of “bid shopping.” A Council sponsored poll of the members in regard to the service and expense of engineering consultants was presented and later published. New officers were elected and the policy of having the president and secretary & treasurer from the same town was adopted. Leslie Boney, Jr., President; Harry Harles, Vice-President; and John Oxenfeld, Secretary & Treasurer. Representatives appeared at the Council President’s dinner preceding the AIA meeting in Chapel Hill.

The 1956 spring meeting was held in Rocky Mount on April 29 with 26 present. The Rocky Mount Building Inspector discussed mutual problems. Attention was given to the answer of Dr. Carroll in regard to a letter appearing in a Kinston newspaper regarding the use of stock plans. Possibility of the next meeting being held on the M S Stockholm cruise was presented to the membership by questionnaire, which indicated insufficient attendance to justify any reservations. After dropping several members for non payment of dues and adding a few new members, the total now stands at 41. The film “Architecture USA” was shown with much interest indicated for home town showings.

The 1956 summer meeting at Wrightsville Beach 27 July with 18 present, memorialized the late B. H. Stephens and referred to his 50 years of practice in Eastern Carolina. The Council discussed at length the stated policy of the College School of Design in regard to outside practice by its staff. Support of the Architectural Foundation at $1.00 annually per firm employee was stressed. A forum on office practice was moderated by President Boney with forms, rubber stamp, and lithograph details furnished by many of the member’s offices.

The 1956 fall meeting was held in Goldsboro on October 26 with 20 present. The Bonitz organization chairman took the opportunity to introduce the staff of its new branch in Goldsboro by non-licensed B. H. Stephens was presented and approved. The Council also voted to purchase a book for the School of Design library to be presented in Mr. Stephens’ memory, a particularly appropriate action as support of the School was one of Mr. Stephens’ favorite projects. Discussion was held on the AIA 100th anniversary program and its potential use in our communities. Relationship with church centralized planning boards received attention with the conclusion that planning should be utilized between congregations as a guide, not a “frozen design.”

The winter meeting was held in Fayetteville on January 18, 1957 with 20 present. Glass and Roof Deck Manufacturers and agents sponsored the meal and presented exhibits of their products. The Constitution was changed to allow membership of foreign licensed Architects now practicing in the area. A resolution was sent to the family of Thomas Herman, late member of the Council. Discussion was held on the practice of Architectural work by non-licensed personnel in the armed forces. Specific cases should be reported, with supporting data for possible action. New officers elected were Billy Griffin, President; Basil Laslett, Vice-President; Conrad Wessell, Secretary and Treasurer. A new pattern for meetings was discussed and approved. Meetings shall be held every other month, no sponsors, hosts Architects to furnish refreshments with balance dutch. By-laws were changed accordingly.

The second meeting of 1957 was held in Kinston on March 29 with 26 present. F. W. Dodge Corporation representative spoke on the Sweet’s Catalogue and other Dodge services. The Division of School Planning recent requirement for the use of registered engineers received attention. A lengthy, and somewhat hot, open forum developed on pending legislative matters followed between meetings by numerous letters to the membership keeping them informed of committee actions and offering suggestions for individual member contacts. Encouragement sent to AIA Legislative Council and Committee. The last Friday of alternate months was set for meetings.

The third meeting of 1957 was held in New Bern on May 31. Motor boating, water skiing, and swimming were enjoyed by many of the members during the afternoon. The business session began with introduction of two new members. Reports were made on activities of the legislature. With many members participating, engineering comments by the Division of
HICKORY ARCHITECTS OFFER CITY SERVICE

The following article, by Paul Fogelman, appeared in the December 4 edition of the "Hickory Daily Record." It was signed by every architect in Hickory. Southern Architect reprints it as a matter of information and as a guide to other groups who may wish to instigate similar action in their communities.

"A formal request for an opportunity to serve based on the belief that the architects of Hickory may be able to make some tangible and definite contribution with regard to the city's planning problems was presented the Hickory City Council at its regular meeting Tuesday night.

Hickory Architect Beemer Harrell, spokesman for the delegation, read a prepared statement signed by ten other city architects asking that they be allowed to serve in advisory capacities on several of the city's boards.

In addition, the aldermen were told by Robert L. Clemmer, Hickory architect, that the prepared statement was being presented after much thought and in such a manner as to receive the "blessing" of the Council.

Expressing the warm reception of the aldermen to the proposal for participation from with-in ranks of the architects, Alderman Hugh Abeel told the Council that he had received "numerous suggestions to enlarge the City Planning Board" and indicated that he personally favored the move of the delegation.

The statement to the Council follows:

'We, the architects of Hickory, have observed for some time the difficult problems confronting the leadership of our city in the matters of city planning for the present and for the future. We are very sympathetic with those whose responsibility it is to make the important decisions leading to the solution of these problems.

We have a deep interest in all matters which concern our city. Hickory is our home and we are proud of it. We practice our profession here. We and our families actively participate in the civic, business, church and school life of our community. We are a part of Hickory and Hickory is a part of us.

Consequently, we have a serious concern about the balanced growth and development of our city along logical and orderly lines, along lines which are planned for the future with imagination, vision and organization.

Balanced planning will require the combined efforts of all the progressive citizens of Hickory, under your leadership. It is traditional that Hickory people have always united in a cooperative effort to solve urgent and critical problems confronting them. In this same spirit and to this end, we suggest that the Architects of Hickory may be able to make some tangible and definite contribution. The Architects have the desire and the ability to render community services along these lines. The younger Architects are particularly qualified by reason of specialized training in city planning as a specific and important part of their education.

As for the manner in which our services might be utilized, we have the feeling that the City would benefit by making it possible for any individual Hickory Architect or group of Hickory Architects to sit in meetings of any official bodies, when the occasion is proper, and when phases of city planning are being discussed or determined, and to counsel with such bodies in a citizen's advisory capacity in their deliberations. We make particular reference to such bodies as the Planning commission, Zoning commission, Parking commission, Tree commission, and other similar bodies.

We hope you will understand and appreciate these suggestions in the spirit in which they are offered by the undersigned group of interested citizens and that you will find occasion to utilize our capacities in one way or another.'"

Eastern Council History (continued)

School Planning were discussed. The major address followed by an open forum was by R. Kenneth Scott, Engineer of the N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau. He presented an extremely and interesting and informative discourse on building fires, their prevention and control. The meeting was adjourned and discussion continued in smaller groups with Mr. Scott.

The fourth meeting of 1957 was held at Wrightsville Beach on 27 July with 19 members present. This meeting was planned as the summer social meeting with wives invited but attendance did not come up to expectations. Little business was transacted. A proposed Saturday fishing trip was canceled due to northeast winds.

The fifth meeting of 1957 was held in Greenville on 27 September with 28 members present. Lapel identification cards were utilized for the first time in an effort to speed up acquaintances. Two new members were introduced. The attendance was the best since the organization of the Council. Discussion period based on the State Building Inspector's "Proposed Residential Building Code" resulted in appointment of study committee to report at the next meeting. Council took action to recommend to the new State Building Code Council the approval of initial installation of folding or telescopic bleachers. Members quoted existing practice of owner installation in their area.

The sixth meeting of 1957 was held in Rocky Mount on 6 December with 21 present. The specially scheduled meeting arranged to miss Thanksgiving, was to elect officers before the NCAIA winter meeting. Raymond Fuson, President; Jim Simpson, Vice-President; Byron Franklin, Secretary and Treasurer. Submission of material for publication in "Southern Architect" was stressed. The committee on Residential Building Code reported with suggested changes. Discussion by group indicated Kinston, Wilson, Goldsboro members in favor of adoption in their localities. Cooperation with local building inspector in organized effort for adoption planning. Three new members introduced to Council. After dropping several members for non payment of dues, the Council now represents 49 of the 64 Architects registered in the area. A map and membership list showing the actual and prospective members is being furnished the membership to assist the new officers in plans for greater representation in 1958."
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.

Have you a construction problem? See Robert "Bob" Patten—problem shooter, political expeditor, financial counselor, arbitrator, master of ceremonies and father-confessor for the construction industry in North and South Carolina.

Bob is a native of Illinois but came to the Carolinas directly from college in 1922. He has been connected with one phase or another of the construction industry in the Carolinas continuously since then, with the exception of two years spent in the contracting business in Florida. He served as an officer in the Corps of Engineers on construction work for three years during World War II. Shortly after his release from duty, he was named managing director of the Carolinas Branch, The Associated General Contractors of America. Foremost in his interests are the 400 general contractor members and the 1,100 associate members, whose problems and ideas cross his desk daily in the Builders Building in Charlotte.

Over the past 12 years he has transformed Carolinas Branch into the largest AGC chapter in the nation and one of the most influential trade associations in the South. Often called outspoken on problems involving the economy and labor fronts of North and South Carolina, his ideas and insight are sought constantly.

A large staff and six branch offices in the two Carolinas keep him fully informed on developments in the construction industry. This information he passes on to the AGC and the industry in general through the "Weekly Bulletin," a 24 to 28-page printed magazine which circulates to architects, engineers, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, and awarding authorities in the two-state area and beyond. As a result, the construction industry served by Carolinas Branch, AGC, is probably the best informed economic segment in the nation. The impact of this exchange of information is felt in the excellent working relationship between the architect-engineer-general contractor field and in local, state and federal legislative fields.

Mr. Patten is married to the former Marie Law of Darlington, S. C. They have two daughters and live on Queens Road, Charlotte.
On March 25 The American Institute of Architects announced the winners in their Fifth Annual Journalism Award Competition of articles that appeared in a general circulation newspaper or magazine during 1957. In the newspaper category the winner of $500 first prize was Mrs. Lillian Braun of the “Detroit Free Press,” the fourth year an entry from this paper has received top prize. $250 second prize winner was Chester Davis of the “Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel” for a feature article “Architecture: A Keystone of the Future” published February 17, 1957. Winners of similar amount prizes in the magazine section are Philip Seikman of “Fortune” for an article in the September 1957 issue under the title “A Dramatic New Office Building” (the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, San Francisco), and second prize by John E. Burchard and Albert Bush-Brown who collaborated on a piece published by “Harper’s Magazine” in May 1957 titled “The Architect, More Needed Than Pltted.”

Serving on the Jury of Award were Stephen G. Thompson, News Editor of “Architectural Forum,” Grinnell W. Locke, AIA, Editor of the Baltimore AIA Chapter publication, and Robert R. Denny of J. H. Kaufman and Associates, Public Relations Council for AIA. By permission “Southern Architect” is pleased to reprint the award winning article by Mr. Davis.

“Fred and Martha Sturmer built their home on a hill that overlooks the Yadkin. They built along the crest of the hill so that when they look to the west the timbered saddle-back and rocky turret of Pilot Mountain was framed by the windows. As you approach that home, climbing the hill and entering the cobblestone terrace, you see that the building is designed in the French provincial style. But, once you pass through the front door and enter the glass walled rooms that face Pilot Mountain, you discover that French provincial has surrendered to an illusive style best described as early Sturmer. A bastard design? Certainly. But an effective and delightful design just the same.

That house, comfortably seated on the crest of its river hill, somehow reflects what Fred and Martha Sturmer are and what they wish of life. If that is the case then, by any definition, it is a well-designed home. For architecture, like other of the arts, has the peculiar capacity to capture the human spirit and reflect that spirit back at those who see. It does not always do that well in the case of individuals. But it does try to and honest in the case of entire peoples. Nations build and in their building there is more than brick and stone and glass and steel. There is the spirit of a people and the timbre of the time in which they build.

For that reason, it is possible to wander along old streets and look upon old buildings and discover in them a voice of the past that speaks even in our own day. Besides being a fascinating tour, it is a valuable diversion, such a stroll, particularly on this one Sunday, is timely.

For on February 23, 1857—a century ago this week—a small group of American architects established their first professional society, the American Institute of Architecture. It would, of course, be a monstrous exaggeration to say that American architecture came of age on that February day a century ago. In creating the Institute the architects tried to come of age. As a matter of fact, they have been trying ever since. But that effort is the peg on which this story hangs.

In North Carolina the story began in 1854 when the first settlers at Roanoke Island moved their wattle walls of stick and then daubed them with clay. These huts, copies of the simple English cottage of Elizabethan times, were thatched roofed.

In those early years men built the only way they knew and all they knew and that brought to this country from England and Europe. But they were compelled to build with materials at hand and they were compelled to shape their designs to meet the requirements—and those requirements ranged from extremes in weather to ugly temperaments of the new land. The building styles, therefore, began to differ subtly from the original precursors.

In North Carolina those differences came early. This state, unlike most others on the Atlantic Seaboard, was not settled by people coming directly from old countries. Carolina, for instance, was largely settled by families filtering down from Virginia. In the west a very large part of the people came to North Carolina from Pennsylvania, traveling down the long valley of Virginia and claiming land along the river bottoms of the Piedmont and the Blue Ridge.

They imported modified European building styles that already had been somewhat naturalized in Tidewater Virginia, in Philadelphia and in the German settlements of Pennsylvania. This second-hand architecture underwent further alteration in North Carolina.

The log cabin, for example, was not a native American type of construction the idea of building with saddle notch logs and chinked walls came to America from Northern Europe. But the log cabin was ideally adapted to conditions along the frontier and it was enthusiastically adopted and altered by pioneer ax-men. The alteration of the door also called passage, trot and breezeaway, is one evidence of the change.

It was the same in more settled areas. But of all the early building in North Carolina none was better than that done by the Moravians in their Wachovia towns. Moreover, the construction in Bethabara, Bethania and Salem was largely the work of one man. William Frederick Marshall set the pace and his simple, clean style was filled with distinctive touches; the cupolas on the churches, the hooded doorways, the arched brick eyebrows above the windows, the use of native tile on the roofs and the warmth of handmade brick.

The Moravians, building with what they had at hand, built exceedingly well. Their work remained sweetly simple. And, because the Moravians stubbornly kept to themselves, their buildings survived the vagrant changes of architectural taste that were cherished so dearly by later generations less sure of their way of life.

The first of those changes occurred shortly after the Revolutionary War when Americans—architects, master-builders, craftsmen and the rest—turned from the developing native designs (all those designs Georgian, colonial or what you will) and, instead to look to the ancient empires of Rome and Greece.

The Classic Revival may have been a reflection of this nation’s exuberant feeling of destiny. Then, again, it may reflect the underlying insecurity of a people, only recently freed from the handcuffs of colonialism, who faced the daunting challenge of taming brick and stone. Throughout the first part of the 19th century our architecture—on at least our pretentious architecture—drew its strength from Athens and Rome. Our state capitol is Greek revival in style. The Romanesque Revival of the Southern states, that had its moment, determined the style of the typical old mansions of moonlight and magnolia fiction. Orton Plantation is evidence of that fact.

It was the same in the towns. The Belo house in Salem, with its Corinthian portico, is an ambitious example. So are most of the older county court houses of the state.

Romanistic, like classicism, copied the past. The difference was that the romantic did not limit his borrowing to Greece and Rome. He took whatever caught his fancy and, since it was a rather vulgar fancy, it wandered as widely as a young man’s eye. He took Gothic, Egyptian, Byzantine and most anything else he could cap with a turrent or cupola, and though he may or may not have attempted to capture the envious eye of the townsmen.

Most of the copying was not very good copying. Saint Matthew’s Church in Hillsboro is an excellent example of illegitimate Gothic. But there was some—such as the moist church in New Bern—that has worn well. Major Peter W. Hirston’s Cooleemee plantation in Davie County, a blend of classic and romantic styles, has a charm that proves not all of the work of the romantics was hopeless. Most of this what-not, bric-a-brac architecture, however, was beyond being hopeless. It was ugly and flauntingly vulgar.

Yet, in the years before the Civil War, there were developments that pointed a finger to a changing future. In 1833 the Crystal Palace in New York demonstrated, albeit dimly, the possibilities of building with iron. In 1853 the first elevator was put on public display. In later years that combination was to produce the skyscraper.

It was the same in everyday building. Until the Civil War—sometimes later—men bent their timbers, with mortised and tenoned joints, were held in place with wooden pegs. In Winston-Salem Mrs. Burton Craig’s home on Cascade Avenue probably was the last to be built in this manner.

In 1833 balloon construction was introduced. Here thin strips of lumber (mostly 2 s 4s) were nailed into a self-supporting skeleton with the new-fangled machine made nails. Such a frame was strong, inexpensive and quickly built. This new building technique explains how it was possible to build miracle cities like Chicago and San Francisco almost overnight.

And, in the years before the Civil War, men were becoming sick at heart over what they had done to their cities. Where once there had been space, air, light, and sun, there were today too many natural beauty there now was only crowding, air fouled by the smoke and smoke of soft coal, the haze of industrial furnaces and the endless blocks of stone and brick. All this, and brown stone fronts, too, was more than enough to make the original “dream of America” spin... (continued next page)
Winning Newspaper Article (continued)

in its grave like an underground lure.

Architecture, as we have seen, reflects what a people are. The architect, like the journalist, is less a shaper of public opinion and taste. He is a mirror of that opinion and taste. The architecture of the 19th century didn’t fail because they produced work that was vulgar and ostentatious. That was precisely what so many of their clients demanded—and were. That, in short, was the spirit of the times and the spirit in which the architect was compelled to work.

The 19th century architects failed because, too often, they merely copied. They tried to use the vulgar slang of the dead past when they should have addressed themselves more truly in the dirty vernacular of their own streets.

Yet, late in the century, the American architects began to do what old William Frederick Marshall had done in Salem. They did their best to meet the needs of their time with the building materials and construction techniques that were available to them. The result—the bridges, railway stations and skyscrapers—often was ugly and ostentatious. But it also was honest, sincere and imaginative.

Frank Lloyd Wright’s Prairie houses are outstanding examples of just how good new work could be.

But the conflict between the comfortable desire to turn to the past and put proven styles to present day use and the restless urge to take what we have available to us and do something that is new and peculiarly fitted to our times continued right down to today.

The industrial plant that emerged from the Civil War grew fantastically as the nation conquered the continent, destroyed the frontier and fought its way through two world wars. Once again, the country fought its way through the wealth generated during that process was self-expression through architecture.

As the Victorian period faded, the scroll saw was laid aside. In the place of gim-crackery most architects settled down to a career of hard work, if unspectacular, copying. It was not during the romantic period in the fact that the copies—while only copies—were at least painstakingly authentic copies. You need only take an hour’s ride along the streets of Winston-Salem to see ample evidence of that.

There is, for example, the Dutch colonial village at Reynolda. There then is Reynolds High School (a deadly accurate crib job on the old Philadelphia General Hospital), City Hall (a copy of an earlier Georgic copy in New England), the Journal and Sentinel building (a free hand copy of Independence Hall), the Wachovia branch banks (commercial Moravian) and the Gothic of Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church.

In the residential sections you can find samples of almost all architectural styles since the cave. There is the Harris Spanish villa, the Womble Italian villa and the Norfleet English cottage. You find French provincial (Graylyn), Elizabethan half timber houses (Richard Stockton) and some splendid Georgian homes like those of Ralph Hanes and P. Huber Hanes Sr.

Until after World War II the spirit of revolt against the straight-jacket of the past has been dim in Winston-Salem. There was some flickering—the Reynolds buildings and the Smith Memorial Airport are examples—but the instances are so rare that they merely are exceptions to prove the rule that our architects and their clients much preferred to play it safe by relying on the time proven styles of the past.

World War II, however, that has changed. In some areas—largely areas which had no previous formal architectural tradition to speak of—the changes have been very marked.

The schools are the best illustration. “Where have not built a school in a traditional style in the past ten years. Carver, Whitaker, Kimberly Park, Moore and all the rest represent the efforts of architects to design buildings which meet the needs of present day education. They were built to be schools and not as the case of Reynolds High Schools could be a building originally designed for purposes other than education.

Even our industrial construction—and this may reflect a new humanism in industry—has gone down a path all its own. The Western Electric plant in DuPont and the Reynolds Research Laboratory and the Piedmont Aviation base are “modern” in the sense they represent a deliberate effort to use present day materials and techniques to solve a present day building problem.

This same change is reflected in a good deal of our commercial building. You see that in the Security Life building, Sears, Roebuck, the Throughway Shopping Center, the medical center now under construction on Cloverdale Avenue, the Piedmont Savings and Loan building among others.

Some of our public buildings—the new libraries, the colored YM-YWCA and the YWCA pool are examples—reflect this same spirit.

The main library, by the way, offers an interesting illustration of why change is occurring.

That building was originally planned in the mode of an earlier age when libraries were tombs for tomes, with complex sections for special collections. When experts in library administration reviewed the plans they were shocked. “Why,” they asked, “are you going to get the money to lure the people needed to supervise all of the rooms provided in these plans?”

It was a good question. Money for staffing and maintaining that kind of building simply wasn’t in sight. So the original plans were scrapped and plans for the present building—a building whose form is fitted to its function—are under way.

In church construction—any area where change comes hard because people feel that “a church should look like a church”—there is some evidence that this same trend towards contemporary design is taking effect. You see nothing in the Jewish synagogue and in the new education building of Gothic Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church.

In the field of home construction there has been an even greater reluctance to break with the past. A few pioneers—Dr. Fred Garvey is one—have been willing to believe the precepts of the architects and build in the contemporary style. Most home builders, however, have tended to sit back and wait to see if the architectures, in the words of the old colored man, “was willin’ to put de’ money where de’ mawf is.”

Of course, not all of this contemporary construction is good. Some, like this, a good deal of the traditional design, is just a veneer. In other cases the design itself is no more functional than traditional design.

But—and this is the point—enough of it is good to encourage this particular ball to roll a bit faster each passing year. You need not take that opinion straight. To prove the point to your own satisfaction merely keep an eye on new construction and you will see the fact unroll before your eyes.

Ten years ago a break away from the traditional styles came hard. The bitter squabble over the selection of the architecture for the Wake Forest campus is ample evidence of that reluctance. At the time that decision was made the great majority of architects said that we were making a mistake in selecting a traditional style for the new college campus.

A change that was difficult for our generation, a generation raised in the styles of the past, is not hard for youngsters who are coming up in quite a different architectural environment. If you question that look once again at our schools—is there more to this matter than a mere question of taste. There also is the important fact that building today is unlike anything that was ever known in the past. Consider, for example, some of the changes that have occurred within the past century.

One hundred years ago the major task of the architect was the space relationship in his building. He designed the interior and the exterior of the building and that was about the extent of his obligation. Back then the cost of the building accounted for, perhaps, 90 per cent of the total cost. Land and services took up the remaining 10 per cent.

But in the past 100 years inside plumbing, central heating, central cooling, electric lights, elevators, telephones, television and gadgets (dishwashers, garbage disposals, units, refrigerators, freezers, television and the like) have come into widespread use. As a result, the architect must accommodate an intricate maze of piping, wiring, ducts and motors in his plans. Also, as a result of the present day building in the past 50 per cent of the total construction cost. The other 50 per cent is in land, services and in providing this astonishing gadgetry.

In the past 100 years a whole host of new building materials have become available to the architect: rolled sheet glass, glass block, insulation, steel frame construction, reinforced concrete, plywood, an amazing variety of plastics which can be used in an equally amazing variety of ways, fluorescent lighting and the like.

Then, too, the present day builder possesses techniques of construction that were unknown 100 years ago. The earth moving equipment is one of the more spectacular examples.

Add to that one further fact: our manners of life are different from life in past generations. We need new buildings, new structures. Human labor is costly today. So we build in a manner quite different from building done in a time when maids and housemen came a dime a dozen.

All of these things—the gadgets that now are essential in our buildings, the new materials for construction and the new tools and techniques of construction and the fact our way of life is different—point to the folly of seeking architectural solutions in the traditional styles of the past.

Like the buildings in Old Salem, those styles were sound because they represented the best possible use of available materials and construction techniques. By the same token, the architecture of our time can only be good if we make the most of what is available to us.

Are we doing that when we copy from the past—often the ancient past—and seek to cram our gadgetry, our building materials (continued next page)
AIA NEWS

TRAINING PROGRAM REVISED

AIA has announced that the Architect-In-Training Program has been revised after many requests to allow non-degree candidates who have had some professional school training as well as those who are entirely office-trained. The announcement stated "We will have to depend upon the endorsers to determine whether or not the Candidate, if he continues his office experience for three years, will be at approximately the same degree of advancement as the degree-man with three years' experience."

N. C. WORK NOMINATED

On March 14th the AIA announced that 91 projects had been nominated for the second annual International R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award. Sixty three of the entries are works by architects in foreign countries and twenty-eight nominations are structures designed by architects practicing in the United States, including one from North Carolina. Judgment will be May 5-7 by a jury of award composed of five distinguished architects, namely J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA of Philadelphia, Richard M. Bennett, FAIA of Chicago, Arthur L. Harmon, FAIA of New York, Richard J. Neutra, FAIA of Los Angeles and Pier Luigi Nervi of Rome, Italy. The $25,000 award, presented annually to the architect who has made the most significant contribution to the use of aluminum in the building field, will be presented during the AIA Convention in Cleveland July 7-11.

FLORIDA PUBLICATION DOCUMENTED

The AIA Document-of-the-Month of March was awarded to “Presenting Your Architect” by the Florida South Chapter.

AIA ’58 EUROPE TREK

The American Institute of Architects has announced that its 1958 Post Convention trek to Europe will visit seven countries with options to extend to others. The leader will be J. Roy Carroll, FAIA of Philadelphia, Regional Director of the Institute. He will be assisted by Richard Walker, ARIBA, who has conducted similar European and South American treks. The trek will leave New York on July 12th, the day after the AIA Convention in Cleveland, and return to New York on August 18th.

The countries to be visited, with receptions with foreign architects planned in each, are Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Belgium, England and France. The Belgium visit will include a visit to the World’s Fair at Brussels. One of the optional extensions includes visits to Moscow, with stops at Berlin, Helsinki, Stockholm and Amsterdam. Arrangements are being handled by the U. S. Travel Agency of 807 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

The University of North Carolina Library has requested our assistance in locating copies of this publication of the months of April and July 1956. Anyone having either please send them to Southern Architect, Box 408, Raleigh.

Journalist Davis’ Winning Article (continued)

and our construction know-how into shells designed in a day of candles, fireplaces and outdoor privies?

Like any art, architecture is essentially progressive. That is true despite the many backslidings that we have plainly built into our cities. And it must continue to be true. After all, what conceivable reason can there be for using costly mullioned windows when sheets of clear plate glass are available to us at far less cost?

It would, of course, be presumptuous to attempt to predict what the future will bring. Nuclear heating or, perhaps, heating with solar energy? Units for the re-use of water? Structural aluminum? Electro-magnetic housecleaning? Luminous panels for lighting? The Geodisic dome?

Those are only a few of the possibilities. None of them may come to be. But, of one thing we can be certain: there will be change and, in all probability, that change will go beyond anything we imagine today.

Obviously we cannot build to anticipate what the future will bring. But it is equally true that you cannot revive the dead past through architectural prayer. Placing a modern newspaper in a copy of Independence Hall may seem to be a pretty gesture to the beginnings of free speech but it also is, in the clear light of experience, one hell of a way to house a newspaper.

The best that we can do is build to the top of our ability with the knowledge, materials and imagination that we possess. When we do that we will put into our buildings the same faith in our way of life that the Moravians, brick by brick, built into Salem, Bethania and Bethabara.

No one, I think, is more keenly aware of that fact than the architects. The desire to build truly and honestly is strong in the profession today. Perhaps that is to be expected. Even when traditionalism ruled the roost the architects were surprisingly self-critical.

The interesting thing, however, is that there is so much accumulating evidence that we, as a people, are coming to turn our faces with the architects to look at this day and the problems of this day in our planning and building.

This growing faith in this day—and in the future that will be born from this day—is, perhaps, the finest hope for the coming century in American architecture."
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ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS IN THE NEWS

WAUGH REJOINS COLLEGE

Edward W. Waugh, AIA of Raleigh, will return to the faculty of the School of Design at North Carolina State College effective September 1. He will hold the rank of Associate Professor of Architecture. Announcement of Waugh’s appointment was made by Dean Henry L. Kamphoefner, FAIA, of the college’s School of Design, who said Waugh will relinquish his practice of architecture to rejoin the college faculty. A native of Johannesburg, South Africa, Waugh was a member of the College faculty from 1948 until 1951. Since then he has been engaged in the private practice of architecture in Raleigh with Raymond Sawyer. He also has been conducting a long-range planning study for State College which will be completed July 1.

ALBRIGHT FORMS PARTNERSHIP

N. C. AIA. Attorney R. Mayne Albright of Raleigh announced that he has associated with Banks Arendell of Raleigh and Charles P. Green of Louisville for general practice of law under the firm name of Arendell, Albright and Green.

ODELL ON C. D. COUNCIL

The North Carolina Council of Civil Defense, of which Brig. General Edward F. Griffin is Director, is presently engaged in establishing an Engineering and Public Works Service to plan for and provide direction of all engineering and public work activities in the State in extreme emergencies. R. B. Rice, professional engineer of Raleigh, is Chairman of the Engineering Advisory Council composed of eleven members, one of which is A. G. Odell, Jr., FAIA of Charlotte, representing the N. C. Chapter of AIA.

FIFTEEN CHURCH WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Although no winner was from North Carolina or the Southeast, fifteen awards were issued in the 1958 Catholic Institutional Architectural Competition. The Competition was inaugurated a number of years ago by Catholic Property Administration, of Greenwich, Connecticut, for the express purpose of “encouraging creative design for liturgical, functional, and aesthetic Catholic structures, and to encourage effective utilization of building materials.” The final judging took place in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania by a jury of three members of AIA and one church representative.

NEW FILM

The Mabie-Bell Company has announced that Mosai-Bell Associates have recently completed a new movie. The 16mm color film runs approximately twenty-five minutes and is available to Councils and individuals on request to the company, P. O. Box 2909, Greensboro.

‘58 BUILDING INCREASES

According to the N. C. Department of Labor, Building Permits in February were nearly twelve percent above the figure for the same month of last year, and for January and February combined were increased thirteen percent over the same period. During February in thirty cities of more than ten thousand population permits totaled $12,156,726.00. Two months totals in five cities were over the million dollar mark, with Greensboro leading the way with nearly $5 million, followed by Charlotte, Raleigh, Winston-Salem and Durham.
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ARCHITECTURAL CALENDAR

APRIL 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Architects Guild of High Point, High Point.
APRIL 11: Western Council of Architects, Asheville.
APRIL 17-19: South Atlantic AIA Regional Conference, Sarasota, Florida.
APRIL 26: NCAIA Executive Committee Meeting, Winston-Salem.
JUNE 19-21: N. C. Chapter American Institute of Architects Summer Meeting, Morehead-Biltmore Hotel, Morehead City.
JULY 7-11: American Institute of Architects Annual Convention, Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, O.
APRIL 17-19: South Atlantic AIA Regional Conference, Sarasota, Florida.
JUNE 19-21: N. C. Chapter American Institute of Architects Summer Meeting, Morehead-Biltmore Hotel, Morehead City.
JULY 7-11: American Institute of Architects Annual Convention, Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, O.

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