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FIFTEENTH ANNUAL NORTH CAROLINA HONOR AWARDS PROGRAM

Lawrence B. Anderson, FAIA, Dean, School of Architecture, M.I.T., announced the seven winners of the 15th Annual North Carolina Honor Awards Program on Friday, February 7.

The architecture awarded was selected from 54 entries of which one is an Honor Award and six are Awards of Merit. The criteria for the selection were based on searching for the best contribution to architecture, achieved with clarity, skill, and economy of means appropriate to the task at hand.

The North Carolina Chapter of The American Institute of Architects proudly presents these projects which represent the work of some of our well known architects and some bright new ones.

This Honor Award Program seeks, as did the earlier ones since the beginning of the program in 1955, to serve as an extension of stimulating design development in North Carolina.
HONOR AWARD

CLASSROOM BUILDING FOR CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Charlotte, North Carolina


"The Jury had little difficulty in agreeing that on the basis of the documents submitted this building stands out as the most distinguished of all the entries submitted. The site plan gives promise of an ultimate development, wherein the building will play an important role in the organization of an effective "yard" in the new campus. Its extended linear form already provides a welcome stabilizing element in the gently sloping terrain with its big trees. The choice of an exterior portico access to the classrooms not only amplifies flexibility of interior space allocation but gives to the exterior a wonderful visual porosity and relates the vital circulation function to exterior space. Some members posed this question: what about the paired mullions? Are they or are they not necessary elements to break up the possibly too brutal direct statement of structure?"
“What one might ordinarily do to make an auditorium festive has not been possible here owing to a low budget requiring that only the barest utility be provided. The designer has consequently relied on the sculptural massing possible in the assembly of tight solid prisms of various proportions but with common roof slopes. Although inclined at first to question the position of the mechanical room and toilets, the jury came to see that this feature conforms to the architect’s successful strategy.”
"Two long roof planes intersecting to provide a clerestory give the house a relaxed look that works well with the slope. The living spaces are kept in good relation to the ground by connecting the wooden upper deck with an intermediate level lawn on earth retained in a masonry wall (a neat disposal for the excavated material). The entrance and atrium are also noteworthy; the latter provides plant material within close view, though as a result the living room may be deficient in wall space. It is a house not unlike many other good ones, but it is done with unusual skill and taste."
"Thanks to a sloping site this two-story structure shows itself as a one-story building on a podium, the windowlessness of the lower floor being no doubt justified by the security needed for its activities. Would there not, however, be need for a broader access from the parking lot to the main stair? On the upper floor, the internal arrangement does not reflect very closely the structural order promised in the facade. In spite of these questions, this entry has achieved a degree of strength, dignity, and simplicity of appearance that is increasingly rare in the municipal buildings of minor cities, and that seems very hard to come by in our age of colossal scale."
MERIT AWARD

THE GARDEN GALLERY
Raleigh, North Carolina


"To a large degree this entry appears to be a brilliant improvisation—the working out of a second floor only dimly visualized when the first floor was built. The two floors have completely separate functions, and the new addition called for different spatial organization. The framing scheme is skilfully manipulated, not only to enrich the new gallery spaces, but also to integrate with the mechanical and electrical system by providing plenums that are beautifully disposed between the beams. The wood detailing, while restrained, is excellent, and reminiscent of the best work in Seattle and Vancouver."
"The program called for facilities consisting primarily of individual offices, and these are well-provided for by the double-H plan. The articulation of these offices is given by the structural system which provides voids on the facade between the beams, and these, in conjunction with the windows, must endow the offices with a very pleasant light. The precast structural elements also provide long spans and a roof overhang, and they confer an air of importance to what is a very low building, while perhaps being a little too bulky to give proper scale. There is a question whether the direction of these frames should not have been kept constant even in the links that connect the two wings."
"It is difficult to fault this compact, easily supervised library. It is well-proportioned and all of a piece. The projecting second floor spaces make that level dominant, avoiding what might have been an unpleasant duality. The elements of this attractive design reflect the style of other successful contemporary buildings in concrete and brick, but one may wonder whether the high degree of symmetry imposed will impede the later additions that seem inevitable in even a small college library."
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

William P. Brady of Ramseur has won the Leslie N. Boney Memorial Scholarship, one of the top scholarships in the School of Design at North Carolina State University.

The scholarship is named in honor of the late Leslie N. Boney Sr., prominent Tar Heel architect. The award was presented by Leslie N. Boney Jr., FAIA, who currently is practicing architecture in Wilmington and across the State.

William J. Hedrick of Durham and Darryl Wally of Davidson won the Carolina Solite Scholarship in Architecture. Fenton Gilliam of the Solite Corporation presented the awards.

These students were awarded for outstanding academic achievement in the widely recognized Department of Architecture.

INCIDENTALLY . . .

William C. McGee, Jr., AIA, is a new president of Raleigh Arts Council . . . Leif Valand, AIA and Nelson S. Benzing, Jr., AIA, announce their association for the general practice of architecture under the firm name Valand, Benzing, & Associates, with offices at 410 Oberlin Road, Raleigh . . . The Printing Industry of the Carolinas informed us that "North Carolina Architect" received a First Place Award in the recent PICA Graphic Arts Awards Competition for excellence in concept, design and craftsmanship. Awards were presented at the "Accolade '69" Program in Charlotte on January 18th . . . D. Gene Whittington Associates has named Ralph E. Brice, AIA as a partner and will practice as Whittington/Brice Assoc., Architects, with offices at 500 E. Morehead St., Charlotte . . . Connelly, Winecoff, Tooly & Assoc., Inc., announce a change of name to Winecoff & Tooly Inc., Architects, Charlotte . . . Robert P. McDonald announced the opening of McDonald Art Gallery at 753 Providence Rd., Charlotte . . . W. E. Matthews Co. of Laurinburg, named J. Reginald McVicker, Jr., AIA, into a new partnership to be known as Jordan, Snowden and McVicker, Architects-Engineers.

ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS PROGRAM


As in past years, eight scholarships for summer study at the Fontainebleau School of Fine Arts near Paris, France, are being offered in the current program.

Two winners will be selected from each of the Association's three divisions (Eastern, Western, and Canadian), plus two at-large awards. The scholarships provide transportation, room, board and tuition, with the total award not to exceed $1500.

The competition is open to full-time architectural students who are in their fourth (next-to-last) year of study at schools that are members or associate members of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture in the United States and Canada.

Program rules permit submission of design solutions done in any drawing, photographic, or similar medium. Entries must be designed to meet commercial, institutional, residential or religious needs and must be designed in concrete or other cement-using material such as concrete masonry, terrazzo, or stucco.

Entries will be judged by a panel of architects and educators to be selected by the Portland Cement Association. Winners will be notified on or before April 15.

Further information on the scholarship program is available from the Portland Cement Association, Old Orchard Road, Skokie, Ill. 60076 or from any PCA regional office.

AIA LAUNCHES TV CAMPAIGN

For the first time in its history, The American Institute of Architects is launching a nationwide television and radio public-service campaign to combat urban and suburban blight.

Every television station in the U. S. has been given two 60-second, color-film spot announcements. One of the spot announcements concerns itself with highway planning and points out that highways do not have to destroy neighborhoods, create ugliness, and take land off the tax rolls. It then offers solutions to the problem. The other spot zeroes in on suburban sprawl and offers suggestions for improvement. AIA Chapters are being provided live radio spots for distribution to local outlets.
THE ANGUS BARN...Built For Contented People
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Country as a hayloft, The Angus Barn holds comfortable feeding stalls for discriminating diners.

Like the London restaurant man who flew into nearby Raleigh-Durham airport on a special trip. Or the 550 folks who can be served at one time by waitresses in red checked gingham dresses.

There’s always something good cooking on the open hearth, and the Barn is decked with rustic reminders—churns, plows, horse collars, and feed troughs.

The owners chose lightweight masonry units by Solite for that eye-catching “old red siding”—deftly handled to look like country clapboard. Their major reason: its fire-stopping qualities, so important to restaurants. Another big reason—it insulates against noise and weather.

When your appetite calls for meals that become pleasant memories...try The Angus Barn.

When your design calls for versatile, fire-resistant materials...try Solite.
TOWN PLANS, TRANSIT OFFER HOPE FOR COST SAVINGS

Why can't the mass production techniques that crank out millions of cars every year be applied to housing, where the need for great quantities of new units at lower costs is becoming critical?

They can, but only theoretically. You can't mass produce unless you have a mass market. A car is a finished consumer product designed for mobility. A house is neither.

Housing is still a regional, rather than a national, market. A mass market big enough to create effective mass production will be created only when local building codes with individual and contradictory requirements are eliminated, and when financing is universally available for low-income housing. Neither condition exists at present, nor is likely to in the near future.

Prefab Units Exist

Prefabication already exists in housing to a considerable degree. Roof trusses, bathroom and kitchen components, window and stairway units, and wall panels are available. Some experts believe that further savings may come, not from houses manufactured in factories, but in the creation of small factories or assembly operations on the building site.

But, while experiments in reducing housing costs through new technology must not be discouraged, architects with broad experience in housing say that a more realistic promise of savings will come through more efficient use of land. Land and financing costs often amount to more than half of the price of the house purchase. A new wall or structural system could, at best, affect the overall cost by one or two percentage points. But, if higher densities can be achieved through better planned "mixes" of house types, with townhouses and highrise apartments predominating in a townlike setting, development costs per acre of land can be lowered, and public services—roads, schools, sewage and water lines, police and fire protection, etc.—won't be stretched out so far. These situations will be reflected in lower costs and lower taxes.

High-Speed Transit Vital

Such compact communities can be planned and built at varying scales and at considerable distances from the city if certain criteria are met. Housing experts say they will be most successful when fitted competently into a comprehensive master plan for the metropolitan area, and linked to the city by high-speed transit. A high-speed rail system, usually found as a combined subway and surface system, can handle 20 times the number of passengers of a highway, and do it without parking problems.

Thus, as the cost squeeze worsens, the California rambler, or what passes for it in many housing subdivisions, will be on the way out in the years ahead. Towns and villages will be on the way in. Higher densities are coming, whether we like it or not.

The ideal will be a future fusion of better planning—including the hookup of satellite towns and parent city through high-speed subways and rail transit—with a genuine mass production technology that creates well-designed housing units for a single and unobstructed national market.

WINSTON-SALEM COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 1969

Winston-Salem Council of Architects elected the following officers for 1969: Lloyd G. Walter Jr., AIA—President; Dallas E. Cundiff, AIA—Vice-President; and Fred K. Garvey, Jr., AIA—Secretary-Treasurer.

CVCA ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 1969

Catawba Valley Council of Architects elected the following officers for 1969: Stuart R. Penn, AIA—President; D. Carroll Abe, AIA—Vice-President; Zane F. Thompson — Secretary-Treasurer; Allen J. Bolick, AIA — Director and Past-President; Bob Olson, AIA, Fred Abernathy, AIA, Frank B. Griffin, AIA as Directors.

PIEDMONT SECTION ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 1969

On November 6, 1968, the Piedmont Section elected the following officers for the coming year: David B. Oden, AIA,—President; Vernon Lewis, AIA,—Vice-President; William H. Hawley, AIA,—Secretary-Treasurer; Alvis O. George, Jr., AIA, Walter E. Blue, Jr., AIA, H. R. McLawhorn, Jr., AIA and Norman L. Zimmerman, AIA, as Directors.
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SOUL CITY — NEW TOWN PLANNED

A 1,800-acre site near Durham, N. C., is planned as the location of Soul City, a home for 18,000 Negroes.

Floyd B. McKissick, former head of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), purchased the land in Warren County for $390,000. His firm, Floyd B. McKissick Enterprises, Inc., a private investment company in New York City, will build the new town.

McKissick says the new town will not “adopt the white man’s racism,” but that its “primary purpose for being will be to demonstrate black Americans’ ability to innovate, administrate and produce.” He is also an early advocate of new towns in rural areas. He says, “The roots of the urban crisis are in the migratory patterns of rural people seeking to leave areas of economic and racial oppression. So, in building a new town in a rural area, we help solve this.”

The Department of Agriculture supports McKissick’s idea. Former Secretary Orville Freeman pledged support as consistent with the department’s concern over migration of rural residents to cities.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development provides the most opportunities for financial and planning help. Initially it can help through urban planning grants, which are administered through the states. A new communities provision, Title IV of the 1968 housing act, provides help for private developers of new towns. “But that is premature at this point,” says Robert M. Paul, HUD’s director of land and facilities. “It provides that HUD guarantee loans to help a developer carry development costs, but this is after there is a site plan, engineering studies and a lender”.

McKissick is confident plans will go ahead. He hopes for staged population growths of 5,000 to 10,000 to 18,000 people over ten years. The town will include commercial, industrial and residential sites.

He has consulted with the Rouse Co., developer of the new town of Columbia, Md., and it has promised to share its experience with him. The Arthur D. Little Co., a Cambridge, Mass., research firm, has promised a full man-year of consulting and management support.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 4: Durham Council of Architects, Durham Hotel, 12:30 P.M., Sam Hodges, AIA, President.

Mar. 5: Charlotte Section, NCAIA, Charloette Town Mall Community Hall, 12:30 P.M., Sherman Pardue, AIA, President.


Mar. 15: South Atlantic Regional AIA Conference on Public Relations, Atlanta, Georgia.

Mar. 18: CSI Meeting, Twin City Club, Winston-Salem, 6:00 P.M., Arthur J. Hammill, AIA, President.

Mar. 18: CSI Meeting, Hartmans Steak House, Durham, 6:00 P.M., Gene W. Jones, AIA, President.

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