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NORTH CAROLINA  
ARCHITECT



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1972



PUBLISHED

CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



design  
without  
sacrifice



ROBERT W. CONNER, AIA

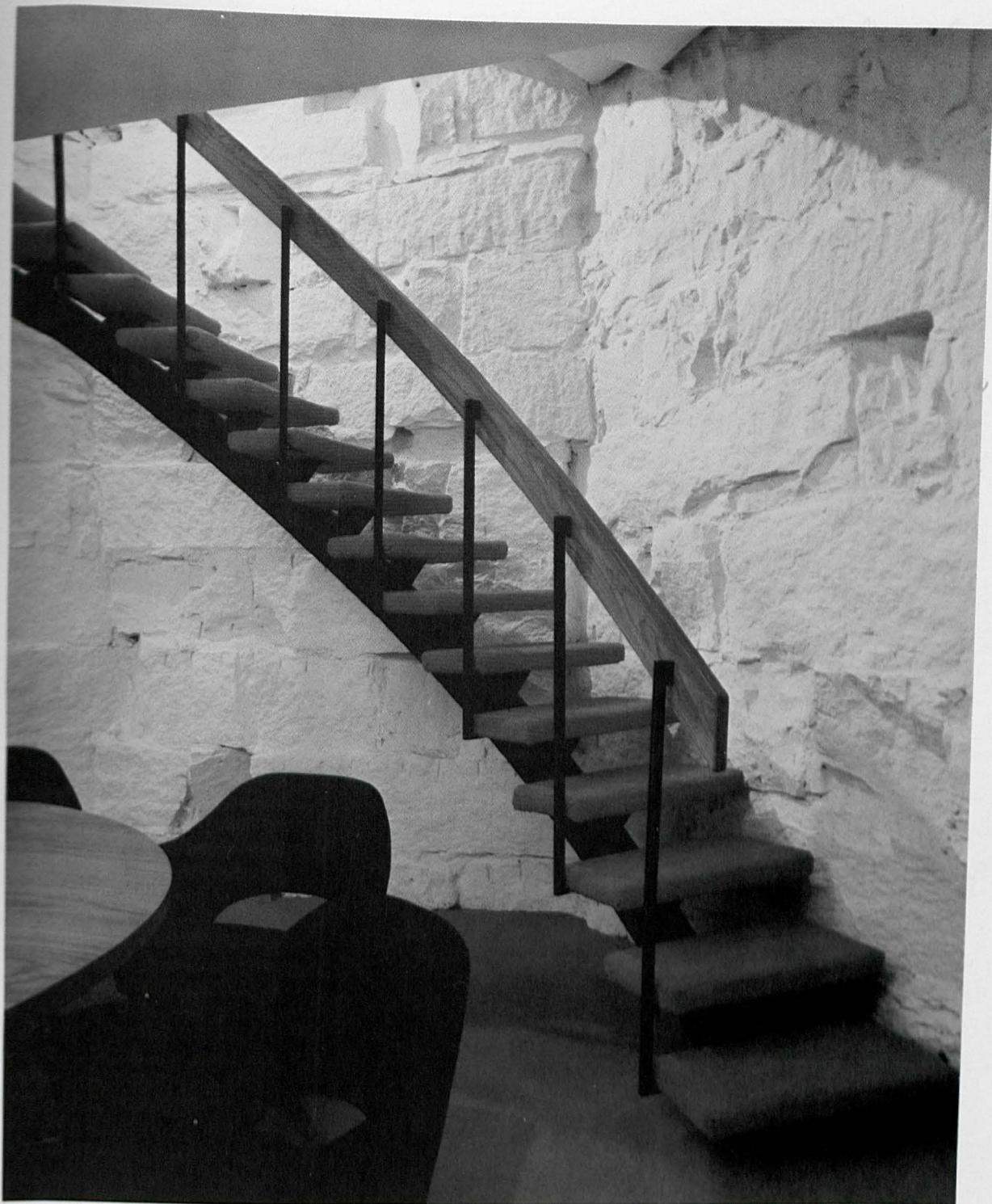
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To find out more about what we can do for you, call Barron at 704/246-5915. (He's also ready to show you what Mid-State's new premixed grout can do. It's a new premixed formula that comes in colors, resists mildew, chipping and staining and eliminates call backs.



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## SARC 72 A GREAT SUCCESS

A general atmosphere of gaiety and merriment pervaded the Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst, the last three days of September—the occasion was the biennial convention of the South Atlantic Region of the American Institute of Architects. A gala evening of entertainment on Wednesday

set the tone for the entire event when a talented cast from the Raleigh Little Theater performing "The Thurber Carnival" was enthusiastically received by early convention arrivals.

Eight speakers from the far corners of the country presented subjects as diverse as their backgrounds, leaving an overall conclusion that the projection for the future of the South At-

lantic Region is particularly bright.

A highlight on Thursday evening was a salute to Henry Kamp-hoefner, retiring Dean of the School of Design at NCSU, given by the most qualified of all to express the sentiments of his school, Chancellor John T. Caldwell.

The inimitable Jim Wallace captivated his audience with his delightful presentation on conservation of our natural resources. Arch Rogers' outstanding ability as a leader was quickly recognized as he directed his remarks to the future of the profession, stating that the architect is "the last surviving generalist in an age of over specialization; a specialist in synthesizing the effects of specialties such as economics, sociology, politics and science in his day-to-day designing; a humanist and therefore also a synthesizer of the physical with the social in his problem solving through design."

Dave Braden, toastmaster par excellence, delighted his audience with his witticisms and his skillful manner of treating a sensitive situation with humor.

Then, there were speakers addressing themselves to the everyday problems of architecture. These were Jim Scheeler, Phil Meathe, Willie Pena and Neil Harper. The projected growth and financial outlook for this geographical area was ably presented by banker Cliff Cameron, and our latest military defense systems were described by Voit Gilmore.

To balance morning working sessions, afternoons were devoted to recreation and evenings to entertainment. A popular golf tournament was highlighted by the awarding of prizes—done with much levity—during the Friday night dance. A ladies luncheon at Country Club of North Carolina, a bus tour to the Research Triangle, wine tasting, dancing girls, and a scintillating floor show rounded out a full three-day program.

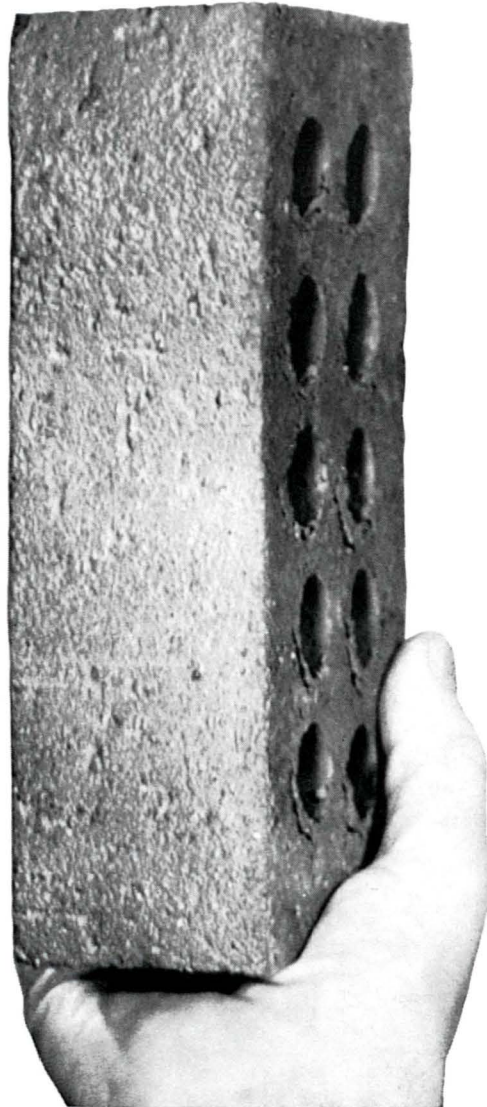
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# NORTH CAROLINA ARCHITECT



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1972  
VOL. 19, NOS. 9 & 10

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COVER PHOTO: Residence Hall, UNC-Charlotte,  
Leslie N. Boney, Architect



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## A HOUSE IN THE CITY

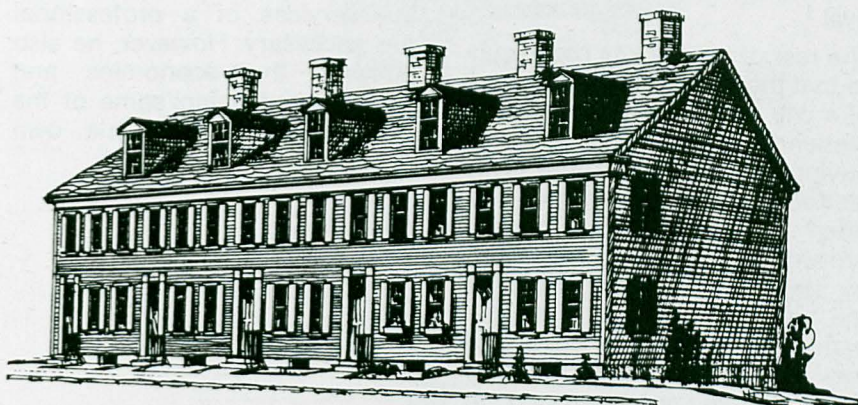
### A Guide to Buying and Renovating Old Row Houses

by H. Dickson McKenna

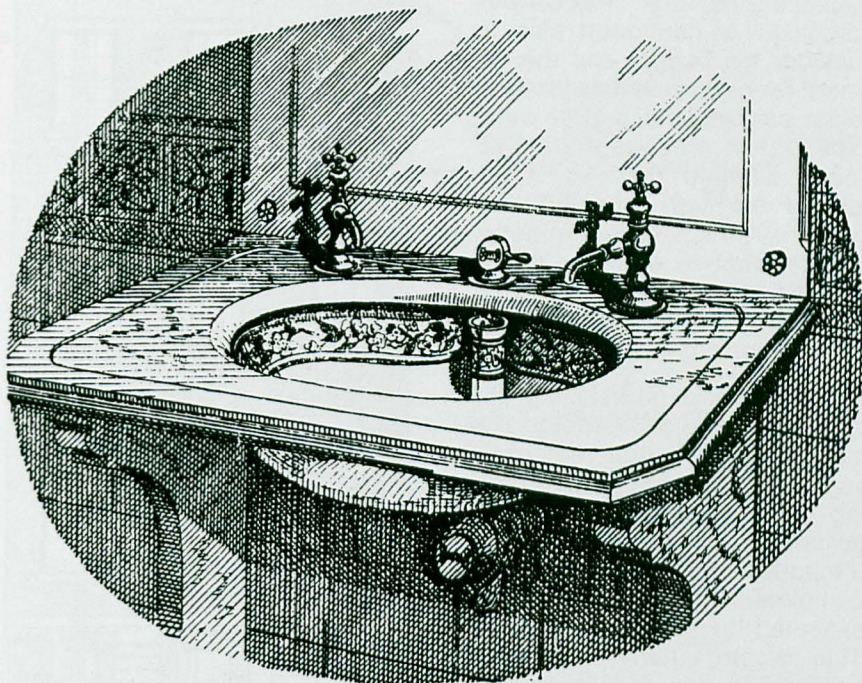
Reviewed by Bill and Betsy Laslett

H. Dickson McKenna has written the opening line of his own review when he says, "This is a book about finding, evaluating, buying, renovating, and living in city houses." This book does, indeed, provide all this information. He also delights, excites, and intrigues the reader with stylistic vignettes of New York, Boston, New Haven, Philadelphia, and other places as remote as Hallowell, Maine,<sup>1</sup> where a group of row houses constructed in 1840 have been restored. In addition to an extensive photographic documentation of the row house in America which includes entire groups of buildings, individual facades, and many details, there is a generous number of architectural drawings, elevations, plans, perspectives, sections, and details such as an ornate marble lavatory with brass fittings.<sup>2</sup>

Reviewing the evolution of the row house, McKenna shows that the form with which we are familiar today began appearing in the late 17th century. By the mid-18th century the form had developed so that a building such as the Royal Crescent in Bath would have a continuing influence on "unified streetscape planning." Later, in New York City, the gridiron city plan adopted in 1811 influenced the design and construction of row houses for 100 years. It is interesting to note that in New York row houses were constructed in blocks by developers much as suburban sub-divisions today are created by speculators. Although the builders, competing for originality in design, produced a great variety of architectural styles and details, brownstone was so popular as a building material that the word became synonymous with row



Row House (1840) in Hallowell, Maine





house. The opening historical section, generously illustrated with photographs, concludes with a brief description of various stylistic movements of the last 200 years including Federal, Greek and Gothic Revivals, Italianate, and the Colonial Revival.<sup>3</sup>

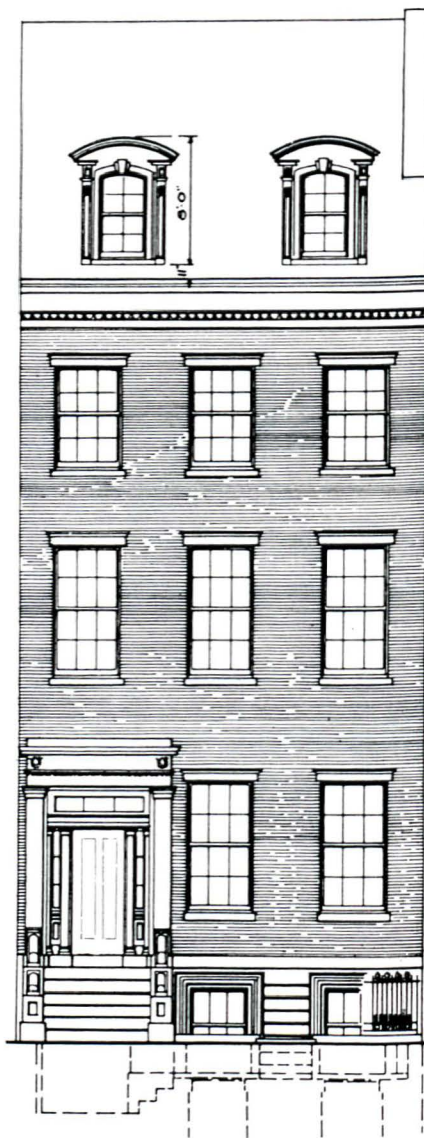
The rest of the book is organized so that the prospective purchaser of a city house can clearly comprehend the tasks of choosing, buying, and renovating. Mr. McKenna has illuminated the often mysterious real estate procedure, and clarified, step by step, the important points of the transaction for both the layman and the architect alike. The city homeowner is directed to examine the neighborhood in which he is considering the purchase of a row house. Such topics as identity, historical landmarks, urban renewal areas, and more practical aspects such as zoning, schools, goods and services, and transportation are discussed, and the implications of buying in a particular area are pointed out—make sure your life style is compatible with the available amenities.<sup>4</sup> The serious purchaser is cautioned also to consider his budget and the extent of renovation that he intends, select an architect and/or other experts, and evaluate the house. The evaluation process is described through specific discussions which tell the buyer exactly what to look for in the exterior and interior walls, mechanical systems, the basement, floors, and roof.

Once the house is selected, the costs and financial problems of contract of sale, title search, insurance, mortgages, and closing are illustrated by a detailed description of the purchase of the author's own row house with completed documents and letters executed by the author's lawyer. This is particularly informative information for the uninitiated.

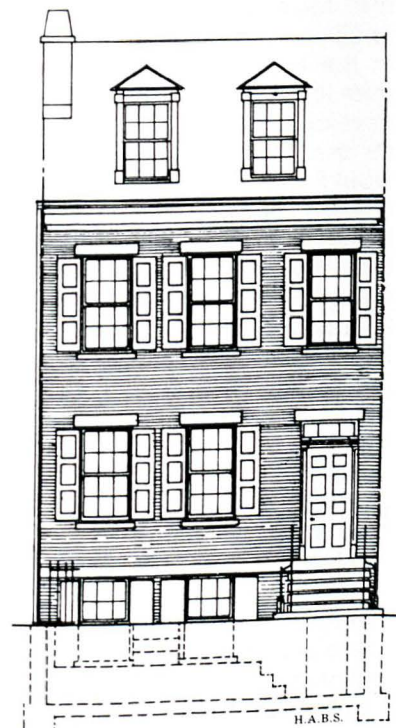
In the final section on Renovation, Mr. McKenna assumes that an architect will do the actual

planning and design, and says that he only means "to give you some idea of what you will be facing when you set out to renovate a house, to point out some of the pitfalls, and to offer some suggestions . . ." In most areas Mr. McKenna feels that the services of a professional are necessary. However, he also stresses the economies and pleasures of doing some of the work oneself. From his own experience:

Stair carpeting is a task I can personally speak for. When I was renovating my own house I received estimates from several professional stair carpeters, and was staggered by the figures. I knew absolutely nothing about carpeting stairs but I thought that it couldn't be that difficult and plunged ahead. Working in the evenings I carpeted a flight of stairs per day. At the last riser I found that I was out of carpeting and improvised a cut-and-fit technique that was perfectly satisfactory—in fact quite professional.



Greenwich Village has both small row houses built early in the nineteenth century and larger ones built somewhat later. These two drawings are to the same scale.





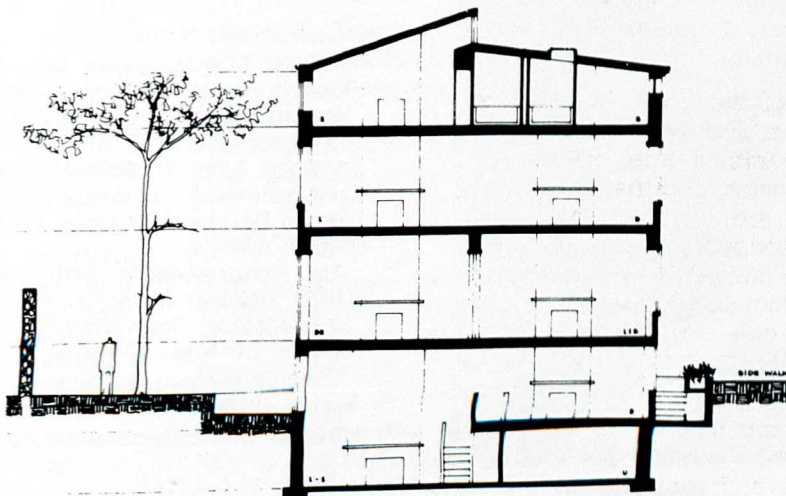
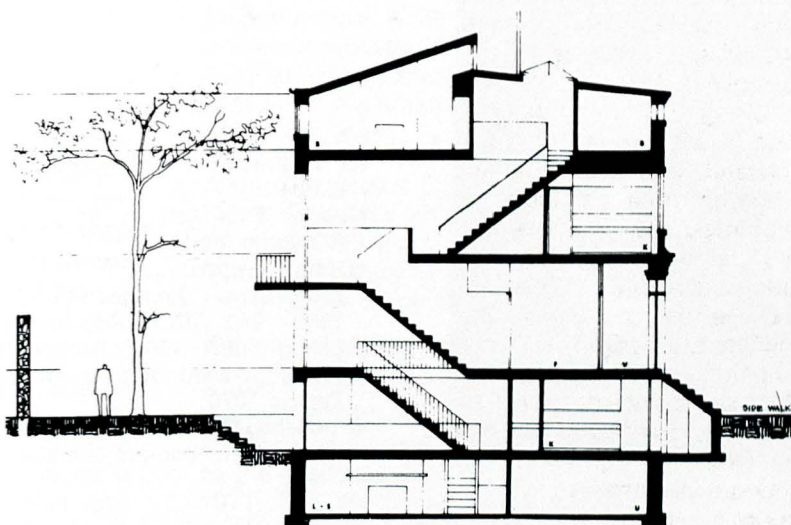
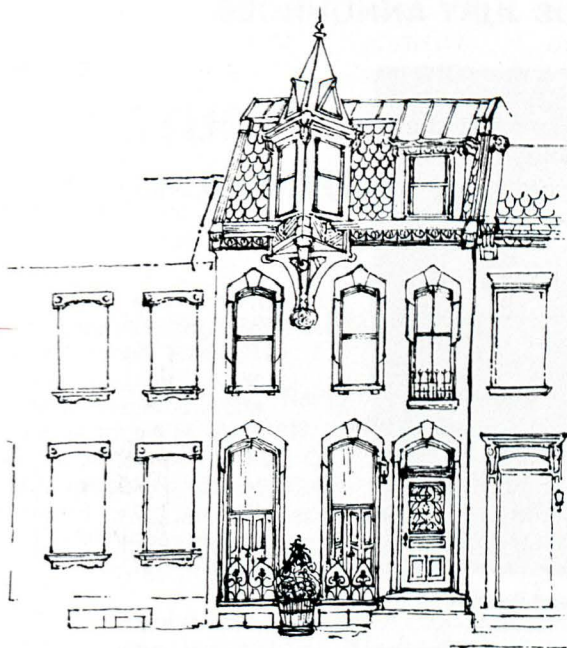
We do take exception to his following suggestion that in some cases one can hire a professional to do a small part of the job, observe him closely, and then complete the job oneself. We feel not only that this is not an altogether professional approach, but also that it may end in a bad job and additional expense.

Finally, he gives important advice on the contractor-owner relationship, and lists the terms that should be stated in a construction contract.

The book concludes with some experiences of several couples, accompanied by an interesting series of photographs and drawings.<sup>5,6</sup> An appendix entitled "Sequence of Procedures for Typical Renovation" is a valuable checklist.

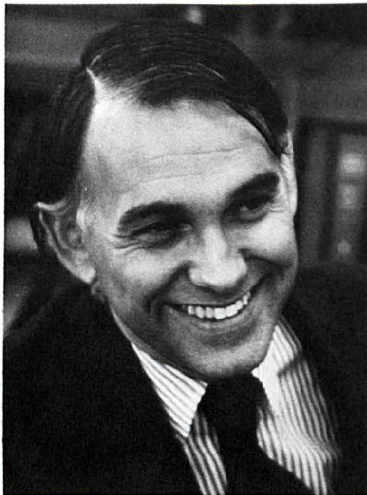
Mr. McKenna's love and respect for the city is apparent throughout the book. He is deeply committed to the fabric of the row house urban environment, and interested in its development in our metropolitan areas. He is equally committed to the excitement of city living and the variety of life-styles that can be achieved in row house living.

Although we have in North Carolina no concentration of row houses such as Mr. McKenna documents, one outstanding group of eighteenth century townhouses does exist in Charleston, South Carolina. The magnificently detailed frame houses located on the Battery are unique in urban planning. Narrow, with three story porches fronting a garden, the houses are set at right angles to the street so that one enters through a gate at the end of the porch. A collection of brick townhouses at Ansonboro, in Charleston, is being carefully restored under the *auspices of an historical society* formed by the neighborhood itself. It is for exactly this type of work going on around us now that Mr. McKenna's informative, fascinating, detailed book is eminently suited.





## 1973 AWARDS JURY ANNOUNCED



**James Stewart Polshek**

- B. Arch. Yale 1955
- Fulbright Fellowship
- 1972 AIA Honor Award, award of N. Y. State Council on the Arts and Certificate of Merit of N. Y. State Assoc. of Architects
- Sixth Dean of School of Architecture and Special Advisor to the President for Physical Planning and development at Columbia University



**Hobart D. Betts**

- B. A. Princeton 1957, Magna Cum Laude
- Master Fine Arts in Architecture Princeton 1961
- Design Awards: Progressive Architecture 1966, 1968, 1970; AIA Homes for Better Living 1967, 1968; Architectural Record Award of Excellence for Design 1970
- Published in numerous national and international books and magazines



**Ulrich Franzen**

- Principal of N. Y. firm
- Projects include master plan for historic enclave at Harpers Ferry, W. Va.; residential quadrangle for 1,000 students at U. of N. H.; renowned Alley Theater, Houston; self-contained community for Urban Development Corp. of N.Y.
- Design Awards: AIA Honor Awards 1970, 1971, 1972; Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture from National Institute of Arts & Letters; 1970 Thomas Jefferson Award for Architecture
- President, Architectural League of N. Y.

The North Carolina Chapter AIA will hold its annual Winter Convention at the new Down-towner East Motor Hotel in Charlotte, February 8, 9 and 10, 1973. A vital and interesting part of the convention will be the announcement of awards for excellence in design for projects of members of NCAIA.

Each AIA member in the state is invited to enter projects which are presented pictorially in notebooks and slides with a brief description of the problems and solutions. The current Awards Committee Chairman, Jeffrey A. Huberman, AIA, of Charlotte, will meet with the jury in New York during December when a selection will be made. Announcement of recipients and presentation of certificates of recognition will be made at a banquet during the convention in February.

Mr. Huberman is pleased to announce an outstanding group of architects has been selected to judge the entries.



# NORTH CAROLINA ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS SUPPORT NCSU GRADUATE PROGRAMS

For the past three years a total of \$8000 in graduate fellowships have been awarded to graduate students in the Department of Architecture at North Carolina State University from funds contributed by North Carolina architects through the Architectural Foundation to the Design Foundation. These fellowships have been instrumental in supporting the graduate work of eight students and have made it possible for them to focus their primary concern on educational matters. Included among the recipients are students who are now teaching in other universities and one who has already become a licensed architect in the State of North Carolina.

Those receiving fellowships in 1970 were:

Gary Joseph Coates of Raleigh, North Carolina received the Bachelor of Environmental Design in Architecture at NCSU in 1969 and entered the graduate program in the fall of 1969. He received numerous honors while a student at NCSU including election to Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi, and he compiled an overall grade point average of 3.729. Mr. Coates received the Master of Architecture degree in 1971 and currently holds a teaching position at Cornell University.

Mrs. Theresa R. Raper of Raleigh, North Carolina received the Bachelor of Architecture degree at NCSU in 1970 and was admitted to the graduate program in the fall of that year. She achieved a perfect 4.0 average in her graduate studies and received the Master of Architecture degree in August 1971. Mrs. Raper became a registered architect in North Carolina and a member of the North Carolina AIA Chapter in 1972. In addition to part-time consultation in an architectural firm, she has been appointed Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture in the School of Design.

Richard E. McCommons a resident of Raleigh was the holder of two degrees from NCSU, BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1963 and Bachelor of Environmental Design in Architecture in 1970, when he was admitted to the graduate program in August 1970. Mr. McCommons was the recipient of the NCAIA Book Award presented to the outstanding graduate in design in 1972 and also achieved a 4.0 grade average in his graduate program. He received the Master of Architecture degree in May 1972 and now holds a Lectureship in Architecture at a university in Scotland.

Those receiving \$1,000 Foundation fellowships in 1971 were:

Charles W. Raine of Mobile, Alabama was an honor graduate of Tuskegee University receiving the Bachelor of Architecture in 1971. He entered the graduate program in Urban Design in August 1971 and will be among the first graduates to receive the Master of Urban Design degree in May 1973.

Robert Frank Dalton of High Point, North Carolina, who received an AB in English from Princeton University, was admitted to the graduate program in September 1969. He is now in his third year of graduate studies and has a grade point average of 3.28 in his graduate work. He will receive the Master of Architecture degree during the present academic year.

A third recipient, Glenn Edward Foy of Statesville, North Carolina and a former Morehead Scholar at UNC-CH, was awarded one of the graduate fellowships but withdrew during the year and returned the fellowship funds.

Recipients of Foundation fellowships in 1972 are:

Alfred F. Platt of Pittsboro, North Carolina received an AB in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1969 and was admitted to the graduate program in Architecture in August 1971. Mr. Platt has demonstrated a remarkable aptitude for architectural studies and currently has a perfect 4.0 average in his graduate program.

David K. Tester of Winston-Salem, North Carolina received the Bachelor of Environmental Design in Architecture in May 1972 graduating with honors and a 3.31 grade point average for four years of undergraduate studies. He was admitted to the graduate program in architecture in August 1972 and is expected to receive the Master of Architecture degree in May 1974.

The importance of support for the Architectural Foundation's contribution to graduate students in NCSU's Architecture Department cannot be overemphasized. They have contributed significantly to the efforts of this group of outstanding students, and they constitute an overall contribution to the high quality of the graduate program in the School of Design.



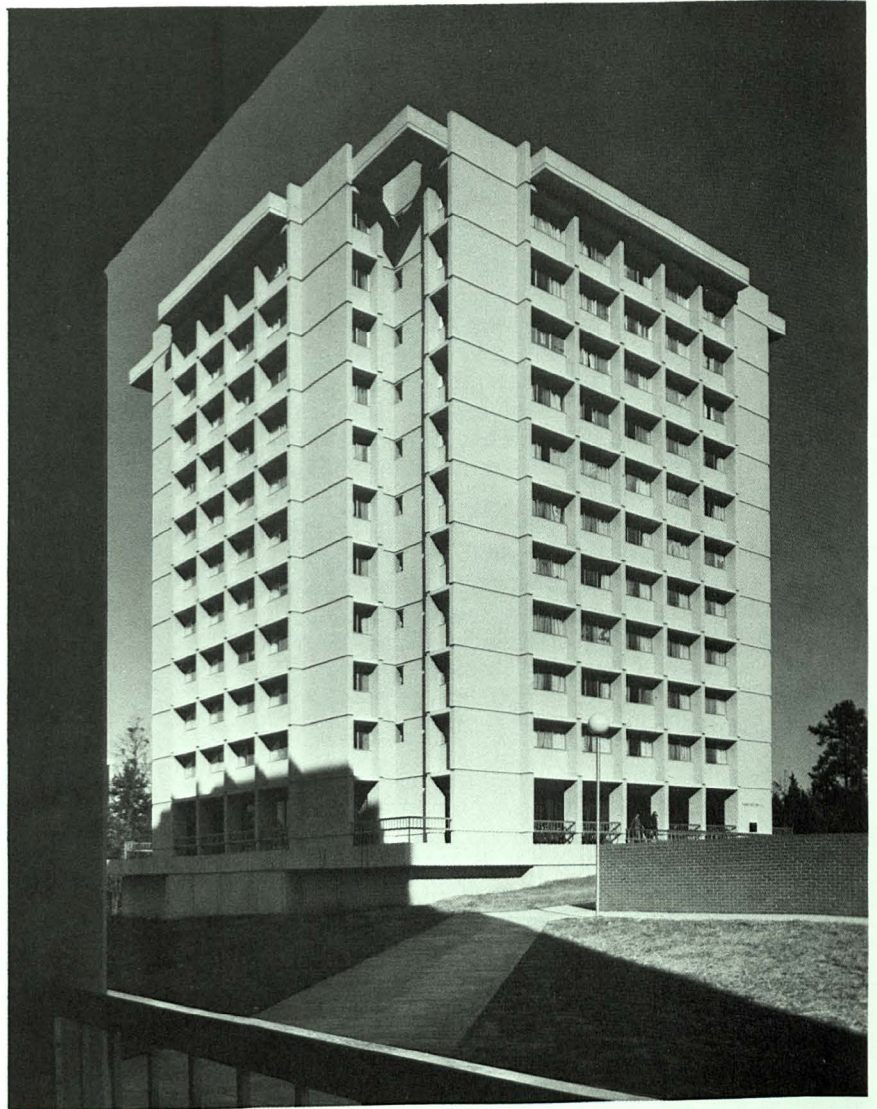
## **NORTH CAROLINA'S ARCHITECTURE**

*Presented herewith is a selection of recently completed buildings in North Carolina, designed by members of the North Carolina Chapter, The American Institute of Architects.*

**TERRY SANFORD AND DAN  
MOORE RESIDENCE HALLS**

**UNC - CHARLOTTE**

**LESLIE N. BONEY, ARCHITECT**  
Wilmington



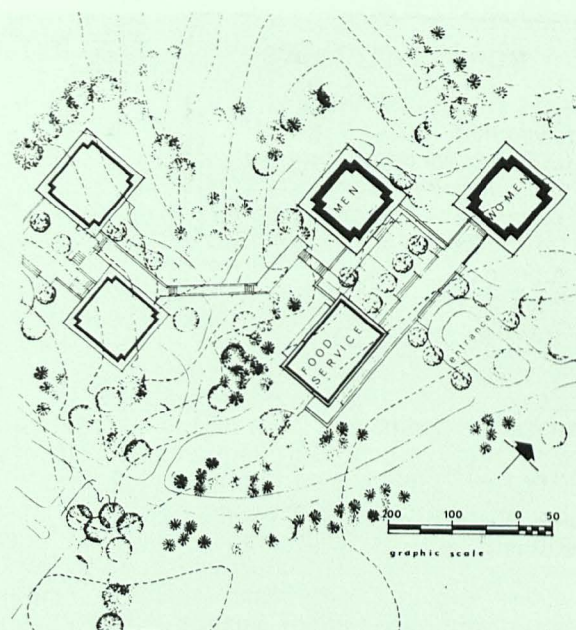
Photos by Gordon H. Schenck, Jr.





Two separate residence halls for 500 men and 500 women are connected on two floors by a two-story lounge, which serves as a 100-student "house" and is a unit of the campus student organization.

The building was the first air conditioned State-owned college housing and resulted in a State policy change to permit air conditioning where it could be designed within the budget.



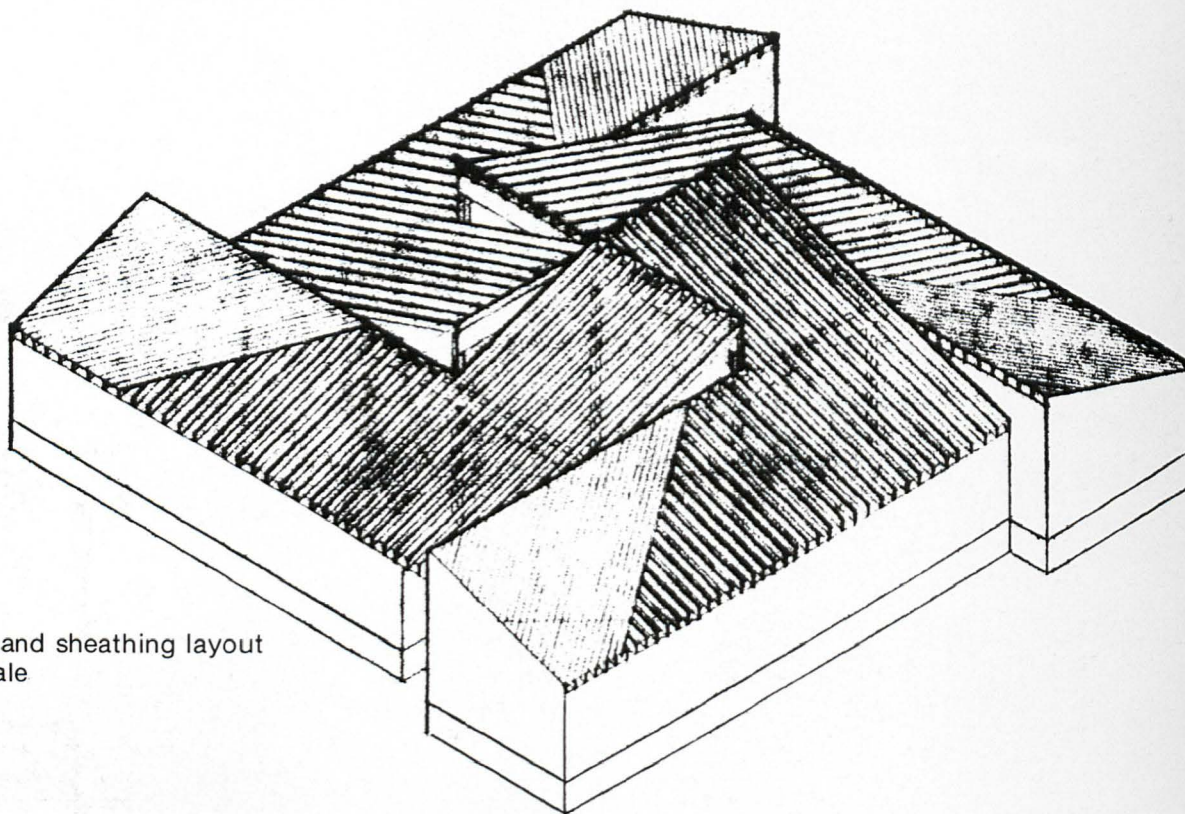
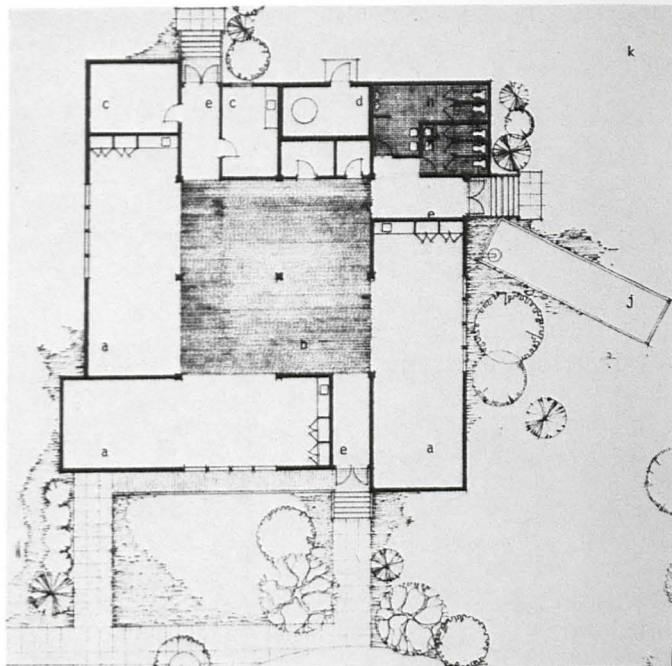


**OKRACOCKE SCHOOL**  
Okracoke Island, North Carolina

**JAMES B. WILLIS, JR., AIA**  
ARCHITECT  
Morehead City, N. C.

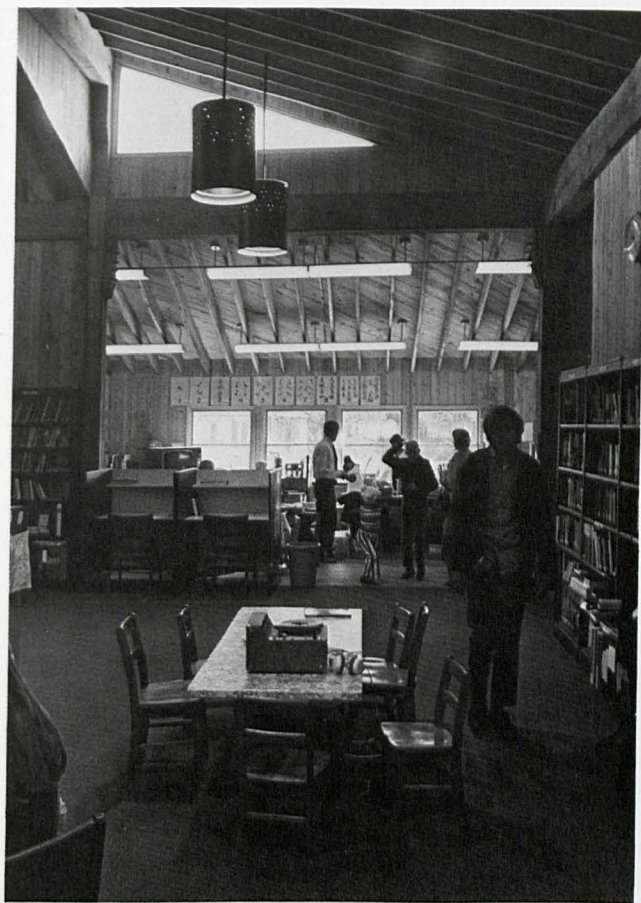
The architect was charged with designing a school for 70 pupils, grades one through twelve, for the small island community of Okracoke on North Carolina's famed Outer Banks.

Since all materials and labor had to be ferried in, a wood/timber structural system was chosen for its ready availability, ease of fabrication with a minimum of skilled labor and minimum cost. Harmony with existing structures in this quaint community was also considered. A pin-wheel solution provided one major space, a resource center, and three minor spaces, classrooms, to meet the educational program.



rafter and sheathing layout  
no scale







**The Charlotte Chapter of Producers' Council, Inc.  
Elects '72-'73 Officers**



(Left to right) Robert J. Morin, 1st Vice-President; Terry L. Gorsuch, Secretary; James A. Davis, President; Richard S. Payne, Treasurer; Johnny W. Graham, 2nd Vice-President.

James A. Davis, Manager of the Contract Department for Delph Hardware and Specialty Company is the new President of the Charlotte Chapter of Producers' Council, Incorporated, a national organization of manufacturers of quality building material and equipment.

Serving with him for the next twelve months are Robert J. Morin of G. G. Ray Company, 1st Vice-President; Johnny W. Graham of Duke Power Company, 2nd Vice-President; Terry L. Gorsuch of Kawneer/Amax, Secretary; and Richard S. Payne of Pritchard Paint and Glass, Treasurer.

**NCAIA ELECTS OFFICERS  
AND DIRECTORS FOR 1973**

The Fall Meeting of the North Carolina Chapter, AIA, was held at Pinehurst on Saturday, September 30, and the following were unanimously elected to serve for 1973:

President: J. Bertram King, FAIA, Asheville; First Vice-President & President-elect: Charles H. Boney, AIA, Wilmington; Vice-President: William L. Laslett, AIA, Fayetteville; Vice-President: Thomas P. Turner, Jr., AIA, Charlotte; Vice-President: Turner G. Williams, AIA, Raleigh; Secretary: Robert E. Bush, AIA, Hickory; Treasurer: A. Lewis Polier, AIA, Raleigh.

Directors—1973: Beverly L. Freeman, AIA, Charlotte; Paul C. Hardy, AIA, Charlotte; Michael D. Newman, AIA, Winston-Salem.

Directors—1973-74: C. L. Vaughan, Jr., AIA, Shelby; C. Robert Shields, AIA, Rocky Mount.

Archivist: Louise Hall, AIA, Durham.

Additional directors will be presidents of the four sections of NCAIA.

**EXCUSE, PLEASE!**

An announcement of NCSU School of Design scholarship recipients in the January/February issue of North Carolina Architect listed a Portland Cement scholarship to Michael J. Wilson. The scholarship was awarded by the Santee Portland Cement Corp. of Holly Hill, S. C.

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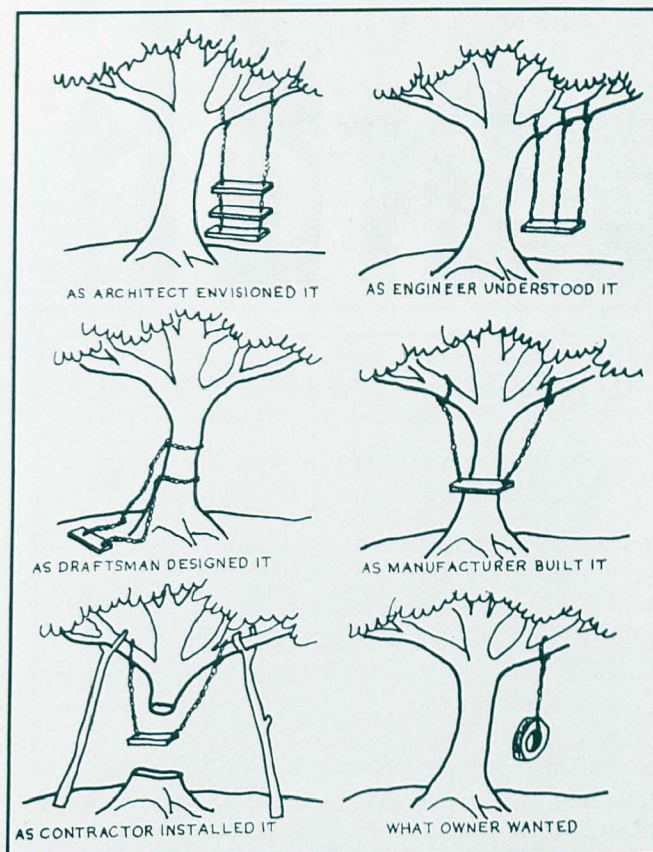
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 Charlotte, North Carolina

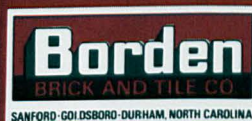


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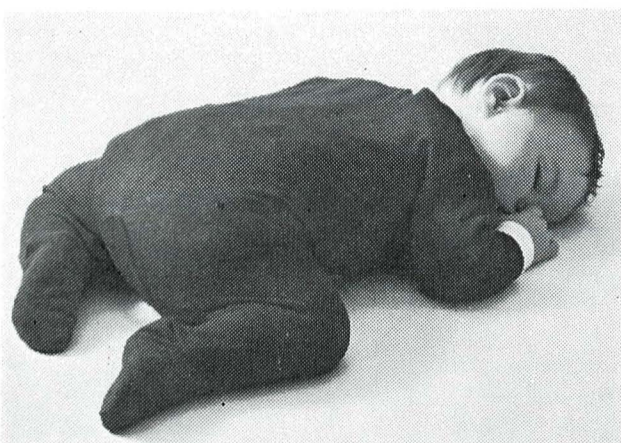
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