24/2

NC Architect

March April 1977





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24/2

March April 1977

Honor Awards

1977 NCAIA Historic Preservation & Restoration Awards

A Special Award & **Craftsmanship Award A Special Award**

Published by the North Carolina Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

Remarks to the NCAIA Awards

Banquet **Our Lady of Lourdes Church** Condominiums for the Elderly

Southern Middle School Museum of the Cherokee Indians Self Service Laundry for Public **Housing Project Mecklenburg Scout Reservation** Joel Lane House The Capitol

The Executive Mansion Latta Place **Thomas Wolfe Memorial** Office for Jackson, Padgett, Freeman Biltmore House Music Room Preservation in New Bern

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NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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Cover photo: The Mecklenburg Scout Reservation

> "The Nags Head Beach Cottage Row Historic District" which appeared in the January/February issue of N C Architect was written by Catherine Cockshutt Bishir.

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REMARKS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA AIA AWARDS BANQUET 11 FEBRUARY 77

BY PAUL KENNON, AIA CHAIRMAN, 1977 AWARDS JURY

THE INTERACTION BETWEEN MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT IS OUR CONCERN AS ARCHITECTS AND IT TAKES GREAT COMMIT-MENT AND ENERGY TO SEE THROUGH THE LABYRINTH WITH CLARITY TO UNDERSTAND THE QUALITY OF INTERACTION THAT GIVES AN ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCE. WE MUST KEEP STRIVING TO SEE WITH FRESH EYES THROUGH OUR DESIGN COM-MITMENT. THESE COMMITMENTS ARE THE COMMON THREAD IN OUR ARCHITECTURE AND WILL. IN CONTEXT WITH TODAY, PRODUCE A DESIGN ABILITY THAT WILL BE LIFE-IMPROVING AND CON-TRIBUTING TO THE HUMAN COM-MUNITY AT LARGE.

HOLD A MAGNIFYING GLASS IN THE SUN AND IT WILL FOCUS THE DISPERSED RAYS ONTO ONE SPOT AND RELEASE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ENERGY — EVEN CREATE A FIRE — SO IT IS WITH MEN'S MINDS. INCREDIBLE THINGS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IF WE CONCENTRATE ON THE IMPOR-TANT DESIGN ISSUES.

WE BELIEVE THAT: THE LATE 1970'S WILL BRING TOGETHER THE PROBLEM-SOLVING FUNC-TIONALISTS OF THE 50'S (WE NEED THEM). THE PRODUCT-MINDED FORMALISTS OF THE 60'S (WENEED THEM) AND THE PROCESS-MINDED MANAGERS OF THE 70'S (WE NEED THEM) - TOGETHER IN TEAM ACTION. GREAT DESIGNERS WILL EMERGE, ALSO, SOME GREAT GREAT TECHNOLOGISTS. AND LEADERS IN DESIGN MANAGE-MENT.

THERE ARE ENCOURAGING SIGNS. A BALANCED DESIGN APPROACH SEEMS TO BE EMERG-ING WHICH WILL GIVE THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA, THIS COUNTRY AND THE WORLD MORE FUNCTIONAL, MORE BEAUTIFUL AND MORE ECONOMICAL FORMS AND SPACES.

SINCE THE INTERACTION BETWEEN MAN AND HIS ENVIRON-MENT IS OUR CONCERN AS ARCHI-TECTS - OF ALL OUR EARTH'S **RESOURCES THE MOST PRECIOUS** RESOURCE THAT AN ARCHITECT MUST HAVE IS HUMAN AWARE-NESS - FOR EACH NEW DEVICE, INSTRUMENT. OR TECHNIQUE, THAT INCREASES OUR REACTIVITY AND SENSITIVITY TO THE STIMULI OF OUR ENVIRONMENT - CREATES A NEW AVENUE TO BRING ORDER OUT OF CHAOS. THAT'S WHAT DESIGN AWARDS ARE ALL ABOUT - WE ARE HERE TO CELEBRATE THE TALENT, THE SENSITIVITY, THE COURAGE, THE COMMITMENT, THE TENACITY, THE BRILLANCE AND THE TOUGH-MINDEDNESS OF NORTH CAROLINA ARCHITECTS, CLIENTS, AND BUILDERS WHO WERE UNWILLING TO SETTLE FOR MEDIOCRITY - WHO WERE INNO-WHO HAVE VATIVE AND INCREASED OUR UNDER-STANDING OF QUALITY OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENT. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THIS!

OUR DESIGN JURY ARRIVED AT A CONCENSUS THAT THE SIX PREMIATED ENTRIES WERE ALL TO RECEIVE HONOR AWARDS. COLLECTIVELY THEY REPRESENT A HIGH LEVEL OF DESIGN COM-PETENCE CONSISTENT WITH AWARD-WINNING WORKS ANY-WHERE IN THE COUNTRY.

WE FELT THAT THE AWARD WINNERS DEMONTRATED A DIVER-SITY OF DESIGN APPROACH DEVOID OF OVERWEANING FASHION. ONE OF THE MAJOR SUCCESSES CITED WAS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE WINNERS FOUND AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO PROGRAM, ARCHI-TECTURE DESIGN, INTERIORS AND SITE ADAPTATION — FORM, FUNC-TION, ECONOMY, AND TIME.

OUR DESIGN JURY NOTED THAT THE PREMIATED ENTRIES ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF SIGNIF-ICANT SOCIAL ISSUES: EDUCA-TION, ELDERLY HOUSING AND RESTORATION.

WE FELT THAT THE AWARD WINNERS RESPONDED EXCEED-INGLY WELL TO THESE SOCIAL ISSUES AND THAT THE RESULTING PROJECTS ALSO PROVE THAT A RESPONSE TO THE CURRENT STEADY STATE ECONOMY AND LOW BUDGET CRUNCH IN TERMS OF GOOD DESIGN CAN BE ACHIEVED BY COMPETENT DESIGN TALENT.

WE ALSO FELT THE SIX WIN-NING PROJECTS EMBODY SEVERAL PROTOTYPICAL IDEAS GENERIC TO EACH BUILDING TYPE AND MAKE A GENERAL CONTRIBUTION TO ARCHITECTURE BEYOND THE SPECIFIC SITE AND PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED.





HONOR AWARD OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH Raleigh, N. C.

ARCHITECTS: John D. Latimer and Associates, Inc., Durham Roger H. Clark—Design Architect, Raleigh

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: SAIEED Construction Systems, Raleigh



Photos by Gordon H. Schenck, Jr.

The interior space is designed as a light-filled room that is a backdrop against which ceremonies and rituals take place. The options available for seating allow for different impressions — large, small, high, low, open to the outdoors, close and intimate, several opportunities for processions are provided by the aisle arrangement, in lieu of stained glass, windows provide views of trees and sky, not of parking. The time of day, atmospheric conditions, and seasons provide a changing interior.



Jury Comments:

- 1. Shows tremendous design skill
- 2. To take a Chapel like this and enter it from outside, treating it as a separate entity and form, yet to have it still be an integral part of the whole building form is quite brilliant.
- The way the building brings the outdoors into the nave while also screening cars, etc. is well handled.
- 4. It is very sophisticated and inspiring form.
- 5. The spacial virtues are substantial.
- 6. A good example of taking a small nave and putting other things in it while still enhancing the whole.
- 7. The design takes a small congregation and a small building and makes the processional experience a significant one.
- 8. There is exquisite restraint and response to the new liturgy nature and man work together to create a spiritual environment.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

HONOR AWARD

CONDOMINIUMS FOR THE ELDERLY Deerfield Condominiums, Asheville, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Jackson, Padgett & Freeman, Asheville GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Price-Ray Constructors, Inc.

The project was designed as an addition to a community of residences for the elderly. These condominiums represent the first phase in the construction of multi-family residences in a 28 acre community. The new residences, with the existing cottages will subsidize expansion of the community's clinic into a comprehensive nursing facility.

Jury Comments:

- 1. Incredible site
- 2. A transitional architecture for senior citizens.
- 3. Here, there definitely is a restraint of form, materials, details.
- The architecture in this case seems to anticipate the nature of the furnishings and accommodates them all — from Grandma's hope chest to contemporary.
- 5. The veranda concept is handled well and respects social gathering.
- 6. Privacy is protected.
- 7. This environment for senior citizens is designed to accommodate life styles; not impose!





400000



HONOR AWARD SOUTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL Alamance County, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Hayes-Howell and Associates, Southern Pines GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Robert H. Pinnix, Inc.

Photos: Jerry Markatos Photography

The program required a school facility to accommodate team teaching open class non structured instruction with some provision for structured classes. Strong emphasis to be placed on the media center with common areas for variable group size learning activities. This facility was to have a multi-purpose (music; theatre; large group instruction) space as well as a cafeteria with catered food: physical education facilities: and all of the necessary administrative and guidance functions. The site, adjoining an existing high school with adequate playground space, is steeply sloped from back to front. This site was to have its own entrance to give it identity with bus, parent, and staff access defined.

Jury Comments:

- 1. Appropriate scale for a middle school.
- An excellent plan that makes a clear response to the educational program.
- 3. It has an open-ended growth system.
- 4. There's a level of design consistency inside-to-outside.
- 5. There's an exterior focus in the court, and an interior focus in the media center.
- Its basic systems are smoothly related — a quality environment for the young to learn.







HONOR AWARD

MUSEUM OF THE CHEROKEE INDIAN Cherokee, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Six Associates, Inc., Asheville GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Collins & Hobbs Company

Photos: Dick Mauldin

This Cultural Museum is designed to house exhibits which illustrate the history and culture of this particular Indian Nation. The building is virtually a stage set providing orderly sequence for the visitor through the exhibits and is intended to illustrate by its design the sense of scale and care for materials that has been characteristic of this people.

The building includes lobby, galleries, a small theatre, outside exhibition courts, a snack area and, on a mezzanine overlooking lobby and galleries, the administrative suite. Jury Comments:

- 1. This building and its siting are both very well done!
- 2. The building rises out of the ground with great force and dignity and relates well to the mountains as a backdrop.
- 3. Great continuity of building materials.
- 4. The design produces a strong and quality image representative of the Cherokee nation in today's context.







HONOR AWARD SELF-SERVICE LAUNDRY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT Charlotte, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Wheatley/Whisnant Associates, Charlotte GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Moretti Construction Inc.



This small (40' x 66') laundry was designed to serve the needs of the residents of a Public Housing project. Because the laundry is located within the project, and because many of the residents do not own automobiles, most of the users will walk to the laundry, although there is a parking lot provided adjacent to the building. The building is located on the edge of a playground and is designed to open visually onto this area so that parents may supervise their children's play while doing their wash. To this end, and for the use of all residents, an outdoor seating area is provided near the entrance.



Jury Comments:

- 1. Provides both image and environment that is: delightful, refreshing, fun.
- This building takes a routine chore like the family wash and tries to make it fun and a social event . . . hopefully, it works this way for the users. I'm not so big on washing clothes, but I think I could enjoy the task in this atmosphere.
- 3. This project provided a maximum bang out of the opportunity.
- 4. The bubble windows in the angled folding bays sensitively reflect the feeling of washing machine/dryer while allowing outlook to children's play area. (It's almost like being inside a washing machine).
- 5. There is careful attention to detail in the way the dryer vents are expressed on the exterior.
- 6. Excellent use of lighting on a low budget.
- 7. A good sense of ritual gathering and socialization.





HONOR AWARD

MECKLENBURG SCOUT RESERVATION

Dysartsville, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: J. N. Pease Associates, Charlotte GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Laxton Construction Co., Inc.



The concept of this building was to take the major elements of the camp requiring service (truck and car deliveries, water, power, and people) and group these functions into one central building on a hilltop near the center of camp. Camping areas are all off service roads/foot trails which radiate from spines down the hill. These roads also serve as arteries for power, water, and foot traffic. Heavy wear on the landscape is thus confined to a restricted area allowing the rest of the property to remain undisturbed.

Jury Comments:

- 1. Very nice site and site use, with the village cluster concept to retain the natural beauty.
- 2. Nice graphics.
- It's a positive social benefit for youngsters to be exposed to good design at an early age.
- Everything is collected together in a village cluster concept as a focus of vitality and transition from the natural to the man-made place.







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1977 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION AWARDS

Dr. Larry Tise, Director of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, attended the Chapter's Awards Banquet on Friday, February 11, at the Pinehurst Hotel to present awards for historic preservation and restoration. Seven projects were selected for recognition by a jury and under the auspices of the Chapter Historic Resources Committee.

THE CAPITOL

Raleigh, North Carolina ARCHITECTS: Dodge and Beckwith, Architects, Raleigh GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Williams Realty & Building Co.

After more than a century of use by the Legislature and the Governor, the interior of the Capitol needed restoring. It has been lovingly repaired, restored and rejuvenated—for the Governor has returned his offices to this historic old building. Its interesting detail, such as open fireplaces, bronze gas light fixtures, fine wood carving and plastering detail have all been carefully restored. It is a restoration to make North Carolinians proud!



HE CLPITOL . RALEIGH

JOEL LANE HOUSE

Raleigh, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Dodge and Beckwith, Architects, Raleigh GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Cameron Construction Co.

In the mid-1920's the Society of the Colonial Dames acquired this small historically important house and had it moved to its present site. Built before the Revolution, the house belonged to a prominent Wake County family who sold the surrounding land to the State of North Carolina for the establishment of the Capital City Raleigh. The house has been carefully researched and restored to its 18thcentury design and furnished appropriately.



1977 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION AWARDS

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION

Raleigh, North Carolina

ARCHITECT: F. Carter Williams Architects, Raleigh

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Clancy & Theys Construction Company

Rather than move the Governor's residence to a more contemporary home, the Legislature decided to renovate the existing large Victorian Governor's Mansion to bring it up to modern living standards. A great deal of repair work was required as well as installation of a fire escape stair, new kitchens and bathrooms, and more comfortable living quarters for the Governor's family. With much care all was accomplished and the stately home on Blount Street is a symbol of pride to North Carolina citizens.



LATTA PLACE

Mecklenburg County, North Carolina ARCHITECT: Jack O. Boyte, AIA, Charlotte

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Jerry W. Neal Construction Company

The Latta House, circa 1800, after a series of private owners, was acquired by Mecklenburg County and is now a part of a county-owned park on Mountain Island Lake. It has been carefully restored to its original and represents a major plantation house in this area of North Carolina.

The Renovated Ballroom



Photo: Gordon H. Schenck, Jr.

1977 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION AWARDS

OFFICE FOR JACKSON, PADGETT & FREEMAN, ARCHITECTS, P.A.

Biltmore Village, Asheville, North Carolina

OWNERS AND ARCHITECTS: Jackson, Padgett & Freeman, Architects, P.A., Asheville

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Biltmore Builders, Inc.

This charming cottage is one of fifteen remaining in Biltmore Village, which was originally conceived in the late 1800's as a dependence village for the Biltmore Estate. Built between 1896 and 1901, the house remained a private residence until the current owners converted it to their offices in 1975. The exterior was restored to its original appearance, but many of the interior walls were removed or penetrated with openings to increase communication in the office. An excellent example of adaptive use.



THOMAS WOLFE MEMORIAL

Asheville, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Jackson, Padgett & Freeman, Architects P.A., Asheville

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Price-Ray Constructors, Inc.

The boyhood home of author Thomas Wolfe has been restored to its 1918 appearance, which is described in Wolfe's novel *Look Homeward Angel*. The building has not been restored to mint condition, but rather, carefully preserved as it would have been at the time Wolfe's mother maintained a boarding house here. Most of the original furnishings are on display in the house, which is open to the public as a museum.



Award in a Special Category for a Construction to Complete an Unfinished Historic Building in an Appropriate Manner.

BILTMORE HOUSE MUSIC ROOM

Biltmore Village, Asheville, North Carolina

ARCHITECTS: Alan Burnham, FAIA, Designer Wood and Cort, P.A., AIA, Architects

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: The Biltmore Company W. O. Plemmons, Construction Foreman

Biltmore House, a large and elegant estate designed in the period of a 16th century chateau, was designed by noted architect Richard Morris Hunt. The owner, George Washington Vanderbilt also employed Frederick Law Olmsted as landscape architect. The newly completed music room was a bare space some sixty feet in length and twenty feet high which had not been developed, nor were any plans of Hunt's for this room to be found. Many decisions had to be made to coordinate the space with existing designs and elaborate hand-carved paneling in other parts of the house. After careful research and imaginative design processes, the music room has evolved into a graceful and integral part of the mansion







CRAFTSMANSHIP AWARD

W. O. Plemmons, construction foreman for the music room, received the 1977 Craftsmanship Award for his skillful execution of the intricately designed woodwork and silk screenings. He also manages the preservation and maintenance of Biltmore House with great care and sensitivity.



A SPECIAL AWARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Stallings, Jr. are currently involved in the third restoration of a historically significant house in the town of New Bern. The first restoration of the 1770 Jerkins House was completed in 1957 where the Stallings lived until the second restoration of the Leech House was completed in 1971. They now reside in this fine old home awaiting the restoration of the 1760 Francis Hawk House.

As nearly as possible, the houses have been restored with respect for their original architecture. Additions conform to the style of the house. Materials used in construction were taken from other old homes which were being demolished. Installation of modern baths and kitchens in each house actually make them adaptive restorations.

In addition to the couple's preservation work, Mr. Stallings serves as First Vice Chairman of the Tryon Palace Commission and has been active in the Historic New Bern Foundation, the New Bern Academy Historical Commission and is a past president of the New Bern Historical Society.

Recognizing the Stallings' personal contributions to historic preservation, the North Carolina Chapter AIA presented them a certificate of recognition at the Chapter's Awards Banquet at Pinehurst on February 11.



Jerkins House 1820



Leech House 1760



Hawks House 1760

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"An Arabian Night"

by Robert H. Ferguson, AIA

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

It is Wednesday, 16 February 1977, nine-thirty p.m.; an evening to be remembered—an experience to be shared. The occasion, from six to nine, was being the guest of His Royal Highness Prince Abdulla bin Abdul Aziz, at his palace. His Highness is, I believe, brother to the late King Faisal, and to His Majesty King Khalid bin Abdul Aziz, and grandson of ibn Saoud, founder of the Kingdom.

In our party were Colonel Bennett, Deputy to General Wells; Mr. Kramer, head of our engineering, planning and liaison office; two engineers, a landscape architect, and myself. The invitation extended to us was not without practical purpose. A Greek architectural firm had made to His Highness the presentation of the final plans for his new palace. We had been requested to meet with members of the firm for short discussion, and to determine our time required to review and critique their work—in detail.

His Highness is Commander as well as Minister of the Saudi Arabian National Guard . . . the Praetorian troops, and all fellow tribesmen of the royal family. The presence of officers and soldiers further enriched the scene.

We sat for a short while on soft sofas lined along both long walls of a typical high-ceiling reception hall of perhaps fifteen by twenty meters. The floor was covered with large Oriental rugs; little tables with ash trays were in front of sofas-nothing else but space, and quietude. Then, through another doorway into a large courtyard-it was dark by then-to a small tent in a small desert. It was cozy; perhaps twelve meters by eight, with three centerpoles and a string of five bare light bulbs. The earthen floor was covered with Oriental carpets; chairs were around all four sides; and two rectangular flat brass trays lay on the rugs between the poles. While we were being introduced to the Greeks, by an aide-interpreter, servants brought in large braziers of hot-burning wood charcoal, set them on the brass trays, added half a lemon to each, springled incense, and left us in an Arabian night environment. We had tea and soft talk for a few minutes-and then enter the Prince, with a small retinue.

All was politeness, handshakes and exchange of greetings (in Arabic—it is said HRH does not speak English). He is a tall, handsome man, soft-spoken with assured manner and demeanor of a Bedouin chief; not lacking, however, in smile and humor (at one point the Greek architect, speaking in English and raising his hands and arms to verify his words in emphasis of his Mr. Ferguson, a long time member of NCAIA, is currently working with the U.S. Corps of Engineers in Saudi Arabia.

point that the drawings [two hundred and fifty sheets] were the result of many ups and downs, backs and forths with his client, the Prince, and that, everything was as it should be. His Highness spoke a few words in Arabic, with a laugh, and the interpreter said, "You have been a big headache to me!", which brought laughs from all of us—less one).

The site for the new palace compound (walled-in) is about half-a-mile square. The buildings, all remote from each other, include HRH Villa; three family villas, each with eight bedrooms, pool, etc., for children, on the ground floor, and lovely quarters on the second floor; Reception-Guest Building; Administration-Personnel Building; Barracks for one hundred officers and men; stables, garages, power plant etc., and a mosque for three hundred.

After several cups of tea and then a large-thimble size cup of coffee flavored with cardamon seeds, we said a week to review the drawings, which was agreeable.

Back then to the Reception Hall where many Bedouin tribesmen, seated and silent, waited to meet and to speak individually with the Prince. They are rugged, sensible, dusty men, wearing heavy woolen cloaks. While sitting quietly we were all served several cups (no handle) of tea and one more cardamon coffee, before proceeding to the Dining Hall.

The table-platform is "U" shape, the end being near the Reception Hall doorway, with serving from doorways at the farther end. Of course, all remain standing until His Highness sits, at the middle of the outer periphery of the "U", on the rug covered floor. To his left are interpreter, Colonel Bennett, and two Greeks; turning the bend are Mr. Kramer, myself, the three others of our party, and a few more. To his right, an old and respected General whose name I do not recall, and several aides; and, around that corner, across from me, seventeen tribesmen.

The table is at comfortable height for sitting crosslegged on the floor. It is at least a meter wide. Each place setting has two dinner plates, one atop the other; one knife, fork and spoon; glass of water and paper napkin; also platter of rice with meat, bowl of soup, and plate of bread. For some reason, imping the host, no one ate any of this, but rather waited to be served by many servants from within the "U". Contrary to good English manners, it was necessary, at each course offering, to hold one's plate to the server, as the stretch was long. I was told later that after we had dined, others would be served in our places, and I suppose they would eat the aforementioned table-placed food. We had servings of something in flakey crust, then some kind of hard fried meat, then chicken, and relishes, and vegetables etc., all being good plain food; and cake for dessert (on the bottom plate). Few words were spoken during dinner, and those, softly. I noticed that the Prince ate little more than a few bites of bread.

We then filed back to the reception hall, after washing hands at the doorway where servants poured water for rinsing and held towels for drying (the same going in, I forgot to mention).

Everything is very quiet. Only in the tent was there lively conversation. One or two more cups of coffee, with the Arabs sitting on one side and us on the other. Then back to the tent, the Prince and the rest of us on hands and knees looking at floor plans and the model. "How long is the swimming pool?"; "how many cubic meters of drinking water in the elevated tank?" Off the knees and back into the chairs for a few quiet remarks before again speaking to each of us, and retiring with his aides. Four soldiers carried the drawings to our automobiles, and that was the evening.

"When young, I often frequented Doctor and Saint, and heard great argument about it, and about; But evermore came out the same door Wherein I went."

OMAR KHAYYAM

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