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COVER PICTURE

Siwooganock Guaranty Savings Bank at Lancaster.

All Bank Photos by —
Eric Sanford, Manchester

New Hampshire Architect is published monthly,
under the direction of the president and board of
directors of the New Hampshire Chapter,
American Institute of Architects, to promote the
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N. H. CHAPTER A. I. A.
COMMITTEES
1958 — 1959

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Chapter Affairs, Membership, Education, Office Practice, Awards and Scholarship:

Norman P. Randlett, Chairman, Eugene F. Magenau, Maurice E. Witmer, Eric Huddleston, Edgar H. Hunter, Charles Gray.

PUBLIC RELATIONS


Richard Koehler, Chairman, Alexander J. Majeski, Shepard Vogelgesang, Alexander R. James, Carl E. Peterson

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We are all familiar with this phrase, and to some extent understand, if not fully, the first two conditions of “Commodity” and “Firmness.” But the third condition, “Delight” is elusive, for it describes that quality which is sometimes called aesthetics. It is listed among the objectives of the A.I.A. as “excellence of design”; which is more to the point, but still elusive. It might more simply be termed “pleasure,” both in the real sense and also in the meaning attached to it by the term “Delight,” and it is certainly more to the point; for this is the pleasurable part of our practice and is that part of architecture which probably made us become architects to begin with. This is the part that gives greatest pleasure to the architect as well as to the recipient of the architect’s product, and like the “rain” it is therefore, “twice blessed.”

Unfortunately, in the bustle of our various activities we sometimes slight this part and neglect to take the time to “dream a little” about our buildings. In so doing lose our best opportunity for pleasure in the real sense, and, as a consequence fail to give pleasure.

Basically, this aesthetic, “delight,” pleasure, or whatever it is called, is the best “selling point” in the architect’s kit, for in the final analysis this is what buildings are judged by.

To have our buildings well fitted to their purpose (Commodity), structurally sound (Firmness), and all the intelligence and technique that goes with it is assumed, but the final test is to endow it with the quality of “Delight” or pleasure. This is often difficult, and often neglected, but, let us remember — this is the part that gives the greatest satisfaction.
Our fleeting impression of Genoa as we passed through it at night was of a progressive modern city with a great open mall, well lighted and landscaped, with many fountains, statues and handsome buildings. We must revisit Genoa, also the Italian Riviera, which seemed more informal and less commercialized than the French one. The lovely little towns are quiet, peaceful, beautifully landscaped, with wonderful beaches. Truly a vacation spot.

Stopping at Monaco for several days, we rested, caught up with our laundry, sunned ourselves on the beach, watched the gambling without understanding it at the Casino of Monte Carlo, visited the famous palace of Prince Rainier and Princess Grace, and saw the magnificent tennis courts where our son had played in several tournaments. We missed the birth of the new prince and his 101 gun salute by one day (for which I was duly grateful).

Nice and Cannes are very beautiful cities with hundreds of hotels, including some new ones, lining the wide street and promenade and beach bordering the blue Mediterranean. These places are really sophisticated architecturally and otherwise. Even the filling stations are landscaped with palm trees and have the appearance of a modernistic country club.

The next leg of our journey was along relatively wide and straight roads of southern France thru Avignon, Lyons, Bourg, overnight in Belfort, then to Basle in Switzerland. Here we were most impressed with the extreme courtesy and friendliness of the people, especially the policemen who helped us repeatedly in the heavy traffic. This friendly spirit put a halo on everything we saw, did, or ate there. We want to go back there, but I must omit many interesting details, or we will never get out of Europe and anyone who has read this far will certainly get no further.

Reentering Germany we were fortunate to visit the University town of Freiberg, prosperous looking community with a very fine Gothic Cathedral unusual for its artistic warmth as well as its central heating system; and the resort town of Freudenstadt which has been handsomely re-built following almost complete destruction by bombing in 1945. Then our way took us thru the Black Forest, not the formidable area I had expected, but a fairyland of evergreen trees and snowbanked 5 ft. high along the road. Emerging from the Forest at Baden-Baden another health resort, we were glad to get back onto the Autobahn and shortly arrived at Heidelberg, a place worth going to if only to eat at Perkeo’s famous restaurant. Next day was Sunday, March 1 which marked the end of our third week in Europe, and found us in Weisbaden, most attractive city with many very modern buildings and an inviting atmosphere which seemed to express great community pride.

After leaving the family back in Frankfurt, I took the train for a 5 hour ride to the industrial northeast, thru Giesser Marburg, Kassel and Hannover, then another hour by car to the town of Helmstedt. Here I was to visit Dr. Han Walter Conrady, the County Manager, who had been our guest in Concord a year before on a visit sponsored by the Department of State. The visit to Helmstedt was of the greatest possible interest because Dr. Conrady was in a position to give me a real insight into the economic, social, industrial, political and artistic situation in this area bordering on East Germany. Conditions on the western side are in striking contrast to those in East Germany, where the land is barren, buildings are abandoned and the only activity seems to be patrolling by the Communist police who travel in pairs and are armed.

(Continued on Next Page)
th sub-machine guns. After one warn-
g they shoot anyone who crosses the
-meter wide ploughed strip on their side
the barbed wire border. There is no
recourse of any kind between the people
opposite sides of the line which fol-
ved old political boundaries without re-
ord for existing features. The only road
Berlin passes close to Helmstedt and
the guards there let traffic thru only when
if they happen to feel like it.
Time and space permit only the briefest
ention of some of the highlights: the
ate trade school in Helmstedt where
00 students are trained in lots of 600 per
y, 6 days a week; the functional and
lorful new civic center in the small
ining town of Offleben, easily visible
East Germany; the fascinating com-
etly new planned community of Wolfs-
, where Hitler planted the great
kswagen factory employing 32,000
kers capable of turning out 2,000 cars
er day; the housing projects of manyferent types and sizes where the
kers and farmers live; Dr. Conrady’s
own administrative offices, brand new and
ite close to the local Cathedral dating
om the early 1300’s; and several recently
ilt private homes; equal to most Ameri-
 homes except for kitchen appliances
nd bathroom fixtures.
I related earlier how I managed to re-
in the rest of my family in Cologne thru
he merest coincidence after a slip-up in
ommunications. We proceeded to enjoy
ue beautiful Cologne Cathedral, one of the
est of the Gothic Churches, still being
aired from bombing, but amazingly
ared from critical damage although the
ilroad station next door was repeatedly
id totally destroyed. After inspecting
ie huge new Opera House, perhaps one
of the finest examples of modern German
hitecture, we drove down to Bonn for
isit to the American Embassy, then
ver to Brussels in Belgium. Here we
ncountered difficulty for the first time
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ie huge new Opera House, perhaps one
f the finest examples of modern German
hitecture, we drove down to Bonn for
isit to the American Embassy, then
ver to Brussels in Belgium. Here we
ncountered difficulty for the first time
nding rooms because people working on
he Universal and International Exposition
orld’s Fair) had everything booked
id.
The 450 acre site of the Fair was a
cene of tremendous activity. All the
(Continued on Page 10)
buildings were far behind schedule except the American one which was 95% complete. By waving around a letter from Architect Ed Stone's office which my wife had taken the precaution to obtain, we managed to get in to see it. Actually we were the first visitors to be given an official tour and we gave our pretty girl guides some good training answering questions. The design of the building is highly successful and the popularity of both the building and the exhibits since the Fair opened in April are well deserved. The treatment of space, the details, the materials, the exhibits, are all pleasing and restful, rather than spectacular and tiresome. Many of the other buildings on the other hand seemed to be straining to achieve interest but ended up being just queer.

By dashing to Paris in 6 hours we would have three whole days there, so we did, and found a good hotel not far from the Arc de Triomphe. One cannot do justice to Paris in three days, nor in a paragraph, but this must suffice. These were the high spots:

- American breakfasts at the Embassy.
- Show at the Lido, where they wear less in a more refined way than in American burlesque.
- Window shopping on the Champs Elysees, Rue de St. Honore Flaubert, Place de Madeleine.
- USO bus tour of historic monuments including L'Opera and Architect Charles Garnier's bronze bust; Notre Dame; site of La Bastille; the Tuilleries Gardens; the Louvre, especially the Venus de Milo, the Victory of Samothrace, and Leonardo's Mona Lisa; Sacre Coeur a MontMartre, etc.
- Side trip to the Cathedral of Chartres, memorable for the way it dominates the countryside for miles around, and for its extremely beautiful interior including the stained glass window, gift of the A. I. A.
- Side trip to Versailles (although we thought this much inferior to the Linderhof Castle in Bavaria, supposed to have been inspired by Versailles).

View from top of the Eiffel Tower and the elevator ride up and down.

And so reluctantly we came to the end of our stay in Europe. Family-wise we had an abundance of memories. Rog said good-bye to us at LeBourget, we fly to London via British Overseas Airways, and he to drive back to his base in Germany. We continued via Pan American from London to Shannon, and on to Boston arriving the next morning at A. M. Professionally the trip had been most rewarding and stimulating. I recommend it to all of you. It is a great inspiration to see the treasurers of the past, and to inspect personally the extremely fine modern work being done today in all the countries we were able to visit.

— END —

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DURACRETE
BACKGROUND:

Each member of the firm has had his own practice for the past 10 or 12 years. Mr. Bradt in Exeter; Mr. Littlefield in Dover; and Mr. Williams in Rochester. Each is a member of the American Institute of Architects. Between them, the partners are registered in New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New York and New Jersey.

EXPERIENCE:

The combined experience of the three men is quite varied. It includes:

- Elementary School, York, Maine.
- Gilman Professional Building, Rochester.
- Merchant’s National & Savings Bank, Dover.
- Lane Memorial Library, Hampton.
- Nutrition Laboratory, U. of N. H., Durham.
- Barr & Bloomfield Shoe Inc., Seabrook.
- Housing project: Dover Housing Authority, Dover.
- Sunday School, Christ Church, Exeter.
- A regulation swimming pool and pool house, York, Maine.
- A hospital for York, Maine was carried through the bidding stage, and had both State and Federal approval.

In addition to these specific projects, the members of the firm have done miscellaneous industrial, commercial and residential work, and will be glad to furnish personal references.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION:

Mr. Bradt graduated from the Boston Architectural Center. He attended the Beaux Arts School in Fontainebleau, France.

Mr. Littlefield holds a B. S. from the University of New Hampshire.

Mr. Williams attended the Cooper Union, Columbia University, the Atelier Corbett, Beaux Arts Institute of Design, and NYU. He holds the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards certificate.
CHAIRMEN NAMED FOR FUTURE CHAPTER MEETINGS

Andrew C. Isaak, secretary of New Hampshire Chapter, A.I.A., announced at arrangements for the next four meetings of the chapter have been made, and that chairmen for the events have been selected by the executive committee. Horace G. Bradt, Willis Littlefield and Walter T. Williams have been named co-chairmen for the August meeting, which will also be observed as Ladies' Day. Present plans call for the meeting and dinner to be held at the Farragut House. Rye Beach. Dancing and entertainment will follow the dinner. Thursday, August 21 is the date.

The Fall meeting, scheduled for Thursday, November 20, is to be held in Laconia at the Bald Peak Colony Club at Melvin Village. Norman P. Randlett has been named chairman in charge of arrangements for this event.

Arnold Perreton of Concord heads the committee on arrangements for the February, 1959 meeting. This meeting will be held at Millville Inn, St. Paul's School, Concord.

The annual meeting in May, 1959, will be held in Keene, with John R. Holbrook and Alexander R. James, serving as co-chairmen. Place of the meeting will be decided upon at a later date by the co-chairmen.

An effort is to be made to secure interesting speakers for the forthcoming meetings.
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The unusually deep set-back of 63 feet from Main Street is explained by the presence on the adjacent lot to the south of a church having about the same setback. The Bank adopted a good neighbor policy and sacrificed valuable parking space in order to avoid obstructing the view of this picturesque and historic structure.

The bank, of random granite ashlar, occupies the forward section while the supermarket, of painted concrete blocks, is at the rear with a double row of parking spaces full length of the building. Another unifying element of the design is the cantilevered canopy extending from market entrance to side entrance of the bank—a feature which will be appreciated by both shoppers and banking customers especially in bad weather.

Entering from Main Street through the pneumatically operated self-opening entrance door, one first passes through a vestibule where lighted display cases occupy the only wall space which is glass doors. Moving into the bank lobby one looks to the right over the tellers' counter into their work space, with bookkeeping rooms further back. To the left is the handsomely furnished and carpeted officers' space separated only by decorative aluminum railing, with conference rooms and safe deposit department in the rear. Straight ahead is the principal feature of any savings bank from both the design and functional viewpoints—the security vault door. The seven-ton beauty opens and closes electronically at the touch of a button.

Wall finishes except in toilets are veneers of comb grained White Oak principal areas, rotary cut American Elm in less important rooms, and Douglas Fir in service areas. Walls in toilets and lounge room are of Micarta. Ceilings are acoustical tile and flooring is vinyl-asbestos tile except for ceramic tile in toilets and carpets in officers' space and trustee room. All colors and furnishings were selected or designed by the architect in accordance with an integrated color scheme, without which the best planning cannot produce an architectural result which is visually harmonious and pleasing.

Mechanical and electrical equipment includes air-conditioning, flush fluorescent lighting, yard and sign lighting, comple

(Continued on Page 18)
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Entrance to the supermarket is from the parking lot along the side street. On the ground floor there is a large sales area, meat room with walk-in cooler, a package and delivery area. The basement contains a smaller sales area, storage space, toilets, and extensive refrigerating and other mechanical equipment — the usual adjuncts of a modern food outlet.

The Executive Vice President Raymond McCaig, has followed the construction of the building more closely than most clients and his understanding cooperation has contributed largely to the success of this project. Good workmanship on the part of the builders is the other essential ingredient upon which the architect relies, and the efforts of Herbert Stebbins and Leonard Loiselle, the job superintendent, in the face of difficult weather and other conditions, deserve special commendation.

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As color stylist for Portsmouth Housing Authority, Manchester Boy’s Club, several Banks and many of the finer homes in southern New Hampshire, Mr. Knoettner is a recognized authority on fabrics, wallpaper and paints. His attendance at clinics, factory schools and his constant contact with manufacturers provides Mr. Knoettner with the latest information on all phases of color styling.

Inquiries on color styling problems should be addressed to him either at Bedford, NA 3-7942 or care of Clark & Stearns, Inc., Manchester.

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Architect John R. Holbrook, A.I.A.
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Q. My company produces a popular building product. What can we give Architects for Christmas?
A. Most architectural offices prefer not to receive gifts—but you might try an Esquire Girl Calendar in Braille.

Q. In the old days we used to speak of an architect as a "self-winder" when he had real get-up-and-go. These days it is hard to find draftsmen with that sort of spirit. Can you explain this?
A. If you listen attentively to the Timex commercials on TV, this situation will become clear to you. The self-winding watch of today works only when it is shaken.

Q. In specifications, what is the difference between "Or Equal" and "Or Approved Equal"?
A. You take the owner's wishes, add up to his profit and this will give you the difference.

Q. Do you think most General Contractors insist enough upon good workmanship?
A. Yes, especially from the subs, which doesn't cost them any money.

Q. Our office is working on a large metropolitan airport. Do you think the recent Jet Age developments should affect the design?
A. Defense Secretary Neil McElroy predicts that we will soon be able to go around the world in two hours—one hour for flying and the other to get to the airport. Perhaps this will give you some practical ideas.

Q. Why, in reporting a new building by an architect, do writers (especially in magazines) refer to the Architect's former works when these buildings are all still standing?
A. This is a misnomer. His practice among journalists should be discouraged even if the Architect himself had just as soon forget the buildings.

Q. My young son is terribly interested in Outer Space and taking advantage of this situation, I told him recently that architects are "space experts." Do you think this was sneaky of me?
A. No. Fatherhood requires special skills of its own. You have exhibited admirable duplicity which should stand you well in your work.

Q. Do you think schools will continue to be built if the Recession continues or worsens?
A. Yes, according to all prognostications, unless we want to raise a generation of illiterates. Also because (according to Architect Philip Younte) "during such a period the production of children begins to decline at a somewhat later date than does the manufacture of other commodities."

Q. One of the smart-aleck students who does work in our office evenings and Saturdays doesn't seem to like any of the work produced in the office. He sniffs over the drawings and calls them all "trellis" architecture? What does he mean by this?
A. Trellis Architecture implies that the main use of the building will be to support ivy.

Q. One of the biggest problems in our office is lack of storage space. We have 27 filing cases, all of them full. Six cases contain nothing but reports. Would you recommend throwing them all out?
A. Yes, all but the reports files. These are very necessary. You never know when someone may suggest a new idea—then the old reports will come in handy to prove that the idea is no good because it was suggested before and never acted upon.

Q. Is it true that contractors, draftsmen, carpenters, high school boys and anybody else can build structures without an Architect's license if they want to?
A. Yes. The law is such that provided the structure costs less than $10,000 and contains less than 30,000 square feet, no architectural license is required. A parallel situation in the Medical Profession would be like allowing anybody to operate for appendicitis but requiring a license if the appendix is abnormally large.

Q. Why would Frank Lloyd Wright say to a college group—recently in Michigan—that the sure sure place not to get an education is in an architectural school?
A. Mr. Wright has made a lifelong hobby of saying the wrong thing in the right place. This characteristic has made him famous in spite of his genius.

Q. I understand that the architectural historian is making a "come-back" after most of the schools had banished the history of architecture from their curricula for the past 30 years. How did the schools teach in the meanwhile?
A. By the use of slick photographs, claims Dean Thomas K. Fitzpatrick, FAIA, (Dean of Architecture at the University of Virginia), an Alice-in-Wonderland vocabulary, an Oxfordian vocabulary, and usually by unprofessional methods. Is there any help for this situation to change?
A. An expert Publicity Man, Mr. Irving Fletcher, says in his autobiography, "The man . . . who something unusual to offer will ways play second fiddle to the one who has nothing to offer but the offer of offering it." Small consolation but true.

Q. If you could draw up specifications for the Ideal Client—what would they be?
A. He should be "receptive, perceptive and selective," according to Geo. Vernon Ruesli, President of Southern California A.I.A.

Q. We are preparing a Brochure on work of our office. Can you offer any "Do's" or "Don't's"?
A. It is not advisable in a Brochure to be flashy about very impressive multi-million dollar buildings signed by another firm which may have prepared only the specifications for concrete or concrete signed the checks. The design firm may see the Brochure and not let you countersign any more of their checks.

Q. Why do the same Engineering Consultants crop up on the list ofcrest for all the major work done in cities?
A. These firms work very hard.
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