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That New Hampshire still has places of exceeding grace is amply supported by a visit to Strawbery Banke, that absorbing and agreeable corner of Portsmouth which is by example spurring an upgrading of the city’s old riverside district. A recent visit to see the Governor Goodwin Mansion (1811), given in May by the State of New Hampshire to this growing, lively campus of restored early buildings, brought on a tour of not only all the rest but also much of the neighborhood.

The Thomas Bailey Aldrich House (1790), a few steps away, is a familiar landmark and unusual museum, but just one of dozens of olden structures still serving as dwellings. Many had kept their character and comfort over the generations but many others have only recently been returned to their rightful roles, repaired, cleaned, with bay windows removed, white paint gleaming and fan glass glistening.

There are openings on the Piscataqua River, as afforded by Prescott Park and the waterside plot where stands Sheafe’s Warehouse and ancient stone dock. This sweetens the views, and better admits the salt air and tidewater sounds, all part of this district’s special essence, and its legacy from the 17th and 18th Centuries.

The dump in our photo was on the present site of the Goodwin Mansion, whose front door is also shown. Much of the rest of the area was in the same condition when the project began 13 years ago. The dump is gone and restoration work continues on structures of first rank in New Hampshire’s heritage, as Stoodley Tavern, the Old State House, Daniel Webster House and Sherburne House. Besides offering visitors a genuine encounter with history, besides its impact upon the area, Strawbery Banke has special sprightly touches, as lunch al fresco, exhibits of recognized artists and a summer concert series. It was pleasant and rewarding to walk about.
GRANITE STATE ARCHITECT

Volume VII Number 3

JUNE, 1970

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Cover: On the wooded side of Derryfield School, Manchester, Designed by Carter & Woodruff.

Photo credits: Pages 14–19, Walt St. Clair; 26, 28, 29, 30, Douglas Armsden.

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Notes And Comments

Andrew Isaak, of Manchester, was reappointed to the State Board of Registration of Architects in June by Governor Walter Peterson.
Guy C.K. Wilson, of Concord, was reappointed by Gov. Peterson to the State of N.H. — Capital City Liaison Commission.

Reuther Scholarship

Directors of the American Institute of Architects announced at the start of the annual convention in Boston on June 21 that the organization is establishing a $2,500 scholarship in memory of the late Walter Reuther. The labor leader was to have been the Purcell Memorial Lecturer at the convention but was killed in a plane crash in early May. As the “AIA Journal” noted, “his social concepts were often far ahead” of much of contemporary activity.

Some 3,500 architects, of approximately 22,000 AIA members, converged on Boston for the convention. It discussed environmental questions at length considered proposed AIA Standards of Ethical Practice, and debated a suggested dues increase. Architectural student allied with some members raised questions on priorities for the profession in the early 1970s. A report of the meeting will be made, through the cooperation of several New Hampshire Chapter members, in the next issue.

AIA 1970 Honor Awards

The AIA 1970 Honor Awards include two museums, an apartment house.
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Derryfield School
Manchester

Carter and Woodruff Architects
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View of the school's terrace, on the east, or ravine and wooded side; this photo looks in the opposite direction from that of the cover.
The one-building public school in New Hampshire has been the usual case for over two centuries but a more specialized application of the custom, at Derryfield, Manchester, a private school, brought on a special set of problems and an absorbing solution.

The Derryfield School is New Hampshire's only independent private coeducational day school for high school age students. Established in 1965, the school is situated in a wooded area near a ravine on a winding road in a residential neighborhood several miles north of central Manchester.

Its 200 students live within driving distance and commute daily, yet Derryfield strives to maintain a community of students much the same as that at a private boarding school. When the trustees thought through the needs for the first new building they turned to Carter and Woodruff, of Nashua, and placed before them three demanding problems to be resolved:

They wanted one building to offer all the facilities of a complete secondary school for 200 students, yet they wanted plans flexible so that the school could later be expanded to accommodate 400. They wanted a building well integrated with the location's unique geography. Above all the trustees wanted a building that was low in cost.

The architects gave them a building that headmaster Ralph Scozzafava calls "extremely functional—the students respond well to the environment here."

One Building, 3 Levels

The single building school has been constructed on three levels containing eight classrooms, each large enough for about 20 students, an art and music room, a library, a cafeteria, three science laboratories, an exercise room, shower rooms, offices and teachers' rooms. This, then, is the Initial Unit.

"In designing the school," Mr. Carter said, "I tried to underscore the value of the individual, to reduce the mass aspect of the institution.

"It is hard to put a quart into a pint pot and have some quality to that pint, keeping concern for the individual."
In his design, Mr. Scozzafava said, Mr. Carter has succeeded in providing a "village atmosphere" where students may work in comfortable, relaxed surroundings.

The building is insulated from the nearby road by tall pine trees and the East side looks out over a steep wooded ravine. To the north of the building is a large level playing field.

Originally, Mr. Carter said, he had planned to put the school farther from the ravine near the center of the level land, but "the tyranny of the playing field" and the savings in utility costs moved the building away from the center of the field and closer to the road.

The move was a beneficial one. With no auditorium now available, the school's patio bordering the ravine serves as a natural amphitheater for the students during the fall and winter months and locates the school in more indulgent wooded surroundings. Mr. Scozzafava
Elevation looking west; the portion completed is at left, terrace area in view.

Plan view shows the completed part in lower left corner. North River Road runs in vertical direction at left.
said the lack of an auditorium is overcome by renting facilities in Manchester for plays, concerts and other large gatherings. He has placed the need for a multi-purpose structure to serve as a gymnasium and auditorium next on the list of the school's building needs.

"This," Mr. Carter said, "gives very good sound isolation and makes the building virtually incombustible."

The steel roof construction was used for speed of erection, lightness and economy. When expansion to 400 students comes later, the building will be converted to just a library and a science facility with the lunchroom and classrooms on the lower floor. Electric heat has been used in the present building to simplify future expansion and to bypass the initial cost of a large boiler plant.

Aside from touches of wood trim, brick and concrete predominate because of maintenance considerations. Floors are tiled and are to be carpeted. Work was completed in 1966.

The building at its tallest is three floors high, each story rising approximately nine and a half feet. At its widest point the structure is 60 feet wide; 130 feet at its longest. The interplay of the ravine, the wooded area on one side, shade trees and plantings (and the athletic field, as well as a parking lot) plus variations in the school’s profile prevent it from simply rising starkly from the ground like a factory in the Prairie.

"What we have tried to do," Mr. Carter said, "is set up a first unit that could then unfold, to be a permanent part of a larger school but not damaged by its first use or compromised by it."

– Hank Nichols.
Physics and Chemistry room.

A classroom as set up for 16 to 20 students.
As one of the oldest and largest Catholic parishes in the state, St. Patrick's in Nashua was pinched by severe growing pains in its valuable, convenient but limited plot of land on Main St. in the center of the city. Rapid population growth by the mid-60s as well as widening cultural and community horizons meant the school and the parish, of 1,100 families, had to have added facilities.

A paved courtyard facing on Main St. was available for development but the project was complicated by the need for two radically different types of buildings—a large space for multi-purpose use including athletics; and a library for the school (367 pupils) as well as rooms for classes and other group use. Preservation of part of the courtyard in this heavily built-up area near City Hall was also desired. The new construction also needed to harmonize with the existing school building and with St. Patrick's Church, built 60 years ago.

The upshot of discussions involving the architect, the Rt. Rev. James R. McGreal, Pastor, and the church Advisory Committee, Lawrence E. Elliott, chairman, as well as the Diocesan Real Estate Board, was two structures forming an “L” turned around, as viewed by a bird over Main St. The longer limb perpendicular to Main, contains the library, classrooms, wash rooms, work room, lecture room and corridor giving access to each of these spaces, the courtyard, Main St., the old school building and the new, multi-purpose room.

The latter forms the shorter limb of the “L”, running parallel to Main St. Nominally in the L’s longer limb but directly serving the gym-like multi-purpose room are a kitchen, two locker an
St. Patrick's Center
Nashua

Andrew C. Isaak Associates  Architects
Blanchard Stebbins, Inc.  General Contractors

At the other end of the long limb, with the courtyard and multi-purpose building, right. Covered passage to old school, extreme left. White masonry provides strong, simple lines while multiple windows are effective light sources and impart a contemporary flavor.
shower rooms, two storerooms, janitor's closet, and corridor connecting these spaces, the lobby on Main St., and the multi-purpose room.

The latter measures 70 x 98 feet, for basketball, volleyball and other sports as well as creating a hall accommodating up to 500 persons for banquets, dances, plays, programs with speakers, and large meetings. Adding the lobby space, 36 feet, to the long dimension gives a frontage on Main St. of just over 134 feet. The long limb with classrooms/library extends back from Main 228 feet, a 32-foot covered walkway connecting it with the existing school building. This limb is 46 feet wide and the position of the buildings establishes an inner courtyard and play area covering 1000 square feet. The complex is called St. Patrick's Center and Msgr. McGreal reports that from September to June it is busy almost every day.

Since a quiet, dignified contemporary appearance was desired, to harmonize with the older brick church and school buildings—as well as the stone Episcopal Church next door and brick City Hall nearly opposite on Main—brick in restrained red and white pre-cast concrete for exterior posts, columns, and trim were employed. The latter were coated to make the surfaces smooth.

The multi-purpose room has deep aluminum-lined windows almost its entire length on street and courtyard side relatively small, aluminum windows located high on the walls are used in the corridors and lobby. (The latter's street side has a bank of tall windows next to the doors.) Classrooms and library have a limited number of small, high windows, facing on Eldridge St., the complex's narrow southern boundary.

Folding partitions permit division of the library into two rooms, each approximately 24 by 35 feet; and the classroom space into two rooms about the same size. The multi-purpose room is supported inside by laminated arches after
Multi-purpose room; laminated arches add interest to this large space. There is room for seating around the basketball court; stage may be erected at one end.
ing a pleasing ship's ribs effect; a vinyl asbestos floor surface rests on a concrete slab. Other floors are carpeted except for the wash and shower rooms and storage. Coats, winter boots and the like are stored by students at points in the corridor with shelves and hooks.

The buildings were completed in 1966 and have no cellar. Heat is furnished by a central two-boiler plant operated by the parish. The soil here being a fine, beach-like sand, concrete post-and-beam pieces down to 10 feet were used for foundations. Rooms are used not only by the school (Grades 1-8) and by the parish for its religious education programs and its organizations, but also are available to charitable organizations in the community at large.
The library rooms, with partition opened.

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NOTES (Cont'd from Page 6)

three homes, a college dormitory complex, a cable car terminal, a performing arts center, two schools, a pedestrian bridge, and a restoration. Of greatest interest in this area are Bancroft Elementary School, Andover, Mass., the only winner from New England; the restoration of The Cannery, San Francisco, to an eating, drinking, shopping, entertainment complex; the Lincoln Elementary School, Columbus, Ind.; and the Milligan vacation house, Sea Ranch, Calif.

Ft. Dearborn Study

The State Public Works and Highways Department is seeking $7,400 in state money to retain consultants to develop a master plan for Ft. Dearborn Park, Rye. Lying along several miles of the seacoast in the Little Harbor – Odiorne’s Point area, and extending inland to Route 1A, this is one of the most valuable pieces of land in the state. It is given an immense potential as a public park, with space enough for ample swimming, boating, fishing, camping, picnicking and Nature study. This land was taken from private owners by the Army as a defense measure in 1941-42, was acquired by the State for a park around a decade ago and has lain unused owing to lack of development money.

I-93 Kept Out of Notch

Secretary of Transportation John Volpe inspected Franconia Notch and the highway for some miles south on June 13 before announcing at a press conference in Concord that his earlier order to stop building Interstate Highway 93 in the White Mountains is modified to build the road near to but not through Franconia Notch. Though his ban on road-building in the region, made in February to preserve the scenic area, was eased, he said with finality that the expressway will not go through the Notch.

His Department must approve all interstate construction proposed by the states and puts up 90 per cent of the costs. The dual highway permits speeds up to 70 miles an hour and has been under construction paralleling U.S. Route 3. Mr. Volpe's modified order explained in Concord permits extension of I-93 to an ending opposite North Woodstock.

Continued on Page 22

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June, 1970
Continued from Page 20

village. Motorists then rejoin Rte. 3, which the Secretary said D.O.T. will help improve from that point through the Notch.

After the announcement at the Concord Airport State Parks Director Russell B. Tobey, whose domain includes the Notch as part of Franconia State Reservation, exclaimed, “Beautiful!” Paul O. Bofinger, forester of the Society for Protection of N.H. Forests, led a committee which campaigned to have the road end at North Woodstock. This approach was apparently acceptable to Governor Peterson and the State Highway Dept. if the ban on I-93 in the Notch was continued – to relieve traffic and safety problems on Rte. 3.

Planning Commissions Advance

The Southern N.H. Planning Commission, centered on Manchester and four years old, has been relying on assistance and office space provided by the city’s Planning Board but went independent in May. T. Ray Walker, with the organization two years, has been named Executive Director. Raymond Closson, of Manchester, is chairman.

Members besides the city are Auburn, Bedford, Goffstown and Hooksett. A three-year planning program has been developed, most of its $191,000 to come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Central N.H. Planning Commission was in part brought into being early this year by New Hampshire Tomorrow and will be busy organizing and developing projects during the summer, according to Pasquale Rufo, of Concord, chairman. He is a former member of the N.H. House and has to date brought Concord, Hopkinton, Henniker, Pembroke, Canterbury, Boscawen, Bow and, Allenstown into the organization.

David H. Rogers has been named the commission’s Executive Director, taking over in July. He is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, Durham, has worked on planning projects and obtained a Master’s Degree in Planning from the University of Rhode Island. The Commission anticipates receiving support from Federal “701” funds; membership by municipalities in such commissions permits them to draw on United States money not otherwise available for studies of needed projects such as housing, water supply and pollution abatement.
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June, 1970
Dartmouth College will start a new Environmental Studies Program in the fall of this year, an undergraduate activity "to understand, to anticipate and to exert some measure of control" over manmade changes in the environment. Associate Dean James F. Hornig in presenting the report of a two-year study suggesting the program added that the new curriculum is "a venture in general education rather than a pre-professional program to prepare students for graduate work in environmental sciences."

The report was approved and planning for the fall sessions set in motion not long after Earth Day April 22. Stressing a notably interdisciplinary structure, the courses will draw from the faculties in Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences, Engineering, Economics, Chemistry, Geography and Political Science. The college announcement called this "an unprecedented integration of specialized fields of knowledge, all focused on the relationship of man and his environment."

At the start the program will offer a series of three essentially freshman and sophomore courses geared to supplement, and be supplemented by the traditional major fields of the students. It will bring all learning together in a senior-year course featuring major problem-solving research projects, such as a coordinated research attack on the ecological problems of the Connecticut River Valley. It is possible that a graduate program may develop; first priority, it was explained, will be given to undergraduate study as well as community education and public service.

The major problem-solving course will be for seniors and students will make up interdisciplinary teams to develop possible solutions. The Connecticut Valley, a living laboratory which has long engaged the college's interest, is planned to receive first attention.

Emphasis is on "the seeding role of the program," means that future leaders "in many progressions should not only have an awakened concern, but also a reasonable understanding of the principles and problems of human ecology."

"We all recognize," Dean Hornig said,

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"that conventional disciplinary approaches have produced citizens who are incapable of detecting and dealing with some of the complex problems of our society."

Charles L. Drake, Professor of Geology, and Frank Smallwood, Professor of Public Affairs, will be co-directors of the new effort. Dartmouth took part last year in formation of New Hampshire Tomorrow, a demonstration project in environmental enhancement and development. In a related development the students' Dartmouth Outing Club launched an environmental studies activity, to work on local conservation problems.

Concord and Hanover

Through the initiative of the N.H. Audubon Society, N.H. Tomorrow, St. Paul's School and the Concord School Board a new environmental studies program for the Concord schools, and on a limited basis for the Hanover schools, will commence with the fall term. St. Paul's has made available 330 acres of land and water as a field laboratory to supplement classroom sessions and experiments. The School Board, N.H. Tomorrow and several anonymous donors together raised about $30,000 to hire an environmental education coordinator and cover other necessary outlays over two years.

The program is intended to embrace the entire school system, from kindergarten through twelfth grade. It is "not just to provide a close-up look at Nature but to develop in the students an appreciation for the environment they live in and a determination to preserve and protect as much of it as possible as the state grows and changes." (Concord Monitor).

In-school environmental studies will also be intensified, in the social sciences as well as the sciences. The coordinator will work with administrators and faculty to plan programs, passing one day every two weeks in Hanover, the balance in Concord.

The idea stemmed in part from the Environmental Education Team established last year by N.H. Tomorrow, for which the Rev. Edward Cahill, of the Concord Unitarian Church, and Sister May Vianney, president of Mt. St. Mary College, Hooksett, were co-chairmen.

June, 1970
"A Dignified, Well-Built Type of House"

The Gov. Goodwin Mansion Enhances Strawbery Banke

The Gov. Goodwin Mansion in full bloom, as restored and turned over by the State to Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth. As built the house is of Federal style, the porches at the front door and at left being Greek Revival period additions. Top right, the ship scratched into a wall was a fetching discovery made during restoration of the Capt. Keyran Walsh House, built around 1775.

The notion that Portsmouth need not become "just another Main Street, U.S.A." has been moving at a heartening pace toward reality, a state of affairs intended to make the old port unique, not only as a living, working community but also as an especially-qualified custodian of American history. Renewed attention has been focused on Strawbery Banke, the enterprise restoring early homes and buildings with its receipt from the State in May of title to the Governor Goodwin Mansion. The old home is in the mainstream of New Hampshire's architectural and cultural heritage as well as its political life.

Strawbery Banke's 10-acre, busy reservation near the Piscataqua River; neighboring old homes; park and other open land on the river, a dozen early dwellings and churches long open to visitors, the efforts to renovate many other 18th Century structures as homes...
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Goodwin Mansion is furnished in early Victorian style, top, after the Governor's tastes; house was built in 1811 and he bought it in 1832. Below, the mansion's south side, looking up Washington St. toward the river. Below, right, the mansion on site after being cut apart and moved from Islington St.; part of porch and main house (white area) yet to be put in place.

confirm the community is more than merely another drive-in, another host to Auto City and the Qwik Launderette.

Leaders as Dorothy Vaughan, who made the Main St. U.S.A. observation 13 years ago in her preservation/restoration campaign are the first to say the pace is too slow. Take-over of the Goodwin Mansion is a landmark event, though, and an appropriate testimonial to collective imagination.

On first look the house is a big, boxy light grey wooden pile trailed by a sizable ell, but its essential blend of solid dignity and grace quickly banish that first impression. Though built in 1811 as a Federal showpiece, it added Greek Revival and Victorian features to become a handsome, absorbing mutation. To square, Federal lines and gently hipped roof were added, among others, over the years a Doric side porch; period marble...
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Movers of the Gov. Goodwin House to Strawberry Banke
The Daniel Webster House before restoration began; it lost much of its old boarding and window frames but the rounded pediment remains over the door. Webster lived here while practicing law in Portsmouth and served in Congress, 1814-1816.

The house has been attributed to Bulfinch, but Mr. Perry and others connected with Strawbery Banke quickly state that the architect is unknown. If not Bulfinch, Mr. Perry feels justly his influence, in its general lines, sure proportions and front hall.

As Portsmouth’s leading businessman and a Civil War Governor (he raised money from his own pocket and the public to pay for the first troops), Mr. Goodwin kept an office at the house. Entertainments were highlighted by the wedding of his daughter, Susan, and a...
young naval officer, later Admiral George Dewey.

Later a home, tea shop, antique shop, monument and then empty, the mansion was to be demolished in 1960 to make room for an expanding furniture store on Islington St. Miss Vaughan and others intervened so that L. Atwood Thorton, West Newbury, Mass., and Arminio A. Ricci, owners, offered it to Strawbery Banke along with $1,000 for moving costs. Wesley Powell, then Governor, was interested since his mother had lived at the house on first coming to Portsmouth; Strawbery Banke was strapped but the State appropriated $150,000 for restoration.

The building was cut into five parts. The third floor was sheared off, cut into three pieces and each moved by truck. The rest of the mansion was cut in two parts, each moved slowly through the city by W.B. Hill, of Tilton. By February, 1963, the mansion was on its new site. It has been open to visitors for several years and not the least of its features is Mr. Goodwin's office. It is a thoroughly Victorian room and accessible through a somewhat circuitous route from outdoors, a custom of the day to enhance the privacy of all concerned.

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Granite State Architects
Above: Miller Outdoor Theatre, Houston, Texas; architect, Eugene Werlin & Associates, Houston. The clear span of the roof between main supports is 195 feet, offering unobstructed vision from the contoured hillside.

Below: Foster Residence, Wilton, Conn.: architect, Richard Foster, New York, N.Y. On command, this unusual home can be rotated in either direction to change the view and orientation of the house.

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