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Aesthetics - A Public Need! A Private Right?

by Keith J. Bashaw, Esq.

What is beauty, taste, harmony? Most people can’t really express it; some call it that “right” feeling everyone experiences when he sees it, but really can’t define. Recognizing this individual need and expression, when does aesthetic value become public property? Many municipalities have already made attempts in this direction.

In 1905 the city of Passaic attempted to regulate erection of signs and billboards. The ordinance provided that, “no signs or billboards shall be at any point more than eight feet above the surface of the ground”, and required that it, “shall be constructed not less than ten feet from the streetline”. When the city brought an action against a violator the lower court took up the old cudgels. It held that when ordinances are intended to provide for the public safety and the ordinance is reasonable and in compliance with their purposes, it is lawful and must be given due effect. The courts then gave a brief look at the private right of the owners of property and went on to say that “when the control attempted to be exercised over private rights, is in excess of that necessary to effectuate such legitimate authority, it deprives the owner of his property, by circumscribing the use of it without just compensation”. The court then decided that the erection of such signs might be attended with danger to the public and therefore the ordinance had proper legal authority.

On appeal, the higher court probed into the true motives behind the ordinance and stated that the control attempted was in excess of that essential to effect security to the public, because “the enactment of the ordinance was due rather to aesthetic considerations than to consideration of public safety.” The court then met the issue squarely. “No case has been cited, nor are we aware of any case which holds that a man may be deprived of his property because his tastes are not those of his neighbors. Aesthetic considerations are a matter of luxury and indulgence rather than of necessity, and it is necessity alone which justifies the exercise of the police power to take property without compensation.” Passaic vs. Paterson Bill Posting 62 A2 67 (1905). But— are not aesthetic considerations a matter of public necessity? The courts are beginning to change their minds, if only a little.

The town of Bloomfield in 1935 enacted an ordinance “Small Volume Residential Zone A”, wherein, “(b) Heights. No building shall be erected to a height in excess of 35 feet and no building shall be erected with its roof ridge less than twenty-six feet above the building foundation,” plus other restrictions. The court held that the ordinance did not promote the public health, safety and general welfare and arbitrarily and capriciously deprived the owner of his legitimate use of his property. Brookdale Homes, Inc. vs. Johnson, Town Clerk 10 A2 477 (1940).

A strong dissent written by Justice Heher upon review of the former judgment included some vital references to aesthetics. He said a valid exercise of police power includes securing the most appropriate use of land by classifying houses according to type and size. “And, while it is the prevailing rule that aesthetic elements are not in themselves sufficient to warrant the invocation of police power, the fact that they are also inducing consideration does not invalidate the regulation if otherwise within the sphere of that authority”.

Tying aesthetics with financial gain he stated, “Police regulation on aesthetic grounds is generally deemed to be an invasion of the right of private property, but it would seem that on principle such is within the police power, if so far promotive of the interests of the public at large, through the resultant community development and profit, as to outweigh the incidental restraint upon private ownership”. Brookdale Homes, Inc. vs. Johnson 19 A2 108 (1941).

Eleven years later Justice Heher writing for the majority allowed a sixty foot antenna in a Residential “A” Zone in the Borough of Haworth without so much as a reference to aesthetics. Wright vs. Vogt et al 80 A2 108 (1951).

Aesthetics was made a part of the welfare of the entire community in 1967 when the Superior Court spoke while denying a variance for an office building in a residential zone. “Such concern may involve consideration of a wide variety of factors other than the dimensions and location of the building. The public interest may require a determination of whether the proposed building presents an appearance which is compatible with the neighborhood aesthetics.” Frankel vs. C. Burrwell, Inc. 222 A2 748 (1967).

One year later the court came face to face with a new approach. Scotch Plains passed a zoning ordinance which established an architectural review board. All applicants for a building permit for construction or renovation of commercial, industrial or multifamily structures (individual homes were not included) had to submit plans for approval to the review board. The court recognized that the purpose of the ordinance was “to aesthetically control construction in the municipality, independently of the zoning law”. In discussing this motive the court reiterated that which had already been said; that aesthetic value plays an important role in modern day zoning legislation but cannot be the sole purpose of such legislation; “aesthetics are relevant when they bear in a substantial way upon the land utilization” or used to conserve property values; “today, aesthetics is recognized as a legitimate aim of zoning”.

The court then gave a hint for future action by stating, “these considerations must be prescribed in the ordinance” (i.e. set standards) and implemented by the board of adjustment. It was this latter requirement that caused the demise of the architectural review board because it “usurps the power of the board of adjustment and vests unbridled discretion in the architectural review board”. Piscitelli vs. Township Commission of Township of Scotch Plains 248 A2 274 (1968).

Many other approaches have been tried and will be tried to collectively adjudge what is beauty, taste, harmony. But the challenge is before us all. To the architects it is obvious; to those of us who are not architects, we must demand from our architects their creative best, and to give them the opportunity and environment to produce their best.
The Flow of Funds Through The Construction Industry

Peter H. Holley, AIA
President

The problem of the payment for labor and materials, or the flow of funds in the entire construction industry, from the mortgagor to the owner, to the general contractor, down to the sub-contractor, is the most critical problem confronting the construction industry and those business enterprises relating to it.

During several visits with the New Jersey Sub-contractors Association, I observed that their principal topic of discussion was the various aspects of slow payments from owners to prime contractors, prime contractors to subcontractors and material suppliers, together with the related problem of retained percentage practices.

Slow payments anywhere in the building process, as well as an inequitable retention of funds, place an unfair economic burden upon the builder and certainly add to construction costs.

REASONS:
1. Owners contracting for a project before complete arrangements are made for funding.
2. Owners using the funds themselves for working capital.
3. Owners sometimes delaying so as to force the contractor to put additional labor and material costs into the job, thinking this will act as a hedge against the financially unsound contractor.
4. The procrastinating architect who holds up the preparation of the certificates for payment.

Agencies of government, city, state or federal, are major offenders in slow payment practices.

The City of New York is considered one of the most flagrant offenders on slow payments. A recent survey by the Sub-Contractors Trade Association indicated that 64 per cent of the subcontractors had stopped bidding on city work. They were owed $25 million on 110 city jobs, all completed at the time of the survey and most occupied.

SOLUTIONS:
1. The contractor should satisfy himself beforehand that project funds are actually available.
2. The owner should post a payment bond with the contractor much in the manner that the contractor must post a performance and payment bond with the owner.
3. Architects should insist that the prime contractor file affidavits of payments to subs — with each requisition.
4. One novel idea is to have the owner make one payment when the project is complete. The prime and subcontractor would then arrange interim financing reflecting the cost in the contract price.

RETENTIONS:
1. Present practices with respect to amounts retained vary from as much as 15 per cent down to 1 per cent. A common retention on jobs, whether bonded or not, is 5 per cent, achieved by retaining 10 per cent until the project is estimated to be 50 per cent complete, then no retentions thereafter. As the project nears completion, the amount retained approaches the 5 per cent figure.
2. There is no consistency among owners. There is none among contracting agencies of government. Milwaukee, for example, requires a 15 per cent retention. New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, among large cities, require a 10 per cent holdback. Boston requires 5 per cent.
3. The amount of working capital of a contractor that is tied up in retentions is substantial. On large projects this can be exceedingly burdensome. This is particularly true of sub-contractors whose work was completed early in the construction of the project. To retain 10-15 per cent of the contract of the excavating contractor, for example, places an unfair and inequitable burden on his resources.

SUGGESTIONS:
1. If there is a qualified bond on the job there is no justification for a retained percentage. The owner has double protection and it is inequitable to the contractor. The owner does have recourse to the bonding company in the event of noncompletion.
2. On the unbonded job there is some justification. However, the amount retained should be better related to the cost of uncompleted work.
3. Some authorities are of the opinion that the traditional 10 per cent retention is an anachronism and offers no guarantee that performance will be of specific quality. All it accomplishes is to place a heavy financial strain on the contractor. A more attractive system would be to delay the final progress payment until the last inspections have been made. Further, if the job has been bonded, the surety can assert great leverage.
4. If an owner takes beneficial occupancy or responsibility for operation of all equipment before completion, guarantees should commence and retention be reduced.
Architectural Scholarship Awards

Architectural scholarships and awards totaling $7,100 were given to sixteen architectural students in June.

Established in 1959, the NJSA Scholarship Foundation has distributed nearly $53,100 to promising New Jersey students who are attending architectural schools throughout the United States.

Funds for the program are derived from the budget of the New Jersey Society of Architects, and contributions from individuals and the construction industry. The funds are distributed through the Society’s Scholarship Foundation. Students are eligible for awards if they show there is a need for financial assistance to continue their education, have a talent for achievement in architecture, a satisfactory scholastic record, and if their parents are legal residents of New Jersey.

RECIPIENTS AND THE DONORS OF THE AWARDS ARE:

Paul L. Barlo, 484 Conant Street, Hillside. New Jersey State Concrete Products Association Scholarship.


Ronald Everett, 2-6 Grimes Place, Paterson. John Scarretti Memorial Scholarship.

Thomas F. Gaetano, 16 Dover Avenue, Colonia. Joseph L. Muscarelle Foundation Scholarship.

Frank Gayeski, 99 Lodi Street, Hackensack. Harry J. H. Ruhle Memorial Scholarship.

Gino J. Grasselli, 35 Amsterdam Road, Trenton. The Gustave J. Fost Memorial Scholarship, donated by Schwartz & Senes, Consulting Structural Engineers.


Robert Moir, 179 Chestnut Drive, Wayne. NJSA Scholarship.

Richard G. Poole, 5 North Cherry Lane, Rumson. J. Raymond Knopf Memorial Scholarship.

Stephen C. Roth, 264 Ridge St., New Milford. Central Chapter, NJSA Scholarship.

Elliot J. Schrank, 429 Oak Avenue, River Edge. Joseph Muscarelle Foundation Scholarship.

David Sinclair, Coachmen Manor X-2, Lindenwold. The Producers’ Council Scholarship.


Andrew A. Vazzano, 17 Grand Avenue, Newark. Frederick B. Chadwick Scholarship.

Raymond Vreeland, 420 Lexington Ave., Cranford. Producers Council Scholarship.


Joan Walter, 2200 Central Road, Apt. 9F, Fort Lee. The Frank Grad Memorial Scholarship.

"All of these students have marked talent and real potential for success in the field of architecture," noted Peter Holley, President of NJSA. "I’m really sorry that they had to leave New Jersey to get their architectural training."

According to Holley there is a real need for a School of Architecture in New Jersey. "There is only one such school in the state now and that is in Princeton," said Holley. "It has a very limited New Jersey enrollment."

In a survey conducted by NJSA in 1967, Holley said the Society found that more than 200 potential New Jersey architectural students would not have a school to attend that September — either in New Jersey or out-of-state.

"The situation gets worse every year," he said. "If the New Jersey high school students are accepted out-of-state, then they generally make social and business contacts there and never return to New Jersey to work."

Holley noted that the trend is for out-of-state schools to discontinue accepting out-of-state students.

"This gives the potential New Jersey architectural student nowhere to go," he said. "The only solution is to establish a New Jersey School of Architecture."
The following scholarships have been established by individuals, companies, and associations closely connected with the architectural profession:

**The Jos. L. Muscarelle Foundation Scholarship** was established in 1965 by Joseph L. Muscarelle, President of the construction company bearing his name whose headquarters are in Maywood, N.J.

**The Harry J. H. Ruhle Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1968 by Jack and Norman Ruhle of the Whittier-Ruhle Millwork Co. of Ridgefield, in memory of their father whose interest in promoting architectural careers was well known.

**The N. J. State Concrete Products Assn. Scholarship** was established in 1959 by members of this association whose continuing and uninterrupted interest in promoting careers in architecture was a key factor in the formalization of our Scholarship Foundation.

**The Producers Council, N.J. Chapter, Scholarship** was established in 1964 by this association which is comprised of major building material manufacturers in New Jersey.

**The Gustave J. Pfost Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1965 by Jesse Schwartz and Gabriel Senes, Consulting Structural Engineers, in memory of Architect Gustave J. Pfost who was a member of NJSA and Architects League of Northern New Jersey.

**The N. J. Acoustical Contractors Assn. Scholarship** was established this year by that organization which represents firms specializing in acoustical control materials for building.

**The Lawrence C. Licht Scholarship** was established in 1967 through funds donated by Mr. Licht, a retired architect of Englewood whose deep interest in the future of the profession prompted this action.

**The Frank Grad Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1968 by Bernard J. Grad, FAIA, and his brother, Howard Grad, P.E., in memory of their father who founded the architectural firm presently known as The Grad Partnership in Newark.

**The Central Chapter Scholarship** was established this year with funds donated by that Chapter.

**The Raymond Knopf Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1959 by NJSA in memory of a past president who passed away during his term of office.

**The Frederick B. Chadwick Scholarship** was established in 1969 by Architect Chadwick of Bay Head, who is currently Chairman of the Board of Governors of NJSA Scholarship Foundation.

**The Newark/Suburban Scholarship** was established in 1968 through funds donated by this Chapter of NJSA.

**The John Scacchetti Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1971 in memory of John Scacchetti who was a past president of NJSA, is made up of contributions from relatives, friends and colleagues.

**The Charles C. Porter Memorial Scholarship** was established in 1970 in memory of Mr. Porter who was secretary of NJSA and the secretary of the Board of Governors of the Scholarship Foundation at the time of his death. This year's scholarship was donated by the Newark/Suburban Chapter, NJSA.
ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION CHALLENGES STUDENTS TO COME UP WITH SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS OF DECAYING NEIGHBORHOODS

The combination of the urgent crisis of our cities and the concern of our teenagers for a better world inspired this year's Jay Parker Edwards High School Competition design problem: A Preschool Learning Center in a Rehabilitated Urban Neighborhood Unit. The problem was taken out of the real life conditions on a neglected inner-city block in the heart of Newark.

The purpose of the competition, which is an annual one, is to actively expose those interested in architecture, urban design, education and social change to the urgent contemporary crisis of our decaying cities and to challenge their ability to improve the quality of life there.

High school students throughout the state were invited to participate either as individuals, teams or classes. As a result, there were 40 entries from 25 schools.

THE PROBLEM

The architects stated the problem as follows:

A local non-profit organization has decided to apply for available government funds to rehabilitate a typical neighborhood block in North Newark. The organization has chosen this particular block because much research indicated that all the properties can be purchased and that most of the present tenements are sturdy masonry buildings and can be economically rehabili-
ated. Those buildings unworthy of restoration are designated on the site survey.

The rehabilitated tenements will provide approximately 200 apartments for 1,000 people. You have been retained as architect to develop a site plan that would not only revive the block in question but one that would act as a catalyst for the entire area. The focus of this plan is a preschool learning center serving the rehabilitated block.

It is worth noting that well over half of all the growth in a child's intelligence takes place before he enters a school. It thus becomes imperative that the inner-city child be given the head start that a preschool center can offer in order that he may begin his education on an equal basis with the more advantaged suburban child.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

In judging the entries, the jury gave special consideration to the following factors:

1. Ability to understand the needs of the community and to organize these needs into a valid, workable neighborhood unit.
2. Ability to design a small structure in a logical, inspiring and imaginative way.
3. Ability to present ideas in a clear, positive and direct style. Ideas should be stressed over details. All drawings should be clearly annotated sketches for a preliminary client conference.

THE WINNING ENTRIES

The top award went to Gregory Waugh, a junior at Westfield High School. Second place went to a team of five boys from Middlesex County Vocational & Technical High School, East Brunswick; Edward Cullen, Robert Trachman, John Hughes, Andrew Krycki, and Britt Mason. Third place went to two boys from Dwight Morrow High School, Englewood; Albert Krull and Jonathan Weiss. Honorable Mentions went to: Samuel Bird and Jay D. Measley of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School; Joseph Scapino, Cranford High School; and William C. Tice of Westfield High School.

The jury termed Gregory Waugh's submission "exceptional" because they believed he had the most comprehensive, in-depth, knowledgeable solution. "The designer has shown a capacity to think and create on many levels of architectural and environmental experience. The site plans show strong, clear spatial concepts with a good feeling for materials and details," according to Jerome M. Albenberg, AIA, chairman of the awards jury. "The preschool center design shows a facility for handling functional requirements in a fluid and flexible manner without sacrificing efficiency," he said. "In addition, the designer shows an advanced grasp of texture and prefabrication," he added.

In making the awards, Mr. Albenberg encouraged the students to continue their interest in architecture. "New Jersey is desperately in need of dedicated, talented people, well trained in all facets of planning and design, to help us out of the mess we're in," he said. He sympathized with the students on the lack of architectural educational facilities in New Jersey at which they could continue their studies. "The only school in New Jersey at the present time with an accredited architectural program is Princeton," Albenberg said, "and it has a very limited enrollment. If you persist in studying architecture, and we hope you do, you'll have to go out-of-state," he said. "However," he implored, "come back to New Jersey to practice. Come back to share your expertise in environmental design and planning to help our Garden State out of the chaos which now exists. Your kind of talent is sorely needed to create the kind of environment in which we will all be proud to live.

Other members of the jury were George L. Cedeno, AIA, of Montclair; and Martin Feitlowitz, AIA, of West Orange. The awards were presented to the students in the Lounge of the Center Building at the Newark College of Engineering where the seven entries were on display. In addition to cash prizes, the students were also recognized at their respective schools by the presentation of an Award Certificate.
Three New Jersey architects were elected to membership in the College of Fellows of The American Institute of Architects.

They are Robert R. Cueman, Summit; Henry A. Jandl, Princeton; and Wayne F. Koppes, Basking Ridge.

Apart from the Gold Medal, which may be presented each year to one architect from any part of the world, Fellowship is the highest honor the Institute can bestow on its members. (All Fellows of the AIA may use the initials FAIA following their names to symbolize the esteem in which they are held by their peers.)

Investiture of the New Jersey and other newly-elected Fellows, 62 in all, took place June 21 in Detroit during the Institute's annual convention.

Robert R. Cueman has served in all top offices of the New Jersey Chapter of AIA and the New Jersey Society of Architects, which, in 1966, was established as a separate Region of the AIA. He has also held all top offices of the Suburban Society of Architects, an AIA chapter.

Cueman served on the committee on architecture of the State Commission to Study the Arts in New Jersey. On the basis of its recommendations, the New Jersey legislature established the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Numerous buildings in New Jersey have been designed by a team of architects of the firm in which Cueman is a partner, and under his supervision. These include the Short Hills Country Day School, the Center for Alcohol Studies at Rutgers, the State University, New Brunswick; the Nurses' Residence at Morristown Memorial Hospital.

Also, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cranford; St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Basking Ridge; the Adolescent Wing of Fair Oaks Sanatorium, Summit; the Springfield office of the National State Bank; the Hill City Savings & Loan Association Building, New Providence; and office, sales and service facilities in Paramus and Murray Hill.

Henry A. Jandl is Professor of Architecture and executive officer of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Princeton University. His peers in the profession rate him as an outstanding teacher of younger architects who have gone on in their own careers to reflect the soundness of Jandl precepts of instruction.

Early in his 30-year teaching career, Jandl undertook, as a design critic, to reorganize and integrate structural design courses with architectural design, both intuitively and scientifically. Under his guidance, both faculty and students have been made more aware of the fundamental necessity of professional competence and social responsibility in all phases of architecture.

Despite his heavy teaching commitments, Jandl has managed to carry on a modest practice, on the theory that it is important for an architect "to practice as well as teach."

An exponent of contemporary design, Jandl has been responsible for introducing this form in the plans he executed for various homes in the environs of Princeton, predominantly conservative architecturally and a bastion of colonial design.

The contemporary Borough Hall of Princeton, which Jandl designed in collaboration with Richard Chorlton, AIA, is regarded as one of the finest new municipal buildings in New Jersey.

Wayne F. Koppes has been heavily involved in the field of architectural research and teaching. Working with industry and industry associations since 1955, Koppes has become recognized internationally as an authority on metal curtain wall construction. He has written technical manuals on the subject for a number of associations of manufacturers fabricating metal for architectural and buildings applications.

Koppes also is regarded as an authority on joint sealants and wall joint design, having advised leading sealant manufacturers on performance standards, tests and product literature for architects, and written numerous articles on these subjects.

From 1932 to 1945, Koppes served on the faculty of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's School of Architecture, organizing and teaching courses in building construction, graphics, and professional practice. He also taught courses in structures, mechanics, and strength of materials. Since 1953, he has been Adjunct Professor of Building Research, having been instrumental in the establishment of RPI's Center for Architectural Research.

Recently, The American Society for Testing and Materials selected Koppes as recipient of its Award of Merit and named him a Fellow of the Society.
The Hard Choices Confronting Society Today — the theme of the 1971 Convention — drew 5,000 people to Cobo Hall in Detroit, June 21 - 25.

Two key New Jersey personalities contributed to the panel discussions. Paul Ylvisaker, speaking on a panel discussing “What do we have to give up to create a livable environment” told the convention, “We can’t give up on the cities and walk out, but one thing we will have to stop is straight-line thinking in what we now know is a curving universe.

“If you plugged the straight-line ground rules by which we run our cities into a computer for 250 years, out would come Newark, N.J., with its $60,000,000 deficit,” Ylvisaker explained. “And the same thing is happening in Las Vegas, Tulsa, Phoenix and other cities and at a faster rate.”

Speaking directly to the architects of the changes they must face, Ylvisaker said the profession must view itself as part of the developing “service economy”, not part of the older, self-regulating professions that developed directly from 16th-century guilds.

Failure to move seriously into this new direction of advocacy architecture was part of the reason some younger architects were pulling away from the Institute, he suggested.

In an interview later, Ylvisaker said that many of the older cities will become the focus of the service industries — schools, universities, hospitals. Manufacturing enterprises with their need for large, horizontal space have of necessity moved out of many cities.

Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson of Newark concurred with a statement made by Edward J. Logue, president of the N.Y. State Urban Development Corp., that the United States has had no overall planning mechanism which oversees urban growth and human patterns of settlement. Gibson disagreed, however, with Logue’s contention that the growth and subsequent decay of American cities happened without a plan, a policy or a suggestion from any level of government indicating how and where it should occur.

The black mayor of Newark said “public policy has mapped the history of urban America” through the subsidies of the Federal Housing Administration, the Interstate Highway funds which paved the way to the suburbs, the de facto and de jure policies of educational and residential segregation, and federal controls on mortgage credit rates.

Gibson reiterated his prediction that “wherever America’s cities are going, Newark will get there first.” He expressed optimism, however, observing that if the war-devastated cities of Europe could undergo creative reconstruction so, too, can those of America.

FINE ARTS MEDALIST

Anthony Smith of South Orange, a leading exponent of dynamic welded steel sculpture geometrically harmonious with contemporary architectural design, was the recipient of the A.I.A.’s 1971 Fine Arts Medal. The award is given in recognition of distinguished achievement in the fine arts related to architecture.

NATIONAL ISSUES

In 22 resolutions passed by delegates, the AIA took stands on a variety of national issues as well as those pertaining particularly to the man-made environment and the profession.

Delegates voted to support limitation of political candidate campaign expenditures and again called for the reduction of U.S. military commitments abroad.

A resolution on land planning and development said, “AIA recognizes that under more and more conditions the public interest must prevail over the interests of private property and that development of land is a privilege and not a right.” It noted that there is a “growing conflict between our traditional concepts of private property and land use and the already desperate need for a national land-use policy.”

1 Mayor Gibson.
2 Kenneth D. Wheeler, NJSA President-Elect.
3 Peter Holley, Tony Smith, George A. Dudley, Chairman of the N.Y. State Council on Architecture.
4 Paul Ylvisaker
This year the office of J. Robert Hillier marks its fifth year in architectural practice. In that time the staff has grown to thirty-five, including nine registered architects, and in-house interior design, model building, and estimating personnel.

The office organization of six project architects, operating under the guidance of partners Bob Hillier and Allen Graham, brings to the client a high level of service orientation. The comparative youth of the office (average age is thirty-three), which still knows of such services as "all nighters" and "en charrette" to meet deadlines, results in intense dedication and a high "esprit de corps." Fast and high quality service have been the basis of the fast growth of the firm.

Each project undergoes in-depth analysis and programming prior to design. All buildings are studied in model form and constantly estimated for cost control.

Involvement in the planning of new towns and clients' demands for shorter project time spans are leading the firm into new approaches in the practice of architecture, including multiple contract "fast tracking" construction systems development and some development joint-ventures.
HOUSING

THE PROBLEM:

Although funds have been appropriated to land men on the moon and continue the wars, the Federal Government has not been able to provide millions of Americans with the basic need of adequate shelter. Because more people are being born and living longer, population growth continues to keep ahead of the housing supply.

The middle class can usually find satisfactory housing, but the poor and the impoverished elderly are trapped in deteriorating housing in blighted areas. Those able to work have no transportation to the industries which have fled the city along with the middle class. Suburban communities have erected a Chinese Wall of zoning restrictions and building code requirements which have effectively kept low-income housing out.

Single family home developments on individual lots, highways to reach the new developments and streets to service the individual lots are depleting our land. Pollution is spreading—the cities are bankrupt, and now, the supersonic transport threatens to use up the ozone.

What can we do?

THE SOLUTION:

1. We must preserve human dignity by providing jobs and shelter for all Americans. Because the supply of low and moderate-income housing has gotten so far behind the demand, only massive doses of Federal funds can begin to really change the housing picture in New Jersey.

Federally aided rehabilitation and renewal in the cities has provided some new housing with varying degrees of success. See the "New Look in Urban Renewal" in this issue. We must break down the monolithic class structure of the suburbs. If the tax structure in New Jersey were broadened and more Federal and State aid available for education, suburban communities might be less resistive to apartments for low and moderate-income families. Plans are being developed for senior citizen housing (older people do not increase school costs) in West Orange, as well as other suburban communities.

2. We must cut the cost and time of construction. Operation Breakthrough, a government sponsored program to test new methods and materials at selected housing sites throughout the country, has not yet broken ground in New Jersey after more than two years in the planning stage. More Federal funds are needed.

Private industry has begun to develop new industrialized and pre-fabricated construction in the single home field, as well as in multi-family dwellings. Factory assembled units such as Habitat, Montreal, and Oriental Masonic Gardens in New Haven, Connecticut, are pilot projects of this type.

3. We must save our land. Housing systems of greater density, which preserve open space, must replace the individual house on its individual lot. Single family homes, clustered together, with groups of houses separated by land held in common for community use; suburban town houses; and planned unit development, or PUD, are ways of saving land.

Ideally, new communities incorporating the best land planning techniques could provide a variety of housing and employment for those now trapped in inner city slums. Federal funds and private enterprise, uniting as a team, could make this possible.
One of the most interesting areas of overlap between a new community and a planned unit development (PUD), is the arrangement of residential buildings so as to provide a variety in the housing available to prospective residents. One can expect apartments, town-houses, single family houses, and even an occasional high-rise within a short distance of each other. However, the planned unit development must integrate its bedroom community into a carefully controlled scheme which encompasses a shopping facility, school, light industry, recreational areas, and a civic center. The success with which these disparate elements are related to each other determines whether or not the community will be a success also. The individual architectural treatment of each entity is not as important as the overall planning.

A study made by House & Home magazine several years ago listed many advantages of the planned unit development:

"The marketability and appeal to conservationists of PUD's concern for the land. More tax revenue. Lower school load. Lower road maintenance and storm drainage costs. Higher density with more open space. Lower land-acquisition and development costs. A better balanced and more complete community."

The PUD is able to do all of this by clustering its facilities, most noticeably its housing. Naturally, one must expect a few problems. The quality of the facilities varies considerably. Also, there is the danger that the buyer or renter will have the individuality he once knew in his wall-to-wall suburb slowly eroded by an environment in which it is often not clear exactly where one person's property ends and another's begins and which cluster of units houses the higher income group. Maintenance is a constant problem and usually gets shortchanged while the developer expands his operation on into the surrounding countryside. The secret here is the incorporation of design elements which require little or no maintenance, and of having this aspect of the preservation of the community taken care of by an association of home-owners, rather than the developer. Finally, quite frequently the myriad of facilities which the builder promised to deliver at the beginning of the project somehow ends up either eliminated altogether or provided in a form which only remotely resembles the original. The following communities have used this basic clustering approach in order to surround the residential units with more open space for the benefit and use of everyone, not just the individual.

Radburn
Still Going Strong

It all began with Radburn, New Jersey, in 1928. The concepts designed into this planned community have set the standard for countless and more ambitious new towns throughout the United States and around the world. Its use of the cul-de-sac to separate pedestrian and vehicular traffic and to open up large community areas behind a varied assortment of single-family dwellings, townhouses, and apartments was in marked contrast to the endless spread of postage stamp lots in the surrounding suburban vicinity. There is a definite neighborhood quality here. Footpaths connect the clusters of houses to the open spaces which contain recreational facilities, quiet parks, and a school. Shopping, office space, and houses of worship are provided on the periphery, but there is no industry or other job opportunities. The Radburn Association maintains the common facilities with occasional volunteer assistance from residents. This community is still a highly desirable and attractive place to live.

Architects:
Clarence Stein
Henry Wright

Photos by Thomas R. Flagg
Panther Valley
Recreation and Ecology

Panther Valley, tucked away in a magnificent location near Hackettstown, New Jersey, has been planned for an equal balance of single family houses and multi-family rental units. Here, also, a championship golf course runs through the community which can be said to be entirely oriented around recreation and the desire to be surrounded by nature in an undisturbed setting. There are numerous hiking trails, but one misses the presence of a substantial body of water. Both houses and apartments have intruded little on this verdant setting, although many sites are deprived of a view due to the nearby mature trees. Also, the houses look out upon a through street from half acre lots. Here, the cul-de-sac arrangement would have provided complete remoteness from the automobile. The townhouses and apartments are architecturally varied enough but do not particularly relate to each other in the formation of outside spaces. More of a community feeling is achieved at the inn on the outskirts of the project where a number of related units overlook a delightful pond setting.

Architects:
Delnace Whitney Goubert
Royal Barry Wills
Walter C. Pfeiffer

Twin Rivers
A Planned Unit Development

Twin Rivers, a new town of 11,000 people near Hightstown, New Jersey, has also separated vehicular traffic in a totally planned environment which adds high-rise apartments, a theater, neighborhood stores, and light industry to those facilities provided by Radburn. The variety of residential units is greater also with its townhouses, garden apartments, condominiums, and single family houses. However, the vast openness of the countryside, punctuated here and there with an occasional sapling, creates an uneasy feeling of transience which is hardly alleviated by the relationship between some of the building groups, especially the Quad I townhouses. A major highway to the shore resorts bisects the town, a condition which many an older town has cursed after being split by the ravages of "progress." The town center has successfully integrated apartments, shops and offices but could use more community buildings.

Architects:
J. Robert Hillier
William R. Jenkins
A neighborhood feeling has been designed into Heritage Village, Southbury, Connecticut by means of skillfully relating the condominiums to the rolling landscape. Here large stands of mature trees have survived to help create a breaking up of the areas containing the living units. The cul-de-sac arrangement has been used to advantage with small courts branching off from winding drives. The units closest to the common recreation area with its many facilities have more of a relationship to the town center. The remaining clusters are so far removed as to seem almost lost, especially the newest condominium group which has been built in a flat lightly-treed area and suffers greatly from the absence of its predecessors' feeling of belonging to the countryside. In a retirement village of 6,000 people, there should be a concern for the maintenance of individual identity. The widespread nature of these clusters and their remoteness from the shopping, office, and recreation facilities (a minibus service can be called) combine with the sameness of weathering board siding to dampen one's necessity of being counted. Perhaps this is why the community provides such a wide variety of common facilities for recreation and creative activities, including a championship golf course and beautiful ponds.

Architect:
Charles Warren Callister
It would be an easy approach with eyes toward mother, country, and apple pie, to judge these factory assembled townhouse apartments on aesthetic, economic, and social value but, what is more important, is that Paul Rudolph has broken the traditional ties of restraint for volume housing — those of local building and zoning codes, and labor unions. Through much red tape has come forth a living environment that gives to the individual owner a sense of pride; of ownership; for "each man sees what he owns" which is totally lacking in large scale stacked housing.

Each unit looks out on its own courtyard and entrance. The courtyard flows into the interior lower level where the kitchen, dining and living areas are, to create an expansive but private living domain. The upper level where the sleeping areas are located, develop into a quiet refuge from the active area below.

The use of vaulted ceilings incorporating glass ends, allows natural light to play softly on the ceiling before gently illuminating the interior space, giving an airy, pleasant experience.

Outside the harmonizing scale and individuality of the units combined with interweaving natural growth create a harmonious and soothing approach to high density living, a solution often sought but rarely achieved in today's housing market.
To meet the needs of public housing, broad and creative thinking, plus an expanded design vocabulary, is required. Logistics is a very important factor. It covers "time" for the technical process of erecting a structure and accommodating social mobility. The process of, and indeed the necessity for, relocation is subject to question. "Safety," "security" and "identity" have been grouped in consideration of the number of families per landing or corridor. Articulation of living units and recognition of inter- and intra-cultural patterns have resulted in re-evaluation of the consequences of obsolete physical design. The term "housing" has come to mean "a defined area of community activity" instead of a mere "shelter." "Landscape design" is well beyond "planting" and is now construed to mean "the establishment of exterior cultural accommodations."

The Lindsay-Bushwick Housing Project, designed by Architects Gruzen and CBPF, exemplifies these essential concerns. In a predominantly Spanish speaking neighborhood, it has been planned with a very well organized community advisory committee. Grass roots participation has contributed to the design, which includes a multi-purpose building, two day care centers, provisions for do-it-yourself car repairs, and small shops. Outdoor accommodations for children dominate the eating and sleeping cubicles.

Philadelphia's Southwark Plaza, designed in the early 1960's is one of the earliest examples of sensitive handling of multi-family housing and a spectrum of exterior spaces, plus obvious concern for balance in age groups in public housing.

"Housing" means "shelter." However, the contemporary interpretation demands that shelter go far beyond our original concepts and should be linked with physical and mental health, safety and well-being. Nothing less will suffice.
The suburbs are no longer the retreat of the wealthy few but have become home sites of the masses. No answer is truly simple, however, and the essence of the "Suburban Syndrome" is a relatively easy one ... ESTABLISH NEW HOUSING CONCEPTS OR RUN OUT OF LAND!!!

With the realization that suburban development is systematically reducing available land, thereby increasing land costs, developers and architects are beginning to look for new ways of establishing a sound economic base in the housing market. In an attempt to end the destruction of natural resources and inefficient use of the remaining lands, the Townhouse concept exploded on the scene. Exciting new designs with total environmental planning which included amenities such as tennis courts, pools, play areas for tots, parks and community facilities for young and old are being constructed.

Throughout the country, large scale projects like the 160 modular townhouse units in Benton Harbor, Mich.; a 200 unit-project in Binghamton, N.Y.; a 202 HUD-subsidized project for the elderly in Rome, N.Y.; a 275 unit village in Wauwabosa, Minn.; the Rancho Bernardo, which was a low- to moderate-income project near San Diego, all proved highly acceptable and profitable. National surveys have indicated a tremendous upswing in townhouse construction. Nation Property Outlook, Inc., a research firm, predicted that by 1975 "two out of every three new houses will be of the townhouse variety."

Potential homeowners, unable to shoulder the financial burden of single-unit detached dwellings with their ever-increasing community taxes and maintenance costs are turning to the convenience of the Townhouse/Condominium concept. Private entrances, secluded patios and gardens, individual garages and an abundance of green open spaces provide the townhouse occupant with the advantages of single-unit living without the overburdening costs inherent with them.

Townhouse projects can provide the community with a good tax-base while retaining a park-like setting since the higher spot densities, generally seven to ten units per acre, insure the use of less land.
The New Look in Urban Renewal

by Donald J. Gatarz, AIA

Renewal, once utilized as a slum clearance expedient, is becoming a valid answer in urban housing.

Urban renewal, now a third generation approach for rebuilding portions of our cities, is presently creating new interest and participation by a variety of developers. Initially, renewal programs were fully sponsored and operated by a local government authority or redevelopment agency. The “blighted areas” were identified, slowly acquired by rigid condemnation procedures, high-rise housing occasionally mixed with commercial or civic use facilities planned and constructed, and the authority eventually became a public landlord fully burdened with a number of problems ranging from maintenance through operation. After years of mixed experience and fully matured by public criticisms, local agencies find renewal programs now more relevant and pressing than ever. By federal directives, the high-rise solution for housing has been reconsidered and green areas, pedestrian flow, human scale, local participation, master planning, and relocation are all essential ingredients in new programs.

A typical example of the “new renewal” is the George Street Renewal Program in the City of New Brunswick which has been studied by the local Redevelopment Agency for the past eight years. Until last year, renewal prospects unfortunately consisted only in the form of press releases and random inquiries by a few “package” developers. The Agency’s staff, however, worked diligently to generate local

Aerial view of George Street Renewal area shows single and two family residences intermixed with vacant lots and row garages. Heavily trafficked parkway bounds right hand portion and existing highrise units will remain above and below renewal area.

Model of Raymond Heinrich’s design shows intermix of townhouses and flats with Senior Citizen highrise units at rear portion of tract. Perimeter parking system will provide a secondary buffer between housing and existing streets.
RARITAN VALLEY SITE PLAN
The Raritan Valley Community Development Foundation site plan proposes a mix of low-rise apartments, townhouses and a high-rise senior citizen unit. Existing tree groves are to be preserved in new court areas and a new pedestrian corridor will link adjoining off-site apartments, hopefully developing a broader community tie. Areas for garden club activities, sculpture and recreation have been provided. A footbridge across the bordering parkway to an existing city park and a 20' landscaped berm to visually isolate the parkway from the community are part of the proposal.

Elevation of modular townhouse and flat units indicates variety and interest that can be developed utilizing standard 12-foot prefabricated modules. Units originated with Project Breakthrough, were manufactured by Hercoform Marketing Inc. and were designed by Armstrong and Solomonsky Ltd., Architects.

sponsor interest from limited or nonprofit organizations, and in February of this year invited proposals for renewal of four city blocks, bounded by two major arteries and situated between two 1950 vintage federally sponsored high-rise complexes. Ten proposals were received, ranging from a mixed commercial and high-rise complex to dense single-family townhouse units. The sponsors varied from national development organizations to local nonprofit groups.

One proposal submitted by the Raritan Valley Community Development Foundation and designed by Raymond Heinrich, AIA, and Drayton S. Bryant, AIP, is architecturally significant. The sponsor realized the conflicts between highest economic use and most crucial community needs as well as the economic pressure for minimum initial cost of construction against long-range maintenance expenditures. The solution is not monotonous or designed to accommodate a restrictive group, but contains a mixture of townhouses, low-rise and apartment flats concerned with pedestrian flow, security, private court gardens, public squares, recreation and assembly areas, preservation of existing tree groves and topography, maximum open space, and accessible yet screened parking areas. Prefabrication, modular assembly and federally sponsored or subsidized construction training programs are proposed to reduce first cost without limiting quality in construction.

The Authority now faces the difficult task of final selection and intends to name a sponsor by late August. Whenever proposal is selected, the City will experience its first renewal program that does not remove land and buildings from the tax base and even permits either long-range cooperative or resident ownership options.
Beyond Tomorrow

by Robert Scheren

Confronted with the swelling cost of construction and the demand for more adequate housing, man will find himself reliant upon the relative attributes of science and industry. The process of research, design and production will provide him with the most potential in the development of construction materials and techniques for a better habitat.

Housing as an industrialized product will be the collaborative effort of scientist, designer and manufacturer. Their inter-related disciplines, a necessary amalgamate, will provide man with the capability of sheltering future generations . . . beyond tomorrow.

Some proposals in the future may result in a variety of "forms" as illustrated here.
Housing Director

Raymond Heinrich, an architect and professional planner with extensive experience in housing design and urban development, was named Director of the Division of Housing and Urban Renewal in the Department of Community Affairs by Commissioner Edmund T. Hume.

Hume said Heinrich, as administrator of the Division, will be responsible for assisting local governments and community groups in developing housing construction and renovation projects, for enforcing the State's housing construction and maintenance standards for hotels, motels and multiple dwellings, and for providing technical and financial aid to help communities carry out urban renewal and relocation programs.

In addition, Hume said, Heinrich will work closely with the Housing Finance Agency, the Department's quasi-independent sister agency which finances moderate-income housing, and the new housing coordinator.

"I think Mr. Heinrich's many years of experience in housing development planning and urban design will enable him to undertake the efforts needed to generate critically needed new housing and to put a halt to the deterioration of our current housing supply through renovation and adequate maintenance," Commissioner Hume said.

Since 1964, Heinrich has operated a New Brunswick architectural and planning firm which, he said, emphasizes "people-oriented planning and design that accommodates man in his environment." The firm has explored the use of factory fabricated housing modules and the use of air rights over buildings or facilities.

"Mr. Heinrich has had extensive experience not only in the newest and most innovative concepts of urban planning but also in the practical implementation of comprehensive locally sponsored community development programs. He brings a wealth of training and expertise to the post and I am confident he will lead an action-oriented effort to alleviate this State's critical housing shortage."

Convention News

Architecture: The '71 Scene is the theme of NJSA's 71st Annual Convention scheduled for September 30, October 1 and 2, at the Chalfonte-Haddon Hall Hotel in Atlantic City. Informal Workshops, an exhibit of the work of New Jersey Architects, a Fine Arts Exhibit, and sixty-eight displays of up-to-the-minute products and services will be a few of the highlights.

Practical discussions centering around such subjects as Organizing an Office for Profit, Joint Ventures, Meeting the Competition, How to do Successful State Work, Marketing Architectural Services, etc., will take place in a stadium-style conference corner in the Windsor Room, which has been completely redesigned this year by our Convention Committee to allow all activities to take place in one area.

A panel of distinguished out-of-state Architects will judge the work of New Jersey Architects and a Design Critique Workshop of the winners will be given on Friday by Max O. Urbahn of New York, Chairman of the Jury. Mr. Urbahn is President-Elect of The American Institute of Architects. Other members of the jury are Norman Fletcher of the Architects Collaborative, Cambridge, Mass.; and Louis deMoll of Philadelphia, a Vice President of The AIA.

In the Fine Arts area will be shown the sculpture of Tony Smith of South Orange, AIA Fine Arts Medalist this year, and the paintings of Don Willett of Red Bank.

Buffet lunches in a specially designed "cafeteria" set-up in the commercial area will give the architects additional opportunities to view the exhibits and obtain first-hand expert answers to questions regarding application and use of products and services.

Other events scheduled include a Reception on Thursday night sponsored by the Mechanical Contractors Association of New Jersey, followed by a dinner with guests from allied groups; a Reception on Saturday evening sponsored by American Air Filter Company, followed by the President's Banquet at which time Awards will be given to Architects of award-winning designs and to their clients. NJSA's annual meeting and election of Officers will take place Saturday afternoon, with the Officers being installed Saturday evening.

The public is welcome.
1 NJSA President, Peter Holley, right, shows Robert Gebhardt, President of the Architects League of Northern New Jersey, certificate presented to him as winner of the annual Vegliante Award, highest honor conferred by the League.

2 Donato Rizzolo, a life member of NJSA, celebrated his 100th birthday on May 13. Rizzolo opened his own office 38 years ago and retired officially only last year. President Peter Holley, AIA, and Executive Director Helen Schneider congratulating Mr. Rizzolo.

3 Recipients of the Architects League of Northern New Jersey Directors Awards show their scrolls to League President Robert Gebhardt, seated. Hugh Romney of Hawthorne, Romeo Aybar of Ridgefield, and Ross Mammola of Ho-Ho-Kus. Donald Paulsen of Jersey City, a fourth recipient, was absent at the ceremony.

4 Tulane University architectural student Robert Fatovic of Paramus, winner of the Clarence Tabor Memorial Scholarship Award of the Architects League of Northern New Jersey, shows League President Robert Gebhardt, and architect Albert O. Halse of Hackensack a model of a modern and stylish prefabricated home he designed for a school project.

5 President William J. Waldron, Jr., (left) of Building Contractors Association of N.J. presents first place ribbon to Joseph Scopino, Cranford High School student, for his winning entry for the Construction Industry Hall of Fame building complex. John Shuler, Director of Education of Building Contractors, looks on.

6 Members of NJSA were given a tour of the new Newark Airport with a visit to the construction site on April 3, arranged by the Port of New York Authority and President-Elect Kenneth D. Wheeler, AIA. John P. Veerling, Chief of the Aviation Planning Division, Port of New York Authority, who was of major assistance in organizing this tour, is pictured with President Peter Holley and Mrs. Holley.

7 Newly installed officers of New Jersey Chapter, Producers Council: Orley Vaughan, (U.S. Steel Corp.) Treasurer, Norman La Poff (United Hardware-Steelcraft) President, James I. Hargis (Tech-Light Associates) 1st Vice Pres., Kermit Peters, Jr., (Libbey-Owens-Ford) Secretary. Absent when picture was taken: Glenn Nilsen (Fred G. McKenzie Co., Inc.) 2nd Vice President.
New P. C. Scholarship

Mr. Norman La Poff, First Vice President of the New Jersey Chapter, Producers' Council, presented a check for Scholarship Funds to Peter Holley, President of NJSA, at a Building Products & Systems Display held by the New Jersey Chapter, P. C. on May 25.

Regular donation this year was supplemented by a BILL FAY SCHOLARSHIP. These scholarships will be awarded to deserving architectural students as selected by NJSA.

Members of New Jersey Chapter, P. C. contributed more than one-half of the BILL FAY SCHOLARSHIP and the balance was made up by FAY ASSOCIATES and FAY & FISCHETTI in order to insure a scholarship of $500.00. Mr. William C. Fay, Jr., was one of the Charter Members of the New Jersey Chapter, Producers' Council when it came into being in 1954, and was President in 1956-57. His untimely death in November 1970 saw the inauguration of the BILL FAY SCHOLARSHIP.

Rutgers Medical School in New Brunswick was given an award of merit at the 8th Annual Awards Presentation co-sponsored by the N.J. Ready-Mix Concrete Association and the N.J. Chapter of the American Concrete Institute. The Architects are McDowell-Goldstein, of Madison.

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Addenda

John R. Diehl, AIA, of Princeton, has been reappointed to the Historic Sites Council by Governor Cahill.

Kenneth M. Mitchell, AIA, of Rumson, Treasurer of Shore Chapter, has been appointed by the Governor to serve on the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Donald L. Moss, AIA, of Piscataway, takes up his new post of Senior Architect with the Housing Finance Agency of the Dept. of Community Affairs.

Howard L. McMurray, AIA, has been named Vice-President of the First New Jersey Bank. Mr. McMurray is past president of the NJSA and chairman of our Finance Committee. He is Senior Partner in the office of McMurray and Grove in Elizabeth.

David Ludlow, AIA, of Ludlow and Jefferson in Summit, has retired from the active practice of architecture. The office will continue as Ralph E. Jefferson, Architect. Mr. Ludlow will act as a Consultant to the firm.

Richard J. Bottelli, AIA, of Summit, has been appointed to the Planning Board and the Board of Architectural Review in Summit for a five-year term.

Joseph M. Kuder, AIA, of Moorestown, has been appointed to the Burlington County Heritage Commission.

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