The friendship of those we serve is the foundation of our progress. Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and may the New Year be prosperous.
With this issue we complete twenty years of publication. For the information of the statistically minded of our readers this issue is number 121! I leave it to the even more statistically minded to count the number of pages.

The first issue appeared in March 1959. W. Miles Brittelle, Sr., was president of the New Mexico Chapter, AIA. (The New Mexico Society of Architects, AIA was formed in 1965 along with the establishment of the three separate AIA Chapters: Santa Fe, Albuquerque and New Mexico Southern). The Editorial Board consisted of Jason Moore, Arthur W. Dekker and Chairman Philippe DeM. Register.

Miles Brittelle, Sr., watched over, guided, and even served as the advertising agent for almost ten years, until his death on January 7, 1970. His widow, Mildred, continues to keep the books, collect the accounts, pay all the bills and keeps this editor in line.

If New Mexico Architecture has value for its readers, then it is to these four fathers and one mother that we owe a debt of gratitude.

—JPC

Advise from another editor:

From H. L. Mencken
To William Saroyan;
January 25, 1936

I note what you say about your aspiration to edit a magazine. I am sending you by this mail a six-chambered revolver. Load it and fire every one into your head. You will thank me after you get to Hell and learn from other editors how dreadful their job was on earth. I wouldn’t go back to magazine editing for all the money wasted by the Brain Trust.
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Mason Contractors Association of New Mexico
The new community library at Jal has been made possible through the generous endowment of two of its prominent citizens. May and Elizabeth Woolworth, sisters of Clyde and Martha Woolworth, stipulated in their wills that the major portion of their estate be used for the building and endowment of a public library in memory of their brother and sister who homesteaded in the Jal area in 1915.

The facility houses a 35,000 volume library, a film and lecture theater seating 120, children's area, gallery, historical display, serving kitchen and a hobby/meeting room.

The library portion of the structure has been recessed into the sloping park site with the park itself continuing atop the roof. By recessing the library the architects took advantage of an extremely stable insulation envelope; it minimizes air leakage, for the interior remains at a mid 50° F temperature range in lieu of the 30° F to 40° F temperature fluctuation over a 24-hour period, which is normal to this southeastern New Mexico community.

Glazing under deep overhangs toward the south and west take advantage of natural solar angles during the colder months while not compromising the cooling characteristics during the summer. Natural light has been controlled through clerestories and light wells, which are oriented toward the most advantageous and non-glaring light sources.

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Looking across the lecture court and fountain towards the entry beyond.

A sound proof children's area, glassed for visibility has the walls and ceilings carpeted, as well as the floor, to deaden the sound of the children. The area has been designed to include puppet shows, movies and story telling.

Looking from the parking area toward the lecture court and entrance.

The two level library area.
Auditorium is on the right with the office reception area ahead to the left.

The Woolworth Room was designed to house original furnishings from the Woolworth home and historical information about Clyde and Martha Woolworth.

The auditorium.

Photography: Jerry Goffe
needs by designing the fountain as an integral part of the system. The entrance fountain constantly recycles 80 gallons of water across a sloping concrete lip to give off heat into the air, thereby cooling the room below. The mechanical system is ideal for this building; it is energy conserving, simple to operate and maintain while providing all the individual room controls necessary.

On the interior, materials are used which give the most light reflectance: light oak furnishings, light sand beige carpet, white end panels for the book stacks and ceilings. The light, cool colors of the library are repeated throughout the community functions.

Comments Jean Piper, library director, "The library is a big deal for a small community like this... It's a lovely building... lots of people just come to look... catches the eye in a small town."

Carl Martin, superintendent of schools in Jal, adds, "Acceptance has been real satisfying. The meeting room has a lot of use. Some nights two or three groups will use it; at least one most nights. People come in to browse, not necessarily to borrow books. Before, there was no browsing space. The outside is very pleasing to the eye. We get many visitors from out of town. They may be in town on business and stop by our new library."

According to the architects, a major portion of the successful response of the building to its community needs came through a positive pre-programming effort in conjunction with a highly perceptive and open-minded board of trustees.

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NMA November-December 1978
The Third Encuentro Cultural Chihuahua—Nuevo Mexico took place in Chihuahua City October 5, 6, and 7th. Over twenty New Mexicans participated in this year’s conference sponsored by the Chihuahua branch of the Seminario de Cultura Mexicana. Members of the Historical Society of New Mexico attended, as well as representatives from the Albuquerque Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Albuquerque Sister Cities Organization, the University of New Mexico, Eastern New Mexico University, the University of Arizona, the University of Albuquerque, the Albuquerque Public Schools, and the Las Cruces Public Schools.

The group was given a welcoming dinner by Chihuahua governor, Manuel Bernardo Aguierre. The governor stressed the importance of cultural interchange in his opening remarks to the visiting New Mexicans. Other social activities included a cocktail party hosted by the Seminario’s president, Mario S. Arras and a lunch sponsored by the mayor of Chihuahua.

The theme for the conference was the colonial trade between New Mexico and Chihuahua. Papers were presented which developed various aspects of this rich topic. J. Paul Taylor, La Mesilla, N.M., concentrated his remarks upon culture and customs along the difficult trail north from Valle de Allende, Chihuahua, and Felipe Colomo Castro, Chihuahua, discussed the geography and history of the long journey.

Chihuahua Professor Augustin Méndez Rosas presented an overview by discussing life in New Mexico before it became part of the United States. Commentators included Professor Joseph Sanchez of the University of Arizona and Professor Peter Bakewell of the University of New Mexico.

After the papers were read and discussed the participants visited Bustillos, Chihuahua. At this interesting private estate, the main building and the church date from the turn of the twentieth century, even though the settlement was built on part of a larger colonial hacienda. The group was given a tour of Bustillos and enjoyed a performance of a Ballet Folklorico troupe from Chihuahua. A delicious luncheon featuring foods of northern Mexico was served in the outdoor patio.

The conference ended with a buffet dinner at the home of José Falomir, the coordinator for the Third Encuentro Cultural Chihuahua—Nuevo Mexico. It was his thorough preparation which made this third meeting the most successful one. The fourth Encuentro will be held in New Mexico next fall. As in the past, Gerald Theisen, director of the Bilingual/Multicultural Program, Title III, Eastern New Mexico University, is in charge of arrangements. G.T.

BAINBRIDGE BUNTING RECEIVES AWARD

Dr. Bainbridge Bunting, professor of Art History at the University of New Mexico was one of four distinguished New Mexicans to receive the Governor’s Award for excellence and achievement in the arts in a special ceremony held on Friday, October 6, in the Santa Fe Plaza.

The state’s highest artistic honor was given to Maria Benitez, Santa Fe, for Dance; Dr. Bainbridge Bunting, Albuquerque, for Architecture; and Charles Mattox, Albuquerque, and Doel Reed, Taos, in Visual Arts.

Governor Apodaca presented the Fifth Annual Governor’s Awards; Mrs. Apodaca presided as Mistress of Ceremonies.

Dr. Bunting has written extensively on the history of New Mexico architecture and was co-editor of New Mexico Architecture from 1960-67. His books include “Early Architecture in New Mexico” (1964), and “Taos Adobes” (1964). His book “Houses of Boston’s Back Bay District” is now in its third printing by Harvard University Press.
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