POTOMAC VALLEY ARCHITECT



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4TH BIENNIAL COMPETITION FOR AWARDS IN ARCHITECTURE

Section of a section of

POTOMAC VALLEY CHAPTER OF MARYLAND

American Institute of Architects

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NEXT REGULAR MEETING 12 Noon July 11 Brook Farm Restaurant 710 Brookville Rd., Chevy Chase, Md. August Meeting, August 1st



The Awards Committee of the Potomac Valley Chapter, Gene Delmar and Andy MacIntire, comtemplate a Certificate of Award.

THE COMPETITION

The Fourth Biennial Competition for Awards in Architecture, the winners presented in this issue, represent in every category most of the better architecture produced in this area. It has been the intention of the Potomac Valley Chapter to make of this Competition the really significant local Architectural Competition. We feel that we have succeeded. Our Jury is as distinguished a group of architects, with reputation in design, as could be selected in the country. We are pleased that they found over 20% of the work submitted worthy of award, that they felt the general quality of the work is as good as any in the nation and that certain entries are as good as the best. It is regrettable that limitations written into the program, with regard to the amount of photographic material submitted, in some cases gave the Jury insufficient information on which to base their judgment. This limitation in the number of photographs was

originally intended to make it less expensive and time consuming to prepare entries. It did result, however, in some entries which would otherwise have gained award being passed by. It should be noted in this connection that some competitors furnished only one photograph — though four were allowed.

The Potomac Valley Chapter has only 72 Corporate members, yet we have managed through our competitions and publications to stimulate public interest in the work and services of architects, to raise the level of architectural design among practitioners and to help create an interest and involvement in community problems relative to architecture and city planning. The Chapter Members who have supported these endeavors through their personal efforts deserve appreciation and congratulations. Their continued support and enthusiasm is essential to the public interest and our profession.





NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

THEODORE R. CROMAR, JR., President

Ted Cromar, and our former director, Trad Thomen, practice architecture as the firm of Thomen and Cromar, Silver Spring, Md. Ted, who studied at the University of Maryland and the University of Virginia, carried on as vice-president during the past year.

Fishing, golf, sports car racing and Civil War History are his hobbies and in the latter interest he operates with the "Old Musket Toters" in combing Civil War battlefields for souvenirs. He resides in Silver Spring with his wife, Verja, and their two children, Mike, 9, and Mary Anne, 7.

DENNIS W. MADDEN, Vice-President

Denny, our former Secretary, has been especially helpful in the chapter in his roles as Secretary and Treasurer. A graduate of the class of 1943 at Catholic University, he is a partner in the firm of Walton and Madden in Mt. Rainier, Md.

A resident of College Heights Estates, Md., where he lives with his wife and six children, Denny is a member of the College Park Rotary, Washington Board of Trade, Washington Building Congress, and the Prince Georges Chamber of Commerce. His hobbies are golf, reading and all spectator sports.

IN A WORD

by Edwin Bateman Morris, FAIA

Herewith follows a careful glossary of up-to-date meanings of certain words in common or general use:

ALLEGE-A precipice.

COLON THERAPY-The full treatment, as opposed to semi-colon therapy, half-treatment.

CURSORY-Having to do with profanity.

DISBAR-To distinguish from some other bar.

DILEMMA-To call, or dial, Emma.

EXHUMER-One who exhumes. Also, something formerly funny.

EXACT-Egg-sacked. The process of having completed putting an egg in a sack.

FUTILE-Not many tile.

GALAXIES-Girl lacks ease or poise.

ILLEGAL-A sick bird.

JUSTICE-Just ice. On the rocks.

LEGACY-I see a nether limb.

MOLASSES-Another gathering of girls.

MARSHAL-When the distaff side prevails, as MA SHALL. PARTIAL, when the other side prevails, as PA SHALL.

MUSTANG-Sentence of capital punishment.

PERSIMMONS-Simmons signs the mail.

PERSUADE – Suede for making pocket-books.

REALTOR-As opposed to an imitation tor.

FOOD ITEMS (architectural). Muntins, Nuts, Jamb, Rabbet, Plumb, etc.

AWARD WINNERS

4TH BIENNIAL COMPETITION FOR AWARDS IN ARCHITECTURE OF THE POTOMAC VALLEY CHAPTER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, Architects Residence—1ST AWARD Owner: J. Gibson Semmes Builder: Hayes Bros. Location: Potomac, Md.

Stann & Hilleary, Architects Ski Lodge–1ST AWARD Owner & Builder: Ray Winfield Smith Location: Dublin, New Hampshire

Harold Lionel Esten, Architect Custom Residence – AWARD OF MERIT. Owner: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Marcus Builder: Cimermanis Brothers Location: Washington, D. C.

Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, Architects
Development House – AWARD OF MERIT
Purchaser: Dr. Henry A. Segal
Builder: Matthews & Potter
Location: 5303 Mohican Rd., Wash. 16, Md.

Kea, Shaw, Grimm & Crichton, Architects, Robert B. Riley, Associate
School-Lewistown Elementary School – AWARD OF MERIT
Owner: Board of Education, Frederick County, Maryland
Builder: Roy Thornton
Location: Lewistown, Maryland

Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, Architects
Bethesda Youth Center-IST AWARD
Owner: Md. N.C.P.&P.C.
Builder: E. J. Smith Construction Co.
Location: Walsh St., Bethesda, Md.
Faulkner, Kingsbury & Stenhouse,

Architects Schools — Watkins Art Center — AWARD OF MERIT Owner: American University Builder: Charles H. Tompkins Co.

Location: American University Campus, Washington, D. C. Keyes, Lethbridge & Condon, Architects

Office Building-1ST AWARD

Co-owners: National Lumber Manufacturers' Assoc., Timber Engineering Co.

Builder: George Hyman Construction Co.

Location: 1619 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Wash., D. C.

Kea, Shaw, Grimm & Crichton, Architects, Robert B. Riley, Associate

Office Building and Warehouse – AWARD OF MERIT

Owner: North American Van Lines, Inc.

Builder: Sidney V. Young & Sons, Inc. Location: 4318 Kenilworth Avenue, Edmonston, Md.

Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, Architects. Richard Collins & Associates, Architects

National Institutes of Health – Administration Building – AWARD OF MERIT.

Owner: Department of Health, Education & Welfare

Builder: Norair Engineering Co.

Location: Wisconsin Ave. & Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland

Cohen, Haft & Associates, Architects Apartments–1ST AWARD

Owner: Maurice Lipnick & Calvin Cafritz

Builder: Mar-Cal Construction Co.

Location: Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, Md.

Hugh Newell Jacobsen Remodeling-1ST AWARD Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lee Builder: H. M. Monroe Location: 2813 Q Street, U. W., Washington, D. C. (Georgetown)

THE JURORS



PIETRO BELLUSCHI, FAIA

Pietro Belluschi was born in Italy. He graduated from the University of Rome in 1922 and from Cornell University in 1924.

In 1925 Belluschi went to Portland, Oregon, where he remained until January 1951 when he assumed his duties as Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mr. Belluschi has designed several hundred commercial and residential structures in the last thirty-three years, mostly in the Pacific Northwest. Photographs of his work, as well as numerous articles, have been published in all the professional magazines of this country and in other English, Italian, Danish, Swedish, and Argentinian periodicals. In 1953 and again in 1955, he received first award from the A.I.A. in their Architectural Journalism Competition for articles appearing in professional publications.

After serving as president of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1943 and 1944, Pietro Belluschi was elevated to Fellowship of the A.I.A. at the 1948 convention. For sixteen years he was trustee of the Portland Art Museum; and from 1947-48, the president of its Board. He is now a member of the Board of Trustees of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. He was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1952; an Academician of the National Academy of Design in 1953; a Fellow of the Danish Royal Academy of Fine Arts; a Trustee of the American Federation of Arts; and a Life Member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters.



ULRICH FRANZEN, AIA Ulrich Franzen was born in 1921.

A graduate of Williams College and Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, he is at present, visiting professor at Yale University. He has been visiting critic at Carnegie Institute of Technology, Washington University in St. Louis, and Harvard University.

His work has been published in many magazines and books. The recent book, *Architecture USA*, a group portrait of top architects in this country, includes Mr. Franzen's work. His designing talents have been recognized by awards in:

1956-Architectural Record Award of Excellence for Design, 1957 - Architectural Record Award of Excellence for Design, 1957 - House & Home Award for Excellence in Design and Construction, 1958-First Prize for Excellence in Design and Construction, **Oueens** Chamber of Commerce, 1959 - Architectural Record Award of Excellence for Design, 1959 - Honor Award Program A.I.A., Award of Merit, 1960-Architectural Record Award of Excellence for Design, 1960 -House and Home Award for Excellence in Design and Construction, 1961-Boston Arts Festival Award in Architecture, 1962 - Architectural Record Award of Excellence in Design and Construction, 1962 - Honor Award Program, A.I.A. Award of Merit, 1962 - National Gold Medal Program, Architectural League of New York, Honorable Mention, 1962 - National Institute of Arts and Letters, Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture.



WILLIAM F. PEDERSEN, AIA

Born in Stamford, Connecticut in 1908, he was educated at Harvard, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1931 and his M.A. in 1934. He first estabblished his practice in 1934. Subsequently he worked in the offices of Antonin Raymond, George B. Post & Sons and the office of Harrison & Abramowitz. The present firm of Pedersen & Tilney was formed in 1946. Among his principal works are the Brookside Houses in New Haven, Connecticut; the Joseph Barber House, Fortunes Rock, Maine; St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Norwalk, Connecticut and the Sheridan School, New Haven, Connecticut. He is the author of a book, "The Design of Office Buildings," published in 1955. The firm of Pedersen & Tilney submitted the winning design in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Competition.

REPORT OF THE JURY

FIRST AWARDS

Group I-A(I)

Residence For J. Gibson Semmes

The Jury liked very much the basic, almost rural approach in the design of this simple and practical house. They thought it particularly appropriate for the site and location.

Group I-B(I)

Ski Lodge For Ray Winfield Smith

Unusual solution which shows strength and character and a desire to experiment, even if it shows some Wright influence. The Jury was disappointed by the poor presentation of the plans and the inadequacy of the photographs and wondered how the house really did fit the site and what the other elevations looked like.

Group II-C, Bethesda Youth Center Beautifully handled solution where scale, detail, and proportions all contribute to produce a first-rate quality and serenity. The Jury also feels that the landscaping was unusually well handled and quite commensurate with the design of the building.

Group III, Forest Industries Building The Jury commends this civilized solution for a commercial building. They particularly like the generous entrance approach and the straightforward fenestration, although they wished it had been possible to have different window details. The effort to begin and terminate the building vertically was appreciated.

Group IV, Wheaton House

The Jury unanimously agreed that this is an exemplary solution of a smallscale housing project, handled with a sure hand and above all with faultless scale and considerate detail.

Group V, Remodeling To Residence For Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lee

A sophisticated solution to an alteration problem. Perhaps it shows a little too much of the interior decorator's approach, but it is quite original and appropriate for a town house.

AWARDS OF MERIT

Group I-B(1), Residence,

Mr. And Mrs. Joseph A. Marcus The solution of this entry shows clarity of intent and an excellent sense of space. The Jury felt however that from what they could understand from the not-too-clear site plan the architect had failed to exploit fully the opportunities of an urban lot. Also some members of the Jury felt somewhat dubious about the large amount of glass used on the street side.

Group I-B(2), Residence,

Dr. And Mrs. Henry A. Segal

The Jury wishes to encourage the qualities exemplified by this speculative house. Here is a clear and practical plan and a competent handling of details and materials.

Group II-A,

Lewistown Elementary School

The Jury admired very much the plan and the scale and also the directness of means in solving the economic problems always present in a school. As shown by the photos, there appears to be a fine sense of space. The Jury also liked the development of outdoor classrooms and study courts. It is questionable whether the color panels over the multi-purpose room, as seen from the street, were necessary, as the Jury regrets the employment of superficial decorative elements to achieve scale. They hope they will be omitted from the addition.

Watkins Art Center

The Jury regrets that only one facade was shown and that therefore they were not able to judge the quality of the building in its entirety, particularly on the side which might prove more difficult to treat. However, from what they could see, they admired this straightforward and well proportioned project.

Group II-C, Administration Bldg., National Institutes Of Health

In spite of many shortcomings, especially in the superficial treatment of the connecting link, the jury admired the main building as being a promising direction in the design of a federal building.

Group III,

North American Van Lines, Inc.

There are many qualities in this project which point toward a sensitive handling of details. Unfortunately, lack of adequate photographs do not bring out in full the design nor the scale as seen from the highway. The question was raised whether this kind of design is appropriate when seen in the open country and from a highspeed highway. No one has yet really found a satisfactory solution to this problem of our day.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The Jury felt frustrated about the inadequacy of the photographic presentation in the majority of entries, and it felt it could not judge with sufficient intelligence. The Chapter should in future years consider the feasibility of having the juries visit each of the entries which are considered for award before such award is given.

The general quality of all entries may be said to equal the average architectural quality prevalent in the country today, however the Jury believes that there is a steady, if slow, improvement in excellence in the face of greater economic problems and greater intrusion of non-architect designed buildings. The Jury is convinced that by a steadfast continuation of this program results over the years will become evident and give incentive to designers of good will to strive for better and better values.



PLANNING GROUP FORMED

The need for detailed urban planning in Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties has long been recognized by the Potomac Valley Chapter, A.I.A. To advance the development of these counties in a more coherent and functional direction, members of the Potomac Valley Chapter have organized to attack the problems. The committee of the Chapter is to be known as "The Planning Group", and at a meeting called by Jack Cohen, President of the Chapter, and held in the offices of Cohen, Haft & Associates on Thursday, June 14th, the organization was formed. David Holtz acted as secretary. The discussion centered around the scope of the problems in redesigning the various rundown and poorly planned areas in Montgomery County and Prince Georges County. Mt. Rainier, Hyattsville, Silver Spring, Bethesda and Cabin John were among the communities mentioned. It was decided to gather broad scope material for analysis in order to define the overall problem, enabling specific areas to be selected for treatment. A sub-committee to assemble background information was formed as follows:

Hal Esten-Year 2000 Plan. Dave Shaw-Washington Center. Jack Cohen-Park & Planning Commission. Luther Flouton & Neil Greene-Mass Transit.

Ed Ball was appointed chairman of committee to study Prince Georges County, Dave Shaw and Denny Madden assisting.

Gene Delmar was appointed chairman of committee to study Montgomery County, Ed Noakes and Ben Elliott assisting.

The secretary is to write letters to the A. I. A. Chapters in Knoxville, Tenn., Memphis, Tenn., Little Rock, Ark., and Eugene, Oregon for first hand information on their method of approach.

Methods of financing the work of the Planning Group are to be formulated. Robert Lee is to contact the Ford Foundation and Rockerfeller Foundation and others for possible assistance. The various civic and business groups will also be encouraged to contribute.

The first meeting was attended by the following chapter members: Denny Madden, Jack Cohen, Gene Delmar, Joe Dennison, Ed Ball, Dave Shaw, Jack Moore, Hal Esten, Ben Elliott, Jack Lawrence, Ed Noakes, Ted Cromar, Dave Holtz, Ron Senseman, Robert Lee, Luther Flouton, John d'Epagnier, Neil Greene.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

I cannot refrain from congratulating you on the editorial excellence of the Potomac Valley Architect under your direction.

The last issue with its excellent articles on urban planning and its report on the latest RLA Competition is particularly worthwhile.

Even though my term of office is over, I hope you will keep my name on the mailing list.

Faithfully yours,

Philip Will, Jr.

Editor:

I have been receiving your magazine regularly. It is passed on to me by my wife, who as you know, is very interested in architecture.

I think it is a splendid publication and feel that it contributes to the civic betterment of the Nation's Capital.

Cordially,

John F. Kennedy President Amalgamated Plumbing Co.

Award Winners

ATH BIENNIAL COMPETITION FOR AWARDS IN ARCHITECTURE



Photography by Robert Laut

FIRST AWARD RESIDENCE MR. J. GIBSON SEMMES POTOMAC, MD. KEYES, LETHBRIDGE AND CONDON, ARCHITECTS



FIRST AWARD SKI LODGE RAY WINFIELD SMITH DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE STANN AND HILLEARY, ARCHITECTS



Photography by Robert Lautman

AWARD OF MERIT

RESIDENCE MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH A. MARCUS, WASHINGTON, D. C. HAROLD LIONEL ESTEN, ARCHITECT AWARD OF MERIT

RESIDENCE DR. AND MRS. HENRY A. SEGAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

KEYES, LETHBRIDGE AND CONDON, ARCHITECTS



Photography by Robert Lautman



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AWARD OF MERIT LEWISTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEWISTOWN, MD. KEA, SHAW, GRIMM AND CRICHTON, ARCHITECTS ROBERT B. RILEY, ASSOCIATE EDMUNDS AND HITCHCOCK, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



FIRST AWARD

YOUTH CENTER, BETHESDA, MARYLAND MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION KEYES, LETHBRIDGE AND CONDON, ARCHITECTS

AWARD OF MERIT WATKINS ART CENTER, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY FAULKNER, KINGSBURY AND STENHOUSE, ARCHITECTS

Photography by Dav



FIRST AWARD FOREST INDUSTRIES BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. KEYES, LETHBRIDGE AND CONDON, ARCHITECTS



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Photography by Robert Lautman

FIRST AWARD WHEATON HOUSE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD. COHEN, HAFT AND ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS



FIRST AWARD

Photography by Robert Lautman

RESIDENCE MR. AND MRS. ROBERT E. LEE, WASHINGTON, D. C. HUGH NEWELL JACOBSEN, ARCHITECT

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