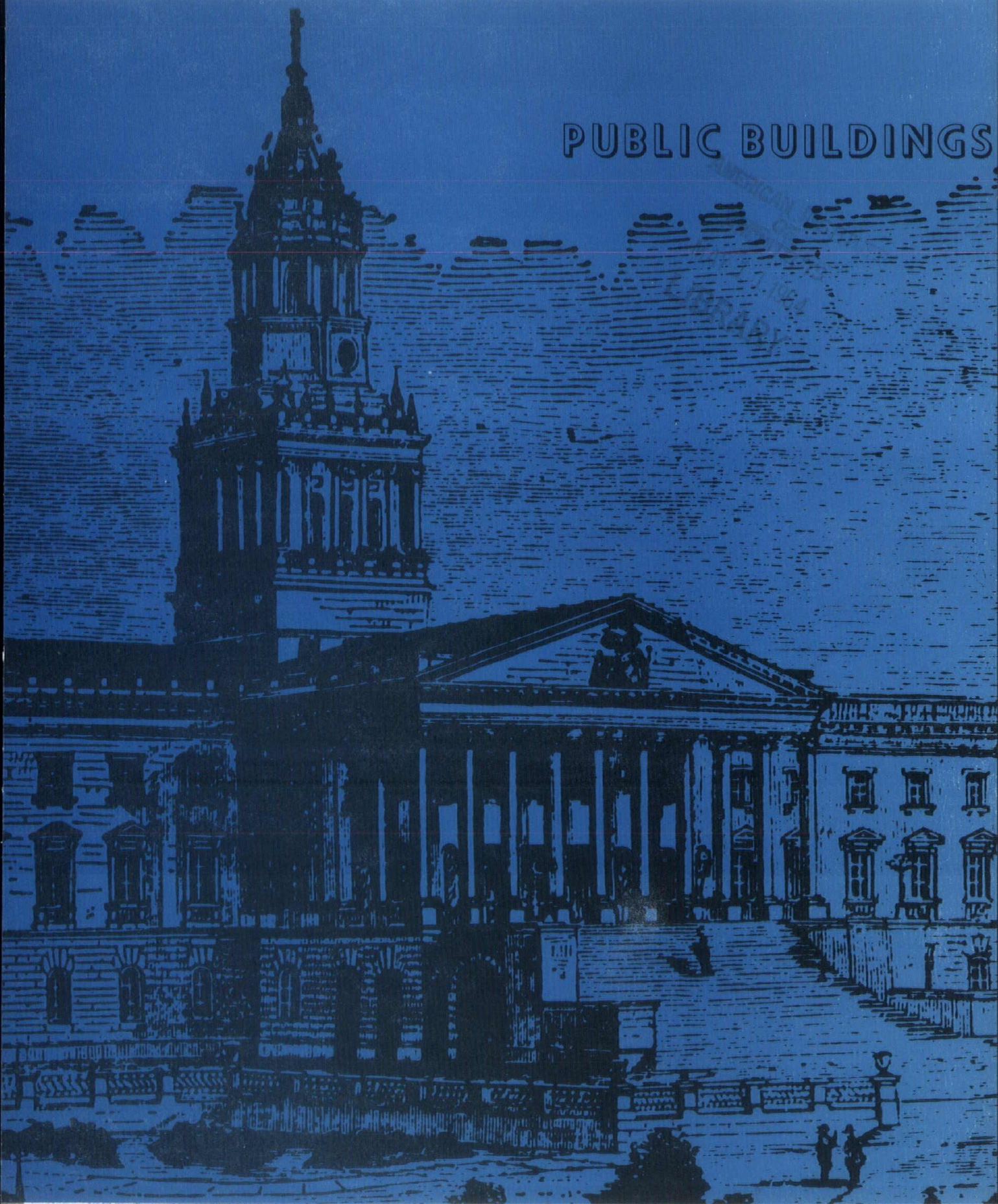


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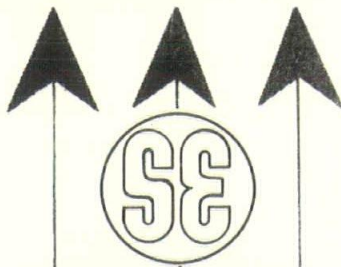
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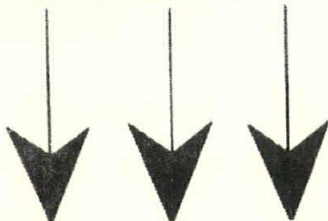
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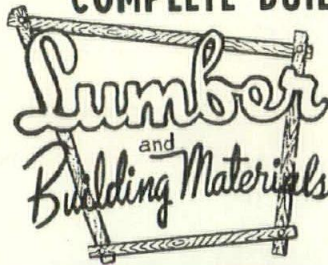
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Those architects who were unable to attend the fall meeting in October of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects missed a most interesting talk and discussions by architect James Hemphill of Charlotte on the Construction Specifications Institute Format for building specifications, conceived as a means to standardize writing of specifications in the building industry.

Another highlight of the meeting was the distribution of copies of the fifty year history of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects by Walter Petty. Mr. Petty also took this opportunity to autograph copies of this history for the members. Still another highlight of the meeting was the election of officers for the coming year—mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

The next issue, in conjunction with the annual architect's meeting on February 14 and 15 in Columbia will feature an architectural tour of the Columbia area. This will include drawings of the new Columbia Jetport, three new country clubs, new banks, apartments, clinics, schools — a panorama of architectural activity in Columbia in the last dozen years.

The second issue of 1964 will

feature "Young Architects" those in business less than five years. Information and photographs for both of these issues can well be used by the Editor, and all architects in the state are urged to submit work to the Editor for these issues.

During the past year six new members have been added to the SCAIA.

1. John Califf, native of Charleston and graduate of Clemson, who recently opened an architectural office in Columbia.
2. Charles Major, native of Anderson and graduate of Clemson, associated with W. E. Freeman, Jr. and Associates in Greenville.
3. William Redfern, native of Charlotte and graduate of Clemson associated with The McPherson Company, Greenville.
4. William Geiger, native of Columbia and graduate of Clemson, who recently opened an architectural office in Columbia.
5. Charles B. Smith, native of Gaffney and graduate of Clemson, now engaged in the practice of architecture in Florence.
6. William Scaife, native of Tifton, Georgia and a graduate of Georgia Tech, with Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle and Wolff in Columbia.



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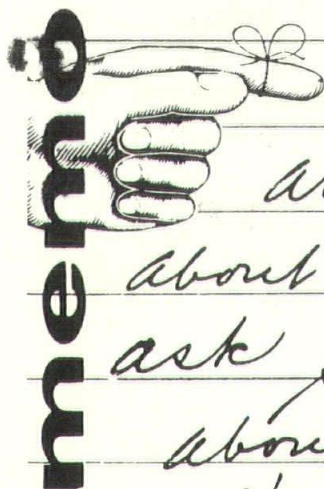
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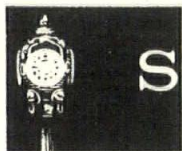
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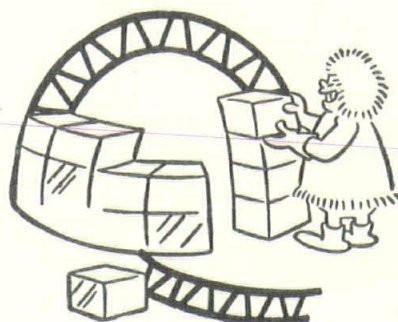
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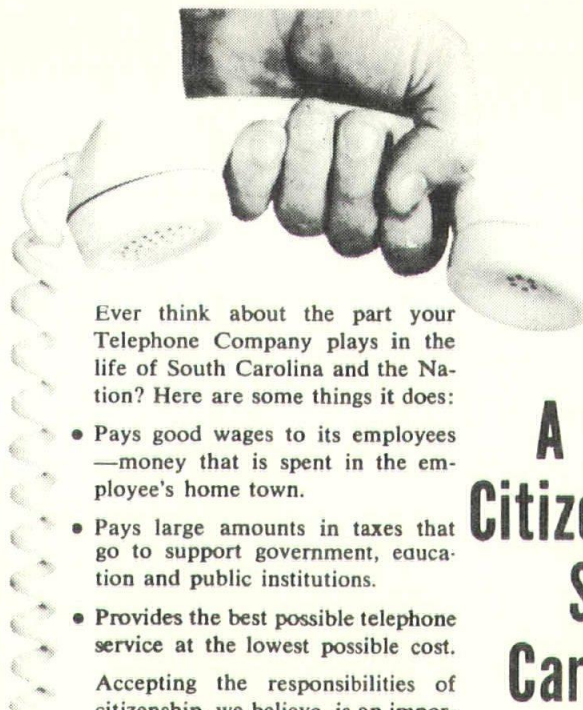
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EDITORS NOTES

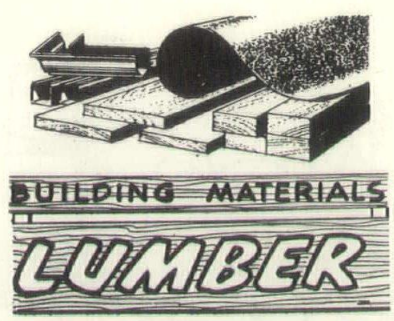
The Editor wishes to thank Joe Barnett, Carlton Truax, Robert McHugh and the Columbia State and Record newspapers for the information used in the three articles on the State House in this issue. More thanks are due to our 1963 SCAIA President, Reid Hearn, for the text and the picture layout on his "Profile" In response to my request for some "Vital Statistics" to discover the source of all of his foolishness, Mr. Hearn listed the following:

Born: Eatonton, Georgia (this century)
 Parents: Mother, formerly Elizabeth Candler of Villa Rica, Ga.
 Father, Reid, Sr., Musician, Editor, Designer and Craftsman
 Education: Educated (Clemson; graduate work, Carolina & Citadel)
 Prized Possessions: Maye Davis since 1940
 Reid, III, since 1950
 Honors: 2nd Class Scout: PFC (WW II volunteer); Beauty Judge

In these days of complex requirements, more complex materials, limited budgets, but unlimited needs for space by agencies of the local, state and federal governments, it is easy for all of us to become confused as to the appearance and the shape of public buildings today. In this issue we see post offices that need little more than large enclosed spaces, yet they

offer more to the eye than a warehouse exterior. Elsewhere in this issue are examples of public buildings that in reality require conventional office building spaces, but have something of the dignity associated with public buildings in the past. Good architects have, in the great majority, rejected the neoclassic or "Facist Modern" design that has characterized a good amount of the recent building in Washington; yet there is some question as to whether the United Nations complex, with its "Buck Rogers" interiors in New York City, or Brasilia, the new capital of Brazil with its inhuman scale, have caught the spirit necessary for a background to conduct the affairs of state and of the world. Last Year as I stood in the great Hypostyle Hall up the Nile valley in Egypt, or among the ruins facing the Parthenon in Athens, or in the Great Court facing the Temple of Jupiter at Baalbek, Lebanon among the Roman ruins, there was no question in my mind that it has been innate in man for more than ten thousand years to feel a real seriousness of of purpose as he stands in a colonade or arcade, or at the entrance to such structures. Without question there is something intangible here that, with or without the use of marbles or colonades, must be reckoned with in the design of public buildings.

Stuart Baesel Editor



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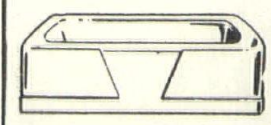
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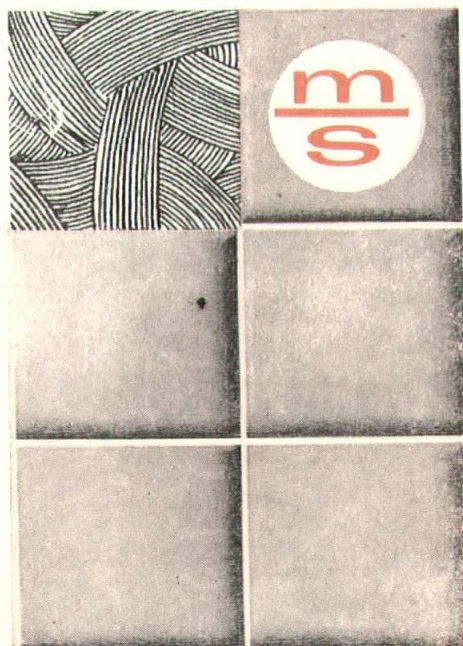


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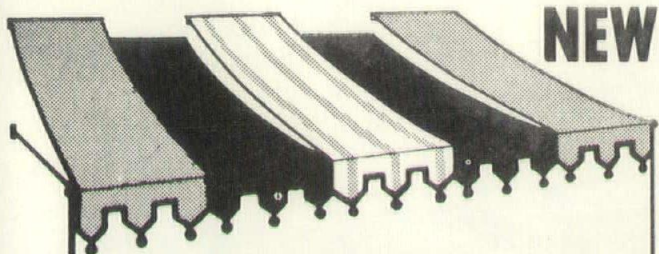
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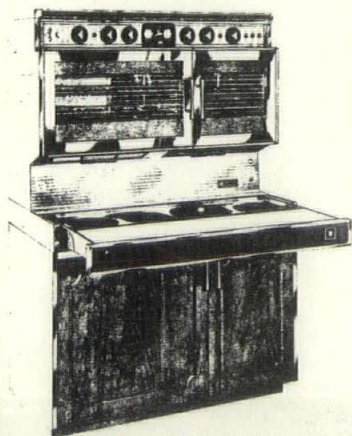
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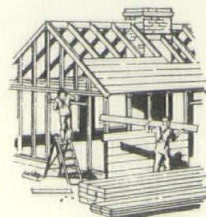


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PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Greenville Post Office

Architects: J. E. Sirrine & Company

This new post office building has given Greenville an enlarged modern facility planned to take care of the growing needs of the city for many years to come. It is located on a site which is relatively close to the railroad station, still the primary mobile transportation for handling mail, and in an area readily accessible to all of Greenville.

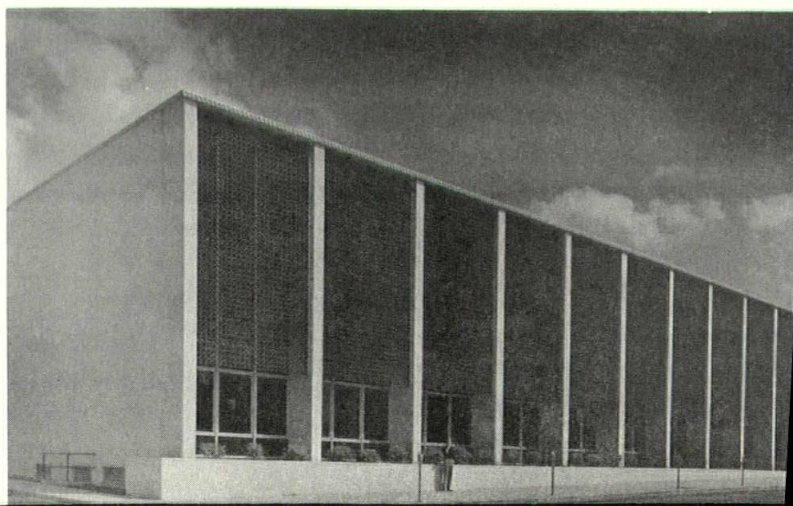
The site includes a parking area for government vehicles as well as a covered areaway for 65 mailsters which allows the mail to be loaded into these mailsters during inclement weather without damage. In addition, there is a Vehicle Maintenance Facility sized to service the vehicles for all of the post offices within a radius of approximately 60 miles. A large rear platform and dock area has been provided with various levels at the rear platform to accommodate trucks of different sizes.

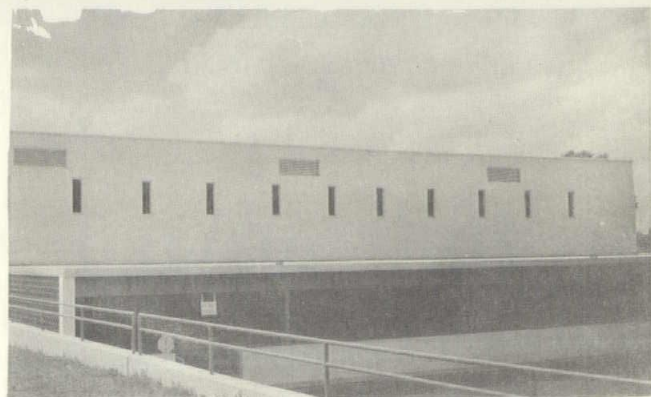
A great number of new mail handling features have been incorporated into the building, including, on the second floor of the

building, a parcel post sorting machine that is linked by conveyors to and from the rear platform below and completely mechanizes the large parcel post operation.

Another advantage of the new building is the consolidation of the entire delivery section. Previously, the mail carriers had operated out of five branch post offices, but now there is ample space to take care of all carriers within this facility. The lobby of the new post office has in the main lobby open counter window units and a separate lobby for patron's boxes. The administrative offices are located on the second floor of the building.

The building has a reinforced concrete frame, concrete slab for floors and roof. The exterior is of white glazed brick with aluminum monumental windows and a gold anodized aluminum screen suspended between marble pilasters on the west front. Interior finishes consist of concrete block in work area, plaster in office areas, plus acoustical ceilings and a luminous ceiling in the lobbies.



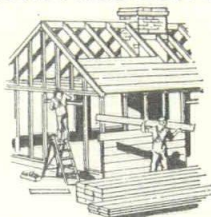


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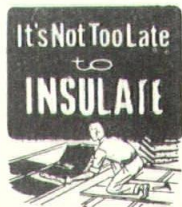
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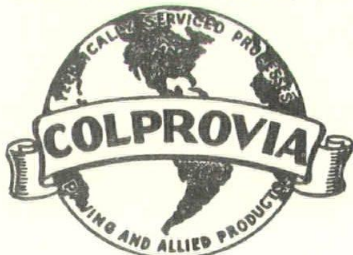
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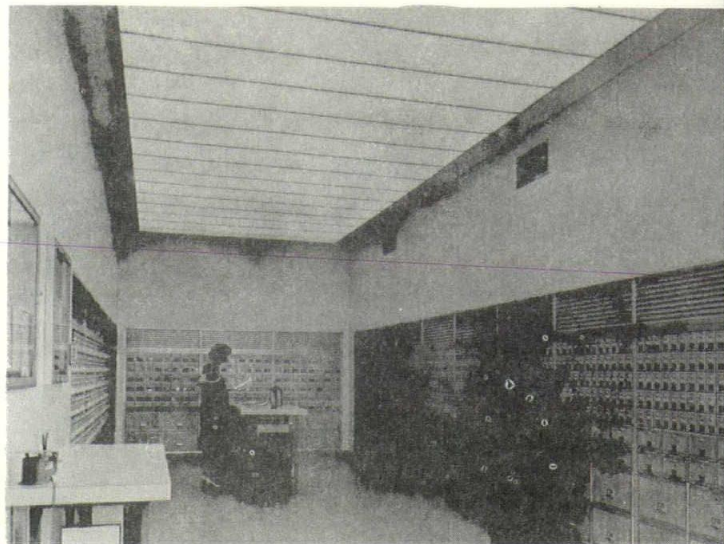
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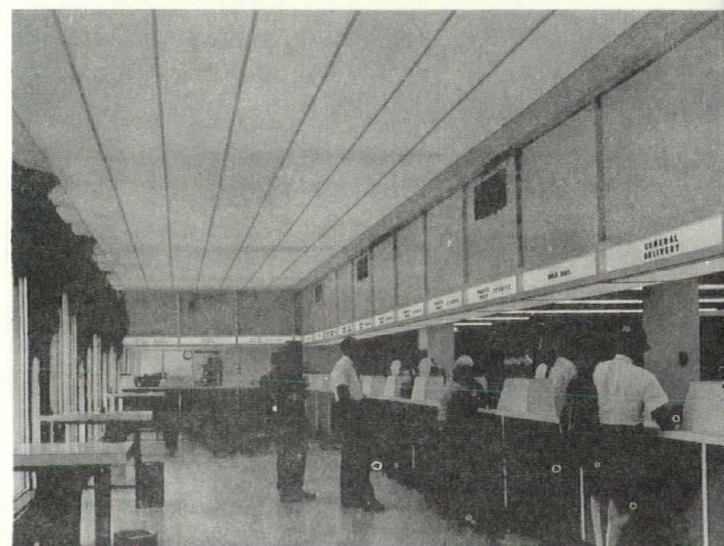
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Interior at box lobby - Greenville Post Office



Interior at customer service lobby - Greenville Post Office

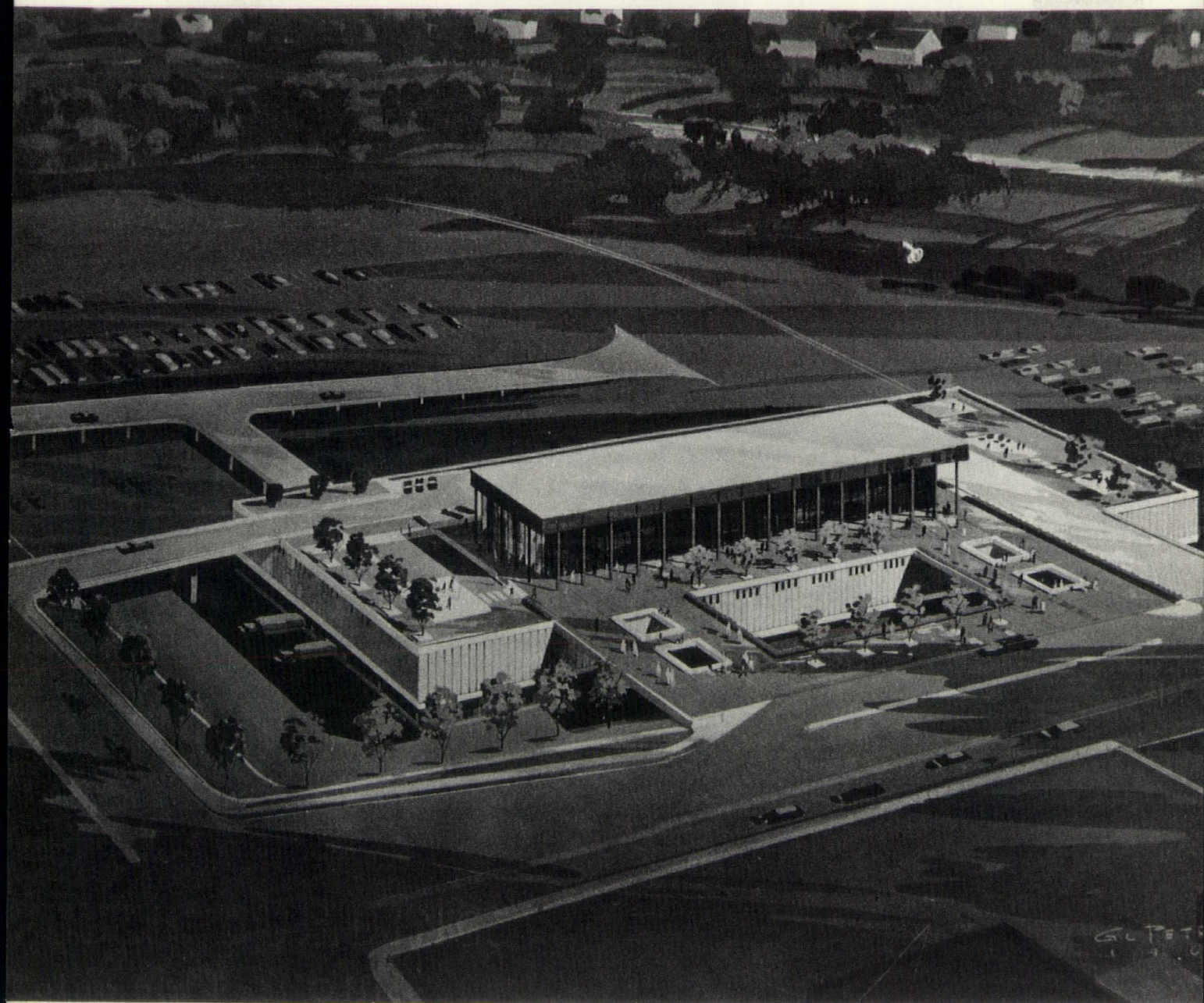


Mechanized parcel post area - Greenville Post Office

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Columbia Post Office

Architects: Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle & Wolff - Lafaye, Fair, Lafaye & Associates



Columbia Post Office

A unique problem faced the architects for the new statewide mail distribution facility in Columbia. Although the proposed location was close to the center of town, close to an interstate highway, had railroad access, and seven acres of ground available, the seven acres was situated fifty feet below the major streets bordering on two sides — hardly an ideal site for the major post office in the State of South Carolina. Yet the architects found it lent itself ideally to the requirements for handling all mail entering the state, and the redistribution of this mail to all corners of the state, plus an additional function as a city post office.

For these requirements, Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle & Wolff designed a four-level structure of about 200,000 gross square feet. The lowest level, 55 feet below the street, is

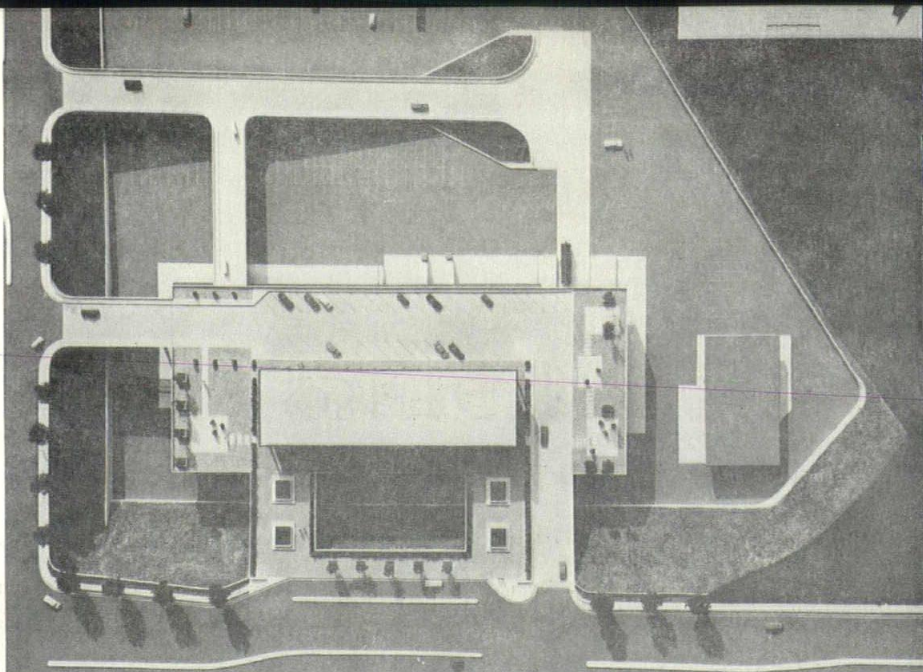
reached by ramp from the street above and contains loading and unloading docks for some 44 trucks and railroad cars, plus necessary bulk mail handling operation in the building, and employee and truck parking and servicing areas.

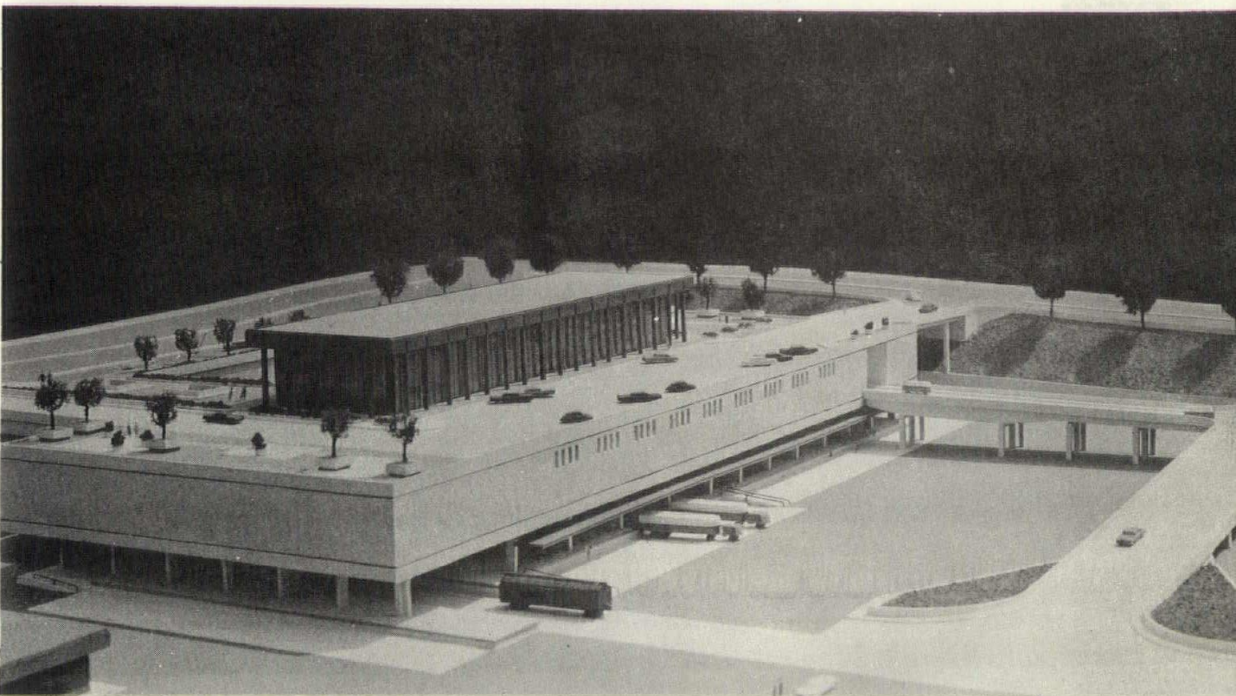
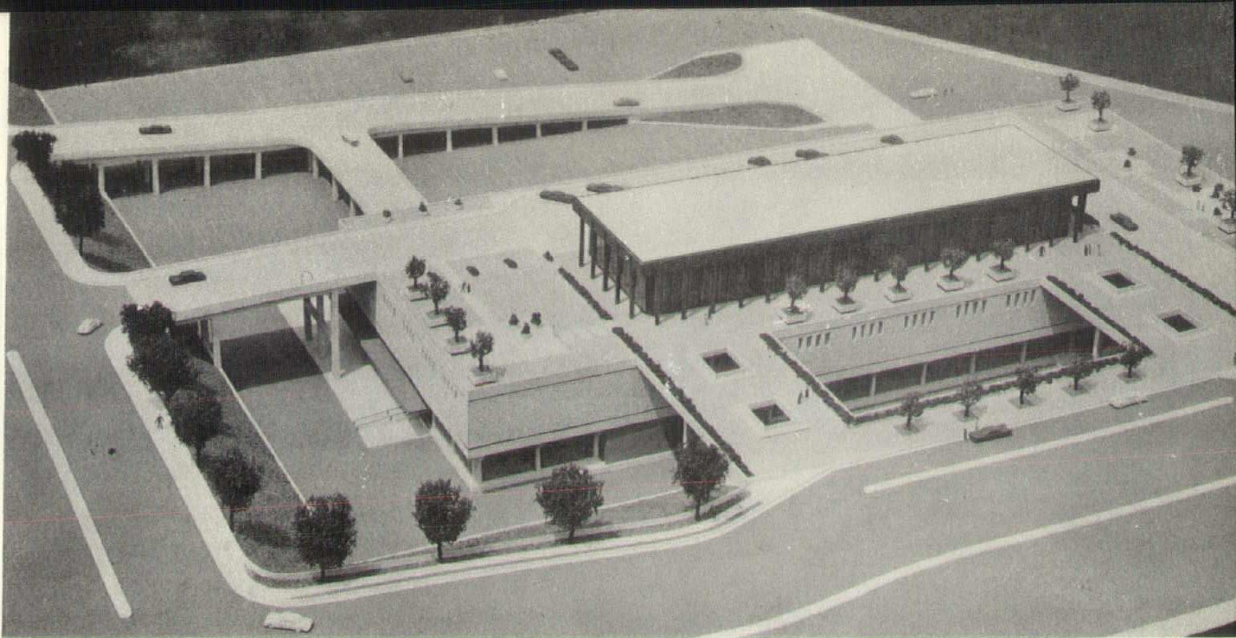
The second level contains first class mail handling equipment using the most advanced, mechanized mail-handling techniques, plus a mailster and light truck loading space and garage that will be reached by a bridge from the ramp.

The third, or platform, level is linked to the streets by bridges and by a broad, paved plaza that forms a base for the bronze-sheathed colonnade building containing the third and fourth levels. On the street, or third level, the box lobby and service lobby open directly to the parking area and plaza. The fourth level contains of-

fice spaces for the Post Office Department.

The structure is of reinforced concrete with a flat slab on a 27-foot square bay based on a 4-foot, 6-inch module. The exterior of the second level is faced with precast concrete panels. The third, or platform, level paving is exposed concrete at the roadbeds and walks of fine or coarse exposed aggregate paving for the specially treated plaza and other areas. The third and fourth levels have been treated in a dignified, classic manner to make the building more easily identified as a post office. The cross-shaped columns and fascia are sheathed in bronze with a bronze and brown glass curtain wall behind. Textured paving, special planting and benches will be added to give a park-like setting to the building at this public level.





PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Spartanburg City Hall

Architects — Engineers: David Wm. Cecil • O. Kent Cecil

Spartanburg's City Hall, completed in April of 1961, was designed as a complete governmental center which consolidates under one roof the many offices and services of a complex city government. The 53,000 square foot municipal building, designed by David Wm. and O. Kent Cecil, AIA, is a three-story structure covering almost a city block. The building forms three main blocks: the Administrative, the City Jail and the Fire Department, with parking on the side and in the rear. The \$900,000 structure is primarily of concrete and white brick with structural steel used in the Administrative portion.

The many administrative functions carried on by the city government are incorporated in the front section of the building. Here are the public works departments (engineering and planning), building departments (building inspectors' and

officials' offices) and city treasurer with offices for the license and tax bureaus. The city court, including a paneled courtroom and offices for the judge, jury and clerk, is also located in this section, which in addition contains modern offices for the mayor, city attorney, city manager and purchasing agent.

The architects chose for the floors terrazzo, poured in place and precast, slate for public areas, ceramic mosaic tile for restrooms and resilient flooring in office areas. The walls are plastered and acoustical tile is used for the ceilings.

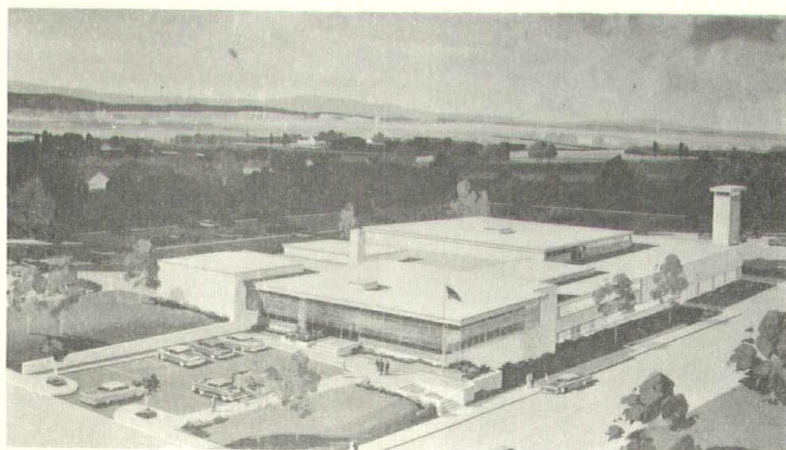
Rising high above the roof of the building is a 68-foot hose-drying tower for the fire department. This tower will double as a jump tower, to speed the training of new firemen. The department houses a ladder truck, three pumper trucks, two utility trucks and the chief's car. There are dormitories for 24

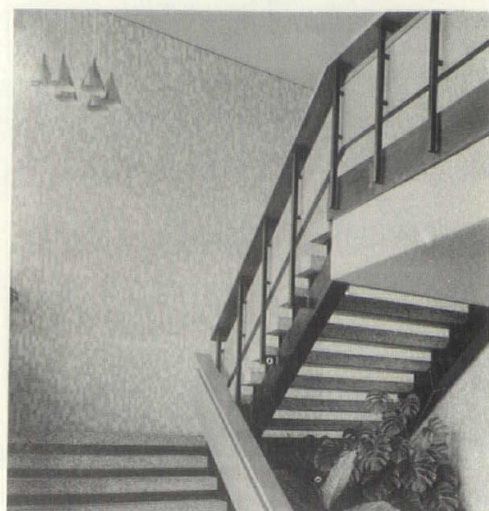
men to live in while on duty, a day room, kitchen, classrooms and lockers.

The jail portion of the building contains space and facilities for 160 prisoners including first rooms, maximum security cells for men and women and juveniles, plus dormitory space for 80 inmates and work gangs. All walls, ceilings and floors of the jail area are concrete with $\frac{1}{4}$ " \times 4" \times 4" reinforcing mesh for security. Additional space is provided for police and detective facilities, including dormitories.

There are two elevators serving this building — one for the Administrative portion and one serving the three-story jail section.

The architects designed the building so that future additions may easily be made. Already, an 8,000 square foot area has been converted into a fallout shelter for Spartanburg.





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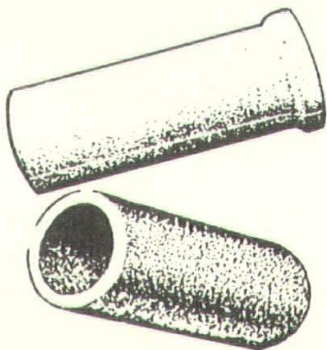
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With Maye in December 63

It had taken us half a day to find his place (a unique, vine covered structure facing away from the world behind a clutter of unkempt neighbors) only to be confronted with this note pinned to the door, "Please do not enter without knocking — please do not knock." At the height of our quandary (and immediately following a swish of coffee grounds), there appeared a lovely brunette¹ who added to our confusion with the advice, "No one is admitted except on business—no business is transacted here;

but, you are welcome for coffee!"

Forming a primary conversation group around the coffee table we inquired if this was the normal conduct of business at Reid Hearn & Associates.

"I've been planning to change that name," retorted our quarry² as he joined us. "It should be Hearn, Hearn & Hearn; everybody should know my associates are Reid Hearn, Sr., who makes our models (between music pupils) and Reid Hearn, III, who cleans up and gives critiques (between classes at Crayton)."

We observed as how that was a lot of Reid Hearn.

"That isn't all," he said, "there is my cousin Reid Hearn, and there is Reid Hearn who cooks for my mother. We all call each other 'Bill' to avoid confusion — just call me 'Bill.'"

"Then, 'Bill,' your Dad is actually in the firm?"

"My Dad is actually in Eatonton, Georgia, where Uncle Remus and I were born on those frosty mornings. He commutes now and then."

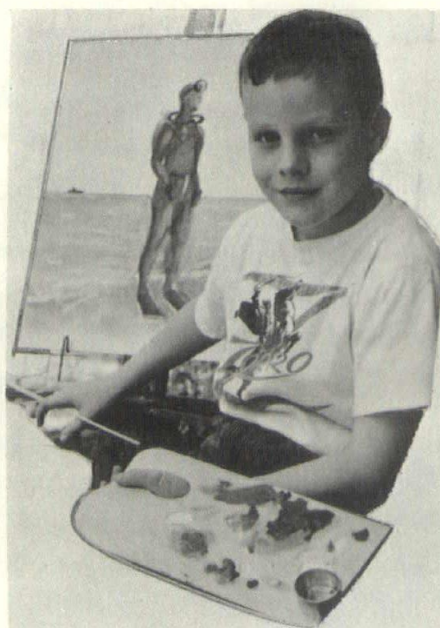
"And your son?"

"My son has been advised not to take up Architecture unless he finds he can do nothing else — cliff hanging, for instance."

¹Enter "Mrs. M", secretary of legendary friendliness and mainstay of the firm. ²Enter Reid Hearn.



▲ REID, SR.



REID, III ►

profile / H. REID HEARN, JR., AIA

"To change the subject (by all means), Mr. Hearn, how many people do you have working upstairs?"

"Nobody is working upstairs when I'm down here talking with you."

"Really, Sir (or 'Bill'), you don't expect the fellows to work all the time, do you? They have to relax some, don't they?"

"Relax—relax and rigor mortis sets in. Architects are supposed to work all the time. To relax may be our problem, but I prefer to believe there are Architects all over the world, under similar circumstances, who are not relaxing."

"What do you mean, why are the Architects so tense?"

"They need to be more tense—or they will be past tense. There is too much Architectural experimentation; too much junketeering and package dealing."

Our eyebrows were slightly elevated.

"To many 'would be' leaders and not enough followers have bred an

irresponsible Architecture and the public is becoming disenchanted."

Our eyebrows were further elevated.

"We feel it essential the public learn to distinguish what is truly Architecture from what is merely building. There must be a never ending quest for quality in building."

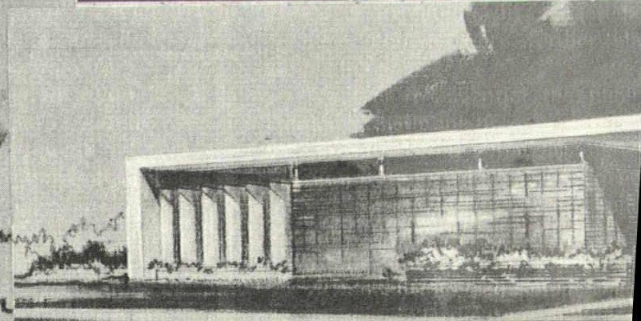
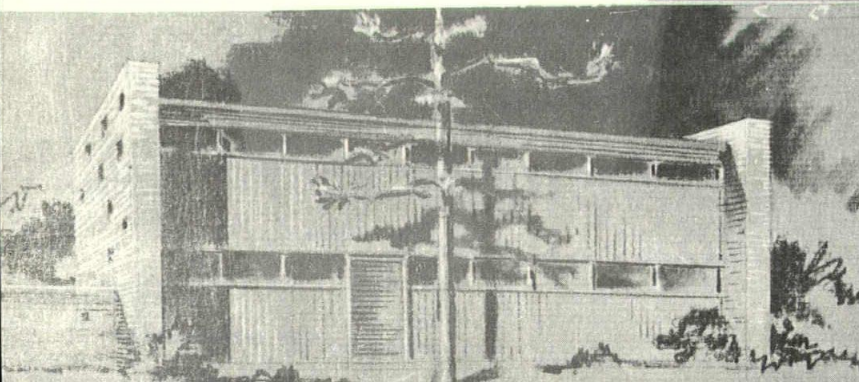
"What is needed, Mr. Hearn?"

"A Renaissance," becoming highly serious. "Dedicated architects, sculptors, and painters must work together again to nurture the simultaneous creation of a vital Architecture. A picture is more than an assembly of correctly drawn parts."

"Is this a question of Modern Architecture versus Period Styles?"

"It is not. It is a question of life versus stagnation; a situation that has been inspired by radicals and carpetbaggers."

"But, Mr. Hearn, is it not true that the hard crust of tradition has been successfully shattered by



these radicals?"

"Now that is a good example of expeditious thinking with utter disregard for logic. It is both unnatural and undesirable to break with tradition. When you arbitrarily reject the past, you wind up with abstraction. The radicals (or rebels and idealists) will come to realize the best contemporary work evolves from the best in tradition. There is nothing more grotesque than something that is self-consciously modern."

"Then, Mr. Hearn, are we to assume that you are the harbinger of a decadent Architecture?"

"Only your stupidity prompts me to overlook that impertinent remark — what I have been saying is that the course for the future must be set in terms of the past. Each generation does not beget its own culture apart from itself. Good Architecture is progressive."

"You feel then, Mr. Hearn, that one just doesn't slam and bolt the door on the past and enter at once

into the future?"

"Now you catch on. When self-appointed modernists flippantly toss away the past, they forget the appalling rapidity with which the present becomes the past and how little of the immediate present survives for posterity."

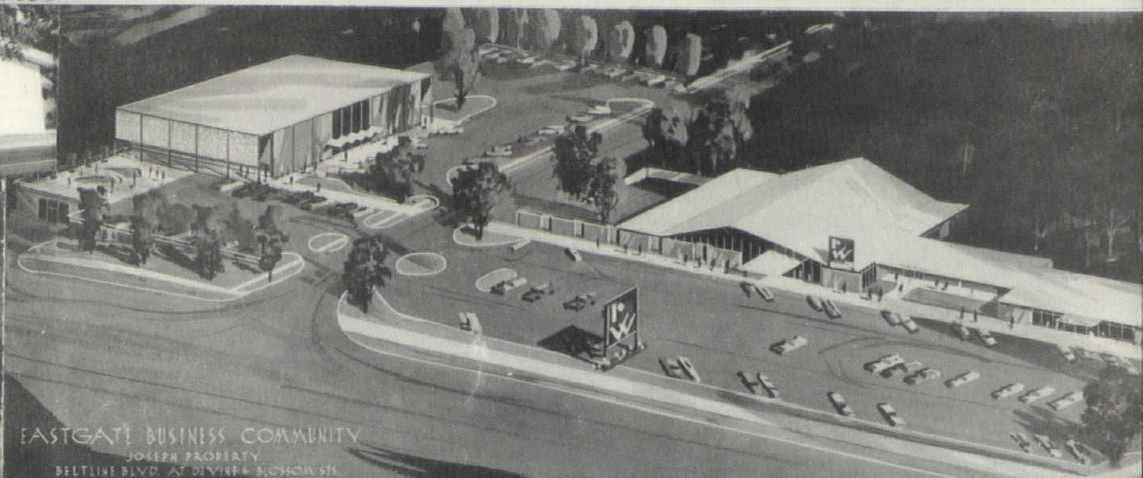
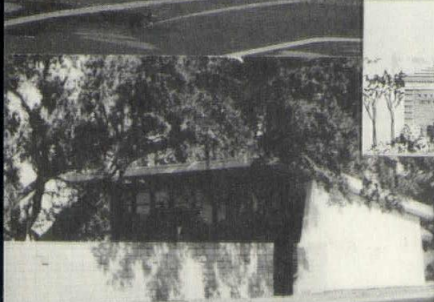
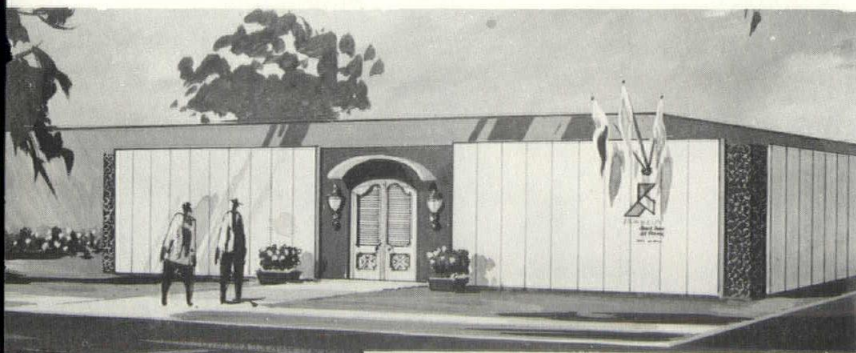
"Then it is the uninitiated, or possibly irresponsible modernists who create these passing fads, or cliches, that are here today and gone tomorrow."

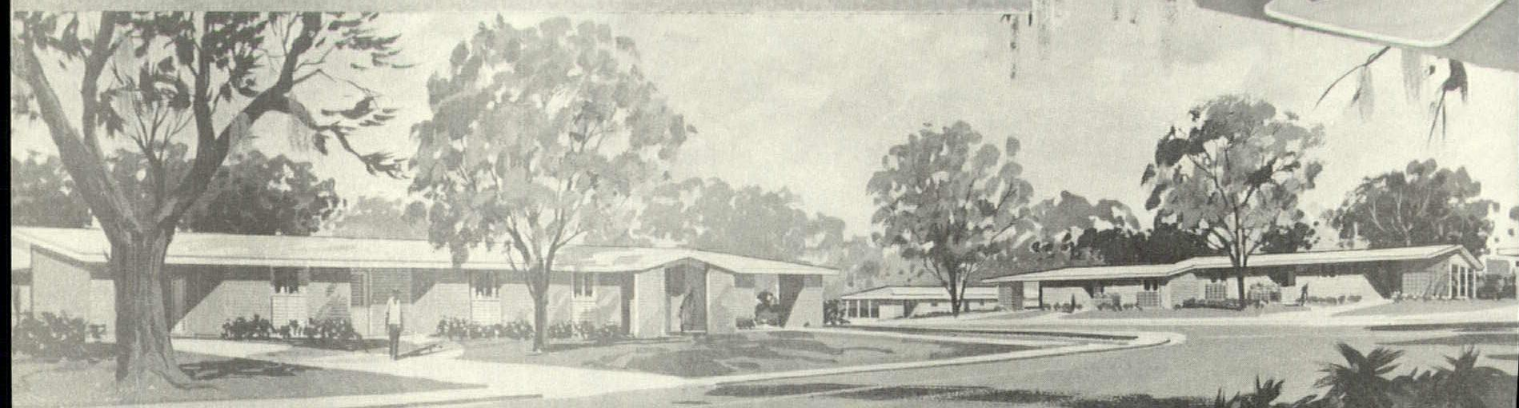
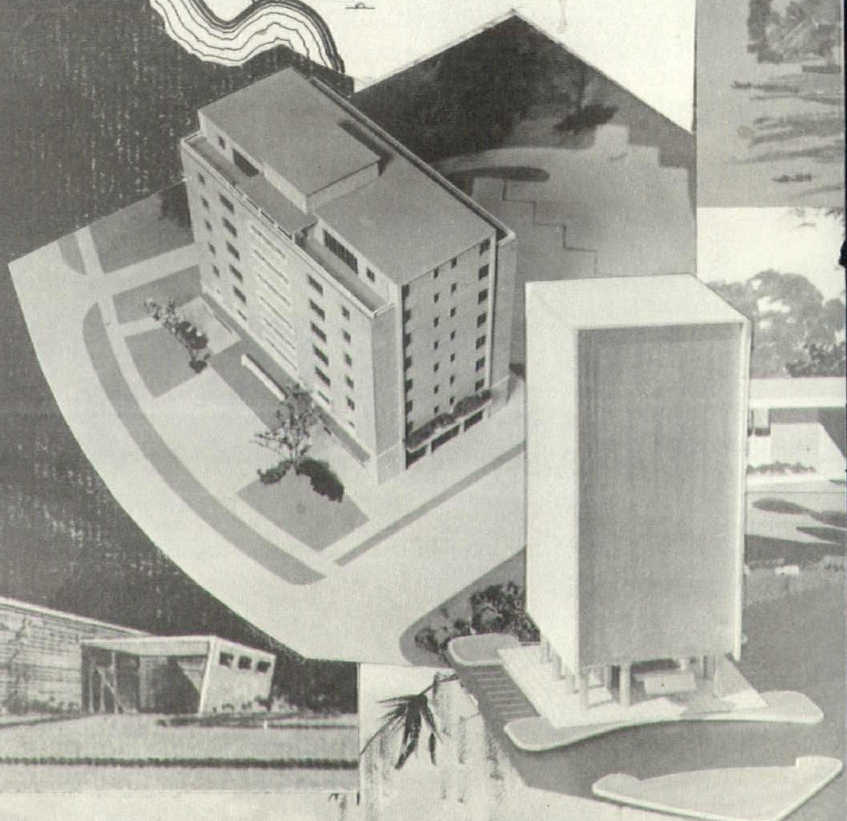
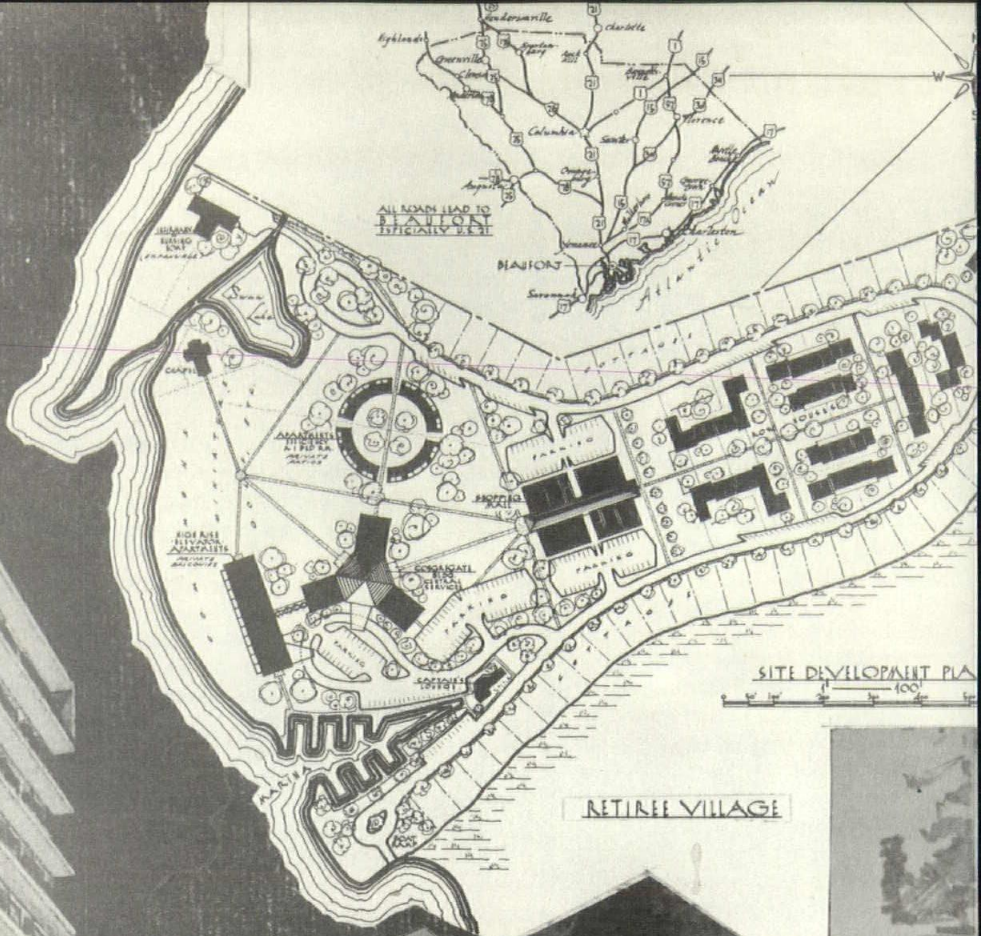
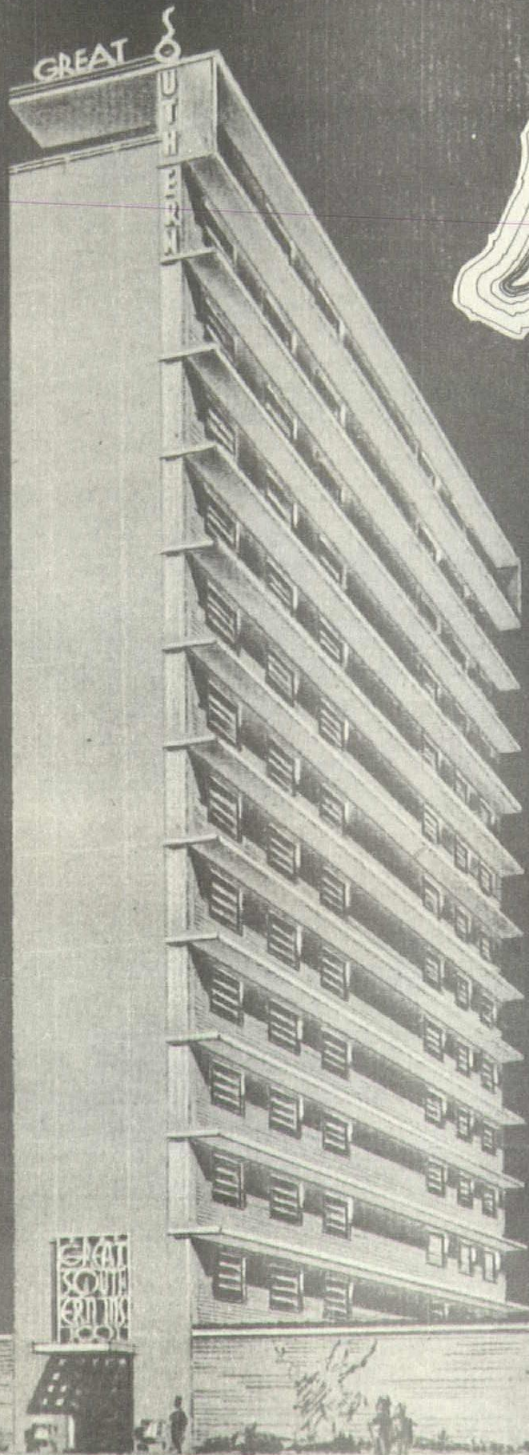
"You amaze me. And, should they contemplate the few years that intervene before infirmity sends one from the drawing board to the hearth, they may wish to leave the door to the past slightly ajar."

Taking our clue from this, we stole silently away, accepting our hats from "Mrs. M" as we passed through the open door.

P.S. Despairing that any amount of verbal sparring would yield personal details, we had taken leave of our adversary without leveling a single question in this direction.

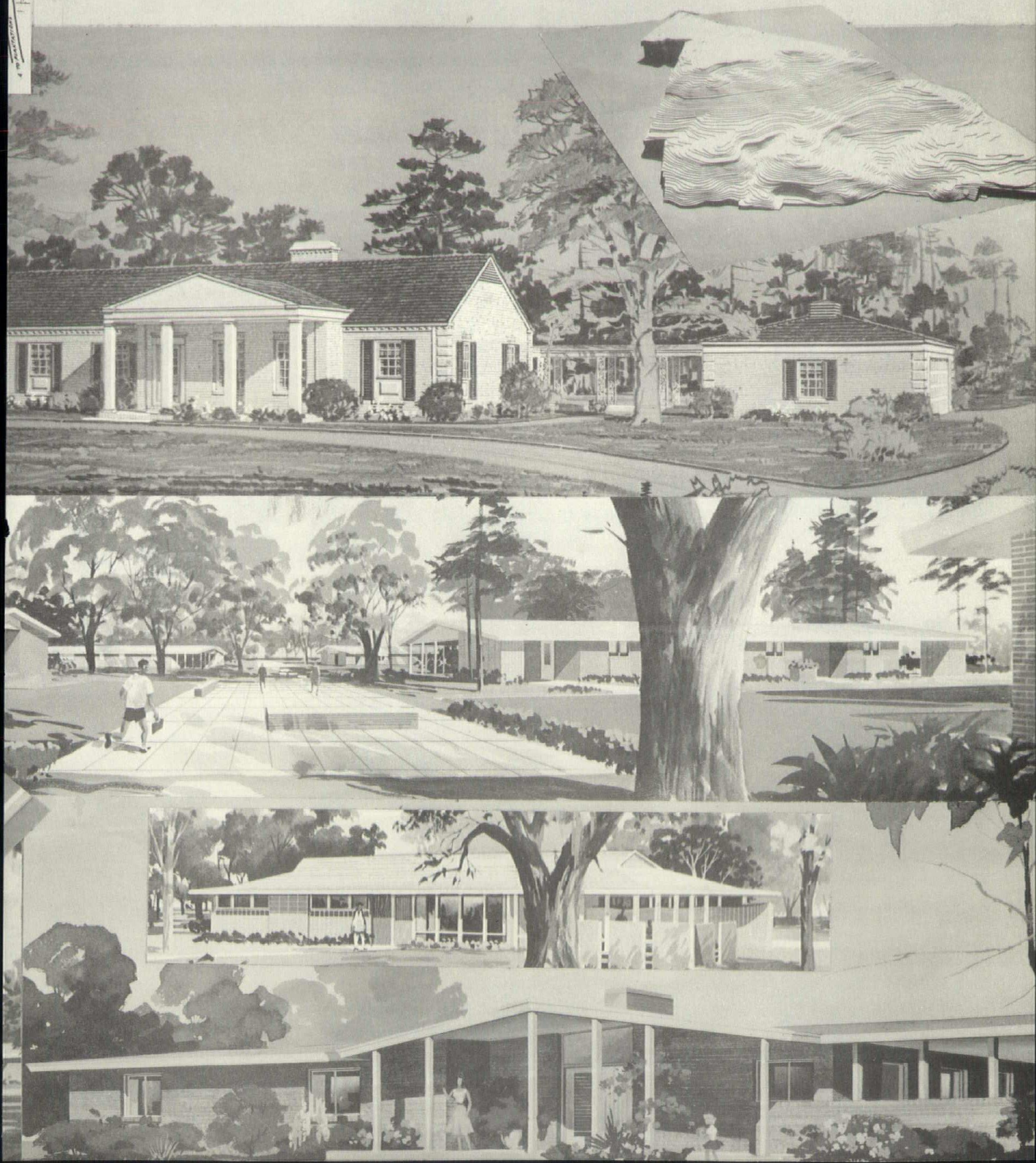
He contends the greater the planner's range of activity in **COMMERCIAL WORK** the greater the stimulation. Columbia office far left, Beaufort office center.





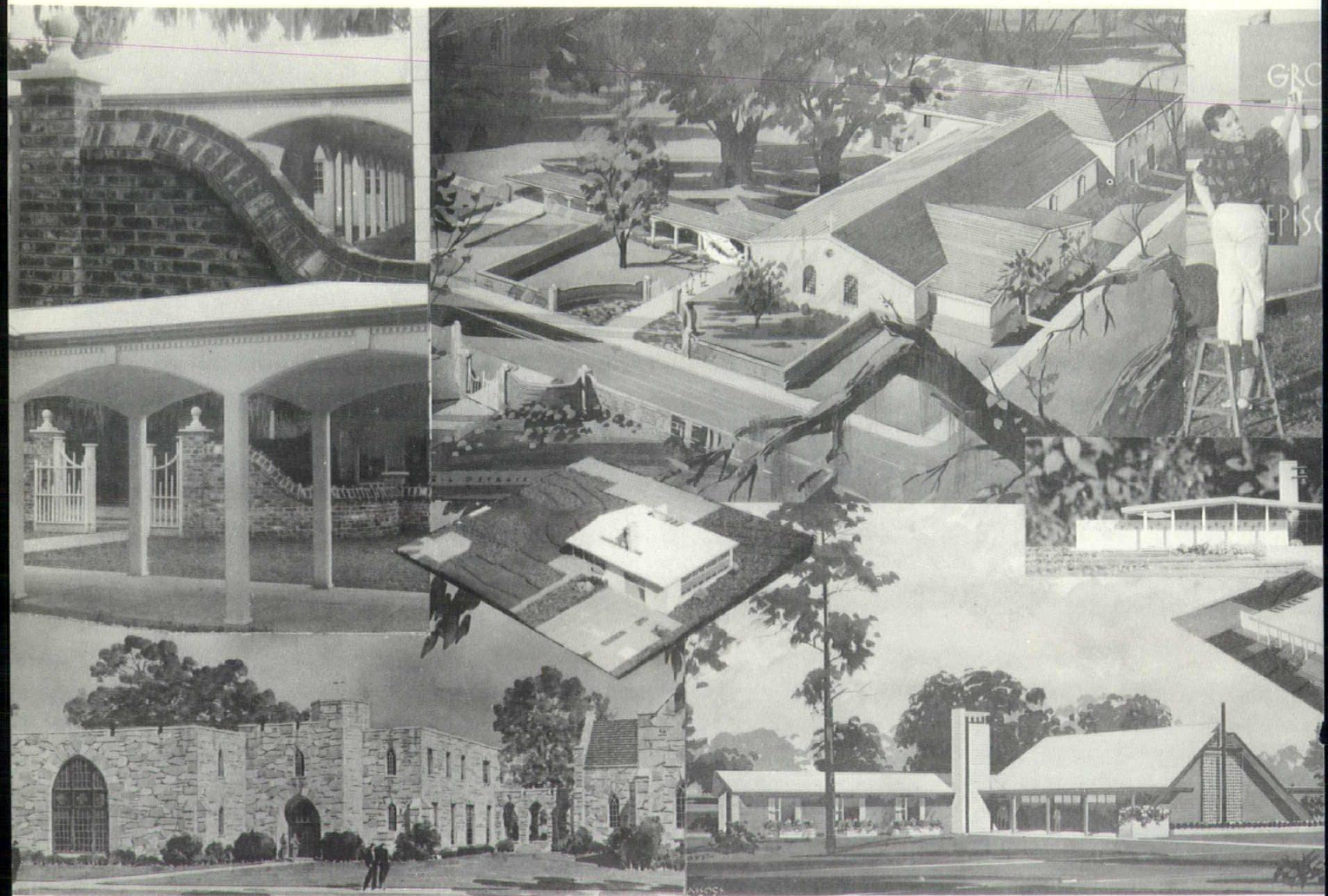
profile/REID HEARN

A pioneer in HOUSING and Land Planning, his early experience as one of the nation's youngest Chief Architects with FHA preceded award winning achievements in developments ranging from economy tract units to high rise apartments & sprawling city-size complexes for the Military Services.

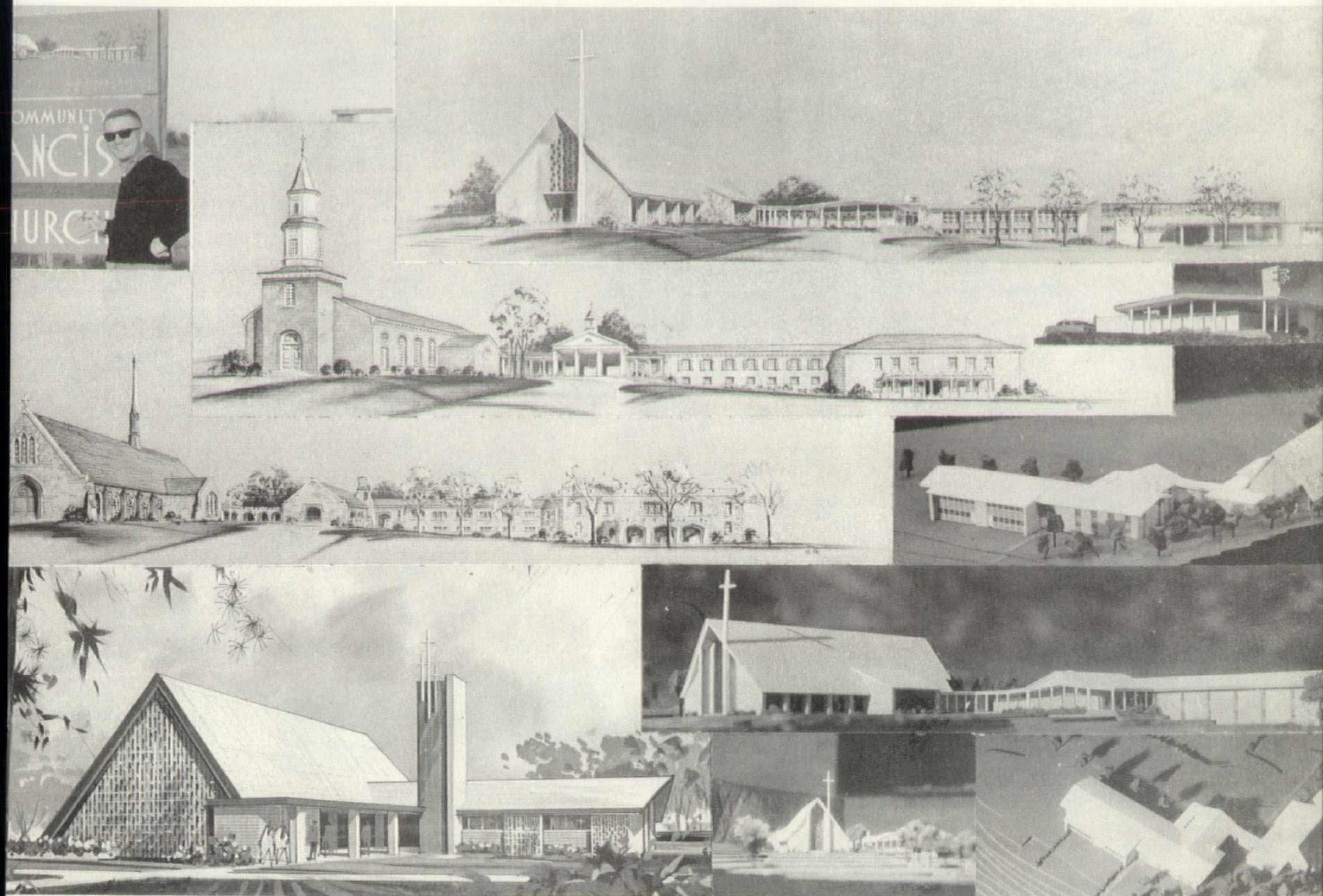


profile / H. REID HEARN, JR., AIA

He believes the CHURCH has been the

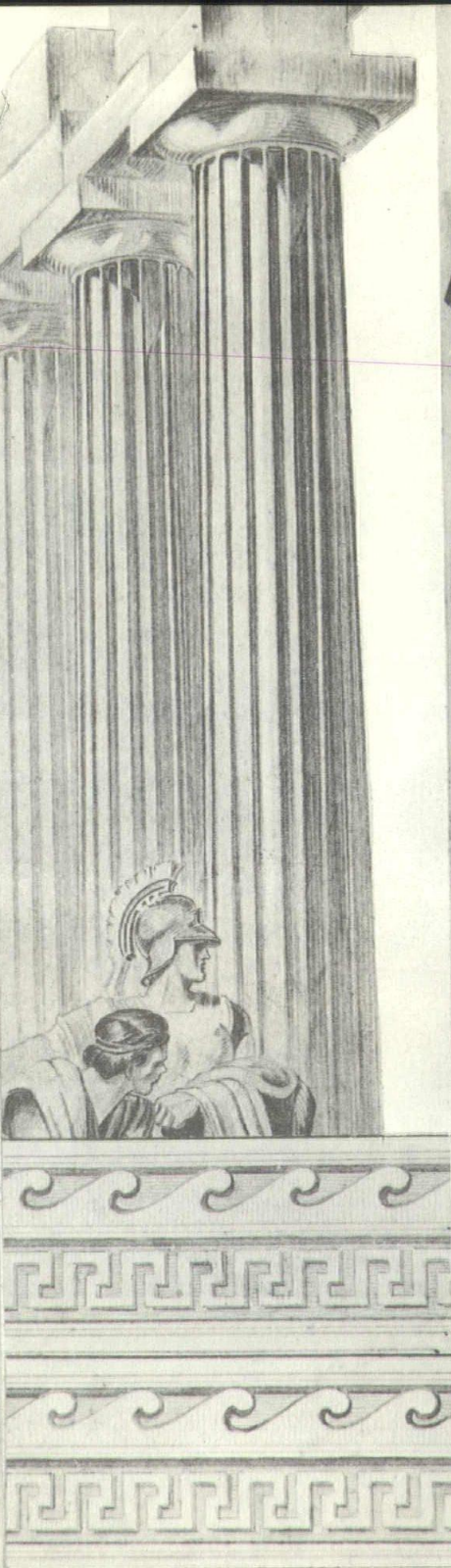


patron of the arts through the ages.

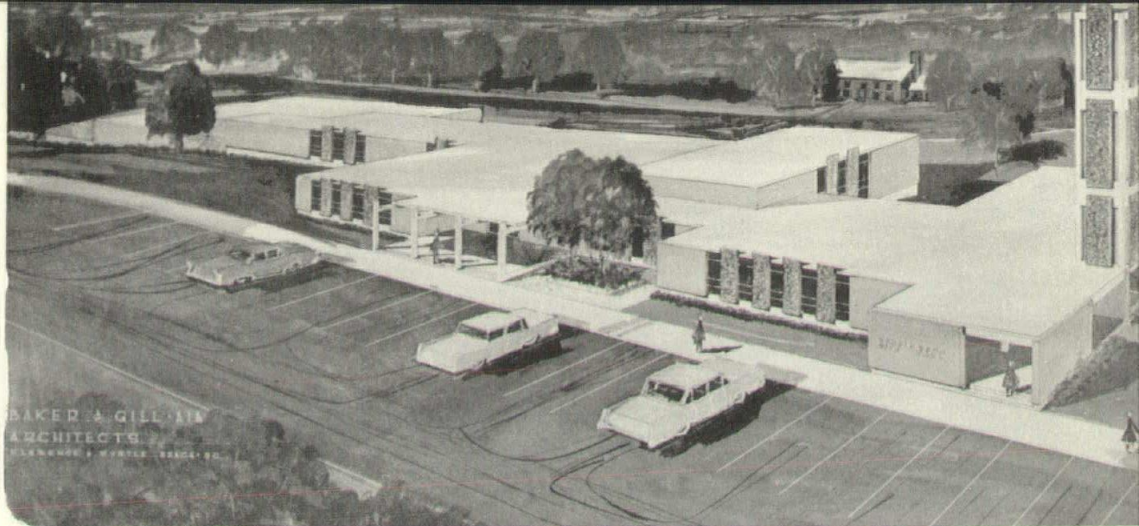


profile/REID HEARN

Out of school into the depression, his "practice" was mostly ILLUSTRATION with his first theme the history of Architecture.



recently completed by contract-firm of C. B. Askins & Co., Lake S. C., the Darlington City Hall houses the city administrative offices, fire department, police department, courtroom and jail cells for 16 prisoners. The building consists of 8,900 square feet on the first floor, 8,700 square feet on the second floor and cost \$275,000. The structure is of masonry bearing walls and steel bar joists and has an exterior of masonry and precast concrete panels.



City Hall

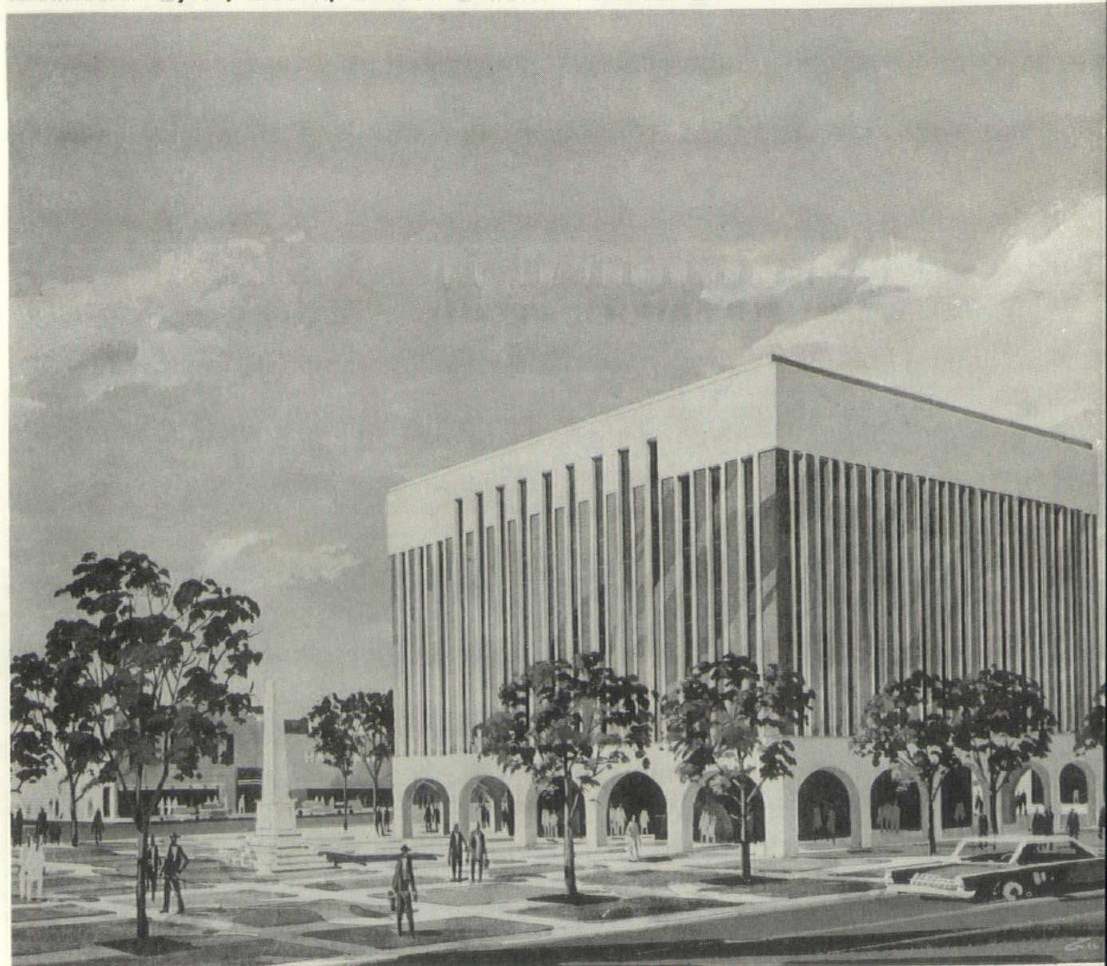
Architects: Baker & Gill . . . Florence

PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Darlington

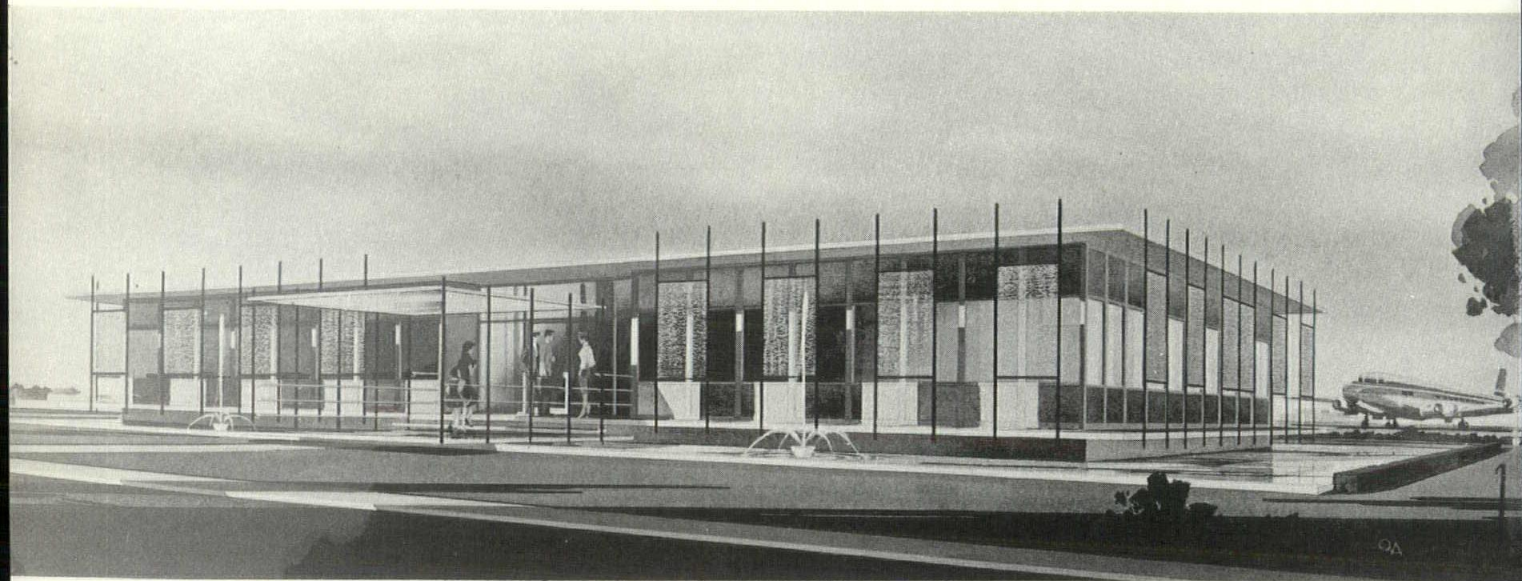
County Courthouse

Architects: Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle & Wolff . . . Columbia

Under construction by General Construction Co. of Columbia, the 5-story Darlington County Courthouse will be located in the center of Darlington. The building will stand in a brick-paved, tree-lined and landscaped town square. The first floor of the 5-story square courthouse will have a limestone band around the four sides, and the upper floors are to be faced with Williamsburg brick in a deliberate attempt to tie in traditional, familiar courthouse materials, limestone and brick, with the requirements of a multistory building. The interior floors contain various county administrative offices, judges' chambers and on the top floor a courtroom with high windows that penetrate the limestone band at the top of the building. A basement floor will contain vaults and record storage. The reinforced concrete structure containing over 50,000 square feet will cost approximately \$1,000,000, and is to be completed by the fall of 1964.



PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Sumter



Sumter Airport Completed 1959 By Trotter Construction Company.

Architects: Demosthenes, McCreight & Riley, A. I. A. . . . Sumter

Sumter Chamber of Commerce Completed 1961 By ECB Construction Company



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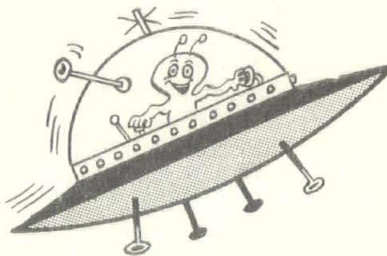
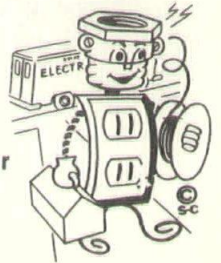
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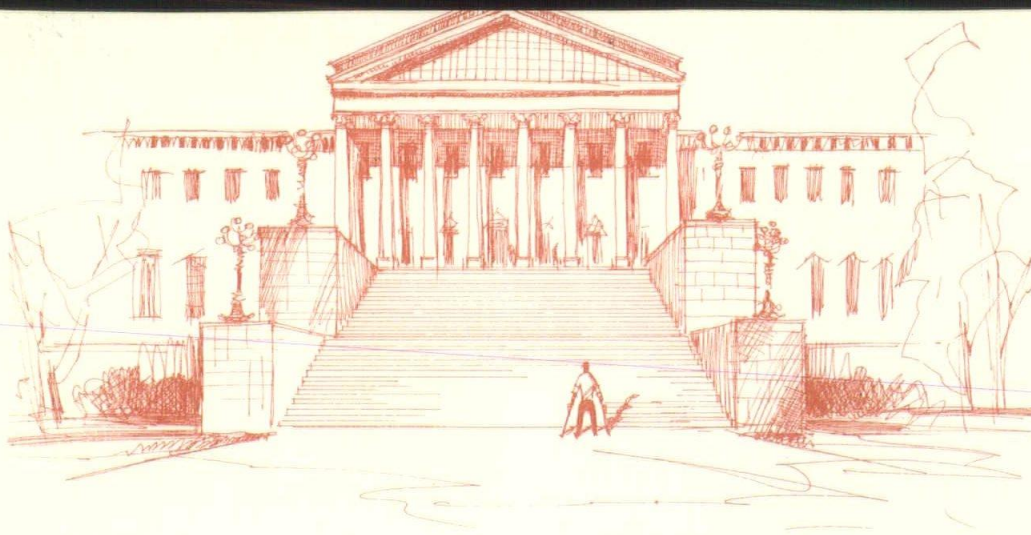
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A Break Through The Architecture

One week before Christmas in 1953 I was stricken with paralytic polio while serving in the United States Navy. I was married, had two children, and was looking forward to a lifetime career in the Navy. I haven't the remotest idea how I may have encountered the polio virus but its effect on my body in a matter of the fewest days caused a very profound change in my outlook for the future. Having lost the use of both legs and confined to a wheelchair I was retired from the Navy and was forced to seek some new occupation to support my family.

By the time I entered Law School at the University of South Carolina in September, 1955, I had graduated from the wheelchair to the use of two leg braces and crutches. Even today, however, I use the wheelchair almost exclusively within my home because of the difficulty I have in getting to and from a seated position. One of the peculiarities of my disability is the requirement that I walk upstairs backwards. This never fails to evoke questions from any children who happen to be nearby and I always explain it to them quite simply by saying that I like to see where I have been!

Naturally I have become well acquainted with the problems of the handicapped. A great many people here in South Carolina face these problems. It is my understanding that there are at the present time 199,000 persons in the state who are suffering from a physical handicap affecting mobility as well as over 6,000 blind persons, 18,000 persons with car-

diac conditions, and 157,000 persons over the age of 65 and experiencing the problems of mobility which all older people must face. I was surprised to learn that nearly one person in six in our nation has a permanent physical handicap. Each year more and more people are added to this list by reason of illness, automobile accidents, and numerous other causes. Authorities anticipate that over 200,000 traumatic paraplegics yearly will be added to the national statistics.

One of the most significant problems that I have to face each day as a handicapped person is the problem of architectural barriers, the problem of access to those buildings which I must enter to work, to vote, to worship, to learn, to play, or even to buy a stamp. Let me hasten to say that nowhere have I found a sign at the entrance of our public buildings saying, "Handicapped Keep Out" but in many respects there might as well be. As beautifully designed as our buildings are, the handicapped person encounters barriers of oversight and thoughtlessness such as these:

- Impressive flights of stairs that no person in a wheelchair, or wearing braces, or with a heart condition, could possibly climb;

- Rest rooms with facilities not suitable for wheelchairs; toilet stalls too narrow to be entered, mirrors so high that the person in a wheelchair cannot see himself;

- Telephone booths which the person in the wheelchair cannot

use;

- Hazardous doorways leading to boiler rooms or dangerous stairs with no sense of touch markings for the blind.

Let me bring the problem a little closer to home here in Columbia. In order to enter Law School at the University of South Carolina, I had my choice of a flight of eight or ten steps at the front of the building or a dark entrance at the rear of the building leading through the store room and basement. There are very few buildings on the University of South Carolina campus which a person in a wheelchair can enter and of which he can enjoy all of the facilities without help. You must remember that one step might as well be ten to the person who is in a wheelchair and without someone to assist him. The facilities of the city are no less barred to the handicapped. In Columbia, for example, the City Hall has a set of front steps which are perhaps as treacherous as any in the city because of their height. The front entrances to the Town Theatre and the Township Auditorium are most discouraging to the handicapped person who would like to participate in cultural activities and in Columbia it is most disconcerting to would be criminals to realize that many handicapped people could not even get into the County or City jails without assistance!

We are looking forward to a new post office in Columbia because the present post office is inaccessible to the person in the wheelchair. I presently serve in the State Legislature but I did not

Mr. McDonald, personable partner in the Columbia law firm of Rogers and McDonald, is a member of the House of Representatives from Richland County, active on the Statewide Committee on Elimination of Architectural Barriers for the Handicapped, and was instrumental in the recent passage of a bill setting forth requirements for making all new state public buildings and all state supported structures completely accessible to the physically handicapped.



Barriers For The Handicapped By Heywood E. McDonald

I dare enter politics without ascertaining whether I could get into the State Capitol building. I have discovered that the route with the least problems of access takes me up the first few steps in the front of the building and around underneath the imposing flight of steps to the main lobby. If I want to see the Governor, I will have to be prepared to mount the steps on the Wade Hampton Office Building. I hope no person in a wheelchair ever has problems with the Tax Commission for if they do, they will first have to face the problem of how to get into the Calhoun Office Building.

This list can be added to at length. As you read this article consider your own church. How many elderly people or handicapped people are prevented from worshipping because of problems of access to your sanctuary? Your children attend a neighborhood school. Is that school accessible to the handicapped child in a wheelchair? Could he use the toilet facilities? Are the water fountains so high that he cannot reach them from his wheelchair?

Hotel and motel accommodations are equally troublesome, usually because of steps or revolving doors at the entrances, and almost invariably because of the narrowness of the bathroom doors.

It goes without saying that handicapped people do not enjoy freedom from taxation when it comes to raising the money to pay for public buildings nor is their hotel bill any cheaper. These people, however, have been reduced to the status of "back door citizens" or "sec-

ond class citizens" by the thoughtlessness of the design of countless number of these buildings. Our governments spend tremendous sums of money for vocational rehabilitation programs designed to restore disabled people to the productive manpower at all levels of employment. If the handicapped cannot enter buildings and other structures, however, they cannot hope to hold jobs there no matter how well rehabilitated they may be.

It is impossible to overlook the psychological problems involved. Many of you have seen on television the advertisement in which the person plagued with a headache finally reaches the breaking point and exclaims, "Please, Mother, I would rather do it myself." All of us have felt this way at one time or another but this is particularly true of disabled persons. Unfortunately an unnecessarily large portion of our permanently physically handicapped have been institutionalized or are confined to their homes, protected and pampered by parents, relatives and friends. Many disabled people are afraid to leave their homes because of the architectural barriers which they will face, barriers which have been built into the very buildings which should be most accessible. Many a handicapped person would rather forego a trip into the city than call upon someone else to assist him to get in and out of our buildings or to use the facilities within them. No one likes to be a burden to other people. Many will reason that if they cannot accomplish this trip by themselves, they would rather not do it at all.

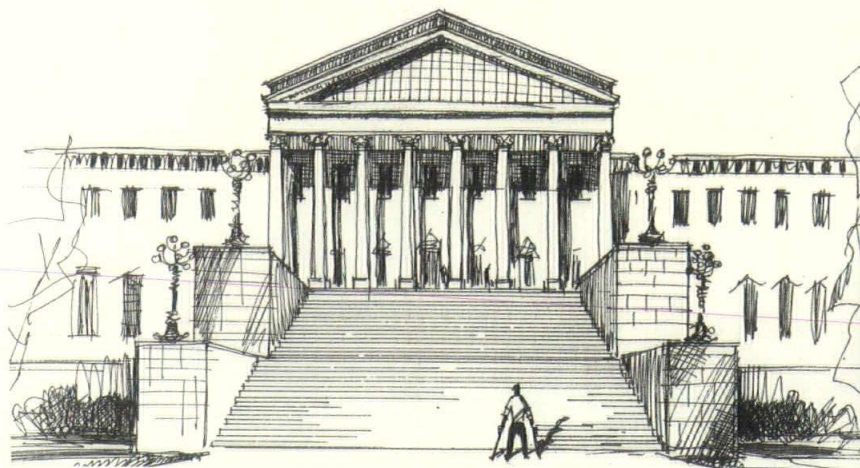
I believe that by now the problem has been sufficiently presented. Now the question is, what is being done about it? Fortunately something is being done, and we here in South Carolina can proudly assert that we are in the vanguard of the attack on architectural barriers. As early as May, 1959, the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped together with executives of the American Standards Association and representatives of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults met to discuss ways and means of making building and facilities more accessible. As a result the American Standards Association on October 31, 1961, issued a set of standard specifications, number A 117.1-1961, for making buildings and facilities accessible to, and usable by, the physically handicapped. The South Carolina Society for Crippled Children and Adults immediately began a concerted effort to implement this program in South Carolina. After much study, discussion and committee work, a bill was framed for introduction during the state legislative session beginning in January of 1963. A draft of the bill was presented to the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at its winter meeting at Clemson. The sponsors were pleased when the architects reported that the specifications set forth in the bill were a matter of good basic design which could be incorporated easily and economically into building design. The endorsement of the Architects, as well as the Association of General Contractors and

other groups, played an important part in the presentation of this legislation to the State Legislature. On May 14, 1963, Governor Donald Russell signed into law the first comprehensive piece of legislation throughout the nation specifically designed to meet the problem. Allow me to quote Section One of this Act:

"The standards and specifications set forth in this act shall apply to all buildings and facilities used by the public which are constructed in whole or in part by the use of State, county or municipal funds, or the funds of any political subdivision of the State. All such buildings and facilities constructed in this State after the effective date of this act from any one of these funds or any combination thereof shall conform to each of the standards and specification prescribed herein except where the authority responsible for the proper construction for the particular governmental department, agency or unit concerned shall determine, after taking all circumstances into consideration, that full compliance with any particular standard or specification is impracticable. These standards and specifications shall be adhered to in those buildings and facilities under construction on the effective date of this act, unless the authority responsible for the construction shall determine that the construction has reached a state where compliance is impractical. This act shall apply to temporary or emergency construction as well as permanent buildings."

It should be noted that the legislation applies only to those buildings constructed in whole or in part with tax revenues. Here are some of the salient features of this legislation:

(a) At least one primary entrance to each building shall be fully usable by individuals in wheelchairs. All floors of the buildings



must be accessible by elevator.

(b) Doorways must have a clear opening of no less than 32 inches.

(c) A safe design of stairsteps is required so as to avoid abrupt (square) nosing and provide at least one handrail.

(d) Floors shall wherever practical have a surface that is non-slip.

(e) An appropriate number of toilet rooms shall be accessible to and usable by the physically handicapped, including at least one oversized toilet stall therein.

(f) Special markings on doors shall be provided to aid the blind.

There are many other provisions in this legislation which would be of extreme interest to anyone involved with architecture, contracting, church building committees, etc. We can be proud that South Carolina has led the way and is the first state in the Union to adopt such comprehensive legislation. We can be grateful to the South Carolina Society for Crippled Children and Adults for their sponsorship of this program. Already there have been numerous inquiries from other states about the legislation. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington has asked for special information on the way in which South Carolina took action where action was needed.

The problem does not end, of course, with buildings constructed by the use of tax revenues. There are many, many other architectural barriers in buildings which are not affected by this legislation. This is why a program of public education is vitally needed. Architects, builders, city planners, government officials at local, state and federal levels, opinion molders, and the man on the street all must be persuaded that the standards incorporated in this legislation are not only worthwhile but essential for incorporation into every building into which the public must have access. Only then can we look forward to the time when every building and facility will be usable by everyone, whether able-bodied or physically handicapped . . . when an individual in a wheelchair can work with others, can enjoy a concert or a play with others . . . when he may worship in the church of his choice and not be kept away because of steps which bar his entrance . . . when physically handicapped children may enjoy free mobility in school buildings. Think of the wasted manpower which can be put to use when handicapped people can accept employment in buildings which are freely accessible. Needless to say, such buildings not only benefit the physically handicapped but the public in general, for they permit use of the facilities with greater ease and comfort by everyone. It is my hope that each reader will find a way to help publicize this program and to assist materially in its implementation.

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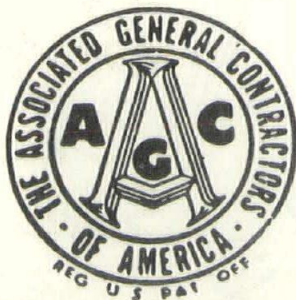
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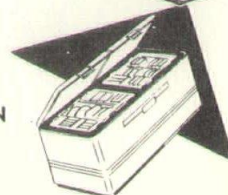
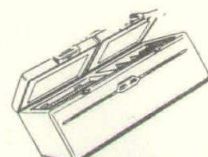
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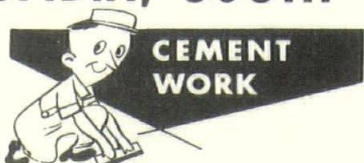
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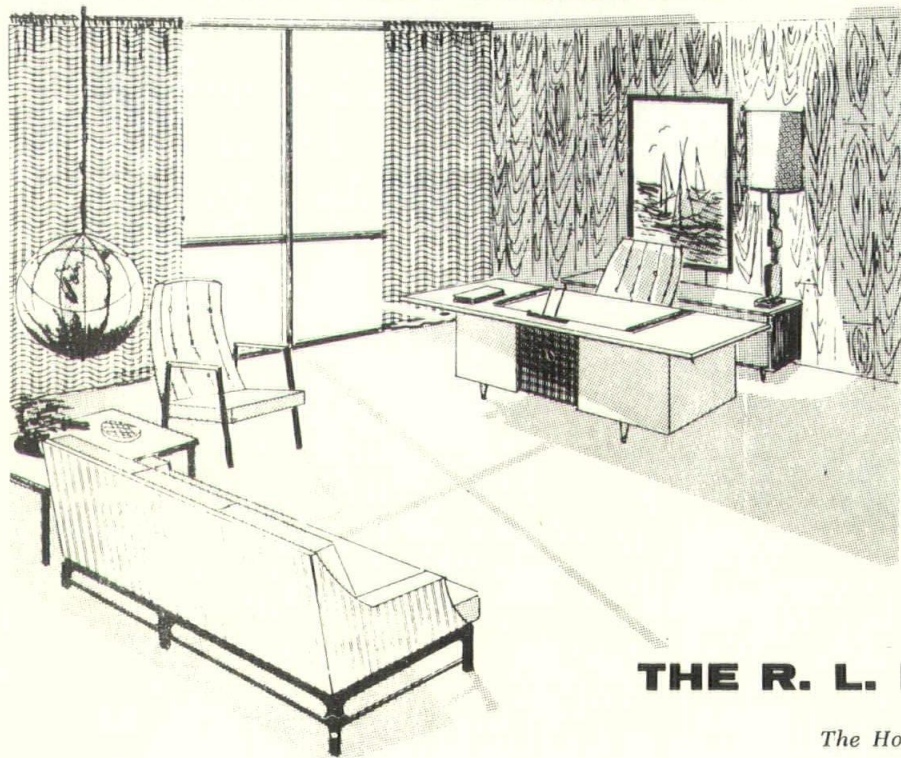
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PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The State House Dome

The drawing above and on the cover depicts the first architect's idea for the treatment of the dominant roof feature of the State House as a tower rather than as a dome as it is now.

The original State House design by Major John R. Niernsee called for a rectangular lantern 30 feet square that would tower 180 feet above the ground. Yet in 1900 when Frank P. Milburn was appointed architect for the building, he added the dome we see today, plus portions of the north and south porches.

Housing for State functions has had a history of difficulties. The first State House was begun in Charleston in 1753 and burned in 1788. In the meantime, Columbia had been designated in 1786 as the location for the State Capitol and a new building was being readied.

When the need for a fireproof building was recognized, the present building, the third State House for South Carolina, was begun after

Major John R. Niernsee was appointed architect in 1854. In 1865 the Civil War and the burning of Columbia by Sherman in February interrupted the construction, although only slight damage was done by shells from the Northern Army. Construction was begun again in 1885, but the death of Major Niernsee again slowed progress. By 1900 the major portion of the building was complete and Frank P. Milburn was employed to replace the roof, add the porches and the dome, or lantern. His dome was criticized from the beginning and a joint legislative committee described it thus: "No uglier creation could be devised, and it is nothing short of a miserable fraud." Milburn and the contractors were sued by the State, but there was a mistrial and the case was not retried.

Charles C. Wilson, who became the State House architect in 1904 and completed the north and south porches, felt that a grave mistake had been made and that the build-

ing should be "protected from further departure from his (Niernsee's) design."

About twelve years ago proposals were considered by the Legislature for wings and the Niernsee design for the "dome", but preliminary estimates put the cost at 1½ to 2 million dollars — enough to discourage further consideration. More recently, an inner dome was added to strengthen but not alter the weatherbeaten Milburn dome and to drain off water. Even though there seems to be almost universal agreement that the dome is much too small, lacks architectural strength and is not of the same design and character as the remainder of the building, it is apparent that this dome will remain with us for many years to come. For as building costs for such structures increase, and as today's trend toward less ornate architecture increases, the possibility that we will ever see the original "dome" decreases more each day.



PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The State House Lobby

Interiors: Institutional Interiors . . . Columbia, S. C.

"South Carolina has one of the most beautiful state houses in the nation and I feel it deserves the finest," answered Mrs. Emmy Sims of Institutional Interiors, the design division of Columbia Office Supply Co. to some of the criticisms that have been raised to the extensive renovation work done in the State House lobby.

"I know it is shocking to some people who are used to seeing the lobby look like a brokendown railway station. But it had to be developed to look like something with a meaning . . ."

"We made a great effort to tie the history of the state in with the decorations. When they see this rotunda they are going to remember it for years to come." As a person enters the room, the first thing that catches the eye is the bright red carpet which is inter-

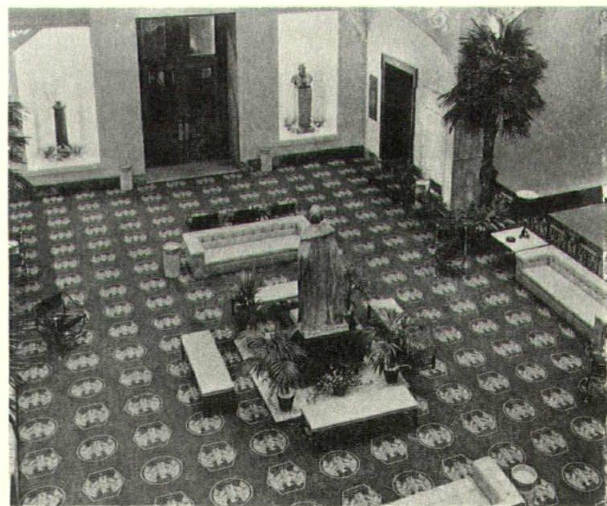
persed with federal eagles in gold taken from the eagle on the back of a 25 cent piece. "Red is the most welcoming color you can use," remarked Mrs. Sims; it is echoed in the carpet on the stairs and a bright red stripe painted near the ceiling line at the ornate cornice surrounding the room. The cornice is also painted black, gold and white and the walls below antique white. In addition a complete new lighting system makes this room of white and red and gold an ideal and elegant background for the comfortable furnishings and the for the statue of John C. Calhoun that forms the focal point for the room.

When the statue of Calhoun was moved from its wall niche to the center of the lobby, it faced south, away from the main entrance doors. The eagles in the carpet faced the same way, but within a week Mrs.

Sims had the entire carpet taken up and turned toward the entrance door. Calhoun was turned around so that visitors coming in the front door from Main Street will look directly into his face.

The overstuffed sofas are upholstered in gold fabric, and chairs in black leather. Tables have been topped with marble. Specially preserved fifteen foot high palm trees, yellow jessamine, and flags of the state complete the rich decor of the room.

The redecoration of the lobby is another step in the refurbishing of the interior of the State House which includes work already done in the Senate and House Chambers and other areas under the direction of the State Budget and Control Board and Walter Brown, Director of State Sinking Funds and Property.





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PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The State House - Cellar Mysteries

By CARLTON W. TRUAX

South Carolinas venerable State House holds many architectural mysteries which tend to proclaim its designer as a prophet.

Many questions about the building remain unanswered today. For example, what was the original purpose of the gloomy, arched subterranean basement?

What was the purpose of the arched, unlighted passageways which dead-end far beyond the reach of sunlight?

Why did the builders seal up tremendous basement rooms without doors, windows or entrance of any kind and, then under the very center of the massive building, build a magnificent arch over a passage two feet high; a passage which leads to a cramped and useless chamber?

Those who are allowed entrance to this underground vault, enter it by a steel door with a new lock which clangs dismally behind as they step down the few steps and duck their heads against the low hanging granite ceiling.

On either side of the entrance through the outer wall of the building, the massive granite is crude cut and fitted together with chips of stone. They look hardly stable enough to support the tons of rock which tower above them, but they have rested here for more than a century.

A few steps down the clayfloored corridor is the first of the basement's mysteries. High in the wall on each side of this passageway are openings in the granite measuring 15-by-26 inches. These strange chute-like openings slope sharply upward for several feet and then angle straight up through the solid wall. A series of these open onto the corridor through the whole length of the State House.



One of eight upside down arches, well designed and well built, but with no apparent purpose. Notice shovel at one side.

Where do they go? Some of them, before remodeling sealed them up, opened into the offices above. But some of them run up through the wall and open in the attic more than 100 feet above.

What are they for? Wastepaper chutes? Perhaps, but why wastepaper chutes to the attic?

Or perhaps the architect prophesied electrical circuits, central heating and air conditioning. Modern workmen have found that these strange small passageways through the granite walls provide them with almost the only way to

run their wires, piping and conduits. Without them, modern plumbing and air conditioning would have made of the hopeless eye sores decorative chambers above.

A few paces further down the central corridor, insulated pipes run along the ceiling, and behind these pipes are steel hooks anchored in the arched brick. They were used to support a primitive plumbing system which was long ago scrapped.

A doorway opens off the corridor, and on a lower level a wide chamber has been divided into storage.

and working rooms for maintenance men. That doorway was not included in the original plans, but the chamber was.

State House builders dug it out, built the foundations and then sealed it up. When room was needed, an opening was knocked through a granite wall six feet thick to get to this space below the floor. When a larger vault was needed for the treasurer's office, workmen were called in to cut a hole through the floor and a staircase is the only access to the dugeon-like vault.

Towards the center of the building strange oval passages lead off on each side of the main corridor. The carefully built entrance to these passageways are masterpieces in stone. They are six feet high and from four to five feet wide. They are elevated three feet off the floor and beyond them the floor drops away again to ground level.

The careful construction of the entrance to these passages belies the rough construction beyond where rough mortar has squeezed between the hand-formed bricks of the wall and arched ceilings and the floor is rough with broken brick and pieces of granite.

Here a man can walk upright and the light from the main corridor gives some visibility, but, back about 30 feet, the ceiling drops and the floor comes up to meet it. At this point this dismal passage branches off in three directions and crawl-space is all the room there is.

There are eight up-side-down arches, six on one side and two on the other in the building. They are filled in with stone and brick. There is no opening in them. They are beautifully designed and carefully built, but what purpose they serve underground nobody seems to know.

The most beautiful arch in the entire building, is also the most mysterious. Under the main lobby, it is about 10-feet thick and it spans an opening in the wall that is about 20 feet wide. But the opening is little more than two feet high.

One more mystery underground deserves attention. Recently, the picks of workmen digging a trench in the floor of the main corridor clicked against a piece of granite lying in the middle of the passageway directly in front of the great arch mentioned above.

They tried to dig it out and found

that it was nearly as wide as the passage which at this point is nearly 18 feet wide. They tried to go under it, and could not find the bottom. They finally went around it and found that it was about 10 feet long. What is that massive piece of cut granite doing there? How was it moved, and what purpose does it serve? Perhaps, someone suggested, it counterbalances something in another part of the building.

So it lies, covered with clay and no one knows precisely why.

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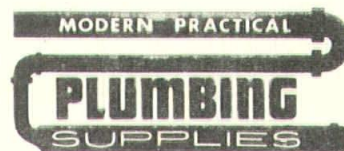
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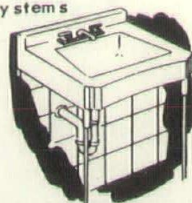
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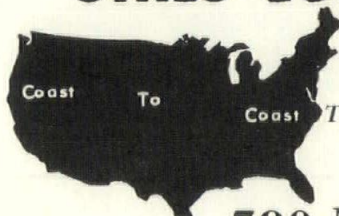
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ARCHITECTS ELECT JOHN W. WEEMS

Members of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects have elected John W. Weems, Jr. of Aiken as their President for 1964. F. Earl Gaulden, Jr., of the Greenville architectural firm of Craig and Gaulden was chosen vice president, and Harold J. Riddle of Myrtle Beach, Secretary-Treasurer. In addition, William S. Dowis, Jr. of Florence was elected to the Board of Directors to join members T. J. Bissett of Columbia and W. Manchester Hudson of Spartanburg.

Mr. Weems, of the firm of Hallman and Weems, has served previously as vice president and as secretary-treasurer for the South Carolina Chapter. These officers were elected at the fall meeting of the SCAIA held at Columbia in October.

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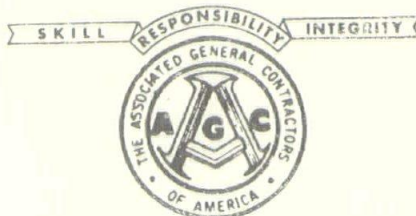
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