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NOTES & COMMENTS

Jezierny and DeCesare
Elected Directors

The Robinson Green Beretta Corporation, a Providence-based architectural-design firm, has elected new Directors. George Jezierny and Raymond A. DeCesare, both Registered Architects and Senior Vice Presidents of the firm have been elected to the board to serve with Chairman Conrad E. Green and Joseph A. Beretta.

Mr. Jezierny, whose appointment is retroactive to the first of the year, has been with the firm since 1952. He is a member of the A.I.A. and a past president of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

A member of the firm for fourteen years, Mr. DeCesare is a member of the A.I.A. and CSI, and presently Vice President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Riley, Bellingrath
Named Officers

Russell Gibson von Dohlen, Inc., architects of West Hartford, Conn., have announced the appointment of John L. Riley and Charles T. Bellingrath as officers of the firm.

Riley, who has been named a vice president and secretary of the corporation, will have responsibility for all design operations, as well as programming, site feasibility studies and educational consulting. Bellingrath, who is now a vice president, will be responsible for direction of new business development and project management.

A 1956 graduate of Cornell University, where he attained a Bachelor of Architecture degree, Riley joined Russell Gibson & von Dohlen in 1958 as a staff architect. He was designated an associate partner in 1963 and became a full partner in 1968.

Riley is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Connecticut Society of Architects, for which he has served on the publicity and public relations committee and the publications committee. He is a Registered Architect in Connecticut.
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July, 1973
A former member of the Canton Committee on Redevelopment and the Canton Redevelopment Agency, Riley is a resident of North Canton, Connecticut. He and his wife, the former Carolyn Dudley, have four children.

An associate partner in the firm since 1967, Bellingrath joined the organization in 1962 as a staff architect. Prior to that, he served three years with the United States Air Force, Office of Civil Engineering, as a project architect.

Bellingrath was graduated from Princeton University in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, then attained a Master of Fine Arts in Architecture degree from Princeton in 1959. During the academic year 1958-59, he held the position of assistant instructor in design.

He is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Connecticut Society of Architects, for which he has served on the design committee. He is a Registered Architect in Connecticut and New York and has been certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

A native of Arkansas, Bellingrath now resides in West Hartford with his wife, the former Priscilla Daniels, and their four children.

Russell Gibson von Dohlen Inc., with offices in West Hartford and in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, is among the largest architectural firms in the area. Since its establishment in 1954, the company has been awarded design contracts in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York.

Masonry Seminar
Sept. 12th at the B.A.C.

The all-day Annual Masonry Seminar, inaugurated in 1972, will this year be held on Wednesday, September 12, 1973, at the Boston Architectural Center. The subject matter will once again be "High Rise Load Bearing Masonry."

The presentation this year is being sponsored by a larger group including, along with the New England Concrete Masonry Association, the (Continued on page 8)

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Masonry Seminar
(Continued from page 6)
New England Chapter of the National Association of Brick Dealers and the Massachusetts Masonry Institute. The latter group includes masons, members of Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers International Union of America, and the Mason Contractors Association of Massachusetts.

The entire facilities of Boston Architectural Center will be used on this occasion to allow for greater attendance.

Speakers will include Allan Yorkdale, Structural Engineer and Director of Engineering Research for the Brick Institute of America, and Henry Toennies, Vice President and Director of Engineering for the National Concrete Masonry Association.

The afternoon program will consider Fires in High Rise Load Bearing Masonry. Armand H. Gustaferro, consultant, will discuss the techniques and results of fire tests on building materials and structures;

(Continued on page 30)
The American Institute of Architects formally opened its new seven-story, $7.4 million headquarters building during a housewarming reception on Monday, June 11.

The dedication ceremony and reception took place in the plaza of the new building adjoining the historic Octagon House and garden.

The ceremony included remarks from past and present presidents of the Institute, and from William L. Slayton, Hon. AIA, executive vice president. The symbolic keys to the building were presented to S. Scott Ferebee, Jr., FAIA, by Norman Fletcher, of The Architects Collaborative, general contractors for the project.

The Institute staff, and many of the tenants who occupy the upper four floors have been working in the new facility since March. The June 11 reception, however, served as the official opening of the building.

The striking building designed by Norman Fletcher and Howard Elkus of The Architects Collaborative, Cambridge, Mass., has already been featured in several architectural and engineering publications. Architectural Record magazine ran a 10-page article about the building in its May issue. Building Design and Construction magazine devoted four pages to it in an issue the same month.

The new building, which will be called The Octagon, was programmed and conceived as part of a complex including the historic house and garden on a diamond shaped site at the corner of 18th Street and New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

The curving headquarters, sheathed in pre-cast gray concrete and gray solar glass, was not intended to be a "tour de force" which might detract from the dignity of the historic Octagon House. Instead, it is intended to provide the old house with a fine and sympathetic background.

The Architects Collaborative
Cambridge, Mass.
GILBERT Switzer & Associates of New Haven, Conn., was one of twenty winners in the annual Homes for Better Living Awards Program for 1973. The program—the largest and oldest for residential design in the United States—is sponsored by the American Institute of Architects in cooperation with House & Home, a McGraw Hill trade publication for the housing and light construction industry and American Home, a Downe Publishing magazine. The program was instituted 18 years ago to inspire excellence in originality of architectural design and use of building materials.

Over 400 entries were submitted this year in the program's three categories: custom-designed houses for specific clients, houses designed for sale and multifamily housing.

Other New England winners included Willis N. Mills, Jr., Wilton, Conn., and Childs Bertman Tseckares, Boston, both of whom received Awards of Merit for custom houses.

The Sbona Tower Senior Center complex, for which Gilbert Switzer & Associates received an Award of Merit for multifamily housing, was constructed on 2½ acres, located on

Architects:
Gilbert Switzer & Associates
New Haven, Conn.

Developer:
Giordano Construction Co.
Branford, Conn.

The Terne-Coated Stainless Steel (TCS) used for roofing was produced by Follansbee Steel Corporation.
A face brick was chosen to harmonize with most of the older buildings in town, including the adjoining historical society and church.
The concrete masonry units and precast concrete flooring system components were produced by Plasticrete Corporation.

The main street of Middletown, Conn., a medium sized New England community combining the lush green campus of a university with the rather undistinguished remnants of 19th century commercialism. The site itself, which was cleared by the redevelopment agency, rises 20 feet from Main Street to its rear boundary in the next block.

A town-sponsored senior citizen center was included when the Local Housing Authority and the Redevelopment Agency requested submissions for the construction of 129 units of elderly housing under the HUD Turnkey program.

The town indicated that in addition to providing much needed housing for the elderly, they also wanted to express the revival of their attitude toward the importance of their elderly citizens. To accomplish this, the complex was to serve as the new landmark for the town as well as become a physical focal point around which a redevelopment and restoration program would later be undertaken.

The architect’s design approach was to create a progression from the existing low rise buildings on Main Street up the hill with a sequence
The Tower's location on the side of a hill allows its residents a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside.

The larger tower units are cantilevered beyond the main shaft of the building.

of forms and levels. The first level contains a plaza (under development by the city) at the foot of the site, continuing upwards to the step-back terraced units and the community center, and culminating in the outward thrust of forms where the larger tower units are cantilevered beyond the main shaft of that building.

The buildings, in material and scale, are related to the general town scape, and particularly to a beautiful 18th century mansion on the adjoining property, used as an historical society, whose gardens, in turn, are integrated with the new plaza and the elderly complex.
The tower’s location on the side of the hill allows its residents a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside, the university and the river on which the town is located. The tower, because of its height and location, can be seen for miles around, thus making it an obvious landmark.

Brick construction dominates most of the older buildings in the town, including the adjoining historical society and church. Therefore, a face brick was chosen to harmonize with these structures. Previous experience with the builder had shown bearing walls and precast floor planks to be fastest and most economical construction method for him. This type of construction enabled each apartment to have a complete masonry enclosure which is fireproof and soundproof. The concrete masonry units and precast concrete flooring system components were produced by Plasticrete Corporation.

Terne-Coated Stainless Steel (TCS) used for roofing was produced by Follansbee Steel Corporation, Follansbee, W. Va.

Developer: Giordano Construction Co., Inc., Branford, Conn.
Structural Engineer: Rudolph Besier, Inc., Old Saybrook, Conn.
Mechanical Engineer: Albert Bass, P. E. Consulting Engineer, Bridgeport, Conn.
The architect's design approach was to create a progression from the existing low rise buildings on Main Street up the hill with a sequence of forms and levels.
THE clean, no-nonsense lines of the Bow House designed by Architect Russell S. Oatman should appeal to many prospective homeowners as a happy alternative to the overworked "modified mansards" and "gambrels" currently under construction in the area.

The prototype constructed by Builder John J. Rogers on 2½ acres in Bolton, Mass., is but one of four designed by Oatman for the fledgling firm, Bow House, Inc., which Rogers heads. It is a three-quarter Cape with nine rooms, a kitchen and two bathrooms. Future plans include half Capes and full Capes of smaller or larger dimensions.

"The crowned roof style, which originated on Cape Cod, has often been referred to as a 'rainbow,' 'bow,' or 'ship's bottom' roof," says Rogers, who was previously associated with Deck House, Inc., of Acton. "It is generally conceded that the bowed timbers were a trick borrowed from shipbuilders who used curved timbers to give strength to the hulls of vessels."

Rogers, however, believes that the slightly bowed timbers used in colonial times were not actually ribs of a ship's hull, but deck beams with less of a bend. He considered having laminated "bow beams" manufactured especially for his firm, but chose instead a method sometimes used by Royal Barry Wills Associates. A curved section was cut out of the bottom of a wide rafter and then fastened to the top of the rafter to make a moderate bend.

Still, Rogers wanted a deeper curve. He built a huge worktable and jig in the loft of his barn at Rocky Dundee Farm, laid a straight 2-by-8 rafter on it and, using a jack in the center, bent a 2-by-4 above it, securing the two in a bow shape with metal strapping and cross supports. The result was, in effect, a simple roof truss. He turned out 34 of them in one weekend.

The main section of the house measures 32 by 28 feet and has a rear ell (the family room) measuring 12 by 16 feet.

Among its many features are a large off-center brick chimney, white cedar "Dutch weave" shingles, and cedar clapboards running from a width of 2½ inches at the base to 4 inches at the top.

All window panes are 6-by-8 inch-
The Family Room (off the kitchen) has a 72-pane picture window, a brick fireplace (with crane and kettle) and a floor paved with "ballast brick", half the thickness of regular brick.
es and the windows are 12-over-12 panes.

Wide pine boards were used for flooring, except in the family room, which was paved with "ballast brick" half the thickness of regular brick.

In the central entrance hall is a "good morning" staircase — a simple flight of colonial stairs leading to a landing with two steps (left and right) to the upper rooms.

On the first floor, a brick fireplace divides the living room from the dining room. The kitchen is at the rear. There is also a bathroom and study, which could also be used as a guest bedroom. The family room off the kitchen has a 72-pane window.
and a brick fireplace complete with crane and kettle.

On the second floor, there are four rooms and a bath.

Since completion and sale of his first Bow House, Rogers has been involved in a considerable amount of 'packaging' of single family dwellings for other firms and has modified somewhat his original plans. "Our experience in working for others has placed us in good stead," he explained. "Our original thinking was in terms of packaging, but now we are in a position where we are able to offer a Bow House to anyone anywhere."

Among its many near-authentic features are a large off-center brick chimney, white cedar "Dutch weave" shingles and cedar clapboards running from a width of 2½ inches at the base to 4 inches at the top.
FOUR AREA FIRMS WIN BSA HOUSING AWARDS

THE Boston Society of Architects has presented awards of commendation to four housing developments in the Greater Boston area.

Stephen Diamond AIA, professional advisor to the Awards Jury, made the following observation on the entries:

"The group of entries reviewed this year presented unusual problems for our jury. Each entry expressed the effort and concern by a development team to improve the physical environment for a community of low and moderate income families. We found good qualities in almost every project submitted but we also found inadequacies. In no entry could we present, unqualified, an award for "Excellence in Housing or Neighborhood Design."

"The jury is anxious, however, to give encouragement and an award for progress toward ambitious goals to the selected winners. The jury must call the attention of the architectural profession and the public to the failures in a national commitment to solve a housing need which leads to an incomplete fulfillment of these goals."

The jury did on-site inspection of every project submitted and in selecting the four projects for special commendation made the following observations:

"Community groups and the society of architects combined, should take a stronger stand in the future, to obtain from cities, states and the Federal government the necessary resources to solve in quantity and in quality the housing crisis.

"In presenting these awards for goals, we wish to praise the efforts made by the community organizations and their architects on rehabilitated buildings, which contribute to the improvement of decaying areas, while preserving the life and character of the community."

It is the first time that the Boston Society of Architects has officially commended housing efforts which have been built over the past ten years.

The housing developments commended are:

- Housing Innovations Inc. for Infill Housing, Roxbury, Mass.
- PARD Team for Charlesview Apartments, Allston, Mass.

Stephen Diamond AIA and Wendell Phillips AIA served as professional advisors to the program. Members of the jury included representatives of tenants groups, housing authorities and members of the architectural profession. The members were: Mr. Wallace Brown, Cambridge Model Cities; Mr. Eduardo Catalano, Architect; Mrs. Eva Curry, Tenants Association of Boston; Ms. Sandra Graham, Cambridge City Council member; Mr. Carl Koch FAIA, Architect; Mr. Victor Vitols AIA, Architect and Ms. Susan Wayne, Department of Community Affairs.
(left) St. Joseph's Cooperative Homes, Paul Feloney, Architect, of Feloney & Sturgis, Cambridge.

(right) Charlesview Apartments, Samuel Mintz, Architect, of PARD Team.

(above) First Lowell Rehabilitation, Eugene Skoropowski, Architect, of Boston Architectural Team.

(above) Infill Housing, Ralph Partan, Architect, of Housing Innovations, Inc.
CIVIC CENTER SCULPTURE
BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

Architect-Sculptor:
Masao Kinoshita
Watertown, Mass.
OPPOSITES attract, it is said, and so they have at the Governmental Civic Center Plaza in Binghamton, N.Y., where the steadfastness of steel has been attracted and joined to the liveliness of water.

To the unromantic, it may appear merely as though a huge 35-ton modernistic steel sculpture has been moored amid waves of misting waters within a sunken plaza in front of the State Office Building. But to Masao Kinoshita and hopefully, thousands of others, the scene symbolizes the marriage of steel and water, the successful unification of the entire governmental center and the creation of a live urban image.

Mr. Kinoshita, architect-sculptor of the architectural firm of Sasaki, Dawson, DeMay Associates, Inc., of Watertown, Mass., conceived the idea and with the help of the office of Cummings and Pash, Binghamton, Governmental Center architects, nurtured it to reality. He speaks of the sculptural composition not as a welded collection of some 300 pieces of cold, structural steel, but rather as a living symbol of a new image — a pulsating heart for the Governmental Center — created for the people of Binghamton.

"What is the meaning of the sculpture?" says Mr. Kinoshita, echoing the question of practically everyone gazing at it. "I cannot say. The sculpture itself must communicate with the people. It will reflect their feelings, and transends the power of description. The sculpture is meant to evoke a sense of emotional participation, from a person's eyes to his heart."

To make the flowing lines of the sculpture come alive, motion had to be created. This was accomplished by arranging to have mists of water sprayed throughout the pool over which the sculpture soars. To enhance the effect, the scene will be lighted for evening display.

"A constant variety of air currents will stir the mists," says the architect. "People will look at the wafted waves of water, and soon the entire scene will appear animated."

"Movement also will be able to be visualized through natural elements," he continues. "Movement of the sun and seasonal changes will bring about a variety of shade and shadow patterns moving in what I call negative and positive forms. Snow and rain will also develop a texture amplified by the play of light on the surface."

"The overall effect will be the marriage of the movement of the steel sculpture to the movement of the water."

Since three separate architectural firms (Cummings and Pash; Sasaki, Dawson, DeMay Associates; and Lacey and Lucas) worked on the design of the Governmental Civic Center, different sections of the plaza convey their own distinct image. This resulted in the need for a unifying force.

"My idea," explains Mr. Kinoshita, "was to unify the center by having all the people become involved in its creation and recognize its significant focal setting. Creation of an appropriate atmosphere was important, because movement occurs around and over, with an infinite variety of viewing experiences. A means of creating a unifying atmosphere was to capture these visual and sensual experiences through motion."

"How pleased I was when the State of New York not only accepted my concept, but also gave me the honor of doing the water display sculpture."

Having determined the form his work would take, the architect was confronted with selecting the material that would best express his concept. There were other considerations, too.

First, since the work would stand outdoors, the material should withstand the furies of the elements. Also, to keep the sculpture alive, since it would stand in an extremely large lower plaza space and penetrate up through the upper plaza, Mr. Kinoshita needed a material that was stable and cohesive.

Because of a restrictive budget, cost of the material was paramount. And the medium had to be dark to contrast with the white limestone-faced State Office Building in the background.

One material, weathering steel, met all these requirements, and an order for about 300 pieces of Mayari R weathering steel was placed with Bethlehem Steel Corporation. All of the steel was to be 8-inch wide-flange structural shapes, but in an assortment of lengths and weights per foot.

"Weathering steel was selected for several reasons," Mr. Kinoshita says, "it could be freely formed. It is naturally dark, yet improves in appearance as it is exposed to the weather. It will form its own deep, earthy-brown protective oxide coating to minimize maintenance. And it was available within the budget limitations."

The steel was rolled at Bethlehem Steel's Bethlehem, Pa., plant and then shipped to McGregor Architectural Iron Company in Scranton, Pa. There, under the careful guidance of Architect Kinoshita and knowledgeable eye of Robert S. McGregor, founder and president of the firm, the sculpture was pre-assembled.

Dozens of individual sections, some as long as 40 feet, were clamped into place. Blueprints were checked to ensure that each piece was set exactly right. Necessary adjustments were made, and then the pieces welded into units, and the units intertwined into one assembly. Finally, these assemblies, now consisting of hundreds of steel beams, were welded together to form the finished, fan-like sculpture.

The work was disassembled into 14 large sections for ease in shipment by truck to Binghamton, where the sculpture was then rebuilt. Ironworkers from McGregor Architectural Iron carefully fitted the sculptural compositions on stainless steel pins that hold the steel above the water and mist levels.

Structural engineer for the sculpture is Skillling, Helle, Christiansen, Robertson, of New York City; construction contractor for the project is the firm of Vincent J. Smith, Inc., Binghamton. Owners of the Governmental Civic Center are the State of New York, Broome County and City of Binghamton.
Ski House

Huygens & Tappe
Boston

Second Floor Plan

First Floor Plan
THE White Mountains ski house designed by Boston architects Huygens & Tappé was built for a family with four children.

The site was a mountain side densely wooded with pines and silver birches, with a view towards the Presidential Range of the White Mountains.

The view and the sun are both away from the approach to the house. Therefore, the entrance side is narrow and low, while the opposite facade is high, wide and open to the spectacular view towards the mountain range. In order to enjoy this view without cutting a scar in the existing woods, the main living areas are on the upper level.

Entering the house under the sheltering roof there is a ski room to the right, the children’s playroom extends towards the view, and an open staircase leads to the living-dining area. Also on the ground level are a guest bedroom, bath, children’s bunkrooms and a storeroom.

On the upper level, the master bedroom with a private bath is separated from the other areas. Although its work surfaces are hidden from view, the open kitchen allows for easy communications with the other
living areas. The adjacent dining area in the bay window has a table designed by the architect. The generous living room with its built-in couch allows for either large or small intimate groups to gather around the fireplace or enjoy the view.

Exterior walls are of concrete block combined with narrow hemlock clapboards. All interior walls and ceilings are of the same material. The roof has cedar shingles and the chimney is stuccoed. The floor in the ski room has Welsh Quarry tile.

Most other floors are carpeted. The house is electrically heated. The roofing was applied according to a method that eliminated the melting of snow on the roof surface and thereby avoids the forming of icicles with all their problems.

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Masonry Seminar

(Continued from page 8)

Henry Toennies, Vice President and Director of Engineering of the National Concrete Masonry Association who will address the Masonry Seminar to be held at the Boston Architectural Center, was also guest speaker at last year's seminar, which proved so successful that the organization has "booked the entire school" for this year's sessions.

Ashby T. Gibbons of the Portland Cement Association will discuss building code requirements for fire resistive construction.

The program is expected to end about 4 P.M. at which time special guests will conduct a critique, summary and review, with audience participation.

AIA National Growth Policy Conference

Now, more than ever, the country needs a national growth policy - a policy which would plan for where and how to house the 60 to 80 million more Americans expected by the year 2000.

This was the overriding concern expressed last month at a seminar sponsored by the American Institute of Architects and the Institute for Man and his Environment at the University of Massachusetts.

Nearly 50 representatives of the press and architects from all parts of New England attended the meeting where Archibald C. Rogers FAIA, President-elect of the American Institute of Architects, presented the AIA's proposals for a national growth policy.

"The report," Rogers said, "contains a new mission for the American people — that of building and rebuilding our urban environment by the year 2000."

The report of AIA's Task Force on National Policy, released in January 1972, proposes that the Federal government assemble nearly 1 million acres of land in the nation's 65 largest metropolitan areas to be used for the development of what AIA terms "growth units."

These "growth units" would range in size from 500 to 3,000 dwelling units and would include all the necessary provisions for the residents' education and social services and occupational opportunities where possible. The land would be assembled by the Federal government, with private developers constructing the actual housing and other facilities.

The report also calls for a number of changes in governmental structure tax laws, in order to remove the constraints which now prevent this type of long-range planned development within our cities.

As part of the morning program, (Continued on Next Page)
reactions and comments to Rogers' presentation were made by Robert Dunning Jr., executive director of the New Hampshire Land Use Foundation; Ian S. Menzies, associate editor of The Boston Globe, and Dr. Hugh C. Davis, assistant secretary of the Massachusetts Office of Environment and Planning.

Mr. Menzies noted that national growth planning is desperately needed and said that the nation needs "to find a President who will implement ideas such as those contained in the AIA report." Earlier, Mr. Rogers had said that President Nixon, during his first term in office, had supported the need for developing a national growth policy, but that in his report to Congress in 1972 had apparently backed away from this concern.

Mr. Dunning said that such policies were needed to give guidance to the public agencies as well as to private developers in understanding new development concepts.

The meeting also included presentations of three different projects throughout New England which were examining development problems and coming to grips with them in realistic ways. Those projects were Hartford Process Inc., which is involved with the rebuilding of the inner city in Hartford as well as developing a new town in nearby Coventry, Connecticut; renewal of the waterfront on Nantucket, Massachusetts, and the plans of St. Albans, Vermont to cluster development of the growing town to preserve valuable open space.

The conference was planned by the New England Regional Council of AIA and the Western Massachusetts Chapter, AIA.

Preservation Group Cites Providence Restorations

Restoration work on three of the rehabilitated buildings in the South Main-South Water Street renewal area, Providence, Rhode Island, has been recognized by the Providence Preservation Society for "architectural integrity and attractive treatment" of the properties.

The Preservation Society has announced that historic markers will be presented at a future date to Sulzberger-Rolfe Inc., New York realtor and the principal developer of the renewal area, for attachment to the exteriors of the buildings.

The three buildings are located at 200 South Main Street; 303 South Water Street, and 250 South Main Street.

The three-story brick building at 200 South Main Street, built by Charles Page between 1895 and 1900, is the first of the restored structures in the renewal area to be occupied. Design International Inc., has an import shop that features Marimekko fashion prints on the street floor.

The former fire station at 303 South Water Street was built by the city in 1892. It is two stories high along South Main Street and three stories in the rear, with a wide cornice of brickwork, double corbel tables and brick-trimmed round-headed windows. A wide rectangular panel of rusticated stone formed two round-headed doorways of the South Main Street entrance when it was a fire station.

Charles S. Tanner built the two-story building that bears his name (Continued on Next Page)
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(Continued from page 31)
at 250 South Main Street in 1894. Mr. Tanner was in the business of "starch and gums."
Mr. Sulzberger said that a number of prospective tenants are being considered for these buildings and others in the renewal area. He commented that the firm is also building 76 garden apartments along South Main Street. They will include one and two bedroom units and are expected to be ready for occupancy in the Spring of 1974.

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