

# PENCIL POINTS

B R V A R Y

1941



# Modern construction *demands* through-wall flashing!

## Tendency toward damaging water pockets economically overcome with Anaconda Through-Wall Flashing

Because of the reduction in thickness of exterior walls, wind-driven rain and moisture frequently enter the structure to damage ceilings and walls. To prevent this, through-wall flashing was devised.

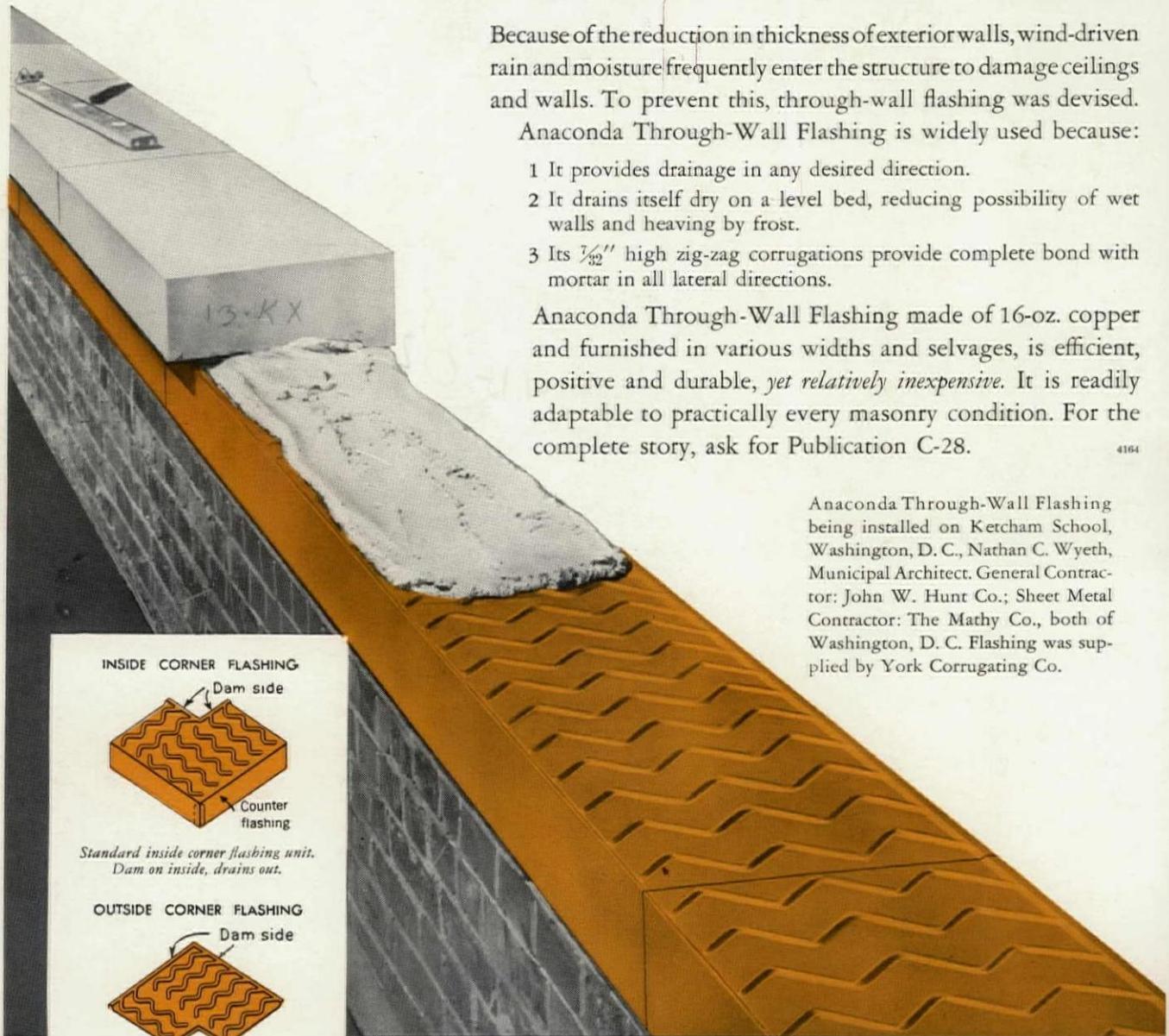
Anaconda Through-Wall Flashing is widely used because:

- 1 It provides drainage in any desired direction.
- 2 It drains itself dry on a level bed, reducing possibility of wet walls and heaving by frost.
- 3 Its  $\frac{7}{32}$ " high zig-zag corrugations provide complete bond with mortar in all lateral directions.

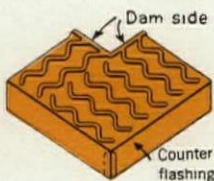
Anaconda Through-Wall Flashing made of 16-oz. copper and furnished in various widths and selvages, is efficient, positive and durable, yet *relatively inexpensive*. It is readily adaptable to practically every masonry condition. For the complete story, ask for Publication C-28.

4164

Anaconda Through-Wall Flashing being installed on Ketcham School, Washington, D. C., Nathan C. Wyeth, Municipal Architect. General Contractor: John W. Hunt Co.; Sheet Metal Contractor: The Mathy Co., both of Washington, D. C. Flashing was supplied by York Corrugating Co.

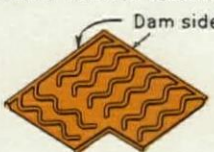


### INSIDE CORNER FLASHING



Standard inside corner flashing unit.  
Dam on inside, drains out.

### OUTSIDE CORNER FLASHING



Standard outside corner flashing unit.  
Dam on outside, drains in.



# Anaconda Copper

THE AMERICAN BRASS COMPANY, General Offices: Waterbury, Connecticut

In Canada: Anaconda American Brass Ltd., New Toronto, Ontario • Subsidiary of Anaconda Copper Mining Company

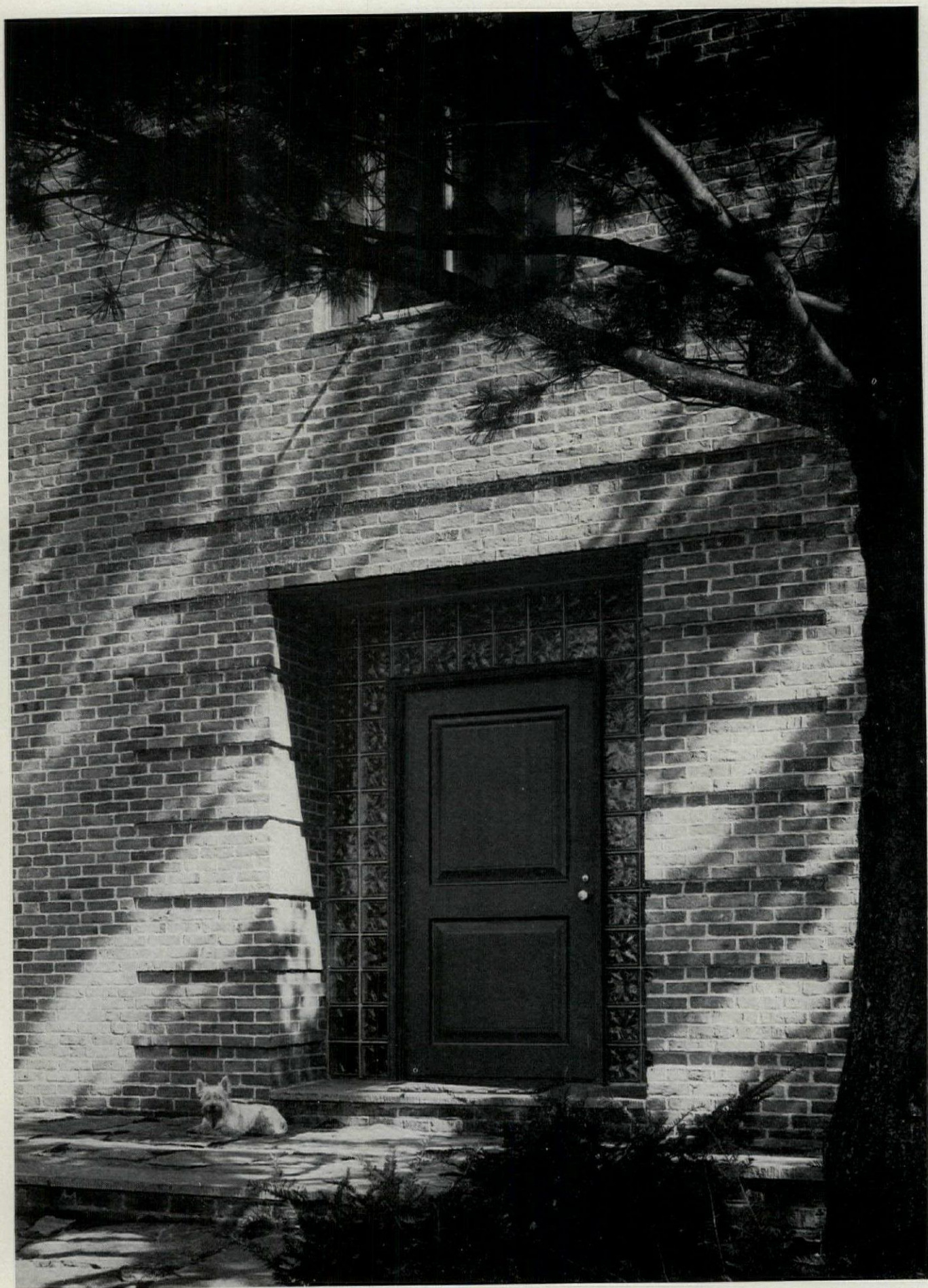




THE YEAR-ROUND HOME OF MR. AND MRS. GEORGE R. ROWLAND IS THE COMFORTABLE HOUSE SHOWN ABOVE—DESIGNED AND BUILT BY J. PETER GEDDES II AND MARGARET BURNHAM KELLY, ARCHITECTS, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND. IT IS LOCATED ON THE CHOICEST ELEVATED SITE OF THE ROWLANDS' ESTATE AT BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, KNOWN AS "ROCKING HORSE FARM." FULL ADVANTAGE IS TAKEN OF A SUPERB VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST (SEE PLANS, PAGE 77, AND PHOTOS FROM LIVING ROOM, PAGE 78). THE CHARACTER OF THE HOUSE AND THE THOUGHTFUL DISPOSITION OF VARIOUS ROOMS, TO AFFORD PRIVACY FOR THE FAMILY AND ALSO FOR FREQUENT WEEK-END GUESTS, REFLECTS THE INFORMAL LIFE OF THE OWNERS—A YOUNG COUPLE INTERESTED IN FISHING, HUNTING, RIDING, AND CATTLE BREEDING. THE FLOWER ROOM DETAILED (SEE PAGES 80-81) INDICATES ANOTHER HOBBY OF MRS. ROWLAND. PHOTOS OF HOUSE BY RICHARD GARRISON, ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHER, NEW YORK

## ROCKING HORSE FARM—BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

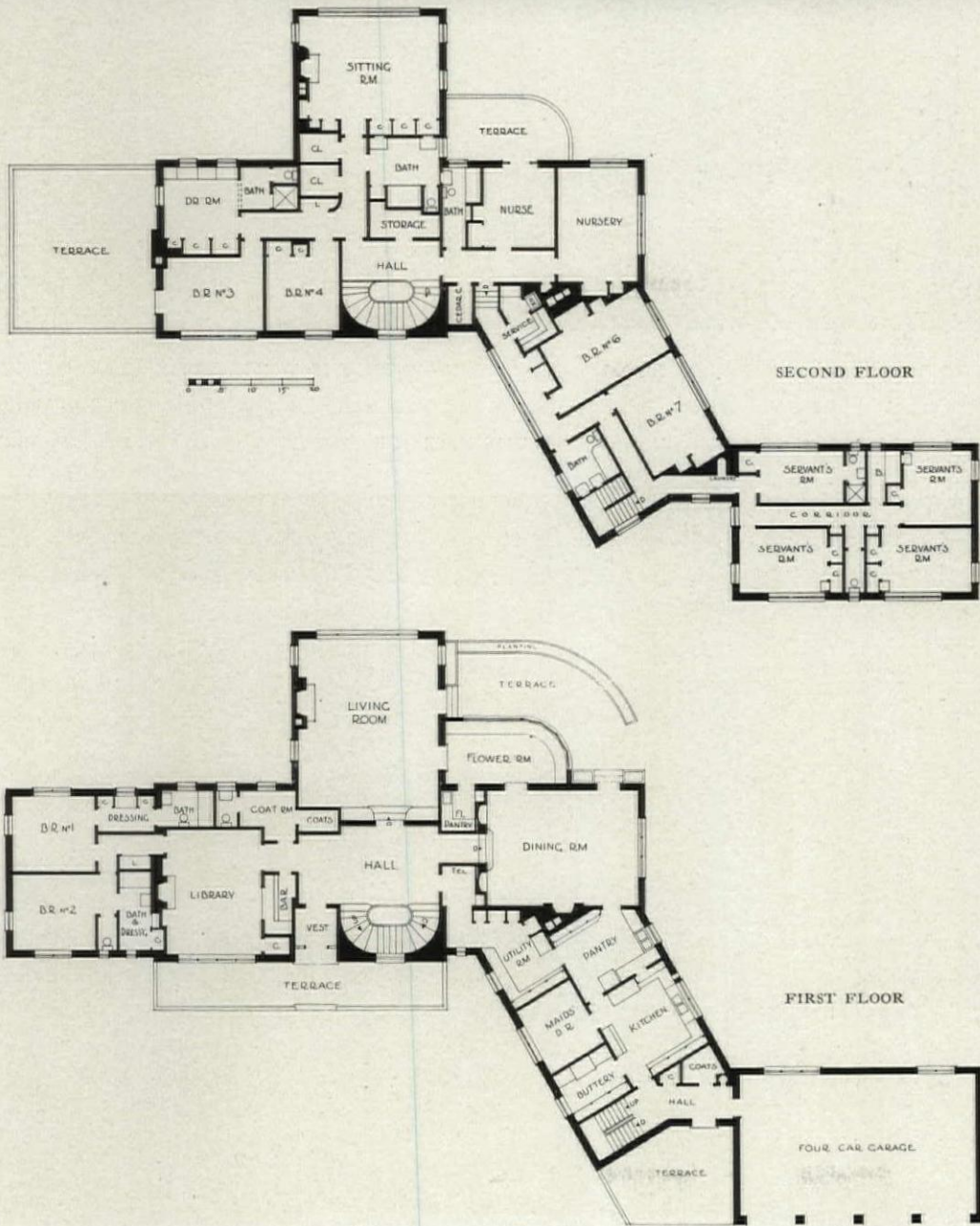




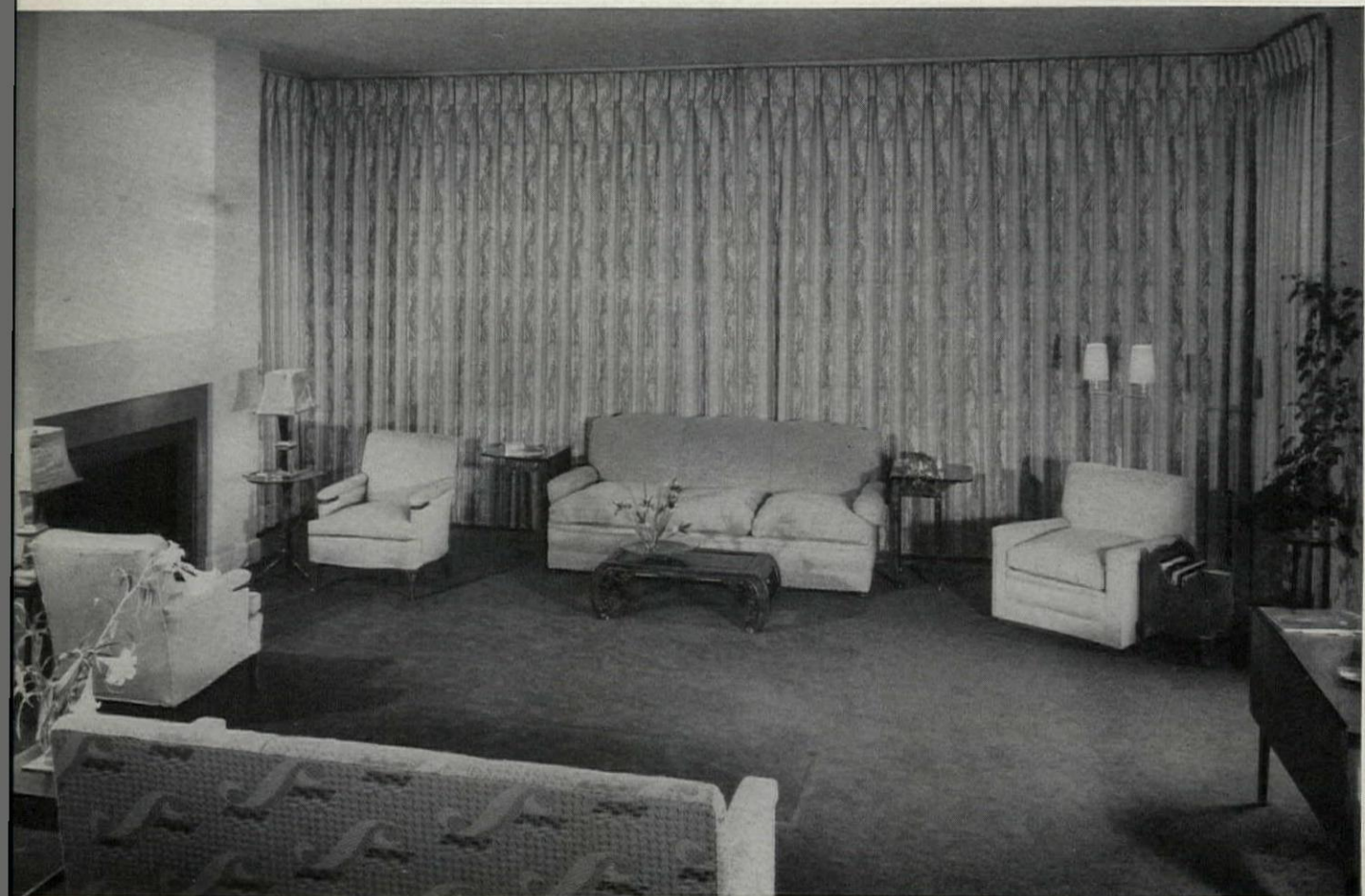
GEORGE R. ROWLAND HOUSE, BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



A PLEASING TRANSITION BETWEEN THE LIVING ROOM AND DINING ROOM, LOCATED IN ADJOINING WINGS OF THIS COUNTRY HOME, IS AFFORDED BY THE FLOWER ROOM AND THE SHELTERED TERRACE (SEEN AT RIGHT FROM LOWER LAWN). AN INTERESTING FEATURE OF THE PRINCIPAL ENTRANCE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HOUSE (SEE PHOTO ACROSS-PAGE), IS THE INTRODUCTION OF GLASS BLOCK MADE TO SUGGEST THE HAMMERED GLASS WHICH OCCURS IN CERTAIN RURAL SECTIONS







TWO VIEWS OF THE LIVING ROOM WERE TAKEN—WITH THE WHITE SATIN CURTAINS, PATTERNED IN THE GRAY, LEMON YELLOW, AND TERRA COTTA COLOR SCHEME OF THE ROOM, CLOSED (ABOVE) AND WITH THE SUPERB VIEW OF THE FARM (BELOW). THE INTERIORS ARE BY DOROTHY M. POWER, A.I.D., OF BOSTON



GEORGE R. ROWLAND HOUSE, BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS





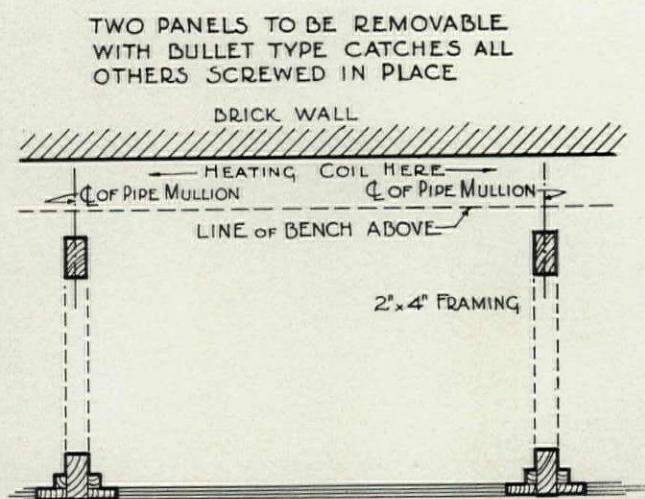
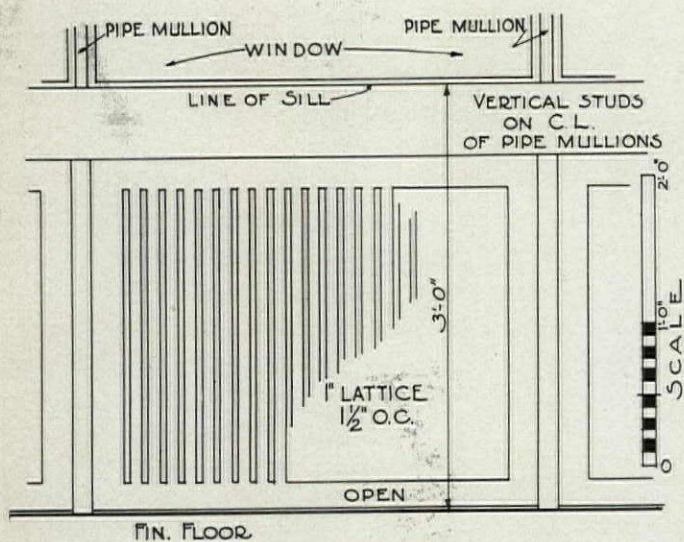
DESIGNED BY GEDDES & KELLY, ARCHITECTS, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

FEBRUARY 1941



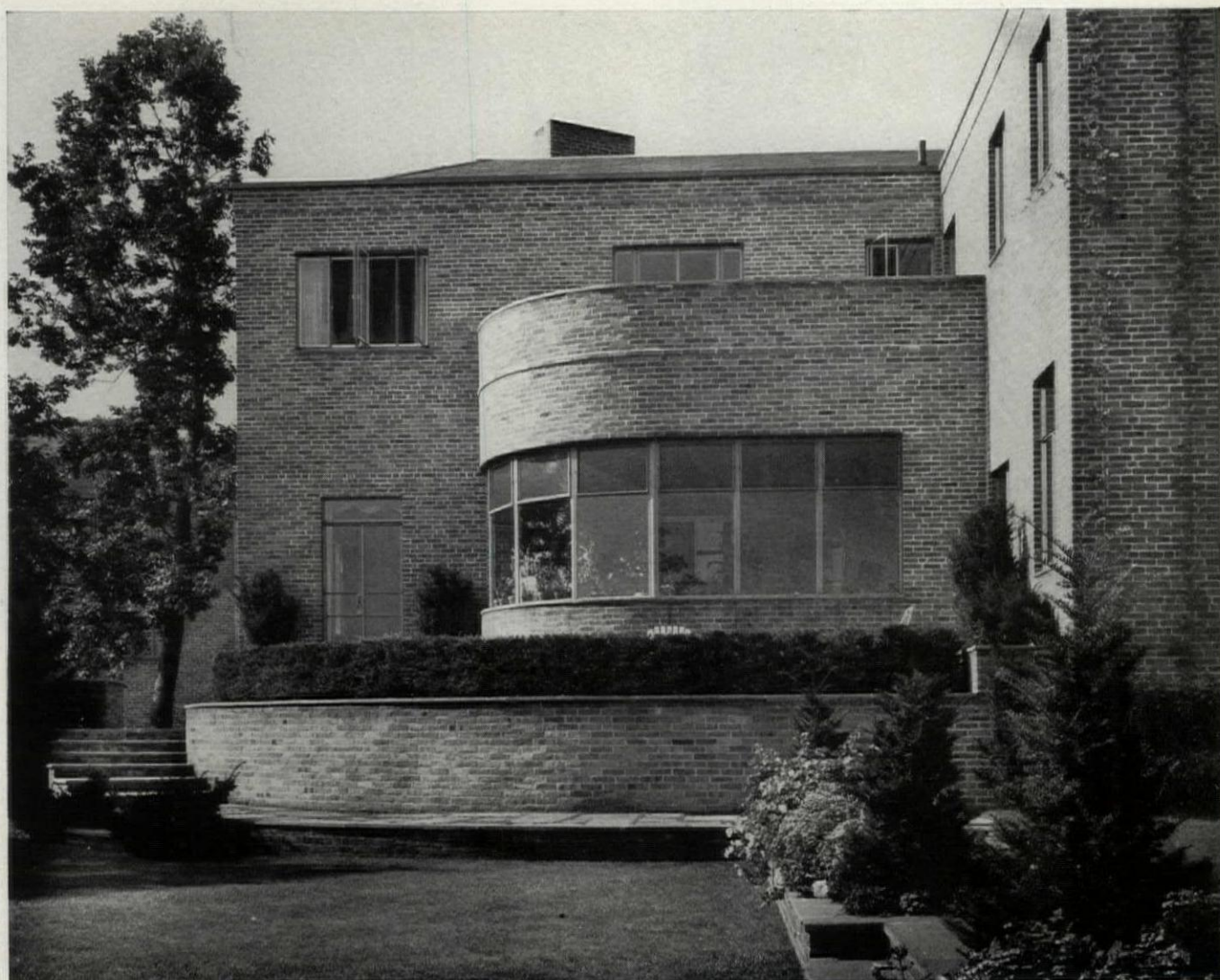


FLOWER ROOM

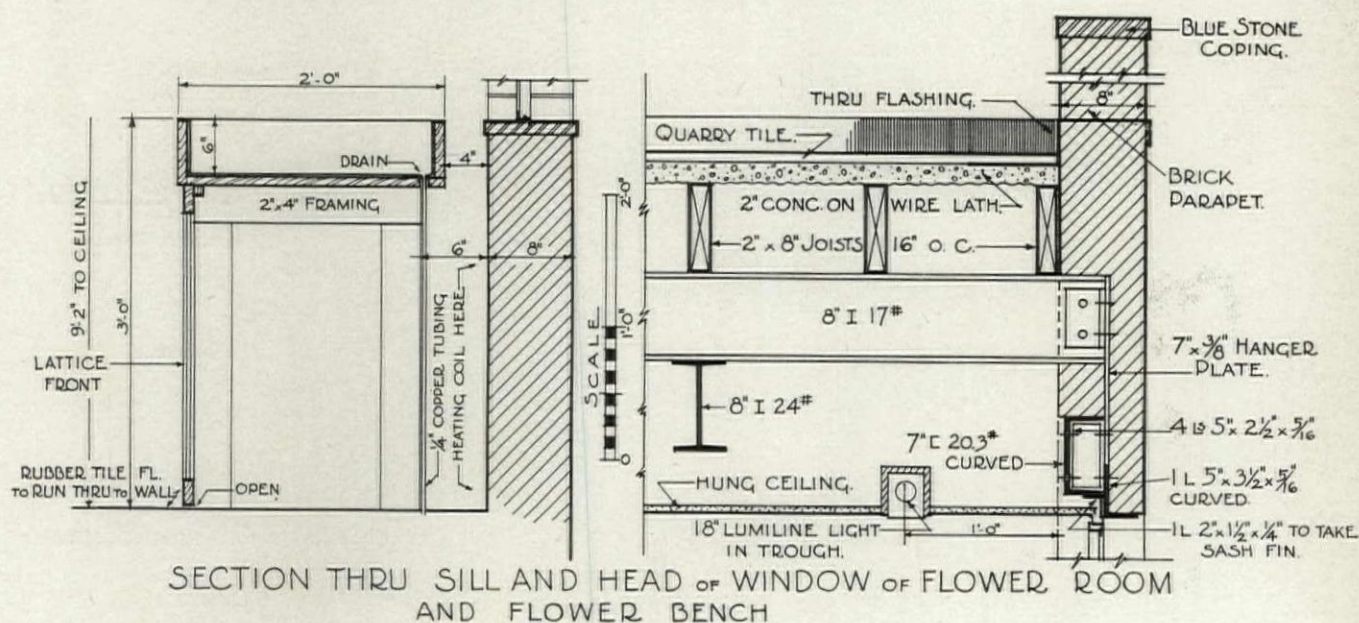


ELEVATION AND PLAN OF PANEL UNIT OF FLOWER BENCH





FLOWER ROOM



DESIGNED BY GEDDES & KELLY, ARCHITECTS, PROVIDENCE, R. I.





GEORGE R. ROWLAND HOUSE, BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



# VARIETY AND HARMONY

BY TALBOT F. HAMLIN

I feel that I must come back again to the subject of visual beauty in American life, at the cost perhaps of appearing quite fantastically unrealistic in these troubled hours. Yet the very fact that it seems almost necessary to be apologetic about the subject might be said to reveal that very deep-seated blindness to the real values of beauty about which I commented in my last month's article. Is beauty merely a kind of escapism, a sort of luxurious titillation to which one yields himself only in times of peace and leisure? Or is visual decency something of quite a different nature and the ideal of beauty itself as much a part of living as anything else? Certainly when Vauban built his superb fortifications in 17th-Century Europe he felt it no inconsistency to furnish them with handsome, well-designed, beautifully-proportioned, and even magnificent gates; and Castle Garden in New York, by John McComb, Jr., despite its military purpose, had a severe but beautifully decorated entrance. Michelozzo's Renaissance gates to the city of Verona are famous. The modern thinking which has placed beauty and utility at opposite poles seems in the light of these things to be of very recent birth indeed. It is, at heart, a product of the ill-fated separation of architecture and engineering, art and business, design and industry, and a result of that 19th-Century industrial development which made of art a romantic luxury.

Let us consider the problem today in quite different, hard-boiled terms. It is a commonplace that in any national effort individual morale plays an important part. If we attempt to analyze the concept "morale," we

shall find it, I think, the sum total of a people's reaction to various stimuli, both idealistic and physical. It is compounded of such things as exhaustion, nervous tension, and the quality of nutrition, as well as of intellectual conviction and emotional direction. In creating exhaustion, in conditioning nervous tension or nervous relaxation, the changing kaleidoscope of what passes before the eyes is known to have a large place. Confusion and meaningless change call forth erratic eye activity which is definitely exhausting. Plant designers know this in part and try for even and quiet illumination. Hospital designers know it and seek for pleasant colors and quiet surfaces. What are these elements, so consciously sought, of harmony, of design in what is looked at, but parts of this concept of beauty?

One thing which is less realized is the fact that monotony also breeds exhaustion, and visual monotony leads either to a kind of hypnotic but unrestful deadening of sensitivity, or else to a gradual building up of tension after tension due to the frustrated desire for escape and change, until finally the system cracks in a nervous breakdown or erupts into unthinking violence. May we not perhaps say that the combination of monotony and chaos in most of our city slums, the terrific summation of endless unmeaning visual impacts, irresistibly attacking the consciousness until the whole soul is revolted, is one of the things that leads, for example, to juvenile delinquency and crime? And that the monotony of rectangular tenements often develops in those who have not rebelled a restless acceptance of degradation?



If this is so, we must look upon beauty—and especially upon community beauty, and perhaps factory beauty, perhaps even beauty in military camps—not as a silly luxury to be put away in the top drawer while the emergency lasts, but rather as a most important element in the human environment, a most important means to the development of personality and of efficiency. No man, however aesthetically blind, however unconscious of the entire meaning of the word “beauty,” can close himself to the devastating succession of visual impacts that sweep across the retina. They beat at his nervous system whether he knows it or not. In the problem of whether he finds himself at the end of the day haggard and worn, cross and crotchety, or on the other hand tired but relaxed and easy, it may be that the whole architectural design of his community, of the place where he works, of the home in which he lives, of the streets between, has an important deciding effect.

Nowhere is this importance of definite, designed beauty more significant than in housing. We can, of course, build either shelters or homes; we can depend, if we like, upon a man's own creative ability to make his residence into something he likes, no matter what it is. That is what the people who furnish housing for large sections of the population have been doing for a century, and we can read the result in the slums of any of our cities. Or we can frankly and realistically accept the problem and attempt, in so far as we may, to help mankind to a pleasanter visual life. Any deep understanding of the housing problem, temporary or permanent, in war or peace, must take into account the enormous importance of this visual factor—must bring with it, in other words, the knowledge that housing is not merely a matter of shelter from cold and wet, but a matter of definite visual design as well.

And it is precisely this fact which awakens considerable doubt in any candid consideration of the recent accomplishments of the United States Housing Authority. Again and again this government agency has forced the acceptance of ugly solutions instead of beautiful ones, the rigid elimination of

everything except walls, windows, roofs, etc., from proposed projects, on the plea of economy. Now naturally no one would think of asking for luxuriant and superficial decoration of any kind in a housing project; but, in the effort to build as many family units as possible with the given appropriations, the Housing Authority has perhaps been guilty of an equal fault on the other side. With the large sites often available, Housing Authority projects are almost the only ones today in which there is the opportunity of creating an adequate, efficient, and truly human American community. What a magnificent artistic opportunity this is! If what we have said about the effect of visual stimuli upon the nervous state is correct, then beauty itself must be a large element in such a community. To crowd the land too much, to such an antisocial congestion indeed as seems to be the aim in some of the recent developments of the New York City Housing Authority, we know to be wrong, defeating the very aims for which the whole housing movement was created. To build barracks arranged in meaningless and monotonous rows, indefinitely repeated, we know to be foolish, giving rise only to confusion and hopelessness in the minds of those who see or live in them; yet many of the projects are scarcely more than that. So far as design is concerned, there is little choice between some of these schemes and the dreary miles of little brick houses in long rows on the streets of the suburbs of English manufacturing towns—the American rows are newer, that's all, and they have better mechanical equipment. But the whole English housing movement was at least in part a rebellion against just such drab monotony. Over and over again superb site opportunities have been lost—as, for instance, on the extraordinary hillsides around Pittsburgh, where millions of feet of earth were moved—and, in a location that should be a challenge to the greatest imagination in any architect and site planner, only monotonous rows of houses arranged in meaningless and confused directions now stand.

Of course the actual design of the Housing Authority projects is supposed to come from





A ROW OF HOUSES ON ORANGE STREET, NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS. PHOTOGRAPH BY THE AUTHOR

local architects; yet the supervision exercised by the central body is so great, and occasionally seems to be so resistant to new and daring ideas or to anything that smacks of a conscious search for beauty, that the imaginative and creative power of the local architects is often jeopardized from the beginning. It is almost as though there were a perverse will to monotony and to stark ugliness that had built itself up in the minds of the Housing Authority unconsciously — a will which only the strongest personalities are able to withstand. Obviously some savings in unit costs of apartments or houses result from this rigid system, but the savings are frequently obtained by the elimination of many things which go to make up the humanity of a residential community — porches, balconies, projections to bring shadow into the composition, etc.—and the total savings made thereby are infinitesimal when balanced against the destruction of the total amenity of the group.

It is certainly true that few American architects five years ago understood many of the principles of site planning and building arrangement, of the handling of grades and the relations of buildings to each other. However, instead of furnishing effective leadership and examining sympathetically

site plans presented which appeared at first glance eccentric perhaps, the tendency seems to have been one directed toward an unnecessary regularity and standardization of unit types within a group and site plans which are monotonously repetitive.

Now this is an especially discouraging fact, because the housing movement in America started with a full realization of the importance of adequate site planning, handled with an eye to variety as well as harmony, in an effort to reduce regimentation to a minimum. Many of the site plans of the war housing of twenty-two years ago were of the greatest interest, and there were many isolated privately-financed groups in the country, such as the Buhl Foundation work in Pittsburgh and Radburn in New Jersey, which showed daring imagination and a delightful sense of the quality of a site. Moreover, the earlier fruits of the present campaign for government housing built under the PWA often achieved remarkable results, especially as regards this problem of site use; particularly notable perhaps were the Cedar Central group in Cleveland, Lothrop Park Houses in Chicago, Williamsburg and Harlem River Homes in New York, and Liberty Square in Miami. At the present time such imagination is rare indeed in the





U. S. Housing Authority groups. Manifestly, with the stricter cost limitations now in force, the problem is more difficult than it was five or six years ago. But it is, I feel, definitely tragic that such a stranger to the American problem as Dr. Rosenauer, noted European housing student, in examining the general trend of the American achievements to date, should be forced to turn again and again to the old PWA work as an example of the best. He finds especially harmful to

THREE VIEWS OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN WICKFORD, RHODE ISLAND, ARE REPRODUCED HERE AND ACROSS-PAGE FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE AUTHOR. THE GENERAL VIEW OF MAIN STREET (ABOVE) SHOWS HOUSES DATING FROM 1780-1810. THE PAIR OF HOUSES (BELOW) WAS BUILT 1790-95. THE BUSINESS BLOCK AT THE DOWNTOWN END OF MAIN STREET (ACROSS-PAGE) WAS BUILT IN 1850 AND THE BANK ON THE CORNER C.1860. THOUGH FROM DIFFERENT PERIODS AND REPRESENTING VARYING STYLES, THEY HAVE A BASIC HARMONY







the creation of beautiful communities the general practice in the USHA developments of using units of but one type in each group. Certain varieties of height and of size, variations of row-forms with cross- and T-forms, give rise to much more pleasing compositions than the single use of but one. He also has expressed a feeling that much of the American monotony comes from a fear of curved lines, and from a failure to use them even when they might be indicated by the site.

\* \* \* \*

This problem of harmony and variety extends far beyond the field of public housing. It affects the entire attitude of architects today toward their individual jobs, for the concept of the building as necessarily part of a community seems to be scarcely realized; and still the total effect of any community is inevitably due less to any one individual monument than to the sum total of impressions an observer receives walking through the community. The architect, of course, in his drawings sees only the individual building. Yet no one of us, like a horse, is furnished with blinders to cut out all vision except a narrow field just ahead, which will include but one building. Necessarily our vision takes in a great breadth of field, and when a new building is erected on a village or city street it exists in the minds of many people

only as one part of the total impression. To the building's creator, or even to the owner, it may seem a thing apart, an individual gem stuck into a welter of paste, a beautiful creation "redeeming" the town's ugliness; but to Tom, Dick, and Harry it is—in nine cases out of ten—just another building added to those already there, another differing voice clamoring for attention in the whole jumbled symphony of the city street.

How, though, say the individualists, can harmony arise in a day of changing style following on a period of confused and rampant eclecticism? Perhaps the answer is to be found in a quieter and more humble approach to the whole question of design, in a basic acceptance of shapes dictated by available materials and current needs. Richard H. Dana, Jr., once said to me some twenty years ago, as we were going over a housing development he had just designed in Waterbury, "I wonder why it is that the backs of my houses are always better than the fronts?" There are any number of views in modern cities which seem to prove his observation right. For example, there is a view in New York City of the crowded apartments which crown the Fort George hill. From below one sees only their backs and, in spite of the cheapness of the construction and the obvious limitations of their total



design, there is in that view nevertheless a kind of power, a living beauty, a harmony, totally absent from the streets which pass in front of them; there is a harmony because the windows are fundamentally of the same shape, their rhythms are basically alike, and the material—brick—is the same. Similarly, if one looks across from the summit of one of the San Francisco hills at the slopes of another, often it is the backs of house rows that hit the eye—long white lines of buildings curving up and down the vertiginous streets, innocent of any decoration but quite pleasing in their simple alternation of window and wall, in the unity of the color, in the similarity of the motifs of which they all are built. There is a beauty in these views not unlike the beauty of some Italian towns; yet, when one comes to these selfsame houses from the front, all that meets the gaze is cheap and tawdry, and confused with all the things the builder has put on to make the fronts look like fronts. In larger buildings too the same fact is frequently obvious—as, for instance, in the New York Public Library, or the Memorial Hospital of New York, or many of our large apartment houses. Where the architect tried hardest he succeeded least, and hid the true expression of material and function—the true expression, that is, of our present culture—by applied façade design in which, almost unconsciously, the architect was trying to make his building “different.”

We often look back to the harmony of the towns of America of a century or more ago as examples of a harmony which we can never again achieve. Perhaps the reason is that the fronts of those so-called late Colonial houses are as simple and unassuming as the backs. Only the decoration of the door gives welcome at the entrance; elsewhere, over and over again the same materials, the same general proportions, the same care in detail are used on all sides of the house. There is no real façade, so that the houses speak a simple language, the same for all, and harmony almost inevitably results. Main Street in Wickford, Rhode Island, is an excellent example, where buildings erected over a period of three-quarters of a

century — during which the so-called “styles” had changed markedly—nevertheless have this basic harmony.

This does not mean, of course, that these buildings were not designed. They were designed by men, for the time, well-trained. But these men, unlike some modern architects, were not aiming primarily to make an impression; they were not out to *épater les bourgeois*. They were not upholding usually any style panacea; all they were trying to do was to produce the best and the most beautiful houses which the clients’ money could buy and which the materials and the techniques of the period could make possible. They produced, as it were, houses which were all “back,” but on the design of these “backs” they lavished all their care in proportion and detail.

Today, I think, we are beginning to realize this in large measure. We are thinking less in terms of façade, more in terms of use graciously expressed in careful details; and naturally a new harmony is growing up.

The harmony I am seeking to express is not the superficial harmony of style. It does not mean that one in designing a city building should examine the buildings on either side and in his own design attempt to combine the faults of both; but it does mean some kind of an acceptance of color and material harmonies, some kind of humility in the face of the fact that the designer is building part of a city that may last for decades to come. This requires, above all, a hatred of any exhibitionism, a complete turning away from the notion of putting oneself “on the map”—if necessary, by violence. Modern industry and modern life have alike developed certain simple patterns for buildings of different kinds, quite naturally and almost unconsciously. If only we can learn to accept these simply and to develop from them the utmost in beauty of proportion and detail of which they are susceptible, a true harmony of 20th-Century architecture will naturally arise. We must, of course, create; we must not accept these patterns as crystallized perfection. The patterns themselves we must affect and improve by creative thought and effort, but we must never forget them.





Chauncey W. Riley, New York Architect, who designed the Banco Popular de Puerto Rico shown on the following pages, enjoyed an exceptional opportunity because Rafael Carrion, who heads the bank, was determined to prove to pessimistic business associates there that such a structure would be an asset to the bank and the city. The result is the largest and most modern commercial building in the West Indies and it is significant to note that the bank's deposits have increased 50% and that not a rentable space has been vacant in the building since the structure was completed in 1939.

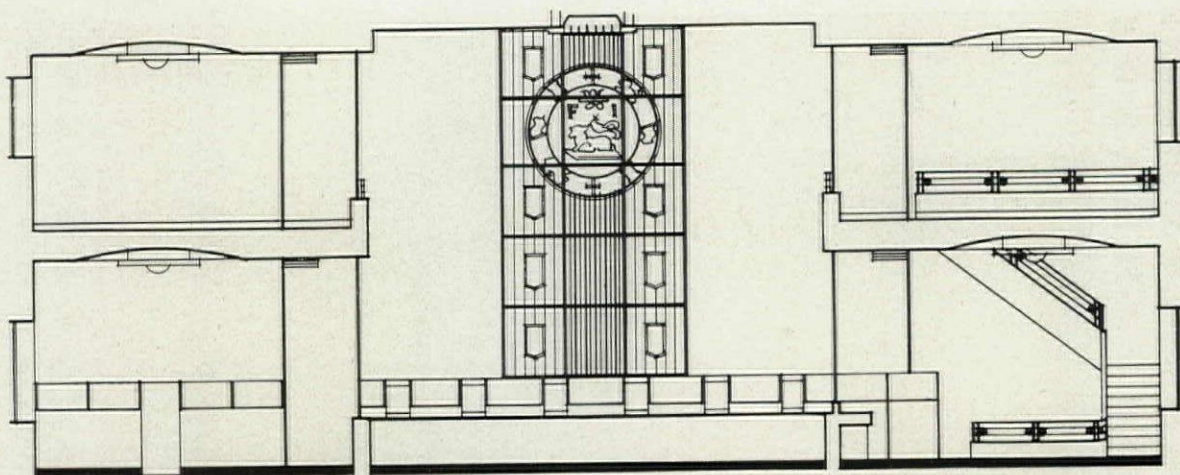
The north façade is one of the first sights to greet the eye of the visitor disembarking in San Juan—the white mass of the structure, with a slight tint of green to counteract tropical glare and also relieved by spandrels of warm gray, rising eleven stories above the tropical foliage along the water front. The central location and the effective contrast with the old city give this bank building unusual prominence. The façade on Tetuan Street, one of the principal thoroughfares, is distinguished by a great portal of glass and bronze framed by Norwegian granite.

An imaginative and free use of color makes the interior of the bank distinctive. As it is completely air-conditioned, all openings were carefully designed to admit only required

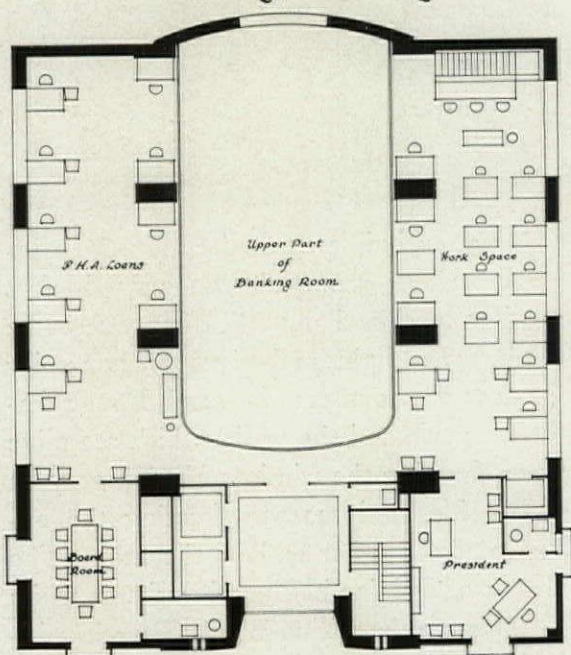
lighting, excluding excess heat. In the principal banking room a great stained glass window designed by Wolfgang Loesche subdues the light and gives greater color depth to the counters of French Rouge Antique marble and the walls, which are olive green framing the window, French gray on either side, and maroon framing the entrance at the other end of the room. The floor is of Belgian black and Alabama white marbles and the ceiling is light French gold-leaf. The bank cages are glass and bronze. The wrought-iron railing of the mezzanine is enriched with medallions reproducing a Spanish coin of the year the bank was founded, 1893. The space for officers is floored with gold and white terrazzo and furnished with Santo Domingo mahogany in natural color, upholstered in a dark Dubonnet shade of leather.

The upper floors are for tenants, principally large sugar concerns and lawyers, and are noteworthy for their compact disposition of services, giving maximum rentable area (see plan overpage). On the top floor are club rooms decorated in silver, buttercup yellow, black, and vermillion, with floors of white and Rouge Antique terrazzo. From the top floor windows and from the tiled terraces there is an incomparable view of San Juan Harbor and the luxuriant landscape.

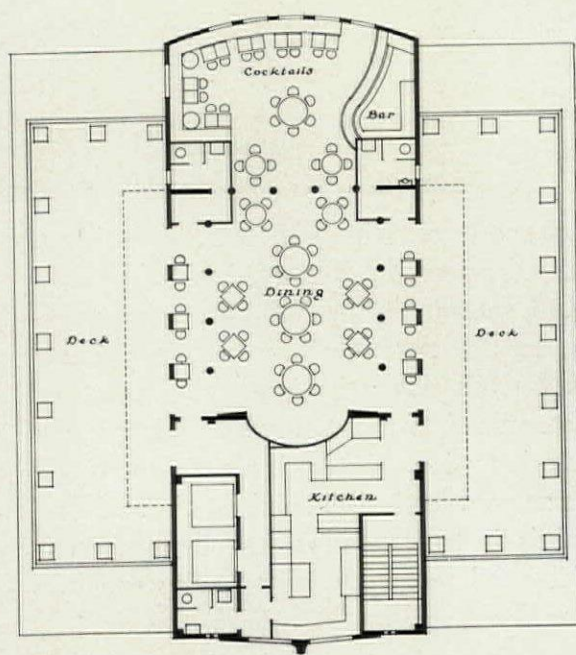




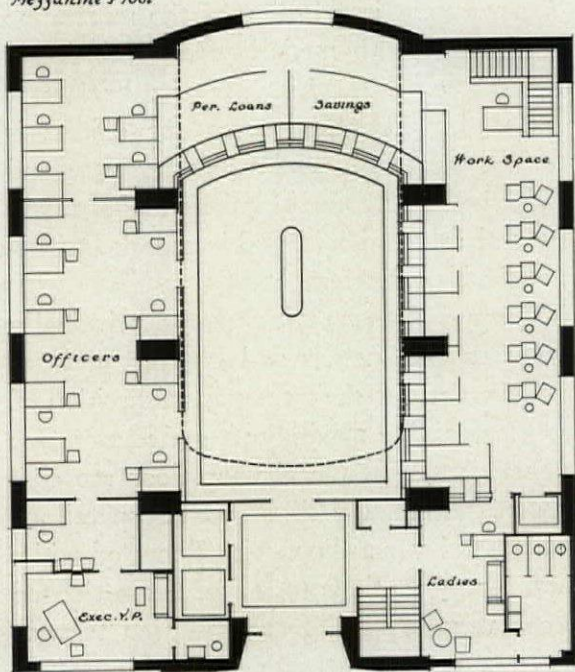
*Section Through Banking Room*



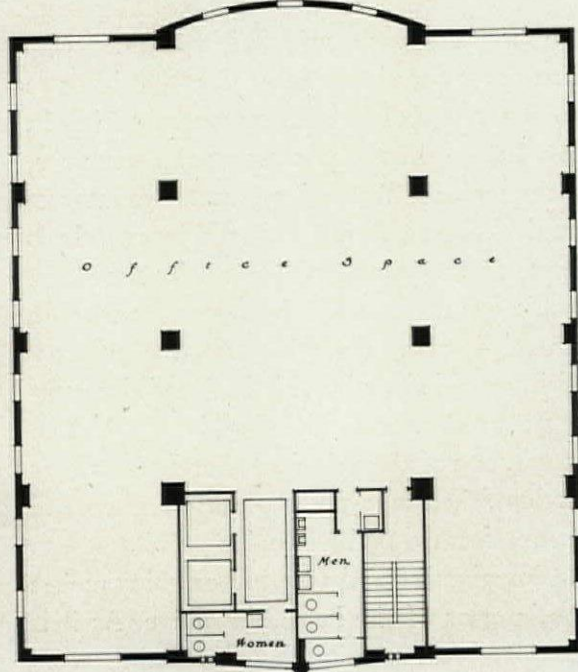
*Mezzanine Floor*



*Bankers Club of D.R.*



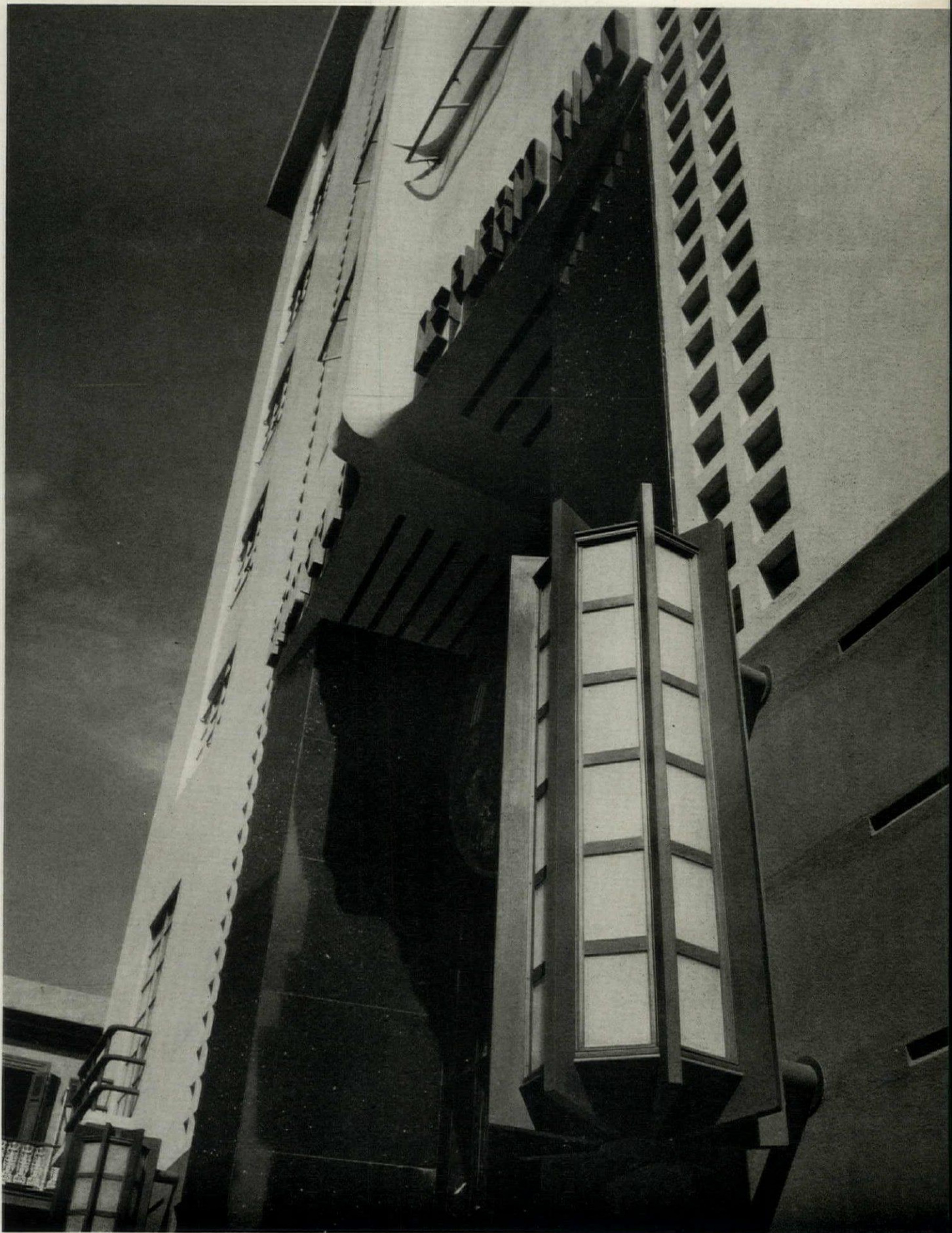
*First Floor*



*Typical Floor*





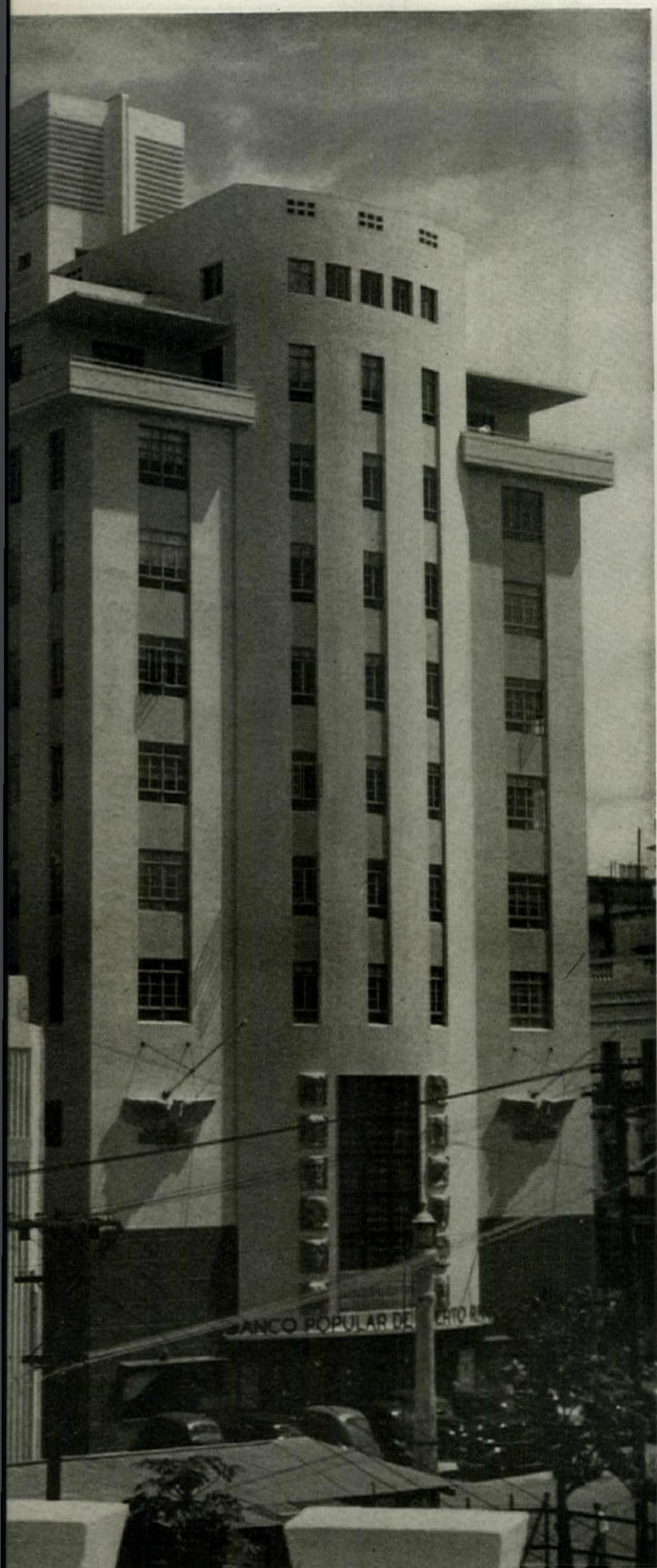


*Miguel Angel*

BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — BY CHAUNCEY W. RILEY

FEBRUARY 1941





Harwood Hull

BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — IN SAN JUAN, P. R.



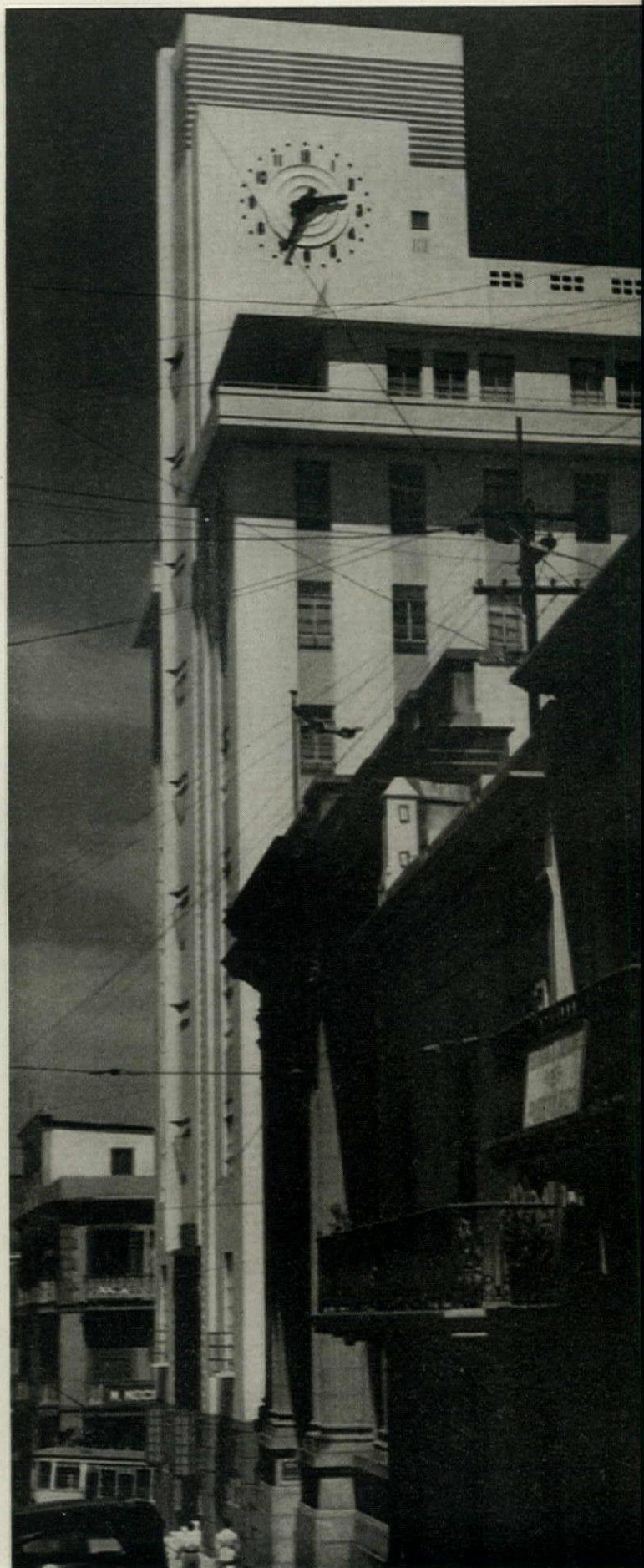
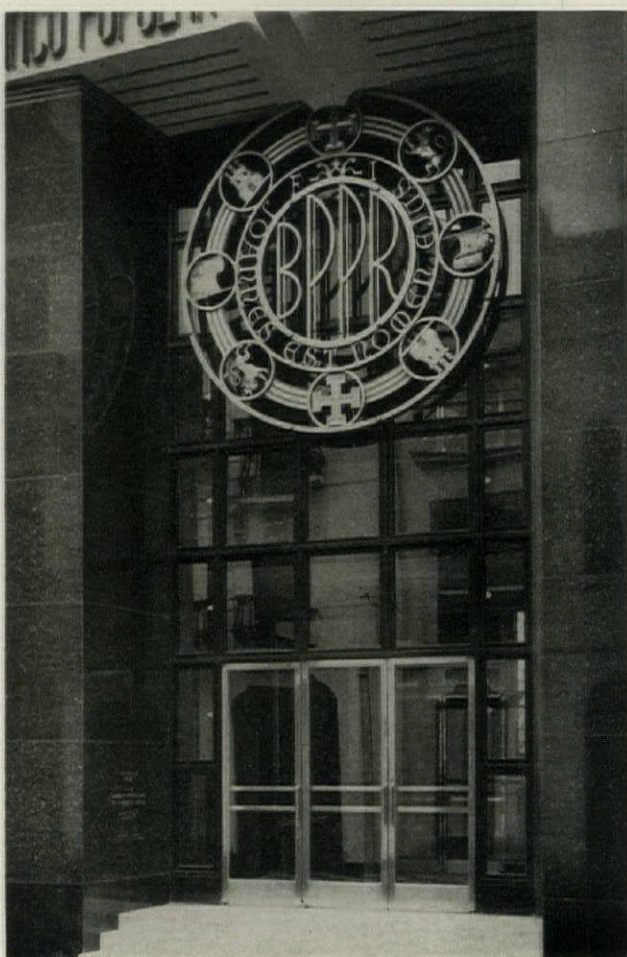
Miguel Angel

THIS VIEW OF THE TETUAN STREET FAÇADE DRAMATIZES THE AIR-CONDITIONING INTAKE GRILLES AND THE RIB CONTAINING THE CIRCULATING LINE THAT EXTENDS TO THE TOP OF THE TOWER. THE NORTH FRONT (LEFT) IS ADORNED BY 12 PLAQUES SYMBOLIZING BANKING, AND TWO EAGLES, ALL BY RENE CHAMBELLAN



THE EFFECT OF THE BANK IN ITS ANCIENT SETTING IS SHOWN BY THIS VIEW (DETAIL OF CLOCK AND TOP OF TOWER ON PAGE 100). THE ENTRANCE (BELOW) IS FRAMED WITH NORWEGIAN GRANITE. THE BRONZE AND GOLD-LEAF MEDALLION OF THE ANCIENT SEAL OF PUERTO RICO WAS MODELED BY MAXFIELD H. KECK

*Herwood Hull*



*Miguel Angel*

BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — BY CHAUNCEY W. RILEY





VIEWS IN THE LOFTY MAIN BANKING ROOM ARE SHOWN HERE AND ACROSS-PAGE. PHOTOS BY ANGEL



BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — IN SAN JUAN, P. R.





DESIGNED BY CHAUNCEY W. RILEY, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK

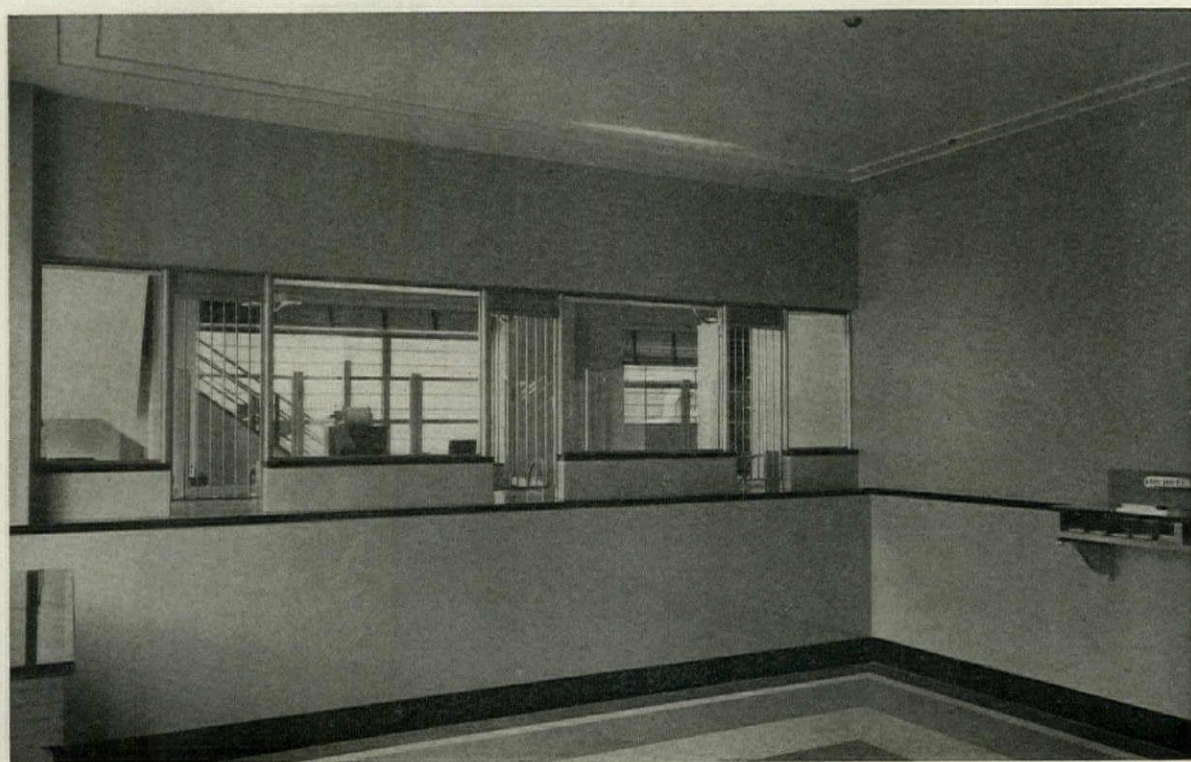
FEBRUARY 1941

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SPACE FOR BANK OFFICERS (ABOVE) AND THE BASEMENT BANKING ROOM. PHOTOS BY ANGEL



BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — IN SAN JUAN, P. R.





THE TOP FLOOR CLUB ROOMS (ABOVE) AND THE ROOF TERRACE, LOOKING TOWARD NEW AIR BASE SITE



DESIGNED BY CHAUNCEY W. RILEY, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK

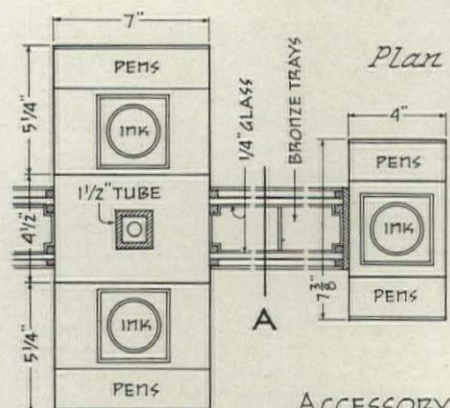
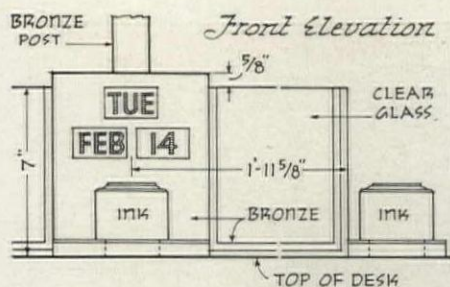




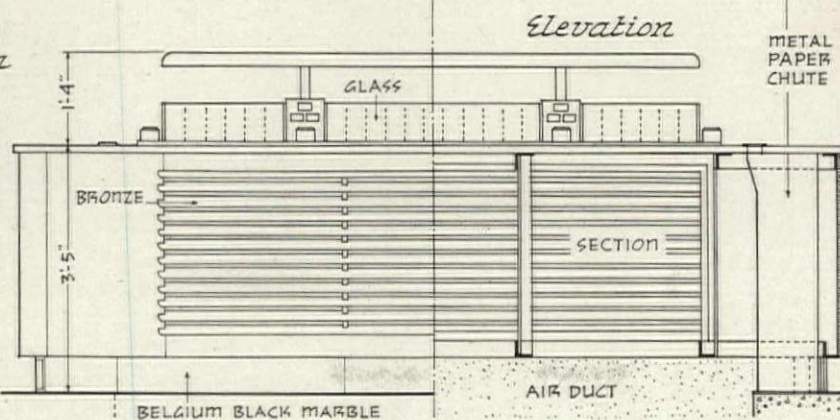
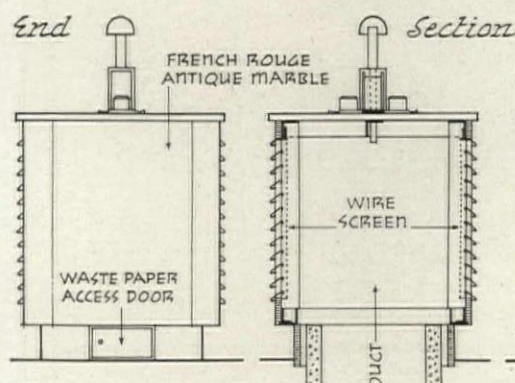
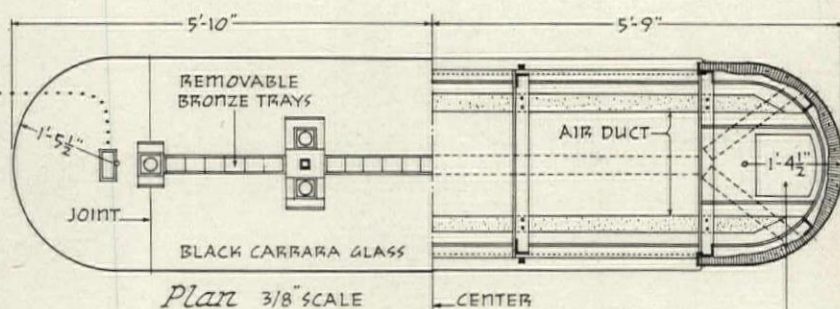
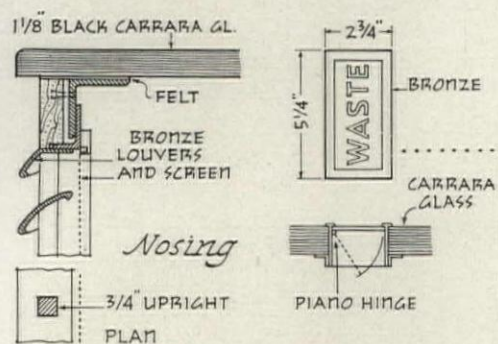
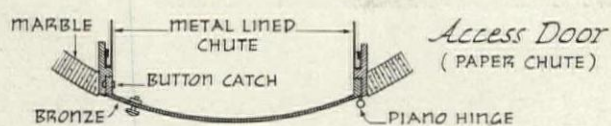
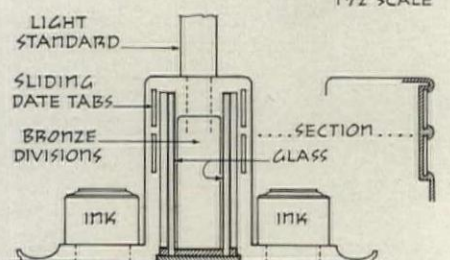
*Miguel Angel*

BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO — IN SAN JUAN, P. R.



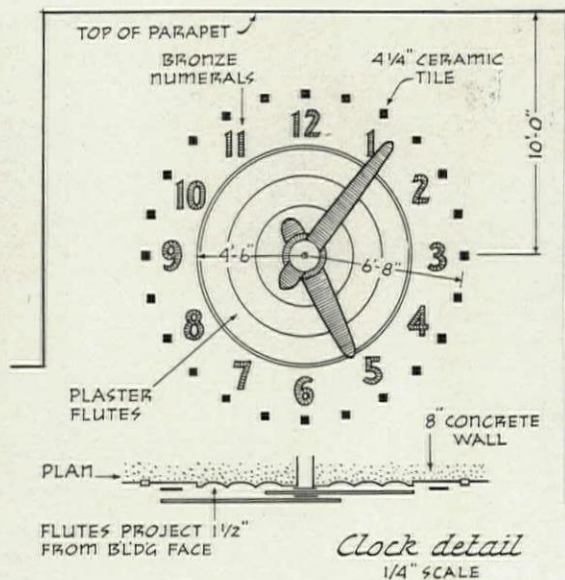


ACCESSORY  
DETAILS  
1 1/2" SCALE

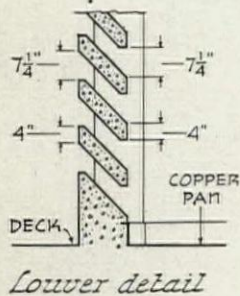
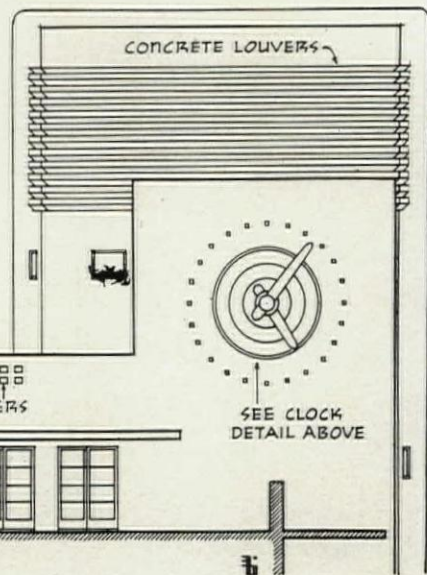
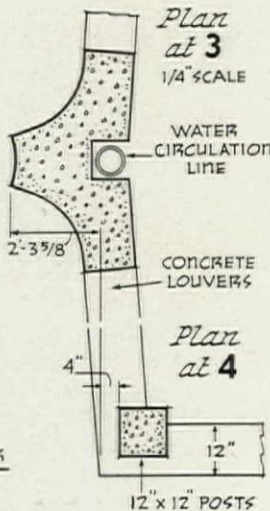
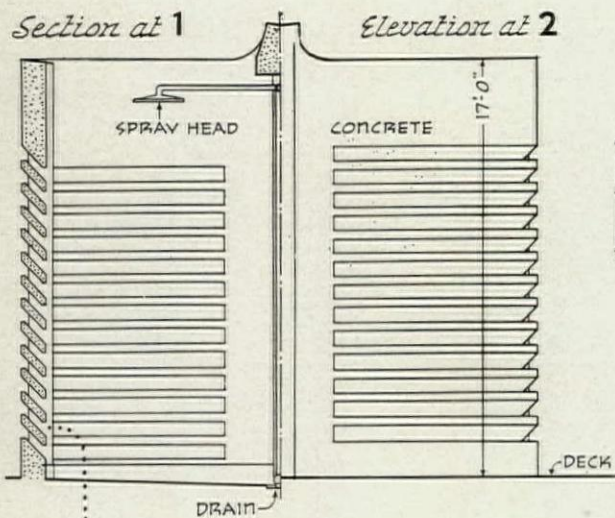
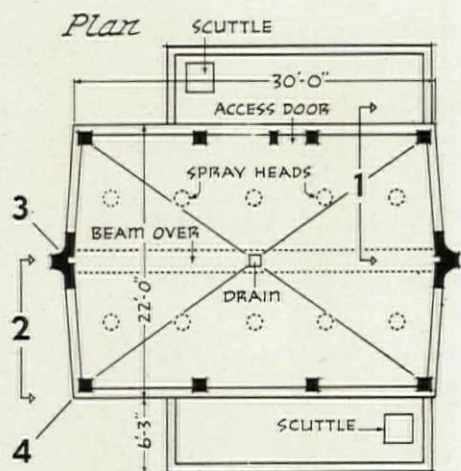


DESIGNED BY CHAUNCEY W. RILEY, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK





THE AMPLIFIED CARILLON SYSTEM IN THIS TOWER HAS A RANGE OF 2 MILES WITHOUT DISTORTION.....AMPLIFIERS ARE PLACED ON 4 SIDES OF TOWER.



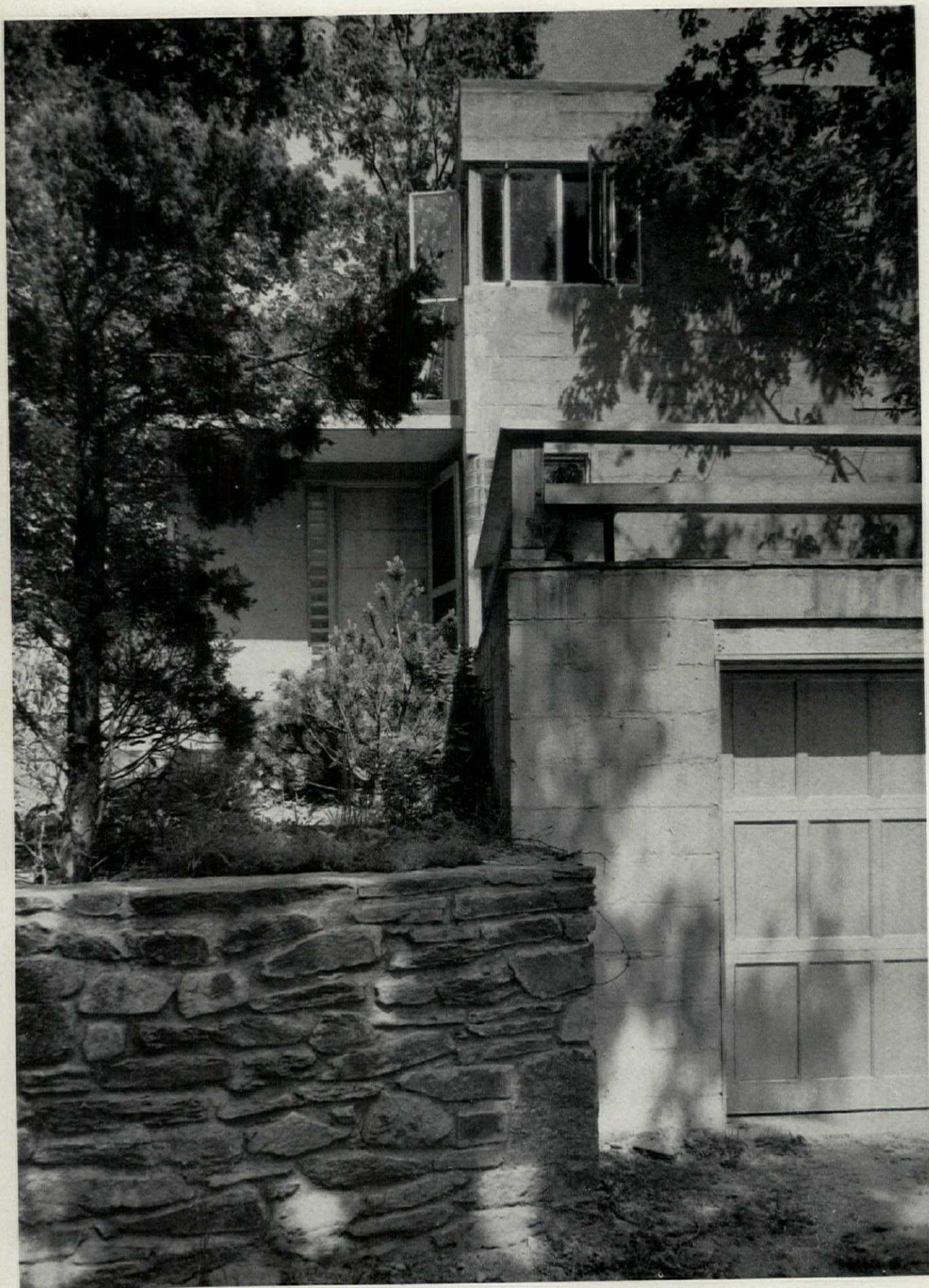




AN ARCHITECT'S HOME—BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS, OF NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 1941



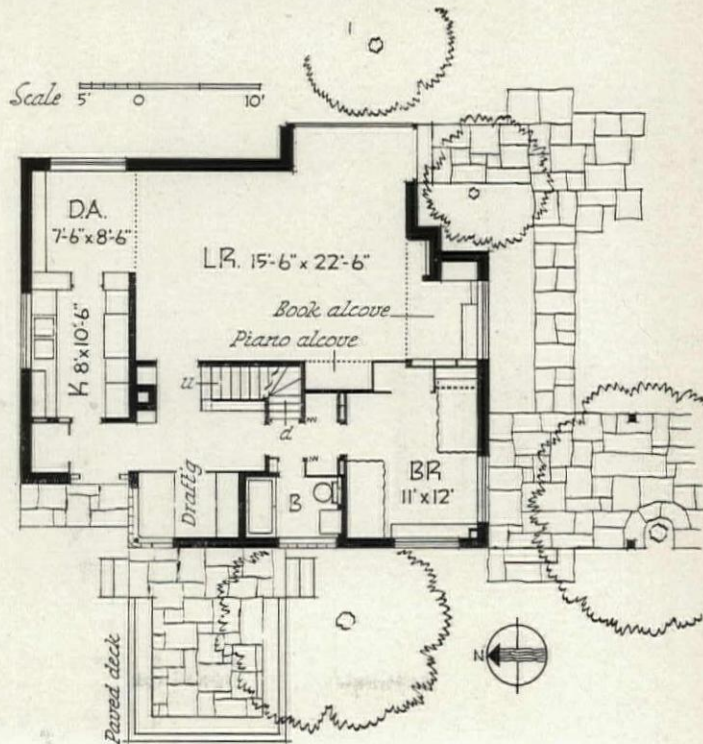
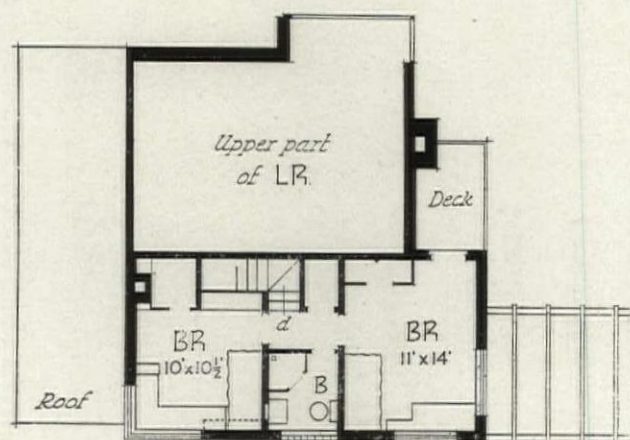


AN ARCHITECT'S HOME — DESIGNED BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS





THE INTIMATE CHARACTER OF MR. EVANS' COUNTRY HOME IS TRACEABLE IN LARGE PART TO THE FACT THAT HE DID MUCH OF THE ACTUAL CARPENTRY HIMSELF. THE WALLS ARE CINDER BLOCK, PAINTED GREEN



ALL THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE HOUSE SHOWN HERE WERE MADE BY GEORGE VAN ANDA, ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHER, OF NEW YORK AND KENT, CONN.

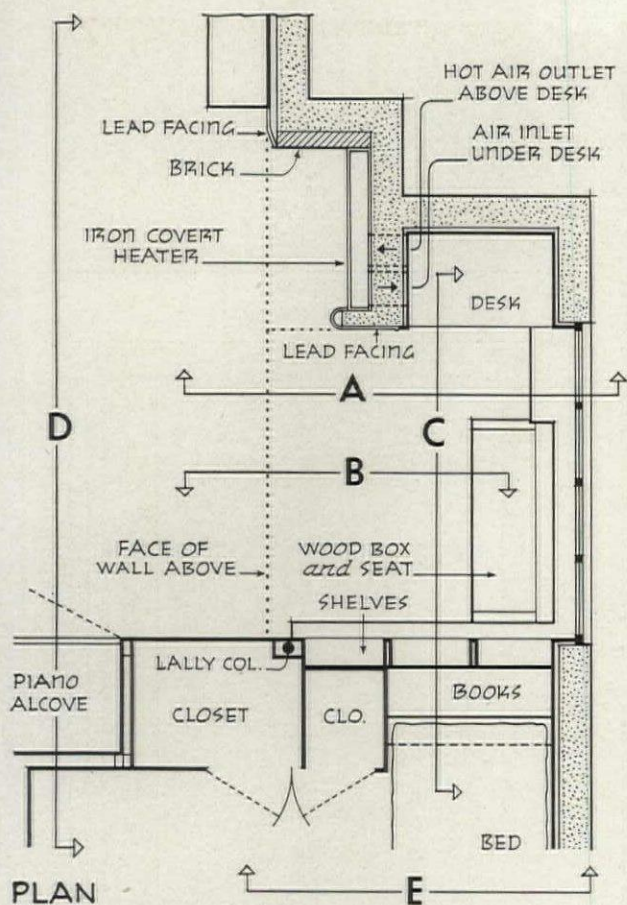
OF EVANS, MOORE & WOODBRIDGE, ARCHITECTS, OF NEW YORK



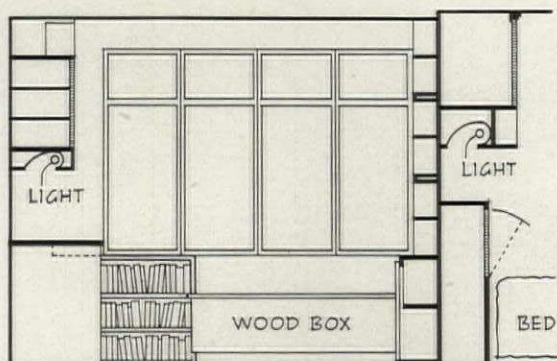
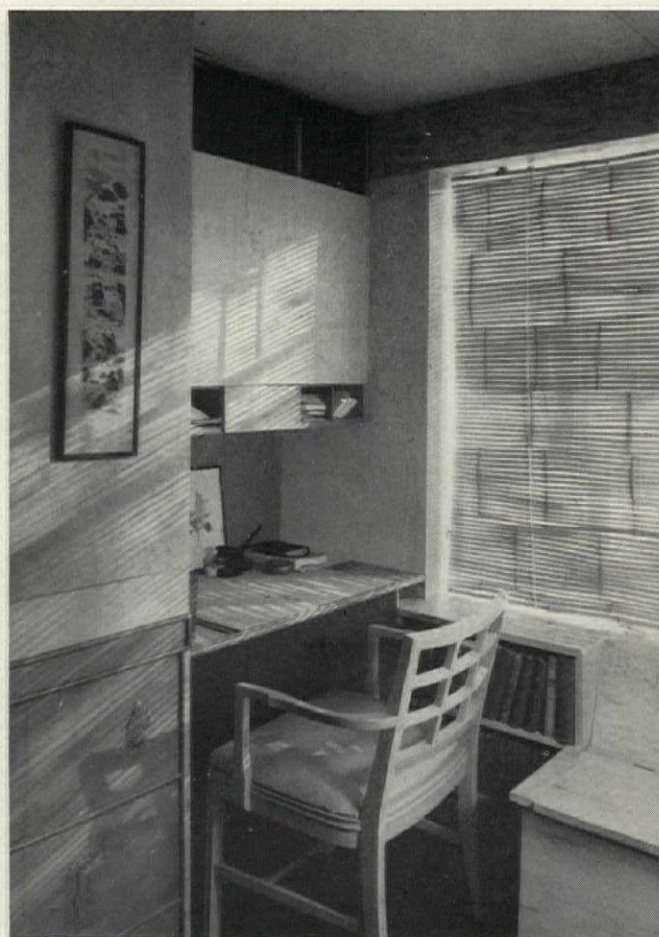


AN ARCHITECT'S HOME — BUILT NEAR WILTON, CONNECTICUT

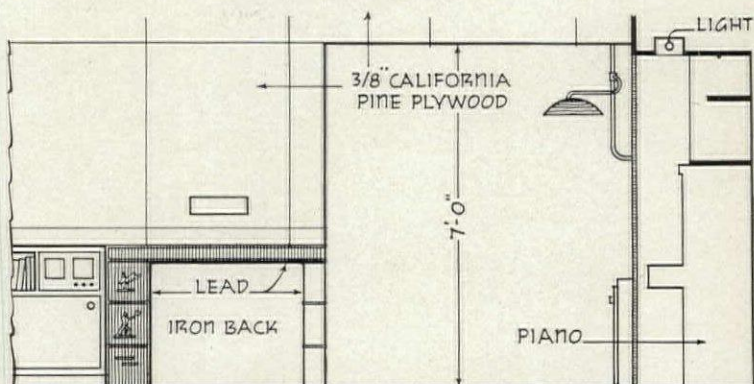




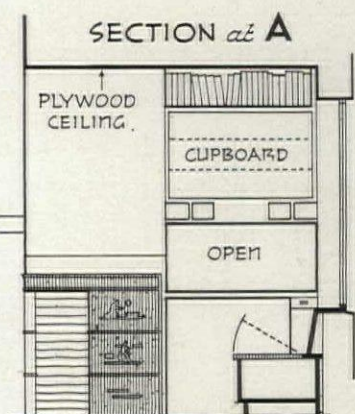
Scale 1/4" equals 1'-0"



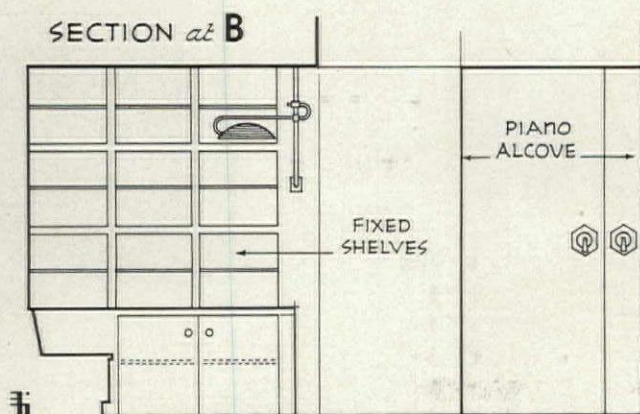
SECTION at C



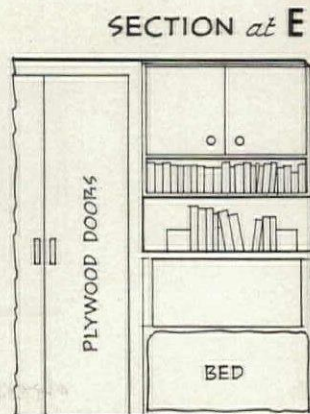
SECTION at D



SECTION at A



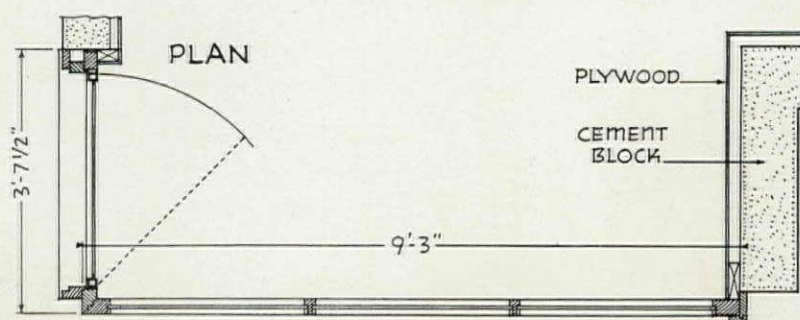
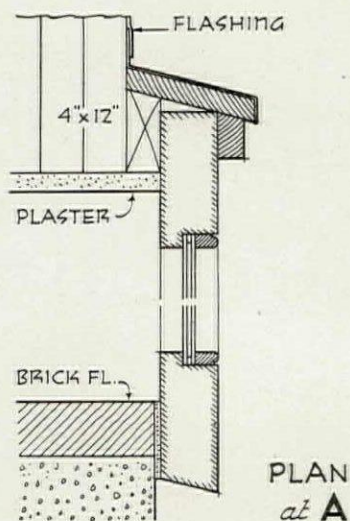
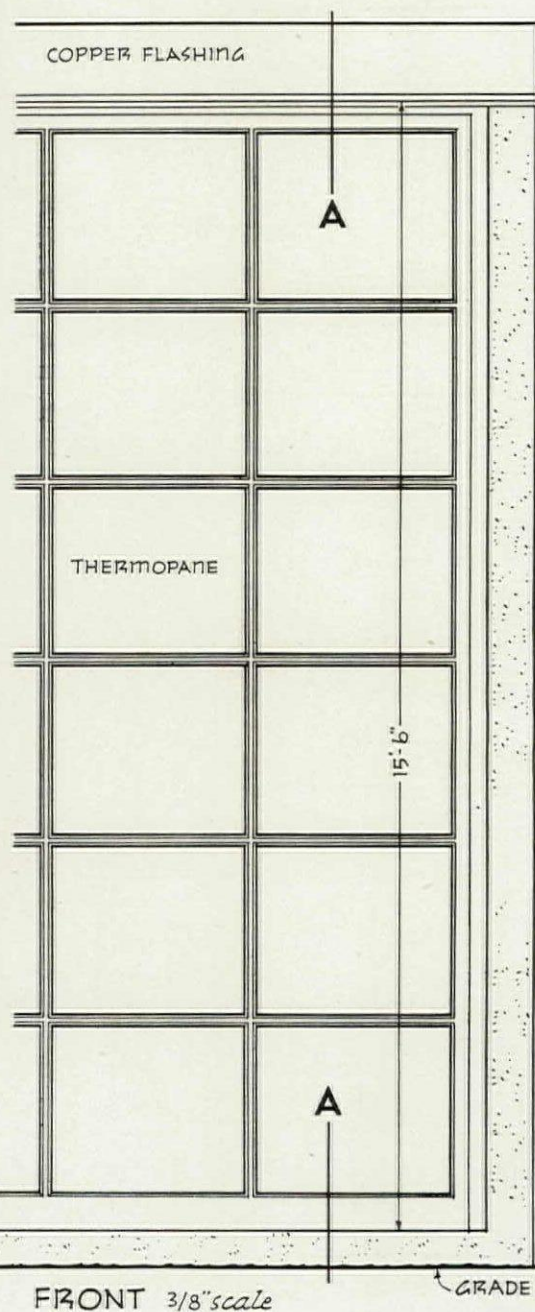
SECTION at B



SECTION at E

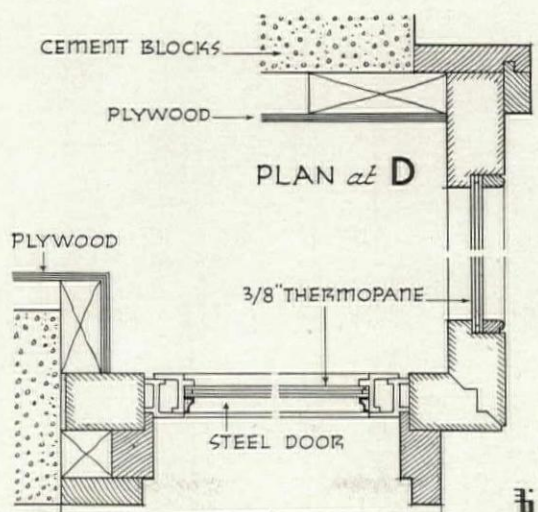
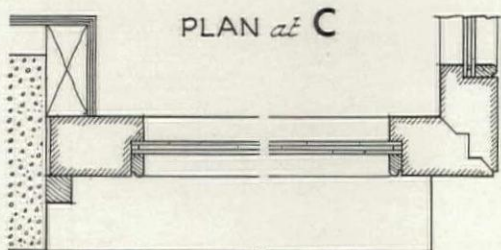
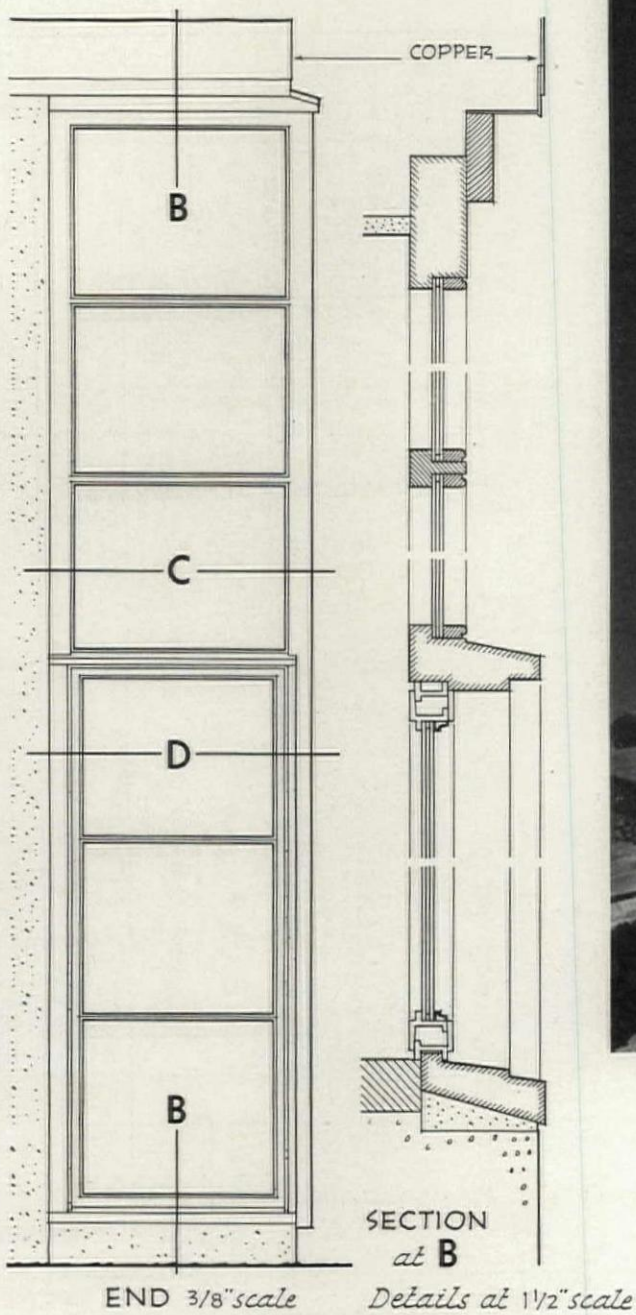
DESIGNED BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK





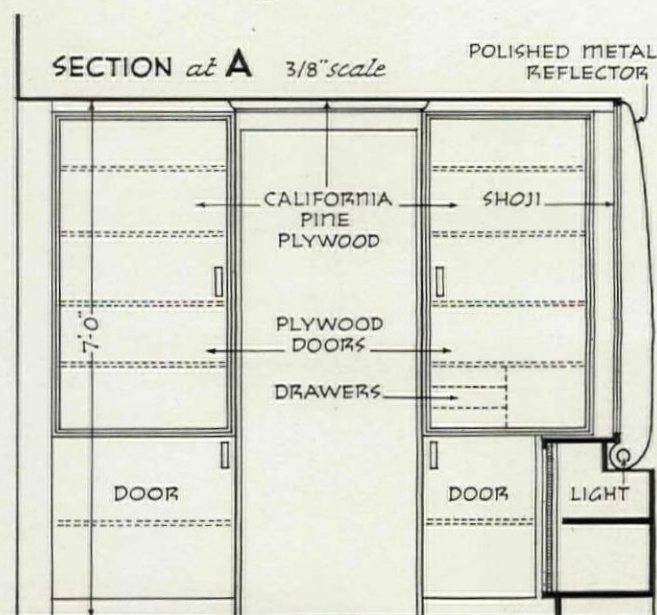
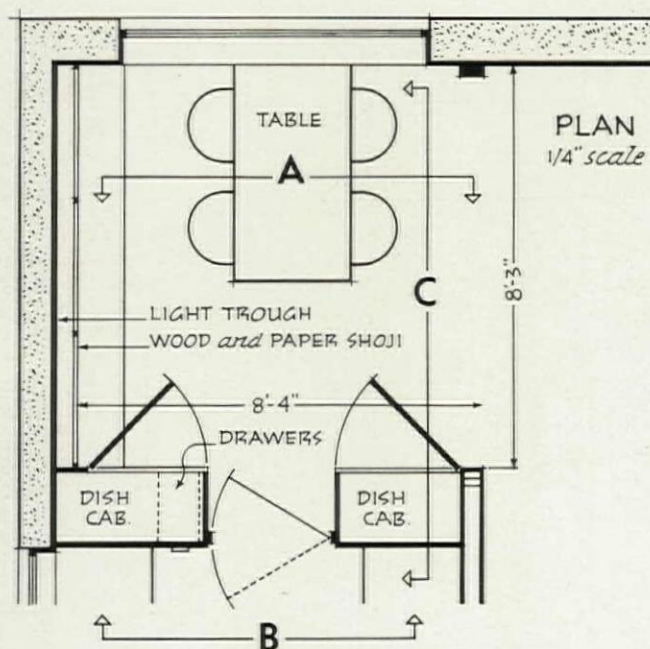
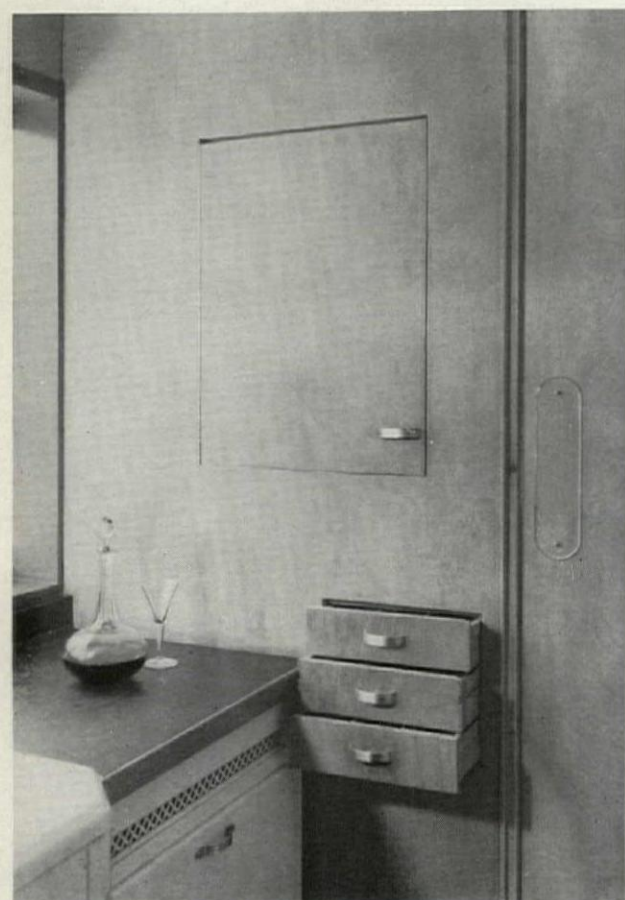
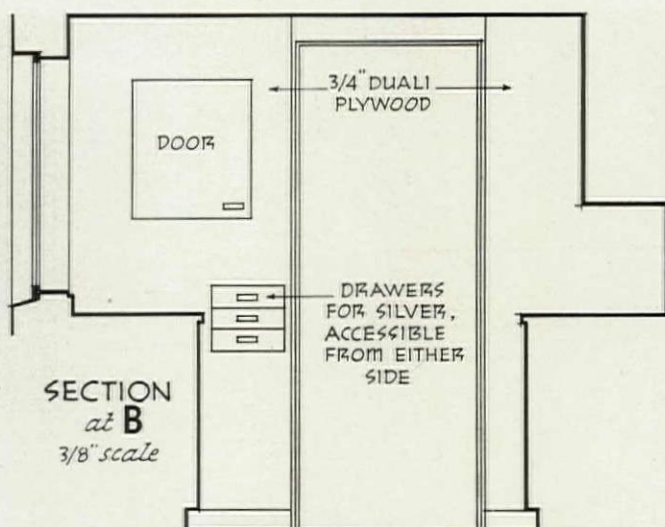
AN ARCHITECT'S HOME — BUILT NEAR WILTON, CONNECTICUT





DESIGNED BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK





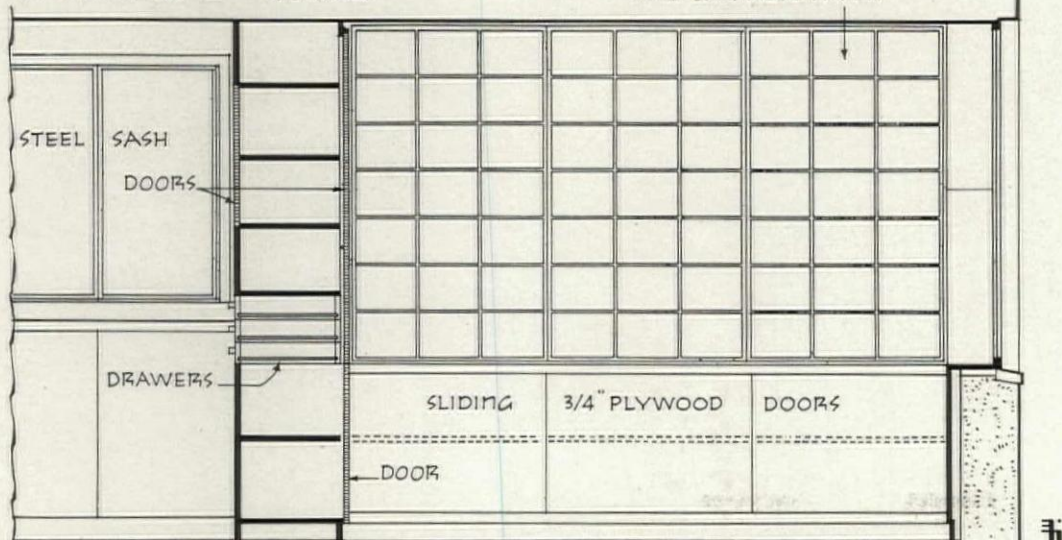
AN ARCHITECT'S HOME — BUILT NEAR WILTON, CONNECTICUT





SECTION at C  $\frac{3}{8}$ " scale

TRANSLUCENT "SHOJI" OF WOOD  
AND JAPANESE PAPER

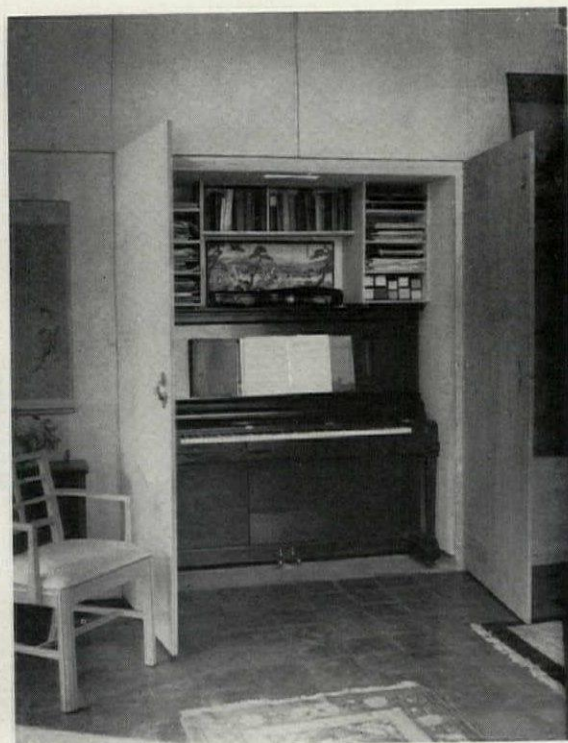
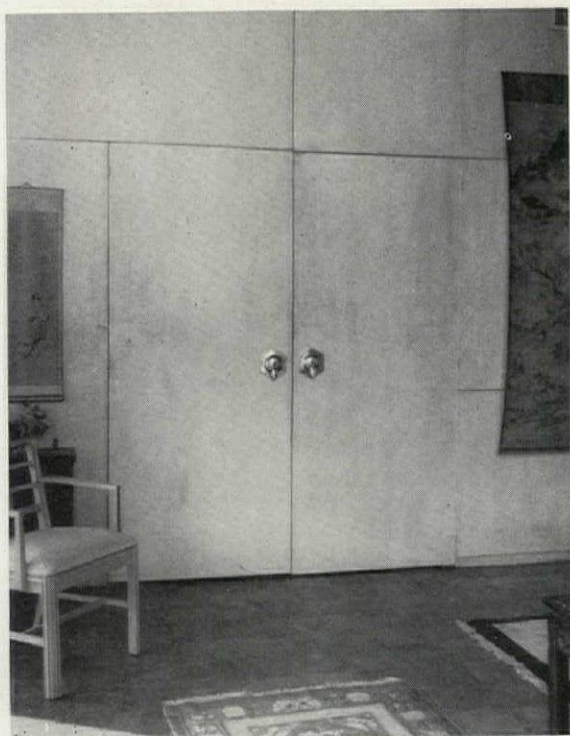


DESIGNED BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK





THE HIGH-CEILINGED LIVING ROOM IS SO LARGE IN PROPORTION TO THE REMAINDER THAT THE HOUSE IS RATHER LIKE A DETACHED STUDIO APARTMENT. INTERIOR PANELING IS LIGHT IN COLOR AND FLOORS ARE OF RED BUILDING TILE, WAXED. THE BLUE CEILING OF THE LIVING ROOM IS PLASTER



AN ARCHITECT'S HOME — BUILT NEAR WILTON, CONNECTICUT



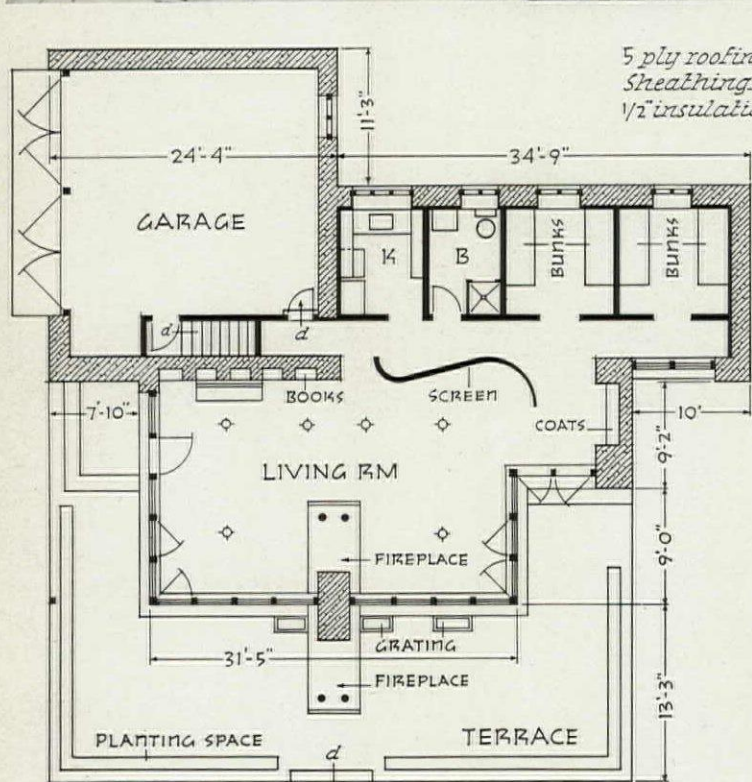
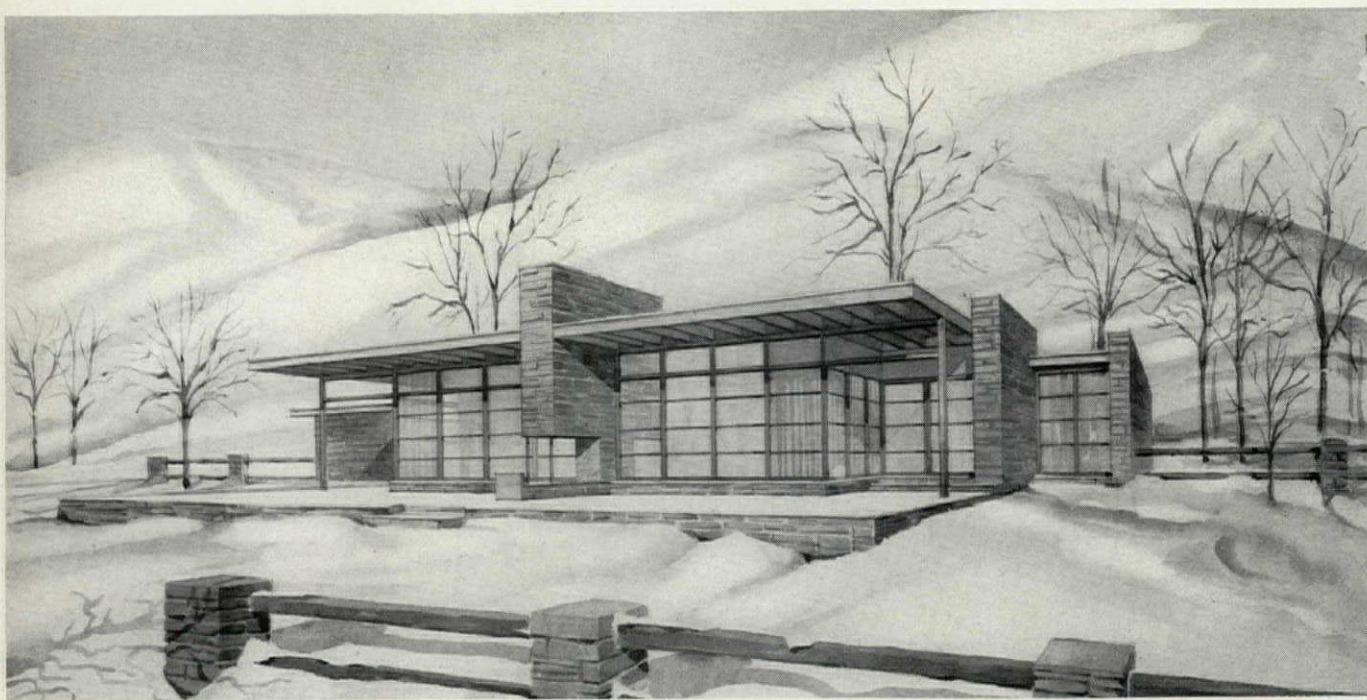


DESIGNED BY ALMUS PRATT EVANS, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK

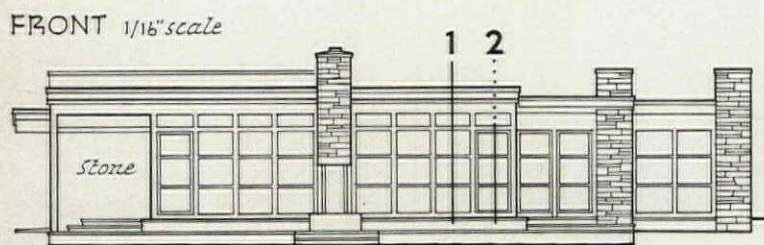
FEBRUARY 1941

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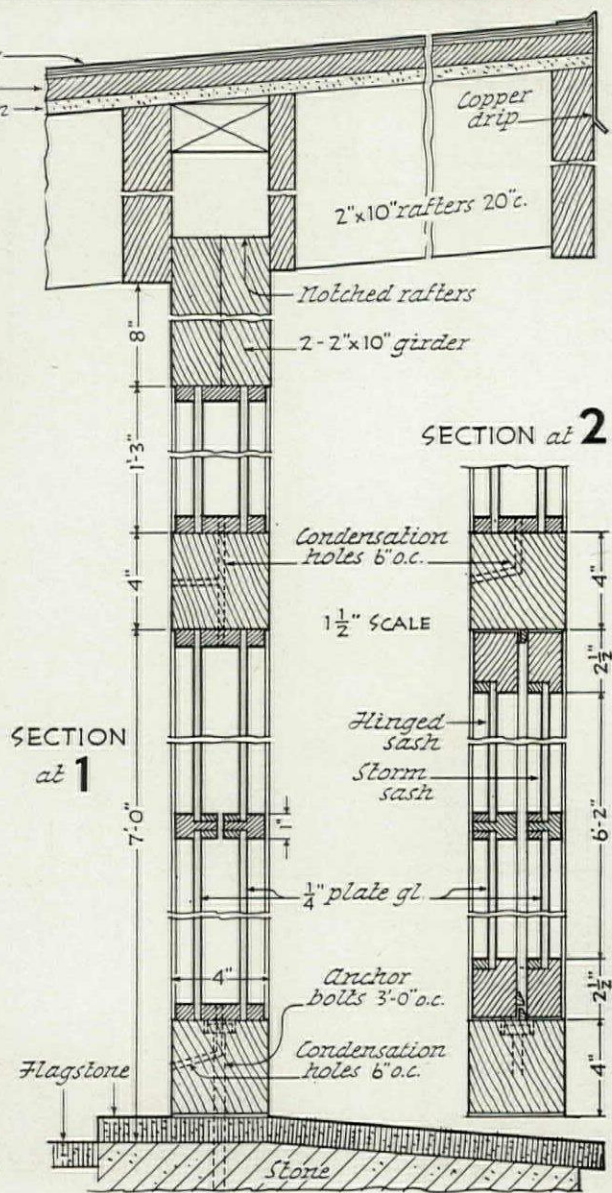




FLOOR PLAN 1/16" scale

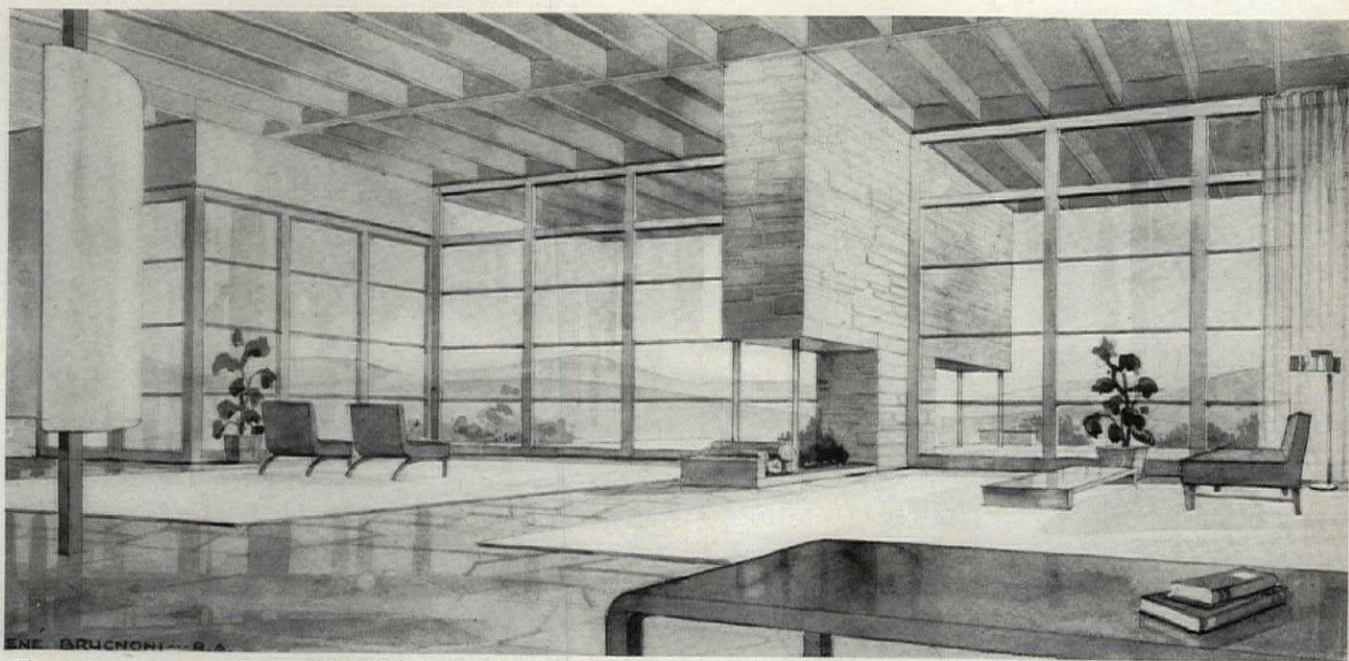


FRONT 1/16" scale

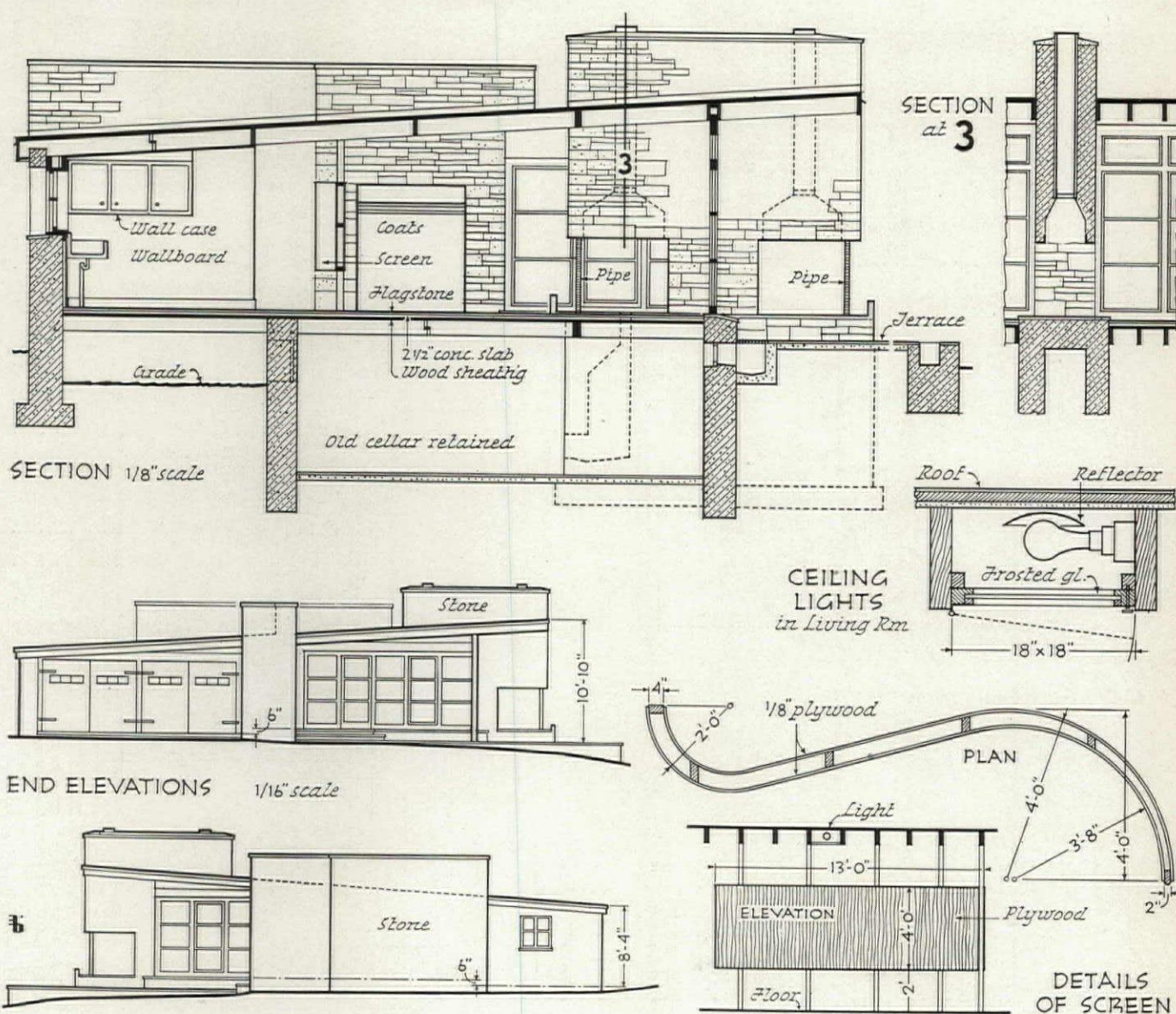


WEEK-END SKI CABIN IN THE CATSKILLS FOR N. BORGENICHT





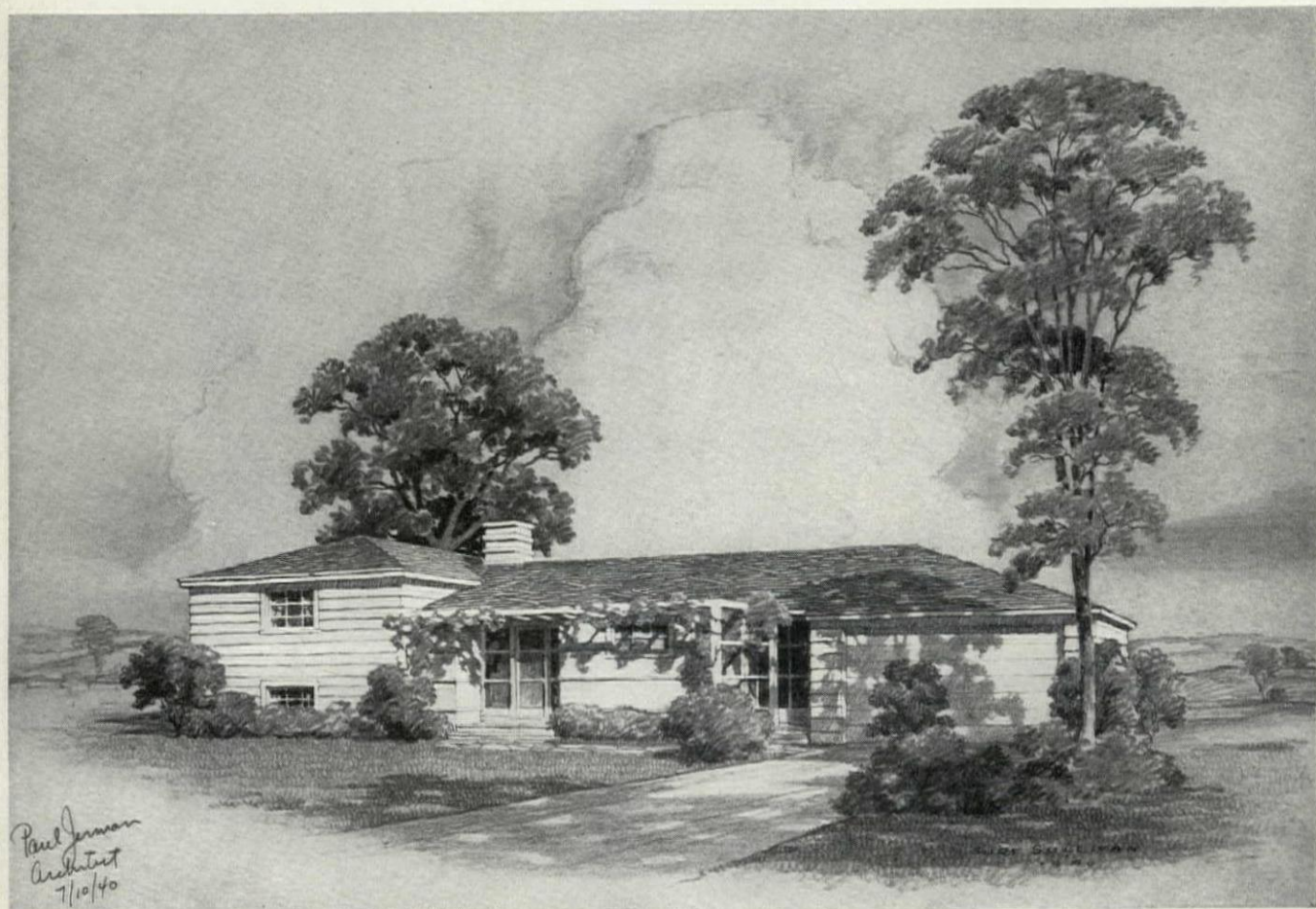
Furniture designed by T. H. ROBSJOHN-GIBBINGS



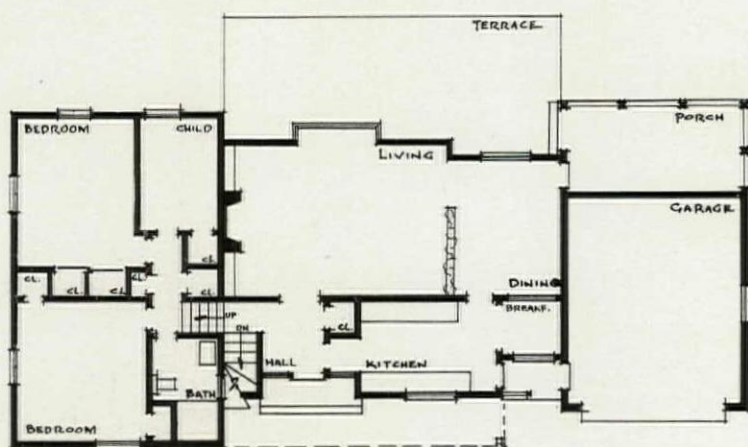
DESIGNED BY RENE C. BRUGNONI, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 1941

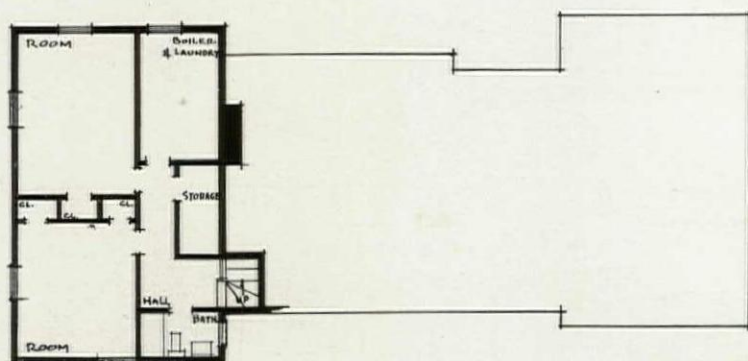




Rendering by Burt Sullivan



First Floor



Basement

THIS PLEASING HOUSE FOR A SMALL FAMILY WAS DESIGNED BY PAUL JERMAN TO MEET CONTEMPORARY REQUIREMENTS IN PLANNING AND LIVING FACILITIES. CONSTRUCTED OF FRAME WITH ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOF IT WOULD COST APPROXIMATELY \$8500, INCLUDING A WELL AND WATER SYSTEM. IT WAS DESIGNED FOR A ONE-ACRE NEW JERSEY PLOT IN COMMUTING RANGE OF THE CITY

SUBURBAN HOUSE — BY PAUL JERMAN, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK



# DEFENSE HOUSING: 1940

**THE UNITED STATES IN A CHANGING WORLD BUILDS  
FOR DEFENSE: CAREFUL PLANNING IS NEEDED TO  
SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE EMERGENCY AND TO  
CONTRIBUTE TO THE NORMAL LIFE THAT FOLLOWS**

PRESENTED BY:  
THE WASHINGTON D C CHAPTER  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
MATERIALS COURTESY:

FHA NYA  
FSA PWA  
FWA USHA

A truly intelligent contribution . . . and the more of a contribution because it has been volunteered—is this analytical study . . . made by these young architects, men and women, Associates of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. They have given generously of their spare time to make these studies—not merely studies of architectural planning—but searching comparisons of our other World War experience . . . then and now, social and economic complications . . . Of this work we hope to make good use.

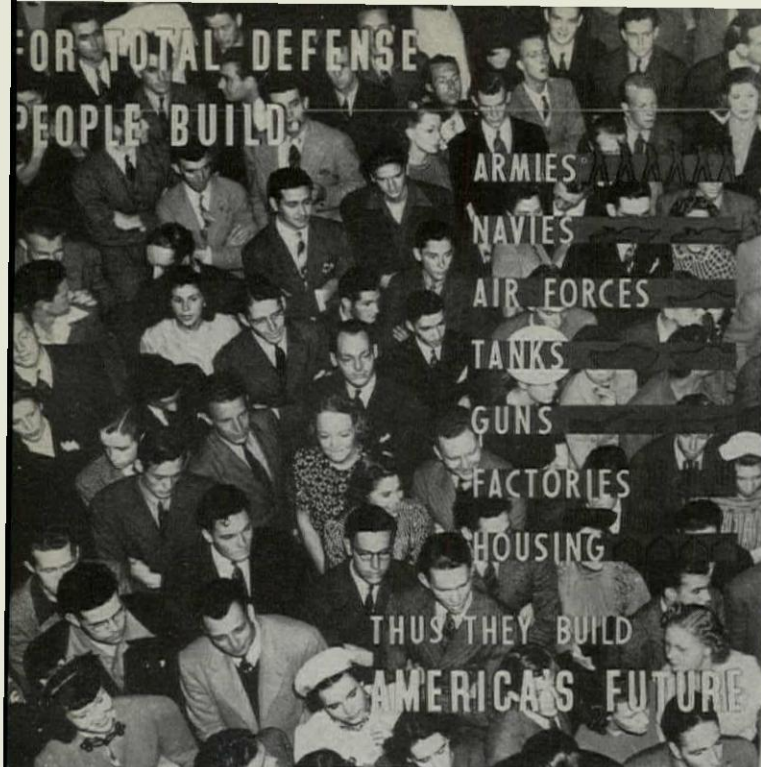
From an Address by the  
DEFENSE HOUSING COORDINATOR  
to the  
CENTRAL HOUSING COMMITTEE

## *THE CONTRIBUTORS*

HOWARD ARMSTRONG  
HAROLD BOUTIN  
CHRISTOPHER CHAMALES  
GEORGE CRONIN  
BRANCH ELAM  
ALSTON GUTTERSON

NORMAN HANSEN  
WILLIAM HAUSSMANN  
WILLIAM SUITE  
LEWIS STEVENS  
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD  
DAVID YERKES





Rapidly expanding development in the defense industries, to meet production schedules, requires a housing program that will provide adequate dwellings for defense workers as rapidly as raw materials are assembled and factories are built. Failure in the production of housing results in loss of efficiency in the production of defense materials.

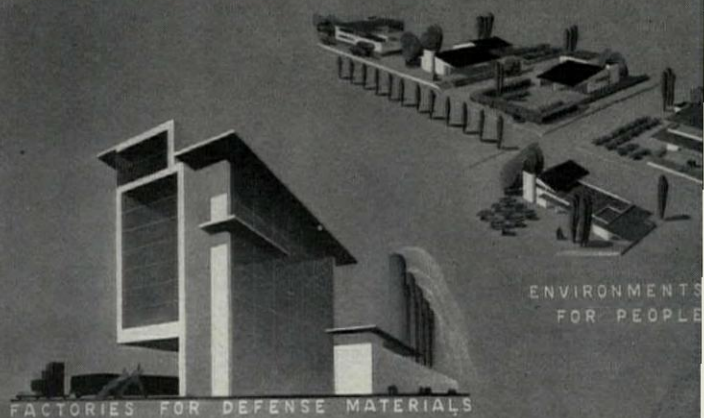
Speed is essential—but *the need for speed does not preclude the development of well-planned communities.*

*People* build the nation's defense and the nation's future.

In an all-out program for total defense, it is of utmost importance that *people* perform at their greatest efficiency. To this end, housing for defense workers must incorporate those principles of planning which can result in environments that provide for healthful living. The debilitating effect of unwholesome living conditions *hampers human efficiency* and results in economic waste.

A strong nation cannot be built of weak people.

## HOUSING: AN INTEGRAL PART OF TOTAL DEFENSE



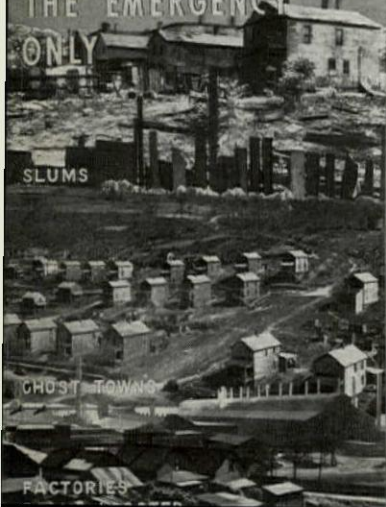
**BOTH MUST BE CAREFULLY COORDINATED WITH THE DEFENSE PROGRAM TO AVOID OVER EXPANSION AND BOOM BUILDING**

## PLANNING FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE NEEDS

PLANNING FOR:

THE EMERGENCY ONLY

THE EMERGENCY AND FUTURE



Defense housing must be properly integrated with the community of which it is a part. Well-planned permanent communities near normally large industrial centers, self-sufficient in neighborhood facilities, offer the smallest risk and *the largest possibilities for future use.*



Housing is a problem of coordinated planning embracing the elements of education, recreation, health, traffic, services, and business—as well as shelter. The mere assemblage of dwelling units does not solve the problem. New environments should be so planned that they do not impose burdens on the services of the communities in which they are built. Defense housing presents a challenge to local interests *to shape community futures* while meeting emergency needs.

## COORDINATED PLANNING PROVIDES

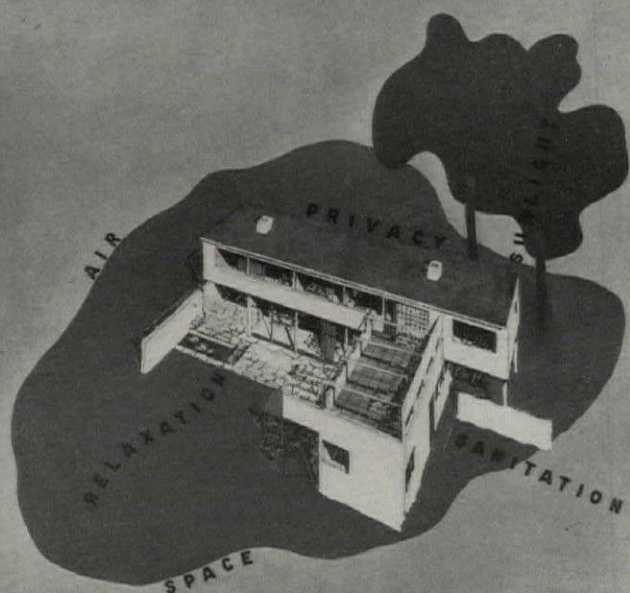
A COMPLETE ENVIRONMENT FOR  
MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH



FOR  
A HEALTHY PEOPLE  
A STRONG NATION  
A STRONG  
AMERICAN FUTURE

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS  
CREATE HEALTHY PEOPLE

## DWELLING:

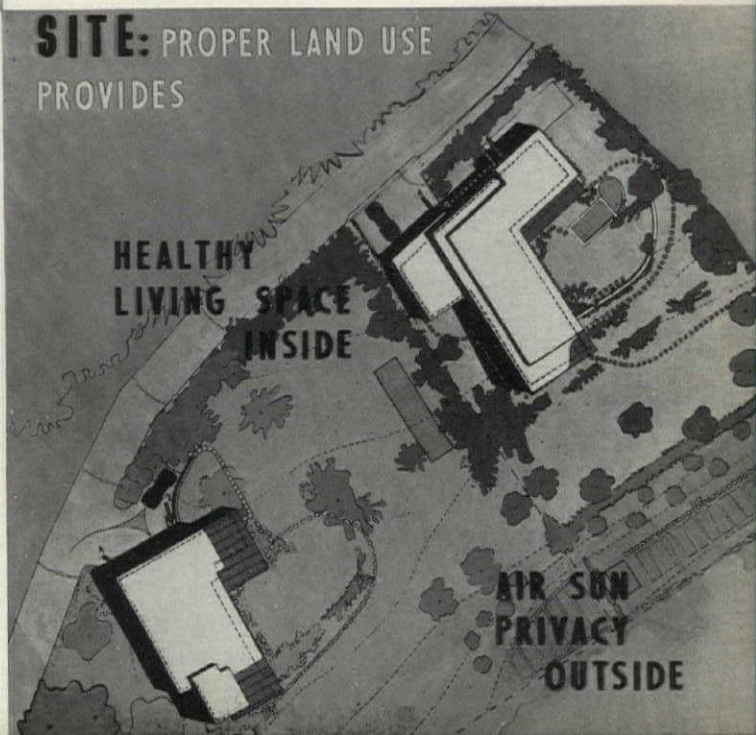


THE HOUSE IS THE CORE OF THE COMMUNITY

The type of housing for any given locality should be determined primarily by local customs, climate, available building materials, building costs, and the planning advances of the past decade so fully developed for various cost levels. Whether it takes the form of individual or multi-family homes, *defense housing should follow accepted planning principles.*

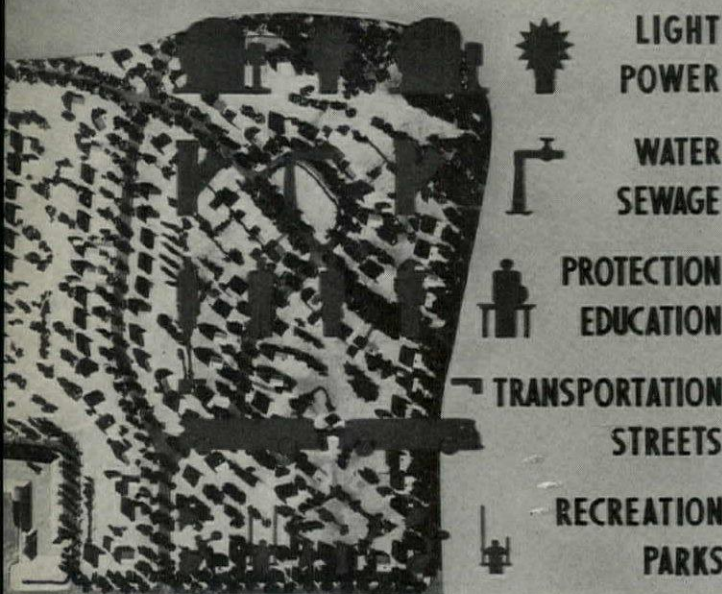
Relationship of the dwelling unit to the site has not received the attention it deserves. Preconceived sub-division patterns frequently destroy the possibilities of rational land use. Local planning commissions vested with authority, and aided by qualified technical men, could develop *maximum land use at minimum improvement cost*—with a corresponding reduction in tax burden. The influence of such coordinated planning is a tremendous factor in preventing the economic waste of blight and slums.

## SITE: PROPER LAND USE PROVIDES



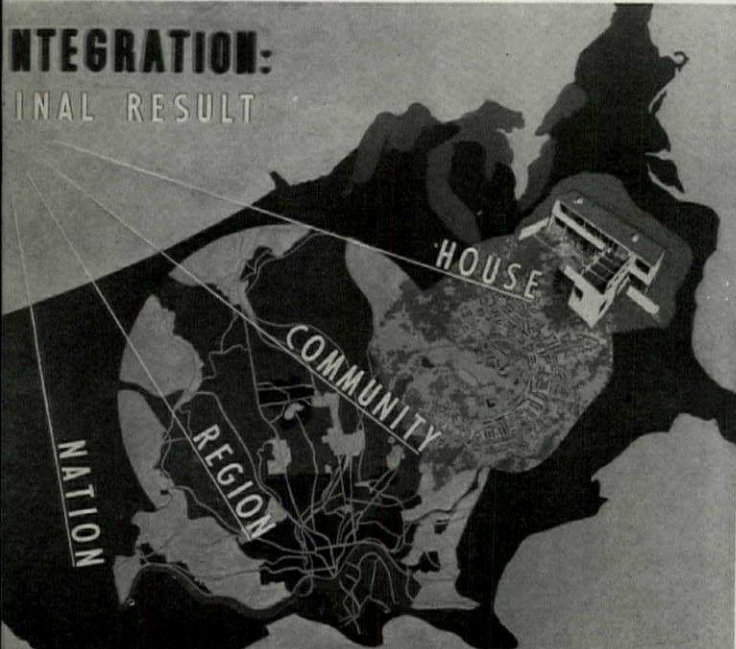
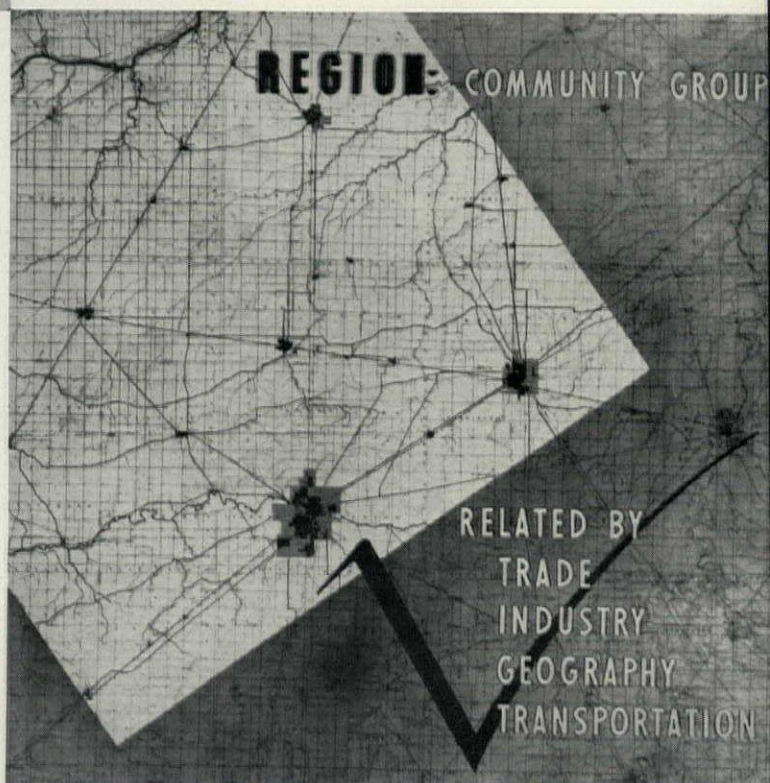


**COMMUNITY:** PROVIDES SERVICES WHICH ITS MEMBERS COULD NOT OTHERWISE AFFORD



New communities require new services—streets, water, sewers, light, schools. Existing facilities in overcrowded or under-built communities, where defense needs are pressing, may well be made use of by broad gauge rehabilitation of blighted areas or salvaging of undeveloped extensions. Such coordination means *a job for local planners, local money, local builders*—and a job well done for the future.

As the problems of individuals in a community are economically solved by coordinated planning, so are problems of communities economically solved by regional planning. Vital to the national defense are swift arteries of communication, flood control, erosion control, fire control, reforestation and water supply. Close *cooperation between local and regional planning agencies* is needed now to develop such resources to the fullest extent for the present emergency.



**CRITICAL DEFENSE AREAS NOW**  
**ROAD NATIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM FUTURE**

The conservation of all resources, including human resources, is of vital importance to the national economy. The National Defense program creates problems which can be handled only if planning machinery for such conservation is set in motion. It is the responsibility of each critical defense area to set up its own planning agency, to study its local problems and to cooperate for their solution with established national agencies.



In 1917 there were no established principles of planning for large scale housing projects. No method of conducting essential housing surveys had been developed. War industries expanded so rapidly that basic statistics were not obtainable and accurate diagnoses impossible.

Now, by research and surveys, methods and techniques have been developed. We no longer have an alibi for not doing our job well.

**TWO RECENT EMERGENCIES**

**WAR 1917**



**DEPRESSION 1929**



**EACH CONTRIBUTED TO THE NATION'S PLANNING PROGRESS**

**WAR EMERGENCY COMMUNITIES 1918**

**URING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR**

- 43% OF HOUSING NEED SUPPLIED BY OVERCROWDING
- WIDESPREAD INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC FOLLOWED
- TUBERCULOSIS CASES INCREASED
- PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY OF BASIC WAR INDUSTRIES IMPAIRED BY LABOR TURNOVER DUE TO LACK OF HOUSING
- PRIVATE CAPITAL WAS NOT INTERESTED IN HOUSING
- BUILDING AND MATERIAL COSTS INCREASED 25%

**HE SECOND YEAR**

- THE GOVERNMENT ENTERS THE HOUSING BUSINESS
- PRODUCED: 6000 HOUSES SEVERAL HOTELS AND DORMITORIES
- PLANNED: 128 PROJECTS IN 71 CITIES
- ACHIEVED: OUTSTANDING PROGRESS IN LARGE SCALE DESIGN
- PROVED: THAT DIRECT FEDERAL ACTION WAS NECESSARY TO PRODUCE WAR HOUSING

That lack of housing facilities in critical defense areas vitally affects defense industry production is demonstrated by the record. An airplane plant in Elizabeth, New Jersey, reported a labor turnover of 360% a month due to lack of decent housing facilities. Employers in Bridgeport, Connecticut, reported that adequate housing would have stepped up production from 10% to 30%. *Three shifts per bed is not adequate housing.*

During the World War, the rise in prices of building materials made it impossible for private capital to produce commercial housing for even the higher income, skilled-labor groups . . . and the Federal Government owned and operated all housing which it constructed to meet War housing needs. After the War, it voided all projects less than 25% toward completion and disposed of all others.

In the boom heydays that followed, little, if any, attention was paid to the kind of planning that had been developed during the war.

**AFTER THE WAR EMERGENCY THE TWENTIES**



**WELL PLANNED BUT UNFINISHED WAR PROJECTS WERE ABANDONED AS THE GOVERNMENT RETIRED FROM THE "HOUSING BUSINESS"**

**NEWLY DEVELOPED PLANNING PRINCIPLES IGNORED BY THE SPECULATIVE BUILDER**

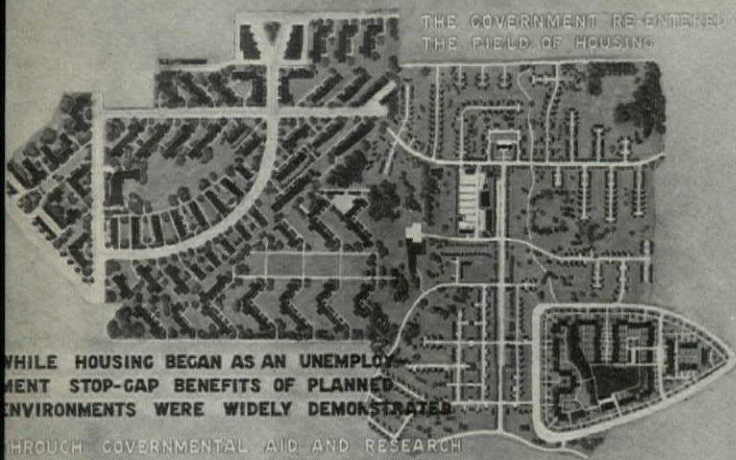
**POST WAR HOUSING CHARACTERIZED BY**

- LACK OF PLANNING
- JERRY BUILDING
- LAND SWEATING
- EXORBITANT COSTS
- UNCONTROLLED





# DEPRESSION: THE THIRTIES ADVENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING



WHILE HOUSING BEGAN AS AN UNEMPLOYMENT STOP-GAP BENEFITS OF PLANNED ENVIRONMENTS WERE WIDELY DEMONSTRATED

THROUGH GOVERNMENTAL AID AND RESEARCH THE HOUSING PROGRAM TENDED TO DEVELOP:

- GOOD PLANNING STANDARDS
- SOUND CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES
- RATIONAL LAND USE
- CONTROL OF MORTGAGE PRACTICES
- REALISTIC APPRAISAL METHODS

The public housing program produced all types of houses in urban and suburban areas. In some cases demonstration projects of complete towns, adjacent to large industrial centers, were planned and built. In others, slum clearance projects were placed in areas where low-income housing was needed and the demolition of existing slums was found to be advantageous. In still others, private capital built large scale rental projects under a mortgage insurance plan.

The background of housing experience today stands out in sharp contrast to the lack of experience in 1917. In the present emergency, there is *still time to coordinate* land, money, buildings, and people with essential defense industries and to forestall delays in production due to any lack of adequate housing.

## EFFECTS OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAM

NEW AIMS  
NEW STANDARDS  
NEW BACKGROUND  
OF EXPERIENCE  
IN PLANNING



IS THERE A GROWING RECOGNITION THAT  
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES ARE ESSENTIAL  
TO A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE



# 1940 EMERGENCY

HOUSING NEED CREATED BY  
SHIFTS AND ACCELERATION IN INDUSTRY  
SHIFTS IN POPULATION  
OBSCOLESCENCE OF EXISTING HOUSING  
DEFENSE HOUSING MUST BE RELATED  
TO CRITICAL DEFENSE AREAS

The Defense Housing Program divides into general categories—private operations; Federal Loan Agency (FHA, FHLBB and the equity purchasing plan of Defense Homes Corporation); Federal Works Agency (USHA and PBA); the Army and Navy; the Maritime Commission. Where the housing need is considered to be permanent rather than temporary, private building interests in each locality should make every effort to anticipate, and provide for, demands which can pay commercial rents, or corresponding purchase payments. The major portion of the total defense housing need can be supplied by private capital.



With the bulk of the Defense Housing program definitely assigned to private capital, the need is acute for a local agency to coordinate the work of private builders and government agencies. The function of this agency is to determine the amount of housing required, establish a channel through which private interests can fill the need, furnish information as to how the services of existing Federal housing agencies, technical and financial, may be employed.

# THE PRESENT PROBLEM: COORDINATION

FEDERAL  
HOUSING  
AGENCIES

PRIVATE  
BUILDING  
ENTERPRISE

LOCAL  
CITY PLANNING  
COMMISSION

NATIONAL DEFENSE  
HOUSING COORDINATION

WHAT LOCAL AGENCY CAN BEST CORRELATE THESE FORCES TO SOLVE ITS OWN PLANNING PROBLEMS FOR THE PRESENT EMERGENCY AND FOR THE FUTURE

## PERMANENT NEW COMMUNITIES



ENABLE  
EFFICIENT PLANNING  
FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE NEEDS

In areas where a large number of houses are required, and where water supply, sewage disposal, and transportation problems permit, it may be desirable to develop completely new communities, located with respect to the industries which they are intended to serve. Careful analysis of all factors must be made, to relate such communities to their regions and to the permanency of their industrial support.

## TEMPORARY COMMUNITIES

JUSTIFIABLE IN SPECIAL CASES



### THE PREFABRICATED HOUSE

HIGH SALVAGE VALUE  
EASILY ERECTED AND DISMANTLED

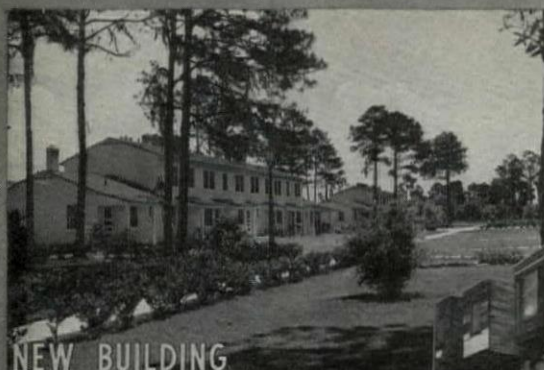


TEMPORARY HOUSES MUST BE REPLACED BY PERMANENT DWELLINGS OR ENTIRELY DISMANTLED AT END OF EMERGENCY TO AVOID BECOMING FUTURE SLUMS AND GHOST TOWNS

Demountable and portable houses have numerous advantages especially if mass production or prefabrication can be used without the use of resources otherwise required for vital defense industries. Their properties of easy assembly and demountability make them well suited for temporary use. To avert ghost towns, *advance provision* should be made for the ultimate removal of all such temporary housing.



# ADDITIONS TO EXISTING COMMUNITIES



## NEW BUILDING

ECONOMICAL WHEN LAND  
PRICES ARE LOW AND  
UTILITIES OVERDEVELOPED

## DISORGANIZED EXPANSION PRODUCES CHAOS



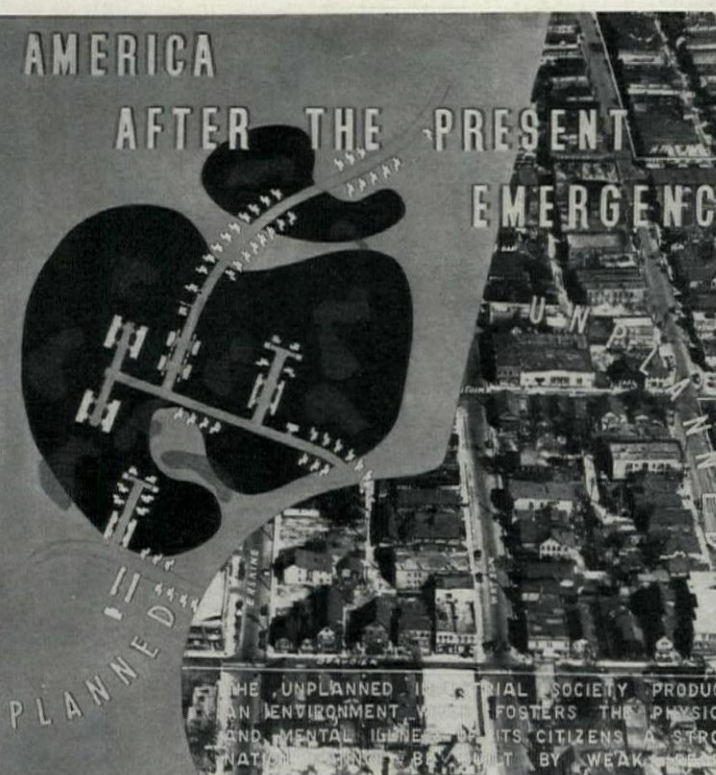
## REMODELLING

The most complicated planning problem posed by the need for new housing lies in such housing as will be added permanently to existing communities. In some places, the problem may be met by the systematic remodelling of old dwellings: in others, by the construction of new homes: in still others by both remodelling and new construction. In any event, *planning should be carefully keyed to local problems.*

The varied problems presented in this program require varied solutions, but all solutions have the common denominator of liveable communities. With proper coordination, the valuable planning experience of the past can contribute equally to the problems of the present emergency and to a productive American future.

## AMERICA

## AFTER THE PRESENT EMERGENCY



THE UNPLANNED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY PRODUCES  
AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH FOSTERS THE PHYSICAL  
AND MENTAL ILLNESS OF ITS CITIZENS A SITUATION  
WHICH CAN BE AVOIDED BY WEAK PLANNING

## LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY

### TO ORGANIZE:

CAPITAL  
PLANNERS  
BUILDERS  
LAND

### TO COORDINATE:

DEFENSE HOUSING NEEDS  
EXISTING PLANNING PROBLEMS  
NATIONAL DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS

### TO PRODUCE:

HOUSING FOR THE DEFENSE PROGRAM  
WHICH EMBODIES THESE PRINCIPLES OF  
PLANNING FOR HEALTHFUL COMMUNITIES

Communities located in critical defense areas must assume leadership in the production of defense housing. Planners, builders, and capital must be organized and directed to this task. Cooperation between local planning agencies, the local defense housing program, and the broad program for the national defense, through such Governmental agencies as are set up, is vital to a successful defense effort.



# MONTHLY WASHINGTON REPORT

COMPILED BY A. D. TAYLOR OF CLEVELAND

EDITOR'S NOTE:—Dr. Taylor's reports, based on information secured each month by him from a number of points of contact with federal bureaus in Washington, have been appearing regularly in *PENCIL POINTS* since last September. They are printed with the thought of providing brief summaries of Washington developments of particular pertinence to the planning professions and their part in national preparedness activities. We welcome comments and suggestions from readers as to the kind of information which is most useful to them in this connection. Such suggestions will help Dr. Taylor to make his contributions of maximum value to you.

PROGRESS IN GENERAL; — The initial construction program of the *War Department* and the *Navy Department* is well under way. The work of awarding contracts for Architect-Engineer services and for construction is practically completed so far as appropriations have been made available to date. Preparations are being made for the further program of work to be released as and when Congress passes necessary legislation to make these appropriations available. The extent of this additional work relating to cantonments, ordnance projects, and other defense projects promises to be considerable.

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AS TO DEFENSE HOUSING;— In order to hasten matters by a more centralized authority in defense housing, a new office of Defense Housing has been created, with Mr. Charles F. Palmer at its head. This office now becomes a part of the emergency management office in the Executive Office of the President, and the coordinator will have much greater authority than heretofore in the matter of defense housing. In general, he is to coordinate the agencies concerned with housing, and all housing projects in the defense program are to be cleared through his office. To what extent this office may determine policies as to the method of using technical planning services is not yet stated. This office is not charged with

the expenditure of any money. It is charged with the responsibility of procuring efficient expenditure of funds. The coordinator is now responsible through the office of the *Chairman of Production Management* (Mr. Knudsen) directly to the President.

A number of additional housing projects have been approved under the Lanham Defense Housing Act. Information concerning these projects may be procured from the release dated January 3, 1941 (No. T. R. 335) from the office of the *National Defense Advisory Commission* in the Federal Reserve Bank Building, Washington, D. C. Additional information is also available through the office of the *Federal Works Agency* concerning these new projects.

Through the office of the *United States Housing Authority* contracts have been awarded to architects, engineers and landscape architects in private practice (and working on a collaborative basis) to produce the necessary plans and specifications for projects at Jacksonville; Pensacola; Charleston, South Carolina; Philadelphia; Boston; and Bremerton, Washington. (See *PENCIL POINTS* for January, 1941.) In all probability, a form of contract and a definite schedule of fees will have been adopted by the USHA as a result of conferences with representatives of the technical planning professions, prior to the time that this information is published.

INFORMATION RELEASES *Concerning Defense Program*; —

These releases as heretofore indicated have come from different offices with the result that there has been some small amount of confusion and delay. The *National Defense Advisory Commission* is now publishing a bulletin entitled "Defense." This publication appears weekly at a subscription rate of Seventy-five Cents per year, and it is procurable through the office of the "Superintendent of Public Documents, Washington, D. C." Most of the information contained in the press releases is summarized in this bulletin. Press releases will be sent as heretofore from some agencies; but it has been necessary to reduce the number of persons receiving the complete service of press releases, etc., from the *Advisory Commission* through the *Council of National Defense*. A circular letter of January 16, 1941, from the office of the Director of Information in the *National Defense Council*, Federal Reserve Bank Bldg., Washington, D. C., explains the procedure to be followed in the immediate future. It is quite likely that to avoid duplication, confusion and delay in distributing large quantities of information concerning national defense, this procedure will tend to become centralized in some one office.

For those who are interested in the "Functions and Activities" of the *National Defense Advisory Commis-*



sion, a bulletin is available, dated Dec. 28, 1940, and procurable through the NDAC Office.

Of interest to architects, engineers and landscape architects is a document entitled "Instructions and Information for Architect-Engineers on Cost-Plus-A-Fixed-Fee Construction Projects," dated November, 1940, and produced in the Office of the Quartermaster General (Engineering Branch of Construction Division), No. 40-2606. Copies may be available upon request from the Construction Division.

A release of January 3, 1941 (PR 334), from the NDAC, containing a compilation of contract awards to date for plant expansion, construction and equipment, involving 80 plants and awards totaling approximately \$700,000,000 may be of interest to many readers.

★

**ROSTER OF PROFESSIONAL and Technical Ability;** — All members of the technical planning professions should be interested in the "National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel" in connection with which questionnaires are being sent to all individuals included in this classification. A special technical check list has been prepared for architects, engineers and landscape architects. Those who may not happen to receive this check list within the next two or three weeks, may procure a copy by communicating with the *United States Civil Service Commission* (office of National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel). The purpose of this roster is to have a complete and detailed record of the technical planning abilities available in the United States, in case of extreme emergency or under other conditions. This office is a source of information for Government Agencies, and not a place to apply for work.

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**CONTRACTS FOR WORK ON Future Projects;** — It is quite likely that some of those architects, engineers and contractors heretofore selected to provide service in connection with defense projects may be given favorable consideration for

work on new projects in the future program. One of the important reasons for giving consideration to this procedure rather than to award such work to offices not heretofore selected for defense projects, is because of the organizations thus functioning and immediately available with demonstrated ability to proceed immediately and efficiently with this work. If this

procedure of "repeating contracts" is followed, the opportunities for additional offices to be selected for further work will be reduced. This decision to adopt this procedure of repeating contracts will be based largely upon the necessity for producing results rather than to distribute work among different organizations. This question will be much discussed.

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**CANTONMENTS, ORDNANCE PLANTS AND OTHER MAJOR Defense Projects;** — There has been a major reorganization of the Construction Division in the *War Department*. The Division is now administered through Lieutenant Colonel B. B. Somervell, who superseded General Hartman as chief of the Construction Division. This reorganization is shown in the following tabulation:

<i>Chief of Construction Division</i> . . . . .	Col. Brehon Somervell
<i>Executive Officer Construction Division</i> . . . . .	Col. W. D. Styer
<i>Asst. Executive Officer Construction Div.</i> . . . . .	Col. M. B. Birdseye
<i>Control Section</i> . . . . .	Capt. C. F. Robinson, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Administrative Section</i> . . . . .	Col. J. W. Younger, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Real Estate Branch</i> . . . . .	Col. R. D. Valliant, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Accounts Branch</i> . . . . .	Col. W. A. Pashley, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Engineering Branch</i> . . . . .	Col. E. H. Leavey, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Operations Branch</i> . . . . .	Col. L. R. Groves, <i>Chief</i>

The Engineering branch of this Division, headed by Colonel Leavey, also from the Corps of Engineers, is of most direct interest to the planning professions. This branch is subdivided as follows:

<i>Engineering and Design Section</i> . . . . .	Major Walters, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Programs and Estimating Section</i> . . . . .	Capt. Lyon, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Legal and Contracting Section</i> . . . . .	Maj. Jones, <i>Chief</i>
<i>Liaison</i> . . . . .	Mr. Value, <i>Chief</i>

In order to better coordinate and expedite the construction program, the United States has been divided into Corps Area Districts and at the head of each Corps Area District there is a Corps Area Quartermaster. The headquarters of the Corps Area Districts are as follows:

Corps Area District No. 1	<i>Boston</i> . . . . .	Major R. G. Richards
Corps Area District No. 2	<i>New York</i> . . . . .	Lt. Col. M. A. McFadden
Corps Area District No. 3	<i>Baltimore</i> . . . . .	Major J. H. Burgheim
Corps Area District No. 4	<i>Atlanta</i> . . . . .	Colonel H. L. Green
Corps Area District No. 5	<i>Columbus</i> . . . . .	Major B. F. Vandervort
Corps Area District No. 6	<i>Chicago</i> . . . . .	Captain E. C. Hayden
Corps Area District No. 7	<i>Denver</i> . . . . .	Major M. E. Townes
Corps Area District No. 8	<i>San Antonio</i> . . . . .	Lt. Col. E. V. Dunstan
Corps Area District No. 9	<i>San Francisco</i> . . . . .	Lt. Col. G. M. George

Major contracts for technical planning services and for construction will be negotiated in the Washington office through the contract board, the personnel of which is Mr. H. W. Loving, Mr. R. H. Tatlow and Major Hadley. This board will work closely with the "Harvey-Dresser-Blossom" Committee and with the Secretary of War Office.

The office of the Construction Division in the Quartermaster General's Office is now located in the Railroad Retirement Building, to which location it was transferred late in December in order to provide space for the additional personnel required to administer this part of the defense construction program.



## JOINT PROCEDURE AMONG *the Technical Planning Professions;*

—Much progress is being made by the planning professions of architecture, engineering and landscape architecture through joint conferences of representatives of these professions, in developing contract forms for services in a collaborative procedure on defense housing projects, and for a schedule of fees which will eliminate some of the unfortunate procedures which have developed on some projects in the past months. A statement as to "Division of Responsibility and Work" among these professions has been under consideration by committees representing these respective professions in connection with defense housing, and this statement and schedule of fees ought to be soon available to architects, engineers and landscape architects who are most directly concerned with this kind of work. Each of these national professional organizations strongly discourages any procedure of competitive fees on the basis of which work may be awarded for services on any project.

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**TECHNICAL PLANNING  
*Services on Defense Projects;*** — On the major defense projects of cantonments, ordnance plants, etc., the pro-

cedure of establishing a field office in which all plan work is done, has been a most acceptable procedure. It seems from experience to date, that more consideration should be given by the technical planning professions, to the establishment of uniform salary rates for different grades of technical ability, and that some uniform procedure should be adopted as to "overtime" for employees in these technical planning activities. The method of handling the question of overtime has been somewhat confusing. Skilled labor has been paid on a uniform basis because of the union regulations. Remuneration to draftsmen and others in this technical planning work should be placed upon a more uniform basis.

★

**FEES FOR CONSULTING  
*Services;*** — This question is one to which consideration must be given by the technical planning professions, in justice to those men who may be employed by different government agencies on a consulting per diem basis. Government regulations and restrictions and personal prejudices of those in positions of responsibility in some government agencies have created what seems to be an inequitable arrangement for the employment of consulting services by different agen-

cies. The *War Department* seems to have adopted a uniform and equitable procedure which recognizes the value of these services. In some other Departments and Agencies, the fees for such services are abnormally low.

★

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
*Employment;*** — There continues to be a great waste of effort and money on the part of many men in the technical planning professions, desirous of getting employment on a salary basis in the defense program through the government agencies in Washington. The major part of the employment for such services under present conditions, is through the offices which have procured contracts on defense projects and who may procure further contracts. In all probability, the *increased program* will provide a great amount of employment directly and indirectly in the government agencies engaged in the defense activities. Information concerning the possibilities for such employment is generally available in the different technical magazines, the editors of which endeavor to keep abreast of current information on this subject.

A. D. TAYLOR  
January 16, 1941

## AN OPEN LETTER TO FORTY-EIGHT GOVERNOR'S

*To His Excellency, the Governor of ————:-*

As chief executive officer of a great commonwealth, responsible for the welfare of its people, you must inevitably have been taking thought of the possibility, however remote, of air attack by a foreign foe. We all hope that such attack may never come, yet so long as there is any chance that one year, two years, five years hence there may develop such an emergency, it would seem prudent to be prepared to handle it without having to improvise methods on the spur of the moment.

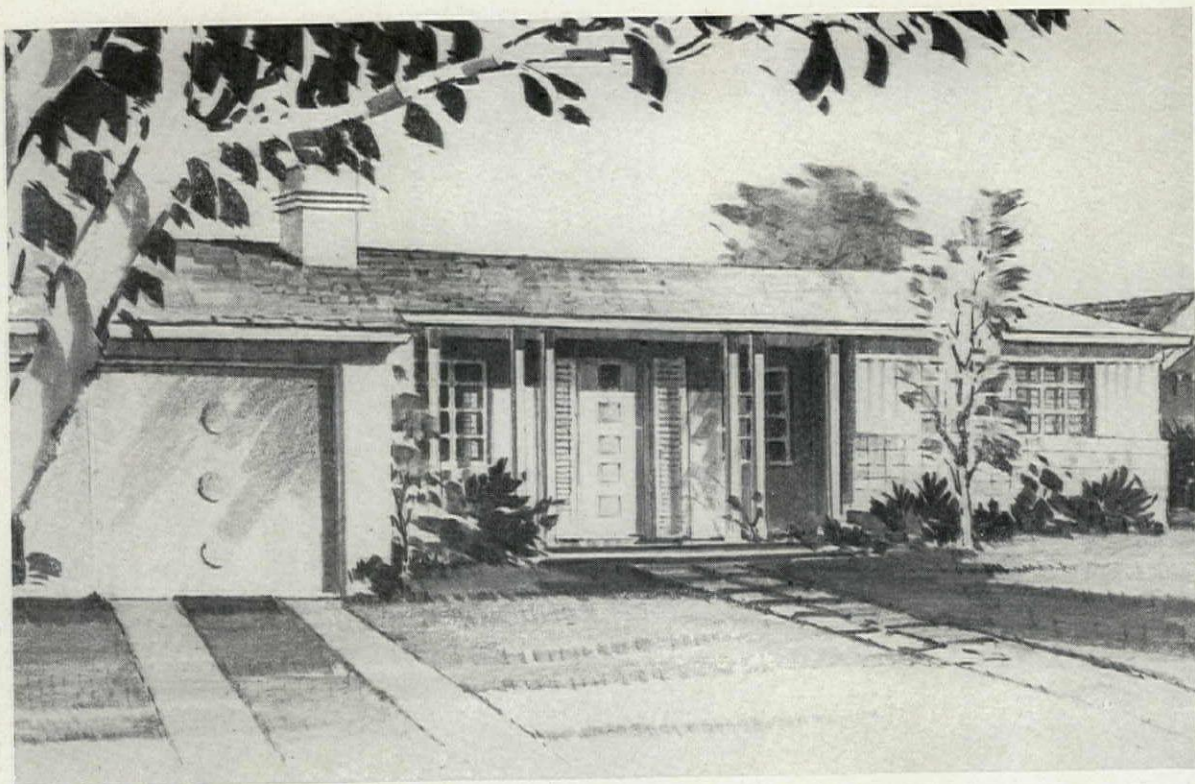
England's experience has taught that it takes much time and careful planning beforehand to prepare for the efficient organization of the civil population for its own protection. For several years prior to the outbreak of war, Air Raid Precautions were the subject of active study and work by the technical planning professions—architects, engineers, city and regional planners, landscape architects, etc. Their work was hampered and made less effective than it should have been because of the reluctance and slowness of some public officials to back them up and act

upon their recommendations. As a result, there was considerable unnecessary loss of life when the attacks did begin. We cannot afford to have that happen here.

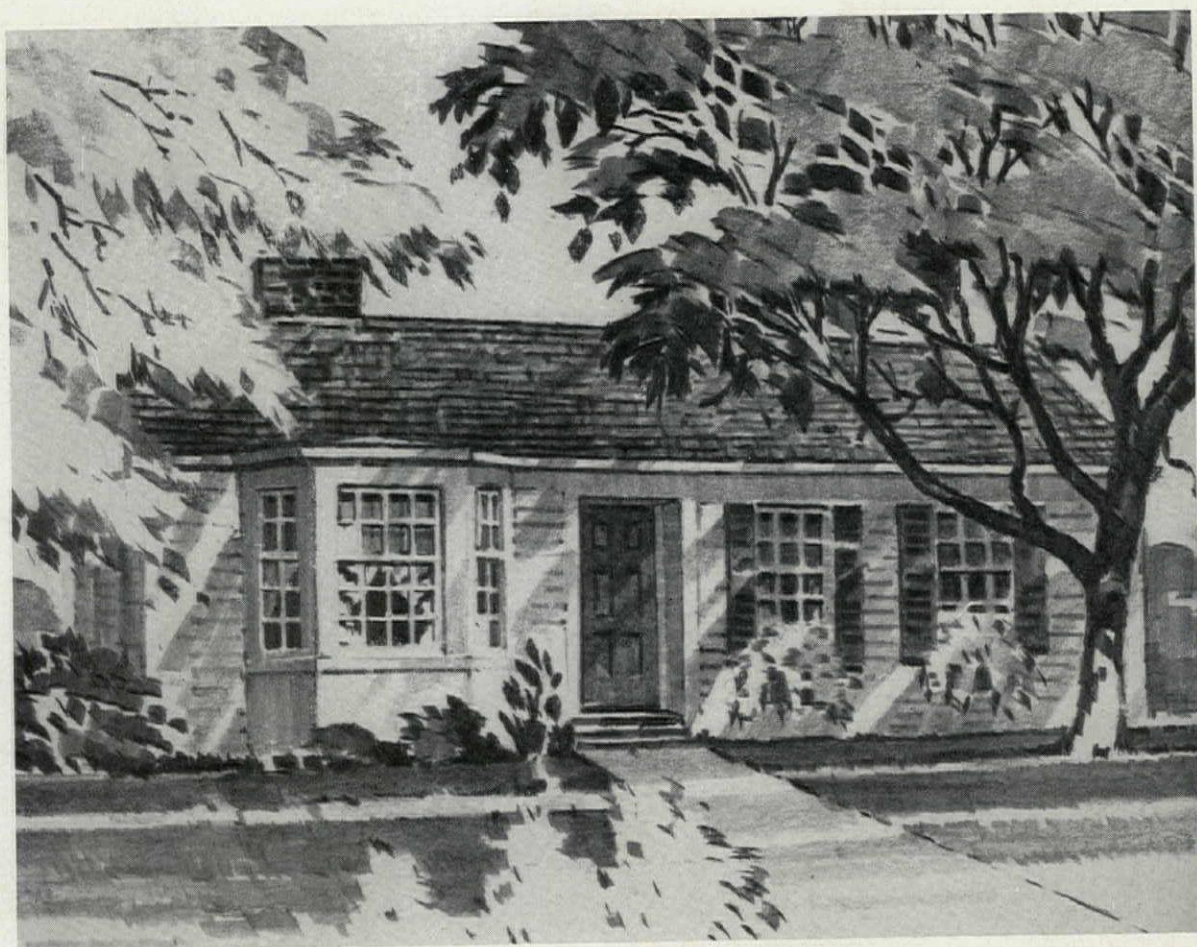
We urge you, therefore, to recognize and encourage the efforts of these professional men who are organizing committees for civilian protection in various cities of our land and voluntarily assuming the responsibility of accumulating data and making plans. Their committees should be attached to your own advisory staffs and provided with funds for carrying out the surveys and studies needed as a basis for intelligent and efficient action when, as, and if the time should ever come. The expenditure of public funds for this purpose will not only pay dividends in public safety in the event of attack but will provide much highly useful planning data directly applicable to the future improvement of the human environment in our land even if no emergency ever arises. To fail to undertake such expenditure now is to run an unjustifiable risk.

KENNETH REID  
*Editor*





TWO PENCIL DRAWINGS BY DAVID DAVIS OF NEW YORK





# THE DEFENSE HOUSING PROGRAM AS SEEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

AN ADDRESS BY COORDINATOR CHARLES F. PALMER\*

We have come here to discuss how each one of us in his own field of work can be of help to his country in this time of danger. I am glad to have an opportunity to tell you about the work of the Defense Housing organization—not to give you the comfortable assurance that everything will be done in due time from Washington, but rather to show a clear outline of the planning and work that needs doing in every locality where defense housing is a problem.

As you know, the defense program is bringing thousands of workers into certain localities in this country. The success of the program depends on being able to get and hold the necessary workers. We cannot afford to repeat the conditions of 1917 and 1918, when skilled and intelligent workers were unable to find decent accommodations, and labor turnover in some places rose to one thousand percent a year.

Decent accommodations, that will protect the health and working ability of American workers, involve a great many features beyond housing itself. In fact, the required living conditions for ten thousand new people added to a town of ten thousand population will call for doubling or enlarging almost every feature of the town. This is a job that can be done quickly only by using every resource of national and local effort. So when I tell you what we are doing to provide defense housing, you will recognize that we will need the cooperation of private and public agencies in every locality that is affected by the defense program. After I have described the main part of the job, I want to speak of some equally necessary work that must be done locally, if it is going to be done with full success.

The Division of Defense Housing Coordina-

tion, now established in the Executive Office of the President, is charged with the duty of seeing to it that shelter is provided for defense workers *wherever it is necessary*. I emphasize the words *wherever it is necessary*, because of the urgent nature of defense needs. At best the defense program will have no time to spare. We must save time and materials by not providing defense housing where some other way of finding accommodations can be discovered.

When we receive a report that defense activity threatens a housing shortage at some point, we immediately go into action. Our first question, of course, is how many of the new jobs will be filled by unemployed workers who already have dwellings in the neighborhood. Second, how many vacant houses are there available for incoming workers? Third, what transportation is available to bring workers as commuters from other communities? And fourth, how much private building is going on, and can it be stimulated to greater effort? As you see, our purpose is not just to build houses, but to find the quickest reasonable solution of the housing problem, whatever that may be.

By this process we find that some cities, such for instance as Los Angeles and Indianapolis, can take the defense program in their stride with little or no government housing. Others, such as the Newport News area, must have several thousand houses, and already six thousand houses are under construction by private and public agencies in that locality. Of these, five hundred are being built by the United States Housing Authority, one thousand by the De-

\* Delivered before the American Institute of Planners at the Hotel Washington, Washington, D. C., 7 P. M., January 25, 1941.



fense Homes Corporation, and one thousand two-hundred-and-fifty by the Navy. Plans for twelve hundred more government-built houses are deferred until we see whether they will be required. The situation at Newport News is under control.

When we have determined that housing must be supplied by the government, the President issues an official finding, which authorizes the various agencies to proceed with plans and construction. The bulk of the work is done by the Navy and by the Federal Works Agency, which builds housing for Army and civilian workers. At the same time, of course, the FHA and other finance agencies are actively promoting private housing construction.

Federal agencies have about thirty thousand housing units now under construction contract or completed, and about twenty thousand more in process of land acquisition and negotiation. Private building is expanding in defense areas. The increase over a year ago ranges from thirty-one percent in Dallas to one-hundred-fifty-five percent in Hartford, Connecticut.

In the construction of houses by Federal agencies, substantial houses are being built that will attract a high type of workers to defense jobs. We also propose to use modern standards of spacing and street layout, and in all possible ways to do a good job inside the boundaries of the property controlled by the government. Each of the Federal housing agencies has its own standards and specifications, which are examined and checked by the Coordinator's Office for modifications that may be required by defense needs. Even where we are supplying portable or demountable houses for temporary use, we insist that they be as livable and attractive as can be obtained.

Taking the country as a whole, we are making good progress in finding shelter for defense workers and their families; the few exceptional situations where housing shortages exist will be remedied with little delay. But providing homes for defense workers will not be enough in itself to satisfy all the requirements. There are many other problems that are outside the field of direct action by the Division of Defense Housing Coordination.

In the first place, we are not in a position to deal with bad housing conditions in general. If an

unfounded story of defense activity brings thousands of transients looking for jobs, we cannot provide for them. We can deal only with actual employees of the military forces or of contractors manufacturing defense materials. Construction workers temporarily employed in building factories or other defense works are not in our field of responsibility, but in that of the contractor on the project. Still another separate field is that of supplying barracks or cantonments for enlisted men and trainees, which is handled by the Army and Navy. This does not mean that any of us have lost interest in the national housing problem as a whole. Personally I have devoted a lot of time to promoting slum clearance, and hope to do more of the same in the future. But for the emergency some of us have been detailed to one highly-specialized job, and our whole attention has to be concentrated on that job, leaving the rest of the housing problem to be handled by others.

But more important for our present discussion is the question of providing all the community features that are needed for satisfactory living. When we investigate the need for defense housing in a community, we naturally collect as much information as possible on the conditions that will affect the success of our housing program. Whenever we find that there are indications of possible congestion in transportation or schools, or that there will be difficulty in obtaining police and fire protection, we are of course interested in calling attention to these problems. We can urge the appropriate agencies to get into action. But if the agencies do not exist or are unable to act quickly, there will be some unfortunate situations that will harm the defense program. We need the immediate help of local organizations and agencies, to plan and carry through all the necessary improvements for the successful absorption of defense workers into the community life.

Here for example are some of the results we want, that will have to be supplied mainly through local planning.

In the first place, we necessarily depend on private enterprise to do at least as much housing construction as we have allocated to it in our plans. Some people do not like private real estate operators, others do not like to see the Government barging into the real estate busi-



ness. This is no time to fight out that battle. Defense is in a hurry, and at best it will not get into full swing any too soon. The government's policy is to leave to private operators all the work they will do, and to build with public money all the needed houses that private operators will not undertake.

But while we are encouraging private construction, we have neither the authority nor the facilities to offer more than some general advice as to the rent levels at which private defense houses will be in demand. If the community has any interest in the location and planning of these new developments, it should either guard its interest while it has a chance, or forever after hold its peace.

Then there is the matter of community services. The new workers will want to put their children in school. Their wives must be able to find a shopping district somewhere within reach. There must be police and fire protection, and recreation facilities. I say there must be all these services, but I realize that in the first months there is going to be crowding and inconvenience a-plenty. Planning is going to fall behind, except in the exceptional places where it is already well and capably organized. In the matter of school facilities, the Federal Government is investigating the means of helping communities that may be swamped by demands beyond their financial resources to meet.

The workers and their wives are of course reasonable, patriotic Americans, on the average, who will stand for a good deal. They expect some inconvenience when they crowd into a community and settle down. But they do not expect that the community will take advantage of their patience, and relax while the emergency stage goes on indefinitely. Planning may fall behind, but it should show a continuous effort to catch up. The progressive, highly-skilled, intelligent workers that we hope to attract to defense industry can be counted on to recognize a sincere and unflagging effort to overcome emergency handicaps, and to cooperate with it.

In addition to the urgent problem of expanding community services, the question of future development will demand the attention of local planners.

So far as may be possible, the new construction supplied for defense should be so planned in its

location and character as not to distort the permanent growth of the community. Where there is already a definite city or regional plan, covering transportation, new development and services, the planning agency can define the effects of defense projects and may be able to suggest to the Federal agencies how they can best be fitted into the community. Where there are no general plans to serve as a guide, some local organization should give immediate thought to the subject, in order at least to prevent any serious errors that will lead to costly readjustments in the future. This job of understanding the continuous life of the community and making its growth conform to the real needs of its life can not be done by an agent of the Federal Government coming in from outside to make a hurried survey of the requirements of defense housing. It may be done by a local Defense Council, or by local planning board, or by some special organization, but it should be done if good results are to be obtained.

In some cases the Defense Housing Coordinator can assist by making suggestions to local agencies on how to provide for planning. For instance, at Charlestown, Indiana, and in the Hampton Roads area, we recommended trained planning officials who have been appointed by the local defense councils.

The Federal agencies would welcome advice from well-informed local sources on the probable future growth of the community under normal peacetime conditions, and accordingly on the policies to adopt as to permanent or temporary construction. The expansion of community services that require physical plant, such as schools, ought to be carefully planned so as to avoid overcapacity after the emergency. We can do some of the planning in Washington, but a large part of it must be done right at home if it is going to be done at all.

One feature of community planning that may offer valuable possibilities is to work the defense housing into future plans for slum clearance. If you can have a clear picture of how the town would look with certain slum areas turned into parks and other areas built up, there may be a chance to give us valuable advice on the placing and design of our defense housing projects. Instead of using temporary structures, we can provide permanent buildings, and later, when the



vacancies begin to appear, you can start tearing down the slums.

Speaking of slums, I would like to emphasize the fact that slum clearance in general, although it is not the job of the Defense Housing office, is a real and important element in defense. For a few months perhaps, we may have a few bottlenecks in the building industry that will require us to give first place to defense housing needs. But our emergency job after all is a small fraction of the six or seven hundred thousand houses that will be built this year. There is every reason to go forward as fast as possible with plans for improving living conditions everywhere. Every family whose living conditions are raised to the level of decent American standards is one more point scored in the building of our national strength and morale.

In tackling the job of local or regional planning, you will have some unusual difficulties, of course, because of the world situation. You cannot hope to predict who will win the war, or whether the end will come next month or four years from now. You have no way of knowing whether air-raid precautions are going to be a governing factor in community planning, or whether they will cease to be of any interest. Whatever you do, you are going to be blamed for not doing something else, but that is just one of the sacrifices you must make for your country. On the other hand, it is worthwhile appreciating the advantages we have today as compared with world war number one. The automobile and the system of hard roads were in their infancy twenty years ago. A locality today, meaning the area in which workers can commute to a job, is about twenty times as large as the locality of twenty years ago. By the same token, the exact location of housing is that much less important, and it is often possible, as we found at

Quincy, Massachusetts, to locate a group of houses to serve a temporary defense need in one direction, and later to serve employment thirty miles away in the opposite direction. At Charlestown, Indiana, the housing problem for the big powder-plant boils down to a matter of transportation from Louisville. Six additional commuter trains, and improvements in the highway, will take care of most of the situations in this locality. It is important to take full advantage of this new flexibility, wherever it is possible to plant new populations in reach of several alternate sources of employment.

The possibilities of slum clearance as an instrument of future adjustments are also much greater today because of the enlarged responsibilities of the Federal Government. We all know that after the war there must be a public works program to prevent the post-war collapse of business. There will be money for slum clearance and reshaping of our cities. Here too the instruments will be at hand, if you have your plans in shape and know what you need to do. What can you do to provide for local planning? I have two suggestions. If your community has no regularly established planning board, now is a good time to start one, while all the citizens are longing for a chance to help. The other suggestion is that each local Defense Council obtain the services of a trained planning official if possible, to help provide the long-range view in all the activities of the council.

National defense, as we all know, is a necessary job that has been forced on us by world conditions. But along with the costs of defense there is also a great awakening of national energy and effort. We can do much, with proper planning, to guide our vast energies into constructive channels that will lead to a real and permanent improvement in many American communities.



# ARCHITECTS' MEDALS

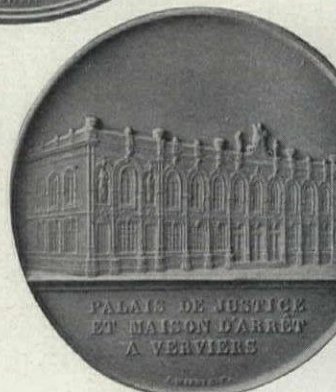
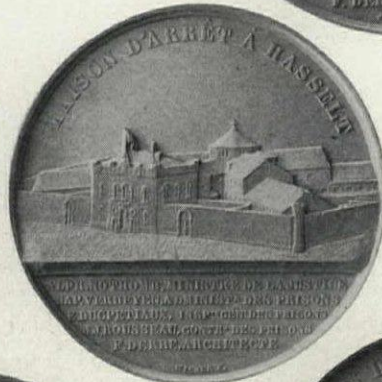
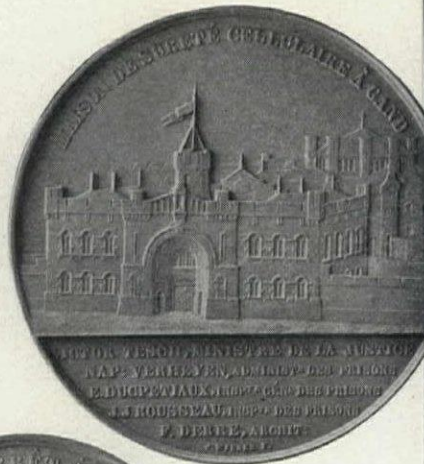
BY DON GRAF



Many of the best known buildings in the United States were built by the firm of Marc Eidlitz & Son, headed by Robert James Eidlitz. These buildings include the New York Clearing House, Western Union Building, Rockefeller Institute, American Telephone and Telegraph Building, Harkness Memorial of Yale University, Riverside Church, Presbyterian Medical Center, and the Library of Columbia University. Robert James Eidlitz was born in New York City on March 25, 1864, son of Marc and Mathilde Sohr Eidlitz. His father, who in 1847 came to this country from Austria, seven years later founded the firm which became one of the best known of its type in this country.

The avocation of Robert James Eidlitz was numismatics. For many years he collected personal medals and medallions. But it was no doubt due to his close business contacts with architects and architecture that his numismatic interest eventually turned to medals having an architectural meaning. In 1927 Mr. Eidlitz owned a fine collection of several hundred medals and he pub-





EXAMPLES FROM THE EIDLITZ COLLECTION OF ARCHITECTS' MEDALS





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HUNDREDS OF ARCHITECTS' MEDALS FROM THE EIDLITZ COLLECTION WERE RECENTLY ON EXHIBITION AT THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK. THE ENTIRE COLLECTION COULD FORM THE BASIS FOR A FASCINATING LIFE STUDY OF GREAT ARCHITECTS, ARCHITECTURE, AND SCULPTORS OF ALL AGES

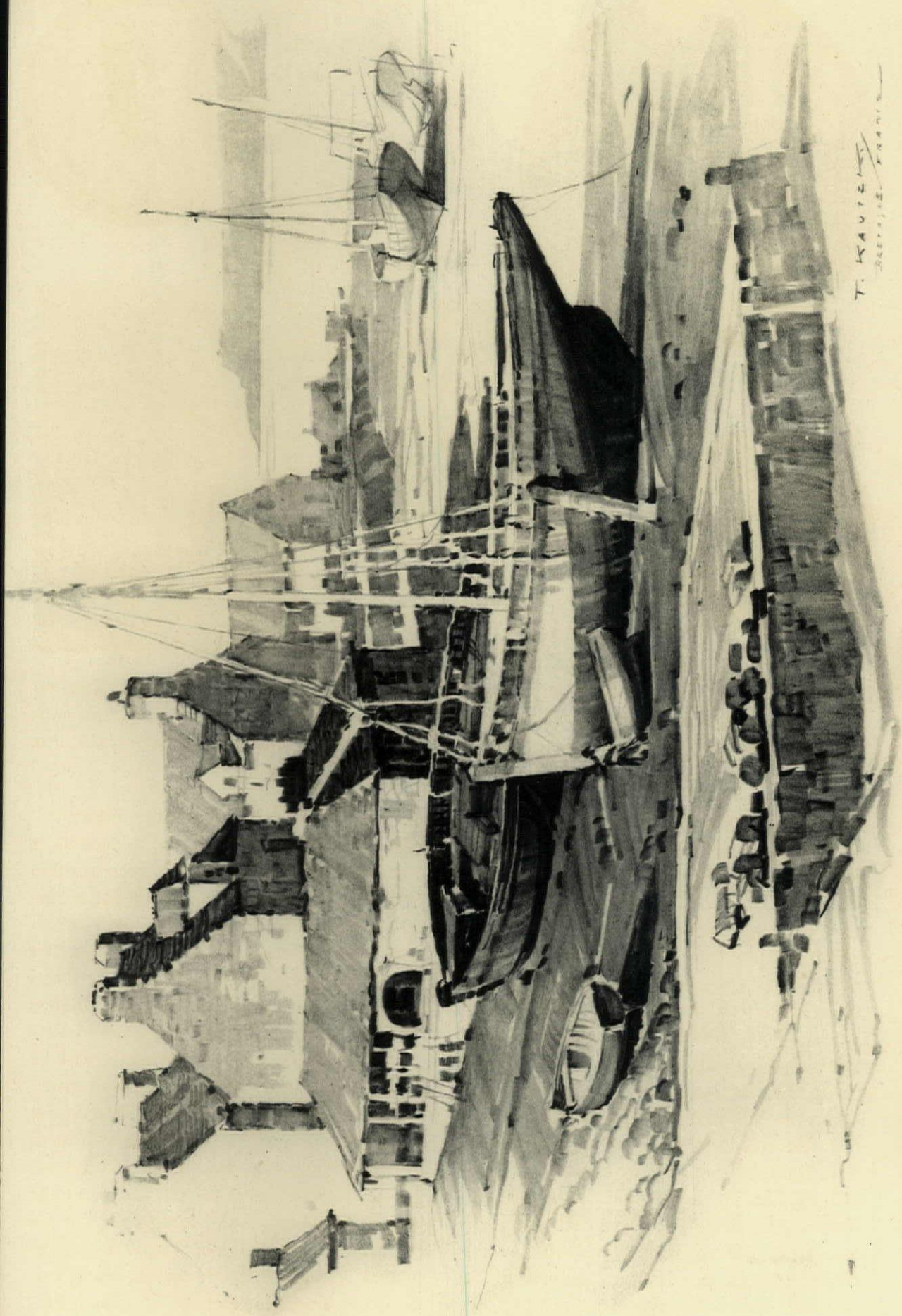
lished "Medals and Medallions Relating to Architects," now regarded as the standard numismatic reference on this subject.

The first decision was to confine the collection to those medals and medallions upon which the architect's features are portrayed, or those upon which the commemoration of the architect is an essential part of the medal. In a number of instances, where there is a medal with a portrait, it was thought well to include other medals on which that architect's name is mentioned but not featured, and which would otherwise have been omitted. It was difficult to draw a sharp line. In certain cases, as of Brunel, Fowke, Michelangelo, Montgolfier, Paxton, and some others, medals will be found which, though they commemorate the individual but indirectly, are included to round out the series. Medals of award, as

the term is ordinarily used, are omitted.

The term "architect" has been used in a broad sense. It has not always been possible to differentiate between architects and sculptors, or between architects, military architects, and engineers, so that names may be found which under the strictest of classifications might have been omitted; nevertheless their qualifications have been such as to warrant their being included. Medals will be found which bear the portrait of an architect although he may be better known for some other activity, as for instance Brunel, in connection with the Thames Tunnel; Dürer, Raphael, and Rubens for painting; Zelter for music, and Montgolfier for his success with the balloon. There is also included one who has left behind many evidences of his skill in this art: Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States.

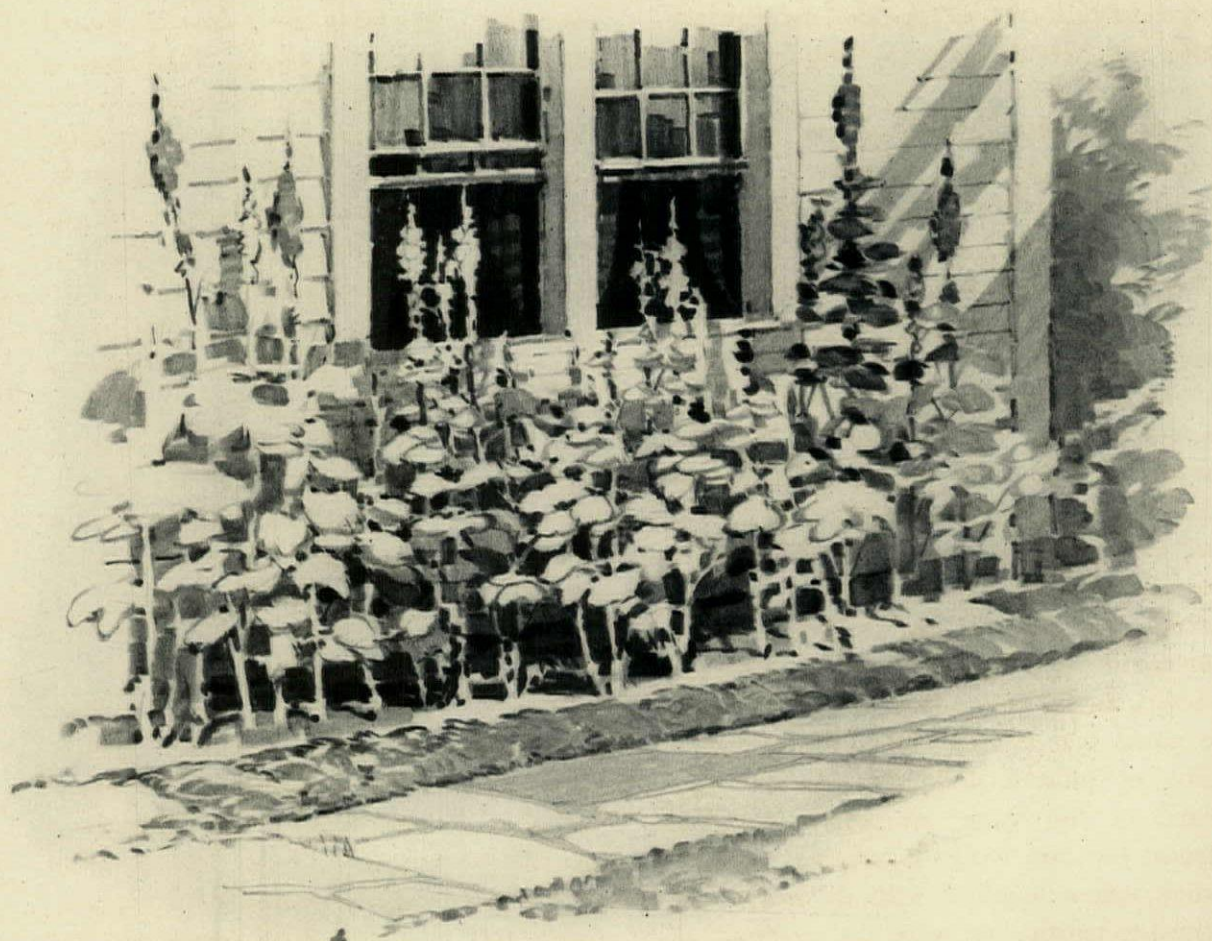
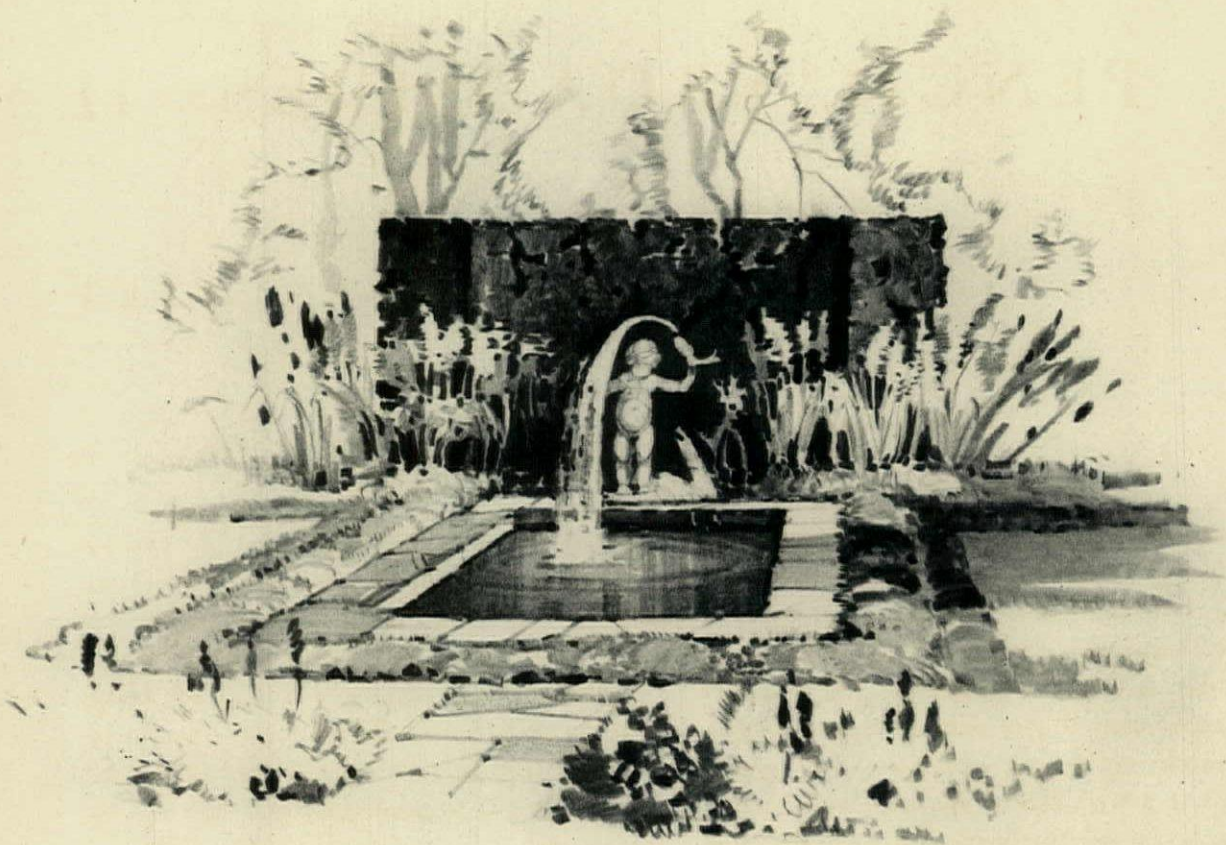




T. KAUTZ  
BRETAGNE  
FRANCE

HARBOR AT CAMARET, BRITTANY





LESSON 11—FLOWERS AT LARGE AND SMALL SCALE

PENCIL POINTS



# PENCIL BROADSIDES—11

BY THEODORE KAUTZKY

Occasionally, when sketching garden scenes or bits of architecture, it becomes necessary to include some flower groupings or borders. It is therefore a good idea to be prepared to handle this special problem. The problem becomes easy if you remember one simple principle—*it is the silhouette that counts most*. I am of course thinking in terms of sketches at relatively small scale and not of close-up, still life studies of flowers where more detail is called for. But even in the latter case the silhouette is always very important.

The two sketches on the accompanying plate illustrate the principle as applied to small and medium scale representation. The little garden pool and fountain above is set off to advantage against a bit of clipped hedge which also serves to make the flowers seen more effectively. This principle of placing flower beds where they will have a background of dark foliage is well known to garden designers and you can find innumerable instances of such treatment, both formal and informal. The advantage it gives to your sketch is obvious. By making the hedge suitably dark and letting the flowers stand out against it, a sparkling result is accomplished, almost colorful in its effect. It will be noted that it is entirely unnecessary to draw or indicate individual petals. The shape of the flower as seen silhouetted against the dark hedge is sufficient identification, taken together with its leaves and stems, to permit you to be just as literal as you wish. A little study of different species of flower plants will give you a working

repertoire of forms that will equip you for sketching any garden you are likely to encounter in reality or in imagination. Where the dark background is not present, as for example to the right and left of the hedge in my sketch, the silhouetting is done in reverse—dark against light. Different degrees of gray will suggest different hues for the blossoms.

At the bottom of the plate I have drawn, at somewhat larger scale, some flowers planted against the base of a house. The house is light in color, but open windows provide some dark areas against which a few blossoms stand out clearly. The shadows cast by the plant foliage also make dark areas along the bottom of the wall which cause the sunlit leaves to stand out sharply. Your problem is thus to define the various shapes plausibly, in accordance with your observation and knowledge, blending the contrast of dark against light and light against dark so that the observer will not be conscious of where one type of contrast leaves off and the other begins. As usual, the greatest degree of contrast will be at the center of interest with softer contrasts towards the edges.

You have by this time been drilled enough in the application of broad strokes, long and short, straight and curved, so that I do not feel that it is necessary to go through an analysis of this plate from that point of view. As always, it is necessary to keep your pencil well and frequently sharpened and to exercise all the control of which you are capable over each individual stroke. So far



as you fall short of complete control your sketches will be fuzzy and will lack that crispness for which, I presume, you are striving.

This is as good a place as any to encourage the exercise of freedom in composition, tempered with understanding of what you are doing. If you are sketching from nature, you do not need to adhere literally to what you see before you. You may move trees or bushes or rocks about to fit the needs of your picture, provided of course you do not place them in some impossible position. You can exaggerate the slope of a hill or suppress it, all within the bounds of common sense.

Such things as architecture you had perhaps best take as they are, unless you are an architectural designer who knows why and how things are put together. Even with buildings, however, you have some latitude—in the handling of shadows cast upon them, for example. In drawing trees, you can take liberties with the placing of branches, so long as you are true to species, or you may omit portions of the foliage if by so doing you make a more pleasing composition. In short, by using your brains you can be the master of your picture instead of letting it master you. Until you have acquired this mastery, you cannot fairly be described as an artist.