TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

IN THIS ISSUE

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♦ Lamar Elementary School At Wichita Falls
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The Lamar Elementary School at Wichita Falls has been selected by the North Texas Chapter, AIA as representative of recent work in the Chapter area. Architects and engineers: Harris & Killebrew, TSA-AIA, Wichita Falls.
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Texas Architects' Week has grown greatly in scope since it was first established throughout the state five years ago. From April 13-20, TSA members in 13 Chapters stretching from the Panhandle to the Rio Grande, and from the Red River to El Paso, will be staging a series of special programs to acquaint all Texans better with architecture and how it serves the general public.

As emphasized earlier, Texas Architects' Week this year will be built around the fiftieth anniversary of architectural education in Texas. The commemoration of this event was begun at College Station on March 25-27 with a significant three-day series of meetings and seminars, for it was at Texas A. & M. College that architectural instruction at the university level began in this state, back in 1906.

Many of the TAW programs will accent some aspect of architectural education. Others, such as projects involving community planning, or a part of the Houston Chapter's overall TAW program on kitchen design, offer the general public a fine opportunity to see the architectural approach to today's problems.

Now that TSA Chapters cover every area of the state, virtually every Texan will be able to note how Texas Architects' Week is being observed. We extend you a particular invitation to take advantage of these opportunities, thereby learning how directly architecture now affects the lives of each of us.
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Texas Architects' Week Being Observed April 13-20

Launched by a three-day celebration at Texas A. & M. College commemorating the 50th anniversary of architectural education in Texas, Texas Architects' Week will be observed by the 13 TSA Chapters across the state from April 13-20 with a variety of programs, exhibitions and other events.

April 13 is the 214th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, great architect-president who designed Monticello, the University of Virginia and other world-famous structures. One hundred thousand special stamps featuring a likeness of Jefferson and the legend “Texas Society of Architects”, “Thomas Jefferson, Architect”, “50th Anniversary, Architectural Education In Texas” are being distributed.

Following is a resume of a number of the programs being held by the individual Chapters across the state.

EL PASO: Exhibit of work by Chapter members, in conjunction with a national exhibit being obtained from AIA. In order to secure first floor space in the El Paso Public Library, this will be held from April 22-29. As part of the exhibit it is anticipated that public showings of the color film "Architecture, U.S.A." will be scheduled.

An awards luncheon set for April 18 at the Hilton Hotel will honor E. J. Bartholomew, veteran El Paso carpenter selected for a craftsmanship award and those receiving various award certificates. A dinner-dance is also planned, and Texas A. & M. alumni among the Chapter members are submitting entries for a special exhibition.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: Special exhibition of school architecture at the Beaumont Art Museum, in connection with proposed bond issue for needed expansion of Beaumont school system. The film "Architecture, U.S.A." will be shown on television during TAW. A craftsmanship award will feature a Chapter awards dinner with an outstanding speaker.

PANHANDLE: Portable exhibits in bank lobbies and at civic club luncheons of recent work by Chapter members. These will feature a comparison of architecture in 1906 and in 1956.

CENTRAL TEXAS (Austin): A TAW dinner will honor three Chapter members who have been in architecture for 50 years: Hugo F. Kuehne, Goldwin Goldsmith and C. H. Page. Downtown exhibits. Showings of "Architecture, U.S.A." in a downtown theatre and as a television feature.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY: Exhibits of current work by Chapter members in Valley cities and a special TAW Chapter meeting.

BRAZOS CHAPTER: Special programs tying in with 50th anniversary of architectural education in Texas, including an exhibition by Texas A. & M. alumni contrasting 1906 and 1956.

FORT WORTH: Traditional craftsmanship dinner and exhibits of 1906 and 1956 architecture.

DALLAS: TAW Chapter dinner meeting honoring members who have been in the profession 50 years or more. TAW exhibits. Radio and television programs.

HOUSTON: TAW Dinner on Monday, April 16 at Houston Club. Emphasis on 50th anniversary of architectural education in Texas during exhibitions, television programs and other events. Craftsmanship award to a Houston plasterer. Contemporary Arts Association House Tours will be held April 14-15 in conjunction.

NORTH TEXAS: Craftsmanship award. Exhibits. Television program.

SAN ANTONIO: TAW dinner will honor practitioners who have been in the architectural profession since 1906. Reception planned by Ladies Auxiliary. Special exhibits. Radio and television programs.
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"A cheerful building where learning is fun," is the description students are giving to the Lamar Elementary School. A school plant designed for good student-teacher relationship, from the covered unloading areas at the entrance, to the eye-catching mural in the "Cafetorium," a combination cafeteria and auditorium.

The school has 30,847 square feet of floor space, and is built on a 10-acre site in a residential subdivision of Wichita Falls.

The building has a number of "firsts" in school design for the Wichita Falls area, among them being the four enclosed courtyards between the self-contained classrooms in the primary ring. These courtyards are so designed that with no interruption of classes, four additional classrooms could be added at a fraction of the cost of new classrooms.

Other features include the use of large window plants lighted by natural sunlight thru ceiling domes; the variety of colors in the decoration and trim; the use of native cobblestones hauled from the Wichita Mountains; glass partitions for upper portions of classrooms, giving the entire school an open feeling; a large paved interior courtyard off the entry for use as an outdoor exhibit area, and many others.

**Brick, Glass & Cobblestone**

Exterior of the plant, which faces on Lucas Avenue, is a combination of brick, glass, and cobble stone. A circular drive fronts the structure and is so designed that students may enter or leave cars or busses under shelter of an overhanging roof. A large paved parking lot is also provided for faculty and staff automobiles.

Upon entering the building, the visitor is impressed with the overall planning and decoration. Vinyl floors in sagebrush green cover the wide airy corridors leading from the classroom wings, cafeteria, etc. From the front door can be seen at the extreme end of one corridor leading to the primary wing, a brick planter with sunlight shining on the plants from a ceiling dome.

A built-in desk-divider between the secretary's office and the foyer is in a pumpkin shade which has been used as one of the feature hues. In the foyer also is a large glass-enclosed, freestanding trophy case with smaller exhibit cases located beside the door to each classroom.

Classrooms have doors painted in different colors, so the tiny tots can know their own rooms at a glance.

Classrooms have clerestory lighting and freestanding chalkboards at the teaching center. Exposed steel beams are painted chocolate brown and pumpkin, and walls vary from turquoise to sage green.

The cafeteria has an 80 foot long mural painted by the office force of the architects. This mural above door height on the side of the room adjacent to the kitchen is done in the primary color scale with "stick" figures of children in all aspects of play. It is a source of amusement for the children.

The kitchen is complete with the modern stainless steel equipment.

Metal partition gates, which fold into the walls, close off the corridors to the classroom wings when the Cafetorium is being used for community use.

With President R. Max Brooks of Austin presiding, board members heard principal details of the broadest statewide TAW program since the observance was launched five years ago. Delegations from the Coastal Bend (Corpus Christi) and Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapters reported substantial progress toward final planning for the convention.

Other items discussed included graduate seminars for TSA members, attendance at the AlA national convention in Los Angeles May 15-16, and reports from all TSA committee chairmen.

**Interior View of Prize-Winning School**

Above is a typical interior view of the Lamar Elementary School in Wichita Falls, showing natural sunlight through ceiling domes and the use of glass partitions for the upper portions of the classroom.
Here's a combination of fixtures that makes the perfect Master bathroom arrangement for your homes.

The Marquette tub, graceful in contour, offers such important features as safety bottom, wide seat rim and safety hand grip. The Carlton closet provides attractive elongated bowl, syphon-jet design, dependable and quiet operation. Twin Lowell Lavatories, of Hi-Style vitreous china, are the smartest thing in counter-top installation.

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Texas Technological College was the fourth school in the state to establish a training program in architecture. The area served is extremely large, since Texas A & M, The University of Texas and the Rice Institute are all located in the southeastern portion of the state. Generally speaking, Texas Tech has served North and West Texas, New Mexico and the western half of Oklahoma although there is normally a liberal sprinkling of students from the metropolitan areas of Texas and from other states.

When Texas Technological College opened its doors to students for the first time in 1925, no formal course of study in architecture was included although one or two courses in architectural drawing were offered. In 1926, full four-year curricula in architecture, architectural engineering and other engineering branches were offered for the first time. Catalogue listings included the Department of Architecture and the Department of Engineering Drawing—though actually the two were under the direction of Professor Carl Lars Svenson, head of the Department of Engineering Drawing. About 40 students enrolled in architecture in the fall of 1926. However, the course was dropped the following year, Architectural Engineering being retained.

Separate Facilities In 1928

In 1928, separate facilities for the architectural engineering and engineering drawing departments were allocated for the first time. F. A. Kleinschmidt of the Department of Architecture, Kansas State College, was secured to head the department of architectural engineering thus separating it formally from engineering drawing. The fall enrollment in the new Department was about 15 students with a faculty of two.

In view of the low enrollment in the early thirties, President Bradford Knapp, suggested that the four-year course in architecture be reinstated and an additional four-year course in commercial art be added to the departmental offerings. The Department acquired the title of Architecture and Allied Arts which has since been retained. The inclusion of the two new curricula increased enrollment and the department was finally established on a professional basis as a unit in the Division of Engineering.

Extended To Five Years

In 1940, the architectural curriculum was extended to five years leading to a Bachelor's degree. The architectural engineering classification was dropped in favor of architecture-construction option. Later the commercial art designation was changed to advertising art and design and that curriculum also was extended to five years. Since this time the Department has offered three degrees: bachelor of architecture, design or construction option and bachelor of advertising art and design.

In 1953, the College established the office of supervising architect and appointed Professor Nolan E. Barrick as supervising architect and head of the Department of Architecture and Allied Arts.

Enrollment Record 297

Post-war enrollment in the 1947-48 period reached a record of 297 majors in architecture and in advertising art and design. Currently there are 277 students majoring in the Department. The faculty has grown to a total of thirteen with an additional group of part-time design critics being secured from local architectural offices. Five of the full-time staff members, Professors F. A. Kleinschmidt, W. C. Bradshaw, R. I. Lockard, N. E. Barrick and Richard Duran are registered architects and members of T.S.A.-A.I.A. The staff includes graduates of Kansas State College, Texas A & M, The Rice Institute, Pratt Institute of Design, Illinois Tech, Cranbrook, The University of Arizona, Alfred University, Harvard, U.S.C., Ohio State, and Texas Tech.

Close Contact With AIA

The faculty members have always maintained a close contact with the practicing architects of the area and were instrumental in establishing the Texas Panhandle Chapter of the A.I.A. in 1949, Professor Kleinschmidt serving as first president of the Chapter.

The Department has experienced all of the normal growing pains encountered by other schools, with perhaps some additional problems due to the extremely rapid growth of the college and of the community. The regular pattern of change from the eclecticism of the earlier days to a closer alliance with the profession has evolved as a normal procedure both in architecture and in advertising art and design.

Departmental honors include the winning of the LeBrun Travelling Fellowship by Miss Agatha Turner, the first woman student in the United States to receive the prize. The BAID medal for greatest progress in teaching architectural design in the United States and Canada was awarded to the Department in 1947. Affiliation with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, Beaux Arts Institute of Design, American Federation of Art, and College Art Association has been maintained for many years. The Carnegie Foundation has contributed vital support in the form of valuable teaching aids.

Point of Departure

The curriculum in Advertising Art and Design has stimulated expansion in the Allied Arts field and the Department conducts extensive work in painting, art history, architectural sculpture and ceramics in addition to the usual freehand work included in an Architectural program. Perhaps this facet of our program marks the point of greatest departure from the existing pattern of course offering in other schools.

The inclusion of these subjects normally carried in a school of art has permitted the Department to engage in cooperative degree plans with other divisions on the campus. There is no effort made to "slant" the art phase of training to the specific needs of the Architect.

Philosophy of Department

Rather, it is the philosophy of the Department that the best interest of the student is served through a broad concept of art rather than a narrow application. To serve this end, certain staff members have been recently added because of their background training in painting, sculpture, ceramics, etc. The result, we feel, is more stimulating and challenging to the student and faculty alike.
BAPTIST BOOKLET ON CHURCH BUILDING AVAILABLE

The Department of Direct Missions and Promotion, Baptist General Convention of Texas, has published "A Guide to Better Church Building." The booklet is available, without charge, to architects, pastors and building committee members. It has been prepared especially for pastors and building committees in churches cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention and is available from J. W. Caldwell, architectural consultant to the Baptist General Convention, 202 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas.

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Sam B. Dixon Joins Leibsle & Associates

Sam B. Dixon, TSA-AIA, Houston architect, has joined the architectural firm of Roy W. Leibsle in Houston. The firm will now be known as Roy W. Leibsle & Associates.

Mr. Dixon is an architectural engineering graduate of Texas A. & M. He was in the Corps of Engineers in World War II and was recalled to active duty during the Korean conflict. He has practiced architecture in Houston since being separated from the Corps of Engineers in 1946.
Plastic House Competition Offers 12 Cash Prizes In Architectural Field

Plastics suitable for housing are documented and indexed in a new architect's reference file compiled by The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., and available to entrants in the recently-announced SPI Plastics House Competition.

The competition is offering 12 prizes to architects, designers, draftsmen and architectural students. It is aimed at developing ideas for new uses of plastics which will provide increased livability, comfort, safety and value in the construction of homes.

Sponsored by The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., the SPI Plastics House Competition has been approved by the Committee on Architectural Competitions of the AIA.

Plastics applications specified in this Competition should be used only in ways that emphasize their physical characteristics such as lightness of weight, strength, ease of maintenance, varieties of color and assortment of textures.

The 12 awards to be made for the best demonstrations of how plastics can be used in house construction and built-ins are as follows: Best Houses Utilizing Plastics: grand prize, $1000; second, $500; third, $250; honorable mention, $100. Best Feature Area Utilizing Plastics: Porch or Outdoor Living Area, first, $250; second, $100. Kitchen and/or Breakfast Area, first, $250; second, $100. Bath and/or Dressing Room, first, $250; second, $100. Playroom (Children's or Adults'), first, $250; second, $100.

This Competition is open to any architect, draftsman or architectural student throughout the United States, Canada and other countries.

The closing date for the competition is May 20, 1956, and awards will be presented to the winners at the Seventh National Plastics Exposition, June 11-15, 1956, in New York City.

Entry forms and all details of this Competition are available from James T. Lendrum, A. I. A., Professional Advisor, SPI Plastics House Competition, Mumford House, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.
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All-Air High-Velocity Air Conditioning Systems

By Curtis H. Jochen
Bernard Johnson & Associates, Houston

In Texas, where air conditioning is considered essential, architects and engineers are fortunate to have several differing systems available for their use. Relative newcomers to this field are the single- and double-duct high-velocity air distribution systems.

When designing an air distribution system for a new building, architects may often find that high-velocity systems have a number of advantages when space is a major factor. This holds true because both the trunk and the feeder ducts run about half the size of those used in the normal low-velocity systems.

When adapting a system to an existing building, the smaller ducts of the high-velocity systems are even more desirable because of the smaller holes required through existing floors and walls. Also it is easier to thread the ducts around beams and joists already in place.

**Individual Room Control**

Studies have shown that the modern trend in air conditioning is more and more towards individual room control. The high velocity double duct system meets this demand, for it can provide for positive control in each room. It works like a water faucet in that you can mix various amounts of hot and cold air to give the desired temperature. Of course, in a single duct system only the amount of cold air or warm air can be regulated, depending on whether the system is on the cooling or heating cycle.

Flexibility to add or relocate units is an important feature, especially when the moving of office partitions might occur from time to time. The air balance is disturbed only slightly by these changes and the pressure can be re-balanced very easily. Besides providing for a more accurate balance than other systems, the balancing process normally takes much less time.

Today, acceptance by Texas architects and engineers of the principles of high velocity air distribution is on the increase. This is based primarily on the following key points:

1. There are no fans, no filters, and no motors to be maintained except in the centrally-located equipment rooms. This is particularly welcomed by main-

2. Sheet metal workers can do all the duct and outlet installation. There is no dispute as to which trade handles what job because electricians, plumbers, and steam-fitters are needed only at the centralized machine room location of the motors and pumps.

3. High-velocity air-units require no water or coils, which collect lint and eventually have to be manually cleaned.

4. Another factor is the quiet operation in individual rooms due to the fact that the air flow controls and valves are scientifically designed to reduce the static pressure with a minimum of sound regeneration. Scientific design also eliminates drafts from improper diffusion of the air.

The double duct system provides chilled and warm air to each space simultaneously so the two can be mixed. The single duct system uses the same duct for hot or chilled air depending upon the outside temperature.

Because of these and other advantages, it is felt that both the single and double duct high velocity air-conditioning systems will be used more and more in the air conditioned cities of Texas.
Nunn, Nunn & Ulbricht
Is New Partnership
For Houston Architects

Slayton Nunn, Sr., TSA-AIA; Slayton Nunn, Jr., TSA-AIA and Herbert Ulbricht, Jr., TSA-AIA have formed the partnership of Nunn, Nunn and Ulbricht for the practice of architecture in Houston.

Mr. Nunn, prominent on many TSA committees, is a former president of the Houston Chapter. The firm formed by him, his son and his son-in-law will have offices at 3272 Westheimer.

Dr. Antonio Joannidis
Of Monterrey, Mexico
At UT April 6-May 3

Dr. Antonio Joannidis of the Instituto Tecnologico of Monterrey, Mexico, will be a distinguished lecturer on the faculty of the University of Texas School of Architecture and Planning from April 6-May 3.

During his stay at the University of Texas, Dr. Joannidis will give one public lecture in Austin on "Planning and Architecture in Mexico." The time and place are to be announced.

The Monterrey lecturer, trained in Zurich, is one of three lecturers brought to the University during the spring semester. Others were Fernando Belanda, a 1935 UT graduate who was instrumental in founding the School of Architecture in Lima, Peru; and G. E. Kidder-Smith of MIT.
New Products

A new engineered shock absorber for arresting water hammer in all types of hydraulic systems has been introduced by J. A. Zurn Manufacturing Company, under the name of "Shoktrol."

Culminating several years of development effort, the new water hammer arrestors are compact, lightweight and easy to install. Made of stabilized stainless steel, they contain a sealed-in air pressure charge in a long-lasting metal bellows and are corrosion resistant.

The "Shoktrol" absorbers are being produced in six zones to provide complete protection against water hammer pressure in half-inch to two-inch diameters for varying pipe lengths and pressures. They have a diameter of three inches and range in height from three and three-quarter inches to 12 inches.

A new controlled high temperature flame method for carving, cutting and texturing granite and other stone surfaces has been developed by Linde Air Products Company, Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation.

A new aluminum coating in a variety of six colors is being made by Duncan-Steward Industries, Ltd. Developed in conjunction with the Aluminum Company of America, it performs the three-fold task of waterproofing, protecting and decorating. Ore-lte when used as a roof coating is said to virtually eliminate the need for hot tar application and to be capable of reducing interior temperatures 10 to 15 degrees.

Ore-lte can be used on any surface. It comes in types for wood, for metal, brick or concrete and a special heat resistant type which withstands temperatures to 1000 degrees Fahrenheit.

A new stud-welded construction fastener with an aluminum cap which permits faster field-assembly and improves the appearance of insulated metal sandwich and other curtain walls, has been developed by the Nelson Stud Welding Division of Gregory Industries, Inc., Lorain, Ohio.

Identified as the SETLOK fastener, and already used in Fiberglas-insulated metal buildings, the new fastening system employs a steel shoulder type stud with serrated tip which is end-welded to structural girts with the Nelson stud welding gun.

In sandwich-type construction, the inner skin—usually corrugated aluminum, but sometimes a flat sheet or formed pan—is impaled over stainless steel, cadmium plated or mild steel studs, and speed clips are applied to hold the inner material firmly in place.

Fiberglas insulation is then impaled over the studs and the exterior material—frequently ribbed panels of .032 embossed aluminum—is next impaled with a hard rubber hammer, so the sheet rests firmly against the shoulder of the stud.

The aluminum SETLOK cap is then placed over the serrated tip of the stud and driven into position with a tool which causes the aluminum to flow into and to grip the serrations.

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