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E. Davis Wilcox, A.I.A., Vice President speaks on—
The Architect and His Community

Who of us justify our title of Architect by our deeds. Does your community request your judgment and seek your advice in matters of zoning, building codes and the like?

"The Community" to me means all the people and all their activities. How frequently are your professional abilities sought and tested to design a small house; to convert a garage to a guest house; to survey and appraise the aesthetic and structural qualities of a building; to select colors for a redecorating project; to evaluate land and its usage as a city park or church yard playground. Are these and many, many more similar opportunities for community improvement offered to you, or does your community look to you only for those important tasks of planning big buildings?

I can remember a few cherished accolades of respect for the Architect by my community, which have occurred much too rarely. A lawyer friend of mine honors me by addressing me as Architect Wilcox, would that other members of my community so respected me.

A few years ago, sixty percent of our commissions were for residential design, but now we have "lost face" for our residential community is mushrooming without the direction of a community architect. Our downtown community is seeking its redesign for revival and survival from an Engineering Planning Service, not from its community architect. Most of all, our local community boards, of every nature, count among their membership, representations of the honored professions of law and medicine, but not Architecture. I trust that you Architects are designing your communities and lending your professional judgment to the decisions of the school board, the zoning committee, the bank's board of directors, and the Church's governing body for, if you are not, you then are not the Architect in your community.
NEW classic tapered aluminum post 149-S. Sculptured pattern shown. Available with a plain surface or inlaid natural wood.

Complete catalogue of railings and grilles available upon request.

Permanent display - Architects Building, 101 Park Ave., New York, N.Y.
What are the ingredients of a really fine convention? Different entertainment? Meeting old and new friends? Intellectual stimulation?

The San Antonio Chapter has gone all out to plan a convention that will be fun for everyone, with a professional program that will be meaningful as well. The theme of the seminar is “Urban Design,” with three nationally recognized architects as our guest speakers. These are Mr. Paul Spreiregen of Washington, D. C., Mr. Vernon De Mars of San Francisco, and Mr. Charles Colbert of New Orleans. These prominent professionals will present a program that will deal with the problems of the shaping of total environment of our urban areas, including historic backgrounds and discussions of outstanding solutions.

As for events to have fun and meet your friends, there are plenty of things, starting with the unique Golf Tournament and continuing with the Acme Brick Breakfast and Awards Luncheon and a Night in Old San Antonio, which will be a social event to remember. This exciting evening will be held in the Juarez Plaza in La Villita and will feature professional entertainment with different foods of historic San Antonio, served from gaily decorated booths surrounding the Plaza. The ladies will have a River Trip, with a visit to La Sirena Art Gallery and Style Show. In addition, there is planned the President’s luncheon, and as a concluding event, a Gala Dance and Breakfast.

Even visiting the exhibits will be fun. Planned as a “Fiesta” the show will include refreshments, entertainment and prizes.

Do we have the ingredients of a really fine convention? We think so.
Monday, October 7

8:30 a.m. Golfers' Doughnuts and Coffee, San Antonio Country Club
9:30 a.m. Texas Quarries' Golf Tournament, San Antonio Country Club
12:30 p.m. Golfers' Luncheon, San Antonio Country Club
12:00 noon to 7:30 p.m. Registration, Mezzanine, Granada Hotel
3:00 p.m. Called Committee Meetings—to be arranged
4:00 p.m. Conclave of Chapter Officers, Walnut Room
7:00-9:00 p.m. "Bienvenidos Party," Cocktails and Buffet (Host Chapter Affair) Patio, Villita Assembly Building
Tuesday, October 8

8:00 a.m.  Breakfast (Acme Brick Company), Crystal Ballroom, Granada Hotel

9:30 a.m.  Business Session, Villita Assembly Building

11:00 a.m.  Keynote Address

12:00 noon  Awards Luncheon, Grand Ballroom, Granada Hotel

2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  “Fiesta of Exhibits,” Villita Assembly Building

7:30 p.m. to 12:00 midnight  “Night in Old San Antonio,” La Villita, Juarez Plaza

Wednesday, October 9

9:00 a.m.  Business Session

9:30 a.m.  Ladies’ Activities—River Trip, visit La Sirena Art Gallery, and Style Show

10:00 a.m.  Opening Professional Program

12:30 p.m.  President’s Luncheon, Grand Ballroom, Granada Hotel

2:30 p.m.  Professional Program, Villita Assembly Building

8:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight  Gala Dance and Breakfast, Grand Ballroom, Granada Hotel

Thursday, October 10

12:00 noon  Leave for Mexico City
The fascinating convention drawings are the work of architect Cy Wagner (self portrait above). We asked Cy to tell us about himself and drawing. Here's what he says:

"The Usual Stuff:

Graduate, University of Texas, 1952, Bachelor of Architecture. (This only happened after attending Oklahoma A & M and one year at SMU—200 hours of college work and only one degree—pretty sad).

Married of course, lots of kids, 2 boys—2 girls and one Mexican maid—wife with an IQ of 160+ who reads books and plays duplicate bridge.

Worked for Bartlett Cocke—3 years and 3 months learning how to put buildings together—changing the outside tree lights and running the blue line machine. Also did the annual Xmas Cards for the Office.

Opened my own office with one job (hasn't been built yet) in 1955.

Became associated with Peter Callins in 1957 (he had two jobs) and we've been together ever since. Decided to make it an official partnership in 1961 to simplify bookkeeping and quit bumping into each other around the office (better organization)."

Cy's small office does all sorts of projects including urban design, but school and church work account for some 60% of their work. Wagner and Callins recently moved into new offices: "now we have enough room for clients to sit down. All walls in the office are tackboard—one reason is we show clients all the damn work we do to solve the problem and the steps leading up to the solution."

About drawing, Cy says, "If you can draw the human figure—then trees, furniture, and buildings become easy. A few months on newsprint with charcoal or conté crayon sitting on a stool and using an easel really 'loosens' up the technique. I've spent a lot of time copying—say Michaelangelo's figure studies—Leonardo's heads—George Price's cartoon faces and detail—Willard Mullin's sports cartoon action—and so on. I guess all this adds up to the old cliche—learn by doing. Drawings with the content of the drawing making the pencil go are always better than trying to "labor out" a sketch; the inner thrill that comes when the pen—pencil—or brush comes into contact with a surface that accepts the medium delightfully; constant experiments of new mediums on old surfaces; looking at Old Master sketches and reading 'Peanuts' in the funny papers. Lastly, finally finding this pen point—its an Esterbrook 9314-B—all architects should have one (a lot do); it makes fat lines, skinny lines or a combination of both in one stroke."
QUALITY CONTROL IN CONCRETE MASONRY

The Texas Concrete Masonry Association has had in operation since July 23, 1960, a Quality Control Program for concrete masonry units. The Texas Association has worked closely with the Concrete Masonry Association of California, and other concrete masonry associations throughout the United States in developing Quality Control Programs that would be beneficial to the entire concrete block industry.

The object of the program is to encourage the specification of concrete masonry in all types of construction by assuring the architect, engineer, and specifications writer that he is specifying the use of a quality product. A product that has been tested by reputable testing laboratories, whose test reports are on file in the Association office in Austin, Texas, open to their inspection at any time.

The reputable testing laboratories of the State of Texas have been authorized by all of the members of the Association, who meet the minimum requirements of the American Society for Testing Materials, and who are participating in the Quality Control Program, to go into their yards and choose blocks at random to be tested.

The test reports are duplicated, with one set being sent to the Association office for recording, and whatever other copies are needed by the manufacturer sent to him. This system of testing and reporting eliminates the tendency of PRE-SELECTING blocks for test at some future date, under favorable and controlled conditions. All producers are treated fairly and equally on this basis.

Plants producing 200,000 equivalents or more a year are required to submit test reports every thirty days, and those producing less than 200,000 units must submit a test after every 50,000 units of production.

The requirement of testing each thirty days also meets the requirement of the State Insurance Board for the use of the Concrete Masonry Manufacturers' Certificate for HTB Insurance rating, with a resultant substantial saving on insurance costs.
The Certificate states: This certifies that the manufacturer whose name appears below is warranted by John Doe Testing Laboratory as furnishing hollow concrete masonry units complying with A.S.T.M. Specifications C 90-52 or later grade. This manufacturer is therefore authorized to apply this certificate to the material at the location given below, which it states is manufactured in accordance with the requirements of this specification. This further certifies that hollow concrete masonry units manufactured by the company are tested regularly at intervals not to exceed (30) thirty days and comply with the above specification (A.S.T.M. C 90-52 or later).

NOTICE—This certificate does not indicate proper application or installation of the material and does not apply to other materials which may be used at the location specified. It does not necessarily include all material which is used in the same or similar assemblies to those specified.

To help prevent the use of the manufacturers’ certificate unless the requirements are met, Article 21.47, Texas Insurance Code, is printed on the face of the certificate—"any person, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the State Board of Insurance or the Commissioner of Insurance, who shall, with regard to a material fact, knowingly and willfully falsify, conceal or cover up by any trick, scheme, or device, or make any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or make or use any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined not more than $5,000, or imprisoned not more than five years in the State Penitentiary."

TESTING

The Testing laboratories test for four basic concrete block characteristics:
1. Moisture as received
2. Absorption percent
3. Absorption pounds per cubic foot
4. Compressive Strength—PSI

All tests are performed strictly in accordance with A.S.T.M. Specifications and are made available to the manufacturer and the Texas Concrete Masonry Association within three or five days, depending upon whether or not linear shrinkage tests are required.

MINIMUM STANDARDS
1. Compression—1,000 PSI on the gross area
2. Absorption—15 pounds of water per cubic foot of concrete maximum
3. Absorption percent—40% of saturation

In the event linear shrinkage tests are required, the modified British method of A.S.T.M. Designation C 426-61T Test for drying shrinkage of concrete block is used.

A. COMPRESSION TEST

All Compression Tests on concrete blocks are to be made in strict accordance with A.S.T.M. C 140-56. (a) All specimens shall be tested in a position such that the load is applied in same direction as in service and the centroid of the section in bearing is aligned with the center of thrust of the spherically seated block. (b) All blocks must be capped in accordance with the A.S.T.M. requirements, C 140-56, Section 7 (c). Bearing blocks must conform to A.S.T.M. C 140-56, Section 8 (c).

B. ABSORPTION TEST

The Absorption test shall be conducted in strict accordance with A.S.T.M. C 140-56.

C. MOISTURE CONTENT

The Moisture Content tests shall be conducted in strict accordance with A.S.T.M. C 140-56.

LINEAR SHRINKAGE

The Modified British Method or A.S.T.M. Designation-
tion: C 426-61T Method of Test for Drying Shrinkage of Concrete Block is used as a routine standardized method for determining the linear shrinkage of concrete block, brick, or other concrete products.

Drying Shrinkage is defined as the change in linear dimension of the test specimen, due to drying from a saturated condition to a constant weight and length under specified conditions.

The tests will be run in strict accordance with the above mentioned testing specifications.

PROCEDURE

(a) Immerse specimens for the drying shrinkage determination in water at 73.4° ± 2° F. for 48 hours.

(b) Obtain the initial-length reading on the test specimen. The initial reading of specimen length, at saturation, shall be taken with the unit positioned in the water tank, so that its gage line is about ¼ inch above the water surface to avoid error due to cooling by evaporation. Length readings of test specimens shall be accompanied by length readings of the standard reference bar.

(c) Obtain the saturated surface-dry weight of the test specimen. A saturated surface-dry condition shall be obtained by draining the test for one minute over a ¾ inch or larger screen and removing visible surface water with a damp cloth.

(d) Store test specimens for drying in an air-tight, insulated oven, capable of maintaining a constant temperature at 122° ± 2° F. with moderate circulation of air within the oven, over and around all test specimens and the drying agent, a means of drying specimens to a condition of equilibrium with a relative humidity of 17 ± 2 percent. Calcium chloride, if used for this purpose, shall be in flake form. To insure uniform drying, the individual specimens shall be shifted daily to different positions in the drying oven.

(e) At the end of five days of drying, remove shrinkage specimens from the drying oven and cool to 73.4° ± 2° F. Following cooling, obtain specimen-length reading and weight, and length reading of standard reference bar.

(f) Return test specimens to the drying oven for the second period of drying. The duration of the second and subsequent drying periods shall be 24 hours. Following the second period of drying, repeat cooling, length readings, and weight determinations as above.

(g) Continue the 24 hour periods of drying in the drying oven, followed by cooling and length and weight measurements, until an equilibrium condition of the shrinkage specimens has been reached, where equilibrium is considered to be the prevailing condition when the average length change of the specimens is .002 per cent, or less, in 48 hours of drying and the average weight loss in 24 hours of drying is less than 0.2 per cent of the last previously determined weight.

CALCULATIONS

(1) Calculate the drying shrinkage as a percentage of the length to the nearest one thousandth.

(2) Make all adjustments necessary to correct length readings to standard temperature.

(3) Give the shrinkage for each unit and the average for all units combined.

No manufacturer of concrete masonry units may now become a member of the Texas Concrete Masonry Association until and unless the products manufactured have been tested in strict accordance with A.S.T.M. Specifications and meet all other requirements of The Texas Concrete Masonry Association.

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**CAVITY-LOK® REINFORCING TIES**

Designed for maximum strength in all types of masonry construction, Cavity-Lok is used extensively in areas where moisture penetration and/or strong winds are prevalent. The four parallel reinforcing wires control shrinkage cracking as well as provide 4-way reinforcing against external and internal loads and pressures.

**ECONO CAVITY-LOK® REINFORCING TIES**

Designed for use in cavity walls of hollow unit backup and solid masonry facing. Strong winds sometimes penetrate the exterior facing of cavity walls causing a two way load to be applied within the cavity itself. Econo Cavity-Lok provides a 2-Way reinforcement to counteract loads applied within the cavity or against the wall.

A HANDSOME CONCRETE DRIVEWAY adds distinctive styling to any home. Textures, patterns and colors can be chosen to harmonize with house designs, landscaping and the neighborhood.

SCREEN WALL OF CONCRETE MASONRY. Lacy pattern is created from sections of standard block. Planters to patios, concrete can be both high-style and practical.

Fresh ideas from the Horizon Homes Program...

modern concrete shows new ways to sell home buyers

This prize-winning home from the Horizon Homes Program features a prestressed concrete roof, with an open skylight centered above an interior courtyard.
More and more, builders are discovering the special sales appeal modern concrete can effect. Each year, the Horizon Homes Program, sponsored by the nation's concrete industries, provides outstanding examples of concrete's versatility, backed by local merchandising support.

From dramatic structural innovations to intriguing decorative effects, concrete offers endless possibilities for making home owning more satisfying, less work. Almost any shape, pattern, color or texture is readily achieved with concrete.

Everywhere, today, builders find concrete adds beauty, livability and value. It sells more homes! Plan to enter the 1963 Horizon Homes Program, designed to showcase the newest home-building ideas in modern concrete and encourage consumer acceptance of imaginative home-building. National and regional awards are offered. Contact the district office of the Portland Cement Association in your area for complete details.

Portland Cement Association
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A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete
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Many variations can be produced with this compatible masonry block from vast interesting expanses to brief accents. The 12" square block gives you more handsome wall area per dollar than any other building material today.

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