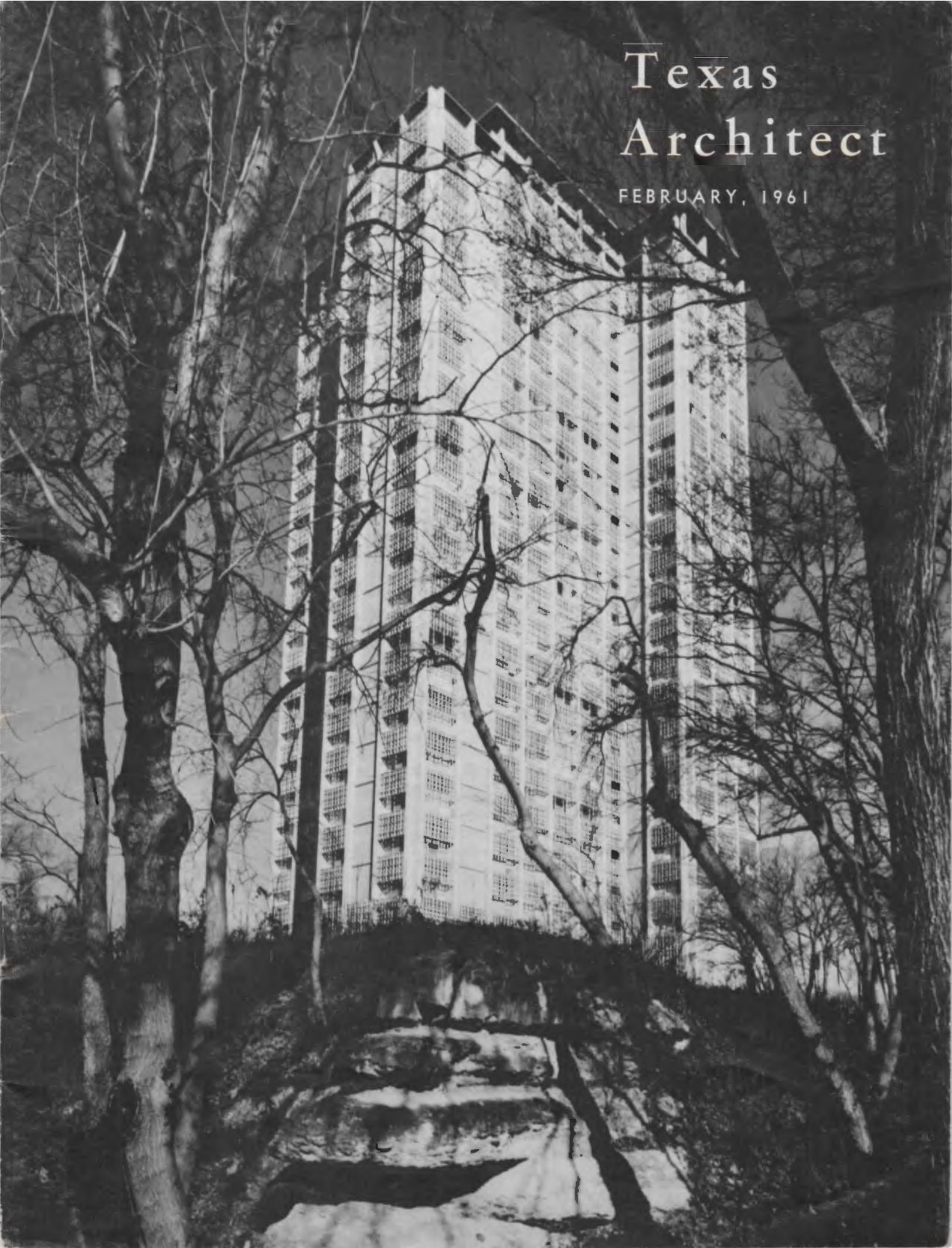


# Texas Architect

FEBRUARY, 1961



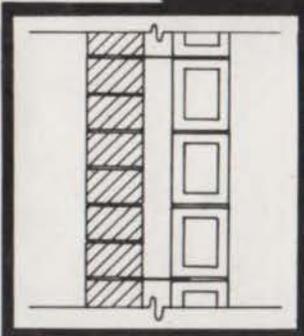
8500 air.

John Flourens E.D.  
TSA - 327 Perry Brook Bldg.

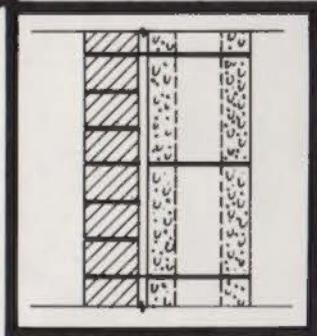
1000 arch  
7500 - Equal.  
S. Supt.  
Leg.  
Perry Brook Bldg.

\*2500/annular

# SAVE 25¢ Per Square Foot! and GET A BETTER WALL!



10" or 12" Brick & Tile  
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\* Typical for multi-story construction. Variations in local conditions and/or types of construction may result in lower costs.

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# THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

FEBRUARY, 1961

VOL. 11

NO. 12

Official Publication of

## THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Texas Regional Organization of  
The American Institute of Architects

John G. Flowers, Jr., Managing Editor  
327 Perry-Brooks Building, Austin, Texas

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### OUR COVER

This month's cover is another project from the "Architecture of Merit" series, and is an apartment building for Jerome J. Frank & Associates of Dallas, by Dallas architect Howard R. Meyer. Rugged site, and desire for apartments with several exposures, dictated high rise building of reinforced concrete using lightweight expanded aggregate; 20 typical apartment floors each having 5 apartments plus penthouse.

FEBRUARY, 1961

# Sidewalk Supervisor

## RECREATION BUILDING

Sullivan & Sullivan of Houston have in progress, Oberlin House, Recreation Building for the Sharp Estate. To serve the people on Reed Road, this will be an air conditioned masonry building of brick and concrete block walls and partitions. It will include an auditorium, meeting room, class rooms, kitchen, store rooms, offices and rest rooms. The grounds will be developed for parking, tennis and valley ball.

## BAPTIST CHURCH, MIDLAND

Completed on schedule for the Wilshire Park Baptist Church at Midland as part of a prize winning Master Plan is an auditorium and educational building to serve a suburban residential area. Comprising 10,000 sq. ft., the project placed third for Master Plan and Plot Development in a competition sponsored nationally by the Southern Baptist Convention's Sunday School Board.

## DOWNTOWN APARTMENT BUILDING



The first new high rise Downtown apartment project in Houston is now in the architectural planning stage by MacKie and Kamrath of Houston. The 24 stories will house 150 apartments of one, two and three bedroom type, and larger units on the upper floors. A private club, garage unit, gardens, pool and game facilities are planned. James A. McBride, II, is project associate, and Walter P. Moore is structural engineer.

## HARDIN-SIMMONS AUDITORIUM

A Chapel-Auditorium for Hardin-Simmons University at Abilene is a multi-purpose building under construction by F. C. Olds Co. (Olds, Strickland and Lee). It contains a 2000 seat auditorium, a 250 seat drama auditorium, scene shops, dressing rooms, and ten classrooms. A complete stage between the two auditoriums permits a drama to surround the audience, or with seating on the stages, the floor can be used for theatre in the round. A clay tile solar screen fronts the lobby and surrounds the classroom section.

## AWARD WINNER

Virgil L. Smith, left, received a \$500 scholarship award from the National Board of Fire Underwriters during a recent meeting of the Houston Chapter, AIA. An architectural student at the University of Texas, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil L. Smith of Houston. The presentation was made by Walter E. Higgins of Dallas, a special agent for the Underwriters.



Page 3



## President's Report

By

L. W. PITTS, F.A.I.A.

President

Texas Society of Architects

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS BOARD OF DIREC- TORS MEETING—JANUARY 21, 1961

At this point in our T.S.A. year it seems appropriate to me that I express a few thoughts that have been foremost in my mind for some while. Since my days as a Charter Member of T.S.A. and later as a Board Member fourteen years ago, I have observed the growth of this Society and the advancement in stature and capability of our profession during those years. I know that the Society and the practitioners have been of much help to each other in this remarkable progress. But there are those who have not been exposed to the overall picture and therefore have not yet become aware of the great opportunities for mutual assistance.

One of the most frequent questions asked of T.S.A. Officers and Directors by some of our members is

"What does the Texas Society of Architects and the American Institute of Architects do for me as an individual?"

And then others ask

"What can Architects contribute to their communities in a non-professional way?"

and also

"What can the individual Architect provide toward the advancement of knowledge in his own profession?"

Gentlemen, I am sincere when I say that the encouragement of high professional conduct and the improvement of each individual architect toward a skilled practitioner, as well as a good citizen, can best be accomplished through a concerted effort on the part of the Architects themselves. It naturally follows that an exchange of ideas—a discussion of common problems—possibly a chance to observe the performance of an admired contemporary are real opportunities for advancement towards these goals. What better way can this be done than through the active chapter, the American Institute of Architects and especially here in Texas, through our own close knit Texas Society of Architects which is proclaimed as outstanding in the family of AIA Districts? Now we are assembled here as the elected officers and directors of this Society. It

is our responsibility and privilege to review the past and to plan for the future.

Several months ago, I wrote each Chapter President and Committee Chairman requesting suggestions of ways to improve the function and service of T.S.A. The response was most gratifying and clearly demonstrated a grass roots interest in a program of further advancement. Today, I will propose a number of their suggestions to you. Last month, I sent each Officer and Director a memorandum of the decisions that should be made during this Board Meeting. The interest you have shown has been inspiring. Since then, I have exchanged letters and memoranda with various officers on matters of considerable importance to the affairs of our Profession and Society. Also the Executive Committee has spent serious hours deliberating on the operation of this organization.

Our profession has matured and made great progress in the nation and in Texas during the past twenty-five or thirty years—but we live in a changing world and this only brings us to the responsibilities that are ours and the great opportunities that offer themselves to the profession and to this Board of T.S.A. Directors. To be certain that these opportunities and challenges are adequately met—I submit for your consideration that we, as a professional Society, strengthen our present worthwhile endeavors, eliminate those that are unworthy and consider a program of additional things for accomplishment. Obviously, this will take effort and a few years to achieve—but then we are basically planners. I propose that we program our endeavors on a three year basis and that each year we review our accomplishments and add another years projection. I suggest that we consider the following:

#### *Improved communications*

- Between AIA and Individual Members.
- Between AIA and individual Chapters.
- Between TSA and Chapters and Members.

#### *Self Examination*

- A periodic re-analysis of our services and remunerations.
- The broadening of our services—programming—consultation, etc.
- A vigilant watch on our professional posture.

#### *Public Relations*

- A good program for each chapter.
- Possibly committees of speakers—available to appear before various assemblies and to enlighten them on our profession.
- A close relationship with press, radio and T.V.—getting better acquainted.
- Keeping constantly in mind that public relations begin with the individual and that there is no better advertisement than a satisfied client.

#### *Discussion Groups—at the Chapter Level and the State level*

- The exchange of ideas.
- Seminars using our own people.

Talk out the beauty, the technology and the business of Architecture.

Papers prepared by individuals or teams—for Chapter meetings.

A selection of the best of these for TSA presentation.

A study—if you please of the complex Art that is ours.

*Investigation Groups—again at the Chapter and the State levels*

The advent of new methods and materials is snowballing.

We need a means of reporting, in a fair and professional manner, the records of good and bad experiences of our contemporaries with these circumstances—keeping in mind instances of misapplications and, of course, avoiding libel and slander.

*Research*

A closer tie with the AIA Research Committee.

A working arrangement with the Texas Experiment Station.

Official representation for TSA on the National Construction Council.

A method of reporting the findings of these bodies to each TSA member.

*Liaison with Fact Finding Groups*

Cooperation with the Committee for Economic Development—In all of its great studies for bettering the American Economy but especially in the work they are doing in Area Development. Possibly we can bring a study seminar to Texas on the subject of Area Development—A one or two day meeting under the joint sponsorship of CED and TSA—Our guests to be the City and County fathers—School Boards and other important people of our communities—Discuss an intelligent approach to Area Development in Texas—The leadership coming from Texas Architects. A more generous offer of our assistance to The Texas Research League—This great organization is doing a real service for our state in its numerous studies of Texas problems. I am certain that we can assist them in some of their efforts.

*Public Affairs*

We have made a start in this direction with the service of our members on the Architectural Advisory Committee to the State Building Commission—with the TSA financing of a slide show—with our meetings two years ago between the Governor, the Senate Finance and the House Appropriations Committees where we provided advice and a broad plan for land acquisition north of the Capitol for long range expansion of our State Agencies (to the year 2000)—I can say to you with reasonable certainty that the subsequent appropriation by the Legislature for this land would have been most unlikely had not TSA provided the know how and some money to study and present the story. The appreciation of the Governor was sincerely expressed when he publicly said that no other profession had made such a contribution of its talents to the State of Texas.

We are making other progress through our new Pub-

lic Affairs Committee whose purpose is to see that the best interest of our Society is served in Public Affairs. But then this activity is never ending—We must be certain that public officials are well informed on the services we perform, and the logical approach to selecting an architect. We must also see that accurate information is publicized on the quality and cost of our public buildings.

As you know, a three-man committee from TSA reported to the El Paso Convention and subsequently to the Governor regarding our recommendations for the programming and planning of public buildings which are accomplished with funds appropriated by the Legislature. This we must follow up.

*Education*

Here, I think lies one of TSA's great areas for potential service.

Advisory Committees of Practitioners for each of our schools.

Endowments for chairs of Architecture.

Scholarship for study and travel.

The Architect-in-Training Program—if we give it a real try and a real boost.

A TSA Committee to really study the proper approach to training our future Architects and their collaborators—Possibly they might find a key to the school of tomorrow—A way to train our consulting engineers so that they are oriented quite early toward buildings of good taste. Possibly a "School of Environmental Design."

Of course this list could be extended, but we can save that for another time. I will say, however, that with your concurrence we will endeavor to advance these objectives and others that you may suggest.

In closing I will quote in part from the report of President Eisenhower's Commission on National Goals which was made last December:

"Knowledge and innovation must be advanced on every front . . . We should be highly selective in our space objectives and unexcelled in their pursuit. Prestige arises from sound accomplishment, not from the merely spectacular . . . In the eyes of posterity, the success of the U.S. as a civilized society will be largely judged by the creative activities of its citizens in art, architecture, literature, music and the sciences . . . Our society must stimulate and support richer cultural fulfillment."

Please know that as your President I will make every effort to advance the fine traditions of our profession and this society, and that I welcome the opportunity to work with you in these efforts. I sincerely feel that together we can encourage the creative activities and cultural development with which we have been charged. Please also know that during this year I will endeavor to keep in mind the value of advice—the success of perseverance—the wisdom of economy—the influence of example—and the obligation of duty.

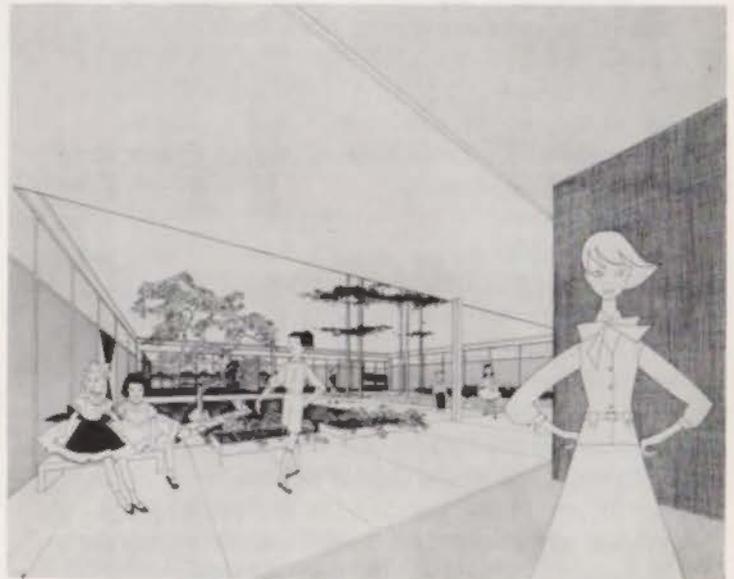
Faithfully yours,  
L. W. "Skeet" Pitts

# architecture of merit in the past ten years



LIBRARY BUILDING,  
EAST TEXAS STATE COLLEGE,  
COMMERCE, TEXAS  
ARCHITECTS:  
George L. Dahl,  
Dallas, Texas

The four projects on this and the adjoining page, and also our cover, are buildings constructed during the past ten years by Texas Architects. All are award winners selected from the buildings presented in the Texas Society of Architects "Architecture of Merit In The Past Ten Years" exhibition. In all, sixty projects are included in this series, nine buildings having received awards from the American Institute of Architects, and fifty-one from TSA. The *Texas Architect* has featured these award winning projects in previous issues, and will continue until all have been published.



THOMAS ANDREW WOODS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
TYLER, TEXAS  
ARCHITECTS:  
E. Davis Wilcox Associates  
Tyler, Texas

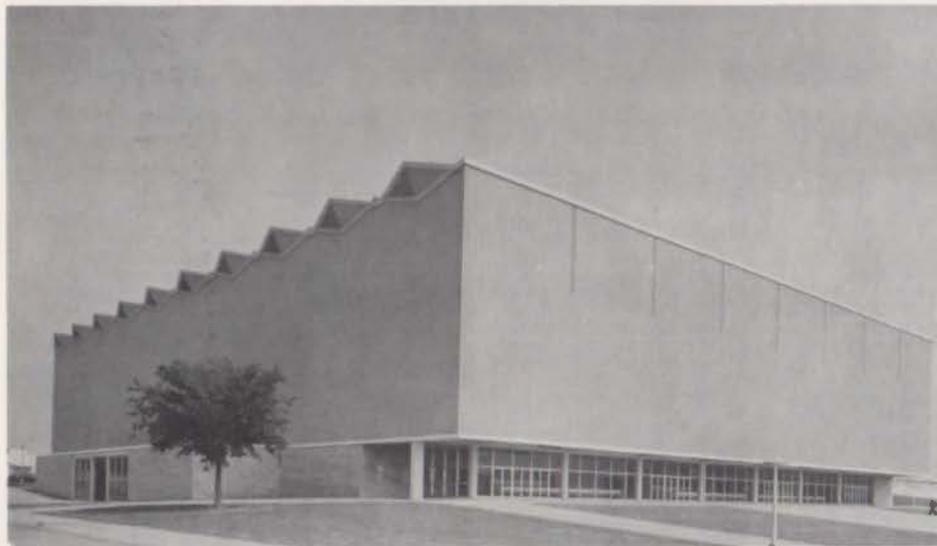


COUNTY NATIONAL BANK  
OF ORANGE

ORANGE, TEXAS

ARCHITECT:  
Ingram and Harris,  
Beaumont, Texas

architecture  
of merit



STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK COLISEUM  
FAIR PARK, DALLAS, TEXAS

ARCHITECTS:  
Harper & Kemp  
Dallas, Texas

# 1961 T. S. A. Org

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PANHANDLE	M. Howard Ensign	John S. Ward, Jr.	Clayton B. Shivers
SAN ANTONIO	Harvey V. Marmon	Harvey V. Marmon	Vernon Helmke
SOUTHEAST TEXAS	Harry W. Goleman	Douglas E. Steinman, Jr.	George L. Ingram
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LRGV	Julio Guerra	Gene Hobart	Zeb Rike
LUBBOCK	H. D. Pierce	Edward H. McMurty	Edward H. McMurty
NORTH TEXAS	Eugene M. Elam	Robert L. Wingle	Robert L. Wingle
NORTHEAST TEXAS	John E. Moore, Jr.	Louis B. Gohmert	Louis B. Gohmert
PANHANDLE	W. Henry Fowler	W. R. Kaufman, Jr.	Guy A. Carlander
SAN ANTONIO	C. C. Simmons	William Pounders	Paul Hesson
SOUTHEAST TEXAS	Mike Mebane	Douglas Steinman, Jr.	DeWayne TeVault
WEST TEXAS	Robert L. Peters	John Gary	Charlie Taylor

CHAPTER	PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS	PUBLIC RELATIONS	SCHOOLS & EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES
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ABILENE	John J. Luther	Richard Buzard	John J. Luther
BRAZOS	M. M. Rotsch	Richard Vrooman	Richard Vrooman
CENTRAL TEXAS	Eugene George	Don Legge	Charles Granger
COASTAL BEND	Joe Smyth	Victor Brock	Otis Johnson
DALLAS	J. Stuart Todd	Thomas D. Broad	E. G. Hamilton
EL PASO	Hugh English	Edwin W. Carroll	Carl J. Young
FORT WORTH	Alfonse Malin	Jack A. Schutts	Jay T. Dunlap
HOUSTON	Harvin C. Moore	M. Foy Martin	Vance Phenix
LRGV	Alan Taniguchi	Jim Hiester	Julio Guerra
LUBBOCK	H. D. Pierce	John S. Stuart	H. D. Pierce
NORTH TEXAS	Eugene M. Elam	Robert B. Pardue, Jr.	Eugene M. Elam
NORTHEAST TEXAS	John E. Moore, Jr.	Leland A. Guinn	John E. Moore, Jr.
PANHANDLE	James Rittenberry	Earl W. Parge	James E. Bailey
SAN ANTONIO	Richard Vander Straten	Douglas Lansing	Raymond Phelps, Jr.
SOUTHEAST TEXAS	King Ransom	Robert P. White	George L. Ingram
WEST TEXAS	Doyle Maddux	Harold J. Devlin	J. J. Black

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## A.I.A. Convention Program Announced

"Re-designing Urban America" is the theme of the 1961 annual convention of The American Institute of Architects which will be held in Philadelphia, April 24 to 28 and is expected to attract some 2,000 architects from all over the country.

Keynote speaker will be John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard economist and author of "The Affluent Society" and "The Liberal Hour." Mr. Galbraith will start the discussions on Tuesday, April 25, with an outline of the imperative economic need to revitalize our cities.

On Wednesday morning, April 26, Lewis Mumford and Bruno Zevi will discuss the aesthetic, cultural and sociological aspects of the city. Mumford, a philosopher and critic, is the author of many books on cultural and architectural subjects, including "Sticks and Stones" and "The Culture of the City." Zevi, architectural historian of the University of Rome, Italy, will come to Philadelphia specially for this occasion.

Edmund Bacon, chairman of the Philadelphia Planning Commission, will head a comprehensive presenta-

tion on "Re-designing Downtown Philadelphia." Joining him will be Willo von Moltke, Roy Larson, FAIA, Oskar Stonorov, FAIA, Vincent Kling, FAIA, Robert Geddes, and I. M. Pei. Each of these architects will demonstrate his extension of the design structure of the Philadelphia plan.

Planners, municipal officials, engineers, landscape architects and members of the other design professions concerned with urban design and redevelopment will be invited to attend the convention.

In addition to the professional program, the convention features a special concert by the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Eugene Ormandy, a number of special exhibits, and social events, and over 90 exhibitors of the Producers' Council.

As in other years there will be an awards luncheon in honor of the recipients of AIA's Honor Awards and Gold Medals; a President's Reception; and the traditional Investiture of Fellows of The American Institute of Architects.

### *Pan American Federation*

#### *Invited To United States*

The American Institute of Architects has invited the Pan American Federation of Architects to hold its XIth Congress in Washington, D. C. in 1965. The Pan American Congress will be held jointly with the AIA annual convention that year.

Philip Will, Jr., FAIA, President of AIA, personally delivered the invitation to the Xth Pan American Congress of Architects meeting October 6 to 17 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The invitation, as well as a letter of greeting from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, were enthusiastically received by the more than 900 architects from 13 Latin American countries.

"I know the architects of the United States value greatly their membership in this Federation," the President's letter said. "It is natural they should want to serve as hosts to its next Congress."

Samuel Inman Cooper, FAIA, of Atlanta, Georgia, head of the U. S. delegation to the Buenos Aires Congress, was elected president of the Pan American Federation of Architects of which AIA has been a member ever since its founding in 1920. Mr. Cooper, who is also the new chairman of the AIA International Relations Committee, has been attending Pan American architectural congresses regularly since 1947.

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# Horizon Homes

The Concrete Industries' Horizon Homes program—a national effort involving all segments of the concrete industry for promoting the design, construction and ownership of new homes—has just been announced.

The first home merchandising program of its kind introduced by the industry, Horizon Homes is being jointly sponsored by the National Concrete Masonry Association, the National Ready-Mixed Concrete Association and the Portland Cement Association. Cooperating organizations include the National Association of Home Builders and the American Institute of Architects.

According to the participating groups, the Horizon Homes program has been developed as part of an industry-wide move encouraging architects to express their creative talents in new design concepts which will result in more imaginative con-

struction and livability in merchant builder homes. At the same time, it enables the architect to gain national recognition by becoming identified with a major merchandising program.

Affiliation in the Horizon Homes program also makes it possible for the architect to adapt new textures, patterns and shapes of concrete into home design and site improvement.

Horizon Homes will make their debut in the fall of 1961 during the annual Parade of Homes observance of National Home Week—the country's biggest, single event furthering the cause of home building. The program will run continually thereafter.

A unique feature of the program is the formation of architect-builder teams which will permit the architect to work closely with prominent local builders in designing and executing Horizon Home models. In an effort

to bring these homes within the price range of the average family, none will cost more than \$20,000 exclusive of the lot.

A series of incentive awards have been established for architect and builder participants who have made the greatest contribution in terms of creativity, fresh approach and merchandising. On a national level, the winning architect, builder and their wives will receive a free trip to any place in the world. Seven regional runner-up prizes will also be given.

Public attention will be drawn to the Horizon Homes program through a variety of nationwide and local promotional activities.

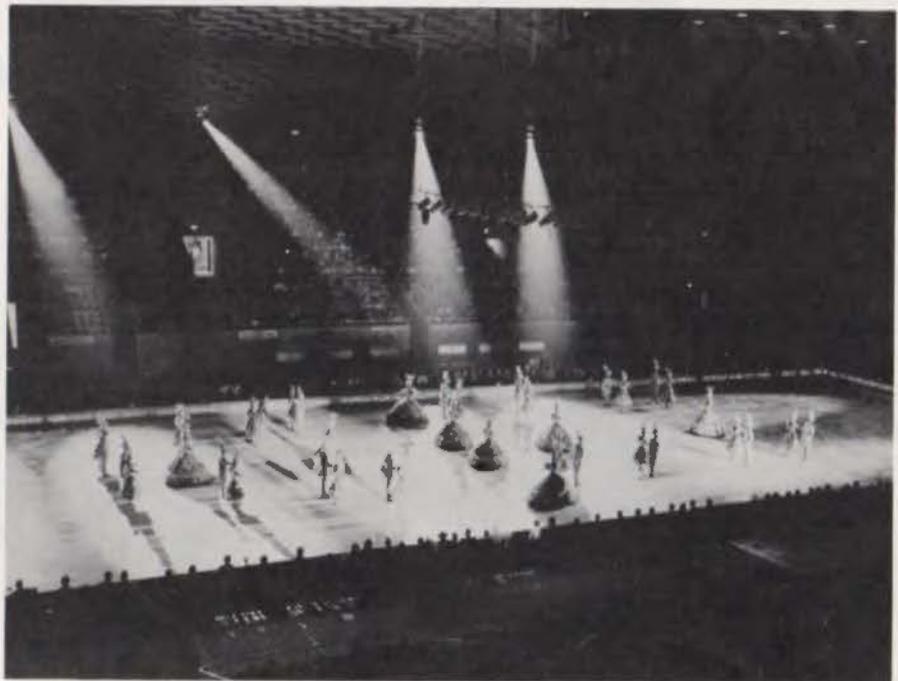
Architects wishing additional information on the program are requested to contact the Texas District Office of the Portland Cement Association, 110 East 8th Street, Austin 1, Texas.

## Kamrath Honored

Karl Kamrath, F.A.I.A., partner in the firm of MacKie and Kamrath, Houston architects, was presented the first annual Producers Council of Houston Distinguished Service Award for 1960 at the annual Christmas formal dinner and dance of the Houston Chapter of the Producers Council held at the Shamrock-Hilton Hotel.

The award was presented to architect Kamrath by Honorable Lewis Cutrer, Mayor of the City of Houston, in the presence of Oscar Toelke, 1960 president of the Houston Producers Council, and approximately 500 Producers Council and A.I.A. members and their ladies.

Mayor Cutrer cited Kamrath for his leadership as outgoing president of the Houston Chapter of the A.I.A., the architectural accomplishments of the MacKie and Kamrath firm, and as a leading citizen of Houston.



One of the largest multi-purpose public affairs facilities in the world is the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center at Louisville (Fred Elswick, Architect). Highlighting the many special occasions are ten Strong Electric Corp. Super Trouper Spotlights. Specification sheets and descriptive brochures on arc and incandescent follow spotlights may be requested from The Strong Electric Corp., 24 City Park Ave., Toledo 1, Ohio.

## F.D.R. Memorial Competition

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There will be a press preview of the winning design, the finalists and 22 Honorable Mentions of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Competition at the Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D. C. on Thursday, January 12, from 10 AM to 4:30 PM.

A composition of soaring tablets, bearing selected quotations of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's writings, designed by architects William F. Pedersen and Bradford S. Tilney of New York City in association with Joseph Wasserman and David Beer, won the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Competition, it was announced December 30th.

The selection was made by a professional jury headed by Pietro Belluschi, F.A.I.A., Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The

winning project emerged from six finalists his jury chose last September from among 574 entries from all parts of the country.

"The jury feels that the winning entry has met the basic requirements of the competition by giving a clear image of Mr. Roosevelt's greatness through carefully chosen excerpts from his writings over the period of his presidency. His humanity, his charity, and concern for all people emerge with great force," Mr. Belluschi stated.

Models of the prize winning project, the five other finalists, and twenty-two designs which received honorable mention will be exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D. C. from January 14 to February 19, 1961, Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 4.30 pm and Sundays from 2 pm to 5 pm.

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## Construction Outlook

The brightest spot on the economic horizon in 1961 will be construction, according to the annual outlook statement released today by F. W. Dodge Corporation. In fact, Dodge economists expect that construction contracts will show a slight increase next year, despite an expected mild dip in general business activity.

Most of the strength in 1961 is expected in contracts for heavy engineering construction, that is, public works and utilities. Heavy engineering contracts next year are forecast to total \$8.9 billion, a gain of 5 per cent over 1960. Highway construction, which accounts for about half of all heavy engineering construction, is expected to set the pace in this category, backed up by strength in utility construction as well.

Residential building contracts, by far the largest major construction category, are expected to be up about one per cent next year, totalling some \$15.3 billion. Residential floor area is also estimated to rise one per cent in the year ahead.

Total private and public non-farm housing starts in 1961 are estimated at 1,325,000, a gain of 2 per cent over the 1960 estimated level of 1,300,000 on the current Census Bureau basis of measurement.



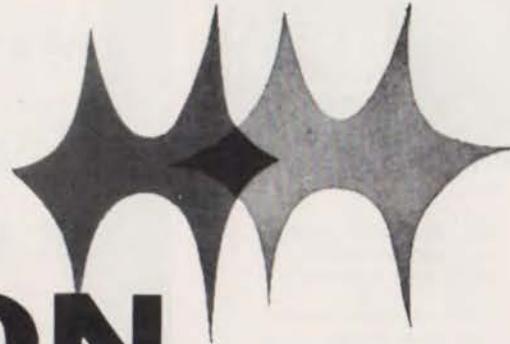
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**Gives builders** the chance to tie in current promotions with a major nationwide program developed expressly to help sell more homes.

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Every element carefully planned to give maximum support at the LOCAL LEVEL to LOCAL PARTICIPATION by LOCAL ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS.

**HOW ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS WILL BENEFIT...**

**Architects** will have opportunity to contribute important design direction and project elements and concepts

they believe should be incorporated into home design. They will work with the many new, exciting forms of concrete . . . a unique chance to achieve fresh, versatile approaches with the newest textures, patterns and shapes in concrete. They'll work with a progressive builder, benefit from strong local and national publicity, and have the opportunity to enter the Horizon Homes Competition offering major regional awards for design —plus a fabulous national design award.

**Builders** will receive free concrete masonry and ready-mixed concrete required for the construction of their model Horizon Homes. They will get complete sales and promotional materials, and be able to select and work closely with the most creative architectural talent in their areas. They'll qualify for entry in the Horizon Homes National Competition with a chance to win major regional awards plus a fabulous national award.

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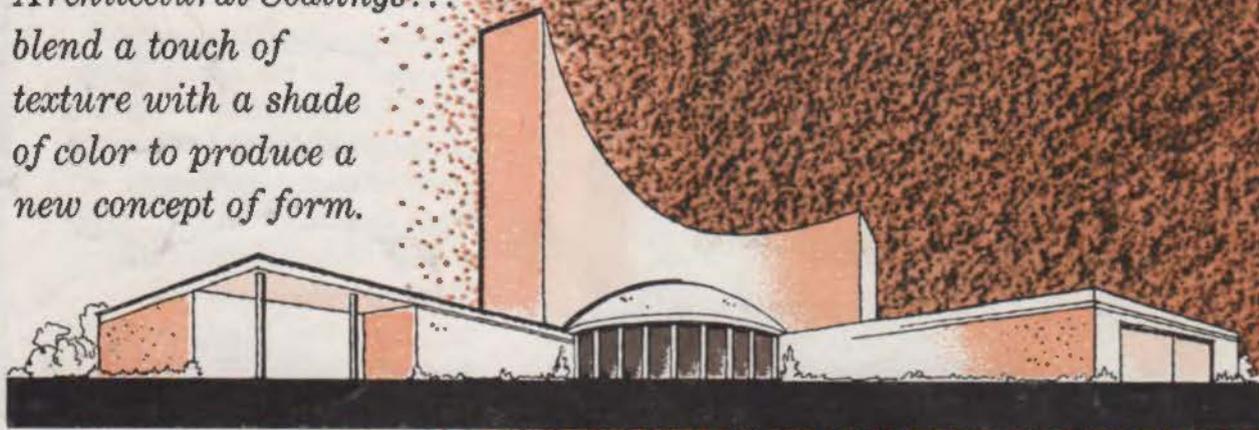
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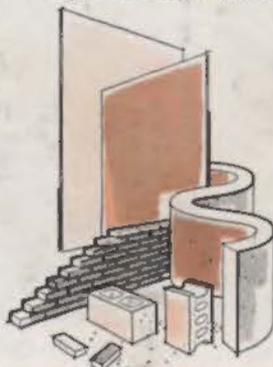
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