

 THE TEXAS
ARCHITECT

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THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Texas Regional Organization of
The American Institute of Architects

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THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

VOLUME 20 / DECEMBER, 1970 / NUMBER 12

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3 The **Braniff International Hostess College** is an extension of the airline's strong corporate identity. The Pierce, Lacey Partnership, Architects, utilized strong forms contrasted with intricate detailing to provide variety and interest in designing a home away from home for 140 girls.



8 Citizens in every city of the State of Texas are becoming increasingly concerned with the environment around them. Many are appalled at the misues & destruction of the air, water, land, sights, smells & sounds that they know and love. The **Austin Environmental Council** is one of many groups of citizens of all walks of life banding together to formulate realistic plans of action.



11 Seven Texas buildings have received awards for excellence in design in the **Austin '70' Design Awards** competition.

14 Mr. W. C. Smith, a prosperous Taylor land owner and cotton farmer constructed his modern home at the turn of the century, a time when Texans all across the state were building show houses like those in "Ladies Home Journal".



OOPS The **Texas Architect** featured the **Houston Post** new headquarters building and plant on pages 14-17 of the November 1970 issue. Inadvertently the name of the architects were not mentioned. Wilson, Morris, Crain and Anderson, AIA, of Houston were architects for the award winning project.



Texas Architect Advertisers:
P. 19 Texas Gas Utilities Co-op
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BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL HOSTESS COLLEGE

DALLAS

TEXAS



THE PIERCE, LACEY PARTNERSHIP
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

DALLAS

TEXAS

TEXAS ARCHITECTURE 1970—FIRST HONOR AWARD

ENGINEERS:
SPLAWN, MUNIR (STRUCTURAL)
GUERRERO AND McGUIRE (MECHANICAL)

LANDSCAPE:
H. DAN HEYN

INTERIORS:
THE PIERCE, LACEY PARTNERSHIP
AND CHUCK AX

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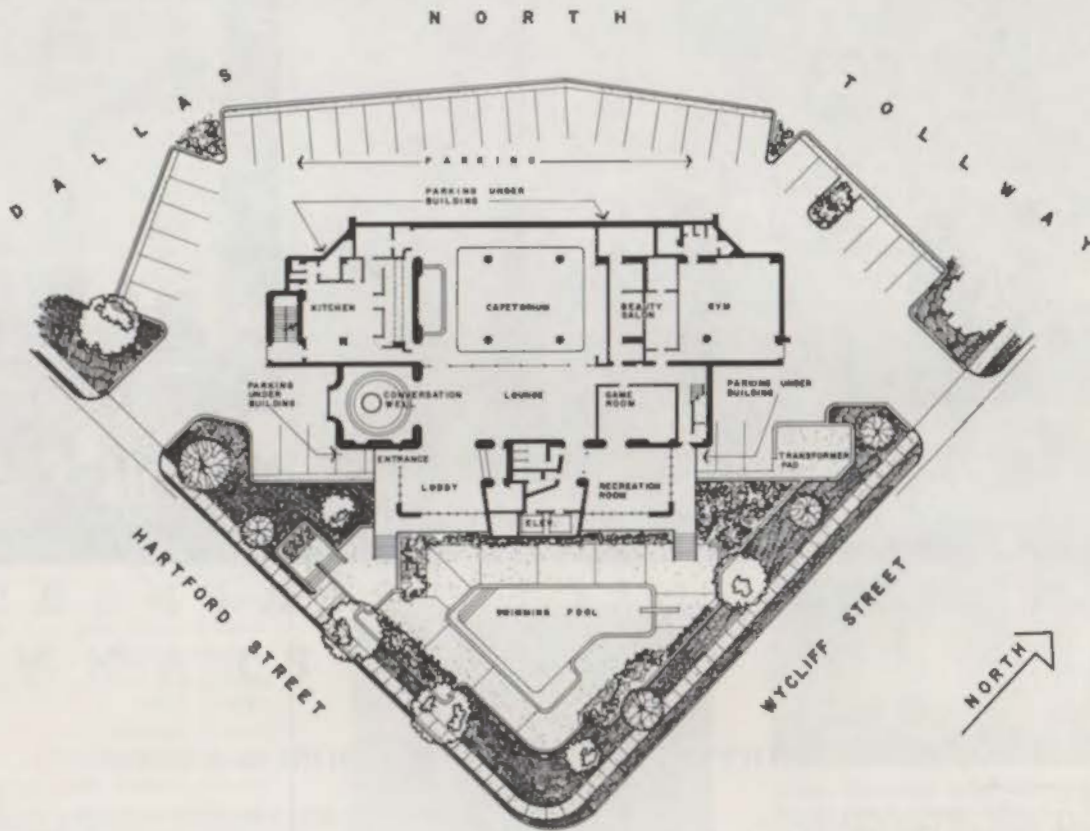
BRANIFF

The Braniff International Hostess College is an extension of the airline's strong corporate identity created by Mary Wells and Alexander Girard which extends through their aircraft terminal facilities and the dress of the hostesses themselves.

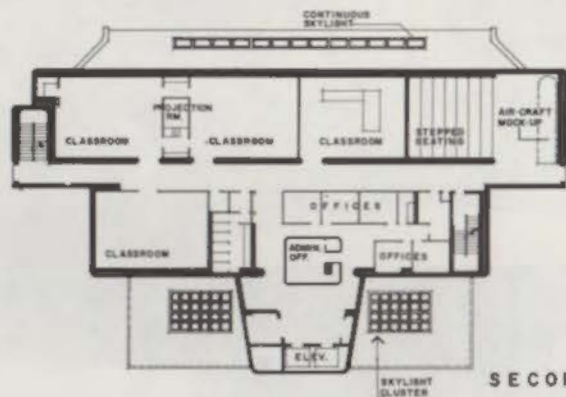
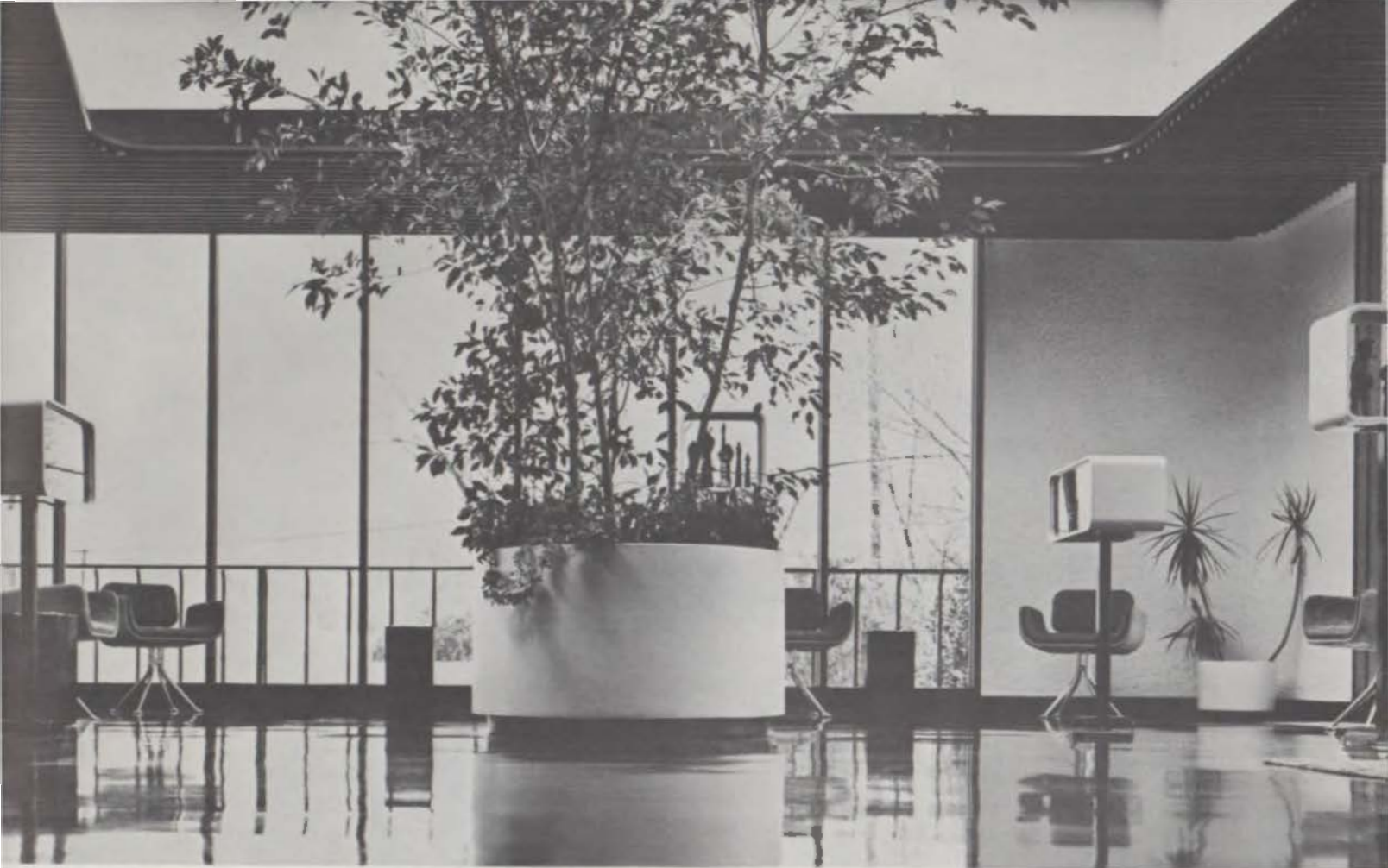
This seven story building on a very small urban site is a complete mini-community. It contains living and dining facilities; dormitory rooms for 140 girls, each room with its own individual character; training mock ups of aircraft; classrooms; a beauty salon and a gymnasium.

All of these requirements were brought together, balancing quality of construction and finish with initial cost and future maintenance costs.

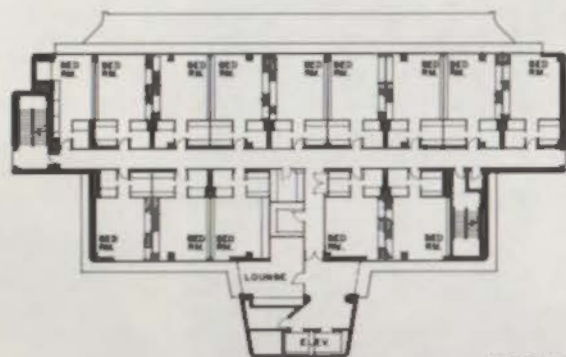
The interiors of the building were designed by Pierce, Lacey with Chuck Ax, consultant to Braniff. The original native art and artifacts used extensively in every area of the building were collected by Mr. Ax to represent all parts of Braniff's route system. This use of museum quality items made it possible to give each classroom, lounges and every girl's bedroom individuality and distinction.



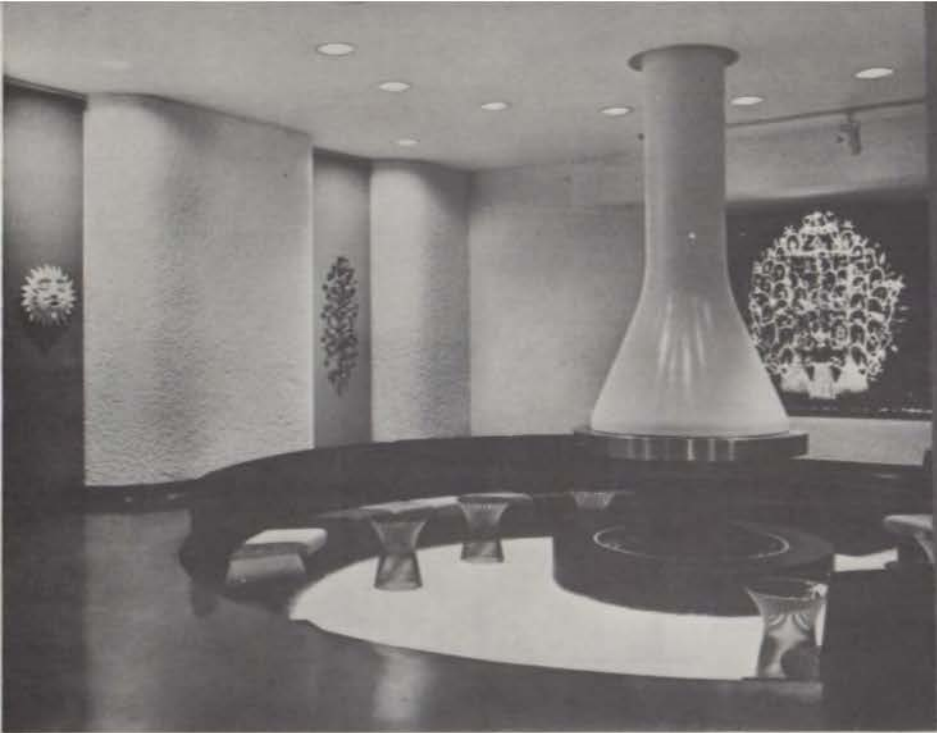
FIRST FLOOR - SITE PLAN

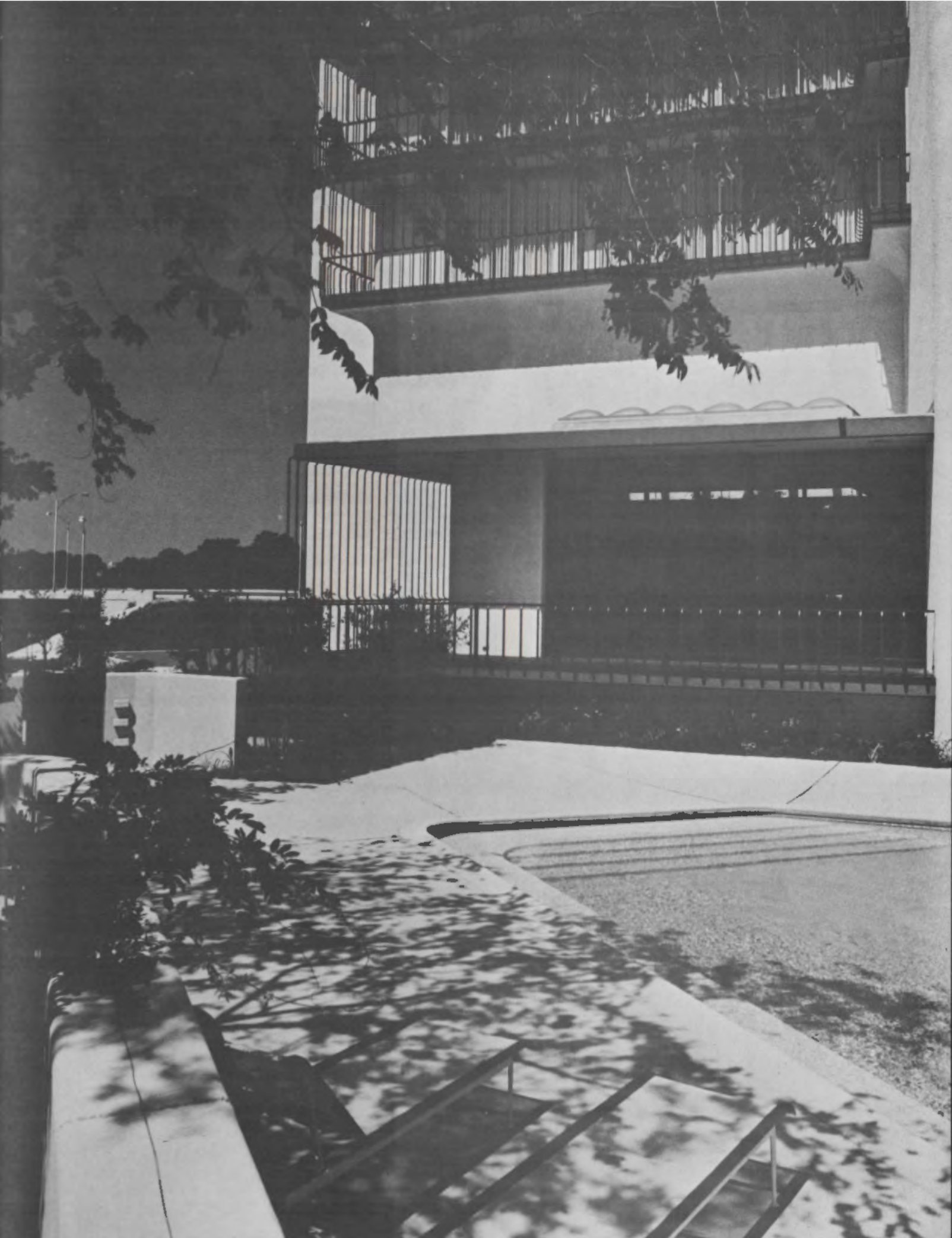


SECOND FLOOR PLAN



TYPICAL STUDENT LIVING
FLOORS 3, 4 and 5





AUSTIN

the austin environmental council
by MRS FAGAN DICKSON

In Austin today important environmental relationships are endangered. The Austin Environmental Council, made up of concerned Austin citizens, formed in response to a growing feeling of alarm that "The way things have always been done" is not good enough.

For instance, Austin's urban growth rate and population increase is beginning to threaten an already inadequate storm sewer and sewage treatment system. The recreational and health needs of a burgeoning population are making severe demands on our streams and reservoirs which are threatened, abused, and polluted. The Council had hoped to see a relationship between the Original City Plan, an orderly growth scheme reflecting surprising environmental cogence, and our city today. However, 1970 Austin is being penalized by land abuse and exploitation and by haphazard, development. Natural drainage patterns, reasonably used by those who are sensitive to Austin's topography, are largely ignored in preference to the swift "cut and fill" method.

Austin's gracious endowment of natural vegetation is daily ignored by myopic zoning codes which reserve no urban green space, a loss to all citizens, present and future, of our great Capitol City. We must all become sensitive to the environmental needs of land management and the interrelatedness of watershed management and a healthy water supply.

Architects can help preserve and conserve natural necessities vital to healthy lives. They can help to influence the land developers who seek practical advice. They can demonstrate the value of Cluster Planning which is economically feasible and use-

ful in preserving Austin's slopes and streams.

Developers should have the opportunity to see that everyone can gain both in profit and life quality when more sensitive land planning is employed.

Austin is still relatively small in size with much of its growth ahead. Austinites do not have to make the same grave mistakes evident in larger cities today. Our present course can be re-charted to avoid the obvious pitfalls if we properly assess our potential now.

The Purposes and Priorities of the Austin Environmental Council today are: to cause the civic decision-makers to realize their environmental responsibility; to try to prevent further despoilment of Austin's creeks and watershed areas; to designate these waterways as the Austin Environmental Corridors — The Planning Key; to design a city which will combine the natural and human potential in the fullest way that human wisdom can create.

Basic to our purposes are concepts and information from the finest minds available representing the widest variety of disciplines and backgrounds. We seek advice from the Honorable Charles Herring, State Senator from Austin, from Dean Alan Taniquchi, Dean of the UT School of Architecture, and from Dr. Earnest Gloyna, Dean of the UT School of Engineering. We rely on legal talent from Mr. Frank Booth, former Director of the Water Rights Commission of Texas; draw upon Mr. Marcus Yancey, Administrative Engineer for the Texas Highway Department and consult with Dr. Frank Blair, Director of the UT Brackenridge Field Laboratories.



Austin Topographical Structure



1905 View of Congress Ave.

Photos Courtesy:
Texas Highway Department





Governor Preston Smith is Honorary Chairman of Austin Environmental Council. Distinguished Honorary Trustees are Judge James W. McClendon, Mrs. Goodall Wooten, Mrs. Will Caswell, Mrs. J. Frank Dobie, and Mr. Walter Long. The Austin Environmental Council Trustees were chosen for their generosity and their lack of exploitive interests: Mr. Fred Adams, Sr., Mr. Richard Brown, Mr. Mike Butler, Mrs. Fagan Dickson, Mr. Russell Fish, Mr. Paul Keller, Sr., Mr. Robert Davis, Mr. and Mrs. John Kingsbery, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Leberman, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McBee, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. D. J. Sibley, and Mr. Julian Zimmerman.

The broad spectrum of citizen participation is indicated through associates or affiliates; The American Association of University Women (Austin Chapter), American Institute of Architects (Austin Chapter), The Austin Heritage Society, The Austin Womans Federation, Conservation Coordinates, Ecology Involvement, The First Unitarian Church, The Junior League of Austin, The League of Women Voters, The Natural Science Center, The Natural Science Guild, The Sierra Club, The Society of Professional Engineers (Travis Chapter), The Texas Landscape Architects and Park Planners, The Travis Audubon Society, The Travis County Medical Society, Westlake

Committee on Environmental Integrity, The Women's Architectural League, The Women of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Austin Area Garden Council, Austin Council of PTA's, Barton Hills PTA, Barton Hills Garden Club, Highland Park Gardeners, Men's Garden Club of Austin, Violet Crown Garden Club, Western Trails Garden Club, Wilshire Garden Club and Zilker Garden Club.

Much can be hoped for and accomplished now that the need is manifest. The challenge of crisis has presented ALL the task of creating "A better life in Austin—Now." The Austin Environmental Council has accepted this challenge in 1970. ■

AUSTIN '70' DESIGN AWARDS

Seven Texas buildings have received awards for excellence in design by the Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The buildings were selected in the biennial awards competition sponsored by the Austin Chapter as part of its continuing program to recognize Architects and honor the owners for their concern and sensitivity for outstanding design.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

austin

barnes, landes, goodman and
youngblood; pages, southerland,
page architects



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austin

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newman, architects;
brooks, barr, graeber and
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L. B. J. STATE PARK

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brooks, barr graeber and
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VINCENT MARIANI RESIDENCE

austin—westlake hills

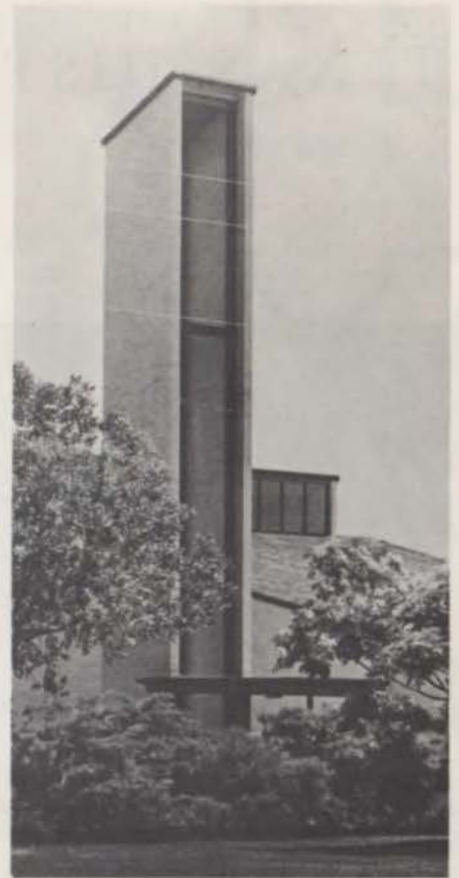
taniguchi, shefelman, vackar architects



**OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

wichita falls

o'connell and probst architects



MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING

austin

jessen, jessen, millhouse, greeven, crume,
day and newman architects

BRIARCLIFF GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

lake travis near austin

taniguchi, shefelman, vackar architects



DECEMBER, 1970

THE W.C. SMITH HOUSE

TAYLOR, TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE

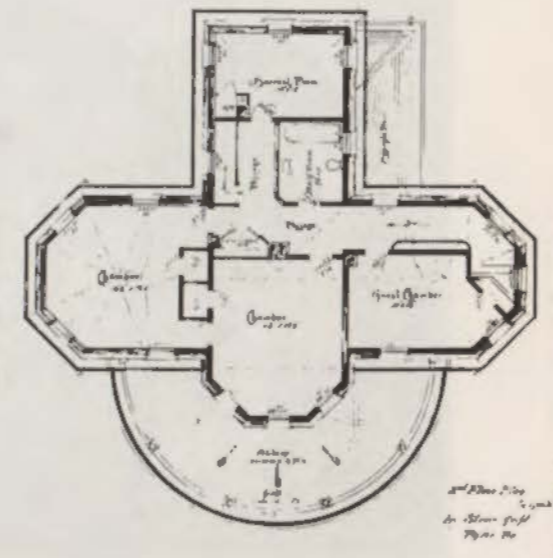
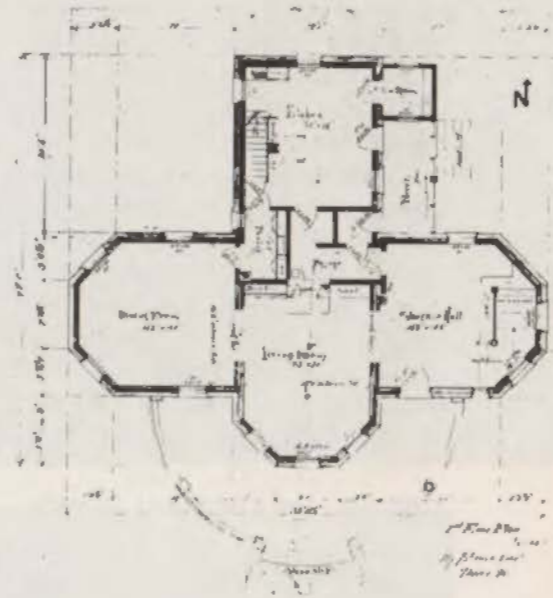
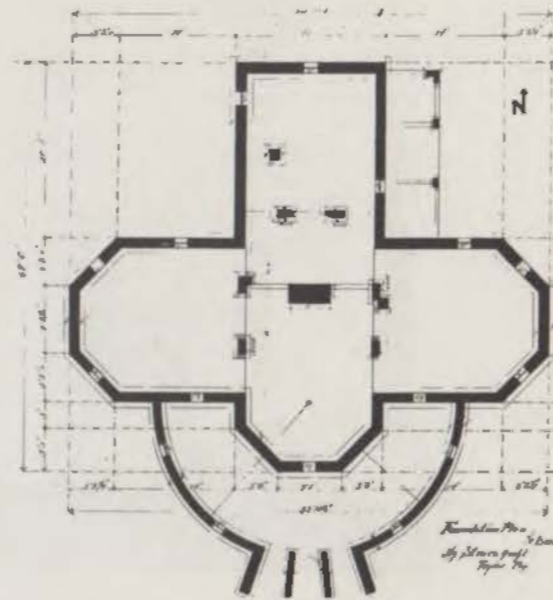
excerpts: from an essay by Carleton Parker, University of Texas



Mr. W. C. Smith was a prosperous land owner and cotton farmer in Taylor at the turn of the century and was the builder and owner of the home until his death shortly after World War II. The site Mr. Smith chose for the house was a mile northwest of town on a forty acre tract of cotton land.

Encountering the home from the south, one is struck by the dominating form of the Classical Revival two story porch, reminiscent of Southern plantation houses. The basic style of the house is a very restrained Victorian design with several additional elements that make it a "hodge-podge" of various styles. Examples of these are the Victoriantesque finials on each of the polygonal roof structures, the curious (almost hidden) little roof dormer on the front roof and the Richardson-influenced limestone lintels and sills. Upon closer observation, the size and shape of the south facade seem to be out of proportion to the commanding porch. However, like many aspects of the house, this juxtaposition is curiously pleasing and has been carried out in a manner in keeping with the restrained manner of the overall plan. The other elevations (east, north and west) are quite plain when compared with the south elevation.

Moving to the plan, it is immediately apparent that the house is laid out in a very simple, almost symmetrical Latin cross. The dining room-living room-entry hall axis, almost nine feet longer than the living room-kitchen axis, is quite open and yet the three front rooms are definitely separate. This is due, in part, to the thrust of the central fire place core and to the verticality of each room created by the twelve foot ceilings. On examination, the plan is reminiscent





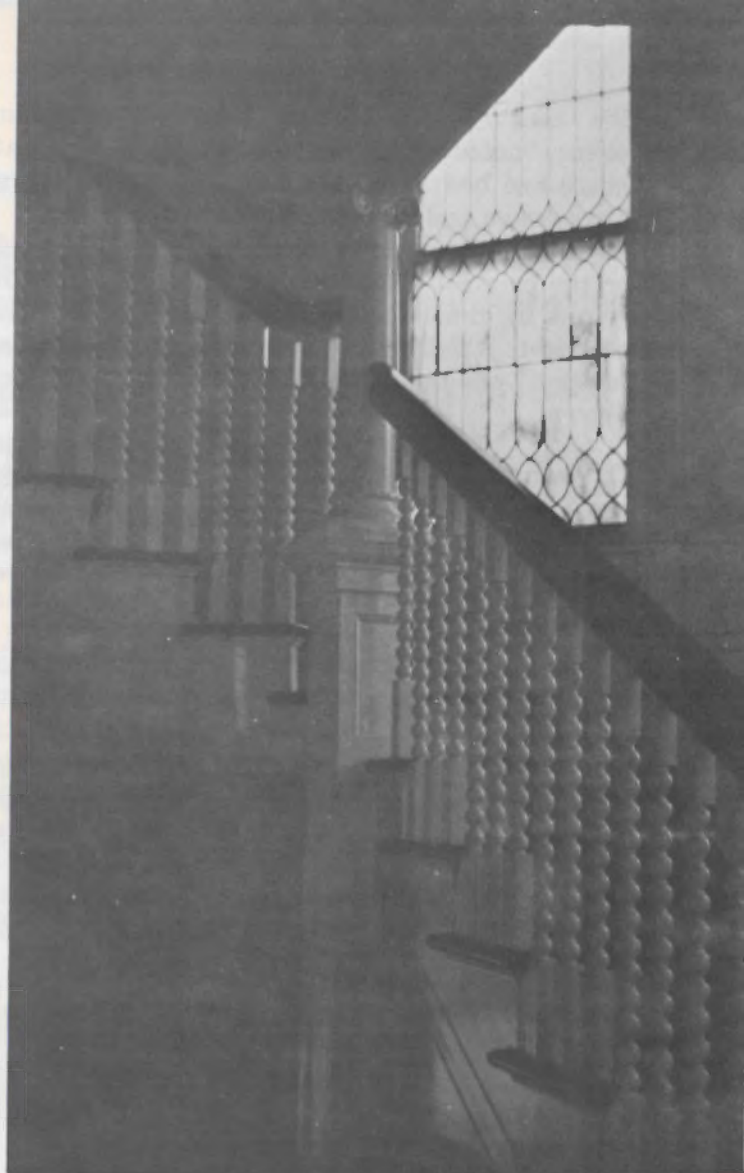
of some of Wright's from the 1895-1901 period. The rather small fireplace is at the center of the cross (in the true wrightian Manner) and is abutted by the butler's pantry, kitchen hallway and finally, the kitchen itself. Here, the resemblance to Wright ends but the possibility of a Wrightian influence is not remote as many of his house plans were published in such magazines as *Ladies Home Journal* during this period.

Upstairs, the treatment is very

plain. The three chambers on the south side of the second floor are almost identical in size to the rooms below them except for the guest chamber which is two-thirds the size of the entry hall. Over the kitchen is the passage to the only bathroom and to the servants' quarters.

Details of the origin of the design of the Smith house are sketchy. The architect whose name appears on the plan, Henry Struve, was a German builder in Taylor at the turn of





the century. Mr. Struve, it seems, noted that the same house had been built in another Texas town and he obtained the plans from its designer. Whether the original plans were conceived by this other, unknown architect, is not certain and the location of the house is not known.

Of changes to the structure by the Smith family, the following were made:

1. The original carriage house, located approximately 50 feet northwest of the kitchen wing, was razed in 1918 and a garage built adjacent to the west side of the kitchen wing.
2. The front porch was enclosed at the first floor level with multilighted panels in 1925. At this time the south windows of each chamber were converted to French doors that opened onto the second floor porch.
3. The second story was enclosed in 1928 in the same manner as the first floor.
4. In 1954, the back stairway was removed and an elevator was installed.

In 1969 Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Ray of Dallas bought the Smith house and began renovation and modernization. The following changes were made by the Rays:

1. The south porch enclosures were removed and the dividing first floor porch ceiling was removed, leaving a clear two story porch. Fluted Ionic columns from an Austin house were added as was a new band of fretwork around the fascia of the porch roof.

2. Three small balconies were added at each French door on the south chambers.
3. The old attached garage structure was torn down and a modern den was added in its place. The original one-story columns from the front porch were placed on the west porch of this den and part of the old balustrade from the front porch roof was used here as well.

The Smith house is rather difficult to place in the mainstream of architectural history as it relates to national and international stylistic trends. In Vienna, Wagner was completing his Postal Savings Bank, Gaudi was supervising construction of the Casa Mila in Barcelona and Macintosh had completed the interior of the Cranston Tearoom (Sauchiehall Street) in Glasgow the year before. The two Frenchmen, Perret and Tony Garnier were striking out for new horizons in the design and use of concrete.

Probably the closest the Smith house comes to being influenced by a major architect of the period is its similarity to some of Wright's designs from 1895-1901. Tempting as it may be to align the Smith house with Wright's turn of the century designs, it is far more-likely that the plan was derived from sources such as The Co-operative Building Plan Association.

In summary, the Smith house can be said to represent the trend in large homes of the period in Texas. Its size, shape and ornamentation is in keeping with those houses built around 1900 but the restraint shown in its plan's symmetry is somewhat apart from the vein of Southwestern architecture of the period. ■



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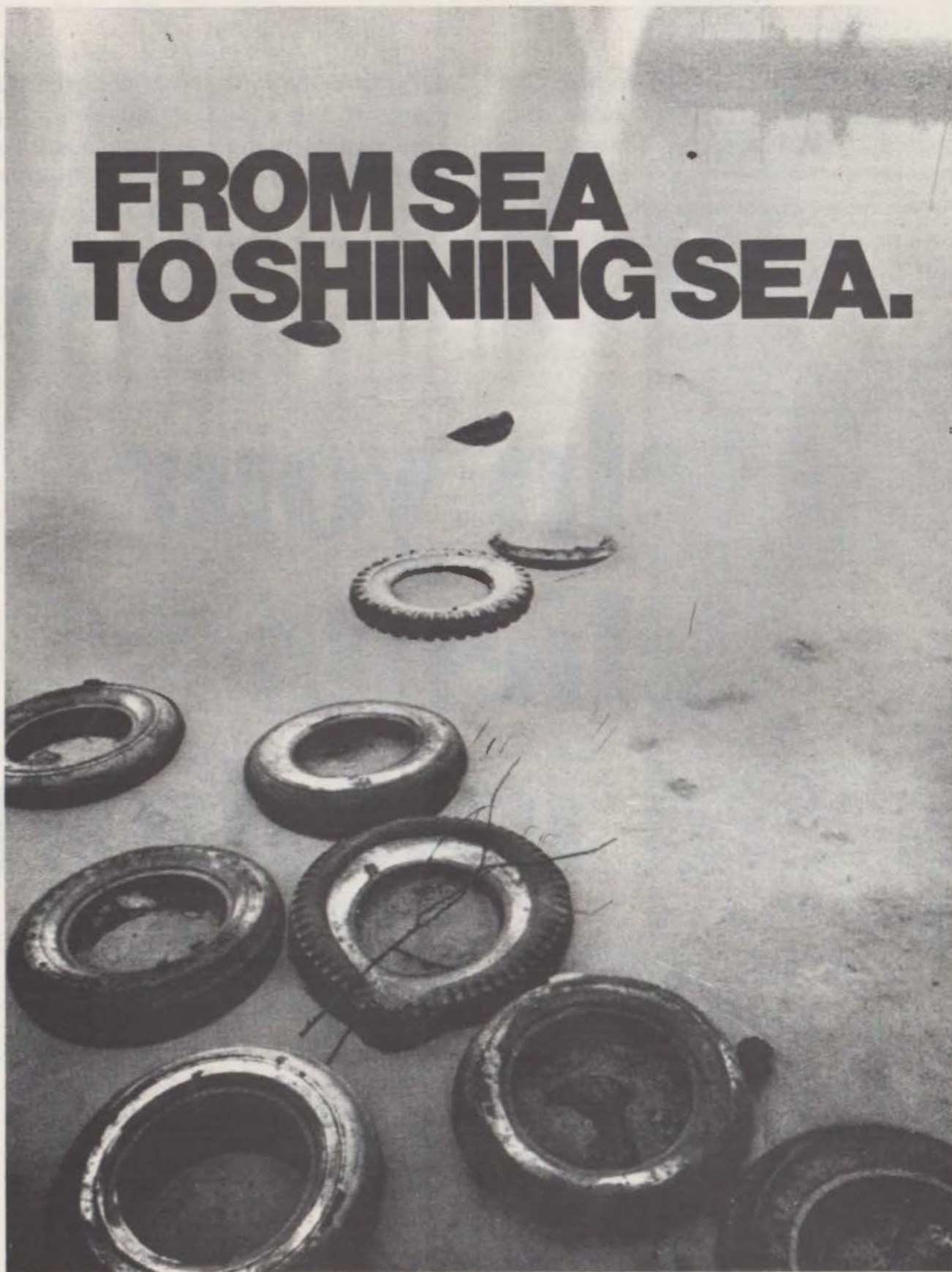


dollars over the period of his mortgage. Gas energy is also a valuable inflation-fighter in hotels, motels and office buildings. When you recommend gas because of its economy and dependability, you do your clients a favor. And that's good business.



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Who dumps old tires into our bays?

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Who pours sewage into our rivers?

Who throws all those beer cans overboard?

Who's going to unpollute it all?

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1. Don't use colored facial tissues, paper towels, or toilet paper. The paper dissolves properly in water, but the dye lingers on.

2. If you accumulate coat hangars, don't junk them; return them to the cleaner. Boycott a cleaner who won't accept them.

3. Don't buy non-returnable containers. Hold aluminum-can purchases to a minimum.

4. If you smoke filter-tip cigarettes, don't flush them down the john. They'll ruin your plumbing and clog up pumps at the sewage treatment plant. They're practically indestructible. Put them in the garbage.

5. Stop littering. Now. If you see a litterer, object very politely ("Excuse me, sir, I think you dropped something").

6. If you're a home gardener, make sure fertilizer is worked deep into the soil - don't hose it off into the water system. Phosphates (a key ingredient) cause lake and river algae to proliferate wildly.

7. When you see a junked car, report it to your local Sanitation Department. If they don't care, scream till someone does.

8. Burning leaves or garbage is already illegal in many towns. Don't do it. Dispose of it some other way.

9. There's only so much water. Don't leave it running. If it has to be recycled too fast, treatment plants can't purify it properly.

10. Measure detergents carefully. If you follow manufacturer's instructions, you'll help cut a third of all detergent water pollution.

11. Help get antipollution ideas into kids' heads. If you're a teacher, a Scout leader, a camp counselor, a summer playground assistant; teach children about litter, conservation, noise . . . about being considerate, which is what it all comes down to.

12. When you shop, take a reusable tote with you as Europeans do - and don't accept excess packaging and paper bags.

13. Care. Who will, if we don't.

The crisis isn't in our cities;

The crisis is in our hearts.

With a change of heart, we can change the picture.

from *New Jersey Architect*

**RICE UNIVERSITY
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DENNIS JOHN KILPER: from Skidmore Owings Merrill, Chicago, where he was senior architect. He had previously worked as a planner with Samuel Darick on land clearance for the Development Authority, University City, Missouri, and with The Architects Co-Partnership, London. Mr. Kilper received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Washington University in 1965, and was awarded final honors from the School of Agriculture.

WINTON FORREST SCOTT, JR.: has been associated with Louis Kahn and the late Eero Saarinen. He served as visiting critic in architectural design at Yale University in 1968. Mr. Scott is a graduate of the University of Texas, where he received his Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1960. He is a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Tau Sigma Delta, and was presented the Tile Council of America Award for Scholastic Excellence and the AIA's Henry Adams Award for excellence in the study of architecture.

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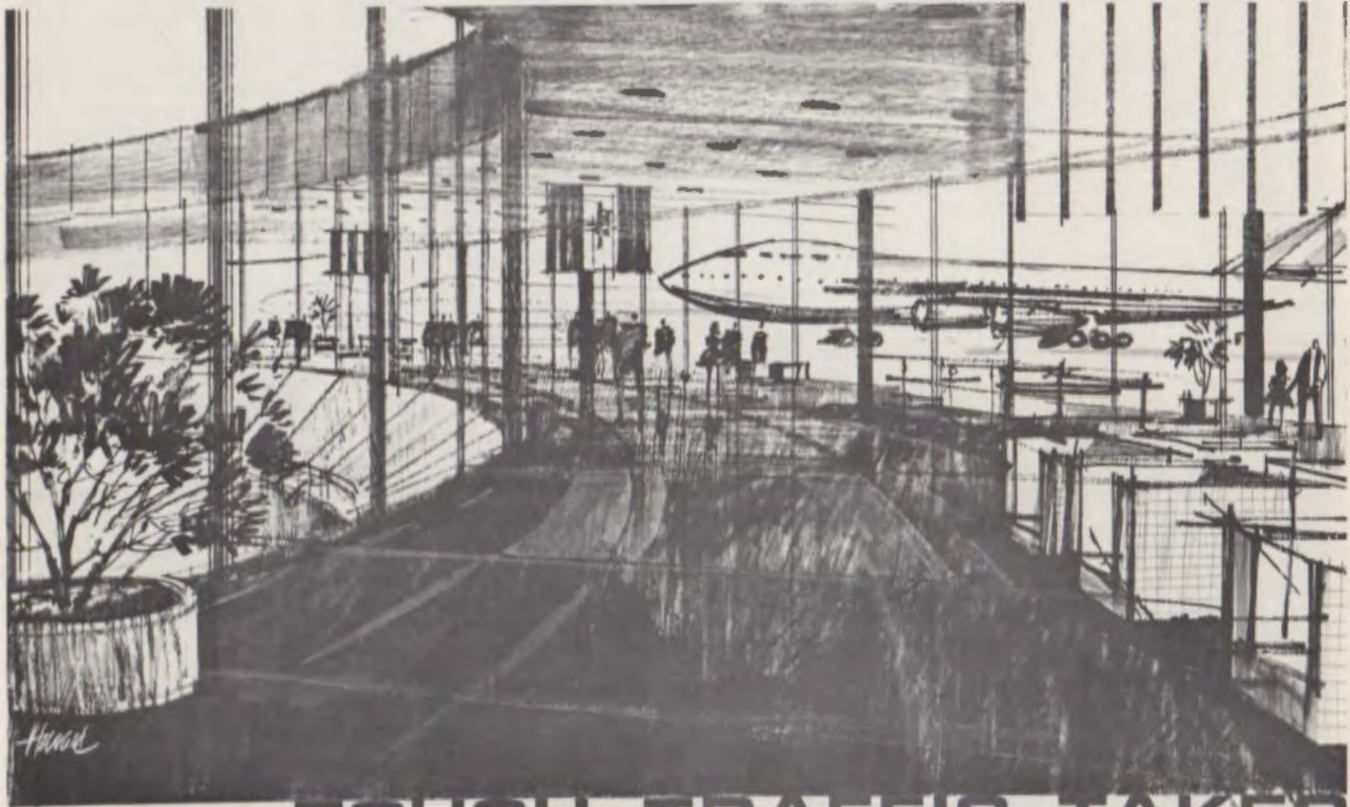
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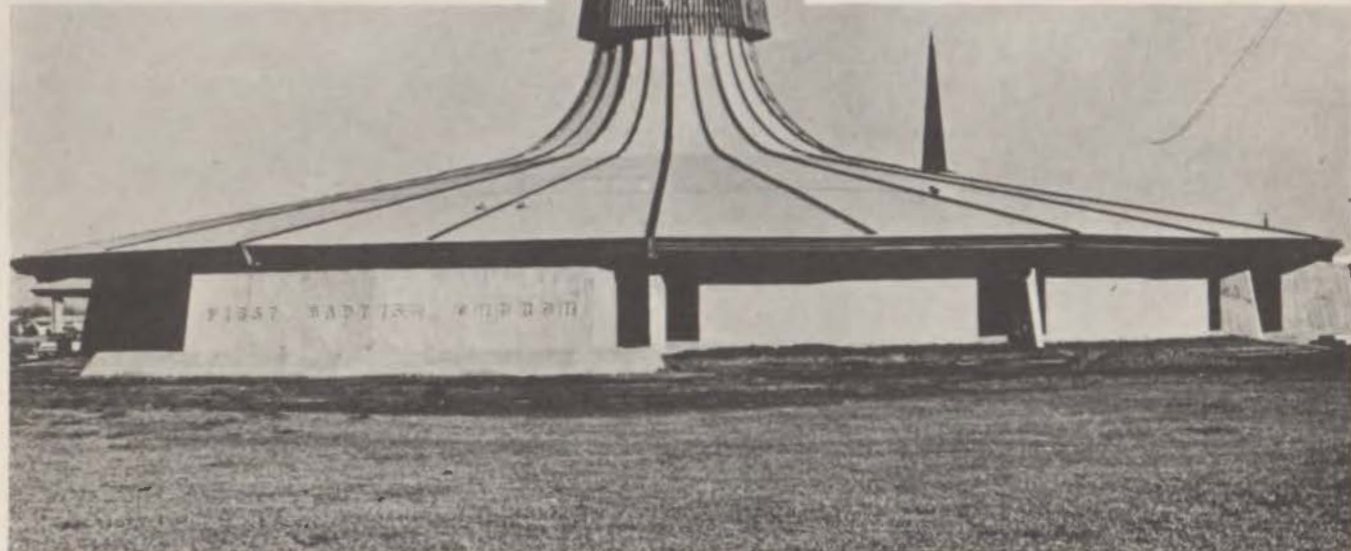
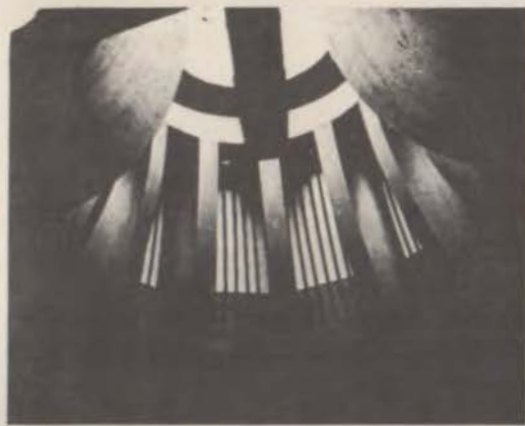
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