

1955

JULY

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

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- ◆ Air-Conditioned Village
- ◆ Four TSA Members Named FAIA
- ◆ Edward L. Wilson Elected Secretary AIA

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Official Publication of
THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
 The Texas Regional District Organization of
 The American Institute of Architects
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 16—Summer meeting, Executive Board, TSA, Commodore Perry Hotel, Austin.

November 2-4—16th annual convention, TSA, Shamrock Hotel, Houston.

This Month

An editorial and series of articles examine the Air-Conditioned Village at Austin and ACV research findings to date.

At Minneapolis, TSA is honored by the selection of four of its members as Fellows of the AIA, and by the election of Edward L. Wilson, TSA-AIA of Fort Worth as AIA secretary.

Howard R. Barr, TSA-AIA, has been named to the State Board of Plumbing Examiners.

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By
Grayson Gill
 TSA-AIA
 President,
 Texas Society
 of Architects



There are some practicing architects in the State of Texas who are not members of the American Institute of Architects and who, therefore, cannot participate in the activities of the Institute's regional organization, the Texas Society of Architects, and its local chapters.

In the April, 1952, issue of THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS was published an informal talk by Edwin Botemen Morris, entitled, "Why the American Institute of Architects?" Mr. Morris' remarks were addressed to the architectural students of the University of Florida, who were concerned as to the direction and intent of the Institute. In his talk, Mr. Morris listed the qualifications essential for an architect: "from the head—diligence, perseverance, an understanding of aesthetics, and an understanding of the practical things of construction; and from the heart—inspiration." These attributes can be best attained through membership in a professional organization.

The attainment of the objectives of the American Institute of Architects is fostered by annual meetings at the national and regional level and by monthly meetings at the local chapter level. At these meetings, and in other professional activities, TSA-AIA members have primarily in mind the following AIA objectives: (1) to promote the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession; (2) to advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training and practice; (3) to co-ordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture; (4) to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through their improved environment; and (5) to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society."

Continued on Page 15

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Why Hire An Architect?

One of the very noticeable trends in the past 10 years has been the tremendous increase in the number of commercial buildings — small, medium, and large — which are built with the full use of the architect's professional skill and experience.

Below are excerpts from a letter written by a Texas client to his architect. We think it tells a lot about why such an overwhelming percentage of commercial buildings of all sizes, varieties and uses are being constructed from first preliminary schematic drawings to final inspection with full architectural services:

"Prior to the actual planning of our new building we had been thinking for ten to fifteen years in terms of constructing a building which would be designed for more efficient operation. During that period we considered designing and constructing the building without the assistance of an architect or general contractor, thinking that we might be able to save a good deal of money.

"When we finally realized that the time was at hand for us to make a decision regarding the construction of a building for ourselves, we felt that the project would be too large for us to undertake without the assistance of people with the proper "know how." Still there was the question of whether or not an architect should be employed. As one problem came right on top of another, we finally decided it would be necessary to employ the services of an architect. We naturally sought out the man we felt was best qualified to do a good job for us.

"As you know, we went through about two years of planning in which your firm helped us immeasurably in getting our own ideas down on a practical, workable basis. You brought out a number of thoughts which were extremely important and of which we had very little knowledge.

"After this period of planning, we were satisfied that the plan itself was the best for our individual business that could be developed and as you know, there were very few changes made during the time of construction.

"You will remember that I asked you how much of my time would be required during the period of construction and you replied that after the contract was let that I could forget about it until the building was finished. I did just exactly that, and did so with confidence, feeling that the plan would be carried out and that my participation during the period of construction would slow the thing down and accomplish nothing.

"Your supervision of the work as it progressed was worth your entire fee in our opinion. We believe that this phase of your work alone was one of the most important factors in the construction of a sound building.

"After this experience, I realize that our thinking that we might do the job without the services of an architect was nothing but wistful thinking. And I am convinced that if we had proceeded along those lines this building would not be the sound investment which we believe it to be."

Air Conditioned Village

Several articles in the current issue discuss Air-Conditioned Village, the unique project in Austin which was set up by the National Association of Home Builders and cooperating agencies, groups and individuals, for research in the applicability of air-conditioning to the low- or medium-priced home.

Final research findings are still being studied, but it is already apparent that ACV has served an extremely important purpose, while proving that air-conditioning is practical on a basis of installation and operating costs. Just as important, there are clear indications that those living in air-conditioned homes lead healthier, more comfortable, and more productive lives.

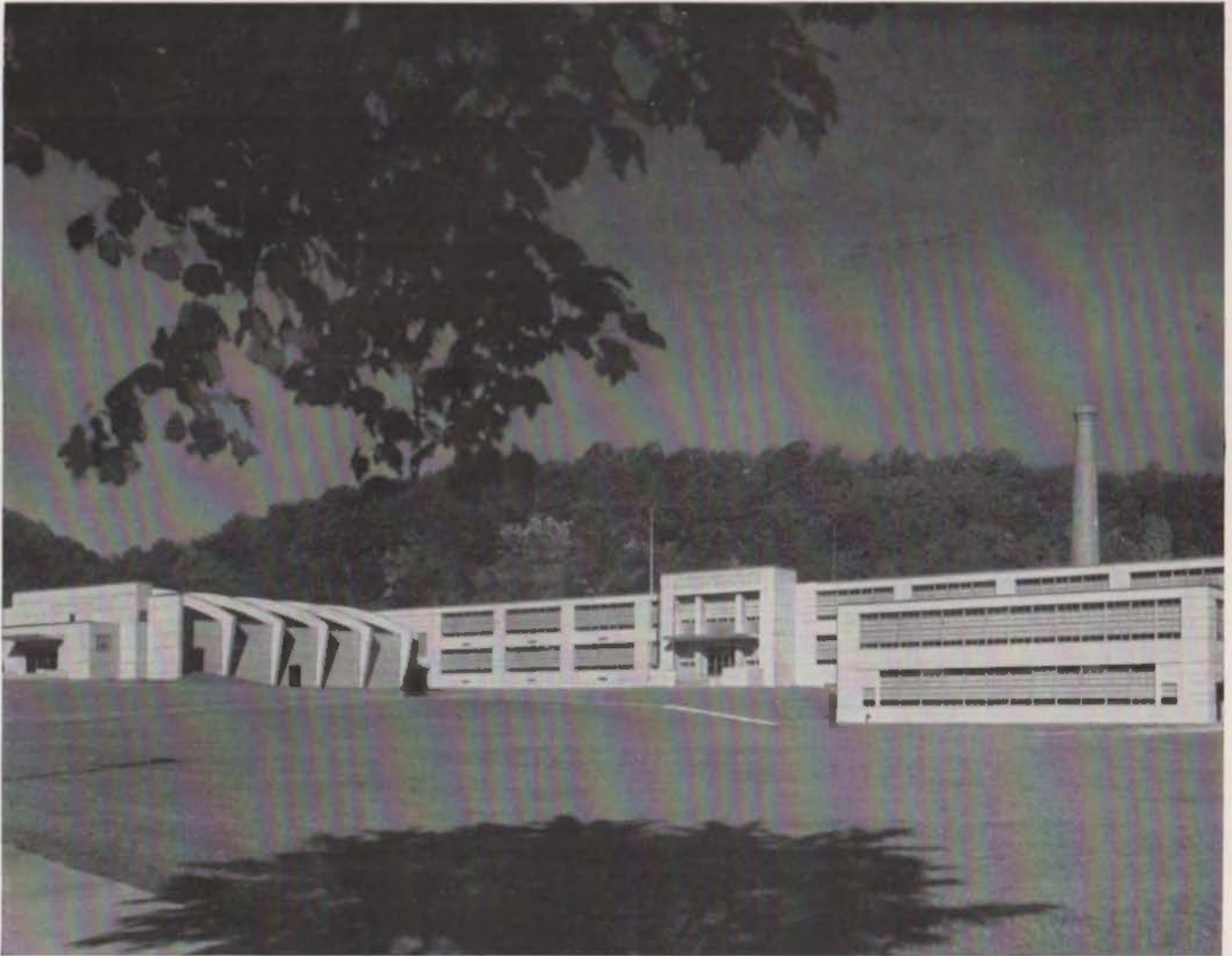
We congratulate all who were connected with this worthwhile project, now being examined across the U.S. and even abroad by specialists in many fields. TSA members, who also participated in ACV, will be among those watching for the release of final reports on this project, which can be of vital importance in architectural design.

Four New Fellows, AIA

The TEXAS ARCHITECT salutes four members of TSA-AIA who were signally honored at the recent AIA convention in Minneapolis by selection as Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.

These men, named because of their professional competence, are Donald Barthelme, Karl Kamrath, and Talbott Wilson of Houston, and Professor Ernest Langford of College Station, head of the Department of Architecture at Texas A & M.

Fellowship in the AIA is recognized as one of the highest honors in the architectural profession. The election of four additional members of TSA to this select group pays tribute both to their own ability and to the state in which they practice.



Outstanding school built at "astonishingly low cost" with *Architectural Concrete*

The beautiful Theodore Roosevelt High School in Williamsport, Pa. is considered by many to be the best school building built in the entire area since January 1, 1946.

In commenting on the interest in this school, architect D. H. Grootenboer, A.I.A., said:

"While I take deep satisfaction in the great interest and many favorable comments about one of my buildings, I must point out that architectural concrete made it possible for me to design a modern, completely fire-resistive building at the astonishingly low cost of \$0.763 per cu. ft. when fire-resistive buildings of other construction were costing from 10 to 40 cents more per cu. ft."

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Air-Conditioned Village Yields Key Research Data

The world's first completely air-conditioned residential project, Air-Conditioned Village in Austin, a private industry research project to determine the effect of manufactured weather on the budget, health and home life of American families, has been attracting world-wide attention in many fields.

The research village, located in the northwestern suburbs of Austin, consists of 22 new homes of varying design and structure, each equipped with a different type of year-round air conditioning and heating system. It was begun in the early summer of 1954, but final information on extensive research in the homes is due soon.

The homes were studied by research scientists for an entire year, under actual living conditions, in an effort to find the answers to the many technical, medical and psychological problems involved in the use of controlled weather in medium and low-priced housing.

Sold Under Special Agreements

Twenty-two selected families moved into the village in the summer of 1954. The homes were sold at prices starting as low as \$12,000, plus land costs, under special agreements providing for the cooperation of each family.

The unique experiment was sponsored by the Research Institute of the National Association of Home Builders, in cooperation with more than 50 other organizations and companies, including the Air-Conditioning and Refrigerating Institute, and the National Warm Air Heating and Air-Conditioning Association. Austin was picked as the site for this project because of the heat and cold experienced there.

Important Data Produced

The research project has produced important data on the cost and operating efficiency of home air conditioning that will help to make this extra comfort available to the great mass market of home buyers in the middle- and low-income brackets.

The research homes, each containing about 1200 square feet of living space, were built by 22 members of the Austin Home Builders Association. Many of them were designed by architects who are TSA members. All are modern, single-level houses with three bedrooms, two or 1 1/2 baths, and two-



An aerial view of "Air-Conditioned Village" in Austin, before completion of final detail work and landscaping on 22 homes. The unique project has attracted international attention, and important research facts in many fields are emerging from "ACV" studies. (Aerial photo by Mears Photography, Austin).

car garages or carports. All have been completely landscaped.

Masonry, wood and combinations of both were used in construction of the village, and a wide range of design and architectural detail was employed to provide as much data as possible for the research investigators.

Electronic Instruments Used

A number of the new homes have built-in electronic instruments to keep an hour-by-hour record of temperature changes within the houses during the experimental period. Careful records were also kept on the effect of conditioned air on materials and fabrics. Special mobile laboratories mounted on trailer-trucks made periodic tours of the village to test homes not equipped with electronic devices.

In addition, medical technicians and psychologists made a continuing study of the physical health and mental attitudes of the families living in the research village. One important question on which it is believed significant data was obtained concerns whether filtered air at controlled temperatures reduces the frequency of colds and relieves hay fever sufferers and victims of other allergies.

The research teams studied in great detail of question how much it costs to operate a year-round air conditioning system, and what effect various building materials have.

Among areas studied were the heat gain-and-loss factors of different colored paints used on the outside of an

air conditioned home, what colors and textures provide the best roofing surface, and the effect of shading devices such as awnings and curtains.

The Federal Housing Administration and the Veterans Administration are carefully studying the project results in order to obtain accurate cost data on air-conditioned homes.

Participating Organizations

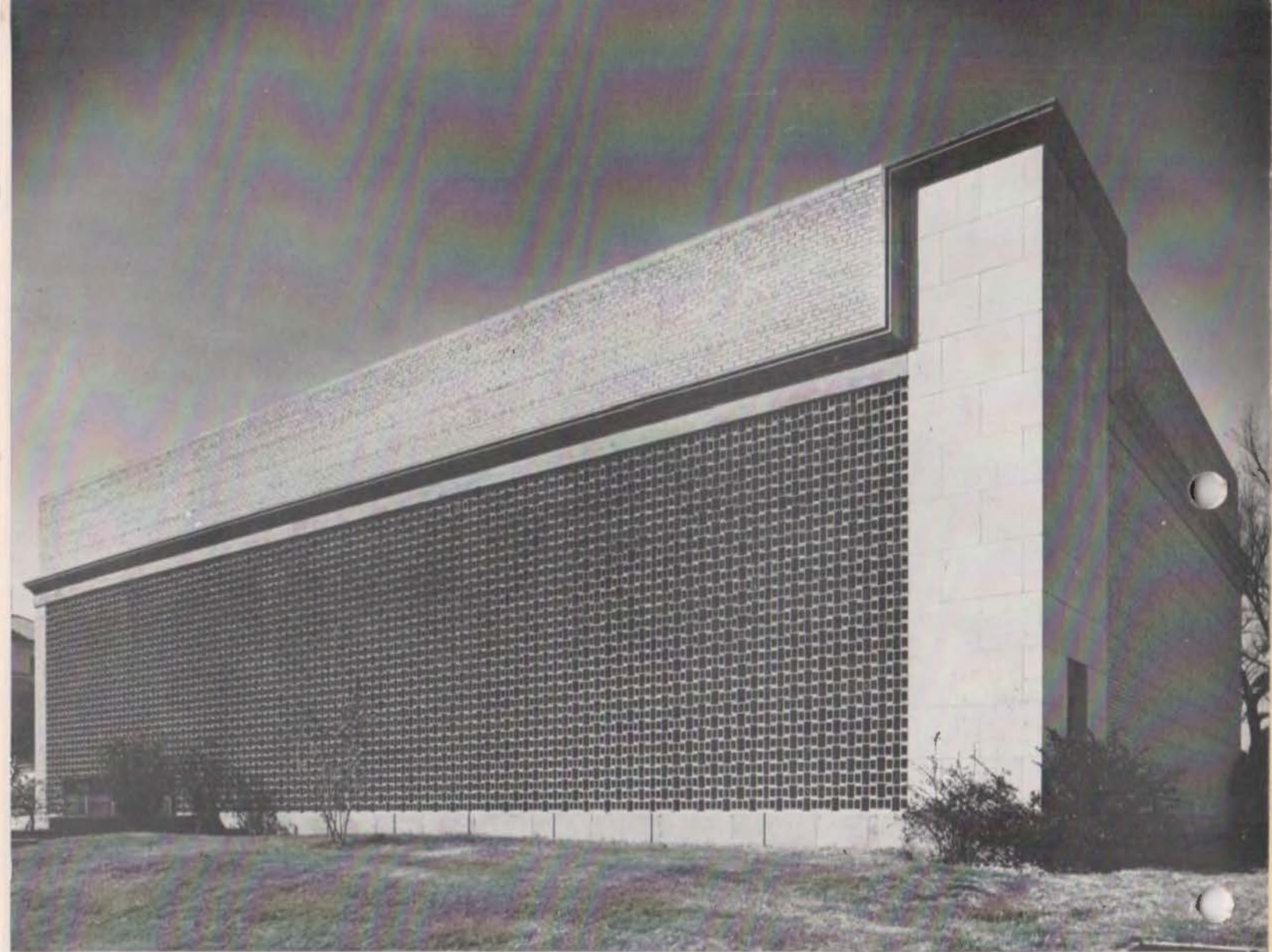
The preliminary and final reports on ACV are based on data collected by the following organizations:

Operating cost data: A joint committee of three Texas utility companies under the direction of Walter Blair, vice president of Texas Power and Lighting Company; City of Austin, Water and Light Division; University of Texas, Electrical Engineering Department.

Technical data: National Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning Association, Mobile Laboratory; University of Texas, Mechanical Engineering Department.

Medical data: Members of Travis County Medical Association.

The members of the Austin Home Builders Association who built the homes are: Jack Andrewortha, Frank Borron, Walter Carrington, Alford Davis, Kenneth Flagg, B. N. Holman, G. E. Maxwell, S. R. Sheppard, Shirley White, H. T. Baker, W. A. Burns, E. L. Carruthers, First Austin Investment Co., C. B. Hibbetts, Wallace Mayfield, Andrew Patton, R. L. Struhall and Leland Wilson.



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER — The President's Letter, which appears opposite the mast-head of TA, is directed primarily to the non-member readers of our magazine, some eight thousand public officials, industrialists, etc., who are potential employers of architects. This mimeographed insert goes only to our membership. Mr. Pat Nicholson, our Public Relations Counsel Account Executive, of the staff of Kirksey & Associates, has often prepared extracts of the President's Letter, or edited it for the attention of our potential clientele. In this issue, I am not repeating that material in this mimeographed insert for our membership. It can be considered as an introduction to these remarks for this letter addressed to our members.

There are many practicing architects in the State who are not members of the Institute and who do not enjoy the privileges of the personal contact with their fellow practitioners, nor have the benefit of the exchange of ideas and technical information which is made available to the members through the Institute publications. They are benefiting, directly, as a result of our aggressive public relations program, both the national and state levels, and from our effective liaison with all public officials charged with the employment of architects on public work of all political sub-divisions, without contributing anything toward those activities and, in some instances, because of a lack of contact with their professional organization and an understanding of its activities, they have, knowingly or unknowingly, hampered the Profession's efforts in their behalf.

The immediate objective of your officers and Board of Directors this year is to attain the maximum possible strength of the Texas Society of Architects by enrolling every eligible practicing architect and every eligible employee of architects in the Texas Society of Architects; by the establishment of strong, active, interested student chapters at the accredited schools of architecture in the State, with a co-ordinated follow-up program in collaboration with the faculties and officers of the student chapters, to insure that every architectural graduate is enrolled as a Junior Associate member upon graduation, provided he becomes eligible upon graduation by commencing his minimum three-year period as architect-in-training prior to his registration.

Within the memory of even the younger members of our profession, our chapter meetings have been characterized in too many instances by poor attendance and lack of interest. Our members, individually and collectively, have been kicked around by the building industry and have been manuevered into accepting commissions on public works at humiliatingly low fees which made it impossible to do a creditable job. They have worked without compensation, providing free sketches for promoters, sub-

dividers and package-builders, and were identified in the minds of the general public as drawers of blueprints instead of being members of an honored profession whose blueprints were merely incidental instruments of service.

A re-organization of the Institute, and the forming of active, aggressive regional groups of chapters have changed the picture in a short period of ten years. Through the Institute and the Texas Society of Architects, the exchange of ideas about chapter activities has resulted in the rejuvenation of many chapters. The Texas Society of Architects has brought to its annual meetings outstanding architects of the United States who have conducted seminars on a wide range of subjects of interest to the professional practitioner, the draftsman and the student. Gradually, the lane-walves of our profession in this region have awakened to the fact that professional organization and cooperative effort is essential to their own advancement technically, economically and socially, and to the establishment of their profession on a par with the other learned professions of law and medicine.

With the strength that came from the united efforts of the leaders of our profession in Texas, we have succeeded in improving our registration law to some degree and, for the first time, our Board of Registration this year will have an office staffed to properly administer this law. Experience of your Legislative Committee in securing this improvement in the registration law will make it possible to further raise the standards of our profession in Texas to make them comparable to those of other states, so that reciprocal registration will be possible for architects registered in Texas. Minimum fees which permit an architect to render a creditable service are now generally accepted as the rule rather than the exception by public officials and private clients. Fees above the minimum are recognized as justifiable for superior service on difficult work and are willingly paid for better-than-ordinary service on the part of the architect.

The TSA has had a well-directed public relations program for several years and the general public is beginning to have some conception of what an architect is and does as a result of the work of our AIA and TSA Public Relations Committees and Counsel. I have been impressed by the reader-interest on the part of our private clients who receive the TEXAS ARCHITECT. Newspapers are beginning to ask for special articles by architects to satisfy this aroused public interest.

There is no reason why any architect in the State of Texas should submit a bid to any public or private client in competition with any other architect on the basis of fee, or accept a fee less than published recommended minimum schedule of fees of the TSA. We are fortunate in having had the cooperation of the professional engineers in this

and the same applies to them.

The TSA is becoming a clearing-house of the profession's local problems and serves as an exchange of solutions as they are worked out in the local chapter areas. The contacts of your "Crash Team" with the local chapters has developed several inquiries about these local problems, and we have been able to pass on to the several chapters information on how similar problems have been met successfully by other chapters.

The TSA is not a perpetual-motion machine that runs without any applied energy. Neither is it run by our Executive Director. The Texas Society of Architects is run for and by the architects of the State of Texas. It requires of its officers, directors and committeemen hard work, time and money to keep reaching towards its continually expanding objectives. It needs an annual transfusion of new blood, younger men with ideas, energy and the conviction that ours is a great profession. Among the new members we secured this year are the men who will make TSA live and grow.

The progress made by the TSA in the past ten years has been the result of work by dedicated fellows, our fellow practitioners, scores of them, officers, directors and committeemen. The membership generally is unaware of what they have personally contributed to this work. The men who have made TSA a success are not busy-body-do-gooders. They are identified with the best architectural work in the state. They have organized the TSA and have built it up into the powerful agency of our profession and exemplify the highest type of enlightened self-interest. What is good for all the people, our clientele, is good for architects individually and for the profession. Every policy of the TSA must pass the test of being in the public interest. We are not a trade union.

Our membership campaign must be directed toward young men, as well as toward non-member practicing architects. Craft or trade unions are on the prowl for more dues-paying white-collar workers. A sharp office-boy is a potential partner, not just an apprentice draftsman with whom his employer will eventually maintain contact by collective bargaining. As so well expressed in Mr. Morris' talk to the Florida students, in the TSA and in the chapters of the Institute, practicing architects meet on the professional level with their draftsmen and their students as associates to whom they are obligated to extend opportunities for professional development and advancement. Our young men cannot afford to deny themselves the privileges of Associate and Junior Associate membership in the TSA and our chapters.

The paramount obstacle to making membership in the Institute, attractive to successful, ethical practicing non-member architects is the failure or reluctance of the several chapters to demand and secure from their members acceptance and conformity to the Institute's standards of professional practice. Where this situation prevails, the chapter is weak, without influence within its area, inadequate fees are the rule and the vicious circle is completed by the chapter's not being able to offer anything to the prospective member. Chapters faced with this situation have successfully met it by initiating disciplinary measures against the offending members. The TSA can assist chapters in their consideration of this and similar problems through the chapter representatives on the TSA Board.

The non-member needs the AIA to help him develop his destiny, fulfill his potential. The AIA, TSA, and local chapters need the non-member to work with us by contributing his ideas and to help us present a solid, united front on all matters affecting our professional and the public's interest. We need the Juniors and the Junior Associates, who will be the corporate members of tomorrow, and who will carry on our professional organization work. We need the architectural graduates who should be given the opportunity to move from Student memberships to Junior Associate status upon graduation. We need their money derived from their dues to carry on our work.

Grayson Gill, President
Texas Society of Architects

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVENTION: The Minneapolis convention was well-attended, with good business sessions and seminars and a social program to balance.

Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, one of the real "workhorses" of TSA and a man who has held many important posts and committee assignments in the Society including the presidency, regional directorship, and presidency of the Texas Architectural Foundation, was named national secretary to replace George Bain Cummings. Mr. Cummings moved up to the presidency.

TSA gained four new Fellows: Karl Kamrath, Donald Barthelme, and Talbott Wilson of Houston, and Professor Ernest Langford of College Station. This was widely reported over the state by Associated Press and United Press and by local stories, as was news of Mr. Wilson's election as secretary. A total of 42 Fellows were named.

Theme of the convention was "Designing for the Community", and the keynote address was by Albert Mayer, FAIA of the New York firm of Mayer & Whittlesey. Other

speeches of note: General James A. Fleet on "Homes for Korea"; James W. Follin, commissioner of the Urban Renewal Administration, on urban renewal; and Clair W. Ditchy, retiring AIA president, as he awarded the Gold Medal of the Institute to Willem M. Dudok, the Dutch city planner who responded with an excellent discussion of the current problems besetting city planners and how future progress might best be achieved.

Those at Minneapolis were particularly impressed by the keynote address by Mayer, who began his career as an engineer and builder and entered the field of architecture in 1934 through his interest in housing and slum clearance. Mayer advocated decentralization of cities, with "bold" planning for the future and urban renewal.

While serving in India in World War II, Mayer entered into discussions with Pandit Nehru on problems there. Called back after the war, he was instrumental in various pilot projects for Indian rural development. Mayer & Whittsley later provided a master plan for Chandigarh, capital city of Punjab; and for an Indian university and agricultural institute. The firm did the housing, administrative buildings and laboratories for Standard Vacuum's new refinery in Bombay. Elsewhere abroad, the firm designed Kitimat, a new city of 50,000 for Alcan workers in Canada; a "secret" city in Africa to be completed after 1960; and a new Israeli suburb near Jerusalem.

TSA delegates also thought the Minneapolis seminars were outstanding. One, on "Rebuilding the City", had Richard W. E. Perrin, AIA, executive director of the Housing Authority of Milwaukee, as moderator. Participants included both planners and architects. Norman J. Schlossman, FAIA, was moderator for a seminar on "The Architecture of Community Expansion". Participants included Park Martin, executive director of the famed Alleghany Conference which was the spearhead for the re-building of much of downtown Pittsburgh.

David C. Baer of Houston moderated one of the most interesting and useful of the Convention sessions, a panel on office practice during the seminar on "Keeping The Client A Friend". Mr. Baer is chairman of the national committee on office practice.

SOME PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS OF SB 263: Following are some of the principal provisions of Senate Bill 263, recently signed into law by Governor Allan Shivers:

1) Funds are provided for the establishment of a permanent office of the State Board of Architectural Examiners in Austin, and for the employment of a secretary of the Board, "clerks and other employees as may be needed to assist the secretary in per-

forming his duties . . .". (The funds are from fees collected by the Board, under provisions of SB 263, and deposited in a special fund known as "Architects Registration Fund".)

2) The Board " . . . shall adopt rules and regulations for the examination and registration of applicants to practice architecture in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and may amend, modify, or repeal such rules and regulations from time to time . . . all rules and regulations before adoption or change by the Board must be submitted to and approved in writing by the Attorney General before same shall become effective."

3) The Board must give notice at least 10 days in advance of any meeting called to consider the adoption of any rule or regulation or change or repeal thereof. Notice must be given by " . . . mailing same to each reputable school of architecture within this state, and by publication at least once in a daily newspaper . . ."

4) The renewal of registration certificates is now subject to a fee varying from \$5 to \$20.

ATTAC ON "UN-AMERICAN AIR ACADEMY": The U. S. Press Association, which distributes widely from Washington, D. C., to "grass-roots" weeklies and dailies in smaller towns and cities over the U. S., carries the following unprecedented attack on the design of the new Air Academy by a prominent AIA firm known to many TSA members. Some of the USPA items are self-inspired; some come from clients to the service who "suggest" items of interest. The discussion of the Air Academy design follows:

"UN-AMERICAN AIR ACADEMY - Since the cream of American youth will be attending the Air Force's long-awaited Air Academy, and we, as taxpayers, will foot the \$126,000,000 bill, it would be nice to think this West Point of the Air will be the finest example of American architecture that we can produce.

"Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the case. The Air Force recently unveiled a model of its 'dream' academy as designed by a firm of 'modern' architects. One congressman said it looked like a 'cigarette factory'. Famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright called it a 'violation of Nature' and a 'factory for birdmen'. The chapel design, a metal-and-glass creation that looked like an accordion, was withdrawn quickly when churchmen protested.

"The balance of the design - consisting of stark-looking buildings of aluminum, glass and steel - was left in a shadowy state. Secretary of Air Harold Talbott said the design really wasn't in final form, although the Air Force had just announced construction would begin this summer.

"Now prominent architects are leveling an even more serious charge against the design. They say flatly that it's un-American. The terraces and angular planes of many of the buildings - most of which are on stilts - suggest a hodge-podge of Near Eastern, Egyptian, and European influences. This is not the America represented in the beautiful buildings of West Point, the dignity of Annapolis, and the grandeur of the Washington Monument and the Moll. Are cadets expected to learn and respect the heritage of America in alien surroundings?

"Another fault is the choice of materials. In Colorado Springs the temperatures range from 27 below to 97 above. There is intense sunlight and glare. Yet buildings are designed with thin walls of glass, thus creating heating, air-conditioning and cleaning problems. What would a shock wave produced by a fast-flying jet airplane do to these flimsy walls? Won't thin metal panels vibrate badly amid engine noise and classroom clamor? Maintenance costs would be staggering, and protection from shock and fire dangerously slim. Nowhere is there the strength, utility and beauty provided by Nature's materials - stone, brick, marble and granite.

"Surely we can do better than this. It would be sad indeed if General Billy Mitchell's dream of an Air Academy turned out to be a nightmare."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RETURNS FROM 5,000-MILE TRIP: One of the most effective means of increasing advertising revenues for the TEXAS ARCHITECT (and thereby the size and appearance and coverage of the magazine), has been through the combination trip Executive Director John G. Flowers, Jr., made through the East, Southeast and South last summer in conjunction with attendance at the Boston convention of the AIA.

While attending the annual AIA meeting, a valuable experience where he learns much of value in administrative and executive work for the Society, Mr. Flowers can also visit the offices of many national advertising agencies and national advertisers, both in the convention area, and in surrounding states. This worked so well in 1954, that the Publication Board voted to underwrite part of Mr. Flowers' expenses at Minneapolis. The Executive Board of TSA will be asked to concur in this action. Before and after the convention, he visited prospective advertisers

throughout the Middle West and in some of the North Central states as well, arriving back in Austin July 6.

PRACTICAL PRACTICE: Alfred S. Alschuler, president of the Chicago Chapter, recently devoted THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE to a most practical matter, some of the reasons for which AIA members have been reported to the Institute recently. Reading the list can help everyone to improve his client relationships.

"PRACTICAL PRACTICE - The Architectural profession is fortunate in having so many capable men of integrity. Unfortunately a few errors of omission or commission sometimes spoil the profession's reputation. I would like to call to your attention some practices which have caused difficulty in recent times and which have been reported to the AIA.

"Failure to develop the program, preliminaries and working drawings with as much dispatch as possible, resulted in loss of respect for the Architect and a dropping of the project.

"Innaccurate estimating drove a client to a 'package-dealer.'

"Incomplete drawings and specifications caused misinterpretations, unnecessary extras and ill will among all parties concerned.

"Absence of legal advice regarding contracts and how to fill them out may have been the cause of a recent financial loss to an Architect.

"At least one Architect lost a job because he earned the reputation of neglecting the supervision of construction.

"More than one client has complained bitterly because he was not informed of changes in cost as a job progressed.

"It may be unfair, but it seems to be human nature for some clients to remember minor fault and forget the many fine services as happened not too long ago to one Architect.

"Within the past year at least one Architect sued a client for a fee. The net result was aggravation, a loss of the fee, time, legal costs and a client. In another case a compromise settlement was made on a fee with a client which resulted in a later profitable commission.

"For ourselves and the profession it is well to avoid such pitfalls."

TSA Delegation Active at AIA Convention; Edward L. Wilson Named Secretary

The TSA delegation to the 87th annual convention of the American Institute of Architects, totalling 43 TSA members from various parts of the state, played an important part in the four-day meeting which ended in Minneapolis June 24.

"Designing For The Community" was the keynote for the convention, which met in Minneapolis just 39 years after the AIA had held its fiftieth annual meeting at the same Hotel Radisson in 1916.

Edward L. Wilson, TSA-AIA of Fort Worth was elected national secretary at the convention, to replace George Bain Cummings of Binghamton, N. Y. Mr. Cummings was elected AIA president to succeed Clair W. Ditchy of Detroit. Mr. Wilson, long prominent in TSA affairs, a former TSA president and regional director of the AIA, takes one of the key posts within the national organization.

Albert S. Golemon of Houston, regional director from TSA to the AIA, outlined another year of significant progress in the Texas area in his report to the AIA board of directors.

Moderator on Seminar

David C. Baer of Houston, editor of the TEXAS ARCHITECT and chairman of the national AIA committee on office practice, was moderator for one of the convention's key seminars, based on more efficient office and job management.

Other TSA delegates attended the convention as members of AIA committees and as members of related groups including the American Architectural Foundation and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

A highlight of the convention for the Texas delegation was the announcement that four members of TSA had been named to the College of Fellows. These men, Donald Barthelme, Karl Kamrath, and Talbott Wilson of Houston, and Professor Ernest Langford of the Texas A&M College Department of Architecture, were installed at the annual banquet. Details of their new honor are given in a separate story.

Many of the TSA delegates continued on vacations in the Midwest, North, and East after attending the Minneapolis convention.



AIA 87th Annual Convention,

Left to Right: David C. Baer, Houston; Regional Director Albert S. Golemon, Houston; Edward L. Wilson, Fort Worth, AIA secretary; George Bain Cummings, Binghamton, N. Y., AIA president.



Donald Barthelme



Karl Kamrath



Ernest Langford



Talbott Wilson

Barthelme, Kamrath, Langford, Wilson Elevated to Fellowship in AIA

Four members of TSA were signally honored at the annual banquet of the American Institute of Architects convention in Minneapolis June 23, when they were invested as members of the College of Fellows of the AIA.

The new Fellows of the AIA are three Houstonians, Donald Barthelme, Karl Kamrath, and Talbott Wilson, and Professor Ernest Langford of the Department of Architecture, Texas A&M College.

All of the men were cited for excellence in design. They have won many separate awards in TSA and national competitions.

Design Awards Listed

Mr. Barthelme heads the Houston firm of Donald Barthelme & Associates. His design of the West Columbia Ele-

mentary School, in 1953, gained national and international awards.

Mr. Kamrath is a partner in the Houston firm of MacKie & Kamrath. Among recent work for which he and his firm have been acclaimed is the design of the M. D. Anderson Hospital and the University of Texas Dental School in the Texas Medical Center in Houston.

Mr. Wilson is a partner in the Houston firm of Wilson, Morris & Crain. The firm won top honors in the "Texas Architecture—1954" competition of TSA for their design of the Pieter A. Cramerus home in Houston.

Professor Langford is known widely as head of the Texas A&M Department of architecture and in addition to his accomplishments in the field of education has consistently won many awards.

"Residential Air-Conditioning Here To Stay," Cole Tells ASRE In Preliminary Village Report

Ned Cole, Austin architect and home builder who is chairman of the National Association of Home Builders' air-conditioning committee and manager of the Air-Conditioned Village research project, made the following preliminary report on the Village to a conference of the American Association of Refrigeration Engineers:

"From information gleaned in the preliminary investigations of the results of the Austin Air-Conditioned Village Project, we can safely predict that residential air conditioning is here to stay.

Colds Definitely Reduced

"Results have proved that for the Village occupants there is a saving of 22 woman-hours per month in cleaning as compared to a group of similar homes a few blocks away which were not air conditioned. In a similar comparison it is proved that the calorie content of the evening meal is 40% greater in the air-conditioned homes, and that heat rash in infants was completely eliminated and colds and other nasal problems definitely reduced. A

complete analysis of the medical results will be available later.

"Thus, both the man of the house and the woman of the house have reason to approve air conditioning, the man because he gets roast beef instead of cold cuts, and the woman because of extra time, gained from tasks such as cleaning and cooking, to spend in more creative pursuits.

"The most important reason for having residential air conditioning is comfort . . . comfort in which to enjoy the roast beef and the extra time.

Series of Tests Devised

"To provide more comfort we devised a series of tests to determine a definition of comfort . . . a definition applicable to the twenty-two families in ACV. These tests indicate that comfort is a combination of the following factors: (1) Constant air movement, (2) Even humidity between 40% and 60% R.H. without wide variations even in this range and (3) Temperature between 75-78 degrees.

"Some families requested a lower



TO RECEIVE ROYAL TILE GRANT—Paul H. Johnson, fourth-year student in the University of Texas' School of Architecture, has been selected to receive a \$500 scholarship from the Royal Tile Manufacturing Company of Fort Worth, to aid in his fifth year studies. The award was announced by Edward L. Wilson, president of the Texas Architectural Foundation, the group which made the selection. Johnson, a native of Denver, Colo., is the first recipient of the grant, which is to be made annually to an outstanding student from one of Texas' five architectural schools.

temperature, but seemed happy with 75 degrees, unless they knew it was 75. All families complained of discomfort when exposed to a rapid change in humidity (as produced by evaporation from the coil in some equipment) and when we experimented with fan cycling.

"We are happy to report that with minor adjustments all air-conditioning equipment operated satisfactorily. We are confident that even these minor adjustments will be unnecessary when the dealer training programs now in operation have had a chance to produce results.

Operating Costs Low

"NAHB is happy with this, our first, experiment with applied research. We are happy, too, that this project proves to FHA that operating costs are low (half the houses were in the \$100 per year bracket) and that it's not necessary to use operating costs as a factor in qualifying buyers. The elimination of this factor makes the Village a worthwhile project since lack of detailed knowledge about operating costs has been the greatest deterrent to widespread use of air-conditioning in speculative housing.

"The final results of the Village will assist NAHB in the execution of a builder training program which, when coupled with your program of dealer training and our common program of public education, will hasten the approach to our common goal—better homes for more Americans."

A final report will be published soon by Mr. Cole and NAHB.

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Austin Architect Named To State Board

Howard R. Barr, TSA-AIA, of the Austin firm of Kuehne, Brooks & Barr, has been appointed to the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners by Governor Allan Shivers. Above, Judge Lloyd Davidson of Austin is swearing in Mr. Barr, at right, and Charles K. Smith of Houston, center, as new Board members.

The Board is primarily concerned with administration of the Texas law

for the licensing of plumbers. It consists of a master plumber, a journeyman plumber, an architect, and a sanitary engineer, all of whom must be state-licensed in their respective field; a commercial building contractor, and a home building contractor. Appointive terms are for six years.

Present members in addition to Mr. Barr and Mr. Smith are R. G. Hughes, Pampa, chairman; N. G. Henne, New

General Electric Making New Model of "Weathertron", Air-Source Heat Pump

The General Electric Company's Weathertron is now being produced as a completely new line of packaged air-source heat pumps.

The new models feature a more compact size and greatly improved performance due to a more effective relationship between heating and cooling capacity. Key factor in the improved heating-cooling ratio is a unique modulated hermetic motor-compressor, designed specifically for heat pumps.

Heat pumps of the Weathertron air-source type use only electricity and air. In summer they pump heat and moisture from the home to the outdoors, leaving fresh, cool air in the home. In winter, they reverse themselves automatically, extracting heat from the outdoor air and pumping it indoor to heat the home.

Braunfels; J. C. Oliver, Stephenville; and Joe Bland, Austin.

The so-called "Texas Plan" for the licensing of plumbers has been widely acclaimed, and is being studied by other states and municipalities across the U.S.

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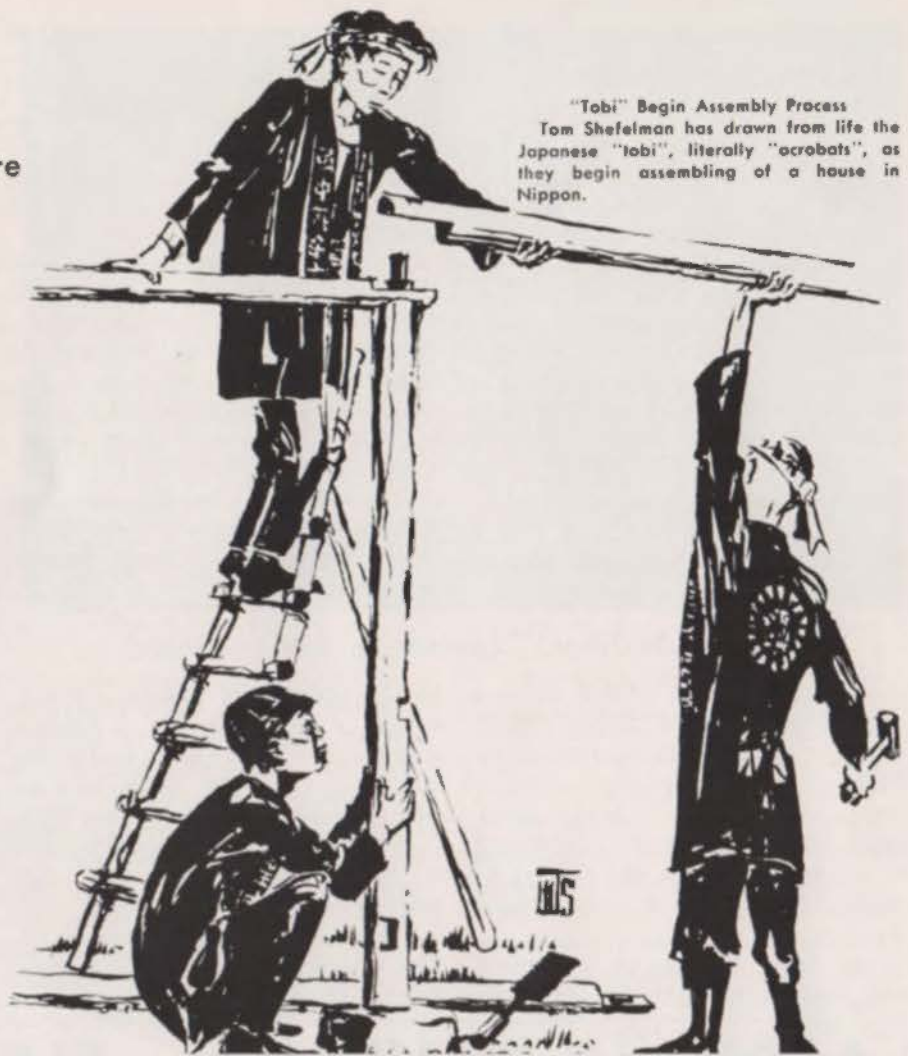
Impertinent Comments On Japanese Life And Architecture

This is the final instalment of a series of articles by Mr. Shefelman, which he has also illustrated.

In architecture there are still strong factors against change. These factors are the ways of thinking and customs which have given Japan's structures of all centuries a basic resemblance, a national character. A few examples follow:

In traditional Japanese building the "tsubo" or six-foot square is a basic module. All floor mats or "tatami" are 3 x 6 feet. Door paper, wood veneers come in 3 x 6 sizes. The bedding or "futans" are made in standard six-foot lengths. Lumber's most economical length is 12 feet. Architects, builders, owners and real estate men think of a house as well as land in terms of so many tsubo in area. For centuries architects and builders have been laying out their houses, temples and palaces on the tsubo grid. Frank Lloyd Wright more than 30 years ago was impressed by this modular thinking, so new in the eyes of his contemporaries, yet so ancient in Japan.

"Tobi" Begin Assembly Process
Tom Shefelman has drawn from life the Japanese "tobi", literally "acrobats", as they begin assembling of a house in Nippon.



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90% of Japan Is Wooded

No other highly developed civilization in the world has such a strong argument for such concentration upon wooden architecture as does Japan. Roughly 90 percent of her territory is wooded. Carpentry methods, passed from generation to generation, are not going to change radically for several more generations. The balloon frame, its two-by standard yard lumber sizes and the ten-penny nail are still foreign to the Japanese carpenter. The idea of "rough framing" covered by layers of finishing material is frowned upon as impure interior design. The simple wooden post and horizontal framing member, the thin plaster partitions, the sliding doors all divide up the interiors on the tsubo grid, as do the tatami. And the quality of "emptiness" is still pleasing to the Japanese eye.

Hand Planing Used

According to the drawings of the architect or the chief carpenter, the wood framing members are cut to fit together like furniture. The small lumber yard or a shelter on the site house this activity; and it takes around two weeks for the average size house, which is about 40 tsubo in floor area. Each member is cut, notched, keyed, shaped, planed and often polished before being carefully set aside for the assembly. Such loving care is mandatory because so many of the members are to be trim also. We have not yet seen sandpaper used. The famous beautiful finishes are achieved principally by hand planing. The planes are but wooden blocks with steel blades adjusted in the slot by hammer. At least one man on the job is perpetually busy keeping all blades razor sharp. Both planes and hand-saws cut when pulled rather than pushed.

"Acrobats" Into Action

When the prefabrication is completed, the carpenters take a back seat while a special crew of "tobi" (a word meaning roughly "acrobat" in English) are called into action. They literally live up to their name as they begin the assembly process. The structural members of the small house fly together in a few hours and the roof of tile or tin is on the next day. What these skilled acrobats have then completed is an already finished looking product of crisp linear beauty.

At this stage of construction the

Japanese nature assumes an interesting twist. Now it is time for matters of the spirits. The owner is the host. He furnishes food, sake and gifts of money, 500 to 1000 yen for the chief carpenter, smaller amounts for the other carpenters and workmen. The "tatemae" ceremony is held around boards set up as banquet tables. The chief carpenter climbs to the roof and offers sake and rice to the spirits or "kami." Paper, called kami also, bamboo and pine are left at the top for the prosperity, safety and long life of all concerned, owner and family as well as each workman and his family. When this basically Shinto ritual is completed, a feast is had by all.

"Kami" Ceremony

As heads clear during the days afterwards, the slower work of filling in between structural members and application of finished siding, flooring and ceilings gets underway. The bamboo lathing is centered on the wood posts and lintels for the plaster panels. On the outside grounds and stripping is readied for the thin cedar siding and battens. The tracks for sliding


doors and windows, of course, are already milled into the horizontal framing. Here is that happy freedom of choice between solid panel and opening built into the design and structural system at its inception. Here is that light, airy, rectilinear and "contemporary" appearance, a tradition for centuries.

"Floating" Roofs

The hipped or gabled tile or tin roofs are heavy and generous with overhangs by contrast as dictated by the cold, rainy Japanese winters. At dusk it is an unforgettable sight in this crowded and hilly land to observe the living forms, these roofs, floating above the lantern-like bodies of the houses in complete balance with gravity. These dark shapes are indeed at home among the silhouetted dwarf trees and wooden fences.

Some people admire the crisp, empty interiors and call them Modrian. Some remember the roofs with glowing light patterns underneath, and say they are Organic. Whatever names people like to use, we are satisfied just to call it all Japanese.

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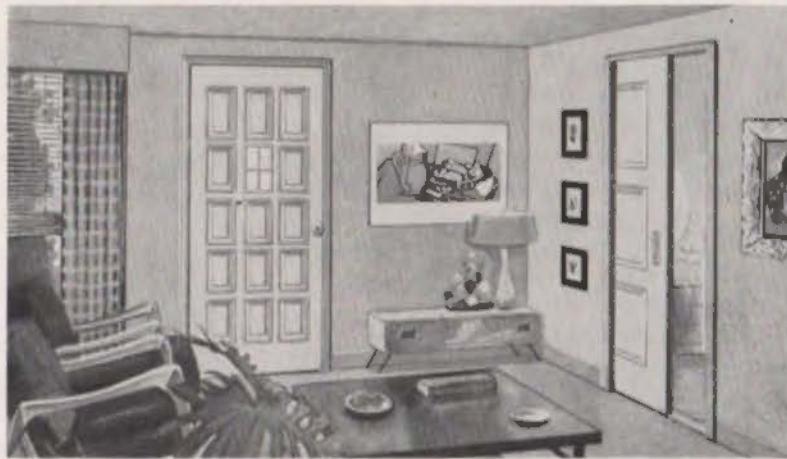


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Chrysler Airtemp Official Reviews Key Developments, Air-Conditioning Terms Used

Glenn Cobb of the regional Chrysler Airtemp office in Dallas has recently reviewed terms used in the air-conditioning field, and air-conditioning developments in the Southwest.

Mr. Cobb defines the important terms "air-cooled" and "packaged unit" as follows:

Air-cooled refrigeration—In air-conditioning, heat is absorbed by the refrigerant from the air being conditioned. The refrigerant vaporizes in the process, just as water absorbing heat from a fire turns into steam. In order to re-use the refrigerant, this heat must be passed on to some other substance so that the refrigerant will condense back into a liquid. In air-cooled refrigeration equipment, the compressed refrigerant is sent at high temperature through a condensing coil with outside air blowing over it. The heat passes into the outside air and the refrigerant condenses.

Packaged unit—A packaged unit contains all the components for air-conditioning inside a single cabinet, including compressor and cooling coil. There are a number of synonyms and near synonyms, such as:

1. Unitary equipment: This covers the entire field, including room air-conditioners.

2. Self-contained units: This is normally applied to units supplying summer air conditioning only, in sizes ranging upward from two tons of capacity.

3. Year-round units; these do the entire summer and winter job from a single cabinet. They contain both heating and refrigerating components.

Air-cooled (waterless) air conditioning, according to Mr. Cobb, has become increasingly important during the last several years because of unfavorable water conditions including shortages, high mineral content and attendant pipe-damaging mineral scale.

Waterless air-conditioning, he points out, was first produced on a full-scale basis by Chrysler Airtemp, which also holds the original patents on "packaged" air-conditioners.

Mr. Cobb said that since 1952, over 3,000 air-cooled commercial and residential installations with ratings of from 2 to 7 1/2 horsepower, have been made in the Southwest with Chrysler Airtemp year-around systems.

There are some 500 radial commercial and industrial Chrysler installations in the Houston area. The Magnolia and Santo Fe buildings in Dallas are typical examples of large-scale Airtemp installations.

American Institute of Architects Receives Public Relations Award

The American Institute of Architects has been awarded a national certificate of public relations achievement by the American Association of Public Relations.

The award, in recognition of "the high merit of its public relations program," was presented to Anson B. Campbell and Walter M. Megronigle of Ketchum, Inc., public relations counsel for the AIA. Mr. Campbell is the AIA account executive and Mr. Megronigle is manager of the Public Relations Division of Ketchum, Inc.

Organizations in all parts of the United States and in practically every field of social and commercial activity vied for the awards, the "Oscars" of the public relations profession. The AIA won its award in the professional association category.

President's Letter (Continued)

Rewarding personal contacts and the interchange of information and ideas with other members of his profession are within the reach of every architect practicing in the state of Texas.

Our national AIA director, Albert S. Goleman; our executive secretary, John G. Flowers, Jr., and I have already visited most of the chapters of the Texas region this spring.

Our principal objective has been to serve as a medium of exchange of ideas between the chapters about this very important problem: how to secure active participation in the achievement of the objectives listed above by every architect qualified to practice in Texas.

The best means of achieving participation is through membership in the American Institute of Architects.

The several TSA-AIA chapters have different problems to some degree, but this has been observed: The active chapters have a membership which includes the largest percentage of practicing architects in their area. These TSA-AIA members are doing outstanding and distinctive work; they enjoy the confidence of the construction industry; they are providing leadership in public affairs; and they are directing all of their group and personal activities toward the objective of making our profession of ever-increasing service to society.

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"QUANTITY SURVEYS"
PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES

803 THOMAS BLDG. P.O. BOX 9814
RANDOLPH 3711 DALLAS, TEXAS

Orientation, Patios, Materials, Insulation Important "ACV" Factors

In Austin, the copitol city of Texas where "Air-Conditioned Village," the first mass experiment in air conditioned living for the average income family is located, every movement of old man sun is of the utmost importance.

Eighteen builders pooled their efforts under guidance of the National Home Builders Association in constructing 22 "ACV" houses utilizing every major type of year-round air conditioning unit. The object was to prove residential air conditioning is here for the average family at a price they can afford to pay. All builders were required to build \$12,000 houses plus cost of land, to have 1,200 minimum square feet of floor space, and to install two-ton heating-cooling units.

For Temperature Control

At that point, however, the sun took over, for architects had to consider the sun first in designing the houses. This is how the architects and builders went about controlling the sun in the summer and utilizing it in the winter, for year-round temperature control and resulting family comfort:

1. They oriented houses and window areas with respect to the lot and the path of the sun through the day, or

through the sky. A house doesn't have to face the street squarely if it is also looking straight into the afternoon sun. They turned the houses a little and cut off some of that sun. Window areas face north or south where possible and shading is provided for windows in east and west walls.

2. Roof overhangs and awnings were planned to shade walls and glass areas in the summer and expose a portion of them for solar heating in the winter.

3. Trellises, screen walls, fences and shrubs have been used to create a private patio area outside a west or east-facing bedroom or living room, to shade windows from sun and provide outdoor living space at the same time.

Masonry Construction Helps

4. Masonry construction has been used in many houses to aid cooling.

5. All types of insulation have been utilized in foundations, walls, and roofs, including mineral wool and aluminum foil in various thicknesses and forms.

6. And even the colors received consideration. Light colors and white have been used to reflect the sun's rays and help in the task of cooling.

"Architecture—USA", New Film Report Available This Summer Through AIA

The American Institute of Architects, national organization of the architectural profession, has announced the release of a film report on contemporary architecture in America. *Architecture—U.S.A.* is a sound presentation of 140 color slides showing current architectural trends in homes, schools, offices, factories, churches, and other building types.

The film is the work of Ralph E. Myers, A.I.A., of the firm of Kivett and Myers, Kansas City, Missouri. In collecting photographs for the film, Mr. Myers travelled more than 50,000 miles and edited more than 10,000 color photographs by some of the nation's top architectural photographers.

Initial impetus was given to the project by a grant from the Arnold W. Brunner Scholarship of the New York Chapter, A.I.A., for "advanced study in a specialized field of architectural investigation." As a result of his work on *Architecture—U.S.A.*, Mr. Myers

has been awarded a second grant for additional work.

Runs 26 Minutes

Architecture—U.S.A. has a running time of 26 minutes and may be shown on standard 16 mm. sound movie equipment. It has been planned for presentation before service clubs, school assemblies, women's groups and similar organizations. Inquiries regarding availability of the film should be addressed to John G. Flowers, Jr., TSA, Perry-Brooks Building, Austin.

Among the 62 architects and architectural firms represented in the film are the following members of TSA-AIA: Donald Barthelme & Associates, Houston; O'Neil Ford, San Antonio; Claude E. Hooten, Houston, and MacKie & Komrath, Houston.

The film's running time, 26 minutes, has been planned to make it suitable for presentation on television. All material has been cleared for television.

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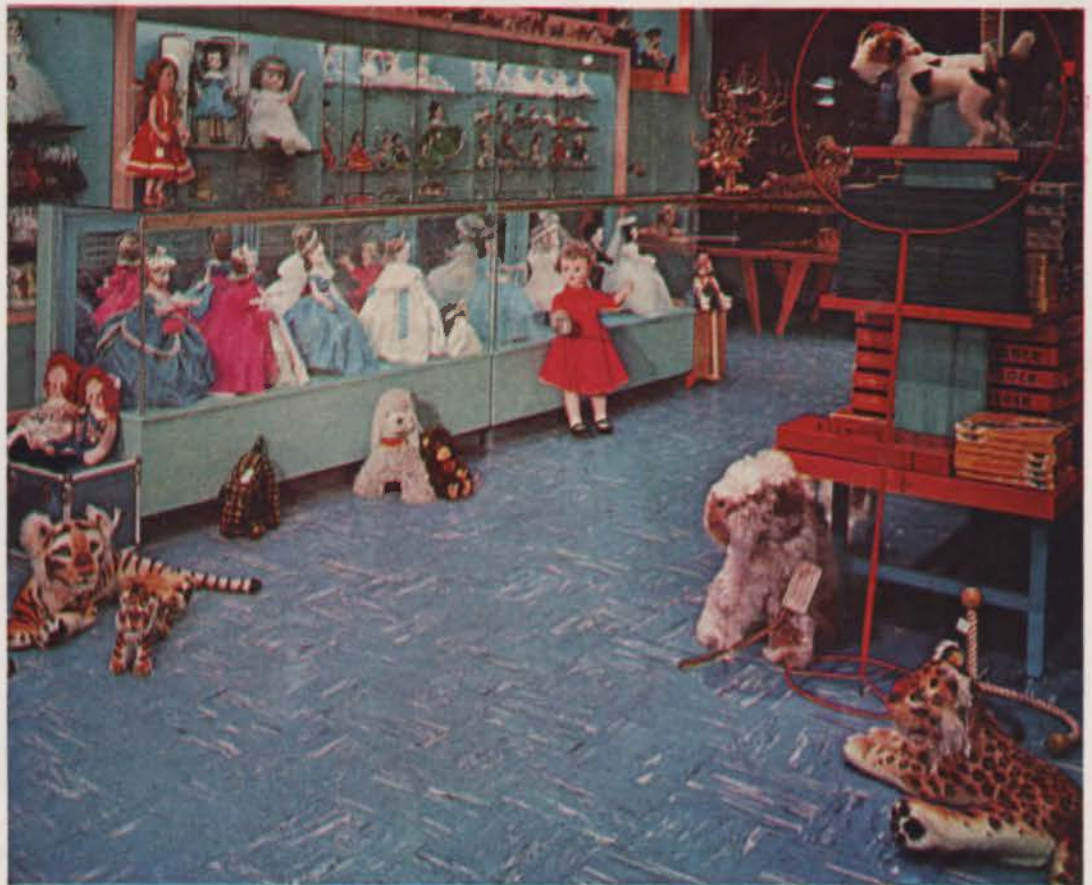
Here in the clean lines of this modern bank building, the classic beauty of Cordova Cream Limestone stands out sharply. With all its beauty it also gives an over-all effect of dignity and strength desirable in a financial institution.

This versatile stone has a natural warmth of color, ranging from cream to golden tints. It offers architects a wide latitude of design and decorative possibilities and at the same time gives them a building material that is unsurpassed for enduring strength. And because its natural beauty can't be duplicated — because it is always contemporary and always in good taste, it is a stone of unusual merit for residential, commercial and institutional buildings.

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