

RAIC JOURNAL

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expressed by contributors*

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

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THIS IS YOUR JOURNAL

*Every member is a partner in its publication
It is vital to the Royal Institute that it be successful*

As the RAIC approaches its Golden Anniversary, so the *Journal* reaches its 36th year of continuous publication. Due to good editing and excellent management, it has finally become possible to make some returns to the Institute for the twenty-one years during which it was published at a loss. The deficit during these years was made good by the Institute and by members dipping into their sometimes almost empty pockets.

The original promoters of the *Journal* had high ideals for its content. They believed that it should strive for better building throughout Canada by the dissemination of architectural information; that it should maintain the dignity of the profession and the Institute by a high standard of quality, and that it should stimulate the interest of its members in the arts allied to architecture. These ideals have been achieved and the *Journal* has become a powerful force in uniting the profession and raising the standard of architecture throughout Canada. It has also become a strong financial aid to the Institute and this aid must be maintained.

The responsibility for carrying out these objects is vested in an Editorial Board, composed of twenty members of the profession from Ontario, twelve of whom are from Toronto. The Board meets once every month. They are assisted by not less than forty-six members, known as the Provincial Representatives on the Board. It is the duty of this group to gather material from the provinces and present it to the Editor for publication. In addition, there was lately formed a Special Journal Committee, consisting of five members, two of whom are the Chairman of the Editorial Board and the President of the Royal Institute. This committee is responsible to the Institute for all financial matters and for the Administration of agreements and relationships with the staff. They meet periodically at the call of the Chairman.

The importance of the *Journal* to the Institute is of such magnitude that without its financial assistance the work of the Institute would be set back to where it was twenty years ago. As the *Journal* has prospered, so has the work of the Institute increased and become more and more important to the whole profession in Canada.

The per capita contribution received from the Provincial Association was at one time the sole support of the Institute. Today, this contribution, plus miscellaneous amounts received from sale of contract forms, bond interest, bank interest, amount to approximately 60 percent of the cost of the operation of the Institute. The other 40 percent comes from the *Journal*. Without this assistance, the Pro-

CECI EST VOTRE JOURNAL

*Chaque membre est associé dans sa publication
Pour l'IRAC son succès est d'une importance vitale*

A l'approche du 50ème anniversaire de l'IRAC, le *Journal* atteindra sa 36ème année de publication continue; toute-fois, la revue n'a pas toujours connu le succès dont elle jouit aujourd'hui. Grâce à la bonne édition et à l'excellente direction, il fut enfin possible de faire une restitution à l'IRAC pour la perte qu'il a subie pendant plus de 21 ans. Durant ces années, le déficit fut comblé par l'Institut et les membres qui parfois puisèrent dans leurs goussets presque vides.

Les premiers promoteurs du *Journal* avaient de grandes ambitions au sujet des articles. Ils croyaient qu'ils devaient s'efforcer de promouvoir une meilleure construction à travers tout le Canada par la propagation des renseignements architecturaux; qu'ils devaient maintenir la dignité de la profession et de l'Institut par une haute norme de qualité et qu'ils devaient stimuler l'intérêt de ses membres

by Douglas E. Kertland, President

vincial Association fees would have to be raised or the work and worth of the Institute cut by 40 percent.

The *Journal's* contribution has enabled the Institute to establish a central office in Ottawa with a permanent secretary and adequate staff. It has provided funds to permit grants to the five architectural schools in Canada. Annual assemblies are now held in all parts of the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, bringing our members closer together and making them better known to one another. (During the last five years, three assemblies have been held outside of Ontario and Quebec.) The *Journal's* contribution has made it possible to include members from British Columbia, the Prairie Provinces and the Atlantic Provinces on the Executive Committee. We have been able to prepare a recommended syllabus of study for candidates seeking to qualify as architects in the various provinces. These and many other activities, we are enabled to undertake with the financial help of the *Journal*.

Now, how does this affect you and what can you do to help the continued success of *your Journal*?

We believe –

that the best work in Canada should be first published in the *Journal* and that, in your own interest, it is your responsibility to see that this is done.

that it is your responsibility to keep the *Journal* up to date on all activities that you feel would be of interest to your profession; to furnish the Editor with copies of addresses that you have yourself given or that you consider informative and of high order.

that every member of the RAIC should consider himself a reporter and gatherer of material.

that the success of the *Journal* is in your hands and those responsible for its production look to you to make it more and more successful.

that our advertisers consider the *Journal* to be the finest medium for bringing their products before the architects in Canada, because it is widely read by architects. In a word, it is the advertiser's "open sesame" for reaching the architect.

And finally, we believe –

that without the advertising the *Journal* would cease to exist and therefore it is our bounden duty to examine the materials advertised and use them when they are suitable to our requirements.

The *Journal* is different from any other professional publication. It is essential for architects and is written largely by architects – so let us see that its success is sustained.

Every architect in Canada is a partner in the Journal publication.

par Douglas E. Kertland, Président

pour les arts connexes à l'architecture. On a atteint cet idéal et le *Journal* est devenu une force puissante pour unir la profession et élever le niveau de l'architecture partout au Canada. Il est aussi devenu d'un puissant secours financier pour l'Institut et cette aide doit être maintenue.

La responsabilité, pour promouvoir ces buts, incombe au comité de rédaction composé de 20 membres de la profession venant de l'Ontario, dont 12 sont de Toronto. Le Conseil se réunit une fois le mois. Pas moins de 46 membres, connus comme les représentants provinciaux au Conseil, secondent ce comité de rédaction. Le devoir de ce groupe est de réunir les articles venant des provinces et de les présenter à l'éditeur pour la publication. En plus, un comité spécial du *Journal* a été formé récemment, comprenant 5 membres, dont deux sont: le président du Conseil de rédaction et le président de l'IRAC. Ce comité est responsable auprès de l'Institut pour toutes les questions financières et pour l'administration [suite à la page 147]

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

1907 - 1957

GOLDEN JUBILEE



OTTAWA MAY 29 TO JUNE 1 1957

**Forward always, banded together for the
protection of our fellow citizens and the
advancement of our art - GERVAIS**



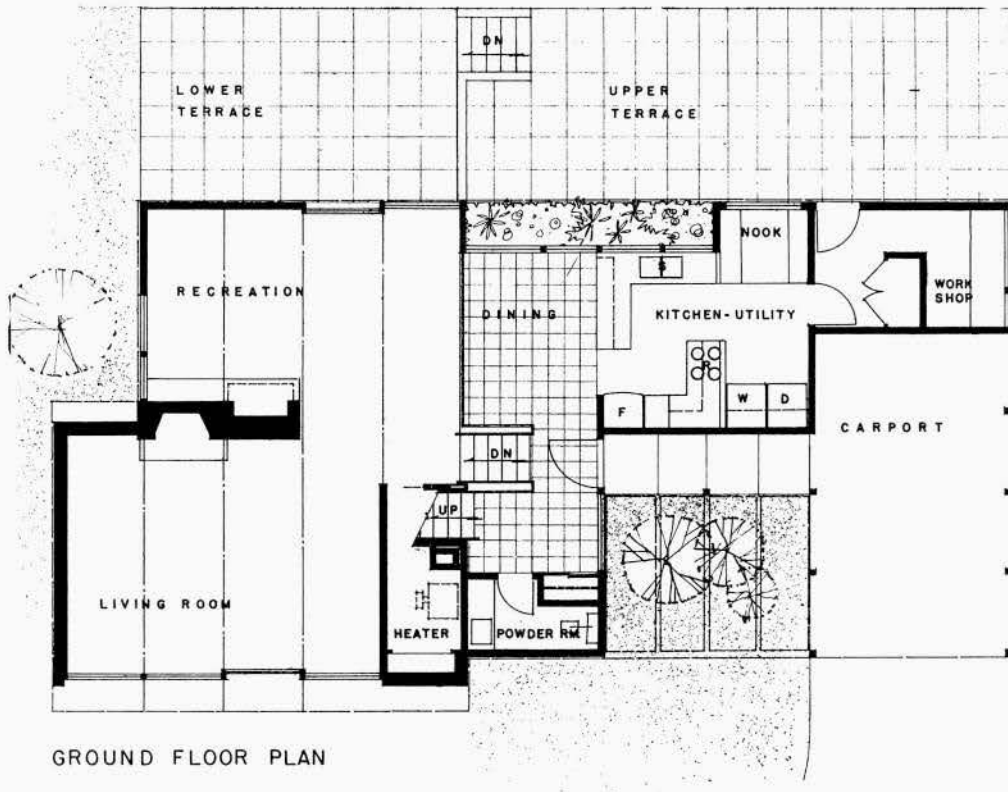
Main entrance from carport

View of living room from recreation

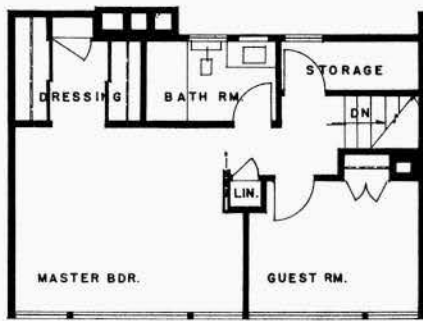


House of Mr K. R. Hennessey
Vancouver, British Columbia

Architects, Toby & Russell



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



UPPER FLOOR PLAN



View showing raised dining area

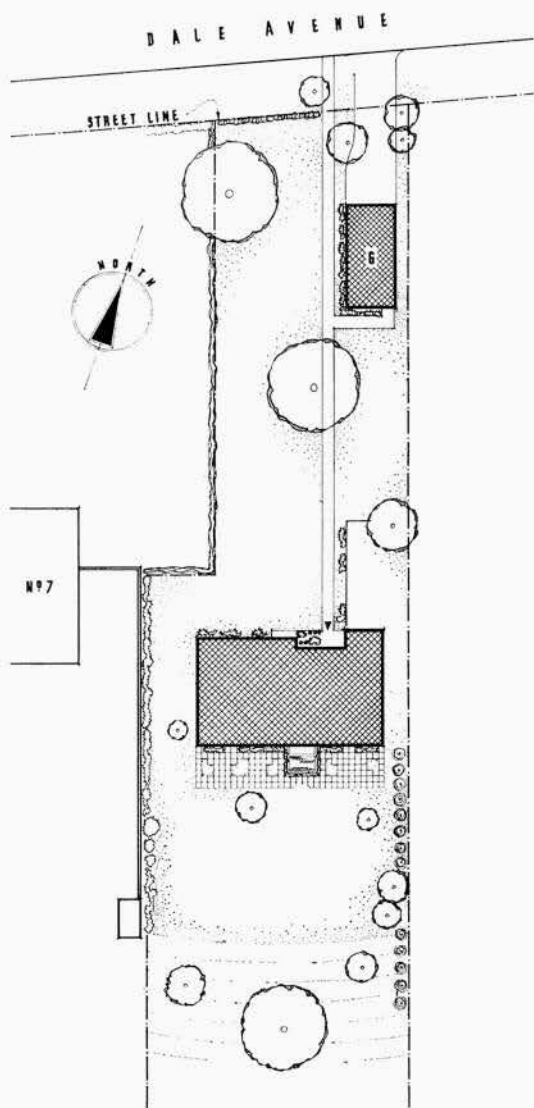
House of Mr Earle C. Morgan
Toronto, Ontario

Architect, Earle C. Morgan



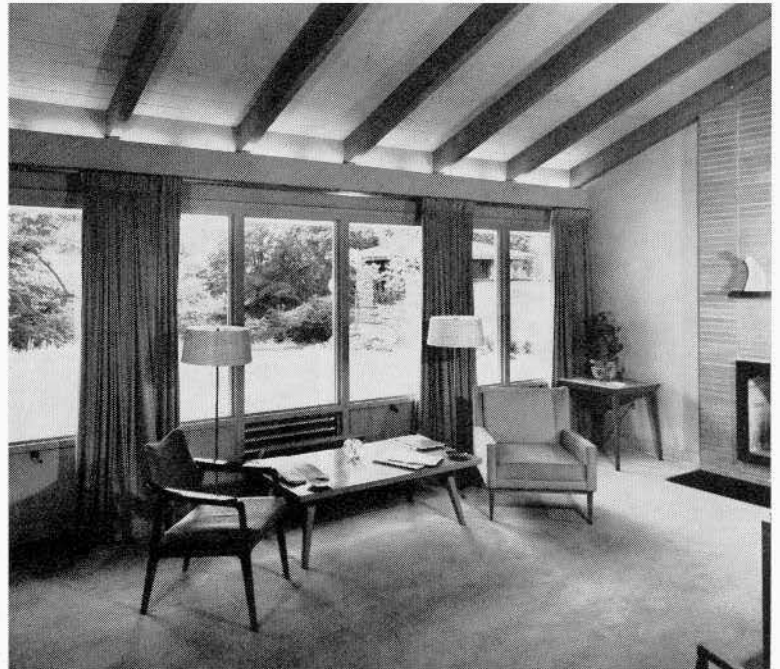
View from the garden



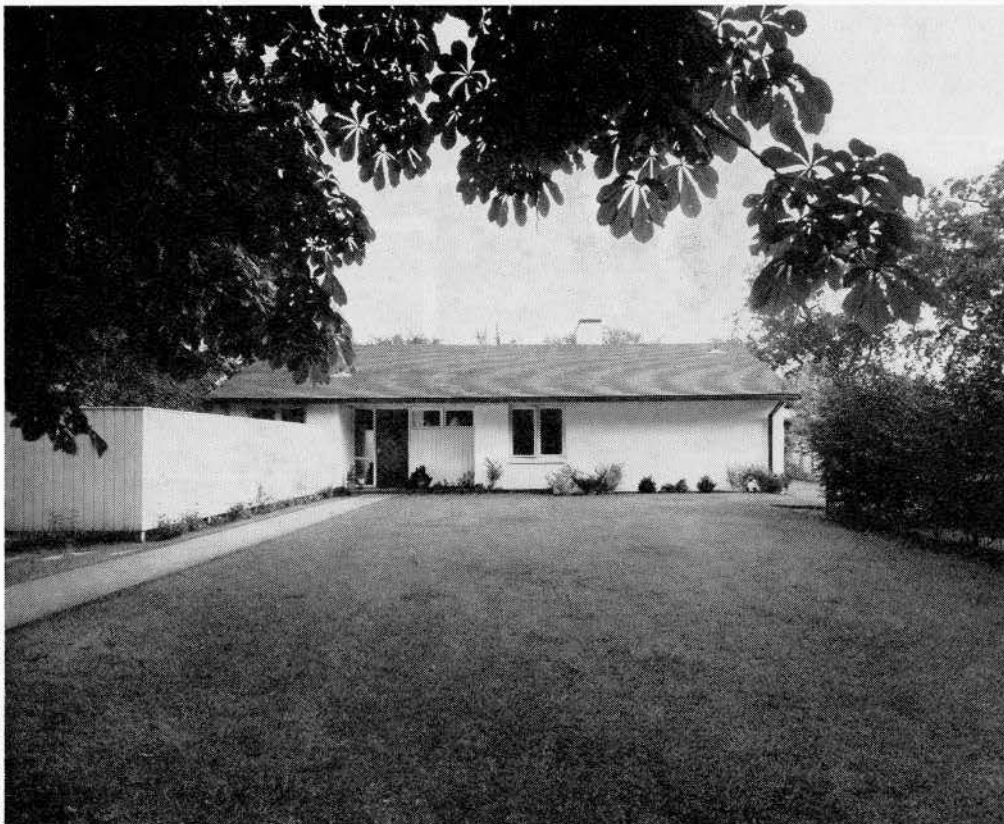


B L O C K P L A N

The living room



HUGH ROBERTSON-PANDA



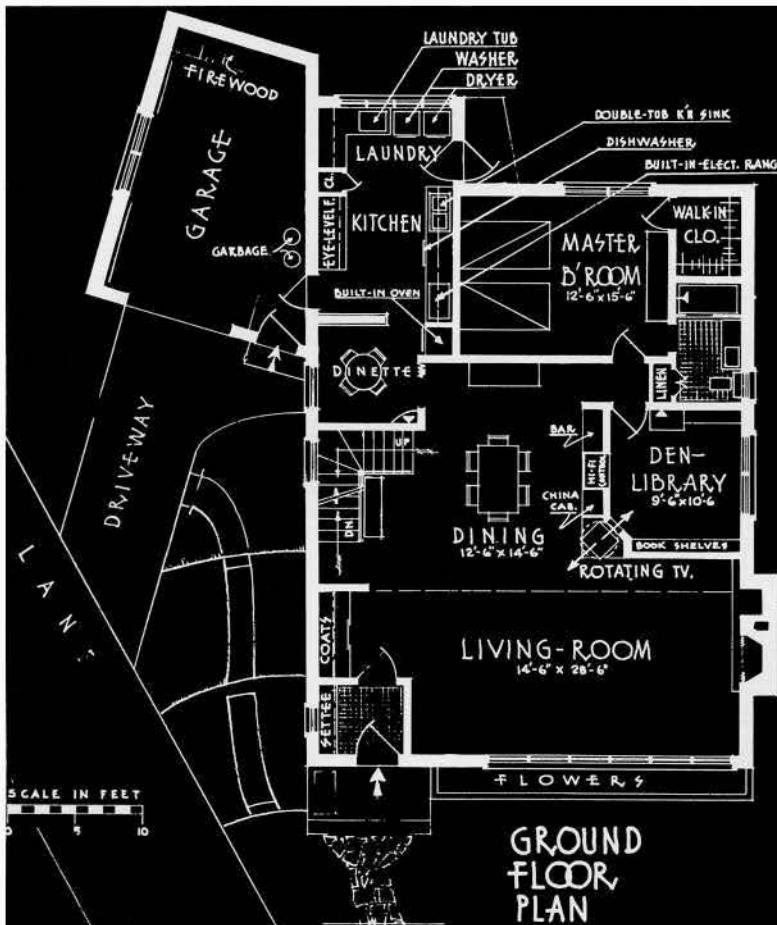
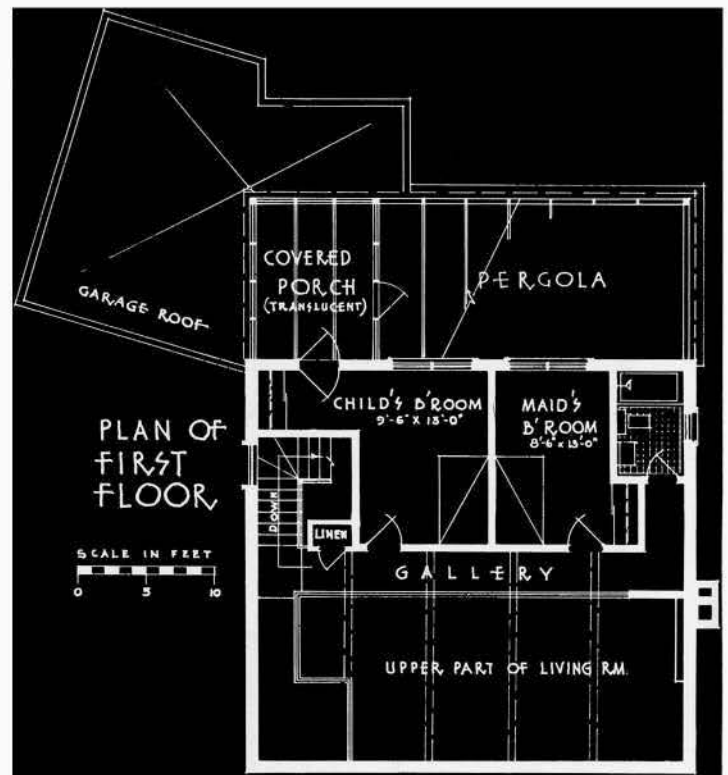
HUGH ROBERTSON-PANDA

Approach from the street

House of Mr Patrick McKeever
Town of Mount Royal, Quebec

Architect, Rodolphe Lajoie

General Contractors, North End Contractors Reg'd



Walls: 3" wood plank, brick encased. Furred inside and insulated by air space and foil-backed Gypsum lath.

Structure: steel columns and steel beams for larger spans. Solid wood 12" x 16" rafters above living room.

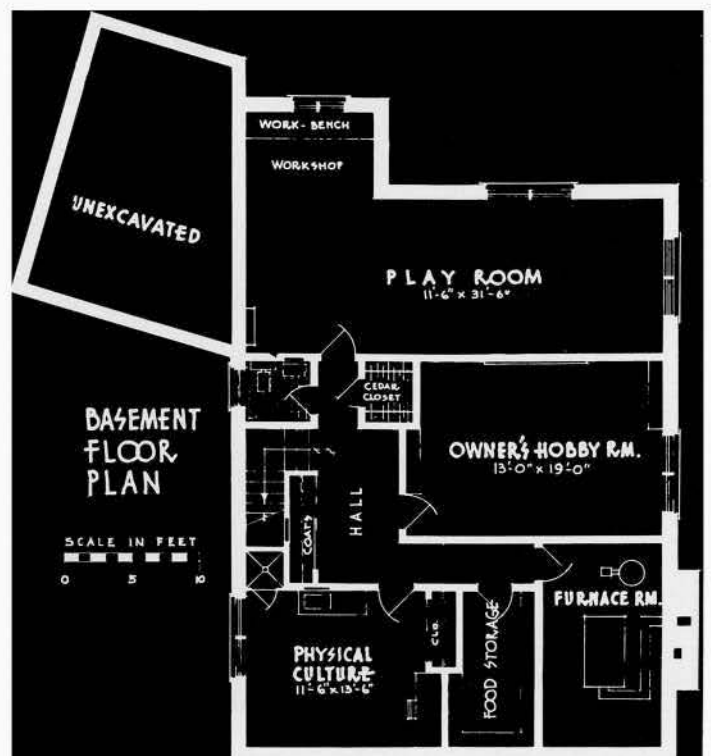
Ceilings: insulated with 4" bats of mineral wool. Finished in plaster; the main rooms have textured acoustical plaster.

Floors: wall-to-wall carpeting in principal rooms. Rubber tile in kitchen, vestibule and child's room. Cork tile in den, asphalt tile in basement, ceramic tile in all bath rooms and powder rooms.

Heating: (by Vipond-Tolhurst) forced hot-air (filtered and humidified), featuring baseboard diffusing grilles.

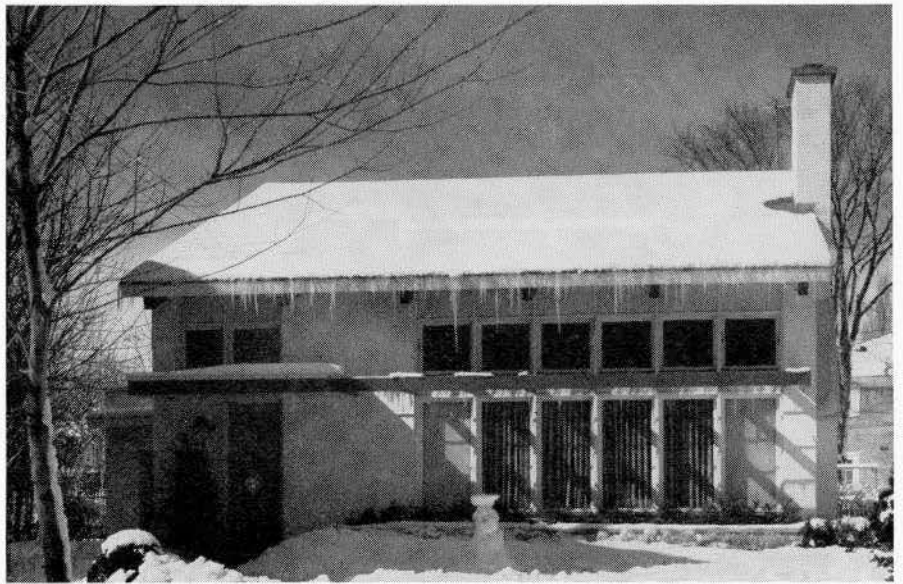
Plumbing: rigid copper. All fixtures are in colours to match adjoining tile-work.

Cost: well under \$30,000.00.

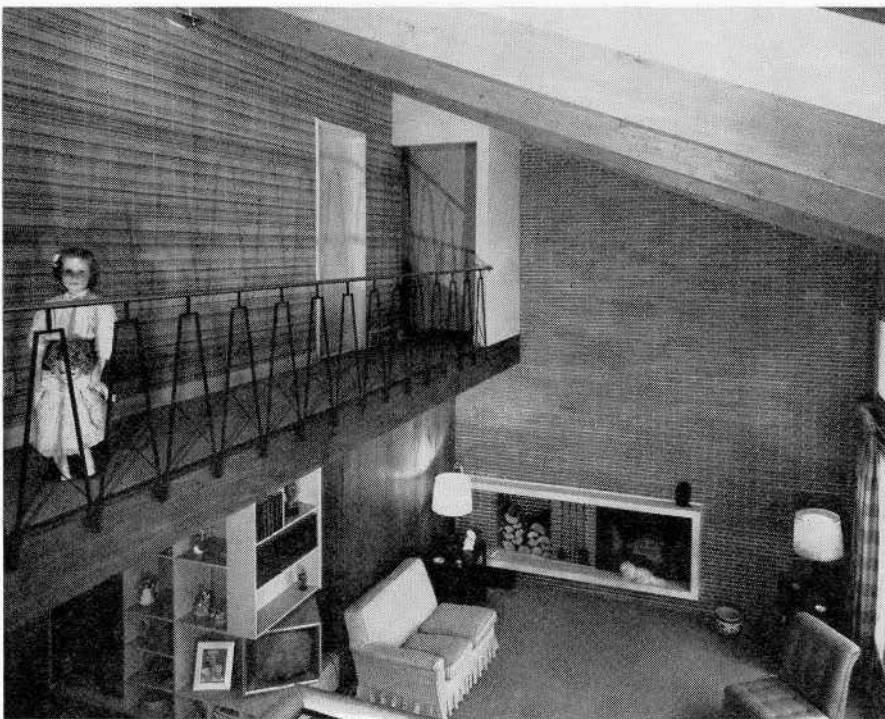


The Problem — a very odd-shaped strip of land, adjoining a lane, and having only 3' 0" frontage at the sidewalk.

The Solution — the garage entrance was taken from the lane. House has irregular shape to take maximum advantage of building area.



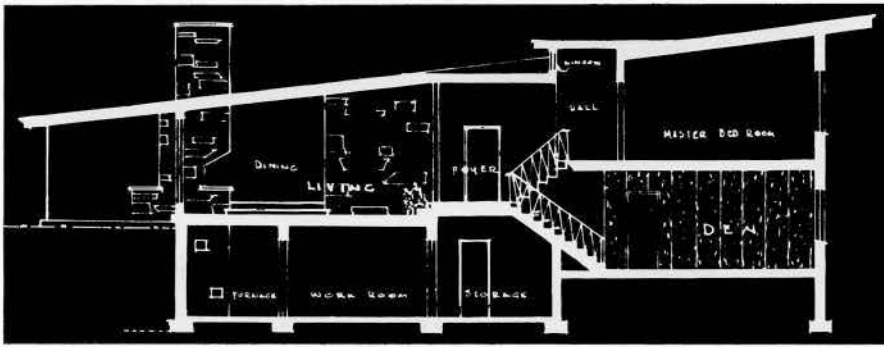
The front elevation



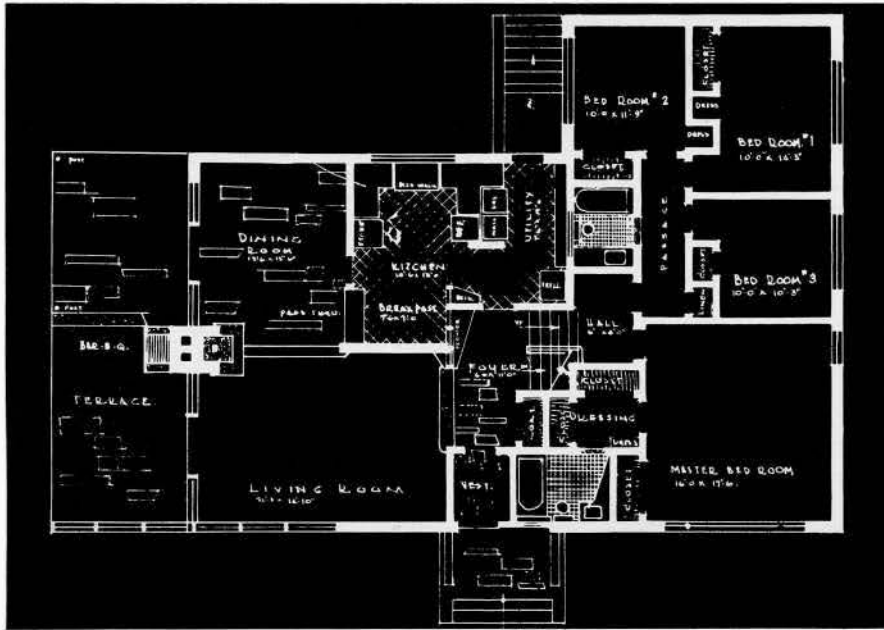
Living room seen from mezzanine balcony



Dining room and open stairway
as seen from living room



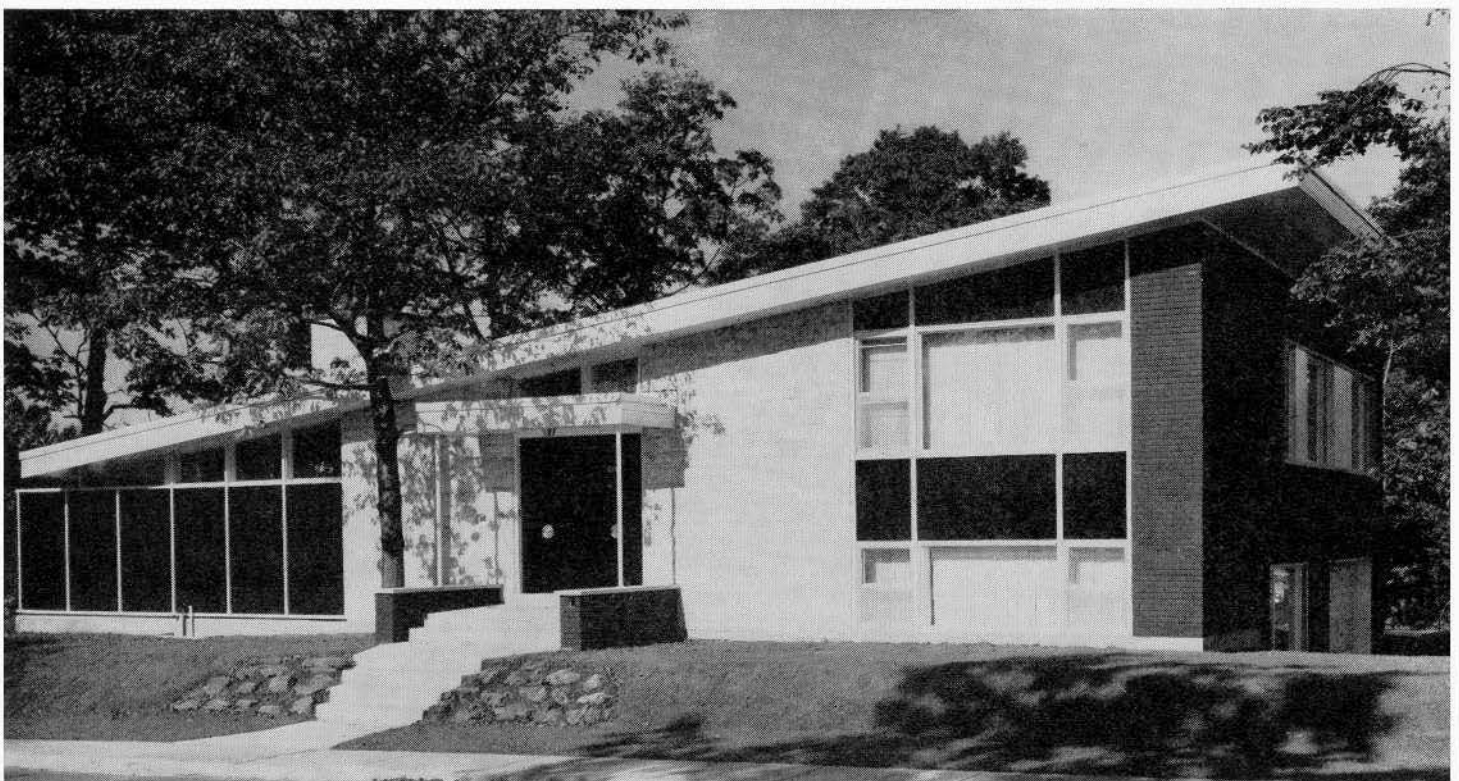
Section



Ground floor plan

House of Mr Bornstein
Westmount, Quebec

Architect, Stanley R. Shenkman

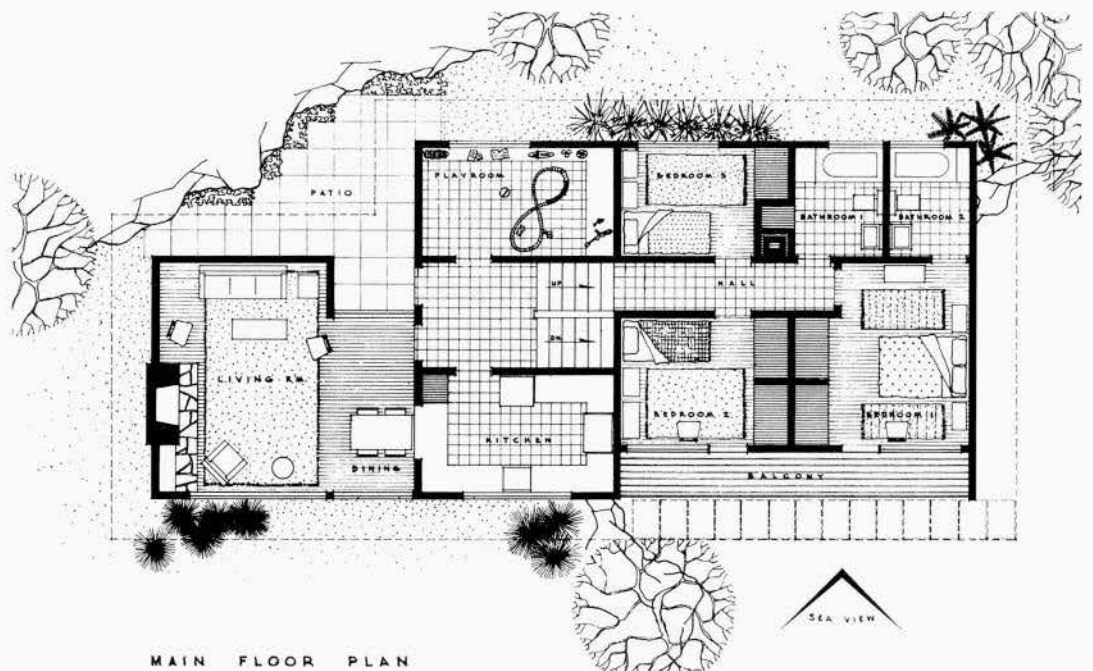
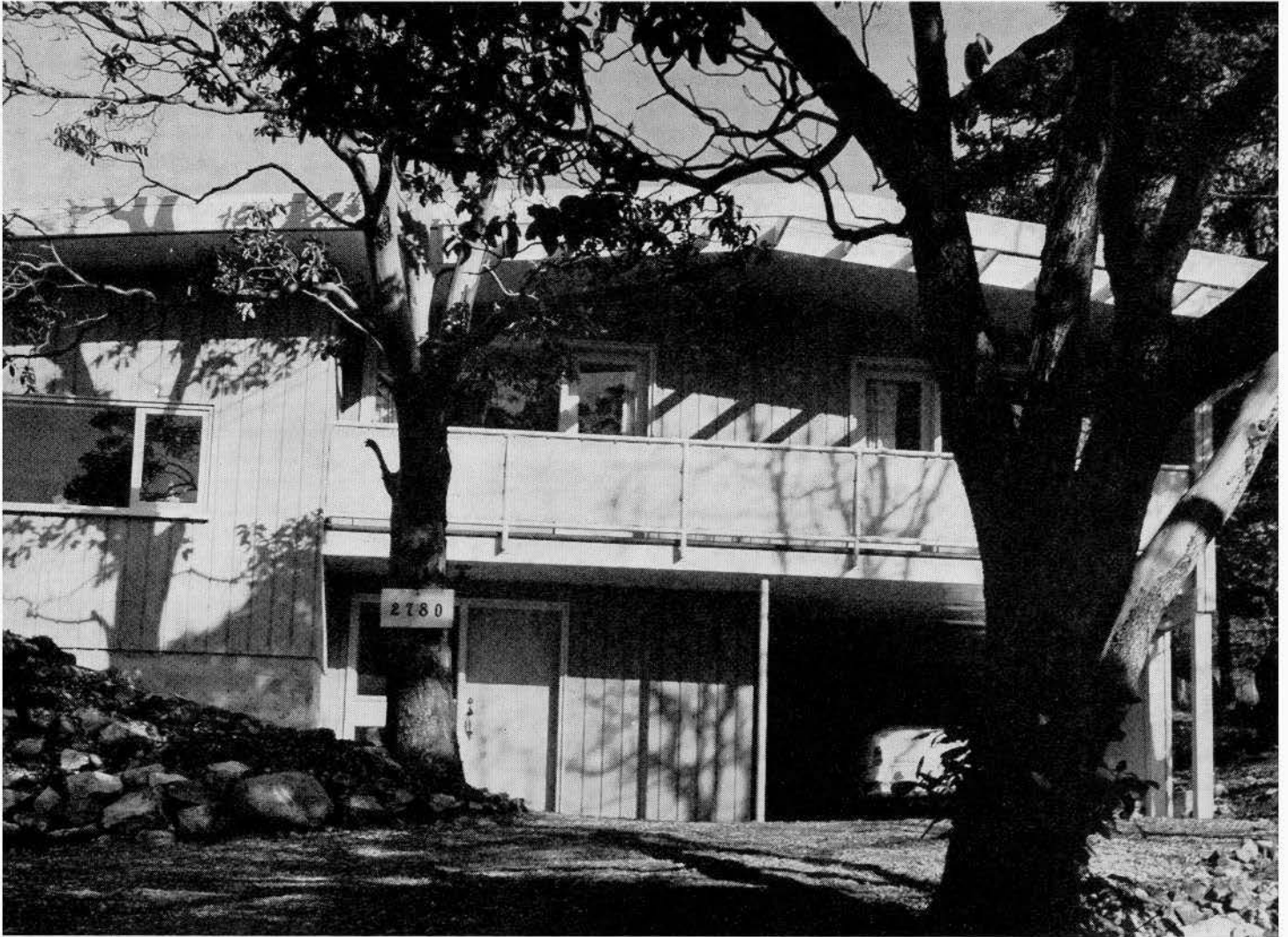


WALTER R. ALLEN

House of Mr E. L. Musgrave
 Ten Mile Point, Victoria, British Columbia

Architects and Town Planning Consultants, Clack, Clayton, Pickstone

General Contractors, Leslie L. King



Site: the site is rocky, wooded (arbutus and firs) and has a magnificent sea view.

Construction: western frame, gravel roofing.

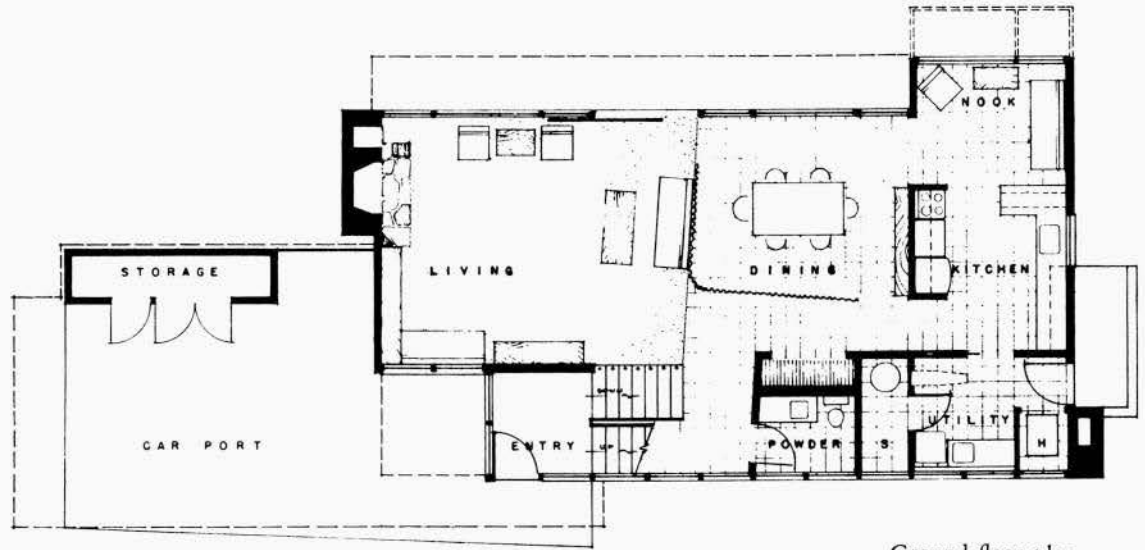
Colour: siding is recessed batten of driftwood grey; soffits are plywood, and trim of soft blue; canvas panels to deck of yellow.

Contract price: \$16,000.00.

MAIN FLOOR PLAN

House of Mr Harold N. Semmens
West Vancouver, British Columbia

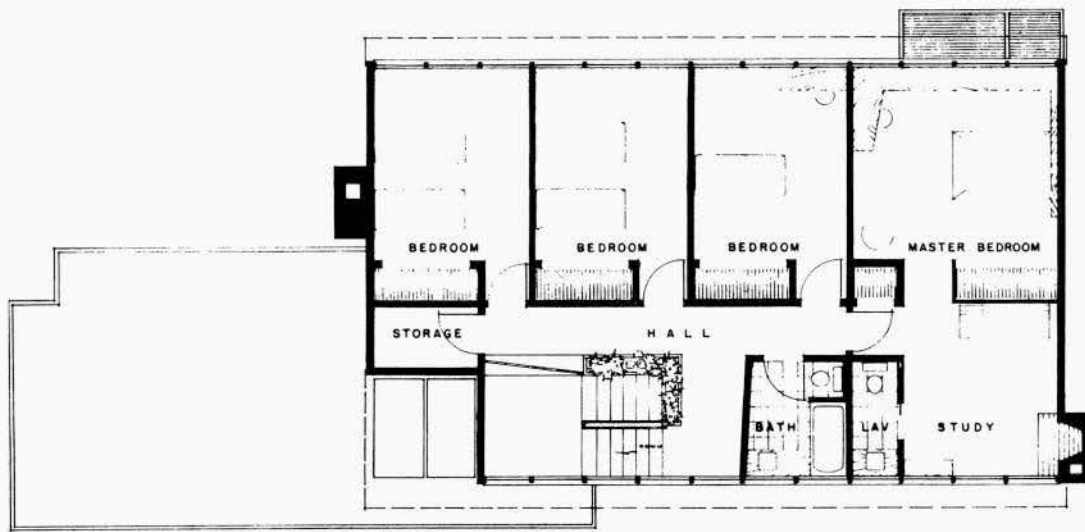
Architects, Semmens and Simpson



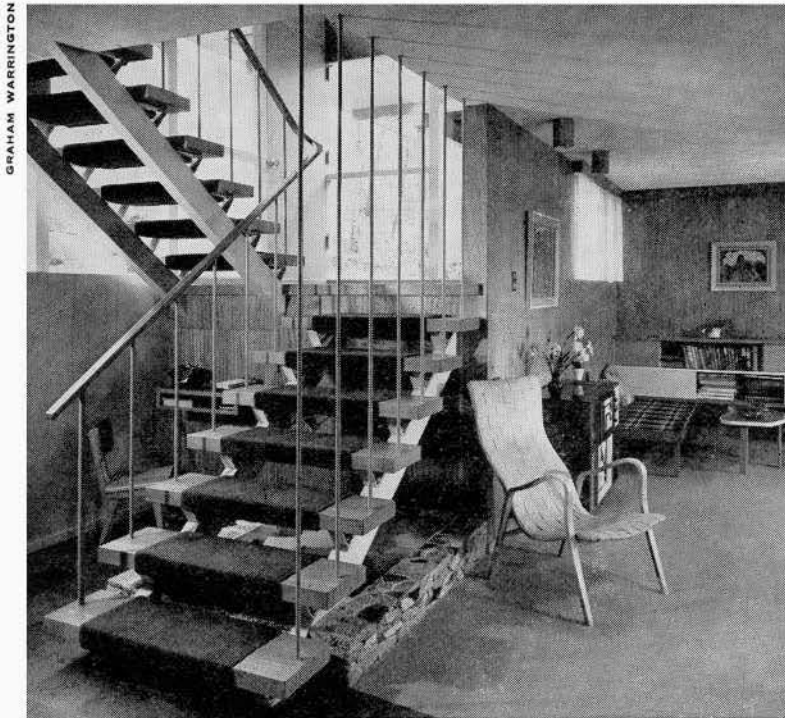
Ground floor plan



GRAHAM WARRINGTON

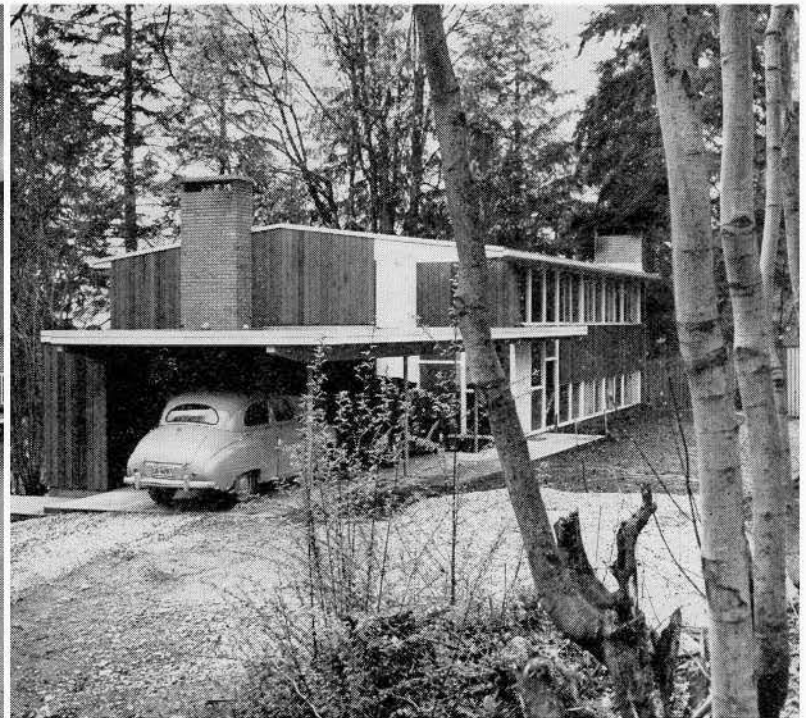


Second floor plan

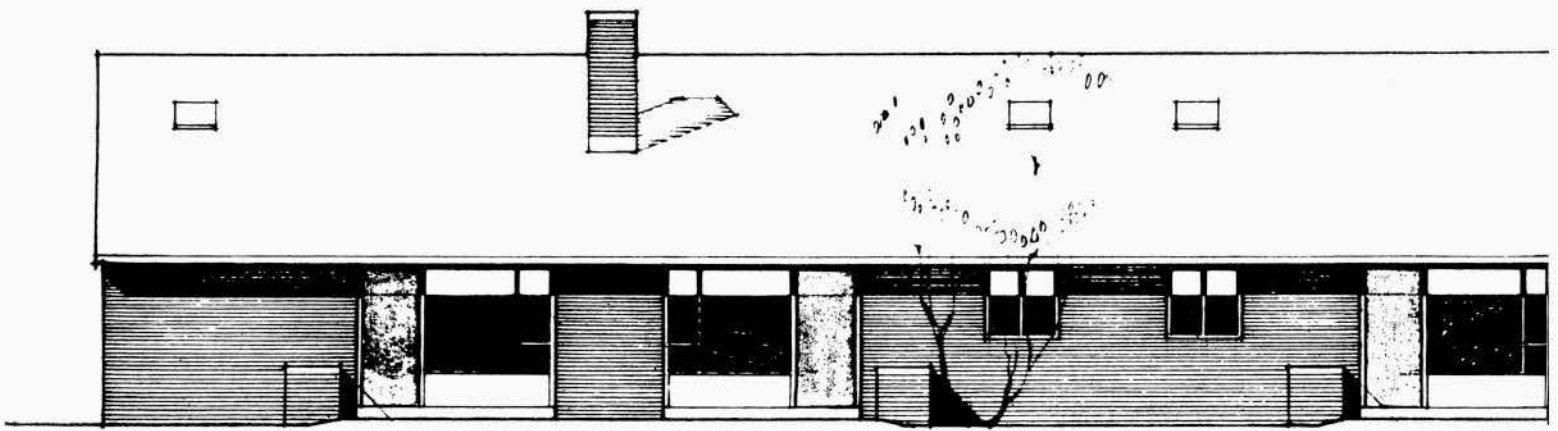


GRAHAM WARRINGTON

Staircase from living room



View of carport and main entrance



Street elevation of the split-level house

Row Housing
Don Mills, Ontario

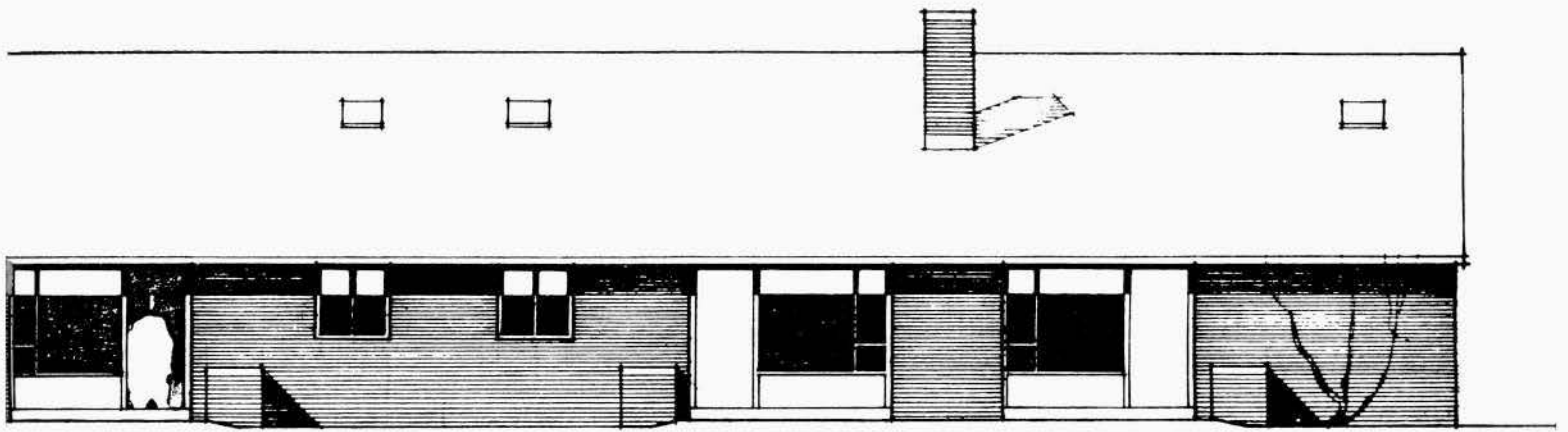
Associate Architects,
James A. Murray & Henry Fliess



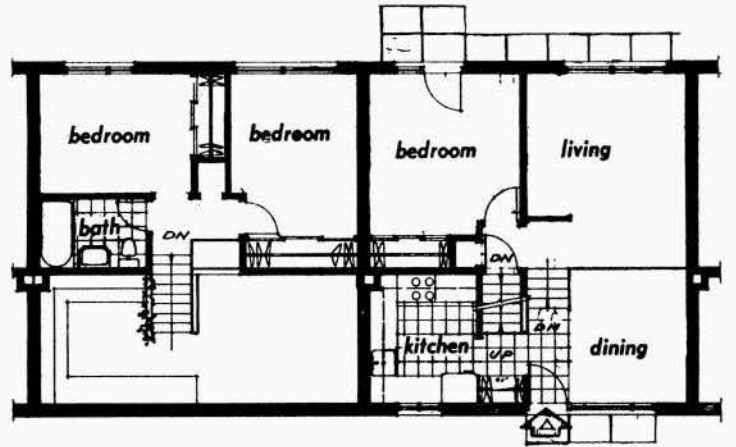
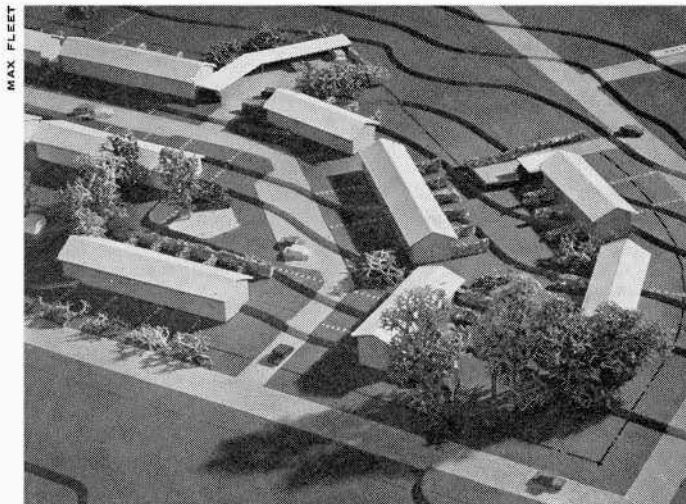
View showing the front elevations of the two-storey unit

Garden elevation of the split-level house





First and second floor plans of the two-storey row houses



Second and first floor plans of the split-level row houses



Report of the Pilkington Scholar

Résumé d'une Etude sur la Démolition des Taudis et la Reconstruction en Angleterre

PAR CLAUDE LECLERC

The Pilkington Glass Company having granted me a scholarship to study six months in England, on a special subject, I decided to prepare a report on the reconstruction of slums. To find out what had been done in the past, I consulted the libraries, went through the records and documents relating to the work accomplished; I looked over the organization of slum demolition and reconstruction, the ways of proceeding and the application of the program. With the persons in charge of departments of demolition and reconstruction, I have visited these municipalities and regions and studied their demolition and reconstruction zones. The most important visited were: London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Coventry, Macclesfield, Stoke-On-Trent, Worsley, Salford, Warrington, Stockport, Hertford, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and others.

To bring back London to its normal conception of a city, and not let it spread indefinitely out of its centre, the LCC (London County Council) in collaboration with Government Authorities, organizes and favours an emigration outside of its territory by forming new towns such as: Crawley, Corby, Hemel Hempstead, Harlow, Basildon, etc. London has prepared a plan of maximum allowable density in its very centre and has decided to reconstruct in height. As the Englishman has difficulty in breaking with tradition, he often refuses new materials fabricated in quantity. The individual house is still cheaper to build in England. On the contrary, in France and Scandinavia, high constructions are much more economical than individual houses. The slum condition in Great Britain is less than ours, for the slums demolished are not as bad as ours. There is a great collaboration between departments of demolition, reconstruction and social security. The advanced social legislation is the most impressive point. Development plans are very well made: the industrial zones are well limited, not too far from residential sections; community, religious and commercial centres are equally distributed and going up at the same time as habitation. England has made remarkable efforts in the field of slum demolition and reconstruction and has accomplished a tremendous work which can be an example to our country and many others.

Situation Générale dans le Monde

Dans un monde excessivement troublé qui n'a pas encore réussi à se détruire par les guerres et dont les statistiques prouvent que la population est sans cesse croissante, la demande pour de nouveaux logis répondant aux nécessités de l'homme moderne est énorme et leur construction est des plus urgentes.

Le siècle de l'industrialisme a aggravé le problème d'une façon effarante en obligeant les travailleurs à s'empiler, principalement au coeur des grandes villes, dans des logis sordides et crasseux. La technique avait déjà pris le pas sur l'humanité.

Dans les campagnes, les conditions sont un peu plus favorables. Les logis n'offrent pas plus de confort que ceux des villes mais le surpeuplement y est moins à l'honneur. La culture du sol demeurant la principale vocation de la plupart des peuples, celle de la construction échappe à la grosse majorité; quoique l'on reconnaisse d'emblée qu'un développement économique stable, tant urbain que rural, ne s'assure que si les membres de la communauté sont logés convenablement et s'ils jouissent d'une vie sociale bien organisée.

D'après le rapport présenté à la conférence annuelle de l'organisation internationale du travail, cent quatre vingt millions de familles ne sont pas logées adéquatement. Plus du tiers de la population terrestre dort sous les étoiles. Et ce pourcentage

comprend trente millions de familles vivant dans des pays qu'on dit économiquement avancés. Situation plus que tragique qui est en majorité due au coût élevé de la construction. L'augmentation toujours croissante du coût des matériaux, le manque de main d'oeuvre adéquate, les grèves de la plupart des corps de métiers, les lois de la construction, imposent des standards plus coûteux; standards que ne peuvent rencontrer les gens à revenu inférieur.

En effet, comme la construction de nouveaux logis est trop dispendieuse à la grandeur du globe, les loyers demandés sont trop élevés pour cette dernière catégorie. Vingt pour cent du revenu est considéré comme le pourcentage normal appliqué au logement; cependant, les travailleurs suisses payent jusqu'à quarante pour cent et les travailleurs allemands, environ trente cinq pour cent. Et bien que le Venezuela soit considéré comme le pays d'Amérique du Sud possédant le plus haut revenu per capita, environ quatre cent dollars par année, les groupes à haut revenu payent de un tiers à une demie de leur revenu pour se loger. En Italie, les loyers demandés pour de nouveaux logis équivalent à quarante ou cinquante pour cent du revenu de l'ouvrier. Ce pourcentage est certes trop élevé, mais encore faudrait-il qu'il y ait des logements. Aux Etats-Unis, les gens à plus haut revenu et une bonne part de la classe moyenne ne peuvent se loger adéquatement au coût actuel des logements.

Il est donc évident que le problème du logement et principalement celui de la démolition des taudis et du relogement des familles déplacées et sans abris, se pose partout et il est loin d'être résolu. Il ne le sera que si l'on réussit à réduire le coût de la construction par des méthodes de finance et de production adéquate, se basant sur les principes de la charité et de la valeur humaine. Toutefois, il ne faut pas être défaitiste, et beaucoup de possibilités sont offertes aux nations qui prennent vigoureusement le problème en mains. Parmi ces dernières, notons l'Angleterre qui, bien qu'elle ait essuyé une guerre terrible qui a totalement bouleversé son système économique, s'est déjà engagée courageusement à résoudre son problème de démolition de taudis et de reconstruction. Dans son histoire, le même phénomène semble se répéter constamment. Après un début de méfiante hésitation, cette nation part en tête toutes voiles dehors.

Considérations Générales

En Angleterre, tout comme ailleurs, le besoin de logement provient de quatre sources différentes: le surpeuplement, la démolition des taudis, la décentralisation résultant de nouveaux plans d'urbanisme et l'augmentation naturelle de la population. S'ajoute aussi la nécessité de remplacer les habitations temporaires de guerre. Nous considérerons surtout l'étude de la démolition des taudis et de la construction de logements salubres, suivant un plan de redéveloppement fantastique s'étendant sur une période de vingt ans, mais dont la réalisation n'en est encore qu'à ses débuts.

Historique du Problème

Dès 1930, lors de la déclaration de l'Acte de la démolition des taudis, la plupart des "Housing Authorities" attaquèrent

courageusement le problème. A la déclaration de la guerre de 1939, ce problème était presque résolu. On avait atteint un standard acceptable dans presque tout le pays. Le nombre de logements était approximativement égal à celui des familles, et seulement six pour cent de la population vivait encore dans les taudis.

Mais, hélas, la guerre vint et toute construction cessa. Les réparations furent réduites au minimum, ce qui causa une détérioration rapide des constructions antérieures à 1900. De plus, les bombardements ennemis détruisirent plus de 225,000 maisons et en endommagèrent cruellement 550,000. Les gens durent s'empiler dans les logements encore intacts, provoquant ainsi une congestion terrible qui les rendit à l'état de taudis.

Depuis 1945, l'Angleterre s'est surtout efforcé de fournir un toit aux sans-logis pour réduire la congestion au minimum. Elle a ainsi construit une douzaine de villes nouvelles pour décentraliser les grands centres surpeuplés.

Actuellement, on peut dire que la plupart des familles ont un toit et que les zones destinées aux nouvelles habitations sont en chantier. Aussi, depuis peu, le problème de la démolition des taudis a-t-il été sérieusement attaqué.

Estimé du Problème de la Démolition des Taudis

Les plus anciens centres urbains contiennent un très fort pourcentage de propriétés construites durant la révolution industrielle. Elles ceinturèrent les industries au coeur des villes. On les a transformées à plusieurs reprises, pour répondre à un plus grand besoin de logements. La densité y est effrayante par rapport aux standards modernes. Si cent personnes à l'acre semble une densité normale, une mauvaise répartition des logements peut causer un encombrement excessif. Ainsi, une seule personne occupe un logement de quatre à cinq pièces tandis que plus de trois ou quatre familles se séparent trois ou quatre pièces.

Généralement, l'âge de ces propriétés varie entre quatre vingt et cent cinquante ans. Plusieurs ont été construites suivant le principe du "back to back". Dans ces cours arrières ainsi formées, les jardins sont inexistant, puisqu'aucun rayon de soleil n'y pénètre. Dans les villes de Manchester et Birmingham, de nombreux quartiers sont tout à fait dépourvus de verdure et de parcs. En effet, la fumée y est si intense, que toute végétation s'y dessèche. Les services utilitaires et sanitaires y sont aussi très rudimentaires. Dans certains secteurs, dix à douze familles se séparent une seule toilette et un seul robinet, situés au fond d'une cour arrière. Dans ces maisons, l'air et la lumière indispensables à toute croissance, ne pénètrent pas en quantité suffisante. Les entrées communes sont d'une malpropreté indescriptible; n'appartenant à personne, personne ne les entretient.

Structuralement, la majorité de ces unités ne sont pas réparables sur une base économique. Souvent, ils sont même dangereux et les risques de feu y sont très grands. Dans ces quartiers, un petit nombre de ces propriétés possèdent cependant une structure solide, mais pour la saine réalisation du grand plan d'ensemble, il ne serait pas raisonnable de les conserver, retardant la reconstruction de tout un nouveau quartier salubre.

Cependant, dans les grands centres de Londres, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool et autres, on trouve des rues entières de maison victoriennes qui sont de construction très stable. Malheureusement, là comme ailleurs, on retrouve l'état de taudis, puisque plusieurs familles se séparent un seul logis. Comme ces habitations sont très grandes, elles peuvent être converties sans trop de frais en logis séparés possédant les appareils sanitaires et utilitaires indispensables à tout logement confortable.

Aujourd'hui, la Grande-Bretagne possède environ treize millions et demie de logis. Ceci comprend: trois millions et trois quart occupés par leur propriétaire, deux millions et demie appartenant aux "Local Authorities, New Towns' Corporation and Housing Association", et sept millions et quart appartenant à l'industrie privée. Les logis des deux premières catégories qui datent d'après 1919, ont été dessinés suivant les exigences

de la vie dite moderne et possèdent les services sanitaires et utilitaires requis. L'âge des logis de la troisième catégorie s'établit comme suit: deux millions et quart ont cent ans et plus, un million et trois quart plus de soixante et dix ans, et trois quart de millions datent de soixante et cinq ans. Généralement, l'âge économique d'une construction est de soixante ans. Evidemment, tout dépend de l'entretien, des réparations et de la qualité des matériaux employés. On ne peut pas dire que toutes ces habitations ne peuvent pas être réparées, mais on peut supposer que celles qui ont cent ans et plus sont condamnables et doivent être détruites. Actuellement la Grande Bretagne n'est pas assez avancée dans le stage de la démolition pour donner des chiffres précis. Mais si l'on se base sur le programme d'avant-guerre, on peut dire que cent quarante mille propriétés qui furent cédulées pour la démolition sont encore occupées. Et ce chiffre, augmenté du nombre des nouveaux tandis d'après-guerre, va toujours croissant par l'acquisition de nouveaux secteurs de démolition.

Conversion Temporaire des Taudis en Habitations Salubres

Il est évident que des millions de taudis seront encore occupés pour une période quinze ans ou plus. Pour cette raison, le nouvel acte de 1954 "Housing Repairs and Rent", renferme une clause qui permet aux autorités locales d'entreprendre, après l'acquisition de propriétés à l'état de taudis, certains travaux pour rendre la vie plus tolérable aux gens qui devront encore habiter ces maisons pour une période d'au-delà de cinq ans. Chaque municipalité possède des propriétés sujettes à de telles réparations. Ces maisons sont structurellement solides mais tout à fait dépourvues d'appareils sanitaires et utilitaires. Etant trop grandes pour une seule famille, elles peuvent être facilement converties en deux ou trois logements. Pourvues de salles de bain, d'eau chaude, de cuisines planifiées, elles donnent encore plusieurs années de bon service.

D'après le nouvel acte de 1954, la loi accorde des subsides à ceux qui veulent réparer ou convertir leur maison, pourvu qu'elles soient habitables pour une période d'au moins quinze ans, alors qu'auparavant cette période était de trente ans. Les dépenses assumées par le propriétaire ne sont pas limitées, mais les subsides maximums sont de quatre cent livres (1200 dollars). Le propriétaire a le droit d'augmenter le loyer des logements convertis ou améliorés, mais l'augmentation accordée par le gouvernement n'est pas suffisante pour compenser le coût des transformations. C'est pourquoi, les propriétaires ne se sont pas prévalu des droits du nouvel acte en aussi grand nombre qu'on ne l'avait tout d'abord espéré.

Problème de Redéveloppement

Se basant sur le relevé national effectué immédiatement après la parution de l'acte de 1930, le programme peut s'esquisser sur une période de cinq à vingt ans, selon la demande pour de nouveaux logis et l'envergure du plan de démolition. Les plus vieilles agglomérations urbaines, souvent les plus peuplées, ont à faire face à une très grande demande de logements. Elles doivent donc reloger, tout d'abord, les personnes vivant dans les taudis et, ensuite satisfaire les cas les plus urgents.

Un projet de redéveloppement doit être pensé et préparé longtemps à l'avance. Il doit englober une superficie de terrain suffisante pour permettre une planification humanitaire mettant l'accent sur l'aménagement d'espaces verts, de jardins et de terrains de jeux minutieusement étudiés. Les centres d'achat et communautaires doivent s'élever en même temps que les habitations et ne pas être laissés à l'état de projet futur. Aussitôt que les sites ont été déblayés, et les questions administratives résolues, on doit immédiatement procéder à l'exécution des plans de redéveloppement. Trop souvent, par le passé, ces sites sont restés vacants de nombreuses années.

Un problème qui se pose lors de la réalisation d'un redéveloppement est celui de la surpopulation qui subsiste alors que tout le terrain disponible a été utilisé. Ce problème ne peut

être résolu que par la décentralisation des centres urbains et par l'accroissement de la densité dans les nouveaux projets de relogement. Il est à espérer que cette dernière solution s'obtiendra, non par la construction d'habitations individuelles sur l'emplacement de terrains prévus pour des espaces verts, mais bien par l'édification de maisons de rapport en hauteur humainement pensées. Il est aussi très important que de nouveaux logements, croissant au même rythme que la démolition des logis insalubres soient construits dans différentes zones de façon à ce que les familles déplacées puissent choisir le quartier et le genre de logement qui leur conviennent. Il appartient aux municipalités de prévoir un rythme correspondant à leur besoin individuel et à l'envergure de leur programme de replanification.

Méthode de Démolition des Taudis et Organisation du Travail

Le premier travail qui s'impose à ceux qui ont à faire face au problème de démolition des taudis, est l'établissement de standards. Là où il n'y a pas de standard établi, il n'y a pas de problème; les individus se logent comme bon leur semble. Mais, du moment qu'un standard existe, un problème se crée, et l'envergure de celui-ci se détermine d'après le degré du standard. Le "Standard of Fitness Sub-committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee" a établi, dans un rapport publié en 1946, des standards conditionnant la salubrité de toute habitation. Un logis est déclaré insalubre s'il ne satisfait pas à un ou plusieurs des items suivants :

- a) envergure des réparations;
- b) stabilité de structure;
- c) absence d'humidité (L'humidité est la principale cause de détérioration);
- d) lumière naturelle;
- e) ventilation;
- f) eau courante;
- g) drainage et appareils sanitaires;
- h) dépôt, facilité de la cuisson des aliments.

En fait, la définition d'un taudis peut varier, mais les conditions demeurent toujours les mêmes. Connaissant les standards établis par les autorités compétentes, considérons maintenant le processus de son élimination.

Une grande ville a plusieurs départements indépendants, chacun avec ses responsabilités spécifiques: dans une petite municipalité, le nombre de départements a l'avantage d'être réduit au minimum. Un manque de collaboration entre plusieurs départements entraîne des erreurs irréparables.

Voyons le travail de certains de ces départements.

Département de la Santé Publique

Considérant une zone insalubre, l'inspecteur sanitaire, sous les ordres du chef de son département, détermine, d'après les actes 1936-49-54, les bâtiments qui ne correspondent pas aux standards établis. Ce rapport est présenté au médecin du département qui le vérifie, puis, au ministère qui décide si ces derniers doivent être réparés ou démolis.

Département d'Immeuble

Lorsqu'une zone a été déclarée insalubre, on peut procéder par ordre d'évacuation ou de vente obligatoire. La compensation attribuée au propriétaire est la même dans les deux cas.

Avant l'acquisition, on accorde un certain délai pour entendre les revendications des propriétaires et des locataires. Cette procédure très démocratique entraîne cependant des retards de deux ans dans l'acquisition de propriétés. Si les propriétés sont inadéquates à l'habitation, la corporation paie seulement le prix du terrain. Si, pour une raison quelconque, les maisons, commerces, industries, sont encore aptes à l'occupation, mais compris dans une zone de redéveloppement, elle les achète (terrain et bâtiment) au prix du marché, ce qui représente des sommes fabuleuses. Dans certains cas, les autorités peuvent forcer un propriétaire à démolir un taudis à ses propres frais. Il reste alors propriétaire du terrain et peut en dispo-

ser au meilleur de sa connaissance.

L'acquisition des magasins et des industries cause de sérieux problèmes. La création de nouveaux centres d'achat réduit le commerce de soixante quinze pour cent. Les petits commerçants doivent, alors, se retirer ou changer de région. En compensation, la corporation leur paie le profit net d'une année ou d'une année et demie. Lorsqu'il s'agit d'industrie, on déblaie le terrain et on le loue pour une période de soixante quinze ans. Les industries déplacées doivent se reloger à leurs propres frais. Si elles ne le peuvent, la corporation leur loue un espace dans des édifices de cinq à six étages qu'elle a construits à cet effet, et paie leur déménagement.

Département des Travaux Publics

Avant l'achat des zones de reconstruction, le département des architectes et urbanistes, qui appartient au département des travaux publics, a déjà préparé un plan de reconstruction déterminant exactement ce qui doit être acquis pour un sain redéveloppement. Une fois les zones achetées, les architectes étudient les moindres détails, réalisant pleinement le plan maître. En général, le redéveloppement d'une zone insalubre s'étend sur une période de quatre ans.

Département de Sociologie

Un autre département de grande importance est celui de la sociologie. Il lui appartient de résoudre le profond problème social que cause le déplacement d'un si grand nombre de personnes.

Ce département produit un rapport individuel sur chaque famille à déplacer. Il en étudie la position sociale, le nombre d'enfants, les habitudes, les besoins, les divertissements, le lieu habituel d'emplettes, etc.

L'éducation sociale des familles à déplacer, surtout les plus pauvres, cause un problème très complexe. Tout en étant gouvernementale, cette éducation doit être dépourvue de toute couleur politique. Des auxiliaires spéciaux sont formés à cet effet. Ils facilitent aux familles leur adaptation au nouveau milieu. Ainsi on leur montrera comment garder une maison propre, comment faire les emplettes économiquement.

Un bel exemple dans ce domaine, est celui fourni par le "Carnegie Limited Kingdom Trust" qui a donné des subsides au "Liverpool Personal Service Society" pour l'achat et l'équipement de cinq maisons d'ouvriers dans le centre de Liverpool. A tour de rôle ces maisons sont louées à des familles déplacées, qui sont guidées et entraînées à devenir de bons locataires. Cette initiative est plus que louable, car plusieurs compagnies privées refusent actuellement la location de leurs logements aux gens sortis des taudis.

Les services sociaux s'occupent aussi du nettoyage des vieux meubles et de leur désinfection. On se rend facilement compte que le département de sociologie est essentiel, la rééducation psychologique des gens étant plus importante que leur relogement. Quand cette première est négligée, ils traînent avec eux leur éducation première et bientôt les nouveaux logis dégénèrent en taudis.

Département des "Housing Managers"

Un autre département qui n'est pas non plus à négliger, c'est celui de la Société des "Housing Managers". Ses membres, appelés gérants, ont subi un entraînement de deux à cinq ans.

Ils rencontrent les familles avant leur déplacement. Ils sont ainsi conscients de leurs besoins et voient à ce qu'elles s'acclimatent plus facilement. Ainsi à de pauvres gens qui n'ont que le ménage d'une pièce et qui doivent déménager dans trois ou quatre pièces en raison de leurs besoins, la société se chargera de trouver des meubles à bon compte et de finance facile. Toutes les semaines, les gérants collectent les loyers et font en quelque sorte une inspection, en tenant compte des revendications des locataires. Si le cas est mineur le gérant résout le problème au meilleur de sa connaissance, s'il est plus complexe, il le rapporte à son chef qui se charge de le résoudre. Un gros redéveloppement présente ses revendications par l'intermé-

diaire de son association.

Position Economique des Familles Déplacées

Fait frappant, il existe une faible marge entre les revenus des familles déplacées et ceux des familles qui constituent la liste d'attente normale. Cependant, dans la première catégorie, on trouve un plus fort pourcentage de personnes à revenu inférieur, dû à un certain nombre de vieillards qui ne reçoivent que leur pension d'état et à un bon nombre de personnes vivant seules qui ne gagnent rien.

Si l'on compare le loyer payé par les familles qui vivent dans le centre des villes et celui que paient les gens sur la liste d'attente normale, les familles de zone de taudis paient un loyer beaucoup inférieur à celui que paient les familles de la deuxième catégorie. Ce loyer est quelque-fois inférieur à 9 s. (\$1.00) par semaine contre 11 à 14 s. (\$1.75 à \$2.25) par semaine pour les familles de la deuxième catégorie. Les familles déplacées s'attendent à ce que les nouveaux loyers ne soient pas plus élevés que ceux qu'elles paient actuellement. Malheureusement, au coût actuel de la construction, il est presque impossible de rencontrer ce point de vue. De plus, les subsides gouvernementaux n'étant pas encore suffisants, on peut dire que les loyers de presque toutes les nouvelles habitations sont au-dessus des moyens de la plupart des salariés.

Point de Vue Social du Problème

Il est assez difficile d'étudier la position sociale des familles des zones de démolition. Il existe très peu de statistiques, seulement quelques municipalités ont pu en établir durant les dernières années.

Aujourd'hui, la famille moyenne est moins nombreuse que celle d'il y a dix ans. Et les familles qui habitent les zones insalubres ne sont pas plus nombreuses que celles des autres quartiers. Aussi, comme on ne prévoit pas une recrudescence du nombre d'enfants, par famille, les autorités prévoient qu'elles n'auront pas besoin de types de logement plus grands que ceux déjà existants.

Il est cependant déplorable qu'un très fort pourcentage de familles socialement non adaptées se trouvent dans des zones de taudis. Heureusement les dernières statistiques révèlent que ce pourcentage a diminué, grâce à la belle collaboration du Département de Sociologie, au fait que les conditions d'habitat ont été grandement améliorées et à une plus grande stabilité économique.

Il semble qu'il soit difficile de placer une famille socialement inadaptée dans un nouveau logement. Le changement étant trop brusque, elle ne s'adapte pas assez rapidement. Souvent, les voisins se refusent à les accepter, les familles développent ainsi des complexes d'infériorité, surtout s'il s'agit de familles de couleur. La meilleure solution à ce problème a été employée par les municipalités de Birmingham et Macclesfield. Il s'agit de loger ces familles dans des habitations transformées ou réparées, puis lorsque leur éducation sociale est faite on les admet dans les nouveaux logis.

Habituellement les gens habitant une même zone de démolition préfèrent être relogés ensemble, ce qui n'est pas une bonne solution, car les nouvelles zones restent tarées. Il est préférable de mélanger les familles de façon à ce que les personnes déplacées ne connaissent pas les antécédents de leurs voisins. Ainsi elles peuvent plus aisément s'intégrer au milieu social sans être marquées des stigmates des gens venant des zones insalubres. D'après un récent relevé, on a aussi conclu qu'un fort pourcentage de familles, surtout les jeunes, vivant au coeur surpeuplé des villes, souhaitent y être relogées. Elles y sont près de leur travail et épargnent sur le transport.

Dans les zones surpeuplées, la plupart des familles partagent leur logis avec des vieillards ou des célibataires. Avant 1955,

les municipalités ne s'étaient pas préoccupé de reloger cette catégorie de personnes. On tente actuellement de résoudre le problème en construisant de petits logements de 2 à 3 pièces juxtaposés à des bungalows de 6 à 8 pièces. Pour les vieillards, on a construit des refuges qui ont tout l'aspect d'hôtels où l'on respecte la liberté de l'individu et où la vie sociale est très active.

Les familles sous-éduquées ont encore à faire face à un autre problème. Elles ont toujours méconnu le pourcentage logique de leur revenu qu'elles doivent déboursier pour se loger. Dans une petite ville près de Manchester, on fit mander un inspecteur pour vérifier le degré d'humidité d'un logis; ce dernier fut trouvé dans un état pitoyable. On découvrit cependant que le revenu hebdomadaire de la famille était de 65 livres (183 dollars). Le loyer étant de une livre par semaine, il représentait donc 1/65 du revenu commun.

Ailleurs, une famille refusait de se faire déplacer, prétextant qu'elle ne pouvait se reloger au même prix de 6 shillings par semaine (\$0.90). Elle vivait dans trois pièces et le salaire de la famille était de 20 livres (\$56). Une autre famille refusait aussi de quitter son taudis. Ils vivaient dix dans quatre pièces, avec un salaire minimum de cinquante livres par semaine (\$140), et ils ne payaient que vingt-cinq shillings (\$3.75) de loyer. Dans les nouveaux redéveloppements, le loyer double, mais on calcule qu'une famille moyenne de deux à trois enfants est encore capable de l'affronter, car il ne représente qu'environ 1/6 du salaire. Un meilleur emploi du revenu familial s'impose. Un budget bien équilibré peut permettre la réintégration de toutes ces familles au sein de la société.

L'Expérience Anglaise est-elle Concluante?

On ne peut apprécier à leur juste valeur les efforts que la Grande-Bretagne a fournis dans le domaine de la démolition des taudis et de la reconstruction, car son grandiose plan de redéveloppement n'en est qu'à ses débuts, plan qui accuse quelques faiblesses mais qu'on ne cesse d'améliorer par des études sérieuses. Toutefois il n'est pas à notre avantage de constater jusqu'à quel point sa législation sociale nous a devancés. Aussi longtemps que dans ce pays, le gouvernement continuera de se préoccuper du bien-être du peuple, ce dernier peut espérer en un futur prometteur.

Architectoniquement, de très louables efforts ont été réalisés; la Grande-Bretagne développe un caractère tout à fait particulier. Dans le domaine de l'habitation, Londres remporte haut la palme. Le London County Council est très dynamique, il fait fi de la tradition. Quelques réalisations sont vraiment formidables, entre autres les jardins Churchill de Pimlico et le projet Tecton d'Hampstead. En dehors de Londres, et surtout dans les régions du Centre et du Nord, le tout reste imprégné des styles georgien et tudor. Les architectes ne traduisent pas leurs sentiments, mais s'exécutent sous la direction de la corporation représentée, comme ici, par le cordonnier, le boucher, ou le petit fonctionnaire sans culture.

L'expérience anglaise est loin d'être parfaite, elle s'améliore constamment. Cependant plusieurs municipalités canadiennes pourraient s'en inspirer avec profit, ainsi les taudis disparaîtraient de notre métropole, taudis dont les conditions sont souvent inférieures à celles des habitations insalubres de Grande-Bretagne. Un riche pays comme le nôtre n'a pas le droit de temporiser plus longtemps une situation intolérable. Il doit suivre l'exemple logique de l'Angleterre qui, après avoir été ravagée par la guerre, s'est attiré l'attention mondiale dans le domaine de l'habitation et de l'urbanisme.

QUELQUES OUVRAGES CONSULTÉS
Planning Outlook, *Alasdair C. Sutherland*; The Slum — its Story and Solution, *Harry Barnes*; Slum, *Howard Marshall*; The Slum Problem, *B. S. Townroe*; Town and Country Planning Reviews; Housing and Family Life, *J. M. Mackintosh*; ONU Reviews; Town and Country Planning Act, 1947-49-54; Town Development Act; LCC Post-War Housing; The Housing Act, 1954.

Regent Park South Project Toronto, Ontario

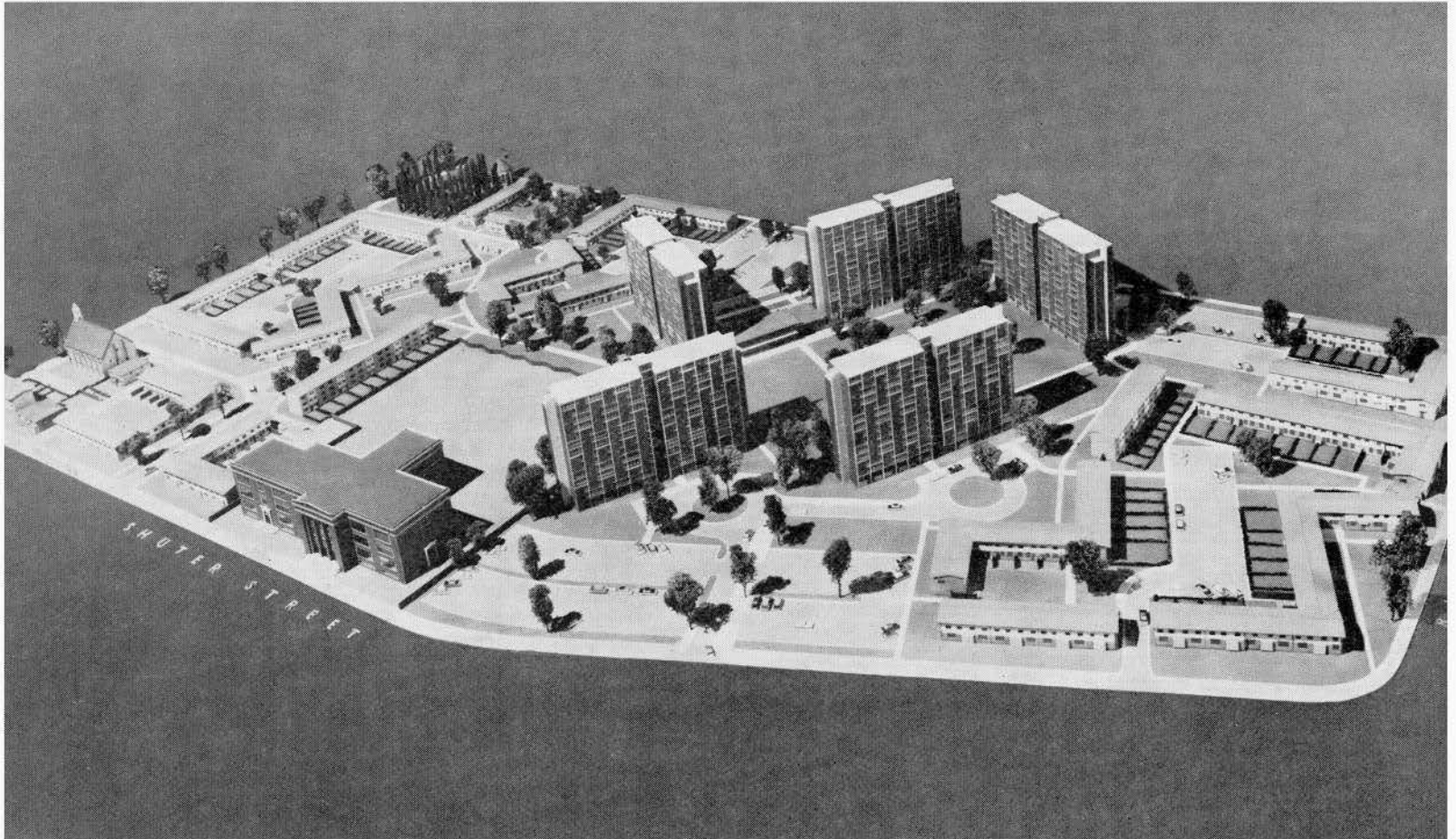
Architects for the High Rise Buildings, Page & Steele
Architect for the Row Housing, J. E. Hoare Jr.

THE REDEVELOPMENT OF REGENT PARK was a bold beginning to the huge task of urban renewal which faces the cities of Canada in their battle against blight. Subsequent efforts in cities throughout the Dominion will to some extent be influenced by what is achieved at Regent Park South. It was with this in mind that the proposal of the City of Toronto was thoroughly explored before the Federal Minister's approval was sought.

The aim of Section 23 of the National Housing Act is to assist urban redevelopment projects which conform to a broad official community plan satisfactory to the Federal Minister. The redevelopment of Regent Park South had to be considered as one small sector in a war against blight throughout the city. Many questions needed answering — was it sound strategy to attach an area adjacent to Regent Park North, thus creating a large concentration of public housing rather than creating pockets of sound design dispersed throughout the blighted areas, each acting as a focus for renewal by public and private

enterprise? What was the type of accommodation required by the people to be re-housed? Some indication of family composition was necessary to indicate types of dwelling that would best serve the future residents. Other questions concerned the physical character of the site — what were existing buildings like and how many were sound enough in structure and design to be retained?

A survey by the City Welfare Department examined the space needs and rent-paying abilities of over 1,800 families about half of which were on the waiting list for Regent Park North, of the remainder about two thirds were already living in Regent Park South and one third were in Emergency Shelter units. About one half of the families already living in Regent Park South wished to return after completion of redevelopment and roughly one quarter did not wish to return, the remainder were undecided or did not answer. The survey also took into account family make-up and income in the whole metropolitan area.



HUGH ROBERTSON-PANDA



Typical slum in the area

In addition to the architects mentioned on page 122, the following staff members of CMHC contributed to the Regent Park South Project: Ian R. Maclellan, chief architect; Raymond Card, regional architect; Robert Young, staff architect in charge of project; and the project planning team, Howard Collum, Peter Edridge, Hans Elte, George Nordmann.

Regent Park North, Architect, J. E. Hoare Jr.



Relating the family sizes to the number of storeys it was agreed that, ideally, children old enough to go out of the dwelling but not old enough to be out of sight (under ten years of age) should not be accommodated more than 2½ storeys up.

A physical survey was carried out by Provincial and Corporation staff, with assistance from the planning division of the University of Toronto. A Land Use Survey showed a predominantly residential area with a mixed commercial belt to the west and south and a sprinkling of small commercial properties. There was one large industrial property and several smaller ones within the area, and outside to the south were a number of industries of considerable size.

Total population was 2,752 accommodated in 458 dwellings at a density of 17.3 dwellings to the acre. Public buildings included two churches, two meeting houses, a public bath house and public school. A park and wading pool were also within the area of the scheme. The age and condition survey showed buildings up to eighty years old, more than half of them beyond economic repair and some 30% of the balance requiring major repairs.

The buildings to be retained were the school, the two churches and their ancillary buildings, and five houses in good condition. A later decision was made to retain the Bible Mission building and use it as office accommodation for the Housing Authority. The services which had to be maintained were the major trunk sewers in Sackville, St. David and Sumach Streets and Wyatt Avenue, and the main underground trunk telephone cable to Montreal traversing Sumach and Wyatt Avenue.

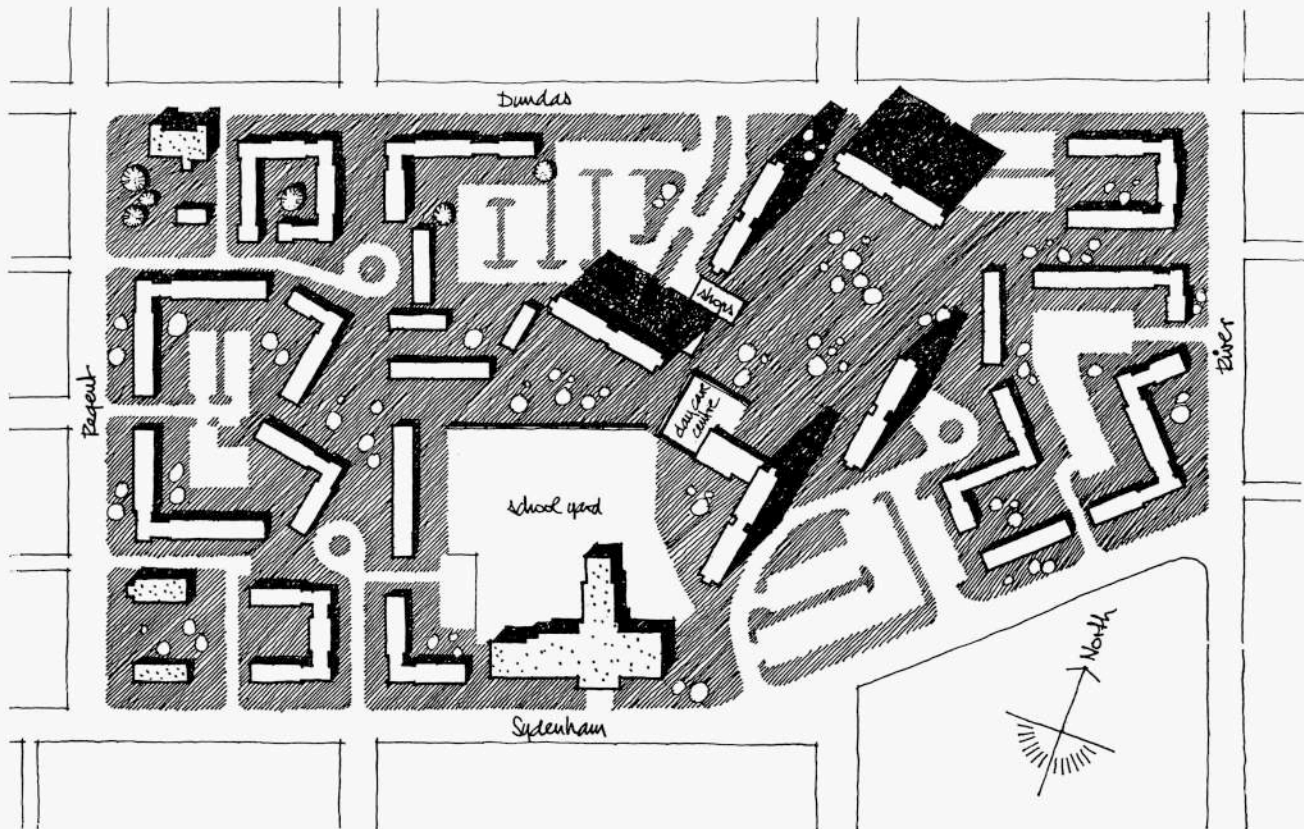
It was decided that approximately 721 units of a given bedroom count be provided in both high rise apartments and row houses with about 45% of the units having ground floor access. Car parking spaces were to be provided for 75% of the units. An extension of the school grounds of 1¼ acres was required and provision for a day nursery.

Vehicular access to the site was restricted in accordance with the city's requirements, and the segregation of vehicles and pedestrians made possible by the siting of the car parking areas near the perimeter of the site. Thus, the children have been provided with safe, easy access to the school and park areas.

This was a great opportunity for imaginative site planning on an area of about six city blocks (24 acres). Requirements indicated a variety of building types, and these, skilfully set in a landscaped area, gave promise of a high quality of urban design worthy of comparison with the highest standards of redevelopment in the cities of America and Europe. The nature of this opportunity was realized and a great deal of time and care went into the design of suitable buildings and their setting; the high rise by Page & Steele and row housing by J. E. Hoare Jr.; the landscaping by Austin Floyd, and the site planning and services by the technical staff of CMHC; the work of the various teams were co-ordinated by the Corporation's chief architect, Ian R. Maclellan.

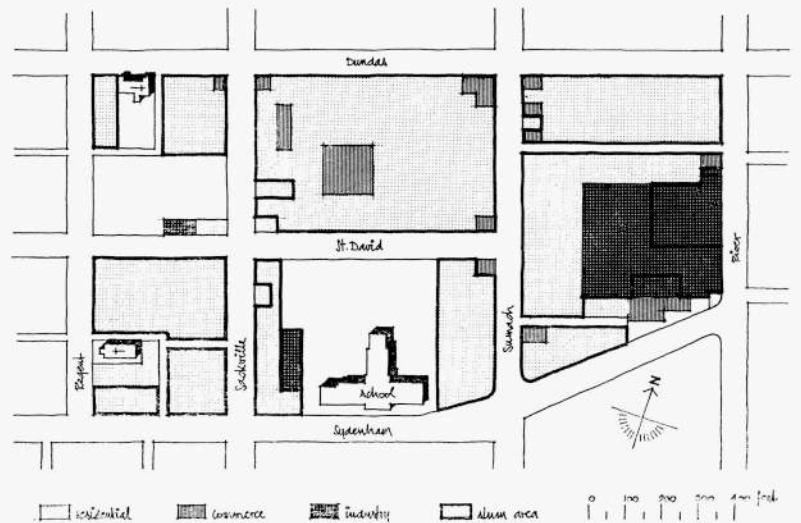
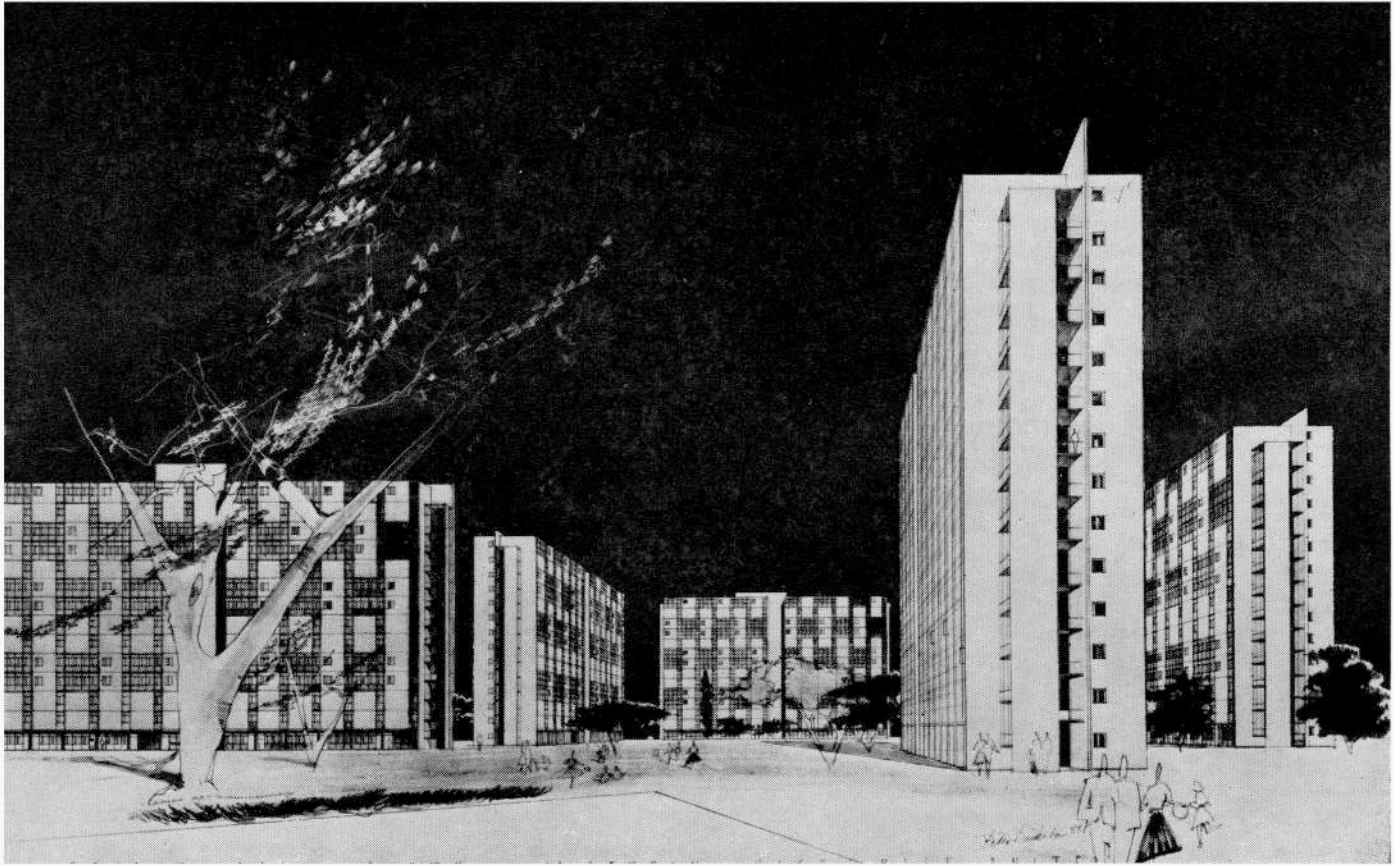


View showing High Rise and Row Housing



Plot plan

14 storey High Rise Units

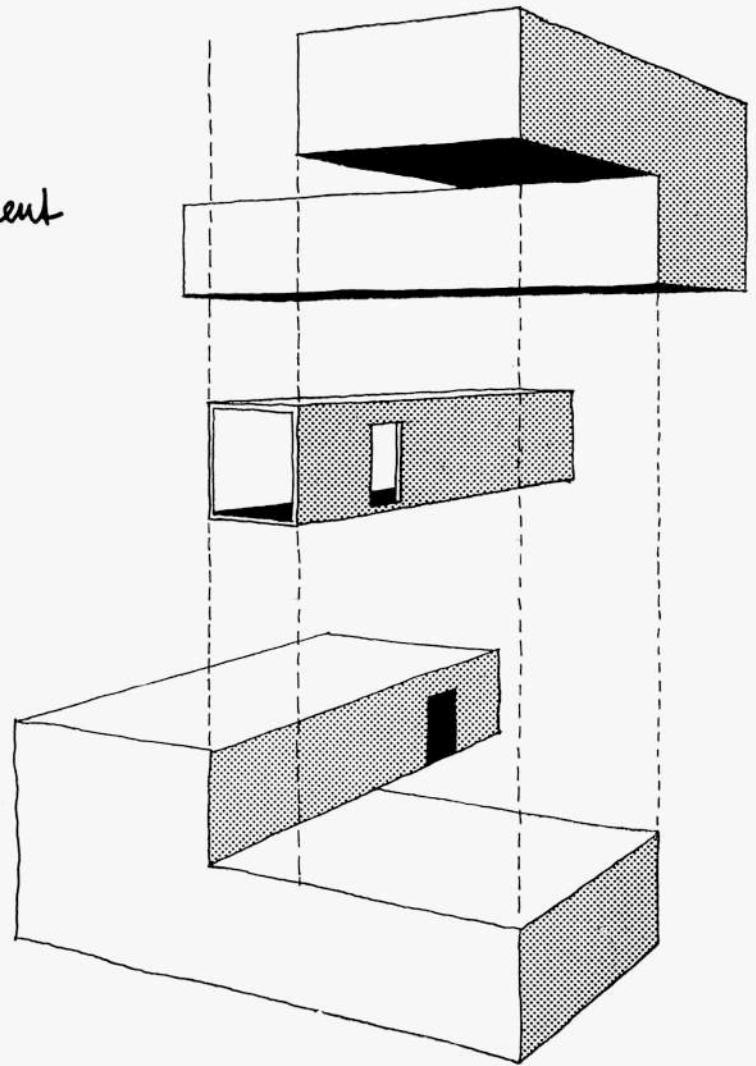


The site

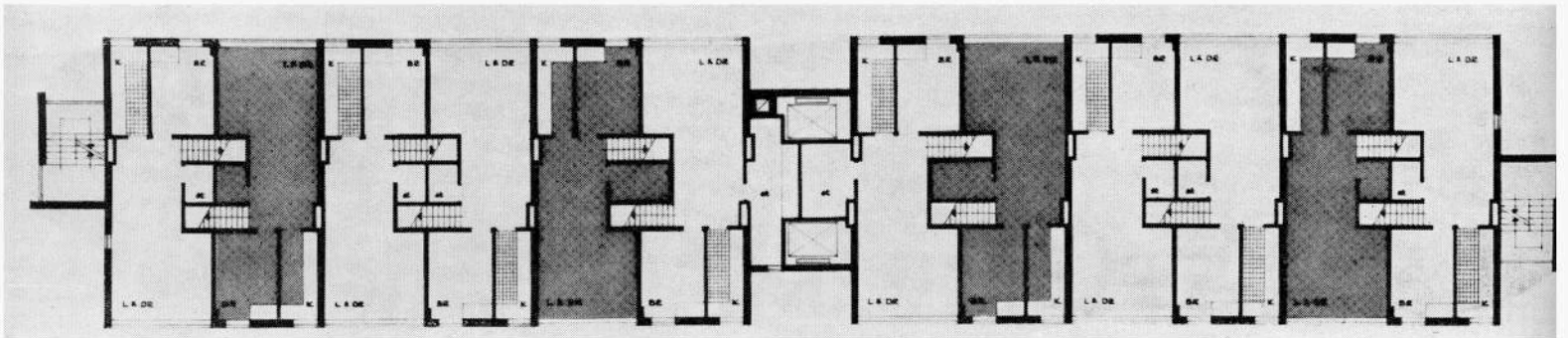
left hand
skip level apartment

corridor

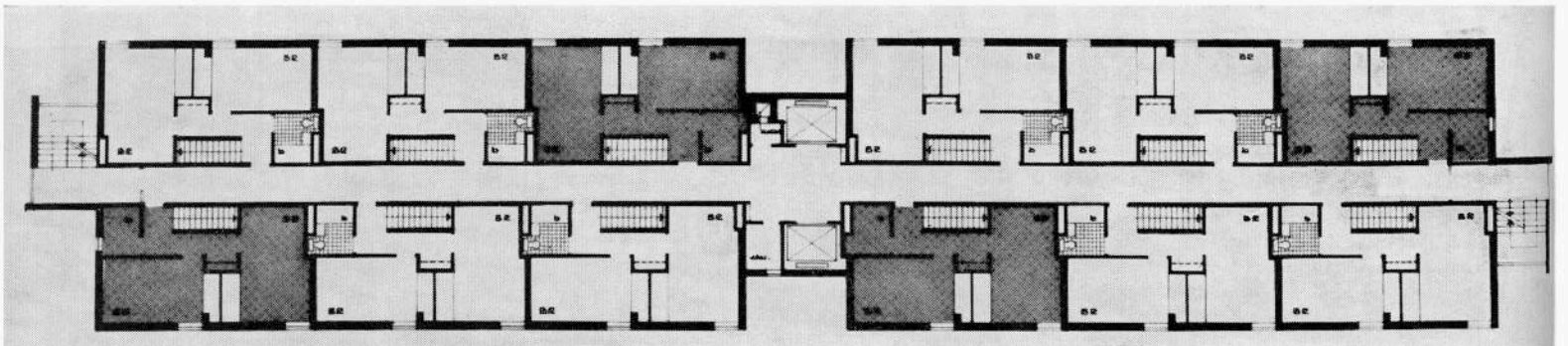
right hand
skip level apartment

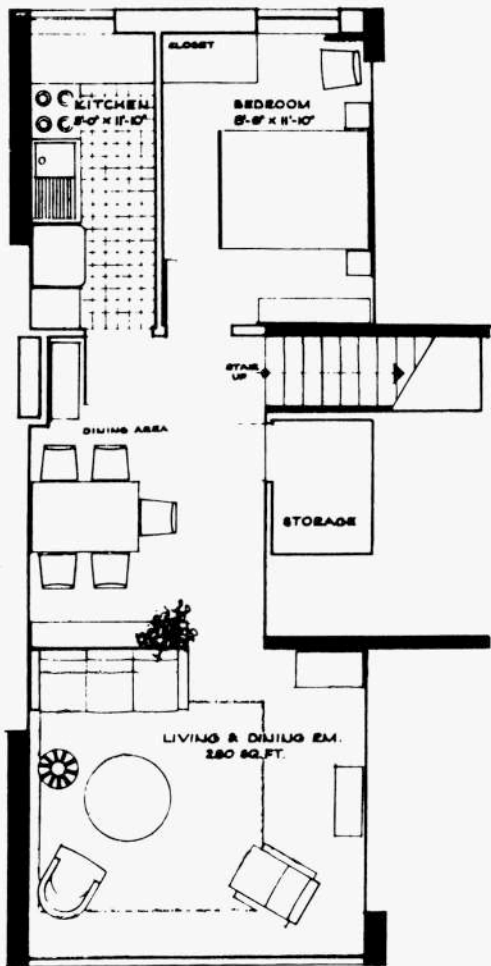


Fifth floor — typical layout

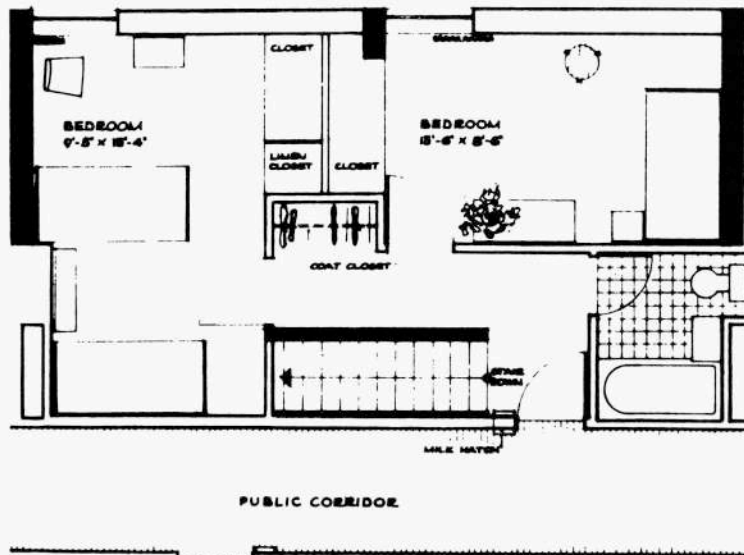


Sixth floor — typical layout

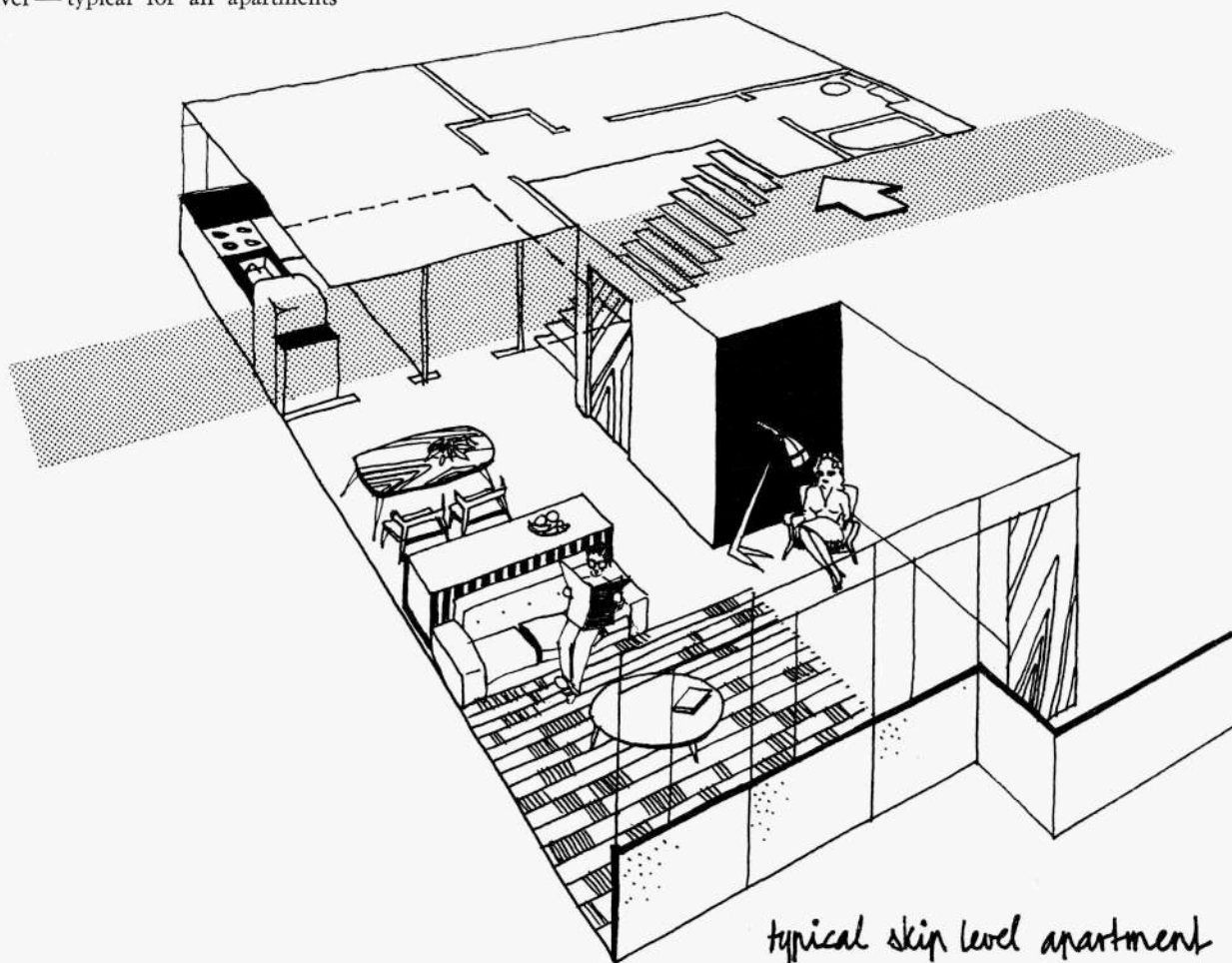




Lower level — typical for all apartments



Upper level — typical 3-bedroom apartment



typical skip level apartment

New Architecture in Geneva

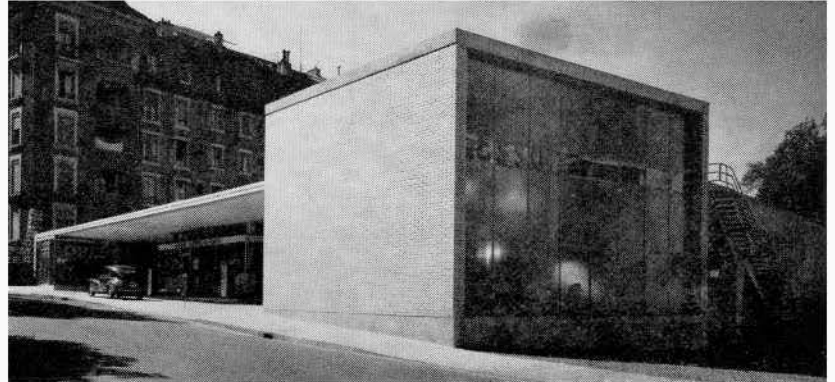
TO DESCRIBE SWISS ARCHITECTURE in a few words you might say, that like the Swiss people themselves, it is polite, reserved, sober and efficient. It is conceived with painstaking care for detail, a sound eye for economy and a high regard for its place in the social scheme. Physically, it is forthright and honest with an emphasis on the expression of function and structure; materials are used with admirable directness, and it is rare to see a building encased in an applied veneer with a hit or miss back as one too often may in Canada.

Although it is a risk to generalize on such a large field, I believe that the word "reasonable" could be applied with almost equal conviction to all Swiss architecture. In the same measure as the French often appear to act more upon their feelings than their reasoning, the Swiss, their neighbours, depend more upon their reason than their feelings and this is reflected in their architecture.

However, despite this generality, and despite the small size of the country which facilitates the spread of ideas, there is in Switzerland a regional variation which is interesting. It is not as marked as in the past where each canton could be identified by the characteristics of its buildings, but the difference would still permit a distinction between areas as far apart as say Zurich and Geneva. This difference has become more obvious with the relatively recent expansion of building in Geneva, and this area, which has previously been somewhat neglected in anthologies of Swiss architecture, has become one of the most interesting and profitable regions to study.

In contrast with northern Switzerland where the architecture is reserved and rather cold, there is in Geneva a distinct tendency toward an expression which is colourful and warm. Brick, concrete, exposed steel and light varnished wood play a larger role than in the north, and stucco, — an overworked material generally, is used more often in simple panels which express well its nature as a plastic skin in contrast with structure. It is a manner of expression with which we are more familiar in Canada, but here it is rather unique and it is interesting to note that the small house by Brera and Waltenspuhl has received the name of "La Maison Canadienne" from the neighbours around.

BY C. ROSS ANDERSON



Show room, service station at left, garage at right

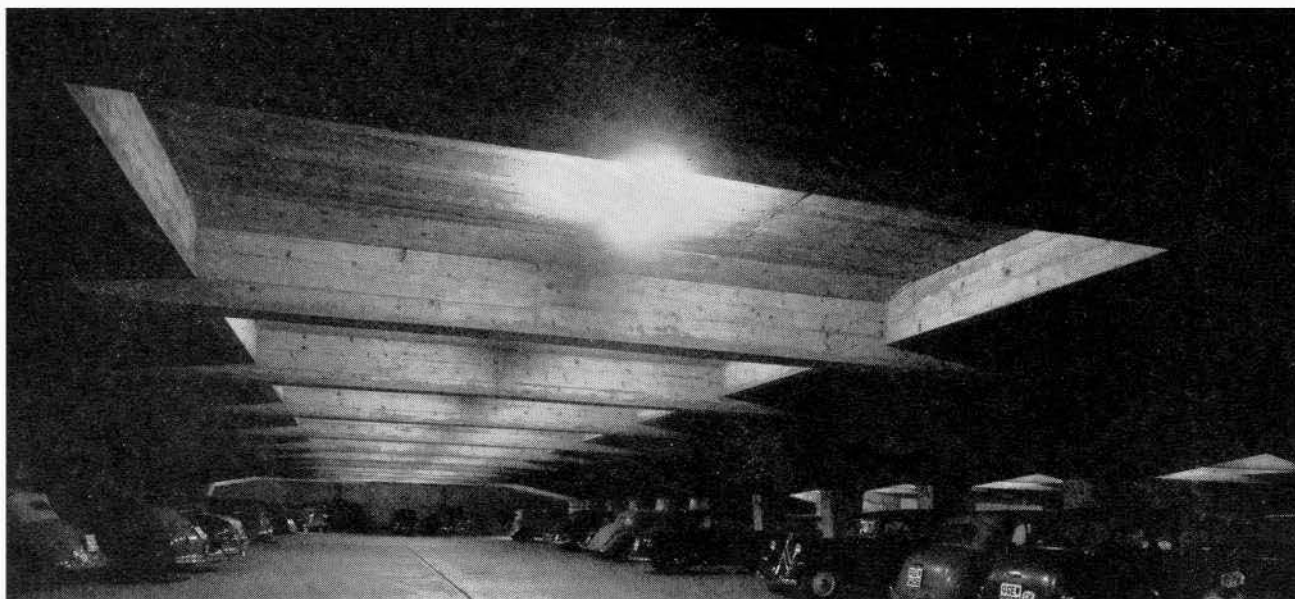
Esso Garage, Champel

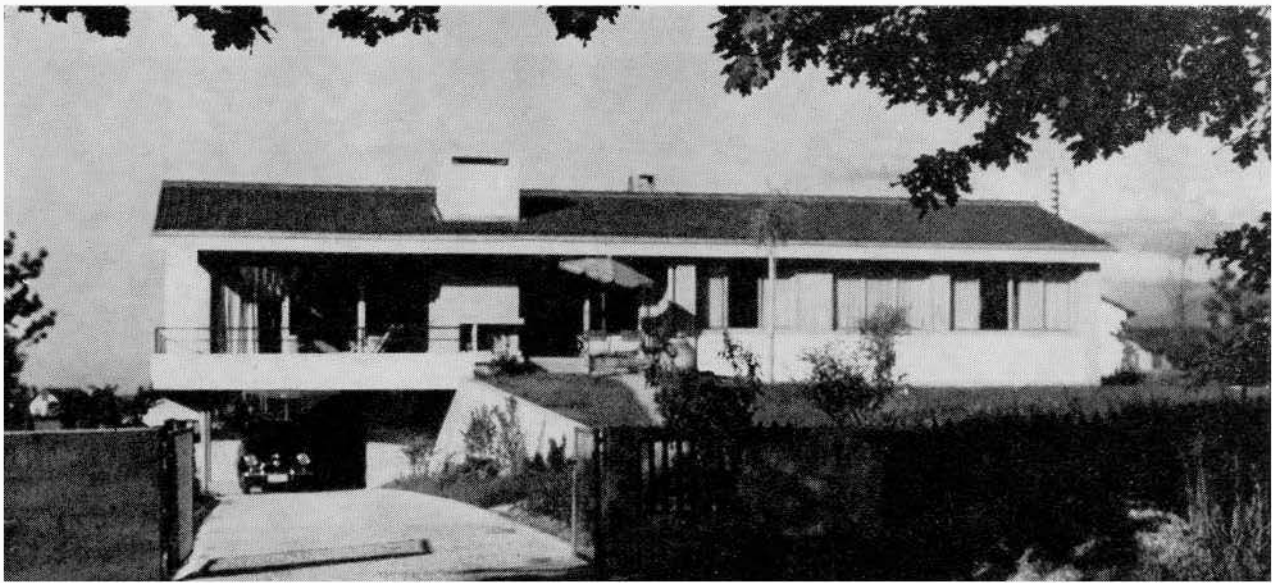
Architect, George Addor

Engineer, P. Tremblet

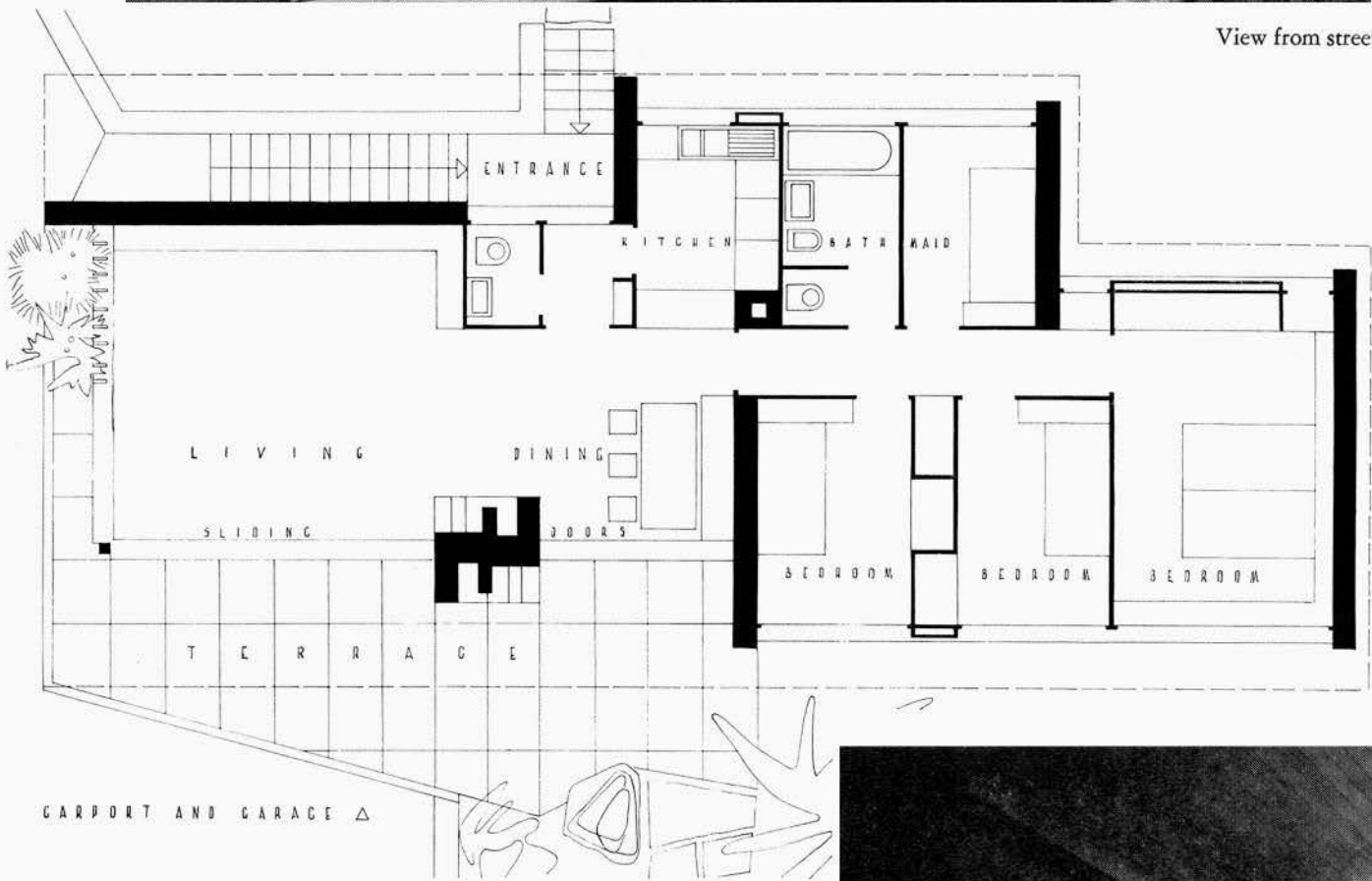
This 120 car garage in a high density residential area illustrates well an ability to achieve a fine aesthetic expression in a utility building. The concrete roof is covered with earth and serves as a terrace garden for the apartments around.

Garage interior





View from street



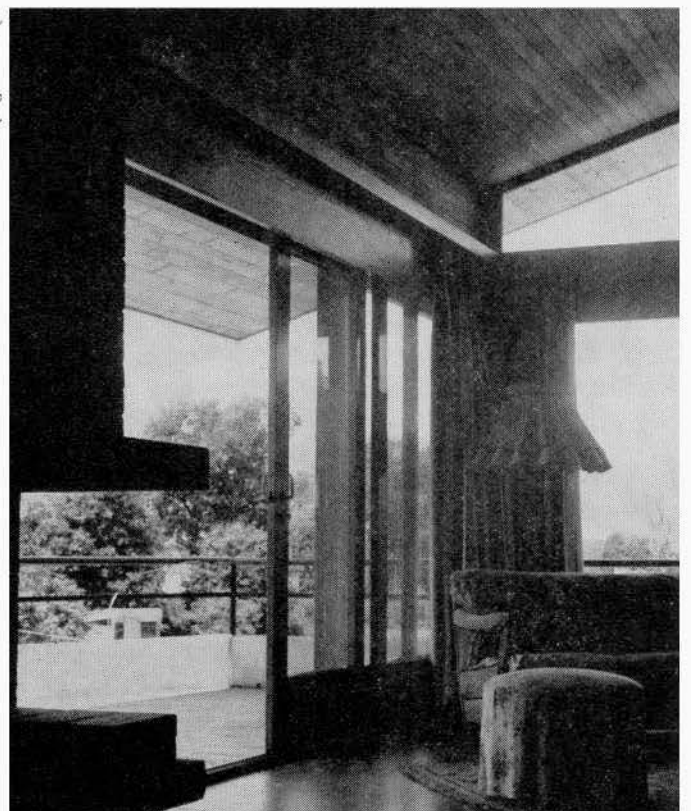
Living room and terrace

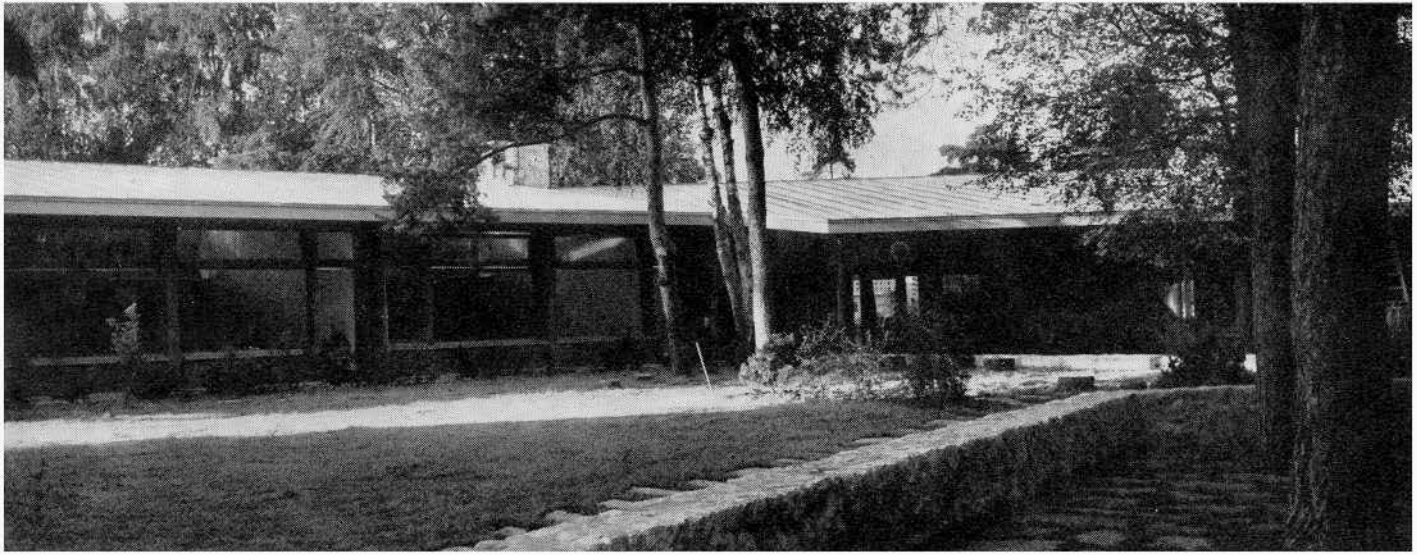
Single Family House, Pregny

Architects, Georges Brera, Paul Waltenspubl

The general impression of this house is one of studied simplicity, in accordance with the philosophy of the architects: "C'est la simplicité et la sincérité qui comptent, si la beauté en est le résultat c'est que ces deux choses l'entraînent."

Materials are exposed mostly in their natural state; concrete in the retaining walls and substructure; gray unfired brick above; light varnished spruce in ceilings and trim. Heating is by radiant panels in floor and walls.





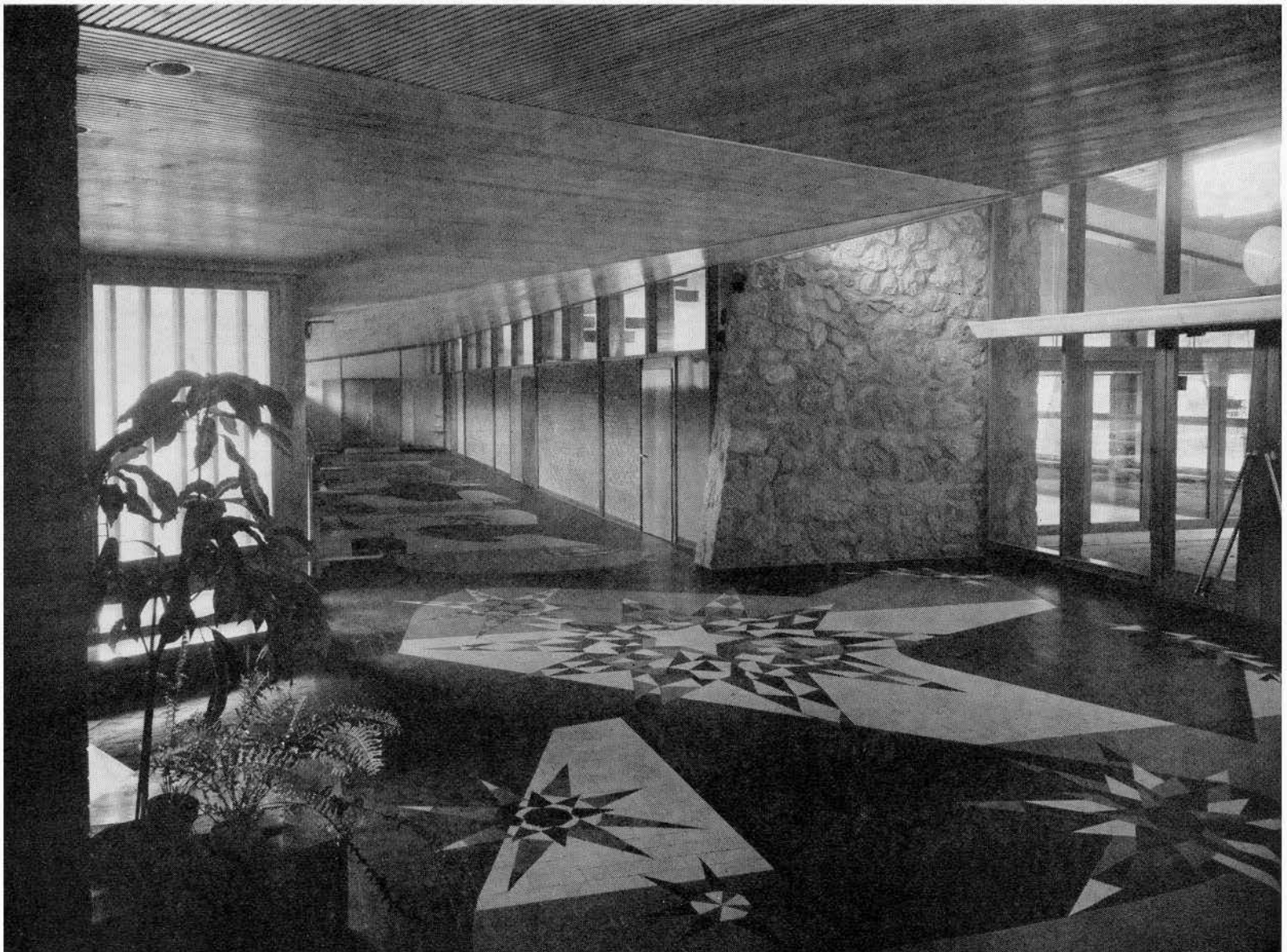
Classroom wing from yard

Elementary School, Park Geisendorf

Architects, Georges Brera, Paul Waltenspubl

This elementary school forms part of a larger school complex; it shows use of simple materials and an intimate scale. A bronze mountain sheep by Heinz Schwarz in the yard, and mosaic tiling by Charles Philippe in the corridors, form one of the most successful combinations of artist and architect in the country.

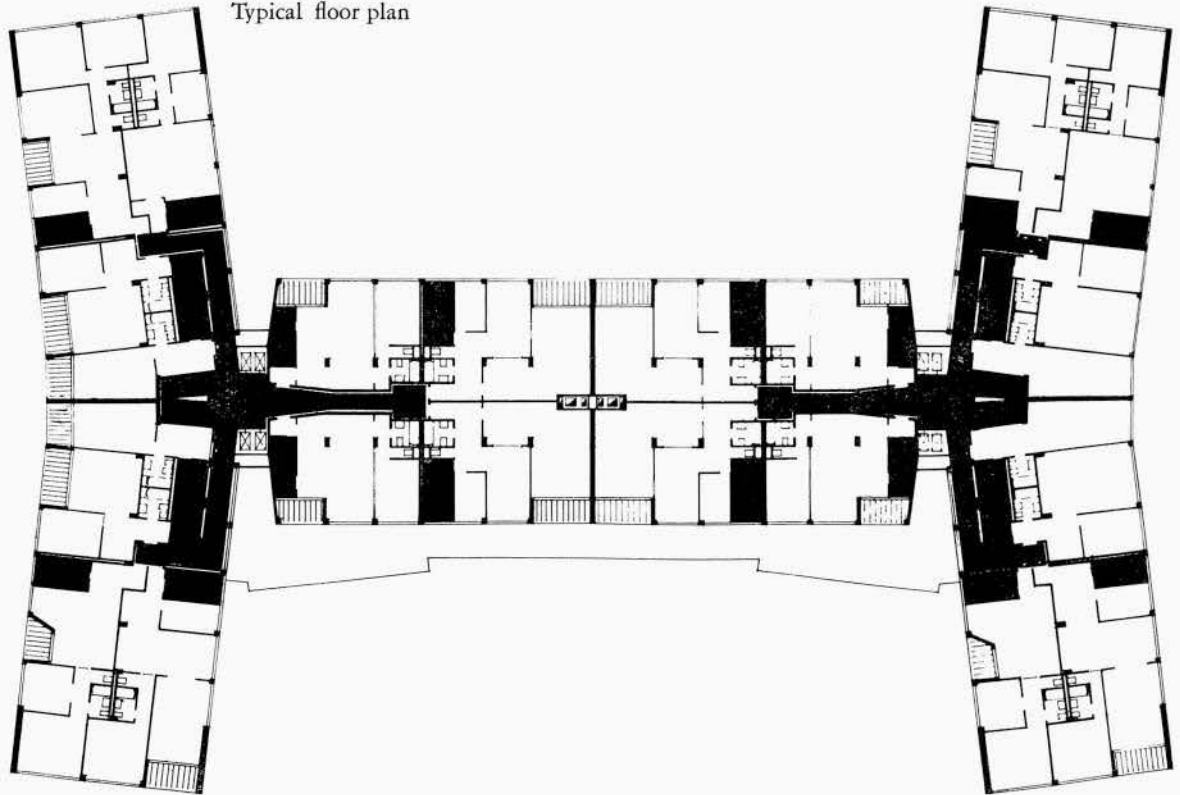
Entrance hall and classroom corridor





Street facade and entry

Typical floor plan



Malagnou Park Apartments

Architect, Marc Saugey

In addition to its 175 apartment units, this building also contains a kindergarten with private garden, underground garage for 60 cars, laundry, grocery store, drug store, tobacconist, hairdresser, post office. Construction is almost all of prefab units; concrete columns, beams and joists are mounted storey by storey and tied to the slab to form a continuous frame. Exterior surfaces are concrete or stone polished in the factory.

City Park Apartments Toronto, Ontario

Architect, Peter Caspari

*Structural Engineers, W. V. Zinn & Associates Ltd.
Mechanical Engineers, Nicholas Fodor & Associates Ltd.
General Contractors, Taylor Woodrow (Canada) Ltd.*

THE CITY PARK APARTMENTS PROJECT was decisively influenced by a number of unusual and some unique factors. The land upon which the buildings stand had been assembled through the foresight and wisdom of private enterprise, and was in one ownership. It could thus be bought and developed without recourse to expropriation.

An enlightened city administration passed enabling legislation, and by permitting realistic densities appropriate to the rehabilitation of obsolescent city centres assisted in creating a suitable climate, the indispensable prerequisite to attract investment capital for such enterprises. Developers of great experience in large scale rehabilitation projects in Europe brought considerable know-how to the project, buttressed by sound finance and capable project management.

The terms of reference upon which the designs were based set standards well above what had previously passed as customary for apartment buildings in Toronto. It was considered in the best interest of the project to erect three buildings housing 774 apartments, rather than four buildings with 1,150 apartments, as permitted by City Council. This allowed better light use and larger landscaped areas between the buildings than would otherwise have been possible.

There is a natural decline in the grade between Alexander Street to the north of the project, and Wood Street to the south, and by tilting the entire slab over the garages between the buildings, and draining it into Alexander Street, the corresponding uplift at the Wood Street frontage allowed easy access grades for car approaches to the underground garages. Garage doors are power-operated by electric eye impulses broken through cars passing the ray. Garages connect directly to the basement corridors of the three buildings, from where tenants have the use of four collectively controlled high speed elevators in each building, to reach the floor upon which their apartment is situated. Basements house locker rooms, electric transformer rooms and boiler rooms, equipped with two Scotch Marine type oil fired boilers each, the larger providing heating and domestic hot water during the winter months, and the smaller one domestic

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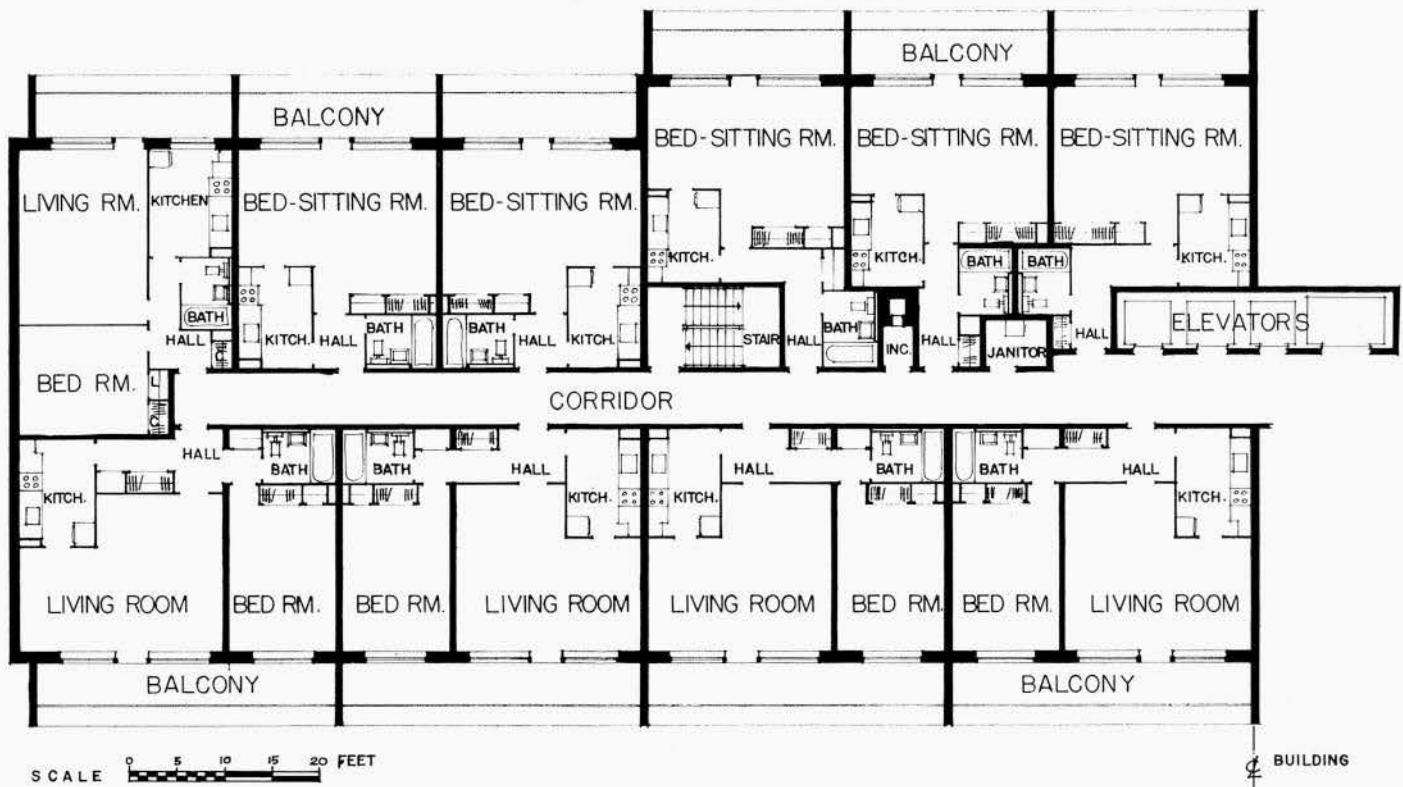
hot water during the summer only. There are two incinerator firing chambers in each basement.

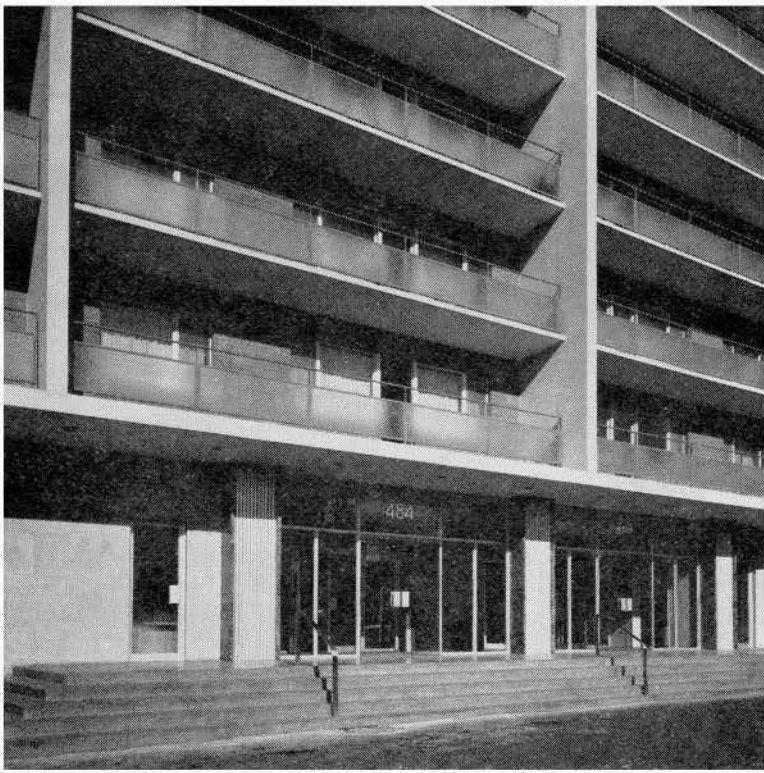
To eliminate all noise transmission between apartments, and between apartments and public corridors, and thus to provide a quite exceptional measure of privacy and comfort was considered as important a requirement as unsightly projections, such as beams below ceilings, and other usually accepted encroachments upon space of structural members badly co-ordinated to architectural expression were to be avoided. The structural system chosen was a combination of a reinforced concrete frame with poured reinforced concrete carrying walls between apartments and between apartments and corridors and poured reinforced concrete floors. The fins between balconies are of reinforced concrete construction also. Supplementing the soundproofing qualities of this method of construction all ceilings in the building, and the walls in the public passages, were sprayed with a special acoustic plaster. All apartments were so planned that the entries are separated from all rooms by doors, thus forming noise traps between living/sleeping space and public corridors. Double glazed wooden windows of Swiss design and manufacture were installed to complete the soundproof envelope.

Each floor has a janitor's closet and electrical room. Laundries are situated on the entrance floor and immediately above the boiler rooms, and are equipped with automatic washers, dryers and ironers. One of the elevators opens directly on to the laundry approach passage. The unavoidable noise transmission from the boiler equipment is absorbed in the laundry area, and the apartments above and adjoining the laundries enjoy the same comfort conditions as do the remainder. The outside concrete has a painted finish as have balcony railings and windows. Panel wall masonry is of red brick, and flank walls as well as the plinth of the building are of grey coloured artificial stone. Entrance vestibules are of glass set in aluminum frames, and house stainless steel panels displaying tenants' names on illuminated glass slides. The separate letter box and baby carriage rooms flank vestibules and lobbies, which have Verde Antique marble floors, unfilled polished terrazzo walls, and acoustic tile ceilings with spot lighting. Preheated fresh air intake systems keep all public spaces over-pressurized, thus ensuring absence of cooking odours throughout.



Alexander Street





MAX FLEET

Access to the buildings is obtained by remote control of doors between vestibules and apartments, and a two-way speaker system is provided from vestibules to apartments. All convector radiator panels were prefabricated to fit into prefabricated framing topped by arborite sills. Kitchens have coloured fittings and an unusual amount of cupboard space. Bathrooms have large medicine cabinets brightly lit with built-in fixtures, and walls are finished in ceramic tile. Floors throughout are of linoleum tile.

The fullest use of up-to-date structural, mechanical and electrical engineering knowledge made feasible by its large size and the bulk buying advantages available to all trades and suppliers connected with it, compensated for higher costs of the exceptional facilities and finishes incorporated in the City Park Apartments project, thus ensuring its economical stability for many years to come.

Peter Caspari

Detail of typical entrance



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Foyer

Typical court



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Three-Ten Victoria Building, Montreal, Quebec

Architect, David K. Linden

Structural Engineer, S. Sachs

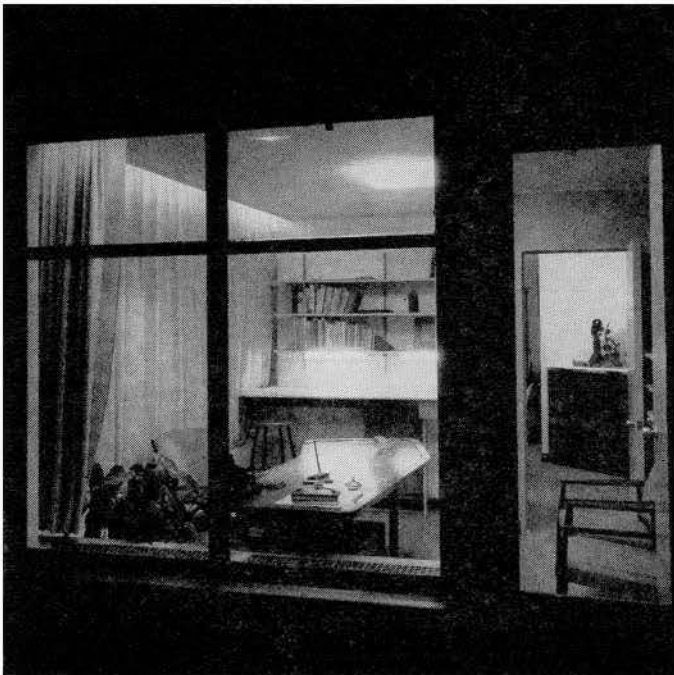
Mechanical Engineer, J. P. Wolofsky

General Contractors, B. Kaplan Construction Co.



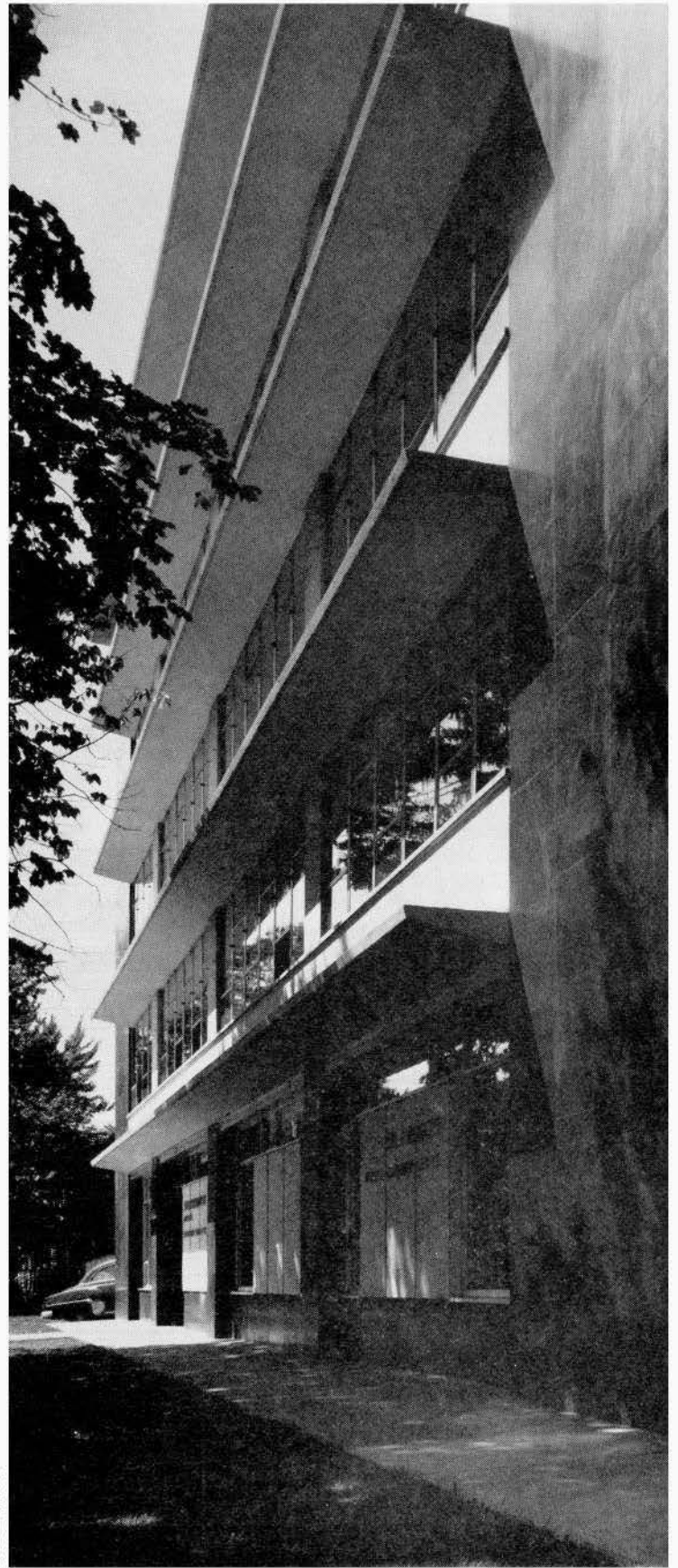
STUDIO ALAIN

The office



STUDIO ALAIN

The studio

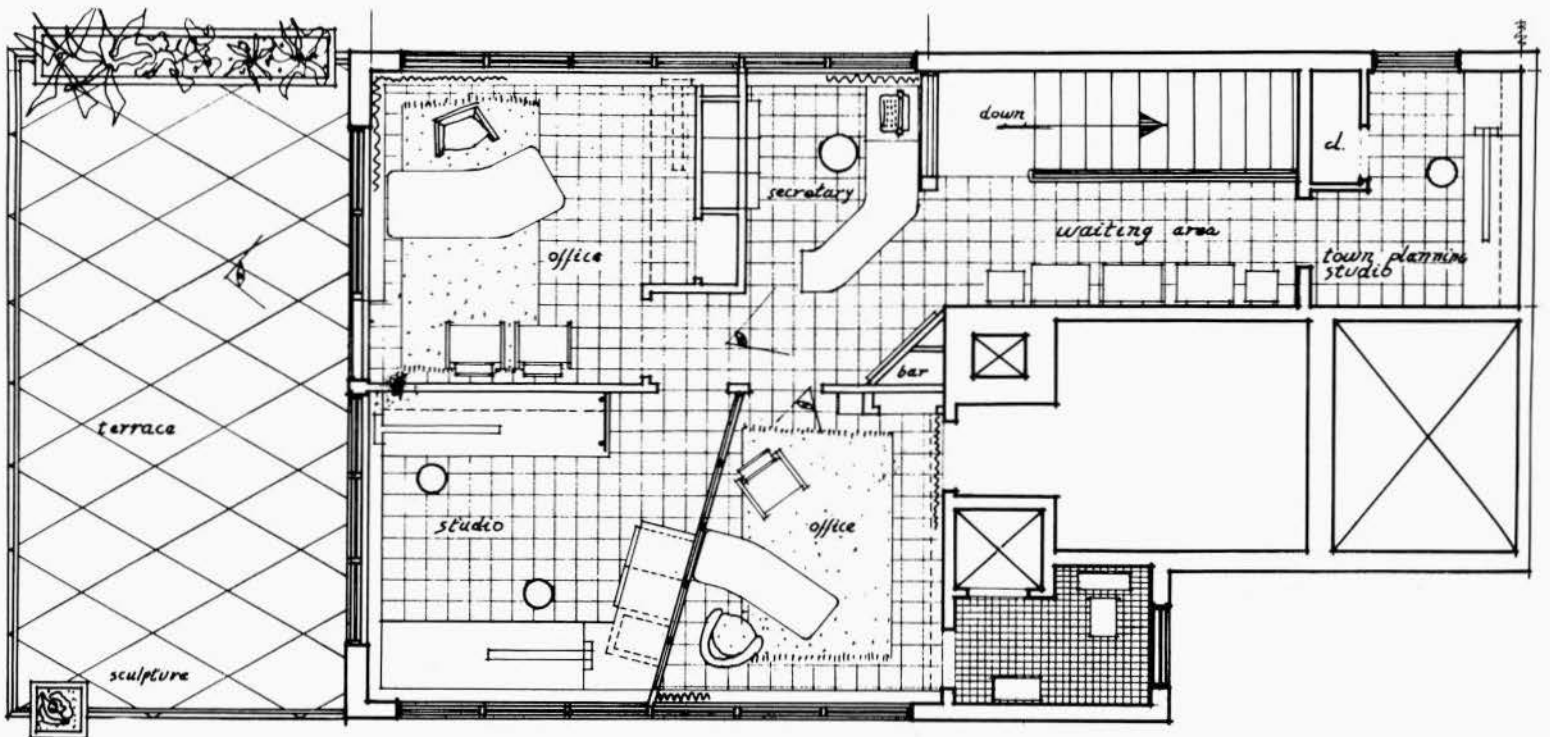


STUDIO ALAIN

Main entrance, 310 Victoria Building



STUDIO ALAIN



Penthouse office

The Needs of Men

BY SIR GEOFFREY VICKERS, V.C.

THIS IS A GREAT OCCASION. Other nations have been driven to forecast their future by threats of imminent disaster; but few have been moved to do so, as you are doing today, by the promise of unexampled prosperity. So I salute the insight of those who have organised this operation and I am indeed grateful to them for giving me the opportunity to take part in it.

The accent of today is on urgency. You, who meet here this morning, many of you for the first time, have the inside of a week in which to explore two critical areas of doubt, involved, subtle, difficult and obscure; and I would wish to spend all the time I have in offering you what help I can in those two tasks.

You have to explore the problem which stands at the head of our work paper; what are the impacts on human well-being of a rapidly developing industrialisation? But you have also to explore your own and each other's preconceptions about what this question means. What do you regard as the conditions of well-being? Are they constant or do they vary? What does industrialisation imply to you? And what is your idea of that process of development of which it is part? We need to know our own and each other's answers to such questions, if we are to understand each other when we talk; and we need good answers, if we are to talk to any purpose.

These questions would not be asked if we retained our grandfathers' or even our fathers' faith that rapid industrialisation would automatically make for fuller well-being. We feel a double doubt — doubt about the impact which industrialisation may have on our way of life; and doubt about the conditions which we need to create or preserve against its impact. These doubts are rooted in experience.

Industrialisation bears us along on a torrent of sequential events, which work incessant and irreversible change. Elsewhere, these changes have often set to government and business one unforeseen problem after another, sometimes reducing their policy to a series of reflex actions in response to successive unforeseen threats of disaster. Will you too become the slaves of the forces which you are unleashing?

It depends, I believe, on you. Initiative is like money; we may get some by luck but we only keep it by good management. Today you are rich in initiative; you have had a windfall of it from nature and from history. You have, I believe, today a real and rare chance to choose. That is why I rejoice that you should be reflecting how to use and how to keep it, before it has been wholly committed without your knowledge.

The impact of industrialisation depends in part on the forces which drive it, still more on how and how far these forces are controlled. Today it is proceeding most rapidly in the Soviet Union, with Mexico a good second. There are important differences between the two and between each and the situation in my own country. Your own problem is again different.

Yet despite these differences, the underlying problems are, I believe, common to all of us. Industrial development has shown itself everywhere to be a vastly de-stabilising force. Each phase sets running a sequence of changes which tend either to prove self-defeating or to create conditions which men find intolerable; and the situation which emerges from the

resultant crisis has so far proved no more stable than its predecessor. With one hand industrialisation offers abundance and leisure; with the other it often frustrates their enjoyment. It has even been known to offer luxuries with one hand and to withdraw necessities with the other — or so it has seemed to me when I have seen above smoke-grimed roof tops a forest of television aerials in an atmosphere lethal with industrial wastes. In every country where it has run a course of any length, there has sprung up, often in the teeth of the prevailing political creed, a jungle of devices to control its unforeseen and unintended threats to the well-being of man and society; whilst those countries which have only recently set foot on this bewitched path, whether the Soviet Union or China or India, control the forces they release with a rigour which is still unknown to us. What is it about industrialisation which sets this universal problem?

The answer, I think, is simple. Industrialisation tends to make a progressive impact on four areas of great importance to human well-being. It changes and restricts our living space; it divorces our social from our economic life; it changes our aspirations and especially our concepts of status and success; and it erodes the structure of expectations which underlies both our sense of security and our power of foresight. It is no wonder that governments, whatever their political colour, have been forced to take notice of such an unpredictable genie among their household servants.

I call it a genie, not a devil. To suppose that our new power must necessarily destroy us would be, I think, as mistaken as was our grandfathers' naive belief that it must necessarily bring us blessing. What it does is to present us with new choices; and often with choices which we have neither experience nor machinery for making. The history of past decades in all countries where industrialisation has been moving ahead, whatever their political system, has been an exercise in devising devices for saying 'no' to trends which threatened human values, individual or social; and from this exercise there is emerging a clearer view both of the values which are worth protecting and of the methods of protection which are not themselves self-defeating.

I invite you, then, to consider the impact of industrialisation on the four areas I have mentioned — on physical living space; on the relation between life and livelihood; on our ideas of status and success; and on the bases of our sense of security and our power of foresight. I chose these areas after reflecting on our experience in my own country and before I had been able to read the profiles which are in your hands today. When the first drafts of these reached me, I found it a strange experience to read in those six vivid and disturbing stories the same grim lessons, the same sinister warnings which we have found in our own national history for a century past and never more clearly than now; to find in them the same paradox of self-defeating success; to be faced with the same question — "With all this effort what in terms of human value are we getting and what in terms of human value are we paying for it?"; and to find the answer haunted with the same uncertainty.

II

I shall illustrate these cyclical trends from the course of affairs in my own country. For more than a hundred years we have been experiencing for good and ill the effects of rapid industrialisation. Our population increased during that time from 20 to 50 million. Our productivity per head, which is, I suppose, as good a measure of industrialisation as one can readily find, rose rapidly during the period and is still rising; in the last seven years it has risen by an average of more than 5 per cent per annum. During those ten decades parliament and public opinion have been exercised over a great variety of threats to our well-being, which seemed to spring more or less directly from this phenomenal change. Here are some of the most conspicuous in the first of my four areas, that is, impact on living space.

First those basic natural resources, earth, air, and water, once taken for granted, have become limiting factors. Our activity poisons the air, pollutes the water and lowers its level and competes for the use of the land; and these impacts on our resources in their turn limit our activities. So choices are posed which were never posed before. To which use shall this land be committed? How much impurity shall we tolerate in our rivers? How much will we sacrifice for the sake of cleaner air? These questions pose real issues of valuation – real, because they make apparent the fact (which is always true) that we can have more of what we want here only at the cost of having less somewhere else. You have a saying, I believe, on this side of the Atlantic – “nothing is impossible”. It is a brave saying but it would be more true, though less snappy, if it read – “Nearly everything can be achieved at a price”. And the price is always the giving up of what might have been done instead. However many our possibilities, we can choose only one at a time. We can spend time, money, life only once. Industrialisation does not invalidate this ancient truth; it merely buries it. We are unearthing it at enormous cost.

The unplanned commitment of our land surface made its earliest and most obvious impact on our well-being through its effect on the size, structure and amenity of our towns. The country town, serving as the centre of a rural area, was linked to that area by the services it supplied and could not outgrow the area which supported it. Industrialisation cut off the town from the country and hence from any local limitation on its size and linked it to markets far afield. The towns expanded incontinently and became overgrown, ugly, unhealthy and unstructured, ill-suited to live or to work in. This posed a number of choices which had never been posed before and which could only be answered collectively. Fundamentally, they all came down to the question – “In what physical conditions do you want to live and what are you prepared to give up in order to have them?”

Towns based on mutually supporting local needs had an innate social coherence; the new industrial towns had not. The extreme examples of incoherence were the dormitory suburbs which grew up between the wars, devoid of all facilities for social life – agglomerations of dwellings without meeting places, without places of entertainment, without churches, even without shops. The need to correct these mistakes has inspired the current developments of town planning and the experiment of our New Towns Act, under which we are building fifteen new towns, each planned as a whole to contain diversified industries and to provide what we now believe to be the physical conditions of well-being at home and at work. No less than twelve of these are to relieve the congestion of London.

Among the new choices thus posed one concerns the importance of beauty. We are forced to ask ourselves – “Is beauty necessary to you? If so, what will you sacrifice in order to have it?” Our response, such as it is, has been to establish national parks and green belts, to preserve many old buildings, to raise the aesthetic standards of building control and even to narrow by a little the shocking gulf which still separates the architect from the engineer.

These problems are of course, equally real for you, con-

scious though you are of all the empty miles which stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the American border to the Pole. For the commitment of land is an enduring act, most hard to reverse; and mistakes in one place are no easier to cure because there are vast areas of uncommitted land elsewhere. We sit today, I understand, in the most swiftly growing city in the world. Your profiles have been well chosen to reveal that this distinction is not a matter for simple pride but rather the index of an urgent threat.

For in its impact on our physical living space industrialisation makes its first great impact on our individual and social lives and especially on those two primary social groups, the family and the neighbourhood. Our experiments with the new towns, for example, are experiments in recreating these two groups. We have learned their value in theory from the psychologists and anthropologists and in practice from the bitter experience of having them disrupted.

We all accept today the importance of the home, both in bringing the child through the earlier crisis of adjustment and in transmitting the changing culture of the community. In theory, industrialisation should provide better physical conditions for the home than were formerly possible either in town or country and we are slowly realising these possibilities in practice; but we do so painfully, by ceaseless war against conditions which a previous industrial age created and in part through institutions which that previous age detested – for example, by building through public authorities, by controlling and subsidising rents, sometimes even by letting at differential rents related to tenants' incomes. In our experience a rapidly developing industrialisation does not provide the sort of homes and physical living conditions which its age requires and can afford, unless social policy sees that it does. It does not even provide the conditions which its own continuance requires. For example, all children in their later years at school, and most young people in their early years of employment need to work at home several evenings a week if our technological age is to man its own future. How many have homes in which you or I in their place could do so?

Again, we all accept today the importance of the face-to-face community, the community which actually meets. More than forty years ago a psychologist, writing of the primary groups in which people live, said that in them “human nature comes into existence. Man does not have it at birth; he cannot acquire it except through fellowship and it decays in isolation.” What is the impact of industrialisation on these essential groups?

The neighbourhood is no longer all-sufficing. In an industrial society a man belongs to many groups; his workplace, his club, his professional organisation, his church, his public life and a dozen other activities may all involve him in different circles of social contact; road, rail and air extend his possible social radius to measure in miles what his grandfather measured in yards. We are accustomed to assume that this increase in variety is all gain; but I think this is to oversimplify the problem. We should not assume that to be more varied is to be more rich. I suspect that it is not; but we need more evidence on this than we yet have.

Of one thing I feel fairly sure; that the local group remains socially important. It remains to be seen whether those which we are recreating have the same virtues as those of the pre-industrial age. One type poses, I suspect, a particular problem; it is the community which grows up around a single industry or even a single enterprise. Your profiles describe two, one in embryo at Elliot Lake, one with a history behind it at Iroquois Falls. They reveal that planning has its problems, not less than planlessness. A friend who had to do with the building of one such place in Canada, its dwellings carefully grouped and graded according to the industrial status and income of those who would live there, said – “We always called the top executives' bit – ‘Snob Hill.’” I wonder whether it will earn its name, and if so, whether the planners will be to blame.

Thus once again, industrialisation faces us with a new choice.

We have to control—or deliberately to renounce control over—something which before simply happened. Another variable has been brought within our ambit and with it, as always, comes the need for means to control it and the need for knowledge to control it aright.

III

I turn now to my second 'impact area', the impact of industrialisation on the relation between life and livelihood. In an agricultural community social life, economic life and family life form a highly integrated pattern. Industry disrupts this pattern, not always so dramatically as at Malton; I choose a few aspects which deserve at least to be carefully appraised.

The demands of work are often directly disruptive of family life. Economically, it is desirable that expensive plants shall be kept in use for twenty-four hours a day; but socially it is undesirable that members of the same family or even of neighbouring families should work, sleep and enjoy themselves at different times. Economically, it is convenient that holidays and rest days should be staggered; socially, it is important that they should not be staggered. Economically, in days of full employment, it is desirable that mothers with children should go out to work; socially, a recent enquiry in my country listed this among the major adverse influences on children today. Economically, it is convenient that, as business reaches out ever further and more actively, more fathers of families should spend more and more of their lives in trains and planes; but socially, it is, I believe, highly desirable that they should usually get home in the evening. Which interest should prevail?

The impact is even more universal than this. Those who start industries in countries still not industrialised find that their new recruits have strange and inconvenient habits. They work at an irregular pace; they take days, even weeks off, to hold or recover from sprees of various kinds. Worst of all, they regard their material needs as constant; are content when they have earned enough to provide these and, thereafter are so perverse as to 'buy leisure'. Industrialists regard these perversities as bad habits and consult the psychologists on how to overcome them.

But turn back a few centuries in European countries, seek out even today the more backward corners of the industrial European world, and you will find the same habits. They were once regarded as the natural, the normal, the necessary. The ideal workman in a modern industrial plant is a highly abnormal creature. At what cost are we inducing in him these industrially convenient habits?

In these persistent clashes, the economic interest invokes the magic word "efficiency"; and this still has a potency which seems to me out of date. What is the good of economic efficiency if it does not enable us to be socially efficient? Should we not be proud, rather than ashamed, if we could afford to keep the most up-to-date plant standing for twenty hours out of the twenty-four, so that we could all do our four hours work at the same time? Is it not worth developing communications to the point when we can hold meetings of faces and voices without meetings of bodies, merely for the social and personal gain of dispensing with enforced travel? These dreams may be beyond my own country today, because of the singular and precarious conditions on which we earn our daily bread; but need they be beyond yours? Why, in any case do they seem not merely remote but also wicked? For the same reason, is it not, that honest men in my country not so long ago thought it wicked to ban underground work for women and to limit the hours of labour to twelve a day. Our economic system as such is not set to realise the ends which it makes possible. Indefinitely self-exciting, it can produce ever more for the same effort; but it cannot pay any other kind of dividend, except in so far as the demand is formulated in a market wider than its own; I mean that market of ideas and evaluations through which a self-governing community chooses its goals.

I have been suggesting that the demands of industry are in many ways inconsistent with our social needs and should therefore be refused, whenever we can afford to refuse them. But

there is another aspect of industry, which is very different. Industry is itself a society. It associates men in defined and structured roles; it offers all the satisfactions and the frustrations of social life. In earlier phases of industrialisation this was too often ignored with results as disastrous for industry as for society; but today the social responsibility of industry does not need to be argued. What is at issue in my country is the extent to which industry should be allowed to do its social duties.

Many, for example, are opposed on principle to the building of houses by employers for their workpeople, on the ground that houses should be grouped and distributed on the basis of social, rather than industrial need; and they are the more opposed, if the house is tied to the job. Some look askance at social activities organised round the workplace, the firm's athletic club, dramatic society and so on, preferring that such things should be rooted in the living community, rather than in the working community. Whereas not so long ago the worker all too often lived and worked in two communities, the workplace and the neighbourhood, neither of which provided for his social needs, today the two often compete to be the centre of his interest.

This is a subject about which it is unsafe to generalise.

There are many communities in which the employer is so dominant that it would be impossible, even were it desirable, to separate the social from the economic community. Iroquois Falls is a vivid example. Personally I welcome the meeting of two sides of life which only industrialisation divorced. The danger of an all-pervading paternalism is real but I believe can be avoided. For example, in the nationalised coal industry of my country all social activities are under the control of an organisation run jointly by management and organised labour; for this is regarded as a field where joint control is logical and desirable, though in the field of management, joint control is excluded.

IV

More subtle and more important than anything I have yet mentioned is the impact of industry on our ideas of status and success. We need to attain and keep without undue anxiety an acceptable status in society; and by acceptable I mean that it should accord us the sense of playing a role appropriate to us. Since economic status is increasingly for the individual to win for himself, it is an index of success. If an industrial society links its criterion of status and success too closely with economic status and success, the repercussions on human well-being may well be severe. Suppose, to take an extreme example, a society in which no worker in industry is rated as fully successful unless he finishes as president of the company; virtually all would necessarily rate as partial failures. This would be acceptable only to those who regard endemic discontent as a necessary stimulus to effort and think that an almost universal sense of failure among men as producers is a reasonable price to pay for an ever-increasing dividend to men as consumers. This is surely one of the strangest and most misconceived valuations even of our own confused days.

It is thus, I suggest, important that status and success shall be rated in many dimensions and that economic valuation shall not be the only yardstick; for there is no hope of using economic means for social ends if in our common valuations economics is an end and not a means.

In my own country, for good or ill, industrial status is still, I think, undervalued. The professions retain, as against business, what is perhaps an undue prestige. Much more important, unpaid service of many kinds offers alternative routes to status and respect, which are open to and used by people from all walks of life. The whole of our National Health Service, for example, an undertaking with an annual budget of well over £400 million, is run by unpaid committees. Nearly all criminal and quasi-criminal cases are heard in the first instance — and usually disposed of — by unpaid and amateur judges. Local government attracts an immense and increasing amount of unpaid service, not merely on its elected bodies but also in co-

opted or appointed bodies such as children's care committees; so does the Trade Union movement and the organisations which control the professions. Voluntary organisations are legion. Little, if any of this work brings any material advantage, direct or indirect, yet it attracts men and women of all classes. As ways of getting things done, some of these national habits would be viewed askance by a time-and-motion-study man; but they ensure that status and success has several forms and that one form or another is within the reach of many whose economic status brings them no distinction. I think it worthwhile to draw your attention to those aspects of life outside the economic field, which are felt by those who do them and by others as being not mere distractions but 'worth doing' and thus an avenue to status and success. For they have a bearing on the important question of how to use our increasing leisure.

There are those who fear the advent of 'mass leisure', either on the ground that the majority of men cannot live effectively or even harmlessly without the discipline of work or that leisure will come more quickly than we can learn to use it. We need to analyse with care what lies behind these fears.

Some, when they praise the discipline of work, are simply approving the fact that most people for most of their lives are not free to choose what they will do. This is constraint, not discipline; and many cultures impose constraints no less rigid on the apparently leisured, prescribing just as rigorously, though more subtly, how they shall spend their time.

The cultures which have governed leisure classes in the past have varied greatly both in the range and in the character of the choices which they have encouraged or permitted; and the results have differed as widely as, for example, the ages of Pericles, of Richelieu, and of Walpole. In the partly leisured nations which are emerging, the same variety may be seen. We need not doubt that modern societies will develop cultures to pattern the leisure activities of their members. What matters is the quality and coherence of these cultures. I do not doubt that they might range from a new age of Pericles to Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World".

Whether we need fear the sudden advent of leisure depends on the speed with which we expect a given society to assimilate cultural change. The maximum pace at which leisure can increase is set today not by the rate of invention, but by the rate of accumulation of the capital needed to set it to work. The

most optimistic forecast which I have read, even for the optimistic land across your border, predicts a 30-hour week by 1976. Such a rate of increment should not overwhelm a society where high standards of leisure-spending already exist; but in one less well-equipped it might be disastrous.

Hence the importance which I attach to such standards of value as already exist in the leisure field. I have mentioned those of public service. More neglected, perhaps, in my country at least, are some of the personal and social accomplishments in which the leisured of earlier days excelled and delighted — not excluding the accomplishments of charming and amusing each other.

The arts we need to cultivate are not for the most part commercially exploitable, and there is some ground to fear the deadening and stereotyping effect of commercialised leisure; but it may well be that the balance lies the other way. Consider what the long-playing record has done for musical appreciation. Even the millions of amateurs who 'do it themselves', whether 'it' is gardening or boat-building or house decoration, would do less and less well, if the market did not smooth their path so well.

We can spread the table of leisure with more varied opportunities than were ever known by the most privileged leisure class of the past. How far these will be narrowed by social convention depends not on the increase of leisure as such, but on the course of development of each society. We value differently the leisured societies of Periclean Athens, of 18th century England, and of the France of Louis XIV; and our own developing leisure cultures may show differences no less great. These cultures are with us now. The seeds of the future are already sprouting and they are by far the most important indices that we have to watch. For through these opportunities, more than any other, we can help to safeguard the independence and variety of the human person against the encroaching stereotype of industrial man.

The above was the opening address given at the first meeting of the Round Table on "Man and Industry" at the University of Toronto, October, 1956, and is reprinted here with the kind permission of the University of Toronto Quarterly.

The second half of the address will be published in a later issue.

VIEWPOINT

How do you account for the serious deterioration in quality of design detail in both present day Georgian and contemporary architecture?

The answer to the question of the causes might be expressed in five words — basic training and mental attitude. The first should be viewed as the most important, because the early basic training of the architect will have a tremendous bearing on his ability to plan, design and detail such structures as are entrusted to him, irrespective of the type, style or utility of such structures. The second or mental attitude is largely a direct result of present day architectural basic training, and herein lies much of the faults that have developed in the attitude and viewpoint of most of the young architects today, that to design anything in the traditional style is simply “taboo.”

What has been completely overlooked is the fact that in all traditional architecture, whether Classic or Renaissance, including Georgian, certain fundamental principles of proportion, line and balance are maintained. A thorough grounding in these elements of design is absolutely essential in the early training of the architect.

The character of designs turned out today by students, as evidenced by their years work exhibitions, would suggest that all reference to the traditional has been abandoned. This is not to suggest the student work is inferior, far from it, high standard drafting ability and the endeavour to produce something fine is very much in evidence, but there is developing a monotonous sameness in design and to certain extent plan. Lack of a thorough knowledge of some of the basic principles of design is leaving the “new” young architect of today with a narrowing field of architectural expression.

Sir Giles Scott, an eminent architect of what might be called the “Old School,” when asked his opinion, is quoted as replying, “modern or functional architecture has no ‘vocabulary’ and simplicity is not enough.” Unfortunately, the present over-stressing of functionalism is destroying the architect’s opportunity to add detailed and diversified interest to his designs. The slavish desire to avoid designing anything that has the slightest suggestion of the traditional has led to the many weird, unbalanced and oft times unpractical designs of some of our newer buildings. A bank building need not look like a Parthenon, neither need it resemble a high school, a machine shop or a speculative office building. It would be difficult to imagine Bacon’s immortal Lincoln Memorial in Washington, designed in the functional theme. Yet we have wisely moved away from the ornately classical and costly office buildings of the past. In the excessive desire to create something different, the field of variety is being exhausted, and instead of illustrating the type of occupancy of the building, this phase of functionalism is being lost.

And now a word as to the Georgian. Without a thorough grounding in the Classic, and Renaissance period styles, the design of a Georgian home and commercial type building, as is frequently desired, would be impossible of creation by the

average young architect today who has been subjected to the present day pressure of trying to do everything “functional.” The Georgian style is so redolent of lovely proportion, detail and balance that a thorough knowledge of the style is imperative.

The writer believes that traditional and contemporary (functional) have their place in the fast moving time of change in which we live today, but in the aim to produce something new, much of the fine things of the past are being lost. The advice to the budding young architect would be to obtain the very best grounding of the basic principles of design and be ready for any clients request. Long experience has taught the writer that clients’ tastes in buildings vary as well as in dress.

Charles B. Dolphin, Toronto

I am assuming that this question is asked of architecture as an art form rather than that building which would be classified as such, being the product of crass commercialism.

The handicraft age which produced Georgian architecture does not exist today. Any attempt to design within the Georgian tradition and forms is inevitably tempered by economics and the lack of spirit to produce true Georgian details. This concept is out of keeping with present day techniques and methods of construction.

On the other hand, I disagree that design and design details in contemporary architecture is deteriorating. The search for modes of expression may produce some errors in judgment but I consider this search healthy. At the same time, a refinement of detail is taking place in some quarters which questions its own development.

The basic tenets of modern architecture have been assimilated and are the tools of design today. On the one hand these tenets are being refined, and on the other, they are the broad base from which new horizons are being sought. Either way, I do not see any deterioration.

James W. Strutt, Ottawa

The first thing that occurs to me on reading the above paragraph is “Who says there is any serious deterioration etc.?” He must have some knowledge to make such a statement. If there is such deterioration, it might be in the training of the architects.

I always revert to a simile of music. If you have been classically trained in Bach, or Beethoven, you will be a better pianist than one who plays by ear. In an architectural parallel, if you have been trained in the fundamentals of proportion, whether it be Greek or Roman, you are in a better position to design either Georgian or contemporary buildings, than one who has not had this basic training, and the knowledge of detail that goes with this training.

Therefore, it seems to me that too little emphasis is being placed on training in the classical background, that I have suggested in the paragraph above.

Mackenzie Waters, Toronto

News from the Institute

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1957 Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, 100th Anniversary, Washington, D.C., May 14th to 17th.

Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, May 17th, 1957.

1957 Annual Assembly of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, 50th Anniversary, Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, Ont., May 29th to June 1st.

Annual Meeting of the Engineering Institute of Canada, Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alta., June 12th to 14th, 1957.

British Architects' Conference, Oxford, England, July 10th to 13th, 1957.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

If architecture is the projection of the social and economic pattern of a country, then the projector is the architectural practice. When a client wishes to have a building with a desirable profit, he must respect and consider the social and economic conditions of the country. Consequently architects have to develop a certain kind of practice which will satisfy the client and indirectly the social and economic requirements of the country.

Great political changes can change architectural practice entirely. We see an example of this in Hungary. This Central European country, in the period between the two great wars, achieved a change in the political pattern from a feudal system to a democratic form of government. Similarly, architectural practice, during this period, took a form which was in keeping with this changed situation, and through this practice a different type of architecture came into being. Naturally there were certain national characteristics which always leave a mark and which will never disappear as long as the nation exists, while at the same time there was a touch of international character – the influence of successful architectural styles. The architectural practice of the Hungary between the two wars no longer exists, for politically the country has been completely transformed, but it is still interesting to consider several important factors of this practice.

First of all, the architectural practice was very much influenced by the competition system in the country. Rules, regulations and by-laws compelled clients, group clients in particular, to set up competitions, even for medium sized projects. The individual client only was excepted, but even they, sometimes called for competitions, and so the competition question had to be regulated. It was customary to have open and closed competitions and to prevent abuse there had to be a control of prizes – the minimum prize and the total amount of the prizes. Usually the first prize was connected with the commission for the planning, the second prize gave some profit, the third prize often was barely enough to cover expenses and the consolation prizes were really no more than consolations. The most rewarding aspect was the publicity. Even so, the work was done with very little compensation and to avoid corruption there had to be regulations concerning the judging. It was compulsory to have judges chosen from the Architectural Institute, one of the Ministries, Art Councils or similar bodies.

The result of this situation was that an architect, as a rule, did not start his own practice before running successfully in several competitions. During his practice, it was necessary for him to enter for other competitions, and the expenses of this work would amount to 10% – 15% of his overhead. We cannot discuss at this moment whether this system which forced an architect into such an expense to carry on with his practice, was good or bad. Events showed that too much expense and effort was being put into competitions, and limitations had to be imposed on the presentation of drawings to keep the field open for smaller competitors.

Generally speaking, the plans for public buildings, were chosen from competitions, buildings such as churches, schools, city halls, stations, fire halls, theatres etc. – in short all buildings where public money was concerned – even monuments.

This system had a very marked effect on the quality of the building. The architect's practice was more intensive, even if carried on at a slower tempo than here. Very often this kind of work brought no results, but when the commission was given, the compensation was ample because the fees were comparatively high.

In addition to the work demanded by the competition system, there was also the more detailed work required for the specifications. Specifications were required to include bills of quantities, giving not only the quality, but the absolute quantity of materials involved. The main reason for this, was, that generally speaking, contractors were not qualified, or their offices equipped with qualified staff and machines, to do the estimating as it is done in this country by estimators. The advantage of this was that the work of quantity calculations was done only once by the architect and not several times by the bidders or sub-contractors. However, architectural offices had to increase their staff to include estimators because of the special type of work and the great responsibility involved.

There was a third item which put an additional load on architectural practice and that was the theoretical knowledge and use of tax exemptions for buildings. The social and economic system of the country made it necessary to have some method of encouraging the people to build. Therefore, new buildings were given a tax free period of from fifteen to thirty-five years. In certain areas, where building activity was very desirable, or where it was compulsory to have an expensive elevation, the longer period of tax exemption was given. This method proved more powerful for the City Planner than any strict by-law or regulation. To know all the details and possibilities, not only with reference to restrictions, but also how to establish the most advantageous rate of taxation was a great and very useful field of knowledge for an architectural office.

These few points give some idea of how this little country, in a few years, managed to develop a highly civilized system of building and to accelerate the work of the architectural offices in quality and quantity. Now this short period is over and a new regime has abolished all the architectural offices, amalgamating them into one state office. The incentive given by the tax exemption system has been destroyed, and a return has taken place to the dictatorial, anti-democratic ways of crushing restrictions, under which cunning people can wriggle out of the regulations, and where a client, who wishes to seize an illegal advantage, can drag down the architect from the high moral level, up to which he has worked himself under a superior democratic and economic system.

Peter Kaffka, West Vancouver

MANITOBA

The architects of Manitoba are fortunate in having a continuing lectureship fund which is jointly sponsored by the Students' Architectural Society of the School of Architecture at the University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Association of Architects. The fund is administered by a committee made up of representatives from the Council of the Manitoba Association of Architects, the School of Architecture, and the Students' Council and its purpose is to bring to Winnipeg, outstanding architectural personalities to lecture to members of the profession, to the student body and to the general public.

This year, the Committee tendered invitations to several American architects, among them, Pietro Belluschi, Minoru Yamasaki, Paul Rudolph, Ralph Rapson, Alfred Caldwell, G. E. Kidder Smith and Robert G. Cerny. Alfred Caldwell, Associate Professor of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology accepted the Committee's invitation as did G. E. Kidder Smith, noted architect, author and lecturer, and Robert G. Cerny, Professor of Architecture at the University of Minnesota and member of the Minneapolis firm of Thorso and Cerny.

Mr Caldwell spoke on "The Nature of Architecture" and the Development of Structure and outlined the history of the "Chicago School". Buildings designed by William Le Baron Jenny, author of the first steel skeleton skyscraper; Louis Sullivan and Mies van der Rohe were illustrated and discussed. G. E. Kidder Smith presented a series of illustrated lectures in which he reviewed much of the material used in his latest book, 'Italy Builds'. He also presented beautifully illustrated lectures on churches in Germany and other European countries. Mr Cerny was guest speaker at the annual Association Dinner and made one address to the student body. He cited Frank Lloyd Wright's and Mies van der Rohe's philosophies as the two extremes of the current trends in architecture and suggested that the majority of architects found their own niche somewhere in between these two philosophies. He suggested that possibly the time had come for us to look back on older work so that we might return to fundamentals and give our architecture the humanism that is so essential.

The stimulus that such well known architects are able to inject into the local architectural scene is most beneficial. The opportunity to hear and discuss new and diversified concepts of architecture, to view through the lens of an expert's camera some of the finest architecture of the world, is in a sense a refresher course to those of the profession who have been out of school for some time and an inspiration to the student body. One of our weakest fields is that of public relations and what better opportunity is there to improve public understanding and acceptance of the architect than to have outstanding architects illustrate and discuss the world's finest buildings. This is one major step we can take to convince the public that the architect has a genuine contribution to society — "to lead in design for living"* and to demonstrate what can be accomplished physically by actual buildings toward "keeping social life sane".*

**The Architect at Mid-Century Vol II page 253.*

Edwin Raines, Winnipeg

ONTARIO

The members of the Ontario Association all seem too busy these days to be taking part in many activities except those official meetings which have been dealt with elsewhere.

The Advisory Board of the Toronto Chapter, working with the Toronto Authorities, have been doing a most commendable service within their limited terms of reference, in guarding University Avenue only from the intrusion of some of the monstrosities of modern building which can be found elsewhere. This Advisory Board, a most public spirited group of our members, has attempted to have their authority extended to all the "Metropolitan streets" in the Toronto Metropolitan Area, but so far their generous services have been accepted for University Avenue alone.

It would appear that such a service as this group renders to

the citizens generally, while vastly better than allowing the law of the jungle to prevail on uncontrolled and sometimes unscrupulous building, it is not enough to achieve the desired results. While they have a certain measure of control, they do not seem to have the beneficial results of the power of active criticism.

I have always wondered why architecture, of all the arts, is such a blushing violet whenever the question of criticism arises. I know the old clichés about "it is the owner's money that the architect is spending" and that the owner is apt to take very serious umbrage if his building (and ergo his architect) is criticized. Some thirty years ago Lewis Mumford, who comes as close to being an architectural critic as anyone could be on this continent, stated in the *New Yorker* magazine that a large imposing office building looked to him like a grain elevator. The magazine was promptly sued for \$20,000.00 by the irate owner. Today, Mr Mumford is apparently free to express anything that his critical faculties dictate, and I have not heard of any law suits because of his recent criticisms.

The drama is probably the first art which springs to mind when one considers the enriching and fertilizing effects of the active and informed critic. Without it, the art of the theatre would drop into the doldrums which some feel affects much of architecture today. Literature, painting and sculpture are also subject to the fierce glare of the critic's eye. Why then is architecture the sole art which does not welcome the intelligent and widely publicized criticism of someone qualified for this important task. We seem duly content to accept the criticism of time, perhaps in fifty years someone will appreciate that a building erected today was an honest effort or a dreadful error. An active critic reporting on architecture might go far to avoid this hap-hazard effect.

If no Canadian critic has the unbiased perception (or foolhardiness) for this critical task, why shouldn't the RAIC, or some of the Provincial Associations, invite Mr Mumford to visit us and give a professional critic's views on some of our recent more prominent (if not eminent) buildings. I am sure any lectures he might give would be well attended; also that the daily press would give his views wide coverage.

Richard A. Fisher, Toronto

QUEBEC

La construction de vastes groupes d'habitations comme ceux que nous avons connus ces dernières années est pratiquement arrêtée pendant que s'effectue un rajustement de l'économie canadienne.

Ne serait-il pas opportun pour nous, architectes, de profiter de cette période d'accalmie et d'étudier les moyens à prendre en vue de participer plus activement dans l'avenir à la création de villes et à l'étude des futurs groupes d'habitations envisagés sous l'angle d'éléments reliés et intégrés à ces villes?

Il nous faudra élargir nos horizons quant à la signification même des agglomérations urbaines, tant au point de vue social et financier qu'au point de vue administratif et nous pénétrer davantage de nos devoirs et responsabilités vis-à-vis la société, en retour des droits et privilèges reçus de celle-ci.

La confiance nous est de plus en plus manifestée par le public, exemple: L'honneur que nous fait la critique de s'occuper de nous; ceci est une invitation indiscutable à descendre de notre tour d'ivoire et à mériter davantage le titre d'*architecte* que nous portons.

Il est regrettable que si peu ait été fait dans le sens de l'habitation ouvrière et il appartient à l'architecte de proposer des solutions pratiques et rentables dans ce domaine aux législateurs et financiers. Une société qui se dit libre, démocrate et chrétienne, en plus d'accepter la notion du capital, n'a pas d'excuses de laisser le capital humain d'une classe entière d'individus se dégrader constamment en ne lui laissant presque pas d'autre alternative que de se débrouiller comme elle peut selon le hasard.

Il est bien révolu le temps où l'architecte n'avait qu'à satisfaire des goûts pas toujours heureux d'une clientèle bourgeoise selon un sens artistique des plus relatifs excluant trop souvent,

hélas, d'autres fonctions toutes aussi importantes telles que la psychologie et la physiologie.

Il nous incombe, et ceci est urgent, de faire de la recherche audacieuse en plus de collaborer d'une façon désintéressée avec nos législateurs et administrateurs en leur faisant valoir tous les facteurs économiques latents offerts par une architecture reliée aux véritables valeurs humaines dont le premier résultat sera de réduire et d'alléger les problèmes de nos institutions correctives.

Jean Damphousse, Laval des Rapides

OBITUARY

It is with sincere regret that we have learned of the sudden death on January 21st, 1957, in Peterborough, of **Walter R. L. Blackwell**, a long time member of the Ontario Association, RAIC. Mr Blackwell practised architecture for many years in the cities of Peterborough and Toronto and first became a member of the OAA in 1920, after several years of work with architects in New York City following his graduation from the University of Toronto and postgraduate work at Columbia University. Mr Blackwell practised in association with his father, William Blackwell, from 1920 until the death of his father in 1937. He was then joined by James S. Craig in 1945 under the firm name of W. & W. R. L. Blackwell & Craig with offices in both Peterborough and Toronto. Later the firm again changed to Blackwell, Craig and Zeidler in 1953 when Mr Eberhard H. Zeidler was made a partner.

During these years, under the leadership of Mr Blackwell, the firm designed many of the Bank of Toronto branch buildings throughout Canada and especially in Ontario. Some of the more recent buildings on which Mr Blackwell was actively engaged were the Peterborough Civic Hospital and Nurses' Residence, the Peterborough Federal Building, the Peterborough Memorial Community Centre and the Guelph General Hospital Nurses' Residence.

This is only a brief sketch of Mr Blackwell's long career and a short recollection of his contribution to architecture.

James S. Craig

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Editor, Journal RAIC

Dear Sir,

The challenge on housing contained in an address by the Honourable Robert Winters, printed in the February issue of the *Journal*, deserves serious consideration by the architectural profession.

"... I feel ... that the skill of architecture — the art of architecture — has not been used to the full. In the post-war period, especially, the idea of design in domestic architecture has bowed before the pressure of economic happenings and the introduction of new inventions, methods and the changes of human outlook and habits. The resulting mass house of today, in many ways, reflects and affects our way of life. Its impact on our society cannot be over-rated. It is for this reason that the greatest skills of architecture as well as those of industry must be directed to housing ..."

I believe that many architects across the country would go further than the Minister, and admit that with important exceptions, the profession is not fully meeting its responsibilities in the development of Canadian housing. There are many reasons for this and the Minister has discussed some of them.

Mr Stewart Bates, President of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation stated in his last annual report that: "the improvement of housing and living conditions is regarded as the main business of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and all its organizational effort is directed to this objective." Activities of the Corporation support this statement and include, to mention only a few: the initiative and assistance necessary for the creation of the Canadian Housing Design Council, continuing assistance to the Community Planning Association of Canada, the provision of fellowships and

bursaries for the study of town planning, employment of consulting architects for various housing projects and recently the development of its architectural and planning department into a separate division of the Corporation.

No single agency of course can solve the many complex problems involved in the creation of successful urban and suburban environment.

The next ten years will be critical. All indications for 1965 point to the greatest surge of house building and town expansion in our history. In this time we must somehow find the formula which will allow architects, in collaboration with town planners and others, help create successful communities. Unless we do, a growing chorus of criticism about the quality of housing and planning in this country is inevitable. There are signs of this already and it does not reflect well on our profession.

We can take up the challenge if we wish to maintain and strengthen our position in the community. We shall need to employ the same kind of initiative and integrity displayed by the senior members of our profession in past years when they were building a strong and respected profession in Canada. We must deliberate on the role of the architect in housing or we shall gradually, over the years ahead, concede the problem to industry and other professions.

Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation has offered its facilities in Ottawa to assist the Convention Committee in the setting up of discussions on housing at the next Annual Assembly in June. It is to be hoped that the offer will be accepted but time is running short. The fiftieth meeting should be the most significant Annual Assembly yet held and offers an opportunity for such deliberations and for discussions of other important problems as well. The theme is "The Next Fifty Years" and I would suggest that if the agenda does not include Housing many of our profession will be disappointed, and we may lose an excellent occasion to acquaint public opinion with a most important present and future phase of our professional work.

Yours very truly,

(signed) *Ian MacLennan, Chief Architect*

Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT SPECIFICATIONS BOARD

Copies of the new CGSB INDEX OF SPECIFICATIONS, NRC No. 4191, dated 2 January 1957, are now available upon request to the Secretary, Canadian Government Specifications Board, National Research Council, Ottawa 2, Canada.

This publication lists all specifications issued by the Board up to 31 December 1956, and supersedes NRC 3851 and its quarterly supplements.

POSITION WANTED

A.R.I.B.A., A.A. Dipl. Age 35 years. With extensive experience in hospital design and building. Seeks responsible post with possible view to partnership, with progressive Canadian firm. Write Mr John Lincoln, 14 St. Edmund's Court, St. Edmund's Terrace, London N.W.8, England.

LATE NEWS

The Editor, Journal RAIC

Dear Sir,

The following information is with regard to arrangements being made by the Ottawa Chapter, OAA for the Annual Assembly. The information concerns the Symposium which is programmed for 9:30 a.m., of Friday, May 31st.

This is to be a panel on Housing, with Mr Stewart Bates, President of CMHC, giving the opening address. The panel Chairman is Mr Anthony Adamson, MRAIC. The panel is to be in three sections as follows:

1. *The Mass-Produced House* We hope to have Mr Charles Goodman, (F) AIA, of Washington D.C. head this panel but to date this has not been confirmed.
2. *The Low Cost House* Mr James T. Lendrum, Director of the Small Homes Council at the University of Illinois will head this panel.
3. *The Builder-Client House* Mr J. A. Murray, MRAIC of Toronto will head this panel.

Yours very truly,

(signed) *Norman Sherriff, Chairman*

Public Relations & Press Committee



The working group in action — C. J. G. Carroll, N. Sherriff, J. W. Strutt, G. B. Pritchard.

RAIC FIFTIETH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY GOLDEN JUBILEE

The dates—May 29th through June 1st, 1957, have very special significance for the architectural profession in Canada. These dates have been selected for the Fiftieth Annual Assembly of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and, appropriately, Ottawa was selected as the city in which the Assembly would be held. Architects from every province of the Dominion will gather in the Capital City to take part in the Assembly which marks the *Golden Jubilee* of their Institute.

The *Golden Jubilee* will be a memorable occasion; an occasion that will never occur again and, for this reason alone, members of the Institute should make every effort to attend.

What does the next fifty years hold in store for the architectural profession? This provocative question introduces the "Theme" for the Assembly—"Canada's next Fifty Years—Looking forward into the second half of the Century and assessing the opportunities, and the problems, which will present themselves to the architectural profession."

Nuclear energy, automation, technicollogical advances, advances in the Arts, Sciences and Humanities. All of these will affect the profession; some of them in a way quite predictable and others in a way not so predictable. The Assembly will endeavour to arrive at some definite conclusions in this matter—*your* contribution might be vital!

The Ottawa Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects will be host to the Assembly and, members of the Chapter have been working for months bringing into reality a stimulating and diversified program.

Listed below are the committees set up by the Ottawa Chapter and, the names of Committee Chairmen:

Program Planning Committee: Mr G. B. Pritchard, Chairman

Public Relations & Press Committee:

Mr N. Sherriff, Chairman

Accommodation & Catering Committee:

Mr D. L. Blair, Chairman

Registration & Ticket Sales Committee:

Mr A. H. Taylor, Chairman

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College of Fellows: Mr W. B. Riddell, Chairman

Fellows Installation Arrangements:

Mr J. A. Russell, Chairman

Assembly Highlights

Wednesday — May 29th

9:30 p.m. — "Jubilee Gathering"

Members and Ladies will be the guests of the Ottawa Chapter of the OAA at this very informal gathering. Here you will have the opportunity to meet everyone.

Members arriving by train from east and west can join this gathering immediately after checking in at the hotel.

Thursday — May 30th

9:00 a.m. — *General Assembly*

A *must* for all Members, the General Assembly will be conducted in the Convention Hall of the Chateau Laurier Hotel.

12:30 p.m. — *Luncheon and Symposium*

Members will attend luncheon at the Country Club. Transportation to and from the luncheon will be provided for everyone. (Buses will leave from the hotel at 12:00 noon.) Here, at the Country Club, you have an excellent opportunity to stroll around one of the many beauty spots found in the district.

The speaker for the Symposium will be Mr Louis I. Kahn, professor of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. "Canada's Next Fifty Years" will be the subject under discussion at the Symposium. Mr Kahn graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1924. He was resident architect at the American Academy in Rome from 1950 to 1951, and was Chief Critic of Architectural Design at Yale University. Mr Kahn is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. He comes to us well prepared to present to us some extremely enlightening thoughts on the subject "Canada's Next Fifty Years" and the success of the symposium seems assured.

6:00 p.m. — *Official Opening of the Exhibition of Building Materials and Techniques and Buffet Supper*

The President of the RAIC will officially open the exhibition and following this ceremony there will be a tour of the exhibits.

Cocktails and a buffet supper will be served after the tour and you will be the guests of the Exhibitors and the RAIC.

Friday — May 31st

9:30 a.m. — *Symposium: "The Challenge of the Housing Industry"*

The Symposium will be held in the Convention Hall.

A panel discussion on housing; one of the most controversial subjects in the country today and one that should invoke plenty of spirited participation.

12:30 p.m. — *Luncheon*

Luncheon for Members and Ladies will be held in the hotel ballroom. His Worship, Mayor George Nelms of Ottawa will officially welcome all the out-of-town guests.

The Luncheon Speaker will be Mr W. D. T. Atkinson, Principal of the Glebe Collegiate Institute in Ottawa. Mr Atkinson will speak about his hobby — "Limericks" which the dictionary defines as nonsense poems, consisting of five anapaestic lines.

4:30 p.m. — *College of Fellows Installation Ceremony*

Members and Guests are invited to this Ceremony which will be held in the Hotel Drawing Room. This must be considered one of *the* highlights of the whole Assembly.

7:30 p.m. — *Andrew Cobb Dinner*

The Andrew Cobb Dinner will be held in the Banquet Room and Members and Ladies will attend.

Following the Dinner there will be a whole evening devoted entirely to fun and merriment—all as a means of keeping alive everything that is associated with the name Andrew Cobb.

Andrew Cobb is not alive; he passed away quite some years ago and to many, it must seem strange that we honor a departed Member by having a gay and hilarious time in his name. That is because there are many who have not heard of, or know nothing about, Andrew Cobb. Andrew Cobb lived in Halifax. He was an architect — a very fine architect. Also, no one can remember him having missed an Annual Assembly during his lifetime as an architect. These things can be said of many Members so there must have been something else very special about this man. There was of course! The man had a personality that was far too great to be kept within his own body — it swelled up and encompassed everyone around him — and usually that personality radiated good clean fun and merriment. It took many forms — this fun and merriment; and one never knew what to expect next from this exuberant fellow.

We don't intend to tell you what to expect on the evening of May 31st — but you can quite safely assume that the Ottawa Chapter will keep the heritage left us by Andrew Cobb very much in evidence — as he would have wished!

Saturday — June 1st

10:00 a.m. — *Symposium*

The Symposium will be held in the Convention Hall.

The Guest Speaker will be Richard Buckminster Fuller and the subject for the symposium will be "Education and the Future". To the American public at least, Richard Buckminster Fuller is an enigma. He invented a new system of geometry. He holds the only U.S. patent for a new kind of map projection. He has written several books. He published a magazine. He has developed, without a doubt, the most radical cars, bathrooms, and houses in the world. All this is an introduction to a man who possibly is responsible for more fresh thinking about technology than any other man now living.

12:30 p.m. — *Luncheon*

This Saturday Luncheon will be held in the Banquet Room and Members and Ladies will be the guests of the Ontario Association of Architects.

7:45 p.m. — *Annual Dinner*

The Address at the Annual Dinner will be given by His Excellency, the Governor-General of Canada.

Items of Interest to the Ladies

- a delightful Ladies Luncheon Party at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club, Thursday, May 30th.
- a Supper Party for out-of-town Ladies, Thursday evening.
- International Garden Party and Dog Show at the U.S. Embassy, Saturday afternoon.
- Visits to the National Gallery of Canada and the Design Centre.

Notes On Special Guests

Mr Kenneth M. B. Cross, President of the Royal Architectural Institute of British Architects, will be with us for the duration of the Annual Assembly. Accompanied by the Secretary of the RIBA, Mr C. D. Spragg, he will arrive in Canada May 6th, en route from a visit to Australia and other Commonwealth countries. On the way across Canada, they will visit the Associations of Architects in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

Kenneth M. B. Cross, MA, FRIBA, succeeded Mr C. H. Aslin, CBE, as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects on July 1st, 1956. He was born in 1890 and educated at Felstead School and Caius College, Cambridge. He received his architectural train-

ing in articles to his father, Alfred W. S. Cross, FRIBA, and at the Cambridge University School of Architecture, setting up in private practice in 1919 and entering into partnership with his father in 1922.

Mr Cross has served on the RIBA Council for the Session 1937-38 and since 1950. He was Honorary Secretary of the Royal Institute from 1952-55 and in July 1955 was appointed a Vice-President. Mr Cross is unmarried. His recreations are walking and gardening.



HOWARD COSTER

Cyril Douglas Spragg, CBE, was educated at Christ's Hospital (The Bluecoats' School) and entered the service of the RIBA in 1913. Military service with Queen's Westminster Rifles from 1914-19 in France, Salonika and Palestine. He was appointed Assistant-Secretary of the RIBA in 1926 and Secretary in 1945, following the retirement of Sir Ian MacAlister.

Mr Spragg was closely associated with Sir Ian MacAlister in all the outstanding events and developments of the RIBA up to Sir Ian MacAlister's retirement, the chief of these being the passing of the Architects' Registration Acts of 1931 and 1938. He has seen the RIBA grow from what was virtually a small London Society to an



LAFAYETTE

organisation covering the whole of the British Commonwealth. During the period of his Secretaryship, the membership has doubled with over 2,800 members or 16% of the total membership working overseas. He has served on a number of Government Committees and Panels and has acted as Joint Secretary of the Joint Contracts Tribunal since its formation in 1932.

Mr Spragg was elected an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Architects in 1955 and an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in 1956. He is also an Honorary Member of the Architectural Association (London) and a Governor of Christ's Hospital, his old school.

Leon Chatelain Jr., President of the American Institute of Architects, will come to Ottawa direct from the Centennial Convention of the AIA at Washington. It is expected that the Executive Director of the American Institute of Architects, Mr E. R. Purves, who is well known to Canadian architects, will come with Mr Chatelain.

Trevor W. Rogers, President of the New York State Association of Architects, with which Association the RAIC and the Ontario Association of Architects particularly have enjoyed such pleasant relations, is expected to be a guest.

Monsignor Olivier Maurault of Montreal, who has just recently retired as Rector of the University of Montreal, and a good friend and interpreter of Canadian architects, will also be in attendance.

The Honourable Robert H. Winters, Minister of Public Works of the Government of Canada, is expected to attend if the election program allows time.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Claude Leclerc was born in Montreal and brought up in Montmagny. He studied at "Le Petit Seminaire de Québec" where he obtained his B.A. Back to Montreal, he took up architecture in "Les Beaux-Arts". Graduating first of his class in 1954, he was awarded the RAIC medal and the Pilkington Scholarship, which sent him studying in England. While in London, he worked with Basil Spence & Partners, architects for the Cathedral at Coventry. He also travelled on the continent. He came back with a report on "Slum Demolition and Reconstruction". Twice he visited Mexico, studying its modern constructions. He is presently with Thibodeau & Thibodeau, Montreal.

Sir Geoffrey Vickers, V.C., M.A. A Scholar of Oundle School and Exhibitioner of Merton College, Oxford, Sir Geoffrey's academic career was interrupted by World War I, in which he was twice wounded and awarded the Victoria Cross and the Belgian Croix de Guerre. Qualifying as a solicitor, Sir Geoffrey became a partner in a well known London firm of lawyers, specializing in financial and company matters, particularly in international questions. In World War II he rejoined the Army and was employed on special missions until he became director of economic intelligence for the Ministry of Economic Warfare and a member of the Joint Intelligence Committee of the Chiefs of Staff.

Legal adviser to the National Coal Board on its formation in 1946, he became a member of the Board 1948-1955 with responsibility for recruitment, education, training, welfare and health in the mining industry. Since his retirement in 1955, Sir Geoffrey has devoted his time particularly to study and writing on problems of values and communication.

CECI EST VOTRE JOURNAL

[suite de page 104] des ententes et des relations avec le personnel. Ils se rencontrent périodiquement, à la demande du président.

L'importance du *Journal* pour l'Institut est telle que sans son secours financier le travail de l'Institut serait ramené à ce qu'il était, il y a 20 ans passés. A mesure que le *Journal* prospérait, le travail de l'Institut augmentait et devenait de plus en plus important pour toute la profession au Canada.

Pendant un certain temps, le seul soutien de l'Institut était la contribution per capita reçue de l'Association Provinciale. Aujourd'hui, cette contribution, plus différents montants reçus de la vente des formules de contrat, intérêts de bons, intérêts de banque, se monte à presque 60% approximativement du coût d'opération de l'Institut. L'autre 40% vient du *Journal*. Sans ce secours les contributions de l'Association Provinciale devraient être augmentées ou le travail et la valeur de l'Institut coupés de 40%.

La contribution du *Journal* a permis à l'Institut d'établir un bureau central à Ottawa, avec un secrétaire permanent et un personnel adéquat. Il a fourni des fonds pour accorder des bourses aux cinq écoles d'architecture au Canada. Des assemblées annuelles ont lieu maintenant dans toutes les parties du pays, de l'Atlantique au Pacifique, rapprochant ainsi nos membres davantage et les faisant se mieux connaître. Durant les cinq dernières années, trois assemblées eurent lieu en dehors de l'Ontario et de Québec. L'aide du *Journal* a rendu possible l'inclusion au comité exécutif des membres venant de la Colombie, des Provinces des Prairies et de l'Atlantique. Il nous fut possible de préparer un syllabus d'études recommandées pour les candidats voulant se qualifier comme architectes dans les diverses provinces. Ces activités et de nombreuses autres nous sont rendues possible grâce à l'aide financier du *Journal*.

Maintenant, comment réagissez-vous et que pensez-vous faire pour aider au succès continu de votre *Journal*?

Nous sommes convaincus —

que le meilleur travail au Canada devrait être d'abord publié dans le *Journal* et que, dans votre propre intérêt, il est de votre responsabilité de voir à ce que ceci soit fait.

que vous êtes responsable de tenir le *Journal* à date sur toutes les activités que vous pensez être intéressantes pour votre profession; de fournir à l'éditeur des listes d'adresses que vous avez vous-mêmes données ou que vous considérez comme utiles et de haut intérêt.

que chaque membre de l'IRAC devrait se considérer comme un collaborateur et un collectionneur d'articles.

que le succès du *Journal* est entre vos mains et que ceux qui sont responsables de sa production comptent sur vous pour le rendre de plus en plus intéressant.

que nos annonceurs considèrent le *Journal* comme le meilleur moyen de faire connaître et apprécier leurs produits par les architectes du Canada, parce que cette revue est largement lue par les architectes. En un mot, c'est pour l'annonceur "l'ouvre toi sésame" afin d'atteindre l'architecte.

Et enfin, nous sommes convaincus —

que sans l'annonce le *Journal* cesserait d'exister et qu'ainsi c'est un devoir d'examiner les matériaux annoncés et de les utiliser quand ils conviennent à nos exigences.

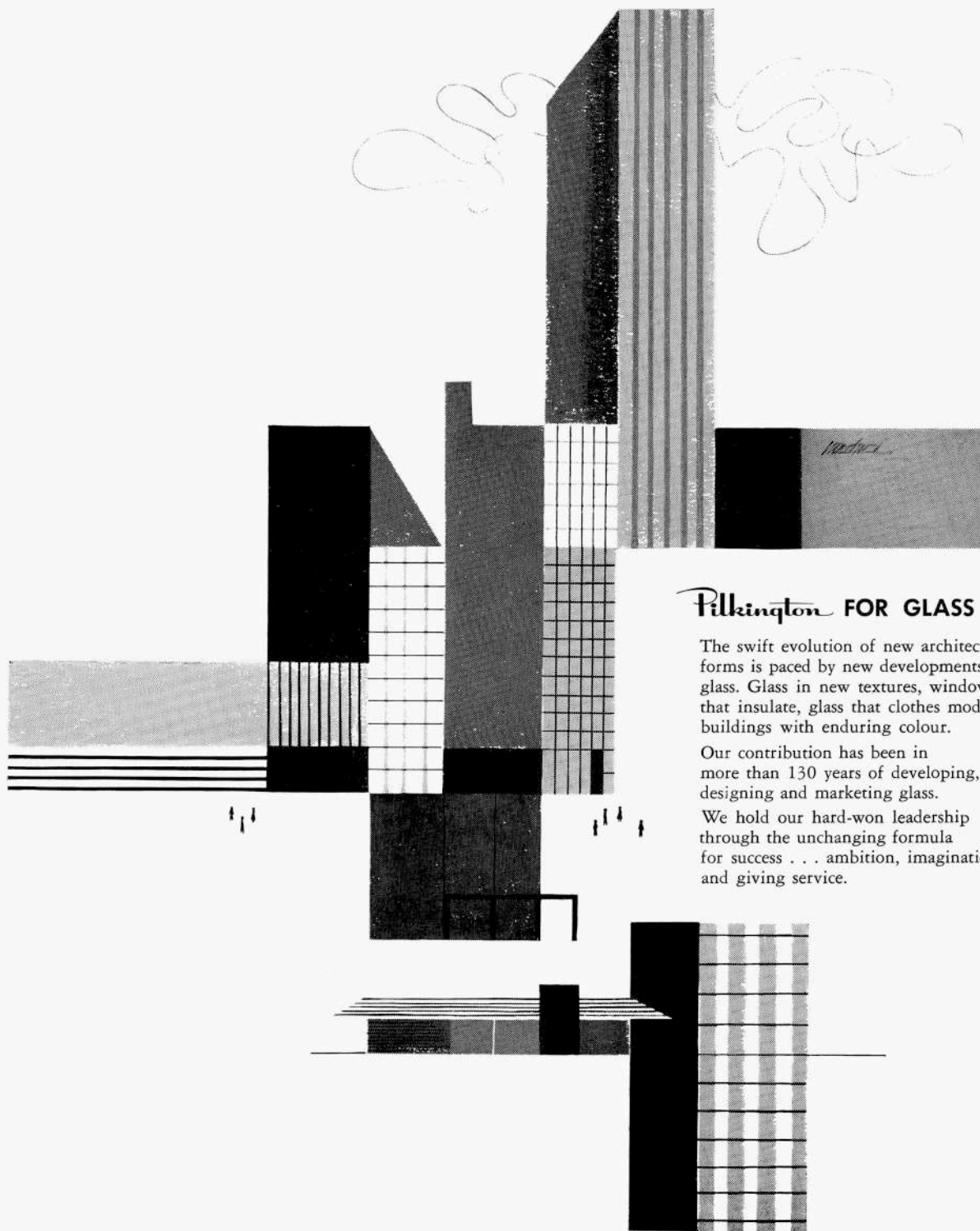
Le *Journal* est différent de toute autre publication professionnelle. C'est notre *Journal*. Il est essentiel aux architectes et rédigé par des architectes — ainsi voyons à ce que son succès soit maintenu.

Chaque architecte au Canada est un associé dans la publication du Journal.

FUTURE ISSUES

May	Schools
June	Industrial
July	RAIC Golden Jubilee*
August	Farm Buildings
September	General
October	Vancouver and Victoria*
November	General
December	Recreation Centres

N.B. Only those months marked with an asterisk represent special issues. The others are general issues with an emphasis on the subject mentioned.



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