

The OAA this year sponsored a quiz of Ontario political leaders to determine policies on both the architectural profession and the environment. To find out if the right party got in, see page 5.

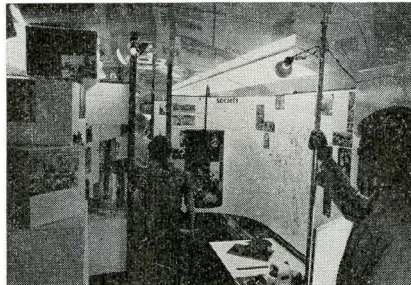
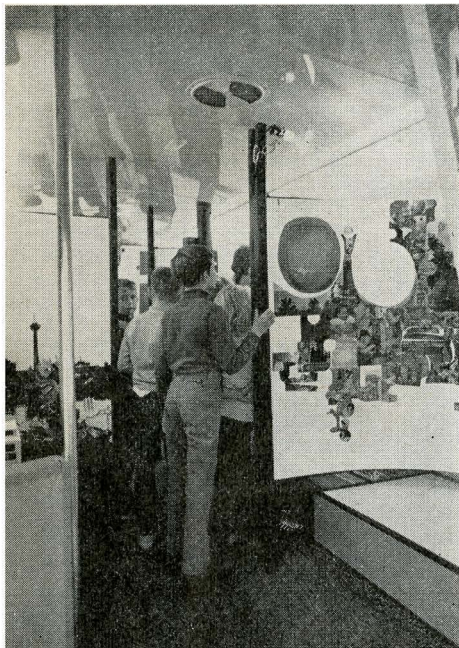
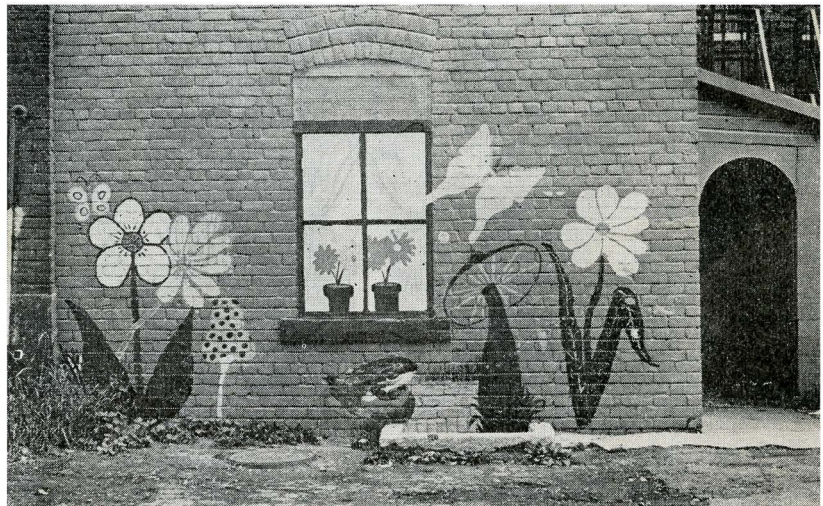
# Architecture Canada

**NEWSMAGAZINE**

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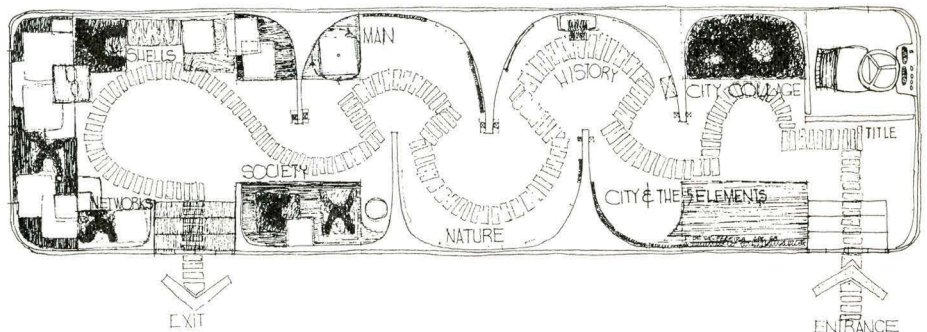
## Painting the town: supergraphics with heart

Since publication of the Benson & Hedges "artwalls" (A/C, 10/12/71), a supergraphic of another kind has come to light in Toronto. This one was done by neighborhood kids' as a youth project. It enlivens an alley off Queen St. East in the low-rent Trefann Court area.



## What's it all about?

Two Calgary architects can be added to the growing list of those interested in educating the public about architecture and the environment. Michael Evamy and Conrad Loban are consultants to Project Canada West, a group developing a program aimed at making students more aware of urban problems. Their activities so far have included mounting this exhibition in a Calgary School Board bus.





## A plea for proper planning – Old Victoria and The Waterfront

Two groups have been doing their bit recently to make the public more aware about the potentials of Victoria's waterfront area: one is the local branch of the Community Planning Association; the other, a group of UBC students working under a federal Opportunities for Youth grant. Both have prepared briefs which complement each other and reject the idea of high rise building in the harbor area. CPAC's brief entitled "Waterfront Development" is based on a number of CPAC's public forums. Its recommendations include: suspension of marine waterfront development until a comprehensive overall plan is available; establishing a Waterfront Authority to have sole jurisdiction over all waterfront planning and exclusive use of all waterfront revenue; charging that Waterfront Authority with the preparation of a plan for public discussion and ratification through elected councils or a plebiscite. The students' brief is broader based: it delves into how the "historically and visually rich assembly of buildings [in Old Victoria near the harbor] could become a real place for people." The students' ideas are illustrated in the drawings shown here.



The students, in their study of Old Victoria endorse the recommendations of a 1967 study by Acres Western Limited on renewal for the area – the influence of the already-developed Bastion Square (before and after photos right) should be expanded. They further suggest that a series of "paths" or pleasant walkways should link "places" or activity spaces.

## OPINION

Art for public buildings is still exposed to political whims

Last month the federal Department of Public Works through its Ontario regional agency made an honest attempt to bring artists and architects together to informally and "democratically" discuss the problems of working together under the benevolent (but still not lawfully endorsed) plan of devoting one per cent of the cost of federal public buildings to integrated art work.

Therein lies the rub. How does one effect a good public relations effort informally and democratically and at the same time examine problems in a real and intelligent manner without wasting time and getting nowhere?

As most democratic gatherings are, this one, held in the Ontario architects' club rooms in Toronto, was messy. Old ideologies thrashed out through the allied arts columns of *A/C* from 1964 to 1969 were resurrected to no-one's advantage and often to the irritation of those

present who wished to be more specific about existing problems. Members of the DPW Art Committee (appointed since 1968 to help DPW select art for public buildings) were all present, informally, of course. It was a pity their purpose and *modus operandi* didn't come under discussion. The committee had a rare chance to present to all those concerned, facts about itself that are neither widely known nor well understood (even by some of the newer committee members themselves).

What did become clear at the meeting, however, especially to those of us close to the scene, was that Jim Langford, the 'chief architect' of the one per cent plan is still working without much support from either architects or artists. Langford (now DPW Assistant Deputy Minister (Design)) is one of the most sensitive agents for art integration in this country but a good and enlightened public servant can go only so far in implementing cultural action.

Endorsement of Langford's actions needs to come from those really

affected; if artists and architects understand the problems (both political and aesthetic) they should form joint pressure groups to see that legislature confirms in perpetuity the 'good intentions' of past political action (namely that 'one per cent' plan becomes law).

Making public environments more exciting through the minds and hands of creative artists is still in a nebulous state and it could even disappear at the political whim of less sympathetic legislators.

Undeniably there has been considerable improvement in art work finding its way into public buildings. Painful experience, however, allows us to know that there is still much room for improvement. Some exists in the interpretation of the original one per cent plan. For example, we need to see that expenditure on art is more evenly and intelligently distributed – to small complexes as well as grandiose environments. There could also be some improvement in the way artists are selected if both artists and architects were better informed not only about each other but the general scene



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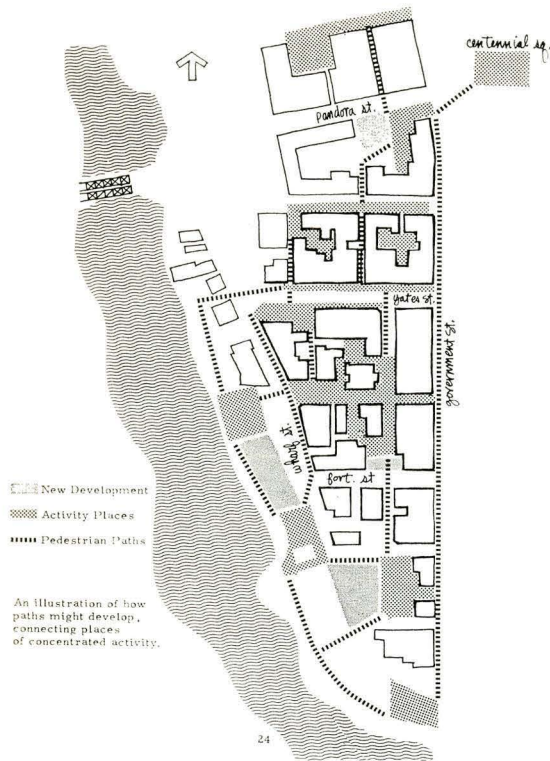
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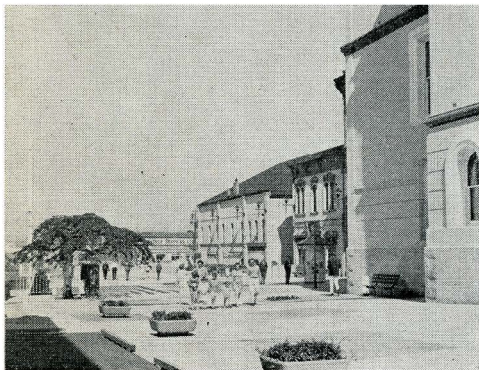
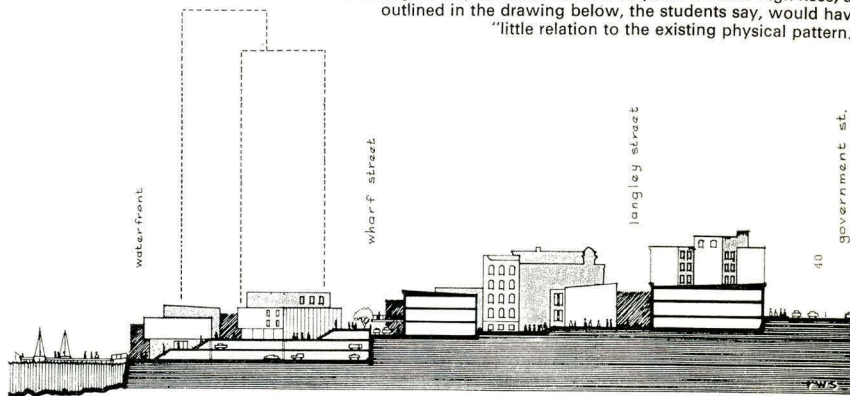
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If residents were to live in the Old Town, it would be continuously used throughout the day. Apartments and townhouses could be developed on upper floors of existing buildings. The scale of buildings should gradually diminish with the slope to the sea. High rises, as outlined in the drawing below, the students say, would have "little relation to the existing physical pattern."



and the problems of working for government institutions.

The next fifty years of environmental and cultural growth in Canada is vital. We will never know the terrible fruits of the 'sins of omission' until the agonizing sense of deprivation meets the coming generation, face to face with the realization that theirs is the burden of bearing 'the sins of the fathers of 1971'.

A new breed of architect and artist is springing up out of the general atmosphere who repudiate the role of egocentric architect or introspective artist and believe somehow their skills must merge to do more honor to environment than providing the arrogance of 'total architecture' or divorcing their creativity from public relationship into a narrower channel of esoteric museum or gallery. To quote a young architect present at the DPW meeting . . . these artists are the "people who conceive of the issues of the day" in a tangible art form. They can leave them as symbolic marks on the architectural environment not by pretty 'applique' like a

postage stamp but more seriously.

As far as Canada is concerned the bombast of architectural monumentality is rarely graced by such subtle statements . . . the work of Canadian innovators is today as rarely seen in the general environment as is clean water in the lakes and fresh air in the new metropolis.

*Anita Aarons, Toronto*

## COMPETITIONS

Awards for residential design

A record number of architects have entered projects in the Canadian Housing Design Council's '71 awards program for residential design.

Says the Council's secretary-treasurer, R. W. Harvey, a total of 240 entries have been received and that figure includes "many architects from coast to coast."

Last month's preliminary judging, in the competition aimed at focusing public and industry attention on well designed houses and developments, selected fifty projects for further examination. This month, the seven-man jury headed by

Toronto architect Jack Klein and including architects Barry Downs, Vancouver, and Jean Ouellet, Montreal, visits the sites of these finalist projects. Top awards and honorable mentions will be announced early December.

## RAIC

Committee chairmen

The appointments of chairmen to six RAIC Standing committees were announced at the last Council meeting, in Montreal, September 28.

The positions have been filled as follows: Architectural Education, Roy Sellors; Architectural Research, S. A. Gitterman; Scholarships and Awards, Gerard Venne; Competitions, Blakeway Millar; Legal Documents; Robert E. Briggs; Committee of Presidents, Jean-Louis Lalonde (ex-officio).

## PEOPLE

John H. Dinsmore, Deputy Minister, Quebec Department of Education, has been elected president of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

Dinsmore is the past president of the Corporation of Engineers of Quebec (1966-67) and past president of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (1969-1970).

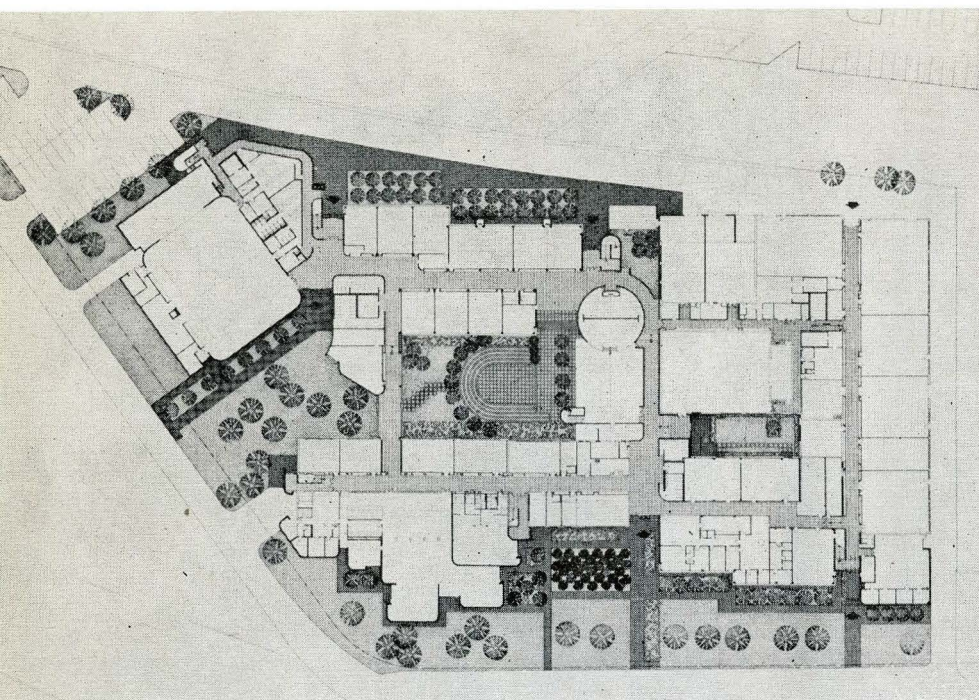
## LA PROFESSION

Les architectes de la C.-B. établissent un centre de planification urbaine

Le fait que, très souvent, les gens les plus affectés par le développement urbain sont tout simplement ignorés lors des prises de décisions tourmentait, depuis longtemps, la conscience professionnelle des architectes. D'un côté ils étaient responsables vis-à-vis de leurs clients et de leur association professionnelle, et de l'autre, le sens du "correct" dans l'environnement, qui sert depuis trop longtemps de "monnaie d'échange", suggèrait qu'une méthode impliquant la participation de la communauté au développement urbain, restait à être trouvée.

Un concours de circonstances favorables a présenté une solution. L'Église Unie du Canada a inauguré



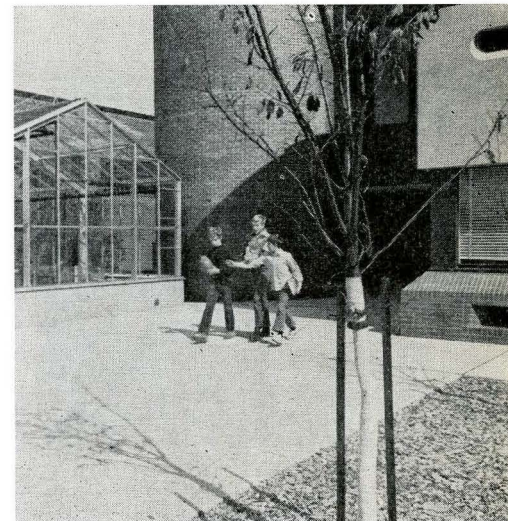
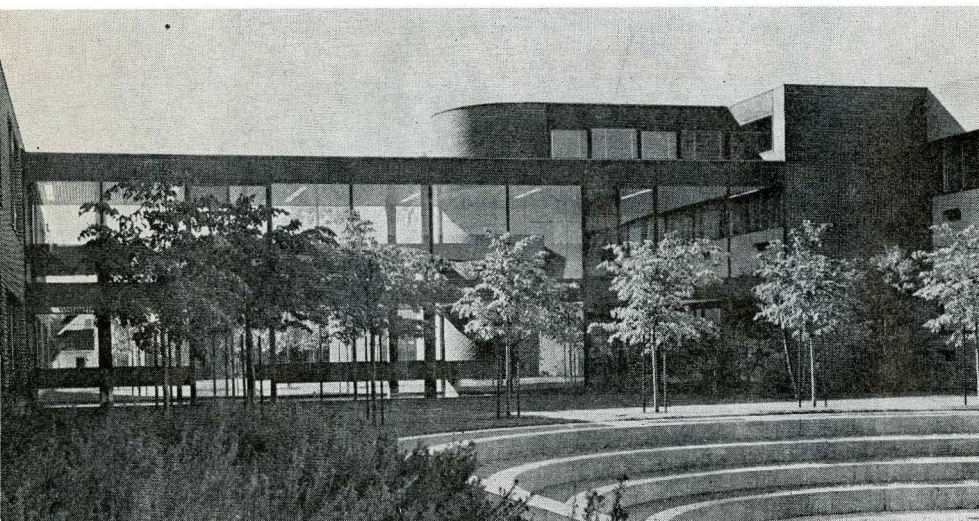


### Structural clay awards

The Toronto firm of Brook-Carruthers-Grierson-Shaw has won two out of seven awards, including the top award of excellence, in the 1971 Ontario Masons Relations Council program.

Architects for the winning structure, a high school for Sutton, Ont., said the jury (again this year headed by George Gibson, with assessors Bernard Gillespie and Peter Hamilton) "solved a difficult problem in a sensitive, clear and exciting way." Two undistinguished buildings were "extremely competently" integrated into the new plan.

Generally, the jury was disappointed in the competition. The number of submissions, they said, was down from previous years although "very good and eligible masonry buildings had not been submitted."



un programme de service social, le "Inner City Service Project" qui, peu à peu, sous l'influence de son directeur Max Beck et de l'architecte Dino Rapanos, et avec l'aide du ministère de la Santé et du Bien-Etre Social et du programme "opportunités pour la jeunesse," orienta ses services vers la communauté en général. "Inner City" est maintenant un service architectural qui examine les besoins de la communauté en termes d'environnement, avise et assiste les familles a revenus modiques sur les problèmes d'habitation, d'agrandissement et de rénovation, et offre une voix professionnelle sur des problèmes requérant soumission au Conseil d'Appel sur le Zonage.

Beck et Rapanos ont fait appel au ministre des Affaires Urbaines, l'Honorable Robert Andras, pour un montant de \$50,000.00 dans une proposition visant à créer un lien entre l'école d'Architecture de UBC et un "Centre de Planification Ur-

baine" qui permettrait à quatre étudiants de passer leur dernière année sur des problèmes urbains réels, soit huit mois dans les cadres d'un cours crédité, et les autres, comme employés rémunérés.

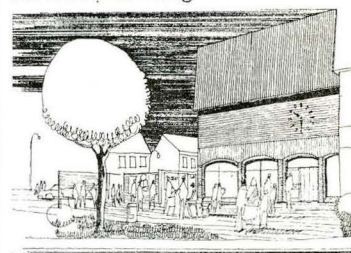
En Octobre 1970, un contrat de deux ans a été établi, par lequel la SCHL financerait un tel Centre au taux de \$25,000.00 par année. Une équipe formée des architectes Ron Yuen et Tony Green, assistés de quatre étudiants, a démarré. Le contrat reconnaît ce que plusieurs architectes avaient senti depuis longtemps... "établir un atelier de travail"... "dans le but de remplir le fossé qui existe entre les tentatives académiques, les réalités de la pratique, et les besoins de la communauté." Les projets du Centre de Planification Urbaine de Vancouver n'ont certainement pas encore beaucoup de poids, mais ils sont en marche. Ce sont des expériences qui élargissent la définition de l'architecte et Yuen, con-

scient de ce changement qui prends place, est cependant incapable de mettre le doigt sur ce que devrait être cette nouvelle définition. "Qu'est-ce que l'architecture? ... Ce que nous faisons, c'est de transformer les besoins des gens en des réalités."

Yuen admet que la structuration actuelle du CPU est fondamentalement insuffisante. Le volume de recherche et d'analyse sur la communauté requis même pour une tâche mineure, enlève au Centre toute possibilité d'être considéré "économique" en termes de production. Heureusement, la production n'est pas l'unité de mesure. Tant que le Centre réalise sa fonction, qu'il remplit le fossé entre l'école, la pratique et les besoins réels de la communauté, et qu'il établit un rôle positif pour les citoyens dans les programmes qui affectent directement leur région, sa valeur à tous les niveaux de la planification est élevée.

### CITIES

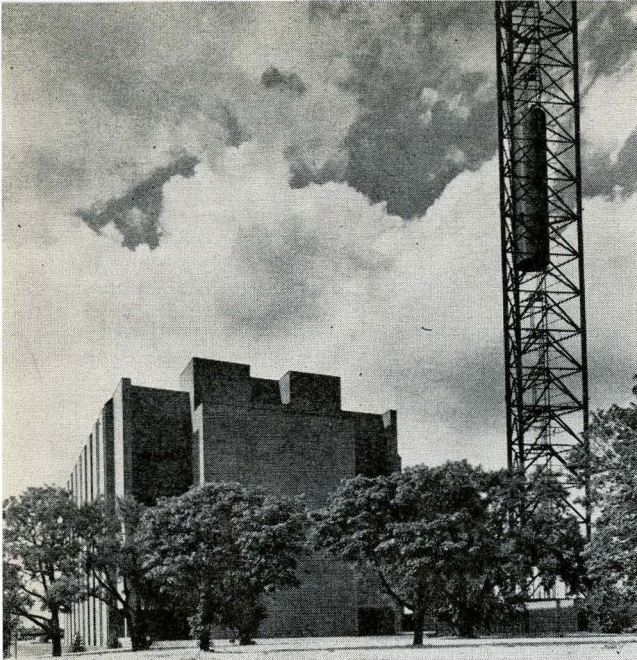
#### Community involvement in school planning



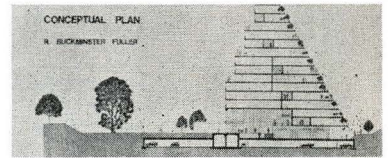
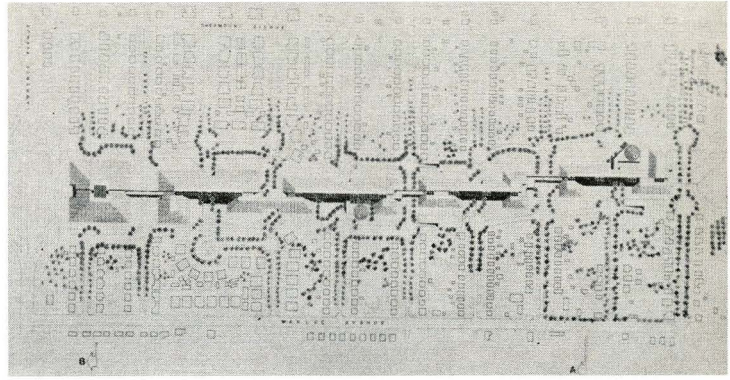
One of the latest examples of community involvement in planning is taking place in Toronto's Kensington area (best known for its European-type market). Citizens there are not only writing their own program for a new school working with architect R. P. G. Pennington but are making decisions about the educational process as well.

The project began last year when





Awards of merit went for the Toronto Bell Canada Building, Gordon S. Adamson and Associates (above); the Toronto French School, Brook-Carruthers-Grierson-Shaw (below); Joseph Brant Senior Public School, Scarborough, Craig Zeidler & Strong; Ontario Medical Association, Toronto, A. J. Diamond & Barton Myers; Photoengravers and Electrotypers Plant, Etobicoke, Mathers and Haldenby; Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology, Ottawa, Murray & Murray.



## What to do with a road to nowhere

Toronto's controversial Spadina Expressway (stopped earlier this year by a provincial cabinet decision) is now controversial for a different reason — Premier William Davis announced nine days previous to last week's election that he had invited the internationally-known futurist Buckminster Fuller to "act as a consultant in considering the utilization of the land incorporated in the existing portion of the unfinished expressway."

The Ontario Association of Architects was quick to crystallize the adverse response of its members in a letter from pres. Frank Nicol to the Conservative Government. Nicol called Davis's action of "employing the services of a U.S. consultant, on the advice of a sculptor . . . inexcusable."

"Canadian architects, engineers and planners," he said, "now rank with the best in the world . . . it is unfortunate that Canadians were not given an opportunity to demonstrate that capability . . . before the commission was awarded. It could be assumed that an extension of this first step would have the project financed by U.S. capital, and constructed by a U.S. contractor with U.S. labor."

The OAA also made clear that it feels Ontario should not settle for less than the best regardless of the source of origin. It says it picks no holes in Fuller's ideas as it has not had an opportunity to view the proposal in detail.

Fuller's scheme, by the way, is for low profile multi-storey buildings with:

- Four thousand apartment and maisonette units housing 10-12,000 people, plus parking, at an estimated building cost of \$64 million;
- Approximately 250,000 square feet of commercial, office and institutional space, representing an additional \$5 million in construction;
- Commercial underground parking facilities for 3,500 cars, at a construction cost of \$7 million.

the Toronto Board of Education announced it would tear down 13 houses in the district to build a junior school. An active ratepayers' association immediately asked to be included in the planning.

One of the first things the School Board did to co-operate with the Kensington Citizens' Committee (made up of citizens, board officials, school trustees and area service agency representatives) was to set up an office for principal-elect Lorne Brown in a house on the site. His job was to co-ordinate the efforts of the committee and the community — he even took Portuguese lessons so he could assess the needs of the area's large Portuguese population.

In order that the school become more a part of the area, the committee wrote some extras into the program including a roof-top playground, a community-use swimming pool and a community dental suite to be operated by the U. of T. dental

college. Plans have now been okayed by the Ontario Department of Education and the province has agreed to put up enough money to cover any extra costs. A tentative completion date has been set for fall '72.

"Kensington will be a much better school because of this involvement," says assistant superintendent of schools for the Toronto Board R. S. Godbold. But architect Pennington has reservations about such total involvement.

"I think it's delightful what the community has done within their area," he says. "It's right that the school should fit into the Kensington environment . . . but while the community people may be specialists in the environment of their area, they aren't necessarily specialists in the educational process." A community, he believes, has a meaningful part to play in planning "extra-curricular use of school facilities" but it should

"definitely be given parameters within which to work."

## POLITICS

### OAA quizzes the candidates

The Ontario Association of Architects has been busy for the past two months providing a new service for its members. It has been carrying on a running dialogue with the province's three political parties trying to elicit from party policy-makers their stance on issues that affect both the profession and the environment.

This project was done, says OAA Executive Director Brian Parks, as part of the Association's new efforts at keeping its membership informed.

It appears the task of getting answers to the 28-point OAA questionnaire was not easy. Two out of three party leaders indicated that they did not receive the questionnaires in spite of the fact that they were delivered to their offices by

hand on September 3. New questionnaires went out and, following another series of delays, the last of the answers (from the PCs) came in only seven days prior to last week's October 21 election.

On a positive note, however, all three leaders expressed interest in further discussion with architects.

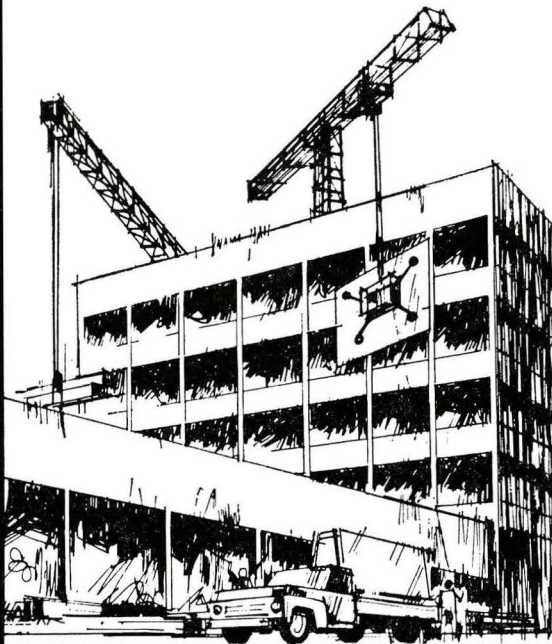
Below, a sampling of the questions followed by summaries of answers: Characteristically, perhaps, some of the replies are not as direct as they might be.

### OAA Questions:

1) Since the professions are governed by legislation enacted to protect the public interest (e.g. architects have definite responsibilities in the areas of the health and safety of the public), what is your party's policy to the view that buildings both public and private should be designed by and constructed under, the direct supervision of



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registered architects charged with public responsibility under laws of the Province?

2) As the Ontario Housing Corporation is directed by a Board appointed by the Government and controls the design and construction of public housing, what would be your party policy to the following: a) an open evaluation by an independent body of the methods of building procurement used by the corporation, b) since professionals (e.g. architects) are required by Ontario Law to protect the public interest in health, safety and other related matters, do you not agree that more professionals related to the building sciences industry should be appointed to the Board of Directors? c) making available tendered and final costs and user evaluation of projects to the public.

3) Do you think that the public is best served by the engagement of private architectural firms or by the increased use of "in-house" professional Government staff?

4) Urbanization has sometimes, in the name of progress, led to the "murder of existing communities." How does your Party propose to prevent that without deterring real improvements?

5) What political innovations, if any, does your Party propose, to improve effectiveness of individuals, small groups and minorities within the planning process?

6) Does your party have a policy regarding the improvement of the quality of housing, and, if so, what is it?

7) Does your party propose to combat the ill-effects caused by the cyclical nature of the construction industry? If so, how?

#### *Progressive Conservatives:*

1) "Professionally trained people should be involved in the creation of the environment whenever possible. The extent to which this can be made entirely mandatory is a difficult question. The proposed revision to the Architects Act, now under review and discussion with the Association, suggests a sensible number of exclusions."

2) "... a lengthy answer here indicated that the PC's intend to continue operation of the OHC in essentially the same manner as before."

3) "The public is best served by using a mixture of private architectural firms and professional staff within the Government. It is important that professionals in private practice have their counterparts in the Government service to foster the best possible communication and exchange of ideas between the public and private sectors. . . . In the Department of Public Works, for example, the percentage of total dollars spent on projects undertaken by Association Architects in the last fiscal year increased over the percentages of the previous two fiscal years, while Department of Public Works staff assigned to similar work

decreased by more than ten per cent during the same period."

4) "Our basic strategy in regional development attempts to meet the issue stated in this question. As exemplified in the Toronto-Centred Region proposals, we have a policy of concentrating new growth around those existing communities with the potential for growth."

5) "The entire question of planning law in Ontario is now under review by the Ontario Law Commission. One of the areas which the Commission has been asked to examine is the role of individuals - single or organized - in the planning process."

6) "There are a number of policies which will influence the quality of housing including a regional development program to ensure that communities can grow and change in a rational fashion; the encouragement of good planning at the municipal level through technical and financial aid to local government, as well as setting guidelines for municipal planning; the use of experimental housing to develop new techniques for mass use; the development of modernized building codes and regulations."

7) No reply.

#### *Liberals:*

1) "The Department of Labour has already set a precedent under the revisions to the Industrial Safety Act. The revision is an attempt to place responsibility where it belongs. We are of the opinion that design, specification and supervision of a structure is the responsibility of the professionals involved. Construction is the responsibility of the contractor. The owner is more or less involved depending on the type of contract."

2) "a) Would be very much in favor; b) Yes; c) Definitely yes."

3) "There is room for both. 'In house' professionals are very useful for the intimate assessment they can make of the specific problems in relation to departmental needs."

4) "Regulations and laws governing design and appearance are very difficult to enforce. The architectural and engineering professions should be involved with the process of planning; beyond this I do not understand the question."

5) "Good planning should always consider people as individuals and as small groups. Those charged with planning responsibilities should respond to their needs. We have also said that we will provide seed money to citizens' groups to allow them to be more actively involved in the planning process."

6 & 7) "A Department of Urban Affairs at the provincial government level is essential. These questions deserve careful study by such a department. Such a department must be capable of working closely with the municipalities and regions and, where appropriate, financing solutions . . . and would work closely with the design professions. We



would expect discussions with the Ontario Association of Architects."

#### New Democrats

NDP party leader Stephen Lewis did not reply directly to the above questions with the exception of number 4, to which he gave the following reply:

4) "A New Democratic Party Government would probably change the makeup and function of the Ontario Housing Corporation so completely that it is impossible to reply to your question. Should there be a Board of Directors, it will be fully representative of all groups and professions concerned with it, and architects, as well as tenants, would be represented."

He also discussed a number of other issues: he gave his endorsement of the activities of the Toronto Chapter's Urban Action Committee; indicated his party would seek the cooperation of architects to produce the kind of "innovative design which will make high density but low profile building of units which are attractive to live in and which get away from packing people like sardines in identical little cubicles." His party would also, he said, "speed passage of legislation to preserve buildings of historic interest or architectural merit in consultation with the Ontario Architectural Conservancy Association."

#### LETTERS

Scheme for U. of T. campus

Sirs:

The University of Toronto architecture students' proposal for a campus centre would certainly be an exciting and constructive step in its own right.

The difficulty for me with this view of the campus centre is that it is terribly 'chez nous', and although it would certainly enliven the campus and make it more comfortable and attractive, I wonder whether it really "plays up the positive aspects of its location in the heart of a major city," whether it really makes the University of Toronto easier for outsiders to become involved with, whether it makes the University of Toronto's physical presence in that piece of city more friendly and less insular.

Carmen Corneil, Toronto

#### DESIGN

Building for the mentally retarded

How to provide a better environment for mentally retarded persons is the subject of a new quarterly newsletter prepared by the International League of Societies for the Mentally Handicapped.

The first issue, published last month, describes the newsletter as being of interest to a wide range of disciplines - architects and planners included. It reports on research, describes recent buildings for the mentally handicapped (this issue focussing on Denmark) and gives news of events in the field.

Subscriptions are \$7.50 per year, contributions in support of the League's architectural planning committee activities are being welcomed from both firms and individuals.

The League is also seeking information for future newsletters, specifically on innovative buildings for the retarded.

For further information, or to subscribe, contact Mrs. E. Armour, National Institute on Mental Retardation, Kinsmen NIMR Building, York University, 4700 Keele St., Downsview, Toronto.

#### EXHIBITIONS

Otto in Toronto

The Ontario Association of Architects will be prime sponsor of an exhibit of the work of Frei Otto to be held in Toronto next summer.

Arrangements to bring the show to Toronto are being spearheaded by Toronto architect Peter Goering who viewed the exhibit housed in a tensile structure in New York this summer (*A/C*, 9/7/71).

The exhibit is almost certain to go ahead for Toronto, says Goering, but there is still some fund raising to be done. The Art Gallery of Ontario has agreed to provide the site, in Grange Park behind its premises, and will also lend its organizational facilities.

#### TRANSPORTATION

First STOL network

A short take off and landing (STOL) network, the first in North America, has begun operation in Florida. If it's successful it could be used as pattern for similar STOL systems across the U.S.

Perhaps fittingly, the hub of the new network is to be Disney World, which opened near Orlando this month. Inaugural flights are already providing service from downtown St. Petersburg to the Tampa International Airport, 20 miles away. Ports are also planned for Miami, Miami Beach, Jacksonville and Daytona Beach. Each requires 17.5 acres and a 1,800 to 2,000-ft. runway.

The Florida STOL service is not the first in the U.S. but the first network. Several mid-west and western cities are already operating STOL flights but on an individual route basis.

Several other large U.S. cities have rejected or shelved downtown STOL ports. They're afraid of noise. The major problem is, apparently, the unavailability of suitable aircraft.

... and one for Canada

Canada, says federal Transport Minister Don Jamieson, is a leader in the field of STOL aircraft, and US engineers are years behind us.

Accordingly, the announcement came earlier this month from the president of the Air Industries Association of Canada that Montreal would have a STOL airport in little more than a year.

Planes taking off from a downtown runway only a little longer than a city block would link that city with downtown Ottawa.

If the program succeeds, it could rescue Canada's dying aerospace industry, much of which is centred in Montreal. Ottawa feels that about \$1 billion worth of these systems could be sold in the U.S. and Europe.

#### HOUSING

High rise study

The Metro Toronto Borough of York recently commissioned a \$25,000 land-use study to determine the effects of apartment redevelopment on the Borough's revenues and expenditures.

The report, completed last month, concludes that while high density redevelopment does contribute considerably to the Borough's coffers, it also increases other costs. Therefore, the financial benefit to the average taxpayer is small - a saving of about \$2.12 on his tax bill.

It was also found that commercial and industrial development appear to add more to Borough coffers than other kinds of land use. This is because residential development requires more services (recreation, health, fire protection, etc.) than commercial or industrial land uses.

The socio-economic section of the study makes a number of comments on the impact of apartment redevelopment. In doing so it challenges some frequently laid charges against apartments. It says that no evidence was found to suggest that apartment redevelopment reduces the market value of surrounding homes. It sees no reason to support the view that the need for social services increases disproportionately following apartment redevelopment.

The report has prompted Mayor Philip White to announce that York would have to reassess its official plan and cut back on apartment development.

The study tells us, he says, that we don't have to go all out for high rise apartments . . . we should look for alternatives to develop the type of community we want for the future.

One of the other questions he feels should be raised is "whether we should be building, often with government support, hundreds of high rise complexes when the irate public is saying 'we don't want them' ". He feels there should be joint participation between private and public sectors to promote alternatives.

#### BOOKS

Meticulous detail on the stagnation of central Paris

*The Autumn of Central Paris: The Defeat of Town Planning 1850-1970*, Anthony Sutcliffe, McGill-Queen's University Press, 300 pp. \$18.

An excellent account of why the centre of Paris on the right bank of the Seine stagnated during the past

century. Convincing research records the paralyzing effect of obsolescence coupled with declining industry, restrictive building regulations and conservation. The detail is exhaustive - and suggests problems of utility.

Eleven pages summarize the previous 320: another way of writing the book would be to supplement those eleven pages with research appendices. Reaching the end of the narrative, the reader is apt to ask why was the ossification of central Paris a defeat? What would you have done differently? Why would that have been an improvement? This seems unfair: we don't ask the writer on Ming pottery what to do about Formosa. But the contemporary historian is in a different position. Past history gives generalized insights; present history gives particularized insights that appear to be offered for use. If the historian doesn't use them and turn activist, who will? Do men of action read through 300 pages of meticulous detail to learn the true facts of life?

Tony Jackson, Halifax

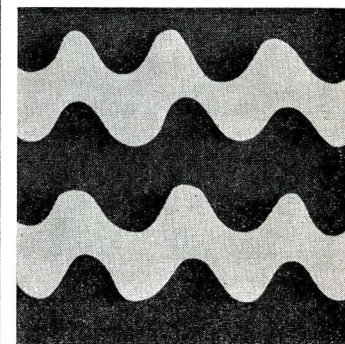
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