



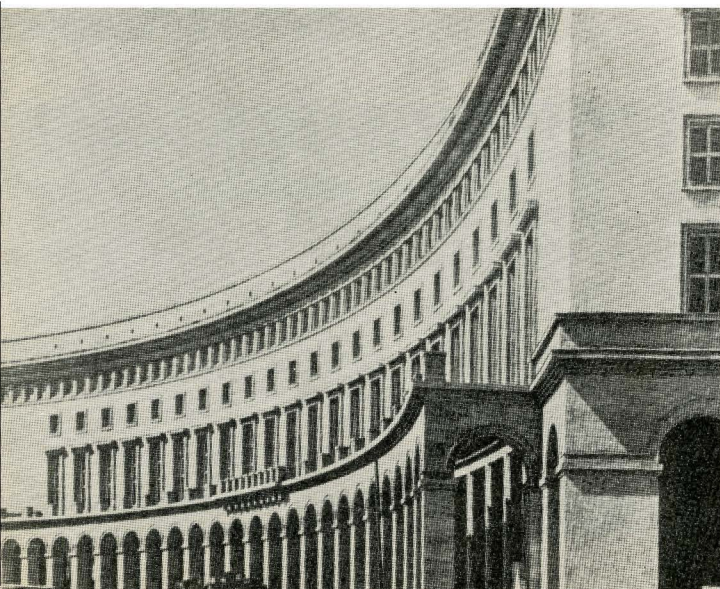
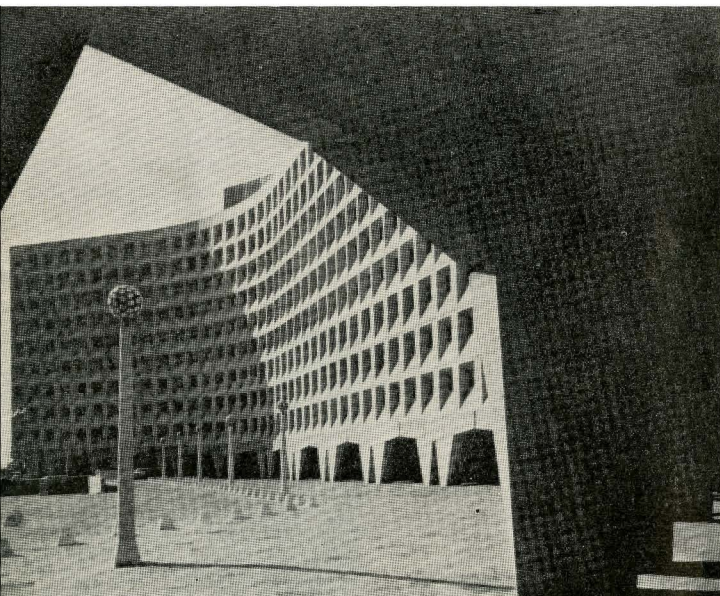
RAIC/IRAC ASSEMBLY, VICTORIA, MAY 31 TO JUNE 3

See program highlights pages 2 and 3,
registration cards 11 and 12

Architecture Canada

NEWSMAGAZINE

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After the planners

Architecture and urban planning are being used to “prevent change and perpetuate oppression” in cities, says American architect Robert Goodman in a highly controversial new book “After the Planners”.

In pursuing sacred cows Goodman even goes so far as to draw parallels between present day architecture and planning concepts and those of the Third Reich. He chooses the two photos left to make his point. The essence of his argument is simply that “people” should play a bigger role in shaping their environment – and the function of architects and planners should be to help them.

Roger Kemble, Vancouver architect, describes the book as a “must read”. His review appears page 5.

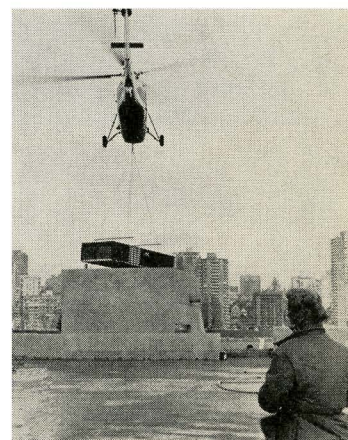


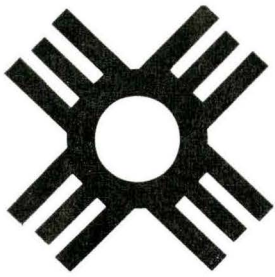
Towards better housing

Five innovative housing designs have been selected from 91 entries as winners of the Ontario Housing Corp.’s recent competition to encourage a fresh approach to low rise multiple housing. Above the jury deliberates. Left to right: Keith Morley, June Rowlands, Macklin Hancock, E. J. Simpson, John Burkus, Frank Nicol, W. A. Gibson, Douglas Shadbolt. Winners on pages 6 and 7.

Modern times

In 15 minutes last month a helicopter lifted four 4,500 lb. heating-air-conditioning units into place on the roof of the Vancouver Centennial Archives Building. It’s the first time this sort of modern technology has been applied to a Vancouver construction project. The ‘copter cost \$600 for its hour’s service. Estimates indicate a conventional crane installation would have been \$1,000.





explore the charming city of Victoria with people who know and love it. Victorians describe their city as the "front garden of our country and . . . a place of gentle pace and infinite potential for whatever you may be inclined to do—other than rush around in a 'neurotic frenzy.'" Take advantage, there is an unusual exciting program being planned for wives too.

Assembly highlights are described below. A ticket order form and pre-registration card appears on pages 11 and 12. It would be helpful if you filled this out and returned it as soon as possible to RAIC Headquarters.

If you're planning on flying Air Canada or C.P. Air, the Host Committee suggests you find 15 other people to fly on the same plane. Block bookings will reduce everybody's fare by 20 per cent.

RAIC BUSINESS, GOLF, A TRIP TO A LOGGING CAMP AND A TOUR OF OLD VICTORIA

Wednesday, May 31

Registration : begins at 8.30 a.m.

RAIC Council meeting : 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All members welcome.

Golf : if you care to play, arrangements are being made at the Victoria Golf Club.

Sightseeing : if you're curious about an up-island logging operation this is your opportunity to see one. A bus tour has been lined up to depart from Victoria (there's room for 44 only—register early).

Fun : this year's Host reception, 5.30–7.30 p.m., is at the grand old

Empress Hotel, the centre piece of Victoria's inner harbour. Dress casually. Following there's a walking tour of "Old Town," including an informal street party for members and guests. Drop into the Medieval Inn for a pint or whatever. Hear (and heckle) Victoria's soap box sages. People watch.

DESIGN A CITY, EXPLORE A CITY

Thursday, June 1

RAIC Foundation : meets 8 to 9 a.m. breakfast.

Registration : begins at 8.30.

Design game : A game "more fascinating than chess," "Designing a City," begins at 9 a.m. and continues all day.

It will provide a chance for architects, politicians and 'just people' to become involved in the urban design process. Things begin at the McPherson Theatre in Centennial Square with a discussion, then teams of participants will move out into Old Town to draw, diagram and discuss planning and design possibilities with Victorians. All very flexible, fun yet serious and an opportunity to learn more about urban design. Designs will be judged and results published in a "Old Town Album". There'll be box lunches and a bar at McPherson Theatre at noon.

Sweets Reception : also at McPherson Theatre, at 5.30. Slightly formal—maybe a tie. The Host Committee suggests sampling some excellent cuisine at one of Victoria's cosmopolitan restaurants afterwards.

TALK SESSION, A SEA TRIP, A DINNER AND BALL

Friday, June 2

Registration : begins at 8.30 a.m.

Members' Forum : 9 a.m. to 12. Talk will focus on professional matters. Many have commented over the years that since the restructuring of the RAIC they haven't had a say. This session will provide members an opportunity to speak their mind.

Tour of Esquimalt naval base, boat tour and lunch : 12.30 p.m. Dress for breezes and ladders.

RAIC Certification Board : 2 to 5 p.m. at the Empress Hotel.

President's Reception : 6.30, followed by dinner and dancing in the splendid Empress ballroom. Dress is formal but there won't be formal speeches.

FELLOWS CONVOCA-TION, AWARDS

Saturday, June 3

RAIC Council meeting : 9 to 10 a.m.

College of Fellows Convention : All members are welcome to this impressive ceremony at Christ Church Cathedral at 11 a.m. Be there by 10.45.

Fellows Informal Reception : 12.00, back at the Empress. Again all members welcome.

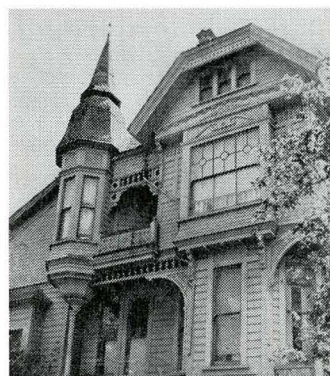
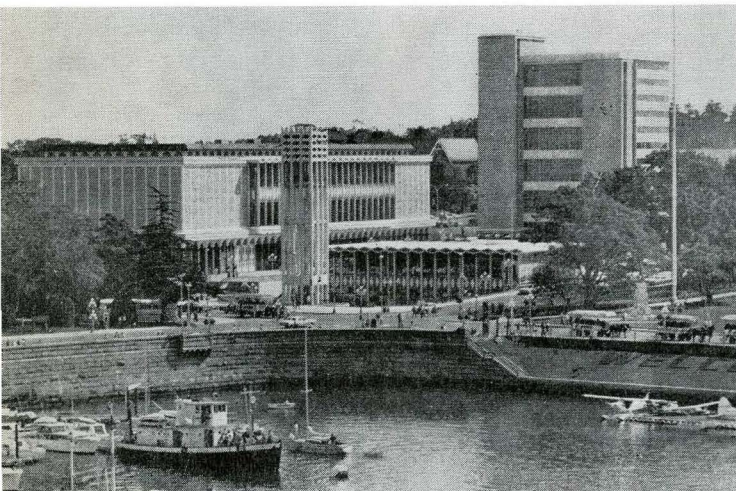
Awards Luncheon : Speeches and award-giving—Allied Arts Medal and Honorary Fellowships. The Host Committee promises a "super" lunch. *Fellows Business Meeting* : 2.30 to 5 p.m., Empress Hotel.

Western Exposure 65th Assembly RAIC/IRAC Empress Hotel, Victoria May 31-June 3

Victoria architects, hosts of this year's RAIC assembly May 31 to June 3 have been busy for the past year putting together a program to entice even the most convention-shy architect.

Plans are now unveiled and, says Host Chairman David Hambleton, "there will be ample opportunity for delegates to share ideas and points of view, to strike up new acquaintances, renew old ones, and, more importantly, to consider the architect's role in modern society—what it means locally, provincially, nationally and internationally."

Perhaps the most unique attraction, however, is the opportunity to



FOR THE LADIES

Wednesday, May 31

Walking tour of City Centre : 9 a.m. Get acquainted with each other and the town on our early morning stroll. Enjoy stores and boutiques en route – Government Street – the old world charm of Bastion Square – Centennial Square with its flowers and fountain and architectural appeal – department stores and museums close at hand.

Coffee Party at McPherson Playhouse : 11 a.m. To conclude the city walk, meet at the McPherson Playhouse in Centennial Square for coffee and pastries.

Tea at Government House : 3 p.m. Architects and their wives are invited to be the guests of Lieutenant-Governor Nicholson for tea at Government House.

Thursday, June 1

A highlight of your visit to Victoria will be the tour of Vancouver Island's renowned Butchart Gardens, situated in a beautiful rural area typical of this part of the world. The Gardens have captivated visitors from all over the world for the past fifty years and surround the site of a gravel pit which makes their beauty even more remarkable. 9 a.m.

Luncheon at Royal Victoria Yacht Club : The bus will leave Butchart Gardens at 11 a.m. for luncheon at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. The Yacht Club lies at the edge of the Uplands' residential area and Cadboro Bay with a view of the Gulf Islands and, on a clear day, Mount Baker and Mount Rainier in Wash-

ington tower high on the horizon. The coach will return via the McPherson Playhouse for those who wish to join the "Game".

Saturday, June 3

London Bus Ride to Oak Bay Marina and Sealand : 9.45. For all energetic ones who have survived the Ball I, a London bus will follow a scenic stretch of coastline from Beacon Hill Park to Oak Bay Marina, a very picturesque drive with a view of the Straits and Olympic Mountains. Have fun at Oak Bay Marina's Sealand. Killer whales, dolphins, and seals will be ready to perform.

Coffee at Marina Restaurant. Coffee and pastries will be served at the Oak Bay Marina Restaurant until 12.

PROGRAMME

Le mercredi 31 mai

Inscription : A partir de 8 h 30. **IRAC, Assemblée annuelle du Conseil :** 9 h à 17 h. Tous les membres sont bienvenus.

Golf : Arrangements au Victoria Golf Club.

Tournée de la partie haute de l'île pour voir l'exploitation de la forêt : par autobus en partance de Victoria (ceci sera limité à environ 44 membres, donc inscrivez-vous de bonne heure).

Réception : à l'Hôtel Empress, la pièce centrale de l'intérieur du port de Victoria. 17 h 30 à 19 h (Tenue libre). Après la réception, prenez une marche dans la "Vieille ville" – profitez des célébrations dans les rues pour les membres et les invités – entrez dans un bistro ou à l'Hôtel

Medieval pour une bière ou ce que vous voulez. Ecoutez les orateurs de carrefour ou embarrassez-les. Voyez les acteurs jouer des drames vécus.

Le jeudi 1er juin

Déjeuner d'affaires de la Fondation de l'IRAC : à l'Hôtel Empress. 8 à 9 h. **Inscription :** Hôtel Empress. 8 h 30.

Jeu de l'aménagement de la Vieille Ville : 9 h, Theatre McPherson. Vous aurez l'occasion d'y participer pleinement, d'entendre les experts et les non-experts, de discuter avec eux, d'être d'accord avec eux, et même de vous disputer avec eux. Vous aurez toute la chance de vous exprimer librement et même d'apprendre quelque chose tout en vous détendant. 12 h 30, déjeuner et rafraichissements au théâtre McPherson, suivis du jeu, et pendant les délibérations, une surprise: Mlle Ambiance de l'Quest.

Assemblée des directeurs et secrétaires exécutifs : 14 h à 17 h.

Reception Sweets : Théâtre McPherson, 19 h. (Tenue de ville – ou cravate noire?) Une heure ou deux par année de rencontres et de dégustation. Ensuite, promenez-vous dans Victoria et choisissez un des nombreux restaurants cosmopolitains pour un bon repas.

Le vendredi 2 juin

Inscription, Hôtel Empress, 8 h 30, IRAC: Le Conseil et tous les membres de l'IRAC se réunissent pour étudier des sujets d'importance pour la profession et pour un résumé du "divertissement" de la journée de jeudi. Plusieurs membres se sont plaints depuis deux ans de n'avoir

pas eu l'occasion de dire ce qu'ils voulaient aux réunions – ne manquez pas cette chance qui vous est spécialement offerte.

Visite de la base navale à Esquimalt : 12 h 30, y compris la croisière et le déjeuner. (Costume de navigation – Tenue pour le vent et les échelles.) Voyez l'établissement historique et orientez-vous vous-même dans un vaisseau de guerre qui naviguera autour du port d'Esquimalt et les environs.

Commission d'Accréditation – Hôtel Empress. 14 à 17 h. Salle de conférence.

Réception du président – Hôtel Empress: 18 h 30. (Cravates noire et blanche – autrement dit, tout sera magnifique avec des combinaisons de noir et blanc.)

Dîner et Bal : Salle de bal – Hôtel Empress, 19 h 30, une occasion fantastique de splendeur et de jouissance à son sommet. Pas de discours, c'est promis!

Le samedi 3 juin

Assemblée du Conseil de l'IRAC : Hôtel Empress, 9 à 10 h.

Investiture des fellows : Cathédrale Christ Church, 10 h 15.

Cérémonie d'investiture des fellows : Cathédrale Christ Church, 11 h. Tous les membres sont bienvenues.

Réception des fellows : Hôtel Empress, midi, tous les membres sont bienvenus.

Déjeuner de remises des prix : Hôtel Empress, 12 h 30. Prix des arts connexes. Quelques discours.

Réunion d'affaires des fellows : Hôtel Empress, 14 h 30 à 17 h. Salle Georgian.



CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Lalonde new PCC pres.

RAIC president Jean-Louis Lalonde has been elected new chairman of the Presidents' Consultative Committee replacing R. G. Saunders, past president of the Canadian Construction Association. The PCC is comprised of the presidents and senior executives of the RAIC, the CCA, the Association of Consulting Engineers, the Housing and Urban Design Association of Canada and the Specification Associates of Canada.

At its most recent meeting, March 21, in Ottawa, the PCC indicated strong support to the Canadian Construction Information System (below) as outlined at a two-day conference in Ottawa. A statement was issued urging the Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin to proceed as soon as possible with the appointment of the interim board of directors for the non-profit corporation which will take over development and operation of the BEAM program from the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

It is hoped the new system will save the construction industry and manufacturers more than \$60 million a year on the dissemination and retrieval of construction product information.

Information system officially unveiled

The computerized Canadian Construction Information System developed by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce under the



BEAM program, which has cost to date \$1,145,100, was officially unveiled at a National Conference on Construction Industry Information in Ottawa last month, co-sponsored by the Department and the Presidents' Consultative Committee.

Professor Guy Desbarats, dean of the University of Montreal town planning faculty, gave the keynote address outlining the need for CCIS to an audience of architects, engineers, developers, contractors, specification writers, and others of the construction industry.

Toronto architect Frank J. K. Nicol, speaking on the development of CCIS, described the components of an experimental system already tried out in 35 locations across the country. It consists of a thesaurus of construction product terms; product data files and abstracts from building technology publications on microfiche; a microfiche viewer; indexes on product and technical information and tables of product



parameters coded for computer search; and a keyboard terminal for computer search and retrieval.

User reaction to the experimental system has been extremely favorable, says Nicol. The final system will be largely based on it. The most immediate benefit to the user will be a saving in space and time. Projections show the cost will vary from \$50 to \$200 depending on the facilities rented.

CCIS will be operated by a government-supported, non-profit corporation set up for the purpose. An interim board of directors is expected to be named before the end of June, and soon afterwards a general manager will be hired who will work towards a starting date early in 1973. By July 1973 it is hoped that 450 generic products will be included in the system plus some 4,000 technology abstracts fully keyworded in English and French.

ENVIRONMENT

About 'eve'

The University of Minnesota School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture's exploration of television media as a resource for architectural/environmental design education and research is moving into high gear. It held a four-day "environment video event" (EVE) last month to help launch its experimental Built Environment Communications Center established last fall.

Activities of the Center will include production and exchange of videotapes, the setting up of a video library and the organization of a communications network among schools, the profession, industry, etc., on a state, national and international scale.

The Center is mainly exploring the potential of the 1/2-in. VTR (videotape recording) format with closed circuit and cable television systems. Facilities so far consist of a small office equipped with two battery-operated camera/recorder/playback units (portapaks), two decks for recording, and several monitors, microphones and accessories. Later, it hopes to add areas for comfortable viewing and editing with easy access to the videotape library.

According to the Center's newsletter, the portapaks are already in demand by students and faculty for field work.

The proposed communications network will basically involve an exchange of tapes among persons in the field of built environment education, research and implementation. The Center's video library, now being assembled, will promote this by making all its tapes available to anyone on a loan or exchange basis or for the cost of mailing and duplication.

For more information contact Brian Smith, School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, 110 Architecture Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455.

RAIC to make presentation at Stockholm environment conf.

Peter Goering and Alexander Leman of Toronto are acting as co-chairmen of an ad hoc committee * which hopes to make a presentation on behalf of the profession at the United Nations international conference on the human environment in Stockholm, Sweden, this June.

If they succeed, they will likely be the only architectural group to be heard there. Other national bodies, such as the RIBA, have provided "input" to their government's official position papers. Environment Canada, the federal department organizing Canadian input for Stockholm, is holding public hearings across Canada this month; members of the RAIC committee expect to participate in one or more of these (as individual members are urged to do).

The RAIC presentation will be previewed for members in the next issue of *Architecture Canada*. Comments will be welcome — for possible inclusion in the final Stockholm presentation.

*The others: Raymond Affleck and Melvin Charney of Montreal, Thomas Howarth of Toronto.

Environment and pop architecture



A California group describing itself as a "matrix for the use and distribution of media to express relationship in man's environment" has set itself up as distributor for a wide range of up-tempo slides, films and video tapes. The theme primarily is architecture, art, culture and sociology. Topics range from a historical survey of California missions to urban crowd behavior. Write Environmental Communications, 62 Windward Avenue, Venice, Calif. 90291, for a free catalogue.

PROJECTS

Craig Zeidler and Strong, architects for Toronto's Ontario Place, are adding a major new attraction there

this year — a 100,000 sq. ft. canopied children's village on the East Island adjacent to the Forum. The \$700,000 project, scheduled for completion in July, will offer 20 activities where children can play, rain or shine.

A Mediterranean-type hilltown with houses stacked along the slopes and down the wall of an old quarry in northwest Baltimore is well into the design stage, says Montreal architect Moshe Safdie.

Working with Safdie on the planning of the "new town" in the town of Goldspring, for developer James Rouse, is San Francisco landscape architect Lawrence Halprin and Baltimore Commissioner of Housing and Community Development Robert Embry.

The high-density project will put everyone within walking distance of schools and the community centre with lots of open space for recreation and "ecological regeneration". Cars will be hidden and a network of walkways and bicycle paths will bridge gulleys and meander through the housing clusters.

Embry hopes the 4,500-family town will be a magnet strong enough to reverse the exodus of middle-income residents from the inner city. Also, that the concept will be so exciting, the people and politicians will insist on its realization despite estimated high costs. One person, after the scheme's presentation to city council, called it "infinitely expensive". Final plans will be ready this spring.

PEOPLE

Peter Collins, of Montreal, has been awarded the "Architecture Critics' Citation" for 1972 by the American Institute of Architects. He is known widely for his original concept that a parallel can be drawn between the architectural and legal professions, a theory which he propounds in detail in his recent book *Architectural Judgement*, McGill — Queen's University Press, 1971. Collins is a Professor of Architecture at McGill University. (He has been North American architectural critic for the British newspaper, the *Manchester Guardian*, and produced a series of witty articles, some of which caused considerable controversy.)

Collins' notions of justice in architecture developed more fully when he went on leave of absence in 1968-69 to become a Research Fellow at Yale Law School. His book, *Architectural Judgement*, was the result of his studies there. He later followed this through by taking a Master of Laws degree at Queen's University in 1971, his thesis being "Amenity: a study of jurisprudential concepts which affect the legal control of urban environments, and their relevance to Canadian constitutional law".

He has recently designed a new undergraduate course in architecture at McGill, "Legal Control of the

Environment", which will begin in September 1972.

RAIC student medals this year go to two University of Montreal graduates, Gilles Beauchamp (1970) and Pierre Tarte (1971). Beauchamp is presently at Manchester, England, taking a masters degree in Building Sciences.

Victor W. Chorley, P.Eng., is new director of the project analysis division of Canadian Steel Industries Construction Council.

Michael Ross, Kingston, has won the first annual OAA medal for compiling the highest average in registration examinations. The medal has been struck in memory of the late Professor W. Gerald Raymore, who rendered distinguished service to the Ontario Association.

Deux étudiants de la faculté de l'aménagement de l'université de Montréal ont reçu, dernièrement, la médaille de l'IRAC: Gilles Beauchamp, b.arch., promotion 1970 et Pierre Tarte, b.arch., promotion 1971. M. Beauchamp est présentement à Manchester, Angleterre, poursuivant des études en Building Sciences.

TECHNICAL

How to design with steel

A comprehensive guide to steel building design, the culmination of five years' study of Canadian buildings by steel industry engineers and cost analysts, is available now from the Canadian Institute of Steel Construction. The 350-page guide, called *Steel Building Design Notes*, is packed with every aid for architects and engineers the CISC could envisage. Included are a step-by-step procedure for designing steel-framed buildings from initial planning to final structural design, a method of estimating structural steel costs for selection of the most economical framing, an introduction



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to use and occupancy requirements of the National Building Code of Canada 1970, a demonstration of how three computer programs cut design time, sample calculations for a 20-storey office building, and calculation of savings due to shortened construction time. Price is \$10. For more information write the Canadian Institute of Steel Construction, 1815 Yonge St., Toronto 7, Ont.

Spec book

The Specification Writers Association of Canada has published a new textbook based on its former Correspondence Course. For construction specifiers, students and educators. 272 pages, \$10.85 (\$8.15 to SWAC members).

Noise pollution

Facts and figures on noise are detailed in new books in *Noise Pollution: The Unquiet Crisis*, by Clifford R. Bragdon, University of Pennsylvania Press. 304 pp., \$15.00.

The book pinpoints the often illegal noise levels of automobiles, subways, planes and household appliances in charts and tables, and reports the social, physical and psychological damage they do to humans. A system for rating environmental health, new approaches to community noise management and a variety of architectural suggestions are offered as alternatives to present inadequate noise-abatement programs.

Structural design

Experts in structural design spoke at the Structural Engineering Conference in Montreal last month on varied topics of interest to designers of tall buildings.

Included were the design and economics of composite open web steel joists, thin-walled compression members, design of steel beam-columns, plastic behavior of hollow structural sections with implications for design, fatigue strength of welded steel beam details and design considerations and the relevance of CSA's updated standards W59 and W47.

Headliner was Dr. Fazlur R. Khan, designer of the recently completed 100-storey John Hancock Building and the 110-storey Sears Tower in Chicago. He described traditional and newer concepts in structural systems, which, he says, may allow buildings to go as high as 150 storeys without any additional cost premium for height.

Research engineer Bill Stanzak challenged the popular misconception that structural collapses during fires have been or could be responsible for large loss of life. Fire and smoke, he says, cause damage and loss of life because of the contents rather than the structure itself. He advocates a change in building codes whereby designers become responsible for designing the fire protection of their buildings instead of depending on legal codes.

W. C. Kimball, manager of metal-

lurgical services, Algoma Steel, described the new time-saving coding device, "dial-a-steel," for specifying steels with the desired qualities and characteristics.

BOOKS

A message from a disillusioned advocacy planner

After the Planners, Robert Goodman, Simon & Schuster, 1972, \$8.50.

The profession has chosen to make itself the servant of Capital. Capital is motivated by expedience. Capital now finds it expedient to dump the Profession. Does the independent creative artist-architect ever wonder where then to turn? Read *After the Planners*.



For those persons who have had a belly-full of the nonsense thrown at them by developers, bureaucrats and all the other myopic money mad miracle makers, I suggest they read this book.

Architecture and the problem of our urban environment is not going to be helped by the game-plans of small business corporations playing like kids in a kindergarten with building blocks.

After the Planners is published by Simon and Schuster. Order it through Architecture Canada book service — cost \$8.50. The book is simple, well written and not too long. It is unpretentious. There are many interesting photographs but they do not necessarily elucidate the text. The author, Robert Goodman, is a professor at M.I.T. School of Urban Planning; a drop-out of the Ph.D. program and a disillusioned advocacy planner; a very good writer.

The message of the book is quite clear in its indictment of the profession and its megalomaniac quest for a fair share of the lucrative shaft of the consumer gold mine. So long as these small business corporations, made up of like-minded, albeit, well-intentioned ostensible experts, are paid huge fees to manipulate our urban environment, there will unlikely be an improvement in the status quo unless one equates more and more and more of the same thing as improvement. It is as though the profession is waging internecine class warfare in its own interests upon a group of people in our society who have no possible means to defend themselves.

There are pictures showing the architecture of Nazi Germany alongside the architecture of our own "democratic" governments. So I

say — no more — the similarity is revealing. There is a reference to Albert Speer giving his reason for hitching his wagon to the Nazi machine. As he said — by doing so was an opportunity for realizing great dreams — wow! It brings to mind a comment in the *Vancouver Province* newspaper. An architect, whose public housing project, another built "for them", came in way over budget said "his instructions for the site were explicit." Remember Adolf Eichmann.

There are references to the author's experience as an advocate of planning. Of how officialdom allowed for tokenism in people participation. How they listened, bored, to the requests of people then proceeded to carry out their intentions in spite of the advocates' well-researched briefs.

The book leads from the author's disillusionment in advocacy planning to his case for guerilla architecture. It cites the Berkeley people's park as an example of guerilla architecture. This is the point where he and I part company. Berkeley was the battle ground of vicious authority against the naivety of people. The people lost. There is less success there than there is in advocacy planning. But consistently throughout the book no way does he discount the need for the sensitive architect or the sensitive planner, so long as they interpret and represent the aspirations of the people; so long as they maintain their lines of communication with the people.

There is reference to the barrios of South America. Perhaps the book could have contributed more solutions had it devoted more time to this type of housing development. Perhaps the author felt that this form of people initiated housing is not on the level of sophistication compatible with North America. On this I am guessing. However, it is in this much neglected domain of people initiated co-operative planned, built and financed environments that I would like to hear more from Robert Goodman.

Roger Kemble, Vancouver

RESEARCH

Management in the construction industry

The Construction Industry Development Council has commissioned management consultants Urwick, Currie & Partners to conduct a study of the education and training needs of management in all phases of the construction industry, support and liaison services to be provided by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. The first phase, scheduled to start this month, will include a nationwide survey of sample members of trade and professional associations by questionnaire, coupled with interviews of a cross-section of association executives. The Council will use the study to define courses of action in management education.

New solutions for middle density low rise housing

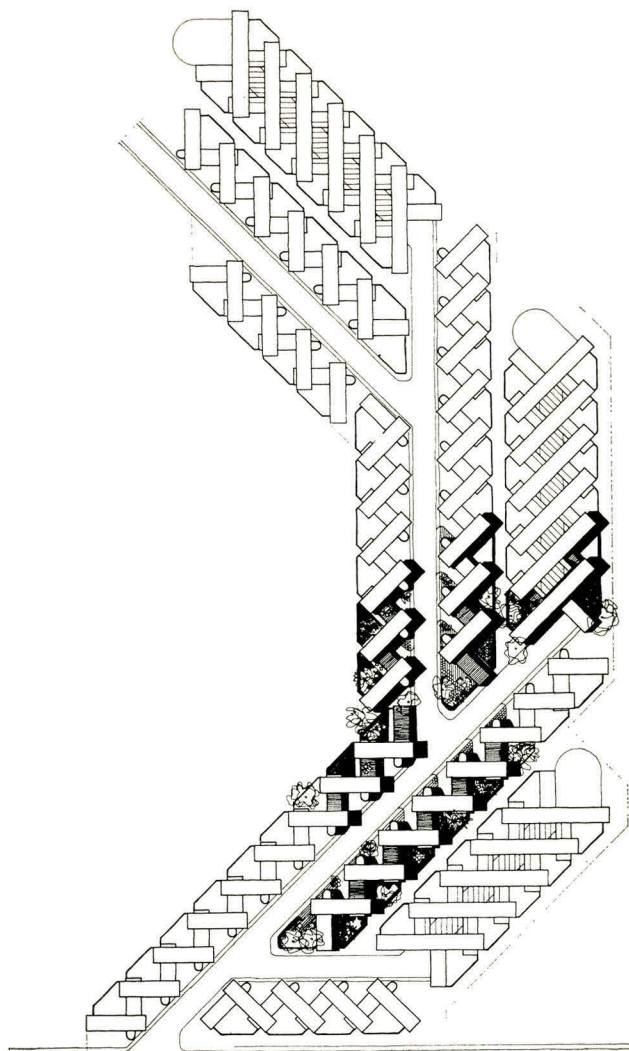
The recent Ontario Housing Corporation's competition to encourage better solutions in the low rise multiple housing field has been so successful to date the jury recommends it become an annual event. Further programs, it suggests, should be geared to other types of residential accommodation to suit the needs of the current market.

The five winning schemes were entered by L. R. Kentridge, W. P. Hughes and W. C. Woods, Don Mills; Gilbert Sutton, Ottawa; Rhone and Iredale Architects, Vancouver; Andrew Tiefenbeck, Don Mills; and Paul Wiegand, Belleville, Ont. They ranged in technology from concrete through steel to stressed-skin plywood.

Sutton's entry, which is still too sketchy to be reproduced photographically, involves a stressed-skin plywood panel system assembled in alternative patterns. The overall scheme combines row houses and court houses and depressed vehicular access provides private yard spaces and generous pedestrian and park areas. Sketch plans of the other schemes appear right.

Winners each received \$2,500 and are now signing contracts with OHC to develop their ideas further. They will put together their own development teams to produce plans and establish cost and time data for prototypes — construction of which OHC hopes will start this summer.

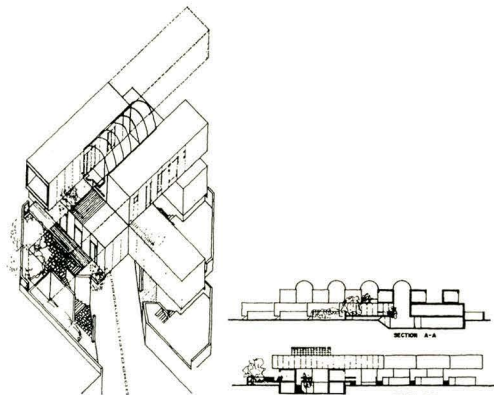
The eight runners-up, said the jury, could have been winners with minor revisions and even many of those not selected were "superior to projects on the current market".



Fully finished factory modules

Rhone and Iredale's scheme by Randle Iredale and Peter Cardew with two students in the office on the UBC school-office co-operative plan is based on factory-produced modular cube units 12 ft. wide by 42 and 48 ft. long. There is a strong emphasis on territory for each

family unit which the jury commended although it called the site development plan an "unrealistic shape". Each house consists of a basement area, a main floor living module and a second floor sleeping module. The top module is turned 90 degrees to the main module to enclose and define personal outdoor space.



PLANNING

Towards clear objectives

The real culprits in the high-rise/low-rise feud between developers and citizens' groups are the politicians, architect Howard V. Walker told a recent meeting of the Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto.

Says Walker, they set the ground rules, the zoning by-laws, the bonus systems, the exemptions, but don't state clear objectives for the development of the city. The bonus system relating to densities in Toronto encourages residential high-rise by granting density bonuses to

developers for street planting, additional open landscaped space, enclosed parking, family units, large site assembly, district heating, innovative projects, etc. (*A/C 12/22/71*). This contravenes basic planning principles by permitting increased densities for unrelated features and ignoring factors such as location, facilities, services and environmental characteristics of the site, the only real criteria which should affect density.

If was for these reasons, he says, the Toronto Chapter of Architects' Urban Action Committee has asked for a moratorium on all develop-

ments with densities more than 1.5 X lot area, until cost benefits and sociological implications of high-rise, high-density development are evaluated. The committee has also asked for an overall housing policy and a program for low-income-family housing.

Walker recommends more attention be paid to rehabilitation rather than replacement of housing stock which displaces the original occupants, usually the urban poor. "We must respect the character and scale of existing neighborhoods," he says, "so that new buildings are not dominating and disruptive intrusions.

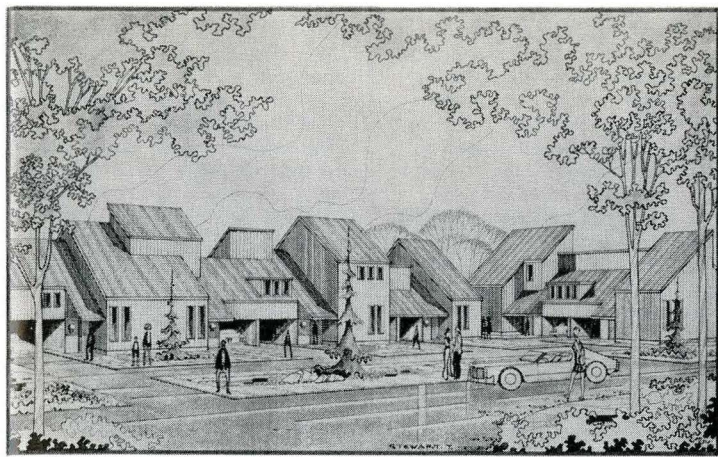
There is no reason why they cannot be carefully integrated with useful and attractive older homes."

EXHIBITIONS

Mayerovitch in Montreal

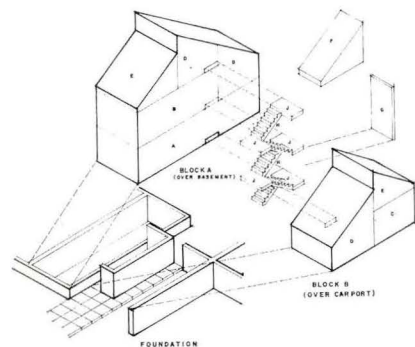
Montreal architect, town planner and teacher Harry Mayerovitch opened a show of his watercolors, acrylics and drawings "from a park bench" at the Westmount Public Library earlier this month.

The exhibit, a tribute to the serenity and charm of the parks of Westmount, is also a plea that "our



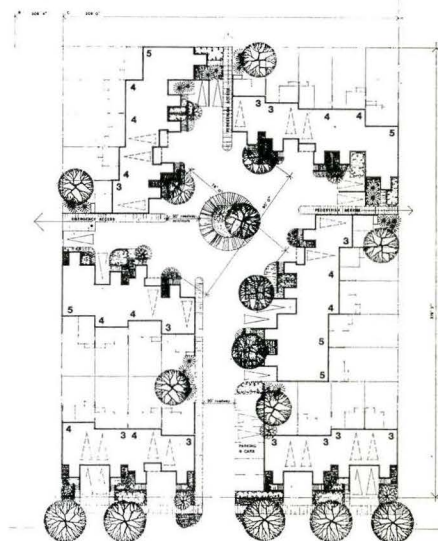
12 ft. square wood frames

The scheme by Watson and Weigand is also mass produced — this time square modules and steep pitch trusses which can be combined in almost limitless combinations. The jury says "... the judicious use of wood siding . . . vertically proportioned casement windows combined with broad carport bands and stuccoed concrete block should produce a rich and warm environment."



Steel panel houses

Architects Kentridge, Hughes and Woods of Marshall Macklin Monaghan Ltd. produced an entry with a density of 20 units per acre clustered around cul-de-sacs. The jury says this solution provides "a wide range of variations with both individuality and privacy". The houses are designed on a basis of an interlocking steel panel system for walls, floors and roofs and exterior stair location for maximum flexibility in floor layout. The jury comments, "The project should provide a pleasant area in any type of neighbourhood."



Precast component panels

Although the jury calls this one fairly rigid in site placement it says it achieves a good balance of variety and privacy. Heavy precast component panels are used in alternate bays coupled with lightweight infill panels. "The sequence of entries is perhaps too repetitive but the bay variations as applied on the second and third floors can provide greater variety. Landscaping and wood panels, fences and shingled roofs and canopies should provide a pleasant character to this heavy concrete system."

green pastures" be cherished. Runs to this Saturday.

Architecture for mentally handicapped

The most outstanding projects for the mentally handicapped, either completed since 1965 or under construction, will be displayed at the fifth congress of the International League of Societies for the Mentally Handicapped in Montreal this October. The League is now looking for projects which best exemplify the new approaches being taken in "environmental design on behalf of handicapped, and based on the

'normalization' principle".

Descriptive information, together with a basic plan layout, photographs and sketches should be submitted before the middle of May to Jens Malling-Pedersen, Kirkegade 25, Vejle 7100, Denmark.

For further information contact Mrs. E. Armour, National Institute on Mental Retardation, Kinsmen NIMR Building, York University Campus, 4700 Keele St., Downsview, Ont.

CONFERENCES

systems building

A symposium dealing with research,

application, materials and methods of analysis of panelized building systems will be held at Sir George Williams University, Montreal, May 11-12. It is sponsored by the Systems Building Centre of Sir George Williams and the Montreal branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada. Registration fee of \$35.00 should be sent to Prof. Cedric Marsh, Department of Civil Engineering, Sir George Williams University, 1455 Maisonneuve Blvd., Montreal 107, P.O.

Eurodomus

This year's Eurodomus, the huge

and impressive show sponsored by Domus magazine and Torino Esposizioni, will focus on the development of 'living' places instead of just products.

The purpose: to stimulate architects, designers, producers and, most of all, those industries involved in initial construction of living space, and to search out new answers to old problems. The approach to the "pilot home", theme of every Eurodomus, goes a step further this year. Products, proposals and prototypes will be integrated within total environments. Place: Turin, Italy. Dates: May 18-28.

OPINION

Une réponse à M. Bickford : conservatisme néo-rénovateur

J'ai été surpris de voir la méfiance d'un confrère de la Colombie Britannique (*A/C 17/1/72*) vis à vis l'approche que nous avons imaginée pour attirer nos membres au récent congrès de l'AAPO — le truc de la paranoïa.

La liste de suggestions de M. R. J. Bickford, de Vancouver, semble, malgré les implications de son contenu, donner dans une forme de conservatisme néo-rénovateur. En effet tous les conseils énumérés s'imposent avec une telle évidence que nous avons jugé inutile de nous y arrêter; nous les avons simplement et le plus naturellement du monde mis en application dans l'aspect fonctionnel de la préparation de notre congrès.

Ce sur quoi nous avons essayé d'insister, c'est précisément ce que M. Bickford laisse en second plan: l'esprit à donner à tout ce schéma. Par exemple, les frais d'inscription de \$10 (et de \$5 pour les étudiants) permettaient à tout participant de prendre part à toutes les activités — i.e. pas de *selected functions*. Quant à cet air d'informalité qui est suggéré, nous nous y étions attachés comme à l'une des conditions essentielles pour qu'il y ait un congrès cette année.

Je n'ai à date aucun chiffre, aucune donnée objective pour mesurer le résultat atteint, mais étant l'un des organisateurs du Congrès '72, je considère subjectivement que le succès remporté a dépassé nos espoirs les plus optimistes et cela en dépit d'une tempête de neige qui a pratiquement paralysé Montréal pendant exactement les deux jours où se sont déroulés nos assises.

Je persiste à croire, sur l'appui de cette expérience réussie, qu'il est plus important de penser à la vie avant de penser à la structure externe et que de *désorganiser une organisation* (le mot du président de l'IRAC) peut tout aussi bien donner des résultats quand c'est sur une conviction profonde de vitalité que cela se fonde.

Laurentin Lévesque,
Montréal

Architectural awards and user evaluation

A/C, 3/6/72 carried a proposal from Mr. Besim Hakim of Halifax that architectural awards, particularly to buildings that have been erected, should be made in part on the basis of assessment by the users of such buildings.

I am in complete agreement with this idea and I think it would be valuable for the RAIC to develop what he suggests would be "evalu-

ation forms" for this purpose.

While the procedure he suggests seems somewhat involved, I think the principle is sound — something that we have needed to do for quite a long time. Some architects try to assess the success of their works in the eyes of the people who use them. But this is not always possible, nor does an architect always have an opportunity to do it. However, incorporating this idea into the process for recognizing good architecture would enhance the value of the decision in the eyes of people generally who have to use the architect's products.

Eric W. Thrift, Professor, School of Urban and Regional Planning, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.

CITIES

Two new urban projects for Vancouver

Canadians are going to get a chance to tell their policymakers what kind of city they want to live in if all goes well with two research projects announced last month by Urban Affairs Minister Ron Basford.

The first is a \$67,000 contract with the University of British Columbia, for graduate students with Ministry staff, to survey persons of all income levels, neighborhoods and language origins in Greater Vancouver about the services, amenities and environ-

ment they want now and in the future. Basford says the Greater Vancouver survey will be a pilot project for a similar series of studies across the country.

The second project is a \$75,000 contract with the provincial and local governments, the Ford Foundation and UBC, to help build a computer model of Greater Vancouver (called the Inter-Institutional Policy Simulator (IIPS)), designed to absorb every sort of data about population, transportation, pollution, land use, recreation, economics, etc. The model will cost \$1.3.

In response to questions from citizens and decision-makers, the IIPS will return answers, on easy-to-read charts and maps, about the likely consequences of specific policies. Basford says the IIPS scheme will also provide experience for similar projects in other major Canadian centres.

Papers for conference sought

The Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) is soliciting papers to be presented at its fourth annual conference in Blacksburg, Virginia, next April 1.

Topics should address the following problem areas: research and design practice in the social and political context; theory of man-environment relations; the value of instrument and measures in environmental analysis; design languages, methods and systems; utility and prospects of computer-aided design; and, recent advances in systems building and urban development.

Eight copies of a one-page abstract should be submitted by May 1, 1972 to Wolfgang F. E. Preiser, Conference Chairman, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

COMPETITIONS

Building complex for Tanzania

Results have been announced for the international competition for headquarters for the Tanzanian African National Union, parliament buildings and a cultural centre in Dar Es Salaam.

Top prize in the competition, entered by 137 registered architects around the world, including ten from Canada, was won by Japanese architect Kisho N. Kurokawa. Runners up were two other groups from Japan, a Tanzanian architect, Richard Meyer of Philadelphia, and Andrew and Maria Zdzienicki of Forest Hills, New York.

Residential lighting

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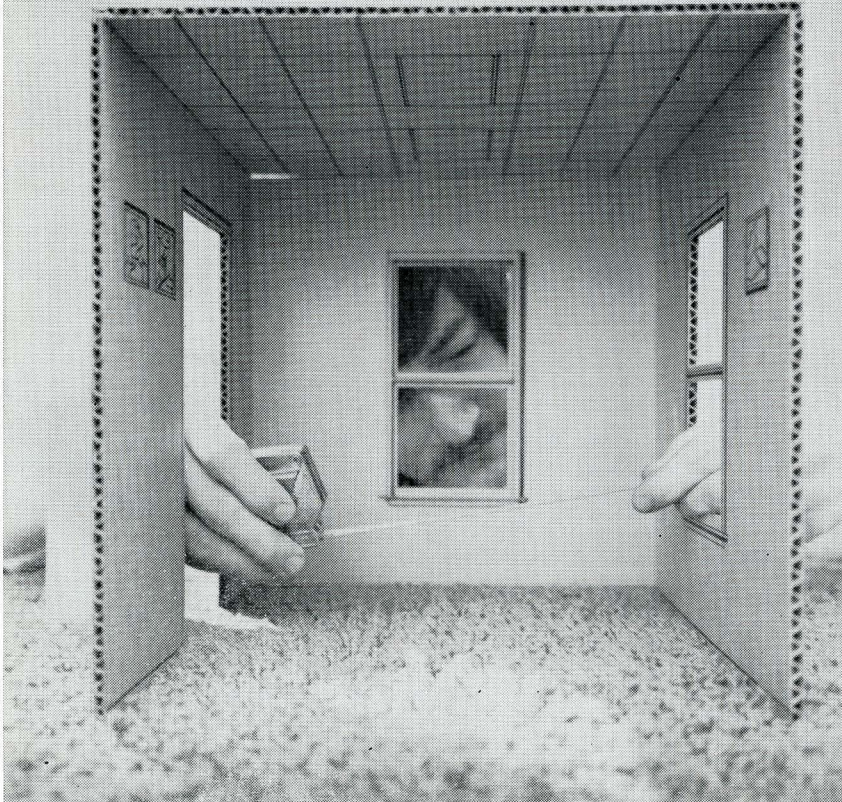
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Initial proposals should be sent by June 30 to Yamagiwa Electric Co. Ltd., 4-1-1, Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo 101, Japan.

Unit masonry awards

A jury has been named for Design Canada's Unit Masonry Awards Program: architects Ray Affleck, Montreal; Ojars Biskaps, Halifax; Michael G. Gibson, Toronto; Gustavo Da Roza, Winnipeg, and William G. Leithead, Vancouver.

To qualify as entries, buildings must be constructed essentially of unit masonry of Canadian manufacture and designed by architects registered in Canada. The program is sponsored by the National Design Council and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Registration closed March 22. Deadline for preliminary designs is May 1.

MISCELLANY

. . . in the best style of pop architects who believe a building should be its own sign, the New York firm of James R. Doman and Associates has painted a real blueprint on the front of its building. On taking possession, Doman removed two bay windows, sealed two door openings and raised the floor. All this is indicated on the blueprint as are stenciled instructions, "Br'kn branch l'dr to be rep'd by owner." The landlord took the hint and fixed the broken leader.

. . . the unpredictable international group of artists, designers and architects Haus-Rucker Co. (famed for model cities made of cake, etc.) are at it again. Their latest structure is a 42-ft.-long pneumatic finger for the front of Germany's Nuremberg Airport. It serves as a signpost directing visitors to the centre of the city. "Wegweiser" is only the first in a series of projects in Haus-Rucker's urban landscaping program. Soon to come is "Big Piano", a musical sculpture consisting of a 90-step staircase. Each stair when stepped on will produce a musical sound. A maximum of 50 people will be able to play together. The whole thing will be topped off by a cloud to give the impression the work of art goes up past its 70 ft. to infinity.

CLASSIFIED

Practice note

Architect Robert A. Warren has opened a new office, Warren & Associates, at 91 Brazil St., St. John's, Newfoundland. (709) 722-8100.

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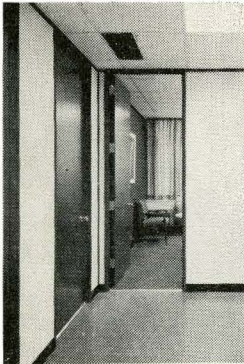
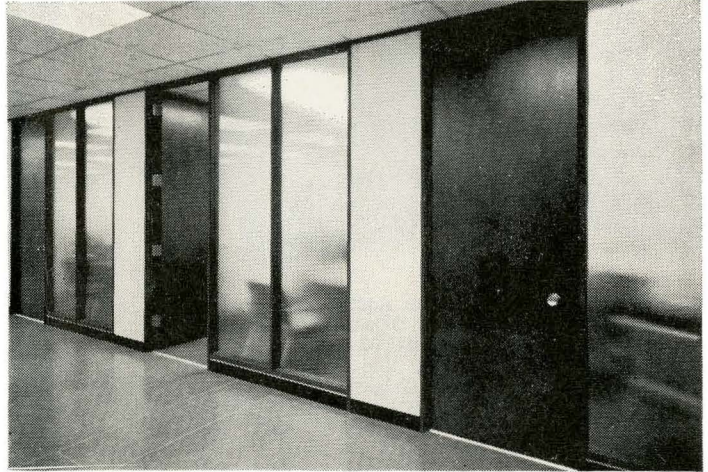


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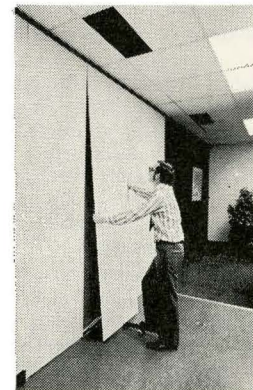
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