



PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This spring, contemporary architecture lost one of its great patrons with the untimely death of A. Whitney Griswold, president of Yale University. Rising on the New Haven campus are 28 new buildings which will stand for years as tributes to the architectural sensitivity of the man.

A tribute to Griswold of another kind appears on page 87 a thoughtful appraisal of his influence on the architecture of Yale by Senior Editor Walter Mc-Quade. This article on the role of the client is an appropriate part of Forum's editorial franchise, for the magazine's publishing philosophy has always been based on the firm belief that better architecture results when building clients have an appreciation of the professional architect, and an understanding of what makes architecture great. That is why FORUM is edited for clients and architects alike, and that is what sets Forum apart from the fine magazines published for the architectural profession alone. (Today, 22,300 building clients of all kinds - commercial, industrial, and institutional-subscribe to FORUM along with 15,000 U.S. and Canadian architects and designers.)

Apparently architect readers appreciate the editors' efforts to win for them—and for architecture—the respect of those who commission, pay for, and occupy buildings. In recent weeks a number of architects have said so:

"Great architecture is achieved when great clients retain great architects and demand their best.

Too many good architects do poor work, not because of any lack of talent, but because of lack of understanding by the client"—a Coral Gables architect.

- ▶ "I see the Forum more often in my clients' waiting rooms than in my own office, and I am very glad indeed that the magazine circulates among non-architects so widely"—a Princeton architect.
- Design genius cannot flourish unless both client and architect understand what is to be accomplished and the tools that are at hand. It's a tough road you've taken, but please keep on it!"— a Houston architect.

FORUM'S long-standing regard for the building client seems more pertinent each booming year—as more and more clients gain experience or become almost continuous participants in building. Their growing construction experience and their understanding of architecture bode well for the building of a better America.

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Another auspicious trend in the same direction is the increasing use of the negotiated contract, which Senior Editor David Carlson reports on page 125. It brings the experienced contractor into the building project during the planning process, permitting him to share with both architect and client his intimate knowledge of techniques, materials, and costs. (Perhaps this trend explains the contractor's growing interest in Forum: his ranks among its subscribers now number 7,300.)

To interest all who influence building is indeed, as the Houston architect says, "a tough road." But, Forum's editors have been traveling that road for many years and happily report that it gets less tough, more rewarding as they move along. This month's 50-mile hike begins on page 5. Come along—J. C. H., JR.

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