

chitectural Forum the magazine of building September 1961

The background of the cover features a complex abstract geometric design. It consists of several nested, overlapping triangles of different sizes and orientations, primarily in shades of brown and tan. These triangles are set against a dark green background that has a subtle, fine-grained texture or noise pattern. The overall effect is one of depth and geometric complexity.

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Publisher's note

Important changes are being made in the way FORUM looks and operates.

This page, for example. The table of contents has been redesigned to make room for a monthly report like this from the publisher's office. It will take readers behind the scenes with the 29 members of FORUM's editorial staff to see the activities which back up FORUM's pages.

On the masthead—on page 85—appear much more important changes. It reveals that Joseph C. Hazen Jr. has been promoted to associate publisher, an office to which he brings the benefits of long experience in journalism and building. Hazen joined FORUM as an associate editor two years after his graduation from Princeton's architectural school in 1935 and has been FORUM's managing editor since 1950.

The masthead also reveals that the new managing editor is Peter Blake, who moved up into this position on July 1 after 11 years as an associate editor. Trained in architecture at the University of Pennsylvania and Pratt Institute, Blake became a registered architect in 1957 and has practiced notable architecture ever since. Concurrently he has distinguished himself in many related fields: as curator of architecture for New York City's Museum of Modern Art, as a contributor to *Harpers*, *Harpers Bazaar*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, and *The New York Times*, as the author of numerous books (most recent: *The Master Builders*), as visiting critic to the schools of architecture at Cornell, Yale, and Pratt, as designer of architecture exhibits for the State Department at the recent fairs in Moscow and Berlin, and, of course, as a prolific writer for FORUM. Henceforth, Blake will devote all of his time and talent to FORUM.

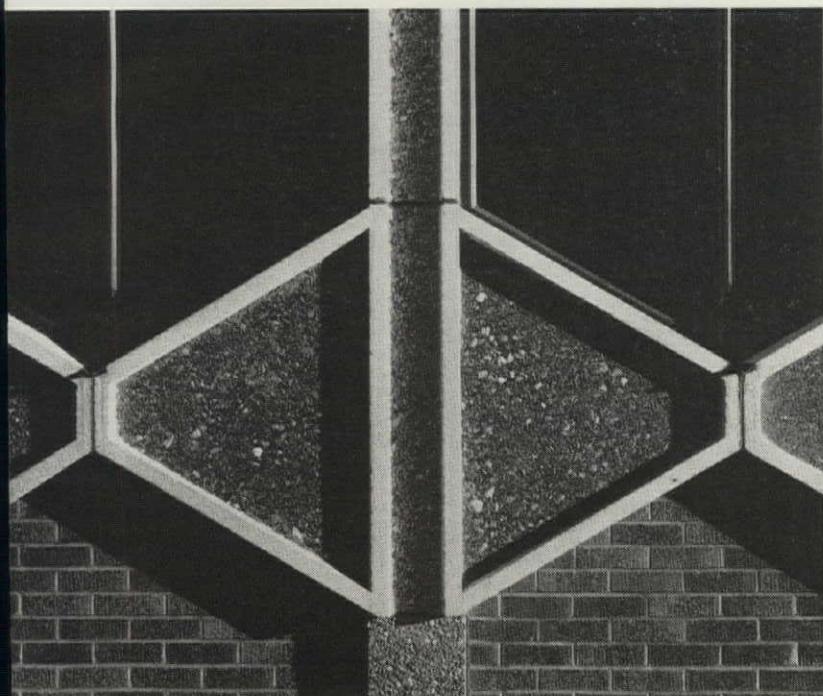
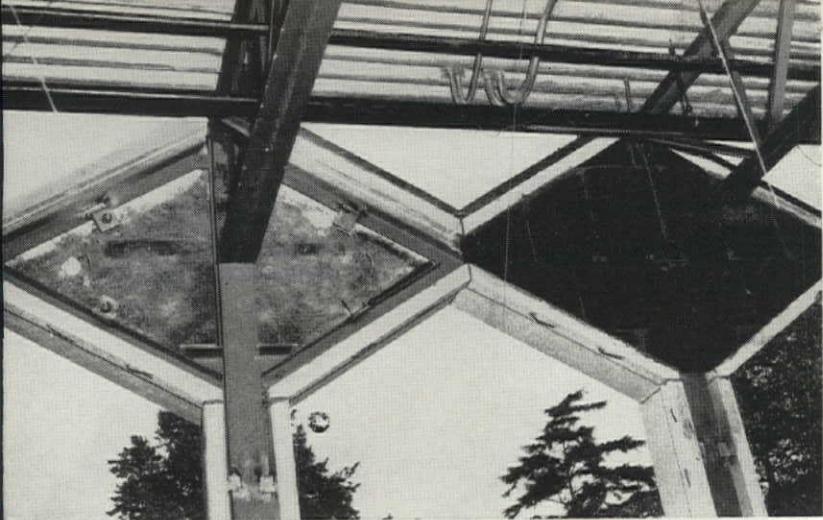
On the last page of the magazine another important change appears. There Editor Douglas Haskell, dean of U.S. architectural editors, will bring to readers each month his salty observations on the state of architecture and building, by-products of his frequent reconnaissance trips for FORUM through the U.S. and abroad. (Incidentally, two of Haskell's recent trips were made for higher purposes: to Oberlin at commencement time to receive an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, and to London in July to be honored—along with AIA President Philip Will—by the Brazilian government at the Congress of the International Union of Architects.)

In future columns, more about FORUM's editorial staff. —R.D.P. Jr.

College Gothic in modern dress

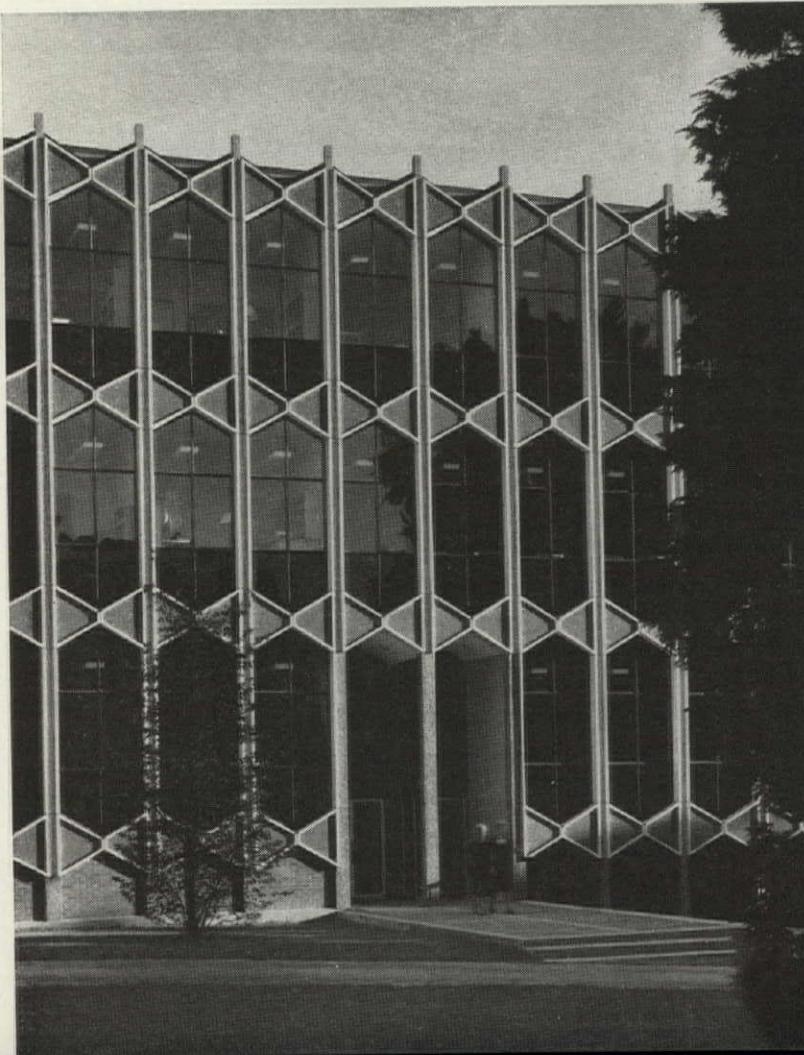
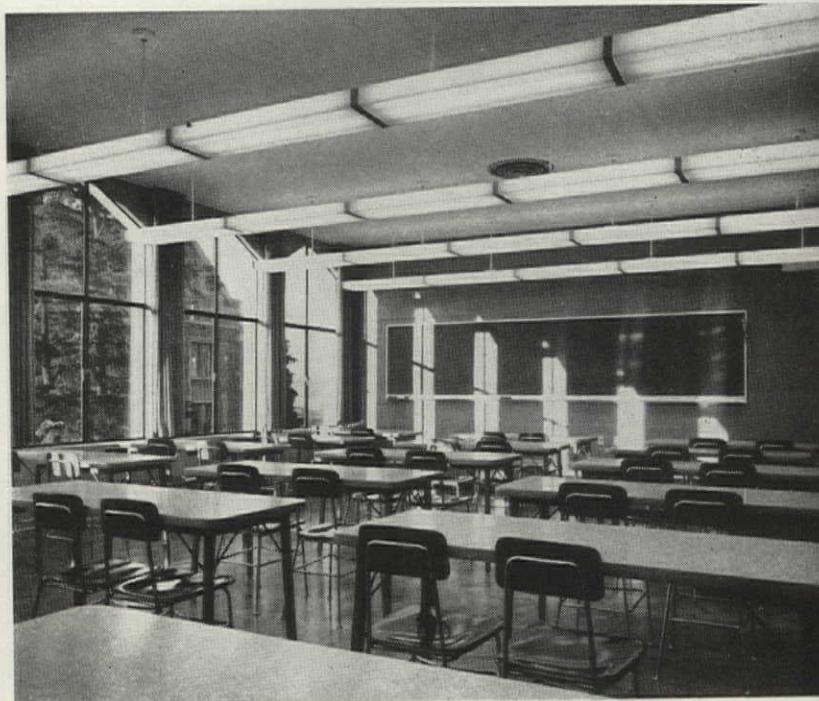
From four campuses, examples of a rich and growing trend.





PHOTOS : (TOP) STATE OF WASHINGTON CAMPUS STUDIOS ; (OTHERS) HUGH STRATFORD

Precast tracery



Due to carefully articulated, predominantly vertical facades, the University of Washington's General Engineering building takes its place comfortably amid the traditional and uninspired College Gothic of the Seattle campus. An interior structural core of reinforced concrete, designed to support classroom floors and resist seismic forces, left Architects Harmon, Pray & Detrich free to develop their elevations in a light, strongly rhythmical pattern of delicate scale reminiscent of late Gothic tracery. Slender steel columns at the periphery, spaced at 6-foot intervals to accommodate present and future partition systems, increase the sense of verticality and allow the use of light, diagonal cross-bracing in place of heavy spandrel girders. The entire exterior frame is sheathed with precast concrete: channel-shaped lengths for the columns extending above the roofline in finials, hollow, diamond-shaped covers for the cross-bracing forming stylized arched windows (detail photos above).

Total construction cost of the four-story building was \$1,061,468, or \$18.80 per square foot of gross area, financed by the State of Washington. Landscape architect: William Teufel. Structural engineers: Olsen & Ratti. Contractor: Wick Construction Co.