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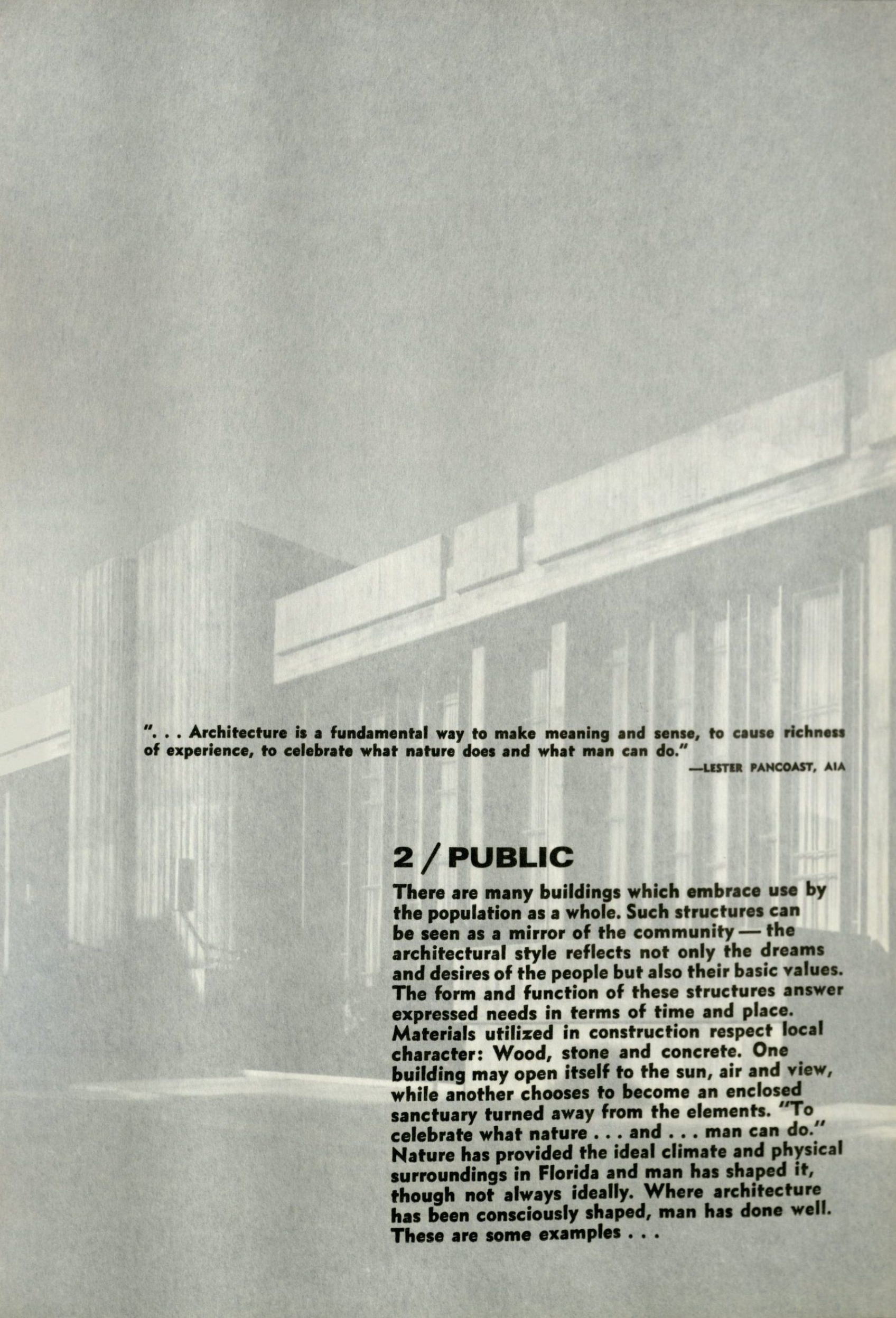
ARCHITECTURE FOR FLORIDA LIVING

REFERENCE ONLY



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“. . . Architecture is a fundamental way to make meaning and sense, to cause richness of experience, to celebrate what nature does and what man can do.”

—LESTER PANCOAST, AIA

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There are many buildings which embrace use by the population as a whole. Such structures can be seen as a mirror of the community — the architectural style reflects not only the dreams and desires of the people but also their basic values. The form and function of these structures answer expressed needs in terms of time and place. Materials utilized in construction respect local character: Wood, stone and concrete. One building may open itself to the sun, air and view, while another chooses to become an enclosed sanctuary turned away from the elements. “To celebrate what nature . . . and . . . man can do.” Nature has provided the ideal climate and physical surroundings in Florida and man has shaped it, though not always ideally. Where architecture has been consciously shaped, man has done well. These are some examples . . .





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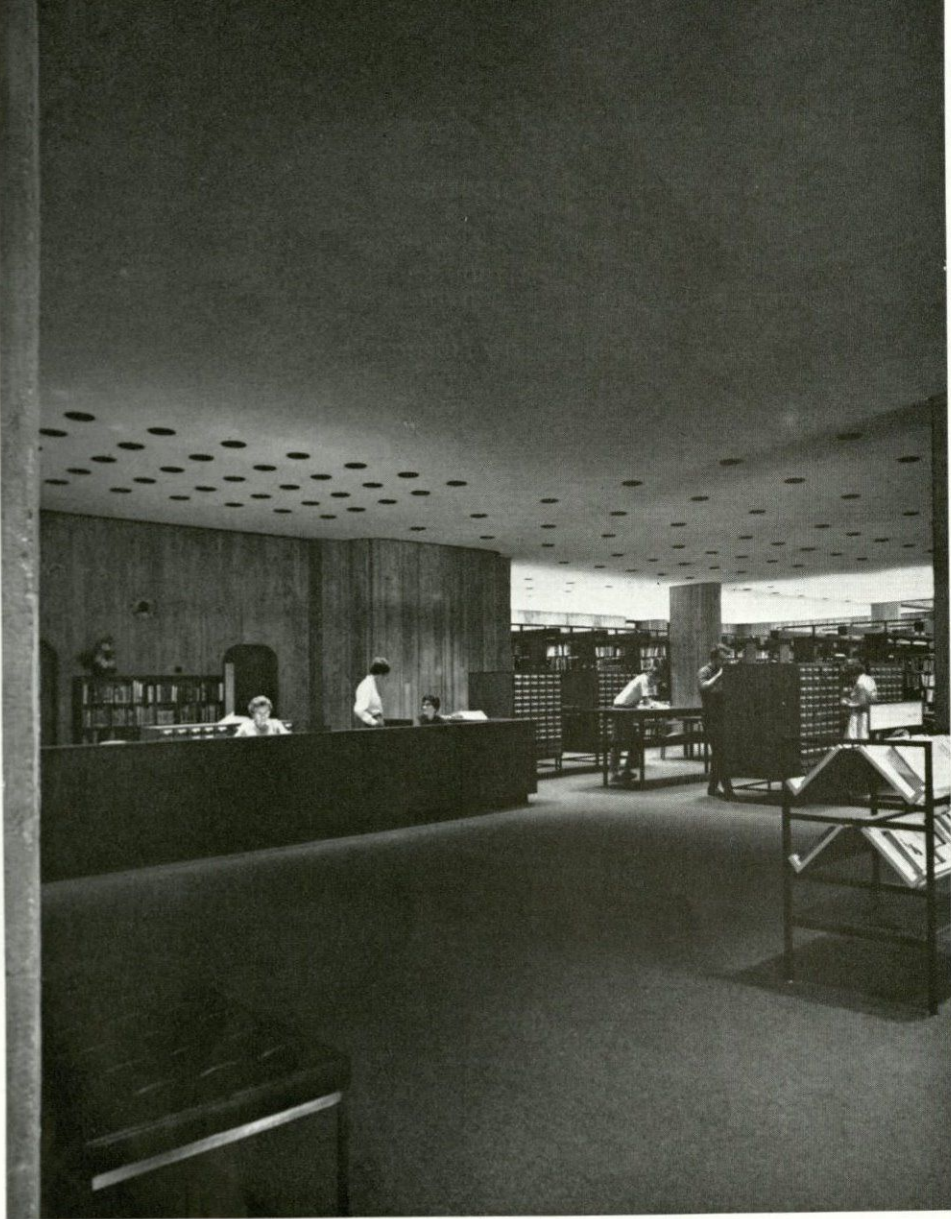
In a crowded urban site surrounded by structures of varied and nondescript design was built an architectural gem. It doesn't shine like one, as perhaps was expected, but it stands as a foremost example of the current mode of exposed, textured, unfinished concrete. This texture is not random, but positioning of each form board was planned to achieve maximum effect and appearance. Its logic is simple: What other material can stand gracefully weathering effects not only of natural climate but of urban man-made climate, while making itself so much at one with its environment? The interior consists of multilevel interlocking spaces, private where need be, but largely open. The building has a solid massiveness, yet is of human scale which invites and requires use by people. And used it is – not in the tradition of tomb-quiet libraries, but in an active, learning, participating manner.

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KURT WALDMANN PHOTOS





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