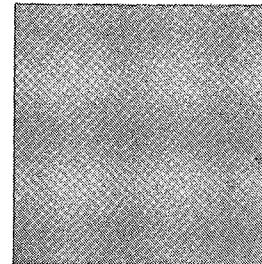


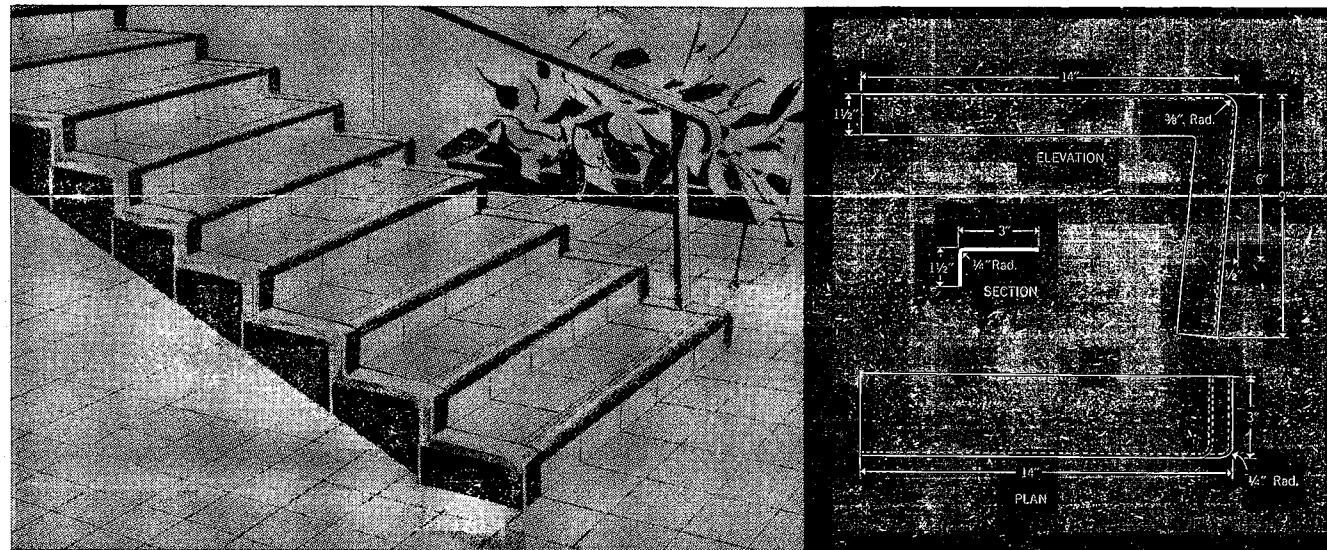
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DUNLOP DATA SHEET NO. 7.

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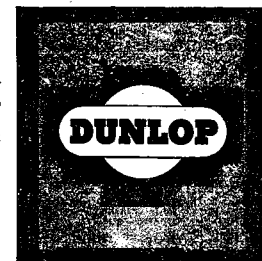
DUNLOP FLOORING SERVICE gives you the edge INTRODUCES DUNLOP VINYL STAIR EDGE CAPPINGS



Here's something new from Dunlop Flooring Service — a product that offers a long-needed architectural twist to the stairs and return down the spandrel on right angle open type staircases. After fitting cappings, the treads, risers and spandrels are covered with Dunlop Vinyl Tiles

and Nosings. Colour: Plain black. Gauge: $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Dimensions and usage: as per drawings. It is important that the steps conform exactly to capping dimensions in regard to radius at nosing ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") and "rake back" of riser ($\frac{1}{2}$ " in 6").

MELBOURNE: 96 Flinders Street. 63 0371. SYDNEY: 27-33 Wentworth Avenue. 2 0969. BRISBANE: Centenary Place. 31 0271. PERTH: 473 Murray Street. 21 3085. ADELAIDE: 131-133 Pirie Street. 8 1647. HOBART: 27 Argyle St. 2 6581. LAUNCESTON: 18 Paterson St. 2 2067.



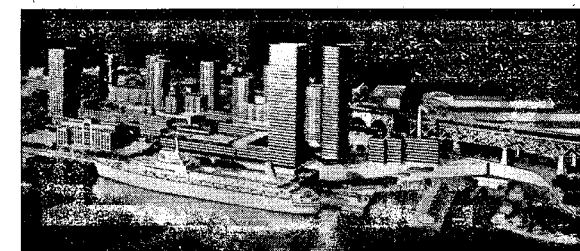
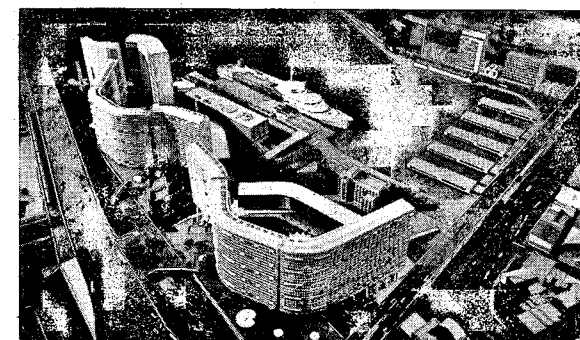
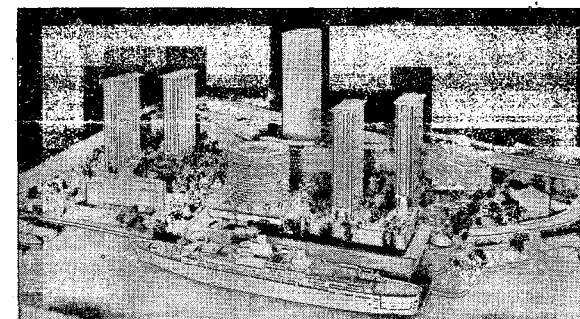
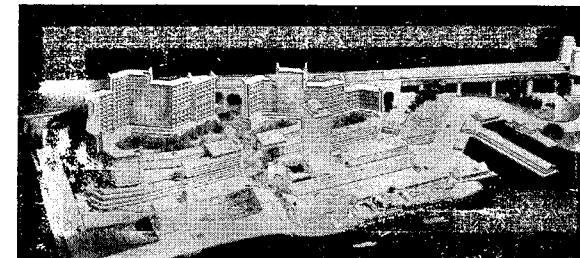
CALL DUNLOP FLOORING SERVICE FOR IMMEDIATE SPECIFIC ADVICE OR SAMPLES

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

CROSS-SECTION

Issue No. 118

August 1, 1962



Photos: Max Dupain

10 proposals from 5 potential developers willing to take over 19 acres of The Rocks area between Sydney's Circular Quay and the Bridge approach were exhibited, in the Common-

wealth Bank, Martin Place. The designs varied from clumsy to very fine architecture—very fine spaces and forms: scheme designed for James Wallace Ltd, by Clarke, Gazard and Yeomans (1), and also varied greatly in the recipes produced to answer the mixed programme . . . some have offices dominating, some flats, some have many levels of car parking, some few. Only two offer houses, that by Hely and Bell for Lend Lease (2), with row housing, and that by Los Angeles' Victor Gruen with Sydney's H. Stossel (3), for Hawker Siddeley with a complex of various town-house types. Some show special recognition of existing forms in the neighbourhood (e.g. Harry Seidler, (4) for Lend Lease, echoing the serpentine coast of Circular Quay with a complementary curved cliff of flats); others stress views from existing streets (e.g. Neville Grzman, (5) for Lend Lease). Hely and Bell retail with graphic drawings an analysis of severe noise problems caused by the Bridge and the Cahill freeway viaduct; the Gruen-Stossel scheme answered that well with a great snaking wall of offices hedging off the domestic development. But the tenders, the phasing of construction and all the stipulations which may accompany these ambitious schemes remained in the pocket of the Local Govt. Dept., maybe burning a hole there. The east side of the Quay bears the Opera House, Australia's bravest, costliest project. What will develop in this west side story?

¶ An interesting test case has developed in Melb. over the resignation of an arch. student, Miss Frances Seidel, from the C'wealth Dept of Works, breaking a £1,000 bond to remain with the department for five years after her graduation. Miss Seidel offered to pay her superannuation fund of £84, and the balance of the £1,000 over five years, at six-monthly intervals. The Dept advised Miss Seidel that £500 must be paid immediately and the balance over two years, otherwise the matter would be referred to the deputy Crown Solicitor. Though this may seem to some sentimentalists a harsh and unsympathetic bureaucracy victimizing a poor girl, the fact is that the cost of training Miss Seidel was £2,395, after deducting salary paid to her for working with the dept during long vacations, so that even after paying back the £1,000 bond, Miss Seidel would show a £1,395 profit, at cost of the tax-payers, plus having had the re-assuring security of income during her training. On these terms, a cadetship seems like a pretty good racket. The other side of the argument is that the student who takes up a cadetship is rarely aware of all its implications, or of the sort of work done by Govt depts and of the sort of work he or she wants to do. Too often the student feels frustrated and resentful after a few years' experience. The money which goes towards cadetships could perhaps be better distributed as straight-out scholarships, or as incentives to reward talent within the dept. Unfortunately, there are few students that join the public service to serve the public.

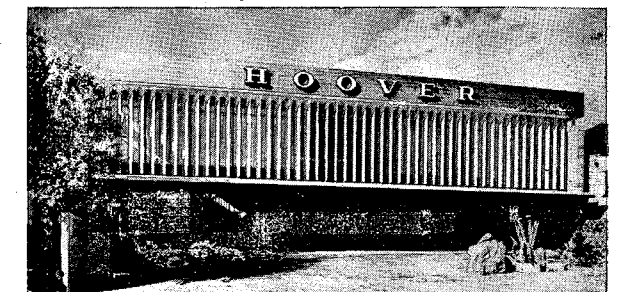


Photo: L. & D. Keen

This trimly tropical bldg at Cordelia St, S. B'bane, contains workshops on the ground floor and air-conditioned admin offices on the first floor, for Hoover Australia Pty. Ltd. Donald Spencer, archt; C. P. Hornick, bldr. ¶ Mr. Neil Clerehan, former director of "The Age" Small Homes Service, and his partner in arch'l practice, Mr. Guildford Bell, have been elected Fellows of the RAI.

¶ 16 months after a proud opening and a few seconds after a low loader passed over, Melb's £4 mill Kings Bridge over the Yarra, cracked, sagged, and was sealed off from traffic. Experts galore descended upon the bridge, and within a few days every engineer had become an expert (except, presumably those who designed the bridge) and knew what the cause was, although at the time of going to press, no definitive announcements have been made to the public. Gloom descended as reports came in that not just one steel girder was faulty, but most of them, particularly where plates had been welded, ironically enough, to strengthen the structure. To add to the embarrassment and scandal and to further crush local self-confidence the Premier, Mr. Bolte, called for some super-experts from the U.K. and the U.S.A. Amongst the non-expert opinions as to why the bridge failed two were outstanding: one claimed that the Commos had been secretly pouring acid on the girders so as to bring the big steel combines into disrepute; and another connected the bridge's cracking with the current H-bomb tests by the U.S.A. Sydney-siders indulged in big-sisterly scorn and superiority.

¶ Melb's other pride and joy, the £2 mill South-Eastern Freeway, a full 1½ mile length of roadway on the north bank of the Yarra, still stood, remaining very effective in transferring traffic jams from the city proper, where the freeway begins, to the Grange Road bridge where the freeway ends. Achievement? The chairman of the M & MBW, Mr. Trickey, admits that money is not available now, nor does he know when it will be, to connect the freeway to its ultimate destination, Melb's Ring Road—which of course doesn't exist yet to be connected to anyway.

¶ The South Australian Housing Trust (which builds over 3,000 houses and flats per year) has decided to incorporate room air conditioners in approx 60 per cent of all future single unit houses and multi-storied flats. Home a-c units will be 1 h.p. with a cooling capacity of 9,000 b.t.u.'s, and flat a-c units will be 1½ h.p. with a cooling capacity of 11,500 b.t.u.'s, installations by Kelvinator Australia Ltd.

¶ Two sub-stations that the SEC (Vic) plans to build (but not until 1970) in Kew and North Balwyn have provoked strong protests from residents whose properties lie close to the selected sites. The assumption of the petitioners has been that the sub-station will lower property values and that it will be a "monstrosity" in appearance. Alternatives? Go underground, wires and sub-stations both.

¶ Latest square idea for Melb, on a triangular site beside Parliament House, was put forward by Mr. M. J. Harkins, Director of the Tourist Development Authority, but fizzled.

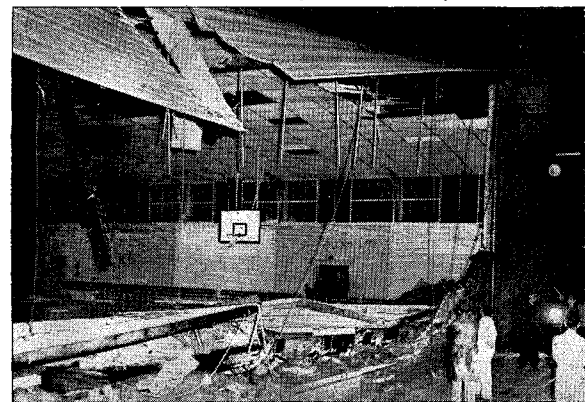


Photo: "The News" Adelaide

This photo shows the extent of damage caused when a concrete block wall collapsed at the recently completed St. Clair Sports Centre, Woodville, S.A. Reason given for the collapse was a freak wind of tornado proportions—though this reason seemed based more on wishful thinking than evidence. The wall was approx. 115 ft. long and 15 ft. high, in modular conc block, with contraction joints and without adequate piers or reinforcing. Above the wall 15 ft. of stud framing sheeted with asbestos cement, carried the ends of steel purlins. The wall is being rebuilt with RSJ stanchions extending full height through the wall and connecting with the purlins at roof level. It is significant that since the St. Clair failure various drawings submitted to modular block manufacturers in Adelaide have been considerably modified. There's nothing like learning from mistakes, but pity the poor client the mistakes happen to.

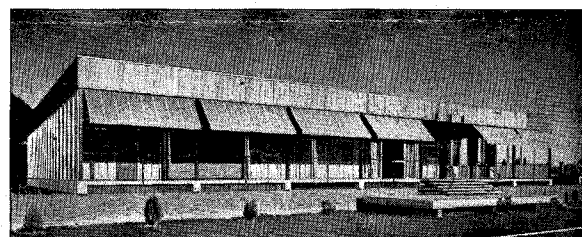
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Photos: David Mocre

These 3 bldgs: 1, St. Barnabas' C of E at Fairfield, NSW; 2, Ophir County Council, Orange; 3, Blayney Bowling Club, Blayney, NSW; were all designed by Edwards, Madigan and Torzillo, archts. Each design is well-controlled and each has a clear and coherent character. The fundamental attitude that gives this firm's work its style would seem to be Miesian, but a humanized, even sentimentalized, Mies, rationalized in terms of Australian climate and building materials. The church has the black-exposed-steel-brick-infill-panel Miesian discipline but a vernacular pitched cement tile roof, with a dramatic aluminium spire (whose steel supports penetrate the roof rather awkwardly) and a very fine ornamental black iron grille (made from such unconventional items as old wrought iron, early sewing machines and gas stoves, and parts of machine tools) by Douglas Annand. The Ophir County Council has a clear cubic expression based upon the exposed structural frame, well-proportioned and enlivened by horizontal sun-louvers. Blayney Bowling Club, approached Farnsworth-wise via steps and platforms, relaxes its stern form with a heavy vertical boarded fascia and canvas blinds. If the basic image is Miesian, the final result, as seen, is EM & T, and Australian.

¶ Experiments are being conducted at the School of Architecture, Uni. of N.S.W., with double-glazed windows for Australian usages. One specimen on their list is the window used throughout the Aurora Melb.-Syd. standard gauge express sleeper train. At this time of the year, passengers wake to a view of thick fog, no matter what sunny day exists outside, and are powerless to dispel it because it lies inside the cavity, which is locked but far from sealed.

¶ The Brick Development Research Institute has been established at 541 King Street, Melb. Mr. I. McDowall is director and Council members are Mr. G. A. Hurse, president; Professor A. J. Francis, of the Dept of Civil Engineering, Uni of Melb; Mr. D. V. Isaacs, director of Commonwealth Experimental Building station, Syd., and Mr. A. V. Jennings, of A. V. Jennings Construction Co. Pty. Ltd., plus representatives of brick manufacturers in Vic. and of the R.A.I.A.

¶ A 15-storey office bldg (cost £800,000) is to be built for St. James Church Hall and Property Trust on the site of the old St. James Hall in Phillip Street, Sydney. Accommodation will include rentable office floors, a church hall, a number of assembly halls and other amenities for the Church. Peddle, Thorp & Walker, archts; Rankine & Hill, str engs; W. E. Bassett & Partners, mech. engs.



Correction: this is the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Woolloongabba, B'bane, not Russian Orthodox as erroneously stated in C-S last month. The archt, Roman Pawlszyn, writing to C-S, gives this description of the basis for the church's form: "To the people who worship in this church, the church is a symbol not only in the religious and spiritual sense. This also is a symbol of their homeland, of their past, of their ambitions. This is the visible link with the beloved they left behind. There they find the balance of their tormented souls and the security for which they yearn so much. This is also the bridge to their new existence, the place where they receive assurance and strength and trust in their land of choice."

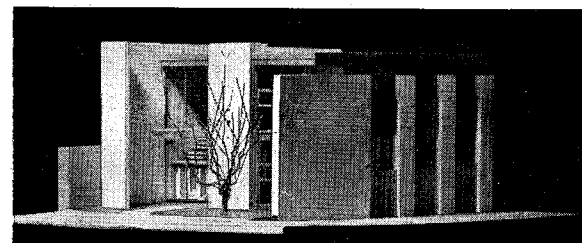


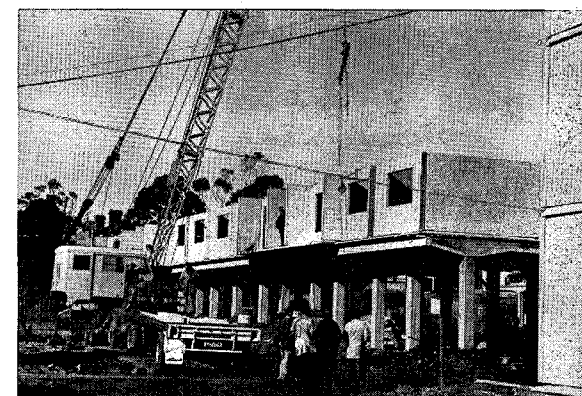
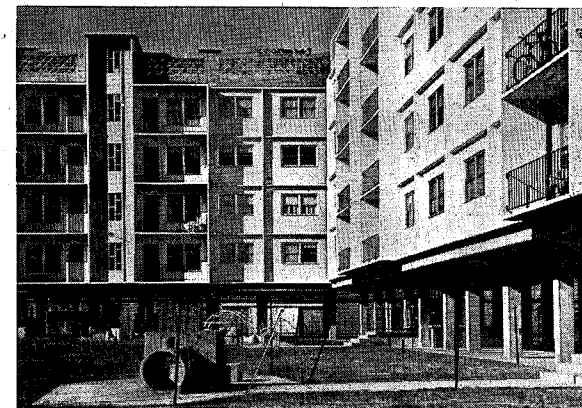
Photo: Douglass Baglin

This handsome little model is of a bldg now under construction at Ridge St., N. Sydney, an office block designed for ground floor tenancy and first floor occupancy by the architects, McCauley, Conran & Associates. Walls—specially baked unrendered pure white bricks exposed externally and internally; floors—conc. slab, tiled and carpeted; timber—oiled finish; roof—metal deck and insulation board with exposed timber beams.

¶ A new £2½ mill 20-storey office bldg for BP Australia Ltd is to be built on the corner of St. Kilda & Albert Roads, Melb. A typical bay will be built to allow engineers and architects to study new construction methods & materials. R. S. Demaine, Russell, Trundle, Armstrong & Orton, archts.

¶ Mr Brian John Suters, a recent graduate of the Newcastle University College, has been awarded the Byera Hadley travelling scholarship, worth £600.

¶ Annual prizes of £100 awarded by the SA Gas Co. to assist arch students in travel, were received by Mr. M. J. Doley of the U of Adelaide and Mr. J. T. Walter of the SA Inst. of Technology.



Photos: David Saunders

This is a portion of Debney's Estate, Flemington, the newest inner-area project of the Housing Commission of Victoria. It typifies the most admirable and the most objectionable aspects of the H.C.V. activities. Admirable: wholly factory-cast, swiftly site-assembled dwellings whose prefabricating really costs less and whose standard of concrete is constantly winning admiring comment from world visitors. Objectionable: (a) the hideously backward trend to taller walk-up blocks (now four storeys above stilts, plus laundries above that); (b) the unnecessary and vain attempts to improve upon the basic building form, with cranky stair-well port-holes/slits/slots, inept colours, mixtures of roof types.

In other recent H.C.V. schemes, two other cruelties have been practised: 1. over-close grouping of flats four-square about a court (Canning-st., Carlton) whose consequent sunlessness creates cold and mud, and whose wind-trap gathers litter and discomfort; 2. no landscape for children; only a pretence at play-equipment among the concrete of paths and car-standing (Collingwood). The danger of close-spacing is to be repeated in the largest of all, under construction at North Melbourne; the landscaping may be better in future efforts, landscape designer Miss Margaret Hendry has been used as consultant over the past 12 months. Two uses of tower blocks—16 storeys in Emerald Hill (South Melbourne) and 20 storeys at North Melbourne, hint at more enlightened policies, for the higher densities sought after will be better achieved by these elevator'd blocks, in their wider landscape, with their narrower shadow. But they are built for the Commission by contract; within the H.C.V.'s own work, the Holmsglen prefab walls go on being assembled into the very few plan variations which they permit (almost always with habitable rooms in 2 opposing directions, tending to force a N-S run of building), forcing their supposed masters into less and less pleasant creations.