A COMMUNITY CLUB FOR SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

Submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of
MASTER IN ARCHITECTURE
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By:

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Dean School of Architecture
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William Wilson Wurster, Dean
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Dear Dean Wurster:

I hereby submit the report on, "A Community Club for San Angelo, Texas," as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master in Architecture.

Respectfully,

Enslie O. Oglesby, Jr.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am very grateful for having been able to work under the guidance and stimulation of the fine staff which has been assembled in the School of Architecture and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
FOREWARD

The following pages comprise a study of San Angelo, Texas and its recreational needs and potentialities. The study has been principally concerned with the design of a project to provide recreational facilities. Related elements have been included, making it a more useful and enjoyable project to the community.

I realized that there was need in such a study for much statistical information which the city could not provide me nor that I could gather myself. The need was felt more intensely as study proceeded. In addition to providing for me an interesting thesis subject, however, it is hoped that such a theoretical project might stimulate a real interest in the possibilities for community recreation in San Angelo.
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RECREATIONAL TRENDS

Recreation is the use of that extra time that our society has provided the majority of the American public through mechanized time-saving devices, standardization, concentration, and cooperation. Our realization of this available time to be spent as we wish is exemplified by the forty-hour week. The consideration of a plan for ways of using this time for recreation to the best of our enrichment and pleasure is of great importance.

Even a system of parks, playfields, playgrounds, recreation buildings, and other recreational properties does not in itself constitute municipal recreation service. The function of the recreation program is to enrich and improve the quality of life in the community. The function of a long range plan, therefore, is to assure suitable physical means of achieving means of improving the life of the community through skillfully developed recreation programs.

The recreation program should serve a variety of diverse urges and interests which are widely prevalent among us. One of these is craftsmanship, interest in creative achievement and expression through things that may be made with the hands. Another is the desire for fellowship or sociability satisfied by the varied group experiences such as community gatherings, picnics, dances, holiday celebrations, camping, and other interests. A third is the pleasure and physical need for
sports and other exercise; and the urge to excitement is satisfied in the various competitive sports. Then there is sheer relaxation. These indicate something of the range of basic interests which a broad recreational program undertakes to meet.

In 1945 the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration prepared a very comprehensive study entitled, "Municipal Recreation Administration." This study arrives at what seems to be some very good yet reasonable standards based on city populations:

1. A gymnasium for each 10,000 people
2. An auditorium for each 20,000 people
3. A social room for each 10,000 people
4. An informal reading and quiet game room for each 10,000 people
5. An indoor game room for each 10,000 people
6. An arts and crafts shop for each 10,000 people
7. A multiple use clubroom for each 4,000 people
8. An indoor swimming pool for each 50,000 people
9. Golf course, a public nine hole course for a city of 27,000 people
10. Public tennis courts, one for each 2,000 people

A recreation program today should provide for both sexes and all ages for all day, every day, the year round. This means, of course, not only ingenuity in planning but also space and facilities for indoor as well as outdoor activities.
ANALYSIS OF SAN ANGELO AND RECREATION

The Project

San Angelo is fortunate in that due to the Concho River's course through the city it has been necessary to leave large open spaces that were below flood level. Much of this area has been developed as public parks, part of which contains a nine hole golf course.

A two million dollar dam for power irrigation and flood control is now under construction on the river just above the city. It seems almost imperative that the green strip along the river be extended through the city to include the still vacant land along the river to be used for public recreation.

The material that follows will indicate the real need for a center of recreation, and a site in the green strip would seem to be ideal.

Such a project could supply wholesome, pleasant, enriching recreation on a common interest, which would serve to unite classes and functions. It would be the recreational and social background for pleasant day-by-day contacts which stimulates versatility and at the same time building groups which evolve when mutual interests can be enjoyed in appropriate surroundings.

The Site

I have selected as a site for the project the land between Koeningheim and Irving from Concho Avenue to the river which
gives it the following advantages:

1. Ample space
2. Centrally located
   a. Only one block from main axis Beauregard Street with bus service
   b. Four blocks from intersection of the main street with the secondary axis
   c. Central with respect to all schools
3. Good surroundings
   a. At intersection point of good private residential area, apartment housing, and stable commercial districts
   b. At one end of golf course and tying in with proposed park system extension.

The park system along the river should be extended to include on the North side the land marked on the map between the golf course and the Fire Station Park. On the south side the park should be extended from Spanish Park along the river under Abe Street Bridge to the site of the Girl Scout house and on along the river under Chadbourne Street Bridge and on under Oakes Street Bridge to the large tract of land between Allen Street and the river and on the other side of the railroad between Baker Street and the river. This large tract should be the eventual outdoor sports center for a large baseball field and football stadium. The Boy Scout cabins are now along the street edges of this land.
Existing Elements

Public buildings

1. Library--There is a new building and sufficient volumes to adequately satisfy community needs.
2. Auditorium--The municipal one is new and large and is supplemented by the smaller one in the college.
3. Swimming pool--There is a new outdoor one almost adequate to satisfy needs from May to September.

Schools

1. Elementary schools--There are eleven schools with sufficient space and equipment for school use.
2. Junior high school--There is one school in poor condition, and the board of education has plans for one more and improvement on the old one.
3. High school--There is one school with 1,400 students, slightly short on space and equipment.
   a. Gymnasium with one basketball floor
   b. Six tennis courts
   c. Practice football field and stadium with adequate seating
   d. Track
   e. No auditorium
4. Junior college--It uses high school recreation facilities and shares own auditorium with high school and has plans for new campus on land already obtained.

Nursery

There is a good day nursery with graded rates down to
a dollar a week. This nursery takes care of about fifty children brought regularly, but there is need for one for about twenty children brought irregularly by shopping parents etc.

Clubs and Organizations

1. Scouts
   a. The boys have troop cabins but no good central place for large group meeting and participation.
   b. The girls have good new house for all groups.

2. Mens' Clubs
   a. Lions have own club house on lake.
   b. Masons have own club house in city.

3. Boys--DeMolay meets at Masons club house.

4. Girls sororities meet at private homes.

5. Public Clubhouse--The Massies club house is an old residence which can be rented for small private club parties, flower shows of garden club, etc.

6. Country Club--It has poor club house but good eighteen hole golf course. It is four miles out of the city limits.

Churches

Most churches are centrally located with limited programs because of no recreation facilities. Men's Bible class meets in hotel Sunday morning and is well attended by all type groups.

Moving picture theatres

There is more than an adequate number.

1. Best one on corner of Twohig and Irving, near Community Club site.

2. Drive-in on city limit
Bowling alleys

There is new center with good alleys, management, and low prices on Twohig Avenue between Randolph and Irving, near Community Club site.

Hotels

There is one good hotel with two hundred rooms, two mediocre one, and two poor ones. There is no Y.M.C.A. or Y.W.C.A.

Pertinent Data

1. Population--25,000
2. Altitude---- 1,847 feet
3. Temperature- 1945
   Annual Mean--65.4 °
   Highest------104 ° (August 19)
   Lowest-------18 ° (December 28)
4. Precipitation
   Greatest monthly--4.11 inches--July
   Least--.14 inches---November
   Snow - 0 inches
   Total 18.46 inches

Number of rainy days--50
Number of clear days--220
Number of cloudy days--74

Wind-Prevailing direction
   November to March--North
   March to November--Southwest
5. Available Materials

Natural materials near city
   a. Grey, tan, brown, cream stone in abundant quantities
   b. Adobe clay
   c. Sand and gravel
   d. Little wood except cedar

Materials processed in city
   a. Cement
   b. Concrete tile
   c. Brick
   d. Gypsum products

Materials available within Texas
   a. Lumber--pine, cypress, cedar
   b. Light metals--aluminum, and magnesium
   c. A little steel
   d. Granite
   e. Rubber (synthetic)

Racial Situation

San Angelo is enough a part of the South or the whole United States for that matter to have color prejudice and segregation. There is a district with ample space for expansion available to colored people. A high school and grammar school and a branch of the public library have been provided. Negroes are accepted at assemblies in the municipal auditorium, in the hospitals, and in the shops and stores.
They have, through their own initiative, obtained land and part of the money for their own recreation center, leading the whites in this respect. Consequently this would help considerably in meeting any colored problem in any city-wide recreation program.

Financial Support and Control

Power has been granted to municipal and school authorities to appropriate and expend tax funds for recreation.

Fire protection, schools, streets by tax are taken for granted, but not so with recreation which is a personal individual matter in which each person feels he has a direct and immediate interest. He has been accustomed to choose his own recreation and to pay for it, to join with others in meeting common recreation expenses and to weigh the benefits and the costs. Certainly the recreation department should not eliminate the values resulting from this process by furnishing all kinds of recreation without direct costs to the participant. (Little danger this will happen). On the other hand, large numbers of people are deprived of the needful recreation opportunities because they cannot afford them (or they are just not available.)

There should be a recreation council elected to run the recreation center and related programs in coordination with the city department of Parks, Schools, etc.

The financing of a project would be partially by private donations such as memorial funds and public war memorial
contributions. The remaining money necessary could be raised by City Bond Issue, as was evidenced by the Bond issue for the Municipal Outdoor Pool in 1937.

It is estimated that $3.00 per citizen per year would be sufficient to maintain such a recreation program and center. If initial donations, or revenue decided upon for center use are not sufficient for retirement of the building fund, the additional necessary money should be raised by tax.
SELECTION OF FACILITIES

Athletic unit

A. Gymnasium
   1. Main floor--13,000 sq. ft.
      a. sports (2 basketball courts)
      b. dances and large social
   2. Audience space
      a. permanent seating--at least 400 persons
      b. moveable seating for 250

B. Swimming pool--9,000 sq. ft.
   1. Main pool
      a. beginners pool
   2. Sun area
   3. Equipment room--near central utility if possible
   4. Permanent observation space overlooking small pool
   5. Temporary seating for 250 people

C. Exercise rooms
   1. Boxing ring, moveable to main gymnasium floor
   2. Gymnastics (correctives etc) 1,200 sq. ft.
   3. Rhythmics, dancing, tumbling--1,000 sq. ft.

D. Lockers
   1. Men
      a. showers--20, drying, toilets
      b. lockers and dressing area for at least 500--
         2,000 sq. ft.
2. Women
   a. toilets, drying, makeup, and hair drying
   b. lockers and dressing cubicles with connecting showers at about 15 showers, 30 cubicles, and 200 lockers---2,000 sq. ft.

E. General
   1. Checking
      a. valuables
      b. towels
      c. athletic equipment (checking and issuance)
   2. Therapy and First aid
   3. Coaches offices
   4. Sleeping area for visiting athletes

Lounging
   A. Sandwich and soda bar
   B. Large room (used for dancing nights and lectures and adult socials during day)---1,000 sq. ft.
   C. Light recreation, ping pong, pool etc.--1,600 sq. ft.
   D. Lounge and games, cards etc--800 sq. ft.
   E. Three additional meeting rooms about 300 sq. ft. each
   F. Check room--150 sq. ft.

Craft
   A. Woodwork shop--1,300 sq. ft.
      1. Tool storage
      2. Power tools
   B. Ceramics and modeling--1,000 sq. ft.
      1. Kilns
      2. Wheels, molds
C. Photography--500 sq. ft.
   1. Dark rooms
   2. Work room

D. Metal work--300 sq. ft.

E. Administrator and storage--500 sq. ft.
   1. Storage
   2. Toilets
   3. First aid and office

Administration
   A. Receptionist--100 sq. ft.
   B. Records--150 sq. ft.
   C. Manager’s office--150 sq. ft.
   D. Large office--300 sq. ft.
      1. Admissions
      2. Coordinator
      3. Volunteer workers
   E. Resident manager suite--800 sq. ft.

Utility
   A. Central heat
   B. Janitor headquarters
   C. Storage

Outdoor and Detached Units
   A. Tennis courts--seven at 6,000 sq. ft. each--42,000 sq. ft.
   B. Boat house and swimming dock
   C. Play field
   D. Bicycle racks (200 bicycles)
Nursery

A. A unit for twenty-five to thirty children between ages of two and five, located so that children can be left conveniently by parents going to town or entering project.

1. Indoor area--1,000 sq. ft.
2. Outdoor area--2,000 sq. ft.

Guest Unit

A. There is no Y.M.C.A. nor any Y.W.C.A. in San Angelo. There is a need for accommodations for: (1) visiting athletes, (2) single men, (3) single women, and (4) guests of families with small homes who cannot afford to put up guests in hotel or more likely wish to accommodate their guests in a more personal atmosphere such as their Community Club, or Center.

B. Rooms

1. private
2. dorm

C. Administration

D. Dining

1. room and terrace
2. kitchen
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A COMMUNITY CLUB

A MASTER'S THESIS
IN ARCHITECTURE

MAY 28, 1947

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