

A Community Dining Hall.

Thesis Design.

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## A Community Dining Hall

Certain people interested in the present economic problems which confront housewives, suggest that the experiment of having a community dining hall be tried - a hall large enough for a community of about one hundred people. In this hall members of the community meet once a day or three times a day - the number of meals taken is decided by each one - and eat either together in the several large dining halls or in the separate family ones. That the scheme may succeed socially as well it is planned to have two little buildings or two large rooms, one for after dinner lectures, music, plays, etc., and one for a library or gathering place. The life at the hall is not intended to break up any

of the family home life, but rather to bring the people to-gether for a little time each day in the old community spirit of the Spartans.

So on the low slopes from off the shores of Jamaica Pond it is proposed to build this Community Dining Hall.

The buildings are grouped about a square beautiful sunken garden which furnishes splendid tennis courts and walks. A rusticated walk with bits of statuary, fountains, and seats built into it separate the court from the driveway which surrounds it. The little theatre with its Corinthian portico and the semicircular library are at opposite ends of the horizontal axis of the court.

Pergolas connect them with the main building, the Dining Hall. This is at the farther end of the court. From the main hall radiate

the two larger dining halls, the corridor giving free access to every part of the building, and a large parlor. Several large rooms and smaller rooms also extend forward from the two sides.

The smaller rooms for families are grouped about a semi hexagonal court with a colonnaded corridor between them and the delightful little garden in the court. Each dining room has a separate service connected with the kitchen by slides.

The kitchen and heating apparatus are on the basement floor, easily accessible from above.

Upstairs are several small suites of rooms for any guests of the community, or for the men of the community who are left in town during the hot summer months. A very pretty roof garden over the smaller dining rooms offers a cool retreat for hot

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summer nights.

The exterior of the building is very simple and Italian in spirit. Its main points of interest are the classic Ionic colonnade along the front - a balustrade above gives little balconies for the guest rooms - and an Italian tile roof with very heavy projections, supported by stone brackets. This roof gives a brightness and spirit of domesticity to the building. All the buildings are in stone.

Behind the Hall are terraced grounds stretching out and into the pond. A chateau d'eau is an interesting place to visit, and just beyond on the right and left are various little arbors to enjoy the sunsets.

It is hoped that homes for the workers in the Hall may be built on the place if the experiment succeeds as we hope it will in a short time.

5.

The drawings submitted are.

Elevation  $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'$  Scale.

Plan  $\frac{1}{32}'' = 1'$

Block Plan  $\frac{1}{64}'' = 1'$

Section  $\frac{1}{32}'' = 1'$ .