



NORTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE.—The new State House in Raleigh will be open to visitors after the 1963 General Assembly convenes on February 6. The first building ever constructed by any state for exclusive use of its Legislature was designed by Edward Durrell Stone of New York.—State News Bureau photo.

**THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT**

**New State House Planned For Efficiency**

By MIRIAM HABB  
State Travel Editor

There is nothing exactly like the new Edward Durrell Stone-designed State House in Raleigh, North Carolina's capital city, which will be open to the public after the convening of the 1963 General Assembly on February 6.

The State House is the first building ever constructed by a state for exclusive use of its Legislature. It cost nearly six million dollars, and complements rather than replaces the massive old State Capitol Building which continues to house the Governor's Office and other offices of the Executive branch of state government.

The new building straddles a one-time main thoroughfare (Halifax Street) one block north of the Capitol, and is expected to become the center of North Carolina's expanding state government building group. Its graceful contemporary lines and elaborate landscaping are designed to blend with classic architecture of existing buildings and contemporary lines of those of the future.

A feature of the new building is that its landscaping does not stop at ground level, but extends upward to terraces planted in evergreens and flowering shrubs. This enhances the square granite podium which forms the first floor of the building, and the promenade surrounding the top floor. Indoors, fountains and planters are extensively used. Much of the building is glass, through which there are glimpses of flowers and shrubbery on every side. Exterior planting features dogwood—North Carolina's state flower—as well as hollies, oaks, yaupon, crepe myrtle, red-bud, magnolia and azaleas.

Visitors enter the State House across a terrace floor featuring a State Seal 28 feet in diameter and built of terrazzo in colors with bronze divider strips. The profile of "Liberty" in the seal is recognizable as that of Queen Elizabeth II of England. A grand staircase, carpeted in red, leads to the rotunda on the third floor. Here visitors look down on both House and Senate chambers, enter the auditorium, and stroll out to the promenade where landscaping is interspersed with plastic bubbles filtering light into the courts at each corner of the second floor. From the promenade, there are fine views of other governmental buildings, churches and old homes in the capital city.

The central portion of the legislative building is surrounded by square vertical columns faced with white Vermont marble. They support a wide overhanging roof which culminates in pyramidal copper-covered domes.

Associated with Mr. Stone was the architectural firm of Holloway-Reeves of Raleigh. Mr. Stone was architect for the American Embassy in New Delhi and many prominent new buildings in this country, and has designed the proposed National Culture Center in Washington, D. C.

**Planned For Efficiency**

The dominant theme of the building, on which construction was begun in 1960, is emphasis on a specific purpose: to serve as a center for lawmaking. A legislator can park his car in the basement, attend a committee meeting, work in his own private office, have his meals, do research in the library, meet the press, be present at a public hearing, and attend a session of the House or Senate without leaving the State House. If time permits, he can also stroll on the spacious promenade or relax in airy courts enhanced with skylights, plants and fountains.

The Hall of the House and Senate, offices and committee rooms are streamlined and efficiently planned to make the best possible use of space. Furnishings, virtually all of them manufactured in North Carolina, which is a leading producer of furniture, are of simple, contemporary design with plain upholstery and durable finish. The building will save a great deal of time for members of the General Assembly, the Legislative staff, and visiting constituents. In past Assembly years, legislators have had no office space except their hotel rooms, have been crowded during sessions of the House or Senate, and attended committee meetings in half a dozen State government buildings around Capitol Square. It was difficult for a constituent or fellow legislator to locate a Representative or Senator except during actual sessions of the Legislature, and gallery space then was at a premium.

Like the Capitol, the State House will open daily and Saturdays year around, with a hostess and guides on duty to assist visitors.

The new State House and its landscaping harmonize with other government structures in a more classical vein, yet embody imaginative new concepts of architecture and techniques of construction. Already, North Carolinians point with pride to their new State House as they do the old Capitol and other significant buildings in the Raleigh area. Among the latter are the J. S. Dorton Arena on the State Fairgrounds, which won a number of architectural awards when it was opened in 1963; the round classroom building, Harrelson Hall on the campus of North Carolina State College; and the laboratory buildings in the Research Triangle Park.

**History Of Capitol**

Much as they love their old Capitol, residents of the Variety Vacationland State long ago realized that it was completely inadequate as a lawmaking center for over four and one-half million people.

The new State House is the third permanent structure built for use by the Legislative branch of State government, and first built solely for this branch.

In pre-Revolutionary days, there was no fixed seat of government in the Colony of North Carolina until the selection of New Bern as capital in the 1760's. In 1770, Tryon Palace

was completed in New Bern as "meeting place of the Colonial Assembly and residence of the Royal Governor for the time being." During the Revolution, the Legislature met at Hillsboro, Halifax, Smithfield, Wake Court House, New Bern, Fayetteville, and Tarboro. When independence was won, Tryon Palace became first meeting place of the new State's legislative bodies. The Palace is now a historical restoration open to visitors year around.

The Hillsboro Convention of 1788 authorized a permanent capital "to be located within 40 miles of Isaac Hunter's plantation in Wake County," the exact site to be chosen by the State Legislature. After considerable investigation of possibilities, a legislative committee in 1792 bought 1,000 acres of land from Joel Lane near Wake Court House, and the city of Raleigh was laid out. It was named for Sir Walter Raleigh, who on North Carolina's Roanoke Island in 1585 and 1587 attempted the first permanent English settlements in the New World. Capitol Square was the center of the new city in Wake County, and here, in 1794, the first State Capitol building was completed of brick and wood. In 1831, this capitol was destroyed by fire.

Two years later, the present State Capitol was begun on the site of the original. When completed in 1840, the building was adequate for all branches of State Government. The population of North Carolina at that time was 753,409. With the growth of the State, more space for governmental offices was provided in buildings adjacent to Capitol Square.

The Capitol, built of granite quarried only a few miles from the site, is noted for its unusual blending of Corinthian, Doric

and Ionic architecture. Over the years, the exterior and interior of the building, as well as its grounds, have been trimly maintained. In 1952, the exterior underwent a steam and detergent cleaning which left its granite facings many shades lighter than the dingy grey they had become from a century's exposure to weather and smoke.

But by its very massiveness and classic design, the building resisted any efforts to plan for its expansion. The Legislature continued to meet here through 1961, but for about a decade the only State officials whose offices are in the old Capitol are the Governor, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer. These officials will continue to make their headquarters on the first floor of the Capitol. The old Hall of the House and Senate Chamber on the second floor will be preserved, with their original furnishings. All other space in the Capitol is in use. There never were offices for the legislators in the building; there are 172 offices for senators and representatives in the new State House.

**Appropriation In 1959**

The original appropriation for a Legislative Building was made by the 1959 Legislature, in an amount of four and one-half million. This was supplemented by the 1961 Legislature in an amount of one million. The site was acquired at a cost of \$892,643.39.

Upon adjournment of the 1959 Legislature, the following Legislative Building Commission was appointed: Senator Thomas J. White of Kinston; Senator Robert F. Morgan of Shelby; Representative Archie K. Davis of Winston-Salem; A. E. Finley of Raleigh; State Treasurer Edwin Gill; Oliver R. Rowe of Charlotte; Representa-

tive Byrd I. Satterfield of Timberlake; Paul Johnston, director of the Department of Administration. At its first meeting, the Commission elected Senator White as chairman; Senator Morgan vice-chairman, and Mr. Johnston ex-officio secretary. Following Mr. Johnston's resignation, the Commission elected Frank B. Turner, State Property Officer, as ex-officio and secretary.

Construction contracts were awarded December 22, 1960. Ex-

**Marriage Licenses**

The Watauga County Register of Deeds Office issued marriage licenses during the month of January, to the following:

Earl Dean Braswell and Dorothy Bernice Moody, both of Reese; Deveta Stewart Allen Oakes and Charlotte Joan Lorey, both of Cleveland, Ohio; Bobby Charles Odell and Janice Sue Greenwell, both of Bristol, Va.; Charles Edward Freeman and Gloria Jean McKinney, both of Route 1, Newland; James William Bailey, Warrenton and Nancy Elizabeth Barber, Charlotte; Clarence George Dollar, Vilas and Judith Lane Moretz, Boone; Wayne Sharp Heatherly, Route 2, LaFollette, Tenn. and Edwina Claiborne, Caryville, Tennessee; Edward Wayne Thompson, Rt. 5, Fairfax, Va. and Joan Irene Trenary, Fairfax, Va.

Marvin A. Hicks and Linda Jane Ruppard, both of Route 1, Banner Elk; Donald Graham Looney, Grundy, Va. and Carolyn Louise Greenleaf, Greensboro; Harold K. Morefield, Neva, Tenn. and Judy Ann Allen, Mountain City, Tennessee; Raymond Martin Couch, II, Washington, D. C. and Betty Joan Perry, Rt. 1, Watauga, Tenn.; Rabon Sergeant, Baxter, Ky. and Patricia Whiting Barber, Renick, West Virginia; Ira Walter Church and Beulah Greer Miller, both of Todd; Kenneth Lee Carroll, Bristol, Va. and Mary Catherine Dugger, Butler, Tennessee.

**Hospital News**

Patients admitted to Watauga Hospital from January 27 through February 6 are as follows:

Mildred Sharp Spann, Thomas Edward Miller, Rebe Jean Greene, Linda Faye Richards, Thomas Hall Triplett, Alma Hamby, Daryl Tony Sipe, Larry Wayne Pendergrass, Anna Belle Brewer, Mary Caroline McNeil, Nelie Alice Smith, Judy Ann Tester, Rose Etta Greene, J. H. Harvey, Verdine Mae Hicks, Bessie D. Austin, Dorothy Joyce Hensley, Nancy Alice Hagaman, Marie Laura Harmon, Ellen Sarah Watson, Martha Payne, Bynum Harrison Hardin, Shane Suddreth;

Earlene Moretz, Patrick Gail Newby, Mollie M. Cooke, Robert Carl Thomas, John Glenn Hagaman, Lillie Etta Wheeler, Dora Pearl Tester, Blain D. Clawson, Mary Amor Elrod, Sherrill Hampton, Fred Bradley Wilson, Mamie Edna Vines, Alfred Douglas Harrell, Hattie Eugenia Love, Philip Henry Smith Jr., William S. Weatherbee, Merrill Joe McIntire, Alice Geraldine Keller, Francis D. Cornette, Jaffie Lee Suddreth, Linda Faye Reese, Ruby Alice Smith, Jesse L. Browning.

**Births**

Mrs. and Mrs. Bobbie Cornette, girl.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Greer, girl.  
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Council, boy.  
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn M. Reese, girl.  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Wellborn, girl.  
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Holaday, boy.  
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Winebarger Jr., boy.  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Braswell, boy.  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Horton, girl.  
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Canter, boy.

**NUCLEAR-FUEL RESERVES**

Geologists have found in the White Mountains of New Hampshire a source of tens of millions of tons of thorium. This doubles the estimated reserves of nuclear-fuel.

The thorium deposit will not be mined now, but it means that an important supply will be available in the long-term future, when more accessible nuclear fuels are exhausted.

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