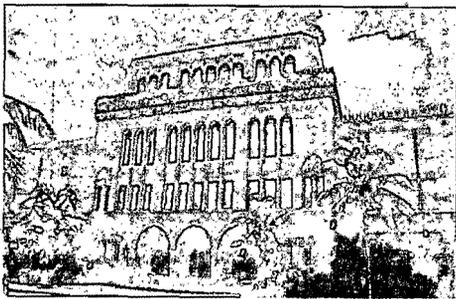
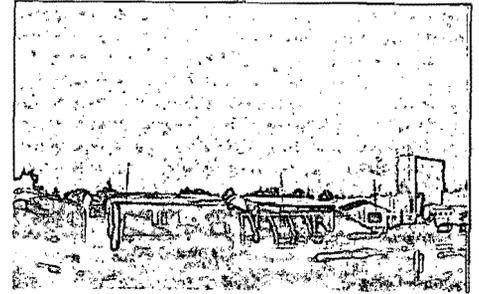
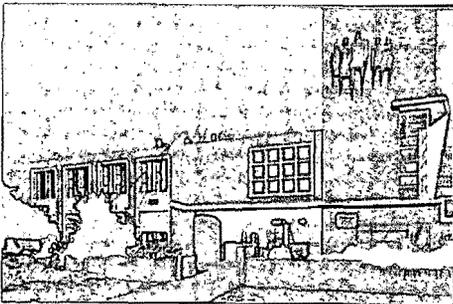
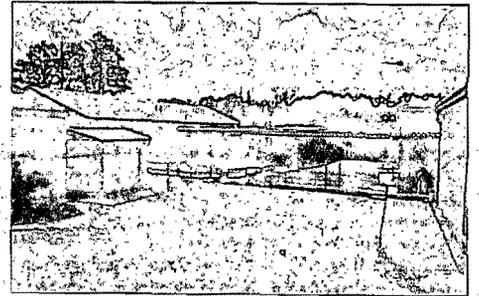


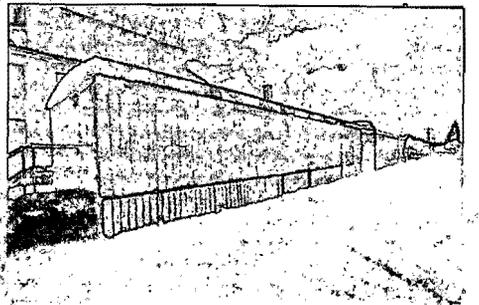
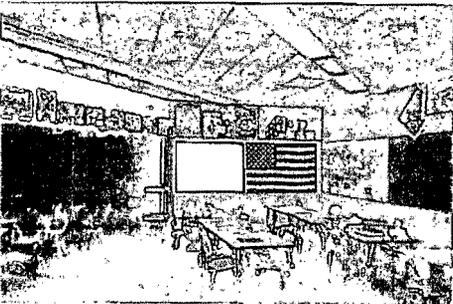
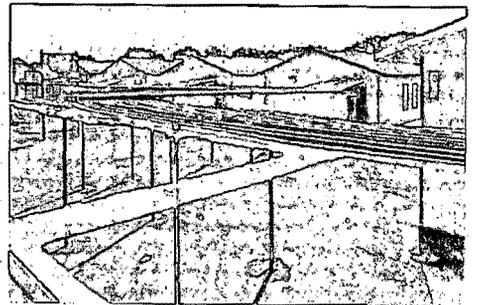
Good Enough  
for Congress?



A Pictorial  
Representation  
of Why Americans  
Deserve Better  
School Buildings



THE AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS



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## ARCHITECTS CALL FOR CONGRESS TO HELP IMPROVE NATION'S SCHOOL FACILITIES

*AIA Releases Pictorial Booklet Depicting Key Legislators' Schools,  
Need for Modernization and Construction Funding*

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### **For Immediate Release**

**WASHINGTON, DC—October 12, 1999** – With the release today of a pictorial booklet aimed at capturing the attention of key tax committee legislators, The American Institute of Architects (AIA) challenged members of the House and Senate to focus their attention on the dire need to pass legislation that will fund school construction and modernization.

*Good Enough for Congress? A Pictorial Representation of Why Americans Deserve Better School Buildings* visually depicts the current condition of public high schools attended by various members of the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees. Included are revealing photos, statistics, and facts about each school and other public education facilities in each member's respective state.

“The photos in the booklet—and the sometimes startling information that accompanies them—will no doubt personalize the issue for these legislators and really drive home the need to do something to save our nation's schools,” said Michael J. Stanton, FAIA, president of the AIA. “Our intention is not to blindside or embarrass anyone, but simply to demonstrate in a creative and provocative way why this is such an important issue.” Stanton added that advance copies of the pictorial were provided to the featured legislators.

The AIA, added Stanton, believes that America must upgrade and modernize its K-12 schools in order to create learning environments that are conducive to stimulating intellectual excellence. The General Accounting Office (GAO) reports that one-third of the country's public schools, which house more than 14 million children, are in need of “extensive repair or replacement.” H.R. 1760 “America's Better Classrooms Act of 1999” introduced by Rep. Nancy Johnson (R-CT), H.R. 1660 “Public School Modernization Act of 1999” introduced by Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), and S. 1454 “Public School Modernization and Overcrowding Relief Act of 1999” introduced by Sen. Charles Robb (D-VA) would boost the incentive for school construction by providing tax credits, generating an estimated \$25 billion in school construction activity.

The AIA's Committee on Architecture for Education (CAE) advances design excellence and quality construction in all types of educational, cultural, and recreational facilities. According to the AIA's Center for Livable Communities, schools are emerging nationwide as key elements of local initiatives to enhance community quality of life, serving as centers where residents can come together to further explore shared interests.