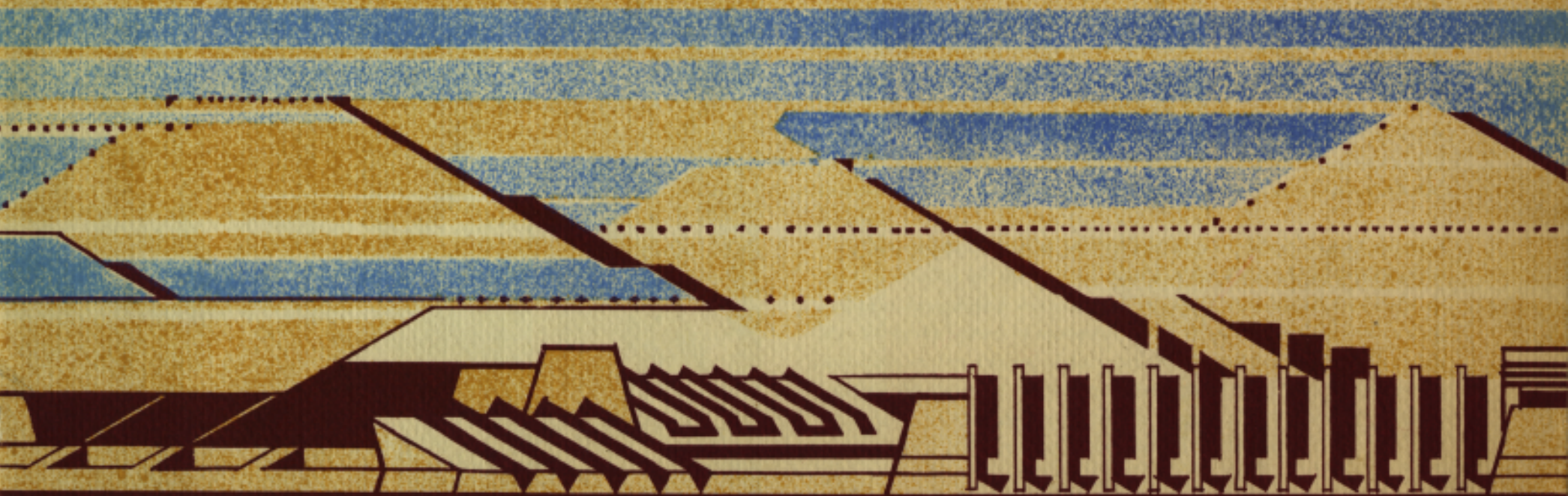


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# TALIESIN

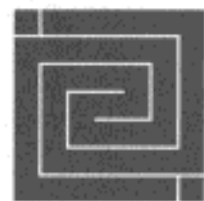






# TALIESIN

OLGIVANNA LLOYD WRIGHT



## THE FELLOWSHIP

Frank Lloyd Wright left a group of men and women who devotedly stood by his side and fought with him for twenty-seven years to continue the work based on the principles of organic architecture. Mr. Wright and I established the Taliesin Fellowship of The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation in 1932 in order to secure the future survival of his great idea. Staff members, some of whom came to us in the very beginning, due to their own faith and adherence have developed as highly organized, visionary architects.

The Taliesin Fellowship has now developed into two organizations, working side by side: The Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture and Taliesin Associated Architects. The staff of both is composed of registered architects, exceptional in their field, and others equally well-qualified in other fields of design as well as in music, dance and the crafts. All are graduates of the Taliesin Fellowship.

"This nucleus of people," Mr. Wright said, "imbued with the idea of organic architecture, will carry on in work which will be superior to any work of my followers — many well-known architects of today . . . This nucleus will promote the cause of organic architecture in the world. It will work for an ideal beauty

in environment and living." The great idea that Frank Lloyd Wright projected into this world is now being expressed at Taliesin by these highly trained and inspired men and women who have absorbed from him the very essence of that idea. Themselves possessed of creative spirit, they continue to devote their lives to the principles of organic architecture with which they helped their master make life and architecture one significant whole. While working and receiving from him that wealth of experience, in the course of years they grew in understanding with every stroke of his pencil. Being in possession of the principles of organic architecture, they are now applying them in new forms with new materials in the changing conditions and tempo of our civilization. They learned with him to move ahead of time.

The continuation of Mr. Wright's great ideas is well assured by the vitality of the school and by the flourishing practice of Taliesin Associated Architects. The world thus has the benefit of Mr. Wright's ideas in material form — presented in increasing numbers in the nation-wide work of the architectural firm — as well as the benefit of the continuation of his ideas in the minds and work of the students, as the result of the overall plan of operation of this unique educational institution.

## THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

At Taliesin apprenticeship is available to about fifty select young men and women in the philosophy and practice of organic architecture and the way of life — democracy — of which it is characteristic. In the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture apprentices work upon plans and details as well as building construction going on throughout the year. They share in the work of maintaining Taliesin grounds and gardens and perform the daily upkeep necessary for their own life at Taliesin. Action in many changing fields is essential to the Taliesin experience.

The school is an educational institution attended by young men and women from all over the world who seek a finer architectural expression than any accessible to them in the orthodox modes of teaching. The educational approach of the school includes learning through the performance of work on actual projects and buildings as a practical method of enabling its members to acquire the knowledge and experience necessary to meet the legal requirements for licensing in our various states. An apprentice gains not only architectural knowledge and the techniques of drafting, but experience in construction and experimentation with materials — wood, stone, brick, steel, concrete, glass and plastics. He thus learns from architects, trained by Mr. Wright in his principles, what Mr. Wright stood for — how a building should be placed in the most advantageous way as part of a country site, or in the limitations of the city, and how

it should express with perfection the nature of the materials used and the purpose for which it is built. Students participate in the continuous flow of architectural work through the offices of the Taliesin Associated Architects. This work is realistic and practical experience in both architectural design and building construction. Through this participation the staff is able to assist them toward knowledge of Mr. Wright's principles and help them develop their own talents while they are acquiring the education necessary to become architects qualified to practice the profession.

All apprentices are expected to fulfill the tasks assigned to them in the studios, construction and maintenance. Participation in the chorus and chamber ensemble as well as in the rhythmic correlation study of the dance is encouraged by the leaders of the Fellowship, but is not obligatory.

Most of the year we are at Taliesin West, the desert campus created by ourselves in the great Maricopa Mesa, twenty-six miles northeast of Phoenix, Arizona. We are continually expanding and maintaining the buildings started in 1937. We have a spacious drafting room and space for painting and sculpture as well as workshops for pottery and carpentry. A little cinema designed for our own entertainment and a larger dance and music pavilion and adequate kitchen and living accommodations for a total of ninety. For the summer months of each year we leave Arizona to go to Europe, taking our

work along, or move to our midwest acreage at Taliesin, where southern Wisconsin is most beautiful. There we have more extensive buildings, originally begun in 1903, in a rural landscape developed according to Mr. Wright's plans. With all the same facilities provided at Taliesin West, we continue the work-program of the Fellowship in a totally contrasting environment.

"Every idea," Mr. Wright said, "that is a true idea, has a form, is capable of many forms. And according to the variety of forms of which it is capable is the value of the idea. So by way of ideas, and your mastery of them in relation to what you are doing, will come your value as an architect to your society and future. That's where you go to school. You can't get it anywhere, except as you love it. Love the feeling of it, desire it, and pursue it.

"What makes a good designer, a master of design? He's usually a master of the idea. He's usually a man of ideas.

"Once you get at the source of creation of the thing, you can create it . . . in your own way. That is the study of architecture; that is the study of art — reaching for the principle, mastering the principle."

*Signature of Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright*  
Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright Taliesin West



Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright's counsel and judgment were an inspiration to her husband throughout the 35 years of their marriage. He constantly sought her constructive criticism of his architectural work. And now, she applies this gift to both organizations — the firm and the school.



PAVILION

MAIN ENTRANCE



LIVING ROOM

## TALIESIN WEST

In the great Arizona desert on the Maricopa Mesa near Phoenix, the incomparable buildings of Taliesin West are the school's famous winter headquarters from September to June. Massive walls of rough desert rocks in concrete carry a light superstructure of steel, redwood and plastic. Interior, at left, shows the main living room. Diffused daylight floods the room with glowing shadowless light through translucent plastic overhead.





DRAFTING ROOM



STAFF OF TALIESIN ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS AND STUDENTS, DRAFTING ROOM, TALIESIN WEST

## THE TALIESIN ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

A group of registered architects, engineers and interior designers, the Taliesin Associated Architects — the architectural office of Frank Lloyd Wright — are serving clients from all states in the nation and abroad, designing buildings based on the architectural ideas and principles that issued into the world through the inspiration of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Their commissions include buildings of all types and purposes, large and small — commercial and residential work, public projects and city planning, churches and theaters, as well as the design of furniture, fabrics, and accessories. This business organization, composed of men and women trained by

Frank Lloyd Wright, works hand in hand with the school exactly as it did when Mr. Wright was alive, under the direction of Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright, William Wesley Peters, and the members of the staff. The school serves as a training ground from which the firm can acquire new qualified members and, in turn, the students gain practical experience through participation, according to their abilities, in the work of the firm while they are in training.

The main office of Taliesin Associated Architects is at Taliesin West. Through the summer months work is also carried on in the office and drafting room at Taliesin in Wisconsin.







## TALIESIN WEST

1. Entrance approach. 2. Office and cinema entrance. 3. Belfry at sunset. 4. Taliesin West in its desert setting. 5. Easter breakfast on Sunset Terrace. 6. Members of the Fellowship in the annual Festival.



Out here in the great spaces obvious symmetry claims too much, I find, wearies the eye too soon and stultifies the imagination. Obvious symmetry usually closes the episode before it begins. So for me I felt there could be no obvious symmetry in any building in this great desert . . . A desert building should be nobly simple in outline as the region itself is sculptured, should have learned from the cactus many secrets of straight line pattern for its forms, playing with the light and softening the building into its proper place among the organic desert creations—the man-made building heightening the beauty of the desert and the desert more beautiful because of the building.

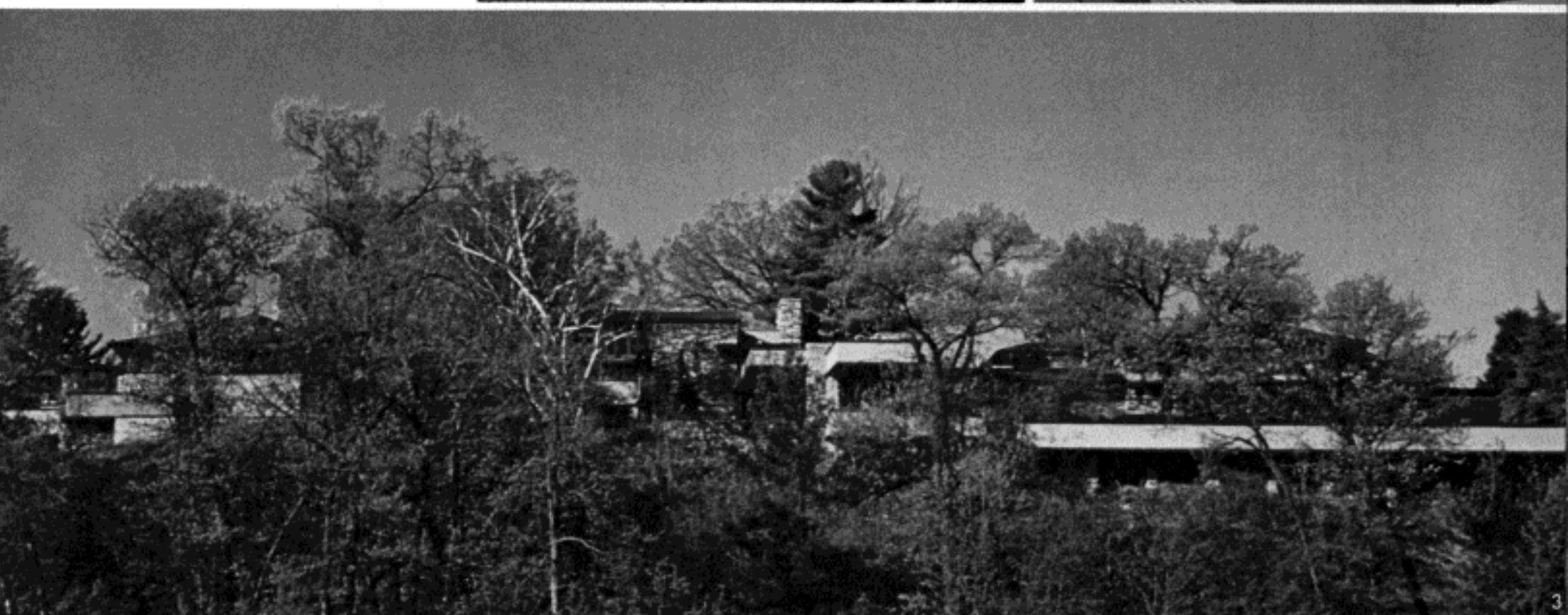
Frank Lloyd Wright



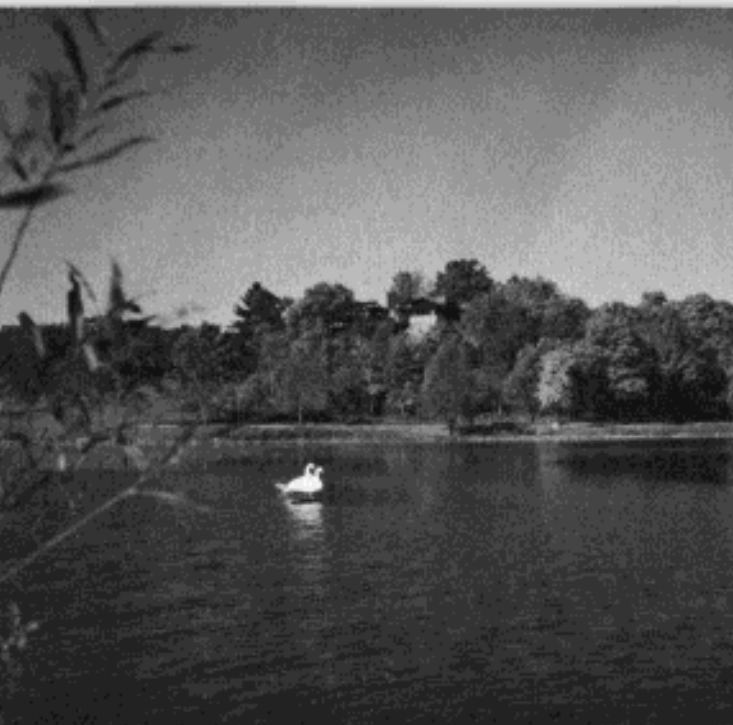
1. Drafting room across main terrace.
2. Looking out from cinema entrance.
3. Entrance court, gateway and fountain.

## TALIESIN

Growing out of the hills and valleys of Wisconsin, Taliesin crowns the brow of a wooded hill. The structure is entirely of native limestone, natural cypress and plaster. 1. Hill Garden Wing. 2. Dining area, main living room. 3. Taliesin surrounding the Wisconsin hilltop.







TALIESIN SEEN ACROSS LOWER POND



LOWER DAM



MR. WRIGHT'S STUDY

Taliesin was the name of a Welsh Poet, a druid-bard who sang to Wales the glories of fine art. Literally, the Welsh word means "shining brow". This hill on which Taliesin now stands as "brow" was one of my favorite places when as a boy looking for pasque flowers I went there in March sun while snow still streaked the hillsides.

The buildings became a brow for the hill itself. The strata of fundamental stonework reached around and on into the four courts, and made them. Then stone, stratified, went into the lower house walls and up from the ground itself into the broad

chimneys. This native stone prepared the way for the lighter plastered construction of the upper wooden walls. Taliesin was to be an abstract combination of stone and wood as they naturally met in the aspect of the hills around about. And the lines of the hills were the lines of the roofs, the slopes of the hills their slopes, the plastered surfaces of the light wooden walls, set back into shade beneath broad eaves, were like the flat stretches of sand in the river below and the same in color, for that is where the material that covered them came from.

Frank Lloyd Wright



MUSIC IN THE HILLSIDE THEATER

There is permanent inspiration in the buildings of Taliesin and Taliesin West. And there are priceless objects of ancient and modern art — sculpture, screens, paintings, pottery — harmoniously placed where they belong. In the living room at Taliesin, right, furnishings and floor covering are all Mr. Wright's designs.





## HILLSIDE

Leading from Taliesin down the green, terraced slopes, a road spans the valley and crosses the neighboring hill to the school buildings and architectural offices at Hillside. Of sandstone and native oak, these buildings with red tiled roofs are set in broad lawn gardens. Here, from June to September, the Fellowship spends its summers. 1. Theater at left; Dining room and kitchens at right 2. The theater, Mrs. Wright reviewing student projects. 3. Drafting room.



Opposite, Living room, Taliesin West.

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