Architects To Double Activity

Lafayette architects estimate they were involved in $3.5 million worth of construction during 1962, and expect this amount to double during 1963.

The estimate was made at a recent meeting of the South Louisiana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The architects said that about 80 per cent of the total was in Lafayette Parish and that at least 80 per cent of the building was in construction of commercial, office buildings and church structure, with only a small percentage of this on residential construction. The majority of residential construction, they say, was done by individual developers.

Because of their interest in the latest architectural techniques and ideas, the architects from the parishes of Lafayette, St. Mary, Iberia, St. Martin, St. Landry, Acadia and Vermilion, meet frequently under the banner of their association which they call the South Louisiana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

There is also a Gulf States Region of the architects which includes Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas.

National President Henry L. Wright says the architects are interested in meeting to discuss the expansion of their services, both to the community in which they live and work and to their clients. "AIA's current major programs also are concerned with a broadening of the architect's function to meet the requirements of a rapidly changing society. The 1963 convention, to be held in Miami, Fla., (Continued On Page 11)

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In May, will be an appropriate time for the architects to pause in this period of expansion and again explore the concept of architectural quality, to perform the re-examination of 'basic doctrine' in architecture," the president says.

Officers of the South Louisiana Chapter are Hal Perkins, president; Clayton D'Avy, Opelousas, vice president; Raymond Reed, secretary; and Don O'Rourke, treasurer. Perkins, Reed and O'Rourke are from Lafayette.

Raymond Reed, a member of the architects' group, is advisor to the student chapter of architects at the University of Southwestern Louisiana which works very closely with the professional group.

David Perkins, Lafayette, is second vice president of the Gulf States Region of the architects. Perkins says that the local architects attend many regional and national meetings for the purpose of increasing their knowledge of architecture.

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