

Modern Buildings Encroach on Rome's Ancient Structures

By RAY MOSELEY
United Press International
 Rome — The face of ancient Rome is being changed. The majority of Romans, however, show little concern over the sale of palaces and parks to foreign interests, the

encroachment of modern buildings on ancient ruins and the construction of industrial and other structures on historic sites. Those who do care claim the city is being mutilated and defaced.

The process has been going on, of course, since the barbarians sacked Rome 16 centuries ago, and carried away many of its treasures. Medieval popes and princes continued it, stripping the Colosseum of marble and stone and razing great pagan buildings to erect churches and palaces.

In the 20th century dictator Benito Mussolini ruthlessly tore down old buildings and sealed over ancient ruins to build broad avenues from Piazza Venezia to the Colosseum and from the Tiber River to St. Peter's Basilica.

Then came word that another Doria-Pamphili palace, this one on the Janiculum Hill, was about to be sold to Belgium. And finally a real estate firm advertised the Poli Palace against which the famed Trevi Fountain is built, was up for sale as an embassy, hotel or other commercial building.

Under a new regulatory plan for the city of Rome—which is aimed at preserving the city's historic treasures—the palace and its 400 acres of ground were destined to be acquired by the authorities for use as a public park. But both the national and city government say they can't afford to buy the palace.



BRUSH OFF—"Oops!" was all Paul Neal, 6, could think to say after giving his sister, Carla, 5, the brush off the hard way. Busily engaged in family spring clean-up, paint-up and fix-up activities, Phil sighted his sister too late, so he says. But she took the whole thing in good spirits, mineral spirits (paint thinner), that is. (UPI)



STAMPED STRADIVARIUS — Stradivarius? Mrs. Grace Skillman, who lives just north of Shelbyville, Ind., said she hopes to sell this violin stamped "Stradivarius" to bring enough money to build a new home. She said the violin has been in her late husband's family for many years. The instrument has markings indicating it was made in 1730, even years before the death of the famed violin maker Antonius Stradivarius. (UPI)

Aerial Photographs Aids to Foresters
 Corvallis, Ore. — Aerial photographs can be valuable "labor saving devices" in forest protection, a national forestry leader said at Oregon State university here.

Dr. Robert N. Colwell, University of California forestry professor, said photographs can supply some information at a "studied glance" that would take days or weeks of group work to develop.

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Household Shower Planned for Family

Eagle Point — A household and miscellaneous shower for the Shirley Robertson family, whose home burned Sunday night, will be held Saturday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. The event will be held in the Eagle Point Scout Community building. Only a few items were saved from the Robertson home. The shower is being sponsored by the Eagle Point Desert Pegasus 4-H Horse club. The family moved to Eagle Point about a year ago and are buying their ranch on Brophy rd. The family is staying with the James West family until other arrangements are made.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, encountered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Stella B. — Due to his handicap he won't even try to do anything. **Roy B.** — It's no use attempting anything if you can't get around.

work. You must deliver. How much can a person learn, cooped up in the four walls of his home? With that wood-carving, I reached a point where I just had to get to the museums and the gift shops. There's a limit to what I can get from books and magazines and TV. No matter what I turn to, I find myself stymied by the need to travel from place to place.

Stella B. — My husband is confined to a wheelchair and he is letting that handicap be the excuse for just going completely to pot. He's not quite 60 yet, has a wonderful mind, and a real talent for photography and sculpture. But he's not following through on any of the job ideas, or the hobbies and interests which the rehabilitation people worked out with him in the hospital. The latest project he just threw over was wood-carving. If he'd gotten good at it, he was in line for some work making scale models for the next World's Fair. But he's convinced he can't compete and he gives up without a fair try.

The Council: Was there really a will, Roy? If not, that's why there was no way. For when you show a willingness to move an inch, there's Stella plus conscientious individuals and agencies who are eager to stretch that inch into city blocks. Wheelchairs get to museums and art exhibits every day. True, some of them are "well-heeled" chairs, wafted by private chauffeurs. Others, however, are transported aloft the "magic carpets" woven by the American Red Cross and organizations such as the Federation of the Handicapped (211 W. 14 St., N.Y.C.). This latter group, for example, keeps a file of drivers who can lift a wheelchair into and out of a roomy high-top car. These skilled "cabbies" get people like Roy anywhere, and at nominal cost.

Roy B. — I'm sick of all the pep talks. I get them from the visiting social worker, from my wife, and from those other marvels who can lick the world from a wheelchair. When you get right down to cases, the ones who accomplish things have found some way to get out and see people. You must see other people's

And to cut through Roy's glum mood even further, here are two other glimpses at a brighter future. Denver, Colo., has set the rest of the nation an exciting example in converting station wagons into taxis for people in wheelchairs. A company called "Chair Cabs, Inc." runs a fleet of 25 of these vehicles, complete with ramp and immobilizing brackets. And in New Jersey, there is official awareness of how great a barrier even one step to climb is for a citizen in a wheelchair, or even on crutches. How forbidding those steep flights in front of public buildings. Thus, to enable handicapped people to get around independently, old buildings are being modified, and new ones must show plans to accommodate them. Garden State Parkway restaurants, for example, now have ground level or ramped entrances. Emphasis today, Roy, is on how much you can do, on what skills you still have. You seem to have plenty. Avail yourself of the willing hands, both inside and outside your four walls. "Where to, sir?" Anywhere you say.

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