



Lead Industries Association, Inc.

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February 21, 1973

SUBJECT: SOUNDPROOFING

TO: MEMBERS OF THE LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Enclosed is a reprint from the May-June issue of BETTER SCHOOLS magazine. It reflects an increasingly widespread use of sheet lead in new school construction for soundproofing.

Sheet lead has in fact gained general acceptance among school architects as the material providing the most efficient sound barrier at the lowest cost.

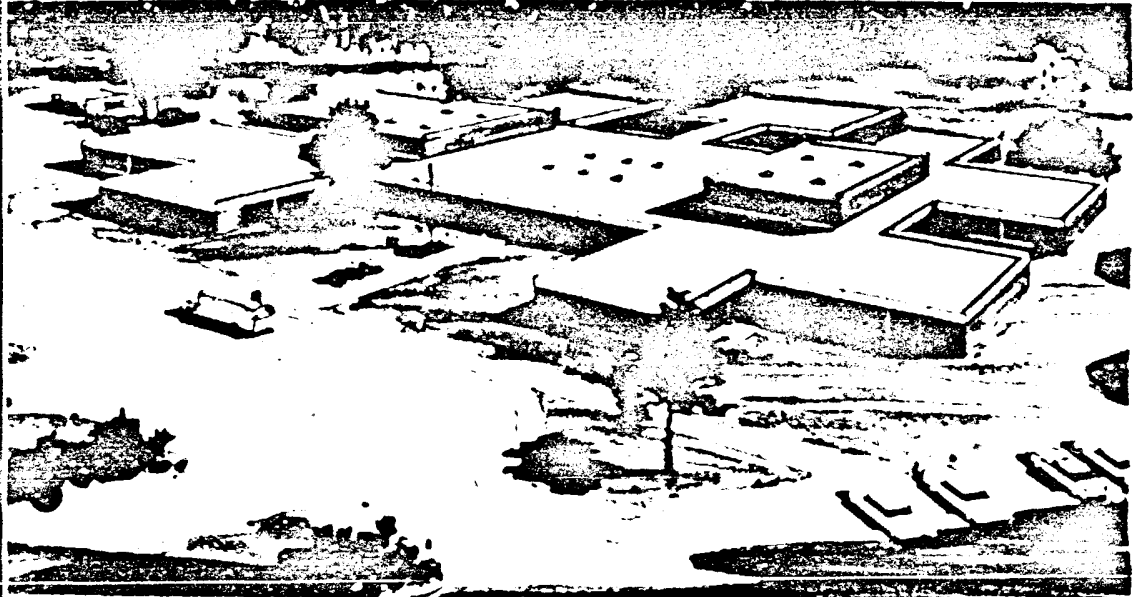
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Very truly yours,

EDWIN D. MARTIN, AIA
Manager, Architectural Services

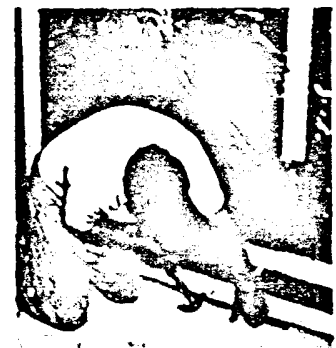
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LEAD KEEPS CLASSROOMS QUIET



ABOVE: The Thomas J. Lahey Elementary School in Greenlawn, New York, will, at maximum capacity, accommodate about 1,200 pupils. Quiet in the classrooms is assured by the use of sheet lead plenum barriers between classrooms. In addition, an audiometric room shielded with lead as a sound barrier will assure accurate testing of hearing. BELOW: The entire interior walls of the audiometric room were covered with sheet lead to assure that no extraneous noise would penetrate and affect the validity of the tests.

OPPOSITE PAGE: (top) Sheet lead shields the opening between the movable partition rail and the ceiling "I" beam to prevent the transmission of sound between classrooms. Acoustical wool was used to seal the gap between the "I" beam and the corrugated steel above. (center) The use of sheet lead made it easy to accommodate the penetration of piping above the ceiling between classrooms. (bottom) Sheet lead was used over the entrances into classrooms to permit the intrusion of pipes, conduits and ductwork. The use of sheet lead made the installation of the sound barrier easier to do.



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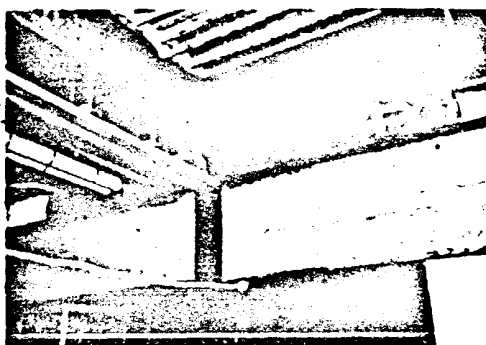
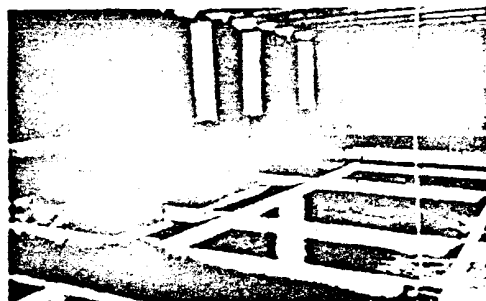
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THE GROWTH of our nation has necessitated the building of new schools designed often with multiple-use flexibility to compensate for lack of funds. These schools require noise control systems to avoid cross-feed of distracting sounds between classrooms.

Privacy and quiet are essential to school environments, and the newly-constructed Thomas J. Lahey School in Greenlawn, N.Y. is exemplary of fine planning displayed to meet this need.

Designed by Coco & Smith, of Hauppauge, the one-story building features clusters of classrooms surrounding a central core, comprised of administrative offices, gymnasium, and a combination auditorium/cafeeteria. This concept serves to lend privacy to classrooms and teaching areas.

Of especial benefit to teachers and students has been the use of lead as a sound barrier. In the area between the drop ceiling and roof, the space between the partition track and ceiling I-beam was sealed with one-pound, 1/64-inch-thick lead, wrapped around one-by-three-inch wood strips which, in turn, were wedged in place against the lower flange of an I-beam. The lower portion of the sheet lead was sealed into the partition track and secured with 3/16-inch wood wedges. Sheet lead joints were overlapped and taped. To penetrate pipes, conduits, and such, the lead sheet was slit and sealed with tape.

The material also was used above the entrances to classrooms and to completely soundproof an audiometric testing room used for pupil hearing prior to enrollment. This was done by covering all walls with one-pound sheet lead, held in place, again, with one-by-three-inch batten strips, on 12-inch centers. The walls then were finished with an acoustical board with sound-absorbing glass fiber behind the board.

According to Gilbert L. Phillips Jr., president of Gilbert L. Phillips, Inc., acoustical contractors, and advocate of lead as a sound barrier, "When you consider the low installation costs and the high performance level of lead, you can then understand why we consistently recommend its use in critical areas. Lead is inexpensive, predictable, and efficient."

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