

GRANT IN AID to the New School for Social Research for a study by Mrs. Jane Jacobs of relations of function to design in large cities.

AMOUNT: \$10,000

SEP 26 1958

ACCOUNT: To be charged to RF 57198-H
Leaving a balance of: \$134,133.

PREVIOUS INTEREST: No previous support to the New School for Social Research or to Mrs. Jane Jacobs for this purpose. In July 1958 a grant of \$10,000 was approved by the officers to the University of Pennsylvania for a Conference on Improving Criticism of Urban Design.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The Humanities officers, consulting with colleagues in the Social Sciences, are exploring the field of urban design to look for ideas and actions which may improve thinking on how the design of cities might better serve urban life including cultural and humane values. An analyst and writer of unusual interest in the field is Mrs. Jane Jacobs who, since 1952, has been Associate Editor of Architectural Forum. She has studied and written upon various aspects of how the urban physical environment and related architecture is helping or hindering betterment of life in cities. Her essay in FORTUNE, April 1958, "Downtown is for People," has had considerable effect on architects, planners, and city officials for its ideas in civic design. Among others who have recommended Rockefeller Foundation support for Mrs. Jacobs, Lewis Mumford has written: "There is no one among the younger generation whose work is more promising. She has already opened fresh lines of investigation on matters that have been singularly ignored or misinterpreted by both planners and urban sociologists." Her proposal is to devote eight months, starting about October 1, 1958, to the preparation of a book on certain characteristics of the big city, notably how architectural forms and lay-out can better provide for human functions. She will focus on five factors: the street, the park, the scale, the social mixture and focal centers. Doubleday will publish the result and has given Mrs. Jacobs an advance of \$1500. The New School for Social Research will sponsor her study as part of its growing concern with problems of city and city life and related courses on the subject.

Mrs. Jacobs has been given leave of absence from her present post and will reduce her income for the period.

The proposed grant of \$10,000 would provide \$7500 as salary to Mrs. Jacobs for eight months, \$1700 for secretarial and research assistance and for expenses in consultations, and \$800 for travel.

A grant of \$10,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to the New School for Social Research for a study by Mrs. Jane Jacobs of relations of function to design in large cities is hereby approved, this sum to be available over the period ending October 31, 1959.

Cg

Associate Director for Humanities

J. S.

ASS'T. Comptroller

DEAN RUSK

Executive Vice-President

SEP 8 1958

APPROVED: _____

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