Aerial View—View looking East... an harmonious integration of design with the vastness of God's Handiwork...
A Devotion........ To Religion

PROBABLY THE FIRST MAN with faith in a God, who looked out across the canyon, felt that with its infinitude of earth sculpture and color it lent itself to spiritual and religious inspiration.

It is planned to build here a SHRINE OF THE AGES CHAPEL, which will combine dignity, beauty and harmony with the natural surroundings, and which will present an opportunity for meditation and spiritual refreshment for all mankind.

The plan to build at Grand Canyon a place of worship is not new. The desirability of a Chapel was mentioned in the U. S. Forest Service report of 1917. In January of 1928 the matter was taken up with Arizona’s senators. In 1936 it was again formally presented as a suggested project for the Civilian Conservation Corps.

In 1952 the SHRINE OF THE AGES CHAPEL CORPORATION was approved under the laws of Arizona. This is a non-sectarian group of laymen, with representation from Protestant, Jewish and Catholic faiths, formed for the sole purpose of building, operating and assigning the use of a chapel at Grand Canyon to the end that all religious groups may participate equitably and without discrimination in its use. The National Park Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior has given full approval of the project and in December 1953 allocated a site near the area where Easter Sunrise Services have been held annually.

The dark pines of the Kaibab National Forest conceal Grand Canyon until its very rim is reached. Then spread out for seemingly endless miles is an ocean of color. It inspires men—and makes God seem nearer. For the nearly one million visitors coming to the Canyon each year, a place for religious expression and inspired meditation will be provided by the Shrine of the Ages Chapel. For residents of Grand Canyon, something besides an improvised place of worship will be provided for the first time.

Because of its interfaith conception, the design of the Shrine of the Ages Chapel must perform be based upon providing a suitable setting for worship in its broadest sense. It will not, and should not, attempt to assume the architectural garb of other ecclesiastical structures whose purposes and programs represent more limited horizons, and whose locations lack the drama which the Grand Canyon affords.

No truly great book, sculpture or piece of architecture was ever a copy of another. In evaluating the worth of the design of the Shrine of the Ages Chapel, it should be appraised by these canons: Is it worshipful? Does it achieve its purpose?

We believe it is. We believe it does.
CLERGY STUDY COURT — "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, before the mountains were brought forth. Thou Art God." (Psalm 90)
CHURCH INTERIOR — a sweeping view of the Canyon... in its truest sense a temple indicative of a desire to facilitate and inspire man's innate urge to humbly recognize a power greater than his own.
an adequate setting for stimulation of religious thinking in its broadest sense.
"A Part of it ............ MUST BE MINE"

A HOUSE OF WORSHIP and a shrine for religious meditation for those of all faiths, the Shrine of the Ages Chapel will be an edifice significant of America’s traditional esteem for religious values. ... Here it will stand, near the rim of Grand Canyon an inspiring piece of God’s Handiwork, as a human response to the mystic beauty of the canyon and a building dedicated to the adoration of God. ... To say that “a part of this IS mine” is to share a satisfaction noble and enriching.

BOOK OF DONORS

In grateful recognition of all gifts, large or small, names of donors will be permanently inscribed in the “Memorial Book of Donors” which will be appropriately displayed in the chapel building.

Make a part of this yours today. Send your contribution to:

SHRINE OF THE AGES CHAPEL, GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA