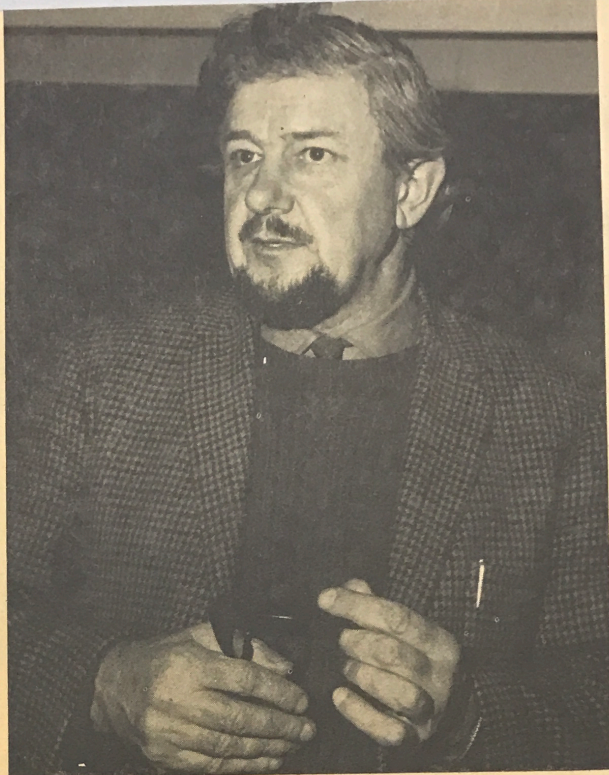


BY STAFF WRITER
MARIE MIHAJLOVIC

A PRODUCT OF
THE INCREASING
SOPHISTICATION OF
MAN AND HIS
REALIZATION OF
THE SIGNIFICANCE
OF HIS IMPACT ON
THE ENVIRONMENT



Left: Sydney (Charlie) Challenger, is the reader in landscape architecture, a new course at Lincoln College.

Right: Mr Frank Boffa, lecturer in landscape architecture, explains the mathematics of a curved highway.

PICTURES BY MICHAEL MIHAJLOVIC

Below: Miss Emily Mulligan, a 2nd-year student, compares an aerial photograph with her plan.



'THAT PECULIAR BIRD, THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT'

THE LANDSCAPE architect is a new arrival in New Zealand. The United States started courses in landscape architecture 70 years ago, Britain 35 years ago, but NZ only two years back. We started later because of our lower population density.

Thus Mr Sydney ("Charlie") Challenger, reader in landscape design, who has charge of the course in landscape architecture inaugurated fairly recently at Lincoln Agricultural College, near Christchurch.

"Landscape architecture," he continued, "involves a concern for

the appearance of the total environment in which we live."

Do people place any value on that? — "If people fell the trees, fill in the water courses and level the ground, all parts of the country will look alike," said Mr Challenger, "yet natural features can be incorporated into a man-made landscape."

Mr Challenger has been appointed by the Christchurch City Council as consultant on the motorway through Hagley Park, currently a subject of some contention.

He has a BSc in horticulture,

a subject which he taught at Lincoln College for 14 years before going overseas to take a Diploma of Landscape Design at Newcastle-on-Tyne in preparation for setting up the new two-year and 12-month courses within the department of horticulture at Lincoln.

Impressive list

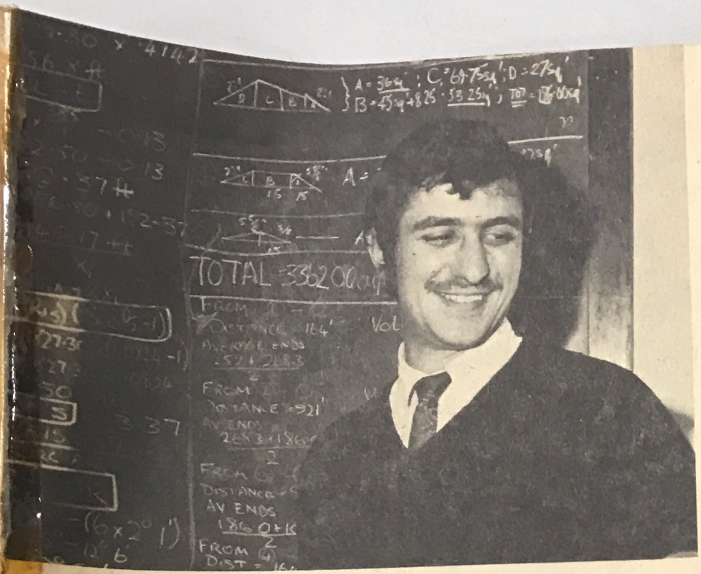
There is also a landscape consulting service there, in which three staff members work as consultants on landscape design

problems with local bodies, harbour boards, government departments and private developers.

The type of work the Landscape Architecture Consultancy Service at Lincoln is asked to undertake, supplying advice and drawing up plans, is illustrated by an impressive list of projects. It includes the Waikato River scheme, the Atiamuri hydro-electric dam, work on 55,000 acres at East Taupo, the New Plymouth harbour, Dawson Falls in Egmont National Park, Cust village in North Canterbury, the projected land use at Burnham Military

N.Z.W.W. SEPTEMBER 28, 1970

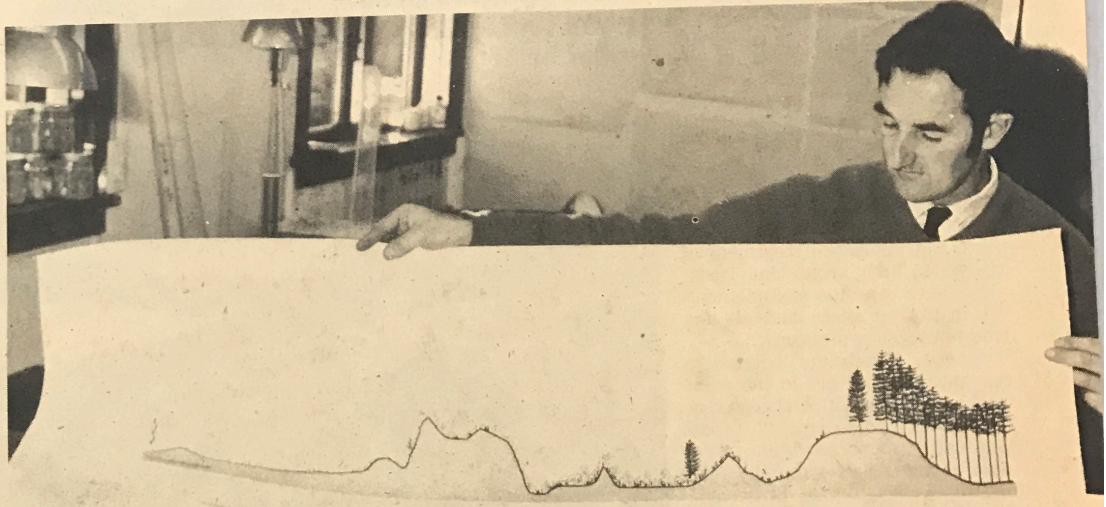
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Right: John Crone is one of three operating the Landscape Architecture Consultancy Service at Lincoln.



Below: Second-year student Robin Gay with an ecological study of Waimairi Beach, Christchurch.



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Camp in 1996, foreshore develop-
ment at Waimairi Beach in
Christchurch, Lincoln College
surroundings, a port access road
at Timaru, the Weston recreation
centre near Oamaru, and the
Walter Peak station on Lake
Wakatipu.
"With landscape," said Charlie
Challenger, "appearance should
be built into the price you pay, as
it is with a car."
The professional landscape
architect has extensive training
in horticulture, ecology, the bio-
logical and physical sciences, art,
design, graphic expression, archi-

itecture and engineering design,
surveying and the humanities.
"Our first-year students spend
two days a week at the Canter-
bury University School of Fine
Arts at Ilam," said Mr Challen-
ger.
The prerequisite for the two
year course for a diploma in lan-
dscape architecture (Dip LA) is a
degree in architecture, agricul-
tural or civil engineering, or hort-
iculture or geography, or a de-
gree or diploma in fine arts. It
is a post-graduate course open to
graduates from a wide range of
disciplines.

It is designed for those who seek
employment as professional lan-
dscape architects in private con-
sulting practice or as members
of planning teams in departments
concerned with major engineering
projects, highways, forestry, con-
servation and large-scale agri-
cultural development.
The one-year course, for a cer-
tificate in landscape design (Cert
LD) is to train landscape con-
tractors, smaller designers,
parks and reserves officers, and
rural landscapers. The pre-
requisite is a diploma in horticul-
ture. The Ministry of Works and

the Hamilton City Council are fi-
nancially assisting two of the
students.
The landscape architect is con-
cerned not only with appearance
of land but with its most econom-
ic and efficient use, together with
its subsequent management and
maintenance. Where work is un-
dertaken by an independent con-
tractor, the services of the lan-
dscape architect are usually re-
tained to supervise the work.
In 1969, several students did the
one-year certificate course. At the

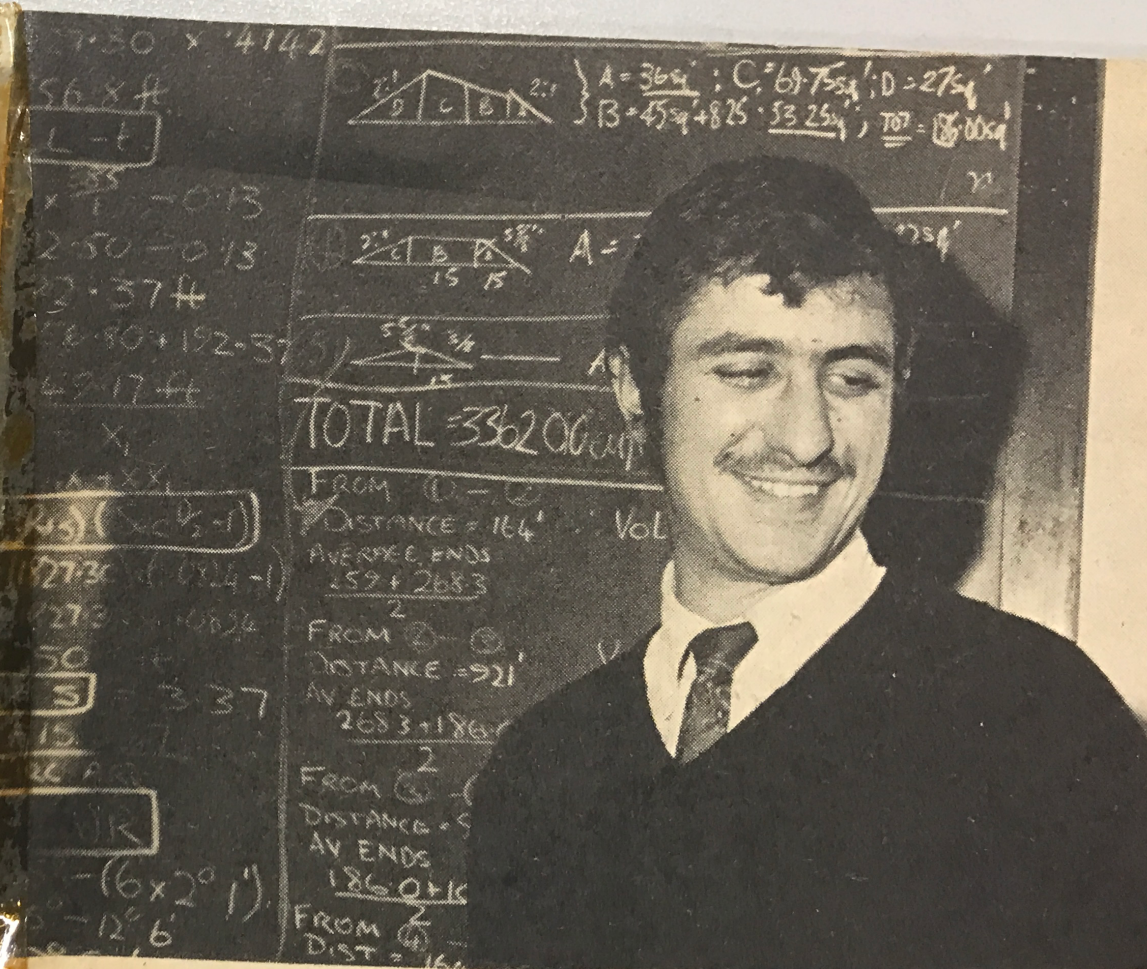
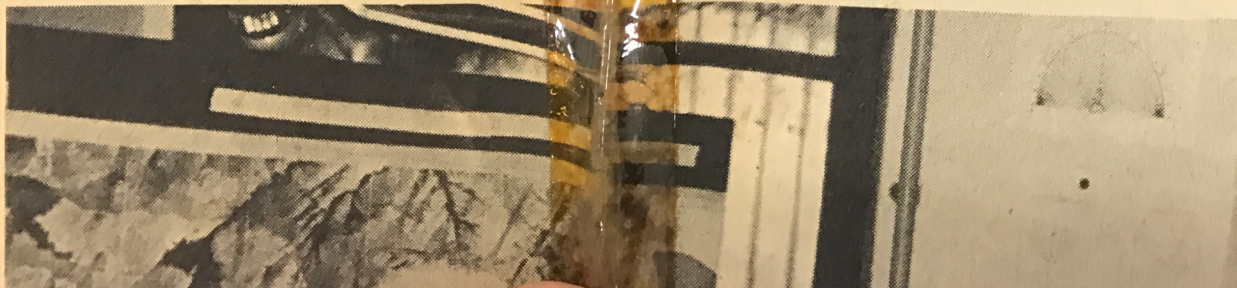
Please turn to Page 14

Left: Sydney (Charlie) Challenger, is the reader in landscape architecture, a new course at Lincoln College.

Right: Mr Frank Boffa, lecturer in landscape architecture, explains the mathematics of a curved highway.

PICTURES By MICHAEL MIHAJLOVIC

Below: Miss Emily Mulligan, a 2nd-year student, compares an aerial photograph with her plan.



Right: John Crone is one of three operating the Landscape Architecture Consultancy Service at Lincoln.

'THAT PECULIAR BIRD, THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT'

From Page 13

end of 1970, the second batch will pass out of their certificate training and the first intake of students for the two-year Dip LA course will complete it.

What does the landscape architect do? A pamphlet "Landscape Architecture As A Career" gives this answer: "The landscape architect designs public and private open spaces. These may range from a domestic garden, school or factory grounds to shopping centres, subdivisions or park planning.

"He is trained to fit roads and industry into the landscape. He may be concerned with land reclamation, agricultural landscape, the control of mineral workings, or the siting of recreational areas, parks, reservoirs and power pylons. He may advise on the preservation of natural areas or the rehabilitation of derelict land.

"He may plan the development of down town shopping malls and plazas, or advise on the alignment and landscape treatment of highways, both urban and rural. His work is often complementary to that of other land-use and land-planning professions."

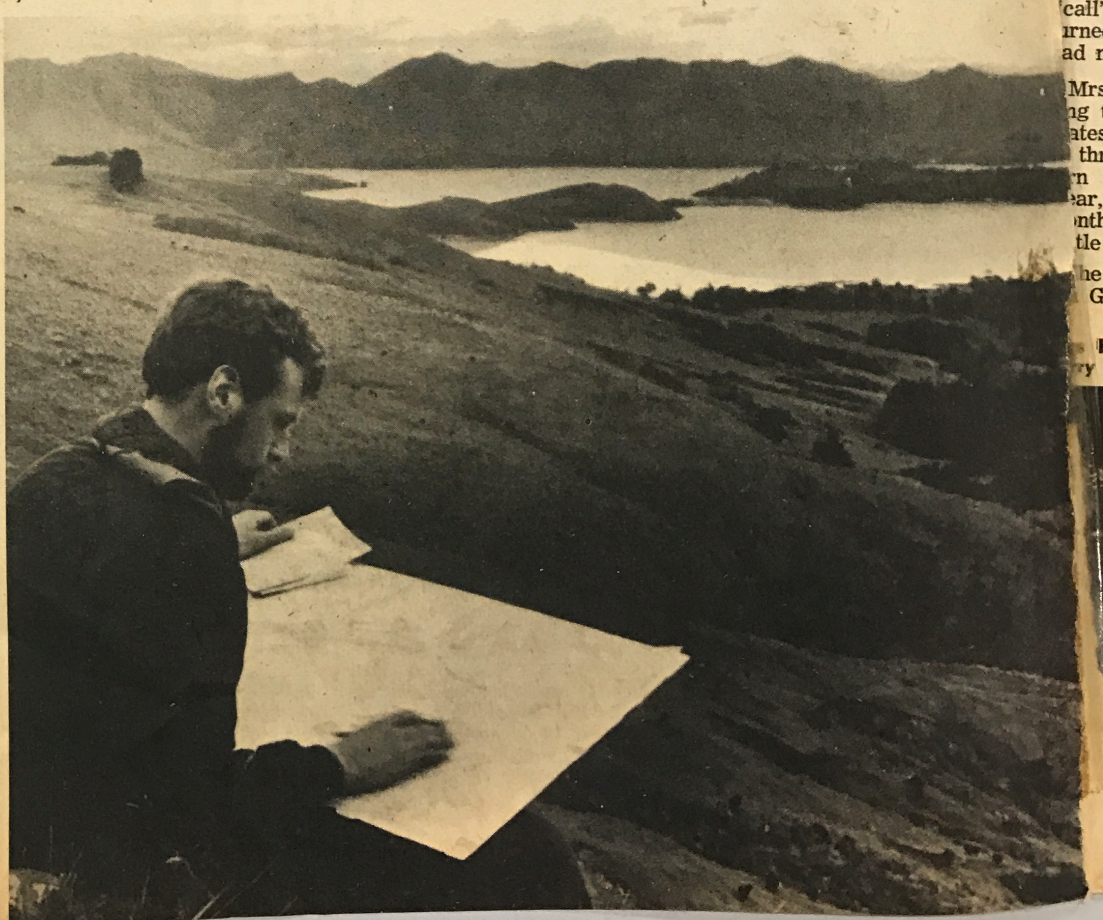
Charlie Challenger considers that not until we get to the point where people begin to accept that man-made developments (and landscape appearance as a result) should be in sympathy with nature, is the climate favourable for "that peculiar bird, the landscape architect," to emerge.

"Certainly there have been landscape gardeners around for a long time," said Mr Challenger, "but the landscape architect, who is concerned with the broad-scale landscape, is a new arrival, a product of the increasing sophistication of man and his realization of the significance of his impact upon the environment.

"I believe that we've now reached this point in NZ, and that we're developing our new courses in landscape design at Lincoln College, at just the right time." ●

Right: Miss Sally Thomas, a first-year student, works on a landscape architecture problem at her drawing-board in the studio at Lincoln College.

Below: Second-year student Hedley Evans does an exercise on the 1600-acre Bradley Estate at Charteris Bay, Lyttelton Harbour.



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