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CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
1857-1957

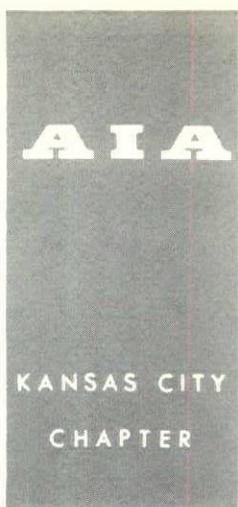


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SKYLINES

OCTOBER
1957



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EDITOR.....J. DAVID MILLER
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KANSAS CITY—1980

The project Kansas City-1980 is probably the largest activity ever undertaken by the Kansas City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Three short months ago the Chapter presented to the city an offer to donate the time in man-hours necessary to prepare a master plan for the Central Business District. This resulted in very favorable public reactions as expressed in news articles and an editorial in the Kansas City Star. Chapter members were even stopped on downtown streets and congratulated for this type of community spirit which has manifested itself frequently in the past in Kansas City.

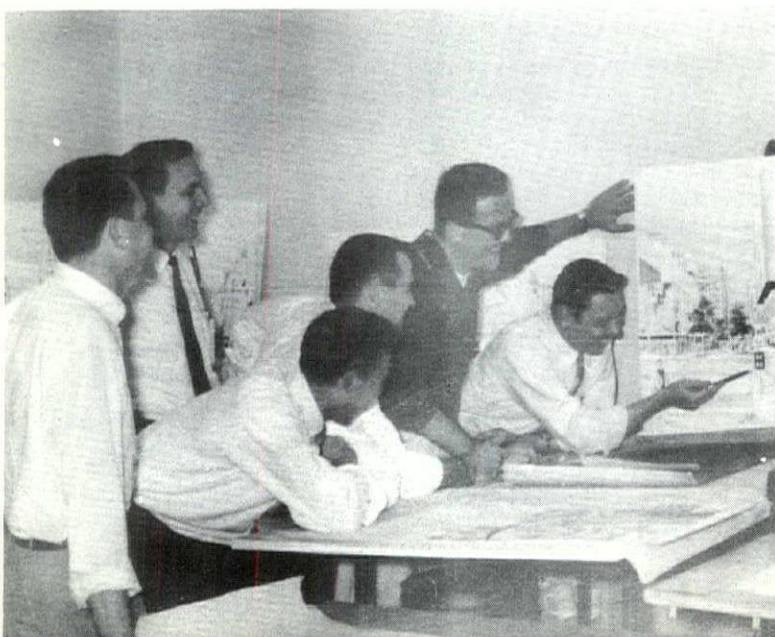
From the time of the initial announcement until the presentation of the plan at the meeting of the Downtown Committee of the Chamber of Commerce on October 7th, the Chapter worked evenings, week-ends—in fact every available extra moment to present a far-sighted solution to the foreseeable downtown problems. The great urgency of the plan, the extreme enthusiasm of the participants and the undercurrent of excitement in making a real contribution to the future of Kansas City nourished the project when it was determined that a solution had to be reached in less than three months instead of the year originally estimated.

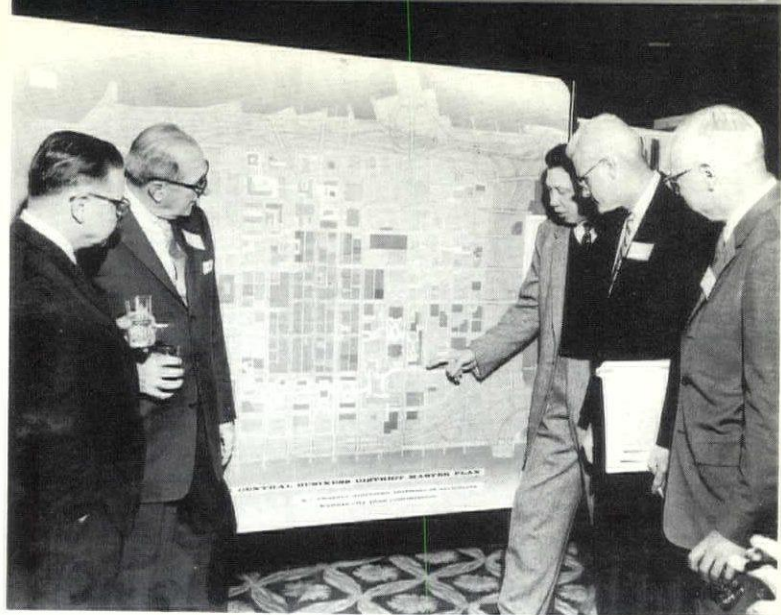
An office was established in the City Hall where close liaison with the City Plan Commission would be possible. Drafting tables and supplies of all types were sent from offices of Chapter members and the hard work was on. SKYLINES is very proud to illustrate the results of the KC/80 effort in the center spread of this issue. Though all members of the Chapter contributed directly or indirectly, the men to whom exceptional credit is due are listed in the brochure.



A planning session among Chapter members discussing the Civic Center design and outlining a work schedule for project completion.

(Left to right) Leo Babler, Ralph Kiene, John Jameson, Howard Nearing, Al Long, and Ward Haylett celebrating the Completion of the Central Retail Core perspective drawings after many long hours in a smoke-filled, but happy, atmosphere. (Roger Blessing is missing in this picture.)

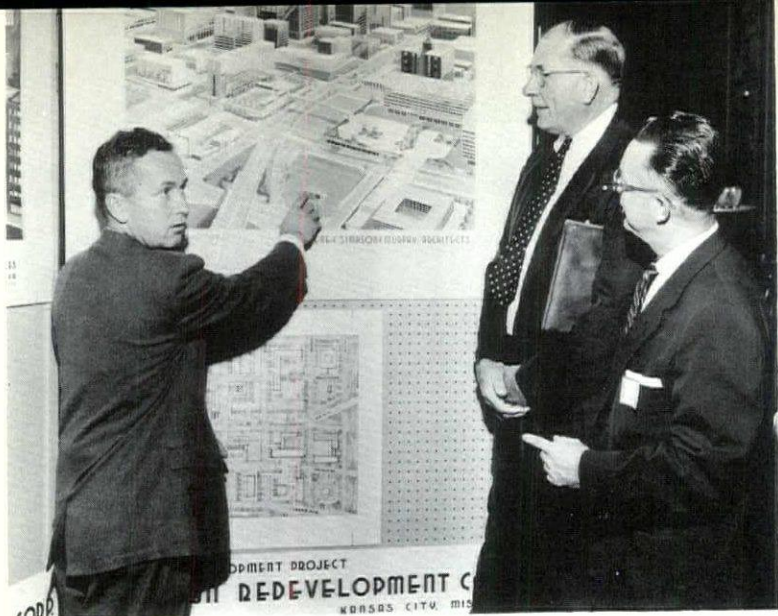




City Manager, L. P. Cookingham (second from left) and Landscape Architect, D. W. Bush (right end) looking on as Ward Haylett (third from right) explains features of the Downtown Master Plan to representatives of other cities present at the Downtown Committee Reception and Dinner, October 7th.

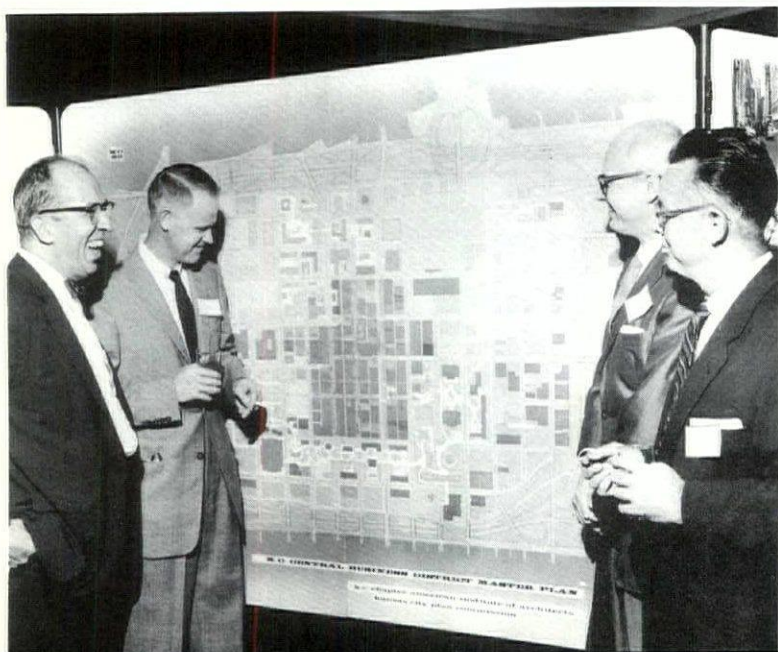
Newsmen from such nationally known publications as *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times* taking notes with John Murphy pointing out features on the model of the Civic Center.

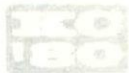




President Frank Slezak discussing a proposed Visitors Information and Hospitality Center in the Downtown Redevelopment Project with James M. Kemper, Sr. and John Murphy (left to right).

City Plan Commission's Phil Geissal, Jack Morley, Dave Runnels and John Murphy (left to right) proudly surveying the end product of the KC/80 Project and a guide for the future of Kansas City.





KANSAS CITY - 1980



CIVIC PROJECT PREPARED BY THE
KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

KC
180

PROLOGUE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The view into the future represented in this brochure gives an indication of what can happen in Kansas City by 1980!

The master plan for portions of the downtown area presented in the following pages is the result of a concentrated effort by the Kansas City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In its inception the study was to have been made over a period of one year. However, because of an important meeting on October 7, 1957, in which the Downtown Committee of the Chamber of Commerce was to present all phases of present and future developments in the Central Business District, it was decided to complete as much as possible of the study by that time. To accomplish such a feat in a period of less than 3 months, a great dedication & enthusiasm on the part of many members of the Chapter and some 2,500 man-hours was required—all donated in the spirit of civic consciousness and with the hope that the ideas contained in these efforts might lead the city into a renaissance and a far-sighted master plan tuned to future needs.

Effort was concentrated on the Civic Center, the Central Retail Core (retail, financial, commercial, and hotel area), their relationship to each other and their function within the Central Business District.

The following members who contributed so generously of their time must be mentioned. The Design Committee consisted of John Murphy, Chairman, Jack Morley, Dave Runnells and Ward Haylett. The Committee responsible for the perspective drawings, headed by Ward Haylett also included Al Long, Ralph Kiene, Howard Nearing, John Jameson, Roger Blessing, and Leo Babler. Dwight Brown, Chairman of the Community Development Committee and Clarence Kivett also served faithfully in getting the project started and moving. The Chapter also owes appreciation to Gordon Whiffen, who worked closely with the design committee as a representative of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Phil Geissal, Chief Planning Engineer, and Bob Maiden, of the City Plan Commission and Forrest Byars of the Downtown Committee, assisted greatly in the accumulation of facts, facilities, and equipment, which made this study possible.

KANSAS CITY - 1980

The Urban area map graphically illustrated acrosspage, indicates the projected floor area requirements in 1980 based on the projected population increase. The figures were taken from an economic report prepared by Dr. Frances Gaw, Economist of the City Plan Commission. The Central Business District is indicated in the center of the map, surrounded by the projected areas of influence in the years 1960, 1970, and 1980. The map clearly indicates the importance of the Central Business District.

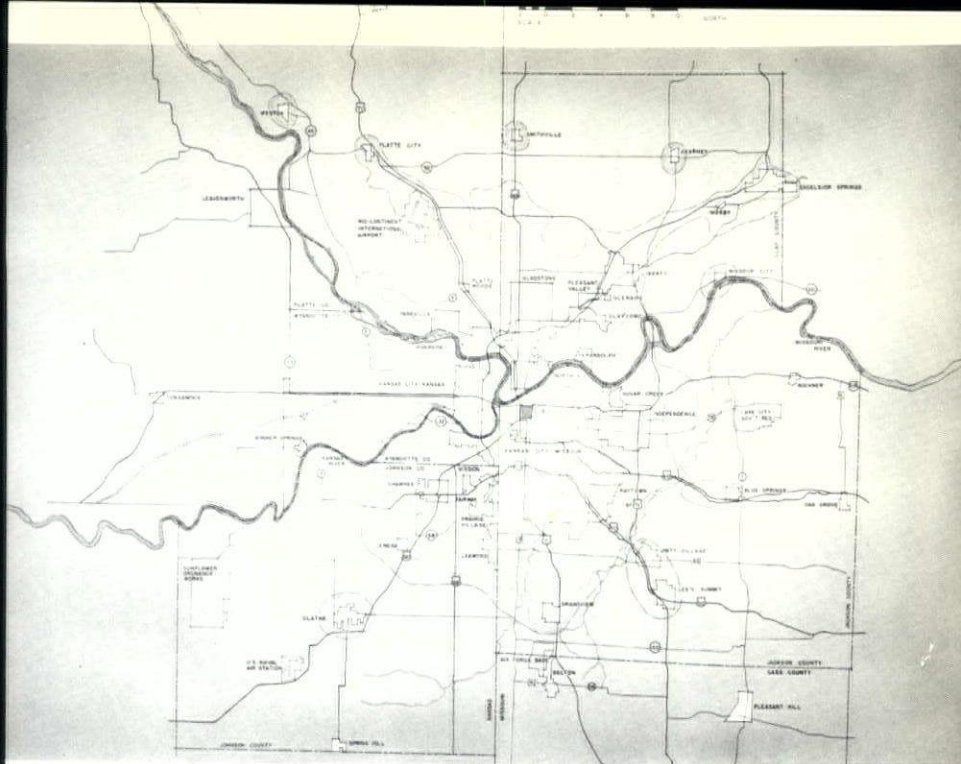
Approximately 425 acres of land are enclosed by the projected loop road system around the Central Business District. This is 25 acres more than is contained in the Chicago Loop.

The Urban Redevelopment program in Kansas City has already cleared many acres in the Downtown area and is offering an unprecedented opportunity to start anew the development of a model community.

Nowhere in our great city are facilities for commerce, shopping, entertainment, and culture so grouped together as in the downtown area. As a body is only as healthy as its heart, so is the city only as vigorous as its Central Business District.

By making the space more usable, more available, and more pleasant, the economic vitality of the entire Kansas City area is enriched.





KANSAS CITY URBAN AREA

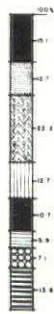
1960
1970
1980

COMPARISON OF CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT WITH COMPETING AREAS NEW SPACE BY AREA (1961-1980) (WITHOUT PROPOSED)

AREA IDENTIFICATION KEY

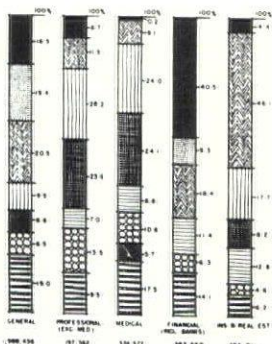
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT FRINGE
WYDOWN H.C.
SOUTH H.C.
COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA
MISSION TOWNSHIP
WYANDOTTE COUNTY HILL & L.A.
INDEPENDENCE & JAMES AREAS
INDEPENDENCE
K.C. NORTH
JACKSON CO. OUTSIDE H.C. &
INDEPENDENCE & JAMES AREAS
OTHER AREAS

TOTAL NEW OFFICE SPACE



TOTAL: 50.27 3,439,946

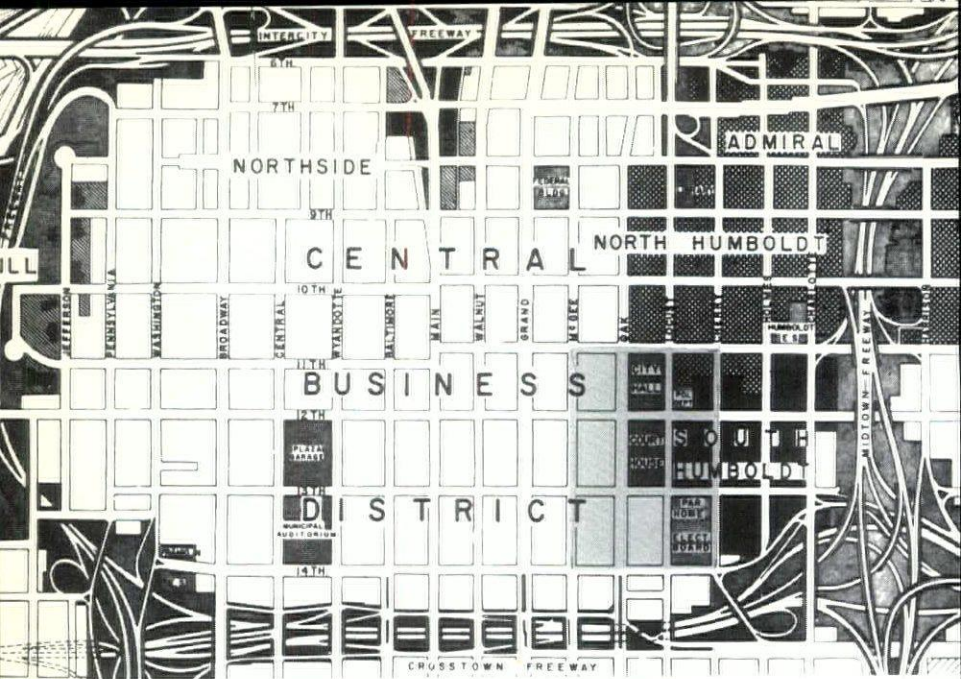
TYPE OF NEW OFFICE SPACE



TOTAL NEW RETAIL SPACE



2,149,146



THE CIVIC CENTER

The city with a future must take into account the intangible qualities which give occasional relief from the busy occupation of carrying on business. The "cultural" life of the city must contain activities appealing to, and at the same time inspirational to, all citizens.

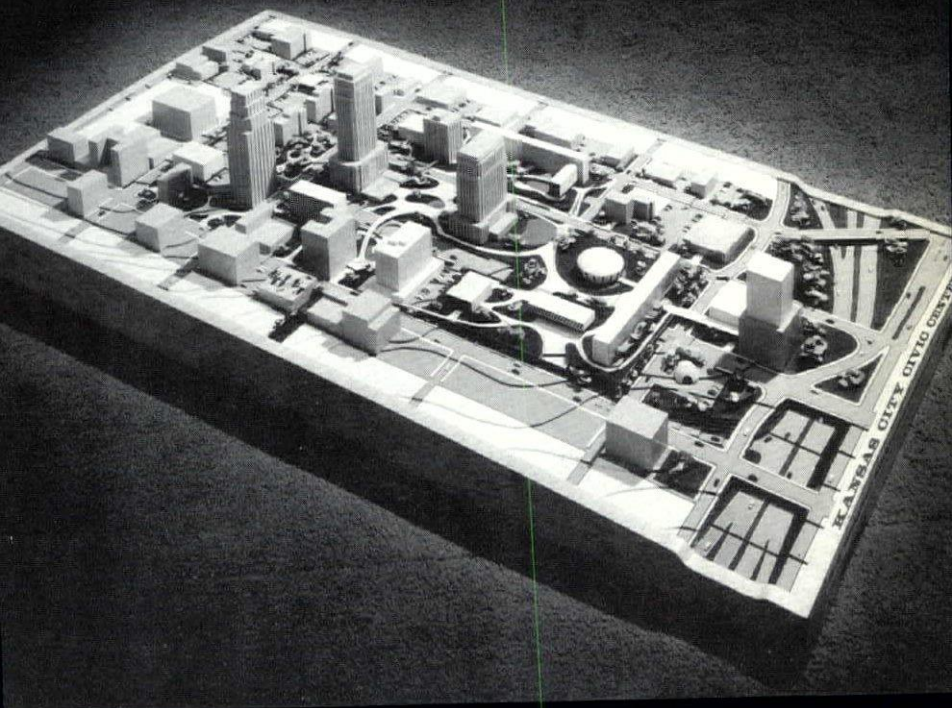
In developing a design for the Civic Center it seemed logical to locate in the area bounded roughly by Cherry, Eleventh, McGee and Fourteenth Streets as indicated on the plan above. There are several important reasons for this choice:

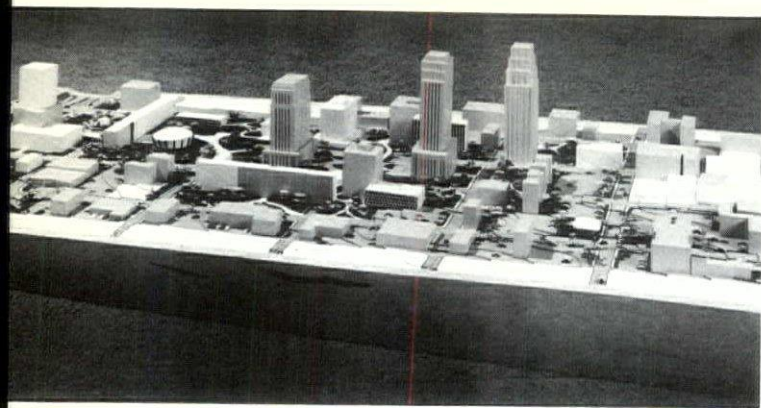
- Already located here are the City Hall, Court House, Police Building, Parental Home, and soon, the Public Library—the governmental and research center of our city.
- With the high concentration of people in the downtown area, greater use of Civic Center facilities could be



made at a downtown location during daytime hours.

- This plan would emphasize the great potential of downtown residential facilities—a permanent population at the core of the city which would make the Central Business District a healthy financial community 16 hours a day and 7 days a week, instead of a deserted village after dark and over week-ends. There is a growing group of people to be served here—a group which has no place in suburbia—(childless couples, bachelors, single women, widows and widowers, the retired, etc.) Many people in these categories have no desire for houses with yards to keep, and yet they wish to be near where "things are going on"!
- Convention and transient guests from out-of-town would be conveniently located near the Civic Center and could





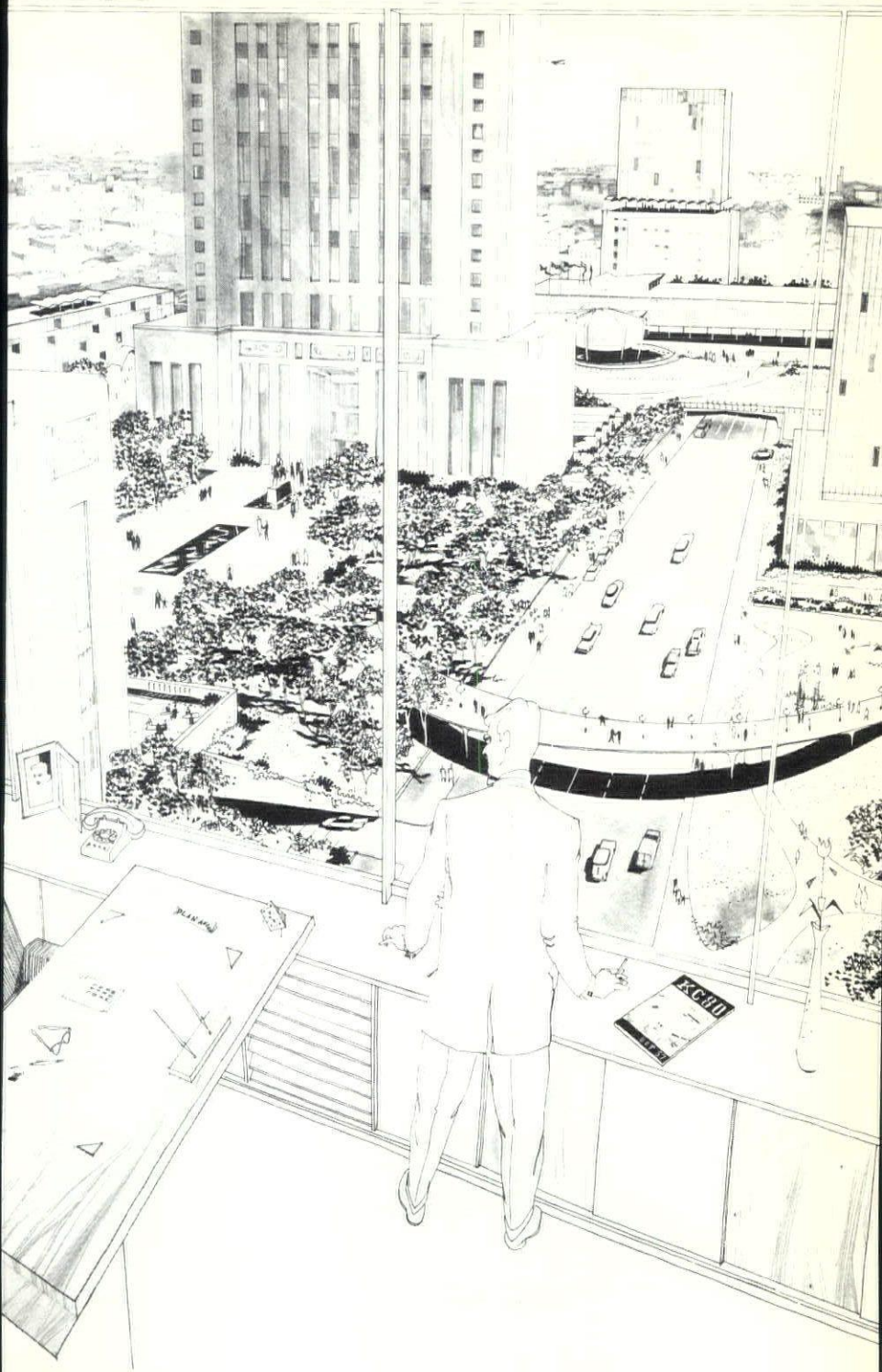
visit the facilities whereas the chances of doing so would be less were the buildings located outside the Central Business District.

- Ample parking spaces in the downtown area could be used to advantage in evenings and weekends in attracting people to the Civic Center from all parts of the city.

The building types selected for location in the Civic Center are as follows:

- A. Museum. The great success of the Kansas City Museum has proven the great need for such an institution. Consider how much more use it would receive in a Civic Center location.
- B. Planetarium - Aquarium. Always of great appeal, this building could be operated in conjunction with the Museum, as the present planetarium is. Notice the bridge linking the two buildings in the drawings and models.
- C. Children's Museum. Located south of the Public Library and connected by ramp, this facility could easily be used





in conjunction with the Children's Library Department of the Library. Also providing space to exhibit the work of the city's children and traveling exhibits tailored for the young, the Children's Museum could become an invaluable center for education.

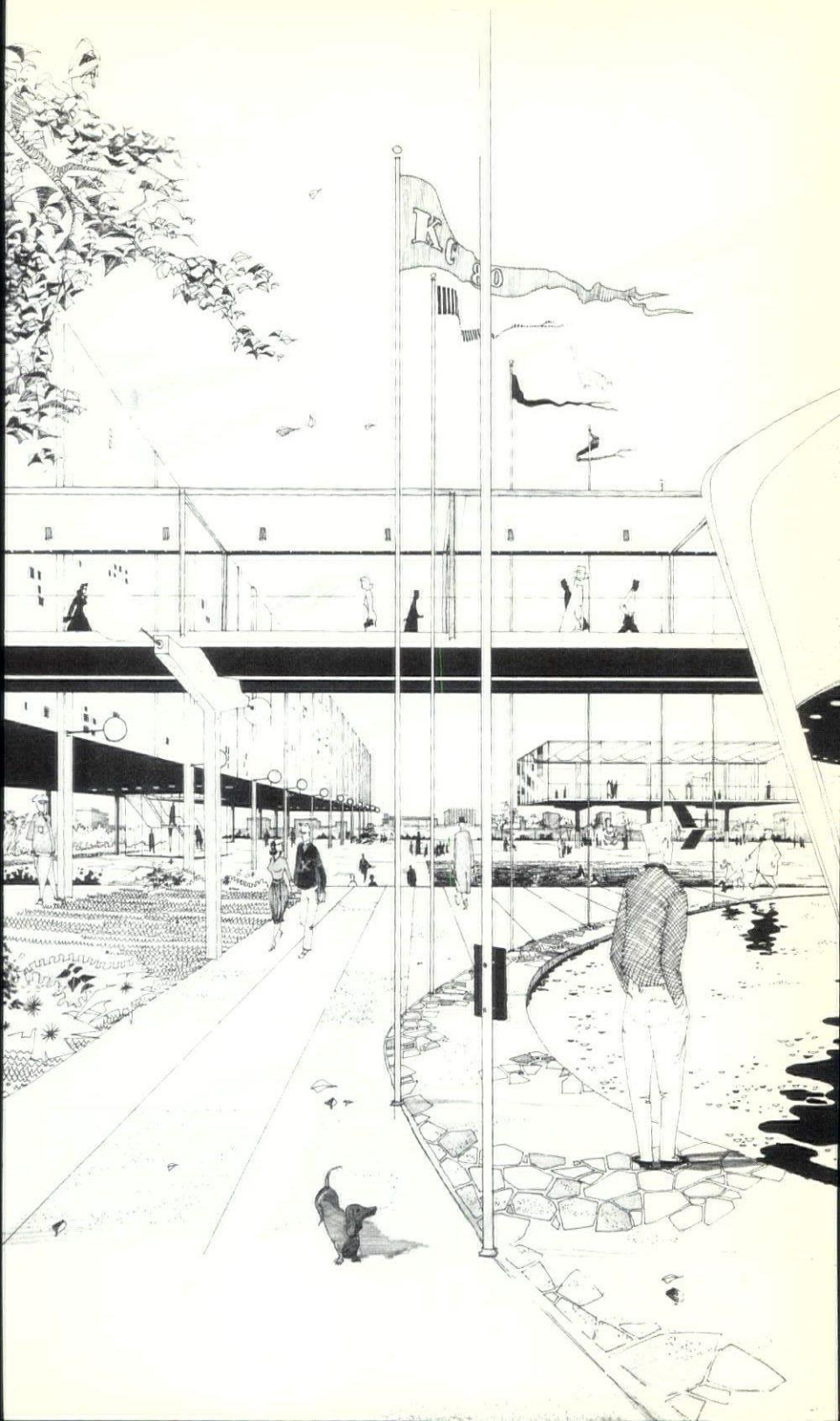
D. Hall of Fame. Every great city needs a center where the memory of each great leader who has made a contribution to its heritage can be kept alive for the appreciation of future generations. Civic pride is an asset worthy of perpetuation in this manner.

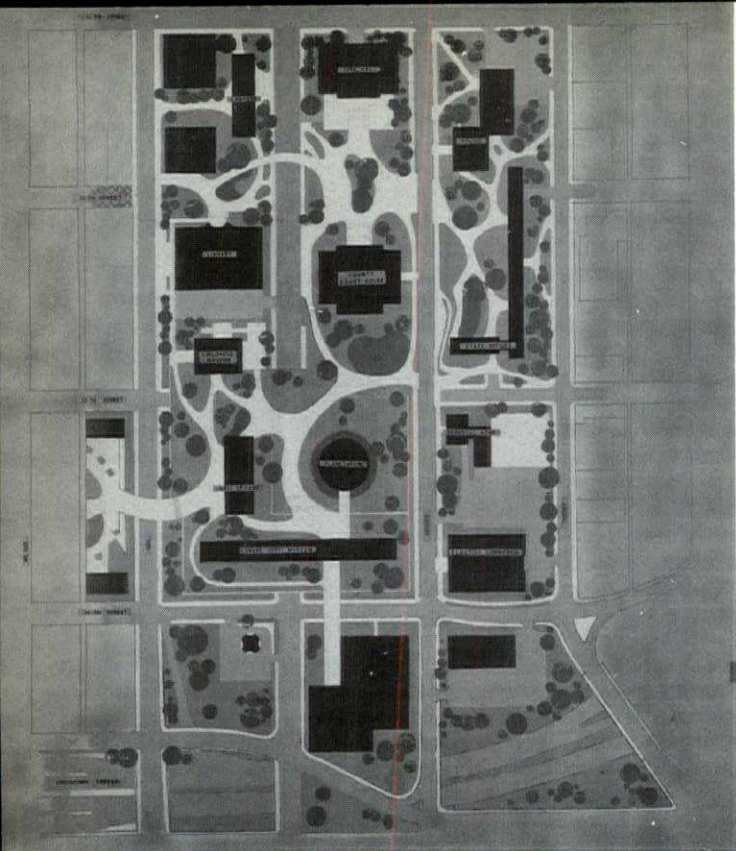
E. Information and Hospitality Center. Facilities of this nature have been extremely successful in other cities (notably Portland and Seattle). Usually run by either the Chamber of Commerce or the Junior Chamber of Commerce, these centers are a great opportunity to inform the visiting public of the resources and activities offered in our city and to perform a needed service in assisting visitors in many ways.

F. State Office Building. The State offices are presently scattered throughout the city and will eventually be consolidated into one building.

G. Legal Office Center. A space near the courts and near the vast research facilities of the Public Library would be highly desirable.

The Civic Center was designed as an elevated garden platform above a vast multi-level parking garage. This permits important Oak Street to run below the platform level and an uninterrupted pedestrian mall to connect most of the buildings within the Civic Center. This mall could also be used for various





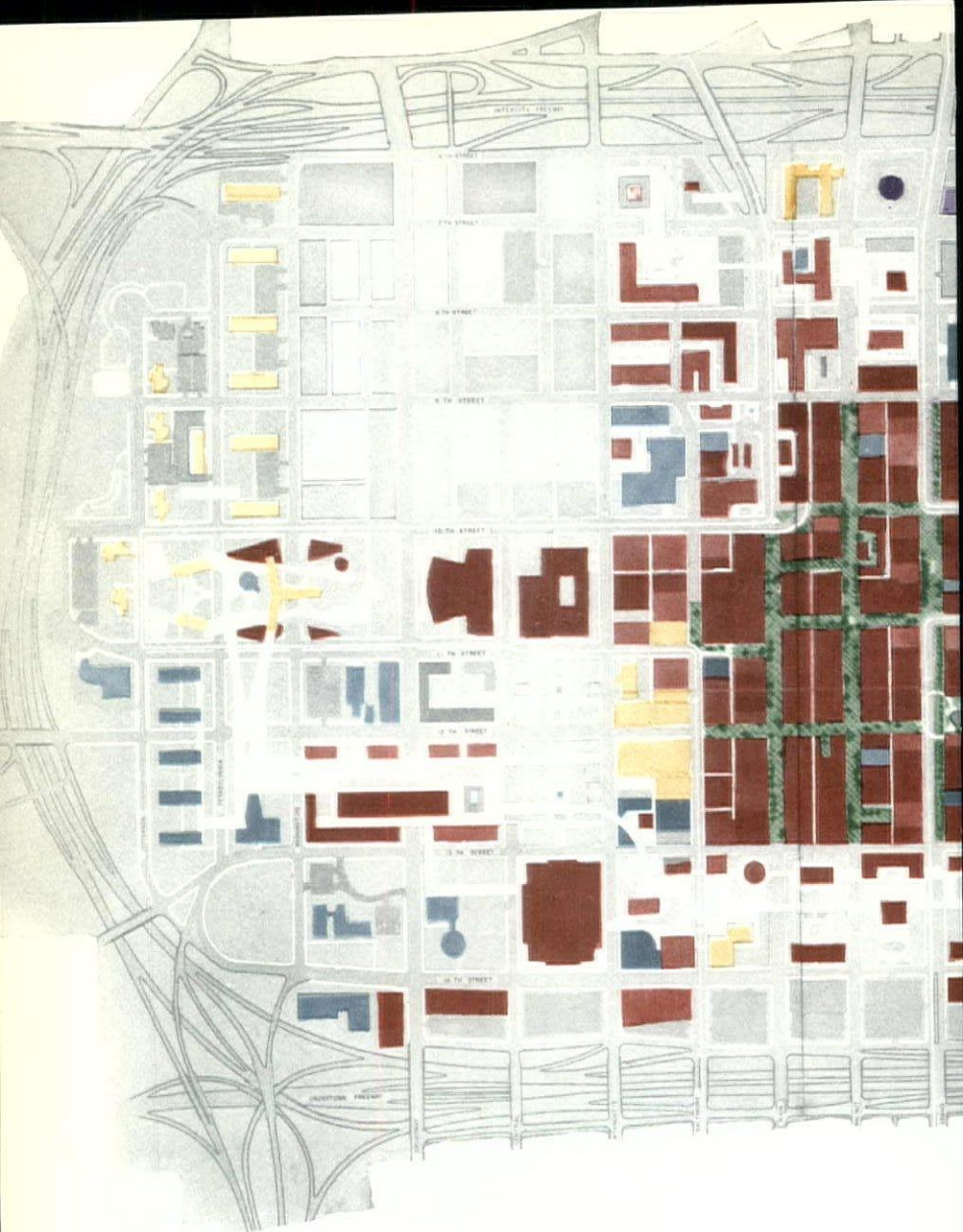
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outdoor functions such as the Annual Art Fair which is currently held under rather crowded conditions on the Country Club Plaza.

Two important connections link the Civic Center westward. Twelfth Street becomes an important pedestrian link with the Central Retail Core (only McGee and Grand cross, and elevated sidewalks are provided here). Between the Civic Center and the Municipal Auditorium, an elevated pedestrian accessway is provided midway between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets.

The Civic Center is thus made an integral and useful part of the entire Central Business District—and of the entire city.





K.C. CENTRAL BUSINESS

k.c. chapter americana

kansas city



LEGEND



COMMERCIAL SPACE

1. Retail
2. General Comm'l Office
3. Finance
4. Medical, Prof. Office
5. Comm'l Amusement
Others



PUBLIC, SEMI-PUBLIC, CULTURAL

1. Government
2. Educational
3. Public Utility
4. Organizations, Churches,
Y.M.C.A., Etc.
5. Parking Bldgs.



INDUSTRIAL

1. Manufacturing, Transp.
Warehouse, Etc.
2. Wholesale, Light Industry
Service, Etc.



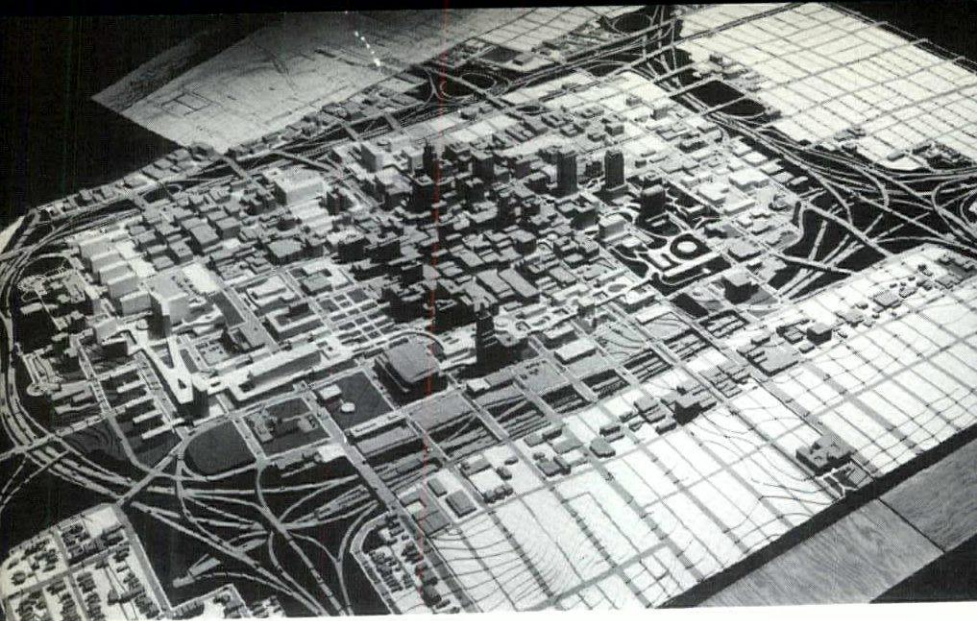
RESIDENTIAL

1. Hotels
2. Apartments
3. Other

DISTRICT MASTER PLAN

Institute of architects

commission



TRAFFIC IMPLICATIONS

Kansas City is many years ahead of most other cities in the nation toward achieving a circumferential expressway loop around the Central Business District and radial expressways leading to this loop from the surrounding urban and suburban areas. This is due largely to the far-sighted planning of the City Plan Commission under the leadership of Phil Geissal and the Missouri Highway Commission with Howard, Needles, Tamman and Bergendorf as Consulting Engineers. The photograph above shows a model of the loop and the Downtown Area which has been constructed by the City Plan Commission.

However, with one side of the loop complete, a second side under construction, with land acquisition for the third side presently underway and the last side in the design stage it is imperative that traffic control within the loop area be very carefully studied so that efficient handling of the tremendous influx of cars may be accomplished. The loop makes it unnecessary to go through the Central Business District and thus permits a greater and more flexible use of property. The solution presented by the Chapter is therefore one of closing off the Central Retail Core of the Central Business District and clearly qualifying the usage of the remaining streets for maximum efficiency. The drawing at the lower right shows how traffic will function.

The Transportation Center (yellow square) located in the northeast portion of the Central Business District will handle cross-country and interurban traffic of all types: busses, fast public transit from surrounding areas (possibly an overhead monorail system) and helicopters, linking downtown with the Mid-Continent Airport. The Transportation Center will then

be connected to the Central Retail Core by means of speedy sidewalk trains or an underground tunnel.

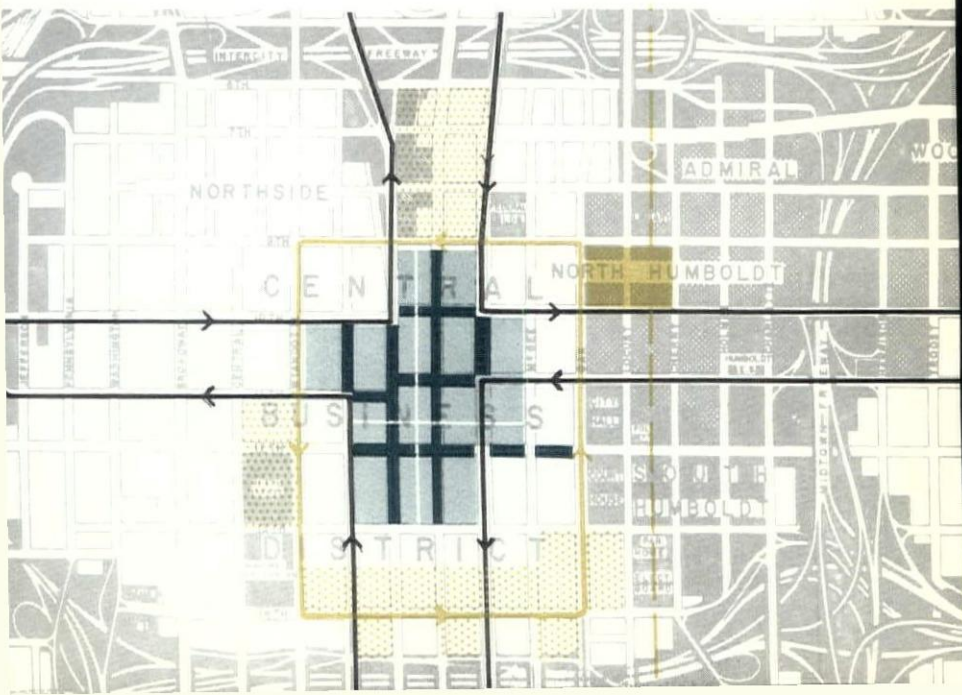
Cars entering the Central Business District will be parked in the areas immediately adjacent to the Central Retail Core, indicated by yellow dots. Streets within the Central Business District are classified as follows: inner loop access road, secondary feeder and service streets (used by midtown busses), service alleys, and general purpose streets. The inner loop is indicated in yellow, and the secondary feeders in black. These are all one-way streets.

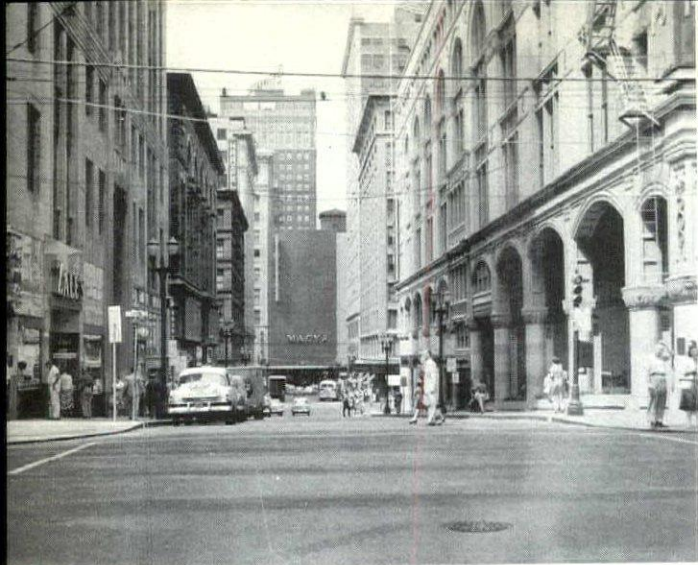
The Central Retail Core is shown in light green and the streets to be closed off for pedestrian use only are shown in dark green. The white lines crossing the Central Retail Core indicate approximate locations of elevated moving sidewalks.

By this system parking would be not more than two blocks from any point in the Central Retail Core, cars will be prevented from entering the high density pedestrian areas, and wide courtyards, grass, trees, and water replace the narrow sidewalks.

These daring changes cannot take place overnight and in the final analysis will probably be made in a slightly different way because of changing downtown developments. However, it is important that planning be started now for a gradual transition into a plan of this type.

Kansas City must continue to take the initiative in maintaining the lead it now has!





Looking west on Petticoat Lane from Grand Avenue.

This is probably the best known downtown view, looking toward Main and Macy's. An innovation here is the mezzanine "sidewalk cafe" in Emery-Bird-Thayer's with a pleasant view of the park-like pedestrian streets, removed from the noise, fumes, and confusion of traffic and pleasantly shaded by the Bryant Building. Notice the helicopter shuttling passengers from the Mid-Continent Airport to the roof of the Downtown Transportation Center Building located North of the Civic Center.

The use of water in a reflecting pool creates a point of interest at the intersection of Walnut and Eleventh. What a cool relief from the mid-day July sun!



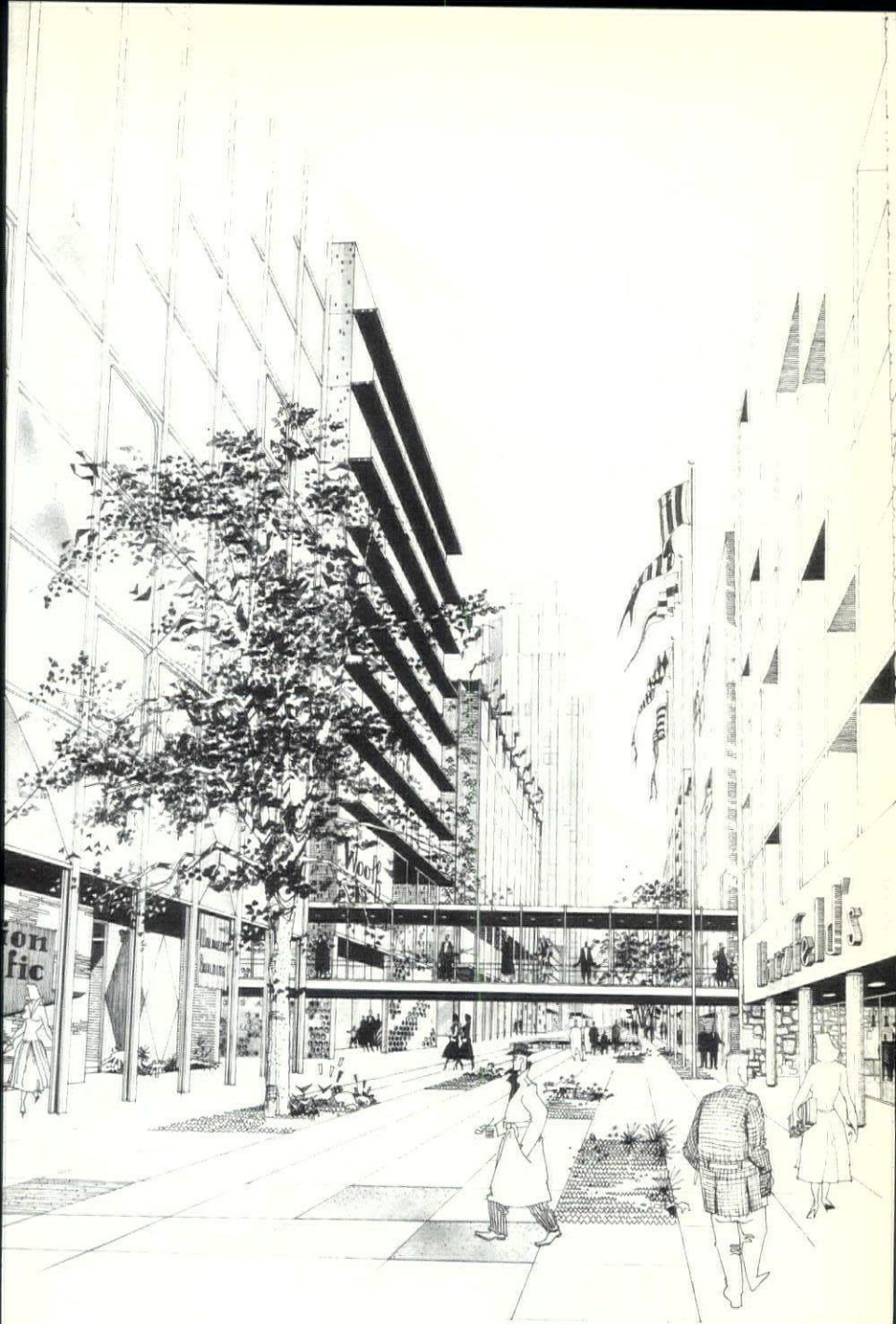


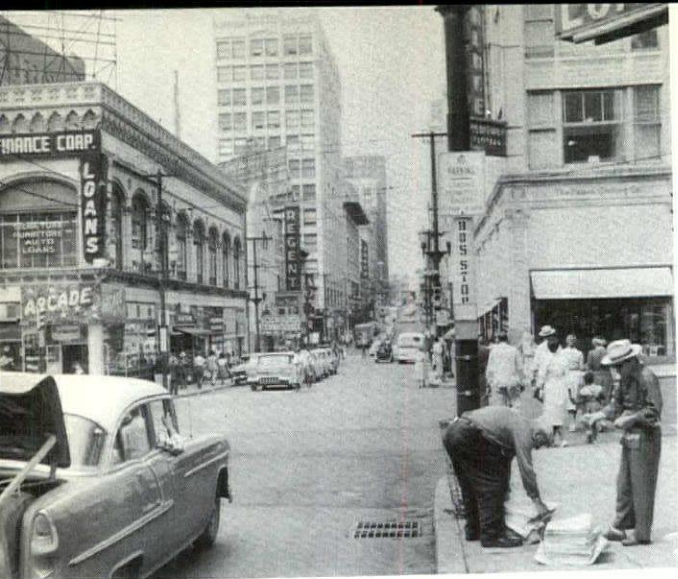


Looking east on Petticoat Lane from Main Street.

The Union Pacific ticket office and Harzfeld's frame this view eastward toward the Telephone Building. The bridge indicates the North-South elevated moving sidewalk serving as a cover for the service alleys and providing fast, efficient access thru the Central Retail Core. Woolf Brothers and Emery-Bird-Thayer's indicate the intersection with Walnut. Access to any of the stores downtown is a quick and pleasant experience from a parking location not more than two blocks away—contrasting the problem now of trying to find a parking space on the street and finally giving up in desperation to park at least two (and probably three or four) blocks away.







Looking west on Twelfth Street from Grand Avenue.

The home of the "Twelfth Street Rag" is pictured here as the main link between the Central Retail Core and the Civic Center, given a new lease on life as a pleasant pedestrian-way with trees and plantings and a safety pedestrian bridge over busy Grand Avenue. Easily visible in this view is the Palace Clothing Company, the Twelfth and Walnut Building, and the Jones store. Even the "fun palace" becomes a wholesome addition in the scheme of things.

Notice the liberal use of flags and pennants in all of these drawings—a constant reminder of motion and gaiety and the vigorous life of an active city.





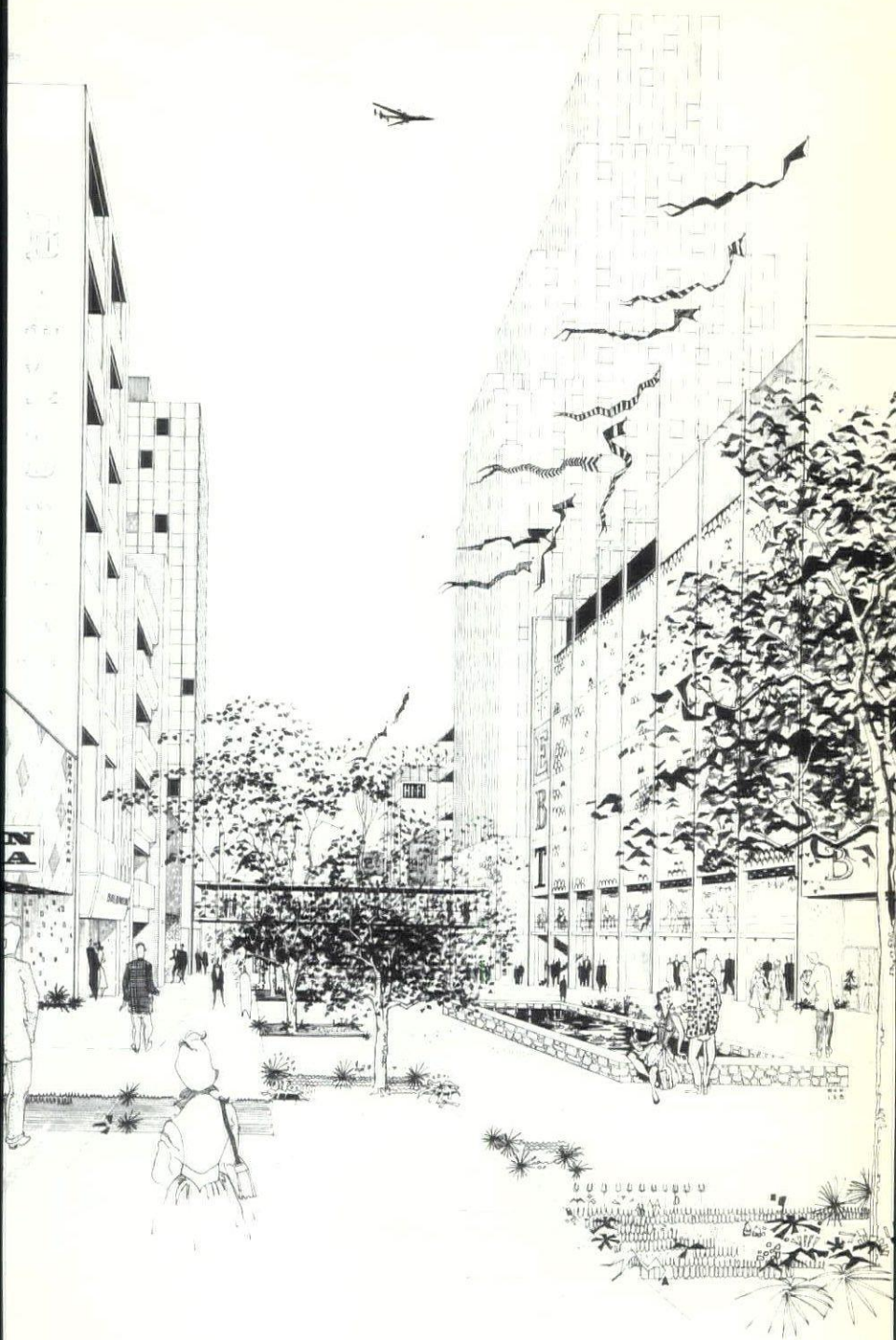


Looking south on Grand Avenue from Tenth Street.

Emery-Bird-Thayer's and the Bryant Building locate the Eleventh Street intersection. The bridge crossing Grand Avenue is the East-West elevated moving sidewalk. Notice the super jet airliner overhead, preparing to land at the Mid-Continent Airport—a link between Kansas City and any point on the surface of the earth!

With a little imagination, one can visualize how the tasteful use of lighted signs, floodlights, and dramatic show windows could transform this into a carnival of excitement—real fun for that dreaded late Christmas shopping!

**KC
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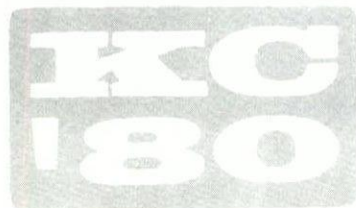


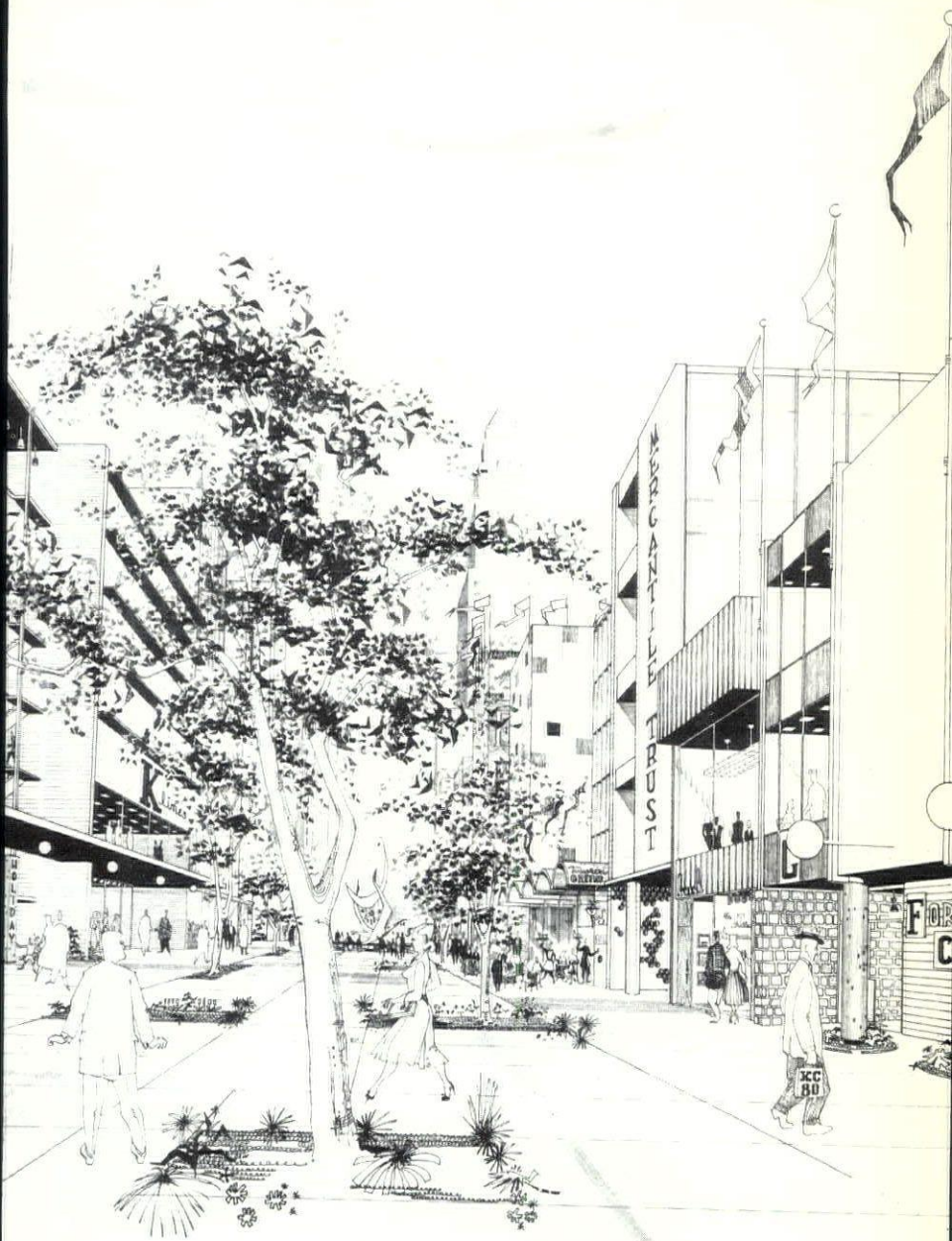


**Looking north on Walnut
Street from Twelfth Street.**

With the twin towers of the Federal Building in the distance this view indicates what amazing changes are in store for the pedestrian. Imagine how much easier shopping would be for the elderly when crossing the "street" becomes a pleasant journey rather than a life-and-death struggle with traffic. There will be places to sit down on a bench, rest tired "shopper's feet", observe growing flowers and trees, and watch the busy activity and excitement of downtown with a relaxed mind.

Things are really "Up-To-Date
In Kansas City"!







KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Report on

MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION INSTITUTE



Joseph L. Spitzley, John E. Haines, and C. W. Schumacher (left to right).

Most of the 212 architects, engineers and contractors who registered for the Mechanical Construction Institute held September 11th in Kansas City were on hand at the opening session at 9 a.m. to hear Architect C. E. Silling of Charleston, West Virginia discuss "Modular Measurement." He was followed by Gary B. Gamble, Consulting Engineer from New Orleans, who discussed the need for cooperative planning between architect and engineer in pre-design stages in order to guarantee satisfactory use of a year-around air conditioning system. The group joined the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce at noon to hear John E. Haines, Vice-President of Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company talk on the "Way to Profit" through the use of a complete air conditioning system

in both new and remodeled buildings. The three speakers were joined in the afternoon by Joseph H. Spitzley, Detroit Contractor and National President of the Mechanical Contractors of America, Inc., in a panel answering questions from the floor. A lively and spirited discussion concerning the various systems and their application was the result.

Congratulations to President C. W. Schumacher, Chairman of Public Relations, Henry Nottberg, and Executive Secretary, Frank O. Babcock of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Greater Kansas City for the well-planned and smoothly executed day-long Institute. It is the first of many to follow, they say.

NECROLOGY

With sincere sympathy for their families, the Chapter bereaves the loss of the two following members—

Everett L. Peterson

October 8, 1957

Everett L. Peterson was born in Brown County, Minnesota, and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1925. He had lived in Kansas City since 1930 and had practiced in the following partnerships: Peterson & Curtis; Peterson & Scharhag; and Peterson & Mantel. Among the buildings he designed are the Overland Park Elementary School, George B. Longan Elementary School, the WDAF-TV Building, and Old Mission Junior High School.

Chester E. Dean

September 17, 1957

Chester E. Dean was born in Ohio and received his Architectural training in Chicago. He had practiced in Kansas City for many years and had designed numerous Catholic landmarks in the Midwest, such as: additions to St. Mary's and Providence Hospitals; a dormitory at St. Benedict's College, Atchison; Annunciation Chapel at St. Mary College, Xavier; and the Knute Rockne memorial at the University of Notre Dame.

CHAPTER NEWS

Plan now to attend the 1957 Central States Regional Conference to be held Thursday, October 31st through Saturday noon, November 2nd in the Skirvin Hotel of Oklahoma City. The program, based on the theme "Teepees to Towers" will include discussions on:

- Urban Development and Redevelopment.
- Problems Brought On By Towers and Their Solution.
- The Consulting Engineer.
- Where Do We Go From Here? and the usual before and after impromptu sessions. One of the attractions expected to be shown will be the slide collection of the Kansas City Chapter's "Architecture on Parade."

The Chapter wants to express appreciation to **Jack Wally** and Western Blueprint for the enthusiastic attention given to the enlarged sketches used in the KC/80 exhibit. The amazing clarity of the printing was a pleasant surprise and a source of much vest button busting among Chapter members.

Thanks also to **Wayne Wright** for his assistance in obtaining the dramatic photographs of the models of the KC/80 project and some of the exhibit mounts.

Kansas State Architect **John Brink** has appointed **Homer F. Neville** to serve on a board of advisors in the development of the Eisen-

hower Memorial Library at Abilene, Kansas. A fund-raising campaign is currently underway, aimed at raising \$1,500,000 through public and private subscriptions, for the construction of a building to house the President's career papers. The following people were also named to the board: Architects Ken Miller, Floyd Wolfenbarger, T. R. Griest, Wendell B. Parks, and Structural Engineer, Gene E. Ellis, all from Kansas.

Welcome to the **Waggener** Paint Company who this month has joined the group of advertisers who make this publication possible!

The Log Books for the Architect-In-Training program were displayed at the October Chapter meeting. Bound in striking red and white plastic, these books are evidence of the thought and organization that has been done to get this program underway. The program works as follows:

1. Graduates, and others qualified, enrolled with national AIA as Architect-In-Training
2. Individual programs of experience in suitable offices for period required by State Boards, usually 3 years
3. Periodic guidance by architect-advisor to secure balanced variety of work experience
4. Log Book recording of actual work, weekly, quarterly, and annual summaries
5. Periodic review and guidance by Advisory Committee of local Chapter
6. Maintenance of candidate status and acceptable progress
7. Regular progress reports to national AIA by Chapter committee.

At a recent luncheon meeting of the Executive Committee of the Kansas City Chapter of the Producers' Council the program for the forthcoming season was announced by Program Committee Chairman, Mr. Carl Bontemps. The program is a very promising one and includes the continuance of a number of popular features which have proven themselves successful and well received in the past. Among these items will be the resuming of the Noon Luncheons at the Roof Garden of the Aladdin Hotel. There will be six of these luncheon meetings, the first on November 5th, and shall continue on the first Tuesday of each month thereafter. Architects, Engineers and Contractors are invited to attend these interesting features which offer a variety of subject matter through carefully selected speakers. The first speaker will be Mr. Garvin Swyer, Vice-President of the Missouri Waterworks and President of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Subsequent speakers will be selected from the fields of banking, architecture, art and construction. As before, careful timing will be stressed at the Luncheon Meetings which will begin precisely at 12:00 Noon and end at 1:00 o'clock sharp. Among the highlights of the winter season will be the traditional Producers' Council Christmas Party which will be held Monday evening, December 16th, at the Town House in Kansas City, Kansas. Approximately 500 to 600 persons are expected to attend this 5th annual event. There is also being contemplated an outdoor activity for next spring, something in the order of a picnic or a carnival. The 1958 season will bring us the Curtainwall Seminar which is being sent by the National members of Producers' Council, Inc.

The Committee on the Home Building Industry of the AIA, working in collaboration with the National Association of Home Builders needs help in accomplishing 2 aims:

1. To submit to the National Association of Home Builders, as a reference for their members, as complete a list of architects as possible active in, or interested in entering the field of development home building.
2. To obtain from these architects the material required for their proposed AIA-NAHB-FHA film strip which was originated at the request of the FHA for assistance in a program to visually dramatize to its staff and Field Officers the value of better planning and design in operative home building. The outlets for this proposed film strip have telescoped into a list including: FHA staff and field officers; Chapters and Regional Conferences of AIA; Chapters of NAHB; Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis, School Boards, Church Groups, etc.; Real Estate Groups, Lending Institutions; and Television programming.

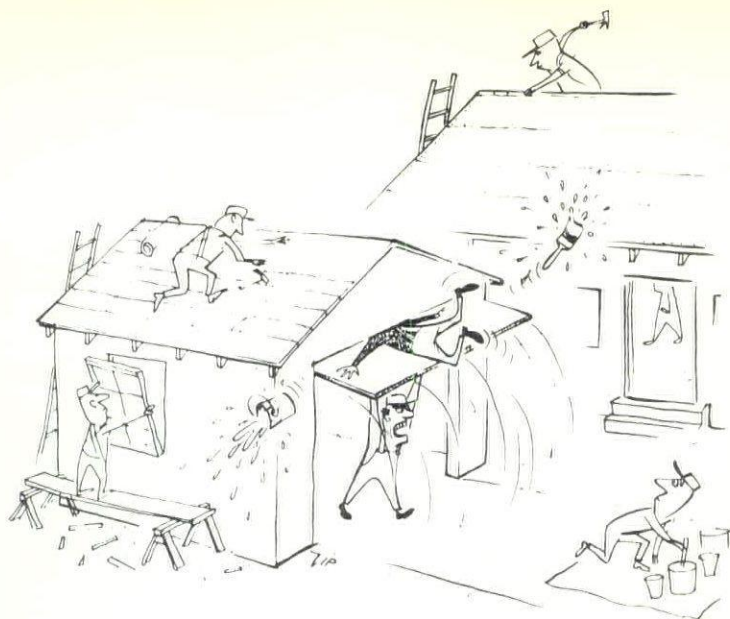
Frank and complete answers to the following questions listed as a guide for your use in evaluating your jobs with relation to our aims, will be of great value to them in preparing the script for the film.

1. Provide a brief outline describing the considerations which went into the design of the site plan, plan of house, elevations and color schemes.
2. What was the extent of service provided by you to the builder? Stock plan_____Full service, including: Preliminary studies_____Design & elevation changes_____Detailed drawings & specifications_____Color plan_____Site plan_____Landscaping_____Sales assistance_____Supervision and Expediting_____Other_____:
3. In what ways (if any) were you able to help the builder decrease his costs?
Increase the value of his development?
4. Was the project successful in terms of sales? Consumer-satisfaction? If not, what changes will be incorporated into future plans based on criticisms of this job?

Examples of both GOOD and BAD design are needed. Sources will remain anonymous except for credits listed together.

Any additional remarks or suggestions with regard to your work or the film strip itself will be most welcome.

Information is to be sent to: Mrs. Gery Witt, Coordinator of AIA-NAHB-FHA Film Project, The American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.



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After a history filled introduction, Author, Joseph L. Young, illustrates ways for beginners to work and the ways professionals work. The book ends with chapters on two of the world's outstanding Mosaicists, Gino Severini (France) and Juan O'Gorman (Mexico).

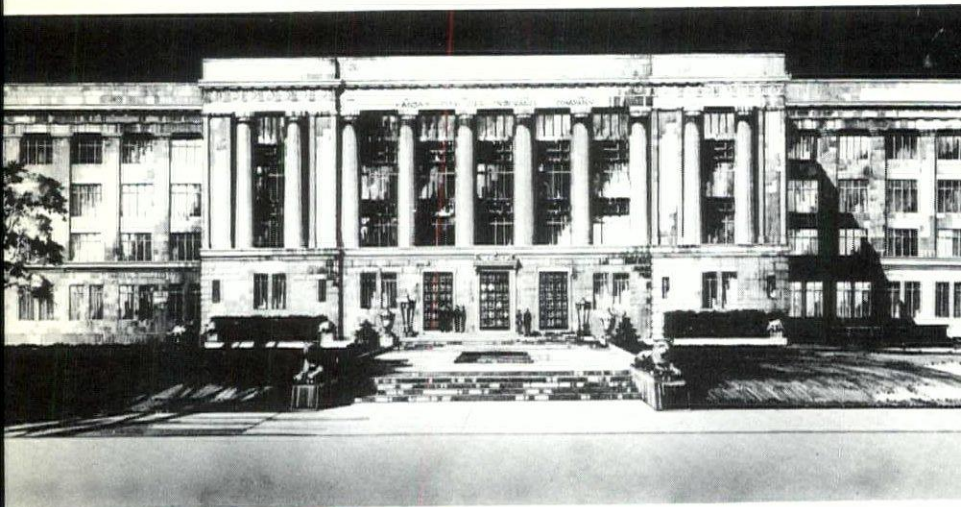
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CALENDAR

Producer's Council Luncheon

12:00 Noon Aladdin Hotel Roof Garden.....November 5

November Chapter MeetingNovember 25



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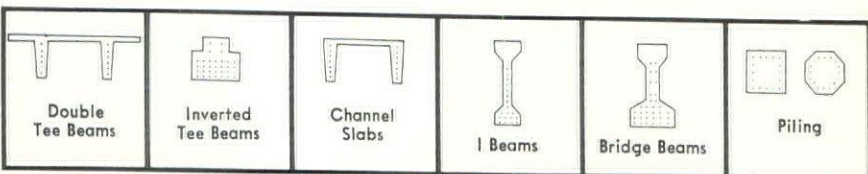
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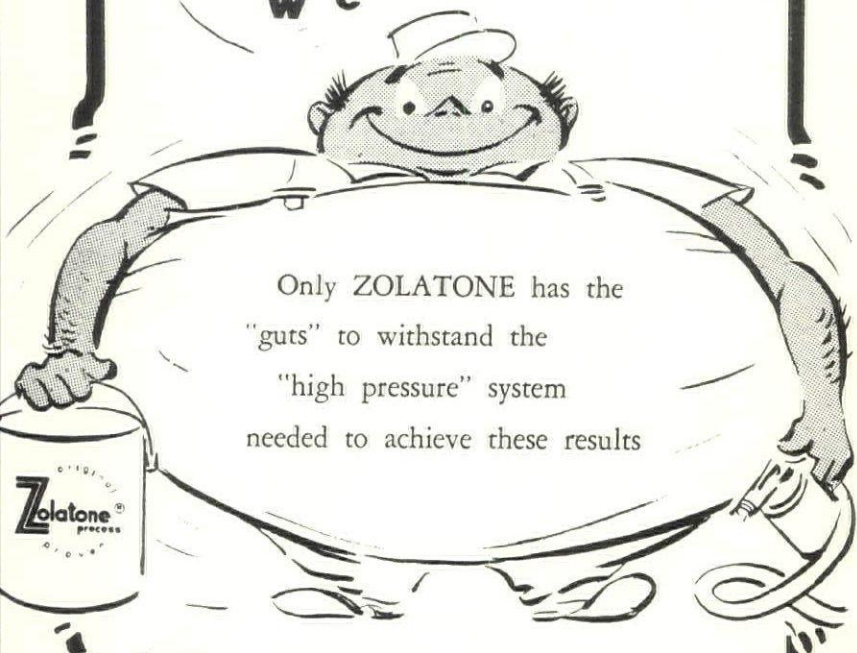


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