

A GERONTOLOGY CENTER FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Signature of Author \_\_\_\_\_

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John Reichard Miller

Submitted for the degree of Master of Architecture in the Department of Architecture on August 11th, 1958.

Since 1900 the life expectancy in the United States has increased by 20 years. By 1957 over 20 million of our population, or one person in eight, shall be over the 65 year age. In Minnesota the increase in the over 65 age group has been even more drastic than the national average. It ranks 18th among the other states in total population, yet is 10th in terms of the proportion of its citizens who are 65 years or older. As in other states there has been an awakening to the problems which this older age group must face as is evidenced by; increased housing for the aged, new state benefits for the aged, studies on the problems of aging, and establishment of service centers by public and private agencies. Leaders in the field of gerontology have pointed out that many of these measures have been taken, due to the urgency of the situation, without adequate knowledge of exactly what aging is; and are therefore only stop-gap, interim type solutions. So little is known about the problems of aging and so many false impressions have been prevalent that much basic investigation must be done.

To provide the knowledge, skills, and understanding necessary to help this older age group remain independent, contributing members of the community; departments of gerontology have been established at various state universities. The purpose of this thesis is the design study of such a gerontology center and the surrounding environment within an area marked for future research and instructional use adjacent to the University of Minnesota Medical School. Based upon recommendations of the Minnesota Commission on Aging and the experience of institutions having similiar programs, facilities for the following types of activities are included in the center:

Research - Facilities for coordinated research into the problems of aging by scientists from various fields.

Information - Facilities for collection and dissemination of information related to problems of aging.

Training- Facilities for training of personnel to work with the aged.

Adult Program- Facilities for counselling, education, referral, recreation, and rehabilitation of the older adult.

It is the author's intent that the gerontology center augment the medical services and geriatric research conducted on the aged's behalf in nearby University Hospitals without being dominated by the hospital atmosphere. As research is to be one of the primary objectives of the center it is so located to attract the best source of research information-the elderly person in all states of health, financial, and educational circumstances.

Cambridge, Massachusetts

August 11, 1958

Pietro Belluschi, Dean  
School of Architecture and Planning  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Dean Belluschi:

I hereby submit this thesis, entitled  
"A Gerontology Center for the University  
of Minnesota" in partial fulfillment for  
the degree of Master of Architecture.

Very truly yours,

John R. Miller

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The growing proportion of older people in our population is one of the most important factors in the economic, social, and political structure of this nation. According to the National Committee on Aging, each year the number of people who are 65 or over increases some 400 thousand, or approximately 1100 a day. Predictions to 1975 estimate that there will be more than 20 million who are 65 or over, compared with 3 million in 1900 and 15 million today. This is an increase of 47 percent in the 65 or over age group compared to 32 percent for the total population. Life expectancy today is 70 years, compared to 48 in 1900.

As the aged portion of our population continues to grow, so do the problems which they must face. Most are forced to retire from productive work, often without reference to capacity. The resulting decline in economic and social status, often accompanied by deteriorating mental and physical status, makes it difficult for them to remain independent contributing members of the community. Due to the increased mobility of our nation they are often separated from their grown children. The general reduction in individual living space in our country makes living with the younger generation difficult or impossible. The rising cost of living has made it harder for them to keep or find an acceptable place to live. These problems plus many others perhaps account for the common view of the older person: i.e., he is removed from the role of a useful participant in the life of the community due

either to the fact that he is in an inevitable period of decline or that he is at the end of the active business of living and on a deserved vacation.

Most leaders in the field of gerontology and geriatrics are working under a philosophy that is opposite to the common view of separation of the older age group from the main life of the community. Two basic tenets of this philosophy have been well expressed in an recent article in GERIATRICS.<sup>1</sup>

They are:

1. Older people should remain an integral part of, and contributory to, the mainstream of community life and action. Not only should they be permitted, but they should be encouraged, to continue to live in the most independent status possible - for the longest practicable period of their lifetime.
2. Human services should be geared to treat all persons, the old as well as the young and the not so old; to restore them to the highest possible degree of health; and to return them, insofar as is practicable, to the community from which they came.

In recent years we have seen the establishment of many new gerontology institutes and formation of agencies and commissions whose aim is to bring the forestated philosophy into reality. Supported both by public funds and grants from

1. Vivrett, Walter K.: "Environmental Needs of the Aged"

Geriatrics, p. 209, April 1957



different foundations they are engaged in research to fill the gaps in our knowledge about the many aspects of aging and older people; engaged in training a larger number of competent personnel skilled in working with the aged; and providing information and guides for communities planning and acting to advance the well-being of the older people.

In medical, social, and economic areas most of the published information to be found about the older person deals with the ill and the dependent portion of the aging population, with people who had been institutionalized for medical or financial reasons. The 1950 census statistics show that of the fourteen million people over 65, the seriously ill and indigent represented no more than 25 percent of the total number of aging. Obviously planning based on generalizations about all older people from the findings on a small and unfortunate group could not be valid.

To provide the knowledge about the more healthy normal 75 percent of the older population such organizations as the Age Center of New England are engaged in new research programs. Here scientists from varying disciplines; sociologists, psychologist, anthropologists, and medical specialists; are cooperating in coordinated research to determine what aging actually is, what it should be like, and what it can be like. The source of information for this research is the elderly person himself, for who better can know about the process of aging than those who are having the first hand experience. Over 600 older persons are associates in this study. They

have come to the center because they have read of it in local newspapers, or at the suggestion of their physician, minister, friends, Dr. personnel manager, ect. They relate and re-evaluate their experiences to trained interviewers, thus providing valuable data on a broad cross section of normal older people and at the same time gain a new understanding of their own experiences, attitudes and problems.

The older persons who are sharing in this common experience of individual interviews are also engaged in other member activities. Ranging from a Volunteer Committee which supplies the community with occasional volunteer workers, to a Hobby Committee which makes participation in hobby shows and sale of members products possible, the Center provides many new outlets and channels of activity for its members.

The Age Center has also provided a medium thru which college graduate and undergraduate students from local schools are taught social research in the field of gerontology. They are given training in interviewing, psychological testing of older people, administration of research instruments, and concept formation.

The Age Center is but one type of organization attacking the problems of aging. On a national level such organizations as the National Committee on the Aging are active in the area. It provides a national information and consultation center, maintains a special library, keeps current on activities in the field, holds conferences and workshops, serves as medium

for interchange of information, works with the media of mass communication to combat the stereotype of age and to publicize programs and needs, conducts special projects and studies, gives consultations to other agencies working in the area, presses for training of professional personnel with competence in the field of aging, summarizes and distributes reports of pertinent work of others, prepares books, pamphlets, films, exhibits in the area of aging. As the needs of the aged vary in different localities of the country the committee also calls for the establishment of central planning bodies at a state and local level to study and define areas of need, provide for coordination of services, conduct personnel training, and offer information and referral help.

Increased government activity, at federal, state, and local levels, as evidenced by new benefits to, and more housing and institutional space for-the aged, has provided temporary relief to some of the problems they must face. Various commissions on aging have recognized the fact that more needs to be done to determine the cause of these problems; more information is necessary for plans to be made to enable the older person to remain an independent member of the community; and additional personnel trained to work with the older person are required.

Minnesota's own Commission on Aging made the following recommendations in order to advance the well-being of its aged;<sup>2</sup>

2. Minnesota Commission on Aging, "Minnesota's Aging Citizens." December 1954

1. Research into the areas of employment, retirement, health, housing and living arrangements, recreation.
2. Better selection and more adequate training of personnel to work with the aged.
3. Public education program to do away with many prevalent misconceptions about the aged.
4. Establishment of some type of agency to serve as a clearing house for collection and dissemination of information pertaining to the aged.
5. Improved statistical services.
6. Provision of pre-retirement counselling.
7. Provision of a focus, direction, and priority to the various agencies now working with the aged in the state.

Such schools as Duke University, Cornell University, and the University of Michigan have established departments of gerontology to meet similar needs. Other states such as New York, Florida, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut have urged similar programs be adopted.

This thesis proposes that many of the recommendations of the Minnesota Commission on Aging; and problems of acquiring the knowledge, skills, and understanding necessary to help the older age group remain independent members of society; could be met by establishment of a gerontology department at the University of Minnesota.

The purpose of the thesis is the design study of a Gerontology

Center based upon the recommendations of the Minnesota Commission of Aging and the experience of similar agencies and institutions already having such a program. It is also a study of the gerontology center's surrounding environment, which is an area designated for future research type facilities, immediately adjacent to the University of Minnesota's Medical School.<sup>3</sup>

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3. Middlebrook, William T., "How To Estimate The Building Needs Of A College Or University.", University of Minnesota Press, 1958.

The problem is the design of a gerontology center with facilities to accommodate research into gerontological problems, collection and dissemination of information pertaining to gerontology, training of personnel to work with the aged, and services to the adult of retirement and pre-retirement age. The problem also includes the site plan study of a two block area within the campus presently set aside for future research and instructional type buildings.

#### Research

Facilities for coordinated research into various problems of aging by scientists such as sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, economists, architects, educators occupational therapists, must be provided. The research will complement the medical and geriatric research presently conducted at the nearby university hospitals and medical school. Facilities for testing, and interviewing older adults as a part of the research program are required. The space provided must be of a flexible changeable nature that will accommodate constantly new and different programs of investigation. The space must also permit close cooperation between the scientists in the different areas of endeavor.

The scientists will attempt to examine the human situation as a whole. They will not center attention solely upon problems of the destitute, or the chronically ill, but also on the older adult in the more common healthy independent

status.

### Information

The center must provide facilities for the collection and dissemination of information related to the problems of aging. It will include a gerontological library for use by the center's staff, the university student, researchers, and lay leaders working with the older person;; space for publication of written material and preparation of visual aids and exhibits; and a central file of statistics concerning Minnesota's aged.

The center will provide consulting services to local communities and organizations acting and planning programs to meet the needs of their older citizens. It will provide space for meetings and conferences so that people working in the area can exchange information and ideas. Also included will be a public relations department to publicize the activities and programs of the center and other organizations working in the field of gerontology. It will, thru use of mass communication, seek to combat the many prevalent false ideas about the aged and attempt to create a better public awareness of the needs of our older citizens.

Within the center, space shall be set aside for the display of exhibits pertaining to the work and activities of the center and other related agencies. Also displayed will be the craft or hobby work of the older persons who take part in the center's program.

### Training

The center will provide facilities for training of college students at a undergraduate and graduate level to work with the aged. The center will also undertake the training and re-training of adult leaders and volunteer workers presently working with the aged from public and private agencies. The students will receive on-the-job type experience actually working with the older adult as well as lecture or seminar type instruction.

### Services

Services will be provided to the older adult of retirement or pre-retirement age who take in the center's research and training programs. Facilities will be provided to accomodate the following activities;

1. Individual and group counselling on problems the aged may be facing in the following areas:
  - a. Social
  - b. Psychological
  - c. Employment
  - d. Housing
  - e. Education and re-training
  - f. Health
  - g. Management of funds
  - h. Retirement
2. Information and referral services to acquaint the aged with existing agencies, services, and persons that offer help to the aged.
3. Educational program which will include testing and evaluation services, lectures and group discussions,



promotion of adult courses and activities available at the university, guidance in re-training for new jobs, and a library.

4. Member activities for the large group, small group, and individual. The activities will be determined by the interests and skills of the older members who will be urged to initiate and manage them. The staff members will do only what the members cannot do - advise, enable, and channel the interest of the members. Space will be provided for activities of both an active and passive nature such as:

1. Parties.
2. Outings.
3. Lectures, films, guest entertainers.
4. Dancing.
5. Limited calisthenics.
6. Games - billiards, shuffleboard, checkers, chess, cards, dominoes, horseshoe pitching, croquet.
7. Classes and discussion groups.
8. Painting.
9. Sculpture and ceramics.
10. Needlework - sewing, knitting, crocheting, rug-making.
11. Woodwork - carpentry, wood-carving, wood turning.
12. Basketry.
13. Weaving.
14. Jewelry making.
15. Photography.
16. Poetry and creative writing - publication of Center periodical.
17. Sitting and conversation.

The activity program will be of therapeutic value and also give the older adult a sense of achievement in continuing his former interests and skills and exploring new channels of endeavor.

### Site Plan Study

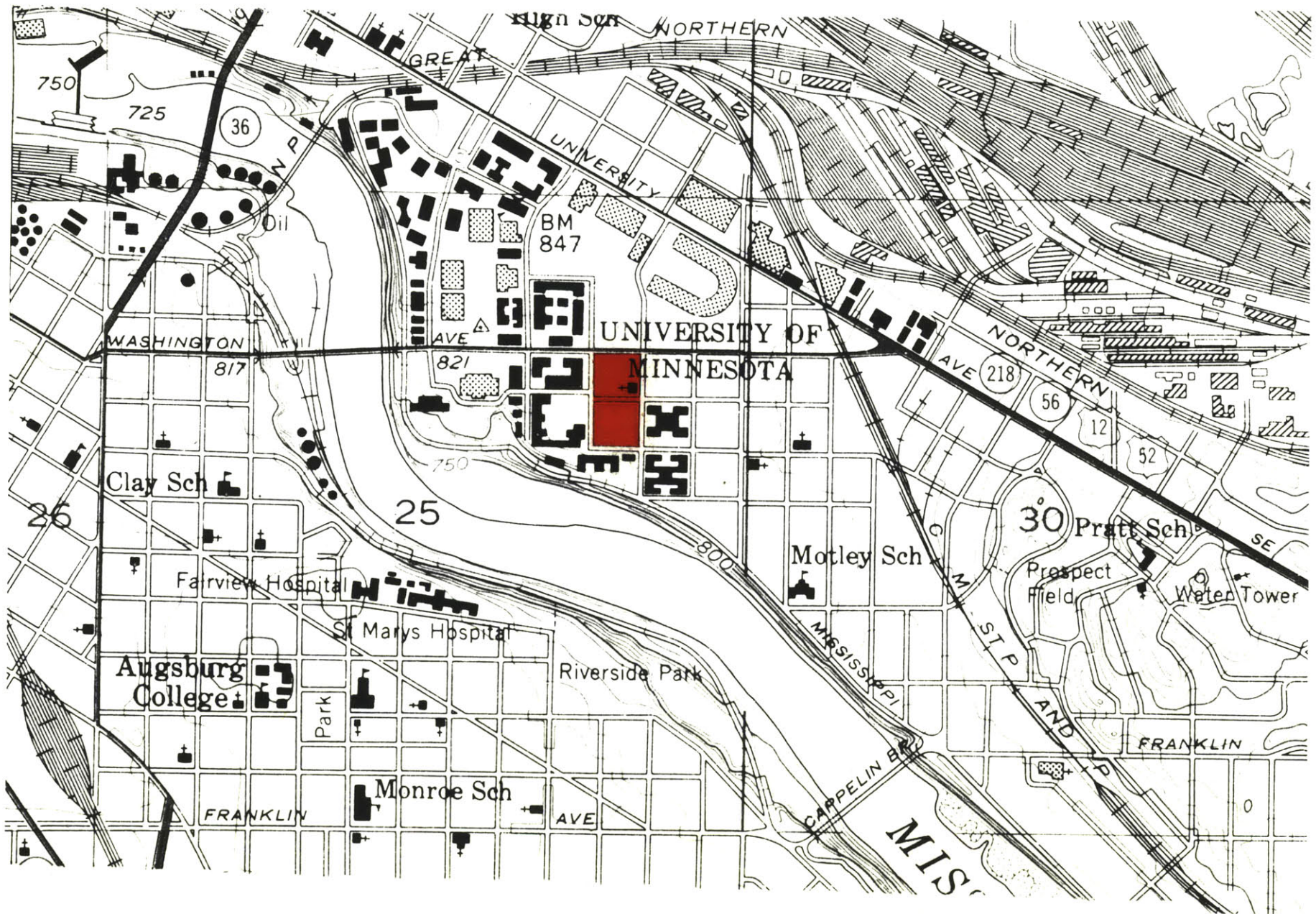
The two block area in which the gerontology center will be located has been allocated to the medical and dental departments of the university to accommodate future research and instructional type building needs. Presently under construction is a Masonic and VFW Cancer Research laboratory. Construction work will soon begin on a Medical-Biological Library. Other forecast building needs, though not as yet programmed, call for office and instructional space for the use of the dental school, medical research laboratory space, and space for state county mental and physical health offices. The author proposes the inclusion of the gerontology center; and also new facilities to accommodate bookstore and coffee shop activities that presently exist in the two block area.

The problem is to study the relationship of these buildings, and the spaces they form, to the adjacent medical school and campus.

The site for the gerontology center is shown on the attached vicinity map. It will be placed within the two block area which has been designated to accommodate the future research and instructional type building needs of the medical and dental departments of the university. Present land use of area is made up of some small commercial establishments; Three story walkup apartment houses; fraternity houses; former residences converted to rooming houses, bookstores and medical and dental supply offices; a small church; and on-grade parking. Average age of the existing structures is approximately 40 years.

Selection of this site for the gerontology center is based upon the following considerations:

1. The services offered the aged person at the gerontology center will complement medical services at the nearby University Hospitals, resulting in a more comprehensive treatment of the total human being.
2. Geriatric research presently conducted at the facilities of the University Hospital and Medical School can be closely coordinated with and related to research undertaken at the gerontology center.
3. As research is to be one of the primary functions of the center it is located to attract elderly people in all states of health, and of varying financial and educational circumstances in order to gain the broadest picture possible of the group.



Both the indigent aged who pass through the county hospital facilities located in the University Medical Center and the healthy independent older person who utilizes the cultural facilities at the University will be in close proximity to the gerontology center.

4. It is centrally located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area where the older adults are fairly evenly distributed about the city with almost no concentration of the elderly in any specific area. <sup>4</sup>
5. The site is on the public bus line connecting the central downtown areas of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Underground parking for 400 cars and ramp parking for 250 cars is immediately adjacent to the site. Both parking facilities have been designed for future expansion.
6. This location of the center would take advantage of the presence of specialists in areas of endeavor related to aging now at the Medical School and other university colleges, and the educational and cultural resources existing on the campus.

The site is very nearly flat in elevation. Sandy soil exists for some 38 feet below grade and extensive underground excavation exists, being used for laboratories and pedestrian passageways between the hospital, research buildings, and

4. Vivrett, Walter K., "The New Program And The Architect." Arch Rec, May 1956

nurse's residences. Steam lines from the central university heating plant are also carried in the pedestrian passageways. An underground parking garage borders the two block area and will be connected to the new building by these passageways.

The site is bordered by amply treed streets all carrying relatively little traffic with the exception of Washington Avenue on the northern boundry. To the West is the University Medical School and Hospital, to the south nurse's residences, and to the east are men's dormitories and multiple family residences.

## A Gerontology Center for the University of Minnesota

Space and facility requirements for the gerontology center will be discussed in the following sections: administration, research, information, adult services, and miscellaneous.

Administration

## 1. Lobbies 500 sq. ft.

Provide sitting space near entrance to building with a view to street or walkway. Access to vertical circulation, telephones, and public rest rooms.

## 2. Telephone Booths, 2 @ 25 sq. ft. 50 sq. ft.

Booths shall be 5 feet by 5 feet in dimension to permit use by people in wheel chairs. Phone shall be mounted on counters 2 feet by 10 inches height.

## 3. Rest Rooms, 4 @ 180 sq. ft. 720 sq.ft.

Lavatories shall be mounted 2 feet 10 inches above the floor to increase accessibility by people in wheel chairs. Mirrors over lavatories shall be angled downward slightly for convenience of wheel chair users. One W.C. stall in each rest room shall be 5 feet by 5 feet for use of persons in wheel chairs.

## 4. Reception and Waiting 800 sq.ft.

Information desk shall control main entrance to the center. Space shall also accommodate 3 desks for individual referral service either by personal contact or by phone. Reception and waiting may be combined

with space allocated for display and exhibition of the center's programs and members work.

5. Director's Office 225 sq. ft.  
The gerontology center director's office shall be located close to main entrance with private access to coat room, lavatory, and conference room. Office shall accommodate, desk, work table, files, secretary's chair, and seating for 3 visitors.
6. Assistant Director's Office 225 sq. ft.  
Office shall accommodate desk, work table, secretary's chair, files and seating for 3 visitors.
7. Business Manager's Office 300 sq. ft.  
Office shall accommodate two desks, two work tables, tabulating machines, and files.
8. General Office 400 sq. ft.  
Space for three secretaries desks, three work tables, files, waiting space for visitors.
9. Conference Room 300 sq. ft.  
The room shall be adjacent to the director's office and have access to private coat room and lavatory.  
Shall accommodate meetings of up to 14 people.
10. Coat Room and Lavatory 75 sq. ft.  
Facilities shall be adjacent to conference room and director's office.
11. Mail Room 100 sq. ft.  
Shall include facilities for the preparation of items for mailing, and receiving and distribution of incoming



mail to the various departments in the center. Should be located close to service entrance of building.

Research

1. General Office 400 sq. ft.  
 Space for reception and visitor waiting, 4 secretary's desks, 3 work tables, and files.
2. Research Director's Office 225 sq. ft.  
 The research director's office shall accommodate a desk, work table, secretary's chair, files, and seating for 3 visitors. The office shall have private access to lavatory, coat closet, and conference room.
3. Conference Room 300 sq. ft.  
 The conference room shall be adjacent to the director's office and have access to private coat room and lavatory. The room shall accommodate meetings of up to 14 people.
4. Coat Room and Lavatory 75 sq. ft.  
 Facilities shall be adjacent to conference room and director's office.
5. Staff Offices, 10 @ 150 sq. ft. 1500 sq. ft.  
 Shall provide office space for scientists from the different fields engaged in research, interviewing, counselling, and handling teaching assignments in the gerontology center. The offices shall be closely related to interviewing and counselling rooms, and rooms used for student seminars and instructional purposes. Offices shall accommodate a desk, work table, seat for visitor, and bookshelves.

6. Seminar Rooms, 3 @ 300 sq. ft. 900 sq. ft.

Rooms shall be for instructional use and also as work space for graduate assistants engaged in gerontology research. Rooms shall be adjacent to interviewing and counselling facilities, and the staff offices. They shall be furnished with conference tables or work tables.

7. Clerical 400 sq. ft.

Space shall be provided for 4 secretary's desks, files, and 2 work tables.

8. Storage 100 sq. ft.

Space for storage of office supplies shall be provided adjacent to clerical office.

9. Interview and Counselling Rooms 900 sq. ft.  
6 @ 100 sq. ft.  
2 @ 150 sq. ft.

These rooms are for individual or group interviewing or counselling closely related to staff offices.

Space shall be provided for interviewer's desk and seating for 1 to 4 persons depending upon room size.

10. Reception and Waiting 400 sq. ft.

Provide space for receptionist's desk and sitting space for people waiting to be interviewed or counselled.

11. Interview Storage 100 sq. ft.

This room is for storage of interview forms and literature used in counselling.

12. Special Projects 1000 sq. ft.

Provide space that is of a flexible nature that will accommodate experiments of varied nature. Experiments may require total enclosure or normal indoor-outdoor relationship. The room should be adjacent to outdoor space that may be used for experiments. Private access to lavatories for both men and women, and to space that may be used for a small working laboratory must be provided.

13. Future Laboratory 200 sq. ft.

Space that is adaptable to future use as a working laboratory, if experiments conducted in special project room requires it, shall be provided.

14. Lavatories, 2 @ 40 sq. ft. 80 sq. ft.

Men and womens' lavatory immediately accessible to special projects area shall be provided.

Information

1. Gerontology Library 1400 sq. ft.

The library shall contain a collection of books, pamphlets, and periodicals that concern the aged. It will be used by staff members, students, researchers, and lay leaders working in the field of gerontology. Shelving for approximately 4000 volumes, plus file and storage space for pamphlets and periodicals, will be required. Reading tables, catalog, and librarian's desk are also included. The library should be closely

1. Gerontology Library (cont)

related to research file room, statistics, and public relations sections.

2. Research File Room 600 sq. ft.

This room shall contain stack and filing facilities for volumes, manuscripts, research reports of a valuable or personal nature that would not be available to the entire public.

3. Librarian's Office 150 sq. ft.

This office shall contain desk and work table and be so oriented to provide visual control of library and research file room.

4. Workroom 150 sq. ft.

The workroom shall contain work counters and tables and also will be oriented so as to provide visual control of the library and research file room.

5. Reading Room 250 sq. ft.

This room will accommodate three reading tables where staff members and researchers may examine and use material contained in the research file room.

6. Public Relations General Office 400 sq. ft.

Space shall be provided for reception and waiting, 3 secretary's desks, 3 work tables, and files.

7. Public Relations Director's Office 225 sq. ft.

The directors office shall accommodate a desk, work table, secretary's chair, and seating for 3 visitors. The office shall have private access to lavatory,

7. Public Relations Director's Office (cont)  
 coat room, and conference room.
8. Conference Room 300 sq. ft.  
 The conference room shall be adjacent to the director's office and have access to private coat room and lavatory. It will accomodate meetings of up to 14 people.
9. Coat Room and Lavatory 75 sq. ft.  
 Facilities will be adjacent to conference room and Public Relation Director's office
10. Writer's Office 300 sq. ft.  
 This office shall be used by assistants to the director and contain 2 desks and 2 work tables.
11. Statistician's Office 225 sq. ft.  
 Office shall accomodate desk, work table, secretary's chair, files, and seating for 2 visitors.
12. Storage and Machine Room 200 sq. ft.  
 This room will accomodate storage of office supplies mimeo and tabulating machines used in the information section.
13. Display 800 sq. ft.  
 Space for display and exhibition of items pertaining to the activities of the center and the other state organizations working with the aged. The display space shall be located in a central prominent location within the center, and may be incorporated with the main lobby.

Adult Services

1. Multi-purpose Room 2500 sq. ft.

This space will accomodate active recreational pursuits, such as parties, dancing, games. Furnishings should be sufficiently flexible so the room can be used by one large group or several small groups.

As the multi-purpose room may also be used as dining space in the case of very large gatherings it should be adjacent to dining and kitchen facilities.

2. Recreation Director's Office 200 sq. ft.

The office shall be adjacent to multi-purpose room, provide space for desk, work table, seating for 3 visitors, and storage cabinet for games.

3. Chair and Table Storage 400 sq. ft.

Storage room shall be provided adjacent to multi-purpose room for storage of folding tables, and chairs, folding stage, and game equipment.

4. Coat Room 100 sq. ft.

This coat room shall be for use of persons using the multi-purpose room or dining room.

5. Coffee Bar 100 sq. ft.

The coffee bar shall serve coffee and rolls and be accessible from either the dining room or the multi-purpose room.

6. Dining Room 1600 sq. ft.

Dining space shall be provided for 80 persons, allowing 20 sq. ft. per person. The dining room shall be

## 6. Dining Room (cont)

capable of being divided into smaller area for group banquets or meetings. Both the older adults and the staff of the center shall make use of the dining room. Cafeteria type serving will be used.

## 7. Group Consultation Room 400 sq. ft.

This room will accommodate groups of up to 20 people, and shall be equipped with blackboard, screen for use of slides or films, and lecture-demonstration table. Both the older persons and the students shall make use of this room.

## 8. Classroom 1200 sq. ft.

This room shall be equipped with 40 desks and will be used for lecture and demonstration purposes. It shall also have a blackboard, screen for slides or films, and lecture table. The students and the older persons shall both use this classroom.

## 9. Adult Education General Office 300 sq. ft.

This space shall accommodate the reception and waiting of visitors, and be equipped with 2 secretary's desks, 2 work tables, files, and display table.

## 10. Adult Education Director's Office 225 sq. ft.

The director's office shall accommodate a desk, work table, secretary's chair, and seating for 3 visitors. The office shall have private access to lavatory, coat room, and conference room.



11. Conference Room 300 sq. ft.

The conference room shall be adjacent to the director's office and have access to private coat room and lavatory. It shall accommodate meetings of up to 14 people. It shall also be used by older adults for filing of application forms or writing of tests.

12. Adult Reading Room 500 sq. ft.

Reading room shall be equipped with reading tables and lounge chairs. Here the older person has access to newspapers, periodicals, and books. Books can be obtained from other university libraries upon request. This room should be adjacent to quiet activity room.

13. Discussion Room 300 sq. ft.

Groups of up to 14 people may gather in this room for discussion of books or other matters of interest. This room shall be adjacent to the adult reading room.

14. Librarian 150 sq. ft.

Librarian's desk and work space shall be provided in location that visually controls the adult reading room and discussion room. Here books may be checked out or in and requests made for books from other university libraries.

15. Quiet Activity Room 2500 sq. ft.

This space will accommodate recreational activities of a more passive nature, such as sewing, knitting, crocheting, rug-making, weaving, basketry, writing, work on hobbies, etc.

16. Recreation Director's Office 200 sq. ft.

The office shall be adjacent to quiet activity room; providing space for desk, work table, seating for 3 visitors, and storage cabinets.

17. Coat Room 100 sq. ft.

This coat room shall be for persons using quiet activity room, reading room, and arts and crafts rooms. It shall also accomodate equipment storage.

18. Dark Room 100 sq. ft.

This room is for use of both staff and older adult interested in photography.

19. Arts and Crafts Room 800 sq. ft.

This room shall be used for such activities as painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry making, etc. Shall be equipped with work sink and storage space for craft supplies.

20. Bench Work 700 sq. ft.

This room shall be used for carpentry, wood carving, wood turning, etc. It shall be equipped with work benches, and light power tools. Efforts to isolate this room acoustically from rest of the building should be made.

21. Crafts Director's Office 225 sq. ft.

This office should be adjacent to and visually control the arts and crafts room and the bench room. Space shall accomodate two desks, two work tables, chairs for 3 visitors.

22. Supply 150 sq. ft.

This room shall be for storage and issuing of tools and material for use in the arts and crafts room and the bench work room.

23. Storage 200 sq. ft.

This storage space shall be adjacent to bench work room and quiet activity room and shall be for equipment and project storage.

24. Sitting 800 sq. ft.

In addition to main lobby and waiting area provide space for sitting and conversation.

#### Miscellaneous

1. Food Service 800 sq. ft.

Provide facilities for storage, preparation, cafeteria type serving, and dishwashing, etc. It shall be adjacent to service facilities of the building.

2. Female Employee Lockers 200 sq. ft.

This room should be adjacent to kitchen and provide locker, lounge, shower, and toilet facilities.

3. Male Employee Locker 200 sq. ft.

This room shall provide lockers, shower, and toilet facilities.

4. Janitor's Closet, 3 @ 40 sq. ft. 120 sq. ft.

Provide mop sink and storage space for janitors supplies.

5. Receiving and Storage 800 sq. ft.

This space should be provided near service entrances and vertical circulation.

6. Mechanical 1200 sq. ft.

This space shall accommodate heating and air-conditioning equipment. Steam is provided from central university heating plant.

7. General Storage 1000 sq. ft.

8. Maintenance Shop 500 sq. ft.

9. Passage Ways

Provide pedestrian passageways to neighboring buildings. They will also carry steamlines from central heating plant.

## SPACE TABULATION FOR GERONTOLOGY CENTER

Administration

	<u>sq. ft. area</u>
1. Lobbies	500
2. Telephone Booths, 2 @ 25 sq. ft.	50
3. Rest Rooms, 4 @ 180 sq. ft.	720
4. Reception and Waiting	800
5. Director's Office	225
6. Assistant Director's Office	225
7. Business Manager's Office	300
8. General Office	400
9. Conference Room	300
10. Coat Room and Lavatory	75
11. Mail Room	<u>100</u>

total - 3685 sq. ft.

Research

1. General Office	400
2. Research Director's Office	225
3. Conference Room	300
4. Coat Room and Lavatory	75
5. Staff Offices, 10 @ 150 sq. ft.	1500
6. Seminar Rooms, 3 @ 300 sq. ft.	900
7. Clerical	300
8. Storage	100
9. Interview and Counselling	900
6 @ 100 sq. ft.	
2 @ 150 sq. ft.	
10. Reception and Waiting	400
11. Interview Storage	100
12. Special Projects	1000
13. Future Laboratory	200
14. Lavatory, 2 @ 40 sq. ft.	<u>80</u>

total - 6480 sq. ft.

Information

1. Gerontology Library	1400
2. Research File Room	600
3. Librarian's Office	150
4. Workroom	150
5. Reading Room	250
6. Public Relations General Office	400
7. Public Relations Director's Office	225
8. Conference Room	300
9. Coat Room And Lavatory	75
10. Writer's Office	300
11. Statistician's Office	225
12. Storage and Machine Room	200
13. Display	<u>800</u>

total - 5075 sq. ft.

Adult Services

sq. ft. area

1. Multi-purpose Room	2500
2. Recreation Director's Office	200
3. Chair and Table Storage	400
4. Coat Room	100
5. Coffee Bar	100
6. Dining Room	1600
7. Group Consultation Room	400
8. Classroom	1200
9. Adult Education General Office	300
10. Adult Education Director's Office	225
11. Conference Room	300
12. Adult Reading Room	500
13. Discussion Room	300
14. Librarian	150
15. Quiet Activity Room	2500
16. Recreation Director's Office	200
17. Coat Room	100
18. Dark Room	100
19. Art and Crafts Room	800
20. Bench Work	700
21. Crafts Director's Office	225
22. Supply	150
23. Storage	200
24. Sitting	800

total - 13,950 sq. ft.

Miscellaneous

1. Food Service	800
2. Female Employee Lockers	200
3. Male Employee Lockers	200
4. Janitor's Closet, 3 @ 40 sq. ft.	120
5. Receiving and Storage	800
6. Mechanical	1200
7. General Storage	1000
8. Maintenance Shop	500

total - 4820 sq. ft.

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Section	sq. ft. area
Administration	3685
Research	6480
Information	5075
Adult Services	13950
Miscellaneous	4820

total area - 34010 sq. ft.

## SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM

Site Study

The site study presented introduces three new buildings into the research and instructional area, and an addition to the Medical School and Hospital which is immediately adjacent.

Their above grade square foot areas are as follows:

	<u>Total Area</u>	<u>Useable Area</u> (less 1/3 for circulation, mechanical, etc.)
1. Gerontology Center	47, 200 sq. ft.	31, 460 sq. ft.
2. Medical, Dental School office, and laboratory building.	88, 400 sq. ft.	59, 500 sq. ft.
3. Bookstore, coffee shop.	19, 200 sq. ft.	12, 800 sq. ft.
4. Addition to entrance of Medical School and Hospital.	9, 600 sq. ft.	

The reasons for inclusion of the first three buildings have been discussed in the foregoing sections. The addition to the medical school and hospital will relieve the very congested lobby, information, and coffee shop facilities that presently exist. It is the author's feeling that the main entrance to a major building that covers over a two block area deserves more depth and dramatic treatment than now exists. The addition unifies a fragmented facade that faces on the major space in the area.

The spaces formed by the existing buildings are either very poorly defined or corridor-like in nature. This study would

establish more comprehensible spaces; varying in size, planting, nature of activity. The largest space serves as auto and pedestrian entrance to the University Hospital and Medical School and is adjacent to the two block research area. The Cancer Research Laboratory, the Bio-Medical Library, the Gerontology Center, and the Medical-Dental laboratory office building, define a large grassed area of a rather quiet nature. Also included are a small paved court and a medium sized grassed area utilized by the older adults taking part in the gerontology center's program. The grass area shall be an extension of the center's multi-purpose room and used for outdoor activities such as games, cookouts, or just sitting.

This plan involves closing of a little traveled street. It would become a pedestrian walkway, linking the Medical School and the research area, with the student dormitories and parking areas to the east. The walkway will pass thru the large quiet space formed by the research buildings and the library and pass under the Medical-Dental Office building into the larger Medical School-Hospital entrance space.

Service to the buildings within the two block research-instructional area would be from points around its perimeter. Underground service is also possible via passageways to the underground parking garage next to the site.

The buildings in the two block area cover 40 percent of the site. This compares favorably to the approximate 38 percent coverage of the academic portions of the campus. The Hospital-



Medical School covers approximately 48 percent of its site.

### Gerontology Center

The gerontology center is a two story rectangular building with its activities arranged around a central covered court. From this central space the older person can comprehend the nature of the building and be visually directed to and of its functions which emanate from surrounding corridors. It will serve as a constant focus or point of orientation, reducing the chance of any confusion on the older person's part. Ease of control and supervision of the center's activities also result from this arrangement.

The research, information, and instruction functions of the center are so arranged to look out into a large quiet space to the south. The other bordering buildings contain activities of a similar nature - library, offices, research laboratories. Portions of the center accomodating the older adult activities face across space reserved for outdoor programs to other portions of the campus and a well traveled street.

The major spaces within the building are extended by use of exterior balconies and terraces. They provide space for outdoor sitting and activities and circulation. The balconies and terraces aid to the depth of the facade and evoke of feeling of protection or shelter. They ease the transition from exterior to interior space.

To avoid being dominated by the nearby hospital atmosphere which might produce an undesirable psychological effect on

the older person, the center is shielded from the hospital entrance and tower by the office-research laboratory building. The overhanging balconies and fenestration also shield out the view of this structure.

A uniform structural system of concrete frame and prestressed concrete channel slabs is employed throughout the building. They provide a clear span of 40 feet to accommodate change and flexibility as called for in program. The one-way nature of the channel enables the mechanical and electrical equipment to be carried within the depth of the structure thereby reducing the building cube.

Pre-Cast concrete of a more dense "mosai" type will be used as exterior panels. They shall be of uniform size, textured and pierced when used as balcony rails and sun screens. The simple rectangular form of the center when viewed from a distance, will be enriched, upon approach, by depth of balcony and sunscreen details.

Within a relatively simple structural and administrative framework the author has sought to offer a wide choice of spatial and environmental experiences and functional possibilities.

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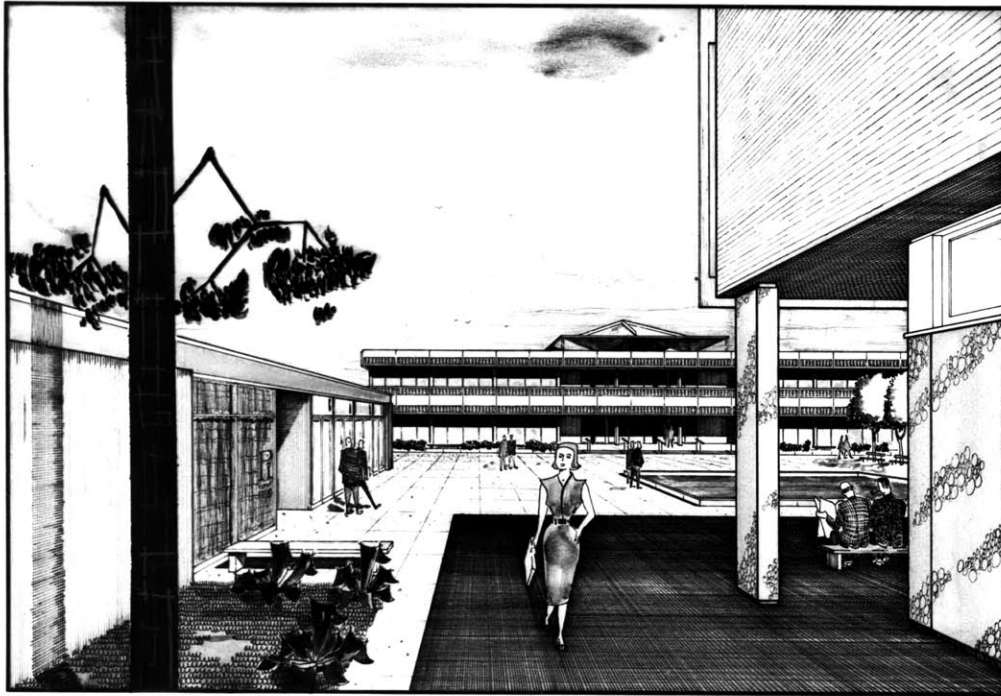
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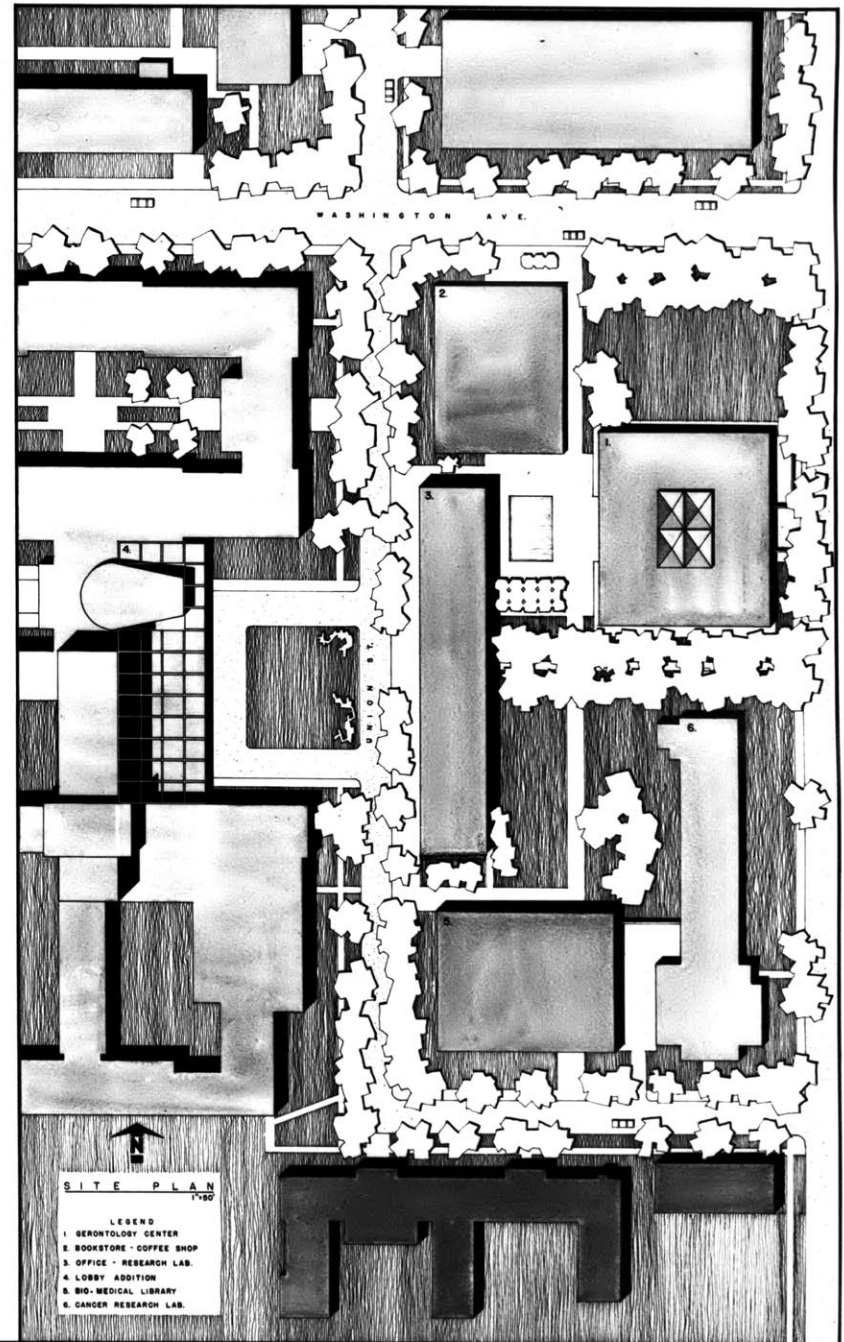
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FOR

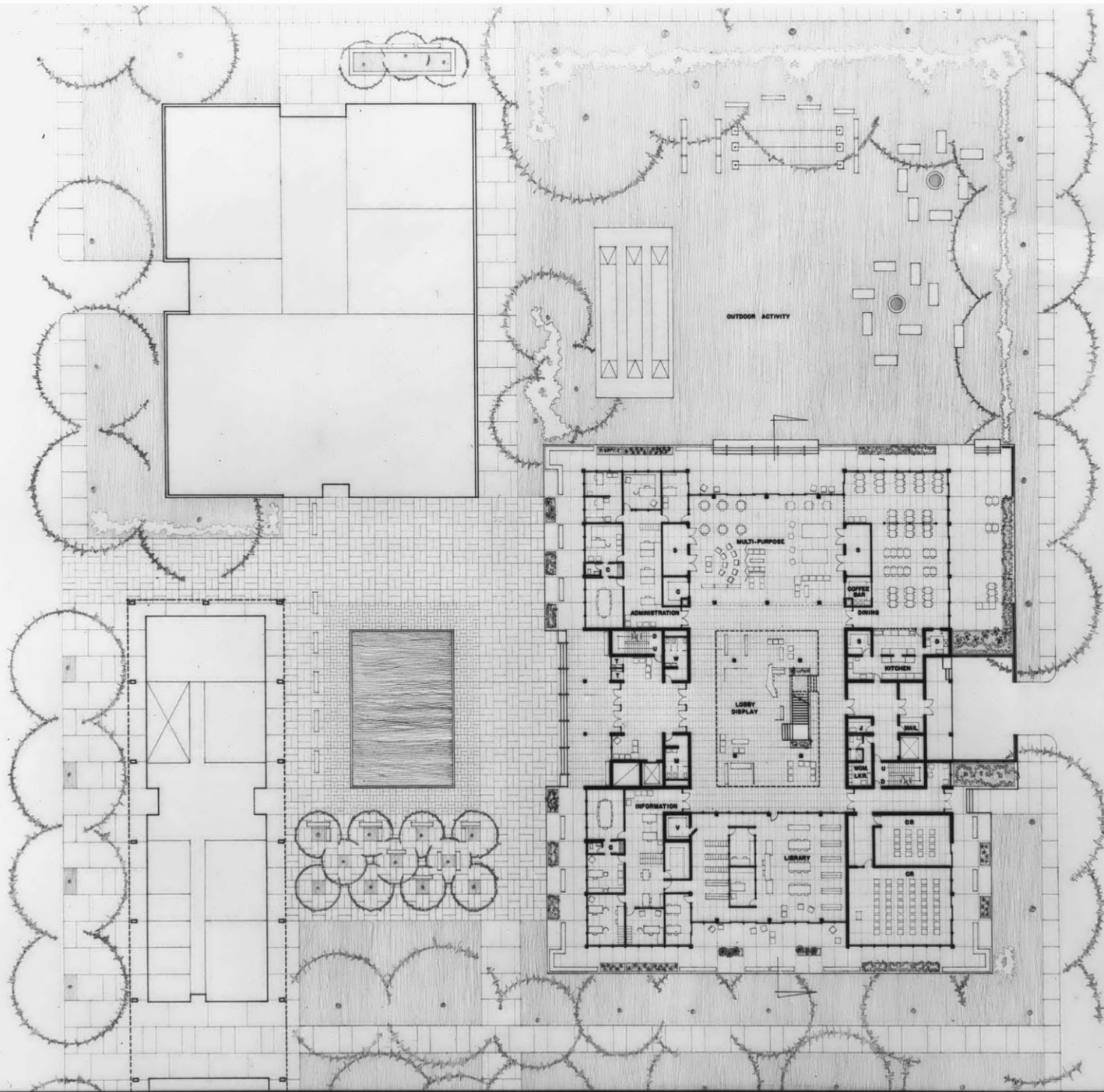
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 JOHN R MILLER AUGUST 1968

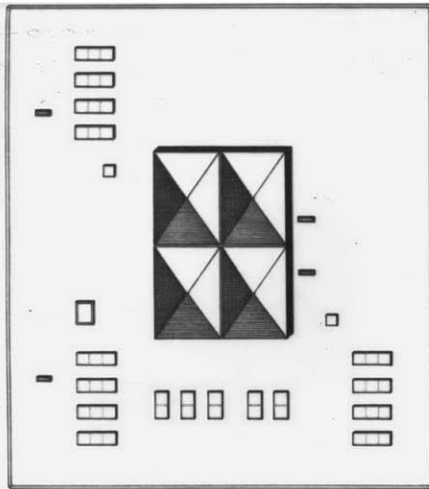


INTERIOR COURT

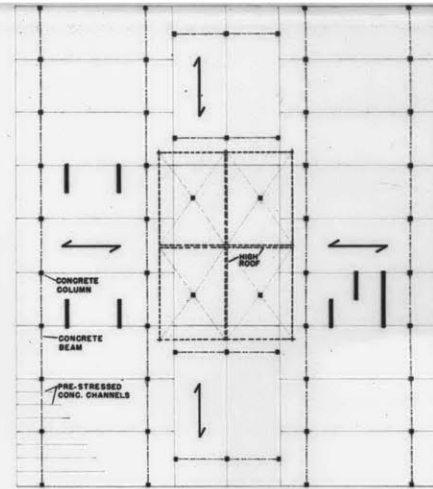


GROUND FLOOR PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"

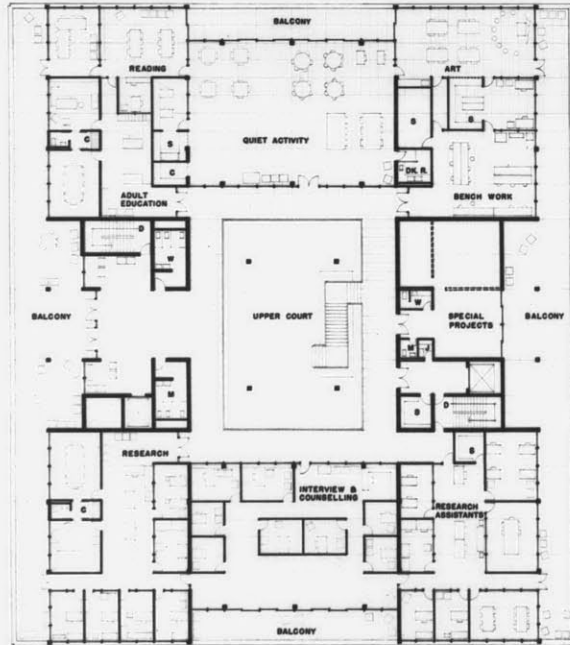
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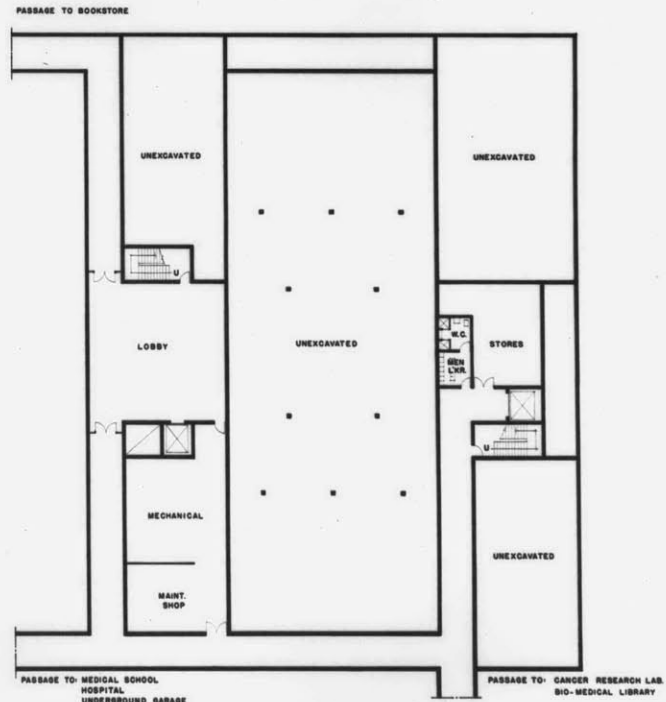
ROOF PLAN



FRAMING PLAN



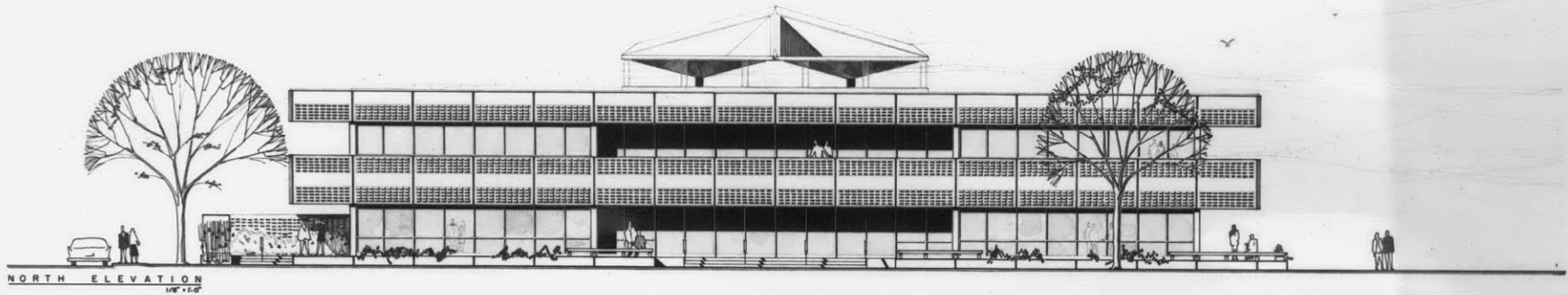
SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"



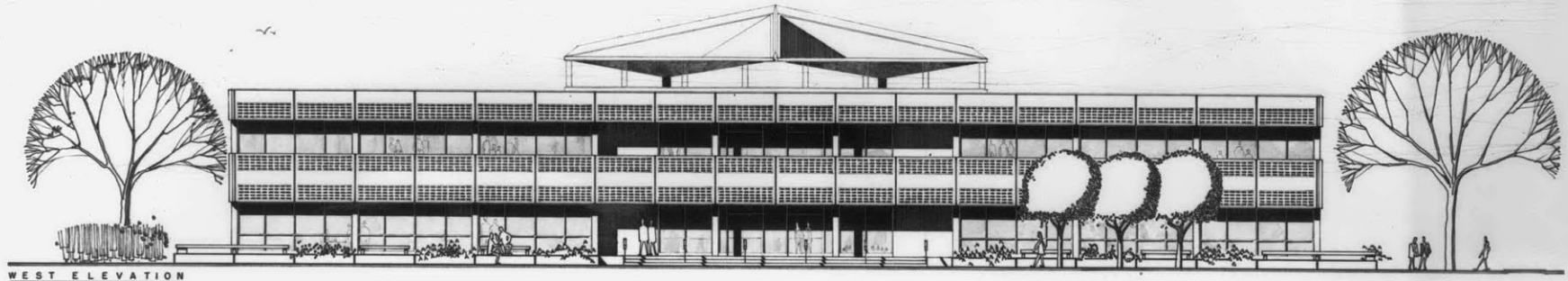
BASEMENT PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"



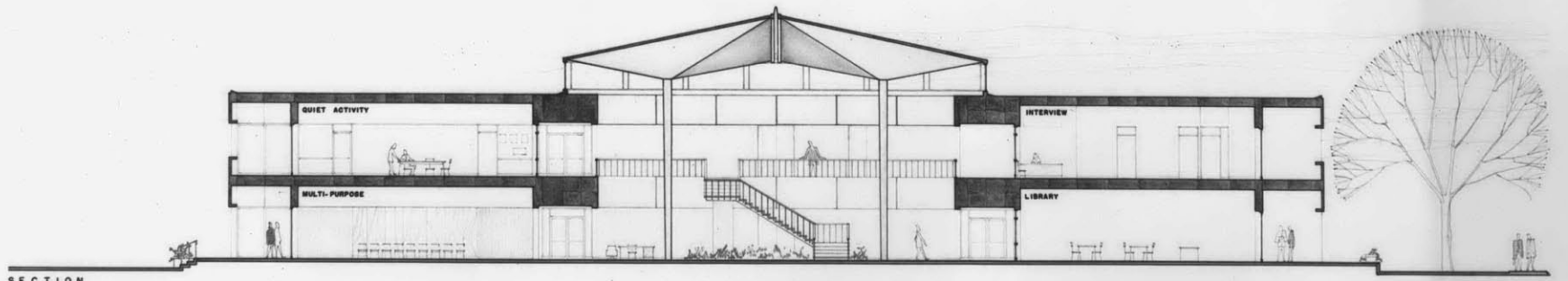




NORTH ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"

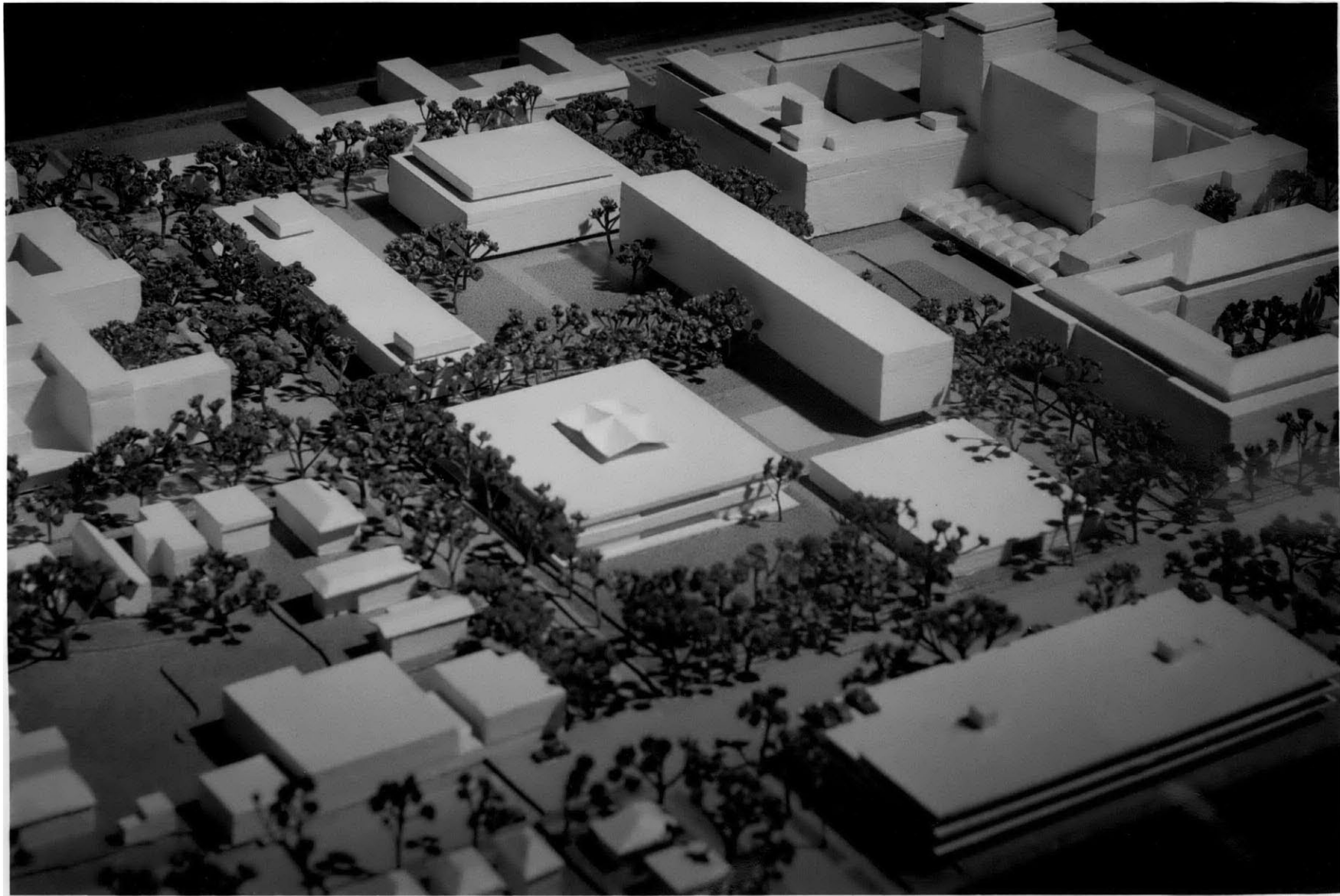


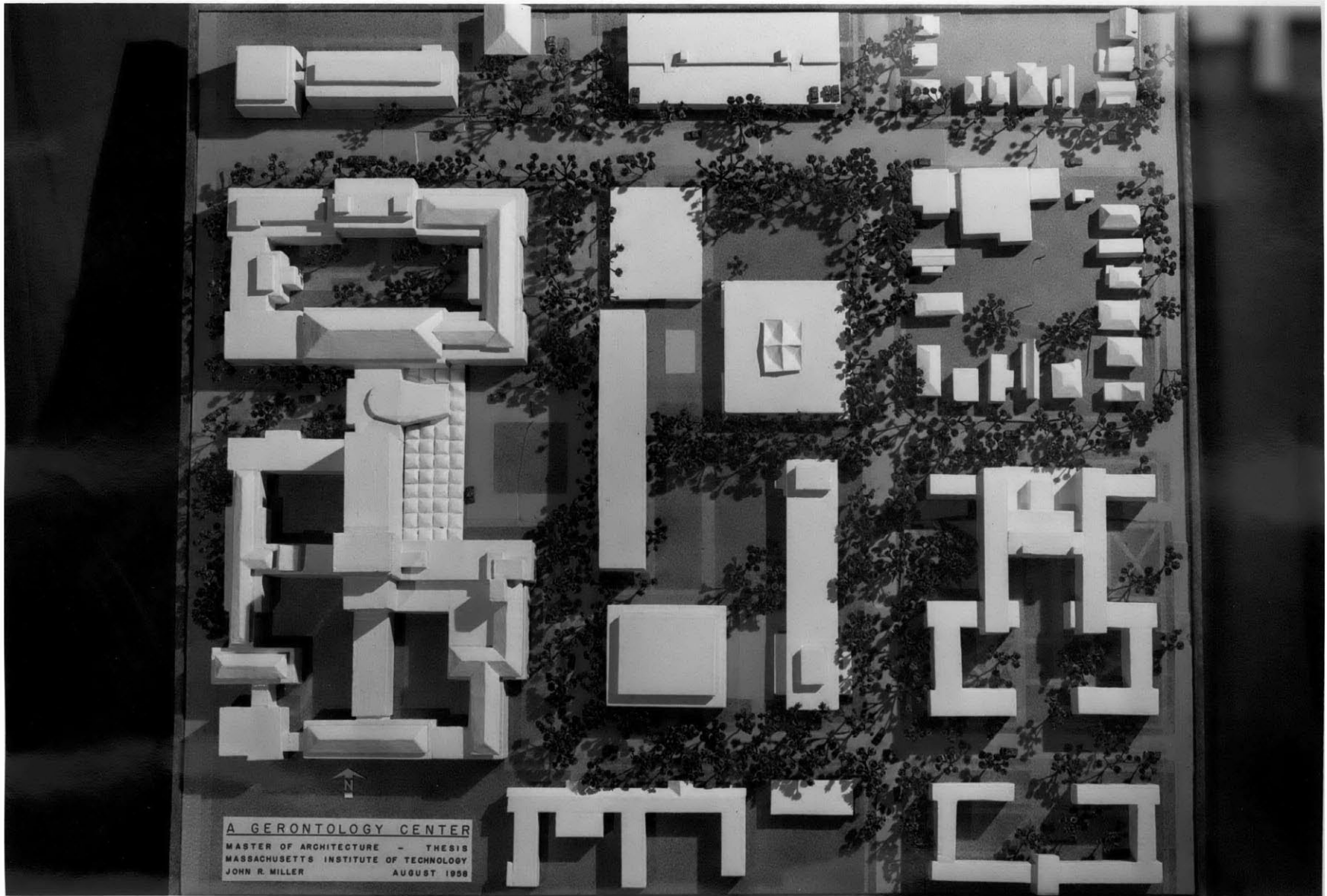
WEST ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION  
1/8" = 1'-0"

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