KWARA STATE GOVERNMENT LIAISON OFFICE, ABUJA

BY

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis work has been a personal academic undertaking executed under the supervision of my supervisor, Arc.Tunde Arayela of the Department of Architecture, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and that all quotations and information utilized and their sources have been duely acknowledged by way of reference.

AFOLABI, M.Abayomi

Date: 13/9/91.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

This thesis entitled Kwara State Government Liaison Office Abuja, An alternative Approach to the design of Liaison Offices by Afolabi M. Abayomi meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Master of Science Architecture (M.Sc.Arch.) of Ahmadu Bello University, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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Dean, Post-Graduate School	Date

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

The process of compiling,drawing and writing up this thesis has indebted me to some people and it becomes imperative that I express my gratitude and appreciations. I must emphasise here my profound gratitude to my supervisor Arc.Tunde Arayela whose advice and extra attention has made the completion of this work possible.

Five years in the department of Architecture has opportuned me to be taught by so many people, my most sincere thanks go to Dr. Solanke, Arc,Qurix Banabas, Dr.Ogunsote,Arc.Madu,Arc.Murkthar and others.

My sincere thanks also go to Arc.Bunmi Ajiboye for her immense help in the process of my Data collection and for providing me with the necessary materials.

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who paid good attention to me and was always ready to provide me with what I needed. Funke Bello a friend indeed, Ronke, Evelyn,Rosy,Alero,Toyin Olowokere, Archie, Ikhana,Adejo junior,Adams, Dominic Gusah,Abraham, Arome, Rotimi, Oguns Tunde Olajide and Yoloye I love you all for your concern.

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Most of all I thank God Almighty whose love blessings and grace transcends any realm of human expression.

D E D I C A T I O N

To God Almighty whose word is not void of power and by whose grace I am what I am.

My parents Chief and Mrs. Tolufase.

A B S T R A C T

Since all states are answerable to the Federal Government, Liaison Offices have been established to serve as links between the Federal seat and the states so as to cut down the Bureaucracy in the communication between the two bodies. Being a representational building, representing the state in the Federal Government seat, it therefore stands the function of providing all necessary informations concerning the state.

This thesis fundamentally seeks to look into the present approach of liaison offices design based on their function and propose a design that will go beyond the office and guest accommodation approach but also pay attention to how the states artefacts and important features could be displayed. This will of course increase the information capability of Liaison Offices.

The thesis also seeks to consider the government workers in the design of the accommodation facility. Attention also has been paid to recreactional facilities in such an environment to enliven the users.

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CHAPTER ONE

1:0 INTRODUCTION

Nigeria is a conglomeration of ethnic groups that are pieced together with the seat of government currently in Lagos.

Since all states are answerable to the federal government, it therefore follows that representation of states within the seat of the government so as to cut down the bureaucracy in the communication between the federal and the states shall be made. These strong representations are realised in the establishment of liaison offices in the capital.

Therefore the liaison office serves the purpose of representing the state within the capital as a forum for information dissemination. It serves as a bank of information particularly about the state concerned.

1:1 Historical Background Of Liaison Office

The year 1940 marked the introduction of the Richard Constitution, so named after the then Governor of Nigeria Sir Arthur Richards. It also marked the begining of regionalism and also was the year when the administration of Northern Nigeria was brought into the general frame-work of the government of Nigeria.

What today is known as Nigeria is the product of the amalgamation in January 1st 1914 of the territories known as the northern and southern provinces of Nigeria by Sir Frederick Lugard who was then the Governor-General. Though the two territories were supposed to have amalgamated into one political unit for all practical purposes, they were administered as separate entities. During this era the northern provinces were isolated from the political atmosphere of Nigeria due to the crudity in their political institutions and they are also pristine. Lord Lugard came to an agreement with the Emirs after the subjugation of Sokoto in 1905. Among other things, it was agreed that the colonial government would not interfere with the religious beliefs of the people. Activities of the christian Missionaries were however restricted only to those areas of the North where the religion was not Islam.

The Christian Missionaries brought with them modern western education which the colonial masters believed was a threat to their ruling. So the isolation of the North politically was an attempt to prevent it from being infected with the same idea like the southerners who were educated and advocating for self governing and equal employment but it was hard to keep the qualities due to trade and commerce link between provinces and this means

movement of people, the exchange of ideas and the maintenance of certain public services such as railways, post and Telecommunication services which meant bringing southerners to the north eventhough attempts were made to segregate them in quarters called sabon-gari, this could not control the interraction between the southerners and the northerners, hence the transfer of ideas and sentiments; The need therefore to maintain some frame-work of administration mean people themselves could not be altogether insulated from the form of Western Education and the very ideas which the administration regarded as ignis-Fatuus.

This spread of education and the creation of a new educated class, the growth of the railway and other form of transport which led to increased opportunities for trade and commerce and the new business groups co-opted with political changes in other parts of British Colony, meant that the participation of these new classes in the political power of the state could not be delayed. So by 1938 the then Governor Sir Bonald Cameron put forward some proposals for political reform, but could not be fully proposed due to the second world war, but was finally put into form in 1946 by Sir Arthur Richards, his successor.

But then the Richards's constitution was not accepted and was rejected so widely. By 1949 the change was imperative and consequently emerged Macpherson constitution which came into effect in 1951 and this marked the move towards regionalism in Federal setting and it facilitated the process of political party formation. Though the then Macpherson constitution had conferred on regions to make their own laws, there still remained constraints on that power, these difficulties were erased off in Lyttleton constitution of 1954 which lasted till independence, some of the important points contained in the constitutio were as follows:

i. Nigera was to be a Federation made up of a Federal Government, and three Regional Governments, each with specified powers such that no one government could legislate on matters not allocated to it.

ii. Each region was to have its own civil service which would be headed by the regional Executive to which the bureaucracy would be responsible.

iii. Each Regional Government would be responsible for the purchasing, and marketing of all exports produced in that region.

iv. In each region the popular head of the government was to be known as the Governor.

This Littleton constitution was adopted through independence with some minor changes, this marked

the first stage of regional representation within the Federal seat in Lagos, the regional Liaison between 1960 to 1968; Nigeria went through a period of political unrest which consequently called for the intervention of the Military into Nigerian politics and consequently eroding the power of the regional government and the increase in power of the Federal Government; although the Military intervention was advocated for but it was not without its own problem which is outside the scope of this thesis. The intervention however led to Nigerians Civil War. Before the civil war Nigeria still had the main three regions and the Federal Government than the regional government to delibrate on matters partaining to the regions which resulted to a more closeness between the regions and the federal government.

The then Head of State was induced to create new states just before the civil war, in order to generate support for the federal government, and hence be in a better position to prosecute the civil war, in order to generate support for the federal government, and hence be in a better position to prosecute the civil war. prior to this call in 1953, the minority tribes had been demanding that more regions should be created in the country, they claim that the political frame-work as it then existed was not legitimate particularly in the distribution of economic goods being denied them by the controlling major ethnic groups.

The underlying logic behind the creation of states in 1967 by the then Federal Government was to remove the fear of continued domination of the federation by the Northern Region which meant that the Northern Zone had to be broken into smaller units, to seek to create a new focus of loyalty and attachment for the new Ibo speaking people of Eastern region. In other words, to break up the solidarity of the people of what is know as "BIAFRA", which meant breaking up of Eastern region into smaller units. And finally to seek the service of a geographical area which could not be easily threatened by any of the states and within which the security of the federal authority and its agent could be adequately protected, which meant extending the boundaries of the federal capital territory to cover such an area from which the federal government could readily contain any threat from the western Region. This resulted in the creation of Lagos state and proclamation of Lagos as the capital of the federation.

Breaking up the Northern and Eastern Region posed the problem of into how many units each could be split while at the same time preserving traditional linkages and continuity of interests and incurring the minimum administrative costs and loss of information are not necessarily compatible but the attempt at reconciling the two, given the strategic objective of

the Federal Government dictated a minimum of six states in the North and three in the East. Nigeria therefore ended up with 12 states in 1967. But effective communications and representation of the Eastern states was not existing after the war with Federal system of government in operation then. It was then found necessary to have a branch of the Governor's office within the seat of the federal seat to inform and cater for matters purtaining to the states within the capital. By the year 1973, Lagos were allocated to each of the existing states then in Victoria Island to build, equip and man his own liaison office. Considering that was then a military structure of government that was existing and regions has been taken over by states, and power conferred on the states dictated by the federal government.

It was then evident that the Federal Government was the dictating factor in a matter affecting the political, economical and geographical set up of the nation. This argues for the effective representation of states in Lagos the capital. So then we had twelve liaison offices existing.

There existed some unresolved problems before the assumption of office by general Muritala Mohammed as the head of state; one of the problems was; one of the states North-east state covered an area which

was one third of the total land area of the federation and after his assumption of office after a bloodless coup, a five-man panel was set up to be headed by a justice of the supreme court charged to examine the question of the creation of more states in the federation and should the committee found the creation of more states necessary and desirable to:

(a) advise on the delimitation of such states:

(b) advise on the economic viability of the proposed states;

(c) advise on the location of the administrative capital of the proposed states; and

(d) examine and advise on all other factors that may appear to the committee to be relevant, so as to enable the government take a decision which will ensure a balanced federation.

The committee decided to accept the following as criteria for recommending the necessity and desirability of having more states, the need to bring government closer to the people ensure even development, preserve peace and harmony within the federation and minimise minority problems.

On the basis of these accepted criteria and considering the various proposals submitted to the committee the members recommended breaking the federation into nineteen states.

Briefly, the recommendations were as follows:

Western State

To be divided into three states- Oyo,Ogun and Ondo States.

South-Eastern State

To be divided into two states- Cross River and rivers State.

East Central State

To be divided into two states

(Udi renamed Anambra by the federal government) and Imo States.

Benue/Plateau State

To be divided into two states- Benue and Plateau.

North-East State

To be divided into three states-Borno, Bauchi and Gongola States.

North Central State

To remain as it was but renamed, Kaduna State.

North-West

To be divided into two states-Sokoto and Niger States.

Kano State

To remain as it was, Kano.

Mid-West

To remain as it was but to be renamed Bendel

Rivers State

To remain as it was and the name Rivers retained.

Kwara State

To remain unchanged.

Lagos State

To be merged with proposed Ogun State

The committee's recommendations were accepted with two exceptions; the federal government rejected the recommendation that Lagos state should be merged with Ogun-State, and that South-Eastern State be split into two preferring instead to retain the state as a single unit but with the name changed to cross rivers.

The committee stated that if more states were not created, "The resources open to the government would be thinly spread on the ground and would constitute in effect a relative holding back of development within the state.

Consequently in 1976, seven more states were created out of the existing twelve states to give rise to nineteen states, and the further proclamation of the federal capital Territory with Abuja as the capital following the acceptance of justice Akinola Aguda's report in the same year.

Understanding the necessity of the existence of liaison office within the capital, lies in the fact that states are not autonomous in their economic

viabilities. The federal government's statutory allocations account for more than 70 percent of a stat's total revenue. This is just one of the many reasons why liaison offices are necessary.

1.2 Motivation:

The motivation in this thesis evolved from the proclamation of Abuja as the new federal capital which called for a shift in the seat of the federal government from Lagos to Abuja.

A Liaison office being a bank of information, the concept should make available an apparent volume to display artefacts which means a development in information dissemination. In such a centre(Liaison Office) there is a need for prevention of human crisis and freedom from boredom. This therefore called for provision of necessary recreational facilities to accommodate the government workers and visitors in a humane environment to increase the output.

1:3 Aims and Objectives:

- To design a liaison office for Kwara State capable of furnishing people with different classes of information.
- To design a liaison office for Kwara State capable of accommodating the government workers; with the current high cost of Hotel accommodation in Abuja, a state owned centre that can cater for the accommodation of the state government workers will immensely reduce the cost of maintaining them in Abuja.

- To design a liaison office that is conducive and also promotes the diplomatic functions for which it was designed.
- To design a liaison office capable of providing a suitable environment offering favourable conditions for creative thinking.
- To produce a design that is suitable for it's location's ecological setting .
- To design a liaison office that can be identified with the state.

1:4 Research Methodology:

The thesis shall rely on case studies of existing projects in establishing facts related to the subject.

A copy of design brief was obtained from Ministry of works and transport in Kwara State.

Generally the method of synthesis in this study is in the order of collection and documentation of materials and data; Analysis of documented data and materials, drawing of inferences and deductions, design criteria, concept and proposal .

1:5 Scope And Limitations:

The design shall emphasise on the client needs of functions which include administrative block, maintenance, catering department, House keeping Department, recreational area and residential accommodation. Case studies will be taken from Nigeria and outside the country.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Design Sample:

The functions of the current Liaison offices only provide forum for political, governmental and individual services to the indigienes which the author consider inadequate. The new approach therefore tends to broaden the scope into other areas. A Liaison office- a bank of information or "communication" which serves as the first contact of a person with the state, there, one should be able to see and apprehend a lot on the potentials and other necessary informations needed to form an impression of the state therefore a display area is necessary.

Also to be provided is a residential accommodation which will take care of the normal accommodation to the workers and visitors with supporting recreational facilities to create a suitable environment offering favourable conditions for creative thinking.

2.1 Components Of The Complex:

The complex, Kwara State Liaison office Abuja as stipulated in the brief by the state Ministry of Works and modified by the thesis is to contain the following units.

2.1.1. The Liaison Office:

This contains the necessary parts that gives it power to carry out the day to day activities. It shall contain the following sections:

(a) Office of the Director General.

This is the principal section of the Liaison Office which contains the office of the Director General, his personal Secretary, a conference room and private reception.

(b) Administration:

This section takes care of administering the functions of the liaison office headed by the deputy director general with a maximum of four administrative staff.

(c) Accounts:

This section administers the financial aspect of the liaison office such as staff salary, cost of running the complex, budgetory control etc. and is headed by an executive officer with internal auditor, treasurer, purchasing officer and two other accounts clerks as sectional staff.

(d) Personnel:

This section is responsible for catering for the staff welfare and see to the performance of their responsibilities. It is headed by an executive officer.

(e) Political/Counselling:

To be headed by an executive officer also, this section is charged with the responsibility of collecting, stimulating of political data concerning the state and furnishing the Federal seat of Government with informations pertaining to the political affairs of the state.

It also serves as an advisory body on matters relating to educational affairs such as admissions into federal institutions external educational aids and federal scholarship.

2.1.2 Information Service:

This is concerned with information dissemination to the visitors. It includes the following.
The general reception/waiting area
The public relation officers office.

2.1.3 The Display area

Kwara state being a culturally diversified state as they are in tongues, has different cultural materials and important features which could be carved for dispaly.

The different dances in the State could also be shown. Samples of the State products could also be displayed. Consequently a space is needed to house these features which can also define its own shape. A space to take us through Kwara is necessary. According to Louis Sullivan, "just as every form contains its function and exists by virtue of it, so every function finds or is engaged in finding its fo

Other aspects of information services will inclu a library of a required and suitable capacity.

2.1.4 The Residential Accommodation:

This Section of the complex that takes care of the housing problems of the workers and common or government's visitors.

It shall contain the following units:

(a) Lodging for guests:

Enough rooms for varying category of Senior Civil Servants, ranging from commissioners to medium cadre Staff.

(b) Accessories:

These are relaxation areas and residential subsidiary areas such as banquet/dinning hall receptions etc.

1.5 Recreational Facilities:

Recreation have been seen to consist of activities or experiences carried on within leisure, usually chosen voluntorily by the participant either because of satisfactory pleasure or creative enrichment derived or because he perceives certain personal or social values to be gained from them. So space for some active sports like table tennis and lawn Tennis will be provided.

CHAPTER THREE

3.1 Case Studies:

The importance of case studies before embarking on any design cannot be over-looked they serve as a means towards total understanding of the subject matter at hand. The case studies give one an insight into how to and not to approach a design.

The case studies being studied for the purpose of this write-up have been taken from outside the country and from existing structures of the proposed project in Lagos.

3.1.1 Kano State House Lagos

(a) Project Data

i. Location: Victoria Island, Lagos

ii. Architect: M.O.W. & H.Kano State

iii. Function: To serve as the Kano State Liaison Office as well as the State's Governor's Guest's Lodge in Lagos.

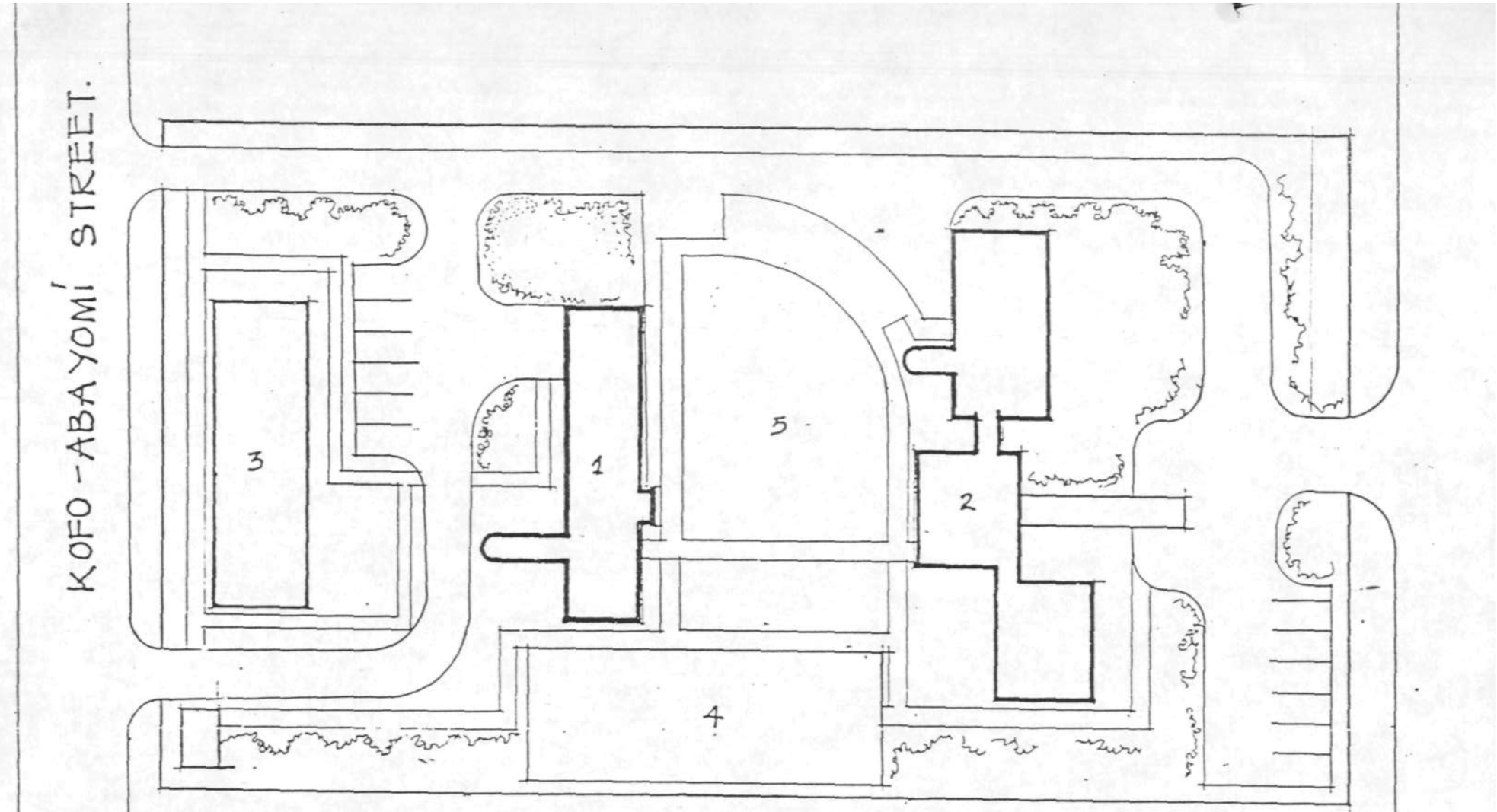
(b) Design Features:

i. The conception of the site:
The site which is bounded on two opposite sides by roads is rectangular in shape with the longer axis in the north-south direction.

It is conceived as a whole with entrances from two opposite sides adjacent to arterial roads. Buildings on the site were designed as individual blocks with only uncovered walkways connecting them. The vehicular traffic line penetrates the site along the longer side of the rectangle feeding unit oriented parking lots.

ii. The conception of the plan:

The conception of the plan was based on clear demarcation of different functional areas internally, the planning was of the compact type with openings only to the north directions. In the liaison office block, the use of doubly loaded corridors was employed. Vertical movement from one floor to the next was greatly emphasised in the design. This is exemplified by the use of four stair ways, one lift core with two lifts in an office block of three storeys of 30m length horizontally.



KANO HOUSE SITE PLAN.

LEGENDS.

1- LIAISON OFFICE.
2- GUESTS LODGING.
3- SERVANT QTRS
4- TENNIS COURT.
5- RELAXATION AREA.

iii. The Elevation:

The choice of elements and the style employed in the elevational treatment is the usual contemporary style of Architecture that is commonly found in Nigeria's public buildings. Flat roofs horizontally cantilevered projecting fins and slanting walls are what generally characterized the elevation.

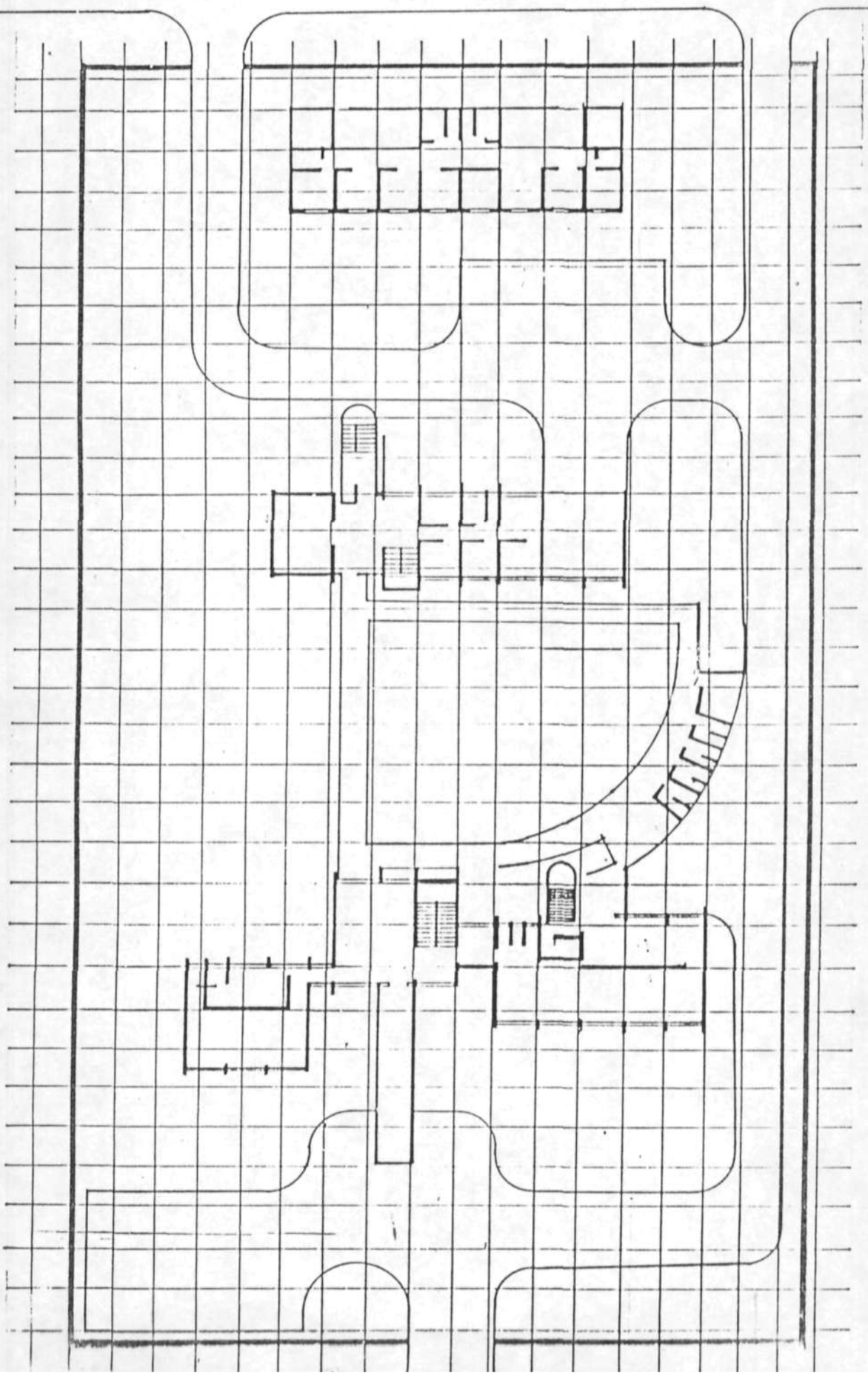
iv. Services:

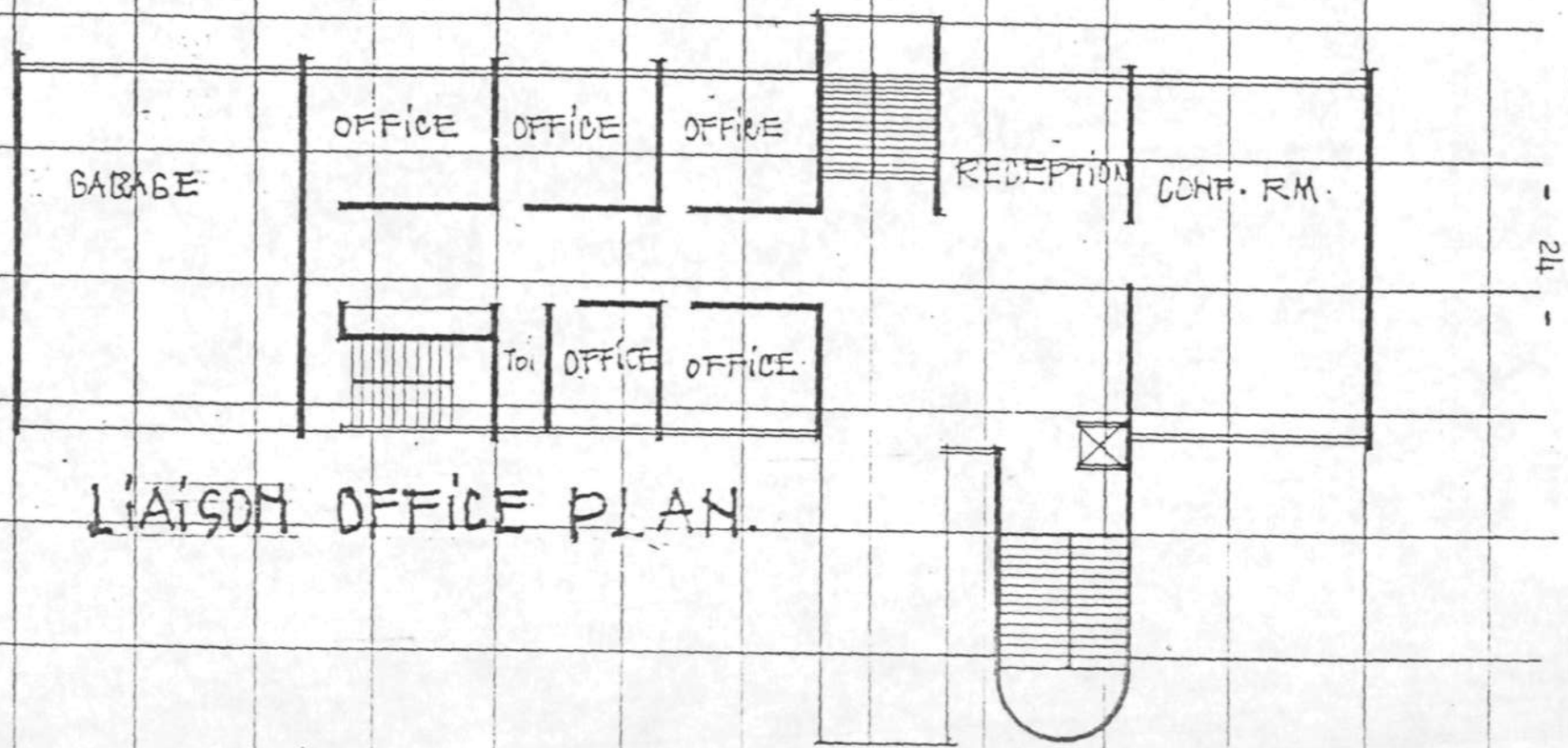
Services ducts are almost totally absent, but for the water pipes. These are hidden by pushing all services areas to the edge of a building block. Mechanical services such, as air-conditioners became part of the building after completion. Split units air-conditioners were installed as an after thought.

v. Landscape:

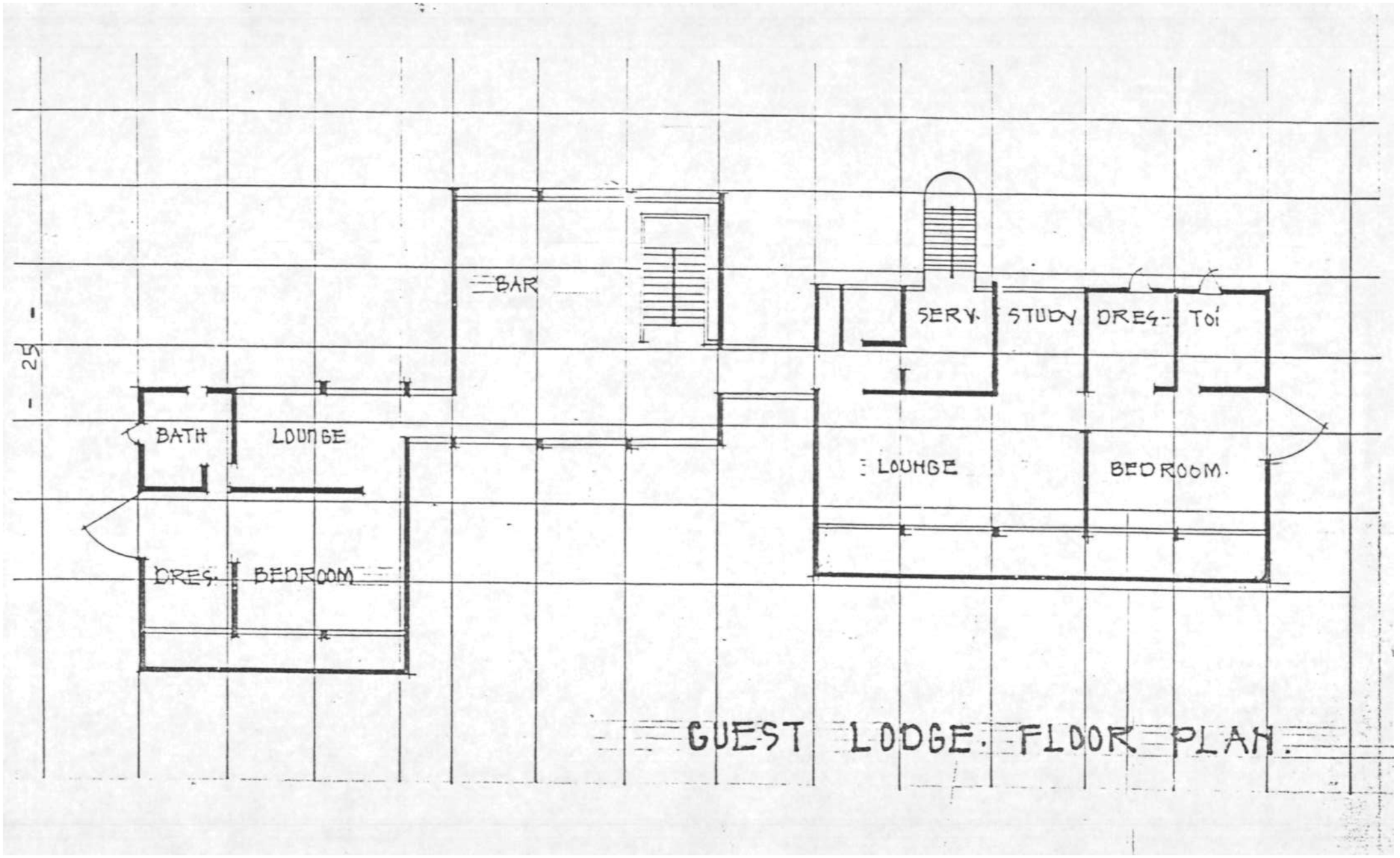
There was no consciously designed landscape prior to the completion of the building. Most of the site is treated with hard surface and plant landscape is almost non-existent with only grass as plant material existing naturally on site.

KOFO-ABAYOMI STREET.

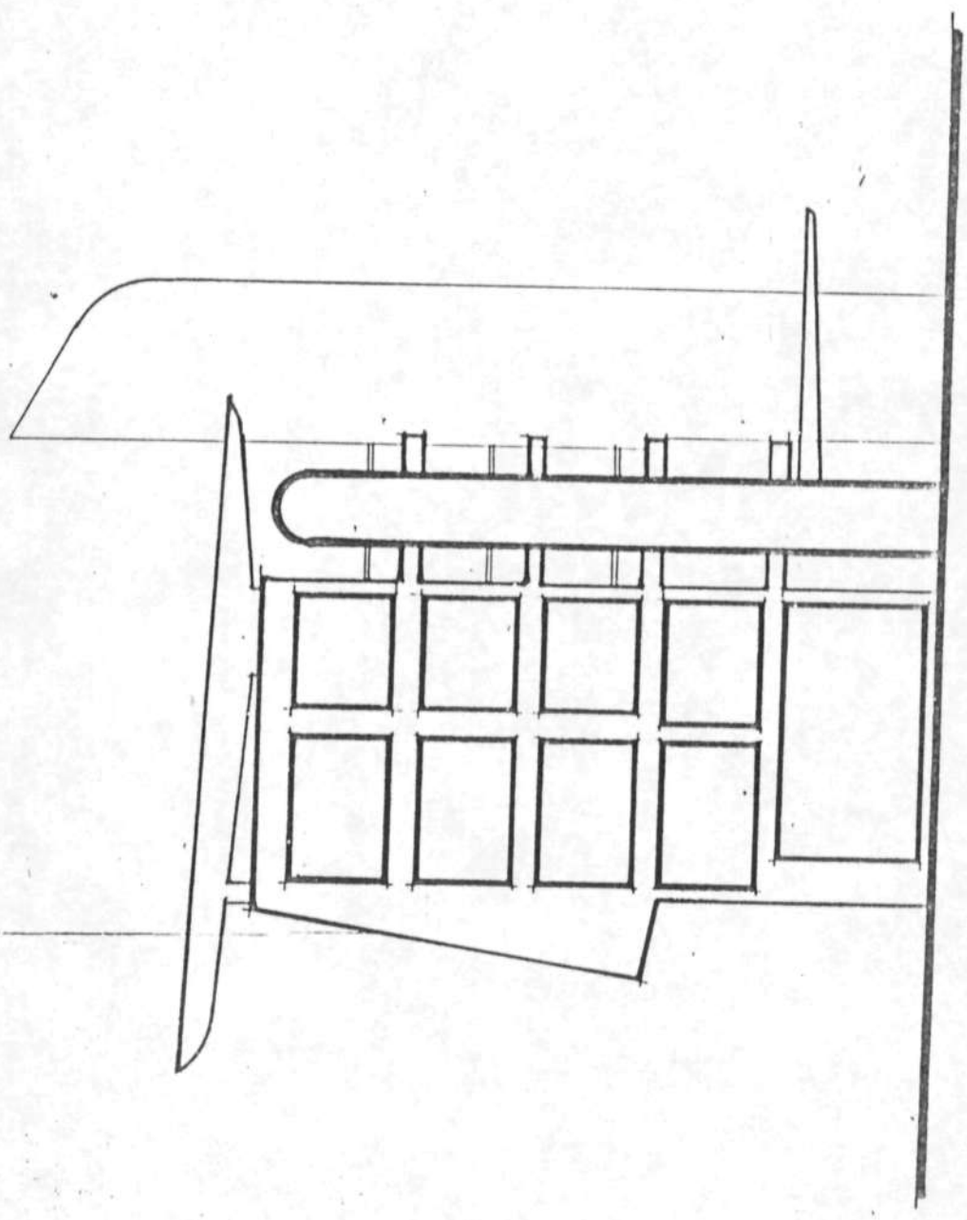




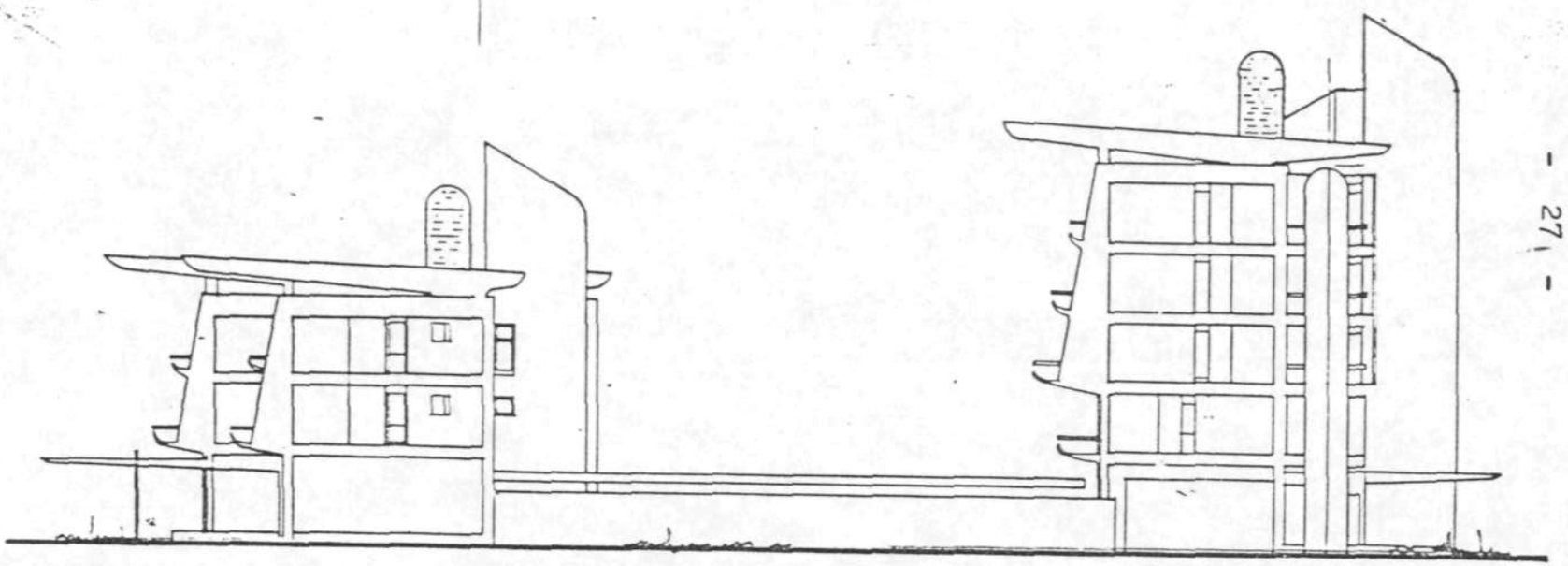
LIAISON OFFICE PLAN.



GUEST LODGE. FLOOR PLAN.



WESTERN ELEVATION.



EASTERN ELEVATION [block 1 & 2].

vi. Spatial Allocation as per different functional areas are as follows:

- Guest lodging unit
- Bed rooms (Double)= $35m^2$
- Bed rooms (Single)= $25m^2$
- Toilet/Bath = $12m^2$
- Dressing Rooms = $12m^2$
- Circulation = 12.5%
- Lounge/Dinning = $55m^2$

Liaison Office Unit

- Typical Office = $20m^2$
- Modified office = $32m^2$
- Conference Room = $49m^2$
- Circulation = 14.5%

Servant Quarters

- Bed rooms (Single)= $20m^2$
- Toilet/Bath = $10m^2/4$
- Kitchen = $15^2/4$ pers.

C. Design Appraisal:

1. Ingress / egress points tapped from both the arterial roads that bounded the site shows the maximum utilization of the site accessibility quality.
2. The use of Direct North and South openings for ventilation gives high degree of untilization of Natural Direction and shading of solar radiation.
3. While the shape of the site may not allow for a fully integrated complex the Architects tried to connect units by walk ways and corridors.

D. Design Critique:

- Although the site was conceived as a whole, the splitting of the units, possibly for the need to separate functional areas creates lack of visual cohension expected of an elevational composition of a complex.
- Accessibility was greatly enhanced but at the expense of security.
- The use of compact planning in design, except where unavoidable, does not favour tropical climate.

2.1.2 Kwara State Liaison Office Lagos

(a) Project Data:

i. Location:- Victoria Island Lagos

ii. Function:- To serve as State Liaison Office and as guest's lodge in Lagos.

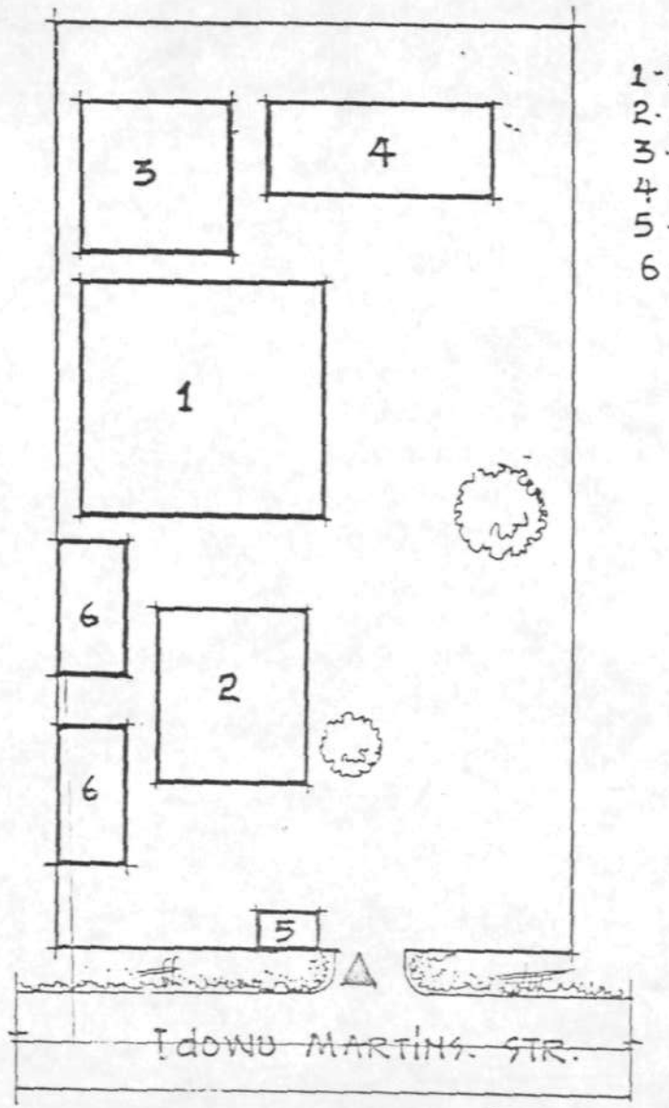
(b) Design Features:

i. The conception of the site.

The site which is bounded on one side by a road is rectangular in shape with longer axis in the North-South Direction. There is only one point of ingress/egress leading into the site from the main road. Buildings on the site were designed as individual blocks without any defined walkway connecting them. Also there is no defined parking area on the site.

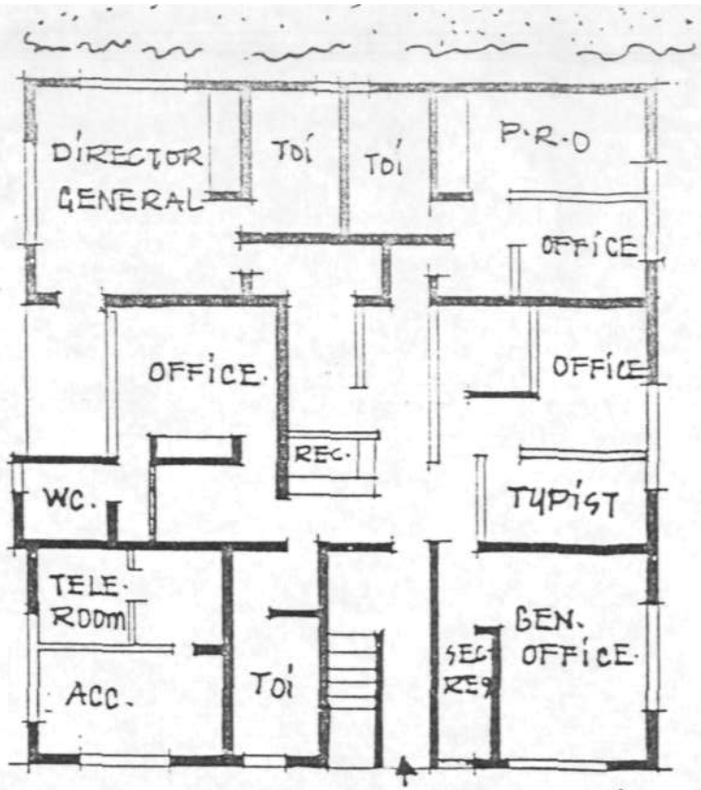
(c) Structure:

The one-storey building used as liaison office was designed for residential use, but was converted to office by the Kwara State Ministry of works.

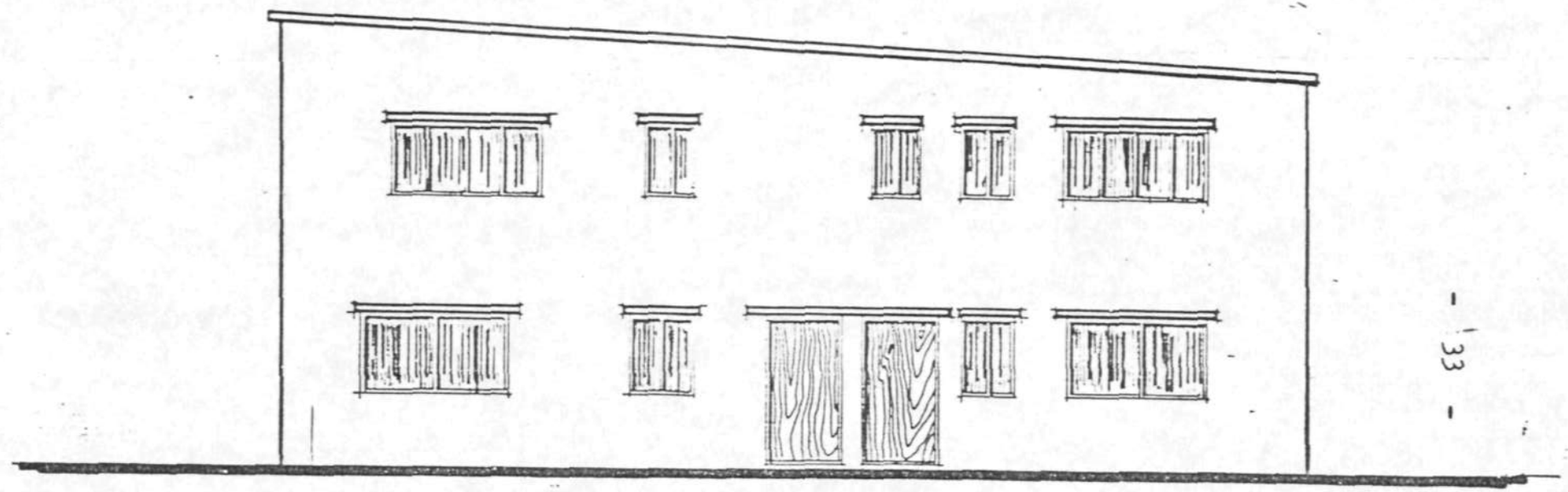


1-Liaison offica with Guest's Acc.
2. ACCommodation.
3. Accommodation
4. Director Banaral's Acc. & Restaurant.
5. Bata House.
6. B-Quarters.

SITE PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN. SCALE 1:200



FRONT ELEVATION

SCALE 1:100.

The building is basically of cement/sand block wall with concrete used for the horizontal sun shading device. The roof is flat with corrugated iron roofing sheet as the roofing materials. The windows are sliding glass casement windows.

(d) Landscape:

Plant is almost not existing on the site and the building surrounding is treated with hard surface. One of the trees close to the liaison office block provides shade in the after noon for parking.

(e) Services:

The unit Air-conditioners were installed as an after thought.

(f) Inferences:

i The use of openings in the sourthern and Northern sides of the building largely reduces over dependence on artificial mean of ventilation.

ii The positioning of service areas towards the exterior spaces in the complex largely reduces difficulties in maintenance.

iii The simplicity of forms in the composition of the Architectural plan makes construction easier and achievement of functional relationship more effective.

3.1.3 Oduduwa House, Lagos

(a) Project Data:

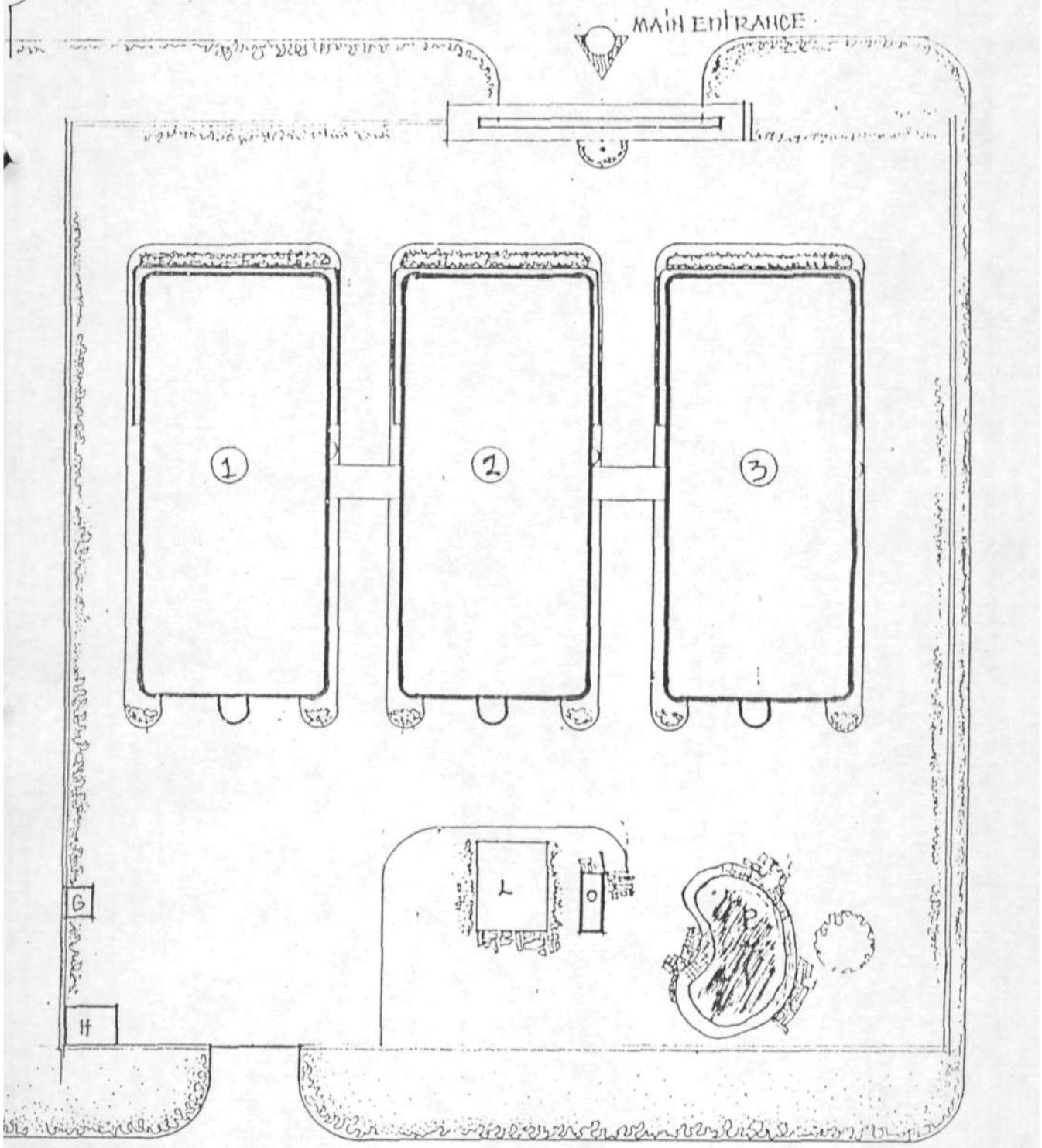
i Location: Victoria Island, Lagos

ii Function: To serve as states Liaison Offices and as guest's lodge in Lagos.

(b) Design Features:

i The conception of the site:

The site which is bounded on three sides by roads is rectangular in shape with the longer axis in the north-south direction. It contains three structures, each functioning as a liaison office. The three buildings are serving as Ogun, Ondo and Oyo State's Liaison Offices believed to be the Oduduwa States. There are two entrances into the site, one from Bishop Olowole's street which is at the Northern side of the site; Thus is a service road. The second road is on the side facing the beach and this is the main entrance into the site. The surroundings of the buildings are majorly treated with hard surface. The available greens are along the fence and the swimming pool area.



LEGENDS

1 - OGUN STATE LIAISON OFFICE
2 - ONDO STATE " "
3 - OYO STATE " "
L - LAWN TENNIS COURT
O - CHANGING ROOMS
G - GENERATOR HOUSE
H - GATE HOUSE
P - SWIMMING POOL

SITE PLAN.

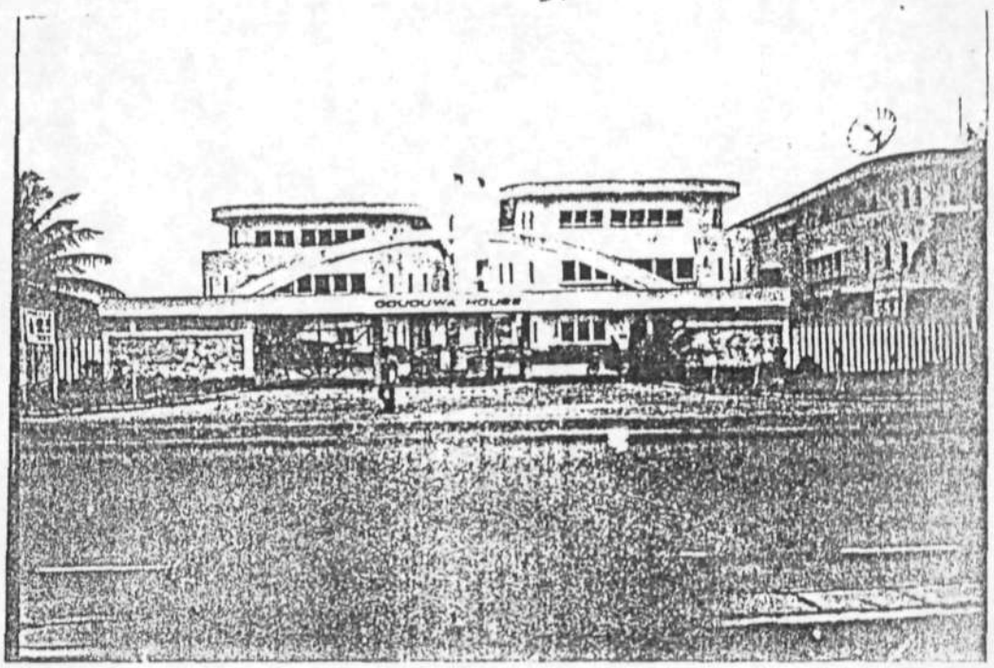


PLATE I SOUTH ELEVATION

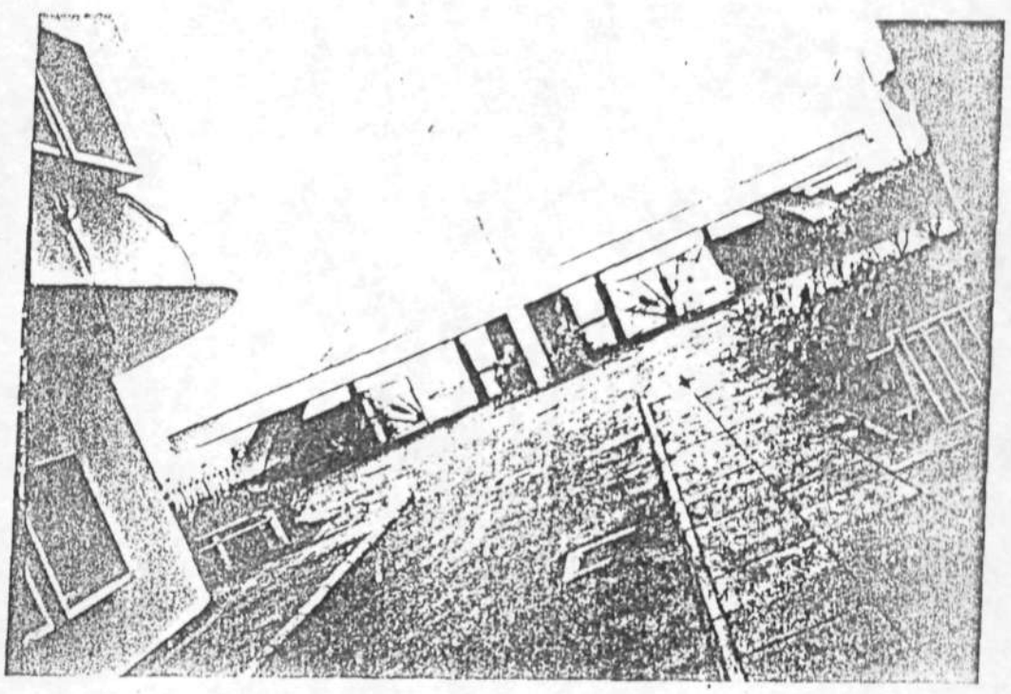


PLATE II PRONOUNCED ENTRANCE TO THE SITE.

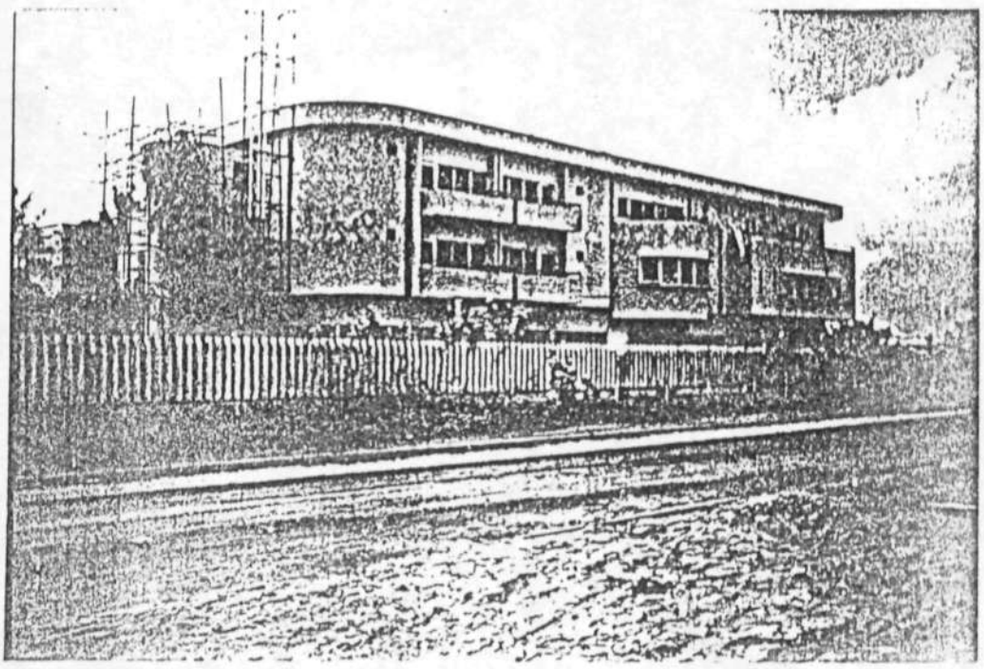


PLATE III EAST ELEVATION OF OYO STATE LIAISON OFFICE

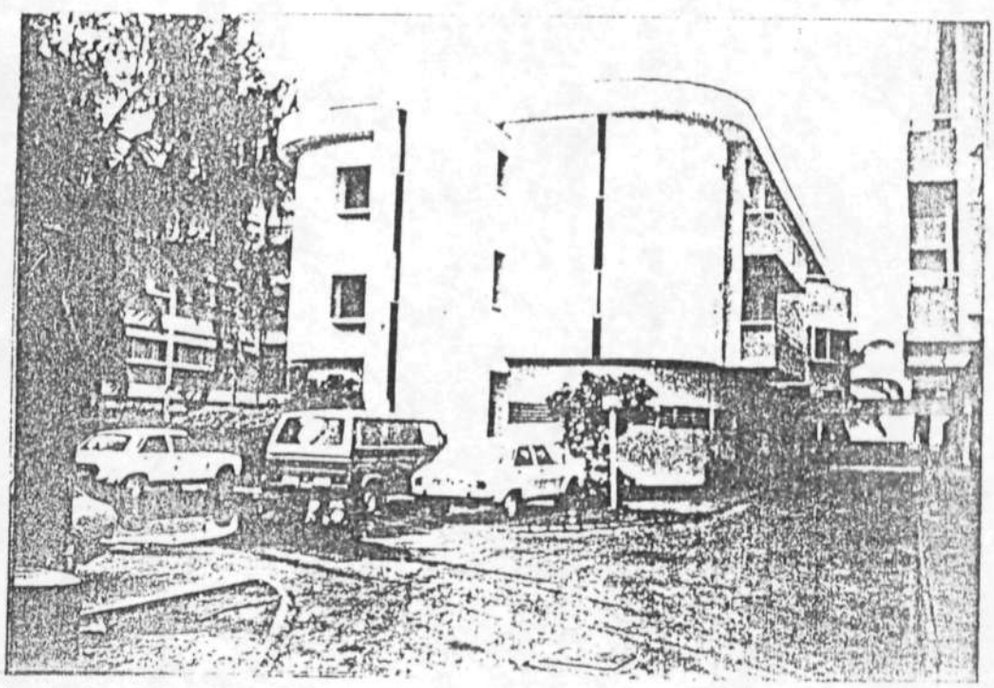


PLATE IV NORTH ELEVATION OF OGUN STATE LIAISON OFFICE.

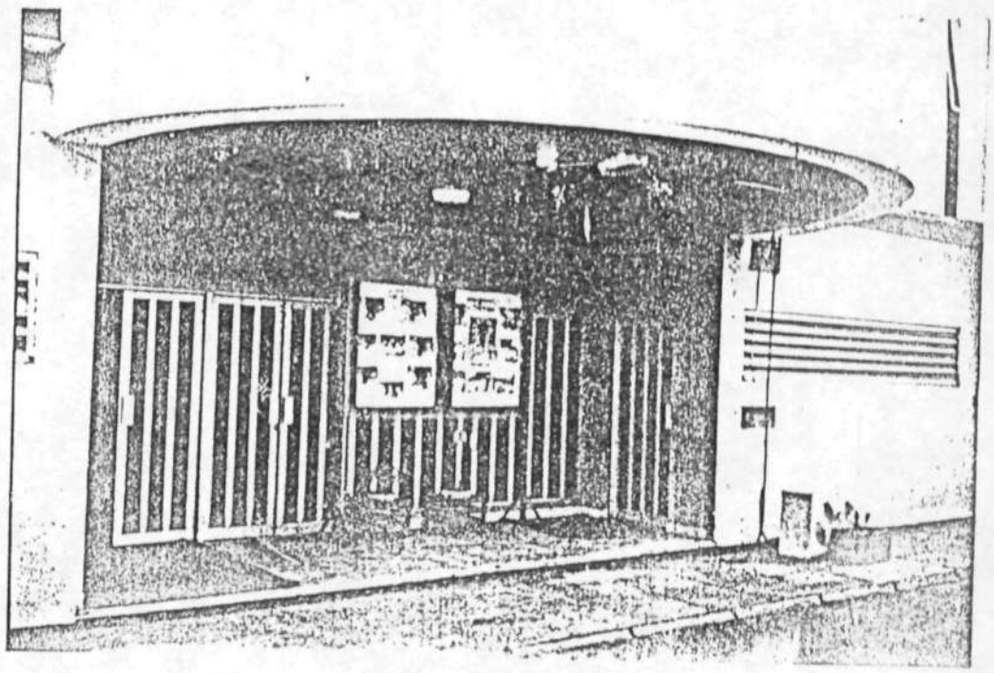


PLATE V ENTRANCE SITUATION

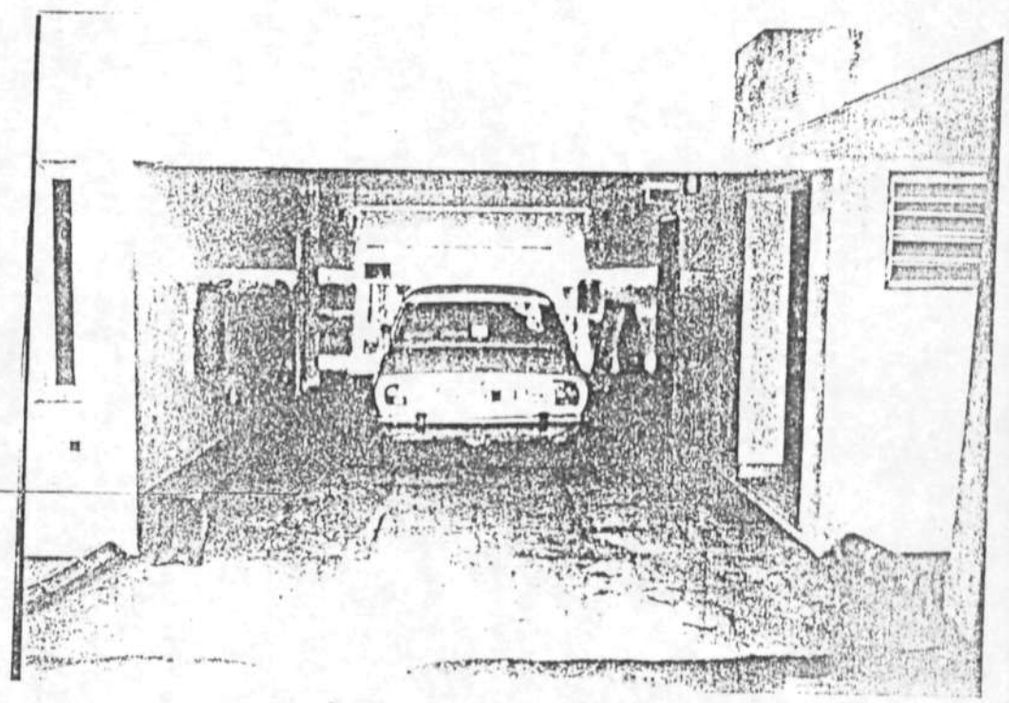


PLATE VI. OFFICIAL PARKING.

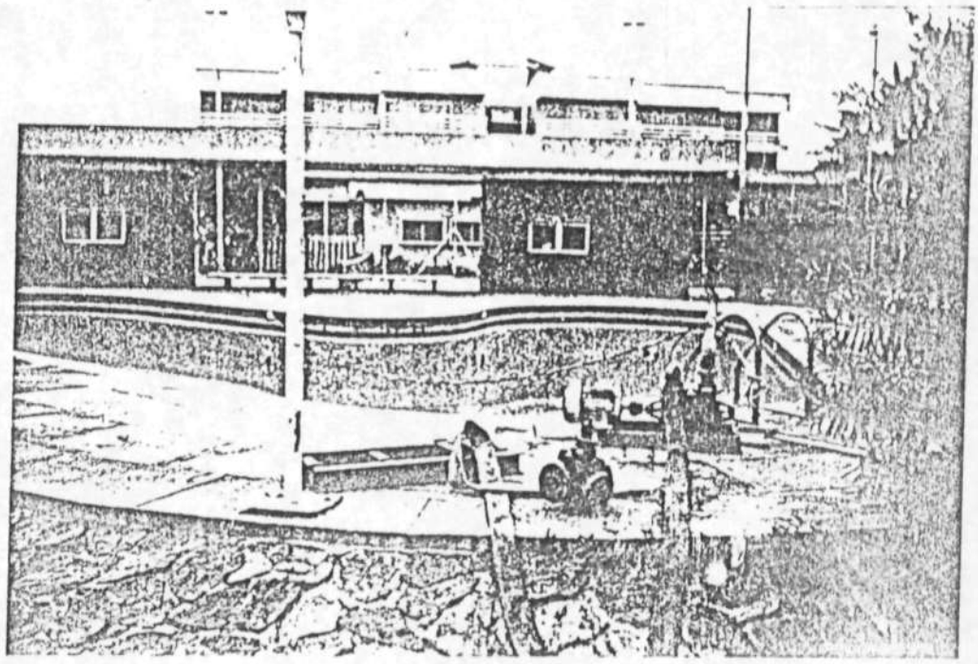


PLATE VII SWIMMING POOL AREA WITH CHANGING ROOM

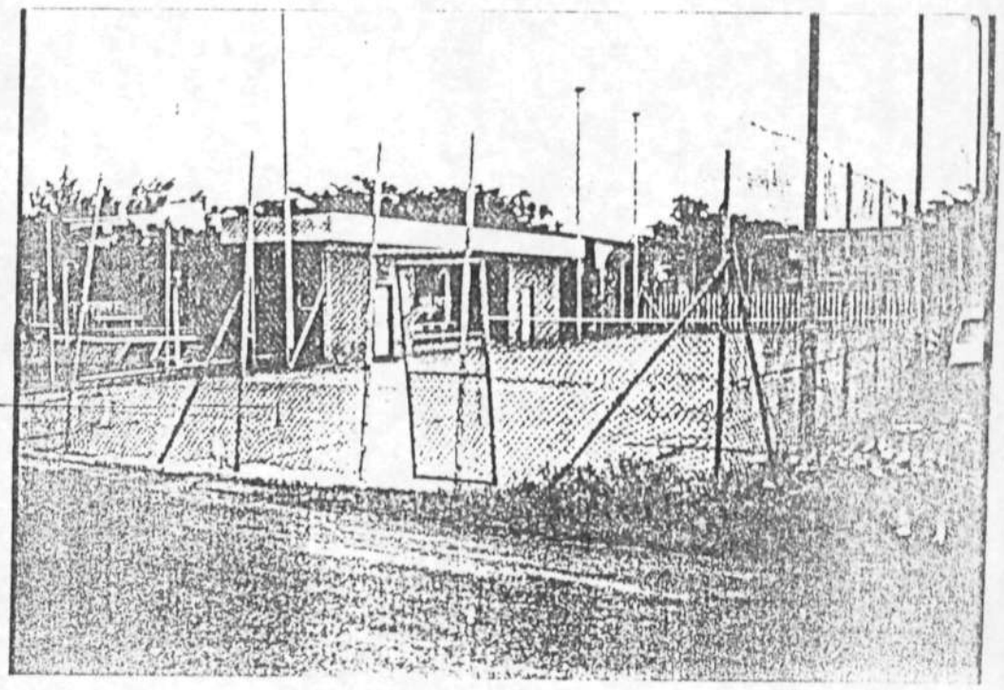


PLATE VIII LAWN TENNIS CLOSE TO THE SWIMMING AREA.

ii. Structure:

Each of the buildings is similar and the walls are of cement/sand blocks except for some parts like the roof gutter, columns and window hoods are of concrete.

The windows are sliding glass windows with Aluminium frame.

iii. The Elevation:

The elevational concept takes the basic shape of a ship. It is rectlinear plastic.

iv. Recreactions:

From the site plan attention was paid to recreation which is evident by the swimming pool and Lawn tennis, provided.

C. Design Appraisal:

The entrance of each of the blocks is well defined and with the conference room projecting above the entrance, it provides shelter for pedestrians

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The elevational concept that takes the basic shape of a ship shows the environmental response of the building. Large openings employed allows proper natural ventilation: an important aspect of buildings in hot humid climate like Lagos.

The Surrounding treated with hard surface is as a result of the nature of the site.
It is very close to the beach. Separate car park provided for the Governor is a good means of Security.

d. Critique:

There is no well defined out door parking on the site. Less attention was paid to the Landscape and because major part of the surrounding is treated with hard surface natural greens are eliminated. Longer axis of the buildings faces West and East which makes necessary the use of shading devices.

There is no well defined space for the display of the cultural artefact of each of the states which makes the Liaison Offices less efficient.

3.1.4 Australian Embassy, Paris

a. i. Location:- 15th District facing the river Seine on qual Paris.

ii. Architect: Harry Sieglar and Associates

iii. Function: Two buildings one to house chancery and the other to be residential apartment in Paris.

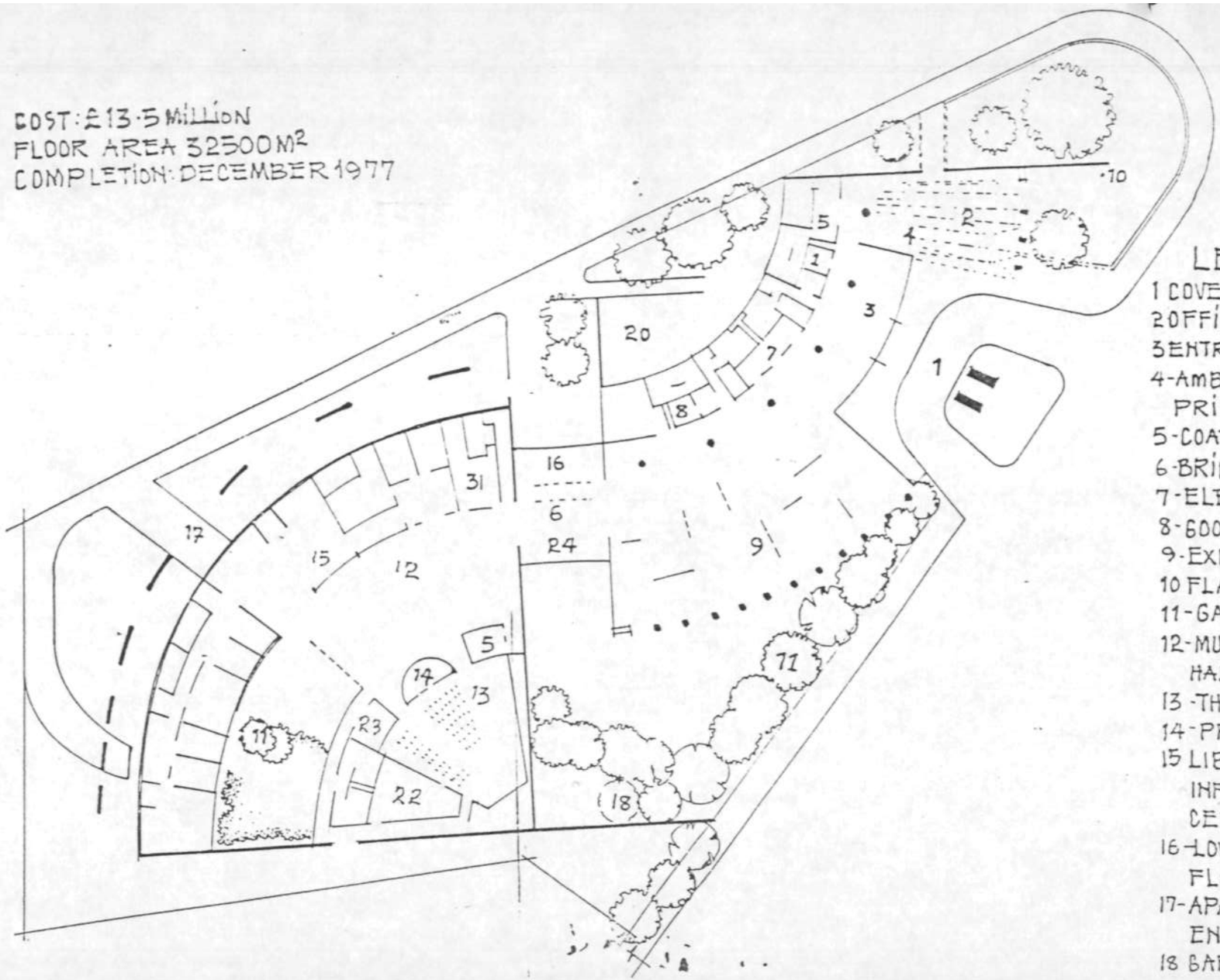
b. Design Features:

i. The conception of the site:

The almost triangular shape of the site demanded a special solution. The Architect managed to over come the problem by relating two opposing quadrant shaped buildings about an axis through the apex of the plot.

The entrance to the chancery building is located on Rue Jean Ray. The road carries one way traffic and the building is approached within the site by means of a drive way under it through a monumentally proportioned two storey high space. The focal point of the entrance is a large tree like structure supporting the building above the wide entry opening. The streets around the site are sloping so the building is set almost as in a boat. For pedestrians a bridge is provided which leads to the main entrance through an opening in the south west end wall. The apartment building is entirely separate from the chancery. Approach is from Rue de La Federation. Planning on a 'Split-level' system allows the living areas of all 34 apartments to face the view. They vary in size from one to five bedrooms with different sizes of living accommodation.

COST: £13·5 MILLION
FLOOR AREA 32500 M²
COMPLETION: DECEMBER 1977



GROUND-FLOOR PLAN.

LEGENDS.

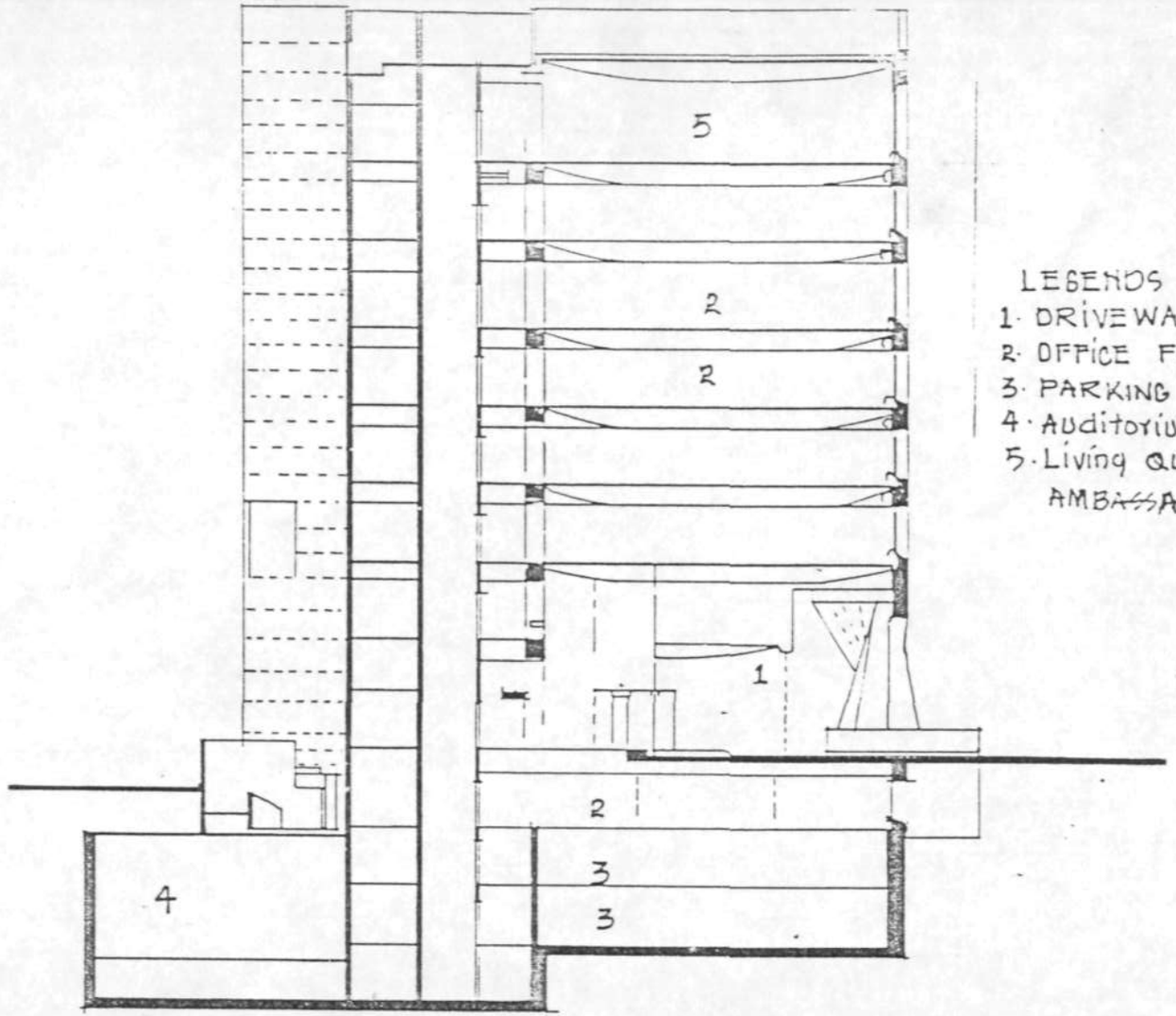
1 COVERED CAR ACCESS
2 OFFICIAL CARS.
3 ENTRANCE ACCESS.
4 - AMBASSADORS PRIVATE ENTRANCE
5 - COATS
6 - BRIDGE
7 - ELEVATOR
8 - GOODS ELEVATORE
9 - EXHIBITION HALL.
10 FLAG
11 - GARDEN
12 - MULTI-PURPOSE. HALL.
13 - THEATRE.
14 - PROJECTION
15 LIBRARY - INFORMATION CENTRE.
16 - LOWER GROUNDS FLOOR ENTRANCE
17 - APARTMENTS ENTRANCE
18 GARAGE ENTRY RAMP
22 - PLANT ROOM
23 - STORAGE.

Structure And Materials:

Supporting precast concrete elements are used for the exterior. These are of white Quartz aggregate and form a tight textured non-absorbent surface. End walls and the lower theatre structure are faced in exfoliated areylimoges cranite. Windows are double glazed with the exterior of grey tinted, heat absorbing glass.

The structure of the chancery building is composed of a concrete core containing the service areas of elevators, stairs and ducts on the south. Between these specially profiled, precast, prestressed concrete T-beams Bridge the 16m clear span.

The apartment block is composed of load bearing precast concrete facades with exposed white Quartz and flat slab floors erected by the French predalle system using on-site, precast, lower parts of all slabs as permanent form work. Six tapered supports create an entrance arcade under the apartment building.



LEGENDS
1. DRIVEWAY AND ENTRANCE HALL
2. OFFICE FLOOR.
3. PARKING LEVELS.
4. Auditorium.
5. Living QUARTERS OF THE AMBASSADOR.

CHANCERY SECTION.

Appraisal:

The Australian Embassy serves both as embassy and also accommodates a very high percentage of the Australian diplomatic staff. Even though the architect recognised the fact that Australians do not have a cultural heritage of their own as such; he however attempted to portray the image of Australia as a rising world power.

Conclusion:

From the above cases, it can be seen that in Liaison Office design, attention has been paid only to the office and residential accommodation alone. since it is an embassy of less order, it could be made to be more functional by inreasing the units.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 DESIGN CRITERIA

4.1 Introduction

A Liaison Office as an office building has to express its representational nature and yet not be odd in the environment in which it finds itself. Thus all the design criteria that apply to office buildings apply to liaison offices in additions with the building character.

4.2 Office Nature

Office buildings are either specifically designed to meet a particular set of needs as in the case of the Kwara State Liaison Office or can be built speculatively for renting out to the largest possible range of tenants implying a particular sort of flexibility.

In theory however there is very little difference in the principles of design. Offices as other buildings are supposed to last a long time and yet are expected to be flexible to short term changes in organisational structure. To achieve this aim, the design is conceived for scales of time.

4.2.1 Shell

This is expected to last at least fifty years.

4.2.2 Services:

These become obsolete as office Technology changes and must be replaced at least every fifteen years.

4.2.3 Scenery:

This involves the fifting out of office interiors to meet precise organisational requirements. This usually lasts as long as the lease, about five to seven years.

4.2.4 Sets:

This involves the positioning and repositioning of scenery elements such as desks, chairs, screens and partitions to meet immediate organisational requirements which may be even as short as a few months.

Office buildings have undergone fundamental developments in recent years. The most significant being the importance of the long term shell is diminishing as the short term scenery, particularly furniture absorbs more functions carrying services, visual and acoustic separation and decoration.

Much of office work is sedentry in nature but offices also include spaces for machinery, canteens, meetings, filing, libraries and other ancilliary activities which can take up as much as one-third of the space needed by an organisation.

4.3 Definition Of Office Areas:

In a way an office is a symbol of the ultimate achievement of a machine age- a building which serves as administrative and planning center for a machine society and in it machines are relatively Insignificant. An office is made up of different areas and the efficiency of an office building is usually measured in terms of the ratio of the usable office area to the gross area of the building.

4.3.1 Work Place Areas:

Otherwise known as the usable areas are essentially spaces in which it is possible for people to work at desks. This area also includes secondary circulation.

4.3.2 Primary Circulation:

This area of the building is defined as the essential circulation space required to provide access. And means of escape to work place areas. Primary circulation usually takes up between 10% and 20% of the net usable area of the building.

4.3.3 Core:

The core is the space needed for the services and support of the building. This includes spaces for lifts, stairs, ducts and lavatories.

Ideally the core of a multistorey office building should occupy no more than 20% of the gross outside area of the building. The smaller the core the more efficient the building is.

4.3.4 Special Areas

These are spaces that are not used directly for office work but are dedicated to other functions such spaces include archives, restaurants, library e.t.c.

Special areas should be easily convertible to work place areas ideally.

4.4 Circulation

For the building to be successful an efficient circulation system must be created both within the building and on the premises.

Easy and direct pedestrain access should be provided including provisions for the physically handicapped.

There should be an easy vehicular ingress and egress with adequate provision for visitors and staff parking along with the necessary service access to the building. Shelter should be provided at the main entrance for protection during inclement weather.

These is need for an efficient circulation system both vertically and horizontally within the building. Horizontally, the routes should be fixed and could involve the use of either single or double loaded carridors. Adequate consideration should be given to the design of the nodal areas where the vertical circulation meets the horizontal circulation. The positioning of the vertical circulation core could either be central, at one end or detached from the building.

The number of size of the elevators depend upon the population of the people, the number of floors and the required waiting time. Elevators should be grouped together if possible.

Provision should also be made for the delivery of goods to the building and its distribution within the building.

4.5 Zoning:

The nature of work carried out by Liaison offices require the building to be efficiently zoned. Some of the functions are public while others are classified as being secret.

The zoning system adopted should provide an arrangement of public spaces for convenient services to the public while placing sensitive areas remote from the public.

4.6 Security:

The nature of liaison office requires considerable precautions to be taken. This will basically involve the setting up of security points at certain places to control access. These are placed primarily at the entrances. Separate entrances could be provided for staff but should have security check points. The physical security of the building in the form of perimeter walls and/or fences, setbacks from property lines, exterior lighting, should be employed.

4.7 Fire Escape:

The means of escape in the event of fire outbreak is a very important determinant of the building shell. In buildings over two storeys in height, the maximum travel distance from any point on the office floor to an escape stair is strictly regulated at 30m.

Alternative means of escape on each floor is also necessary.

Escape stair cases should be compartmentalised and should be constructedas fire fighting stair cases with smoke outlets, vents and self closing doors.

4.8 Design Considerations

4.8.1 Ecological Considerations

(a) Climatic considerations

(i) Rainfall:

While rainfall in the design area is moderate, it creates drainage problem due to poor drainage potential of the soil.

It is also a source of moisture penetration into building fabrics. Therefore the choice of drainage system-both roof and ground water should be good enough to effect proper and quick evacuation of flood water. To this effect composite drainage system is proposed whereby all storm water would be taken out of the site by surface drain lines. Internal fabrics and interiors shall be prevented from moisture and damp penetration to the bearest minimum.

(ii) Humidity:

The high humidity that characterized Abuja for most part of the year makes inteiors of buildings uncomfortable if not properly ventilated. To this effect, openings shall be designed to allow for the intake of fresh air into the interiors.

Effective cross-ventilation to allow for proper circulation of the fresh air should be provided for. This also reduces the humid conditions of the interiors.

456288

(iii) Temperature:

The maximum mean daily temperatures found in Abuja are within the range 35°C- 39°C, which are well above human temperature comfort level. Therefore shading masks, cross-ventilation, air vents and landscape are to be consciously employed for reduction in heat transmission within the interiors.

(iv) Winds

The two major winds- N.E. trade wind and S.W. winds, that blow over Abuja vary in their characteristics. The N.E. trade wind, is dry and dusty and as such not needed in the interiors. It would therefore be masked by the use of buffers and design of openings that are capable of controlling the inflow of this wind. The S.W. wind which is rather cool and moisture-laden in most occasions would be utilised in enhancing cross-ventilation.

(b) Glare

Although the presence of cloud cover for most part of the year modifies the amount of solar radiation and sun rays experienced in Abuja, glare still constitutes a source of discomfort.

The glare effect as a result of reflected rays shall be corrected by the use of padded area employing lawns. The glare due to direct solar incident rays shall also be taken into consideration.

This is to be controled by the use of shading masks, and use of softer non-reflective materials around openings.

c. Landscape

This is the ground containing the "Lower" levels structures. The choice of landscape material to be employed in the design is to be dictated by their availability in the region. The use of monofera indicaomongol, tamarind for buffer zones and grasses of average height of up to 10cm for soft landscape is to be employed in the landscape design.

4.9.1 Land Use Provision

The masterplan provisions influence the selection of site for a project. The choice and selection of site is left to the discretion of the designer when the master plan does not stipulate certain kind of land use.

In the proposed Abuja master plan, there are two areas allocated for the erection of States Liaison Offices. As such the site available for Kwara State Liaison Office Abuja, must fall within the two provisions of the masterplan unless proved unsuitable. The two areas are:

(a) An area located in the midst of the central administrative zone that houses the various seats of federal government.

It is bounded to the south by the inner southern expressway to the west by arterial road so and to the north by arterial road B14. Adjacent to the area from across the inner southern expressway are international conference centre, post and telecommunication building and Nigerian television Authority Headquarters.

(b) An area which lies at the Northern extreme end of the administrative zone founded by the Northern expressway and Adjacent to Brigade of guards heaquarters and the presidential complex. Further away is an extended area identified as green land in the master plan.

4.9.2 Proximity To Seats Of Federal Ministries

The sole function of Kwara State Liaison Office, Abuja is to Liaise beween the Kwara State and the various Federal Ministries. As such the nearness of the complex to these Federal Institutions would be a great advantage. This will ease movements and at the same time enhance communication between the complex and the Federal Government bodies.

4.9.3 Accessibility:

The possibilities of easier access and the potentialities of egress and Ingress points as presented by the presence of arterial feeder roads are very important to provide for better mandeuvre.

4.9.4 Aesthetic Quality:

The scenic and dynamic vistas, vegetation covers, three dimensional land forms and topographical visual panorama are what give room for creating visual experience to be felt by the users.
As such the presence or absence of the above factors determine which site better provides the Architect with an opportunity of exploiting site aesthetical qualities for utilisation in the design.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 INTRODUCTION:

In the preparation of a programm for the design, the researcher adopted the brief provided by the Ministry of Works and Housing Headquarter. In as much as the existing liaision office provides a Forum for government, political and individual services, it should also provide cultural information of the state concerned to people and there is need for necessary recreational facilities to keep up people within the environment. So this basically increases the scope of the liaison office.

5.1 Administrative Set-Up :

Director:

This is the overall head of the Liaison Office. He has control over the affairs of the whole set-up.

Assistant Director:

The assistant Director assist the Director in co-ordinating the overall affairs. He has a direct link with the Director.

Accountant:

The accountant handles the financial matters of the Liaison office. He is also linked with others like the treasurer and the cashier.

Treasurer:

The treasurer handles the finance and works hand in hand with the accountant and the cashiers.

Engineers:

The electrical engineer deals the electrical repairs of the liaison office and the mechanical engineer handles necessary mechanical repairs. They generally control the maintenance section.

Public Relation Officer:

This is responsible for providing necessary informations to the general public and also takes care of publications.

Assistant Public Relations Officer:

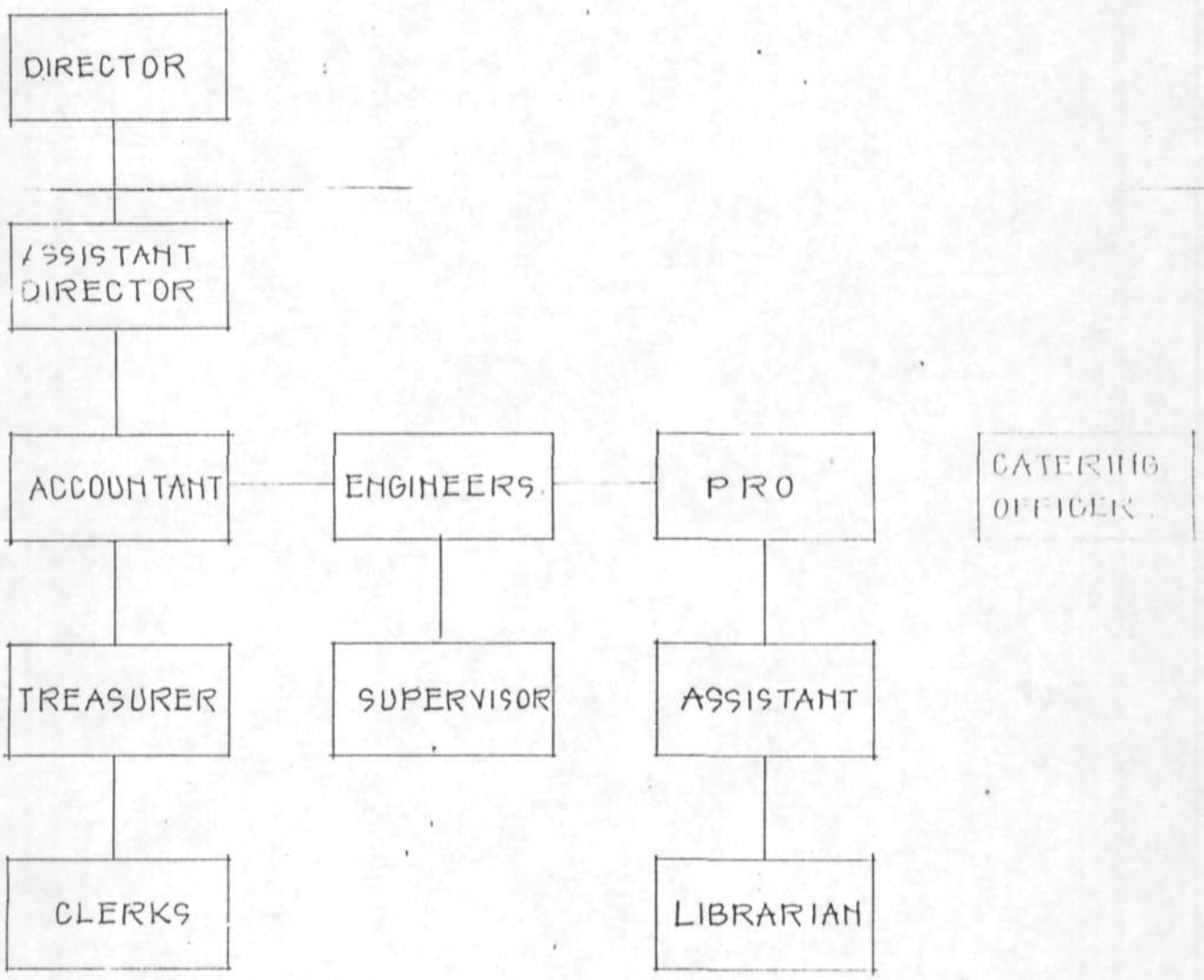
Basically assist the public relations officer and has a direct link with the public relation officer.

Librarian:

The Librarian takes care of the books and other related materials made available for use within the complex.

Catering Officer:

The catering officer controls the catering department of complex.



ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP.

5.2 Schedule of Accommodation

A number of important criteria are considered to arrive at functional space allocation. These criteria include:

(a) Proxemics

(b) Intended use

(c) Required Furnishing

(d) Dimensional disciplines.

5.2.1. Dimensional Disciplines

In determining the shell form of the office block as well as the space distribution, a number of important dimensional disciplines must be respected, which can be coordinated and related by the use of grids.

The choice of suitable grids at the inception of design helps to avoid a number of problems that would arise later especially the aspect of service distribution.

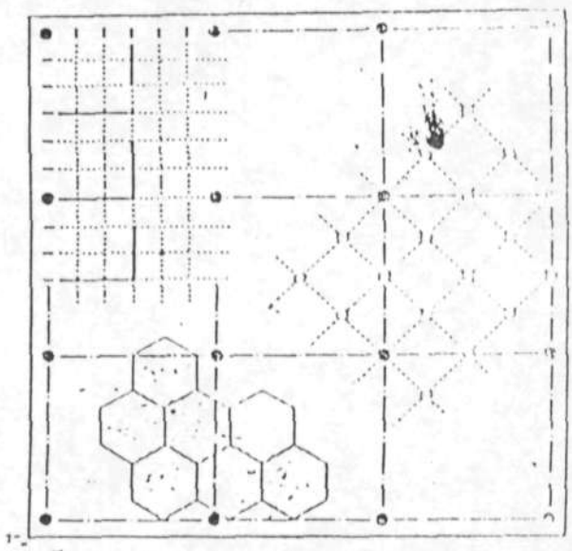
Generally speaking, these are four kinds of grids (Fig 5.3) They are:

(a) Structural grid

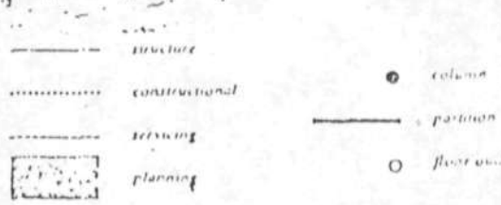
(b) Constructural grid

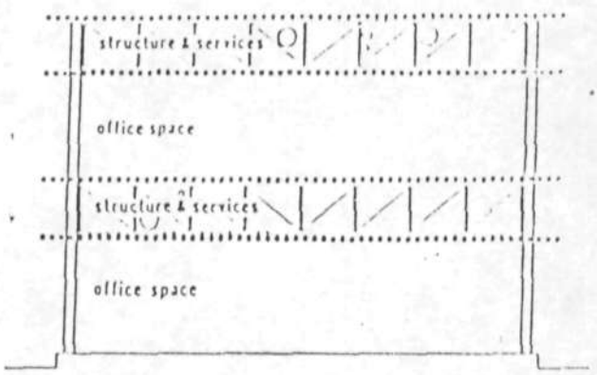
(c) Servicing grid

(d) Planning grid.

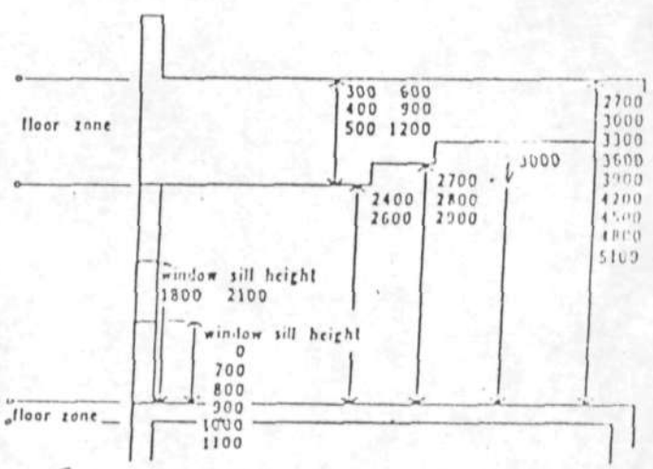


a Four kinds of grid: structural, constructional, servicing and planning





b Grids cannot be considered in plan alone—the section must be considered



c Ceiling-height dimensions related to floor-to-floor heights and floor thicknesses. Window sill height to be considered for visual comfort of workers sitting at desks

Fig 5·3

Structural grid: This is the grid that regulates the placement of the main structural columns of the shell. It is usually the largest of the four grids.

Constructional grid: This grid regulates the placement of window mullions especially. It also governs almost all the other grids to a very large extent. Structural servicing as well as planning grids are usually multiples of the constructional grid.

Finally, it also determines the location of partitions which are best located to coincide with window mullions.

Servicing grid: This grid governs the distribution of services throughout the structure.

Planning grid: This has to do with partitioning systems when dealing with deep office space.

In arriving at the final space dimensions therefore, a constructional grid of 4.5x4.5 was chosen.

5.2.2 Space Requirements

	Facility	Standard Area	Unit Required
a.	Administrative Section		
	Directors Office	$36m^2$	1
	Secretary's Office	$20m^2$	1
	Waiting Room	$15m^2$	1
	Storage	$12m^2$	1
	Assistant Directors office	$28m^2$	1
	Secretary's Office	$14m^2$	1
	Waiting Area	$12m^2$	1
	Storage	$9m^2$	1
	Conference Room	$198m^2$	1
	Offices for six officers	$20m^2$	6
b.	Open Registry		
	4 Clerks	$6m^2$	1
	Officer	$18m^2$	1
c.	Secret Registry		
	2 Clerks	$12m^2$	1
	1 Officer	$20.5m^2$	1
	Radio Room	$12m^2$	1
	Telephone Room	$12m^2$	1
	General Reception and Waiting Area	$7.5m^2$	1
	Store	$9m^2$	1
	Typing Pool	$12m^2$	1

		Standard Area	Unit Required
d.	Political Section		
	Chief Political Officer's Office	20m^2	1
	Secretary's Office	18m^2	1
e.	Account Department		
	General Staff Room	36m^2	1
	Safe Room	9m^2	1
	Office for 2 officers	40m^2	1
	Sub-Treasury Department		
	General Office for 4	36m^2	1
	Strong room	8m^2	1
	Office	18m^2	1
	Filing Room	25m^2	1
f.	Information Department		
	Office for public Relation Officer	20m^2	1
	Secretary's Office	18m^2	1
	Waiting Room	20m^2	1
	Offices for Assistant Public Relation Officer	20m^2	1
	Secretary's office	18m^2	1
	Display Area		1
	Library for ten		1
g.	Minternance Department		
	General Electrical Office	12m^2	1
	Supervisor's Office	18m^2	1
	Storage	9m^2	1
	General Mechanical Office	12m^2	1

		Standard Area Unit	Re
	Supervisor's Office	18	1
	Generator's Room	12	1
	Auxilliaries	120m^2	1
	Restaurant	40m^2	1
	Reception/Loggia	40m^2	1
	Kitchen	40m^2	1
	Laundry	40m^2	1
	Banquet	240m^2	1
	Game Room	132m^2	1
h	Guest Hotel Accommodation		
	The Governors Lodge		
	Governor's Suite	120m^2	
	Reception	6m^2	
	Lounge	45m^2	
	Senior Staff Lodge		
	2 Nos, bed rooms suite for		
	Director general's Status	847m^2	
	10 Nos, double bedroom suite		
	Senior staff Status	405m^2	
	20 No, Single/Double bedroom		
	for Jnuior Staff status	419m^2	

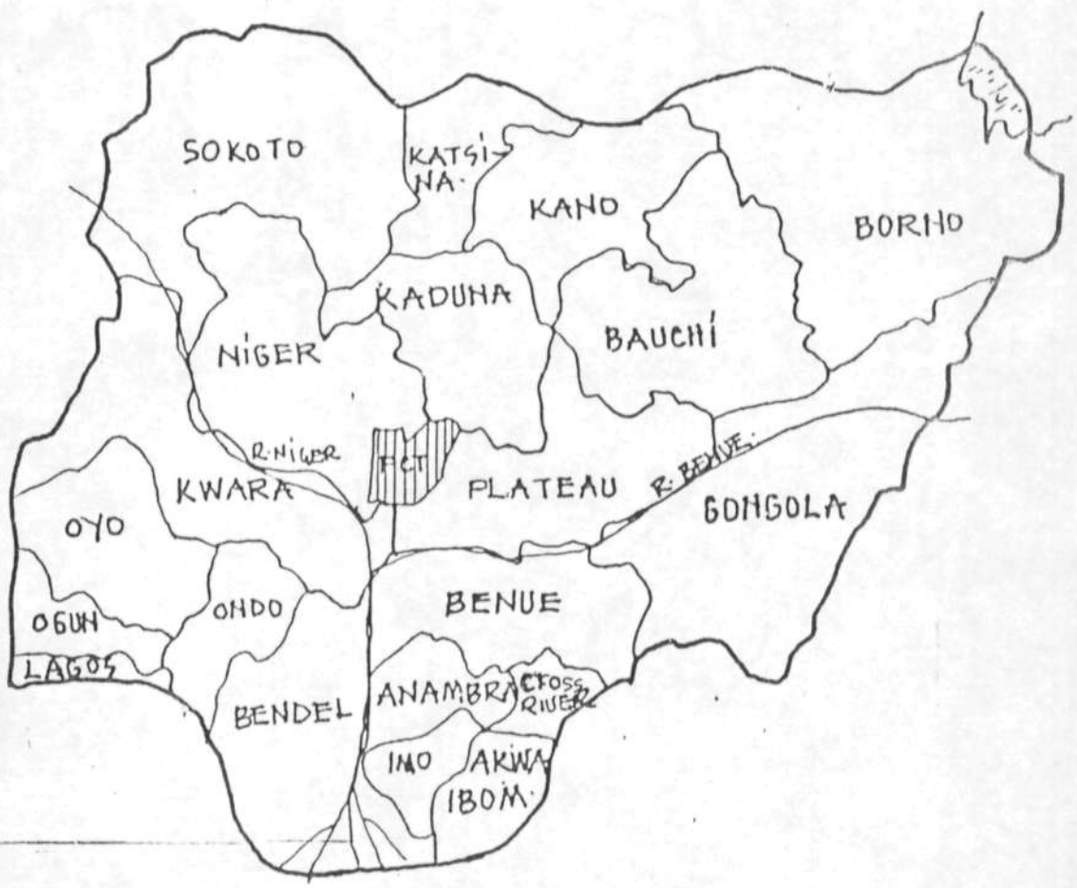
CHAPTER SIX

6.0 THE MACRO SITE

Abuja, the present new Federal Capital City is located in the politically defined area known as the Federal Capital Territory which is located in the geographical centre of the nation as shown in Fig.7.0 It lies between latitude 25°N- 9°20'N and longitude 6°45' and 7°39'. It occupies an area of 8,000sq.km.

It came into being as a result of submission of a panel set up by late general Murtala Mohammed under the distinguished chairmanship of the Honourable Mr. Justice T.A.Aguda on August 9th; on the suitability of Lagos as the Federal Capital City and the possibility of a new capital City. It was legally constituted by Federal Military Government 1976 FCT decree.

It is bounded to the north by Kaduna State to the east and south-east by Plateau State and to the South-west by Kwara State and to the West by Niger State. Being centrally located, the new Federal Capital City, Abuja currently under construction is easily accessible from all parts of Nigeria. The Federal Capital Territory is linked to the rest of Nigeria by roads and air transport.


SOKOTO
KATSINA
KANO
BORNO
KADUNA
NIGER
BAUCHI
R. NIGER
FCT
KWARA
PLATEAU
R. BENUE
GONGOLA
OYO
OGUN
ONDO
BENUE
LAGOS
BENDEL
ANAMBRA
CROSS RIVER
IMO
AKWA IBOM
F.C.T.

The new Federal Capital city is located in the Gwagwa plains in the north-eastern quadrant of the Federal capital territory. It is bounded by the Abuja Hills to the west, the Zuma-Bwari- Aso Hills to the east and Kuku Hills to the south.

Both the capital and FCT will be allowed only the amount of light industries, Agricultural, research and development and housing activities needed to foster social diversity, and to provide construction industry and supply service facilities for the capital city.

The city was designed with a projected population of 1.6 million and proposed capacity to handle population growth of limit up to 3.1 million.

The city is planned to be developed in four phases as follows:-

Phase	Projected Target Population
i.	230,000
ii.	585,000
iii.	640,000
iv.	1.7 17 million

6.1 The Climatic Characteristics

Federal Capital Territory falls within the semi-dry sub humid zone of the regional classification. Although there are relief features that surround Abuja which slightly alter it's climatic characteristics, creating micro-climatic conditions which may vary from one location to another within the same ecological region though the difference does not call for diverse architectural requirements.

6.2 Site Physiography

Topographically, Abuja is characterised by gently undulating terrain with height variations of about 50 metres. The Gwagwalada plains drop from an elevation of 610 metres in the east to 305 metres in the West with the central area consisting of up lands and plains with numerous inselbergs and other rock out crops of various sizes.

6.3 Geology

Migmatile, granite, gneiss, biotite and granite, underlying the majority of the site are rocks of medium to high strength and are expected to present a minimum of engineering problems.

6.4 Surface Water

The site can more or less neatly be divided into small contiguous watersheds, all conveying on one points construction will cause increase in stream-channel changes and will increase stream flows that could lead to local flooding and erosion problems if adequate design solutions are not provided.

6.5 Soils

The soils type are derivatives of the granite gneiss and magmatic under lay that characterized the area.

They are typically deep and well drained, having only local constraints where they are high in clay or stones, shallow or poorly drained.

Where soils have a high run off potential, special design or construction techniques may be required to eliminate potential flooding and sedimentation problems, successful landscaping of public places and planting of trees is reasonably assumed.

6.6 Vegetation

The vegetation is generally characterised by park Savanna. Park Savanna is typically stratified with a discontinous canopy, shrub grass layer structurally may include a thick tall grass layer consisting of hyparrhenia and andropogon species and canopy species dominated by Albizi and parkia.

Efforts should be taken to preserve woodland areas for their valley as an aesthetic and recreation resource, and for their ameliorating effects on climate.

6.7 Temperature and Humidity

The response to net-radiation is greatly influenced by the humidity conditions in the air. The F.C.T. records its highest temperature during the dry season when there are few clouds if any. Changes in temperature of as much as $17^{o}C$ have been recorded between the hgighest and lowest temperatures in a single day.

Maximum temperature is lower during the raining season due to a dense cloud cover. Human sensitivity to temperature is greatly affected by relative humidity during the dry season, relative humidity falls in the afternoon to as low as 20 per cent and this low relative humidity coupled with high afternoon temperatures account for the drying effects of the dry season.

Fig. 6.7 shows the F.C.T. temperature and humidity variations diagrams.

6.8 Rainfall

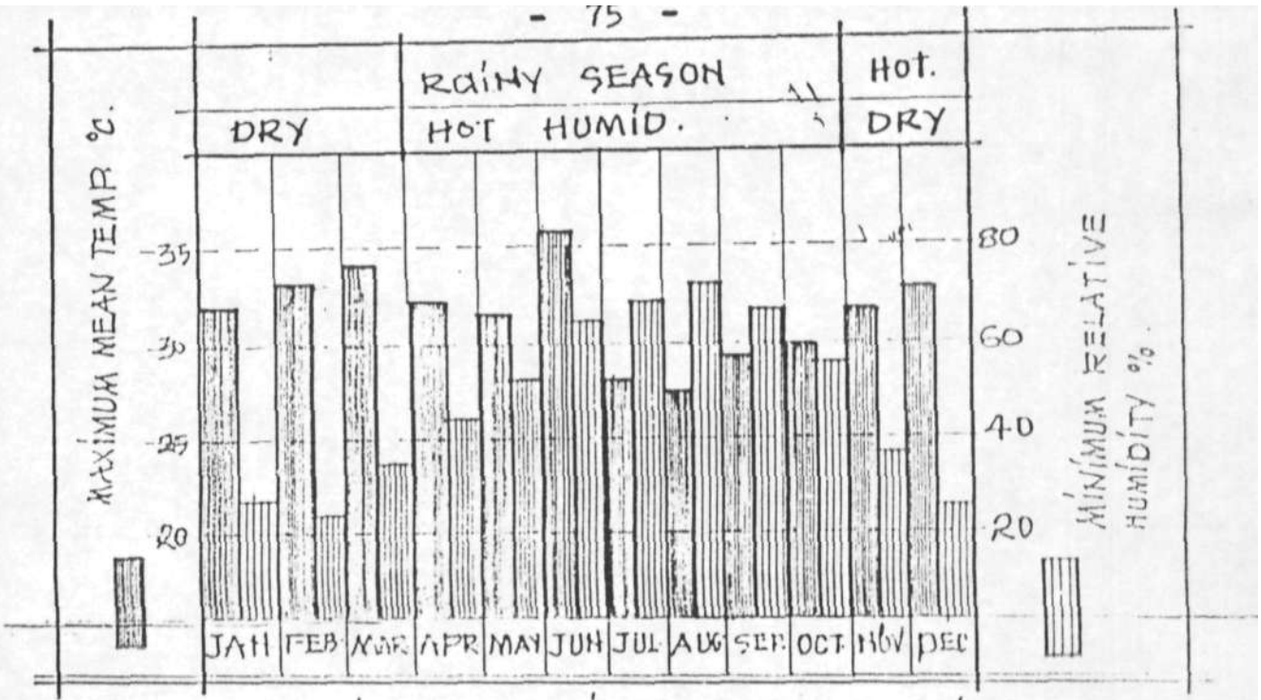
The raining season starts at about the middle of April and tapers off very rapidly towards the end of October. Thus the duration of the raining season is between 180 to 190 days.

In Abuja area 60 percent of the annual rainfall is in Months of July, August and September. This concentration shows the needs for drainage systems that can handle large volumes of water very quickly.

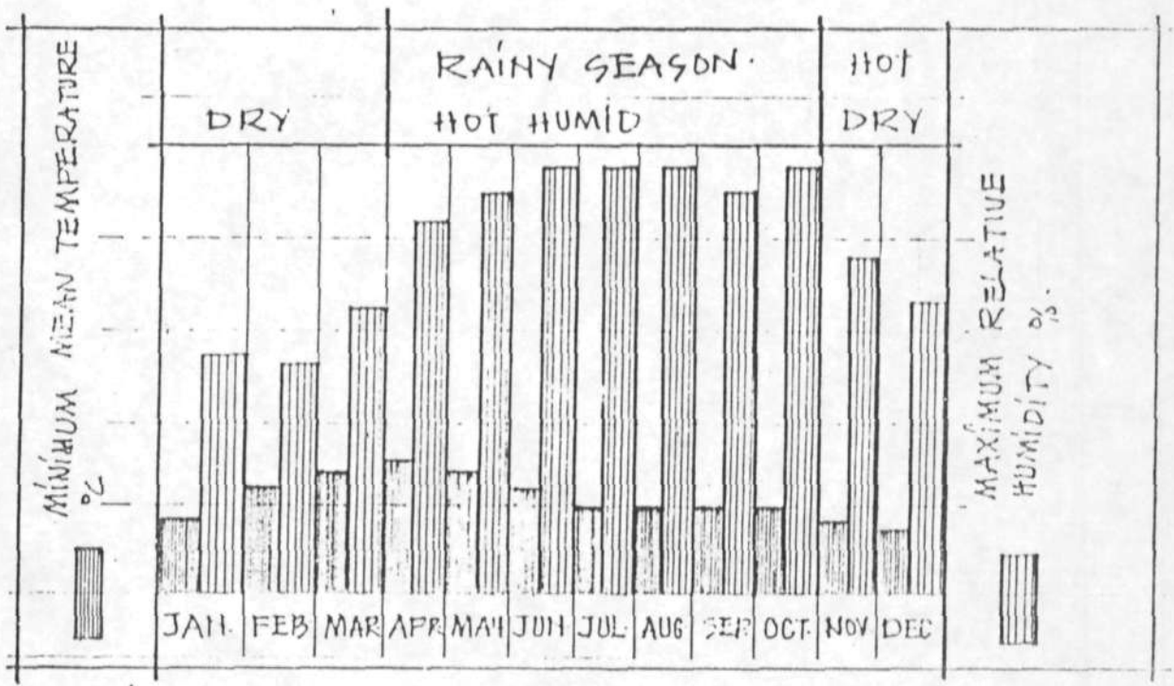
Fig. 6.8 shows the mean monthly rainfall diagrams for Abuja.

6.9 Wind-Dust

The two major air masses that dominate the climate of the F.C.T. are: The tropical maritime Air-mass and the Tropical continental Air mass. The tropical maritime is formed over the Atlantic Ocean to the south of the country and is therefore warm and moist. It moves inland generally in a south-west to northeast direction. The tropical continental Air mass is developed over the Sahara desert and therefore is warm and dry and blows in the opposite direction, North-east to south-west.



FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY RECORDS HIGHEST TEMPERATURE DURING DRY SEASON - LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY



HIC HIGH TEMP - DRY SEASON - HIGH RELATIVE HUMIDITY - JUN - AUG · LOW TEMP DEC - APR.

MEAN MONTHLY TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY Fig 6.7.

The oscillation of these two air masses produces the highly seasonal characteristics of weather conditions in the country. The tropical continental air mass is associated with the dry season and the tropical maritime mass brings about the wet season.

The characteristics of prevailing winds are shown in fig. 6.9.

In April, the North-east wind is weakest and the south-west is predominant: being moisture laden. it brings a lot of rain.

In September the tropical continental begins to intensify over the territory and the north-east trade becomes the dominant wind from October to March bringing with it dry, cloudless but dust-laden conditions associated with the harmattan.

The days are very hot but the cloudlessness means that at night there is a considerable loss of heat by radiation from the earth.

The temperature drops sharply often to dew point, giving rise to early morning temperature inversions and to early mist or fog. This is further complicated by settling dust particles which have the effect of reducing visibility to a few hundred metres.

6.10 Sun And Cloud Cover

The New Federal Capital city site is exposed to 2,500 sunshine hours annually (Mabogunje 1977).

During the dry months, the variation in the month of sunshine follows the general trend of an increase from over 275 hours on the city site.

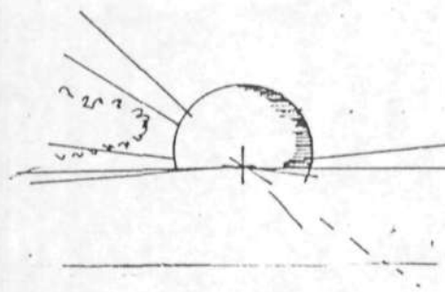
With the approach of raining season reaching its lowest values in the month of August Fig. .10

6.11 Support Infracstructure System

Basic support infrastructure systems have been developed to support the functioning of the new capital city. These utility system-water supply, waste water disposal, drainage, solid waste management, telecommunications and power have been planned in response to the demands of the future population.

The provision of these infrastructural facilities have recorded tremendous achievements all over the city and the territory.

In the city, these infrastructural developments have so far been limited to Garki 1 and Wuse 1 and to some extent the central Area.



A comfortable living environment will depend on maximizing the aspects of the environment which reduces heat and the effect of humidity and planning with climate should take place at all scales.

RAINFALL :-

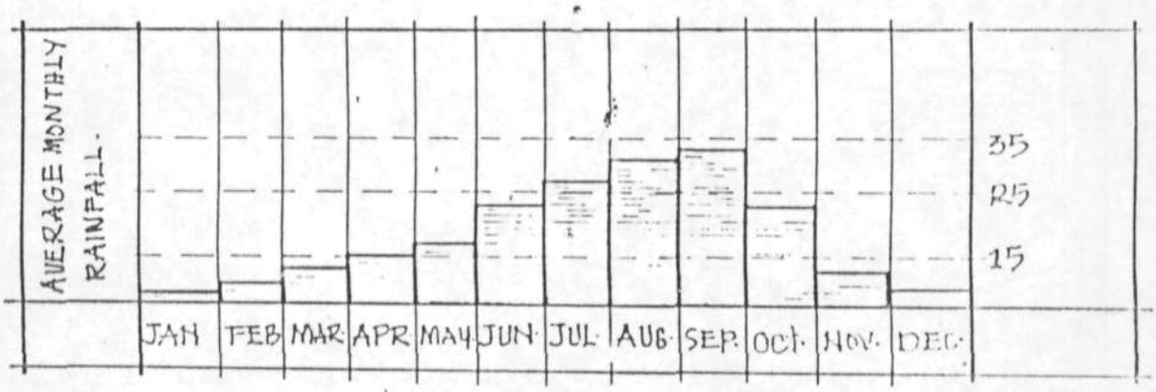
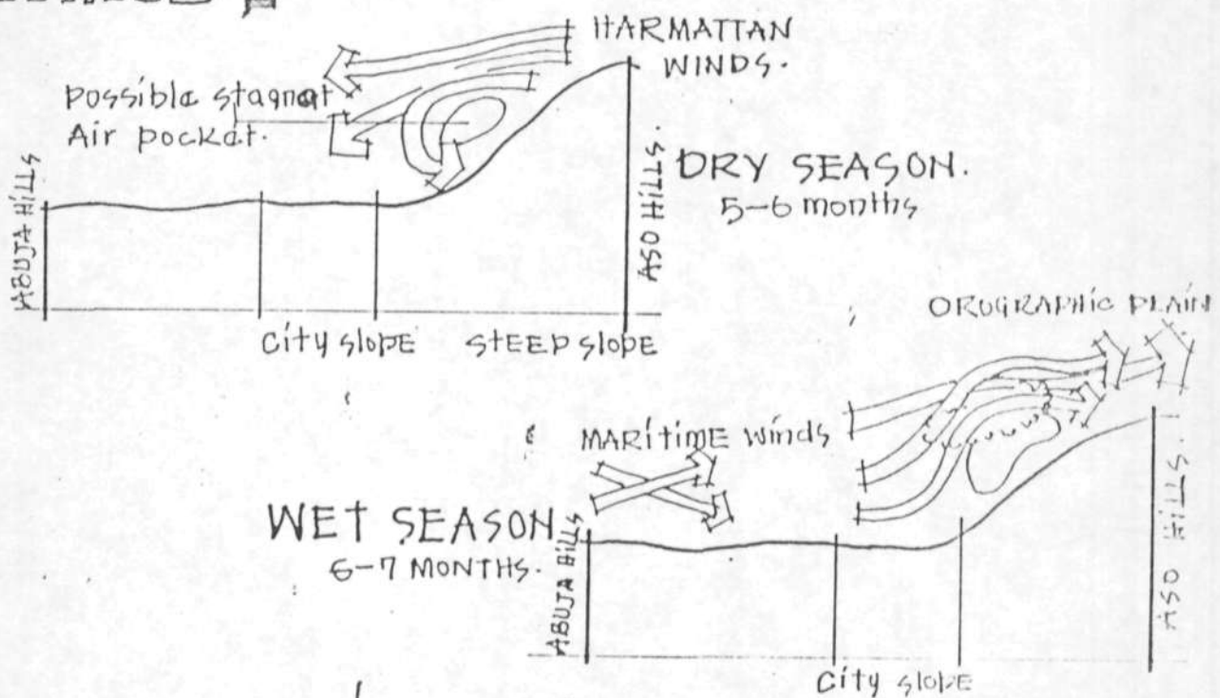


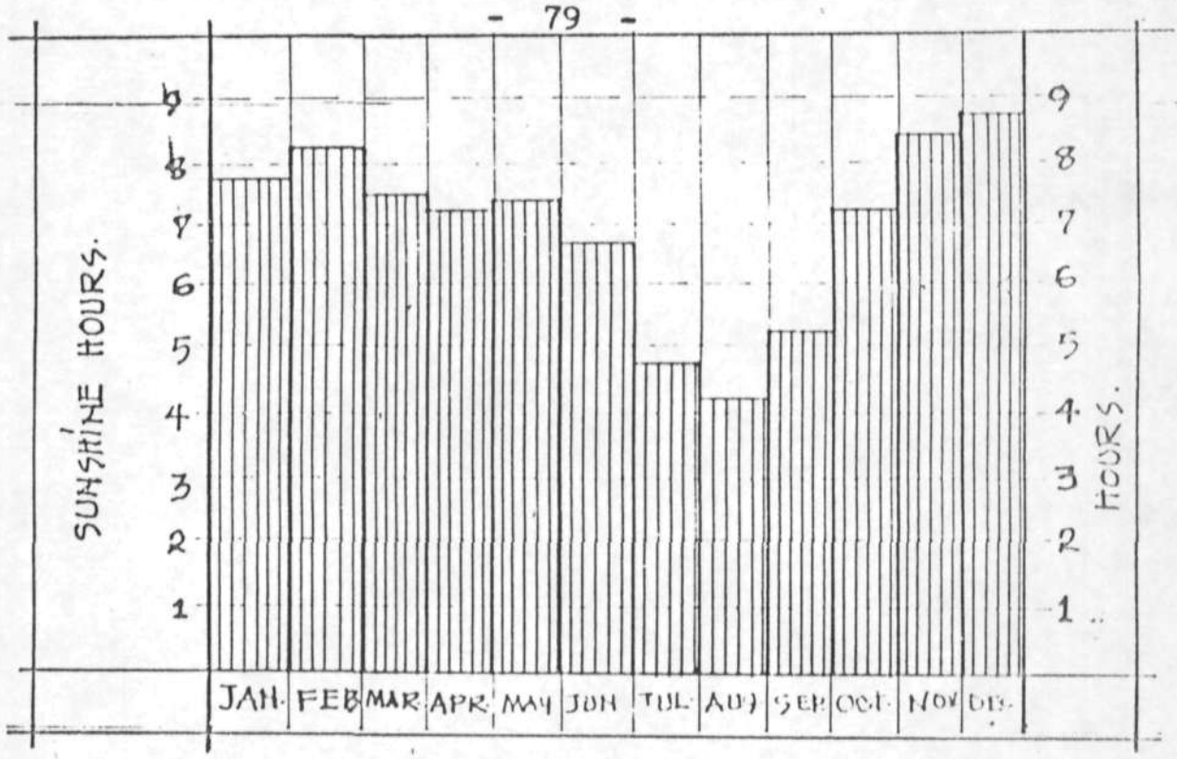
Fig. 6.8

MEAN MONTHLY Rainfall.

WINDS :-



SEASONAL WIND PATTERN: Fig. 6.9.



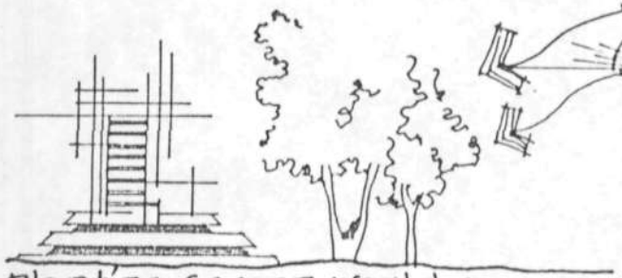
MEAN MONTHLY SUNSHINE DURATION

Fig. 6.10.

RADIATION. ≡ In Human terms Net Radiation is felt as air temperature. The response to which is Greatly Influenced By Humidity Conditions in the air. F.C.T records temps as High as High as 17°c as difference between Highest and Lowest temp. during dry season and few clouds.

SITE CONDITIONS

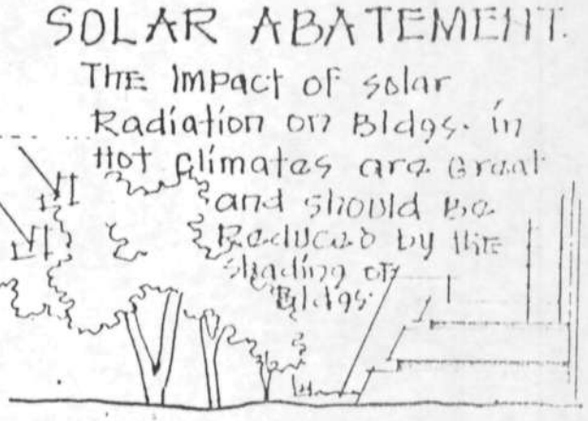
WIND ABATEMENT.



Planting screen would be used to be offset, The Effects of the North-east trade winds bringing dust and dryness from Sahara desert.

SOLAR ABATEMENT.

The Impact of solar Radiation on Bldgs. in Hot climates are Great and should be Reduced by the Shading of Bldgs.



SOURCE:- ABUJA MASTER PLAN.

Further more, these facilities are being extended to some local government Headquarters and satbelite towns such as Karu and Gwagwalada.

6.12 The Micro Site Inventory Analysis

The Kwara State Government Liaison Office site at Abuja is located in the central area of the city which is allocated for the ministerial and State government liaison offices buildings.

6.12.1 Urban Contextual Analysis

The Kwara State Liaison Office Abuja has basically dual functions. While one part of the complex serves as an office accommodation and functions for most part of the day, the other part functions as residential and function both day and night.

This by implication makes the consideration of the functions of the Adjacent buildings as proposed in the land used relative to the function of the complex very important. Ideally a complex like Kwara State Liaision office Abuja should be positioned in a mix-use area because of its functions.i.e. Area which accommodates residential and administrative functions.

In the Abuja Master Plan, all the sites provided for Liaision offices are located within the central administrative zone. This area as provided in the master plan is to accommodate office complexes for various federal ministries.

As such the area is mostly functional during the day and less activities during the night. This compromises the residential function of the liaison office due to the absence of nearly residential quarters. But Hilton Hotel which also function in the night is not too far from the site therefore less limitation posed by the site.

6.13 Site Features

(a) Topography;

Topographically the site is typified by a gently sloping terrain, dropping from a height of 482m to 478m through a distance of 105m horizontally. This gives an average slope percentage of 3.8% which classify the site flat.

(b) Soil Type:

The soils underlying the site are derived from granite, gneiss and magnitic sedimentary rocks.

The soil underlay is principally made-up of metamorphic and sedimentary rocks of medium to high strength of the stype musolite and Biotite.

(c) Vegetation

There is almost complete absence of trees and little vegetation on the site. This is because it has been cleared by private farmers.

(d) Boundry Development

The site is bounded by three roads while the fourth one is to the extreme north of the site.

To the Northern part of the site is an open developable land.

6.14 Site Appraisal

(a) Site Merits

(i) Good proximity to the seat of federal ministeries and other parastatal bodies and equally close to the ministry of works and Brigade of Guards site. This makes movement between the complex and other places within the central official district very much shorter and therefore easier.

(ii) Accessibility:

The B2 road that bounds the site on the southern part provides better opportunities for the choice of ingress and egress points to the site.

(iii) Regularity of Shape

The regular shape as exhibited by the site is an added advantage towards the general planning of the site and as such makes the design of the complex as an integrated structure simpler.

(iv) The regularity of the terrain and almost flat nature create advantage towards the choice of structural system.

(v) The absence of any physical obstacle on the site makes the placement of units easier without any hinderance.

The only related feature is the pile of earth adjacent to the B2 road which was put there during the road construction.

(vi) The site being bounded by roads makes possible diversity in choice of point of engress and ingress.

(b) Site Demerits:

(i) The flat terrain as exhibited by the site do not provide the opportunity for differential horizontal planning and do not enhance drainage.

(ii) Absence of trees on the site makes impossible ready made landscape elements (trees).

(iii) The presence of more than one road makes noise one of the determinants in the placement of functional area.

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE DESIGN REPORT

7.1 SITE CONCEPTION

7.2.1 Site Zoning

The zoning of the site is based on noise disturbance potential, the considerations for orientation, accessibility and the privacy of individual functional areas.

In the zoning the Northern part of the site is zoned to accommodate the guest lodging wing of the complex. This is because the area is relatively far removed from the expressway and the functional use of the unit is most at a time when the noise level is lowest at this side. The other two areas that are susceptible to noise- Areas Adjacent to B2 and NS13 are to accommodate the Liaison office.

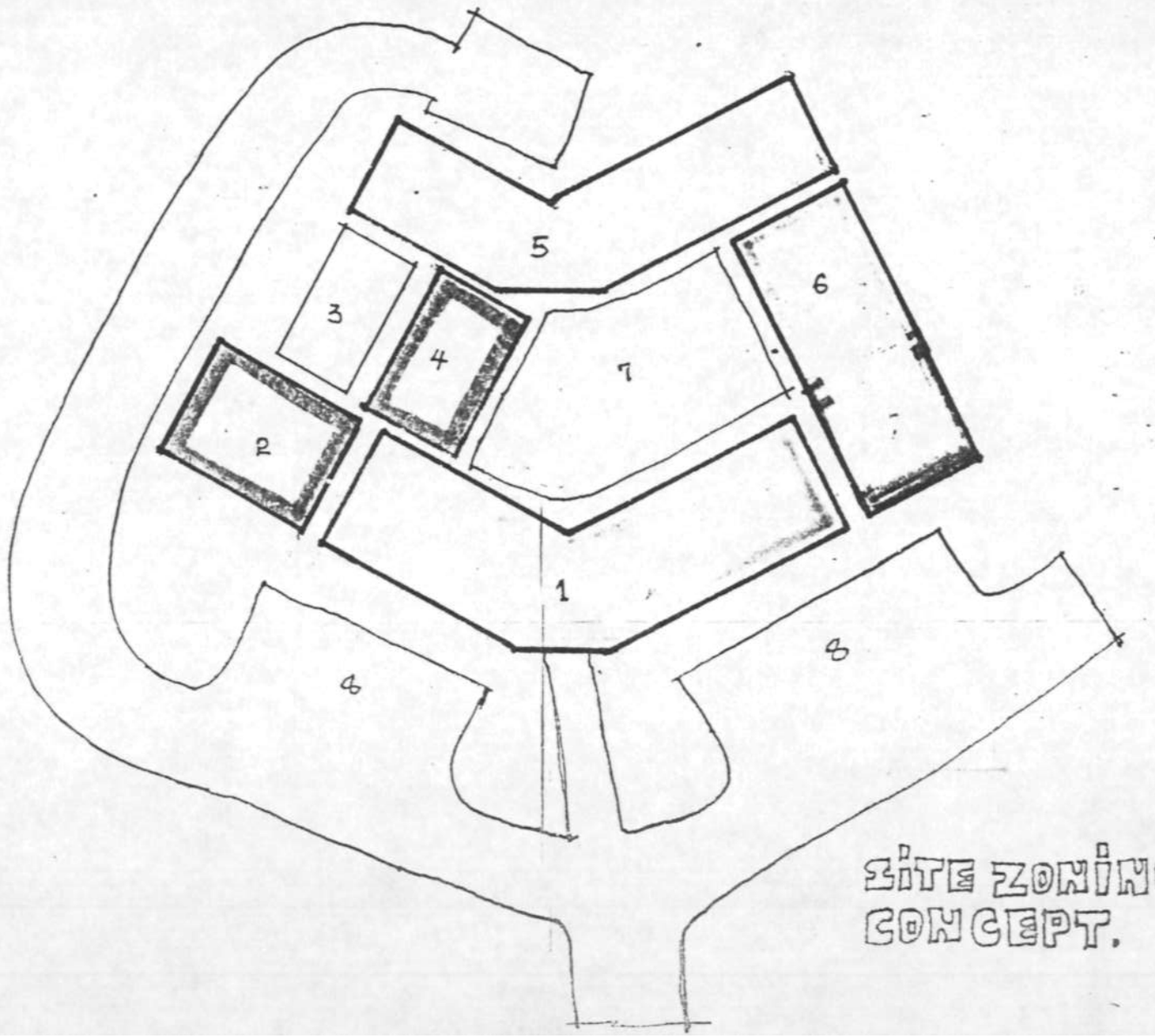
7.2.2 The Design Concept

The plan is the generator. Without a plan, you have lack of order, and wilfulness.
The plan holds in itself the essence of sensation.
The great problems of to-morrow, dictated by collective necessities, put the question of "Plan" in a new form.
Modern life demands, and is waiting for a new kind of plan both for the house and for the city.

- Le Corbusier

LEGENDS

1 ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK.
2 BANQUET HALL.
3 SWIMMING POOL.
4 KITCHEN / RESTAURANT.
5 RESIDENTIAL ACC.
6 MAINTENANCE
7 COURT YARD
8 PARKING.



SITE ZONING/ CONCEPT.

In the conception of the architectural plan, more emphasis is laid on functional relationship of the unitary parts of the complex and flexbility.

Since a liaison office is an office representing state, the design could therefore portray the image of the state, but because of the state's diversity in culture as in tongues without a common and unique style, the Architect is then left to play with the state's unique features; one of these is the existence of River Niger and Benue confluence in the State.

The plan therefore has two axis meeting at a point, expressing two rivers meeting at the confluence.

7.3 General Planning

The planning of the Kwara State Liaison office in Abuja is based on the basic criteria of zoning the public functions away from the non-public sections.

The administrative core takes three floors; The ground floor which is basically public contains the reception, the display area, Account, Treasury Registry, Typing pool and radio room. The second floor basically contains the information/Education units and the third floor houses the red carpet section and the conference room.

Also in the guest lodging block, the ground floor contains lounge, bar, porter, information, gamesroom and changing rooms. The first to second floor contains the single/double bedrooms, third to fourth floor contains one bedroom suit, the fifth floor contains the executive suits of director status while the last floor which is the sixth contains the Governor suit each floor carries a lounge to the fourth floor.

7.4 Elevational Composition

Just as every form contains its function and exists-by virtue of it, so every function finds or is engaged in finding its form"

- Louis Sullivan.

The choice of elements in the formation of elevational composition is basedon the use of structural elements to express the composition of Kwara State. The three vertical elements (stair cases) expresses the three basic ehtnic groups in the state which are Yoruba, Nupe and Ebirra, and the equal height expresses their right equality. The verticality expresses their dynamism.

7.5 Circulation

7.5.1 Horizontal Circulation

The concept succeeded in separating the pedestrian circulation from the vehicular which makes possible the devotion of the frontage of the building to planting apart from accessibility freedom by pedestrians without vehicular obstruction.

Radiating from the entrance lobby of the Administrative block are three routes; through the corridor, one links the residential Accommodation reception. The second one links the banquet Hall and the restaurant, the third route leads directly to the Accommodation area through the courtyard. All the units are also linked by walkways in the courtyard. All office floors have a reception lobby the circulation pattern follow the basic shape of the block i.e. a general corridor from which each of the room could be accessed.

7.5.2 Vertical Circulation

For going up within the Administrative block, a system of stairs is provided within the complex. Fire escape stairs are located at the two ends of the building with the main stair at the entrance lobby.

In the accommodation block, a system of stairs and lifts are provided within the complex. It contains a system of two guest's lifts with a dumwaiter there exists also a service stair case apart from the guest stair case. Fire escape stairs are located towards the two ends of the building.

7.5.2 Structures and Fabrics

The choice of structural system is simple so that it does not require advance constructional procedures and labour which depend on technology we do not possess. The main material used for the building is reinforced concrete. All columns and beams are of reinforced concrete, and simple reinforced concrete floors is employed as the structural system. The external covering is cement- sand block wall with concrete panels.

7.6 Services

In the administrative block, toilets were as much as possible restricted to a fixed area of the building so that piping can run continously in a straight route, and they were located to external space to allow fast escape of odour and proper lighting.

In the residential accommodation block, toilets to individual rooms are located along a singly loaded carridor with the ducts running vertically through the floors. The toilets services for the other components are distributed in fall to the ground which invariably goes into the inspection chambers.

7.6.1 Water Supply

Water from the mains is distributed to the administrative block, the service area and the residential accommodation. It is taken up the floors by piping. A water cistern is located on the last floor apart from the ground tanks.

7.6.2 Drainage

Rain water is drained down by the fall pipes and gutters and are allowed to follow site drainage. Sewage pipes carrying foul water are first taken to inspection chambers and to septic and soak-away tank which is located in the lower part of the site.

7.6.3 Fire Escape

All doors to the fire escape stairs are fire check doors which are controlled by electronic sensors which can spot smoke or fire and this keeps them shut. The lobby space at the front of each of the escape stair cases will help contain crowd during dispersion. The lifts are also capable of keeping out fire and smoke.

Projections on each floors will help stop the spread of fire from one floor to the other and will also confine smoke. Openings on the sides of the escape stairs provide opportunity for easy evacuation of people in case of fire.

7.6.4 Window Cleaning

The common and easiest method for tall buildings is the use of scaffolding, other mechanical methods such as the suspension method can be used to reach any height and any length

7.6.5 Lighting

In the administrative block windows have been located at the external walls of the building so as to admit natural light into the different units. Since the corridor is doubly loaded, openings at both ends of the building will enhance lighting in the building's corridor. Apart from this, high level windows are introduced on the internal walls of the units. The glazing of the central lounge on each of the office floor also will increase lighting and ventilation potential of the structure.

Windows are located on the external walls of the residential accommodation block apart from the high level windows on the doors which have direct relationship with the singly loaded corridor.

This automatically makes possible cross ventilation in the rooms apart from sufficient lighting. Artificial lighting also will supply sufficient lighting during the night.

7.6.6 Landscape

The external landscape comprises of lawns, shrubs and conscious planting of trees. In the courtyard, the landscape elements apart from the lawn and shrubs include a sculpture piece. Also there are plantings in the lounge.

CONCLUSION

This study has made a discovery of the current inadequacy in the function of liaison offices considering the fact that they are information centres.

A liaison office stands to represent a state to furnish guests of different categories with necessary details about the state apart from rendering assistance, it should also take care of such guests if necessary. The information dissemination is dual; from the Federal body to the states and vise-versa. A contact with a state liaison office is a contact with the concerned state.

Since the present status of liaison offices has been considered unsatisfactory because of no attention paid to the display of the states artefacts and important features that could help in appreciating the state apart from serving as physical means of disseminating information which means educating people about the state, the thesis has therefore increased the dimension of a liaison office by introducing a display area where the state artefacts and important features could be displayed; A place where one can go through the state within a space. This will increase the educational and information dissemination potentials of a liaison office.

The thesis also has made a conscious effort to design the residential Accommodation capable of providing the workers with accommodation opportunity considering the Heterogeneity in workers categories.

Provision of recreational facilities in the environment gives it a humane touch of relaxational aids and enlivens people in the environment.

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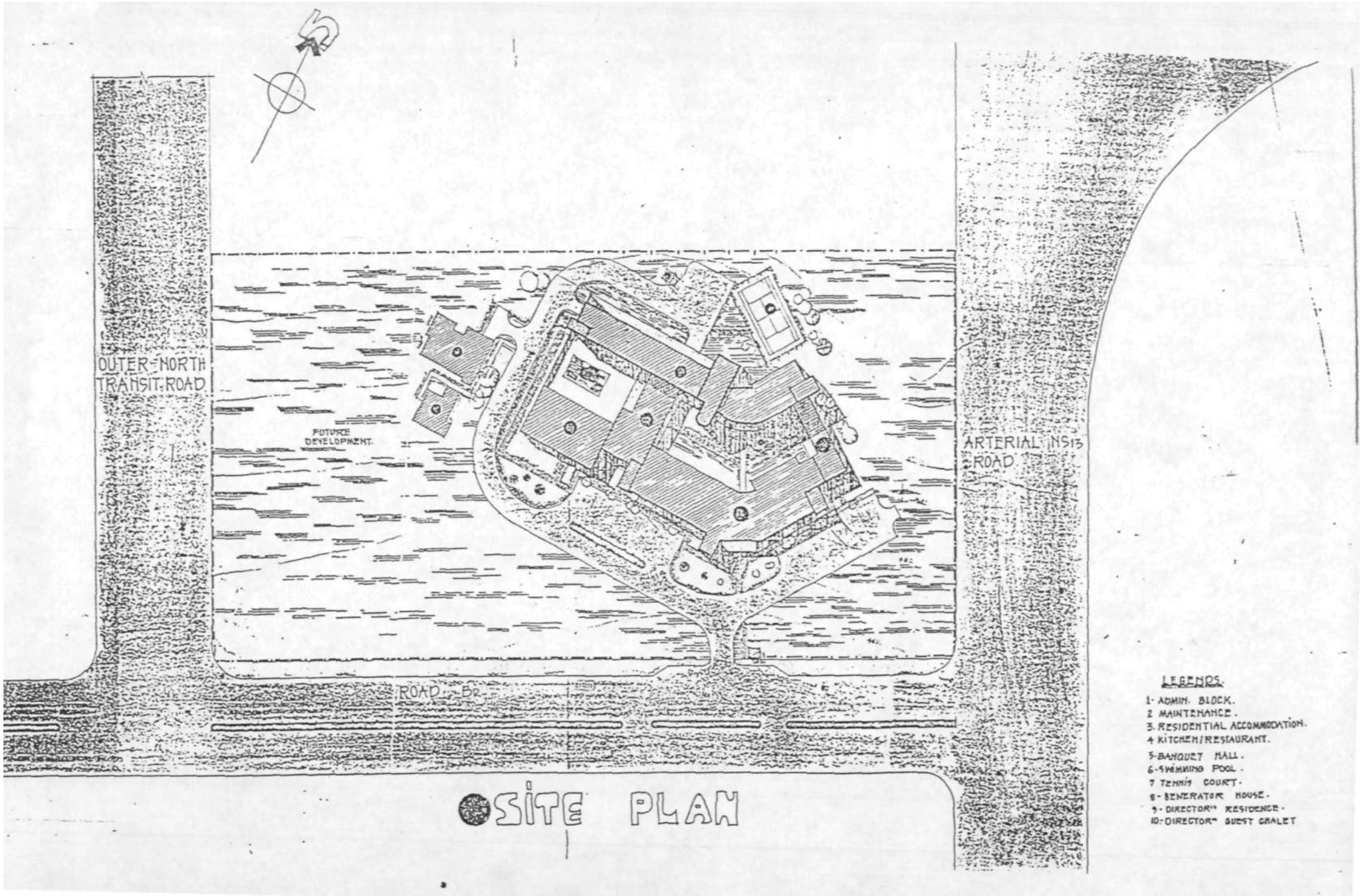
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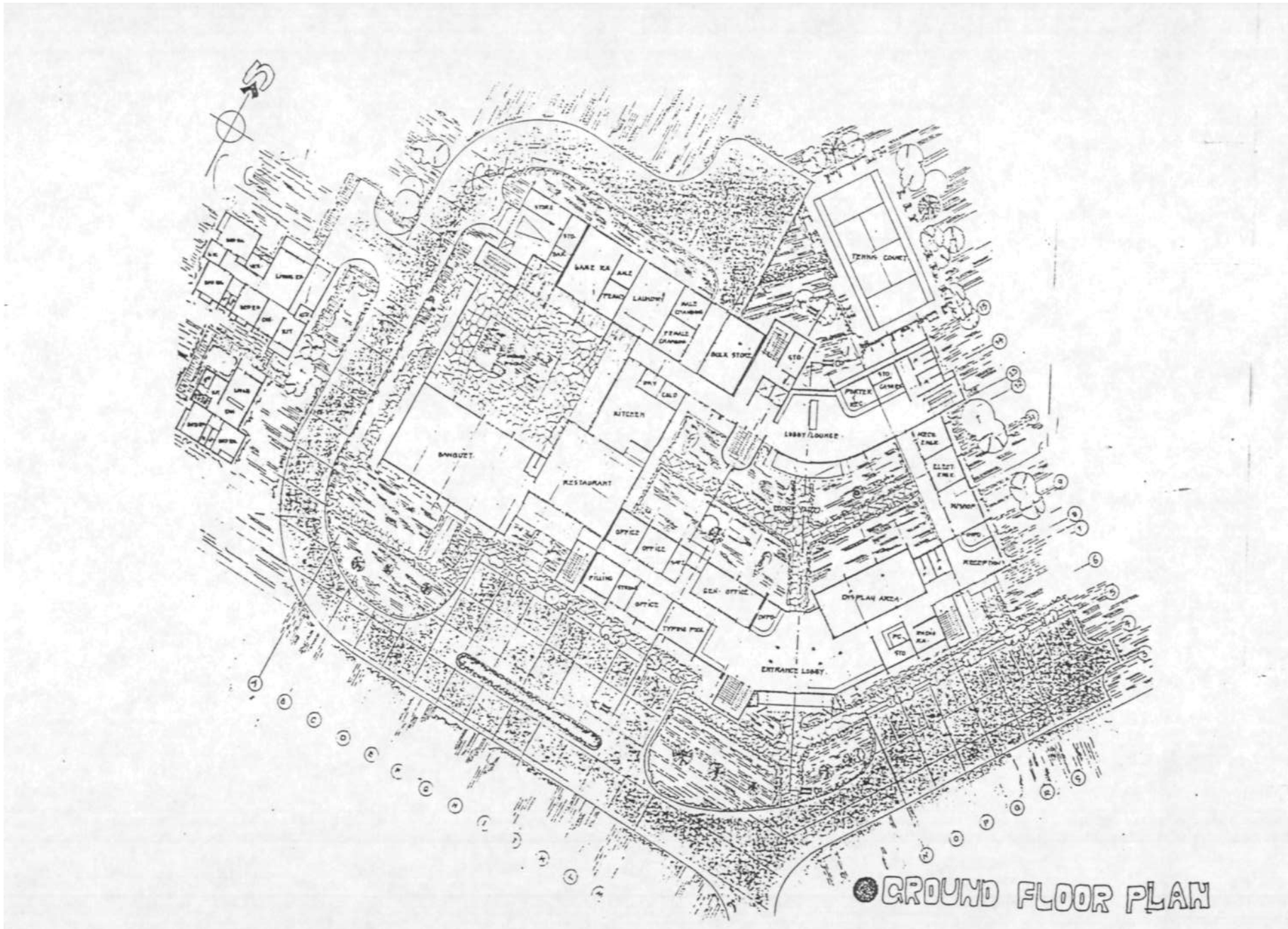
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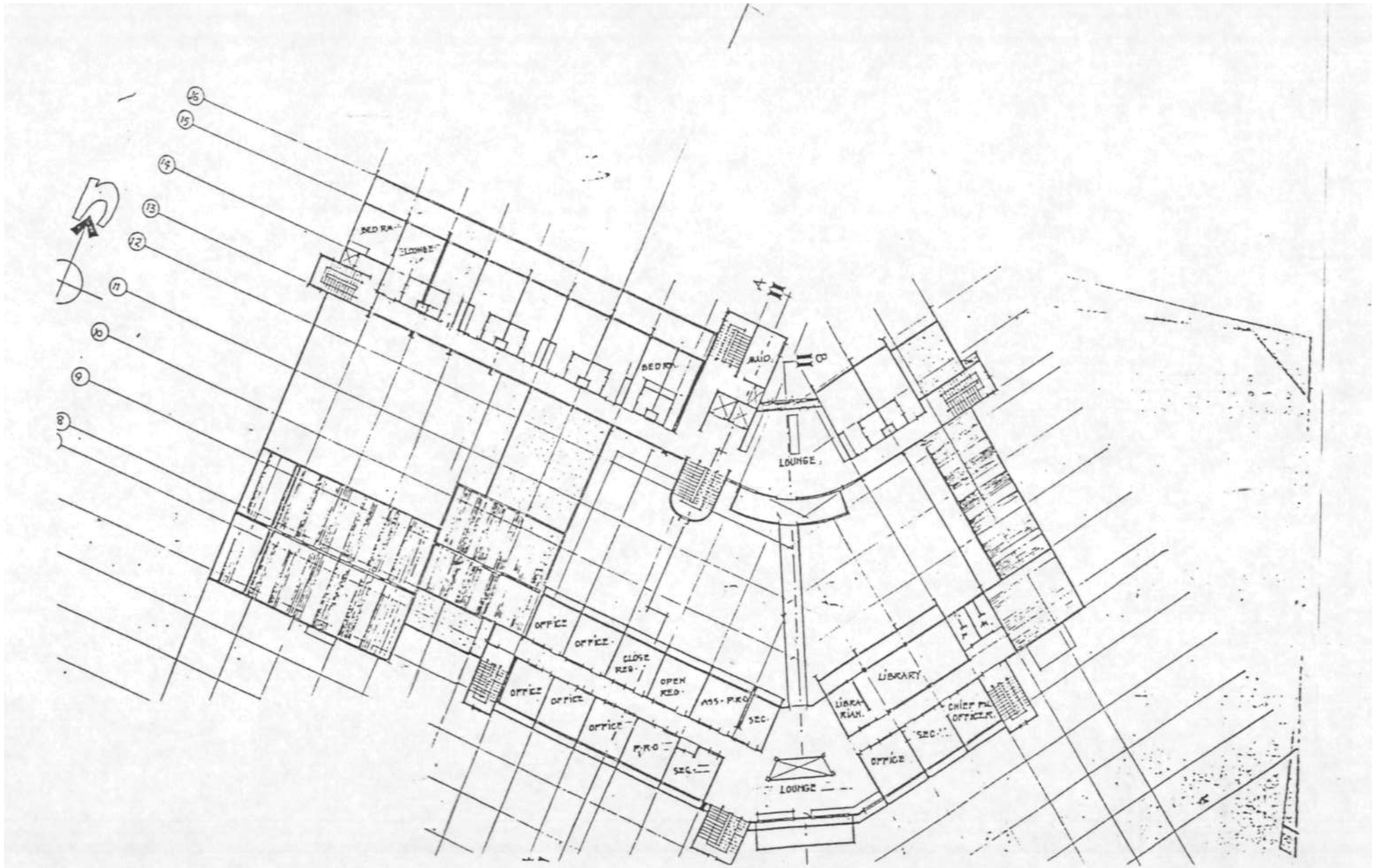
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OUTER-NORTH
TRANSIT ROAD
FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT.
ARTERIAL NS13
ROAD
ROAD "B"
LEGENDS.
1- ADMIN. BLOCK.
2 MAINTENANCE.
3. RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION.
4 KITCHEN/RESTAURANT.
5- BANQUET HALL.
6- SWIMMING POOL.
7 TENNIS COURT.
8- GENERATOR HOUSE.
9- DIRECTOR'S RESIDENCE.
10: DIRECTOR'S GUEST CHALET

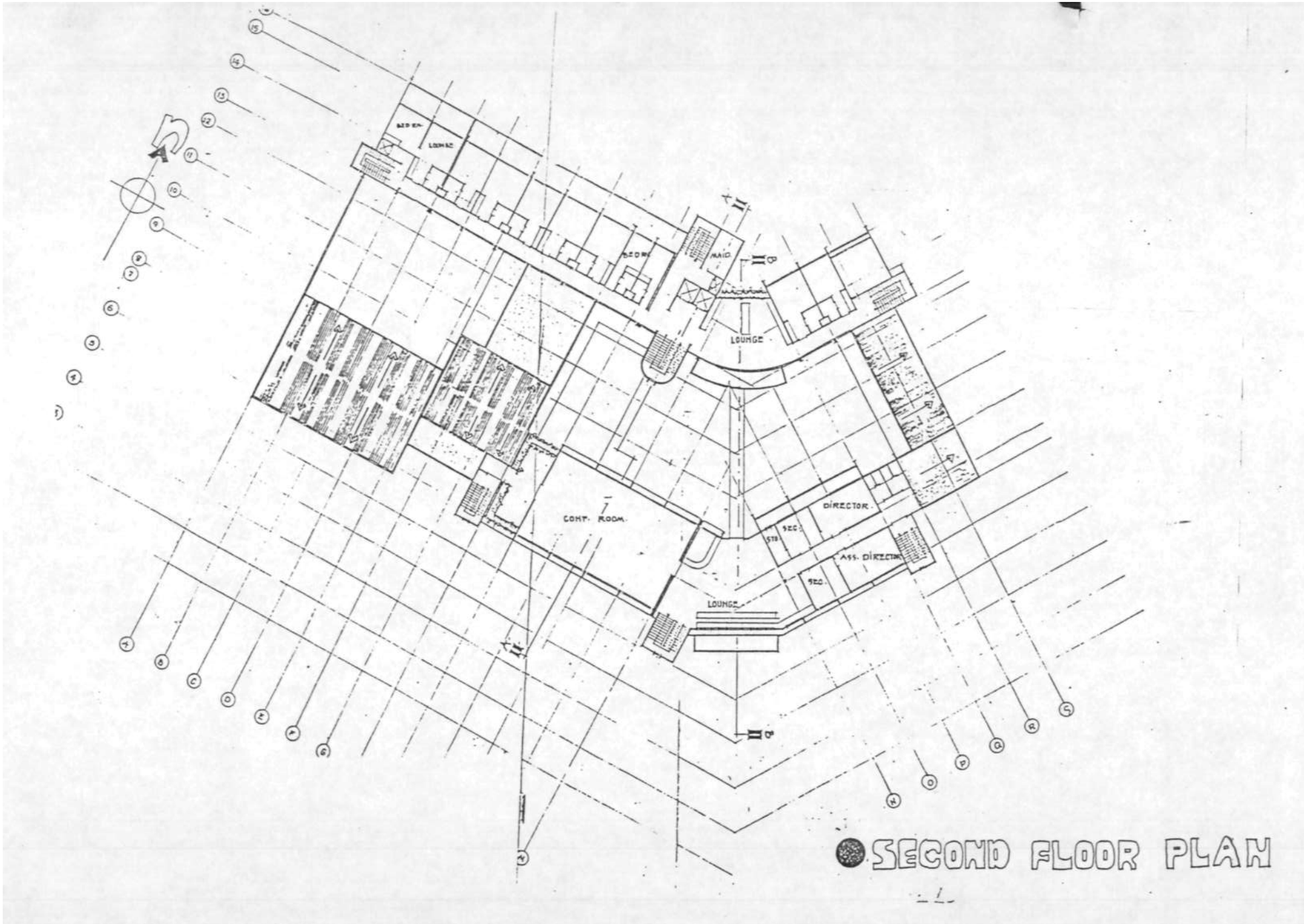
SITE PLAN



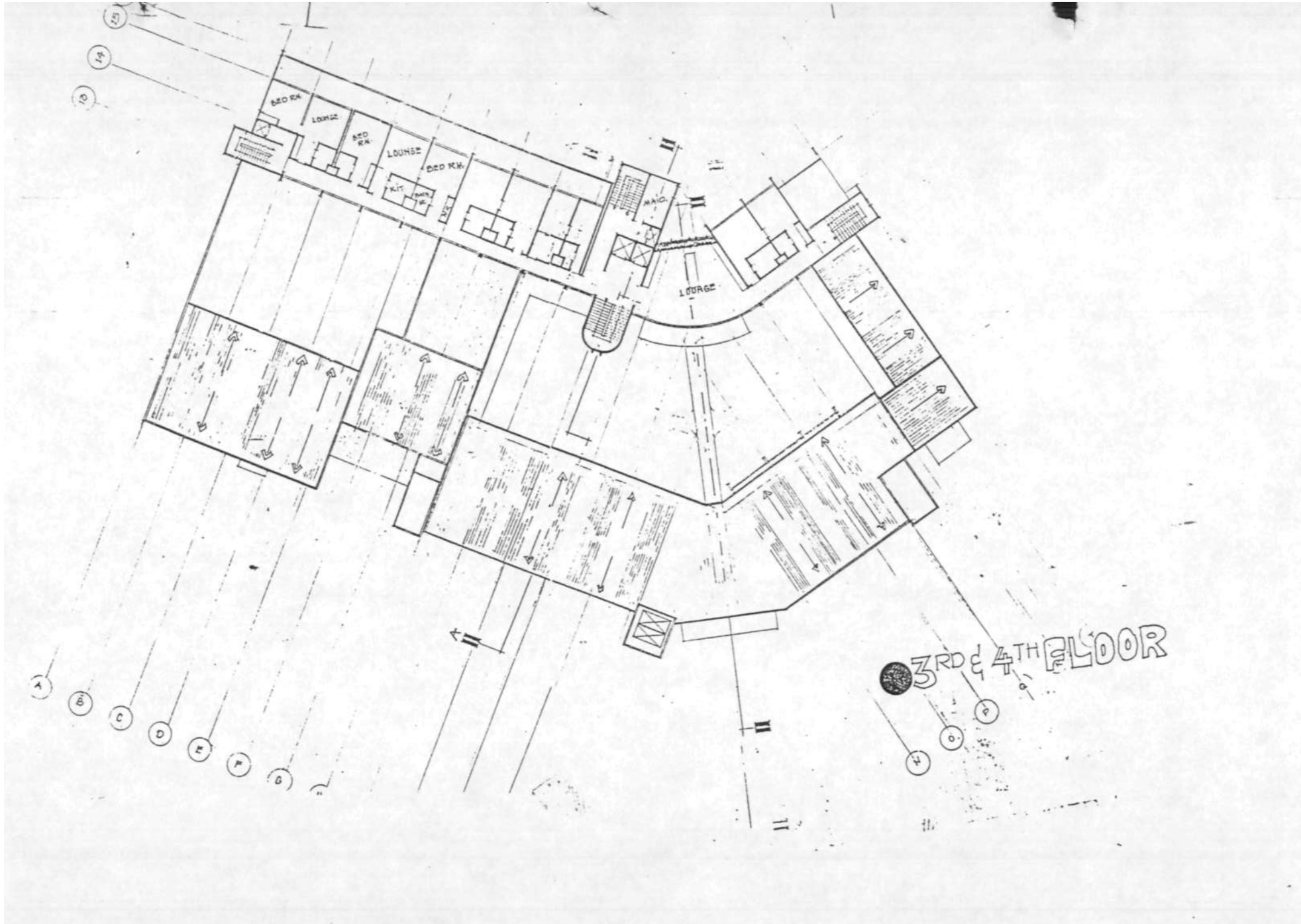
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

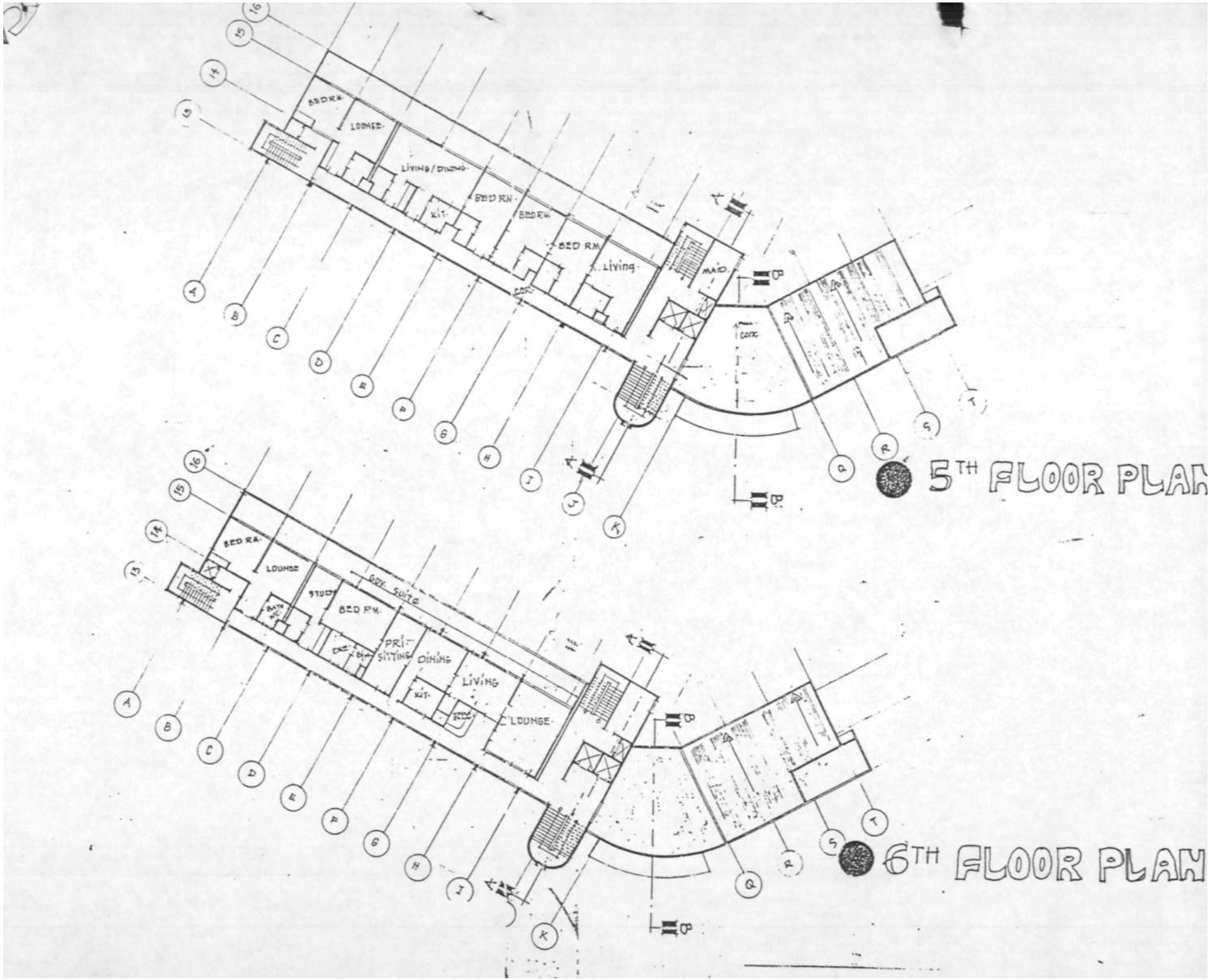


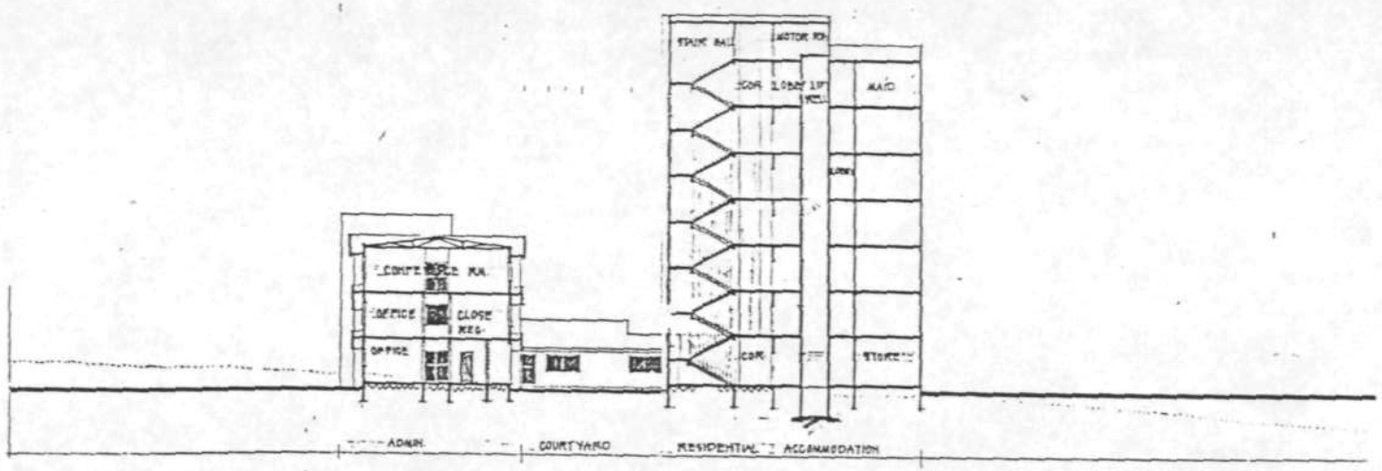
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



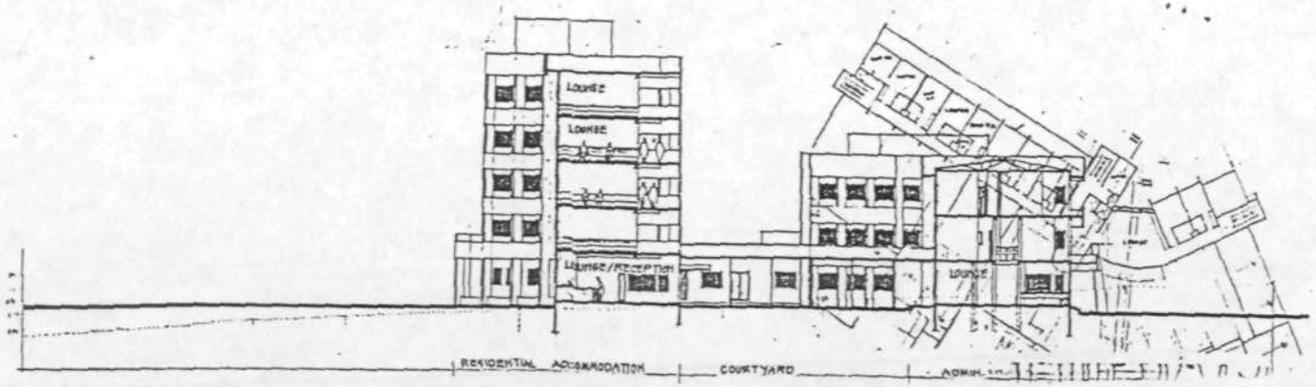
SECOND FLOOR PLAN


BED RM.
LOUNGE
BED RM.
LOUNGE
BED RM.
KIT.
BATH
W.C.
MAID
LOUNGE
3RD & 4TH FLOOR

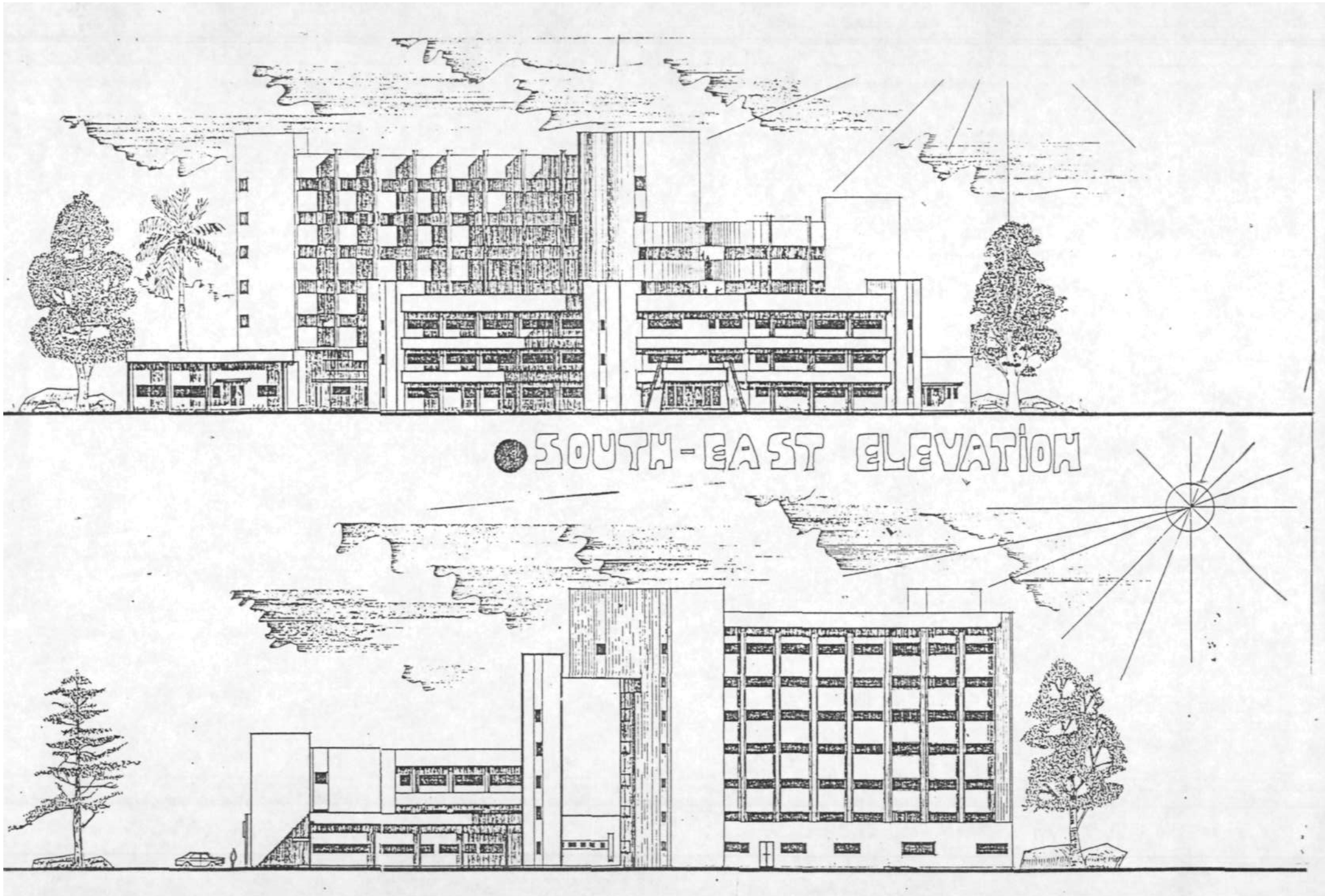

BED RM.
LOUNGE
LIVING / DINING
BED RM.
KIT.
BED RM.
BED RM.
LIVING
MAID
CONC
5TH FLOOR PLAN
BED RM.
LOUNGE
STUDY
BED RM.
PRI SITTING
DINING
KIT.
LIVING
LOUNGE
6TH FLOOR PLAN



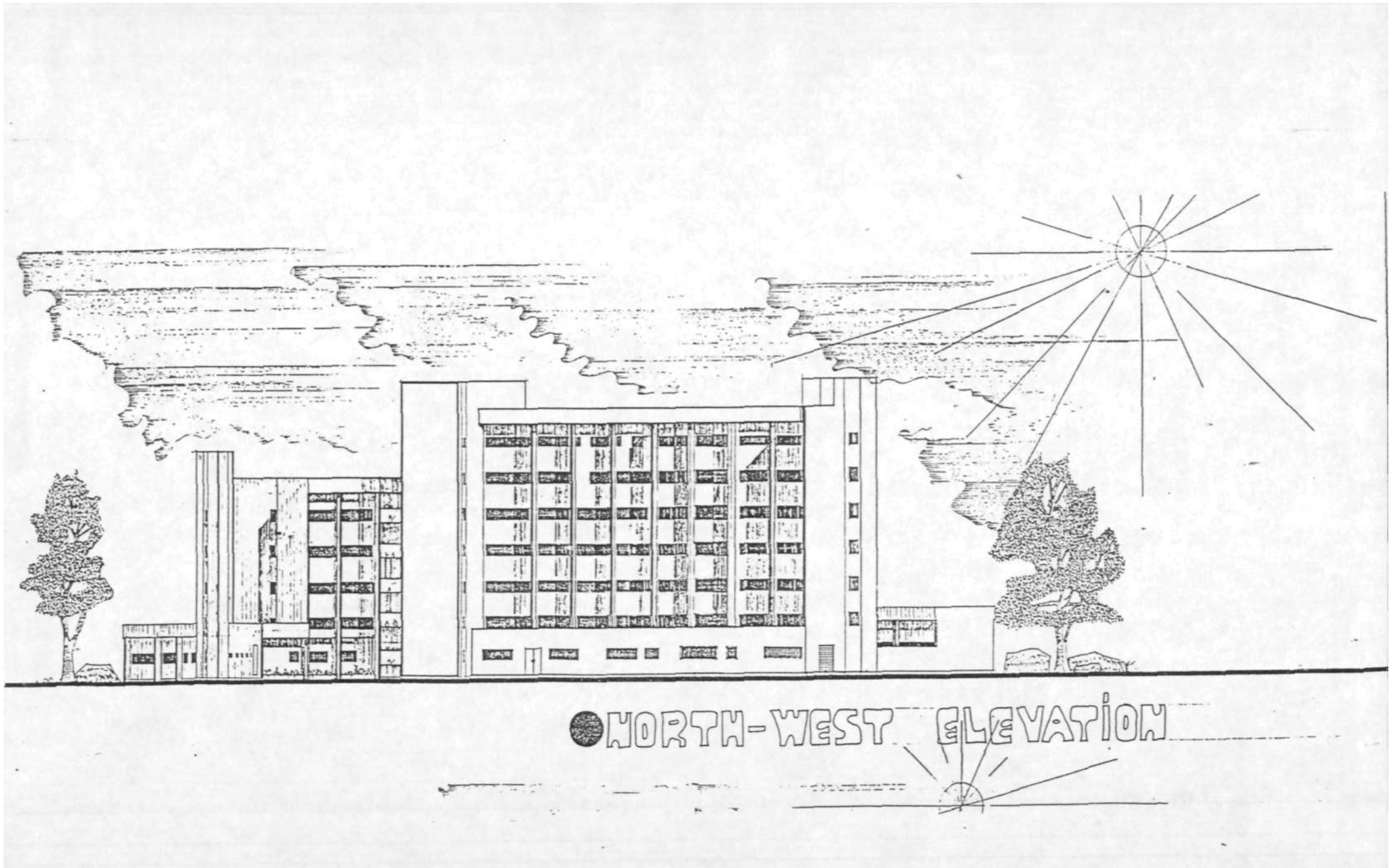
SECTION A-A



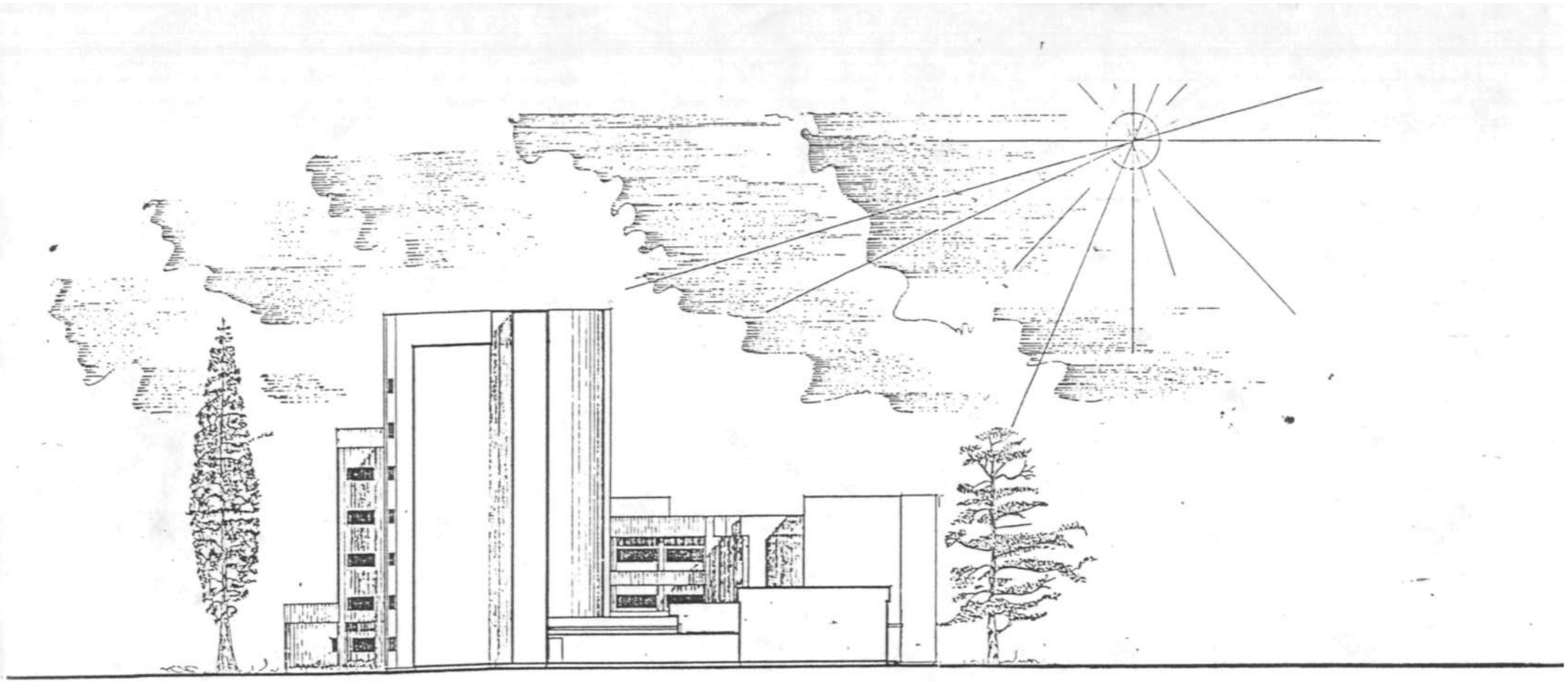
B-B



SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION



NORTH-WEST ELEVATION



WEST- ELEVATION