THESIS ABSTRACT

A Northside Interaction Center sounds like a specialized community center in some special suburb. In many respects it is special. For one thing, the idea is unique for the Midwest. What is the idea? Simply, combine a community oriented group with a religious oriented group not necessarily in that community in one building, and by the design of the building, cause them to use the same facilities. The ideas of more fruitful church-community relations is the key issue and is the crux behind this project.

An idea for such a project is not new by any means. The Romans provided places of worship that also doubled as fora for community action called Bascillicas. However the United States has been formed on the idea of separation of church and community. The idea is still very real today. The church is considered something special and above the community in its way of thinking and even its architecture. The church has been slowly dying, mainly because of this "holier than thou" relationship it has with the public. The church basically stands for ideals that are good to the benefit of mankind. The problem is that the church considers itself all good while it considers the community sinners that need always to repent. True, some churches are changing their attitudes more towards the same level as the community considering themselves offering a service of a more fruitful
life. However, these churches are not what most people associate with and they condemn the churches too good for them.

The rationale behind this project can maybe be seen. Try to foster a nucleus whereby the church and the community can share common interests and problems.

The Indiana Baptist Convention thought this might be a good idea to explore so that is why the project has been given to me to explore. The proposed center is to be located on the northside of Indianapolis in the community of Nora. The community is special because it has the highest per capita income level of any town in Indianapolis. The Baptist Convention is special because it is the thought of this idea and the center for being, the proof of the pudding.

The project is semi-real as the Baptists do have plans to go into this operation some day. The project is special because it is done with people in mind instead of just a few selected individuals who might use it if the center were for the church.
In trying to decide on a suitable project for thesis, an area of architecture that I feel deficient toward, is that of religious structures. Churches are being built in large numbers and as a rule are quite similar in concept and appearance. However, the idea of a larger structure that would be more secular in nature with religious overtones, seems more challenging. This structure would provide different community oriented activities as well as a religion convention's base of operations under one roof.

In talking to the Indianapolis firm of Keier, Thompson, Architects, we talked about the intentions of the Indiana Baptist Convention (American Baptist Convention) to build a state wide center to unify their different functions as well as provide for active community activity. There are no definite plans to build at this time, however, this project is gathering momentum among different pastors in the state, many of which are not Baptist.

The site as it is proposed now would be an L shaped piece of land surrounding the First Baptist Church of Indianapolis located on the north side of Indianapolis near the town of Nora. The site is immediately surrounded by residential area with two busy thoroughfares on the south and east, 86th St. (Route 100) and College Avenue respectively.
The Center as it is proposed at this time would contain the following areas: The main state offices for the convention which would take up approximately one half of the total space; a counselling center to be used for functions in the building as well as community groups; a "Sixty Plus" center for recreational as well as community social interaction for the senior citizens of the community; and a small non-denominational chapel for the community. Activities that may be in the complex, but not necessarily under the same roof might include: a day care center that will be used by the employees of the community as well as center; a Special Interest Area for displays or exhibits of different things presented by the community; Elderly Housing for those who might need the center and have no other way of getting to the center; and a youth center that will act as a starting place for new active youth activities such as the Arena Teen Barn which is presently on the site.

The reason why I wish to do this project is two fold. One, I have never attempted a religious type structure before and I would like to attempt one. Two, I feel that the church must change its outlook more to the needs of the community rather than having the community trying to help the needs of the project possibly may start to attempt to do this.
NORTHSIDE INTERACTION CENTER
INDIANA BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS
and
COMMUNITY CENTER

JACK P. MORGAN
09/22/72
NATURE OF PROJECT

PURPOSE

I intend to design a totally new headquarters building for the Indiana Baptist Convention and an adjoining community activity center, to be located on the north side of Indianapolis in the community of Nora. This will include the design and landscaping of the grounds immediately adjacent to the center and the master plan for the entire complex.

VALIDITY

The Indiana Baptist Convention having jurisdiction over 600,000 members and over 375 churches, is one of the largest conventions in the state. They are presently located at 1350 North Delaware in Indianapolis, Indiana, in a three level office building. The facilities are now adequate for their present and future needs, and there is no land for future expansion. Although they will make do with what they have for awhile, they are interested in a design for a new facility.

The Convention would, ideally, like to find a new site near the existing one for several reasons. Public transportation is available for the employees that use it. The location at the present site near the inner loop of the city would make it easily accessible from all parts of the state.
Also, the location, being in a lower income level urban neighborhood, could have a potentiality of serving as a community awareness center.

However, Nora would probably make more sense as a potential area to build. Land prices of good land zoned commercial, which an office complex would fall under, is almost twice what the price would be in Nora per acre. Since Nora is a growing community, the chance for future public transportation is quite good. And in case public transportation could not be started to the community, a bus could be chartered from downtown to bring the employees out to the center. I-465 is only a mile away from the proposed site, making it just as accessible to the state as the present one. The use of the present headquarters as a community awareness center is questionable. There is not enough room for their present programs now, and talk about new ones would hamper them even more in space... The community is rapidly turning to commercial interests which would not have much need for a counseling center. The site has close to forty acres which would give any talk of future expansion a good chance of succeeding.

A community center is also proposed for this project. A true community center should have activities for most of the members of the community. It should be open when the community
wants it. It should offer programs for members of the community as well as providing area for them to meet and display their wares or tell of future events. In short, it should be a place where the community can advance itself.

Nora is a community located in a variable socio-economic scope. It consists mostly of upper middle class residences and shopping areas, but does have a sizable 24% of families in the lower middle class primarily black families.¹

Presently there are several centers that are oriented to the community. North Central High School, largest high school in the state with a student population of over 3750 students, serves high school age people in many activities. The National Silhouette Health Spa serves body conditioning needs for men and women over 21. The Jordan Y.M.C.A., serves athletic needs for many families. The Nora Teen Barn, presently on the site serves the teenagers with weekend concerts and parties. However, all of these centers have limitations on the number and type of programs they offer. Either it is an ethnic code that the membership must follow, or they have restrictions such as private memberships only may use the facilities or a combination of both. Nora needs a center that would be open to the public use and would offer programs that many centers cannot now offer. The blacks for instance, number 15% and yet have no place where
they can meet and talk about their problems and joys and convey these to the whole community. A center such as this one may start to bring the family unit closer together again by offering programs that all the members of the family would be interested in.

The center should be run and financed by some non-church organization because of many peoples' lack of confidence in the church. The church in the past lived too much off the community instead of living for the community. Bingo games, for instance, where finances were needed to buy the pastor a new car when he had an older one that ran acceptably well, is one big example of this living off the land. Today, fortunately, the church has taken a look at itself and has started to sponsor more community related programs. However, each denomination still claims that they are the best, and until they can solve their differences, the church will never truly respond to the community.

Dr. Ozis Pruett, Pastor of First Baptist Church and on the Indianapolis Council of Churches, says that many Theologians would like to see an interdenominational merger, but that it would take time and the memberships of the respective denominations would not be that eager to merge right away. He says that the memberships would be against such a move because they are used to their own form of religion and to change would be
non-religious. In short, it would take awhile for the church to resolve its differences and as a result should wait to sponsor the center until it has worked these differences out.

The two functions should then be combined in order to start help soothe over these problems. The church is basically a strong attraction to the community for insight, direction, encouragement, and hope. The community has all the features that the church should be eager to serve. Breaking down the prejudices and doubts of religion should be the eventual goal of the center. The center is to be called the Northside Interaction Center, meaning that it is located on the north side (of Indianapolis) and the two groups (the church and the community) can fruitfully interact in a common center.

BACKGROUND

The proposed project was suggested by the firm of Keier, Thompson, A.I.A., in Indianapolis. They work closely with the Indiana Baptist Convention in different statewide applications. The general project was given to an architect of the same firm on the same site in 1969 with many more different activity generators being considered. A small chapel, a small retired folks home, plus a unit of Sycamores were in the general scope as well as a headquarters and a youth center. Sycamores is a project being considered and sponsored by the Indiana Baptist Men and consists of small dormitory type buildings located
throughout the state. Each of these dormitory buildings houses 10 to 12 retarded children and a husband-wife team that tries to give a home atmosphere to these youngsters as well as give them the vital training that they need. The idea of myself working in this area for my thesis came from talks with Meier, Thompson, and with Dr. Dallas West, the Executive Secretary of the Baptist Convention. They were interested in what ideas I could come up with for a new headquarters building, and any thoughts I would have on a community center. This program is a result of research spurned by these talks.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

I hope that after these nine months, a viable community center as well as a headquarters building for the Indiana Baptists will be completed to a degree so that people can start to see that religion has made a big step forward toward making the community a better place to live. Not having any experience in these two building types, this should prove to be a challenge that I think will be rewarding.
PROJECT PARTICULARS

RESOURCES

As mentioned earlier, the center should not be sponsored or run by any church group at this time. Mr. Turner, Executive Director of the Muncie Y.M.C.A., said that religious hangups that different people might have would be a large stumbling block to the success of a community center. He mentioned that some non-religious group that was community minded that did not have to worry about ethnic codes that the Y had to adhere to would be ideal for the supervision. He mentioned the possibility of the park department as sponsors of such a center.

The park department idea seemed to be a good idea so I talked to them about the center. In talking to Bud Sirc and Kitty Hiatte, Deputy Director and Head of Recreational Programs respectively, they seemed to think that the city would be interested. They explained that the park department recently took over the Krannert Y community center and has had much success with it. The Y organization in Indianapolis, they said is declining, because of the lack of programs aimed at high school, college, and young marrieds age groups and a need exists for more viable programs. The city, at present time has no activity center on the north side of the city. The center would fill this need that they need a facility to cater more to the
north side. The only disadvantage that could arise from the park department sponsoring such a center would be a political one. The park department is one of the few city agencies that still works under the political patronage system of attaining personnel. The department is changing slowly however, under Mayor Richard G. Lugar, but it is not sure whether it will be completely eliminated.

TINS

Since this project has no immediate pressing need, time is in its favor. The Baptists have not considered seriously the thought of moving; however, when this thesis project is completed, they may think more seriously about it. The community center would be wanted at a sooner time, but here again, the sponsor is not known at this time and it is not known whether the project should be built on this site. The proposed project has no pressing deadlines to meet, however, it is hoped that the finished project would cause deadlines to be made and met in the future.

ECONOMICS

The money needed to design and build this project, approximately one to two million dollars could be raised by several
groups. Since the Baptist Convention is one of the largest in the state, obtaining funds would be simpler. The city could provide the funds to build and run the center, renting the land needed from the First Baptist Church who is the owner. The idea of two activities makes the thought of phasing very real. Perhaps the community center could be built first with the headquarters building being built second. People using the center could pay small fees to defray the costs, and commercial interests that would like to use the center could pay a fee for use in the center. The center would probably be as feasible as many other park sponsored centers are, they break even. The Headquarters would go also because of the convention being so large.

GROWTH POTENTIAL

The site being forty acres would provide plenty of room for expansion if it were ever needed. There is reason to believe that there will be a need even after the new facilities have been built. The Baptist Convention already needs a new facility after being in their present facility for only six years. The potential growth of the convention is there also because if the church changes is noticed by the community, more people are going to support religious programs including the headquarters building. The center probably will expand as more and more
community related activities can not be done in the present facility. A master plan is then needed for the complex to assure that the expansion is done in a planned way, blending in with the present facilities. This is part of the objectives of the project.

CLIENT EQUITY

The client, The Indiana Baptist Convention, has certain ideas about the future. They are looking for new ideas that will bring Christianity to more people. The community center is one such program and the previously mentioned Sycamore program. They still have some restrictions concerning Baptists and other religious groups in regard of the Baptists being better than the others. The idea of other denominations sharing the new headquarters building does not excite the Baptists that much. The Indiana Church Center in Indianapolis will eventually need space to expand and such a headquarters building could solve this need. The Baptists are trying to break these ideas, but a sizable number of pastors who support the convention still share a backwards viewpoint. When this obstacle is overcome, then the Baptists can be considered to be truly looking to the future.
LAND COSTS

The land costs are at the present time approximately $953 per acre in this area. This is almost half of the property value of land zoned commercial in the downtown area ($1650). Since the First Baptist Church owns this property it would probably rent the land to the Indiana Baptist Convention and to the sponsoring institution of the center. The church would definitely obtain more income than the present two rental properties on the site. (a house and a barn). The income, because it is being paid to a church would be non-taxable.

ANNUAL COSTS

The proposed complex is not envisioned to have facilities that will cost more than normal over a long period of time. The immediate costs should not be that much higher than the average costs of a building of this type. The programs that will be held in the community center can be radical in a conservative framework. The different programs that use the center would probably pay for this annual cost, in the form of rent rather than the original cost that was probably derived from contributions and from other sources.
CONSTRUCTION IMPLICATIONS

Since this site is large, any construction done would not affect the total environment that much, and would probably be hidden from the general public's view. With lush foliage, care must be taken during the design phase and the construction phase to insure that as much of the original feeling will be retained as much as possible.

PROJECT RELEVANCE

INFLUENCES

Such a center would thus create a new cultural as well as physical activity area. Many children would be influenced by new programs and activities that were not previously offered to them. The housewife could be influenced by different merchants to buy a new style of clothing from numerous style shows that would be held in the center. The influences of the center would be direct and indirect as it will affect the very lifestyle of the community.

The other centers could use this center to hold programs where they do not have enough room or have time conflicts. The centers in the community should work together to serve the needs of the community with this center filling in the gaps caused by the other centers.
LANDMARK ADJACENT

A center such as this could eventually be considered a landmark because of its openness of programs and techniques. It would join two landmarks that exist within the community and the dozens more in and near Indianapolis. The Indiana State School for the blind is one such landmark, at least as far as the state is concerned. Located only one mile away from the site in the southern part of Nora, it offers blind children a chance for a fully accredited high school education. The students even participate in sports with other private schools and organizations in the area. The school is the only one in the state to offer the blind these programs and as a result is considered a landmark. Another landmark is in nearby Holliday Park with the Carl Bitters Statues. These statues are composed in a ruins setting by a local artist, Edwin Telfinger, who has beenprompting the park department to finish the interesting project. The setting is unique in the United States and when the project is done, it should become a national landmark. Locally, it is already a landmark with many people coming from miles around to wonder what the setting is trying to convey.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The blind school has been around for a while. The statues
have been around since 1959, while the rest of the setting is
being completed at the present time. However, there is no real
historical significance in these landmarks or in any function of
Nora, since it is a relatively new community.

HOPES

The center must try to overstep present church ideals and
techniques to reach the community. Since this center would be
located on church property, the center must make a name for it-
self so it will not be thought of as some Baptist sponsored
function. The contributions that will be made by the center
and even the headquarters building to the community are great.
A place where the community can look at itself and plan for its
future will be a welcome addition to Nora.

ZONING LIMITATIONS

The proposed site is now zoned D-2 residential use. In
order to use the property for its intended use, D-1 commercial
zoning must be sought. Since these organizations are non-profit,
the chances of obtaining a variance would be very good. The site
has a 15' right of way set back along College Avenue, and a
25' right away set back along State Route 100.
DESCRIPTION OF BUILDING FUNCTIONS

Now that we have talked about the how and why of a new headquarters building for the Indiana Baptists and an adjoining non-Baptist supported community center, let us now talk about the functions in the complex itself. Since there are two activities, the headquarters will be mentioned first and then the community center. We will list the public and private functions of the building and then go back and talk about each area in detail.

PUBLIC FUNCTIONS

There are many functions that go on in the present headquarters building and some new ones that will be encompassed in the new structure. The following is a tentative list of what public functions will be going on in the building.

The front entrance and lobby
The business office and reception area
The Executive Secretary of the State's office area
The main conference room
Secondary classrooms adjacent to the main conference room
The Executive Secretary of Indianapolis office area
The Staff Minister for New Church Development office area
The Sycamore Office area
The State Director of Christian Education's office area
The Editor of the Baptist Observer office area
The World Mission Support Office area
The Field Secretaries office area
The Parking lot

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

The following activities are tentatively being considered for the new facility.

The duplicating office area
The mail room area
The employee lounge and kitchen
The secretarial pool office
The bookstore work area
The storage area and the incinerator
MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONS

The following are public functions, but are not necessarily related to this building type.

The toilet and private lounge areas with each toilet room
The public lounge and the vending room
The elevator and other circulation areas

PUBLIC FUNCTIONS

Most of the activities in the proposed community center are of a public nature, which they should be. The following is a list of tentative functions that will go on in the new facility.

The multi-purpose/gymnasium area
The pool area
The training pool area
The Squash area
The Handball area
The Spa area
The workout area
The men's locker area and lounge
The women's locker area and lounge
The community room
The stage area
The stage dressing room area
The exhibition area
The counseling area
The daycare/nitecare center area
The sixty plus area
The black area

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

The following activities are considered tentative and support the public functions.

The deck and equipment storage area
The apparatus storage area
The kitchen storage area
The program storage area
The mechanical spaces

MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONS

The following are public functions, but are not necessarily related to this building type.
The toilet and private lounge areas with in each toilet room
The public lounge and vending room
The elevator and the circulation areas

FUNCTION DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR PARTS

Now that we have listed the general areas for each activity
generator, let us let us go back and take each individual functions.
The headquarters building will be discussed first and then the com-
munity center.

Headquarters Section or Building

The front entrance is what people will see as they first enter
the headquarters.

It must meet people cheerfully

It must tell people either to go to the main office or
one of the smaller officies.

Provide a waiting area for people waiting to talk to the
different dignitaries

The main business office located near the front entrance is
where many people come in contact with the convention.

It must take care of reception needs.

It must take care of all general secretarial needs of
the general headquarters.

It must handle all the bookkeeping needs of the convention.

It must take care of any monies that are not yet placed
in the bank.

The Executive Secretary of the State convention is the top person
in the organization.

The office area should have a private adjoining secretarry.

The area should be large enough to take care of any executive
need of the convention.

The area should have a private adjoining washroom.

The main conference room is the place where many large and small
meetings are held including the twice annual state board convention.
It should be close to the entry and lobby areas.

It should be sub-dividable.

It should have a small adjoining kitchen area.

It should have a platform or stage.

The secondary classrooms would handle meetings that would be too small for the main conference room and could be used in conjunction with the main conference room.

The classrooms should be joinable.

They should be close to the main conference area.

The Executive Director of Indianapolis is in charge of all Baptist related activities in the greater Indianapolis area.

The office should be readily accessible from the main entry.

It should have a large enough office space to handle any executive function nearby or necessary.

It should have a private secretary and workarea.

It should have its own private washroom.

The Sycamore office area is responsible for the program concerned for care of the retarded children described earlier.

It should have enough room to carry out its functions with comfort.

It should have an adjoining secretarial space.

It should have a small storage area.

The State Director of Christian education is responsible to see that when a new and older churches have the funding and leadership necessary for a good educational program.

The office should have enough area to carry on its functions with ease and comfort.

It should have an adjoining storage area.

It should have an adjoining secretarial space.

The Editor of the Indiana Baptist Observer compiles information and sends this information to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, the headquarters of the American Baptist Convention of which the Indiana Baptists are a part. The Indiana news is then placed in the center of the national American Baptist Observer for distribution in Indiana.
The office should be large enough to carry out its functions with ease and comfort.

It should have a personal secretary.

It should have a small storage area.

The World Mission Support Office is reasonable to seeing that each church in the convention is giving its fair share to overseas mission support.

The office should be large enough to carry out its functions with ease and comfort.

It should have an adjoining secretarial area.

It should have an adjoining small storage area.

The Bookstore is a place where the different Churches in the state can purchase books for their purposeful programs. The store is run in conjunction with the main Jordan Bookstore in Valley Forge, Penn. The bookstore has in the past broken even with no intention of making a profit.

The store should show its books and wares in a pleasant atmosphere.

A table with chairs should be provided so that people can glance at the various books.

It should have a small office.

It should relate to the work area well.

It should be readily available and accessible to the public.

The Parking lot handles all of the visitors as well as all the staff of the headquarters building.

There should be vegetation wherever possible.

Room should be provided for fifty (50) cars.

The duplicating office takes care of any small publication or memo needed in the headquarters.

It should be near the main office.

It should be separated from the activities because of the abundance of noise created.
It should relate directly with the mailroom.

It should be comfortable to work in.

The mail room handles all income and outgoing mail and correspondence.

It should relate well to the duplicating room.

It should be comfortable to work in.

The employee lounge and adjoining kitchen is a place where they can relax without disturbing the general public image.

It should be in a convienent place for the employees.

The small kitchen should have a stove, oven, refrigerator, sink, and cabinets.

May be in conjunction with a public lounge.

The secretarial pool office is the space set aside for any extra secretaries that might have to be called in. This usually happens the normal secretary workers can not handle the increased workload that occur once or twice a year.

It should be in a convienent place.

There should be room for at least two (2) secretaries.

The work area for the bookstore is that space that supports the bookstore. An office handles incoming and outgoing correspondence. The work area also prepares the books for shipment.

Large enough for adequate use.

Office should relate well.

The storage area and incinerator usually should be set out of sight from the general public. This is where any miscellanous storage is needed and where waste is disposed of.

It should be near the mechanical room.

It should be near the loading dock.

The public lounge and vending room should provide a comfortable atmosphere when the public visits the headquarters.
It should be close to the entry.

It should relate to the convention room.

It should relate to the loading area.

The receiving and loading area takes care of any shipments in and out if the building. It should relate near an elevator.

The toilets and mechanical areas round off the building with both having a centralized location(s).

COMMUNITY CENTER

The front entry is the first thing the public encounters when coming to the center. There should be a feeling of welcome in this area.

It also should start to convey the feeling of the whole center.

It should have a waiting room.

It should have an exhibition area.

It should be centrally located to the main functions of the building.

It should be open 24 hours a day.

The administration offices include the Director, Assistant Director, and Athletic Director. There should also be a receptionist/secretary to greet the public.

It should be off the front entry.

It should relate to the gymnasium and to the community room.

It should have common secretarial space.
The multi-purpose/gymnasium area will house a wide range of activities including basketball, volleyball, tennis and shuffleboard. The space can also be subdivided into smaller half courts and meeting rooms. A fully equipped stage with dressing rooms will be included.

It should relate to the administration center

It should be close to the front entry

It should have locker rooms nearby

It should relate to the pool.

The pool area will be a full size pool with a diving platform at one end. It will serve the winter needs of the community as well as swimming lessons during the summer months.

Should be near the locker rooms

Should have adequate storage

Relate strongly with the training pool area

The training pool area is part of the overall pool area, here is where youngsters will be exposed to water before going into the big pool. It should have relationships to the main pool.

The squash court area shall have two courts with a common checker and keeper with the handball courts.

It shall be near the locker rooms

It shall have a gate keeper and a maintenance man.

The handball courts area shall have two courts with a common checker and keeper as the squash courts.

It shall be near the locker rooms

It shall have a gate keeper and a maintenance man.

The spa area shall consist of a sauna room, a steam room, an inhalation room, a whirlpool bath, and a massage room.
It shall be near the locker rooms.

It should relate closely to the workout rooms.

The workout area is where one can lift weights and put the body through a general conditioning. There shall be a full time man to supervise these activities.

It should be near the locker rooms.

It should relate closely with the spa area.

It should have a smaller office for the supervisor.

The locker rooms should provide a place to change clothes before starting an athletic endeavor and a place to refresh oneself afterwards.

They should be centrally located from all the athletic activities.

They should have showers, toilets, a hair drying area and a lounge.

The community room is one that has home type furniture that can be used for small discussions or displays,

It shall be near the front entry
It shall be near the vending area
It shall be near the counseling center
It shall be open 24 hours a day.

The counseling area shall be a place where youngsters, youth, or older people can talk about their problems with qualified personnel. There is an adjoining nap room primarily for the youth to foster dialogue between four and six people who might have the same problem.

It shall be near the main entry
It shall be near the vending area
It shall be near the community room
It shall be open 24 hours a day.
The daycare/nightcare center would furnish care for children whose mothers have to work. It shall have a small office for administrative use, and shall have a sizable piece of land outside.

The sixty-plus center is a place where older people can meet and discuss their problems and share in activities. There will be a close relationship to the daycare/nightcare center so that the children would get more personal attention.

A black area would provide a place where blacks could meet and share their problems, share in activities, and show these to the community. There should be a small office to handle administrative functions.

The vending room should relate to the community room and to the main lobby. It should be open 24 hours a day.
AREA REQUIREMENTS

Now that we have talked about how the major spaces relate to each other, I will now spell out the square footages for each space. We will start out with the headquarters building first and then the community center will follow.

### Headquarters Building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Square Feet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main lobby</td>
<td>20 by 30</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main office</td>
<td>20 by 30</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper office</td>
<td>20 by 20</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe</td>
<td>10 by 10</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive secretary</td>
<td>30 by 50</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal secretary</td>
<td>15 by 15</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive washroom</td>
<td>5 by 10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main conference room</td>
<td>50 by 60</td>
<td>3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small stage</td>
<td>15 by 30</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classrooms(2)</td>
<td>20 by 30(2)</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicating room</td>
<td>30 by 30</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicating office</td>
<td>10 by 15</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>Toilets(women)</td>
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Parking spaces for 50 cars.
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<td>Multi-purpose/gymnasium</td>
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<td>Pool</td>
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<td>Pool equip. storage</td>
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<td>Mens' lockers</td>
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<td>Kitchen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room Description</td>
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<td>Counselling center</td>
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</table>

**Total for Community Center**  
34979

**Circulation**  
6000

**Total**  
40979

**Total for complex**  
78775
SITE ANALYSIS

Neighborhood, City, Region

As indicated before, the site is located on the North side of Indianapolis in the community of Nora. Nora is roughly considered the area bounded by 96th street (Marion County Line) on the North, White River on the East, 71st Street on the South, and Ditch Road on the West. However, it serves a much larger area including the town of Carmel to the North past the county line and most of the north side of Indianapolis. (see maps)

Nora is part of Indianapolis, the Indiana state capitol and the largest city in the state. A drive of 5 to 10 minutes will place one at one of the two largest shopping centers in the state: Glendale and Castleton Square. Access to points of interest in Indianapolis are easy to obtain because of the abundance of main traffic arteries that flow through Nora. Nora's east boundary, White River, is one of the state's major waterways and recreational areas.

Traffic

Traffic is in abundance through Nora. The interstate outerloop, I-465, loops through the north part of the community. U.S. Route 31 provides access to the north part of the state as well as Indianapolis. State Routes 431 (Keystone Avenue) and 100 (86th Street) also provides quick access to different parts of the state. The traffic count
throughout the community is high with counts of 300 to 500 cars per hour common. College Avenue, on the site's East side, is a main thoroughfare from downtown Indianapolis.

Site

The site itself consists of forty acres bounded on the East by College Avenue; on the South by State Route 100; on the West by Central Avenue; and, on the North by a residential area. The existing First Baptist occupies a rectangular block on the southeast part of the site. Besides the building, there are also parking lots, a baseball diamond, and a tennis court. (see map)

Utilities

The site is blessed with all of the city utilities. There is a two-inch water line along the west side of College Avenue, and a three inch water line along the north side of state route 100, as well as the east side of College Avenue. A twelve inch combination sanitary/storm sewer follows the west side of College Avenue along the south side of State Route 100. Overhead electric and phone service is available along the west side of College Avenue and along the south side of State route 100.
Soils

The soil information was taken from the new ARNS branch bank being built on the northeast corner of College Avenue and State Route 100. It was designed by Leech-rowland, Architects, and Browning day, and Pollack, Land planners. The soils were basically a brown top-soil down to approximately six inches below the surface. From six inches to three and one half feet, brown moist silty clay with traces of mica were found. From three and a half feet to six feet there is very stiff nodal brown silt. From six feet to fourteen feet very moist stiff clayey silt was found. From fourteen feet to twenty feet, very moist to wet stiff clayey silt. American Testing, who compiled the information, determined that the water table was approximately eighteen to twenty feet below the surface. The percolation tests showed that there was not much sub-surface drainage of the soil. The soil was recommended that it could support 3500 pounds per square foot on undisturbed material. The footings should be at least three feet below the finished grade for frost protection. The type of soil tested is called brooksten, and is not a top quality soil.

Vegetation

The site is blessed with large amounts of lush vegetation consisting for the most part of trees and shrubs. The entire site has a natural cover of grasses except for small areas where there are
manmade objects and drives. The tree cover, especially on the north part of the site, gives a pleasing feeling and stately presence to the site. A sixty-five year old apple orchard on the site still yields large crops every year and provides a place of enjoyment for the children that explore the site.

Character of the Content

The site is surrounded by many spiritual and cultural activities and the general attitude of the area is one of dignified growth. There are many churches and synagogues of all denominations in the community. First Baptist is the largest in terms of membership (1550) with St. Luke’s Methodist, 500 yards from the western part of the site having the smallest (550). The Mora cinema and the Footlight Musicals (which are held in North Central’s Auditorium) provide the community with theatrical and cinematopical types of culture. A need for cultural activities in Mora is satisfied by the nearby Clowes Hall and the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Climate

The site is part of the Indianapolis climactic region which has enjoyed many years of normally pleasant weather. According to the National Weather Bureau, whose headquarters for its midwest operation are located at Weir Cook Airport in Indianapolis, the region
has a Continental Climate meaning that there are hot and muggy summers and cool wet winters. Rainfall is normal for such a climatic type with 39.25 inches being the average for the region. The prevailing winds come from the southwest with periods during the winter months coming from the northwest. The snowfall is moderate for this climate with three inches falling only two or three times a year. The growing season spans from April 23 to October 22 with the first frosts normally coming after that. Tornadoes are not frequent in the area with only sixteen being reported in the last eighty-five years with only two severe ones. There are 5699 degree days during the year which is average for this climate. The average temperature is 53.1 degrees Fahrenheit with the average minimum and maximum temperatures being 42.2 degrees F and 62 degrees respectively. The relative humidity for the average of the year is 75% which is quite comfortable.
Baptist Administrative Centers

- Present Headquarters Downtown. Space limitations
  Inadequate neighborhood
- Inner Church Center provides office space for all denominations, including the Baptists.

Community Center Functions

- Prominent amount in Southwestern Part of City.
  Jordan 'Y' closed to site, but has space limitations
  and has program restrictions due to staff and the membership.

Indianapolis Context
SCHEMATIC DESIGN

After the program and site analysis had been completed, the task of designing a physical form had begun. In the "bubble diagram" stage of design the biggest problem was deciding on whether the functions of the center should be in one building or two separate buildings. After much thought it was decided to house the functions of the center into one building. Because the center needed facilities such as parking that the First Baptist Church already had, it was decided to place the building west and north of the west parking lot of the church and develop the landscape to make that area much more attractive.

During the site analysis stage another idea was hit upon that would be a key statement of the site as well as the center. A pedestrian greenway was proposed utilizing Buck Creek that flows through the site. Here a natural link between Nora and the White River in which the creek flows into, that could turn an automobile dominated region back to a pedestrian region again. The center would then be one of many elements along this path. The path would go through the center enabling many people to experience the center.

It was decided to arrange the functions into basically three areas. The headquarters for the Baptists, The Nora Community center, and an area of shared facilities. The community center functions were housed primarily in a location closest to Nora with the Baptists in an area potentially suitable for future expansion and the shared facilities coming inbetween. It was decided to go with a two story scheme for the headquarters with the public orientated spaces occupying the first floor. The community center functions could be placed on one level. The building was submitted along with a schematic cost estimate.
FEE STATEMENT

November 8, 1972

J. R. Underwood
Office 315
College of Architecture & Planning

RE: NORTHSIDE INTERACTION CENTER
Indianapolis, Indiana

STATEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED TO DATE (SCHEMATIC DESIGN)

Based on estimated construction cost of $2,500,000

A.I.A. fee percentage for this project 5.80%

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Submitted by:

Jack Morgan
JURY COMMENTS

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

It was felt by the jury that the layout of the different functions were well thought out. They felt however, that the pedestrian greenway link into the building should be more dramatic, and introduce the thought of bicycles along with it. It was felt that the relationship with the church should be stronger and that the fenestrations needed looking at again. The daycare center was considered to be too small and the central space should be looked at again especially the entrance. The schematic cost estimate was considered to be appropriate for a building this size and complexity.
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

After absorbing the jury comments it was decided to look at the arrangement of the building again. The building was flipped with the community functions where the headquarters were and visa-versa. However, more problems arose so the building was arranged in the original configuration again. In response to the greenway, a breezeway element was introduced effectively separating the community center from the headquarters on the first level but connecting them on the second level. The pedestrian way could then go through the space without going in if it wanted to.

The headquarters building wing was moved 90 degrees to help streamline the building as well as make it function better. The athletic facilities were looked at and the squash courts and sauna rooms were dropped because of lack of need. The locker area was looked at again and it was decided to arrange them in a plus $\frac{1}{2}$ minus $\frac{1}{3}$ arrangement to save space. The corridor running between the community rooms and the gym and pool (called the community corridor) was made a major attracting force in the building by introducing skylighting and wood slats to make exciting. The floor echoed the building's structural grid in its material and followed the mall linking the center to the church that was south of the building.

The elevations were studied and it was decided to use a similar brick that the church used and the elevations should express the structure of the center, but not as much as during the schematic phase. The landscape was studied as making the parking lots more human in scale and how the pedestrian way entered and left the building.

The HVAC functions of the building were studied as well as the plumbing and electrical needs. Steel joists and beams were used.
JURY COMMENTS

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

The jury felt that the building had vastly improved over the schematic phase. The reorganization was very good and helped the people inside it much more. They felt that the elevations still did not relate to the church as much as they should. The breezeway was considered too forced of a space especially when the bicycles were introduced. They saw no need for the community corridor to run parallel with the center-church mall when they could be all one circulation link. The community rooms broken up was met with favor but they felt that the rooms still should be looked at more. They felt that other corridors should stand the same attention as was paid to the community corridor. The central space should be looked at again with and without the greenway. The landscaping that was done was met with favor, but more study in detail should be done. The mechanical things of the building should be looked at again.
DESIGN REFINEMENT

After absorbing the jury comments, it was decided to look at the building organization still another time, look at the way the building met the ground, look at the greenway as related to the building and look at the basic circulation paths throughout the site and building.

The building was reorganized to make it work and look better. The lockers were moved to one level. The other corridors were studied, the outside landscaping became a series of courtyards where the first level would look out into a mounded courtyard instead of a flat plane or parking lot. Acess could be gained from this level to make the building indoors and its outdoors blend in as much as possible. Along with the exterior elevations, were a series of interior wall elevations of the community corridor. They showed different graphic devices as well as what the glass wall systems were like.

The green way was pushed away from the building because of circulation, organization, structural problems that were caused by it. The people still have the option of going through the building if they want to.

The mini-park was studied in detail and with the help of Jack Briendenbach who is a landscape architect in Indianapolis, a workable plan was achieved. He also helped work the master plan of the entire site at 86th and College. It showed basic recommendations and placement of different things on the site such as the greenway and the new center.

The rest of the phase was spent in working on framing plans as well as HVAC plans for the building in more detail than the last phase. This book was completed after the jury gave comments about the building.
7 YEARS TO 10 YEARS
UNSUPERVISED
PLAY HEIGHTS 7'-10'
MOST COMPLICATED
LARGEST AREA

5 YEARS TO 7 YEARS
UNSUPERVISED
PLAY HEIGHTS 5'-8'
SHAPES BECOMING COMPLEX

3 YEARS TO 5 YEARS
PARTIALLY SUPERVISED
PLAY HEIGHTS 3'-4'

18 months to 3 years
SUPERVISED
PLAY HEIGHTS TO 3'
SIMPLE SHAPES

MINI PARK 1/8
JURY COMMENTS

DESIGN REFINEMENT

The jury felt that the work done during this phase of design was very good. The building worked much better as well as looking better. The technical items were done in a straightforward manner. They felt that if I were to work more on the building an interior design package should be studied as well as sizing and numbering the technical items. The landscaping although much better, needed to be looked at again as well as the semi-rounded drive at the west end of the parking lot.
CREDITS

The following list comprises the people and sources that I used for this program:

Meier, Thompson, A.I.A.
Dr. Dallas J. West
Mr. Robert Turner
Mr. Bud Girtch
Miss Kitty Hiatte
Dr. Ozie Pruett
Mr. Don Trout
Leach Rowland, Architects
National Weather Bureau
Dr. Luddington's Thesis Project
The Indianapolis Phone Directory
The Mobil Auto Guide
1970 census
Gateway Day Care Center
Faculty, College of Architecture, Ball State University
Fred Lott, his assistance
John Shanahan, his assistance
REFLECTIONS:

The thesis year, working on the Northside Interaction Center has been interesting. From the problems of trying to grasp the real meaning of the program, trying to decide whether there should be one or two buildings on the site, how the center related to the church and how to integrate a pedestrian greenway through the building.

The main goal of this year was to try to design a center that would have a meaningful relationship between a community function and a church function. To a degree, I think I have succeeded. I have shown that a community function can be designed in an attractive framework with a religious function. They still have a separate identity but share a common building that provides a place for interaction. But, until the building or idea of the building is put into real form, then the work I have done will be just an exercise and not a meaningful thing for the world.

The thesis year has broadened my horizons of thinking. The time has given the opportunity to delve into a building that I have designed a lot deeper than I have before. I was able to keep busy on the project and try new ways of design and presentation.
The professors for the most part were helpful, but some could not be reached all the time, and correspondence between them was shaky, but, they did give me many ideas and helped me greatly.

In summing up, I think it was a fruitful year for me and my fellow students who also helped me quite a bit. When the idea becomes a reality, my thesis project will then mean much more to me than just an exercise.