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# City Hall Arts Master Plan

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Mayor's City Hall Arts Task Force  
January 1, 1997

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## Background

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The Albany City Hall was completed in January 1996, completing several years of public discussion and planning for permanent office space for City offices. Over 100 employees work in this building, and more than 100 citizens visit the building each day. The building is also used for public meetings and community events.

In December 1995, the Mayor formed the Mayor's City Hall Arts Task Force to bring art into the new City Hall. This Master Plan represents over a year of work to bring art to the public building that represents the center of civic life in Albany. Public art will increase community pride in the building, beautify City Hall and the downtown, make the building more accessible and human, showcase local artists, and increase public awareness of the importance of this visual arts in community life.

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## Artistic Theme

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Architecturally, the building was designed both to fit in with many of the older buildings in Albany's downtown and to be a modern, contemporary structure that is designed to be friendly and easy to use. One of the major architectural features of the building is the curved, two-story "great hall" that serves as the entry to the building and to the City Council Chambers. This curve is echoed in many architectural elements of the building, including the curved west wall of the Council Chambers, the arches over the public counters, the ceilings in the first floor hallways, the lighting in the great hall, and in-the-wall lighting on both floors.

This Master Plan includes artwork that is designed to do at least one of the following things:

1. Integrate art into the architecture of City Hall; or
2. Illustrate the building's importance in civic life in the community; or
3. Reflect the history of the community and illustrate City Hall's location in the center of Albany's three historic districts; or
4. Incorporate light and movement; or
5. Spark curiosity and interest.

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## Selected Artwork

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The City Hall Arts Task Force distributed a request for proposals to over 350 artists in the Linn, Benton, Lincoln, Lane, Marion, and Polk Counties' areas. As a result of this request, over 25 proposals were received. The Arts Task force juried each proposal, ensuring that the proposal accomplished one of the five goals for art, as listed above, and judged each proposal based on its artistic merit. This work concluded in December.

The Arts Task Force recommends placing the following ten pieces in City Hall. Color photocopies of the proposed works or examples of the proposed artist's works are attached to this document. In addition, the Task Force recommends purchasing a permanently installed display system for the hallway to the Periwinkle Room on the second floor and a movable display system for use in the Great Hall and other public buildings. These display systems will be used for rotating and temporary displays.

*Entryway —*

The entry hall from the parking area across from the Municipal Court Room. Dimensions of this space are 30' wide by 20' tall. This hallway serves as a prominent entry corridor.

*Stephen White light sculpture* ..... \$5,000  
(\$2,500 of work is donated)

*Council Chambers —*

Curved wall. This space is 30' long x 7.3' high. Art in this space should not overwhelm the City Council.

*Vince Zettler tapestry of landscape, possibly the Three Sisters* ..... \$10,000

*Finance/City Manager counter —*

Dimensions are 6' x 7.25'.

*Genie Schiller fabric panel of downtown scene* ..... \$600

*Catapooia Room —*

Two walls are available for displays, and the space on each wall is 17.5' x 6'. Art should reflect historic theme.

*Rich Bergeman photos of Flinn Block and St. Francis Hotel* ..... \$550

*Periwinkle Room —*

Dimensions of this space are 10' x 6'.

*Dorothy Hagerty painting of Victorian garden* ..... \$200 for framing  
(\$500 donated painting)

*Engineering counter —*

Dimensions of this space are 5.5' x 6'.

*Patti Robidart Russell multimedia work to be discussed with Arts Task Force* ..... Up to \$1,000

*Second floor by elevator —*

Dimensions of this space are 4' x 7.5'.

*Devin Rowe sculpture of wolf, "Winter's Return"* ..... \$1,700

*Entryway second floor window —*

*Jeff Senders stained glass window* ..... Up to \$10,000

*Second floor across from elevator —*

Dimensions of this space are 4' x 7.5'.

*Ruth McDowell painting "Queen Anne's Lace"* ..... \$200 for framing  
(\$600 donated painting)

*Second floor hall near Periwinkle Room and Great Hall on first floor —*

Display system for rotating and temporary displays of local artists and of children's art. Also can be used at Albany Public Library and Senior Center. .... \$2,000

**ESTIMATED COST OF ARTWORK** ..... \$34,550 (cash)  
(\$3,500 donated)

### — **Creation of the Albany Arts Commission** —

The City Hall Arts Task Force recommends that the City Council create an Albany Arts Commission. The major tasks of this commission will be:

1. Implement and manage the City Hall Arts Master Plan. Tasks associated with the City Hall Arts Master Plan include: overseeing rotating and changing exhibits, raising funds for the purchase of additional artwork, selection or rejection of artwork offered to the City either through donation or purchase, and maintenance of the permanent exhibit of art in City Hall.
2. Provide guidance to the City Council on public art in Albany and develop a strategy for placement and funding of public art in the community.
3. Carry out any other tasks related to the arts in Albany that the City Council may request.

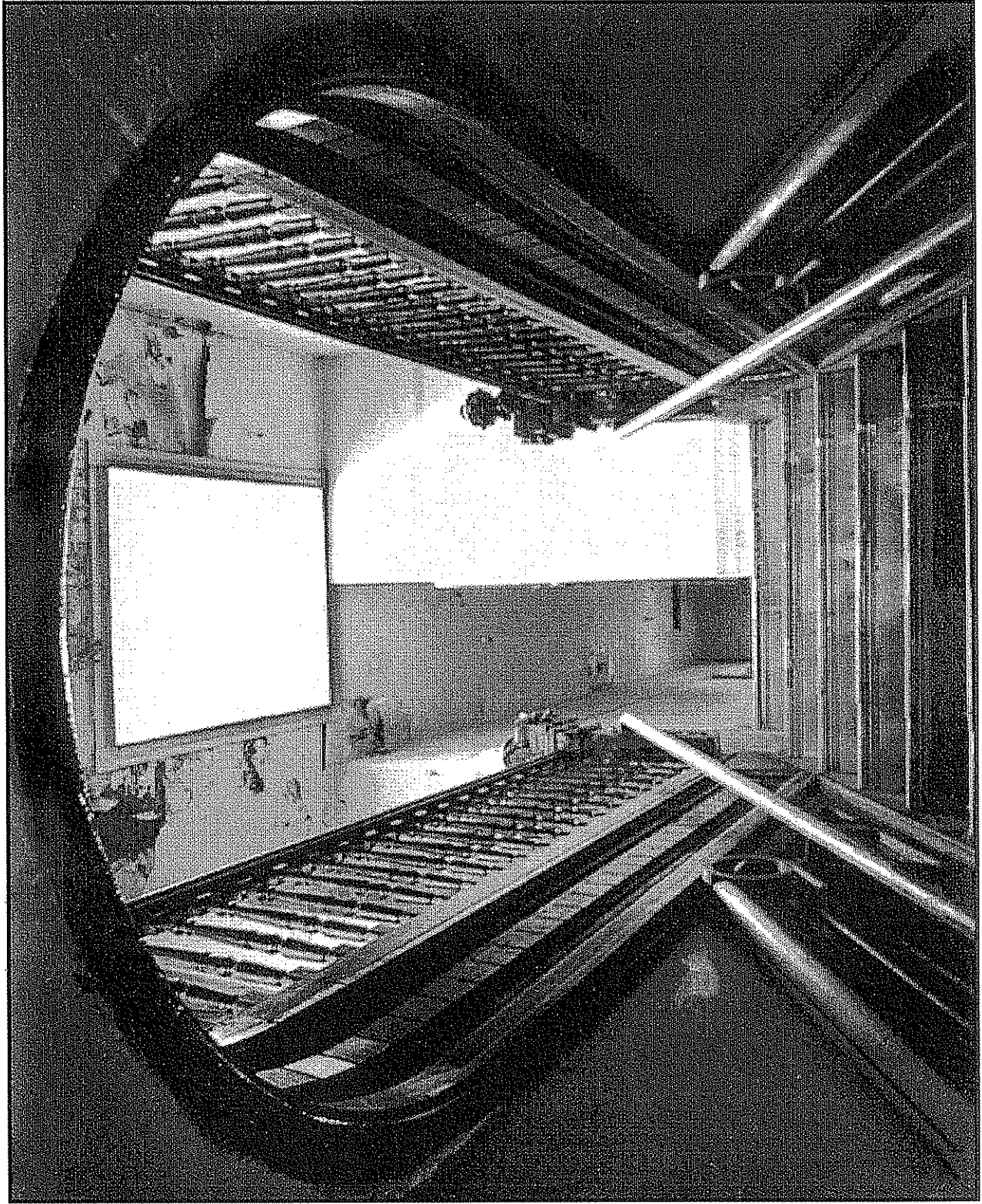
### ———— **Fund-raising** —————

Local tax monies raised to fund construction of City Hall did not include the funding of art. A fund-raising campaign for purchase of these pieces will be launched upon adoption of the Master Plan by the City Council. The City Hall Arts Task Force believes that works of fine art in the building will make City Hall a more pleasant place to visit, and they will also increase community pride of ownership and support the local arts community. Pieces selected for the Arts Master Plan will become part of a fund-raising campaign.

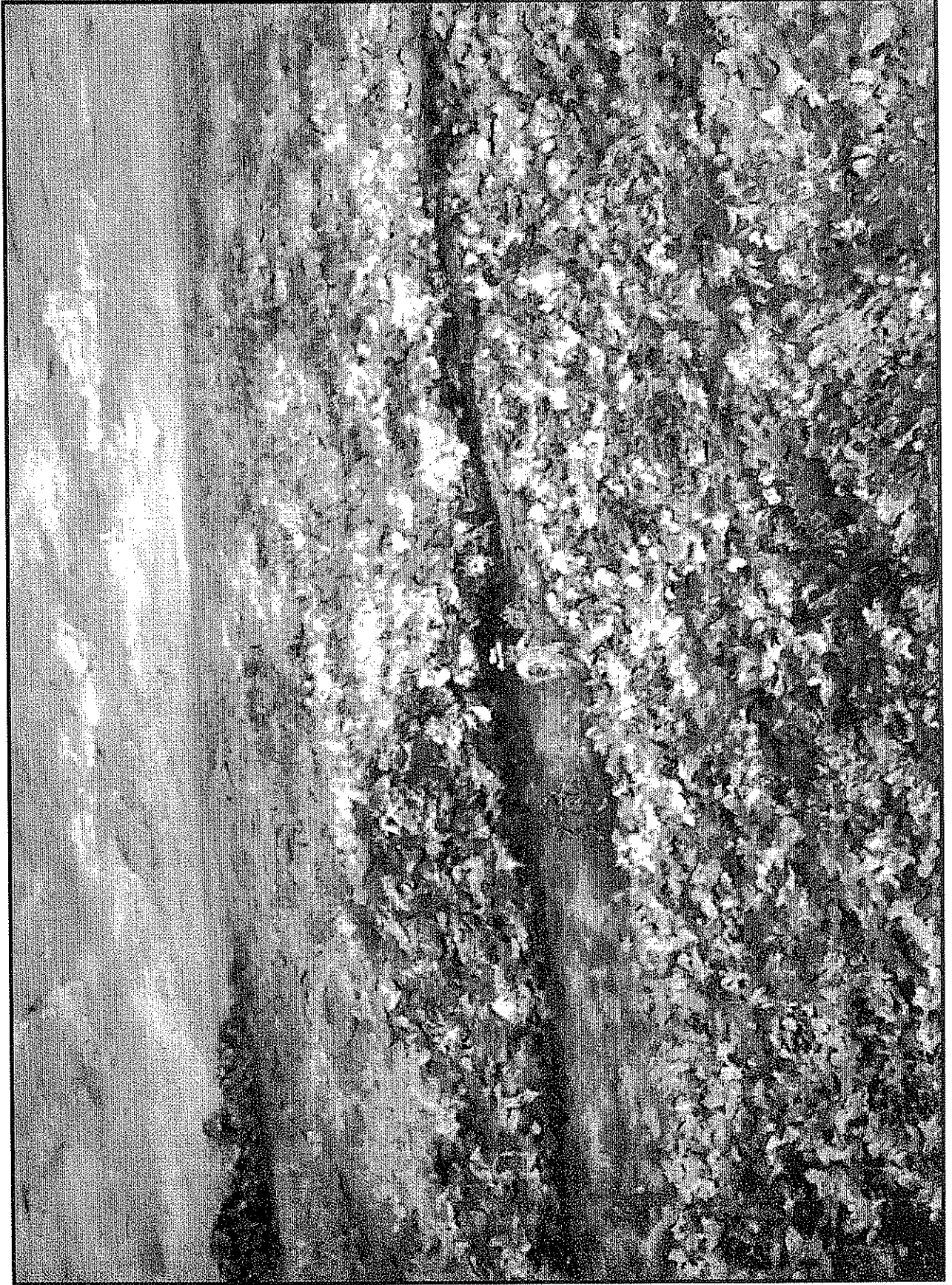
Some of the aspects of the fund-raising campaign will include:

- Direct solicitation of area businesses, especially large corporations
- An "Arts Gala" event to celebrate placement of the "cornerstone" work on the entry.
- Grants from foundations, arts organizations, and artists
- Participation in events such as the Tour of Historical Homes, Downtown Days, and The Petting Zoo.

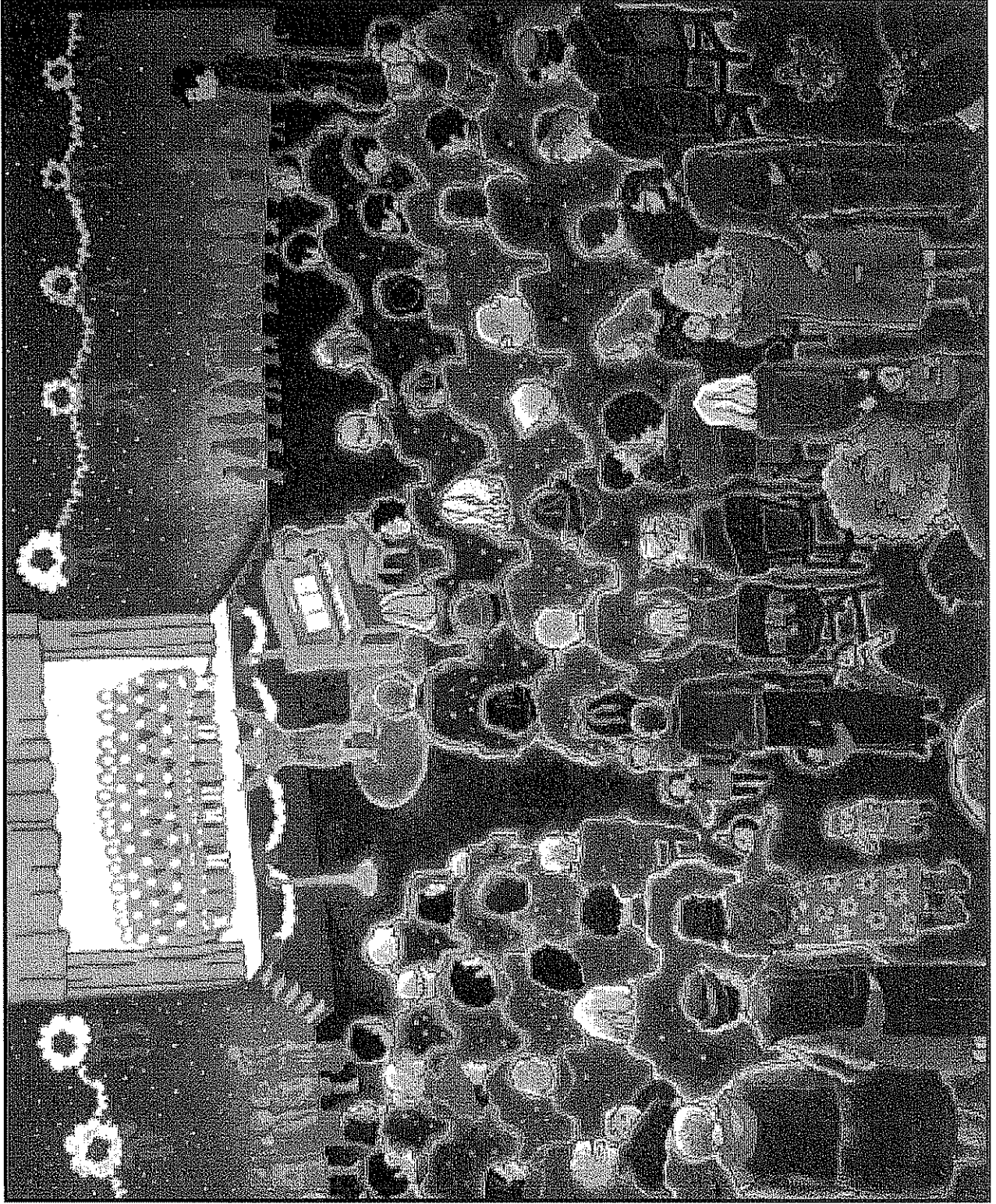
The Arts Commission would also seek funds from private people and philanthropists in the community.



*Rich Bergeman* – Flynn Block Staircase ©  
Calapooia Room



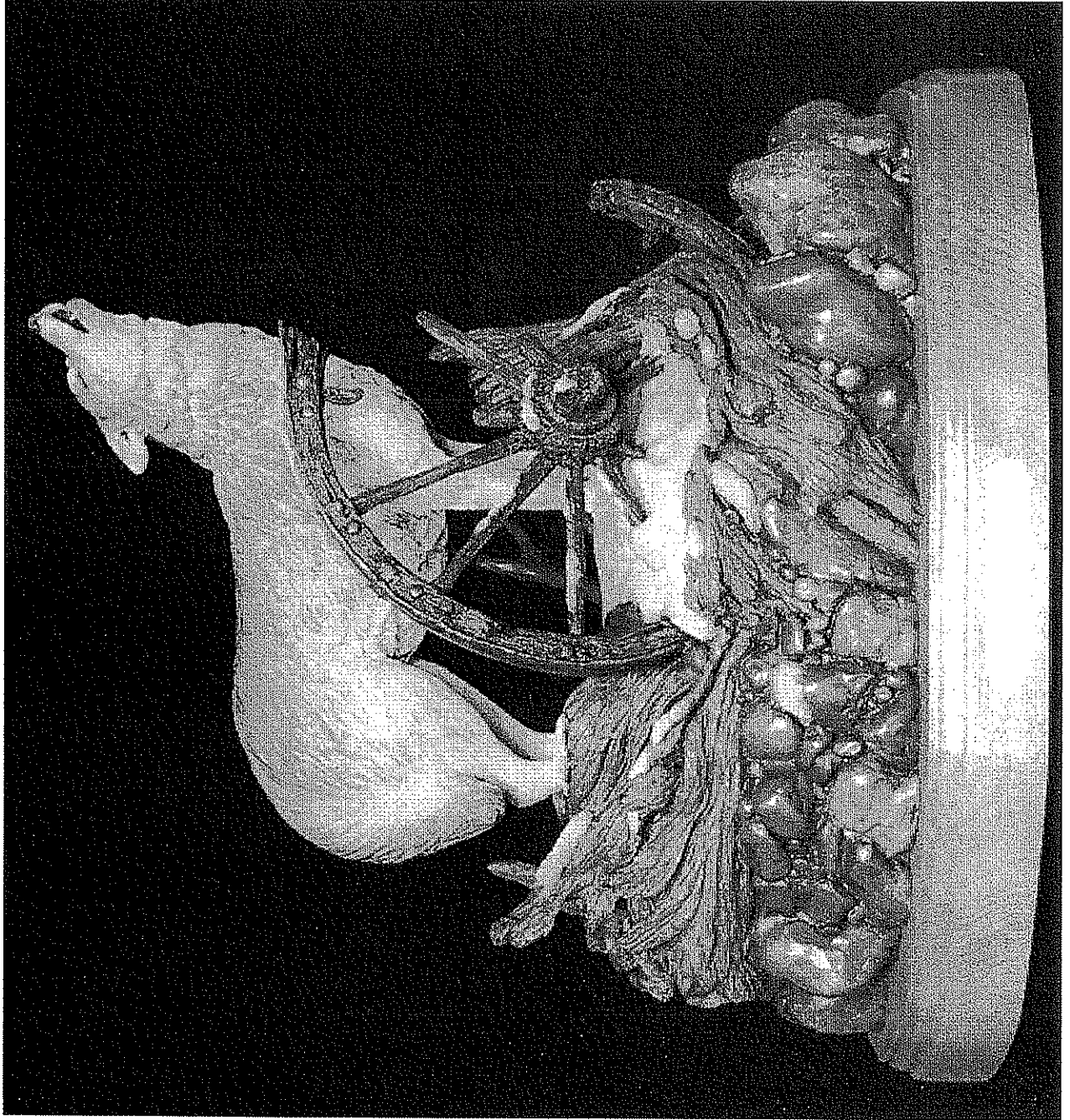
*Dorothy Hagerly* – "Victorian Garden" ©  
Periwinkle Room



Barbara Levine -- "The Concert" © (proposed -- "Event Cycle")  
Great Hall

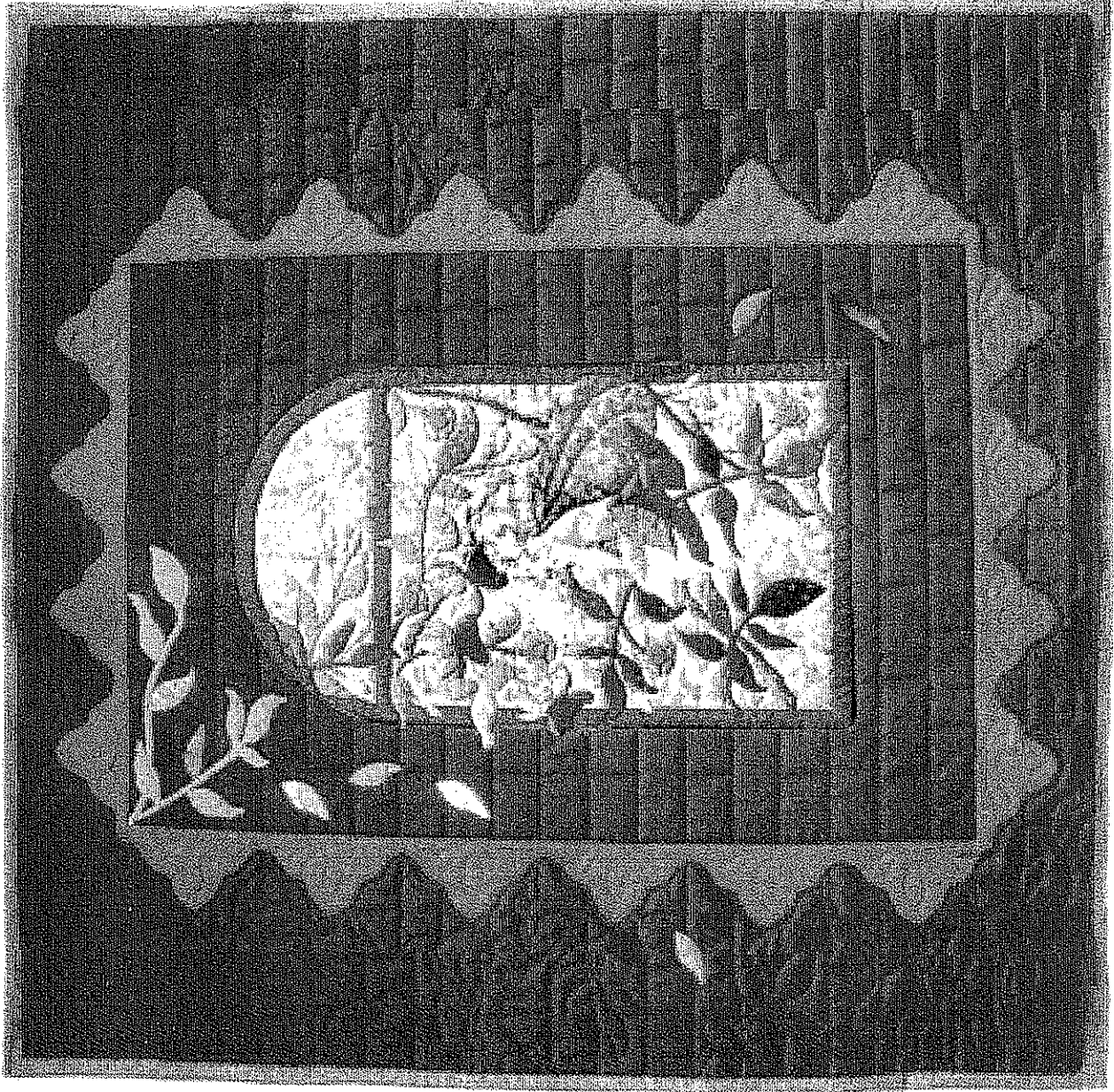


Ruth McDowell - "Queen Anne Lace" ©  
Second Floor



*Devin Rowe* – "Winters Return" ©  
Second Floor Elevator

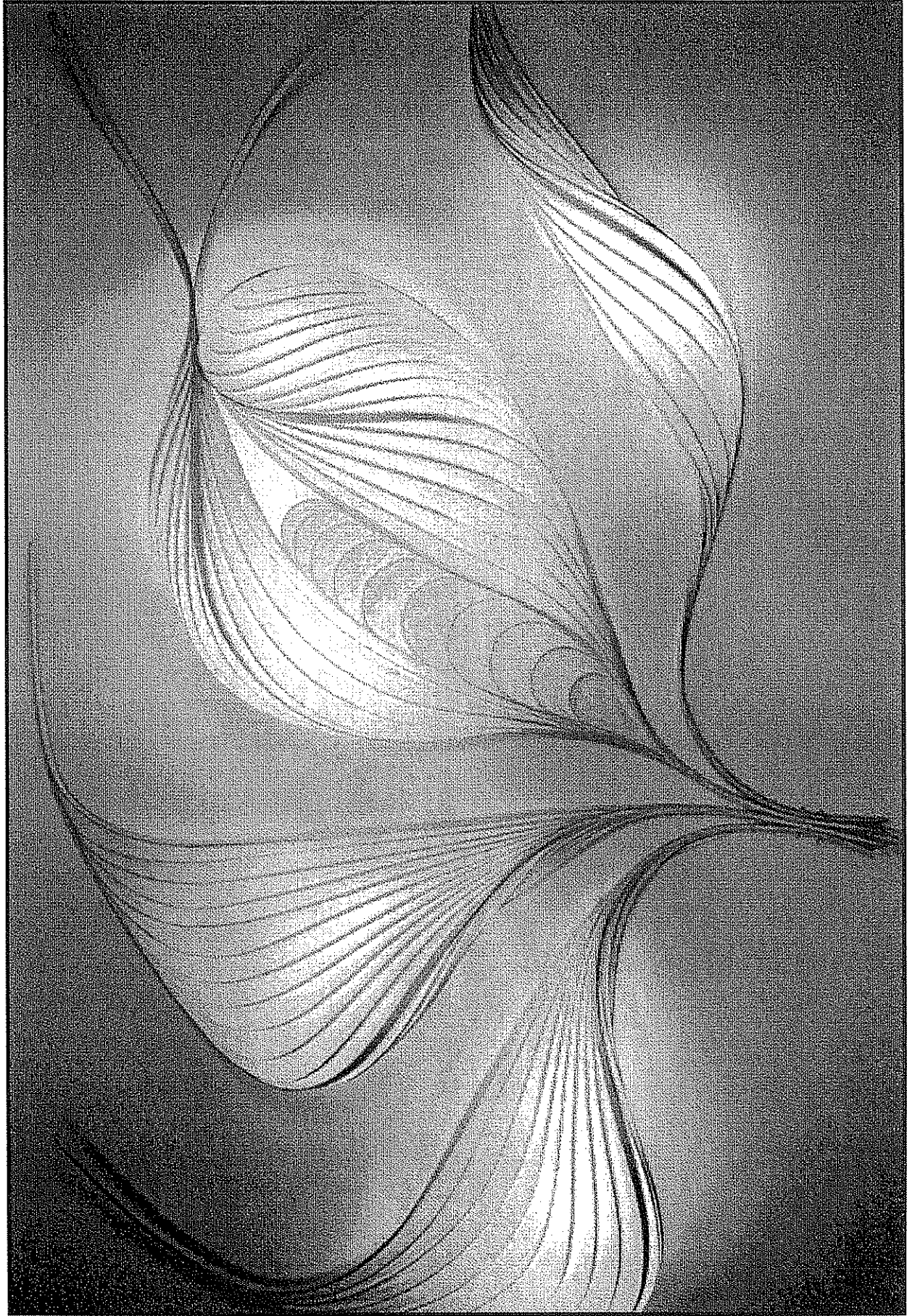




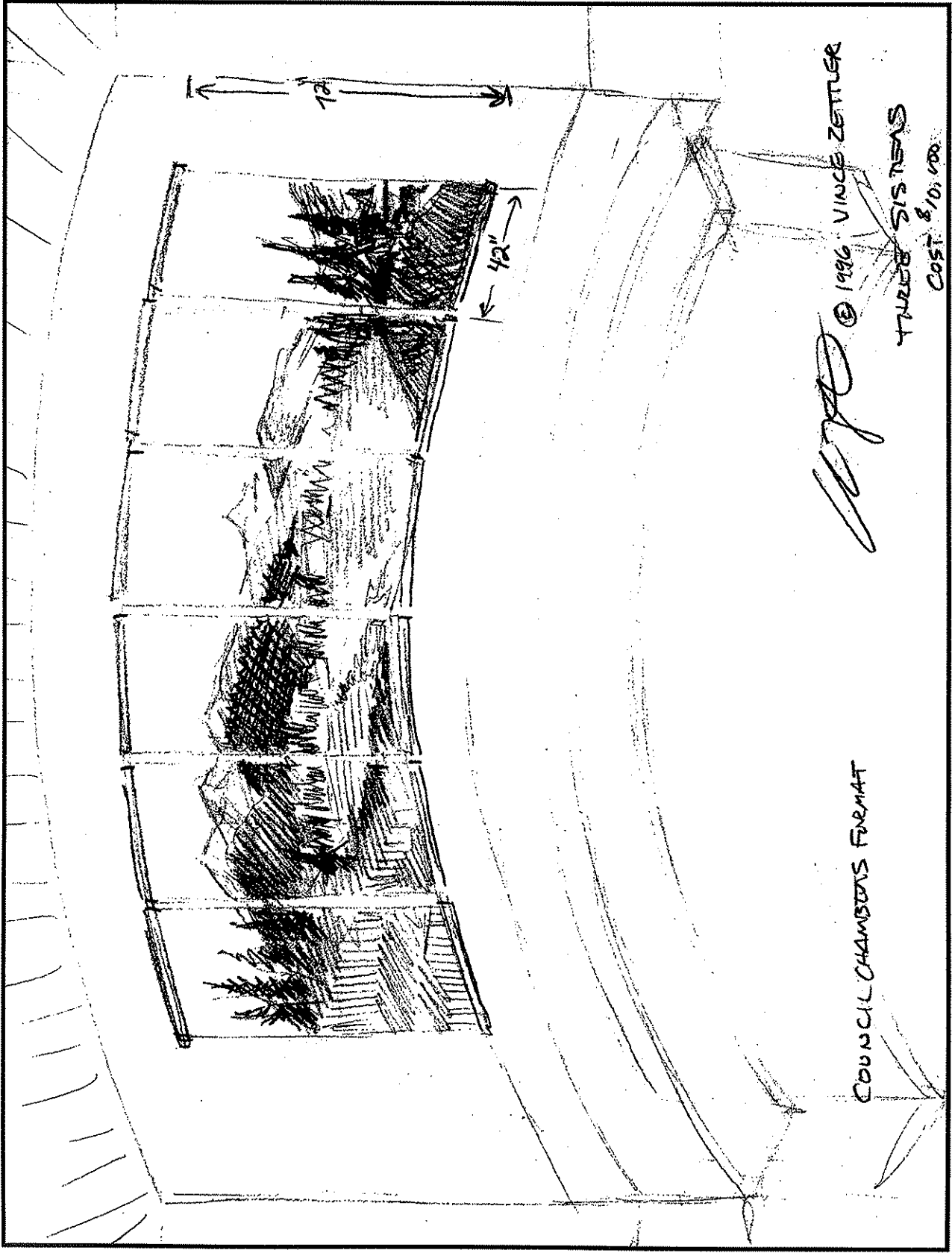
*Gene Schiller* – Fabric art sample © (proposed – downtown scene)  
First Floor



*Jeff Senders* - Sample of abstract stained glass ©  
Second Floor Window Above Entry



Stephen White – "Cycle of Life" ©  
Entry Hall



COUNCIL CHAMBERS FURNITURE

© 1986 VINCE ZETTLER

THREE SISTERS

COST \$10,000

Vince Zettler - Three Sisters © (tapestry)  
Council Chambers

