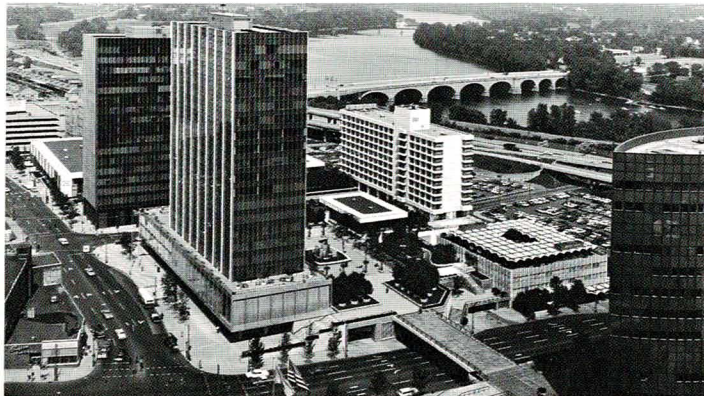




CONSTRUCTION

A willow grove and a crab apple orchard. Impeccable lawns and a shiny, tiny quartz pebble pavement. There's a massive granite fountain and a towering granite-walled clock. Well-tended patches of flowers, shrubs and greenery. Tasteful, civilized shops. Broad, open walk-ways, with room enough for a regiment, surrounded by strong, modern buildings—all these things are Hartford's Constitution Plaza, a fifteen-acre urban renewal project at downtown Hartford's center. Demolition of the aged and decrepit buildings on the site began in 1958. Two years later the Plaza began to rise. In 1961, WTIC's radio and television facilities occupied their new quarters. In 1964, construction was complete and the Plaza, with appropriate ceremony, was dedicated. Charles Dubose was its architect; Sasaki, Walker and Associates, its landscape architects. The contractor was F. H. McGraw and Company.

It was developed and is owned by Broadcast-Plaza, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of The Travelers Insurance Companies. The photographs on these pages show Constitution Plaza at its most beautiful—but even without flowers, trees, sunlight or Christmas lights, it is a good place to shop, to work or just to quietly walk.



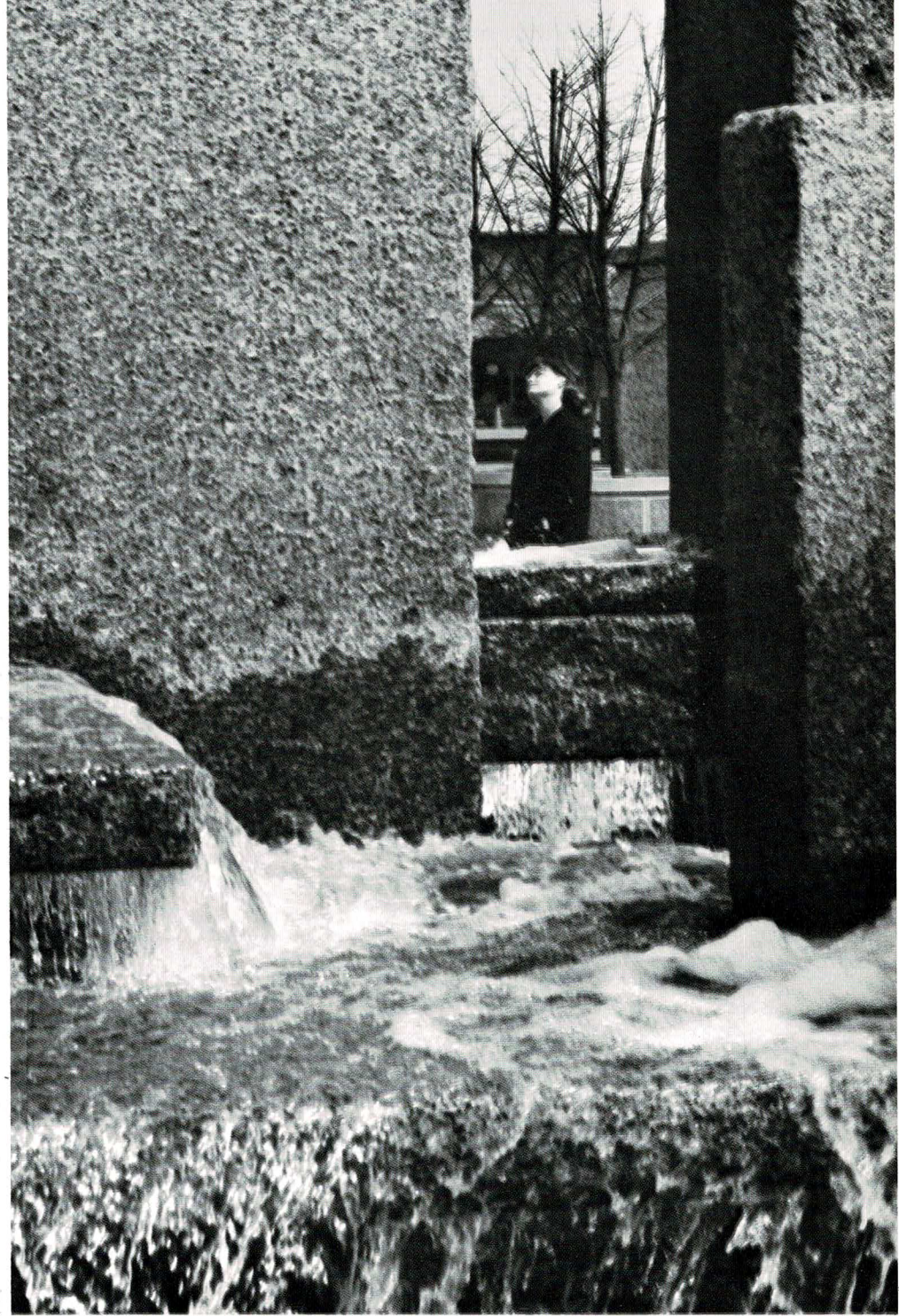
Constitution Plaza, Hartford, Connecticut





Favorite gathering place among lunch-hour loungers is the fountain on the Plaza's mall level. It is formed of granite slabs which were quarried in the Province of Quebec. The slabs are set in a pool paved with black stones from Japan—the same stones which form the floors of every reflecting pool on the Plaza. The stones are probably of volcanic origin and have been worn smooth by centuries of running water. Water in the fountain cascades from three apertures in the upper portion of the structure, tumbling in several directions with rushing noises which are reminiscent of mountain streams. The fountain's coping is of white Georgia marble, inviting to sunworshippers, picnickers and hand-holding couples.





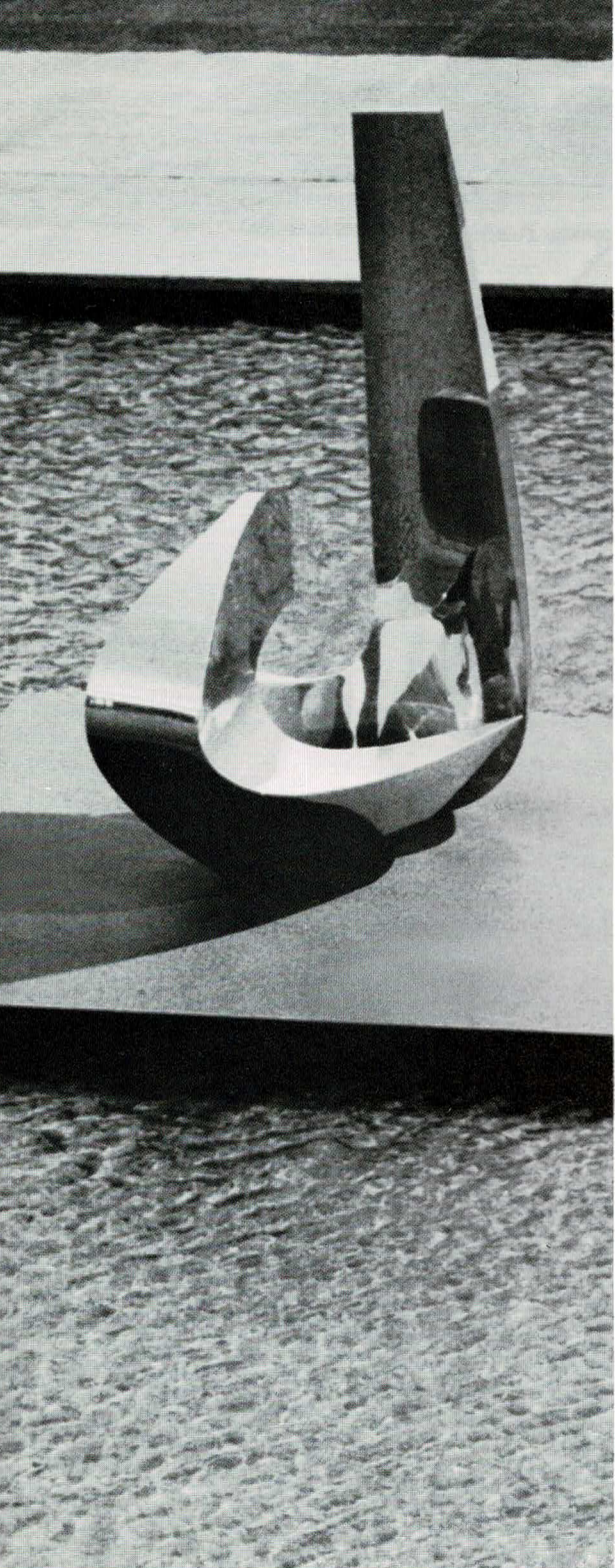
Broadcast House contains the offices and studios of WTIC AM and FM and Channel 3, television. The four-story structure was the first completed on Constitution Plaza.



The ship-shaped Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company Building flanks Constitution Plaza on the south. Architects are New York's Harrison and Abramovitz.











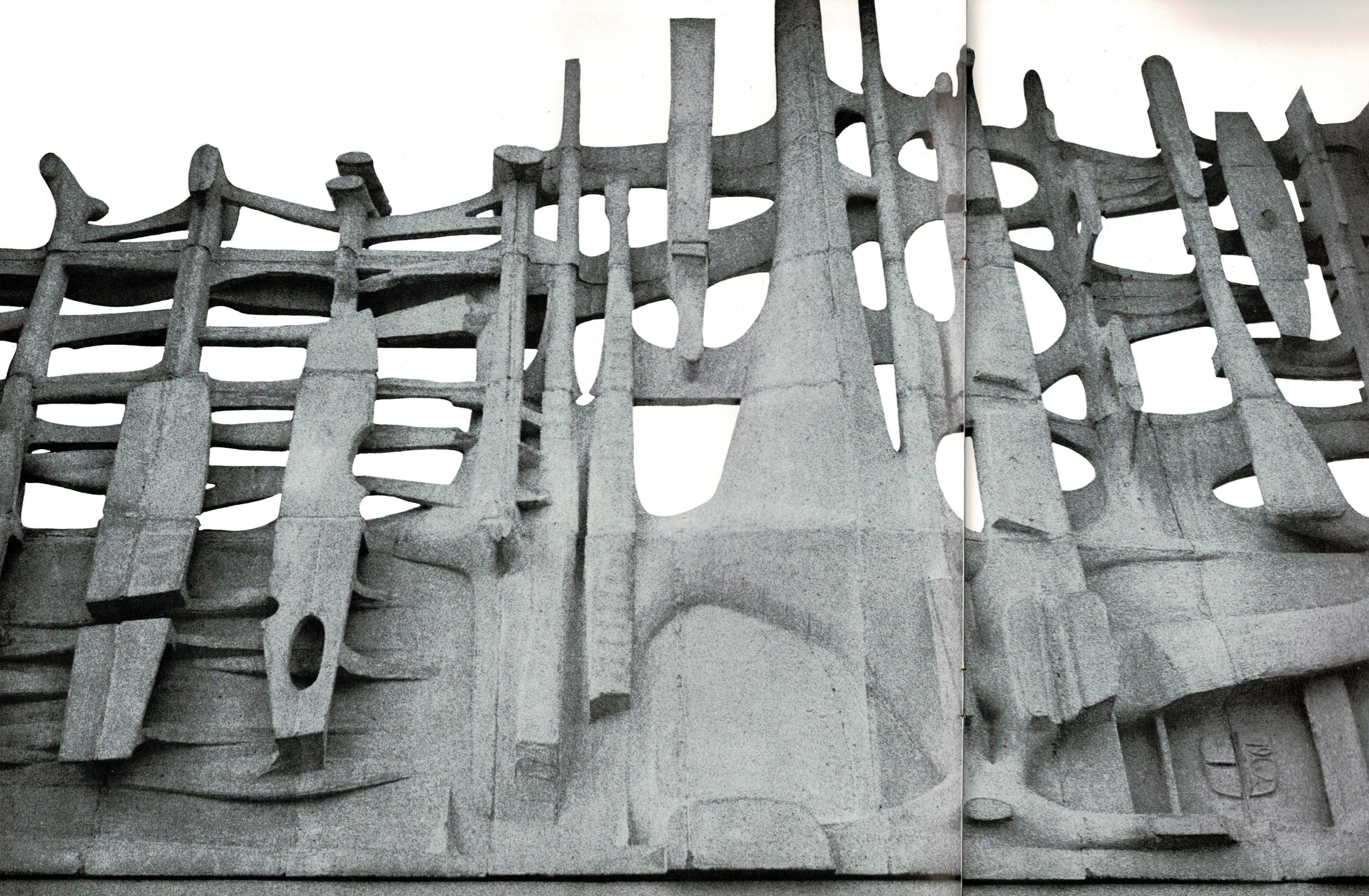
AFRICA



The Society for Savings is one of Hartford's oldest banks. It has made intriguing use of its initial letters in the decorations surrounding its branch doorway.



The Hartford National Bank's monumental sculpture by John Marshall is 15 feet by 24 feet.



1904



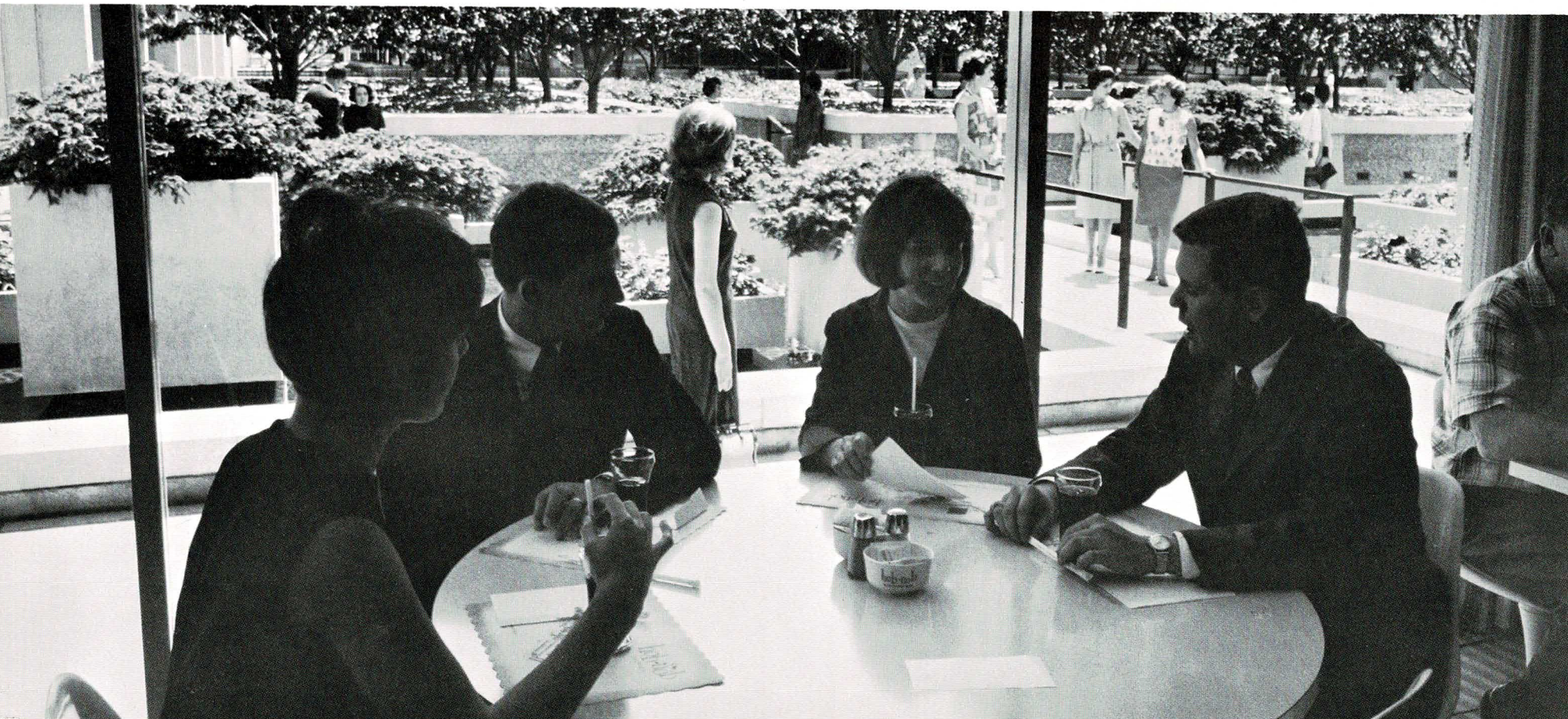


From the observation deck of The Travelers Tower, (approximately 400 feet above Main Street) one has almost a helicopter pilot's view of Constitution Plaza from the south.











The retail shopping area of Constitution Plaza is housed in buildings which border the tranquil willow court and flank the crab apple orchard on the north.





This pleasant, informal garden is just outside the Constitution Plaza entrance to Broadcast House.







Christmastime at Constitution Plaza is a thing of beauty. Its Festival of Light draws thousands of persons to downtown Hartford. More than 170,000 tiny white bulbs are strung among the trees and special designs are created on the fountain, the flag standards and the clock tower. Other decorations in light are heroically proportioned figures of angels and deer. Christmastime on the Plaza is at once a time of sacred music, frosty light, happiness and remembrance of season.



Constitution Plaza's clock tower takes on even greater strength when its rough-hewn height is seen amid the myriad tiny decorating lights.



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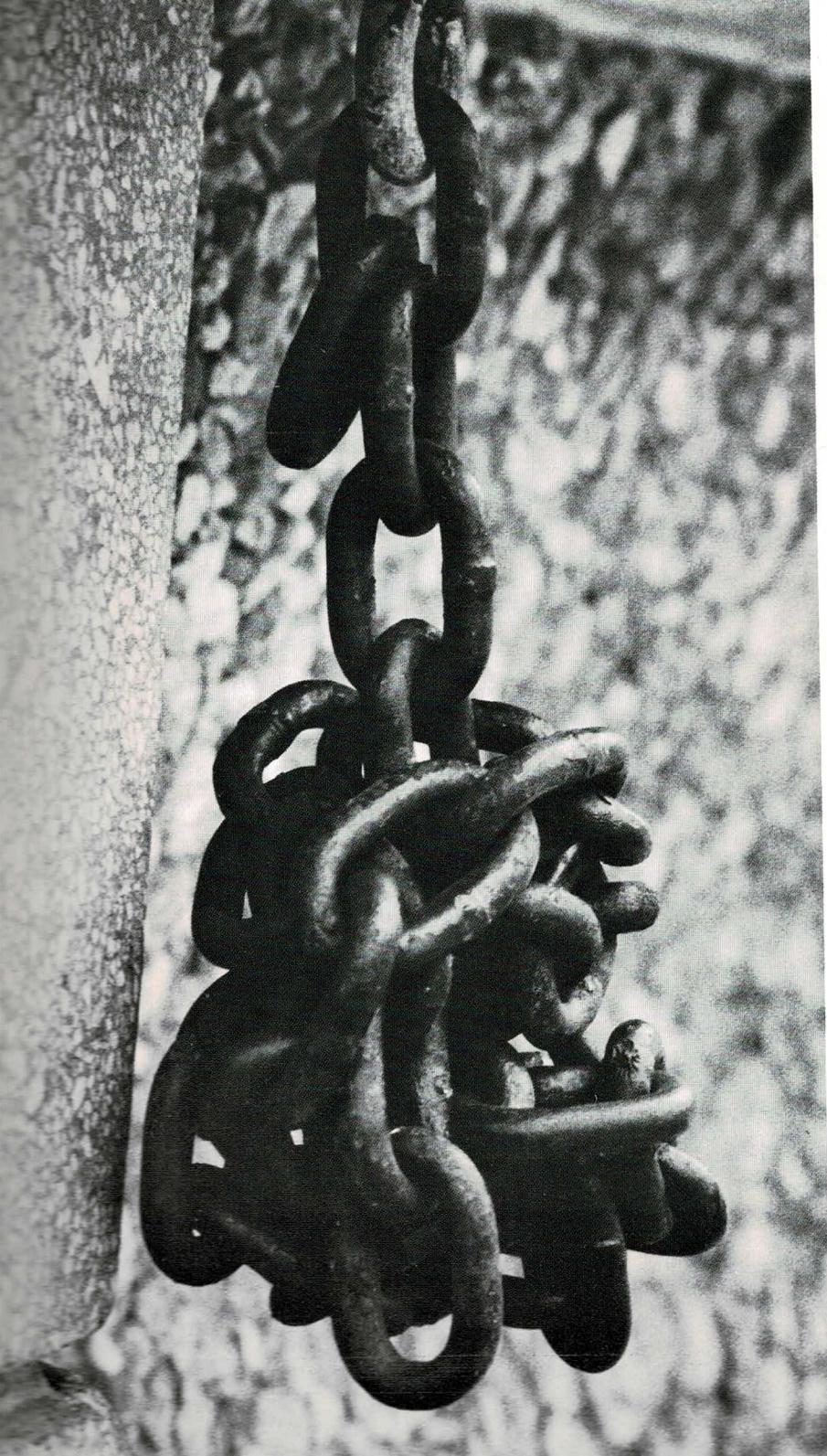




Six electric lamps on each of four flag standards near the main entrance to the Plaza, help provide the indirect light which is used throughout Constitution Plaza.







Photography by Dan Maselli . . . Design by Frank DePietro . . . Text by Paul D. Schmanska.

