

Atlanta Civic Design Commission

CITY HALL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

SAMUEL INMAN COOPER, F.A.I.A., CHAIRMAN
JOSEPH S. PERRIN, VICE-CHAIRMAN
MRS. ALVIN M. FERST, SECRETARY

HARRY J. BALDWIN, A.S.L.A.
ORBIE BOSTICK, P. E.
W. L. CALLOWAY
JAMES H. DODD
JOHN C. GOULD
JULIAN HARRIS, A.I.A.
GEORGE HEERY, A.I.A.
MRS. EDITH HENDERSON, A.S.L.A.
H. KING MCCAIN, P. E.
J. BEN MOORE
PAUL MULDAWER, A. I.A.
JOHN PORTMAN, A.I.A.

REPORT OF

ATLANTA CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

FEBRUARY, 1966 TO MARCH, 1967

1. The Ordinance was passed creating the Atlanta Civic Design Commission in November, 1965.
2. The following members were appointed to the Commission by Mayor Allen in January, 1966:
 - a. Category of Architecture:
 - Paul Muldawer, A.I.A. (for three years).
 - John Portman, A.I.A. (for two years)
 - b. Category of Landscape Architecture:
 - Harry J. Baldwin, ASLA (for one year)
 - Mrs. Edith Henderson, ASLA (for three years)
 - c. Category of Painting and Sculpture:
 - Julian Harris, A.I.A. (for two years)
 - Joseph S. Perrin (for one year)
 - d. Category of Engineering:
 - H. King McCain, PE (for two years)
 - Orbie Bostick, PE (for two years)

e. Category of Planning:

James H. Dodd (for one year)

Thomas H. Roberts (for three years)

f. Category of Historic and Architectural Tradition:

Samuel Inman Cooper, F.A.I.A. (for three years)

George Heery, A.I.A. (for one year)

g. Category of Lay Citizens:

Mrs. Alvin M. Ferst (for three years)

W. L. Calloway (for two years)

J. Ben Moore (for one year)

3. Organization Meeting - February 9, 1966.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Cooper as Acting Chairman. All members were present except Mr. Bostick and Mr. Moore.

Mr. Cooper stated:

- a. That downtown Atlanta is ugly and totally uncoordinated.
- b. That downtown Atlanta is gradually but steadily improving its appearance and its coordination.
- c. That the public is interested in further improvement, both in function and in aesthetics.
- d. That the purpose and objective of the Atlanta Civic Design Commission is to further, so far as it is able, such improvements.
- e. That the Commission has no powers, other than recommendation and/or persuasion.
- f. That the Commission will work with, and will enjoy the cooperation of, the various departments of the City government.

Mr. Sam Massell, President of the Board of Aldermen, was presented.

Mr. Massell stated:

- a. That there exists a real public interest in the objectives of the new Commission.
- b. That if amendments to its charter were considered advisable, the Commission should petition the Board of Aldermen accordingly.
- c. That the Commission cannot regulate aesthetics, but only advise and/or recommend.
- d. That all meetings of the Commission are to be open to the public and to the news media.

The following officers of the Commission were elected for the ensuing year:

Chairman-----Samuel Inman Cooper

Vice-Chairman-----Joseph S. Perrin

Secretary-----Mrs. Alvin M. Ferst

It was decided that meetings of the Commission would be held twice monthly at the City Hall.

4. Functionings of the Commission:

- a. The Atlanta Civic Design Commission has met regularly, twice monthly, throughout its first year of existence. It has met at 2:00 P.M. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in Committee Room #4 of the Atlanta City Hall. Meetings have usually lasted from three to four hours.
- b. Attendance at meetings has not been all that could have been desired. The Commission first established the presence of nine

members to constitute a quorum -- later this was reduced to eight members (out of a total membership of fifteen) but several meetings did not provide this quorum, and hence could take no official action.

- c. A number of committees were appointed throughout the year. Here again the record is spotty -- in certain committees active participation was provided, in others (usually due to the absence of their Chairman from Commission meetings) little activity resulted.
- d. Speakers and guests were invited to many of the Commission's meetings, and addressed the members. Usually such presentations were followed by questions and general discussion. Such persons included the following, who explained to the Commission the functionings and objectives of their respective groups and/or departments, and offered the cooperation of their organizations to the Atlanta Civic Design Commission.

Mr. Sam Massell (February 9, 1966)
Chairman, Atlanta Board of Aldermen

Mr. Thomas T. Tucker (March 17, 1966)
Navy League of the United States

Mr. Charles Mitchell (March 17, 1966)
Sculptor - Re: Fountain design

Mr. Jerry Coffell (March 17, 1966)
Planning Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Collier Gladin (April 7, 1966)
Planning Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Robert D. Speer (April 21, 1966)
Sanitary Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Eric Harkness (April 21, 1966)
Planning Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Robert S. Sturgis, A.I.A. (April 21, 1966)

Mr. John A. Brown (April 21, 1966)
Candeub, Fleissig & Associates, Consultants

Mr. Morton Rolleston (May 5, 1966)

Mrs. Harmon Barnard (May 5, 1966)
North/Northwest Civic Association

Mr. Charles Hooper (May 5, 1966)
Petroleum Council of Georgia

Mr. Thomas H. Roberts (June 2, 1966)

Mr. Gayle L. Harder (June 2, 1966)
Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission

Mr. Eric Harkness (June 2, 1966)
Planning Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Glenn E. Bennett (June 2, 1966)
Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission

Mr. Andrew E. Steiner (June 2, 1966)
Robert & Company Associates

Mrs. Caroline J. Embry (June 2, 1966)
Atlanta Women's Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Charles J. Robisch (June 16, 1966)
Georgia Chapter, American Institute of Architects

Alderman Rodney Cook (June 16, 1966)
Atlanta Board of Aldermen

Mr. Eric Harkness (July 14, 1966)
Planning Department, City of Atlanta

Mr. James P. Hudson (July 14, 1966)
Planners & Engineers Collaborative

Mr. S. Jarvis Levison (July 14, 1966)
Attorney - City of Atlanta

Mr. Glenn E. Bennett (September 8, 1966)
Executive Director - Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning
Commission

Mr. J. D. Wingfield (September 8, 1966)
Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission

Mr. Edgar E. Schukraft (September 22, 1966)
Chairman Urban Renewal Committee - West End Project

Mr. Eric Harkness (October 27, 1966)
Planning Department, City of Atlanta

Mr. Frank G. Etheridge (October 27, 1966)

Mr. Peter R. Norris (October 27, 1966)

Mr. Morris A. Hall (October 27, 1966)
Hall & Norris, Architects

Mr. Ellsworth Doresky (November 10, 1966)
Community Planner - Housing and Urban Development

Mr. William Oliver (December 8, 1966)
Georgia Chapter, American Institute of Architects

Mr. Robert W. Bivens (December 8, 1966)
Executive Director - Central Atlanta Progress, Inc.

Mr. Eric Harkness (January 26, 1967)
Planning Department - City of Atlanta

Mr. Ray A. Nixon (February 9, 1966)
Chief Construction Department, City of Atlanta

Mr. A. P. Brindley (February 9, 1966)
Parks Department, City of Atlanta

Mr. Henry Toombs (February 23, 1967)
Toombs, Amisano & Wells, Architects

Mr. Clifford M. Clarke (February 23, 1967)
Associated Industries of Georgia

Mr. Collier Gladin (February 23, 1967)
Director, Planning Department, City of Atlanta

Mr. McKendrie Tucker (March 9, 1967)
Tucker & Howell, Architects

Dr. Darwin W. Womack (March 23, 1967)
Department of Education, City of Atlanta

Mr. Clifford A. Nahser (March 23, 1967)
Department of Education, City of Atlanta

Mr. Marvin Kilgore (March 23, 1967)
Bull & Kenney, Architects

Mr. R. B. Tippet (March 23, 1967)
Robert & Company, Architects & Engineers

Mr. Vernon E. Johnson (March 23, 1967)
Stevens & Wilkinson, Architects

Mr. Fred Bainbridge (March 23, 1967)
Architect

Mr. Lew Deadmore (March 23, 1967)
Architect

- e. The Commission enjoyed the assistance of Mayor Allen and his staff, particularly Mr. Landers, Mrs. Moses, Mrs. Price, and Mr. Monroe.
- f. The Commission was assisted by the Board of Aldermen. At the Commission's request, its charter was twice amended by this Board. Also, \$1,200.00 was allocated to personnel (Mrs. Ann Butler, Recording Secretary) and later \$1,000.00 was allocated to bring one or more scale models to Atlanta for promotional purposes. This latter fund has not yet been drawn against.
- g. The Commission has, during its past year of existence, sought to organize itself, to acquaint itself with as broad a background as possible, in terms of Atlanta's physical aspects and known development plans for the future, and to establish basic policies under which it would hope to function.

5. Personnel of the Commission:

a. In July, 1966, Mr. Thomas H. Roberts was transferred out of Atlanta, and therefore resigned from the Commission.

Mr. John C. Gould was recommended to the Mayor as his replacement in the category of Planning. Mayor Allen consequently appointed Mr. Gould as a member, and this appointment was accepted by Mr. Gould.

b. On March 23, 1967, the following officers of the Atlanta Civic Design Commission were elected for the ensuing year:

As Chairman ----- Joseph S. Perrin

As Vice-Chairman ----- Paul Muldawer

As Secretary ----- Mrs. Alvin M. Ferst

c. In March, 1967, the following members, some of whose earlier terms has expired, were appointed or re-appointed to membership on the Commission by Mayor Allen. All have accepted these appointments.

Harry J. Baldwin

Joseph S. Perrin

James A. Dodd

Franklin M. Garrett

J. Ben Moore

d. In March, 1967, Mr. Orbie Bostick resigned from the Commission, due to pressure of other matters. No recommendation has as yet been made as to his replacement.

e. In consequence of the above, the personnel of the Atlanta Civic Design Commission is presently as follows:

(1) Category of Architecture:

Paul Muldawer (two years)

John Portman, AIA (one year)

(2) Category of Landscape Architecture:

Harry J. Baldwin, ASLA (three years)

Mrs. Edith Henderson, ASLA (two years)

(3) Category of Painting and Sculpture:

Julian Harris (one year)

Joseph S. Perrin (three years)

(4) Category of Engineering:

H. King McCain, PE (one year)
Yet to be appointed (for three years)

(5) Category of Planning:

James A. Dodd (two years)
John C. Gould (two years)

(6) Category of Architecture and Historic Tradition:

Samuel Inman Cooper, FAIA (two years)
Franklin M. Garrett (three years)

(7) Category of Lay Citizens:

Mrs. Alvin M. Ferst (two years)
W. L. Calloway (one year)
J. Ben moore (two years)

(8) Executive Secretary:

Mrs. Ann Butler

6. Projects Sponsored by Atlanta Civic Design Commission:

During its initial year, the Commission sponsored, actively or otherwise, a number of projects which it felt would be of value to the City. These included:

The Atlanta "Capitol Square" development.

Better downtown garbage disposal.

Acquisition of a scale model of downtown Atlanta.

Improvement, as a park, of the "ugly triangle" at Spring and Cain Streets.

Identification of historic buildings.

Restoration of the "terminus" area.

Improved appearance of filling stations.

Acquisition of statue of Hadad (from the Smithsonian Institute).

The West End Urban Renewal project.

Memorial to Dean Rusk.

Inclusion of Atlanta in Federal "Demonstration Cities" program.
Mayor's program toward additional housing in Atlanta.
And others.

7. Projects reviewed by the Commission:

The Commission, during its first year, and in accordance with the mandate stated in its charter, reviewed the following projects submitted to it:

- a. Certain City of Atlanta schools.
- b. Certain City of Atlanta parks.
- c. One bridge for the City of Atlanta
- d. Certain private developments, including:

Proposed office building adjacent to State Capitol.

Proposed high-rise apartment building on Fourteenth Street

Proposed future campus plan for Georgia State College.

Numerous smaller commercial and/or industrial buildings.

Several multi-floor garage structures.

Other proposed developments (miscellaneous)

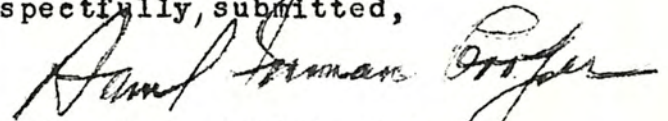
- e. The Commission has also requested, and has been promised, a review, in its early stages, of the major development proposed by Raymond D. Nasher on the four blocks fronting on Hunter Street, across from the State Capitol Building.

8. Recommendations of the Retiring Chairman:

- a. That the Atlanta Civic Design Commission be continued as a functioning body.
- b. That its budget be supplemented to cover the cost of the services, for one additional day per week, of its Executive Secretary.

- c. That any member of the Commission absent from more than three (3) consecutive meetings be dropped from membership, and that a new member be appointed in the same category to fill the vacancy so created.

Respectfully, submitted,



SAMUEL INMAN COOPER, F.A.I.A.
Chairman
February, 1966 to March, 1967.

April 10, 1967