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This page is devoted to focussing on students work, notable and worth taking another look at. In this issue, D. M. K. Bandara at his M.Sc. CDP deals with the high-rise – notably sensitive and resourceful.

DUTY FREE SHOPPING COMPLEX

Client's Objective

The main objective of the Client is to promote the more modern shopping trends of the 21st Century through this complex. It is to be exclusive, elegant and efficient.

Here a breakaway from the traditional shopping habits is anticipated. In the earlier days duty-free shopping was done at the Airport itself in drab fashion. The present Complex therefore is aimed at changing this activity to a more joyous and a leisurely one. The building is expected to celebrate/glorify the act of shopping; to project a dynamic environment buzzing with activity.

Three Dimensional Image

In keeping with these objectives the image was conceived with the idea of creating an unmistakable node linking up two contrasting developments, namely the Echelon Square high-rise development to the low-rise Lotus Centre.

The building's outer cover is to relate more to its immediate surroundings – the landmarks of the city. Fort Railway Station and the Pylon towers of the

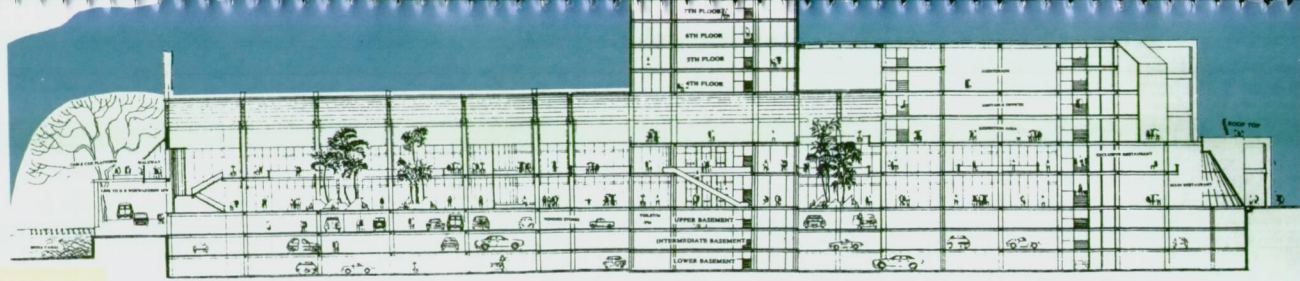
Ceylon Telecommunication Office, most of which reflect skeleton structures. Taking this concept for an extension, some of the building's structural elements have been exposed, forming a skeleton structure which wraps the buildings.

It is proposed that this would be the gateway from the low-rise structures of Pettah to the high-rise structures of Fort. The taller tower is expected to stand a backdrop to yet another strategic intersection of roads, a traffic converging point; Chatham Street to Lotus Road.

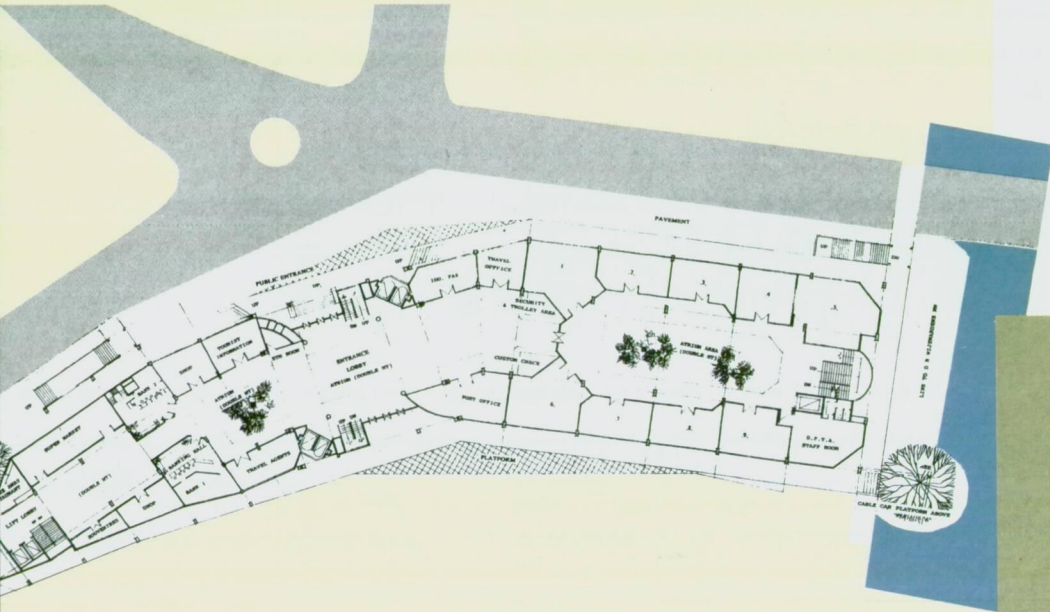
Several pedestrian pathways run through the building linking D. R. Wijewardena Mawatha to Lotus Road and Transworks House (World Trade Centre) to the building. A Railway track too has been taken into the building to enable easy transportation of goods. A future cable car network links the building with its surroundings.

The building sets out a way of building in the city, linking itself outward to routes and networks of existing paths, promoting the pedestrian life to flow inside out at the pedestrian level, and at the same time rising independently above. The overall form defines the 'edge' and contributes to the 'node', positively, in defining and strengthening its 'identity'. A way indeed to build in the city.

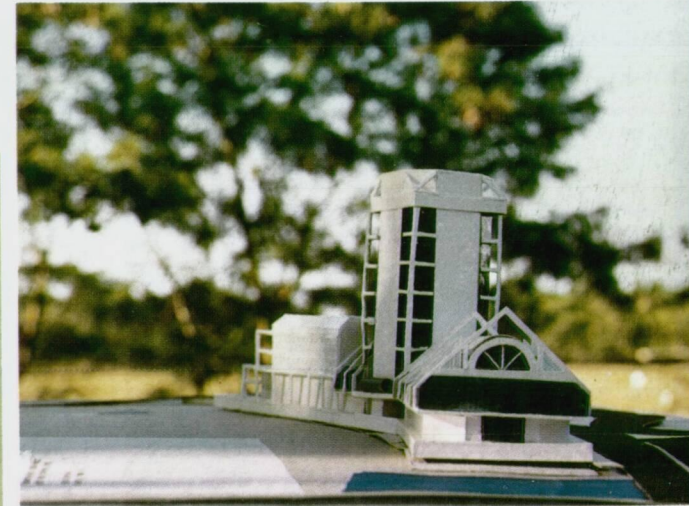




LONGITUDINAL SECTION



GROUND FLOOR



3D IMAGE

SECTION THRO' BEIRA

