



Peace City

HIROSHIMA

A Song for August 6th

*Out of the night that covered her
The stricken town began to stir,—
Out of bewilderment extreme,
The fierce vexation of a dream,
She raised herself in parting pain;
And no man heard her once complain.*

*It seemed, for what was gone for ever,
Speedily woke a new endeavour;
Out of darkness, out of fire,
Sprang new radiance, new desire;
The stricken city rose to see
Not what has been but that will be*

*Hiroshima! no finer pride
Did ever earthly city guide
Than yours,—to be the happy nest
Where the glad dove of peace may rest,
Where all may come from all the earth
To glory in mankind's rebirth!*

Edmund Blunden

"As the symbol of the human ideal for eternal peace, it shall be the object of the present law to provide for the construction of the Eternal Peace Commemorating City of Hiroshima."

Article 1.—Purpose of this Law—For Construction of Hiroshima Eternal Peace Commemorating City. (Extract from Law No. 219, Aug. 6, 1949)

A Message from Hiroshima

On August 6, 1945, the City of Hiroshima experienced the most extraordinary man-made disaster that has ever been witnessed on the face of this planet. It gradually dawned upon the minds of those who survived the ordeal that the world is faced with a very serious problem transcending all others in its vast importance to the future of humanity.

They realized the tremendous potentialities of human intelligence which seems to have finally succeeded in discovering the key to the ultimate secrets of matter. The release of atomic energy, however, points to two possible alternatives. It may either further human well-being by great strides, thereby creating an ideal abode for all people on this earth; or it may utterly destroy everything that exists on this earth, nay, even the earth itself. One thing will decide which alternative shall prevail, and that is whether we shall have peace or war.

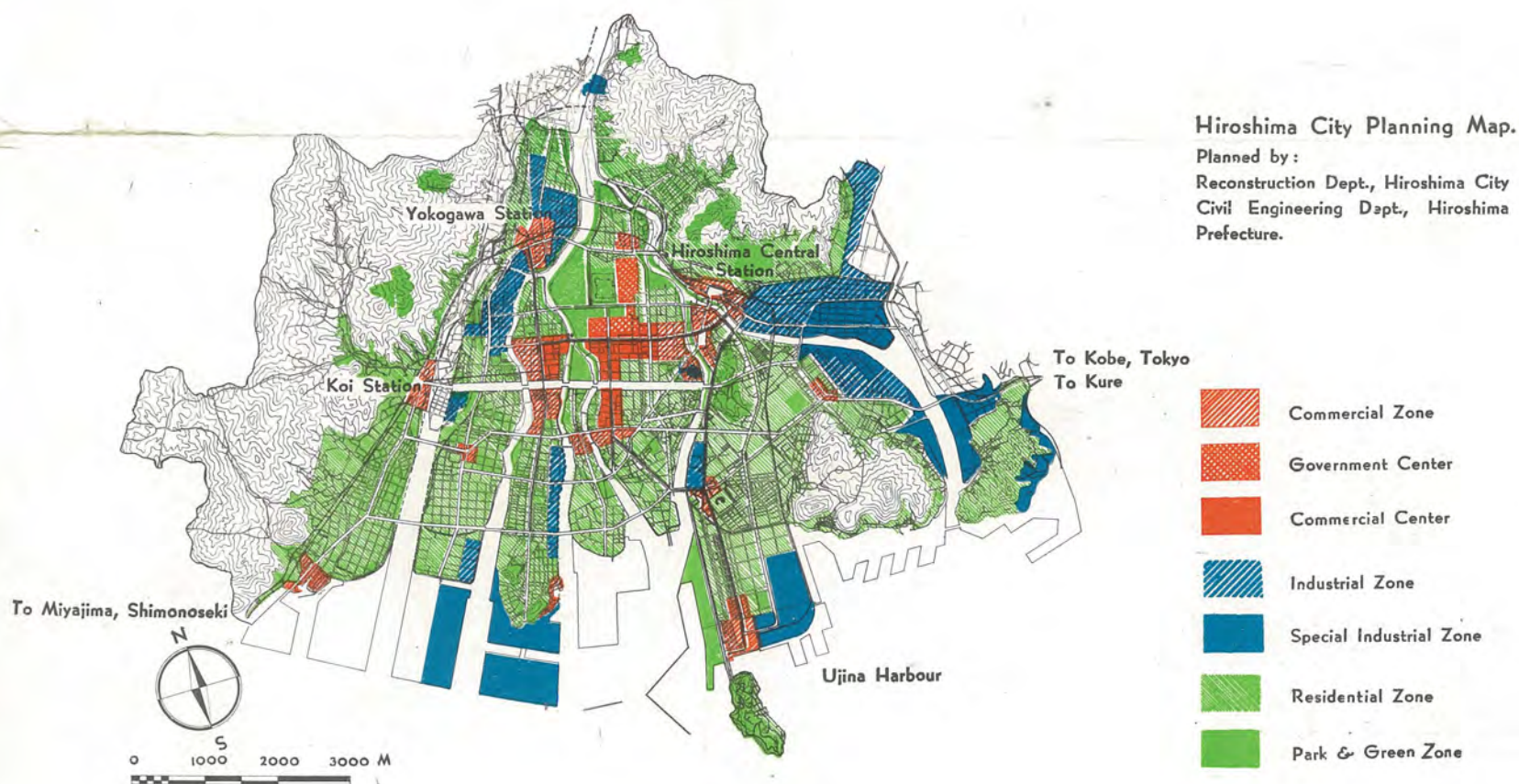
The people of Hiroshima decided definitely to stand for peace and wanted to demonstrate it to the world by molding their ruined community into a monument of permanent peace. Their earnest desire was adopted by the National Diet, resulting in the enactment of the "Law for the Construction of a Hiroshima Peace Commemorating City," promulgated on August 6, 1949, the fourth anniversary of that fateful day.

The reconstructed city aspires to become a center of creative peace movements by providing well-equipped facilities for international peace functions and, at the same time, to become an embodiment of peace such as would befit the world wherein complete victory of human wisdom will have ousted war and destruction from humanity to give place to well-being, good-will and cultural refinement.

An extensive plan has been formulated, the corner-stone laid, and reconstruction has got underway. Years may be required to see the project completed, but once accomplished—it must be accomplished—it shall serve as a reminder whenever the world should seethe again with the ill-fated desire to resort to wars.

The people of Hiroshima wish to take this opportunity to express their sincerest appreciation for every act of kindness extended them by friends in every part of the world through offers of moral encouragement, constructive advice, financial or material assistance. Every little helpful hint or criticism regarding Hiroshima's Peace City planning as described in the ensuing pages will be welcomed and appreciated.

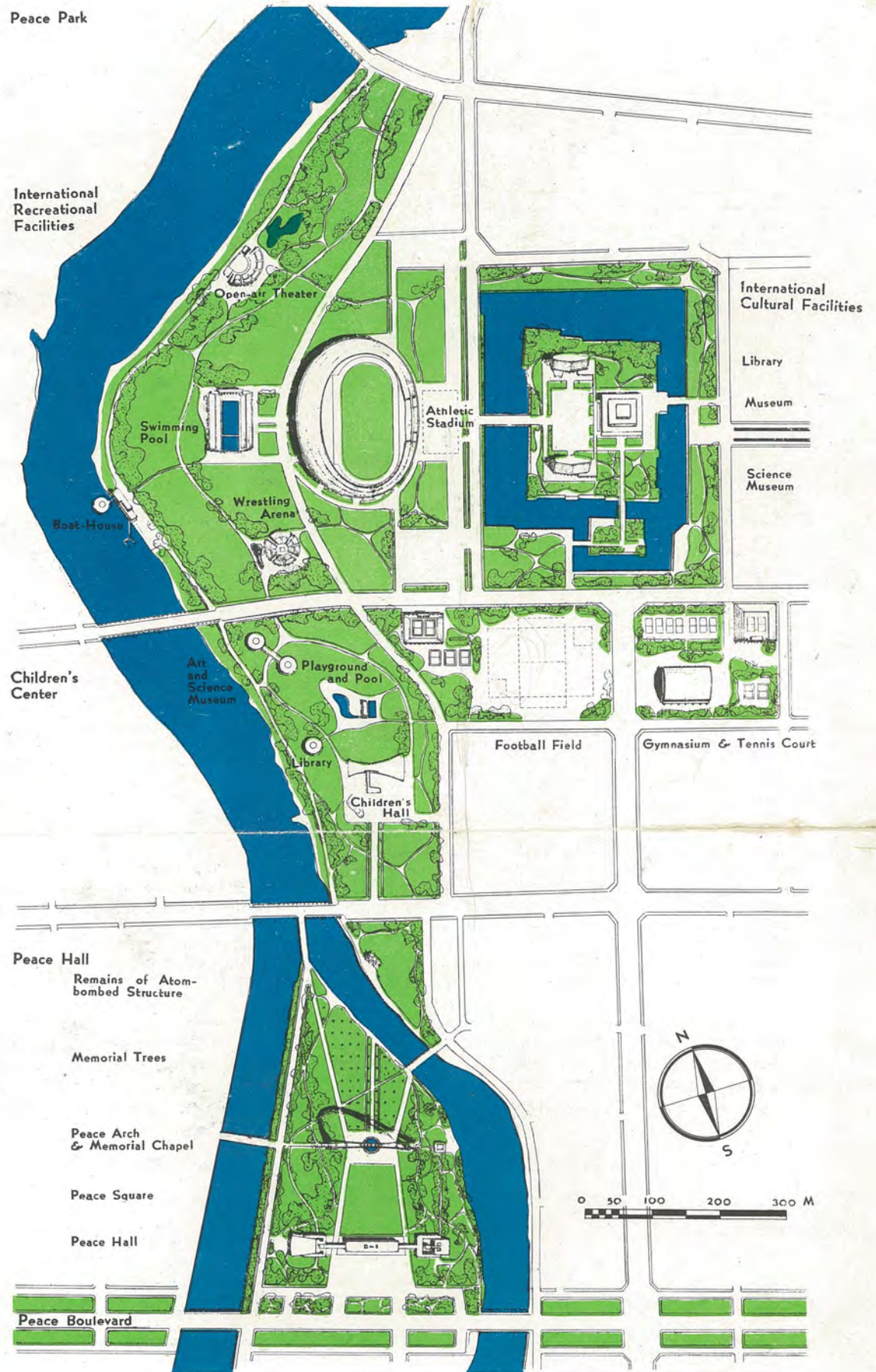
Mayor of Hiroshima



Apartmenthouses recently completed and those under construction.



CENTRAL THEME OF HIROSHIMA CITY PLANNING



PEACE PARK PROJECT

Designed by:
Kenzo Tange, Takashi Asada, Sachio Otani
and their associates of the Planning Research
Group, Architectural Department, Tokyo Uni-
versity.

Our city planning is a planning for construction of a peace city as the symbol of the human ideal for eternal peace as well as a planning for reconstruction of human life. Therefore we have launched a program of constructing peace facilities, as the central theme of city planning, and also housing, working, recreation and transportation facilities. Hiroshima which had a population of 136,000 at the close of war had increased its population to 270,000 (as of Dec. 1949). The problem of housing shortage is still acute. Although numerous temporary homes have been erected, these are far from meeting actual needs. However, construction of ferro-concrete apartmenthouses, though of a crude nature, has gotten underway in recent months, bringing new light and hope into the lives of many.

Despite all hardships, we of Hiroshima are daily becoming more resolute in our conviction that peace is not only desirable but imperative, and in our determination to establish a peace city symbolic of the human ideal for eternal peace.

Hiroshima no longer belongs to the people of Hiroshima or Japan alone. It belongs to the whole human society. This is the spirit which lies at the core of Hiroshima's city planning. The central theme of Hiroshima city planning program, therefore, lies in the ultimate creation of a city whose facilities would be of real service to mankind in its pursuit of peace and happiness. The following is a brief description of the important peace projects contemplated by the City of Hiroshima.

Peace Hall Project

Construction work on the proposed Peace Hall project is about to begin on a 12.23 hectare (30.3 acres) lot located at the approximate epicenter of the atomic bomb explosion on a sector of a centrally located island of the City. The project, when completed, will consist of the following:

1. A Peace Hall with (a) a conference hall capable of holding 2,500 persons, (b) discussion rooms, office rooms, a library, and a banquet hall, (c) display rooms showing atomic bomb relics and other objects.
2. Peace Square capable of accommodating 20,000 persons.
3. Peace Arch with bells.
4. Memorial Chapel dedicated to the souls of war victims.
5. Preserved remains of an atom-blasted structure (commonly referred to as the dome building).

The name "Peace Hall" was selected in the hope that it would become an important center of international peace movement. Preliminary ground work is already underway in preparation for commencement of construction work on the Peace Hall sometime during the current fiscal year. It goes without saying that the project will necessarily entail great financial difficulties, but Hiroshima is determined to carry on until it is finally completed for presentation to the peoples of the world, to be used and cherished by them as their own.

Peace Park Project

A plot of land 85 hectares (210 acres) in size, located adjacent to and including a portion of the Peace Hall compound, will be set out as a major park to be named the Peace Park. The Peace Park will embrace the following facilities:

1. A Children's Center consisting of (a) a main building with two conference rooms capable of holding 1500 and 600 persons each, a club hall for international social functions, and a broadcasting room, (b) a library, (c) a science and Art Museum, (d) a club house including a riverside boat-house, (e) a swimming pool, (f) playground, camping lots, and other recreational facilities.

Some progress has already been made in the construction of the Children's Center. Although only a wooden structure, a Children's Auditorium has already been erected and is being utilized by the children of not only Hiroshima City but of the surrounding communities as well. Construction of the Children's Library is scheduled to begin sometime during the current fiscal year.

2. International Cultural and Recreational Facilities:

In order to foster international exchange of culture, such facilities as an International Library and Museums of Science and Fine Arts are being planned for inclusion in the Peace Park project. To promote international friendship and understanding through sports and recreation, plans have been made to install such facilities as an athletic stadium, a swimming pool, a wrestling arena, a football field, a gymnasium, etc. A botanical garden is also scheduled for inclusion in the Peace Park. Furthermore, baseball parks, auto-race and horse-race tracks and a golf course are scheduled for construction in and around the city limits.

Peace Boulevard and Bridges

A huge road hundred meters wide running east and west, called the Peace Boulevard, is expected to become the most impressive green belt of the city, if not of the whole of Japan. The Peace Boulevard was so named to symbolize the "Road to Peace."

Hiroshima City is traversed by seven rivers running southward to the sea. Arterial roads cutting across these rivers require fifty-two spans of bridges, thirty-two of which still remain to be installed. To the people of Hiroshima, bridges have come to mean something more than mere links connecting two separate pieces of land. They are symbols of the link uniting one culture with another. Would it not be most becoming a Peace City to design these bridges in such a way as to symbolize the cultures of the various nations of the world and name them accordingly?

International Hotel and Dormitory

For a city to become truly international in character, as Hiroshima hopes to be, it must be fully equipped with proper lodging facilities for visitors. Tourist facilities, especially hotels, are therefore absolutely necessary. Plans are being made to establish tourist hotels on such beautiful sites as Moto-Ujina which juts out into Hiroshima Bay and commands a wonderful view of the Seto Inland Sea, Hijiyama Park which commands a fuller view of the Seto Inland Sea as well as a sweep of the whole city, and Asano Park, typical Japanese garden of superb beauty formerly the site of Lord Asano's luxurious mansion.

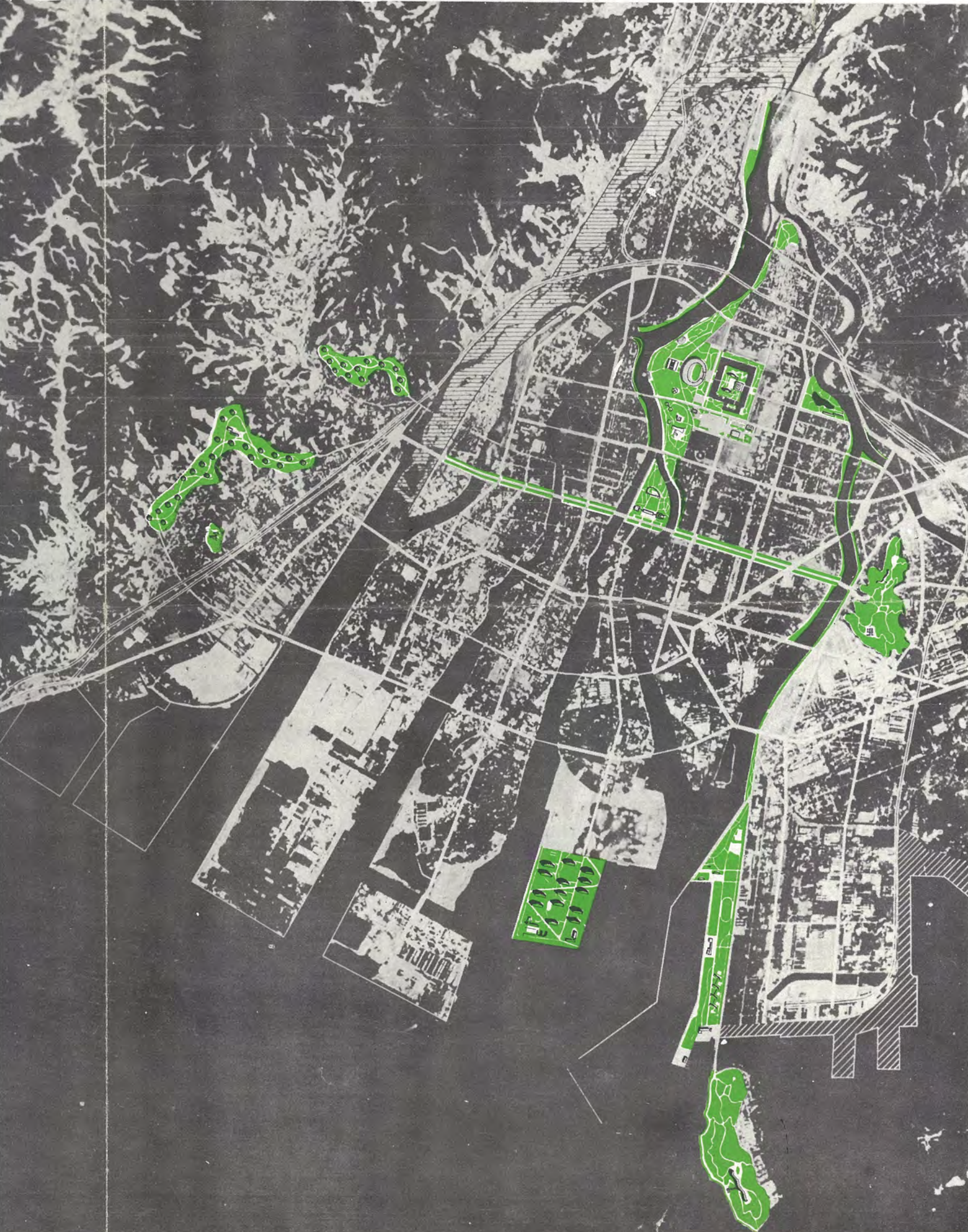
Appropriate dormitory facilities are being planned for the benefit of foreign children, youths and students whom we expect to receive in large numbers in the future as guests of Hiroshima City.

The above represents a brief outline of the principal projects to be undertaken by the City of Hiroshima under the fifteen-year reconstruction plan which is already underway. Hiroshima fully realized the difficulties involved, but the one thing people of Hiroshima are sure of is that they will continue their work of building a Peace City regardless of the hardships, for they feel that it will be for the benefit of all the peace-loving peoples of the world.

Proposed Expenditures for Hiroshima Peace City Construction Project (May 5, 1950)

Item	Expenditure (Unit 1000 yen)	Period	Contents
Peace Institutions	607,530	5 years	Peace Hall building; Memorial Chapel; Peace Arch; Peace Park, etc.
Bridges	3,177,053	15 "	32 Bridges
Cultural Institutions	376,100	15 "	Library; Art Museum; Museum; Aquarium; etc.
Children's Center	200,000	5 "	Hall, Children's Broadcasting Station; Children's Library, Museum, and Art Museum, etc.
Recreational Facilities	886,250	15 "	Baseball Grounds; Pool; Athletic Field; Gymnasium; Zoological and Botanical Gardens; Horse Race and Auto Race Grounds, etc.
Tourist Facilities	89,400	5 "	International Tourist Hotel; Dormitory.
Land Readjustment	1,019,922	5 "	Area of Readjustment: 1,060 hectares (Central part of city).
Water Works	799,400	5 "	Capacity: 120,000 cubic meters per day.
Drainage	3,119,400	15 "	14 Pump Stations with total disposal capacity of 140,000 cubic meters per day.
Streets	5,596,787	15 "	Including Peace Boulevard
School Facilities	1,140,960	15 "	School Buildings, etc.
Parks and Green Zones	570,225	15 "	Including Cemeteries.
Civil Housing	1,467,200	15 "	Chiefly Fireproof Houses
Public Health Institutions	478,880	15 "	Municipal Hospitals; Infectious diseases Hospital; Health Center; Children's Hospital; Rubbish disposal Dumps.
Welfare Institutions	401,720	15 "	Mother-and-child Dormitory; Nurseries; Orphanage; Old people's Home, etc.
Harbour	5,811,990	30 "	Cargo Landing and Loading Capacity of 11,500,000 tons per year
River Improvements	2,200,000	5 "	Banks and Flood Channel construction.
TOTAL	27,942,817		





Ota River Improvement Project

International Hotel (Asano Park)

Peace Park. International Cultural & Recreational Facilities. Children's Center

Peace Hall

International Hotel

Atomic Bomb Commission Casualty (Hijiyama Park)

Ujina Seaside Park

Aquarium

Horse Race Track

Seaside Club

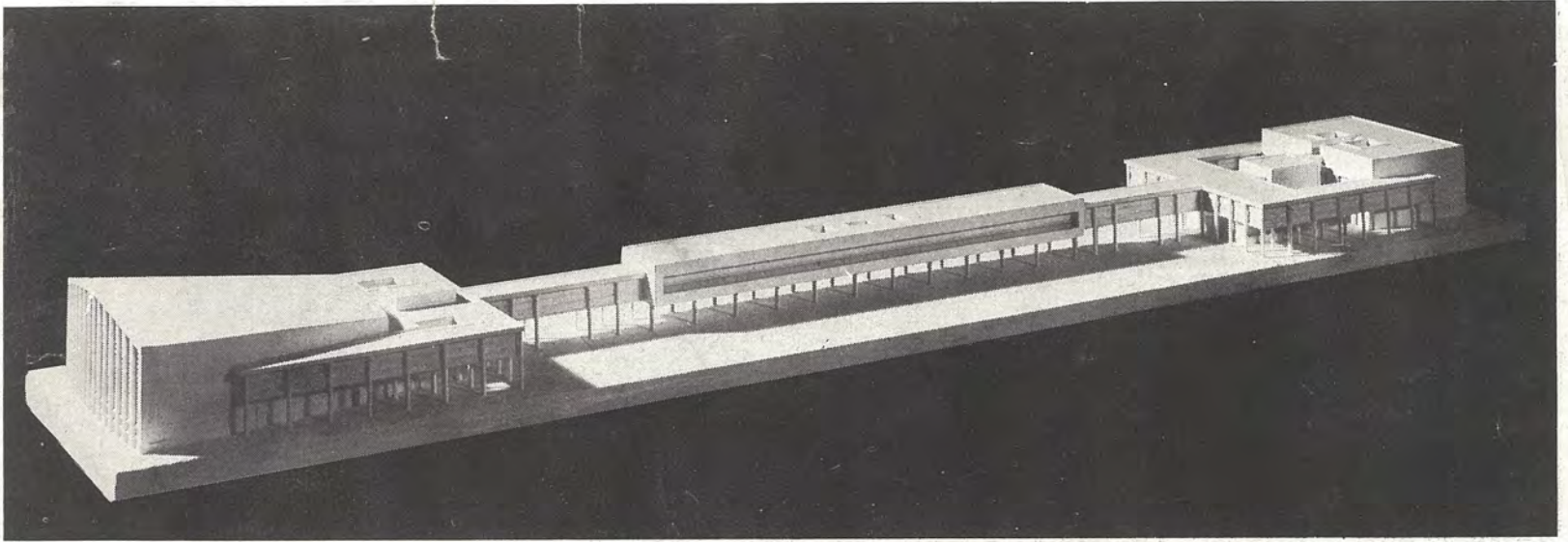
Dormitory

Yacht Harbour

International Hotel

Proposed sites for the first phase of the apartment communities construction program.

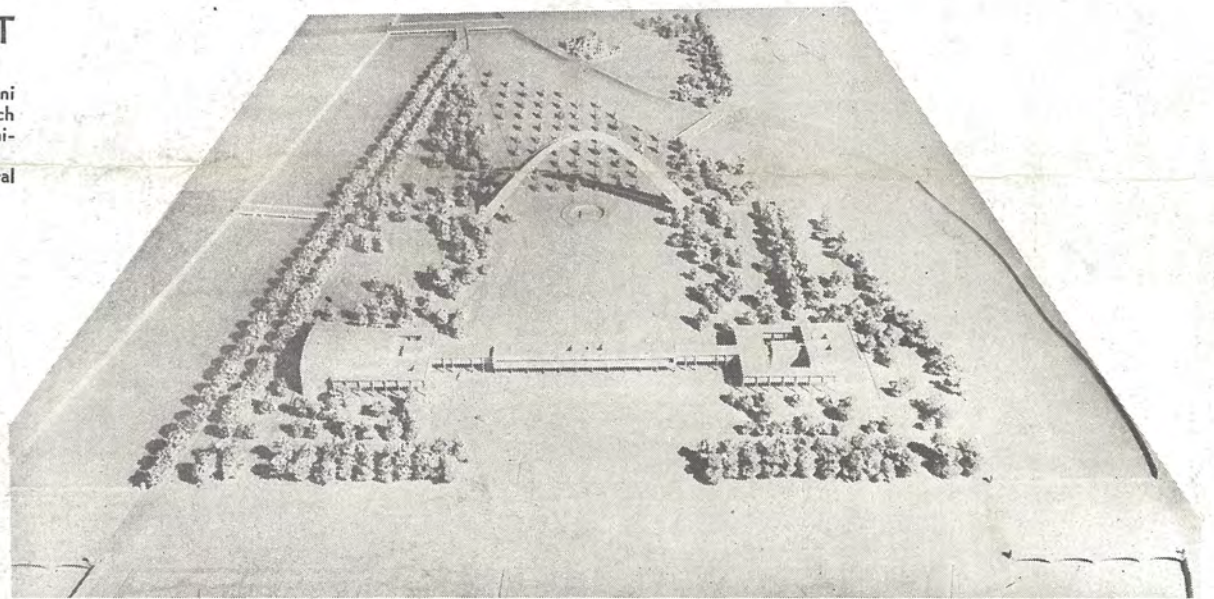
Harbour Project



The Peace Hall. Left wing: a conference hall, capacity 2,500 persons. Right wing: discussion rooms, office rooms, a library and a banquet hall. Above the connecting colonnade which serves as entrance to the Peace Square from the Peace Boulevard will be a row of display rooms.

PEACE HALL PROJECT

Designed by:
 Kenzo Tange, Takashi Asada, Sachio Otani
 and their associates of the Planning Research
 Group, Architectural Department, Tokyo Uni-
 versity.
 Winning Design in the National Architectural
 and Gardening Competition.



Peace Hall viewed from the south at an altitude. Beyond the colonnade and Peace Square looms the Peace Arch, while the remains of the dome building located at the epicenter of the atomic bomb, appears in the background behind a screen of memorial trees.

The Peace Hall as viewed from the Peace Boulevard.



Remains of
Atom-bombed
Structure

Memorial Trees

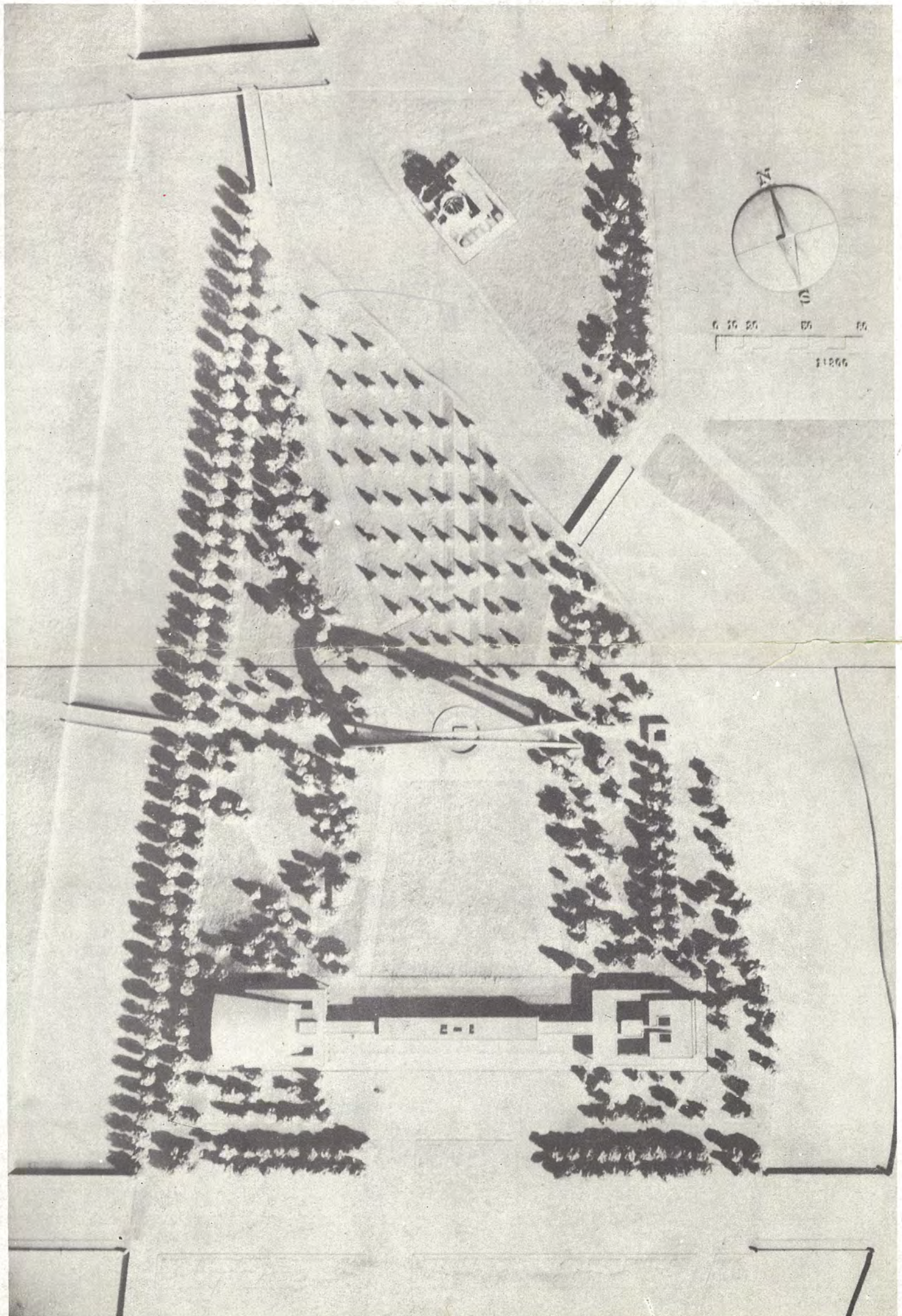
Peace Arch
with Bells
Memorial Chapel

Peace Square,
capacity 20,000
persons

Peace Hall with
Conference Hall,
capacity 2,500
persons

Display Rooms
Office Rooms, etc.

Peace Boulevard.





Silhouette of the dome building at the epicenter of the atomic bomb blast.

Peace Forever

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