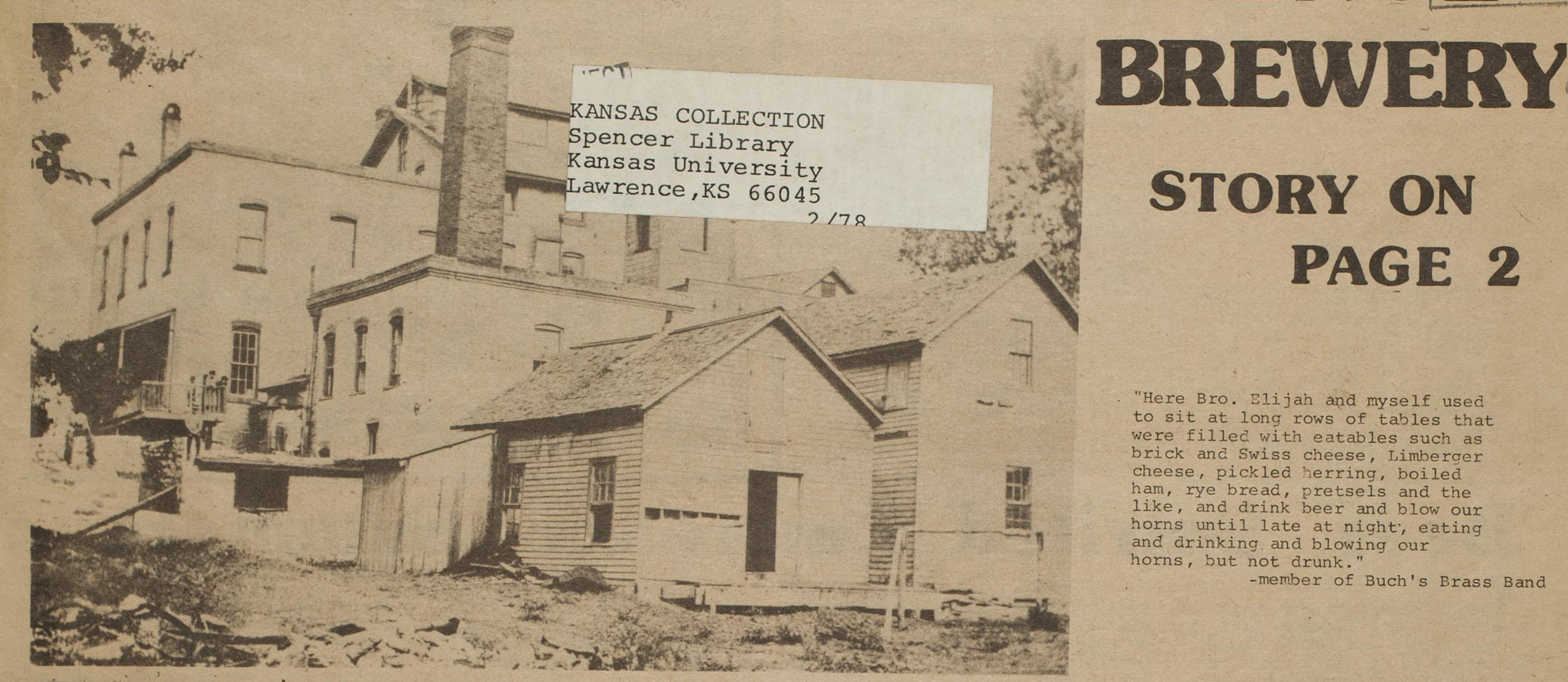
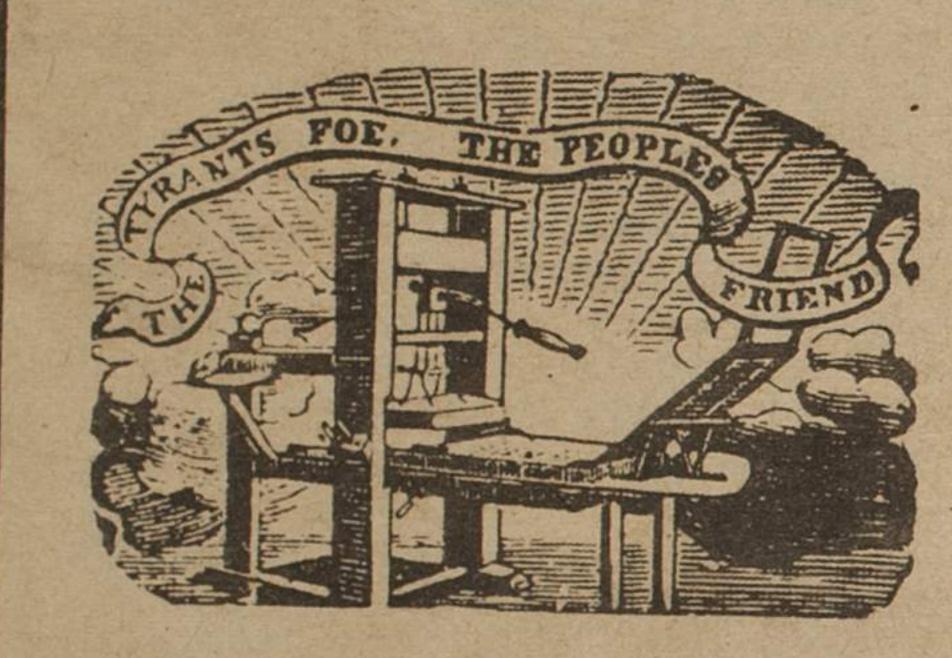
## P. O. BOX 423 Lawrence, HOT TIME AT LAWRENCE, KS 6604



## STORY ON PAGE 2

"Here Bro. Elijah and myself used to sit at long rows of tables that were filled with eatables such as brick and Swiss cheese, Limberger cheese, pickled herring, boiled ham, rye bread, pretsels and the like, and drink beer and blow our horns until late at night, eating and drinking and blowing our horns, but not drunk."

-member of Buch's Brass Band



## Vol. III No.6 MAY 1978 Lawrence, Kansas

In Cooperation with the Community Mercantile

City and Chamber "Movin' On..."

## Downtown Expansion Sought

BY JENNIFER SHAW & SUSIE HANNA Mill buildings marks the latest step in growth as the town of Lawrence becomes a city.

Replacing the mills will be a \$3' million City Hall. More than just a new addition to the city's skyline, the City Hall will act as a catalyst to private redevelopment of the North Central Business District.

The City's rapid growth to the west has shifted the physical center of Lawrence away from the central business district. As the population moves west, so follows business. A new shopping center area is now being developed at 23rd and Iowa and south of that intersection along Iowa. More shopping centers, including a giant regional mall, are planned further west.

Prompted by the downtown merchants concern that the future of the downtown is being threatened by suburban shopping areas, the City Government and the Chamber of Commerce are campaigning to redevelop the "blighted areas" of downtown in the 600 block and to expand the central business district into the adjacent neighborhood and along the river.

According to Glenn West, Chamber executive director, the downtown must become attractive enough to encourage people to drive the extra distance in order to comnet with suburban shopping centers.

"The key to the project," he said, the location of City Hall at 6th and Mass. Our experience indicates that it is impossible to bring in private investment as long as the Bowersock and Fiberboard buildings remain."

The destruction of the Bowersock store is also important to a healthy downtown, West said. One of the only downtown department stores, J.C. Penney's, may be moving westward.

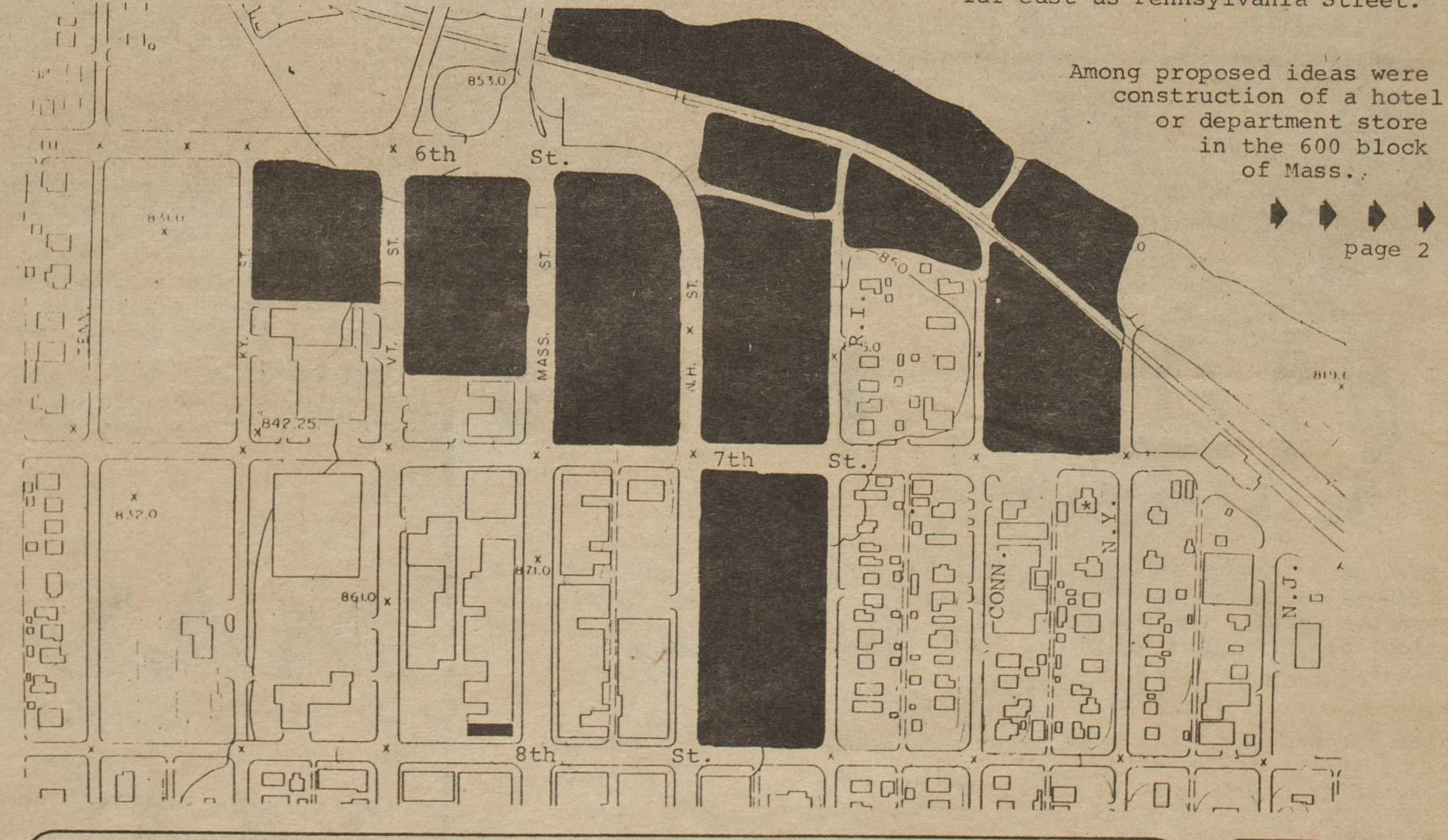
> Joe Scales, Penney's manager, said that although he doesn't know of a planned move, he expects that "more than likely we wouldn't stay in the downtown. We try to move where the greatest concentration of customers are."

Unlike West, Scales doesn't think the loss would kill the downtown. Another company would probably replace such a business, he said.

In an effort to begin redevelopment, the City and the Chamber have spent considerable time and money. The City has hired two firms to study and publish reports on the area. Both reports were designed to market the area to private investors: .

The first report in 1972 by the Lawrence-Leiter firm, recommends redevelopment from Kentucky to Connecticut, north of Seventh. It included demolition of most buildings in the 600 block of Mass. and construction of a major retail center, a hotel convention center, an office complex and retail shopping complex.

Last fall, the City hired Design-Build Architects to study the area north of Eighth, including land as far east as Pennsylvania Street.



BUSINESS DISTRICT

Potential Development Sites

design architects of more on the ar CONTRACT BAPPART 11 847 3800