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World Bank Group Archives Exhibit Series

Buildings of the World Bank

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WORLD BANK GROUP

The World Bank Group Archives Exhibit Series contains exhibits originally published on the Archives' external website beginning in 2002. When the Archives' website was transferred to a new platform in 2015, it was decided that older exhibits would be converted to pdf format and made available as a series on the World Bank's external database, Documents & Reports.

These exhibits, authored by World Bank archivists, highlight key events, personalities, and publications in the history of the World Bank. They also bring attention to some of the more fascinating archival records contained in the Archives' holdings.

To view current exhibits, visit the Exhibits page on the Archives' website.

Buildings of the World Bank

1948

A Building

- The Bank's first building, located at its official address, 1818 H St.
- Completed for use by U.S. Surgeon General, 1941
- On June 25, 1946, the World Bank opened for business on the tenth floor
- Twelve stories above grade and two basement levels
- Purchased by the Bank in 1957
- Demolished as part of the Main Complex Rehabilitation

B & C Buildings

1967

2002

- B Building constructed in 1921 as the Hurley-Wright Building at 1800 H St.
- Purchased by the Bank in 1961, stripped to the skeleton and completely renovated
- Twelve floors above grade and one below
- Bank's first cafeteria was located on the 11th floor
- Existing building at 718 18th St. demolished to make room
- Completed in 1963
- Eugene Black Auditorium located on 11th floor
- Contained the Bank's first underground parking facility

F Building

- Constructed for the IMF in 1958 at 1850 H St.
- Replace firehouse containing the “Oldest Inhabitants”
- Thirteen floors above grade and three basement levels
- Purchased by the Bank from the IMF in 1973.

2002

1958

E Building

1967

- Completed for the IMF at 701 19th St. for the IMF in 1967
- Purchased by the Bank from IMF in 1973
- Thirteen floors above grade and three basement levels, used mainly for parking

D Building

1968

- Completed in 1968 at 1809 G St.
- Main cafeteria and dining rooms located on the second floor

2002

I Building

1980

- Completed in 1980 at 1850 Eye St.
- Site and building rights purchased from a developer
- Existing designs for a speculative office building were modified to better meet Bank needs within the constraints of the original building design and site location
- Twelve floors above grade and four basement levels

H Building

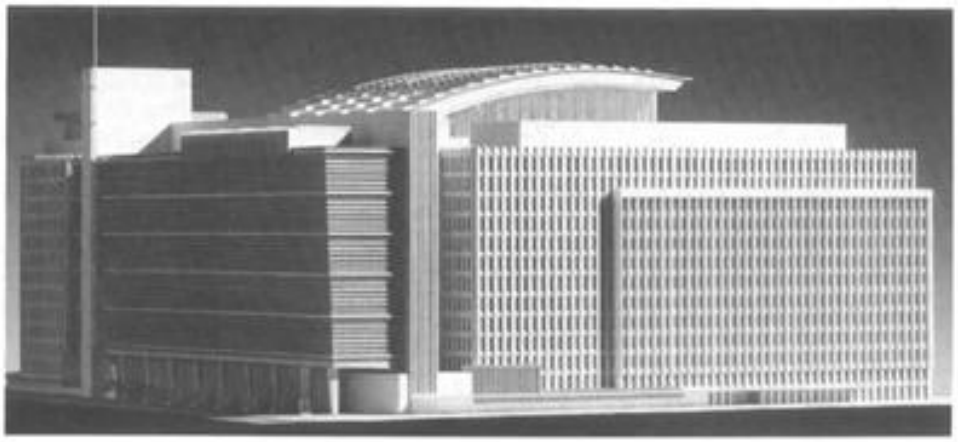
- Completed in 1986
- Eleven stories above grade and three basement levels

B-C Buildings

- B and C Buildings closed to all staff, December 1, 1989

Destruction of C Building begins, 1989

Main Complex (MC Building)



Architect's Model of the New Main Complex, 1992