

YEARBOOK 1973



19042

Worcester County (MA)
Deputy Sheriffs
Association



Sheriff Joseph A. Smith and his Deputy Master and Special Sheriff John M. Flynn reviewing last minute plans for the opening of the West Boylston complex.



WORCESTER COUNTY REHABILITATION AND DETENTION CENTER

Dr. Paul Ware Drive

West Boylston, Massachusetts

WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Walter F. Kelly, Chairman

Paul X. Tivnan

Philip J. Philbin

WORCESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Hon. Joseph A. Smith, High Sheriff

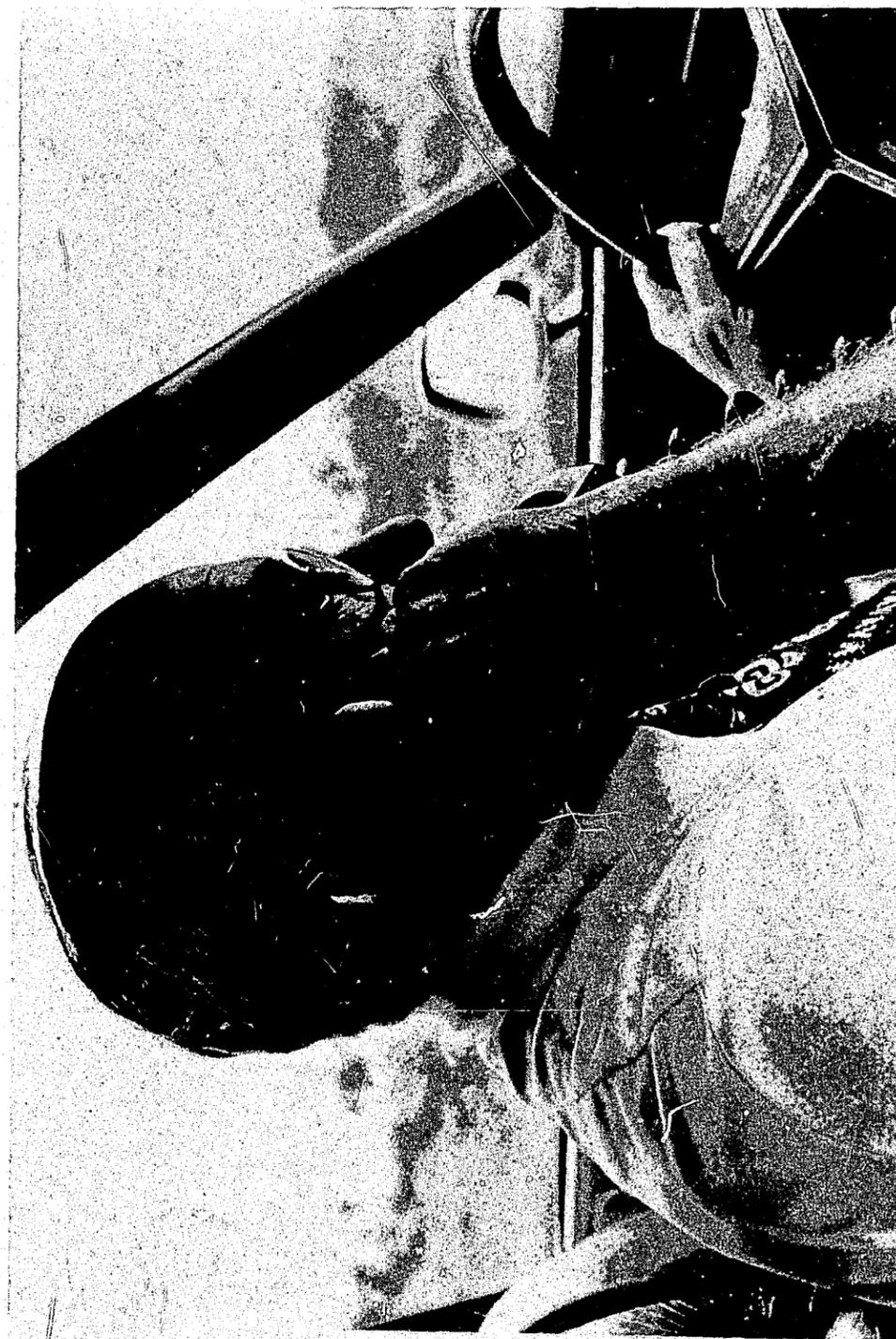
John M. Flynn, Deputy Master

Harold F. Gabriel, Assistant Deputy Master

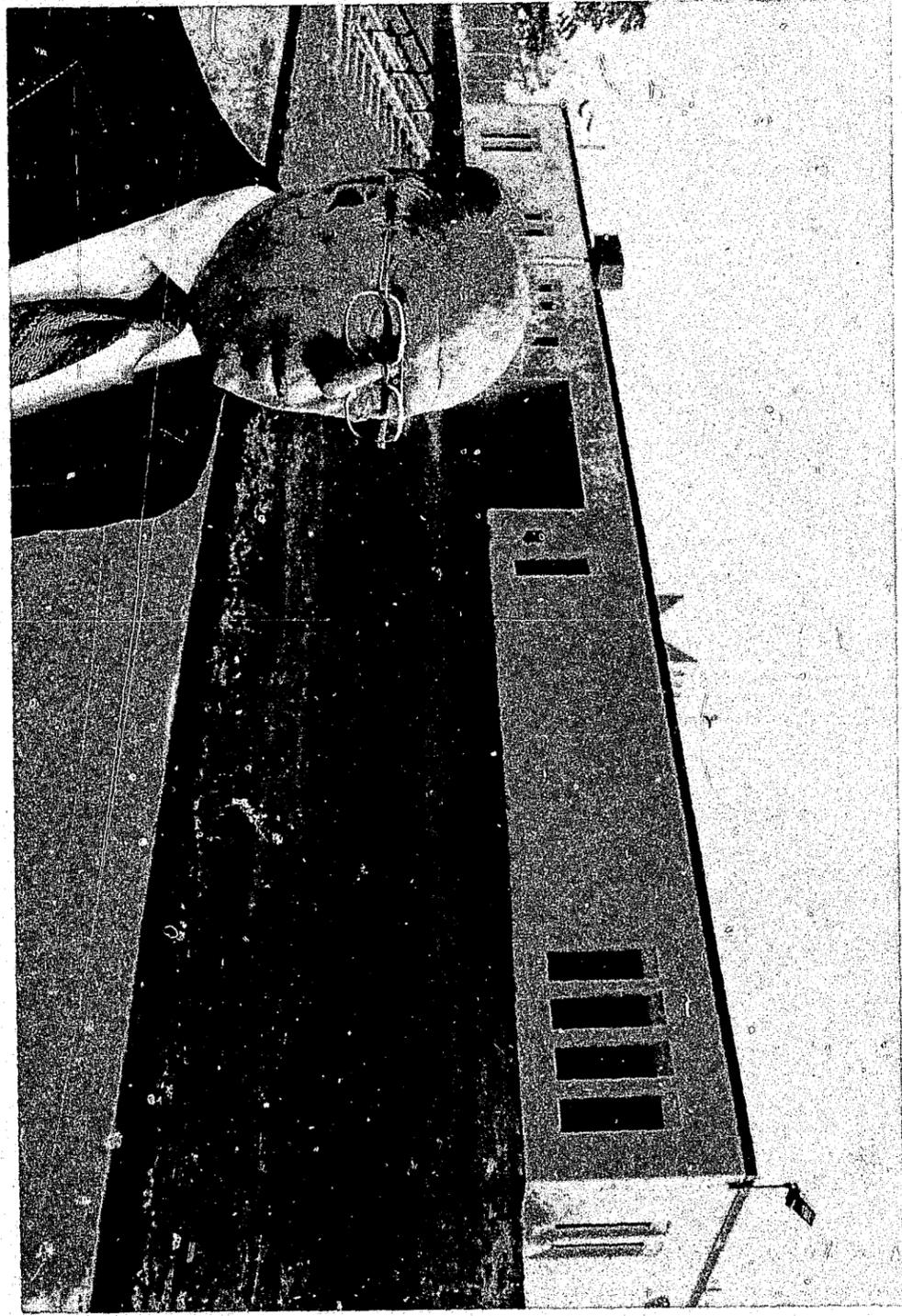


WORCESTER COUNTY REHABILITATION AND DETENTION CENTER

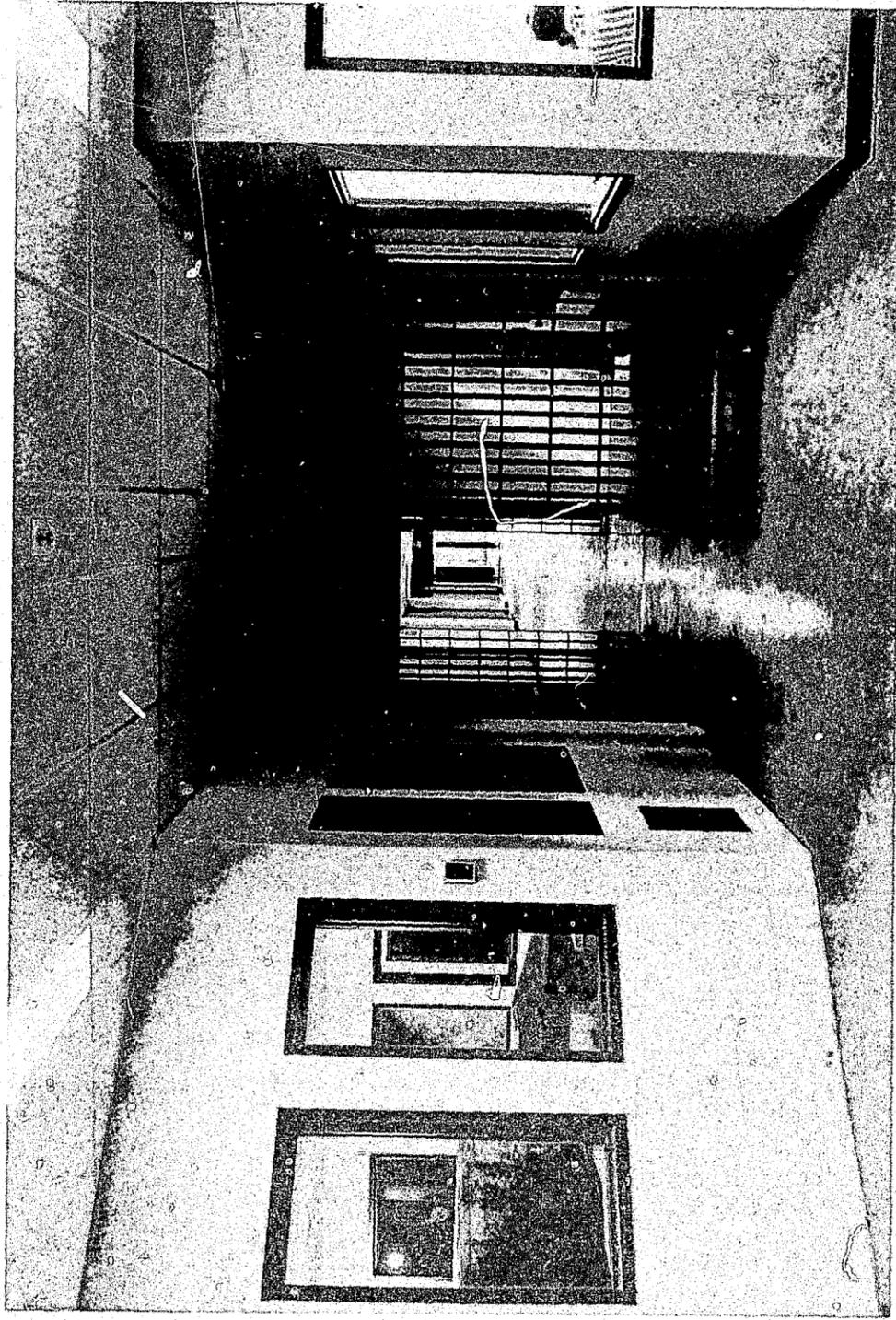
FUNDS APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE	1969
CONSTRUCTION BEGAN	May 15, 1971
CENTER ACCEPTED	October 9, 1973
ARCHITECTS	Masiello Associates, Worcester
BUILDERS, MAIN COMPLEX	Granger Construction, Worcester
WORK RELEASE	Scena Construction, Lowell
ELECTRICAL	Coghlin Electric, Worcester
TOTAL COST	\$8,500,000
TOTAL AREA	240,000 Square Feet
TOTAL INMATE CAPACITY	278
MAXIMUM	108
MINIMUM	104
WORK RELEASE	48
WOMEN'S AREA	18
DINING AREA	Serves 500 meals per setting
SCHOOL	7 Classrooms, library, teacher's room
COUNSELING AREA	8 Individual counseling rooms
INFIRMARY	7 Beds, Doctor's & Dentist's rooms
CHAPEL	Seats 250
GYMNASIUM	4,600 Square Feet
STAFF	9 Administrative & Clerical 16 Treatment 70 Security 95 TOTAL



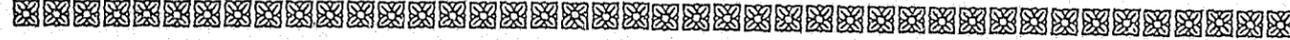
Sheriff Smith pictured at the radio-telephone of his personal car as he arrives at the new institution in West Boylston. This vehicle is just one of many Sheriff's department units equipped with complete communications systems for added efficiency and mobility.



Sheriff Smith before the main entrance of the eight and one half million dollar Worcester County Rehabilitation and Detention Center.



Looking past Central Control down the main corridor toward the Administration Wing and the front entrance.





Sheriff Joseph A. Smith before the closed circuit TV monitors of Central Control which serves as the nerve center of the entire institution. Central Control's main panels also contain a 4-channel AM-FM radio console, supplying music to every cell; a complete radio mobile communications unit; a multi-purpose intercom system; heating, electrical, and air conditioning monitors; and controls for all electrical traps and corridor barriers.



Sheriff Smith Discusses the Rehabilitative Aspects of His New Institution

Everyone talks a good deal about rehabilitation, about what it is, how it works, and how to achieve it! No one denies the fact that today's penal institutions must have a large element of rehabilitation, but few people know how to produce success treatment programs within the prison. Over the past eleven years I have learned that meaningful rehabilitation isn't just talk - it's action!

First you must have the physical facilities to produce effective rehab programs. The old Summer Street jail was just that - a jail completely void of any room for counseling offices, work shops, or recreation space. After much discussion and deliberation with my staff, I set about to make office space from un-used halls and empty corners. Not the ideal situation, but it served the purpose temporarily anyway. But try as we would, there was simply no inside room available for any organized recreation. Bearing these shortcomings in mind, we set about to design a new institution with ample room for offices, vocational training, organized recreation and sports, and day rooms for leisure moments outside the cell.

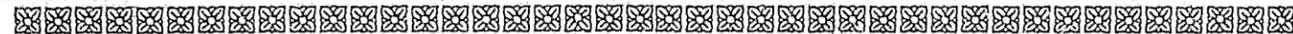
You might think we have created something of a combined sports arena and country club, but you must realize one fact! Rehabilitation means developing the individual in every way possible to meet that day when he is finally released and returned to you, his community and his neighbor. This type of development means having the physical facilities at hand to encourage education, physical fitness, vocational training, and specific pre-release counseling.

Secondly, you must have a strong and cohesive treatment staff ready to assume the responsibility of working in this most difficult of human service areas. My staff have the skills learned with hard-core experience in the field, men who have made the mistakes and learned wisely from them. They also have a very important quality, impossible to feign - compassion. In other words they know how to work with our young men and women and they also know when to get tough, when they are being had, as the expression goes. With this combination of skill and experience, the treatment staff works together to build effective programs designed for results!

Within three months after our re-location to West Boylston, I will have twelve of our basic rehabilitation programs fully operational. I have listed them below although not necessarily in their order of importance, but each complementing the other:

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Work Release | Education |
| Referral Project | Vocational Training |
| Drug Counseling/Referral | Alcohol Intervention |
| Mental Health Services | Legal Services |
| Furlough | Recreation |
| Classification | General Social Services |

Now allow me to speak briefly about these programs and their importance to the prisoner and his rehabilitation.



WORK RELEASE remains the prime motivational force within any rehabilitation program. This is the goal to which every inmate strives - a good job and money in his pocket before his release. I believe our new work release facility, housing some 48 prisoners, will provide the finest motivational reasoning of any penal institution in the country. Here men will live as normal a life as possible and still be incarcerated. Gone will be the dormitory-type barracks with its impersonal atmosphere. Here each man will be assigned to a room with three other fellows with a central dining and recreation area spaciouly providing recreation and leisure living.

Work Release will strive to introduce this program to new employers throughout Greater Worcester in an effort to expand the types of jobs available and create a better caliber of job opportunity. We will provide transportation to several strategic points nearest our work sites via a new bus purchased specifically for this by the county. At some point in the near future we will be asking for prisoners from other institutions who wish to return to Worcester County to live to make application with me for possible transfer. In this way work release and other programs can better prepare many more men and women for eventual release into our community.

The REFERRAL PROJECT is a Federally funded resource program working within the institution and the community to develop and implement direct services to the inmate and his family. The project began in 1971 and since then has contributed greatly to countless inmates in providing pre-release counseling, jobs, housing, referral services and follow-up assistance. In the coming year, the referral project will be expanded to assist ex-offenders returning to Worcester County from other institutions across the state. The project's counterpart in the community is a non-profit corporation called LOOP, Law Offender Opportunity Programs, Inc. LOOP's aim will be to provide direct and contract services to any ex-offender living in Worcester County.

Our DRUG COUNSELING AND RESOURCE PROGRAM will be taking on several new dimensions as we move to West Boylston. We will be expanding the resource people available to the inmate for specific types of drug problems and we will be providing more direct drug counseling on a pre-release basis. Our program has developed some fine liaisons with such community-based facilities as Chandler Street Center and the Worcester State Hospital as well as many of the state-wide drug and half-way houses. The point being that anyone needing help with a drug addiction problem will get it!

A MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES program is something I have wanted to complement both our drug and alcohol programs. In cooperation with the Department of Mental Health and local mental health units, our institution will provide both psychological and psychiatric evaluation and therapy at the time needed. For those needing a prolonged period of treatment we have an arrangement with the Worcester State Hospital for committal. We expect to draw upon the resources of the new medical center to provide additional therapy and referral assistance.

Our FURLOUGH PROGRAM, although begun on a cautious note, has proven very successful. I am not disturbed by those critics who say we are too cautious in not allowing anyone but work release people participate. My reply is simple. This is a new venture and until I am sure of its potentials for good and bad I will move slowly. Thus far no one has been hurt, the inmate, his family, or our community. As time passes, we will probably open furlough to more inmates, but rest assured, when this happens I will be satisfied that no one will be endangered!

A thorough CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM is essential to any organized attempt at rehabilitation. Classification in West Boylston will provide the institution with a complete background on every inmate: social history, psychological narrative, general IQ, vocational aptitude, and academic achievement. With this information we then set about to plan a program for the individual based upon his ability, motivation and potential.

EDUCATION remains one of the most important programs in any institution. At the new institution we can proudly boast of the most complete educational center of any penal institution in the nation. There is plenty of room for every phase of basic education including remedial reading and math, primary and secondary studies in math, science and English grammar, GED high school equivalency preparation, and special interest study courses. The learning lab with its modern facilities for programmed study will have a large classroom area designed with projection equipment and study booths.

Several classrooms will be equipped with sliding panels so that sections of the room may be closed off for small group instruction. A fine library will be available to every inmate for casual reading as well as serious study. The Worcester School Department will again provide us with a teaching staff including a full-time curriculum coordinator, four part-time teachers for basic studies, and one part-time teacher for English as a second language. I am anxious to continue with our college level studies program which will expand to include several courses taught at the institution by instructors from area colleges, and inmate attendance at Clark University and Quinsigamond Community College.

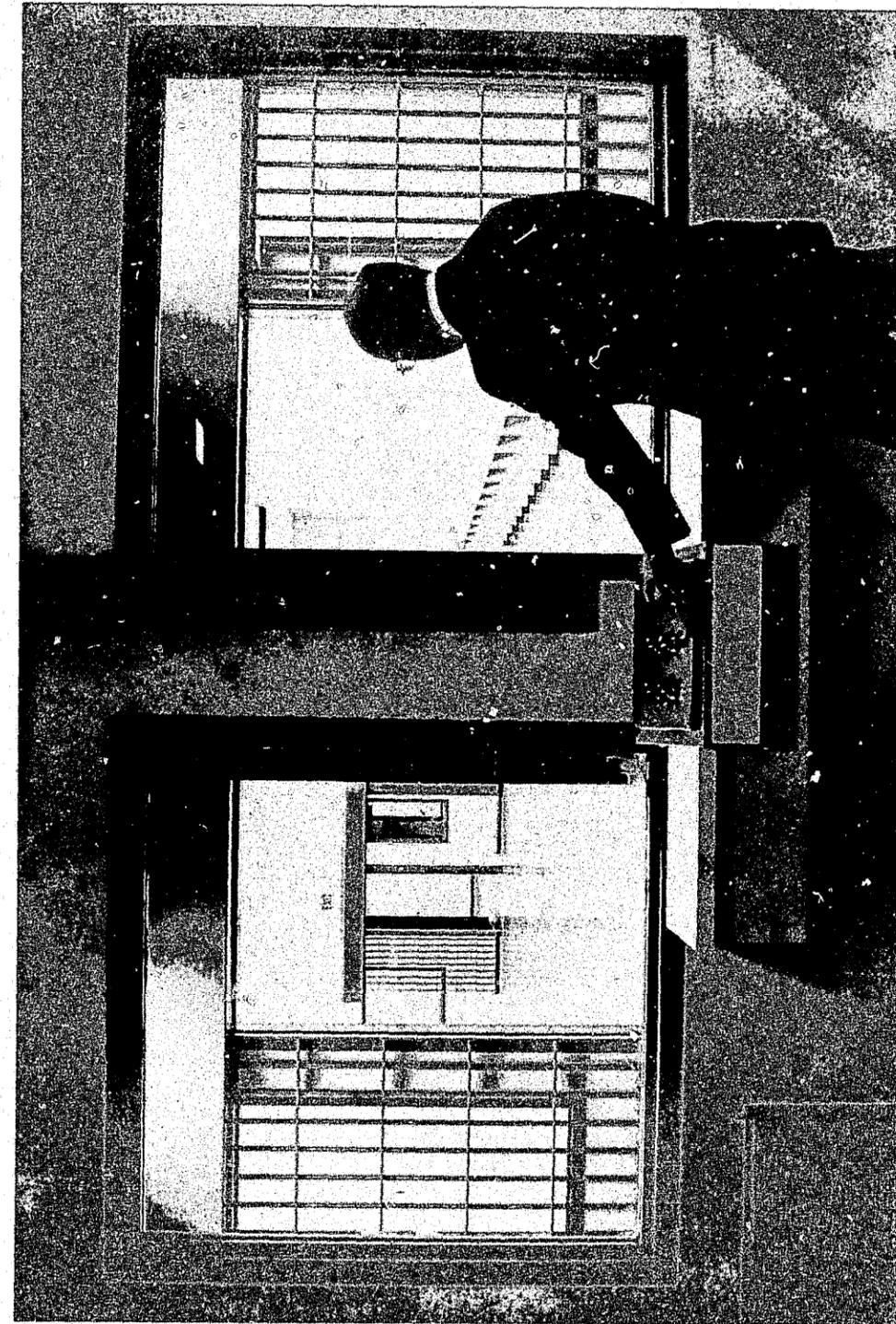
VOCATIONAL TRAINING is growing in importance as we try to educate our prisoners in practical vocations that will serve them well in a competitive job market. For the first time our institution will offer courses in rough and finished carpentry, the basics of machine operation, and a thorough course in beginning electronics. A Federally funded studies grant will provide instruction auto mechanics. I expect to send several young men and women into Worcester for study at Worcester Boy's Trade and the Career Education Training Center. We want to use community facilities as much as possible to serve this important segment of a neglected minority.

A program of ALCOHOL INTERVENTION meets a very real need among our men and women who find themselves trapped in a maze of problems stemming from alcohol abuse. Over the past two years it has become evident that alcoholism is one of the most serious threats to an inmate's successful re-entry into his community. I have developed an alcohol intervention program which utilizes the basic steps of AA, combining them with expert counseling, on a pre- and post-release basis. Through this program we have also developed outstanding links with community-based alcohol facilities throughout the county.

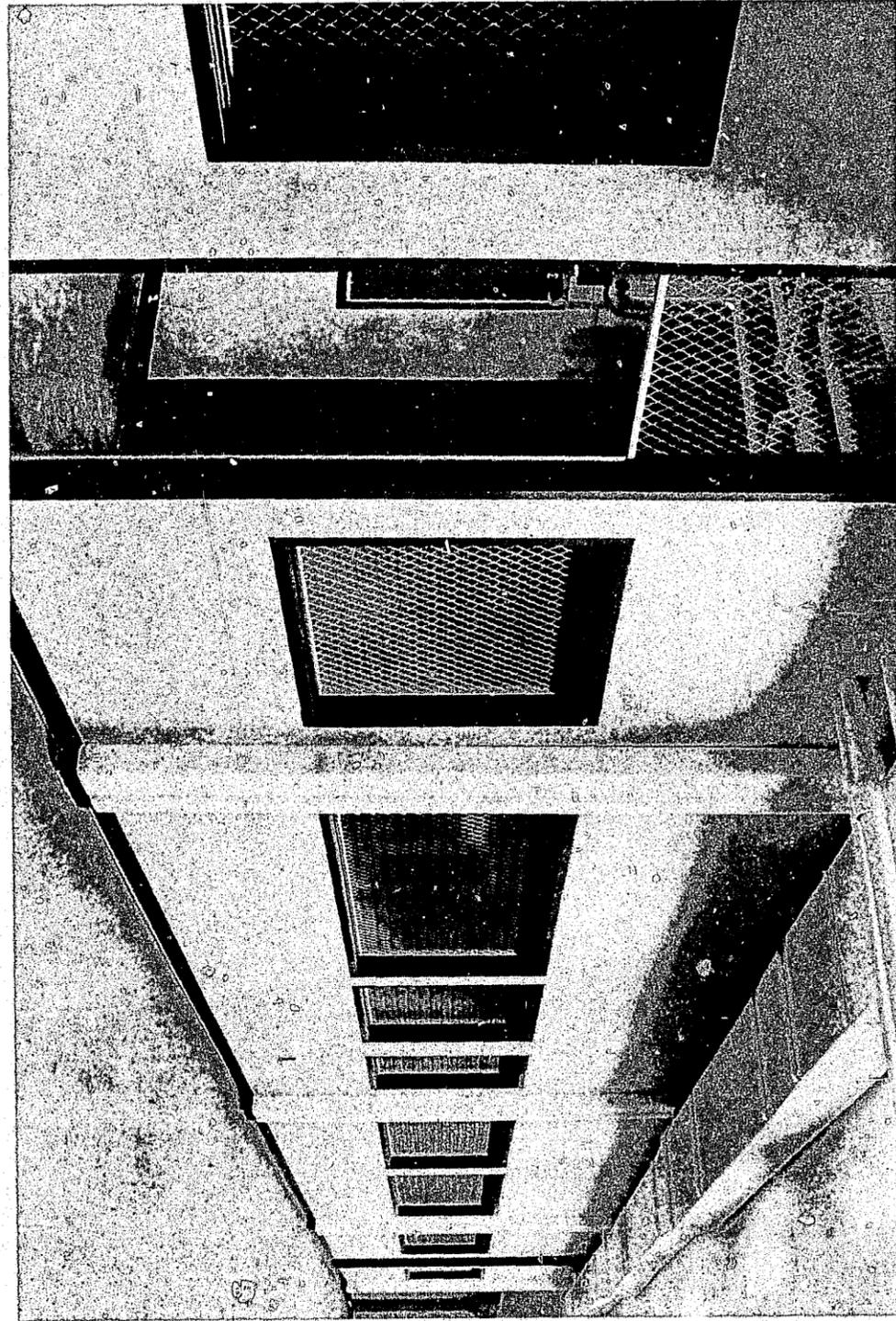
A LEGAL SERVICES program is a very important part of our comprehensive plan to provide ready assistance to every inmate when and where needed. Working with the Legal Aid Society, The Worcester County Public Defender's Office, and private lawyers volunteering their time, we are beginning a pilot project to provide legal counsel for prisoners waiting trial and sentenced prisoners with further criminal and civil actions pending. It is difficult to imagine the anguish of someone behind bars who faces our criminal justice system not knowing their rights or where to turn for legal advice and direction. This new service will begin soon after we are settled in West Boylston and should provide a valuable addition to the growing number of inmate services.

RECREATION has been painfully neglected at Summer Street simply because we didn't have the physical set-up for any type of organized sports activity in or out-of-doors, nor did we have room for even small groups to gather for cards or ping pong. The new institution proudly includes a very large gymnasium for basketball, volleyball, tennis and serious gymnastics. Locker rooms and shower areas complement the area along with a complete workout section for individual physical fitness programs. Recreation will be directed by two specially trained officers whose responsibility will include group activities, competitive games and individual shaping-up exercises. The gym will be available to everyone on a schedule designed to work with other activities such as school, vocational training, work release and institutional employment.

I am increasing our SOCIAL SERVICES program to include more general counseling, direct services, and referrals. Initial interviews through final exit questionnaires are designed to assist everyone with the right type of help when needed. We will be constantly keeping our finger on the pulse of inmate thinking to better assist them personally while with us and after their return to the community.



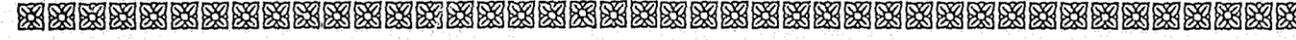
Looking from Central Control into the two visiting areas where prisoners meet with their families on a very liberal visiting schedule.

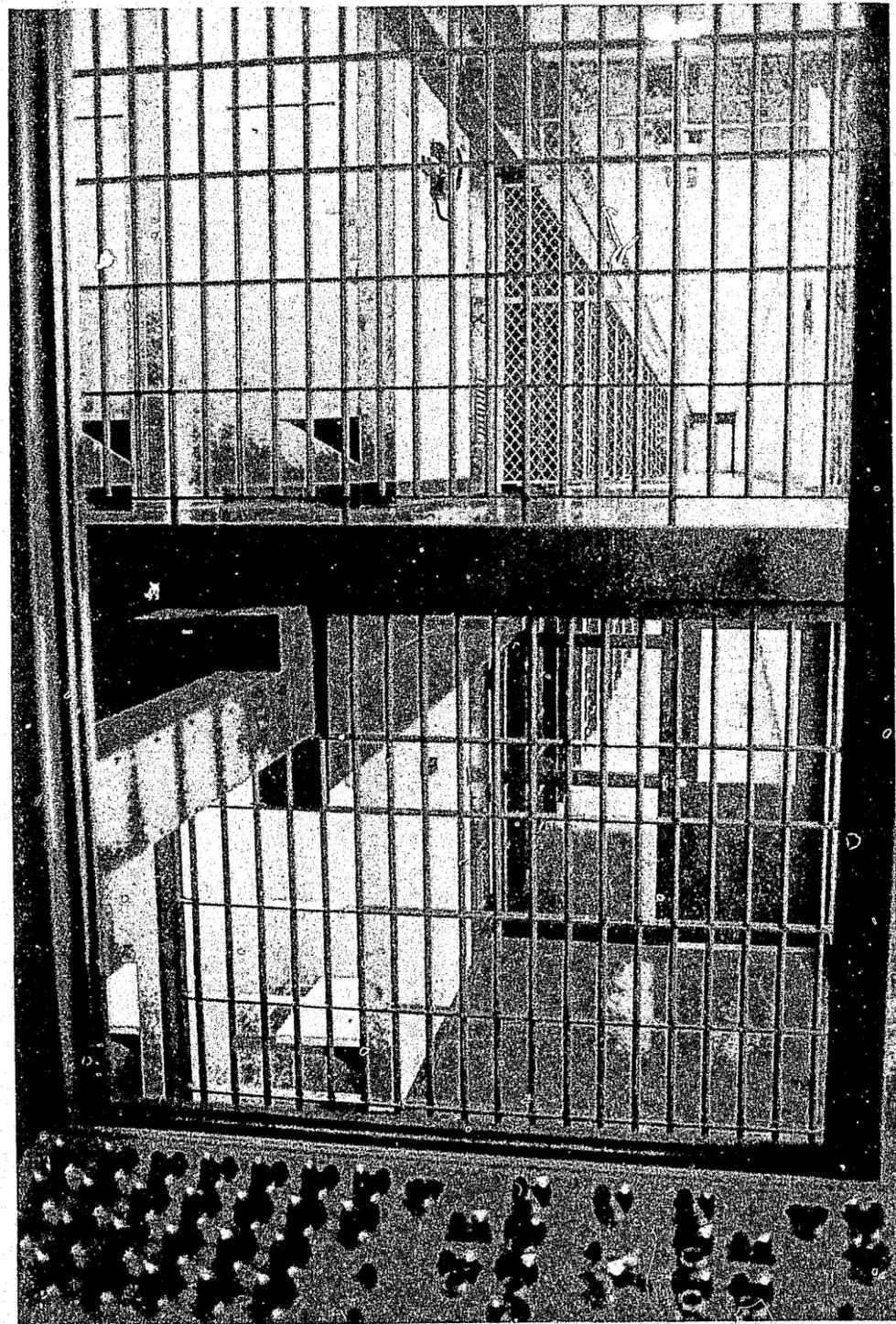


Part of the Receiving Area where incoming prisoners are processed through Classification, Records, and Initial Intake Social Services.

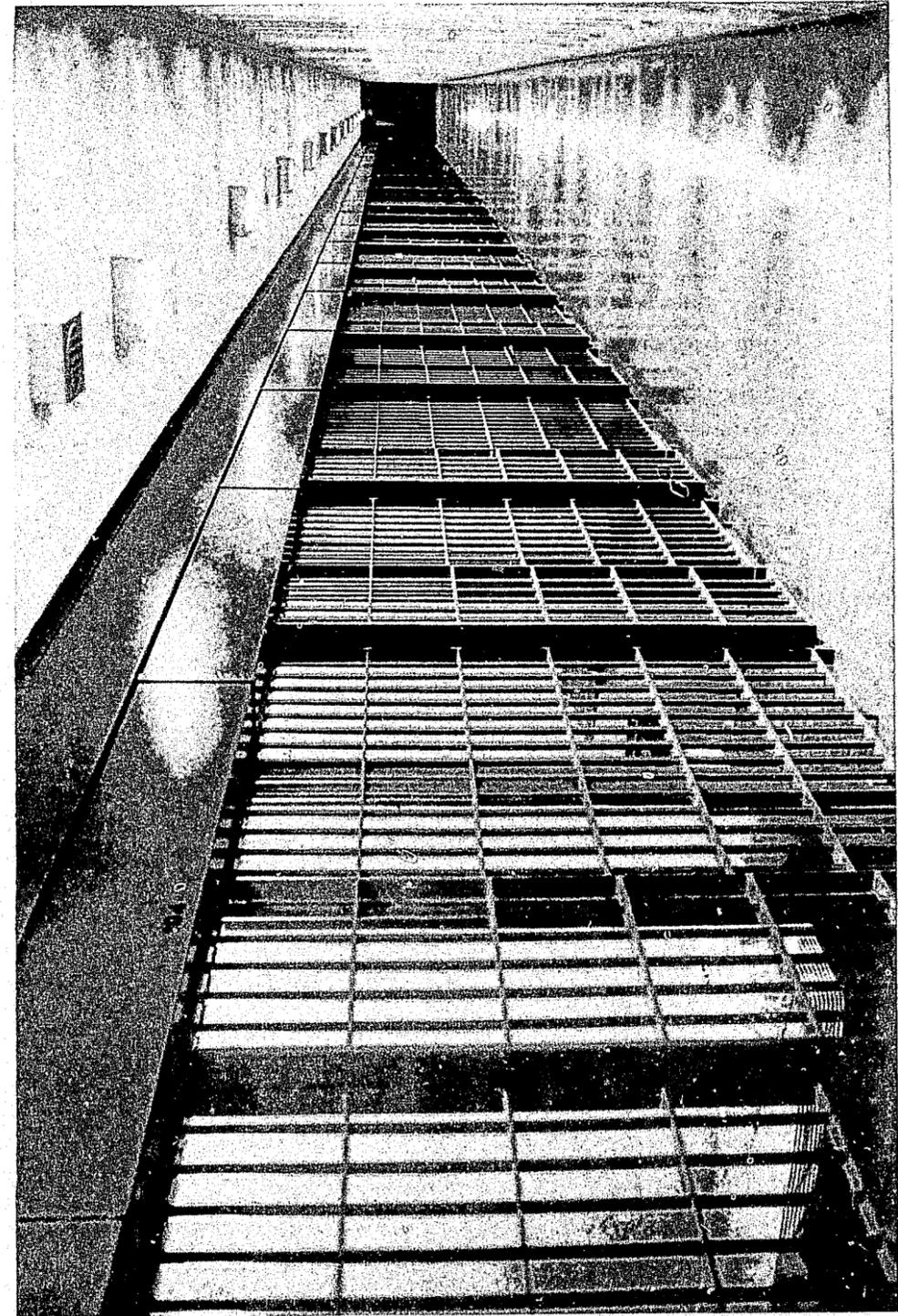


Looking into the County Detention Area where police departments from across the county can bring prisoners for an overnight lock-up.



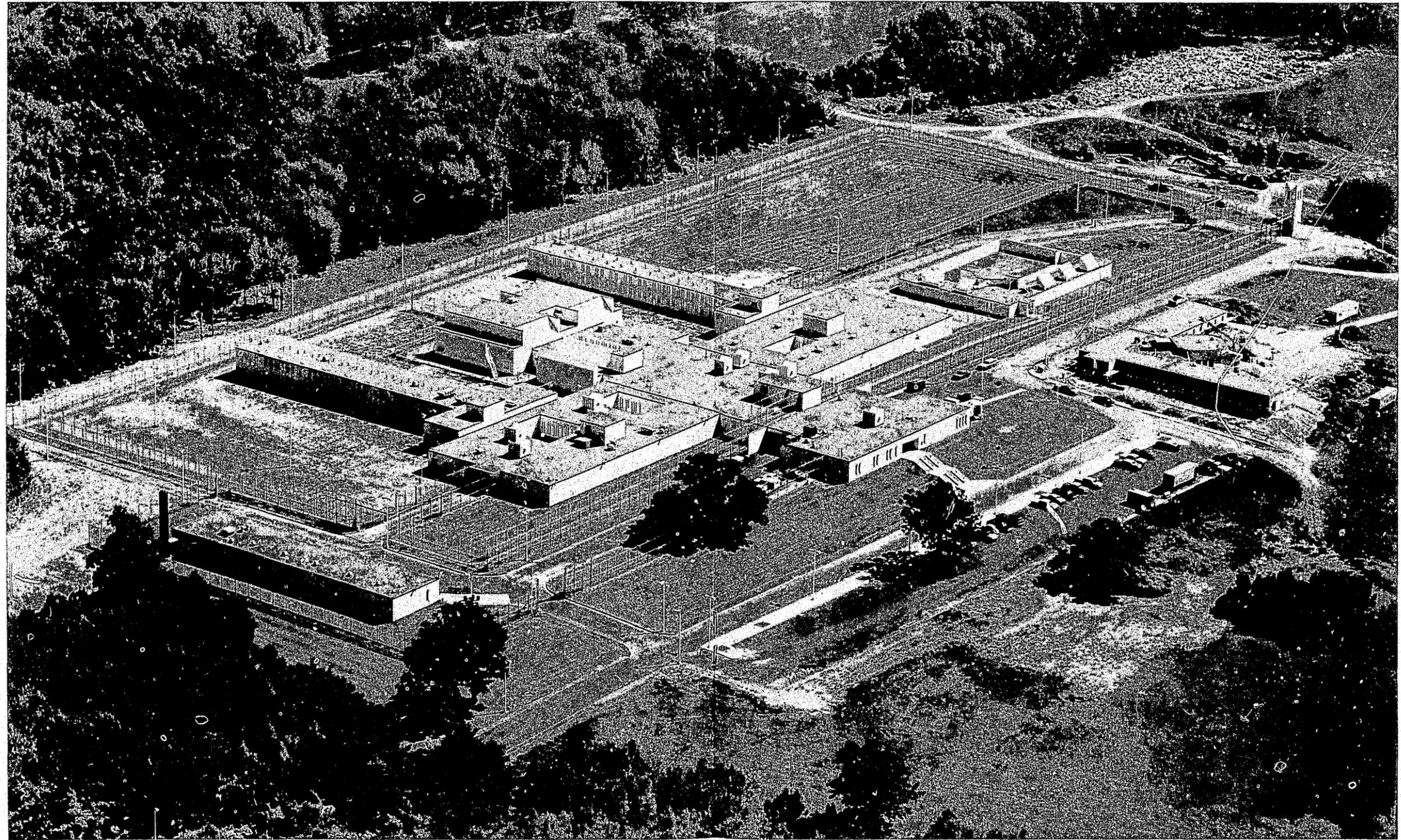


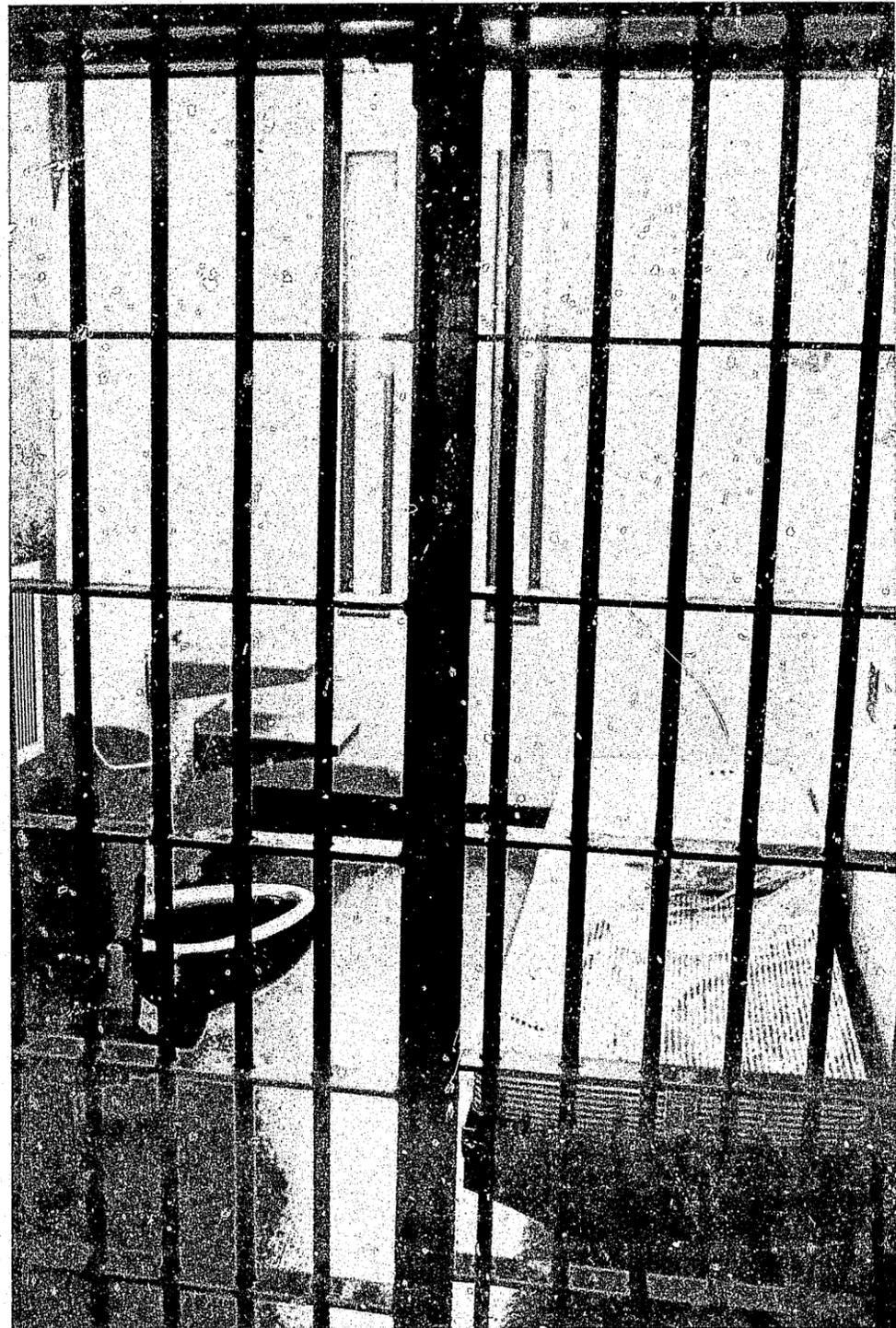
Looking across the control panel into the upper and lower levels on Maximum Security. Each level has its own shower area and day room and may be sealed off from other sections for the housing of various types of prisoners.



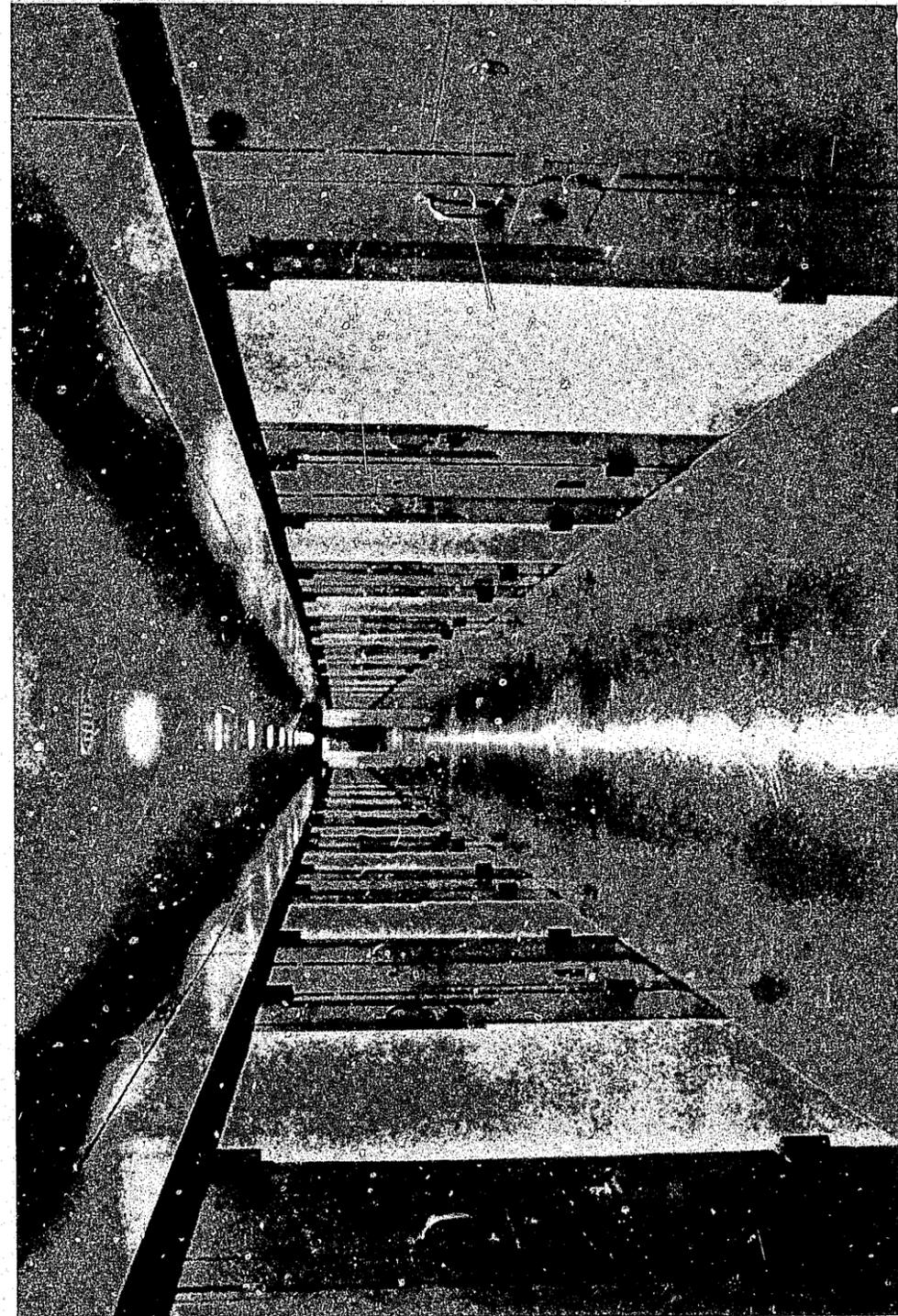
One of the Maximum Security Sections for men with its well lighted corridor and electrically controlled doors.







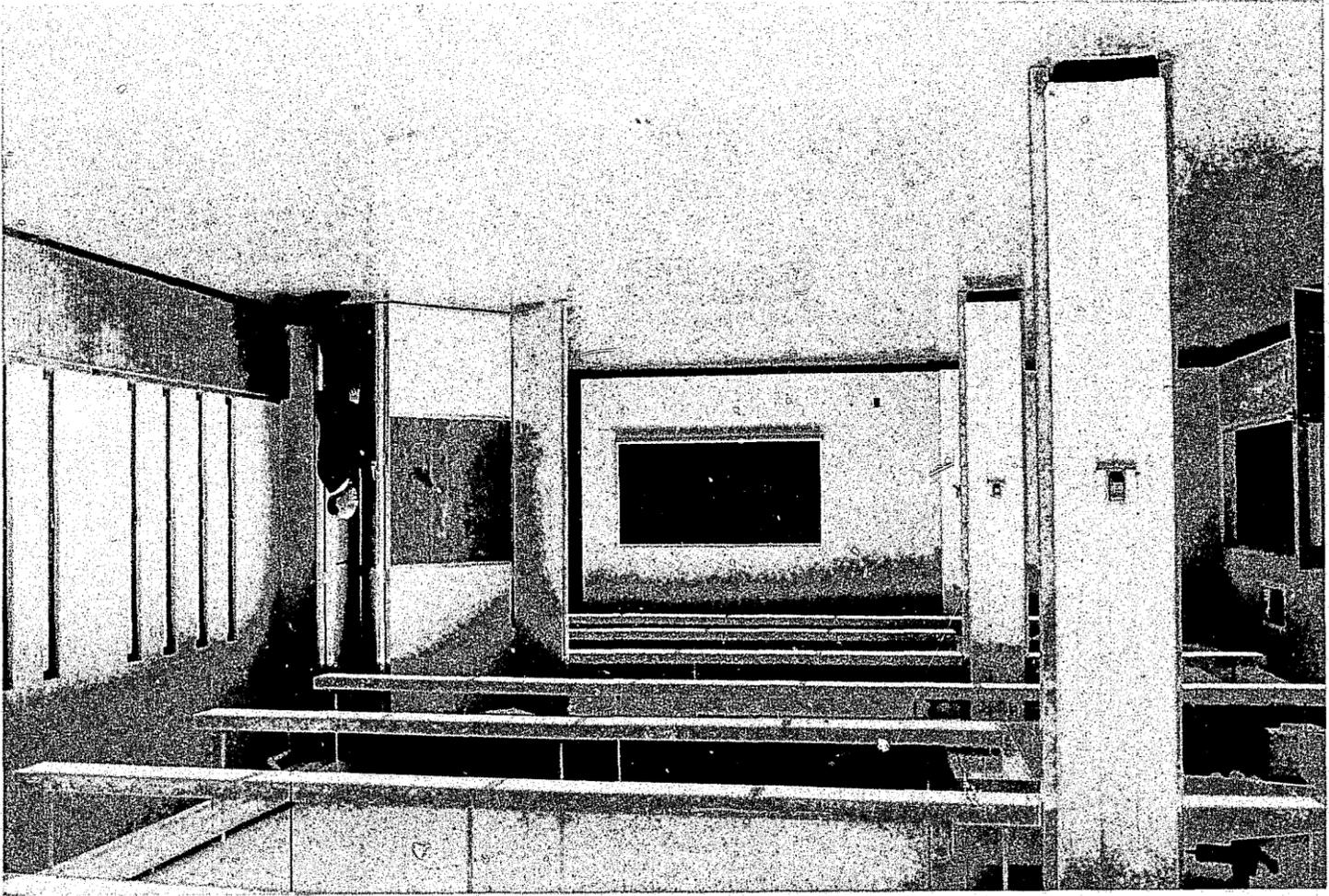
Each cell in Maximum and Minimum Security for men is complete with toilet, wash basin, mirror, writing table and seat, utility and reading light, bed, foot locker, clothes rack and 4-channel radio with ear plug for individual listening.



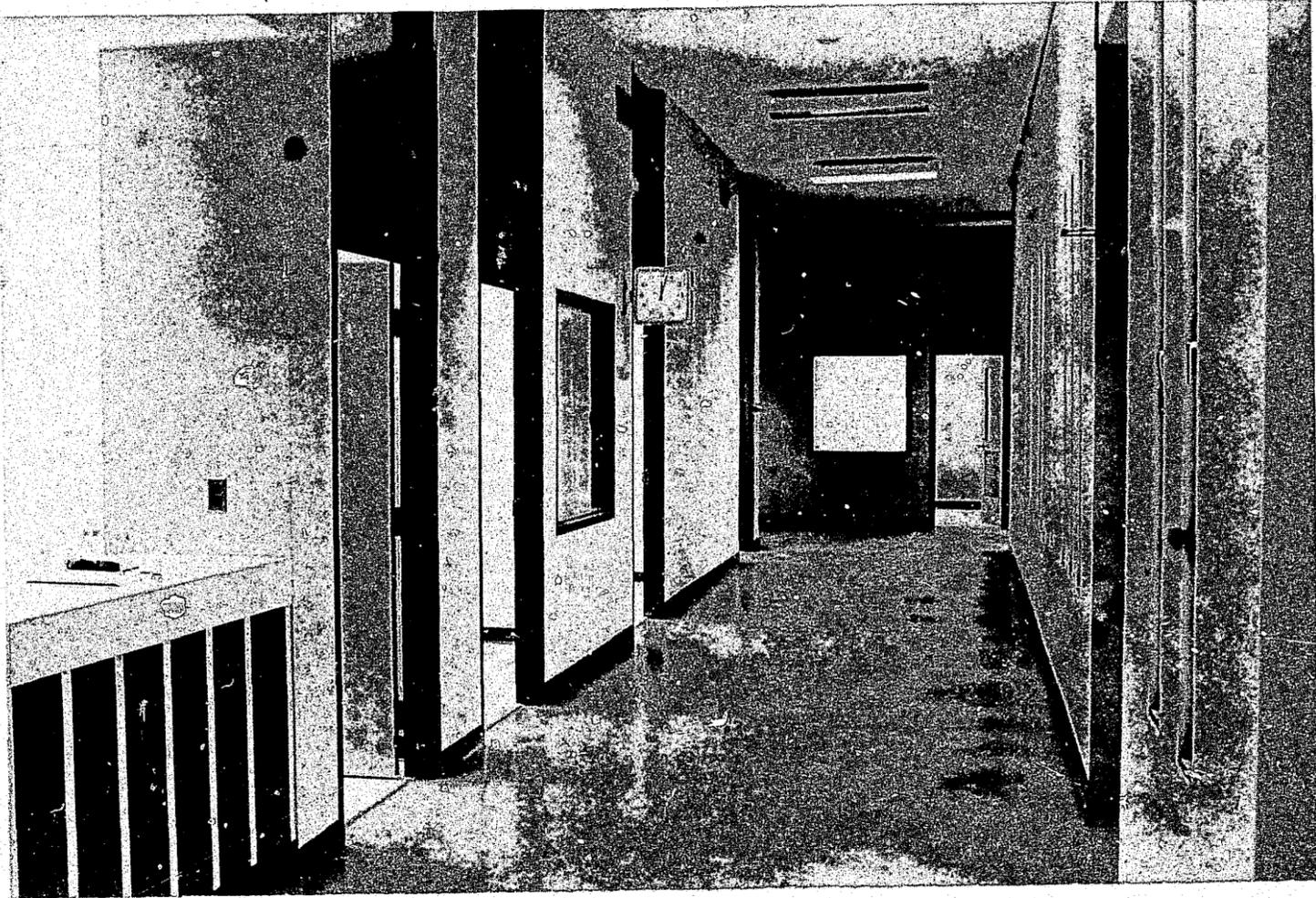
A view of the Minimum Security Section for men with its fireproof doors. Prisoners housed in this area will have their own keys to their cells.

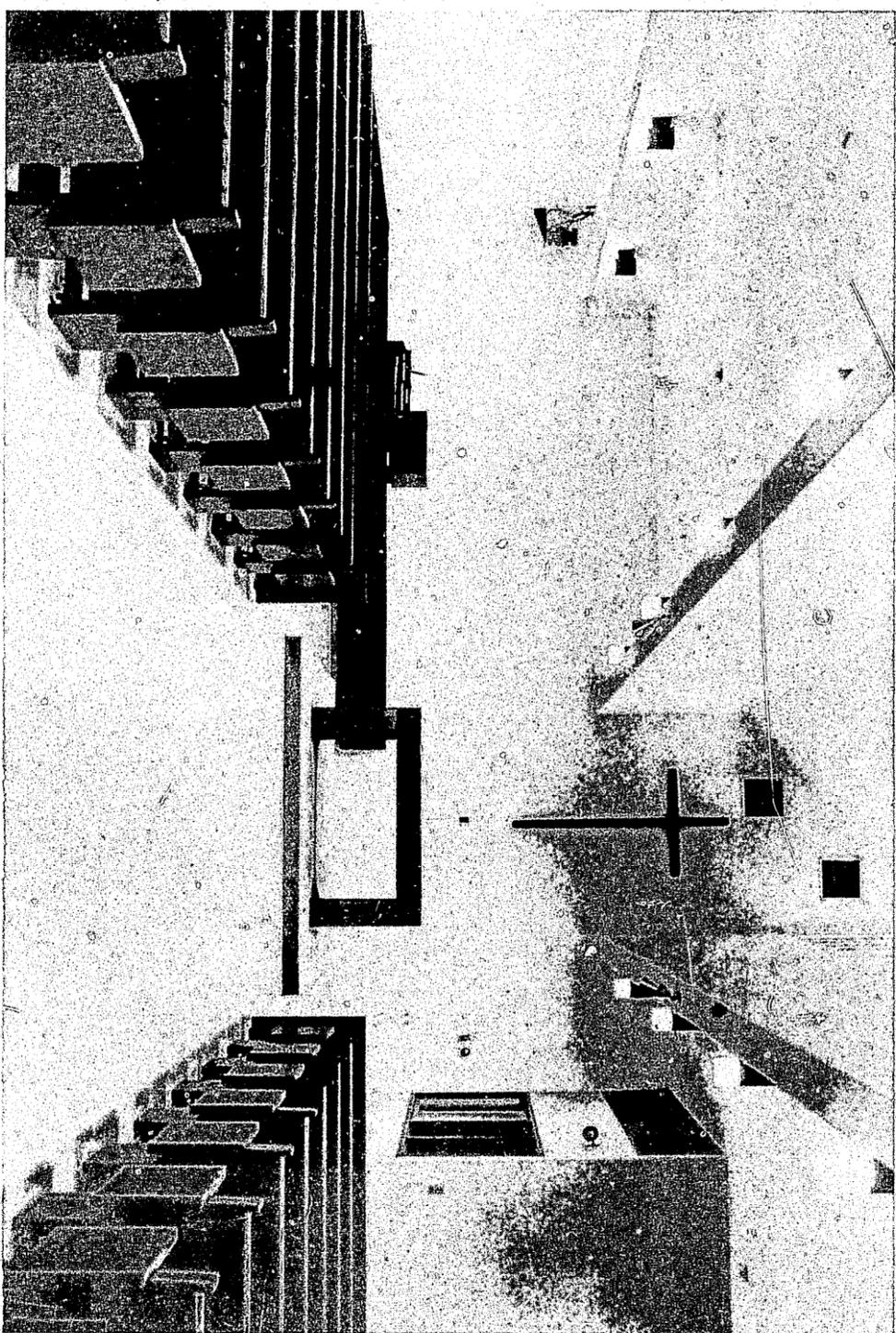


A view of a modular classroom with Sheriff Smith standing by one of the sliding partitions which divide this larger room into several smaller classrooms for small group instruction.

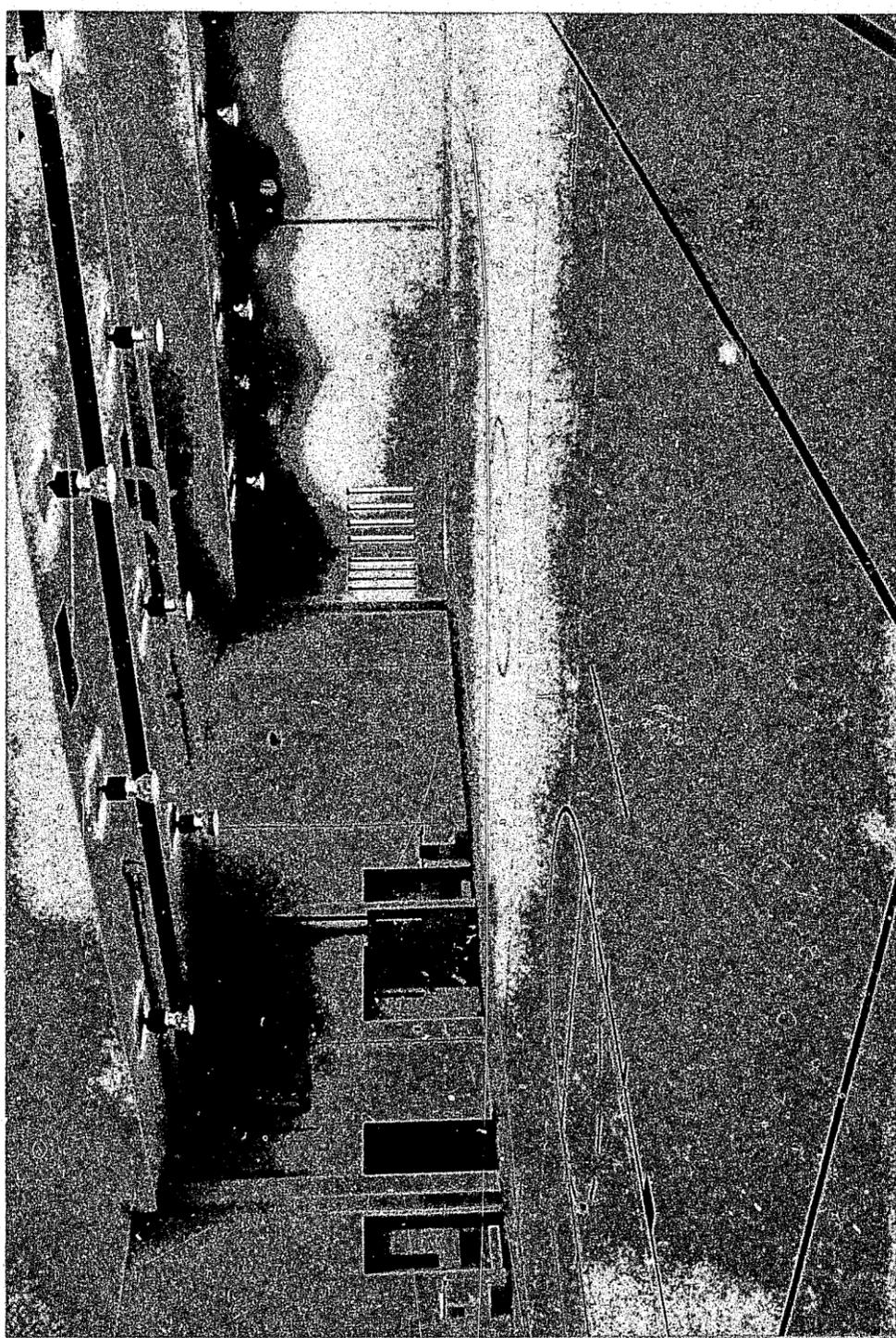


A view of the Social Services Department showing a few of the many counseling rooms for the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commissions, referral project, alcohol and drug therapy, psychological and psychiatric evaluation and counseling, and vocational evaluation and placement.



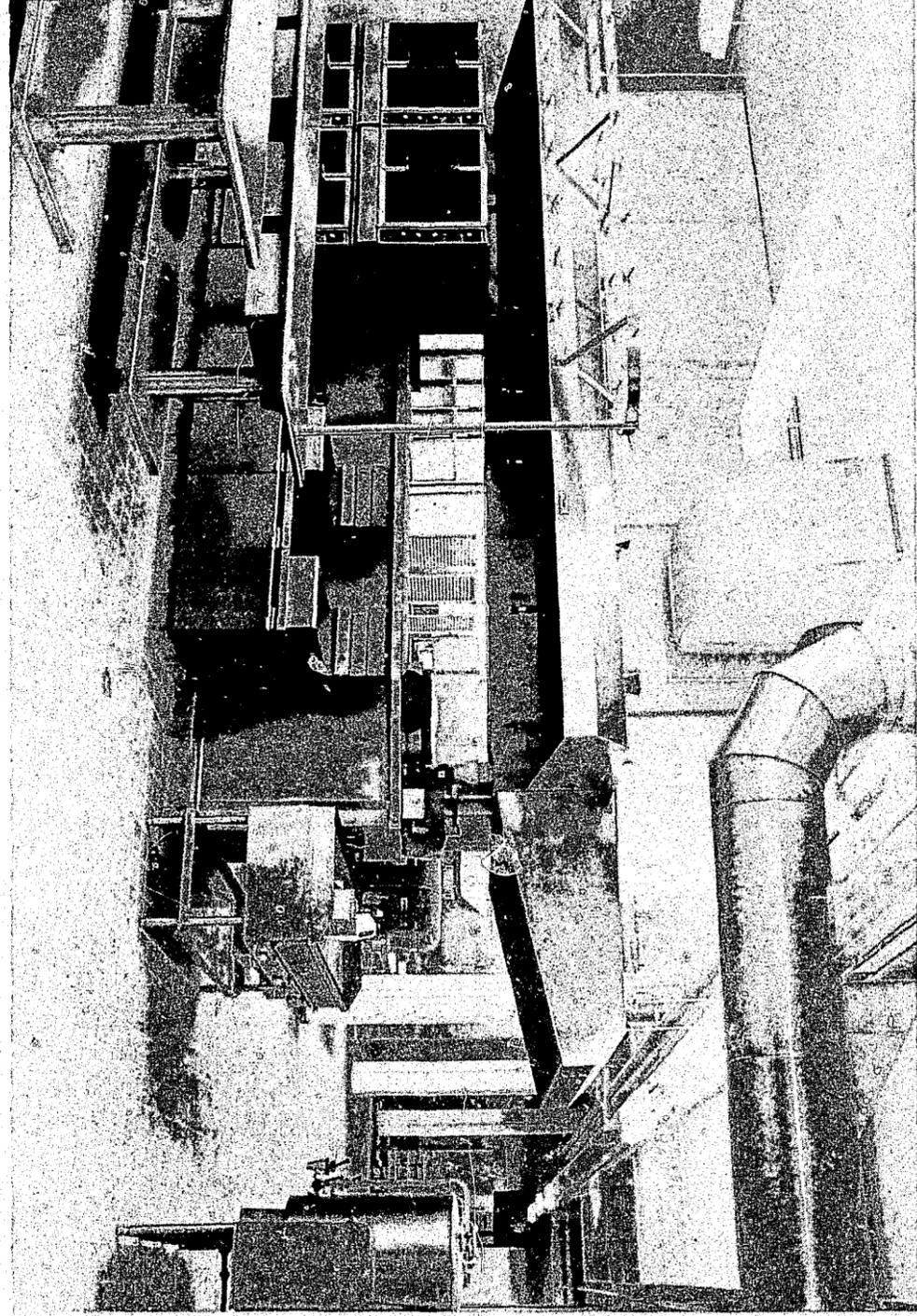


The modernistic non-denominational chapel will be used for weekly religious services and special large meetings. The altar was specially designed from poured concrete. The organ is a versatile instrument easily adapted to both sacred and modern music.

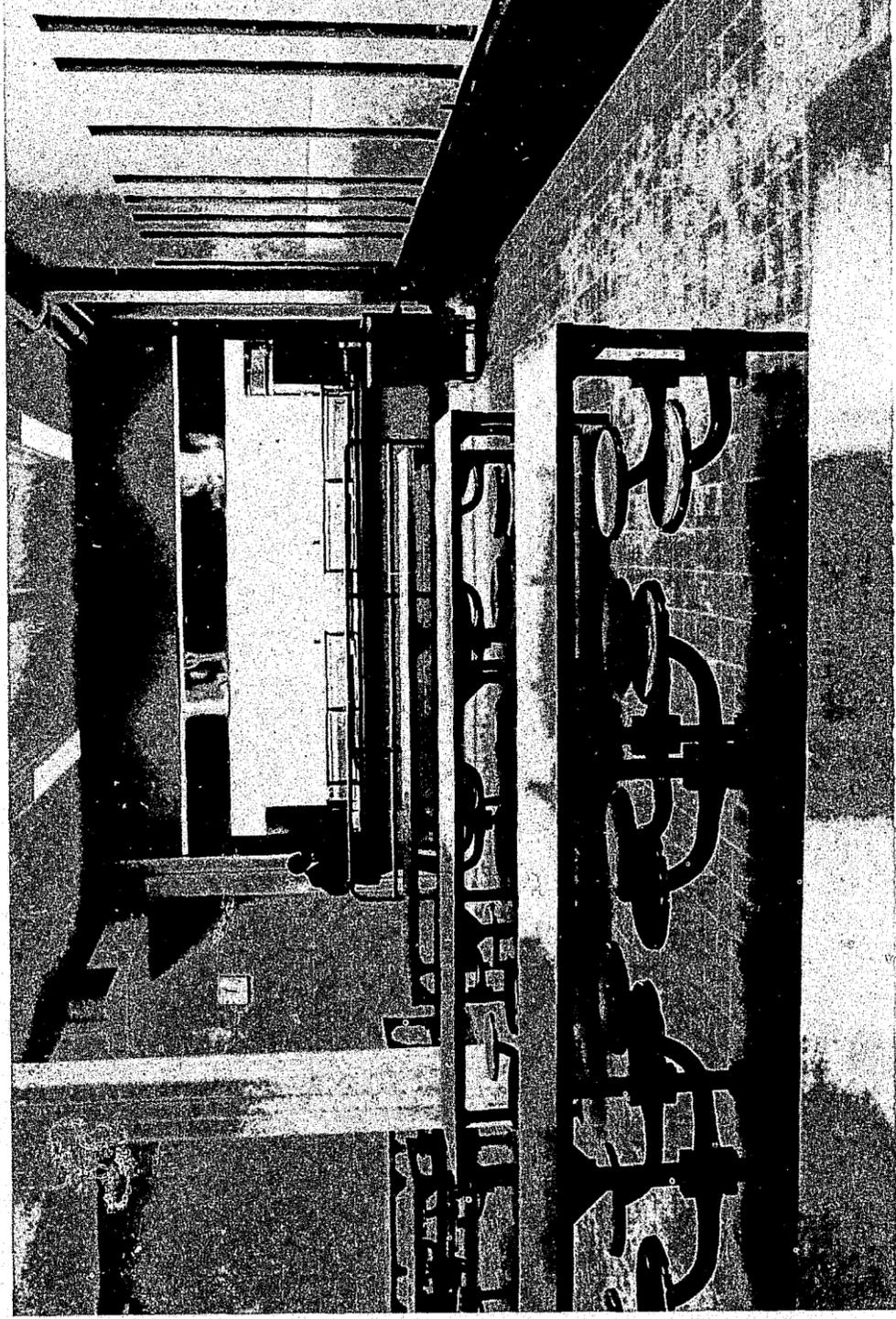


The gymnasium can be divided for special activities and sports including basketball, volleyball, tennis and gymnastics.



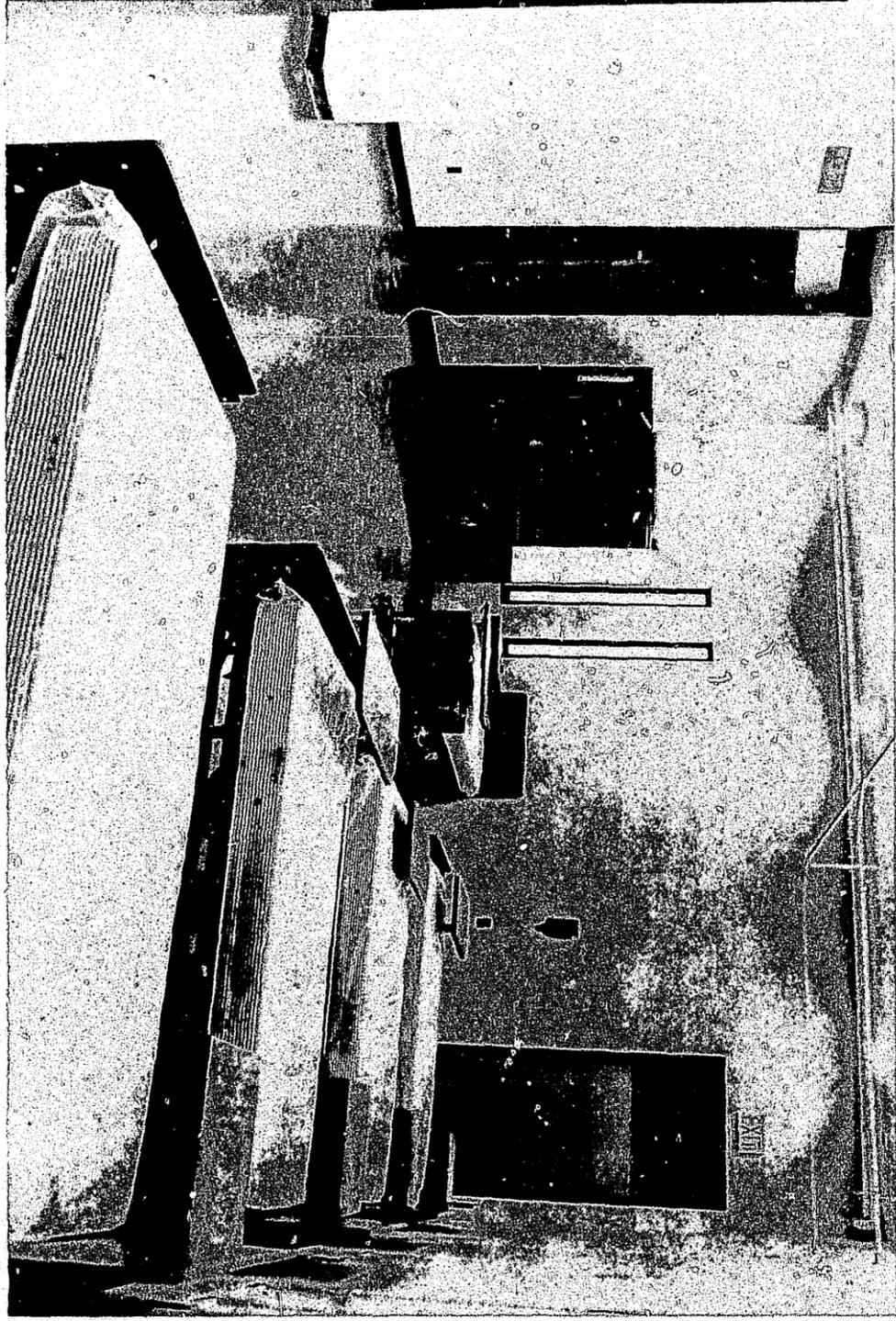


Part of the kitchen area with its stainless steel counters, hoods, and the latest in food service equipment.

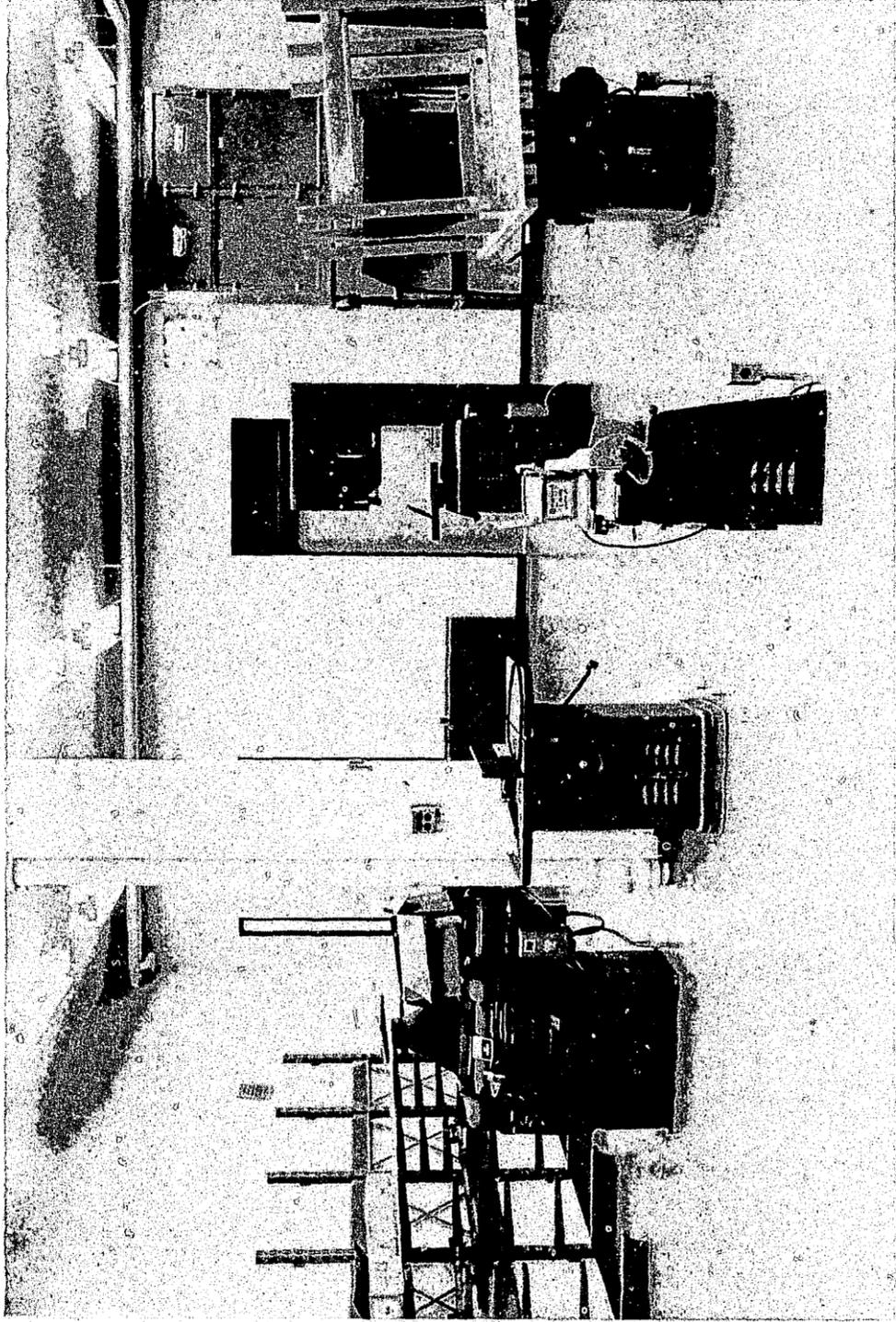


One of the two main dining areas, each with its serving area and supply stations.





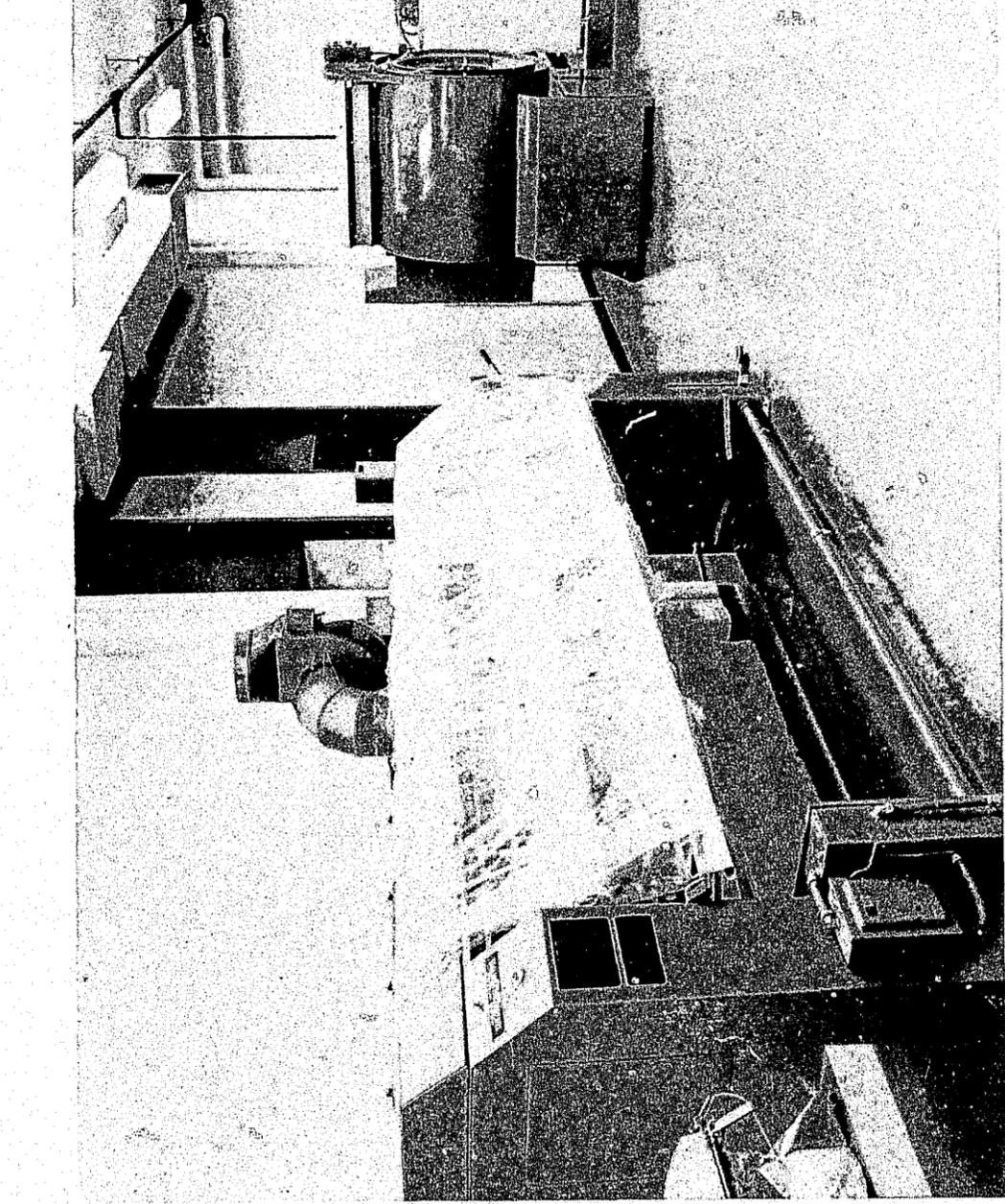
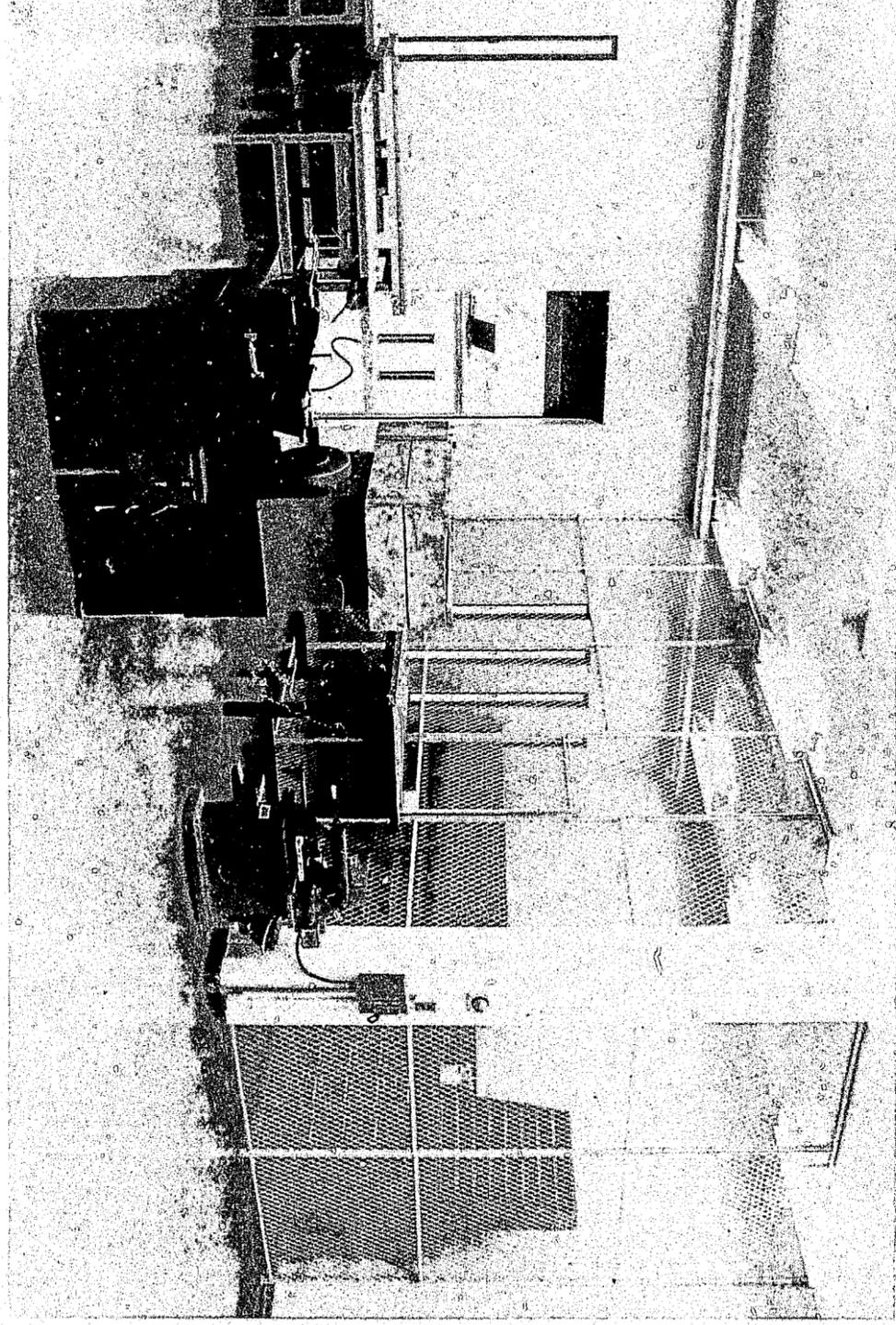
The Infirmary complex will include seven beds, examining rooms for both doctor and dentist and a small laboratory for x-ray development.



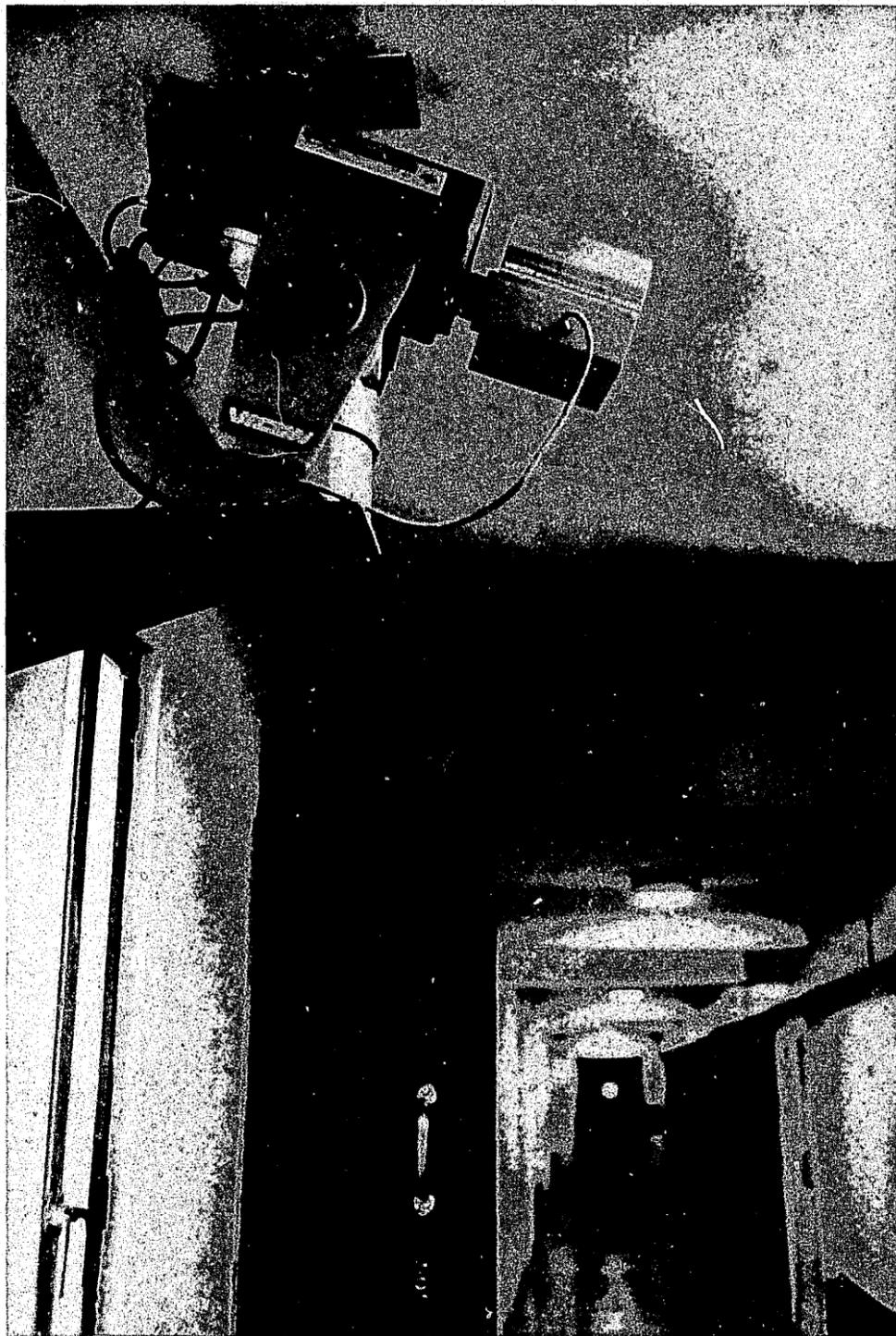
Some of the equipment in the Carpentry Shop seen here will be used to train young men for a career in woodworking and rough and finished carpentry.



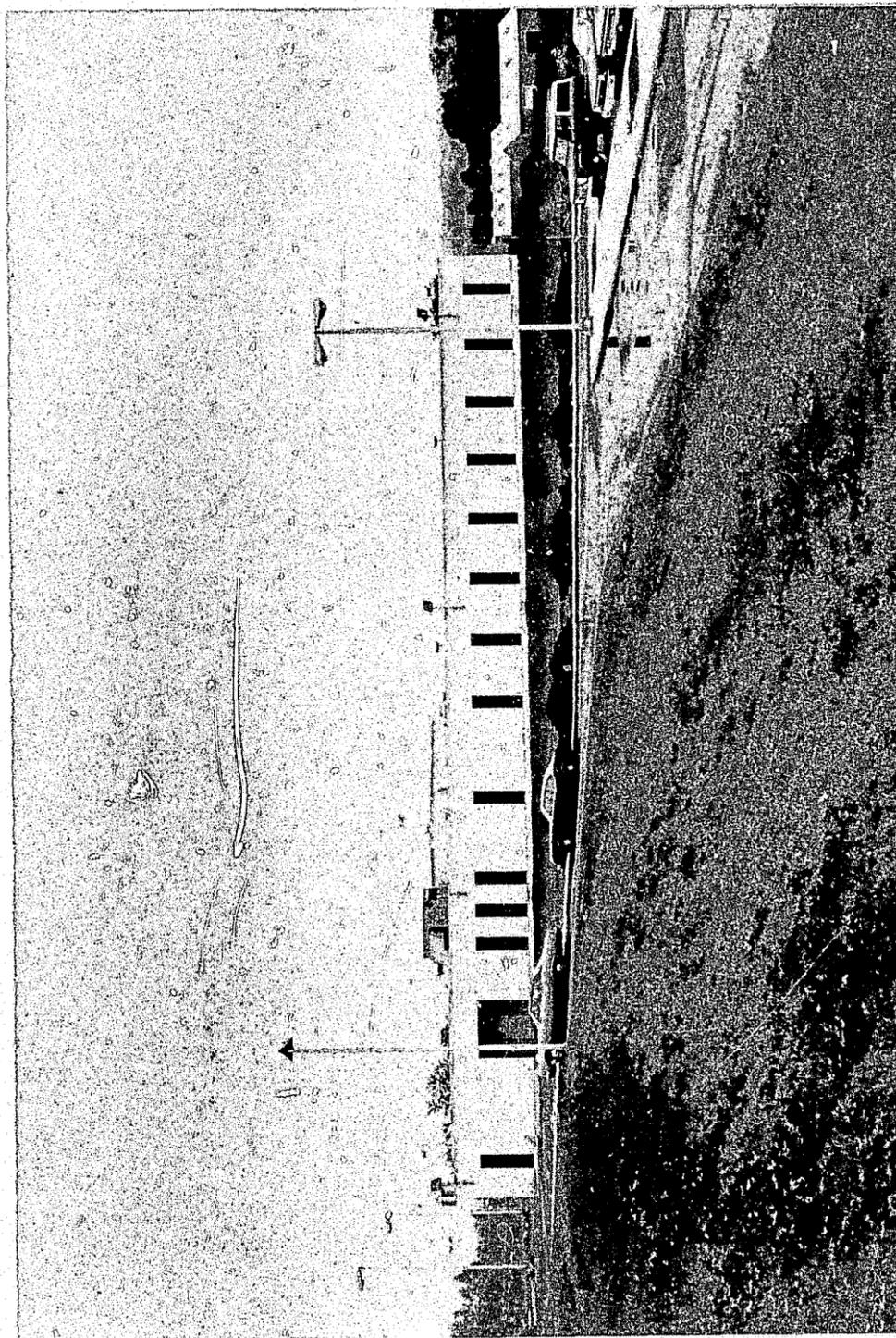
Some of the equipment in the modern Machine Shop, just part of the Vocational Training Section's shop facilities.



The laundry area showing the huge flatwork presses and washers and dryers. When fully operational this facility will supply fresh linen to everyone twice a week and clean clothes daily.

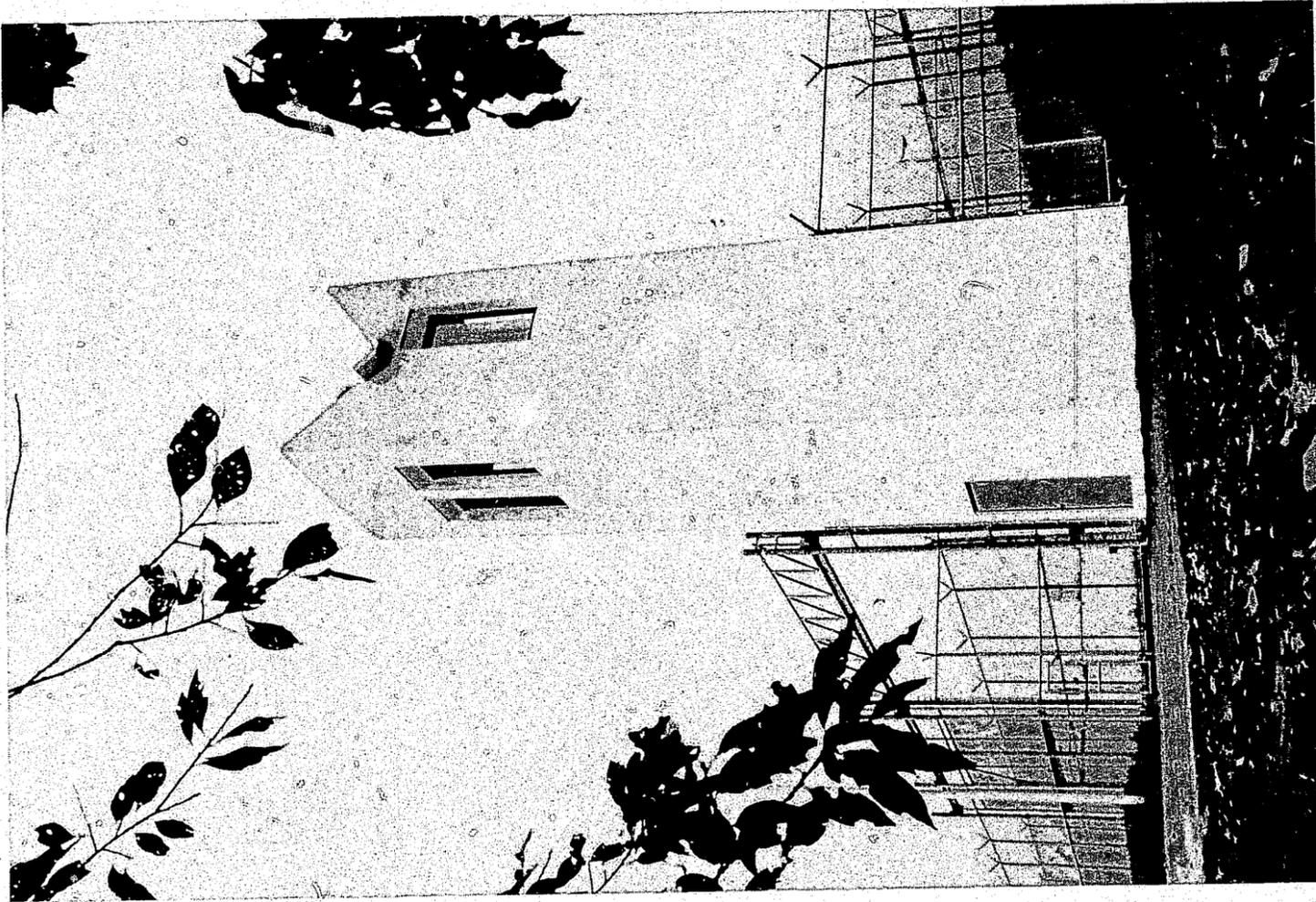


The remote controlled closed circuit TV camera, one of many placed strategically throughout the buildings and grounds. Monitors are located in Central Control and the Sheriff's office.

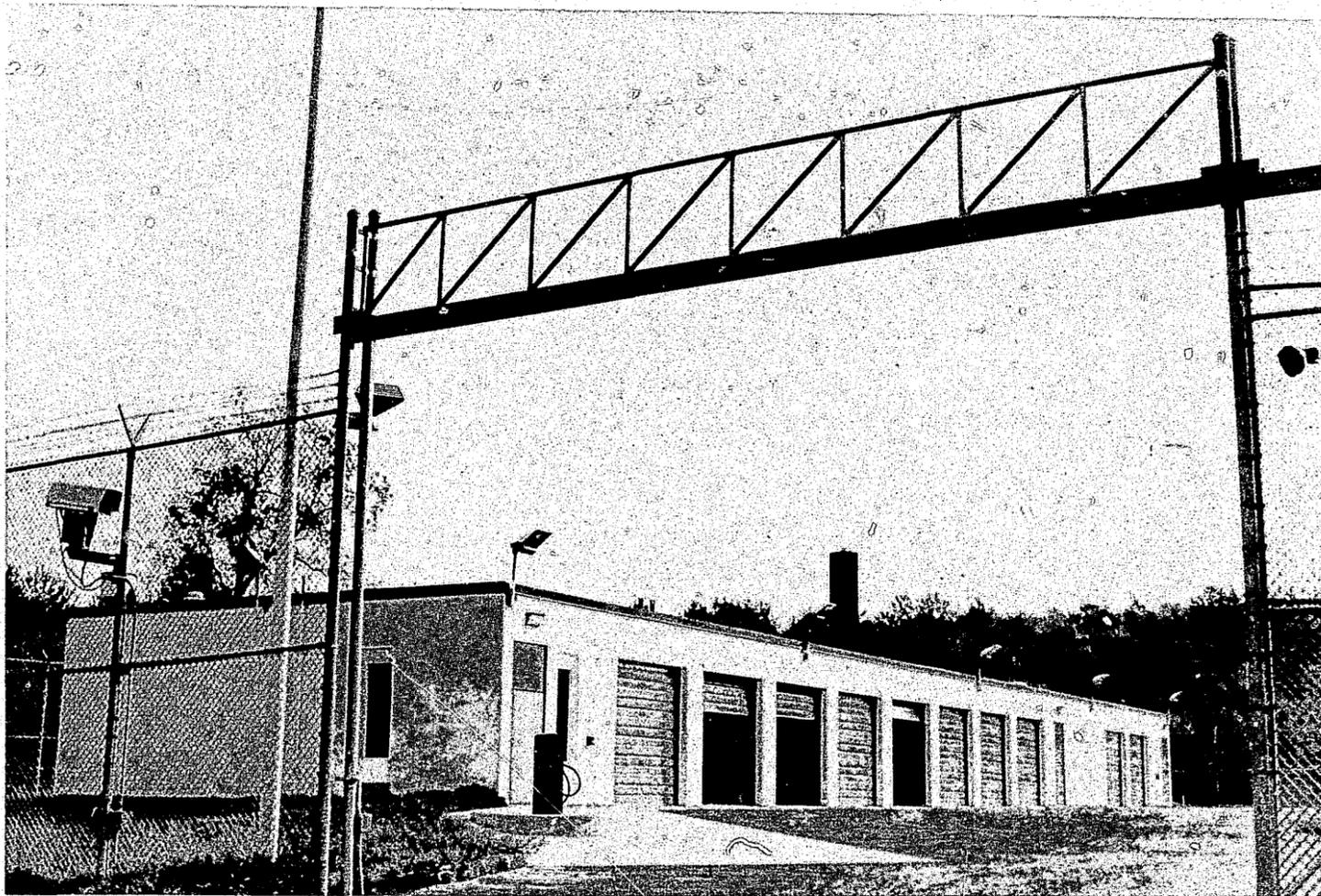


View of the Work Release Building as seen from the front steps of the Administration Wing.





A view of the guard tower located at the extreme south side of the main compound.



The Transportation and Vehicle Depot situated on the north boundary of the outer compound. Here vehicles will be serviced in a modern auto repair shop with the last two bays used as a training center for a Federally funded Auto Mechanic's course.

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