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# PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Last year more than 15 million Americans visited Washington. At least five of them did not like what they found. They are the task force which did most of the work on this special issue about Washington, D.C.; Managing Editor Peter Blake, Senior Editors Donald Canty and David Carlson, Researcher Anne LeCrenier, and a former Associate Editor, Warren Cox (three of whom have been sometime residents of the District). Together or separately they held some 75 personal interviews with presidential advisers, district commissioners, agency heads, architects, economists, businessmen, sociologists—and a few highly vocal cab drivers. Their findings are on pages 43-106.

Renewal, planning, and the business and Negro communities were probed by Senior Editor Carlson, who also played a major role in FORUM's special issue on Chicago (May '62).



The city's power structure and its resulting architecture were covered by the newest member of the staff, Senior Editor Donald Canty (photo above). A native Californian (University of Santa Clara, '50), Canty took his master's degree in journalism at Northwestern University, later became editor of *Western Architect and Engineer* (where he took on both Sacramento, in a fight to get



the state to use private architects, and San Francisco, in a special issue not unlike this one on Washington). Most recently he was Director of Public Information of the American Institute of Architects, headquartered in the capital.

Keeping an eye on the capital is a major responsibility of Associate Editor Richard Saunders (photo above), who is permanently based in Washington. Since FDR's first administration, Saunders has worked 12 months a year taking the national pulse on Capitol Hill. He has covered countless building developments under four Presidents, 28 sessions of Congress, and various changing government activities, from the Subsistence Homestead Division of NRA in 1934 to the antibiotics housing order late in 1962.

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In forthcoming issues, FORUM will continue one of its most asked-for features: the listing of the 100 biggest U.S. architectural firms, contractors, and corporate clients. Several thousand firms will receive a questionnaire about the amount of building volume they did in 1962, including all whose volume is believed to have exceeded \$5 million. If your firm qualifies but has not appeared in previous tabulations, please drop us a note to make sure you are included on the list. —J.C.H., JR.

# SPECIAL ISSUE: WASHINGTON, D.C.

43

*A capital city with a mess of problems—and challenges*

# HOW WASHINGTON IS RUN

49

*The tangle of men, agencies, and special interests*

# THE MONUMENTAL CITY

57

*Federal architecture, and its decades of bleak mistakes*

*Architect Paul Rudolph suggests an approach to civic design*

64

*Forgotten architecture: some rich buildings of yesteryear*

71

# THE OTHER CITY

79

*Washington's big Negro majority searches for its role*

81

*The new Southwest: best urban renewal job in the nation*

84

*Off the beaten track—parks, plazas, pleasant walks*

92

*Commercial Washington: downtown tries a comeback*

96

# THE FUTURE CITY

101

*Explosive growth calls for new leadership and new plans*

103

5	NEWS	Cover:	Washington, D.C., embroidered pillow, designed for FORUM by Ray Komai.
19	LETTERS	19	Editorial, subscription, and advertising data.
27	PROJECTS	134	Advertising index.
33	PRODUCTS		Published monthly by TIME INC. Time and Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N.Y. This issue is published in national and separate editions. Additional pages of separate editions numbered or allowed for as follows: Western edition: W1-W6. Entered as second-class matter at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Subscription price \$7.00 a year. © 1962 TIME INC. All rights reserved. Member, Audit Bureau of Circulations and Associated Business Publications.
39	FURNISHINGS		
121	BOOKS		
130	ABROAD		