

## New embassy in China

Construction plans for Canada's new embassy in China are expected to be discussed further this summer by delegations from Canada and China.

The new embassy complex will be built on a one-hectare site, which will include a main chancery of offices, an ambassador's residence, ten Canadian-style townhouses for embassy staff, tennis courts, an outdoor swimming pool and a recreation centre. The complex has been designed to Canadian standards by a Toronto firm, Dubois Plumb and Associates, but it will be built by the Chinese.

Since opening an embassy in China in 1970, Canada has been renting space in a building designed and built by the Chinese in the San Li T'un diplomatic compound.

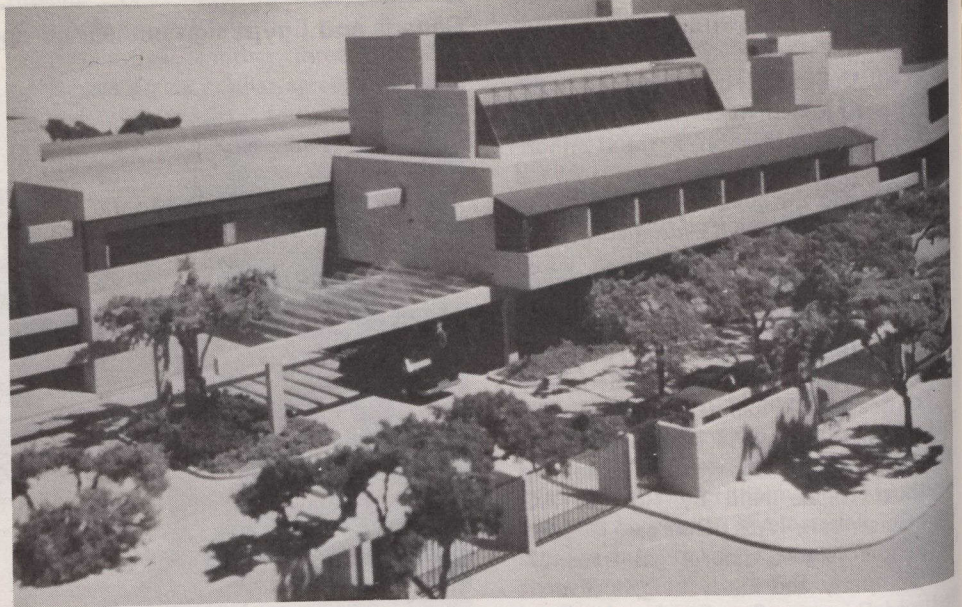
The different approaches to design and construction of the two countries have already resulted in discussions which have proved beneficial to the project.

The major challenge in designing the complex was to mesh Chinese workmanship and materials with Canadian technology.

Both sides have explained the advantages and disadvantages of the traditional ways of construction and the two groups have had the opportunity to select the most advantageous.

### Architects visit Canada

A delegation of Chinese architects and engineers visited Canada to familiarize

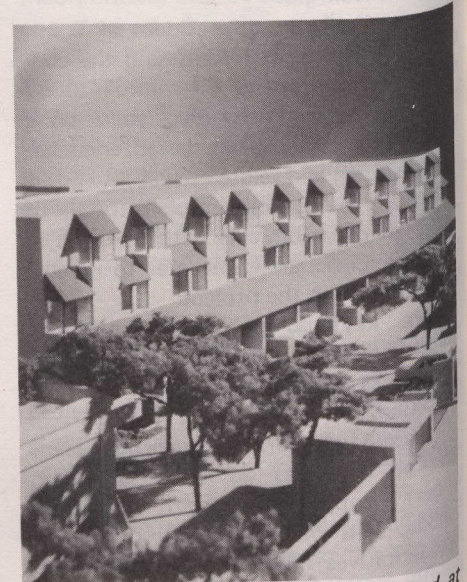


Model shows the front of Canada's new embassy in China.

themselves with Canadian technology and discuss the final working drawings. The Canadian architects have made two trips to China to determine what materials would be available and how Chinese construction methods differ.

The project will rely on pre-cast concrete and bricks from China for the basic frame of the buildings. Because the complex will be located in an earthquake zone, the architects are also integrating Chinese methods of construction which will allow the walls to tolerate minor shifts.

Windows, door knobs, plumbing fixtures, locks and hinges will be imported



Canadian staff residences are located at the rear of the new embassy.



A view of recreation facilities including tennis courts and swimming pool (upper left).

from Canada, as will the mechanical and electrical equipment. The embassy will meet Canadian standards for insulation, although the Chinese building code does not require the material.

The chancery will also have solar panels advocated by the federal government to cut down on conventional energy requirements.

The design is intended to express the Canadian identity without conflicting with Chinese traditions.

The Canadian design has been approved by the Peking planning department. Construction of the embassy complex marks the first time Canadian and Chinese technology has come together in a project in China.