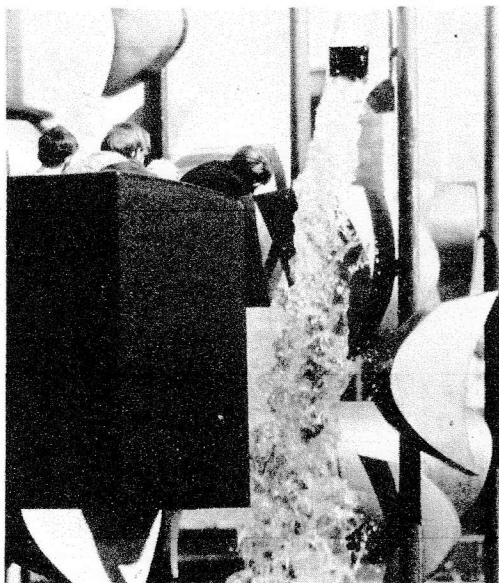


size, all worked out mathematically, cascade at intervals into a large black-tiled tank. A witty *trompe l'oeil* holds children fascinated for hours. Just what a fountain should do! Let the inventor describe it. "What is it? What is it meant to be?" the woman asked. She was one of those who was outraged by the sight of an unfamiliar image; anything that cannot be recognised by its label in the catalogue. Had I said "fountain", she would have exploded, but I said "waterfall", which caught her off-guard and, while her thoughts were momentarily switched to Bettws-y-Coed and Niagara, she could not help being dimly aware that the word "waterfall" had some kind of relevance to the spectacle of falling water at which she was staring. It is a waterfall of a strange new kind which instead of streaming steadily hurtles down unexpectedly in detached lumps in all directions. The sight and sound of waterspouts and water-



140

falls is so spell-binding that they have always been centres of attraction in the landscape and, in the places where we live and work, where they seldom occur naturally, we are prompted to create them artificially in the form of ascending jets or sprays and in the form of descending cascades. Their perpetual bubbling, however, tends to pall after a while and to make it more exciting we contrive various means of providing added animation, such as changing sequences and coloured lighting, or jets and sprays which rise and fall or twist and whirl. Our waterfall is yet another such contrivance; it was conceived as yet another way of adding animation and excitement, but unlike the former expedients it does not depend on elaborate hydraulics or complicated controls; it depends only on a very simple device which interrupts the regular flow so as to create a round of action, the sound and movement of which is no longer that of the monotonous ever-bubbling river, but that of the restless temperamental sea. There are 20 cascading cups and water enters them through holes in concealed branch pipes which serve also as bearing shafts or axles. The number and size of the holes is different for each cup so as to vary the rate of filling and timing of the cascades. The spent cascades mingle with the reserve water in the pool, from which a pump draws the required amount to replenish the pipes so that water does in fact flow continuously in a circuit.'

178

ST. JOHN'S PRECINCT Phase I: 1966-9
Clayton Square to Lime Street

Architect: James L. Roberts

On a 6-acre site, Ravenscroft Properties are rebuilding the old St. John's retail market and providing shops on two levels, a 160-bed hotel, a ballroom for 2,000 and a car-park for 500 cars. St. John's Beacon, really a chimney disguised as a revolving restaurant, hovers 400 ft. above



178

the pavement, a land-ma-
city and a platform which
cent views. It is to be the
mast.

179

SERENSEN HOUSE

Calder Point

*Architects: Derek Walker
Group*

This was one of the war
Architectural Design Pr
Of the building, the ju
home, lovingly worked o
concerned to make out
and symmetrical form t
play... it's jazz!

180

CONCOURSE HOUSE

Lime Street

Architects: R. Seifert &