



## Separate, But Functional

### **Metro-Dade Police Department Headquarters Complex Miami, Florida**

**Architect:** The Smith Korach Hayet Haynie Partnership  
Miami, Florida

**Partner-in-Charge:** Avinash Gupta, AIA

**Project Managers:** Henry C. Alexander, AIA, Ronald Gee, AIA

**Design Architect:** Claudio J. Noriega, AIA

**Interior Design:** Joetta Umia, IBD

**Project Team:** Subhash Jethi, AIA, Alex Rodriguez  
**Consulting Engineers:** The Smith Korach Hayet Haynie Partnership

**Landscape Architect:** O'Leary Design Associates, PA  
**General Contractor:** Stolte, Inc.

**Owner:** Metropolitan Dade County Dept. of Facilities Development Division

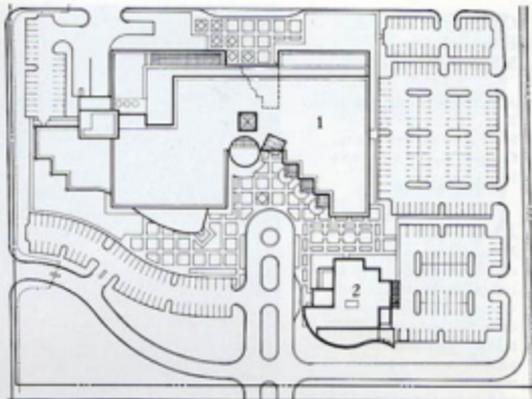
The Police Headquarters Building is one of four structures which comprises the Metropolitan Police Complex. In terms of character, it is the building which most strongly reflects the desired image of strength and permanence. The massing of the Headquarters Building is strongly indicative of the program requirements and limitations which strictly dictated departmental relationships and building heights and which departments were to be placed on which floor.

The exterior fabric of the Headquarters Building is coral stone, precast concrete and glass block, all of which convey an impression of durability. The functional relationship





Photos, opposite page top: South elevation at fountain. Below: Main entrance looking south. This page, top left: Second floor view of atrium. Below: Lobby and control desk facing main entrance. Photos by Carlos Domenech. Above: Site plan courtesy of the architect.



between the building's three stories creates the impression that the floors are independent of one another thereby imparting a dynamic character to the building's composition. In addition, the building utilizes classical elements such as free-standing columns, heavy cornices and symmetrical siting and then adapts these elements to a regional style through the use of recessed windows, cream colors and terracotta tile.

The basic programmatic requirement for the project was to design a facility that would bring together all of the functions of a metropolitan police department along with their corresponding operations. The architect's design studies led them to establish a complex of four buildings with associated parking. Total square footage in the complex is 315,705 square feet with an \$81 per-square-foot construction cost. In addition to the Headquarter's Building with its 233,294 square feet of office space, there is a 20,901-square-foot

district station, a 54,526-square-foot warehouse facility and a vehicle maintenance building, all of which is situated on a 24-acre site.

The location of the four structures on the site was planned to facilitate the separation of the different activities needed for security and operational efficiency.

The Headquarter's Building and the District Station are located near the main approach streets with direct access to designated visitor parking areas. The Warehouse Facility and the Vehicle Maintenance Building are located away from major public circulation areas. Although the buildings have been planned to meet the department's requirements through 1997, the site design was conceived with the intention of permitting future building expansion beyond that time. Parking expansion will also be possible through decking of the main parking area north of the Headquarter's Building.