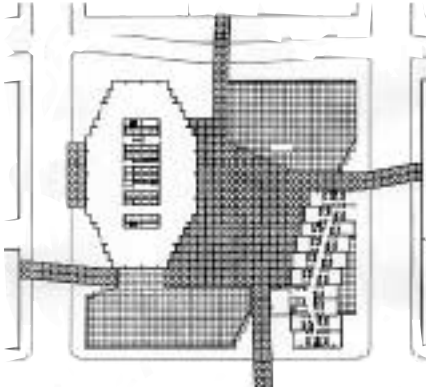


IDS CENTER

Minneapolis, Minnesota

PHILIP JOHNSON • ALAN RITCHIE
A R C H I T E C T S



IDS Center is an early example of the firm's work in skyscrapers. The design of the building is a clear break with the Miesian tradition. As opposed to the Seagram Building in New York, here the glass box moves beyond the traditional rectangular form.

The project's central feature is the Crystal Court -- an urban public square. This is formed by the placement of buildings -- a 51-story office tower, an 18-story hotel and a 2-story retail structure along the edge of a city block in downtown Minneapolis. The advantage is a double exposure for tenants. Buildings look out on the city and look in on the court, which is home to a variety of activities. The climate of Minneapolis makes this solution particularly welcome. Outside of one's building, yet enclosed from outdoor elements, the Crystal Court has become a landmark location.



Client: Proteus Realty
Completion date: 1973
Area: 2,900,000 sq. ft.