



Peer Reviewed

Title:

State Office Building Chicago [Debate on the State of Illinois Center]

Journal Issue:

[Places, 3\(4\)](#)

Author:

[author, no](#)

Publication Date:

1987

Publication Info:

Places

Permalink:

<http://escholarship.org/uc/item/7mj9d8fc>

Acknowledgements:

This article was originally produced in Places Journal. To subscribe visit www.places-journal.org. For reprint information contact places@berkeley.edu.

Keywords:

urban, design, architecture, state, office, building, chicago

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State Office Building,
Chicago



I Atrium.

Photograph by James R. Steinkamp.

It's big, it's singular, it's bold, even brazen; it occupies a particular space in the grid of Chicago, challenges the limits of that geometry and taps onto the every-

day mercantile life that weaves through city streets. It may be seen as the apotheosis of the shopping mall, as a proud humbling of the bureaucracy, as a sensational(ist)



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landmark in the city. And, it was built for State Government. Whether the *Illinois State Office Building* is a place, of the place, or out of place is a matter of some debate. We have

asked the architect and five others (all teachers of architects and planners who teach, it turns out) to comment.

IA State Office Building, Chicago.
Photograph by James R. Steinkamp.