

TORONTO CITY HALL/Toronto, Canada

Competition 1958

Construction started 1961

Construction completed 1965

Viljo Revell, with John B. Parkin Associates

The decision to hold a competition for a new city hall was made in 1956, with Dr. Eric Arthur the professional adviser. A two-stage competition was decided upon, with an international jury: two Canadians, one Italian, one American, and one Englishman. Eight finalists were to be selected. The design included both the new city hall and a public square, occupying 12 acres all told. The eight finalists were to receive \$7500 each, the winner \$25,000 as an advance commission fee.

1500 architects, representing 42 countries, registered for the competition, and of these a record total of 525 submitted entries, a record since broken. An exhibit of the designs filled a 32,000-square-foot hall. The finalists were:

1. Viljo Revell (Finland)
2. David Horne (Canada)
3. Halldor Gunnlogsson and John Nielson (Denmark)
4. John Andrews with G. Macy Dubois, W. Byron Ireland, and William N. Morgan (USA)
5. Perkins and Will (USA)
6. Frank Mikutowski with Richard J. Rafferty, and George E. Rafferty (USA)
7. William B. Hayward with Joseph J. Wehrer and Harold J. Borkin (USA)
8. I. M. Pei (USA)

Viljo Revell was the winner. He came to Canada to undertake the commission, working with the Canadian firm of John B. Parkin Associates. A sculpture by Henry Moore, *The Archer*, was incorporated into the work.

The competition cost \$113,000. The original project budget was \$24.5 million. The final project cost was \$31 million, including the plaza. Thus, the competition cost less than 0.5% of both the construction budget (0.46%) and the final cost (0.36%). In the course of the work a \$900,000 cafeteria (2.9% of the final cost) was added to the program. The \$6.5 million difference between the estimated and final costs amounted to a 26.5% increase.

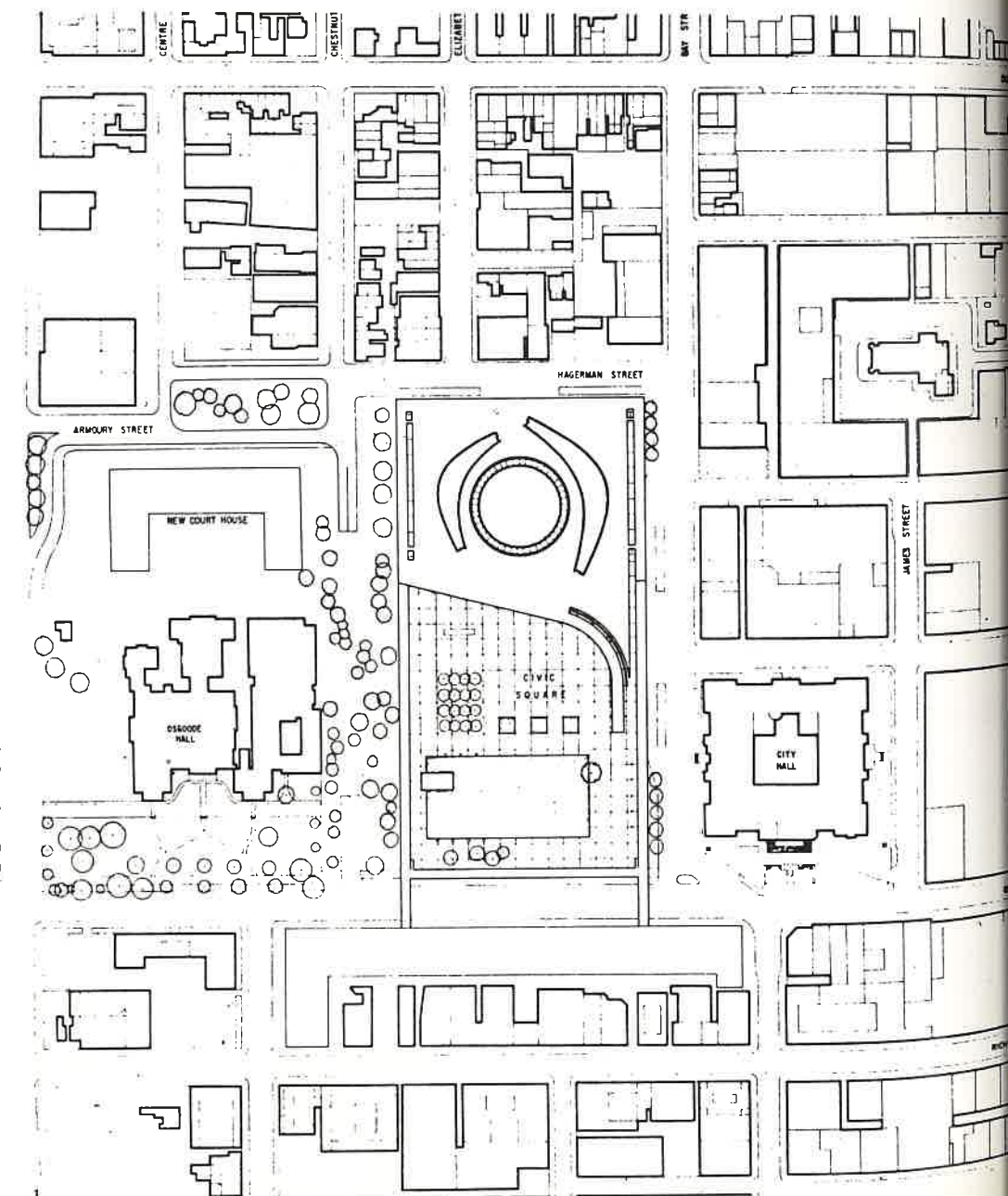
The actual competition budget breakdown was:

Administration	\$12,000
Display of designs	8,400
Judges, fees, and costs	11,000
Professional adviser's fee	10,000
Prizes	60,000
Return of drawings	10,000
Other costs	1,600
Total	\$113,000

The quality of Canadian architecture was generally high at this time, but the Toronto City Hall (and the Moore sculpture) represent a greatly expanded awareness and confidence. This moment of growth did not occur in an atmosphere of public understanding or support. Revell and Moore were ahead of the general public. That their impact was so great is in large measure due to the competition, and that a competition happened at all was due only to the unstinting efforts of certain dedicated Canadians.

Although records were kept of the work, it was not publicly documented. Eric Arthur wanted to publish an account of it but was not able to find the necessary funding. The illustrations are:

1. Site plan
2. Model
3. The new and the old City Halls (Photo: Panda Associates)
4. The new City Hall (Photo: Panda Associates)



CITY HALL/Toronto, Canada

Completed 1965
 Architect: John B. Parkin

A competition for a new City Hall was held in 1956, with Dr. Eric Arthur Revell as the jury member. A two-stage competition was held upon, with an entry from 42 Canadians, one Italian, and one Englishman. Eight designs were selected. The design for a new City Hall and a public plaza was chosen. The eight designs cost \$7500 each, the winner received a commission fee of \$12,000. Representing 42 countries, the competition, and of these 42 submitted entries, a record number of designs filled a 100-page book. The finalists were:

- 1. G. Macy Dubois, W. Morgan (USA)
- 2. Richard J. Rafferty, Joseph J. Wehrer (USA)
- 3. G. Macy Dubois, W. Morgan (USA)
- 4. Richard J. Rafferty, Joseph J. Wehrer (USA)

The winner, John B. Parkin, came to the commission, working with Henry Moore. The cost was \$113,000. The original budget was \$4.5 million. The final cost, including the plaza, was \$6.5 million, a cost less than 0.5% of the budget (0.46%) and the cost of the work was 9% of the final cost. The \$6.5 million included estimated and final costs. The budget breakdown is as follows:

\$12,000
8,400
11,000
10,000
60,000
10,000
1,600
\$113,000

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