A black and white photograph of a modern office building's interior. The space is a large, open atrium with a series of arches on the right side, creating a sense of depth and architectural rhythm. The ceiling features a prominent skylight with a grid of rectangular panels. In the foreground, a large, leafy plant is positioned on the left, partially obscuring the view. The overall atmosphere is clean, bright, and professional.

VF-- OAKLAND COUNTY(MI)--
BUILDINGS -- HISTORY

Executive Office Building
Oakland County Service Center
1200 North Telegraph Road
Pontiac, Michigan 48341-1043

(313) 858-0415

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

The building you have just entered is a unique structure with a long and important history in Oakland County. Originally constructed in 1927 as a "poor farm," it soon became a hospital facility and in 1954, a four-story office wing housing various health services was added.

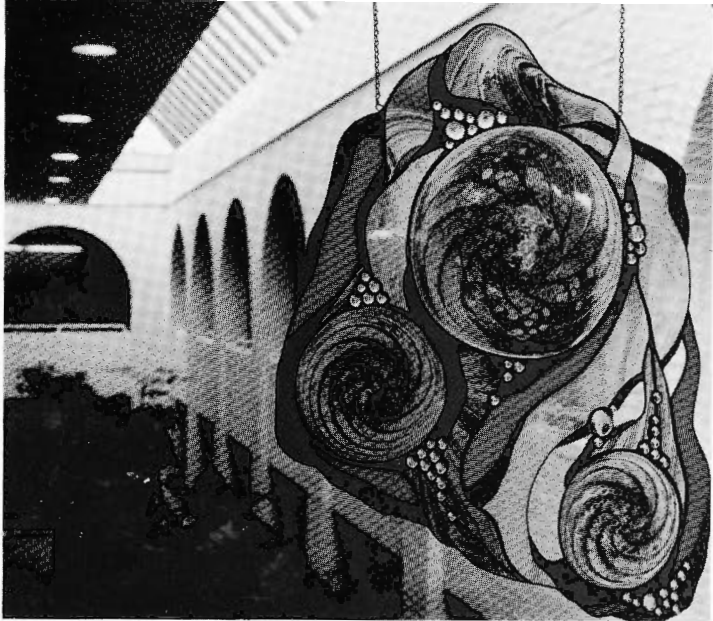
One of the diseases treated at the facility was tuberculosis. With the advances in drug therapy treatment, the need for long confinement and quarantine of patients eliminated the need for the County Hospital, as it was called, and it closed in 1976.

At the same time, however, demands for new courtrooms and other judicial system space - culminating with the state mandated addition of three new judges to the Oakland County Circuit in 1978- made it obvious that a new county office building be constructed.

In the winter of 1978, bids were let on an "adaptive reuse" plan for the Hospital. Construction costs for comparable new buildings were then about \$65 a square foot, but it was found that the Hospital could be adapted to office use for almost half that amount. The total construction cost was about \$3 million as opposed to the nearly \$6 million a new building would have cost.

In the spring of 1980, non-judicial offices began moving from the Courthouse into the Executive Office Building (EOB). For the first time the Courthouse was devoted almost exclusively to judicial matters.

Of particular interest in the EOB is the center core area. Originally this space was an open courtyard providing fresh air and sunshine for patients. Seventy-two brick arches, each fitted with windows and screens, faced the courtyard. The arches were opened and refurbished, and now provide a soothing transition from past to present. Each April, during Michigan Glass Month, displays of stained glass are hung in these arches allowing natural light to stream through the glass pieces. Paul Gardner, Curator-Emeritus from the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. during a recent invitational exhibit of North American glass artists at the *County Galleria* said, "this is the finest collection of flat glass ever exhibited, and in the most beautiful space for displaying glass art."



"Twilight Surf" by Diane Eissinger

EXHIBITS AT THE COUNTY GALLERIA

The galleria corridor of the Executive Office Building lends itself to exceptionally fine space in which to exhibit the works of visual artists in Michigan.

A changing exhibit, coordinated through the office of Cultural Affairs, is a major part of the Cultural Council's program of "Art in Public Places." This program offers a showcase and encouragement for the fine artist and craftsperson as well as provides an awareness of art to the County's many employees and visitors

Art patrons, senior citizens' groups, and other organizations are invited to tour the County Galleria, as the art-space is called, and with reservations a tour guide, or the artist featured, can be present.

The art exhibited is usually for sale and no commission is charged to the artist. Arrangements for purchase can be made through the Cultural Affairs office.

The County Galleria is open to the public Monday through Friday during business hours. For future or current exhibits please consult the Cultural Council's *Calendar of Events* or call the ARTSLINE, 335-2000.

The Oakland County Cultural Council is made possible by the support of Daniel T. Murphy, *County Executive*, the Board of Commissioners and a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts.



**Michigan Council
for the Arts**

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING STATISTICS

Size	91,935 square feet
Total Project Cost.	\$3.8 million
Total Construction Cost.	\$3.19 million
Construction Cost per square foot	\$34.70
Building Population	300
Occupying Divisions & Departments.	19

- Accounting
- Auditing
- Budget
- County Executive and Department Directors
- Community Development
- Community and Minority Affairs
- Cultural Affairs
- Economic Development Group
- Federal and State Aid Coordinator
- Health (Administration)
- Reference Library
- Personnel
- Planning
- Property Management
- Public Information
- Purchasing
- Risk Management
- Building Safety
- Word Processing Center

The Executive Office Building received the "Award of Honor" for design excellence from the Michigan society of Architects in 1981. The renovation was by TMP Associates of Bloomfield Hills.