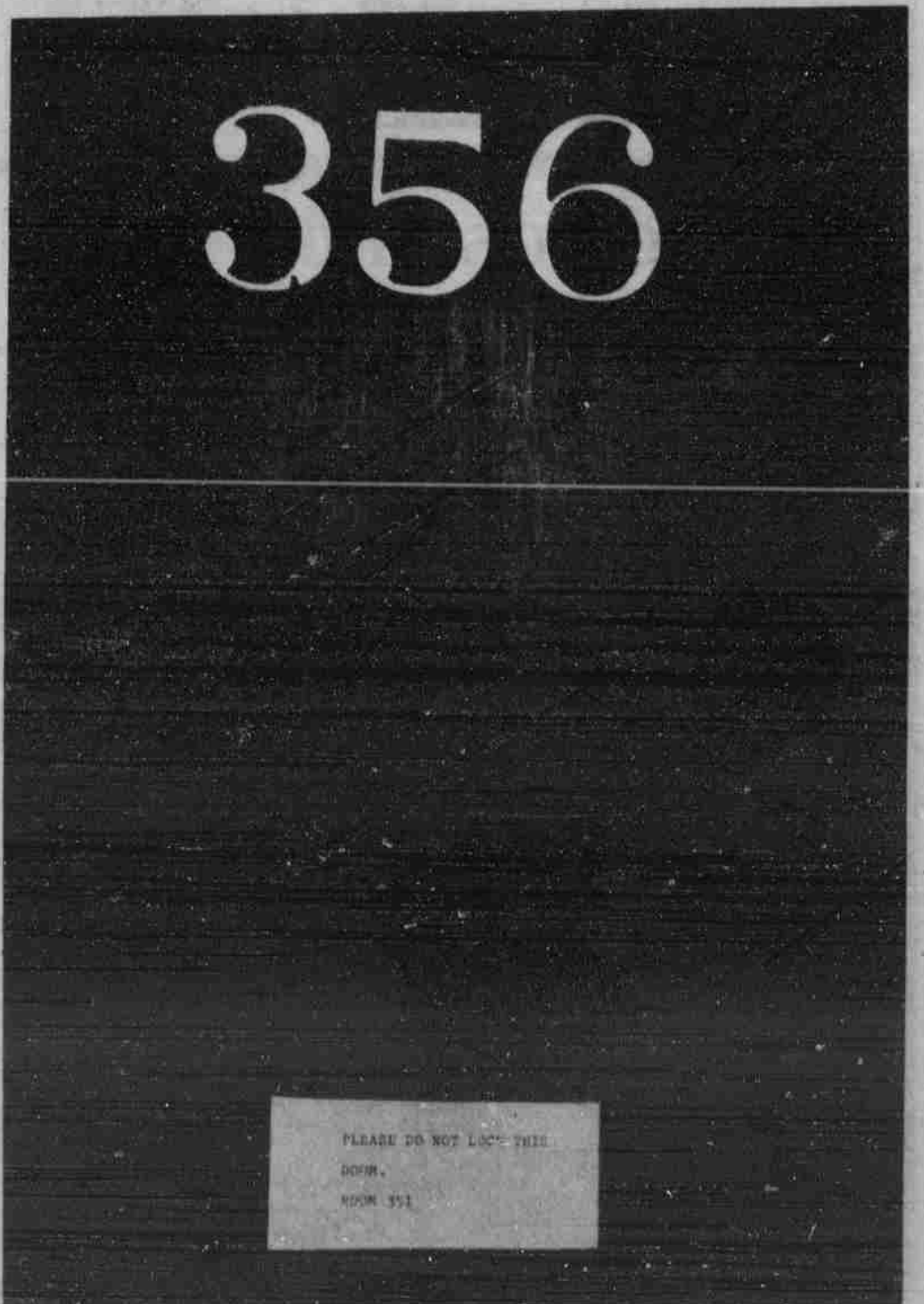




Story by Theresa Forsman  
Photographs by Ted Kirk



place." Schlunz said landscaping plans include installation of medians, trees and lighting on the four streets leading to the capitol.

**Best-designed building**

The capitol is probably the state's most monumental and best-designed building, Murphy said, so it deserves renovation. The capitol was designed in 1922 by architect Bertram Grosvner Goodhue. Murals, paintings and sculpture by several renowned artists are displayed in its interior.

"The work was not costly considering what we got," Murphy said. "These days you don't see much artwork like that in buildings."

Schlunz said he has heard estimates that the building is worth \$100 million, but, he added that the building is irreplaceable because many of the materials are no longer available and many of the artists who did the murals and paintings are dead.

"Our big chance to make improvements will come with the move into the new state office building next year," Clark said.

**New building**

The new building under construction is two blocks north of the capitol. It will

house many state departments currently taking up capitol space, Clark said, and will allow all of the offices now in the tower to move out.

All space in the new building has been allocated, Schlunz said, and more space will be needed within 50 years.

Clark said the state now is setting uniform standards for capitol plans.

"Previously, we had a lot of chiefs who wanted to set their own guidelines," he said.

**Makeshift appearance**

Schlunz agreed that diffusion of control is to blame for much of the makeshift appearance of the building's interior.

The number of changes that can be made depends on the money available, Schlunz said.

This year, the \$460,000 appropriated for capitol improvements was used for the elevators and the outside promenade, Clark said.

Fire stairs, a sprinkler system and facilities for the handicapped also were installed, he said, adding that part of the money went for remodeling the governor's mansion.