

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS AND POLICY PLANNING

by

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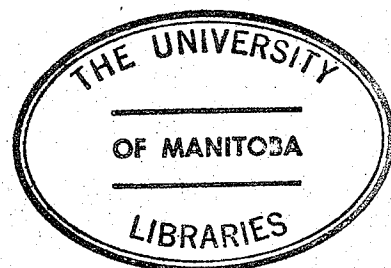
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B.L.

## CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
CONTENTS	ii
<u>PREFACE</u>	1
ONE. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>	2
TWO. <u>ECONOMIC BASIS FOR HOUSING ANALYSIS</u>	5
THREE. <u>METHODOLOGIES FOR HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS</u>	13
I. STOCK FLOW APPROACH	20
II. SUBMARKETS APPROACH	24
III. MACRO-MICRO FRAMEWORK	40
IV. ECONOMETRIC MODELS	50
V. FORECASTING TECHNIQUES	56
VI. THRESHOLD ANALYSIS	65
FOUR. <u>A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE HOUSING MARKET IN WINNIPEG, 1961 - 1973</u>	68
I. POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS	68
II. SUPPLY OF HOUSING	70
III. HOUSING MONEY MARKET	73
IV. URBAN LAND SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT	76
V. ECONOMIC BASE	77
VI. PERFORMANCE OF HOUSING MARKETS	78
FIVE. <u>PLANNING OF GOVERNMENT HOUSING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS</u>	119
I. AN OVERVIEW OF HOUSING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS	120
II. HOUSING PLANNING AND ECONOMIC PLANNING	127
III. EVALUATING HOUSING PROGRAMS	131
SIX. <u>DECISION-MAKING IN PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT</u>	136
SEVEN. <u>CITY PLANNING</u>	142
I. RESIDENTIAL SPACE AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS	142
II. PLANNING CONTROLS AND HOUSING COSTS	146
EIGHT. <u>CONCLUSION</u>	153
BIBLIOGRAPHY	



## PREFACE

This thesis attempts to analyze housing and its markets from the eyes of government housing agencies, private developers and builders, city planning authorities and housing consumers. Methods of evaluating and interpreting the various demand and supply forces at work in the housing market are therefore presented with a view to enabling wide application of the techniques in decision making by all parties concerned. Main emphasis however will be placed on the use of market analysis by government housing agencies and planning departments in formulating their housing and development plans.

In time of a national housing crisis which is characterized by housing shortages and rising prices of land and housing, private and public bodies should see the problem in its proper perspective through housing market analysis. Obstacles to residential construction activities can then be identified and removed, and catalysts to housing supply and consumption introduced.

ONE.     INTRODUCTION

Housing market analysis provides the factual basis and predictions for decision-making by private enterprises and public bodies in residential construction and development.

In the public sector, government housing agencies collect and analyze information on population and housing characteristics, housing stock, economic base, cost and availability of mortgage money, land, building materials, and labour for the dual purpose of examining the population's housing condition and the government's role in direct and indirect provision of housing. This analytical process serves not only to develop and/or expand needed housing policies and programs, but also to evaluate the effectiveness of these instruments and public investment.

City planning authorities are concerned with meeting present and future space and servicing requirements of urban development. Housing market analysis serves to generate forecasts of housing requirements, which can then be used in calculating residential land requirements, the derived demand for municipal and community services, and the cost involved in the provision of these services.

Since any tax or monetary incentives to buy or to build houses lead to consumption of land and municipal services,

city planners must be aware of the influence of government policies and programs on urban development and its space and service requirements. Although Neighbourhood Improvement and Residential Rehabilitation Programs may not require additional land or services, city planners can have a more intimate role to play in improving the quality of residential neighbourhoods.

In the private sector, developers and builders conduct market analysis as a means of investment decision making. Findings of housing market analyses are fed as inputs into other related economic studies, such as feasibility study, highest and best use study, marketability study and investment analysis. Such market analyses may vary in scope and depth as warranted by the size and nature of housing developments. Cost and availability of financing, land, labour and building materials are fully investigated while on-site analysis of the surrounding neighbourhoods is also performed to ensure a profitable return on residential real estate investment.

Prospective housing consumers, be they buyers or renters, do a certain amount of "comparison shopping" before paying for their best choice. Through comparative shopping, the consumers "analyze" the housing markets from a different view point, usually with the help of realtors and rental agencies. However, it is not the way consumers analyze the housing market that is important to planners, but their housing satisfaction and preferences. For those prospective housing con-

sumers who are dissatisfied with their existing housing condition, the sources or causes of their dissatisfaction must be uncovered so that planning of housing and environment can be geared towards accommodating the wishes and changing needs of the people.

## TWO. ECONOMIC BASIS FOR HOUSING ANALYSIS

Before dealing with the methodologies, it is appropriate to outline factors which are of significance in housing market analysis.

1. Housing is the composite of services and amenities rendered by a dwelling unit and its location.
2. There are two types of housing needs :
  - (a) Physical housing need is the quantity and quality of housing and its amenities considered necessary to bring the housing condition to a socially acceptable level.
  - (b) Financial housing need is the gap between the cost of an adequate housing unit and the proportion of the income that should not be exceeded to pay for it.

Housing needs should be differentiated from housing demand which expresses the desire for housing, for which people are willing and able to pay.

3. Housing is not an ordinary commodity and many of the distinctive features of the housing market result from its peculiar commodity characteristics. Insofar as they affect economic analysis, the effects of durability, non-homogeneity, spatial uniqueness and market imperfection warrent attention.
  - (a) The durability of housing means that it is an investment good, and that a very high proportion of the potential

supply is represented by the existing stock.

(b) The non-homogeneity of housing poses problem of aggregating demand schedules of individuals entering the market. The differentiations of housing types and tenure arrangements also present problems of comparability in market analysis. 1/

(c) Housing has the attribute, unique amongst consumer durables, of being fixed in location. Therefore, every house or at best small groups of houses, are unique goods. Since spatial relationships of a location and its neighbourhood characteristics often enter people's preference function with different weights, the phenomenon of spatial uniqueness introduces analytical problems. 2/

(d) Imperfection in the housing market is attributable to the non-homogeneity of housing, imperfect knowledge of market conditions and opportunities of housing and credit availability, externalities or "neighbourhood effect", and the intervention by public authorities in the form of regulations, subsidies, grants, etc.

4. Housing preferences are the choices made (with respect to housing-type, size, style, tenure, location and expenditures) after evaluating other combinations of qualitative features of housing that are within one's financial reach; demand is simply the expression of preferences.

1/ See Smith, W.F. Housing : The Social and Economic Elements, University of California Press, 1970, p.50.

2/ Kirwan, R.M. and Martin, D.B. "The economic basis for models of the housing market", Centre for Environmental Studies, London, Wp 62, 1970, p.12.

Housing preferences are revealed in market behavior but may be independent of objective factors such as household characteristics (e.g. income) and market phenomena (e.g. rent). For instance, individuals having the same household characteristics and work-place location may differ only in the value they set on travelling time, and therefore living in different locations.

5. Housing demand and supply are influenced by economic as well as non-economic variables such as social, demographic and institutional factors.
6. The demand for housing other than rental units is made up not only of a demand for shelter but also of an investment demand. Homeownership thus provides shelter as well as a hedge against inflation. The shelter demand is mainly governed by the number, size, age-sex composition and income of households in the study area now and in the future.

Existing housing satisfaction and housing expenditure, cost of living, inflationary expectations, cost and availability of mortgages, government housing policies and programs all have significant influence on effective demand for housing in the market. The additional explanatory factors needed to explain neighbourhood housing demand include employment locations, availability of public services including schools and hospital, environmental quality, accessibility to community facilities, and incidence of property tax.

Investment in a home is made attractive by the Federal Income Tax Act which exempts the principal residence from capital gains tax, and by the National Housing Act which provides mortgage insurance and other aids such as the Assisted Home Ownership Program. Some provincial governments also "subsidize" investment in home by making available home purchase grants. An increasing housing demand pressure is created by investors/speculators. The resulting turnover of residential property for capital gain objectives only worsen the house price inflation and lead to compounding of trading costs such as real estate commissions. 1/

7. The supply of housing consists of vacant units of housing stock and the flow supply of new and unoccupied units. Differentiation therefore must be made between resale/reabsorption of existing units and sale/absorption of new units. Housing construction in terms of the number of housing starts is a function of rent and price of new and existing units; cost and availability of money, land, labour, and building materials; vacancies, the number of newly completed and unoccupied units, and units under construction; and government housing policies and programs.
8. The housing market is a mechanism of allocating housing to households. It is divided into different sectors. The major divisions are between the private and public sectors and between the rental (housing service) and sales (housing

1/ Greater Vancouver Regional District, Seminar on Management of Growth, February 1974, p.c-4.



stock) sectors.

9. The housing market is often termed as the submarket of the (urban) land or real estate market. 1/ However, in this thesis, housing market is not referred to as a single market in a classical sense but a series of overlapping submarkets differentiated by location, type of dwelling, type of tenure, age, and quality. 2/
10. A housing submarket is composed of dwelling units which are close substitutes for one another, and are linked in a chain of substitution with links of varying length between them. "Thus, there is a location link, tenure link, type of structure link, value link, and so on... The combined distance of the links between the two markets reflects the degree to which price or rent changes in one market will not affect the other." 3/  
Since the submarkets defined in terms of the objective characteristics of housing may not reflect the fact that substitutability exists in the eye of the consumer, they must be defined in terms of demand groupings rather than supply groupings. The search behavior of an individual household seeking accomodation will define a set of substitutable dwellings. In aggregate the mobility field of a particular group of households will also define that

1/ Ratcliff, R.U. Urban Land Economics, McGraw-Hill, N.Y. 1949, p.295.

2/ Duesenberry, J. Business Cycle and Economic Growth, McGraw-Hill, N.Y. 1958, p.135.

3/ Grigsby, W.G. Housing Markets and Public Policy, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 1963, p.37.

group's submarket. 1/ Thus, there are two definitions of spatial submarket of housing : "demand" spatial submarket and "supply" spatial submarket. Demand spatial submarket as seen by households may not necessarily be a contiguous area while supply spatial submarket is a contiguous residential area with similar locational characteristics.

11. Most macro-economic models of the housing market deal with aggregate supply and demand relationships, abstracting from the spatial dimension. The models are used to generate econometric estimates of the parameters of the various variables affecting housing and new residential construction. 2/ Elasticities of variables (e.g. housing starts) with respect to other variables (e.g. NHA mortgage rate) are generally calculated, analyzed with past trends, and used for prediction purposes.
12. Von Thunen's theory of location rent differentials (1826) serves as the foundation for today's micro-analytic modeling of the housing market. 3/ Many micro models treat the spatial dimension of the housing market explicitly and attempt to determine residential location in terms of

- 1/ Berridge, J.D. The Housing Market and Urban Residential Structure : A Review, Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto, Research Paper No.51, 1971, p.45.
- 2/ Two such models can be found in L.B.Smith, Housing in Canada: Market Structure and Policy Performance, CMHC, Ottawa, 1971.
- 3/ An exposition of Von Thunen's location theory can be found in J.W.Alexander, Economic Geography, Prentice-Hall, 1963, pp.613-616. An example of its application is furnished by M.J.Beckmann, "Application of a Neoclassical Von Thunen Model to the Housing Market", the Annals of Regional Science, June, 1972.

minimizing the journey to work. These models are merely classical budget constraint models solving, for a given level of income, the combination of housing space, transport and all other goods that would maximize an individual's satisfaction or utility. 1/

Muth's general equilibrium model 2/ presents a comprehensive treatment of the economics of demand and supply in the housing market which satisfactorily accommodates such factors as spatial uniqueness, different housing types and the existence of a stock of houses of different ages and which accounts for phenomena like the price-distance function and the density gradient. Since the model demonstrates analytically the interactions between market phenomena such as price, density, occupancy rates and travel behavior, it provides "a bridge between the analysis of the determinants of demand and supply behavior at the margin and the analysis of housing demand and supply in the aggregate." 3/

13. Society may fail to achieve an efficient allocation of resources in housing because the indirect benefits and costs (i.e. externalities) are not considered in private housing market decisions. When the existence of such

- 1/ See Alonso, "A Theory of the Urban Land Market", Papers and Proceedings of Regional Science Association, Vol. VI, 1960, and Location and Land Use, Harvard University Press, 1964.
- 2/ Muth, R.F. Cities and Housing, University of Chicago Press, 1969.
- 3/ Kirwan and Martin, op.cit., p.32.

externalities results in too few housing units being produced and consumed — too few to maximize net social benefits, public intervention is justified. 1/

14. It is a futile attempt to operate a housing policy which is concerned with occupancy rates, rents and prices independently of a planning policy which is concerned with the location of jobs and houses and transport improvements.

1/ Haveman, R.H. The Economics of the Public Sector, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. 1970, pp.33-39.

THREE. METHODOLOGIES FOR HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS

Housing market analysis is conducted for the purposes of investment decision making in the field of housing and related services. There are, however, several approaches to understanding the structure and performance of the housing market. This can be explained by the fact that the participants, namely the government housing agencies, investors, developers/builders, housing consumers, and city planning authorities, have their own objectives and criteria of investment, and consequently, the scope and level of market analysis they undertake.

Before presenting the methodologies, it is appropriate to introduce two conceptual models of the housing market and its basic principals and institutions in the housing production and allocation process. The two flow charts, diagrams 1 and 2, serve not only to define the interaction of the participants but also to delineate the scope of data collection for analysis.

The housing production and allocation process involves mainly the consumers, the three levels of government, and the housing development industry. Investors, lending institutions, and professionals such as planners and lawyers also play significant roles in the supply of housing.

The three levels of government virtually set the framework of the whole process. The Federal Government, through the Central

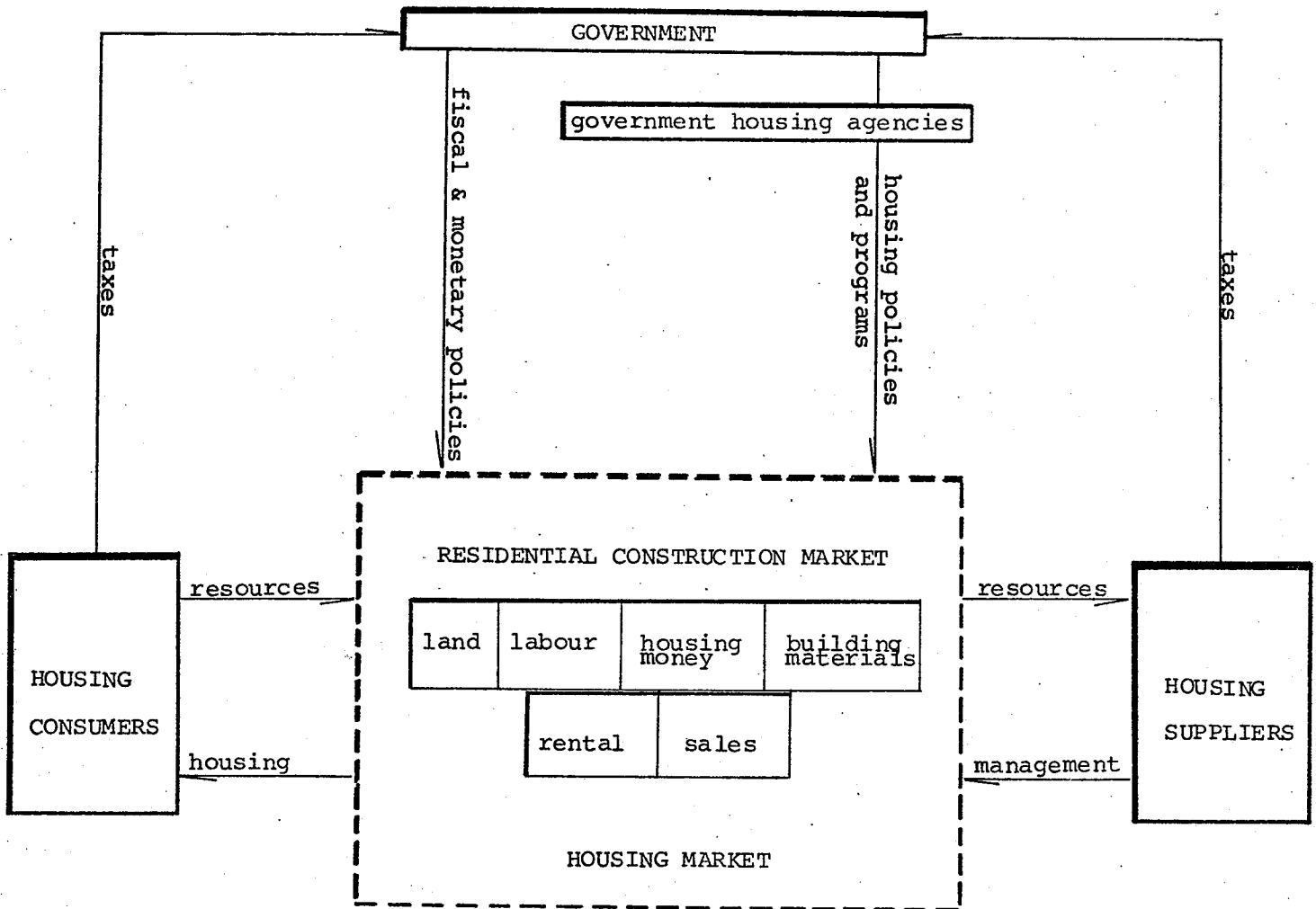


Diagram 1 A CONCEPTUAL MODEL OF THE HOUSING MARKET

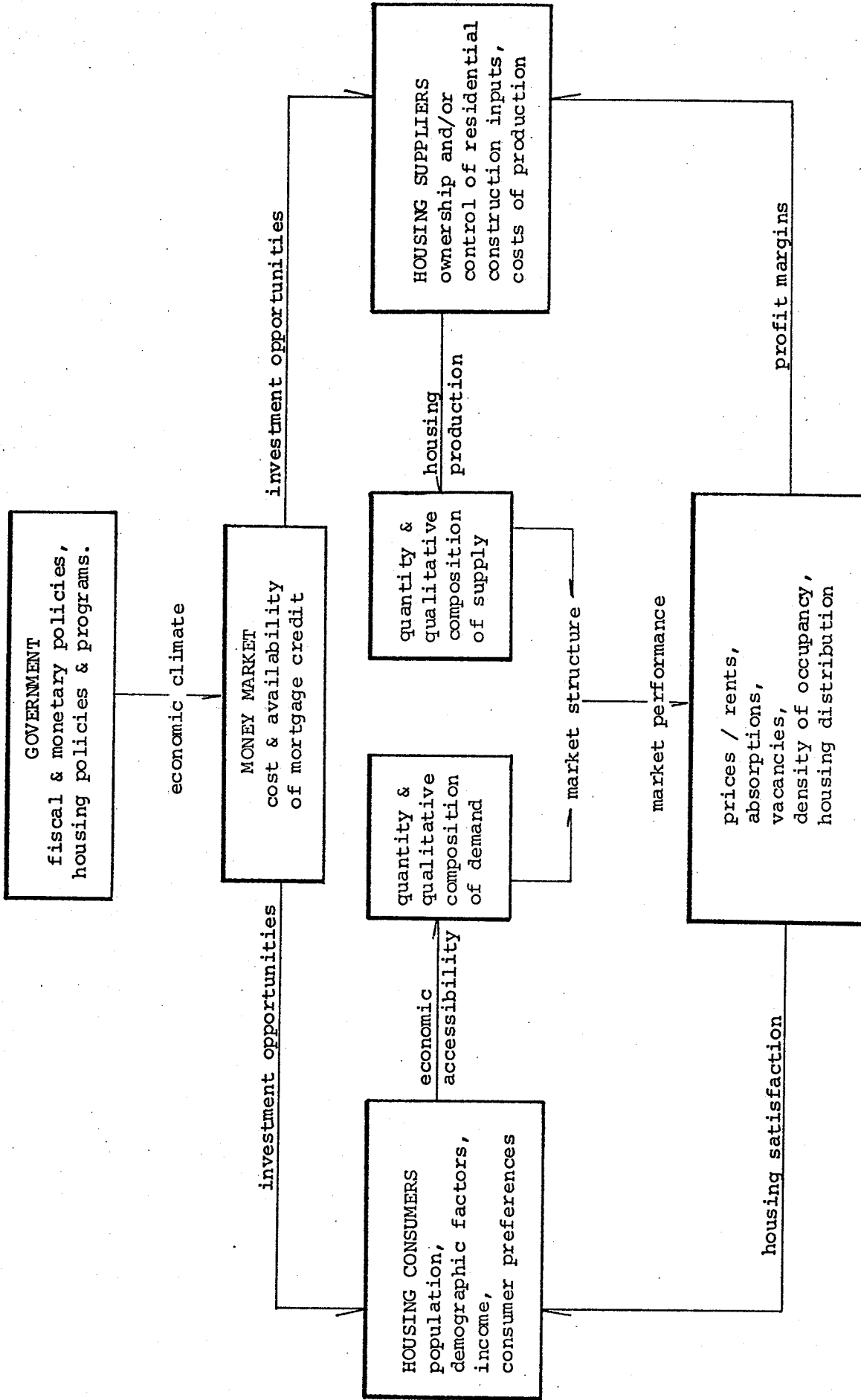


Diagram 2 MECHANISMS OF HOUSING PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

Mortgage and Housing Corporation, sets building standards, and provides grants and loans to the provinces, municipalities, developers and consumers for the purchase and provision of housing.

The provincial governments may intervene directly or indirectly in the housing field. The N.D.P. government of Manitoba, for example, has established the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation to develop and execute public housing and land assembly programs. Programs directed to relieving Manitobans in particular the lower income group from the high cost of housing include a property tax credit plan and homeownership subsidies of up to \$300 a year for qualifying families buying a home under the Federal Government's Assisted Homeownership Program.

The municipal governments regulate and control residential development by zoning and by setting servicing standards, residential densities, and subdivision design criteria. The other participants in the housing field have to operate within the above parameters as defined by the governments.

The development industry includes land developers, developer-builders and builders. In Winnipeg, all the principal participants in the housing industry are developer-builders with varying degrees of vertical integration in the construction and marketing of their housing units. These companies are involved



in all aspects of the housing production process, from land assembly and subdivision design to servicing of the lots, and from design of the houses to their sale or lease to the public. While decisions to build in the private sector are strongly influenced by CMHC programs, the lending institutions, the marketing and financial analysts, and the planning and design teams, the final investment decisions are made by the housing producers.

The following topics are usually included in housing market analyses. In specific situations, however, not all of these may be covered or others may be included.

1. Population and Housing Characteristics
2. Supply of Housing
3. Urban Land Supply and Development
4. Housing Money (Residential Mortgage) Market
5. Economic Base
6. Performance of Housing Markets
7. Consumers' Housing Preferences
8. Government Housing Policies and Programs
9. Cost and Availability of Residential Construction Inputs
10. Neighbourhood and Site Characteristics

All of the above factors must be studied in relation to each other and in relation to past developments. In this manner, both short- and longer-range market trends may be identified and used as the basis for estimating future probable market changes.

Thorough consideration of the range of factors is an imposing task. It is not surprising, therefore, that much residential real estate investment analysis is carried on at substantially less sophisticated levels.

This thesis identifies six approaches to housing market analysis and the methodologies are discussed in the following pages. The Stock Flow Approach distinguishes between existing housing stock and new housing supply in evaluating housing market performance. The Submarkets Approach identifies the various housing submarkets in a local area, and permits the construction of income demand schedules for a mix of housing and locations. The Macro-Micro Approach integrates both the Stock Flow and Submarkets frameworks to analyze in aggregate and in part, the structure and performance of the housing markets. The use of Econometric Models is to simulate the workings of the housing market for prediction purposes. Other forecasting techniques such as those used for assessing housing needs or housing requirements, and those for estimating housing supply and market performance are presented as the fifth approach. Threshold Analysis which is an assessment of buildable land supply and capacities of utility systems, provides the basis for decisions on the supply side of the housing market.

Although these approaches may individually produce results for housing market analyses with different objectives, any comprehensive housing studies undertaken by governments and their

housing agencies should incorporate all of the above approaches so that the housing policies and programs developed will be effective and will not impede the supply of housing by the private sector.

All of the aforementioned approaches rely, to a varying degree, on information supplied by Statistics Canada on population, housing, employment and incomes. A great deal of housing market data is also furnished by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation which publishes monthly, quarterly and annual statistics related to housing construction and lending activity under the National Housing Act. To make housing market analyses easier, various federal and provincial departments and agencies provide statistics on general economic trends, population projections, employment levels, etc. Most first hand information on the existing housing stock, building permits issued, community facilities, utilities, and development plan are made available by the municipalities. However, inadequacies of available information exist, for example, household income cross-classifying type and tenure of accommodation. Moreover, there are statistical gaps which have to be filled, such as the lack of statistics at the neighbourhood level. Even when data are available, caution must be taken to assure comparability between the different data sources.

## I. STOCK FLOW APPROACH

The Stock Flow Approach distinguishes between occupied housing stock and newly completed and unoccupied units in the accounting of total housing stock and housing supply. This enables market analysts to see how significant the flow supply is in responding to the demand pressures as manifested by the inadequacies of the housing stock in housing the growing population.

Diagram 3 shows the dividing line between the flow supply and the housing stock. Absorptions of newly completed units in the new sales and rental markets "turned" flow into stock, and these newly occupied units became additions to the existing housing stock.

Housing units may have different "labels" attached to them during their stay in the housing market. These labels such as vacancies are used to identify one group of housing units from the others in evaluating the performance of the housing markets. The terminology of housing statistics is partially presented here in the following housing supply flow-chart. Other terminology can be found in Chapter Four when characteristics of housing units and market indicators are employed in an analysis of the Winnipeg housing market, 1961 - 1973.

In diagram 4, only the supply side of the housing market is shown to facilitate understanding of the stock flow concept.

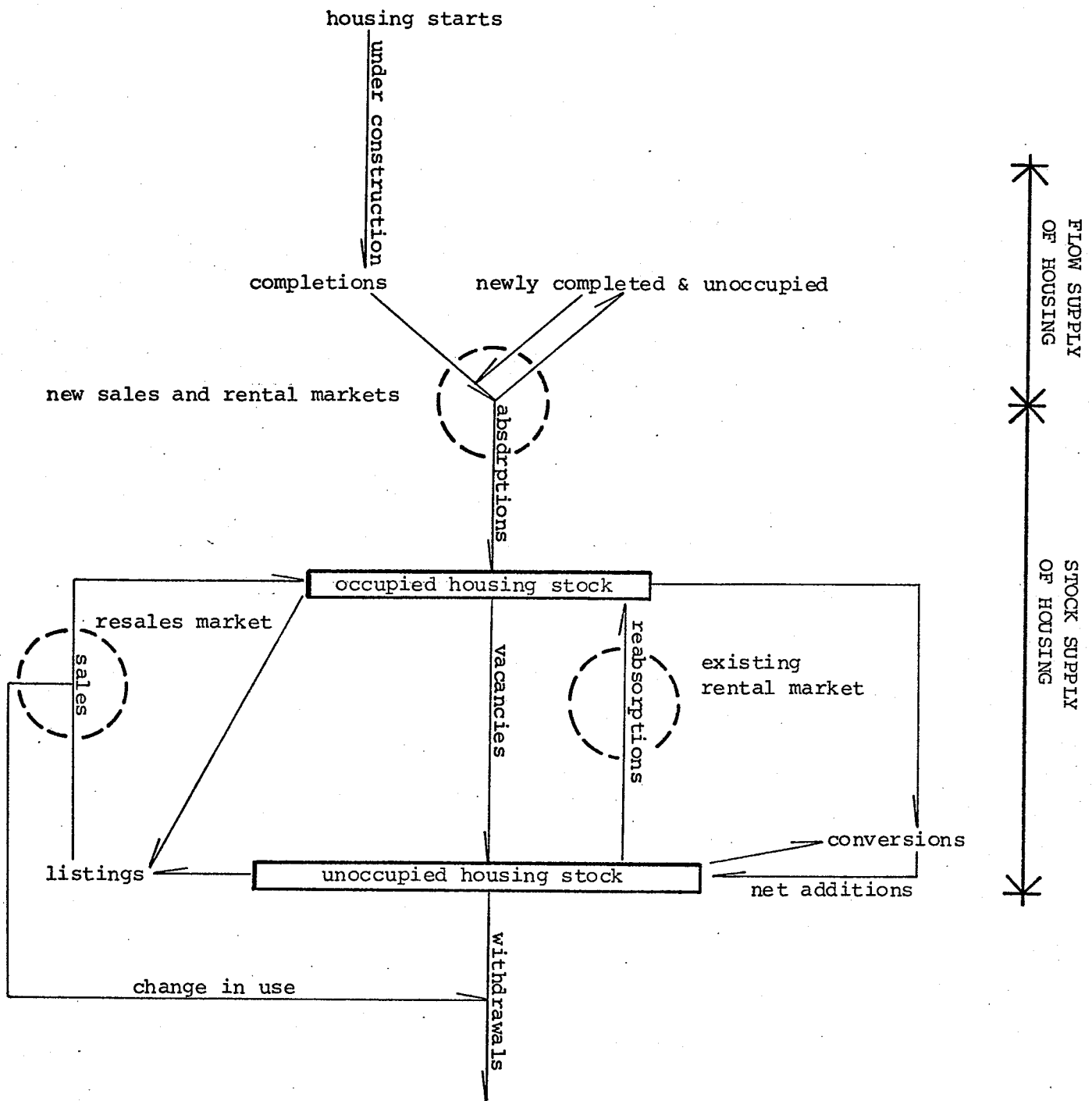
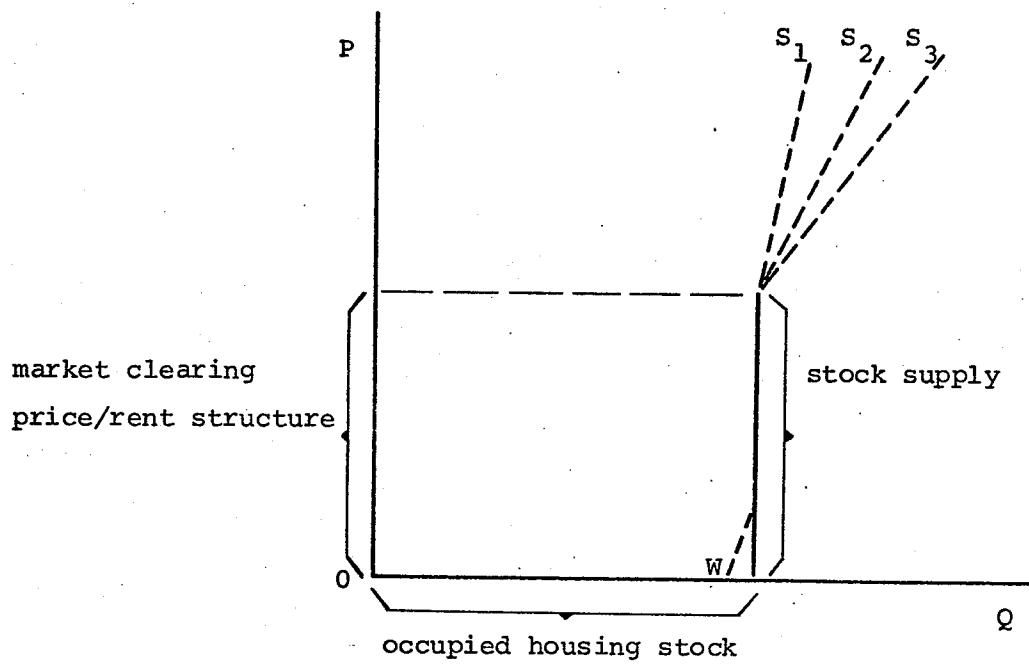


Diagram 3 HOUSING SUPPLY AND MARKETS



W = withdrawals

$S_1$  = flow supply of housing

$S_2$  = flow supply + listings

$S_3$  = flow supply + listings + vacancies

Diagram 4 FLOW AND STOCK SUPPLY OF HOUSING

The vertical portion of the supply curve points to two things in the market : the quantity of occupied housing stock (i.e. aggregate of the quantitative and qualitative housing mix) and the market clearing price/rent structure. Flow supply is represented by the dotted line extending from stock supply to  $S_1$ . When listings or units waiting to be resold are added to the flow supply,  $S_1$  becomes  $S_2$ . Similarly,  $S_3$  takes into account  $S_2$  and vacant units in the existing rental market, and it represents the total housing supply in the market for absorptions, resales and reabsorptions.

The dotted line extending from the stock supply to point W on the horizontal axis indicates the number of housing units to be demolished or withdrawn from the market. Redevelopment, change in land use, and change in dwelling use usually follow changes in real property value, and they account for reductions in the housing stock. The housing units involved in the process of withdrawal are those which can command only meagre rentals, and those which are dilapidated and their rather low replacement cost plus current value offer profitable returns on redevelopment.

This approach offers a systematical way of keeping track of not only additions to and reductions in housing stock, but also turnovers or activities in the housing market. The use of stock flow concept is basic to any presentation of housing statistics. An example of its application is provided in Chapter Four.

## II. SUBMARKETS APPROACH

The purpose of analyzing housing market at the micro level is to deepen our understanding of the functional structure of housing submarkets in order that selective housing policies and programs could be formulated to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of government's involvement in the field of housing.

The Submarkets Approach is an attempt to fill the need for "some form of matrix analysis which will enable us to see at one time the aggregate market, the individual parts, and the interrelationships of these parts." <sup>1/</sup> It involves the application of the concept of consumer's surplus to the construction of a housing survey questionnaire. Given the assumptions underlying the concept, the survey results are used to derive housing demand curves of income groups in each submarket which is defined by house type, size, tenure and location.

Interrelationships among household and dwelling characteristics, housing satisfaction and residential mobility are then analyzed in conjunction with existing housing market phenomena (such as rent, price, mortgage financing, size, density, quality, location, turnover and vacancy rate of housing) to help illuminating the interdependency of or linkages between submarkets as indicated by coefficients of consumer's surplus.

<sup>1/</sup> Grigsby, W.G. Housing Markets and Public Policy, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 1963. p.32.



## A. METHODOLOGY

Since housing policies and programs must be geared to the needs and aspirations of the people they affect, an investigation of the demand side of the housing market is essential. This calls for the design of a survey questionnaire that can extract information necessary to identify the various housing submarkets (defined by the characteristics of housing as well as that of the inhabitants) so that selective demand and supply policies and programs could be devised accordingly.

The methodology presented here is not simply a survey methodology applying conventional statistical techniques to housing behavior analysis, it is an attempt to derive housing demand schedules of income groups in each of the housing submarkets. By aggregating an income group's demand curves for a certain mix of house type, size and tenure in all localities, a total market demand curve of the income group for that certain housing package in the study area can be derived. A comparison of the demand curves of all income groups for a certain housing package in a locality or in the whole study area can then be made, thus satisfying the need for seeing at one time the aggregate market, its submarkets and the interrelationships of these submarkets.

The derivation of submarket demand curves involves the application of Marshall's concept of consumer's surplus to the

formulation of the survey questionnaire. The concept emphasizes that a consumer receives a greater amount of utility than he pays for, and the definition can be used as a device to measure this surplus of utility (i.e. total utility minus effective utility). Marshall 1/ defines consumer's surplus as the difference between the sum a consumer has to pay for a quantity of goods and the sum he would be willing to pay. Graphically, it can be equated with the roughly triangular area lying under a demand curve and above the rectangle which represents actual money expenditure. (See Diagram 5) 2/ In a later note, Marshall adds that the concept assumes that the marginal utility of money is constant, so that the income effect resulting from a price change is neutralized.

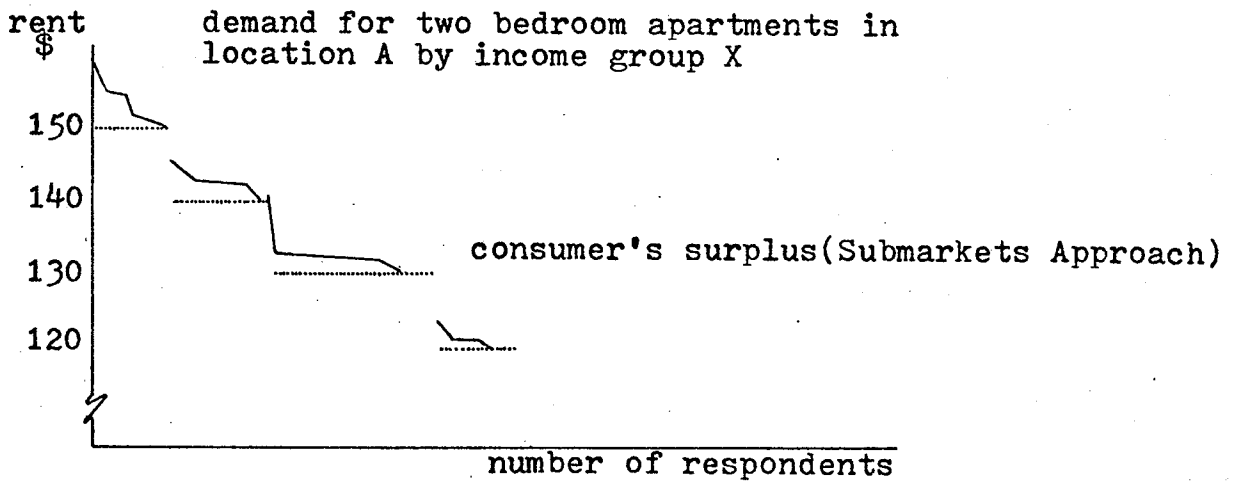
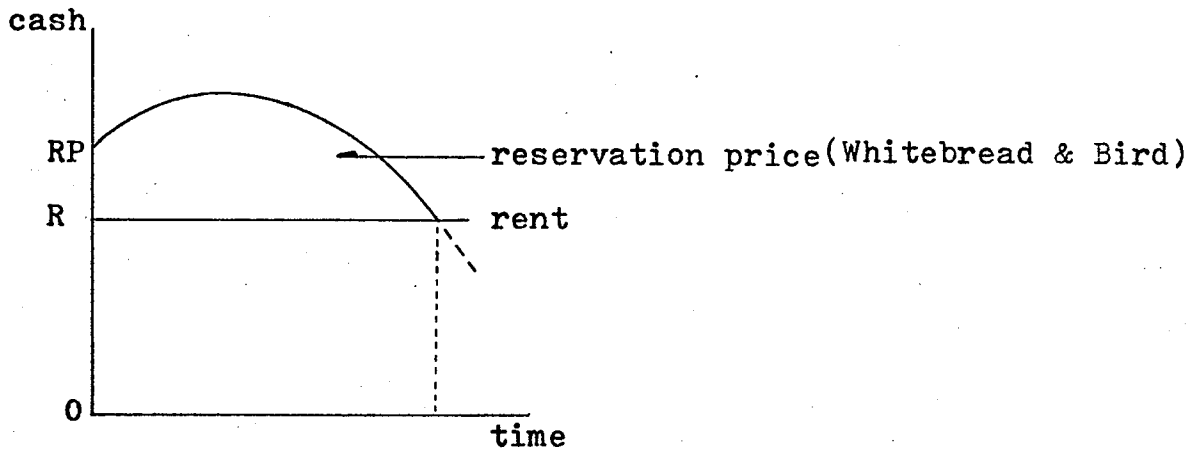
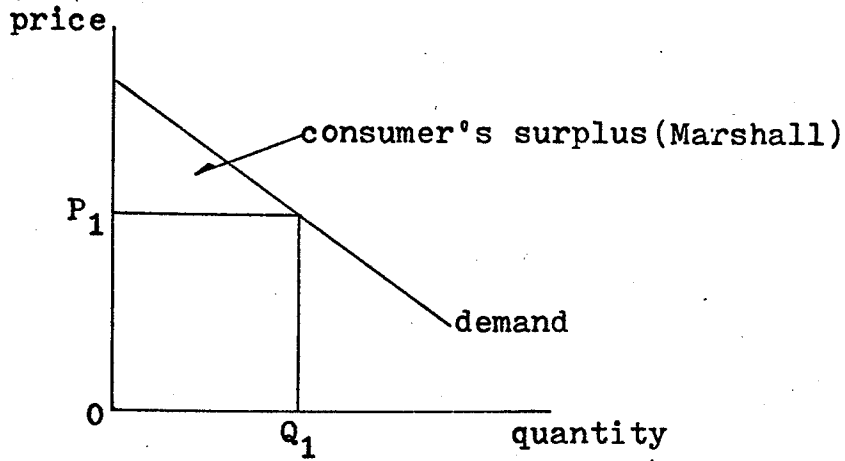
Since there is no price-quantity movement along the housing demand curves, the assumption can be relaxed in this respect. To make an income group homogeneous, however, the assumption of constant marginal utility of money for goods and services has to be applied to every individual or household in that income group.

To complete the list of assumptions made with respect to the

1/ See Blang, M. Economic Theory in Retrospect, Richard D. Irwin Inc., Illinois, 1962, pp.335-351; and Bishop, R.L. "Consumer's Surplus and Cardinal Utility", Quarterly Journal of Economics, May, 1943, pp.421-449.

2/ Whitebread and Bird defined consumer's surplus as the positive differential between a household's reservation price and the rent in its existing dwelling. See "Rent, Surplus and the Evaluation of Residential Environments", Regional Studies, Vol.7, 1974, pp.194-196.

Diagram 5



derivation of housing demand curves, homogeneity of all dwelling units in a housing category, and knowledge on the part of the consumers of the housing market are included.

The construction of the demand curves adopts Marshall's extra-expenditure method, however, if we put Marshall's question, and ask how much more a consumer would be prepared to pay rather than go without his present housing, we could not get a sensible and unambiguous extra-expenditure. Modification of the question is therefore necessary. A consumer is asked to express his consumer's surplus in terms of the extra monthly housing expenditure if he is satisfied with his present housing, and prefers staying rather than moving to other physically similar dwelling in the study area. The submarket demand schedule of an income group for housing can then be derived by arraying consumers' surplus (on housing of a certain mix of house type, size and tenure in a certain locality) in descending order above their respective levels of housing expenditure on a two dimensional plane with housing expenditure on the Y-axis and quantity of housing on the X-axis. (See Diagram 5)

Regression lines for consumers' surpluses above their respective housing expenditure intervals are constructed. The combination of these regression lines form the effective demand curve of an income group for housing of a certain mix of house type, size and tenure in a locality. Slopes of these housing demand curves can then be computed for comparison. Since demand elast-

icities decline along a linear demand curve, they cannot be used for comparing housing demand curves of income groups. A uniform basis for intra-income group or inter-rental group comparisons is offered by a coefficient of consumer's surplus, i.e. average consumer's surplus experienced by an income group.

Potential housing demand curve are derived in a similar way as the effective demand curves. They express the extra-expenditures households are willing to pay for housing in other localities because of housing dissatisfaction. As housing satisfaction is measured by consumer's surplus, the reciprocal of the coefficient of consumer's surplus thus provides a relative measure of residential mobility potential.

Since the slope of a housing demand curve depends heavily on the income and housing composition of the selected sample of households, a sample accurately representing the population in the market area is required. This calls for firstly the subdivision of the housing market area into localities or supply spatial market; secondly, a breakdown of the population in each of the localities by income, tenure and housing expenditure; thirdly, a breakdown of the housing stock in each of the localities by type and size. A random sample can then be systematically selected.

Turning back to the survey questionnaire, five interrelated aspects of housing behavior, namely, household characteristics,

dwelling characteristics, housing satisfaction, housing preferences and residential mobility are covered. The questions formulated serve to indicate the scope of housing analysis that can be undertaken.

B. SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Household Characteristics

members by relation- ship or connection to Head of household	family unit member	marital status *	Sex	age	level of education	employment status **
Head						
roomer (if any)						

occupat- ion or school	distance to work or school	average travel time to work or school	means of transportation to and from work or school	ethnic back- ground

- \* a. single  
b. married  
c. seperated  
d. divorced  
e. widowed

- \*\* a. full-time  
b. part-time  
c. self-employed  
d. unemployed  
e. unemployed, but not looking  
for employment  
f. retired

Annual household income to the closest thousands (before taxes):  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Major sources of income: a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Dwelling Characteristics

Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
          number street (apartment no.) community postal code

Name the two streets at the intersection closest to your  
residence : \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been staying at your present address? \_\_\_\_\_

Structural type of dwelling unit : (check one)

detached single family house \_\_\_\_\_

duplex \_\_\_\_\_

row or townhouse \_\_\_\_\_

walk-up apt.(3 storeys or less) \_\_\_\_\_

highrise apt.(4 storeys or more) \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

if converted \_\_\_\_\_

please specify \_\_\_\_\_  
please indicate original  
type \_\_\_\_\_ and number of  
self-contained suites \_\_\_\_\_

total floor area of dwelling unit in square feet

lot size in acreage or square feet

number of bedrooms

average floor area of bedrooms

is dwelling furnished by you?

monthly rental

realty tax payment (excluding school tax)

present market value of entire property

date of construction

age of dwelling

To be answered by homeowners with clear title to their property -

If you got clear title within the past 5 years, please give :

a) date of purchase

c) amortization period

b) down payment

d) principal plus interest per month

How much would you have to pay for rent if you rented your house?

To be answered by home owners with outstanding mortgage:

please give : a) date of purchase

b) downpayment

c) amortization period

d) principal plus interest per month

e) outstanding mortgage

f) details of second mortgage, if any.



### 3. Housing Satisfaction

Are you satisfied with your present housing condition? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, what are the reasons for your dissatisfaction?  
(check where appropriate, and then number those you checked  
in order of priority or significance)

- a. interior and/or exterior of building need(s) repair. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. inadequate utilities (such as hot water, shower, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- c. not enough bedrooms. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. not enough bathrooms. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. not enough space for children. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. not enough light and/or ventilation. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. lack of privacy. \_\_\_\_\_ in what way? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. inconvenient location. \_\_\_\_\_
- i. rent or P.I.T. is too high. \_\_\_\_\_  
is it over one-third of your monthly income (before taxes)? \_\_\_\_\_
- j. neighbourhood considerations. \_\_\_\_\_
- k. Other \_\_\_\_\_ please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Please check those statements that fit your description of  
the neighbourhood environment :

- a. noisy, heavy traffic \_\_\_\_\_
- b. dirty, crowded \_\_\_\_\_
- c. too many children \_\_\_\_\_
- d. undesirable neighbours \_\_\_\_\_
- e. little or no prestige in the city \_\_\_\_\_
- f. lack of community activities \_\_\_\_\_
- g. no one seems to care what the neighbourhood look like \_\_\_\_\_
- h. conditions of buildings are generally poor \_\_\_\_\_
- i. remote from community facilities (such as school and shops) \_\_\_\_\_
- j. poor public transit service \_\_\_\_\_
- k. encroaching industrial activities \_\_\_\_\_
- l. residents are in roughly the same social-economic class \_\_\_\_\_
- m. I feel very much I belong here \_\_\_\_\_
- n. I think building a new home in this neighbourhood would be  
a wise investment \_\_\_\_\_
- o. other \_\_\_\_\_

All in all, would you say you like this neighbourhood very much,  
like it moderately well or dislike it?

- a. like it very much \_\_\_\_\_
- b. like it moderately well \_\_\_\_\_
- c. dislike it \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Housing Preferences

If you are satisfied with your present housing, and if you do not expect to move within the coming 12 months, how much more per month would you be willing to pay to remain staying in your present dwelling ?

How much would you be willing to pay per month to stay rather than move to : locality A? locality B? locality C? locality D?

---

If you are not satisfied with your present dwelling, please specify your preferred house type, size in terms of number of bedrooms, tenure and location.

To be answered by those who prefer rental housing -- How much rent per month would you be willing to pay for your preferred dwelling, if it is unfurnished? if it is furnished?

To be answered by those who do not own their homes and prefer home ownership -- How much downpayment and P.I.T. per month would you be willing and able to pay for your preferred house? For how long? (i.e. length of amortization period) 10 years or less, 15 years, 20 years, (check one)

To be answered by those who are homeowners with outstanding mortgage -- providing that the equity in your home is transferred for the purchase of your preferred dwelling, how much P.I.T. would you be willing to pay per month? For how long? i.e. length of amortization period, 10 years or less, 15, 20, 25, (check one).

To be answered by homeowners with clear title to their property -- providing that you sell your house in exchange for your preferred dwelling, would you have clear title to it? If not, how much more in aggregate would you be willing to pay? Please give details of desired mortgage financing, if required.

---

Do you think you can acquire your preferred housing at the price (rent or P.I.T.) you are willing and able to pay in the City of Winnipeg? If not, why not?

---

If you were to pay the same rent or P.I.T. for a dwelling unit that is physically similar to yours in another locality, how much more per month would you be willing to pay to live in : locality A? locality B? locality C? locality D?

Would you be willing to pay the same rent or P.I.T. for a smaller dwelling unit in your preferred locality? yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many bedrooms in your present dwelling or how much floor space (in square feet) would you be willing to sacrifice for a smaller dwelling unit in your preferred locality?  
bedrooms \_\_\_\_\_ or floor area \_\_\_\_\_ square feet.

If you are buying or owning your house, would you be interested in renting a physically similar house in your preferred location?

## 5. Residential Mobility

Did you move in the past 3 years ?

If yes, how many moves did you make ?

name the two streets at the intersection closest to your former residence, start with the most recent move	tenure a. renting b. buying, outstanding mortgage c. own outright, clear title	house type a. single family b. duplex c. townhouse d. walkup apt. e. highrise apt.	number of bedrooms

is dwelling furnished by you ?	travel time to work or school	monthly payment of rent or P.I.T. (please include information on the amount of equity and outstanding mortgage & terms of payment)	reason for moving a. change in family size b. change in income c. other, specify

Do you expect to move within the next 2 years ?

no \_\_\_ not likely \_\_\_ probably \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ undecided \_\_\_

If yes, what would be the reasons for moving ?

- a. a change in property value \_\_\_ increase or decrease ? \_\_\_
- b. a change in family size \_\_\_ increase or decrease ? \_\_\_
- c. a change in income \_\_\_ increase or decrease ? \_\_\_
- d. job relocation \_\_\_
- e. housing dissatisfaction \_\_\_
- f. in exchange for another house \_\_\_ please specify house type, size in terms of number of bedrooms, tenure and location if it is not your preferred housing. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Would you move to a location a. closer to the city centre ?

b. just where you are ? or c. farther from the city centre ?

Please give two reasons for your decision : a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_

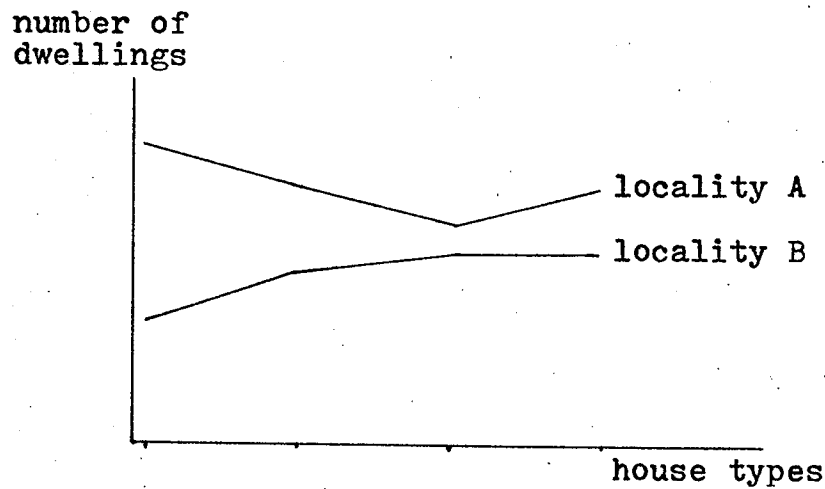
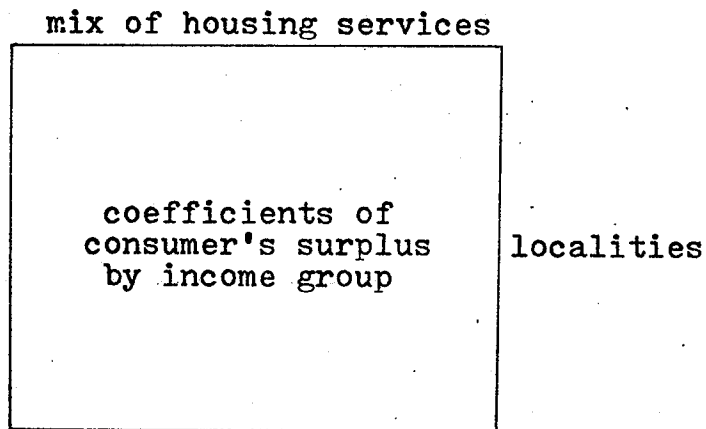
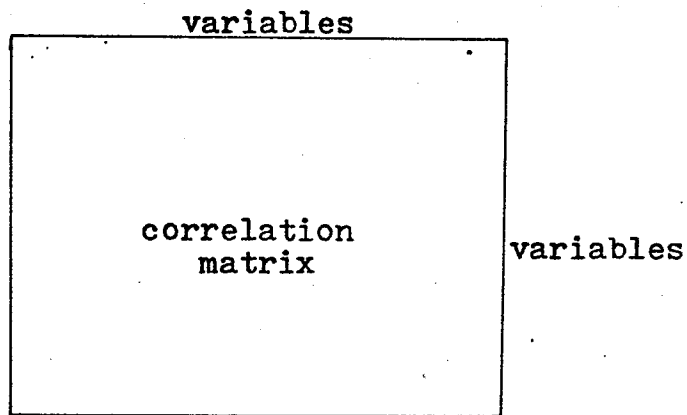
On the enclosed map of Winnipeg, a. Outline your preferred locality (ies); b. Mark your present address with #; c. mark your former addresses with + and number them chronologically. e.g. +'70, +'72<sub>a</sub>, +'72<sub>b</sub>.

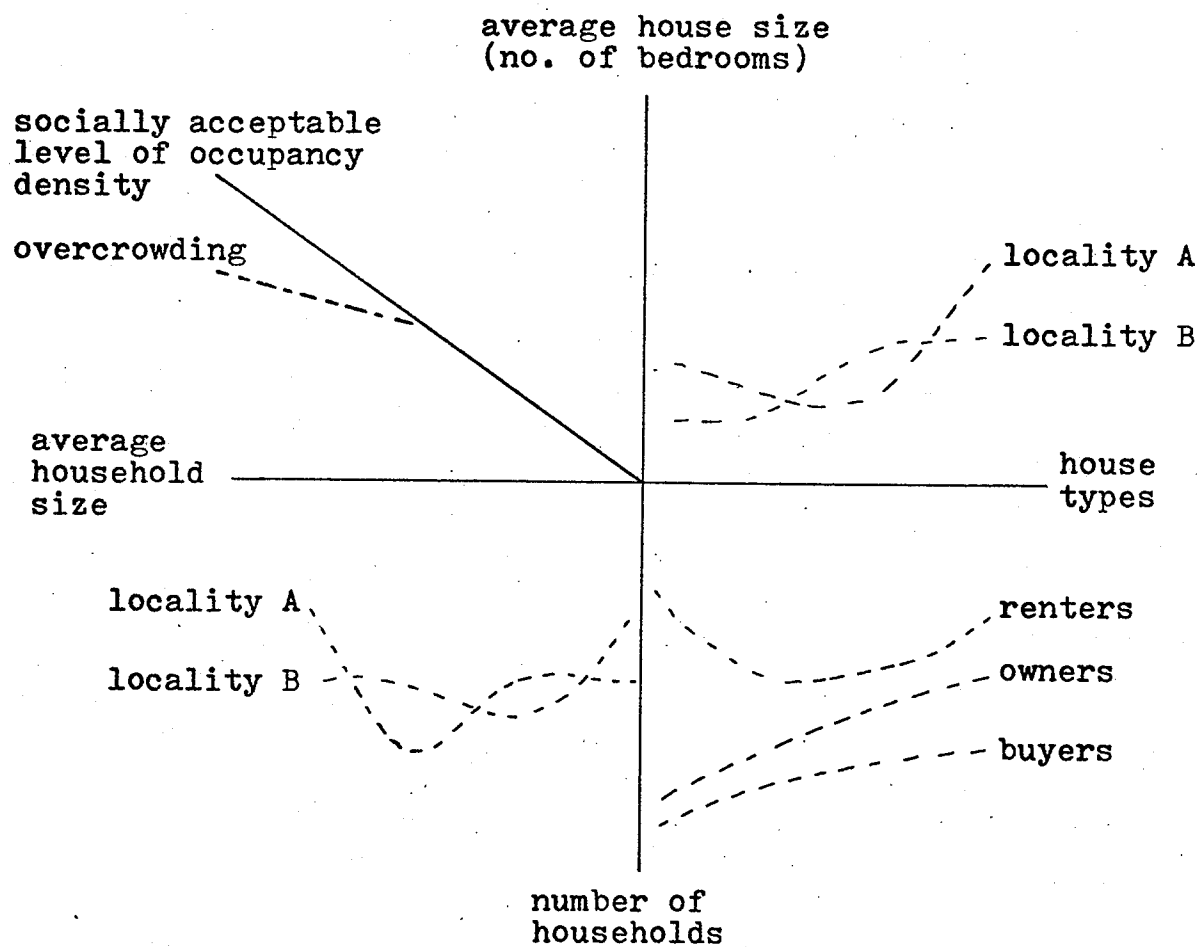
### C. PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF SURVEY FINDINGS

Besides the derivation of housing demand curves, the survey findings provide answers to questions, and illuminate relationships, such as those listed below.

- whether there is a housing problem or an income problem ? relationship between need and demand.
- relationships between effective and potential demand for housing (by income group, housing characteristics and location).
- whether housing needs are to be filled with new stock because of overcrowding, or rehabilitation because of poor housing quality, or improvements on municipal utilities, etc.?
- what are the housing characteristics of the various socio-economic groups?
- what are the consumers' housing preferences?
- what are the characteristics of those who cannot afford their preferred housing?
- what are the characteristics of the preferred locations?
- relationship between travel time and income of the households.
- what are the reasons for residential mobility?
- to what extent is geographic mobility related to socio-economic mobility : a different job, or a change in social status?
- what are the linkages between housing submarkets?

Survey findings can be tabulated and/or presented graphically as follows :





The next step in the analysis consists of comparing existing housing market statistics with survey findings, and using correlation matrix as a means of analyzing interrelationships among selected household and housing variables. Multiple regression equations (such as residential mobility = function of housing dissatisfaction, job relocation, change in income...) may be formulated to identify acceptable and significant explanatory variables for prediction purposes.

One of the desirable final products of analysis is the delineation on the map, of housing submarkets according to the degree of housing substitutability in terms of price, rent, P.I.T., type, size, tenure and location. If the methodology proves to provide a valid and enlightening framework for housing analysis, periodic surveys would serve to check the accuracy of the predictions, and establish a basis for intertemporal comparisons, thus converting the rather static analytical framework into a dynamic housing market model.

### III. MACRO-MICRO FRAMEWORK

The Macro-Micro Framework is an integration of both the Stock Flow and Submarkets Approaches in an attempt to analyze, in aggregate and in part, the structure and performance of the housing markets. This approach is rather comprehensive and its methodology is premised upon maintaining a balanced demand-supply relationship.

The total housing picture is abstracted graphically into four interrelated sectors. Statistics on population and housing characteristics are presented in the format as shown in Diagram 6.

The demand "quadrant" shows the income distribution of households which are classified by age of household head, type of household, incidence of overcrowding, type of tenure, and ratio of housing cost to income. Housing conditions of an income group are evaluated and the extent of physical and/or financial needs are assessed in the manner as depicted in Diagram 7.

The ability to pay "quadrant" <sup>1/</sup> compares the existing rent/P.I.T. (principal, interest and taxes) to income ratios (R/Y) of the income groups with the socially acceptable or politically

<sup>1/</sup> The ability to pay notion must be differentiated from willingness to pay as discussed in the section on the Submarkets Approach. Some households may prefer better housing (e.g. homeownership) to luxurious automobiles and are therefore willing to spend more than say 30% of their income on housing.



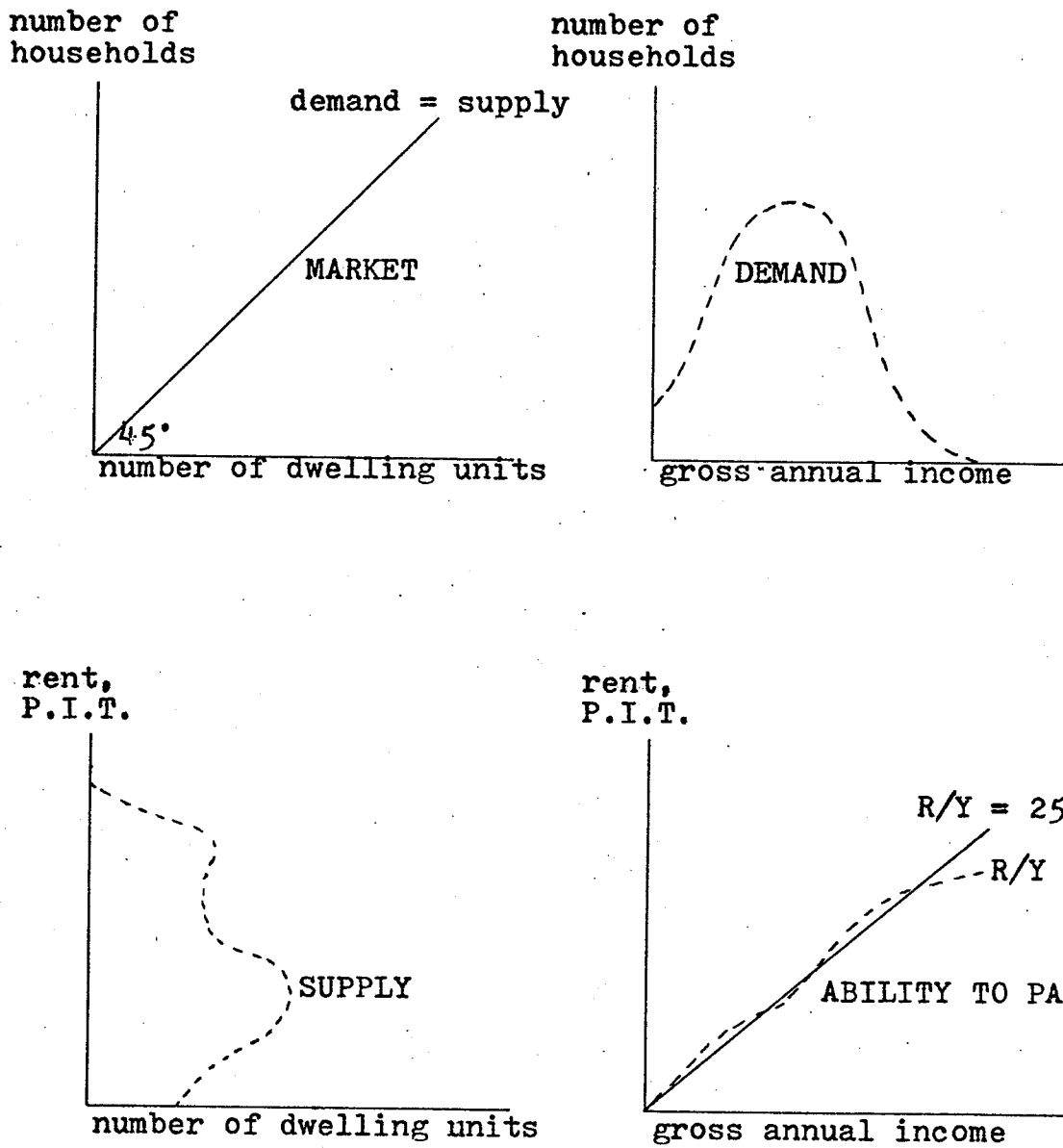
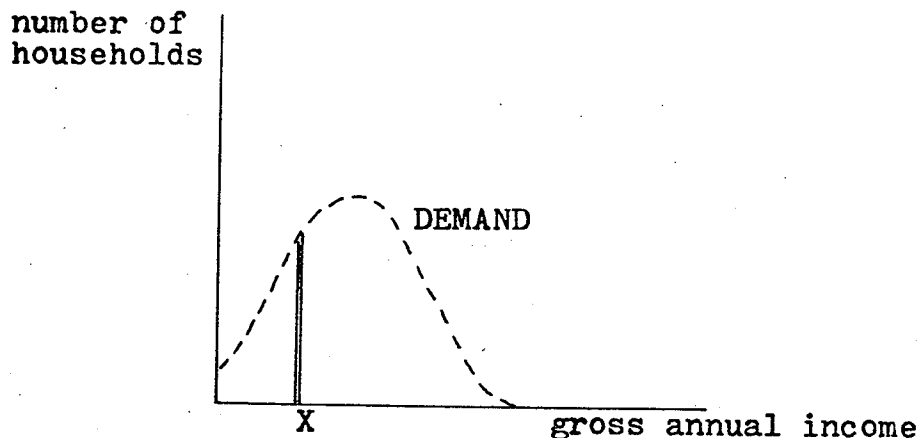


Diagram 6 MACRO-MICRO FRAMEWORK

Diagram 7



income group 'X'					financial housing need	physical housing need
1	2	3	4	5		
64+	F		o			
	N		r			
50-64	F		o			
	N		r			
40-49	F		o			
	N		r			
30-39	F		o			
	N		r			
20-29	F		o			
	N		r			
under 20	F		o			
	N		r			

- Key: 1 - age of household head  
 2 - type of household (F--family or N--non-family)  
 3 - incidence of overcrowding (over 2 persons/bedroom or doubling up)  
 4 - type of tenure (o--owned or r--rented)  
 5 - ratio of housing cost to income (R/Y 25%)

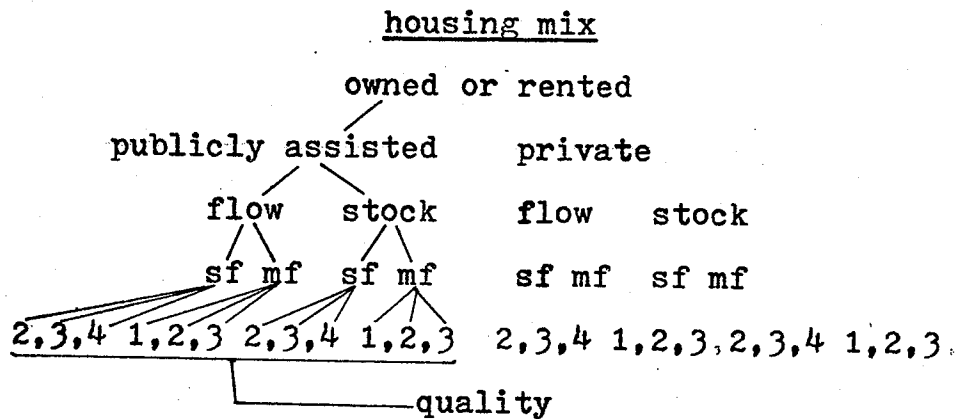
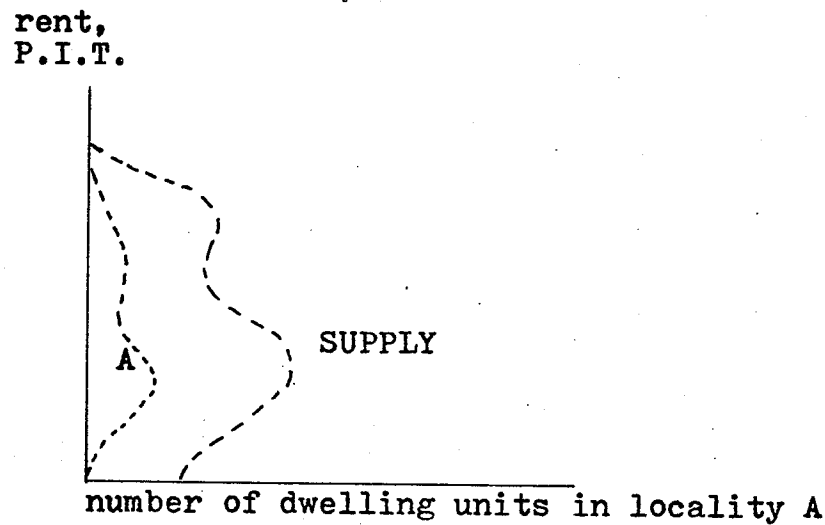
Note: Housing indicators 3 and 5 are similar to the "crowding index"(number of persons per room) and "rent(or value) per room as a percentage of household income" as proposed by the Economic Council of Canada in its 7th Annual Review, 1974.

determined level. This reasonable level of R/Y usually lies somewhere between 22% and 30% of one's gross income, depending on his income level and the cost of living in his community. Any divergence between the existing R/Y and the ideal R/Y at the upper income levels, however, should not warrant as much attention as the R/Y gaps at the lower end of income scale. Since the progressive income tax structure leaves more disposable income for families with children than families with no dependent in the same income group, R/Y will not be adjusted for variations in family size.

The supply "quadrant" displays the number of existing housing units by rent/P.I.T. (price), tenure, type, size, quality and location. <sup>1/</sup> The mix of housing is illustrated in Diagram 8. When the availability of housing is analyzed with the demand and the ability to pay for housing, shortages of housing if any at affordable levels of rent/P.I.T. for some income groups will surface. There may be a surplus of housing at certain higher rent/P.I.T. levels, however they are useless in overcoming shortages in the lower end of the shelter cost scale.

If it is assumed that both financial and physical needs can be fulfilled and eliminated by increasing the households in need their ability to pay for housing, the rent/P.I.T. structure of the housing mix by geographical area is the only significant

<sup>1/</sup> An index measuring the quality of Canada's housing stock is contained in Patterns of Housing Quality by J.S.Kirkland of C.M.H.C., 1972.



Key: sf - single family house types  
mf - multiple family house types  
2,3 - number of bedrooms

Note: housing quality is ranked by characteristics of safety, health, convenience and comfort under three major headings, housing facilities, structural condition, and neighbourhood environment.

Diagram 8 QUANTITATIVE & QUALITATIVE MIX OF HOUSING

variable in the supply quadrant. Cross-classification of household characteristics by dwelling characteristics can therefore be abstracted.

The market "quadrant" matches the total demand against the total supply of available housing units. Demand equals supply when they meet along the 45° line. In order to allow for household formation, undoubling, residential mobility and replacement of demolitions, the point of junction of demand and supply should ideally be located to the right of the 45° line.

This Macro-Micro Framework, as its name suggests, can be applied to analyze a housing market of any size. Statistics at the neighbourhood or micro level can be aggregated for an overall view of the total housing market condition, thus satisfying Grigsby's requirement for housing market analysis — to see the whole and its parts at the same time.

By examining the four sectors of this housing model, physical as well as financial housing needs and the target groups can be identified. The model thus provides a rational basis for the formation of government housing policies and programs, and for the allocation of funding.

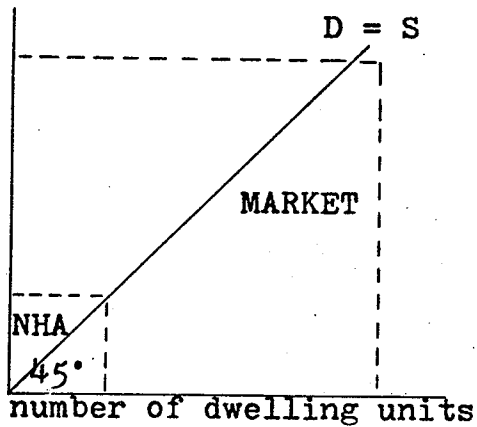
In the event that effectiveness and impact of the housing programs have to be evaluated, statistics on the number of households classified by income and by government housing programs

is required for the demand quadrant. Other pertinent information needed are income qualifications or cost of housing to income ratios under the various programs in the ability to pay quadrant; the number and characteristics of public and publicly assisted housing in the supply quadrant; and the volume of public and publicly assisted housing in the market quadrant. See Diagram 9. Effectiveness of the housing programs or improvement of the target groups' housing condition can then be assessed by reviewing the number of households occupying the public housing stock and the target groups' R/Y ratios a year or two after implementation of the programs.

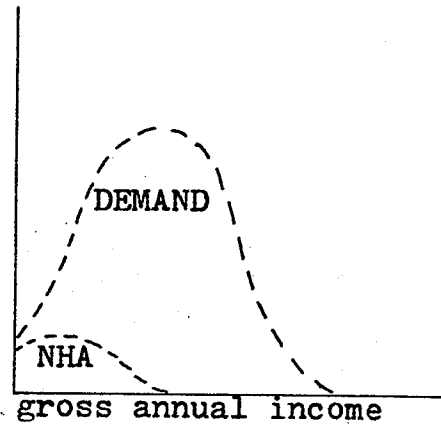
The success of this framework in housing market analysis depends on the availability of population and housing statistics in the specified format. Unfortunately the inadequacy of housing data and the insufficient depth in cross-tabulating household characteristics have thwarted application of this approach.

A somewhat simplified version of this framework was introduced by the Vancouver City Planning Department in its Quarterly Review, May, 1974. The sales sector of the Vancouver housing market as shown in Diagram 10 is represented by two distribution curves, one showing house price and the other, household income expressed in terms of a 25 year, 10% mortgage (if one-quarter of income is for mortgage payments). The superimposition of these two curves determines the number of households that are able to buy houses and the number that are not able to

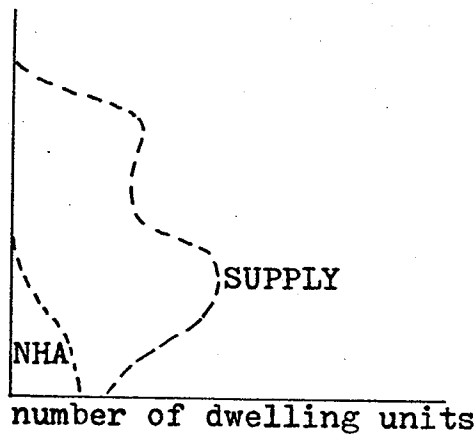
number of  
households



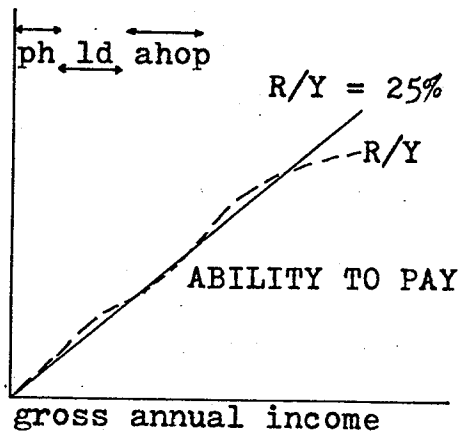
number of  
households



rent,  
P.I.T.



rent,  
P.I.T.

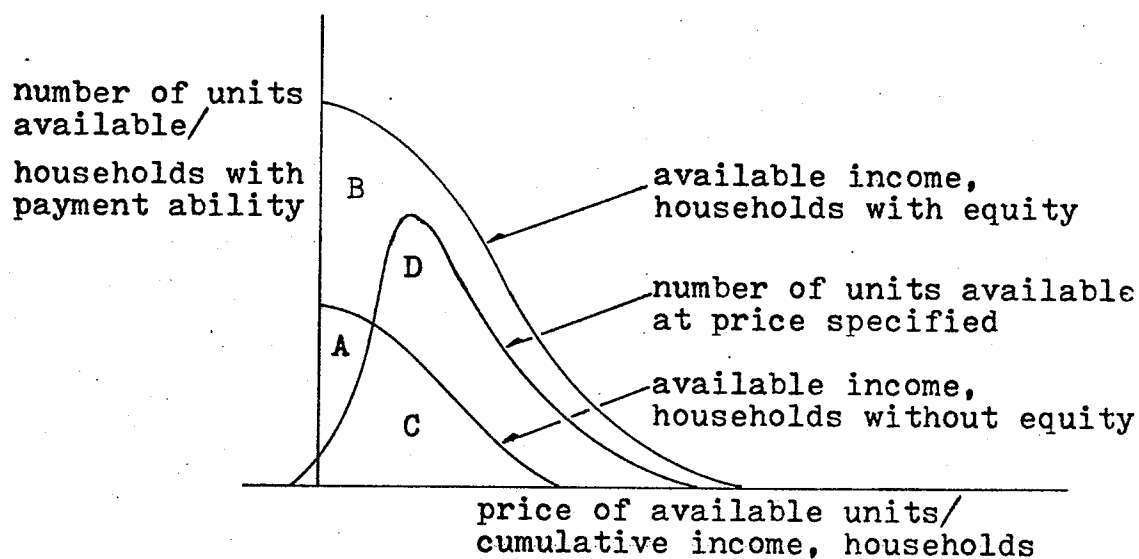


Key: ph - public housing  
ld - limited dividend  
ahop - assisted home-ownership

Diagram 9 GOVERNMENT HOUSING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS AT WORK

enter the sales market. These households occupy the areas labelled C and A in the diagram.

Diagram 10



Source: Vancouver City Planning Department, Quarterly Review, May, 1974, p.19.

As house prices increase, the house price distribution curve will shift to the right. If household incomes increase at a lesser rate, the area of superimposition of the two curves will become smaller. This means that fewer families will be able to buy a home. Those who can barely afford a house must then buy one with less value, relative to the whole distribution of available dwellings.

For people entering the sales market for the first time, there



is the problem of down payment required, especially in time of tight money supply. That is why so many households are being priced out of the sales market by the decreasing loan to value ratio and the increasing downpayment requirement.

The curve of available income of households with equity theoretically takes into account also the equity in the sold property. The Vancouver City Planning Department is attempting to quantitatively describe this curve by assigning particular equities in properties known to have been sold to the income group of the household who, in all probability, sold it. When this curve is superimposed on the curve of available units by price, it defines area B and D which represent the potentially unsatisfied market to households even with equity, and the market only accessible to households with equity at the time of purchase, respectively.

Although this approach can produce an abstraction of the overall sales market in an urban area, policy implications are vague and attempts are being made by the staff of the department to define or identify those groups of people who are affected by rising dwelling prices, from those affected only to a small extent to those being excluded from the housing market altogether.

#### IV. ECONOMETRIC MODELS

Econometric models are economic models using statistical methods to quantify relationships between variables. With the growth in computer technology and the availability of ready-made "debugged" programs, many econometric models are developed to test the practicability of theories explaining the workings of housing markets. Relevance or significance of explanatory factors (or independent variables) are determined in the testing process. Responsiveness of dependent variable to a change in an independent variable is also calculated for prediction purposes.

Whenever several variables act in common to produce a single result, multiple regression can help to disentangle their separate effects. It is therefore the most commonly used technique in econometric models. A multiple regression equation is usually presented in the following form :

$$Y = a + b_{Y1.23}X_1 + b_{Y2.13}X_2 + b_{Y3.12}X_3$$

Where  $a$  is the constant or  $Y$  intercept and  $b_{Y1.23}$ ,  $b_{Y2.13}$ , and  $b_{Y3.12}$  are the regression coefficients. In this equation there are four variables — one dependent ( $Y$ ) and three independent ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ). The regression coefficients indicate the unit change in  $Y$  associated with a unit change in  $X$ , all other independent variables included in the analysis being held constant. This is implied by the subscripts associated with each regression coefficient, for  $b_{Y2.13}$  means "the slope

between  $Y$  and  $X_2$  with  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  held constant". A multiple regression coefficient ( $R$ ) can be calculated, and a multiple coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ), to show the closeness of the relationship between the dependent variables and independent variables taken together.

Since it is the validity of this method or approach that is relevant to us, one of L. B. Smith's models of the Canadian housing market is presented here. <sup>1/</sup> However it should be noted that econometric results of his other model <sup>2/</sup> complement findings of the stock adjustment model as presented below.

#### STOCK ADJUSTMENT MODEL

The general form of the housing stock adjustment model constructed by L. B. Smith is as follows :

$$(HS/fam)_t = Nf(Yd/fam, Pn/Pgne, rm, rm - rb, CMHC)_t - N(Sh/fam)_{t-1}$$

The per family demand for new housing starts  $(HS/fam)_t$  is satisfied in any quarter  $t$  if the desired stock in quarter  $t$  equals the actual stock  $(Sh/fam)_{t-1}$  at the beginning of any quarter. It is the stock adjustment required to eliminate the gap between the desired and actual stock of houses. The desired stock is expressed as a function of per family permanent real disposable income ( $Yd/fam$ ), the price of new houses relative

<sup>1/</sup> Smith, L.B. Housing in Canada : Market Structure and Policy Performance, CMHC, Ottawa, 1971, pp.50-53, pp.55-63.

<sup>2/</sup> Smith, L.B. Housing and Mortgage Markets in Canada, Bank of Canada Staff Research Study No.6, Ottawa, 1970.

to the price of alternative goods and services ( $P_n/P_{gne}$ ), the cost of mortgage credit ( $r_m$ ), the availability of private mortgage credit, represented by the yield spread between mortgages and bonds ( $r_m - r_b$ ), and the volume of direct CMHC mortgage lending ( $CMHC$ ).

The estimated housing start regressions are presented in the following equations using quarterly observations, 1957-1967.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (HS/fam)_t = & .089 - .0050S_1 + .0017S_2 + .0023S_3 + .0019WW \\
 & (3.72) (11.85) (4.13) (5.02) (2.48) \\
 & - .00286r_{m,t-1} + .00174(r_m - r_b)_{t-1} + .0000034\left(\frac{CMHC}{Ph}\right)_t \\
 & (5.45) (2.91) (.97) \\
 & + .0000063\left(\frac{CMHC}{Ph}\right)_{t-1} + .032(Yd/fam)_{t-1} - .021(P_n/P_{gne})_{t-1} \\
 & (1.78) (3.74) (3.25) \\
 & - .082(Sh/fam)_{t-1} \\
 & (3.03)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$1Q57 - 4Q67, R^2 = .94, \bar{R}^2 = .74, SEE = .00079, DW = 2.31$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (HS/fam)_t = & .054 - .0051S_1 + .0016S_2 + .0019S_3 + .0020WW \\
 & (2.18) (11.03) (3.44) (3.80) (2.25) \\
 & - .00199r_{m,t-1} + .00174(r_m - r_b)_{t-1} + .0000028\left(\frac{CMHC}{Ph}\right)_t \\
 & (3.08) (2.55) (.70) \\
 & + .0000111\left(\frac{CMHC}{Ph}\right)_{t-1} + .019(Yd/fam)_{t-1} - .013(Ph/P_{gne})_{t-1} \\
 & (3.23) (2.14) (1.41) \\
 & - .044(Sh/fam)_{t-1} \\
 & (1.59)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$1Q57 - 4Q67, R^2 = .93, \bar{R}^2 = .68, SEE = .00089, DW = 1.93$$

HS	- Total housing starts in thousands of units
fam	- Number of families in thousands
t	- Time period
Yd/fam	- Permanent real family disposable income in millions of dollars per thousand families
Pn	- New NHA home price index (1957 = 100) calculated as the average selling price of new NHA single detached, semi-detached, and row dwellings for owner occupancy
Pgne	- Implicit private GNE deflator (1957 = 100)
rm	- Average mortgage interest rate
rb	- Average bond interest yield
CMHC	- Volume of direct CMHC lending in millions of dollars
Sh	- Total stock of housing units in thousands
Pcn	- Index of the cost of new NHA homes (1957 = 100) for new single detached NHA dwellings
Ph	- Housing price index (1957 = 100) calculated as an average of an index of multiple listing service sales and an index of the cost of new NHA houses
$S_1, S_2, S_3$	- Seasonal dummy variables for the first second, and third quarters respectively
WW	- Winter housebuilding incentive program dummy variable, taking the value one in the last quarters of 1963 to 1965 and zero elsewhere

After calculation of housing stock adjustment or stock demand

elasticities 1/ with respect to 1) permanent family disposable income, 2) relative price of houses, 3) mortgage rate and, 4) credit availability proxy, Smith stated his conclusions in summary form as follows : 2/

1. If one accepts a stock adjustment model as appropriate (that is, a constant speed of adjustment), housing stock has a speed of adjustment of between .17 and .29 (an average of approximately .23). This means that sufficient housing starts to eliminate half the gap between the desired and actual stock of houses occur in approximately two and three-quarter years. If we assume an average construction period from start to completion of just over six months, approximately three and one-quarter years are required to reduce half of the discrepancy and just under six years are required to reduce three-quarters of the discrepancy between the desired and actual stock of houses.

2. The equilibrium per family stock demand elasticity for houses with respect to permanent family disposable income is approximately .50, and the impact elasticity (one-quarter) is approximately .04.

1/ Elasticity refers to relative responsiveness of one variable (e.g. housing stock demand) to change in another variables (e.g. mortgage rate); in other words, the percentage change in the former variable resulting from a 1 percentage change in the latter. When the coefficient of elasticity equals one, demand has unity elasticity. If the coefficient is greater than 1, demand is said to be elastic. Finally, if the coefficient is less than 1, demand is inelastic.

2/ Smith, L.B. Housing in Canada : Market Structure and Policy Performance, op.cit. pp.62-63.

3. The equilibrium per family stock demand elasticity for houses with respect to the relative price of houses ( $P_h/P_{gne}$ ) is approximately  $-.25$  and the impact elasticity (one-quarter) is approximately  $-.016$ .
4. The equilibrium per family stock demand elasticity with respect to the mortgage rate is between  $-.21$  and  $-.27$ , and the impact elasticity (one-quarter) is between  $-.012$  and  $-.017$ .
5. The equilibrium per family stock demand elasticity with respect to the credit availability proxy (the mortgage-bond yield differential) is between  $.027$  and  $.050$ , and the impact elasticity (one-quarter) is  $.0022$ .

These regression coefficients and the coefficients of elasticities are estimates of the relationship between variables and provide the basis for predictions, for example of the effect of mortgage rate variations on housing starts. This kind of econometric model is therefore particularly helpful in formulating and evaluating housing policies.

## V. FORCASTING TECHNIQUES

In addition to regression analysis and coefficients of elasticities, there are other techniques and indicators which may be used for purposes of forecasting housing demand, housing supply and performance of housing market. In what follows, objectives and procedures of some major forecasting techniques are outlined.

Forecasts of housing demand and supply may have many purposes depending on their use by the various organization and individuals having an interest in housing as consumers, public authorities, investors, building industry, and firms producing equipment and facilities for dwellings.

### A. HOUSING DEMAND

In the case of housing demand forecasts, information on probable demand behaviour of households and their housing preferences can be used by producers and investors in their decisions regarding the volume of house building, and by public authorities for taking measures to regulate the housing market in accordance with their housing policies. <sup>1/</sup>

The basic components of housing demand for forecasting are population, net household formation, household characteristics

<sup>1/</sup> United Nations, Economic Commission For Europe, Housing Requirements and Demand : Current Methods of Assessment and Problems of Estimation 1973.



(e.g. age of head, family size), and household income.

Projections of these components (under a certain set of assumptions of future rents/prices, housing supply, price elasticity of housing demand, and general economic conditions) may indicate the quantitative and qualitative housing requirements at various income levels.

Current methods of projection applicable to an area experiencing growth in population include : extrapolation of past trends of population growth, lines of extrapolation may be modified according to basic assumptions on socio-economic determinants of the population growth; cohort analysis (i.e. estimation of future age-sex composition of population on the basis of current age-specific survival rates and fertility rates); and extrapolation of marriage rates, growth rates of non-family households and net migration as a basis for estimation of net household formation during a certain time period. <sup>1/</sup> Since recent trends of family size and non-family household size in major population centres indicate a steady decline, the current average household sizes are usually considered acceptable for calculating future dwelling size mix.

Estimation of distribution of households by income intervals and size, and by age of household head at a certain date in

<sup>1/</sup> For estimates of household formation at sub-national levels, see Kirkland, J.S. Demographic Aspects of Housing Demand to 1986, Staff Study, CMHC, 1971.

the future involves first of all, estimation of total income of all households in a city under study on the basis of the basic or export activities of the local economy, and then an examination of past household income distribution patterns. In the short-run, income distribution is a rather stable phenomenon, although a gradual process of income redistribution is going on, leading to the decrease of the proportion of the lowest and highest income groups.

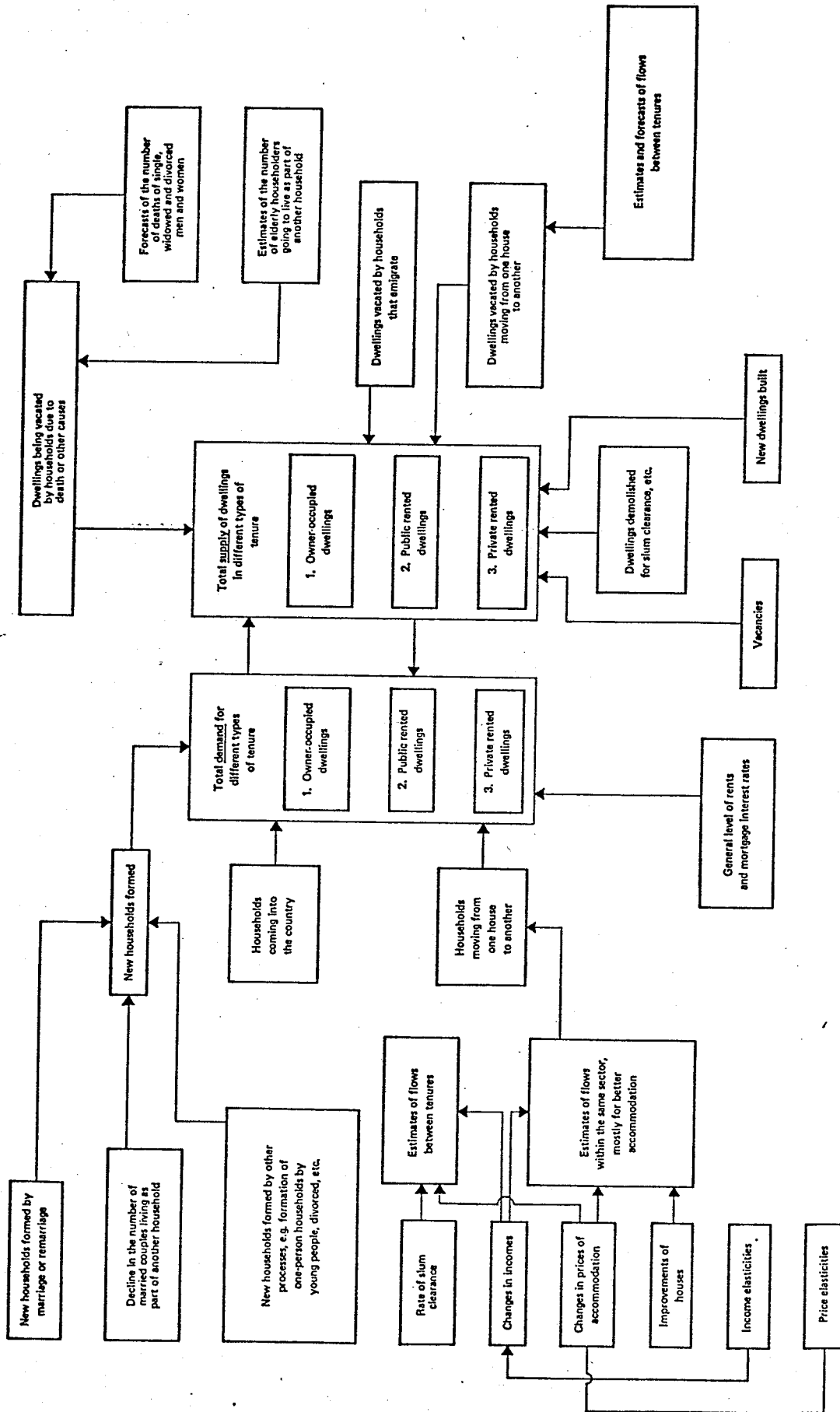
The statistics on households by size, and income combined with assumptions on the ability to pay for housing, are then used in forecasting the effective future demand for housing. The extent of ineffective demand is also estimated in the process. Income elasticity of demand for housing obtained from regression analysis of historic data can be used to improve the reliability of these demand estimates. The complexity of estimating future housing demand is systematized by the following flow chart of the basic parts in demand forecasting. See Diagram 11.

Estimates of future housing demand derived from applying the above methodology should also include allowance for residential mobility, existing housing shortages, and replacement demand created by the number of dwellings which will become unfit for occupation.

#### B. HOUSING SUPPLY

Forecasts of residential construction activities rely mainly

Diagram 11



Source: United Nations, Economic Commission for Europe, Housing Requirements and Demand: Current Methods of Assessment and Problems of Estimation, 1973, p.32.

on econometric analysis of effects of variables such as mortgage interest rate on housing starts. However, econometric models which are so time and energy consuming may not be appropriate forecasting tools for builders and small planning departments. A few simple "rules of thumb" are presented here as aids to estimation of housing starts and housing completions.

"Since shifts in housing starts have both an immediate impact on earnings and a delayed reaction on shelter standards," 1/ research attempts were made at the Prairie Regional Office of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to come up with proven procedures for forecasting housing starts and completion in the five major prairie centres (namely Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina, Edmonton and Calgary). Successful and reliable forecasting will certainly lead to more effective policy planning in the field of housing.

After examination of historic data on the flow supply of housing, it was discovered that the housing inventory of builders (i.e. total number of units under construction and units newly completed and unoccupied) at time  $t$  is inversely related to the number of housing starts registered in the same time period. An explanation for this relationship is that builders may require sale of units built before they can re-finance construction of more new units. In periods of

1/ Maisel, S.J. "A Theory of Fluctuation in Residential Construction Starts", American Economic Review, June, 1963, p.360.

exceptionally tight money and/or economic recession, absorption of newly completed housing units however may not lead to housing starts at a level as indicated by the past trends or the inventory-starts relationship. It is therefore concluded that the use of this rule of thumb requires also knowledge of the state of the economy, and of the trends in city planning.

In time of housing shortages, what most politicians and public officials concern about in housing is the volume of housing starts. "Once the start has commenced, concern ends" <sup>1/</sup> Seldom does the length of housing construction or the number of completions receive the same amount of attention except when prolonged material shortages or strikes are making headlines in the news. Since forecasts of housing market performance require estimation of housing supply, ways of estimating number of completions are investigated.

Completions of single detached, semi-detached and duplex units can be assumed to be an exact function of starts six months earlier. Although housing units started in winter months generally take longer time to finish, six months appear to be the average length of construction for this type of housing. Completions of row and apartment units can be estimated on the basis of the size of the project, i.e. the more units are

<sup>1/</sup> Dennis and Fish, Programs in Search of a Policy, Hakkert, Toronto, 1972. p.4.

involved, the longer the length of construction will be. This correlation between size and length of construction can be extracted from the registry of dates of starts and completions of multiple family housing projects already on the market. 1/

A simpler way to forecast completion of one and two family units is to shift the curve showing number of housing starts six months forward to the right on the time axis to indicate monthly completions in the coming six months. If ten to fifteen months appear to be the average length of construction for multiple family units, then the curve showing row and apartment starts can similarly be shifted ten to fifteen months forward to show monthly or quarterly volume of completions within that period.

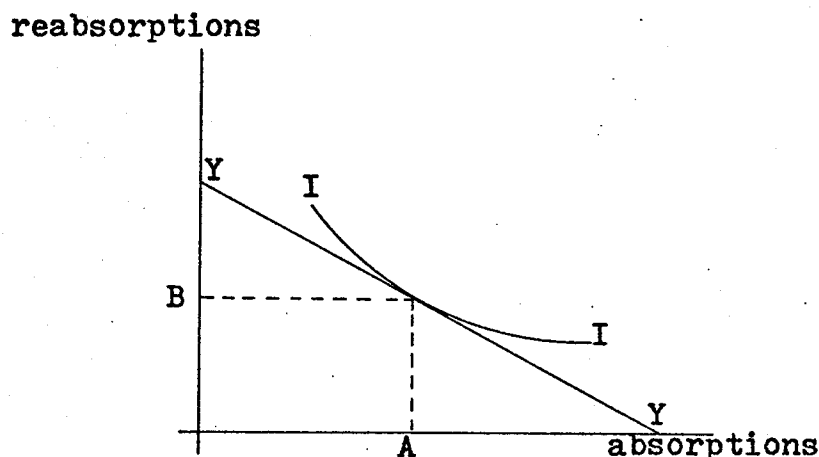
### C. HOUSING MARKET PERFORMANCE

There are a few housing market indicators that govern the rate of residential construction. An example is the apartment vacancy rate. A decrease in the vacancy rate (multiplied by the apartment vacancy survey universe) indicates reabsorptions of existing unoccupied units, while an increase in vacancy rate means more vacant units of the existing stock and the newly completed and unoccupied units that are more than six months old. Normally, housing starts will increase if the housing market is tight, and slacken when the vacancy rate is high.

1/ Advancements in building technology have not shorten the length of construction of single family homes to a noticeable extent.

If housing demand as indicated by the current low vacancy rate is confronted with little or no completions (i.e. flow supply), an even lower vacancy rate can be expected. More reabsorptions in the existing rental market will take place as there will be limited flow supply in the new rental market. Statistics on absorptions and reabsorptions in the five prairie centres indicate an inverse relationship between absorptions and reabsorptions. In other words, high levels of absorption are associated with low levels of reabsorptions and low levels of absorptions are compensated by high levels of reabsorptions. See Diagram 12. The line YY (budget line) and II (indifference curve) in the diagram need to be researched further before their use in housing market forecasts can be finalized.

Diagram 12



- A + B = total demand for apartments  
YY - "community's budget line for apartment consumption"  
II - "community's decision or preference"

If the current level of effective housing demand in the apartment rental sector as represented by the vacancy rate is known, the number of new units to be put on the market during the coming six months will serve to indicate the level of vacancies at the end of the six month period. Predictions of vacancy rates can then be incorporated into estimation of housing starts to enhance the reliability of the whole forecasting procedure.



VI. THRESHOLD ANALYSIS

The preceeding methodologies deal mainly with housing demand and supply and the housing condition of the population, and little has been said about the physical limitations to the supply of housing. Threshold analysis is concerned with such limitations to housing developments. 1/

Housing supply is generally expressed as a function of cost and availability of money, land, labour and building materials. However, threshold or maximum capacity of a municipal service, such as water supply or sewage treatment, can exert pressure thwarting residential construction when the water or sewage treatment plant in question is already operating at full capacity. Capital investment and time are needed for the expansion of the plant before the service can be provided to the marginal subdivision. It is therefore necessary for developers/builders to find out in the planning stages if their servicing requirements can be met by the municipality in which housing developments are to be located.

Since it is the responsibility of city planning authorities to forecast future demand for developable land and municipal

1/ See Hughes, J.T., and Kozlowski, J. "Urban Threshold Theory and Analysis", Journal of the Town Planning Institute, Vol.53, 1967, pp.55-60. and "Threshold analysis — An Economic Tool for Town and Regional Planning" Urban Studies, Vol.5, 1968, pp.132-43.

utilities and to make steps to meet those needs, threshold analysis provides the analytical framework necessary for urban development planning.

This method calls for firstly, identification of the physical limitations to urban development and secondly, calculation of the costs required for expansion of public services and utilities. It may be necessary for planning authorities to compare the costs of improving the infrastructure with the benefits of urban growth so that planning of new residential development can be made to conform to the criteria of optimal city size, 1/ and any adopted regional development plans.

Fiscal squeeze at the municipal level of government is a manifestation of the onset of development threshold. As municipal revenues cannot keep abreast with rising expenditures on municipal services, a readily available solution is to slow down or to restrict urban growth. This causes delays in the approval of proposed housing developments, and contributes to escalation of housing costs and land prices. Threshold analysis

1/ An optimal city size is the population level where marginal socio-economic benefits (of agglomeration economies) are equal to marginal socio-economic costs of urban problems. See Duncan, O.D. "Optimum Size of Cities" in Hatt & Reiss, eds. Reader in Urban Sociology, for a list of criteria used in determining an optimum city size. A comprehensive summary of studies investigating the existence of economies of scale in cost functions for local public services (such as education, police and fire protection, gas, electricity, refuse collection, and sewage plants) is provided by W.I. Hirsch "The Supply of Urban Public Services", in Perloff & Wingo Jr. (eds.) Issues in Urban Economics, Johns Hopkins, 1968.

thus offers insights into the obstacles to housing supply, and it may well be a more realistic approach to forecasting housing supply and the maximum number of housing units that can generate enough tax revenues to justify their development. 2/

2/ See Sternlieb, G. et.al. Housing Development and Municipal Costs, Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University, N.J. 1973.

FOUR. A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE STRUCTURE AND  
PERFORMANCE OF THE HOUSING MARKET IN WINNIPEG,  
1961 - 1973

The following is a housing market profile of Metropolitan Winnipeg, prepared for the Prairie Regional Office of CMHC in the summer of 1973. Given the statistics that were available, the structure and performance of the housing market in Winnipeg from 1961 to 1973 were analyzed within the stock flow framework. Housing market indicators were developed to show the relationships between demand and supply of housing. However, analysis of aggregate data seldom can develop the needed housing policies and programs at the neighbourhood level.

I. POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Metropolitan Winnipeg comprises 54.7% of Manitoba's total population in 1971 compared to 51.6% in 1961. Total population for the Metropolitan area has increased in absolute terms at a near constant rate during the census period from 1961 to 1971 (1961 - 1966 = +32,770; 1966 - 1971 = +31,503). See Table 1.1. As indicated by the total provincial growth rate of 41,380 and 25,181 for the same time periods, Winnipeg is continuing to be a major growth centre in Manitoba.

The process of urbanization, i.e. the shift of population from rural areas or smaller centres to metropolitan areas, together

with the post-war baby boom which is now having its greatest impact in the housing market, have contributed to an accelerated demand for new housing space. As shown in Table 1.1 and its corresponding Charts 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, the age groups which have been growing more rapidly are the younger married, the single, and the senior citizens of the population.

The number of family formations in Winnipeg was 10,120 between 1961 and 1966, and 12,228 from 1966 to 1971. It includes new families formed by marriages, undoubling and in-migrated family households. The number of non-family households formed showed a higher rate of increase from 7,208 in the 1961-1966 period to 11,510 in the 1966-1971 period. The number of family households as a percentage of the total number of households declined from 86.2% in 1961 to 78.2% in 1971. Moreover, during the inter-census period of 1961-1971, the average size of family households decreased from 3.9 to 3.5 persons while that of non-family households showed a reverse trend, 1.5 to 1.8. (See Charts 1.1.3 and 1.1.4) All this explains partly the growing preference of the housing population for rental accomodation as indicated by the rising ratio of rental occupancy to homeownership in Chart 6.1.3.

Housing statistics of the 1971 Census indicate a general improvement of housing condition over 1961 and 1966. This is evidenced by a decrease in the number of households sharing accomodation and/or household facilities with other households,

overcrowded dwellings and the average number of persons per room. (See Table 1.1) Because of the ambiguity and subjectivity involved in the evaluation of the structural condition of dwellings by the occupants themselves, Census statistics on the quality of housing are not included.

Maps showing housing conditions can be found in the Detailed Area Plans. They were prepared by the Planning Department of Winnipeg on the basis of survey findings of exterior dwelling condition and realty tax assessment figures. Attempts to update these maps are being made by both the Planning Priorities Committee of Cabinet and the Planning Department of the City.

## II. SUPPLY OF HOUSING

### A. Flow Supply of Housing

On the supply side, annual new additions (or flow supply) of single family dwellings to the housing stock have been proportionately less than that of apartments (see Charts 2.1.1 and 2.1.2). The relatively inelastic supply of single family housing has been driving up prices in the rather tight sales market, making homeownership more difficult for an increasing number of family households.

Structural changes on the supply side, such as the artificial scarcity of serviced land and the resulting land price inflation, rising construction cost and the general inflation, have

thwarted private housing production of a qualitative composition and at a scale that could alleviate the demand pressure in the housing market, especially the sector of low cost housing for homeownership.

Table 2.2 shows the rising trends of the consumer price index and its housing component (which includes rental shelter and household operation only). From its base of 100 in 1961, the general consumer price index climbed to 135.5 in 1972, while the housing component index rose to 120.6 in 1972 from 100 in 1961.

The annual average selling price of new single detached dwellings financed under N.H.A. and sold by builders has been in the neighbourhood of \$22,000 for the last five years. The annual average resale price of existing houses, however, has increased from \$13,878 in 1967 to \$19,579 in 1972. See Table 2.2. Prices of new dwellings for sale in the private market are not available for comparison, however recent experiences indicate prices are skyrocketing and most houses were sold in the range of \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The average down payment on new NHA single detached dwellings dropped from the 1969-1970 level of \$4,300 to \$3,400 in 1971 and 1972 (see Table 2.2) while the average gross debt service remained in the neighbourhood of \$2,300. These cost movements are accounted for by the lowering of the NHA mortgage interest

rate (Chart 2.2.8) together with the 1972 amendments to the National Housing Act.

In August 1972, the maximum NHA loan for single-detached, semi-detached and family row-housing units was raised from \$25,000 to \$30,000 for new construction. The loan ratio was set at 95% of lending value. In addition, the calculation of a borrower's income now includes a portion or all of the spouse's income in order to establish a gross debt service ratio of 30%, up 3% from the previous GDS ratio.

Since there is no residential construction input price index for census metropolitan areas, average cost of new NHA financed single detached dwellings as estimated by loan applicants, either owners or builders, is used to show the rising trend of land and construction costs (see Table 2.2). The average estimated dwelling cost rose by \$4,000 from \$19,674 in 1968 to \$23,691 in 1972, although there had been a reduction in the average floor area of the units in response to a decline in family size of the average NHA home purchaser. The average land cost estimate increased from \$4,160 to \$5,190 in the same time period while construction costs on a square foot basis rose from \$13.93 to \$17.00. (See Explanatory Notes of Table 86 on Page 98 of the Canadian Housing Statistics, 1972) Land cost as percentage of the total dwelling cost estimate however remained in the neighbourhood of 21% during the past five years, indicating a rather constant relationship between



the two cost components, land and building.

#### B. Stock Supply of Housing

The lack of statistics of stock adjustment on an annual basis, i.e. the number of net additions to stock by conversions, poses a problem in calculating annual housing stock and consequently restricts stock flow analysis and market performance evaluation to be conducted only on an intercensal basis — 1956-1961, 1961-1966 and 1966-1971.

The following table outlines the different cases which may or may not require a conversion permit from the Planning Department. It can be seen that the registration of a conversion does not necessarily result in an addition to or a reduction in the housing stock.

### III. HOUSING MONEY MARKET

The prices of money and alternative investment opportunities (with higher yield, shorter maturity and more liquidity) affect the cost and availability of mortgage credit to both the housing suppliers and consumers, and subsequently housing starts.

Mortgage interest rates, as well as bank rates and bond yields surged upward in the latter half of 1969 as a result of anti-inflationary policies, and reached their highest peaks in the

Dwelling Type	Activity	Converted Dwelling Type	Conversion and Building Permits	Census Definition	Change in Housing Stock
single detached	doubling up	single detached	no	1 dwelling unit -- 1 household with 2 families	0
single detached	structural conversion	duplex	yes	2 dwelling units, 2 households	+
commercial building	dual use ; commercial + residential	no change	yes	1 dwelling unit	+
any	dual use : residential + commercial	no change	yes	1 dwelling unit	0
rooming house	repossession by owner	single detached	no	1 dwelling unit	0
duplex	repossession by owner	single detached	no	1 dwelling unit	-

1969-1970 period. (See Table 3.1 and Charts 3.1.1-3.1.4) The rather tight money market situation depressed all types of housing starts except row and semi-detached units which in aggregate climbed to its all time high of 1,635 starts in 1970.

In times of general price inflation, restrictive fiscal and monetary policies appear to be incompatible with an expansionary housing policy which aims at stimulating housing demand and supply by extending easy and relatively low cost credit to both housing consumers and producers. However, the co-existence of high unemployment and inflation may require a selective control of credit, i.e. to curb excess demand and consumption of some other goods and services while ensuring adequate funds available at low enough interest rates for housing production and consumption.

With the expansion of the Assisted Home-Ownership Program which provides to those who qualify, an annual grant of \$300 and a 95% loan to amortize in 35 years at 7 5/8% interest rate, the social-economic pressure for low cost mortgage loans and the rather tight housing money market can be relieved.

The role of government in the financing of new housing through CMHC is indicated by the ratio of NHA financed housing starts to conventionally financed housing starts (see Table 3.2).

Non-NHA lenders had been responsible for a large position of new residential construction prior to 1970. The introduction

of four special housing programs by CMHC during 1970-1971 is reflected by the ratio which rose from 0.63 in 1969 to 4.59 in 1972.

#### IV. URBAN LAND SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT

The map showing historical growth pattern in the Metropolitan Winnipeg Development Plan serves to illustrate the spatial configuration and age composition of all buildings and structures established up to 1966. Land developments from 1966 to 1973 can be seen by comparing the aforementioned map with the 1973 map of Winnipeg (prepared by Surveys, Mapping and Lands Branch, Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management, Winnipeg).

The ownership and availability of serviced or developable land influence to a large extent the volume of new residential construction and price/rent structure of the new units. The Planning Department has designated areas which will be available for residential development in the next five years as "A Areas", and areas that will be ready between 1978 and 1985 as "B Areas". Total acreage amounts to 2,170 in A Areas and 8,450 in B Areas, making up a grand total of 10,620 acres. A map showing the distribution of A and B Areas can be obtained from the Planning Department.

The land ownership pattern is strongly in favour of large

developers/builders who hold 54% of A Areas and 24% of B Areas, while the city own 19% of A Areas and a meager 1% of B Areas. (See Table 4.1) In aggregate, large developers/builders control 30% of the residential land supply in the next ten years while the city commands only 5% of this land inventory.

The number of residential lots in January 1973 plus the number of serviced lots that are expected to be coming on the land market in 1973 yield a total of 3,380 lots, and they are selling in the range of \$95 to \$135 a frontage foot.

#### V. ECONOMIC BASE

The measures in Table 5.1 are selected to indicate the performance of the local economy as it relates to demand for construction and residential development. In order to determine whether the local economy has been conducive to new residential construction and perhaps renewal activities, the following factors must be considered together with the cost and availability of land, building materials and money as discussed in previous sections.

1. The role and efficiency of the municipal government in the provision of services to new subdivisions;
2. The size of labour force and the rate of unemployment;
3. The level and distribution of household incomes.

An attempt was made to forecast future housing demand by

relating population growth to a 0.1 rise in the employment index (of firms with 20 or more employees). If the 1966-1971 trend were to continue, an increase of 0.1 in the employment index would represent a population growth of 543 people. However, a change in the mix of economic activities and demographic characteristics, e.g. population mobility, may invalidate this method of housing demand projection.

#### VI. PERFORMANCE OF HOUSING MARKETS

The strength of housing demand and the responsiveness of housing supply in meeting demand are measured by the following indicators:

1. Absorption Rate - defined as the number of new sales and rental units absorbed as a percentage of flow supply in a time period. The formulas for calculating absorption rate on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis are:

a) Monthly Absorption Rate

$$FS_2 = NC \& U_1 + C_2$$

$$A_2 = FS_2 - NC \& U_2$$

$$AR_2 = \frac{A_2}{FS_2} \times 100\%$$

where FS = Flow Supply  
NC & U = Newly completed and unoccupied  
C = Completions  
A = Absorptions  
AR = Absorption Rate  
2 = of month 2

b) Quarterly Absorption Rate

$$FS_{4,5,6} = NC \& U_3 + C_{4,5,6}$$

$$A_{4,5,6} = FS_{4,5,6} - NC \& U_6$$

$$AR_{4,5,6} = \frac{A_{4,5,6}}{FS_{4,5,6}} \times 100\%$$

where 4,5,6 = of months 4,5, & 6

c) Annual Absorption Rate

$$FS = NC \& U_{12 \text{ of } y-1} + C_y$$

$$A_y = FS_y - NC \& U_{12 \text{ of } y}$$

$$AR_y = \frac{A_y}{FS_y} \times 100\%$$

where y = year y

12 of y-1 = of month 12 in a year prior to y

2. % Sales/Listings - defined as the number of sales as a percentage of listings in a time period. The formulas for calculating the rate on a quarterly or annual basis are:

a) Quarterly % Sales/Listings =  $S_{4,5,6} / L_{4,5,6} \times 100\%$

$$U_3 = L_3 - S_3$$

$$NL_4 = L_4 - U_3$$

$$L_{4,5,6} = U_3 + NL_{4,5,6}$$

where U = Unsold listings

L = Listings

S = Sales

NL = Additions to Listings

3 = of month 3

4,5,6 = of month 4,5, & 6

b)  $\text{Annual \% Sales/Listings} = S_y / L_y \times 100\%$

$$L_y = U_{12 \text{ of } y-1} + NL_y$$

where y = year y

12 of y-1 = of month 12 in a year prior to y

It should be noted that not all houses are resold through the multiple listing service; some are sold through exclusive listings while others are transferred without going through real estate agents. The number of listings entered into the resales market may be reduced by being delisted, thereby lowering the number of net additions to the multiple listings service. Furthermore, sales of existing houses for redevelopment or other non-residential uses have to be taken into consideration when interpreting the sales/listings percentages.

3. Quarterly Housing Market Transaction Rate - defined as the total of absorptions and sales as a percentage of flow supply and listings over a three month period to measure the aggregate performance or tightness of the resales, new sales and new rental markets.

The above indicators are meaningful only when they are interpreted in conjunction with their base figures, i.e. total flow supply or listings in absolute terms. In other words, a high percentage does not necessarily infer a large volume of absorptions or sales.

4. Apartment Vacancy Rate - expressed by



Vacancies  
Publicly & Privately Initiated Apartments X 100% to indicate  
the tightness  
of the rental  
market.

5.  $\Delta$ Starts /  $\Delta$ 1000 Population - change in starts per 1000  
increase in population be-  
tween two census years.
6.  $\Delta$ Starts /  $\Delta$ 1000 Households - change in starts per 1000  
increase in households be-  
tween two census years.
7.  $\Delta$ Completions /  $\Delta$ 1000 Population
8.  $\Delta$ Completions /  $\Delta$ 1000 Households
9.  $\Delta$ Absorptions /  $\Delta$ 1000 Households

For market performance indicators (5) - (9), cumulative starts between, say 1961 and 1966, is calculated by adding one half of starts in 1961 and 1966 to starts between 1962 and 1965. Mobile units of the housing stock are not included in the calculations. The difference between values for indicators (8) and (9) yields the ratio of  $\Delta$ Newly Completed & Unoccupied /  $\Delta$ 1000 Households for the same inter-census period.

The following ratios are attempts to quantify physical housing need on the assumption that each household should possess one dwelling unit. Overcrowding and the quality of housing are not considered because of the risk of double-counting and the lack of meaningful measures for housing quality.

10. Occupied Dwellings/Households - ratio of occupied dwellings to number of households (derived by undoubling households with two or more families).
11. Housing Stock/Households - ratio of total housing stock to number of households.

In order to allow for household formation, undoubling, residential mobility and replacement of demolitions, market indicators (6), (8) and (9) must show a value well above 1000, while indicators (10) and (11) must be considerably higher than 1.

12. Rented/Owned - ratio of rental occupancy to homeownership.
13. Public Stock/Private Stock - ratio of public to private stock of housing.

Indicators, in particular (8), (9), (11) and (12) together with the charts showing average prices of new and used houses, household income distribution and the qualifying incomes under the various government housing programs can explain to a large extent the affordability or economic accessibility of housing.

As shown in Table 6.1, annual flow supply increased from 3552 units in 1967 to the record high of 8841 units in 1971 while annual absorptions rose from 2945 to 8228 in the same period. Although the flow supply of housing declined from its peak in 1971 to 7700 in 1972, the number of absorptions (7153) was

high enough to yield an annual absorption rate of 92.9%. Since about half of the annual flow supply had been made up of apartments prior to 1972 (see Table 2.1), absorptions in the last four or five years were mainly that of apartments in the rental market.

The number of listings entered into the resales market has been on the increase for the last few years, from 3829 in 1968 to 5811 in 1972, signalling a combination of filtering down, residential mobility, speculative profiteering and a tight new sales market (see Table 6.2). Annual sales also experienced a rising trend, up from 3662 in 1968 to 5520 in 1972. The fact that annual sales as a percentage of annual listings remained in the neighbourhood of 95% indicates that the resales market was rather tight during the 1968-1972 period. The new rental, sales and resales markets combined also showed similarly high rates of housing market transaction, around 95% during 1968-1972 except for 1970 when there was a sharp increase in the flow supply.

The apartment vacancy rate stood at 1.5% between 1967 and 1969. The tightness of the rental market prompted the supply side to respond with a large injection of housing starts, particularly of apartments which amounted to 6180 units or 68.44% of all starts in 1969 (see Tables 6.1 & 2.1).

As shown by indicators (5) - (8) in Table 6.3 and Charts 6.3.2.

- 6.3.5, flow supply of housing increased at a faster rate than population growth and household formation over the two inter-census periods. The number of completions per 1000 increase in population during 1961-1966 was larger than that of the 1966-1971 period, suggesting a larger volume of household formation and dwellings under construction in the latter period.

Indicators (10) and (11) show improvement of housing supply in satisfying physical housing need (as defined earlier) between 1961 and 1971 (see Table 6.3) while the rising ratios of indicators (12) and (13) offer a partial explanation to this improvement of supply relative to physical housing need.

TABLE 1.1 - POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

	<u>1961</u>		<u>1966</u>		<u>1971</u>	
Total Population, Metro Area	475,989		508,759		540,262	
Province	921,686		963,066		988,247	
Sex	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Age Group: 0-4	27,065	25,807	26,017	24,535	21,950	21,270
5-9	24,672	23,536	26,208	25,271	25,430	24,360
10-14	21,310	20,971	24,266	23,271	25,370	24,610
15-19	16,119	17,267	21,628	23,144	25,185	25,690
20-24	15,862	17,608	18,848	20,376	25,720	27,290
25-29	16,851	16,286	15,547	16,015	20,390	19,995
30-34	16,637	17,041	15,602	15,465	15,845	15,655
35-39	17,005	18,562	15,563	16,519	15,255	14,980
40-44	15,192	16,054	16,195	17,783	14,815	15,610
45-49	14,044	14,977	14,532	15,599	15,465	17,145
50-54	11,754	12,513	13,493	14,654	13,550	14,890
55-59	9,599	9,948	11,076	12,048	12,670	14,320
60-64	7,967	8,440	8,835	9,720	10,080	11,450
65-69	6,799	7,587	6,855	8,012	7,810	9,345
70-74	6,259	6,664	5,647	7,215	5,450	7,190
75-79	4,383	4,554	4,403	5,282	4,090	5,795
80-84	2,108	2,280	2,677	3,221	2,750	3,960
85-89	794	921	1,071	1,363	1,455	2,150
90-94	190	276	250	421	380	640
95+	27	60	44	88	75	155
Population	234,637	241,352	248,757	260,002	263,750	276,512
Single Persons	223,480		244,666		251,245	
Single Persons Aged 15+	80,119		95,098		108,250	
Married	226,000		233,728		253,700	
Widowed	24,419		27,801		29,195	
Divorced	2,090		2,564		6,125	
Average Number of Children (Family)	1.5		1.6		1.5	
Average Number of Persons (Family)	3.9		3.9		3.5	
Average Number of Persons (Non-Family Household)	1.5		1.4		1.8	
Average Number of Persons (Household)	3.6		3.4		3.2	
Total Occupied Dwellings	128,530		143,710		166,480	
Single Detached	90,412		97,175		105,565	
Single Attached	6,271		5,901		8,100	
Apartment	31,666		40,442		52,465	
Mobile	181		192		350	
Owned	85,831		91,007		98,375	
Rented	42,699		52,703		68,105	
Total Households	128,532		143,710		166,665	
Non-Family	17,692		24,900		36,410	
One Family	105,597		115,717		127,945	
Two or More Families	5,243		3,093		2,315	
Average Number of Rooms/Dwelling	4.9				5.1	
Average Number of Bedrooms/Dwelling	2.4					
Average Number of Persons/Room	0.73				0.62	
Households with Exclusive Use of Flush Toilets	111,377				160,785	
Households with Exclusive Use of Bath Or Shower	113,791				158,835	

Chart 1.1.1

POPULATION AND AGE GROUPS

Population  
(000)

Total  
Population

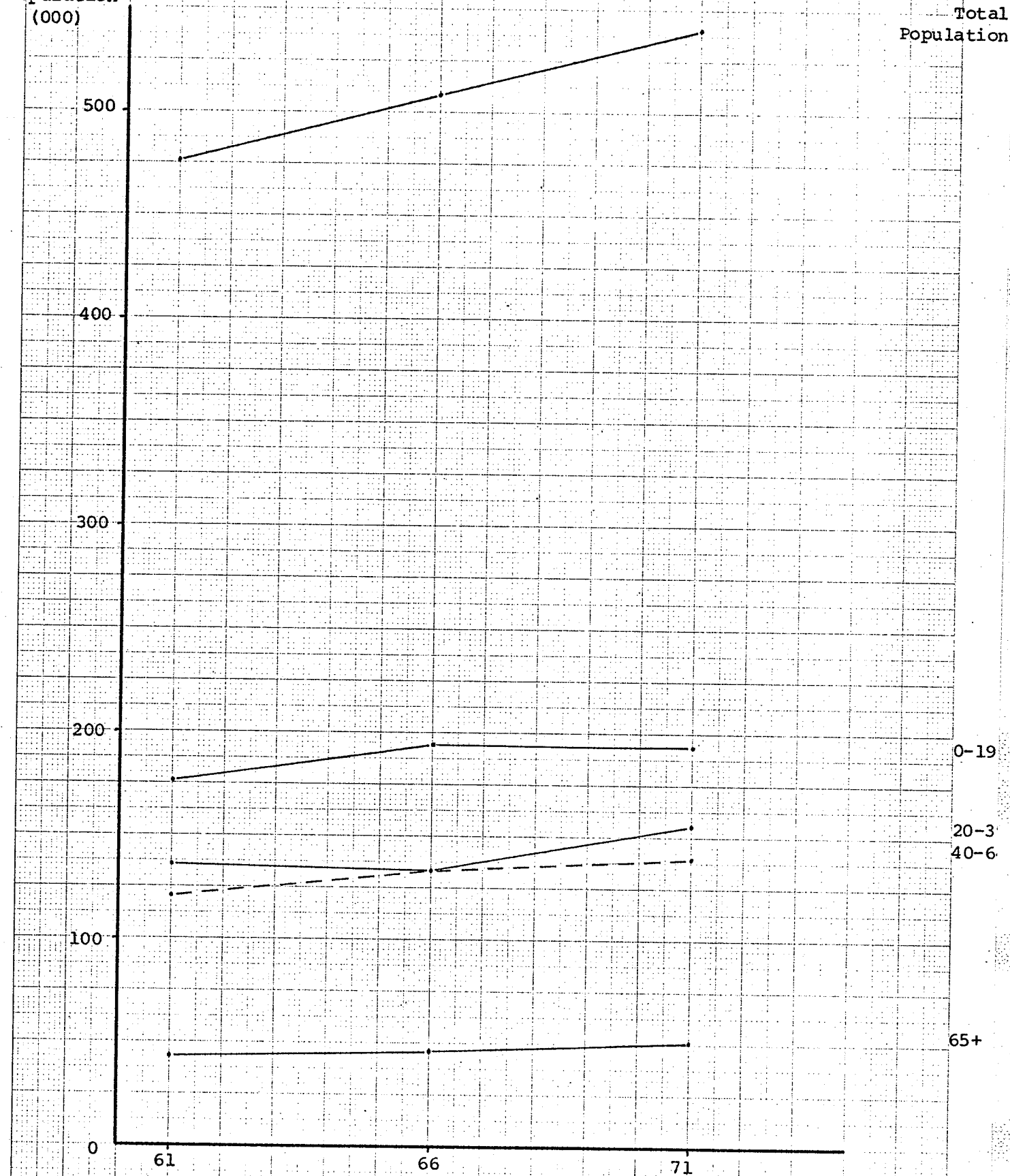


CHART 1.1.1.2 AGE - SEX PYRAMID

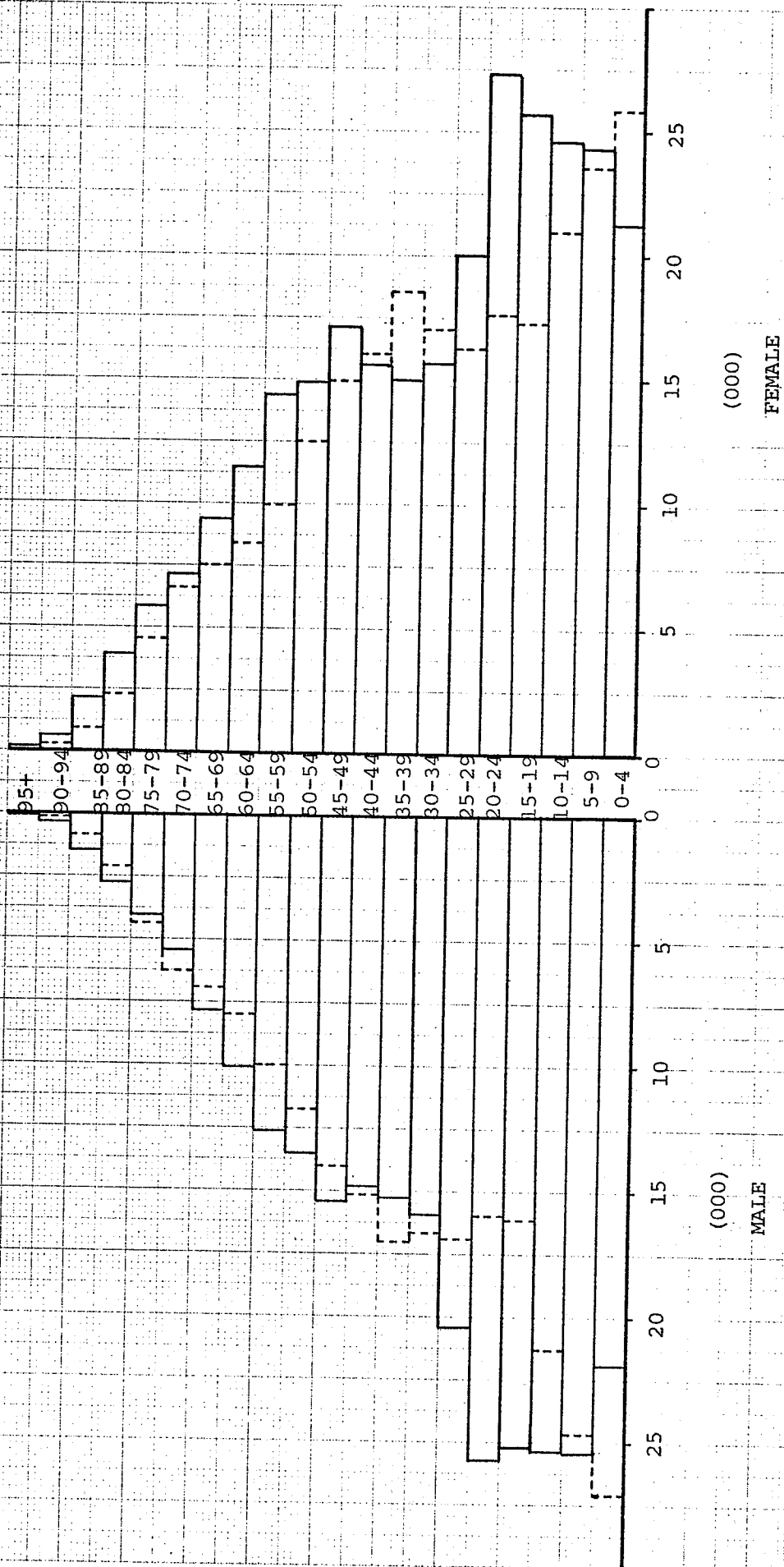


Chart 1.1.3 HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE

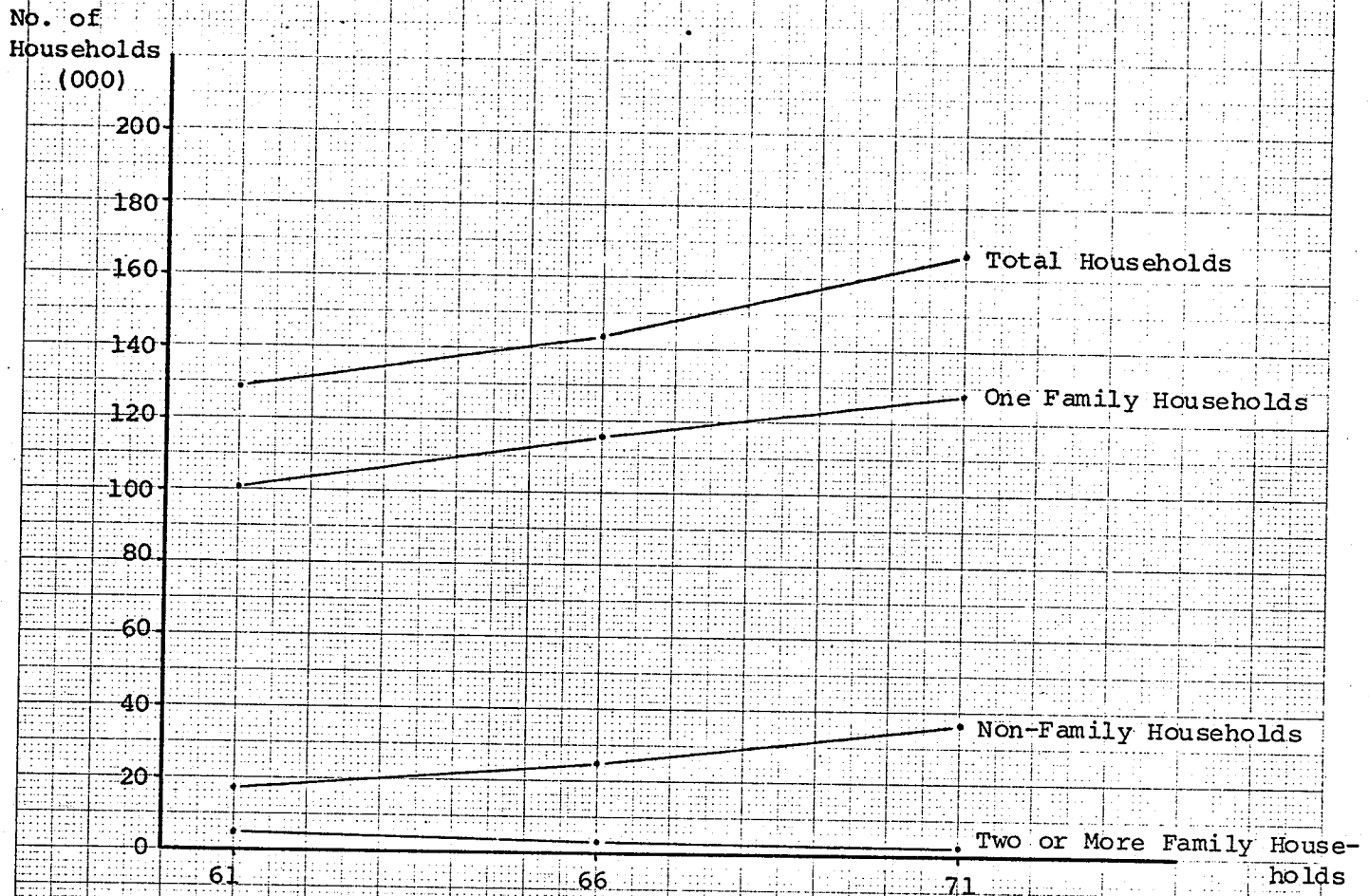


Chart 1.1.4 SIZE OF HOUSEHOLDS

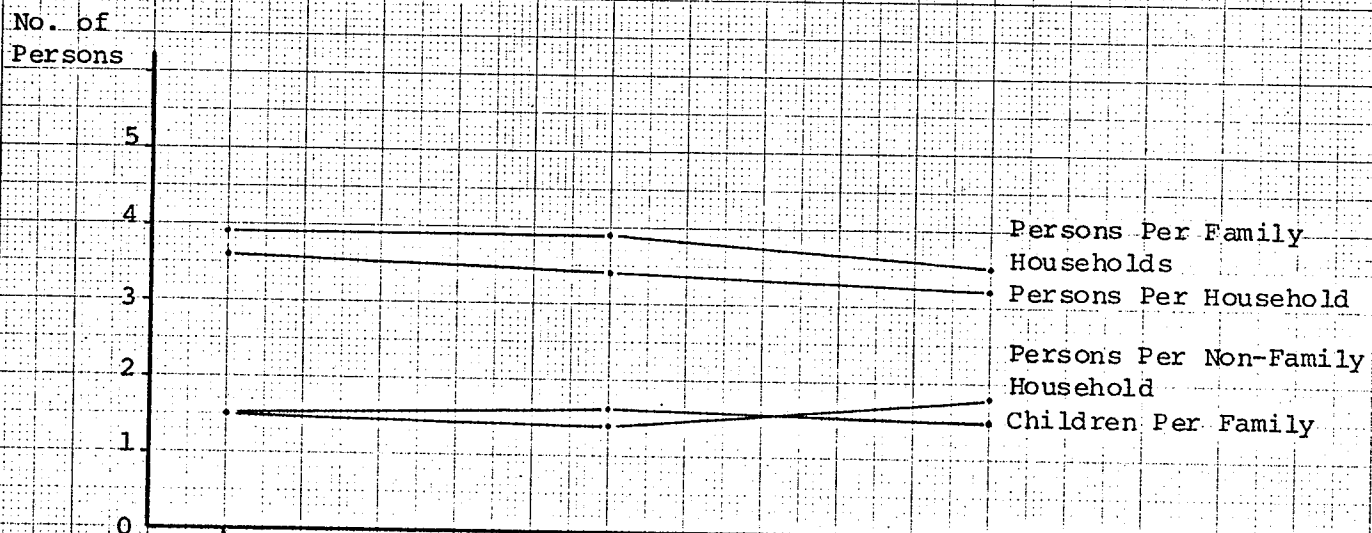




CHART 1.1.5 HOUSEHOLDS WITH EXCLUSIVE USE OF FACILITIES

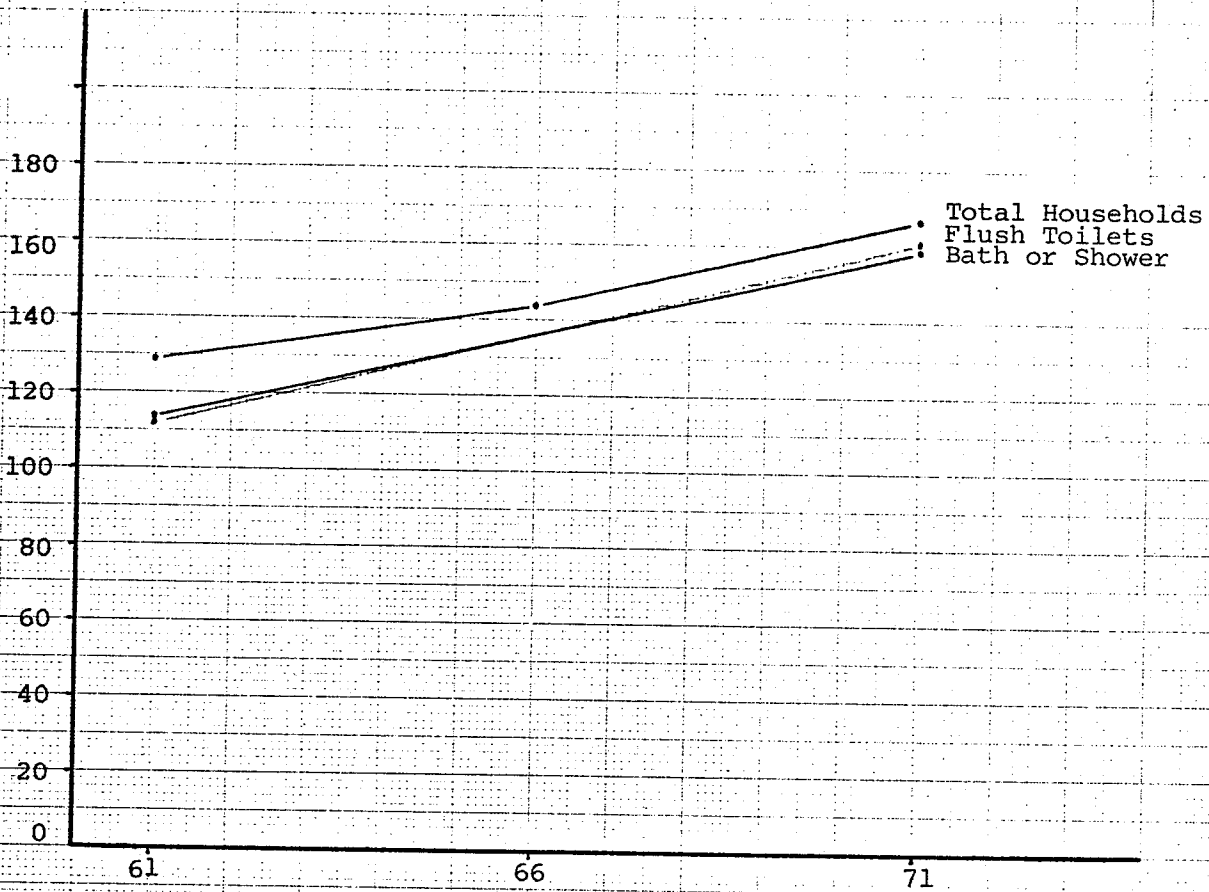


CHART 1.1.6 HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

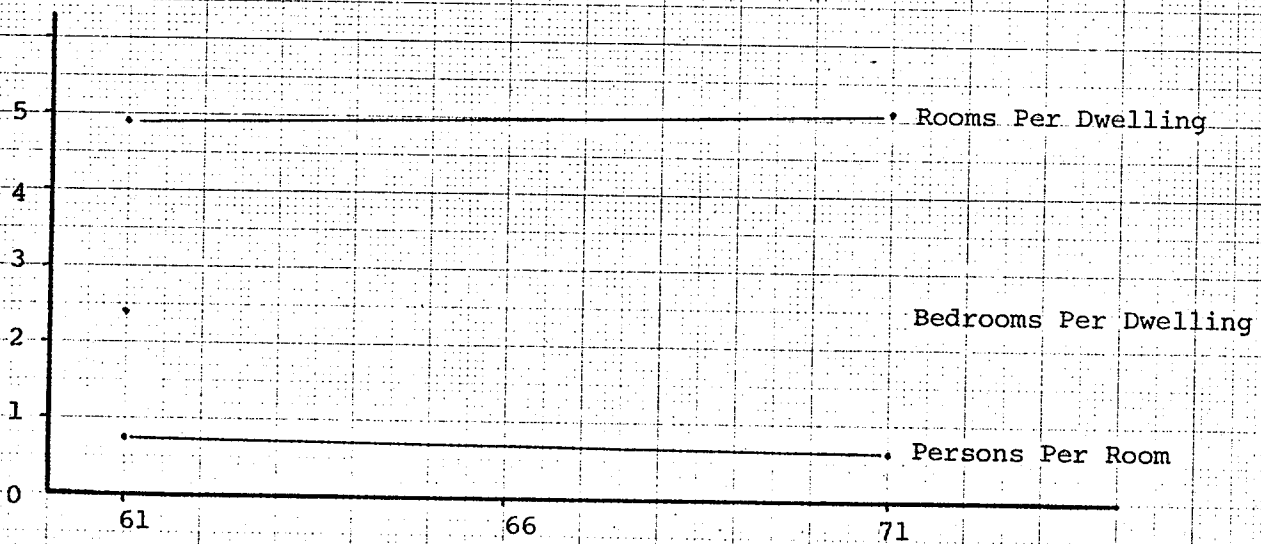


Chart 1.2.1

HOUSEHOLD INCOME DISTRIBUTION

data not available

2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 24+

Chart 1.2.2

HOUSING EXPENDITURE

data not available

Table 2.1

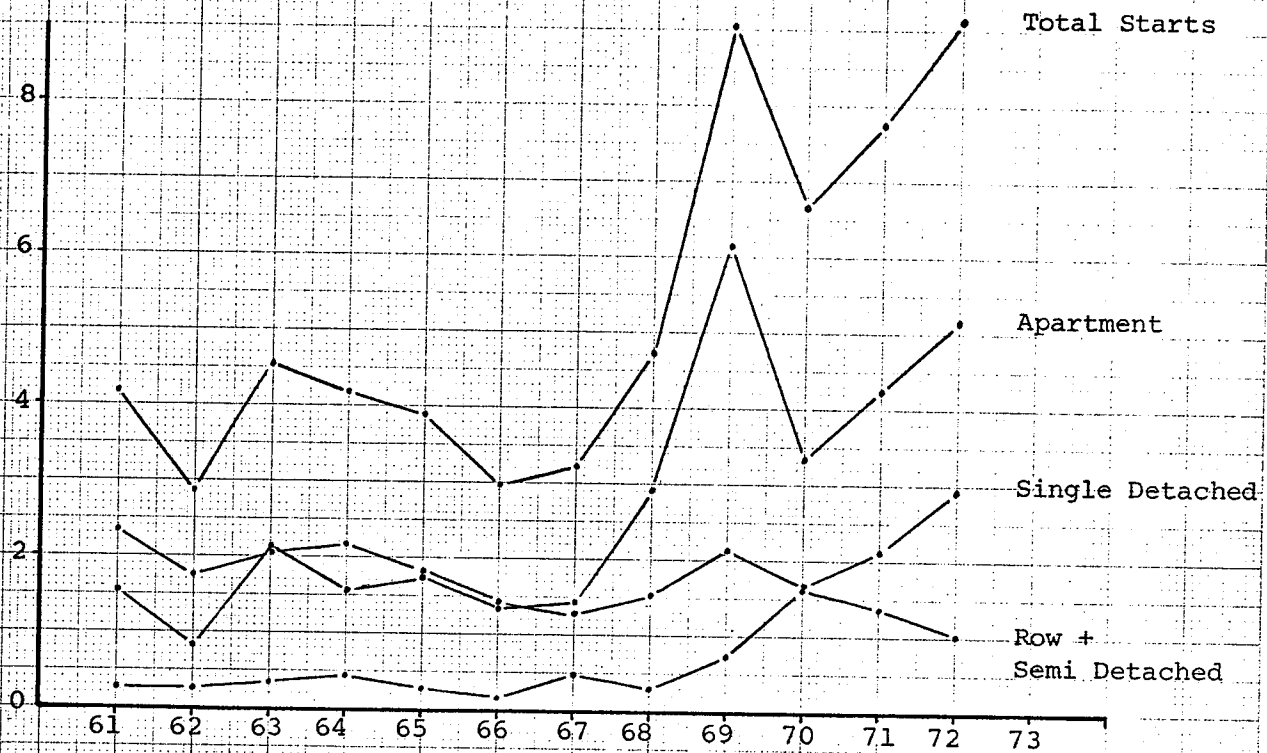
## HOUSING SUPPLY

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
<b>TOTAL STARTS</b>	4,187	2,857	4,519	4,189	3,898	2,992	3,216	4,739	9,030	6,661	7,726	9,134	
Detached	2,345	1,771	2,056	2,176	1,849	1,435	1,298	1,533	2,134	1,685	2,129	2,925	
Semi-Detached	244	166	172	194	220	168	190	157	355	767	666	788	
Row	41	105	177	237	69	11	305	143	361	868	696	236	
Apartment	1,557	815	2,114	1,582	1,760	1,378	1,423	2,906	6,180	3,341	4,235	5,185	
<b>TOTAL COMPLETIONS</b>	4,229	3,129	3,128	4,408	3,952	3,410	3,196	3,615	5,635	6,897	7,461	7,187	
Detached	2,624	1,924	1,644	2,096	1,923	1,653	1,463	1,523	1,916	1,793	1,787	2,447	
Semi-Detached	300	176	136	200	194	200	196	139	298	404	790	724	
Row	65	8	180	144	76	204	48	254	210	395	803	611	
Apartment	1,240	1,019	1,168	1,968	1,759	1,353	1,489	1,699	3,211	4,305	4,081	3,405	
<b>TOTAL UNDER CONSTRUCTION</b>		1,595	2,951	2,730	2,676	2,249	2,107	3,202	5,882	5,497	5,642	6,952	
Detached		627	1,034	1,110	1,027	809	648	648	895	681	952	1,407	
Semi-Detached		72	108	104	130	98	92	102	164	525	392	450	
Row		105	102	200	193	--	231	120	271	744	636	261	
Apartment		791	1,707	1,316	1,326	1,342	1,136	2,332	4,582	3,547	3,662	4,834	
<b>DEMOLITIONS (Withdrawals)</b>													
<b>CONVERSIONS (Net Additions)</b>		25	9	41	27	19	8	8	19	30	8	3	
<b>TOTAL STOCK</b>	132,010					148,985					173,790		
<b>PUBLIC STOCK</b>													
Detached													2,043
Semi-Detached													3,180
Row													2,652
Apartment													4,698
Family													
Senior Citizens													
Non Profit													
Limited Dividend													
Assisted Homeownership													

No. of  
Dwelling Units  
(000)

CHART 2.1.1

HOUSING STARTS BY STRUCTURAL TYPE



No. of  
Dwelling Units  
(000)

CHART 2.1.2

COMPLETIONS BY STRUCTURAL TYPE

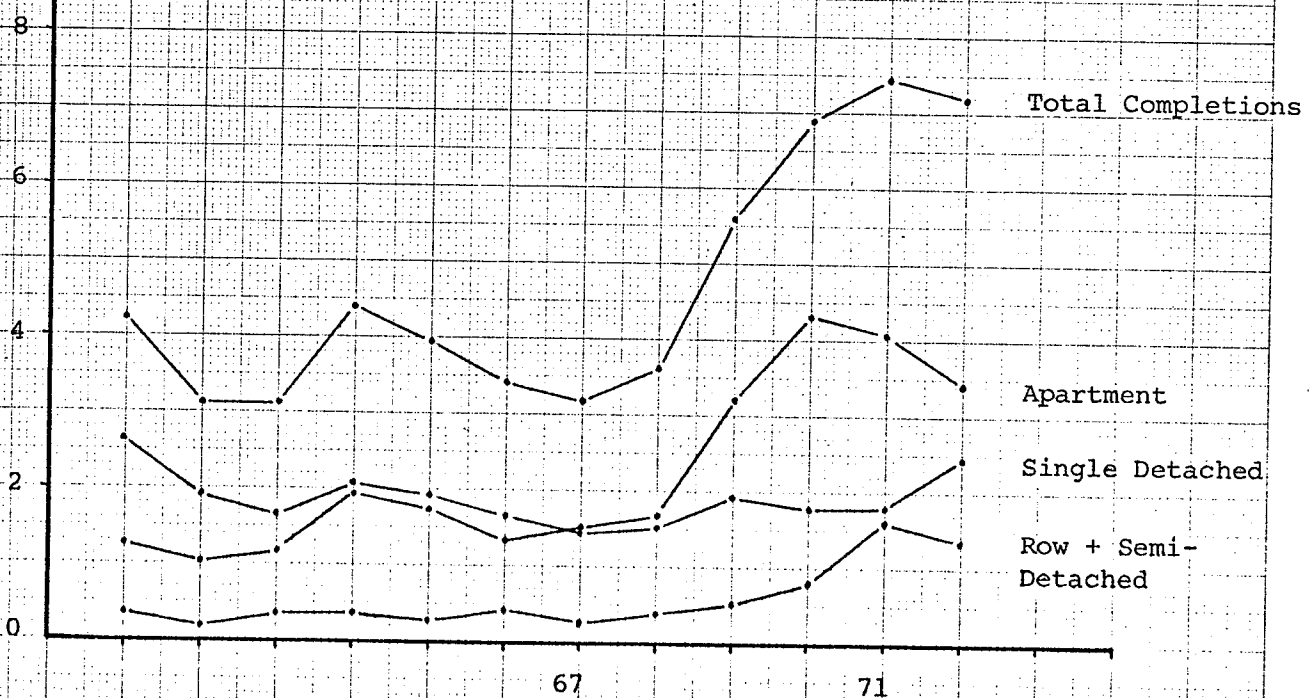


CHART 2.1.3

HOUSING STOCK

data not available

CHART 2.1.4

HOUSING STOCK BY STRUCTURAL TYPE

data not available

CHART 2.1.5

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING STOCK

data not available

CHART 2.1.6

PUBLIC STOCK BY THE TYPE OF PROGRAM

data not available

Table 2.2

HOUSING COSTS

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Consumer Price Index (All Items)	100.0	101.3	102.2	103.8	105.1	109.3	113.3	118.2	123.1	127.0	128.6	133.5	
Housing Component	100.0	100.7	100.3	100.5	101.6	102.3	104.8	108.2	112.3	115.5	117.8	120.6	
Construction Labour													
Wage Index	100.0	101.0	103.0	104.2	110.1	117.8	128.5	141.9	156.3	175.9	193.4	215.2	
Average Price of NHA SD Dwellings Sold													
By Builders							19,947	21,416	21,325	22,606	21,597	21,532	
Average Sale Price of Listings							13,878	14,895	16,469	17,470	18,452	19,579	
No. of Listings							7,711	7,048	7,419	8,789	9,886	10,425	
No. of Sales							3,380	3,662	4,000	4,235	4,950	5,520	
% Sales/Listings							43.8	52.0	53.9	48.2	50.1	52.9	
Average NHA Mortgage Interest Rate									9.39	10.13	9.23	8.99	
Average NHA S.D.									21,136	22,543	21,748	21,670	
Dwelling Cost (CMHC Appraised Value)									4,300	4,361	3,433	3,385	
Average Down-Payment									2,106	2,392	2,332	2,257	
Average GDS													
Average Total Cost													
Estimate of NHA S.D.	15,332	15,617	15,720	16,602	17,164	18,297	18,622	19,674	22,489	23,041	21,672	23,691	
Dwellings by Loan Applicants													
Average Land													
Cost Estimate	2,686	2,831	2,921	3,211	3,241	3,095	3,111	4,160	4,525	4,584	4,573	5,190	
Construction Cost													
Per Sq. Ft.	10.41	11.44	11.30	11.46	11.73	12.58	13.35	13.93	15.27	15.95	15.79	17.00	

Chart 2.2.1 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

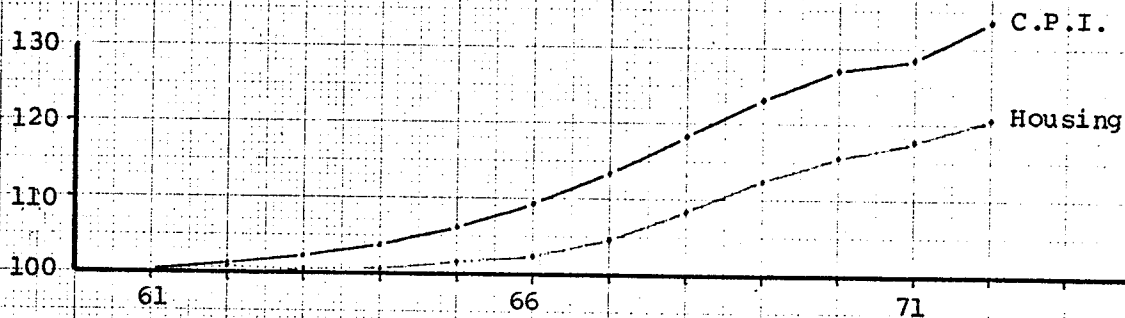


Chart 2.2.2 CONSTRUCTION LABOUR WAGE INDEX

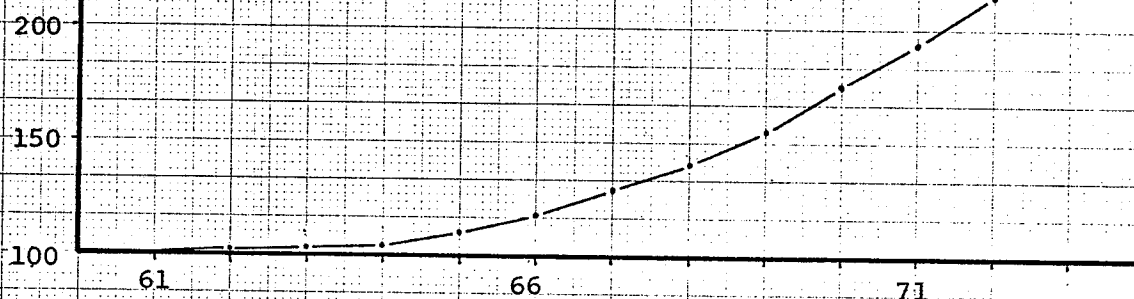


Chart 2.2.3 AVERAGE TOTAL COST ESTIMATE OF NHA SINGLE-DETACHED DWELLINGS

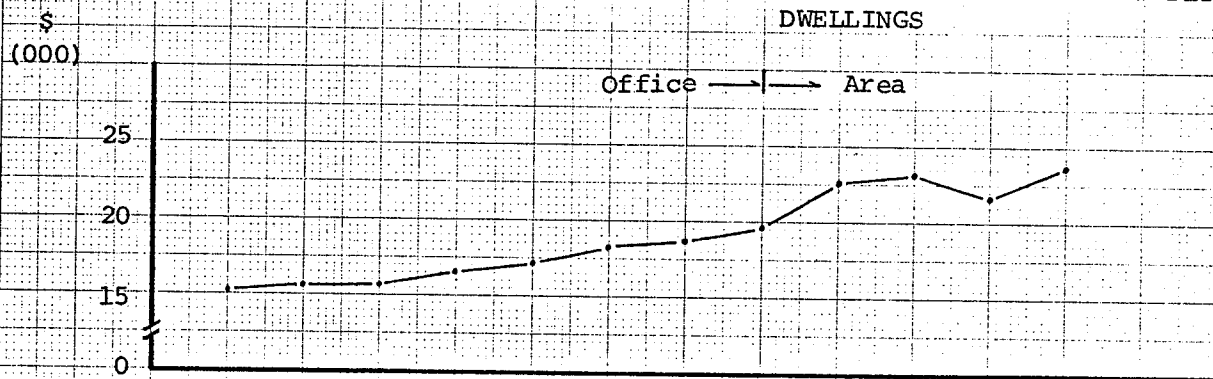


Chart 2.2.4 Average Land Cost Estimate

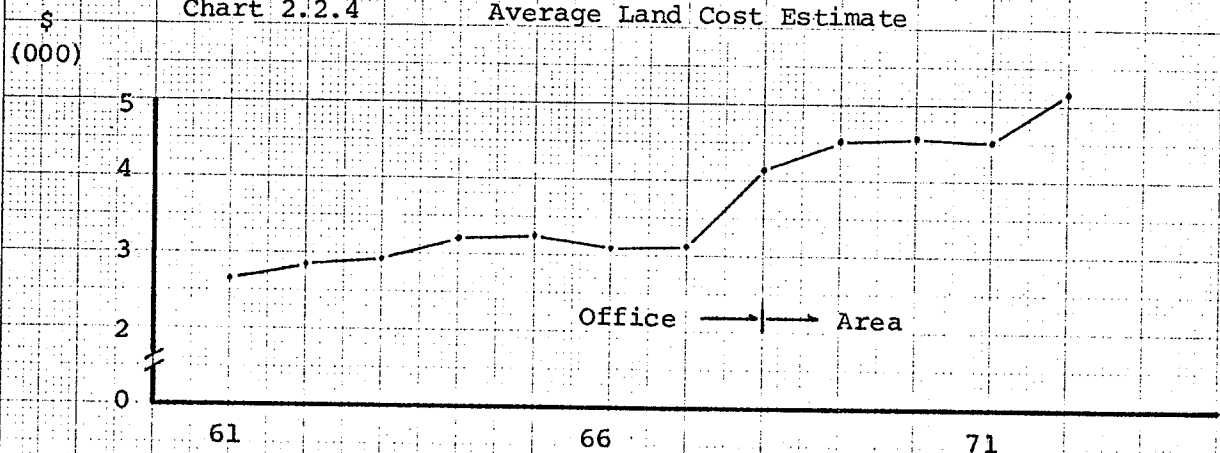




Chart 2.2.5 CONSTRUCTION COST

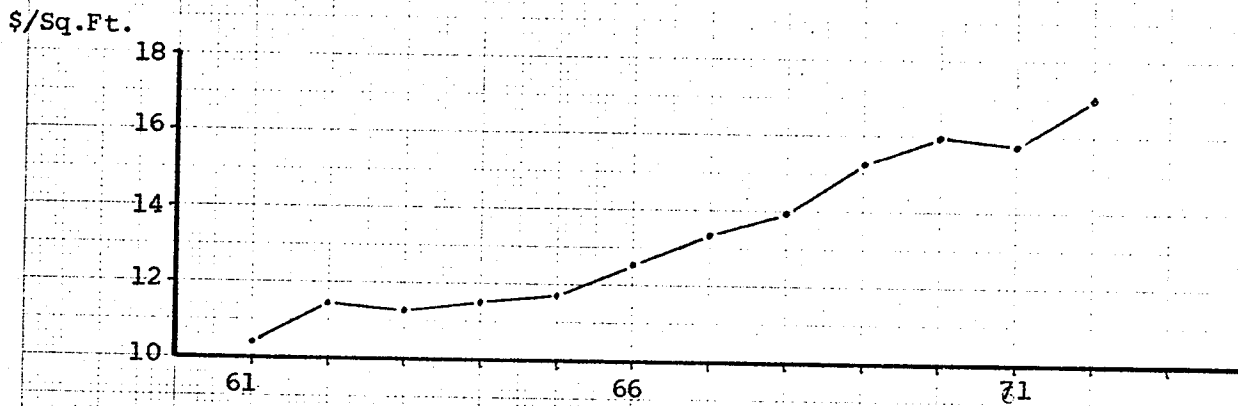


Chart 2.2.6 AVERAGE SALE PRICE

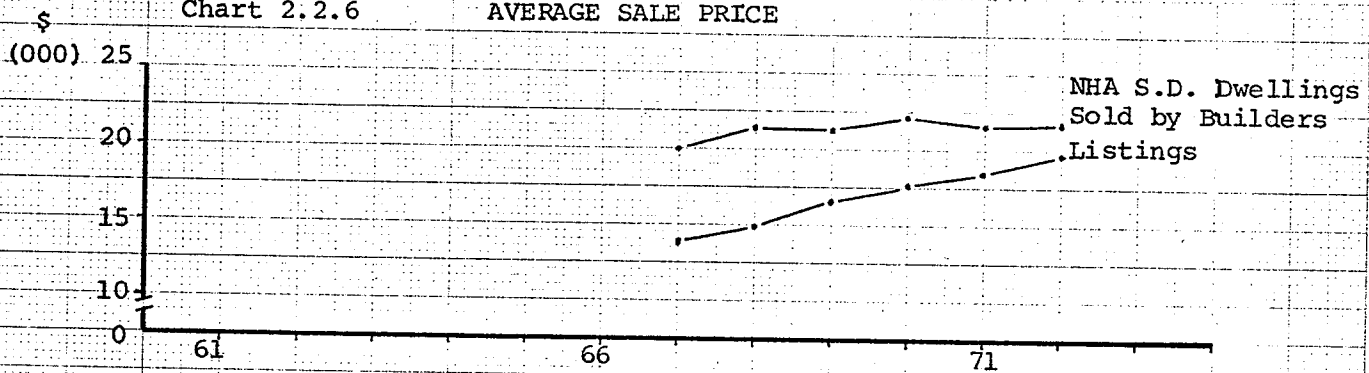


Chart 2.2.7 MORTGAGE FINANCING OF NHA SINGLE-DETACHED DWELLINGS

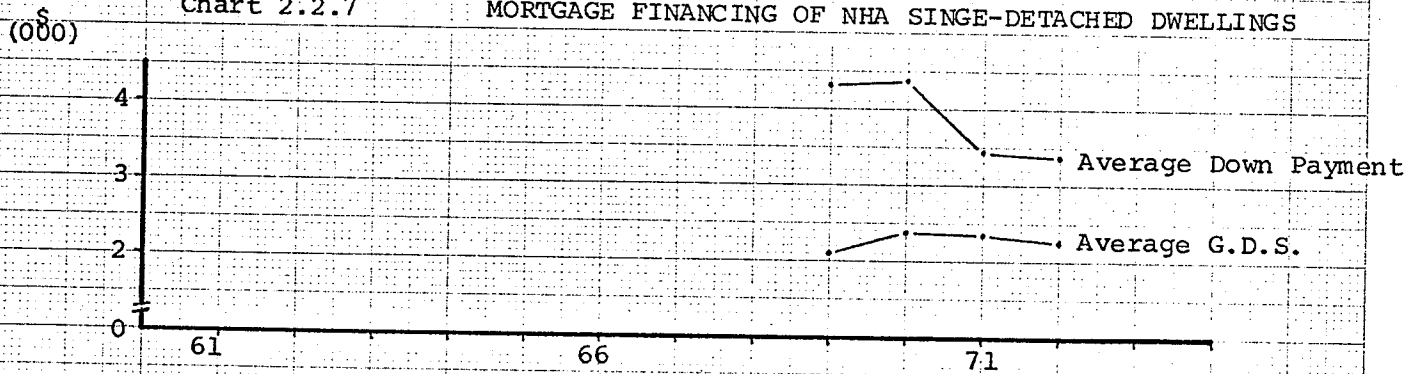


Chart 2.2.8 AVERAGE ANNUAL NHA MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE

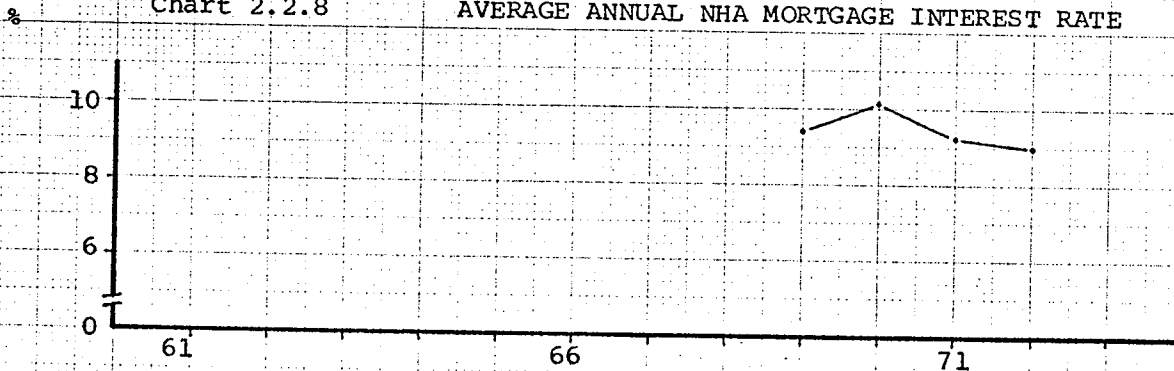


Table 3.1

## HOUSING MONEY MARKET INDICATORS

	1966				1967				1968				1969				1970			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Conventional Mortgage Interest Rate	7.43	7.52	7.77	7.91	7.88	7.82	8.06	8.51	8.88	9.2	9.1	9.07	9.46	9.56	10.0	10.54	10.57	10.57	10.38	10.26
NHA Mort. Interest Rate (Rental)	6.75	6.75	6.75	7.08	7.25	7.0	7.25	8.09	8.43	8.73	8.79	8.53	9.11	9.14	9.56	9.7	10.0	10.17	10.34	10.27
NHA Mort. Interest Rate (Homeownership)	6.75	6.75	6.75	7.08	7.25	7.0	7.25	7.88	8.34	8.82	8.78	8.61	8.97	9.12	9.57	9.92	10.18	10.27	9.98	9.83
Bond Yield 10 Yrs.	5.53	5.62	5.81	5.79	5.57	5.72	6.02	6.44	6.72	6.74	6.51	7.03	7.19	7.42	7.62	8.1	8.12	8.12	7.93	7.48
Bank Rate	4.91	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.0	4.5	4.67	5.67	7.17	7.5	6.33	6.17	6.67	7.17	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.5	6.83	6.17
Bond Yield 3-5 yrs.	5.33	5.38	5.8	5.68	5.04	5.3	5.99	6.23	6.81	6.91	6.3	6.69	7.9	7.55	7.8	8.21	7.85	7.27	7.1	6.21
Chartered Banks - Business Loans Lending Rate	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.75	5.75	6.17	6.83	7.17	6.92	6.75	7.17	7.67	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.0	7.67
U.S. Bank Rate									4.67	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.75
Bond Yield 3-5 yrs.									5.62	5.84	5.31	5.72	6.2	6.48	7.32	7.74	7.57	7.87	7.36	6.26
Banks Prime Lending Rate									6.0	6.5	6.42	6.42	7.17	7.83	8.5	8.5	8.33	8.0	7.83	7.08

Table 3.1  
HOUSING MONEY MARKET INDICATORS

	1971				1972				1973			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Conventional Mortgage Interest Rate	9.65	9.26	9.51	9.3	8.98	9.19	9.4	9.29	9.06	9.32		
NHA Mort. Interest Rate (Rental)	9.89	9.19	9.3	9.33	8.99	8.89	9.11	9.14	9.02	8.97		
NHA Mort. Interest Rate (Homeownership)	9.36	8.82	8.97	9.02	8.79	8.86	9.05	9.08	9.03	9.11		
Bond Yield 10 yrs.	6.76	7.22	7.20	6.61	6.96	7.35	7.46	7.15	7.22	7.62		
Bank Rate	5.5	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	5.75		
Bond Yield 3-5 yrs.	5.37	5.8	6.03	5.02	5.88	6.55	6.61	5.99	6.35	7.09		
Chartered Banks - Business Loans Lending Rate	6.83	6.5	6.5	6.08	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	7.08		
U.S. Bank Rate	4.83	4.75	5.0	4.75	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.33	6.0		
Bond Yield	5.18	6.13	6.32	5.51	5.64	5.8	6.03	6.08	6.66	6.82		
Banks Prime Lending Rate	5.67	5.5	6.0	5.46	4.69	5.1	5.44	5.83	6.25	7.21		

CHART 3.1.1

MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES AND BOND YIELD

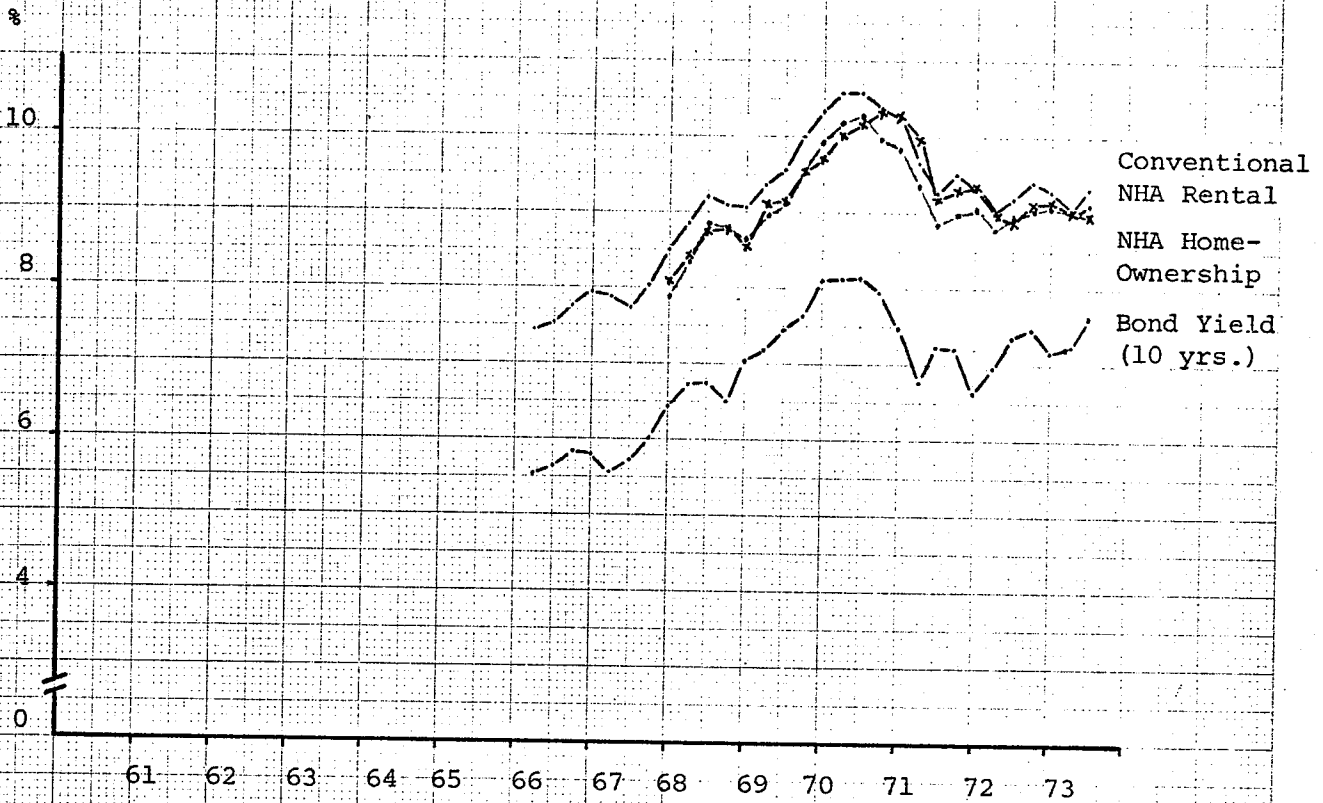


CHART 3.1.2

BANK RATES

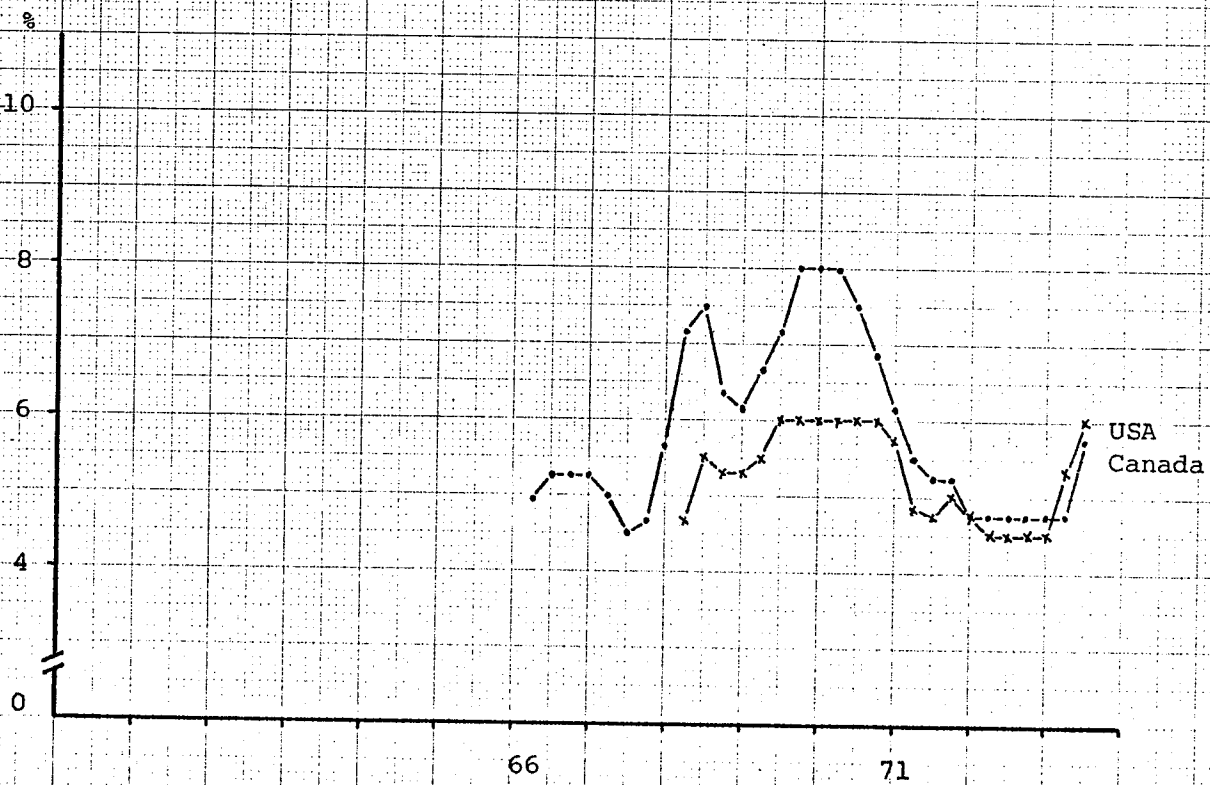


Chart 3.1.3

BOND YIELD (3-5 YEARS)

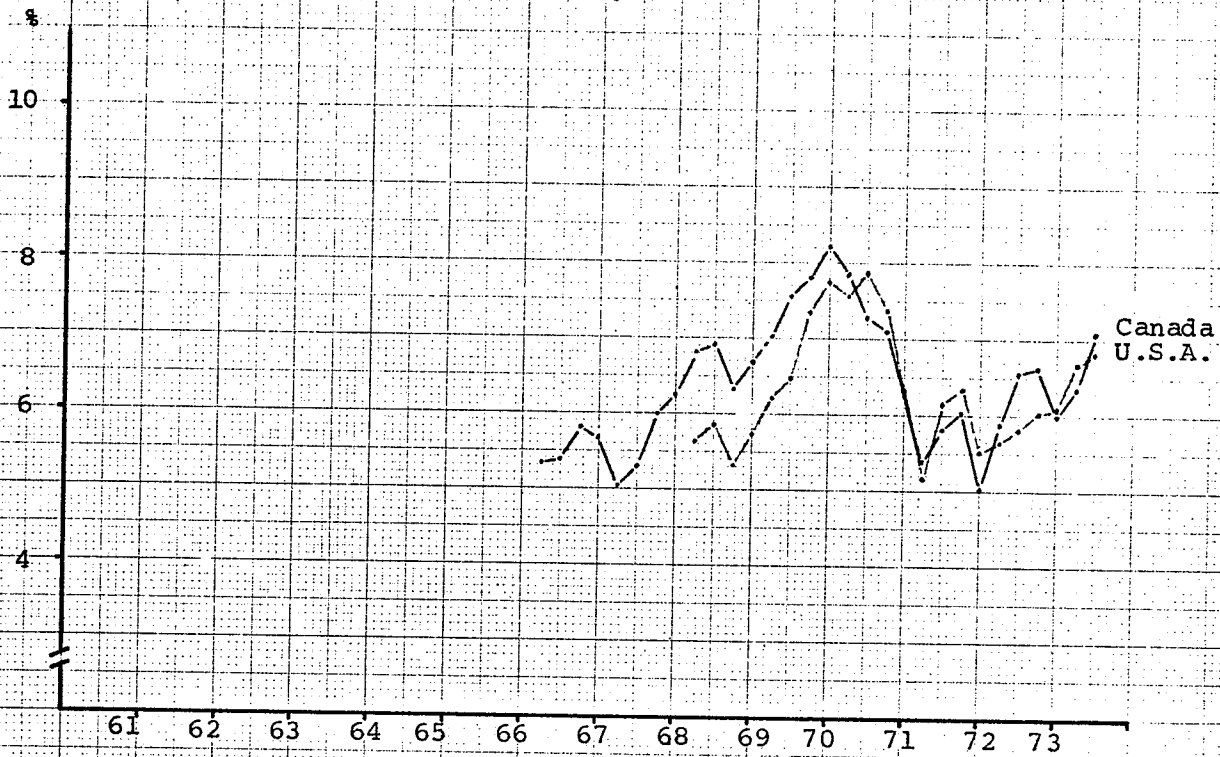


Chart 3.1.4

CHARTERED BANK LENDING RATES



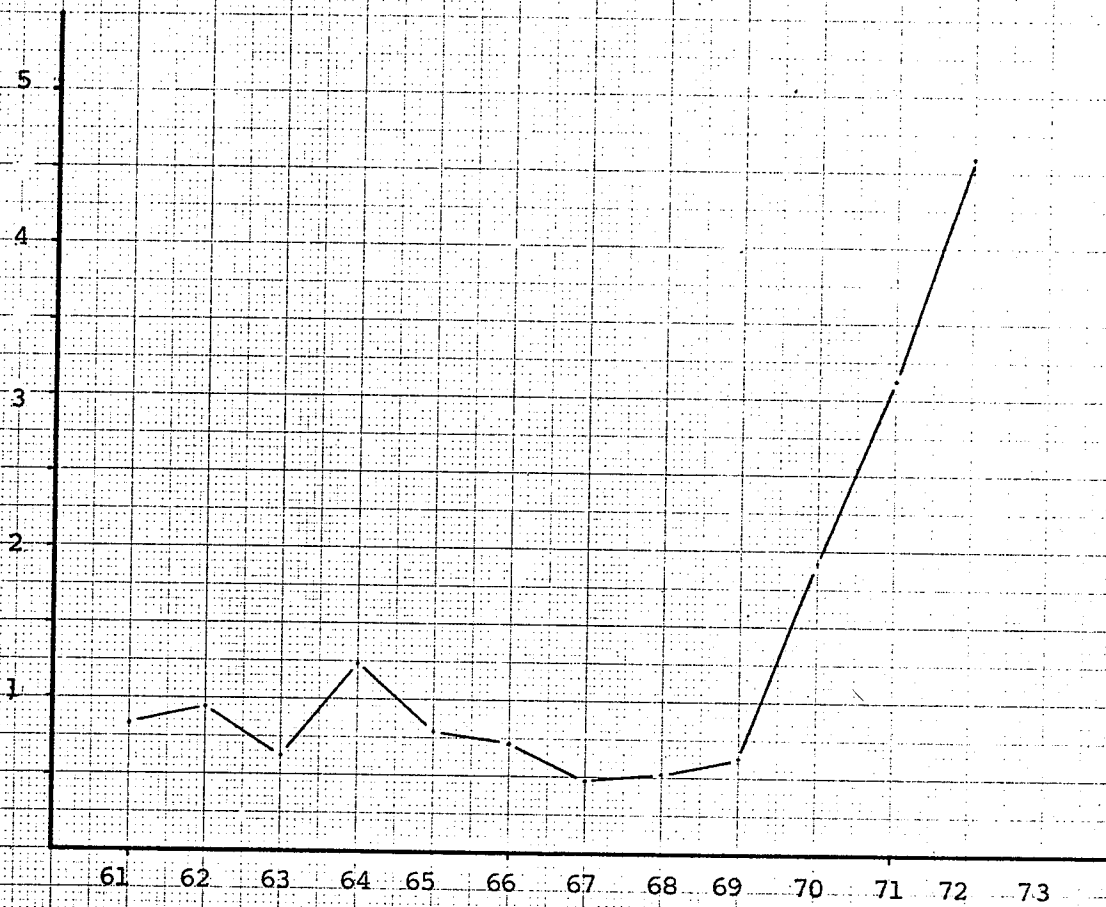
Table 3.2

MORTGAGE FINANCING OF HOUSING STARTS

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Starts	4,187	2,857	4,519	4,189	3,898	2,992
Non-NHA	2,283	1,475	2,789	1,877	2,172	1,753
N.H.A.	1,904	1,382	1,730	2,312	1,726	1,239
NHA to Non-NHA Ratio	0.83	0.94	0.62	1.23	0.79	0.71
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
	3,216	4,739	9,030	6,661	7,726	9,134
	2,191	3,129	5,544	2,285	1,874	1,633
	1,025	1,610	3,486	4,376	5,852	7,501
	0.47	0.51	0.63	1.91	3.12	4.59

Chart 3.2.1

RATIO OF NHA TO NON-NHA HOUSING STARTS



LAND OWNERSHIP  
(in acres)

**'A' AREAS**

Committees	Quality Ladco	Metro Home Int'l Dev.	B.A.C.M.	Total
Assiniboine Park	20			20
Fort Garry	28			28
St. Vital				
St. Boniface	350			350
Transcona		265		265
East Kildonan		45	260	305
West Kildonan			94	94
Lord Selkirk	100			100
Total	498	310	354	1,162

**'B' AREAS**

Committees	Quality Ladco	Metro Home Int'l Dev.	B.A.C.M.	Total	Grand Total
Assiniboine Park	58			58	78
Fort Garry	302			302	330
St. Vital	144	54		198	548
St. Boniface	258	543		801	801
Transcona		55		55	320
East Kildonan	131			131	436
West Kildonan			469	469	563
Lord Selkirk					100
Total	893	652	469	2,014	3,176



**LAND OWNERSHIP**  
**(in acres)**

**'A' AREAS**

Committees	Large Developers/ Builders		Investors Speculators Contractors		Institutions Churches, etc.		Residents & Non-Residents		City or R.M.		Total
	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	
Assiniboine Park	20	3	316	41	20	3	25	3	386	50	767
Fort Garry	28	53					25	47			53
St. Vital					5	16	14	45	12	39	31
St. Boniface	350	100									350
Transcona	265	100									265
East Kildonan	304	82	20	5	18	5	12	3	16	5	370
West Kildonan	95	55	35	20	36	21	6	4			172
Lord Selkirk	100	62	40	25	11	6	11	7			162

TOTAL:	1,162		411		90		93		414		2,170
PERCENTAGE:	54%		19%		4%		4%		19%		100%

**LAND OWNERSHIP**  
(in acres)

**'B' AREAS**

Committees	Large Developers/ Builders		Investors Speculators Contractors		Institutions, Business Canada - Crown		Residents & Non-Residents Farmers & Others		City or R.M.		Total
	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	
Assiniboine Park	58	6	337	35			573	59			968
Fort Garry	302	63	95	20	68	14	15	3			480
St. Vital	214	13	134	8	30	2	1,220	73	65	4	1,663
St. Boniface	801	59			296	22	243	18			1,340
Transcona	55	8	220	33			380	59			655
East Kildonan	131	10	668	51			504	38	7	1	1,310
West Kildonan	469	33	568	40			358	26	10	1	1,405
Lord Selkirk			105	17			520	83	4	1	629
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,030</b>		<b>2,127</b>		<b>394</b>		<b>3,813</b>		<b>86</b>		<b>8,450</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE:</b>	<b>24%</b>		<b>25%</b>		<b>5%</b>		<b>45%</b>		<b>1%</b>		<b>100%</b>

# LAND OWNERSHIP

(in acres)

## SUMMARY 'A' & 'B' AREAS

Committees	Large Developers/ Builders	Investors Speculators Contractors	Institutions Churches, etc.	Residents & Non-Residents	City or R.M.	Total
Total 'A'	1,162	411	90	93	414	2,170
Total 'B'	2,030	2,127	394	3,813	86	8,450
Grand Total	3,192	2,538	484	3,906	500	10,620
percentage	30%	24%	4%	37%	5%	100%

- 107 -

Table 5.1

## ECONOMIC BASE

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Value of Residential & Non-Residential Building Permits (\$000)	83,543		93,621	95,594	148,861	156,000	138,267	151,659	190,883	
Retail Sales (\$000)	493,139		6,244,725						925,000	
Employees in Manufacturing		38,939	38,939	39,635	38,804	39,977				
Employees in Services										
Employees in Retailing			24,209							
Total Employed										
Employment Index (1961=100)	100.0	107.4	114.4	117.3	116.9	121.2	121.2	120.1	120.2	
Basic Employment										
Non-Basic Employment										
Labour Force	194,320									
Population (15-64 years)	289,726		312,642					346,000		
Labour Force Participation Rate (Labour Force/Pop. 15-64) %										
Unemployment Rate (%)				57.1	58.7	58.8	59.1	58.6	58.6	
Taxable Income Tax Returns				2.7	3.7	2.8	4.8	5.2	4.8	
Total Income, All Returns (\$000)	180,700		195,838		214,341		231,859			
Total Income Tax (\$000)	894,724	1,012,999	1,107,684	1,220,793	1,349,054	1,468,416				
Corporation Income (\$000)	98,698	113,848	144,240	168,388	216,246	255,966				
Gross General Revenue (\$000)				107,555	166,503	192,277	201,184	221,810		
Public Works				20,408	10,114	23,043	18,411	22,448		
Sanitation & Water Works				8,436	19,243	22,153	16,775	22,660		
Per Capita Revenues										
Change in Pop./Change of 0.1 in Employment Index	1961 - 1966	229			1966 - 1971					
Assessment (\$000)					543					1,300,000

CHART 5.1.1

LABOUR FORCE

data not available

CHART 5.1.2

LABOUR FORCE

%

80

60

40

20

0

Labour Force  
Participation Rate

Unemployment Rate

61

66

73

CHART 5.1.3 VALUE OF ALL BUILDING PERMITS

\$ (000)

200

150

100

50

0

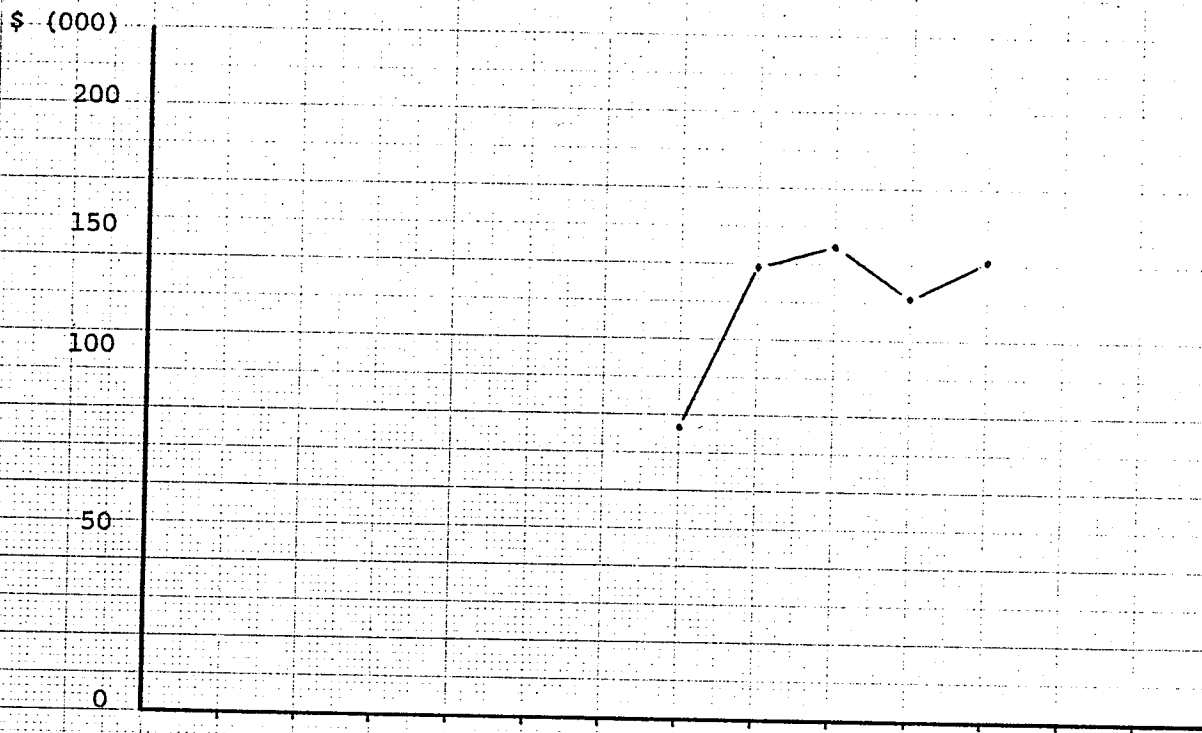


CHART 5.1.4 TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

\$ (Million)

2000

1500

1000

500

0

66

71

Personal Income

Income Tax

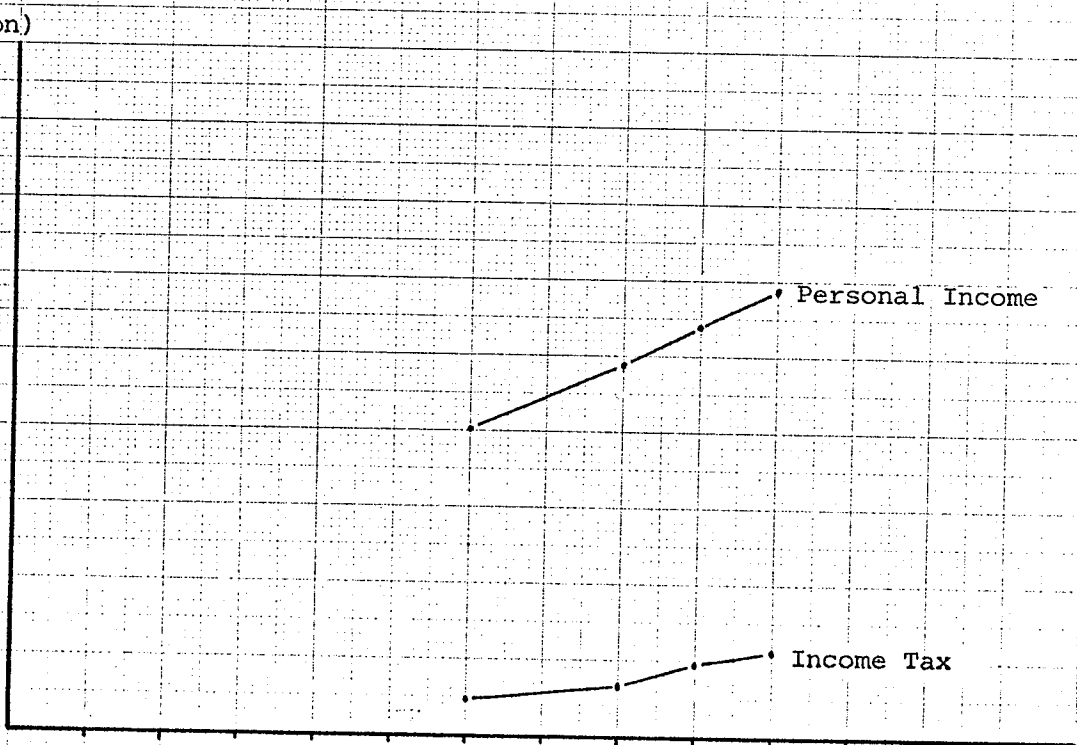


Table 6-1

ABSORPTION RATES & APARTMENT VACANCY RATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Flow Supply</u>	<u>Absorptions</u>	<u>Absorption Rate %</u>	<u>Publicly and Privately Initiated Apartment Vacancy Rate June (Dec.)</u>
1963					3.8
1964					5.6
1965					4.9
1966		3,878	3,522	90.82	
	I	1,392	761	54.67	
	II	1,972	1,061	53.80	4.1
	III	1,356	904	66.67	
	IV	1,152	796	69.10	
1967		3,552	2,945	82.91	
	I	605	284	46.94	
	II	907	564	62.18	1.5
	III	1,159	895	77.22	
	IV	1,809	1,202	66.45	
1968		4,222	4,028	95.41	
	I	1,269	928	73.13	
	II	1,310	891	68.01	1.5
	III	1,488	1,205	80.98	
	IV	1,198	1,004	83.81	
1969		5,829	5,590	95.90	
	I	1,538	1,226	79.71	
	II	1,413	957	67.73	1.5
	III	1,776	1,623	91.39	
	IV	2,023	1,784	88.19	(1.6)
1970		7,236	5,856	80.93	
	I	1,272	708	55.66	
	II	1,318	865	65.63	2.5
	III	3,259	2,113	64.83	
	IV	3,550	2,170	61.13	(3.3)
1971		8,841	8,228	93.07	
	I	3,607	1,927	53.42	
	II	2,781	1,618	58.18	3.4
	III	3,020	2,482	82.18	
	IV	2,814	2,201	78.22	(5.5)
1972		7,700	7,153	92.90	
	I	1,817	1,119	61.58	
	II	2,115	1,488	70.35	5.1
	III	2,681	2,075	77.40	
	IV	3,018	2,471	81.87	(4.2)
1973					
	I	2,612	1,994	76.34	
	II				3.9
	III				
	IV				

Chart 6.1.1

FLOW OF SUPPLY AND ABSORPTIONS

No. of  
Dwelling Units  
(000)

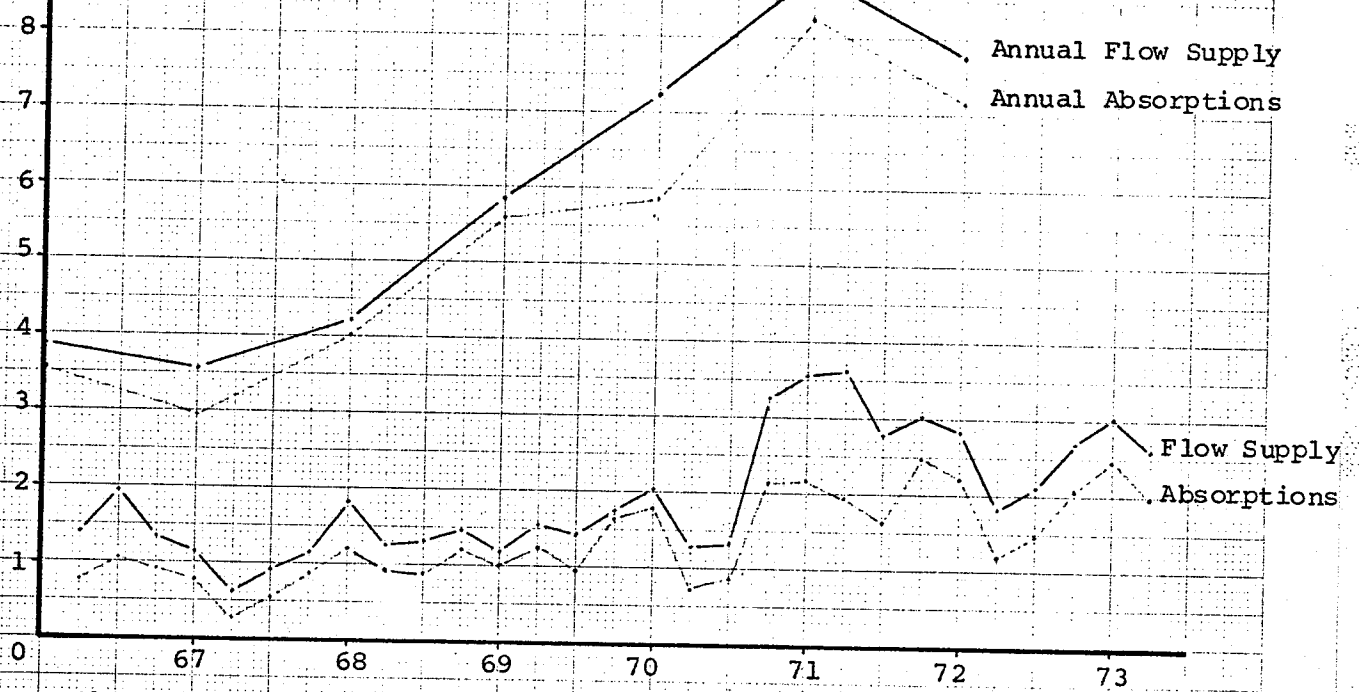


Chart 6.1.2

ABSORPTION RATES

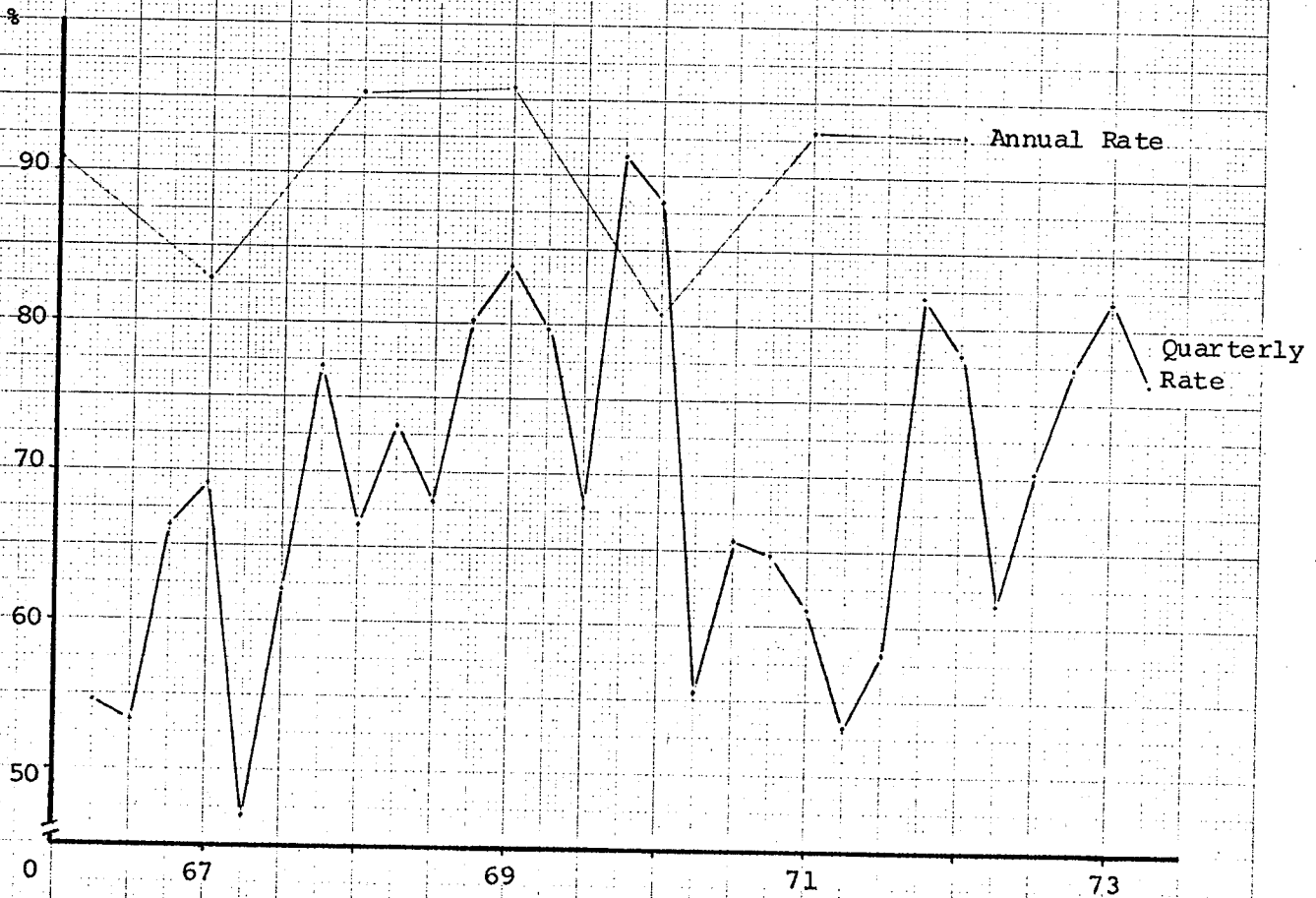




Table 6.2

% SALES/LISTINGS AND HOUSING MARKET TRANSACTION RATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Listings</u>	<u>% Sales/ Listings</u>	<u>Sales &amp; Absorptions</u>	<u>Listings &amp; Flow Supply</u>	<u>Housing Market Transaction Rate %</u>
1967		3,380			6,325		
	I	630			914		
	II	1,118	1,498	74.63	1,682	2,405	69.94
	III	1,003	1,436	69.85	1,898	2,595	73.14
	IV	629	804	78.23	1,831	2,613	70.07
1968		3,662	3,829	95.64	7,690	8,051	95.52
	I	775	1,067	72.63	1,700	2,336	72.77
	II	1,097	1,426	76.93	1,988	2,736	72.66
	III	1,029	1,300	79.15	2,234	2,788	80.13
	IV	761	928	82.00	1,765	2,126	83.02
1969		4,000	4,148	96.43	9,590	9,977	96.12
	I	873	1,218	71.67	2,099	2,756	76.16
	II	1,279	1,503	85.10	2,236	2,916	76.68
	III	1,108	1,414	78.36	2,731	3,190	85.61
	IV	740	888	83.33	2,524	2,911	86.71
1970		4,235	4,448	95.21	10,091	11,684	86.37
	I	1,902	1,268	71.14	1,610	2,540	63.39
	II	1,173	1,699	69.04	2,038	3,017	67.55
	III	1,261	1,730	72.89	3,374	4,989	67.63
	IV	899	1,112	80.84	3,069	4,662	65.83
1971		4,950	5,117	96.74	13,178	13,958	94.41
	I	1,113	1,663	66.93	3,040	5,270	57.69
	II	1,561	1,958	79.72	3,179	4,739	67.08
	III	1,358	1,830	74.21	3,840	4,850	79.18
	IV	918	1,085	84.61	3,119	3,899	79.99
1972		5,520	5,811	94.99	12,673	13,511	93.80
	I	1,219	1,661	73.39	2,338	3,478	67.22
	II	1,720	2,171	79.23	3,208	4,286	74.85
	III	1,606	2,001	80.26	3,681	4,682	78.62
	IV	975	1,239	78.69	3,446	4,257	80.95
1973							
	I	1,451	1,881	77.14	3,445	4,493	76.67
	II	1,718	1,969	87.25			
	III						
	IV						

No. of  
Dwelling Units  
(000)

Chart 6.2.1

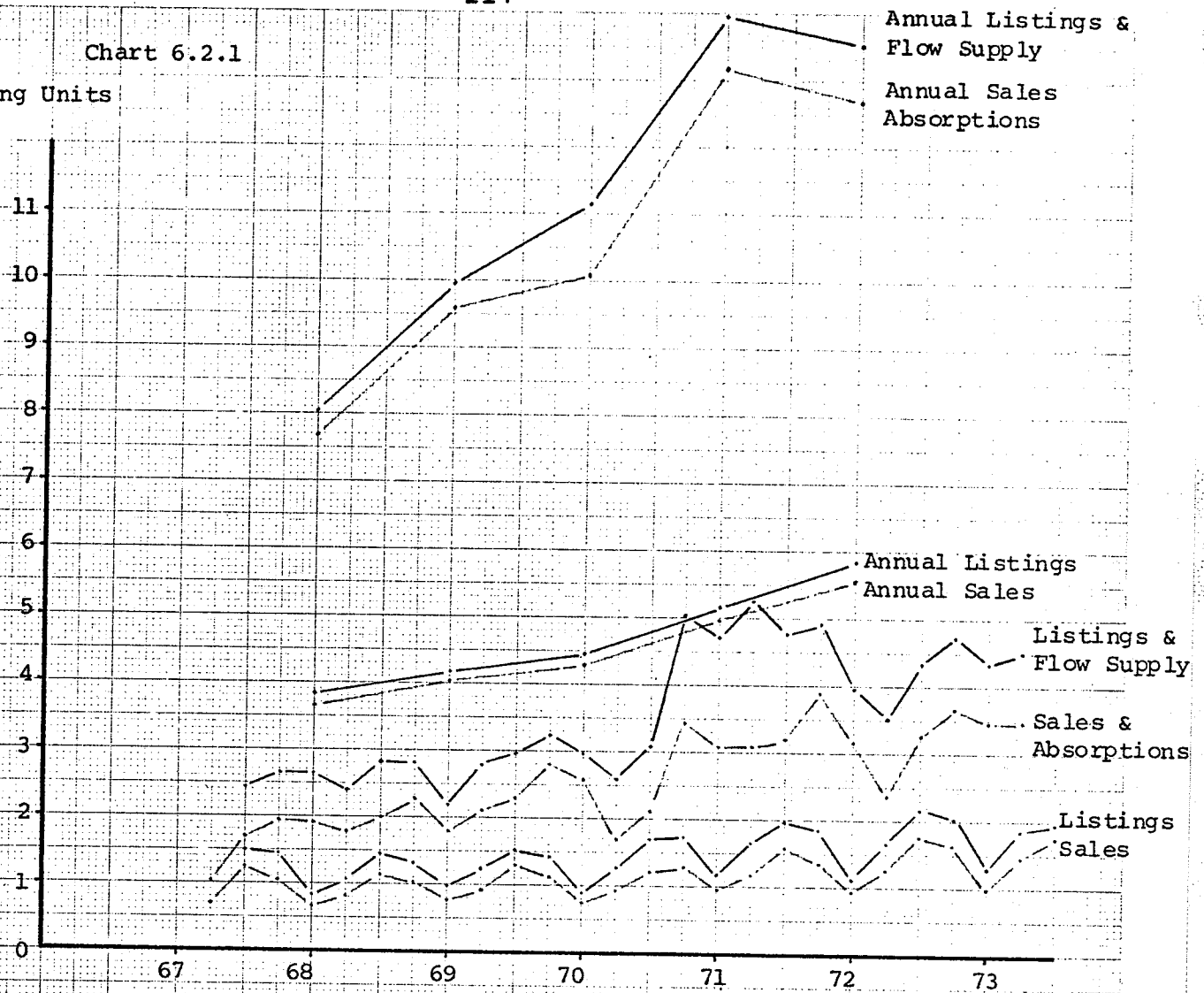


Chart 6.2.2

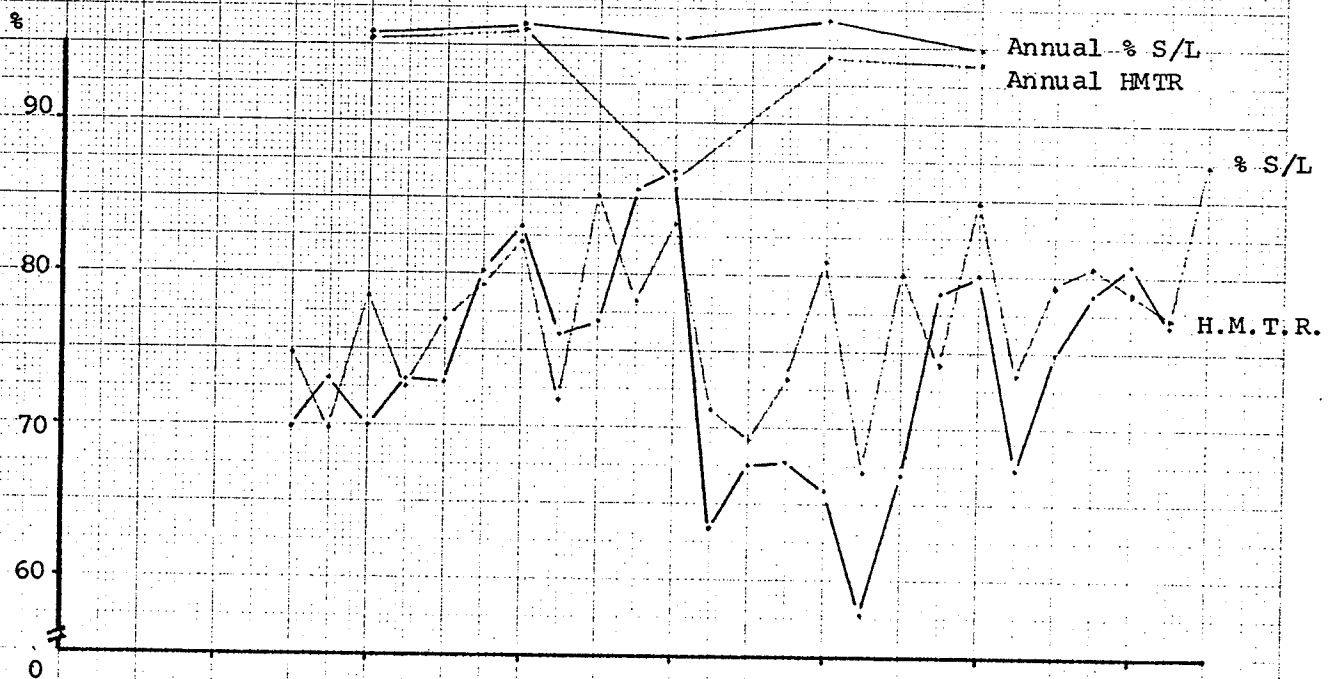


Chart 6.3.1

RATIO OF RENTAL OCCUPANCY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

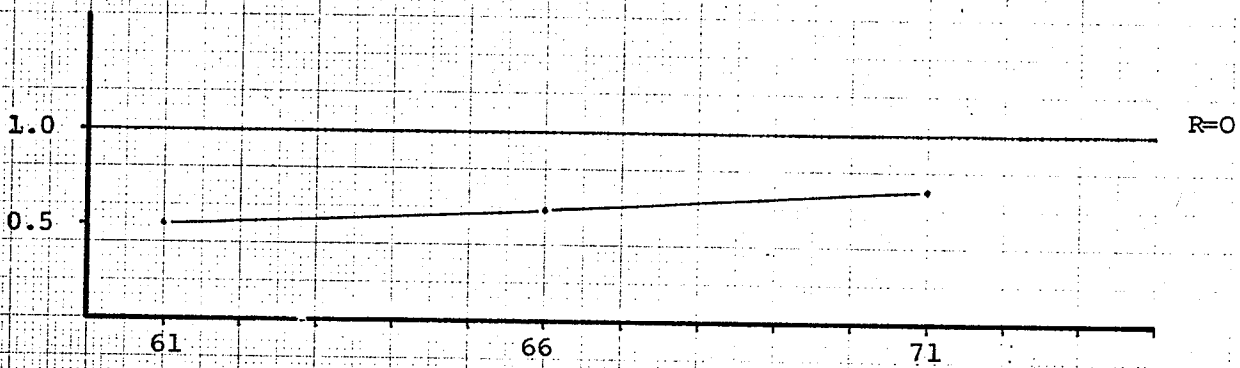


Chart 6.1.3

APARTMENT VACANCY RATES

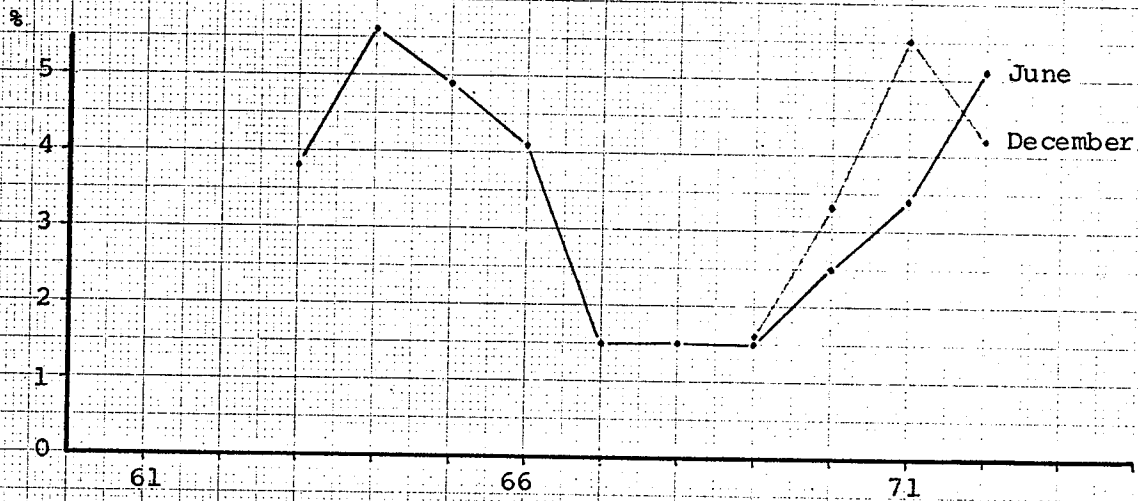


Table 6.3

MARKET PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1956-1961</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1961-1966</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1966-1971</u>
Rented Dwellings/ Owned Dwellings	0.50		0.58		0.69	
Public Stock/ Private Stock						
Change in Starts /Change in Population		305		581		920
Change in Starts /Change 1,000 Households		939		1,255		1,263
Change in Completions /Change in 1,000 Population		316		562		786
Change in Completions /Change in 1,000 Households		976		1,214		1,079
Change in Absorptions /Change in 1,000 Households						1,067
Occupied Dwelling/ Households	0.959		0.978			
Stock/ Households	0.985		1.014			

Chart 6.3.2

HOUSING STARTS/ CHANGE IN 1,000 POPULATION

No. of  
Dwelling Units

1,000

0

56-61

61-66

66-71

Chart 6.3.3

HOUSING COMPLETIONS/ CHANGE IN 1,000 POPULATION

No. of  
Dwelling Units

1,000

0

56-61

61-66

66-71

Chart 6.3.4

HOUSING STARTS/ CHANGE IN 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS

No. of  
Dwelling Units

1,000

0

56-61

61-66

66-71

Chart 6.3.5

HOUSING COMPLETIONS/ CHANGE IN 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS

No. of  
Dwelling Units

1,000

0

56-61

61-66

66-71

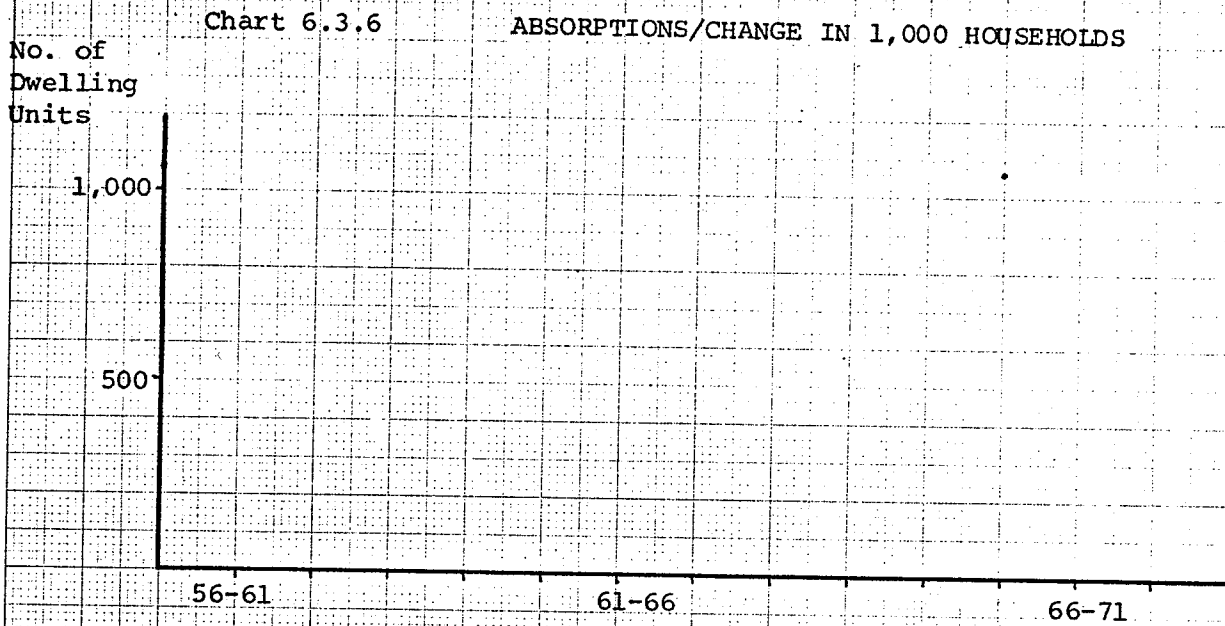


Chart 6.3.7 RATIO OF OCCUPIED DWELLINGS TO TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS

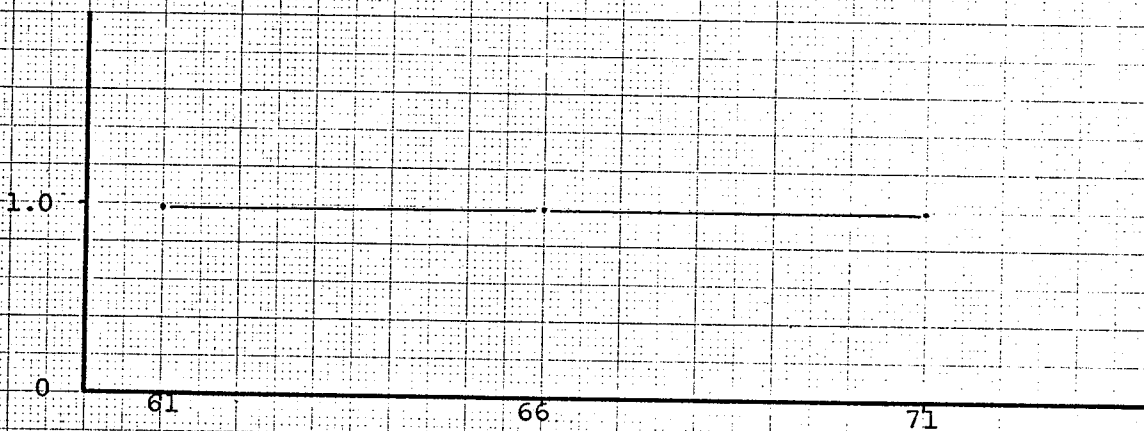
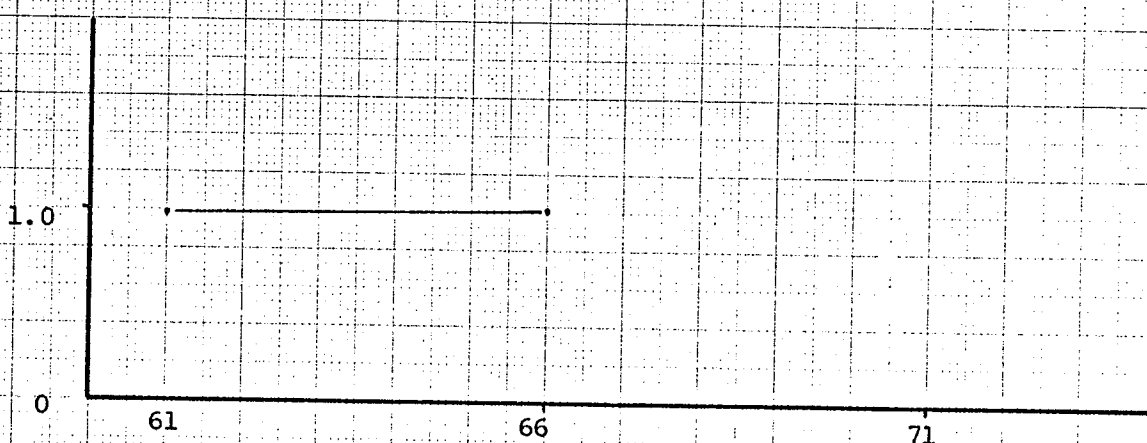


Chart 6.3.8 RATIO OF STOCK TO TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS



FIVE. PLANNING OF GOVERNMENT HOUSING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

When the housing market fails to take into account spillover benefits of housing production 1/ and produces insufficient volume to meet society's needs, 2/ government action becomes necessary to adjust the non-optimal output levels generated by the imperfectly operating free market. This requires first of all an assessment of the housing gaps, and then derivation and selection of policies and programs that can effectively close the gaps.

What the federal government hopes to achieve in the field of housing is "to ensure that every Canadian is able to exercise ... his social right — the right to good housing at a reasonable cost in a decent community environment." 3/ It goes without saying that this national housing objective can be attained by making adequate housing available, at reasonable cost, in required variety, at a suitable quality, and at desirable locations.

The market analysis stage of the housing planning process as discussed in the first half of this thesis helps to identify

- 1/ Examples of social benefits are employment effect, income effect (or multiplier effect) and other non-quantifiable environmental effects.
- 2/ In particular the need for low-income housing.
- 3/ Hon. Ron Basford, speech to Regional Tri-level Conferences, Peterborough, May 28, 1973.

the kinds of housing that are insufficient, the groups who are in need, and the localities where the needs exist. With the aid of policy-oriented methodologies, such as the Macro-Micro and Submarkets Approaches, existing housing policies and programs can be evaluated and new ones developed within the analytical frameworks.

#### I. AN OVERVIEW OF HOUSING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

It should be noted that no one program offers the solution. Programs are simply instruments employed singly or in combination to achieve certain housing objectives. However "... without better market understanding, there is danger that public actions will be frequently blunted in their intended effects, that some of the results may be the reverse of those intended, or that 'side effects' will create new and difficult problems requiring further public attention." 1/

A good example of conflicts or unwanted effects of housing policies is rent control, which stabilizes rent increases for the benefits of the lower-income renters on one hand, and discourages the supply of new rental units on the other. Rent control in the province of British Columbia has contributed to severe apartment shortages in Vancouver (a vacancy rate of 0.1% was recorded in December, 1974). It is therefore important to understand the

1/ Sternlieb, G. The Tenement Landlord, Centre for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University, N.J. 1966, p.3.



nature and purpose of individual programs so that when existing instruments are applicable, an appropriate mix can be structured to fit the time and the circumstance.

There are basically two kinds of programs : demand strategies and supply strategies. Programs that have a direct effect of increasing the housing consumption power are demand-support strategies, while programs that stimulate and generate more housing supply are supply-expansion strategies. These strategies or programs are classified and summarized in the following table form. <sup>1/</sup> Their main objectives and financial implications are also identified.

Demand strategies and supply strategies are equally important in stabilizing the cost of housing. There must be timing and balance between the two kinds of market intervention in order that one complements the other to produce the desired levels of housing supply, housing consumption and housing cost. For example, if the housing gap were to be narrowed by making direct payments to low-income families without increasing the supply well in advance, the sudden increase in effective demand would merely drive up the general level of rents to the benefit of the rental property owners.

<sup>1/</sup> Based on the Chart "Preliminary Housing Program Analysis" in Working Papers : Volume 1 by the Ontario Advisory Task Force on Housing Policy, 1973, pp.13-17.

DEMAND-SUPPORT STRATEGIES		OBJECTIVE IMPLICATIONS						
PROGRAM TYPE	DESCRIPTION	1	2	3	F	S	A	REMARKS
<u>A. INCOME REDISTRIBUTION</u>								
1) Shelter Cost Rebate	To allow deduction of rent or mortgage payments in accordance with some tax rebate formulas on income tax returns.		X	X	X			1) It has advantages of administrative simplicity and universal participation. However, the tax rebate may not be spent for better housing.
2) Guaranteed Annual Income	To assure a minimum income and allow low-income people to decide for themselves how much they want to spend on housing.			X	X			2) Freedom of choice by low-income people may invalidate the rent to income ratio as an indicator of ability to pay.
<u>B. MORTGAGE MONEY</u>								
1) Mortgage Insurance	To insure the approved lenders against losses associated with mortgage lending		X				X	
2) Liberalized Lending Terms	To increase the minimum loan to value ratio, the loan maximum and amortization period so that downpayment requirement and monthly carrying charges are reduced.		X	X	X			2) When construction is limited by lack of materials, labour or building capacity, liberal credit is more likely to push up costs and prices than increase production.
3) Interest Subsidy	To lower the cost of borrowing, and hence housing cost to buyers and renters.		X		X			3) The net effect of the subsidy in time of inadequate supply may simply increase the effective demand for housing, and thereby bid up prices.
4) Direct Lending	To provide first or second mortgages below market rate to home buyers.		X	X		X		
5) Assisted Homeownership	To provide families with low cost mortgages plus direct assistance (according to family income) to meet mortgage payments and taxes.			X	X	X		
<u>C. GRANT</u>								
1) Universal Capital Grant	To lower the cost of purchasing new housing units by means of a lump sum grant to buyers.		X		X			It is questionable whether the grants have the effect of reducing the end price of the home to the purchaser.
2) Selective Capital Grant	To lower the cost of homeownership for special groups			X	X			
<u>D. RENT SUPPLEMENT</u>				X	X			A short-run measure in time of adequate supply of rental units.
<u>E. RENT CONTROL</u>			X	X			X	A short-run measure; extended rent control leads to restricted supply and degrading housing quality.
<u>F. TAXATION</u>								
1) Property Tax Reduction	To reduce property tax.		X		X			1) A property tax credit plan or rebate scheme that is tied to income will have more desirable income redistributive effects.
2) Tax Incentive (Registered Homeownership Savings Plan)	To allow deductions under the plan of up to \$1000 annually from taxable income to a maximum of \$10,000 per tax payer, for the purchase of his first home.		X				X	

SUPPLY-EXPANSION STRATEGIES		OBJECTIVE IMPLICATIONS						
PROGRAM TYPE	DESCRIPTION	1	2	3	F	S	A	REMARKS
<u>A. MORTGAGE LENDING</u>								
1) Non-profit Housing (Limited Dividend)	To provide non-profit organizations (or builders) with long-term and low cost loans to build rental housing units for low-income, elderly, or handicapped persons.	X		X		X		
2) Co-operative Housing	To provide building and continuing housing co-operatives with low cost loans.	X		X		X		2) It may not be easy for interested persons to get the necessary organization and managerial skills.
<u>B. PUBLIC HOUSING</u>								
	To provide loans and grants to provinces for the development of public housing.	X		X	X			Public housing projects require special consideration of their size, location, design and community facilities.
<u>C. MUNICIPAL SERVICES</u>								
	To provide loans and grants to municipalities to help provide services, schools, etc.	X			X			
<u>D. PUBLIC LAND ASSEMBLY AND LAND BANKING ASSISTANCE</u>								
	To provide loans at a preferential interest rate to provinces and municipalities for assembling and servicing land.	X	X	X	X			Outright competition with the private sector in land assembly will bid up land prices.
<u>E. PLANNING CHANGES</u>								
1) Development Approval	To speed land development approval process.	X					X	
2) Change in Standards	To reduce land development standards.	X					X	2) Provincial intervention is required for setting minimum standards.
<u>F. IMPROVING EXISTING STOCK</u>								
1) Rehabilitation Assistance	To provide funds to renovate inadequate and substandard housing.	X		X				
2) Neighbourhood Improvement	To provide grants and loans to municipalities for upgrading their older residential neighbourhoods.	X		X	X			
<u>G. TAX INCENTIVES</u>								
1) Building Material Tax	To reduce or remove the building material tax.	X			X			1) A grant to first-time buyers of reasonably priced new houses is an alternative
2) Depreciation Allowance	To increase the tax shelter of investments in rental accommodation.	X			X			
<u>H. RESEARCH GRANTS</u>								
	Research grants are made available to individuals and organizations undertaking research or developmental work which aimed at improving housing and urban affairs	X			X			
Key: 1. To meet physical housing need 2. To meet general financial housing need 3. To meet financial housing need of special groups F. Program with financial implications S. Program with financial implications, but self-supporting or income producing A. Administrative action only.								

Since it takes time for the housing supply to respond to changes in demand, both the short-term and long-term effects of government intervention in the housing market have to be considered. For example, to implement rent control without increasing supply may benefit renters in the short run, but will restrict supply of rental units and decrease housing quality in the long run. 1/

Planning of programs for poorly housed low-income families may require additional research efforts. The Submarkets Approach is most appropriate in this direction of enquiry. Since the housing problem of low-income families is one dimension of the multifaceted problem of poverty, "it seems essential that we learn more about the kinds of families who are most likely to experience housing problems; the specific nature of the kinds of housing problems from which they suffer; the ways in which particular non-housing or housing related problems are likely to minimize the success of solving their problems through direct housing measures; and finally, how some housing problems might be best dealt with indirectly through non-housing means." 2/

Grigsby has identified twelve dimensions of the housing problems of low-income families and a typology consisting of nine problems typically associated with occupancy in substandard

1/ Controlled rents below the market price (and therefore cost) of housing will lead to deterioration of the rental units.

2/ Stegman, M.A. (ed.) Housing and Economics, The American Dilemma, M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, Mass. 1970, pp.201-202.

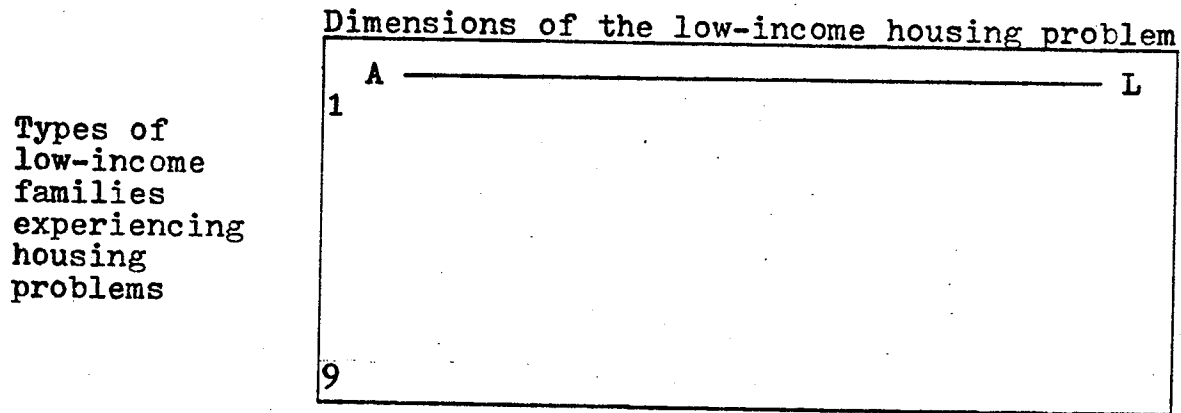
housing. 1/ A "housing problem — population matrix" similar to what Grigsby has suggested can be constructed as a supplementary basis for program development. See Diagram 13. If these problems had not been satisfactorily explored before solutions were proposed, our so-called housing experts would merely have, according to Grigsby, "accumulated a kit of tools which they are trying to fit and refit to a changing problem." 2/

1/ Grigsby, W.G. Mimeographed outline for seminar on housing, University of Pennsylvania, 1969, p.1.

2/ Grigsby, W.G. "Housing Aspects of Poverty," mimeographed memorandum, University of Pennsylvania, 1965.

Diagram 13

HOUSING PROBLEM — POPULATION MATRIX



FAMILIES

1. Non-white
2. Large families, especially female-headed
3. Welfare families
4. Families experiencing interruptions in income
5. Families with particularly high nonhousing expenses
6. Single males
7. Mentally or physically handicapped
8. Families who are bad tenants either because of irregularity of rent payments, failure to keep quarters reasonably clean, or abusive behavior
9. Recent immigrants with no credit rating, etc.

PROBLEMS

- A. Lack of adequate quality, including equipment and services
- B. Lack of adequate space
- C. Lack of adequate furnishings
- D. Poor neighbourhood environment
- E. Excessive housing costs relative to income
- F. Excessive housing costs relative to quality, space and neighbourhood environment
- G. Lack of tenure choice
- H. Lack of locational choice
- I. Racial discrimination
- J. Involuntary mobility
- K. Stigmatizing way in which housing services are provided
- L. Lack of housing-related services, e.g. meals, for the partially handicapped

## II. HOUSING PLANNING AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

Fiscal and monetary policies are the tools of the government for regulating economic activities. In a mixed economy such as ours, manipulation of these tools is generally what economic planning is all about. For example, a combination of decreases in taxes and interest rate with increases in government expenditures and money supply will stimulate increases in consumption and employment and thus income and economic growth.

Although monetary policy is not formulated especially to influence the level of residential construction, the adoption of restrictive monetary policies <sup>1/</sup> by the federal government in combating inflation has the effect of increasing mortgage interest rates and reducing the availability of funds for residential construction and consumption. National housing policies and programs therefore have to be formulated within the general framework of economic planning.

Planning of income redistribution at the macro level involves also redistribution of resources in the field of housing for the attainment of housing and other economic objectives, such as full employment and price stability. Most housing policies and programs do have positive employment effects and income

<sup>1/</sup> In time of inflation, government may restrict the flow and supply of money through open market operation, i.e. selling bonds to the public; increasing bank rate; or increasing legal reserve ratio of chartered banks.

redistributional results. However the mix of housing programs should ideally serve the dual purpose of increasing residential construction and promoting economic stability, because without a clearly defined set of priorities, housing programs that are pro-cyclical (or highly inflationary in time of rising prices) will have to be sacrificed for economic stability. According to L. B. Smith: "Unless the nation is experiencing a severe housing shortage, the social benefits of general stabilization will probably outweigh those of additional housing expenditures." 1/

In addition to policies and programs which directly redistribute income for housing assistance purposes, there are housing program that operate through the mortgage market. These programs exert their influence on the flow of funds for housing production and consumption by altering lending terms 2/ of government insured mortgage credit (thereby altering relative yields on other financial investments) and advancing mortgage funds directly to the private sector.

The supply of mortgage credit from private financial institutions depends upon the desirability of mortgages as an invest-

1/ Smith, L.B. "The Housing Market, the Housing Problem, and Government Policy" in Officer and Smith (eds.), Canadian Economic Problem and Policies, McGraw-Hill, Toronto, 1970. p.256.

2/ Interest rate, maximum loan amount, minimum loan-to-value ratio, amortization term, and the relationship between the borrower's income and the gross debt service.



ment compared with other investment alternatives. The loan insurance program provides such desirability by making mortgage lending a virtually risk-free investment. By varying lending terms of the government insured mortgages, the volume of new residential construction can be decreased to curb inflation or increased to combat unemployment and to put housing within the reach of more families. It should be added here that "the loan maximum may be used as a policy tool for other than stabilization purposes, since variations in the relative loan maximums per unit for single and multiple dwellings can substantially affect the single and multiple mix of construction." 1/

Direct lending is to make residential-construction loans out of public funds to stimulate building activity when private credit gaps arise or when mortgage funds are scarce. Under the National Housing Act, direct loans can be made by CMHC under a variety of programs — Limited Dividend, Low Rental, Non-Profit, Public Housing, Student Housing and so on — and to persons unable to obtain private mortgage credit on NHA terms.

Since the NHA terms are usually much more favourable to the borrower than conventional terms, it is likely that the increased availability of loans on NHA terms reduces the

1/ Smith, L.B. Housing in Canada : Market Structure and Policy Performance, op.cit. p.77.

demand for conventional mortgages, and consequently, the volume of conventionally financed housing starts. On the other hand, it may be argued that CMHC participation increases the total flow of funds, thereby reducing the conventional mortgage rate and stimulating conventional housing starts. But the additional government demand for funds for CMHC lending may raise bond rates and result in a reduction of mortgage availability. 1/ The method of funding a direct lending program therefore warrants the attention of economic planners.

If funds are raised by selling government securities to financial institutions, the ability or willingness of these institutions to invest in mortgages may be diminished for security sales tend to raise bond yields relative to mortgage rates. If funds are raised by security sales to the central bank, the money supply in the economy will be increased. Finally, if funds come out of additional tax revenues or reduced spending on other programs, the incidence of the tax or nature of the foregone expenditure will determine the extent of the offset in the housing sector. 2/ In times when restrictive policies are needed, sale of securities to the central bank would appear not to be an appropriate way of funding direct-lending programs.

1/ Smith, L.B. Housing in Canada : Market Structure and Policy Performance, op.cit. p.79.

2/ Smith, L.B. "The Housing Market, the Housing Problem, and Government Policy." op.cit. p.256.

Because of the influence new housing has upon the consumer appliances and furnishing industries, public utilities and community facilities, economic planning and housing planning have to be coordinated to come up with a desirable combination of monetary, income redistribution, direct lending and credit term policies for the achievement of both economic and housing objectives.

### III. EVALUATING HOUSING PROGRAMS

Since no society has an unlimited capacity to redistribute income, the various government programs which involve redistribution have to compete with one another for funding.

When the housing priority is determined and a budget is approved for direct provision of housing, allocation of the limited resources among the various sectors of needs should comply with findings of housing market analyses. If we want to achieve effectiveness and efficiency in the use of the housing dollars, evaluation of program alternatives on the basis of some objective selection criteria is required.

A. P. Solomon suggested the following list as a basis for policy choices : 1/

1/ Solomon, A.P. Housing and Public Policy Analysis, Working Paper No.12, Joint Center for Urban Studies of M.I.T. and Harvard University, 1972, pp.3-4.

1. Maximize aggregate housing consumption;
2. Promote equal residential opportunities (freedom of choice);
3. Close the housing gaps in the most cost effective manner;
4. Redistribute housing consumption equitably.

The first criterion in program selection is to determine which program combination will contribute most to the overall consumption of housing. This requires information on the responsiveness of housing supply to a shift in housing demand. If the supply of housing services is perfectly inelastic and the market does not respond to a change in housing demand, a demand strategy e.g. rent supplement program will simply cause rent increases without commensurate improvements in housing quality. The existence of a perfectly inelastic supply therefore signals the use of supply-oriented strategies in increasing housing supply to meet the market demand. On the other hand, if housing supply is perfectly elastic and responsive to changes in demand, adoption of supply strategies will have no effect on the equilibrium price or the quantity of housing consumption. Under such a condition, demand strategies will be required to increase housing consumption power in order to bring about more housing consumption.

Both supply and demand strategies, when appropriately applied, will create housing consumption benefits, Solomon suggested the dollar amount of the government's subsidy as the measure of such benefits. However calculation of these benefits may not be easy if benefits other than monetary are included.

The housing consumption benefit for public housing is the difference between the tenant's rental payment and the estimated rent for comparable housing on the private market. Similarly, the portion of the market rental paid by the government under a rent supplement program gives the value of the consumption benefit. A comparison of these dollar values under all tentative programs complete the selection process according to the first criterion. 1/

The second criterion concerns with consumer sovereignty, i.e. the choice of location, structural type and design of housing unit. In contrast with public housing tenants who may have little or no freedom of choice, NHA participants under the Assisted Home-Ownership Program could enjoy as much freedom as home buyers without public assistance. Housing programs can be ranked in order of how well they comply with this performance standard.

The third criterion is cost-effectiveness which can be measured by estimating the number of households moving to standard housing for a given expenditure. A comparison of programs according to this efficiency or least cost principle will involve calculation of the capital, operating and administrative costs of each program for a standardized dwelling unit. A uniform measure

1/ If the housing programs are designed to achieve housing objectives as well as other economic objectives, evaluation of program benefits will have to include social economic benefits such as employment and income effects.

such as total costs per unit per month may be helpful in determining the most cost effective approach to closing the housing gaps.

The fourth criterion concerns with both vertical and horizontal equity in redistributing housing and housing subsidies. Before federal housing aid reaches the target population, it must pass through several intermediaries such as provincial housing agencies, developers/builders, and property owners. This criterion stipulates that the amount of resources deflected to these intermediaries should be minimal. An analysis of the allocation of benefits under the various programs will point to the program that delivers the highest proportion of the housing dollars to the target population. Demand strategies, e.g. rent supplement, will score high on this scale of vertical equity.

The second measure of redistributive efficiency is horizontal equity, i.e. equal assistance to those with equal needs. A comparison of potential market rental of public housing units with the mean rent for "standard" private dwellings paid by other low-income households in the same area will show how successful public housing programs are in meeting this criterion.

Many program performance criteria, such as universality, may

be added to the above list. <sup>1/</sup> However, as the saying goes, too many cooks spoil the broth. Even when the criteria are quantifiable, they may not be commensurable. If all the above four criteria are used in program evaluation, we may have to assign weights to each criterion to reveal society's preferences, so that the programs selected will attain the housing objective in the most efficient and effective manner.

<sup>1/</sup> A similar set of criteria can be found in Grebler, L. "Criteria for Appraising Government Housing Programs", American Economic Review, May, 1960, pp. 321-332.

SIX. DECISION-MAKING IN PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Housing market analysis is essential to sound decision-making in housing production. The profit motivated developers/builders may analyze the market conditions and find answers to the following questions : Are housing demand and supply in balance? Are there profit-making opportunities in housing production? What is the house type that is in demand and that offers the highest rate of return? What will the future demand be? What are the market effects of government intervention? What are the competitors' market shares and their production schedules? For whom are the dwellings built?

With these questions in mind, developers/builders or their economic consultants will consider the relevant demand and supply factors as well as the neighbourhood and site characteristics if land for development is available. The amount of information to be collected and analyzed will depend on the level of risk associated with real estate investment. Because of the size of capital investment involved, large-scale subdivision or high-rise developments usually call for comprehensive market studies.

One may question the need for market studies when the housing market is tight, and is ready to absorb an increase in supply. It is true that market analyses are superfluous under such market condition for small, single purpose projects with



relatively short-term goals. But for complex, long-term and large-scale projects, forecasts of demand and possible government actions together with neighbourhood and site analyses are indispensable. Since housing investment must compete with other forms of investments, and must offer comparable prospects of return, "housing market analysis" or rather prospecting is almost a daily routine for developers/builders. 1/

While general information on the housing market can be obtained from Statistics Canada, government housing agencies and city planning departments, developers/builders need to conduct their own neighbourhood and site analyses before feasibility of the proposed developments can be determined.

W. N. Kinnard recommends the following list of factors requiring consideration in neighbourhood and site analyses. 2/

A. Factors of Neighbourhood Analysis

1. Stage in Life Cycle : comparison with competition, actual versus effective age;
2. Stability : conformity or compatibility of uses and users, zoning, codes, other use regulations;

1/ Since land capital, labour and building materials can have alternative uses, developers/builders may turn to greater revenue-producing projects i.e. commercial and office buildings when the costs of land and money are high.

2/ Kinnard, Jr. W.N. A Guide to Appraising Apartments, Society of Real Estate Appraisers, Chicago, 1965.

3. Access : transportation, shopping, employment facilities;
4. Value Level : protection, distribution;
5. Proximity of Cultural Facilities : schools, churches, libraries, parks, playgrounds, theatres;
6. Community Services : garbage and rubbish removal, police and fire protection, utilities;
7. Population : typical income spread, ethnic characteristics, area density, transiency, family size and makeup;
8. Physical Characteristics : topography, possible hazards (landslides, floods, subsidence), natural and man-made barriers;
9. Nuisances : odours, smoke, city traffic, noise.

B. Factors of Site Analysis

Most of the above factors apply here, with addition emphasis on:

1. Physial Characteristics : size, shape, dimension, topography, bearing capacity;
2. Zoning : use restrictions, structural restrictions, set back requirements, height limitations, on-site parking requirements, population density limitations;
3. Title Limitations : lines, easements, special assessments, covenants;
4. Access : transit, highways, visual access;
5. Community Service : water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer,

gas, fire and police, trash and garbage collection,  
sidewalks, street lights;

6. Proximity to Shopping Facilities;
7. Proximity to Centres of Employment;
8. Land Availability : price, financing terms.

Subsequent to housing market analysis, a building firm requiring mortgage financing may commission an appraisal before making its go-no-go decision. Since the mortgage loan is directly related to the appraised value (or expected income) of the project, 1/ an appraisal will serve to indicate the maximum loan amount the project can qualify. In an appraisal for a high-rise apartment for example, the appraised market value or capitalized value can be calculated by the following formula :

$$\text{Capitalized Value} = \frac{\text{Annual Gross Rent} - \text{Annual Operating Expenses}}{\text{Capitalization Rate}}$$

The major factor in determining an acceptable capitalization rate is the mortgage interest rate — the higher the interest rate, the higher the capitalization rate. Since the capitalized value is inversely proportional to the capitalization rate, the effect of high interest rates is to reduce capitalized

1/ For an income-producing property, the most rational method of appraisal is the income method. The other two appraisal methods — replacement cost and comparable sales — may be helpful as a check. See Stewart, J.I. Real Estate Appraisal in a Nutshell, University of Toronto Press, 1972, for a description of the three approaches.

value and the maximum loan amount of the project. This in turn raises the cash investment required from the developer/builder and lowers his financial leverage or profit-equity ratio. 1/ High interest rates thus have the effect of depressing a development project's investment prospects by reducing the mortgage loan amount for which the project qualifies and by raising the owner's operating expenses. 2/

When the project's mortgage terms are known, the builder/developer can decide on the feasibility of the project. If it can be built within the budget, and is expected to yield an acceptable rate of return on equity investment, then the project is feasible.

In apartment house investments, tax considerations are of major concern as financing terms. It is therefore important for the developer/builder to be knowledgeable in how taxes affect cash flows. Depreciation is one of the tax advantages for real estate investment. It can be computed "straight line" or "accelerated" to reduce the amount of taxes payable. 3/

- 1/ Leverage is a measure of the relationship of the amount of funds put in the venture by the owner as compared to the amount supplied by lending institutions. If a project yields a \$10,000 net annual return on a \$10,000 cash investment, it has ten times the leverage of a \$10,000 return on a \$10,000 cash investment.
- 2/ Griffin, L.W. Development Building : The Team Approach, The American Institute of Architects, 1972, pp.31-35.
- 3/ The different depreciation methods are discussed in Wendt, P.F. and Cerf, A.R. Real Estate Investment Analysis and Taxation, McGraw-Hill, N.Y. 1969, pp.81-91.

Although real property can often be depreciated at accelerated rates during its early years, its actual value often appreciates during these years because of inflating land and construction costs.

When the depreciation deduction fails to provide shelter to taxable income from the project, the developer/builder may decide to sell (or refinance) his property. The sale-lease-back and variations on its basic theme have become increasingly popular. However, discussion of all factors entering such a decision is beyond the scope of this thesis.

SEVEN. CITY PLANNING

Since housing is the largest user of urban space, and is the major determinant of the quality of urban life, housing market analysis is an integral part of the city planning process.

I. RESIDENTIAL SPACE AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The housing analysis techniques as discussed in the previous chapters can be used by planners to generate housing data at the neighbourhood level, and to produce projections of future housing needs and housing requirements. 1/ Given prevailing standards of or realistic assumption on residential densities and housing types, future housing unit requirements can be translated into residential land requirements, demand for municipal services, 2/ and location and space requirements for related commercial and community facilities. 3/

The space and service requirements are then matched against the land supply and capacities of the various municipal services

- 1/ For example, the estimated population under age 19 divided by the average number of children per family gives the minimum number of single family units required.
- 2/ Education, police and fire protection, public works, sanitation and waste removal, recreation and community services.
- 3/ See Chapin Jr., Urban Land Use Planning, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1965, pp.422-440.

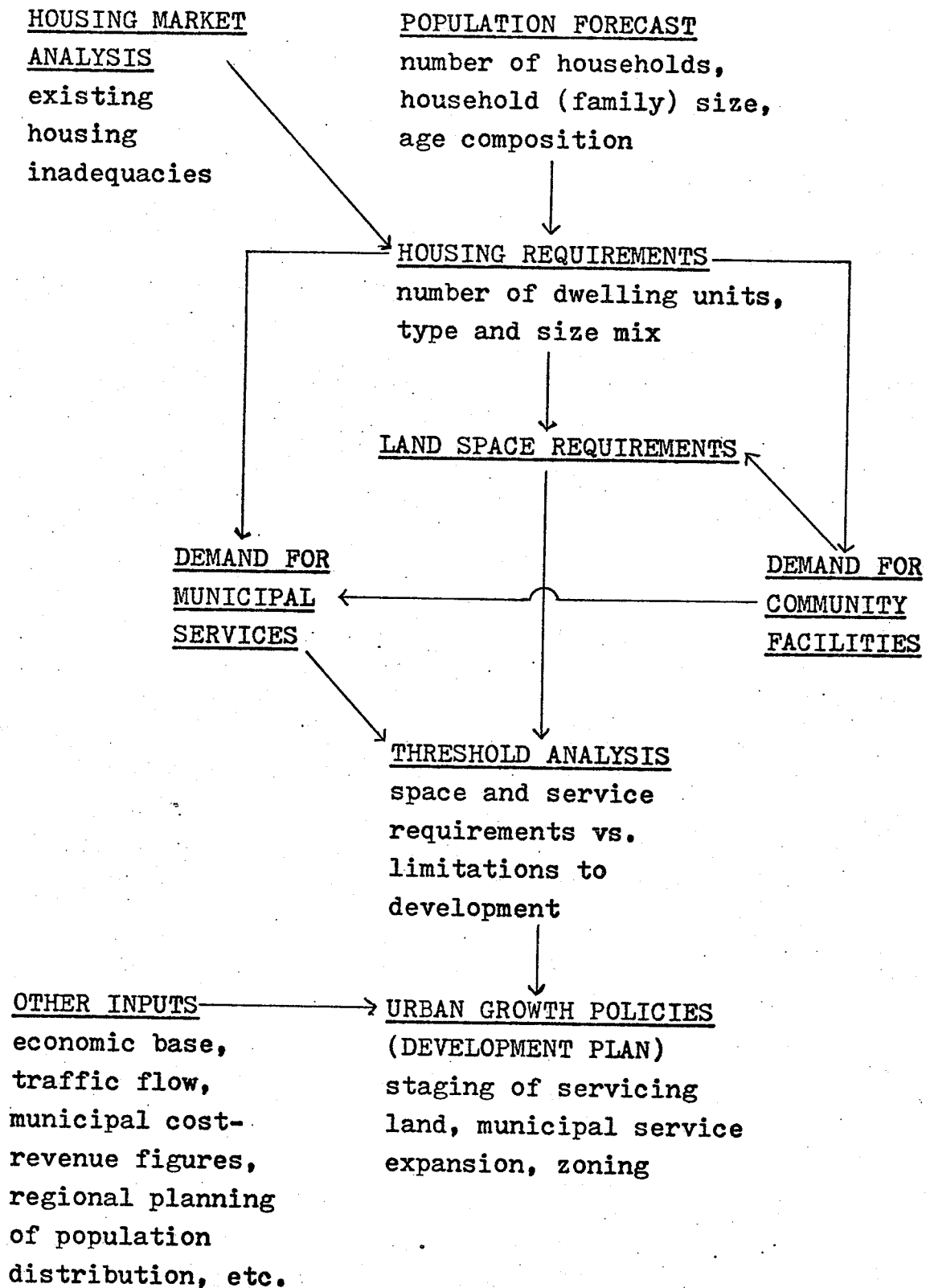
such as sewage treatment plant and water supply system to see if and when extension and expansion of services are required. The subsequent allocation of future housing additions to the different parts of the city together with their requirements for services and community facilities then form the basis for developing urban growth policies, and for drawing up or revising community development plans. See Diagram 14.

With property tax as their major revenue source, municipalities are responsible for provision of the necessary services to all property owners/occupants. Since some housing developments can generate enough tax revenues to cover costs of services while others cannot, municipalities tend to favour developments with positive fiscal impact, <sup>1/</sup> with the notion that the surplus revenues could be used either to improve existing services at current property tax rate or to reduce the tax rate while maintaining the same level of services.

Municipal revenues are quite often insufficient to meet growing costs of services because the property tax base does not grow rapidly enough to support development. When a municipality

<sup>1/</sup> See Sternlieb, G. et.al. Housing Development and Municipal Costs, (Rutgers University, New Jersey) for a study of the fiscal impact on both a municipality's operating budget and educational expenditures of housing developments characterized by various configurational and demographic patterns.

Diagram 14





is faced with fiscal squeeze, 1/ and is reluctant to increase property taxes, 2/ it will try to slow down or stop residential growth by : a) delaying servicing land, b) "exclusionary" zoning, c) lengthening the development approval process. These delays in turn restrict housing supply and contribute to rising land values and housing prices. What these measures mean to the new residents is that in addition to the average cost of urban growth, i.e. property taxes, they have to pay the "artificially created marginal costs of urban growth" in form of higher housing prices.

If housing planning and physical planning are to be integrated, planners should not be mainly concerned with municipal cost-revenue balance of new housing developments, and ignore the socio-economic effects of inadequate housing such as crime and fire hazards. According to Benjamin Disraeli : "The best security

1/ As pointed out by Netzer, D. in Impact of the Property Tax: Effect on Housing, Urban Land Use, Local Government Finance, Research Report No. 1 to the National Commission on Urban Problems, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1968, the principal remedies for fiscal squeeze must take the form of some reduction in the reliance on the property tax for the financing of urban public services. Among his suggestions are: an increase in cost sharing with senior levels of government; and a new base for property taxation, i.e. land value increments. This kind of tax is aimed at recapturing for the government a higher proportion of what economists called the unearned increment or external economies — the rise of land value that occurs, not through efforts of an owners, but through governmental action (subway lines, sanitary sewers, zoning changes, etc.) and through growth of the population and industry of the community.

2/ It should be noted that property taxes are regressive, and high property taxes can discourage consumption of and investment in housing, especially investment in rehabilitation of unmodernized older housing.

for civilization is the dwelling, and upon proper and becoming dwellings depends more than anything else the improvement of mankind. Such dwellings are the nursery of all domestic virtues, and without a becoming home, the exercise of those virtues is impossible." 1/

## II. PLANNING CONTROLS AND HOUSING COSTS

Planning controls such as zoning, building codes, subdivision controls, land use contracts, and the development approval process serve to mould urban development into a desired pattern, and to protect existing land uses and land values (on which property taxes are based). But these controls may negatively affect the supply and costs of housing if inappropriately imposed or applied e.g. large-lot zoning and restrictions on the number of bedrooms in apartment structures. It is therefore important for planners to understand the drawbacks of these controls and to try to lessen their adverse effects on the housing market.

### A. Zoning

Current zoning and zoning variance practices perform an important economic function, that is "to prevent individuals from creating harmful neighbourhood effects (negative externalities) likely to bring about unfair income losses and inefficient

1/ Quoted from Fisher, R.M. Twenty Years of Public Housing, Harper & Bros., 1959, p.62.

land use." 1/ Ideally, the allocation of land for residential and other uses should take into account present and future housing needs and their space requirements. However, when zoning is predominantly governed by municipal cost-revenue considerations, the prime objectives of zoning are lost. Physical zoning becomes fiscal zoning which seeks to attract uses that can produce a net tax revenue and exclude consumers of larger amounts of public services.

Fiscal zoning may take the form of exclusionary development controls such as minimum lot size, minimum lot frontage, building size, exclusion of mobile homes and multiple family dwellings. These regulations are public policy determinants of housing cost and supply, and they tend to restrict the housing supply, in particular low and moderate-cost housing, and to raise housing prices or rents. Overzoning land for non-residential uses is another exclusionary device. The resultant reduction in the amount of land available for rapidly expanding residential use would increase the prices of available residentially-zoned land. 2/

Since large lot size and frontage are usually found to be

1/ Grieson, R.E. Urban Economics, Readings and Analysis, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1973. p.134-135. It should be noted that an activity that generates a negative externality might still be desirable for the community if its benefits outweigh the costs of its negative effects.

2/ Sagalyn and Sternlieb, Zoning and Housing Costs, Rutgers University, New Jersey, 1973, pp.1-6.

positively related to house size, price, and income of residents, large-lot zoning 1/ appears to have the effect of screening out inexpensive housing, and thus achieving the objective of fiscal zoning, i.e. to maximize tax revenue and minimize service costs. But large-lot zoning alone cannot attract expensive housing, nor can it guarantee the ability of new developments to "pay their way". 2/ In the absence of other exclusionary controls, we can expect from large-lot zoning a diminishing supply of land for low and moderate-cost housing.

Zoning regulations affect not only the supply of land and housing, but also housing cost. A recent study correlating land-use controls and housing costs in New Jersey found that minimum zoning and developmental requirements are significant factors explaining selling price variation of single family homes. Dwelling size, which is directly affected by the minimum size regulation and indirectly conditioned by minimum lot size requirements, is the single most important factor explaining selling price variation. 3/

- 1/ Large-lot zoning is often considered as an improper means to insure proper health standards in areas without public water supply or sewage disposal, and to avoid leap-frog development. See American Society of Planning Officials, New Directions in Connecticut Planning Legislation: A study of Connecticut Planning, Zoning and Related Statutes, ASPO, Chicago, Illinois, Feb. 1967, p.193-199.
- 2/ The reason that there are other factors which are more significant than density in determining municipal costs accompanying residential development, for example, servicing standards, availability of excess sewage processing capacity.
- 3/ Sagalyn and Sternlieb, op.cit. p.48.

## B. Building Codes

Building codes share the objectives of zoning by-laws. The building specifications and performance standards serve to protect the occupants, the passers-by, and the neighbouring property and its occupants from potential hazards of buildings. However, unduly restrictive codes mean higher costs of construction. In final analysis, "costs in the form of reduced housing consumption and related side-effects could well exceed the costs of a slight increase in risk to neighbours, passers-by, and occupants, if provisions of the codes were relaxed." 1/

Local building codes and zoning by-laws often express the desire of municipal councils and ratepayers to ensure that prevailing high community standards are maintained, or that new development will not adversely affect the local tax base. As a result, "the general effect of the laws and regulations concerning housing production is to obtain good quality housing, but at high cost and at a delayed rate of production." 2/

## C. Subdivision Controls and Development Approval Process

Subdivision regulations specify the development or servicing standards and conditions under which land can be subdivided

1/ Burns and Mittelbach, "Efficiency in the Housing Industry", The Report of the President's Committee on Urban Housing, Technical Studies, Vol.II, Housing Costs, Production Efficiency, Finance, Manpower, Land, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1969.

2/ Ontario Advisory Task Force on Housing Policy, Working Papers, Volume 2, Queen's Printer for Ontario, 1973, p.11.

prior to development. Most subdivision regulations require private developers to provide the necessary on-site services, such as roads, curbs, sidewalks, street lights, storm drainage, etc., and to dedicate or reserve land for school sites, recreation areas, and street rights-of-way. Some cities may also require developers to make financial contributions toward off-site services such as sewage treatment plants, widening of arterial roads, acquisition of school sites and construction of new school buildings or expansion of existing ones. Naturally, the costs of the on-site services, the financial contributions made, the land reserved or dedicated to municipalities for public uses are included in the end price of the lot and the final selling price of the house. <sup>1/</sup> If the servicing standards are set beyond reasonable health and safety requirements, or if too much land are required for public uses by municipalities, subdivision controls can negatively affect the supply and cost of housing land.

Delay in municipal approval of subdivision proposals is another cause for restricted land supply and higher housing prices. It can be explained by :

- a) The negative attitude of "concerned" residents toward new development, and their vocal opposition in public hearings;
- b) the adversary approach to residential planning whereby

<sup>1/</sup> The fact that the expansion of existing services benefit the new residential areas rationalizes the shifting of the marginal servicing costs forward to the purchasers/renters of the new housing units.

- municipalities attempt to extract concessions from developers;
- c) the lack of municipal planning and the resulting anti-growth attitude; and
  - d) the changing role of planning from development guidance to one of purely development control;

Time-consuming procedures cost developers money and needless to say, the extra land carrying costs are passed on to the housing consumers.

The above discussion of planning controls and housing costs echo one of the conclusions made in a recent Vancouver housing study : "The cumulative effect of the negative laws, regulations, policies, and attitudes, and the long and extremely complex development process are the problems affecting the supply of land for housing and therefore the supply of housing." 1/

Before city planners can become part of the solution to the housing problem, there are steps they must take to make planning more responsive to present and future housing needs, and to lessen the adverse effects of planning controls on housing supply and housing costs :

- a) To develop an understanding of the workings and trends of the residential construction and housing markets;
- b) To weigh the social benefits and costs of planning controls.

1/ ICO Real Estate Management Ltd., "The Land Development Process as it affects the Supply of New Housing within the Greater Vancouver Regional District", the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, 1974, p.54.

Alternative methods of control must be devised to replace those with negative effect on housing supply and housing costs;

- c) To streamline the land development approval process;
- d) To establish a new set of minimum development standards that reflect basic public health and safety requirements;
- e) To take into consideration federal and provincial housing programs, such as the financial assistance for land banking, sewage treatment plant, neighbourhood improvement and residential rehabilitation, when making land use and redevelopment plans, and timing service expansion.



EIGHT. CONCLUSION

Housing is shelter for people, a place where most people spend at least half their life time relaxing, eating, socializing, and in short, enjoying life. And yet different people see housing in a different way. It is a social good to the government; a profit-making product to the developers/builders, lending institutions, and suppliers of building materials and home furnishings; an election platform for the politicians; and a *raison d'être* for planners. But there are very few people who really understand the complexity of the problem of generating housing.

What housing market analysis offers to the housing planning process is a meeting ground where all the parties concerned can understand people's housing requirements, the obstacles to housing production and consumption, and the viewpoints and problems of the other participants. It is with this kind of mutual understanding that we can expect a concerted effort in housing production for the welfare of the people.

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