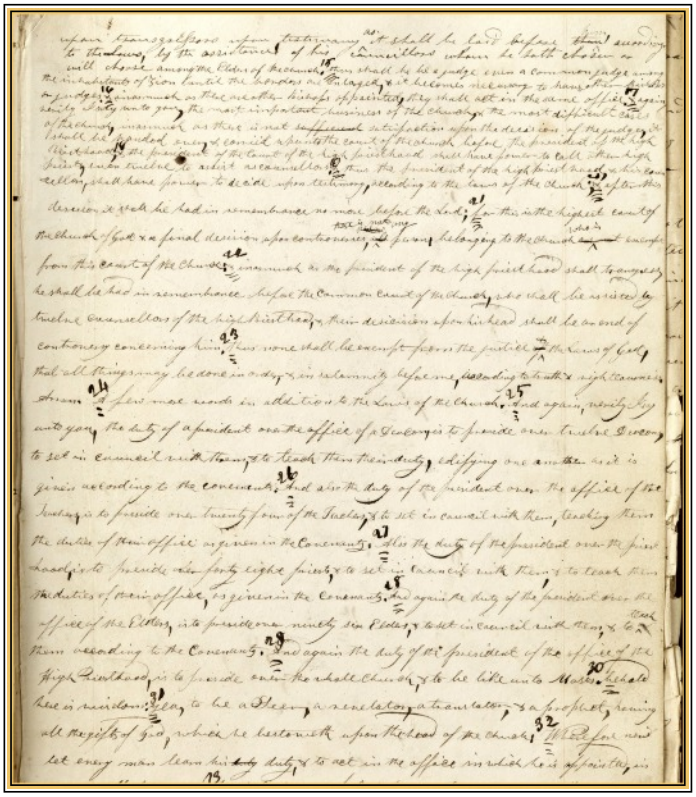
THE TEN CONVERGENT DOCUMENTS



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The Ten Convergence Documents (DOCS)

THIS reconstruction rests on ten documents that point to the same pattern. Six — the LAW, the PLOT, the BUILD, the SCHOOL, the HOUSE, and the QUORUMS DOCS — are discussed later with their own source panels. ROOMS, recorded in Nauvoo in 1841, is treated with the HOUSE because it alone requires a physical room for every office and completes the building's office count. The remaining three — the STAND, ROTATE, and CHOSEN DOCS — explain how offices are held, rotated, and filled over time, and are developed in Part Three. The citations and QR code links are presented so readers can view the full set together. We generally give the earlier sources priority. The book follows the earliest dated wording of each source and holds to it. The ROOMS DOC is the exception because, though late, it supplies the controlling room command for the offices.

Each entry gives the basic facts readers need to evaluate the source: the document's name, when and where it was recorded, who preserved it, what form survives today, and which part of the constitution it supports. When an original image is available online, the QR code points directly to the page image at josephsmithpapers.org. A full citation is also shown so readers can find the source without using the QR code.

DOC	Source, date, place, and recorder	Survives as/ Constitutional layer	Verify via QR Code (JSP)
DOC 1: The LAW	Recorded, 9 February 1831 Voiced by Joseph Smith in the presence of twelve elders; hand of Symonds Rider. Kirtland, Ohio. The passage was independently recorded four further times in: (1) John Gilbert's notebook, (2) Zebedee Coltrin's diary, (3) John Whitmer's Revelation Book 1, and (4) the Hyde-Smith notebook, a redundancy the book treats as a mark of its controlling weight. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-9-february-1831-dc-421-72/3	Survives in *The Joseph Smith Papers*. **Layer:** the economic operating system.	
DOC 2: The PLOT	Plat of the City of Zion, circa early June - 25 June 1833, p. 1. Layout drawn by Frederick G. Williams; marginal and reverse-side text in the hand of John Whitmer. Kirtland, Ohio. The original was sent to Independence, Missouri, on 25 June 1833. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/plat-of-the-city-of-zion-circa-early-june-25-june-1833/1	Survives in *The Joseph Smith Papers*. **Layer:** the spatial pattern, 24 public buildings; the differentiated civic core.	
DOC 3: The BUILD	Recorded, 2 August 1833-B. Hand of Frederick G. Williams, copied into notebook catalogued as Revelation Book 2 (pp. 64-66) from the now-lost original of 6 May 1833. Kirtland, Ohio. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-2-august-1833-b-dc-94/2	Survives as a copy in notebook catalogued as *Revelation Book 2*. **Layer:** develops the PLOT with the 55'×65' inner court and the lower and higher courts.	
DOC 4: The SCHOOL	Recorded, 1 June 1833. Hand of Orson Hyde, copied into notebook catalogued as Revelation Book 2 (pp. 59-60) from the now-lost original, likely between 6 June and 30 July 1833. Kirtland, Ohio. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-1-june-1833-dc-95/2	Survives as a copy in notebook catalogued as *Revelation Book 2*. **Layer:** develops the PLOT with the lower and higher parts of the inner court, and the school.	
DOC 5: The HOUSE	Plan of the House of the Lord, between 1 and 25 June 1833, p. 1. Drawing and hand of Frederick G. Williams. Kirtland, Ohio. The original was retained by Lydia Partridge and later given to Brigham Young. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/plan-of-the-house-of-the-lord-between-1-and-25-june-1833/1	Survives as the original plan. **Layer:** the earliest design witness with pulpits, the chamber (not gallery), the 14-ft tiers and 28-ft court, curtains and veils.	

DOC	Source, date, place, and recorder	Survives as/ Constitutional layer	Verify via QR Code (JSP)
DOC 6: The QUORUMS	Recorded, 11 November 1831. Hands of Oliver Cowdery and John Whitmer, copied from an original that has not been found. Hiram, Ohio, at a conference of community participants. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-11-november-1831-b-dc-107-partial/2	Survives as a copy. **Layer:** the foundational quorum sizes: 12 / 24 / 48 / 96 that close a governance court at a total of 480 seats.	
DOC 7: STAND	Recorded, 22-23 September 1832. Hand of Frederick G. Williams. Kirtland, Ohio. **Keystone:** "let every man stand in his own office, and labor in his own calling." josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-22-23-september-1832-dc-84/5.	Stands in the JSP **Layer:** the office constitution.	
DOC 8: ROTATE	Discourse, 27 February 1835-A, as reported by Oliver Cowdery, p. 87. Hand of Warren A. Cowdery. Kirtland, Ohio. Joseph Smith's instruction to the Twelve to appoint someone to preside at each meeting and one or more to keep the record — the warrant for rotating presiding and clerking. josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/discourse-27-february-1835-a-as-reported-by-oliver-cowdery/2.	Survives in The Joseph Smith Papers. **Layer:** the temporal and office constitution.	
DOC 9: CHOSEN	Acts 1:15-26 (New Testament), imaged from Codex Laudianus (6th c.; Gregory-Aland 08). The apostles replace Judas: qualification, two finalists, then prayer, then by casting lots. A pattern from the earliest Acts manuscripts, not a Joseph Smith Papers document. collections.csntm.org.	Acts 1 (CSNTM) Layer: succession.	
DOC 10: ROOMS for OFFICES	Recorded, 19 January 1841. Hand of Robert B. Thompson, copied into the Book of the Law of the Lord from an earlier draft now lost (between 19 January and 7 April 1841). Nauvoo, Illinois. After naming all the offices it commands: "prepare rooms for all these offices in my house when you build it unto my name." josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-19-january-1841-dc-124/13.	Survives as a copy in the Book of the Law of the Lord. Layer: the only command for a physical room per office — the warrant for the first floor that closes each building at 80 offices (1,920 total).	

The ten convergent documents. DOCS 1-6 are recovered in full in the chapters that follow and carry QR code links to The Joseph Smith Papers; DOCS 7-10: STAND, ROTATE, CHOSEN and ROOMS receive their source panels in Part Three.

Document Chronology

This reconstruction gives earlier sources greater authority than later ones. The table shown on the next page lists the DOCS in recording sequence, then adds later plats, plans, and standing buildings. These later materials are treated not as the original design, but as witnesses to it; several show the pattern that were changed over time. The final column highlights those changes from the distributed, office-bearing, four-court system of 1831-1833 toward single assembly halls.

Later chapters develop the DOCS by their source, with STAND, ROTATE, and CHOSEN treated in Part Three. The convergence appendix gives scholarly readers the full source hierarchy of those foundational documents.

Date	Document	Recorder/Hand	Survives as	Role in the argument
Circa AD 30-60	**CHOSEN**	Imaged from Codex Laudianus	New Testament tradition	Succession by qualification, then by lot
9 Feb 1831	The **LAW**	Symonds Rider (plus four others)	Joseph Smith Papers (JSP)	The economic system
11 Nov 1831	The **QUORUMS**	Oliver Cowdery; John Whitmer	Copy of a lost original in Revelation Book 1	Quorum number sizes
22-23 Sep 1832	**STAND**	Frederick G. (F. G.) Williams	JSP	Bounded office; labor in one's own calling
6 May 1833	The **BUILD**	F. G. Williams	Revelation Book 2; recorded 2 August	55' by 65'; lower & higher courts
1 June 1833	The **SCHOOL**	Orson Hyde	Revelation Book 2	The inner courts parts; the school
1-25 June 1833	The **HOUSE** plan	F. G. Williams	Original, retained by Lydia Partridge	Earliest design: pulpits, chambers, veils, 14/28 ft.
Early-25 June 1833	The **PLOT** (Plat of the City of Zion)	PLOT: F. G. Williams Text: John Whitmer	Original sent to Independence, MO	Established the pattern of 24 build
Early August 1833	Revised Plat; redrawn central blocks	F. G. Williams	Original, revised	Witness – comparison
Aug-Sep 1833	Revised House plan	—	Original; revised	Witness – comparison
Circa June 1833	Partial Kirtland House plan; fragments	—	Four fragments	Witness – partial plan
Not before August 1833	Plat of Kirtland	N. K. Whitney F. G. Williams	Original	Witness – settlement plan
27 Feb 1835	**ROTATE** (Discourse by Oliver Cowdery)	Warren A. Cowdery	JSP	Rotation of who presides and clerks
1836	Built Kirtland House	—	Standing building	Four built elements: (1) two courts; (2) pulpits at both ends of both courts; (3) twelve seats each side; (4) the elliptical arch
1837	Map of the city of Kirtland	—	Original map	Witness – late comparison
19 Jan 1841	**ROOMS**	Robert B. Thompson	Book of the Law of the Lord (original lost)	Rooms for all 80 offices: 80 x 24 bldgs = 1,920 offices

PART ONE:

THE RECOVERED SPECIFICATION



DOC 1: THE LAW

♦ An Economic Operating System ♦

Source: *Recorded, 9 February 1831*, recorded by Symonds Rider at Kirtland, Ohio, in the presence of twelve elders. Verses 30-35 supply the economic sequence analyzed here. The text was independently recorded four additional times by John Gilbert, Zebedee Coltrin, in John Whitmer's notebook catalogued as Revelation Book 1, and in the Hyde-Smith notebook, a redundancy the book treats as evidence of the passage's controlling weight.

DOC 1: THE ORIGINAL LAW TEXT

Verse numbering 30-35 added; Original spelling and punctuation.

30 & Behold thou shalt conscrate all thy ~~property~~ properties that which thou hast unto me with a covena[n]t and Deed which cannot be broken.

31 & they Shall be laid before the Bishop of my church* & two of the Elders such as he shall appoint & set apart for that purpose.

32 & it shall come to pass that the Bishop of my church after that he has received the properties of my church that it cannot be taken from you he shall appoint every man a Steward over his own property or that which he hath received in as much as shall be sufficient for him self and family.

33 & the residue shall be kept to administer to him that hath not that every man may receive according as he stands in need.

34 & the residue shall be kept in my store house to administer to the poor and needy as shall be appointed by the Elders of the church & the Bishop.

35 & for the purpose of purchaseing Land & building up of the New Jerusalem which is here after to be revealed.

*Note: "Bishop" is the role of the title-and-repository trustee; "my church" is the assembled community/association (Tyndale's *ecclesia*)

THE above passages are the LAW's canon and readers can verify each word against the original. Read for its secular, operative meaning, the LAW presents a remarkably complete sequence for conveyance and allocation.

For an economist, the sequence is strikingly complete. It identifies a conveyance through the irreversible transfer of property, a title structure in a single receiving repository, an allocation mechanism that appoints each participant an Enterprise Owner over operating assets, an Owner's Draw for them and their family, a treatment of the residual that must be "kept," and a sequence of needs the kept residual administers to: first to those without an enterprise, then to the poor, the needy, and finally to land and building. The section that follows unpacks two repeated control words, *kept* and *administer*, because the sequence works only if both remain true at the same time.

The Originating Question

The LAW is best read first as an answer to a constitutional question every settlement planner recognizes: "Should a population gather into one place or remain dispersed?" From there the text moves in sequence: first to gathering, then to the gathered community, and finally to the economic structure that allows that community to endure. The sequence must be preserved: properties → agreement and deed → bishop → Enterprise Owner → owners draw for self and family → residual → kept → administer → him that hath not → poor and needy → purchasing land → building. The sequence prevents the enterprise clauses from collapsing either into a general ethic of charity or into the whole constitution by themselves.

Conveyance and Unified Title

The first economic step is a full transfer of property: *"all thy properties ... with a covenant and Deed which cannot be broken."* The wording matters. "All" means nothing is held back. Covenant and Deed combine two actions: (1) the Deed transfers title, and (2) the covenant, i.e. agreement, binds the Enterprise Owner to the community's rules after the transfer. *"Which cannot be broken"* means the transfer is permanent, not a donation that can later be withdrawn. In modern terms, each entrant transfers all property into the community's title system and agrees to the bylaws that define the entrant's standing afterward.

Unified title is not just an administrative detail; it is what holds the system together. The community holds title to all assets through its central repository, described here as the "bishop" function. Banks may hold liens on financed assets, but the title itself stays within the community structure. Enterprise Owners receive the right to use assets only through leases. If title were divided back into private ownership, the system would break down: Enterprise Owners could resist reassignment, residual could no longer serve as community capital, collateral would be scattered among many owners, and authority would shift toward whoever held the largest private claim. In that case, the economy would become a set of private bargains rather than one coherent community. Unified title keeps collateral organized, preserves capital, supports continuity across generations, and separates a participant's standing from personal wealth.

Enterprise and Owner's Draw Support

After the bishop receives the properties *"that it cannot be taken from you,"* he *"shall appoint every man a Steward over his own property or that which he hath received ... sufficient for him self and family."* In sequence, this means the participant's protected standing comes after title has moved into the community. The enterprise is then assigned under community title; it is not a return to separate private ownership. In modern terms, the Enterprise Owner receives a legally recognized business that they own outright, with protected custody of operating assets by lease and governed access to operating credit. Title to the underlying assets remains with the community.

Owner's Draw is specific to each participant, not a general minimum for everyone. It is defined by their own life-and-business plan, so it differs from person-to-person. The enterprise is a real viable business as it must produce enough to support them and their dependents and still create a residual beyond their Owner's Draw, because the next clause requires *"residue."* A merely symbolic allotment would fail both tests. For that reason, the community may not assign placeholder Enterprise Owners; it must assign viable businesses to everyone who enters the community.

Enterprise Owners Joins Work and Tools

Every productive business needs two things: (1) people who know the work and (2) tools that make the work possible. In most economies, those two things are separated. Workers understand the job, but someone else owns the land, equipment, machines, software, or artificial intelligence that helps them do it. Enterprise Owners brings them together. They own the business, use the needed assets through a lease, and run the operation directly. The community keeps title to the assets, but the Enterprise Owner has practical control over how they are used. The result is not labor serving capital or capital ruling labor; it is one informed operator using productive tools well.

This changes the usual relationship between workers and productive assets. In many modern systems, the person doing the work more than likely does not own or control the tools of production, and often uses assets controlled by someone else, and they receive a wage, or assigned stock share, in return. The LAW's economic system takes a different path. The community keeps title to the assets, but the Enterprise Owner who works with them receives the right to use and direct them. That gives them access to capital that a wage-earner could not normally assemble and allows them to build a business around it.

In a NewVistas community, this is not optional. No adult is meant to be merely an employee separated from the assets used in daily work. Each adult holds an enterprise: an individually owned business with leased access to the assets it needs. Enterprise Owners may contract with one another for services, but they may not hire wage labor. This prevents the usual split between owners and workers from forming. The person doing the work must also be the person responsible for using the productive assets.

This matters because the person closest to the work usually understands it best. An Enterprise Owner running a business every day sees what customers need, which tools work, where problems appear, and what improvements are possible. If that person is only an employee, much of that knowledge may never shape the main decisions. The owner that controls the assets may be too far removed from the daily operation to understand the details. The Enterprise Owners closes that gap. The person who knows the work also controls the business, uses the assets, and keeps the profit above their "Owner's Draw." The goal is simple: put productive tools in the hands of the person most likely to use them well.

This also changes how workers experience automation. For wage-earners, robots and artificial intelligence (AI) can feel threatening because the benefits usually go to the owner of the machines, while the worker may be replaced. An Enterprise Owner is in a different position: they own the business and holds custody of the productive tools. In that setting, automation becomes an aid rather than a rival. Robots, software, and artificial intelligence can increase what the enterprise produces, and any value above Owner's Draw belongs to them. Better tools strengthen both the Enterprise Owner and the community instead of pushing workers aside.

The Two Control Words: "Kept" and "Administer"

The LAW depends on two repeated words: the residual must be *kept*, and it is kept to *administer*. Both ideas must stay together. If the community spends the residual down, then it has not really been kept. But if the residual is simply saved and never put to work, then it does not administer. The residual is therefore not an idle savings account and not a fund to be used up. It is preserved community capital that goes to work through productive business enterprises — helping create, repair, protect, and expand businesses while the underlying capital remains intact.

This rule also prevents the usual ways capital gets drained away. The residual cannot become a bureau budget, a general spending fund, payroll money, idle cash, or hidden authority to spend. It must remain preserved capital. At the same time, the word *administer* means someone must act. In this system, the governing bureaus set standards, approve plans, check results, and provide accountability. They do not run businesses or take custody of productive assets. That work belongs to Enterprise Owners, who use assets by lease while the community keeps title. The residual exists to help productive owners succeed, not to grow a bureaucracy. Unlike current public finance, where one body may tax, spend, hire staff, and operate programs, NewVistas separates governing from operating. Bureaus govern; an Enterprise Owner operate. That separation keeps the residual from being spent down and keeps productive work in the hands of private owners under unified community title.

Three Recipients, in Sequence

The sequence identifies its recipients in a specific arrangement that redistribution language would obscure. It applies first to *"him that hath not,"* and only then to the *"poor"* and the *"needy."* These are three separate constitutional categories, not a single charitable class:

1. The *"have not"* is a newly approved entrant, recruited by a captain of 10, who does not yet have a viable business. To administer here is to create for them a real Business Enterprise that can reach an Owner's Draw and produce residual.

2. The *"poor"* are existing participants whose businesses have weakened and no longer reliably produce residual. To administer here is to restore an Enterprise Owner through revised plans, corrected operations, and practical assistance from other Enterprise Owners.

3. The *"needy"* are existing participants whose businesses remain basically viable but are threatened by a temporary disruption such as illness, accident, liquidity timing, family crisis, or another shock. To administer here is to preserve the Business Enterprise through the interruption.

Create, restore, preserve: these three cases have one goal: increasing the number and productivity of Enterprise Owners while keeping the residual preserved by the community. The "have not" clause makes "kept" non-negotiable. Each successful entrant makes another entrant possible, so the need for administration has no natural endpoint. If the system consumed residual to fund each new entrant, it would destroy its own future capacity to administer. Preserving principal is therefore not mere thrift; it is the condition that makes unlimited NewVistas replication possible.

How New Enterprises are Funded without Spending the Community's Capital

If the residual must stay intact, how does the community pay to start a new enterprise? It does not spend the residual. Instead, growth is paid for with outside bank financing backed by new value created during the formation of the business. Three sources help make that possible without touching what must be "kept":

(1) Selling the entrant's conveyed assets. When a "have not" enters and transfers all property into the community, approved liquidation enterprises compete to sell those assets for cash. That cash is used to reduce community debt. It does not become part of the kept residual.

(2) Lease payments. The Enterprise Owner leases each asset at its market value which includes its useful life, and its expected repair, maintenance, and obsolescence time-frame. The business plan has to show that the lease can be paid while the Enterprise Owner earns an Owner's Draw and still produces *"residue."* For a new building, the property manager secures enough market leases to cover financing and lifecycle costs before land is bought or construction debt is taken on.

(3) Creating added value before financing. Existing Enterprise Owners help assemble the new business by adding design, integration, supply, labor, and operating know-how. The finished system should be worth more than it cost to create. That added value helps the asset qualify for full financing. The new Enterprise Owner then leases the assets under an approved plan that can pay the lease, support them and their dependents, and still produce residual.

In plain terms, the community helps a "have not" become an Enterprise Owner by forming a real, working business — not by handing over preserved capital. The business must be able to pay its lease, support them and their dependents, and still produce residual, while the kept residual remains untouched.

Market Value Rules; No Formulas

Prices in a NewVistas community are set by the market, never by rule. There is no set lease, no set rent, no set business valuation, and no fixed sale price. A lease is what the asset's market value, useful life, and expected upkeep will bear, and their business plan justifies it while they secure the best terms available. A business is worth what another qualified Enterprise Owner will pay for it, established by a market analysis of its future net after "Owner's Draw," a 10% community bad-debt protection fee (i.e., community 10% fee), and taxes. Because every Enterprise Owner competes, the market drives each of these to the level a viable Business Enterprise can sustain, which a community-set number cannot do.

Build Only After there is a Real Need

The sequence turns to *"purchasing Land & building"* only after business enterprises have been (1) created, (2) repaired, and (3) protected. That sequence is important because it is the opposite of ordinary development, which often begins by buying land and putting up buildings. Here, the community builds only when there is already productive need. New Enterprise Owners need places to work and live; those needs require land; and that land may then require buildings. So, land, buildings and equipment are not the starting point but are added later to support real enterprises. The same rule of "kept" still applies: a building must not become a long-term burden on the community. It must pay for its construction, upkeep, and eventual replacement through productive use. In this system, building something is not enough. The building must create useful opportunity for the Enterprise Owner who develops it, the community that owns title, and the Enterprise Owner who receives the benefit.

The Replication Engine

Taken together, the original document clauses we have reviewed describe a self-expanding system, not a collection of separate instructions:

- Existing Enterprise Owners "administer"
- "Have-nots" become Enterprise Owners
- New owners then "administer" to new participants
- More business enterprises are formed
- Land is acquired
- Buildings are developed
- New enterprise opportunities appear.

The cycle repeats until it becomes the economy's backbone. Because principal is preserved throughout, expansion is financed by newly created value and external credit rather than by spending down a fund. That is why the same LAW pattern can be *"laid off … in the same way"* again and again. The Business Enterprise economy exists to create and preserve productive enterprises; care follows from the credit that kept residual makes possible. The spatial documents that follow define the physical setting in which that template operates.

DOC 2: THE PLOT

A Control Instrument for Gated Communities

♦ Pattern, Function, and Organization ♦

Source: *Joseph Smith Papers: Plat* (*PLOT*) *of the City of Zion, circa early June – 25 June 1833, Kirtland, Ohio.* Layout drawn by Frederick G. Williams; marginal and reverse-side text in the hand of John Whitmer. The reverse side supplies the long institutional names that differentiate the central buildings into eight mission streams (i.e., departments) that are then subdivided into twenty-four bureaus in total.

DOC 2: THE PLOT – FULL EXPLANATORY TEXT (FRONT PAGE)

(Original spelling; bracketed text supplied where the manuscript is damaged)

Explanation- This p[lot] [con]taines one mile square all the squares in the plot containes ten acres each being 40 rods square you will observe that the lots are laid off alternate in the squares in one square runing from the south and North to the line through the middle of the square and the next the lots runs from the east and west to the middle line each lot is 2[4] perches in front and 20 back making ¼ of an acre in each lot so that no one street will be built on intirely through the street but one square the houses stand on one street and on the next one another except the middle range of squares which runs North and south in which range are the painted squares the lots are laid off in these squares North and south all of them because these squares are 40 perches by 60 being twenty perches longer than the others the long way of them being east and west and by runing all the lo[ts] [in] these squares North and south it makes all the lots in the City of one size.

The painted squares [in the] middle are for publick buildings the one without any figure is for store houses fo[r] [the] Bishop and to be devoted to his use[.] [F]igure one is for Temples for the use of the pres[idency,] the circles inside of the square are the places for the temples you will see it containes twelve f[igures] 2 is for the Temples for the lesser Priesthood it also is to contain Temples the whole square <plot> is s[upposed] to contain from 15 to 20 thousand people you will therefore see that it will require 24 building to supply them with houses of worship schools &c none of these temples are to be smaller than the one of which we send you the draft.

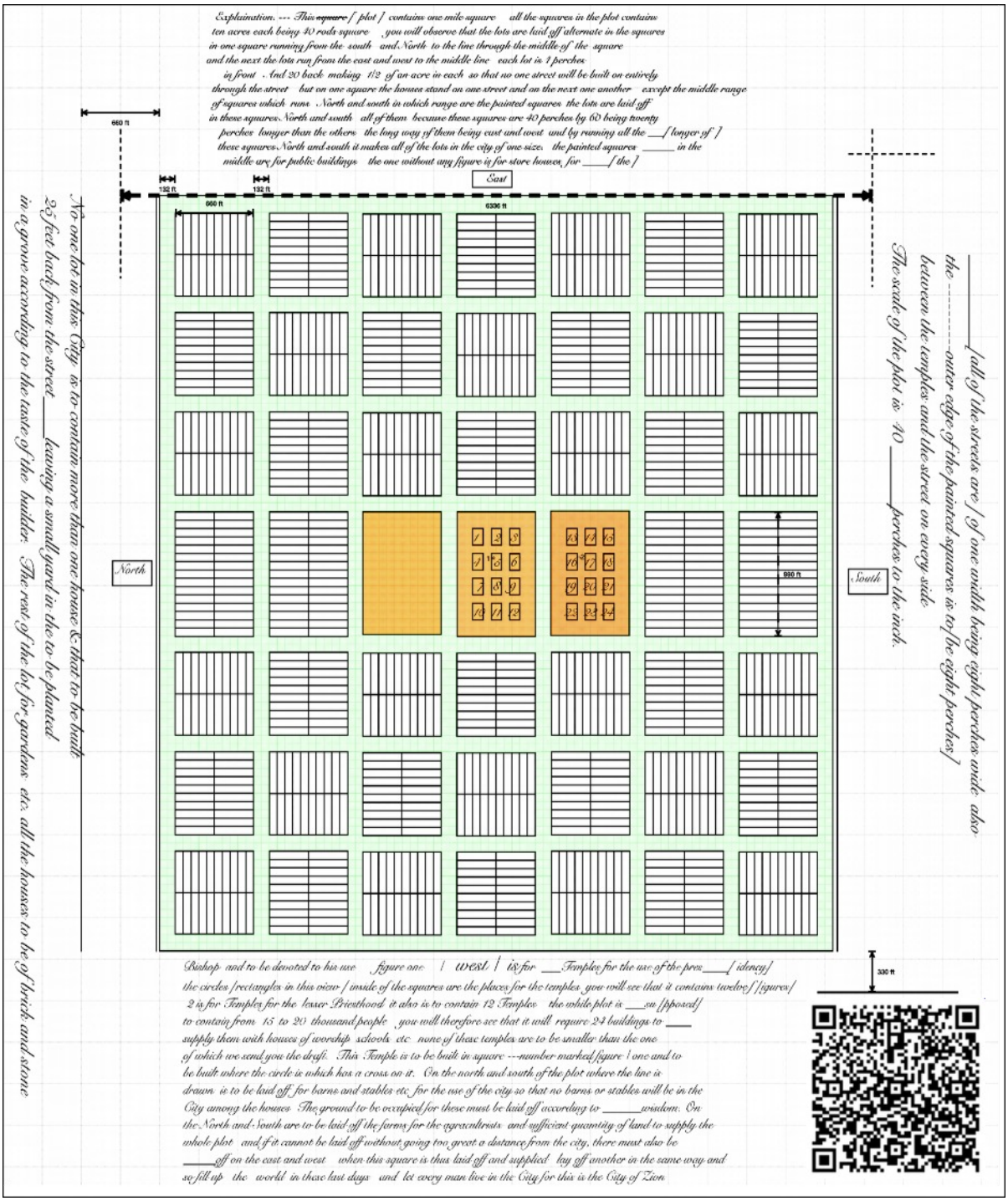
On the north and south of the plot where the line is drawn is to be laid off for barns stables &c for the use of the city so that no barns or stables will be in the City among the houses the ground to be occupied for these must be laid off according to wisdom. On the North and South are to be laid off the farms for the agracultur<i>sts a sufficient quanty of land to supply the whole plot and if it cannot be laid off without going <too> great a distance from the city, there mus[t] also be laid off on the east and west where this square is thus laid off and supplied lay off another in the same way and so fill up the world in these last days and let every man live in the City for this is the City of Zion[.]

[all the streets a]re of one width being eight perches wide als[o the space round] the outer edge of the painted squares is [to be eight perches between] the Temples and the street on every side[.] The Scale of the plot is 40 perches to the inch[.] No one lot in this City is to contain more than one hous & that to be built 25 feet back from the street leaving a small yard in front to be planted in a grove according to the taste of the builder the rest of the lot for gardens &c all the houses to be of brick and stone[.]

Plat of the City of Zion, circa early June - 25 June 1833, p. 1, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed June 16, 2026. Layout: Frederick G. Williams; text: John Whitmer. Location: Kirtland, Ohio.

DOC 2: THE PLOT

Recorded and Drawn: Early June – 25 June 1833, Kirtland, Ohio



The front-page hand-written text and PLOT has been stylized for clarity in reading.
(https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/plat-of-the-city-of-zion-circa-early-june-25-june-1833/1)

The Plat orientation has the *East* direction at the top instead of the traditional north direction because it is based on a maps drawn in the 1500's; not based on 1830's maps.
(https://www.geographyrealm.com/map-orientation/)

THE PLOT – REVERSE-SIDE NAMES OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS

These eight long names differentiate the twenty-four buildings (*bureaus*) *into eight mission streams* (*departments*)*; Key words are in* **BOLD**

10-12 The house of the Lord for the presidency of the high and most holy priesthood after the order of Melchisedeck … upon **Mount Zion**, City of the New Jerusalem.

7-9 The Sacred Apostolical **repository** for the use of the Bishops.

4-6 The holy **Evangelical** house for the high priesthood of the holy order of God.

1-3 The house of the Lord for the Elders of Zion, an **ensign** to the nations.

22-24 House of the Lord for the presidency of the high priesthood after the order of Aron, **a standard for the people**.

19-21 House of the Lord … the law of the Kingdom of heaven and **Messenger to the people** … for the high priesthood after the order of Aron.

16-18 House of the Lord for the teachers in Zion, **Messenger to the** church (i.e., community).

13-15 House of the Lord for the Deacons in Zion, **helps in goverment**.

Underneath must be written on each house, "holiness to the Lord." (These eight names are translated into the eight departments and twenty-four bureaus in the section on the organizational architecture.)

AT first glance, the PLOT is a community map: streets, blocks, lots, public squares, and numbered building sites. But for this reconstruction it does more than map the settlement; it functions as a numerical and constitutional control document. Its repeated lot pattern establishes 960 apartment buildings, grouped into 96 villages of ten buildings, four villages per district, and 24 districts. The 24 public buildings occupy the central squares in two groups of twelve and eight rows of three (see p. 114). The text also fixes one apartment building per lot, buffers, setbacks, street width, and the rule for repeating the pattern. Before the interior of any building is considered, the PLOT has already defined a disciplined civic arithmetic and a replicable public arrangement. We therefore read the text under one rule: no structure is claimed unless it can be traced to the PLOT's stated measurements, allocations, repetitions, or direct implications. Inference is allowed only when the PLOT itself controls it.

What the Text Fixes

The PLOT first establishes the gated community as a square made from repeated internal modules. The square is not decorative; it is the boundary within which every later ratio must remain coherent. The text then fixes block dimensions, street widths, and alternating lot orientation, showing that the community is generated by repeatable modules rather than local improvisation. Standardization begins with the community's first arithmetic.

Several brief controls carry constitutional weight beyond their length on the page:

A differentiated civic core. The central painted squares are reserved for public buildings, with one unnumbered square devoted to storehouses "for the use of the Bishops." The civic center is part of the original pattern, not an addition to a residential grid.

One house per lot. The rule that "no one lot in this City is to contain more than one house" prevents fragmentation and ties population to the stated scale. If the community is to hold 15,000-20,000 people (16th century "households") with one house per lot, then "house" must mean a larger, multi-resident institutional form, not a detached single-family dwelling.

Frontage, durability, and environment. Each house sits 25 feet back from the street (a 16th century park), with a planted grove in front, garden space behind, and brick-and-stone construction. The PLOT governs frontage, separation, durability, and

environmental system; even domestic space remains within public rule.

An eight-perch buffer. An eight-perch, or 132-foot, band surrounds the painted squares. This buffer separates the public core from ordinary traffic while preserving space for access, gathering, and movement.

A replication command. *"When this square is thus laid off and supplied, lay off another in the same way, and so fill up the world."* This is not ordinary expansion. It requires a repeatable constitutional pattern. Because the stated aim is worldwide replication, the pattern must be adaptable by any people, in any region, climate, and culture. Every later design choice is therefore tested against that requirement of universality.

The source-control rule is simple: measurements must govern later geometry; counts must govern later institutional claims; assigned functions must guide interpretation before modern assumptions are imported; and silence in the text must be marked as constrained inference, not direct derivation. This discipline keeps the reading from outrunning the document and explains why small phrases carry large consequences: one house per lot governs housing theory, the central squares govern the civic center, and the replication command governs the scale of the civilization.

"One Mile Square": Why the Statute Mile Fails

The PLOT begins by saying it "*containes one mile square,"* which sets the community's basic scale. That scale must be read from the PLOT's own measurements. The text uses rods and perches throughout: one perch is 16.5 feet, a forty-rod block is 660 feet, and an eight-perch street is 132 feet. These are not optional conversions; they are the document's measuring system. The "mile" therefore has to fit the rod-based grid the PLOT itself defines.

Once those measurements are followed, the ordinary 5,280-foot statute mile does not work. The repeated blocks and streets already exceed 5,280 feet before any edge space is added, and the east-west side extends farther because of the longer central band. No boundary adjustment can make the layout fit a statute mile; the internal arithmetic rules it out. Completed as a square by its own logic, each side resolves to 6,336 feet, or 384 rods. The PLOT is therefore a rod-coherent square, closing exactly in the same unit system that governs its blocks and streets.

Element	Rods/Perches	Feet
Perch (rod, pole)	1 perch	16.5
Forty-rod block	40 rods	660
Eight-perch street	8 perches	132
Full PLOT side	384 rods	6,336
PLOT area (side-by-side)	384 by 384 rods	1.44 sq. statute miles

Dimensional proof of the "one mile square."

6,336 ÷ 5,280 = 1.2 — *the non-statute,"Saxon mile", preserved in his older cartographic practice. The grid exceeds a statute mile from the interior arithmetic alone.*

This rod-based coherence matters because the PLOT is a modular survey document, and the rod is its controlling unit. Once the community closes at 384 rods per side, foot measurements become secondary conversions. The old English "Christopher Saxon mile" of 6,336 feet supports this reading, but it does not determine it; the PLOT's own arithmetic does. The conclusion affects everything that follows: the geometry is exact rather than symbolic, so the repeated perch-based modules that appear in the public buildings and courts are expected, not accidental.

The PLOT as a Pre-Existing Pattern

Before turning to architecture, the document relationship must be fixed. The BUILD, SCHOOL, and HOUSE DOCS say the selected buildings are to be built *"according to the pattern"* already given, which assumes an existing civic and architectural system. The PLOT supplies that sequence: twenty-four public-building sites, rows, numbering, civic bands, and enough text to define a complete urban form. Houses 5 and 17 are first examples within the twenty-four-house system, not its source. Later marks, including the cross and the emphasis on the first two houses, are best read as selections within that existing pattern. The analysis therefore begins with all twenty-four buildings before turning to the two selected ones.

A simple analogy is a subdivision master plan. If a later builder is told to construct two houses "according to the plan," those two houses do not create the subdivision. They are examples built within a layout that already fixed the streets, lots, utilities, and public spaces. In the same way, Houses 5 and 17 are first examples within the PLOT's larger twenty-four-building system, not its source.

A NewVistas Village of Ten Apartments



The PLOT pattern adapts to any terrain

This is a rendering of a future NewVistas village composed of ten five-story apartment buildings configured for a sloped mountainside with the specified 25 ft. grove/breezeway beneath.

Replication *"in the same way"* governs the community, not a single fixed silhouette.

Image source: The NewVistas Institute.

DOC 3: THE BUILD

♦ Where the Key Words Converge ♦

Sources: the **BUILD** (*Recorded, 2 August 1833-B*, copied by Frederick G. Williams from a now-lost 6 May 1833 original); the **SCHOOL** (*Recorded, 1 June 1833*, in the hand of Orson Hyde); the **HOUSE** plan *(Plan of the House of the Lord, 1-25 June 1833, drawn and annotated by Frederick G. Williams*); and the QUORUMS (*Recorded, 11 November 1831*, copied by Oliver Cowdery and John Whitmer). Read with the LAW and the PLOT, these resolve the public-building system.

DOC 3: THE BUILD – KEY WORDS

(Original spelling and punctuation)

… here in the land of Kirtland, begining at my house … and behold it must be done according to the pattern which I have given unto you.

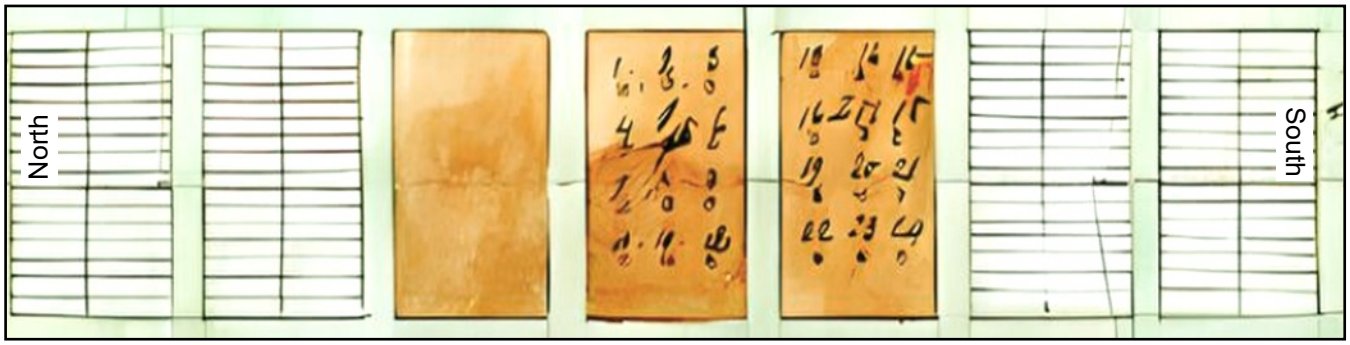
… and let the first lot on the south <be> … for the building of an house for the presidency … I say unto you that it shall be built fifty five by sixty five in the width thereof and in the length thereof in the inner court and there shall be a lower court and an higher court according to the pattern which shall be given unto you hereafter …

… the seccond lot on the south shall be dedecated unto me for the building of an house … for the work of the printing … and it shall be fifty five by sixty five … in the inne[r] court and there shall be a lower and an higher court …

… on the third lot shall my servant Hyrum receive his inheritance and on the first and seccond lots on the North shall my servants Reynolds and Jared receive their inheritance …

The original is lost; this is Frederick G. Williams's copy of 2 August 1833. This document establishes the lower and higher courts.

East



1st and 2nd lots on the North: Reynolds and Jared

First Lot

Second Lot

Third lot: Hyrum Smith

DOC 4: THE SCHOOL – KEY WORDS

(Original spelling and punctuation)

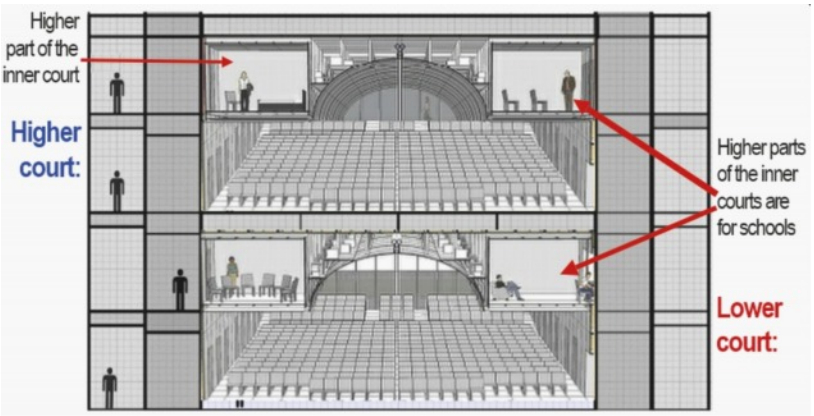
… Let the house be built not after the manner of this <the> world … let it be built after the manner which I shall show unto three of you …

… and the size thereof shall be fifty and five feet in width and let it be sixty and five feet in length in the inner court thereof …

… and let the lower part of the inner court thereof be dedicated unto me for your sacrament offering and for your preaching …

… and let the higher part of the inner court be dedicated unto me for the school

Recorded 1 June 1833, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed June 16, 2026. Handwriting: Orson Hyde, in notebook catalogued as Revelation Book 2, pp. 59-60. Location: Kirtland, Ohio.



DOC 6: THE QUORUMS – KEY NUMBERS

Original spelling; the quorum sizes are the key numbers that close a court at 480 seats (numbers **bolded**)

… the duty of a president over the office of a Deacon is to preside over **twelve** Deacons, to set in council with them & to teach them their duty …

… the duty of the president over the office of the Teachers is to preside over **twenty four** of the Teachers & to set in council with them …

… the duty of the president over the [high] Priests … is to preside over **forty eight** priests & to set in council with them …

… the duty of the president over the office of the Elders is to preside over **ninety six** Elders & to set in council with them …

Quorum sizes 12/24/48/96 supply the independent, non-architectural cross-check that closes each governance court at 480 seats.

Recorded 11 November 1831, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed June 16, 2026. Handwriting: Oliver Cowdery and John Whitmer (copied from a now-lost original). Location: Hiram, Ohio.

Note: The High Priest quorum size of twenty-four is not stated in the QUORUMS text; it is fixed at twenty-four because the three high-priest quorums on the West pulpit (3 × 24 = 72) match the 48 priests and 24 teachers on the East pulpit (48 + 24 = 72).

DOC 5: THE HOUSE – KEY WORDS OF THE PLAN

Frederick G. Williams's House plan; original spelling and punctuation

The Pulpit in the East end of the house is to be occupied by the … (Aaronic) … No 1 the Presidency of … (Aaronic) … No 2 for the Priest, No 3 for the teachers, No 4 for the deacons … with pannel work in the best workmanlike manner … the building to be composed of stone and brick of the best kind.

… make your house 14 feet high between the floors there will not be a gallery but a chamber, each story to be 14 feet high arched over head with an eleptical arch … the entire hight of the house 28 feet each story being 14 feet …

… Observe particularly that as there are pulpits at each <end of the house> that the backs of the congregation must be to one of them and they will want occasionally to change … the house must have pews instead of Slips and in the pews let the seats be loose so as to slip from one side of the pew to the other so as to face other pulpit as occasion may require …

… to be laid off … in the same way as the lower and arched over head with curtains or vailes … hooks and rings to suspend your vailes on so they can be let down or raised [u]p at any time at pleasure …

… the pulpits are to have four seats – the Elders seat … next the high Priests, next the presidency <Bishop> …

NB [Nota Bene; note well.] For your satisfaction we inform you that the plot for the City and the size form and dime[n]sions <of the house> were given us of the Lord.

The "chamber, not gallery" and "14 feet ... 28 feet" language fixes the court at exactly two 14-foot tiers and supplies the office/school-bearing chambers on both sides of the elliptical arch that are necessary for creating the 80 offices in each of the 24 buildings (24 × 80 = 1,920) that are needed to match the 480 × 4 = 1,920 seats.

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Plan of the House of the Lord, between 1 and 25 June 1833, p. 1, *The Joseph Smith Papers*, accessed July 9, 2026, https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/plan-of-the-house-of-the-lord-between-1-and-25-june-1833/1.

THIS section makes the book's method concrete. The key words in the building documents are not separate labels to translate one by one; they are simultaneous constraints. Held together, they produce one precise public-building system. If any one document is relaxed, the reading quickly changes toward a simpler and more familiar form: "courts" become floors, "chambers" become galleries, and twenty-four distributed buildings collapse into one central building. Other houses that were built by the founding community show those changes while preserving the pattern's outward appearance. For that reason, this section treats the earliest documents as controlling and recovers the full design by requiring every key word to converge.

Five Reading Principles

1. **Chronology.** Earlier sources carry greater authority; later materials, where cited at all, are secondary witnesses

2. **Hierarchy.** The LAW supplies the foundation; the PLOT establishes the public-building pattern; the BUILD and SCHOOL develop it.

3. **Original language**. "Courts," "houses," "presidencies," and "chambers" each have constitutional meaning.

4. **Dimensions and design details.** They may vary across witnesses, while the constitutional concept remains constant.

5. **Convergence.** The strongest reading is the one that keeps all key terms true at the same time.

Convergence, Term by Term

Each key word fixes one part of the system; together they allow only one consistent design:

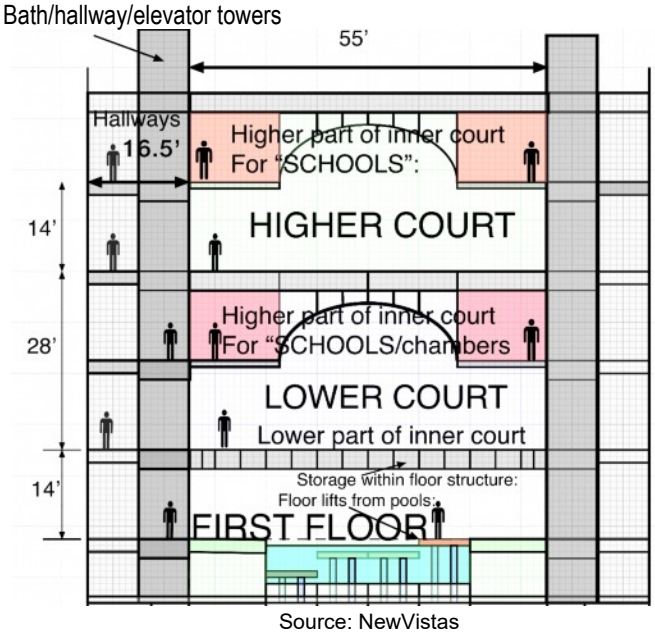
- "Inner court" implies other courts. An inner court assumes courts around it, so the building must be larger than the 55 × 65-foot inner court. The PLOT supplies that larger shell.
- "Lower court" and "higher court" are co-ordinate governing courts of the same standing. They describe physical position, not rank: one court is below and one above, both built "according to the pattern," with neither superior to the other. If they are treated as ordinary floors, "higher" wrongly begins to imply greater authority.
- "The higher part of the inner court" is distinct. It names a school-and-chamber tier within the inner court, not the higher court itself. If reduced to a "school floor," education is pulled out of the court system and an entire level disappears.
- "Chamber, not gallery." The upper level is working space for participants — offices, councils, and a school — not spectator seating. If read as a gallery or balcony, the office tier is lost.
- "Fourteen feet between floors" creates a twenty-eight-foot court. The phrase fixes the court as two 14-foot tiers.
- "Fifty-five by sixty-five." This is the strongest constant: the inner-court dimension appears in the BUILD, the SCHOOL, and the Kirtland building.

Assembling the Building

When the pieces are assembled, the fit is exact. The PLOT's block-and-street layout gives each public building an 88 × 132-foot outer shell. A one-perch, or 16.5-foot, service court on all four sides leaves a 99 × 55-foot governance court. Within that space, the nominal 55 × 65-foot inner court resolves to a 4 perch-exact 66-foot central length once end easements are included, with 16.5-foot pulpit zones on the east and west: 16.5 + 66 + 16.5 = 99 feet, at 55 feet wide. The 28-foot court height divides into two 14-foot tiers: the lower part of the inner court below, and the chamber tier forming the higher part above. Each chamber floor contains twelve chambers, and the two chamber floors together provide twenty-four chambers, each 13.75 feet wide by 16.5 feet long - suitable for a small schoolroom or a council of 12. Each chamber can also be divided into two private offices for presidents to meet with clients or hold presidency meetings. These twenty-four chambers yield forty-eight offices; combined with the first floor's sixteen chambers, which yield thirty-two offices, the building contains a total of eighty offices.

1,920 Offices for the Public Servants

Across the PLOT's twenty-four buildings, eighty offices per building produce 1,920 offices — one for every public servant who serves the community part-time and without compensation.



Source: NewVistas

Twenty-four Public Buildings: 88' x 132' x 70'

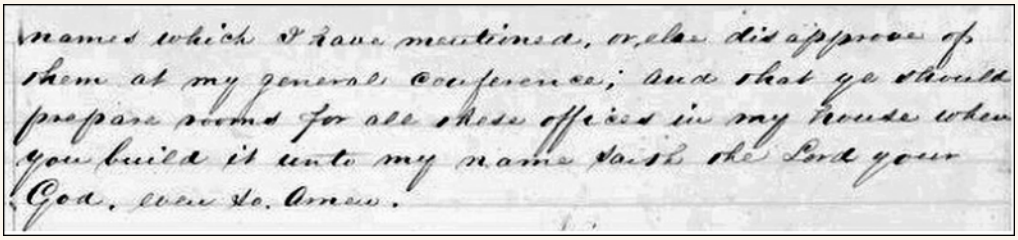
The annotations tie each element to its source: the lower court (BUILD); the 55 × 65-foot inner court; the lower part of the inner court (SCHOOL or meetings), the higher court (BUILD), and the higher part of the inner court for schools (SCHOOL), with the 28-ft. courts, 14-ft. tiers, elliptical arch and the dividing curtains (HOUSE).

The first floor is derived from the 480 seats in each court and the four courts comes to 1,920 seats for presidents, requiring all presidents to have a room or office in one of the 24 buildings (24 × 80 = 1,920 offices).

One part of the count is not dimensioned in the Kirtland documents: the first floor of offices. The QUORUMS DOC fixes the office counts and the 480 seats that close each court; the BUILD, SCHOOL, and HOUSE DOCS fix the two courts and chamber tiers. But none of those documents requires a physical room for each office. That command appears only in ROOMS, the document recorded at Nauvoo on 19 January 1841. After naming the offices, it directs: "prepare rooms for all these offices in my house when you build it unto my name." ROOMS therefore supplies the warrant for the first floor. It requires a room — not merely a seat or standing — for every office, uses the same controlling word, "house," as the 1833 HOUSE documents, and closes the count at eighty offices per building, or 24 × 80 = 1,920 offices. Its 1841 date explains why the documentary set, otherwise concentrated in 1829-1835, extends to 1841.

A simple analogy is a school schedule. A roster may show how many teachers and students belong to the school, and a seating chart may show where they gather, but the school still needs actual classrooms for those roles to function. ROOMS does the same work here: it turns counted offices and seats into assigned physical rooms.

DOC 10: ROOMS FOR OFFICES – KEY WORDS


names which I have mentioned, or else disapprove of them at my general conference; and that ye should prepare rooms for all these offices in my house when you build it unto my name saith the Lord your God. even so. Amen.

(Original spelling and punctuation)

"…and that ye should **prepare rooms for all these offices** in my house when you build it unto my name saith the Lord your God. even so. Amen."

Recorded, 19 January 1841, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed June 29, 2026, josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/revelation-19-january-1841-dc-124/13

Handwriting: Robert B. Thompson, clerk, inscribed in the "Book of the Law of the Lord," Record Book, 1841-1845, sometime between 19 January and 7 April 1841 from an earlier draft no longer extant.

Location: Nauvoo, IL

The Independent Cross-Check: 480 Seats per Court

The convergence is persuasive because two independent methods produce the same number.

1. **The geometric method** begins with the court's dimensions: a quarter-perch row pitch along the 99-foot length gives 24 theoretical rows, and an eighth-perch seat width across the 55-foot width gives 26 theoretical seats, for a raw rectangle of 624 seats. After allowing the circulation the text requires for two cross-width movement rows, two pulpit-clearance rows at the ends, and one side-aisle seat column on each side, the usable field closes at 20 rows × 24 seats, or 480 governing seats.

2. **The constitutional method** begins from the QUORUMS DOC of November 1831, which fixes quorum sizes apart from any architectural calculation: 12 deacons, 24 teachers, 48 priests, 96 elders, plus the high priests and high council. Mapped into one court, the west pulpit seats 84: four Segment quorum presidencies of three for 12, plus three quorums of 24 high priests for 72. The east pulpit also seats 84: four Segment quorum presidencies of three for 12, plus a 48-priest quorum and a 24-teacher quorum for 72. The inner

court seats 312: three quorums of 96 elders for 288, with the High Council of 12 at the west end and the Deacon quorum of 12 at the east end. Together these total 480 seats. Geometry and governance therefore converge on the same integer, and 480 divides cleanly by 3, 4, 12, and 24, allowing presidencies of four to be seated and replenished within the same field.

Step	Result
Full governance court	99 ft. x 55 ft.
Row pitch along length (quarter-perch)	24 theoretical rows
Seat width across width (eighth-perch)	26 theoretical seats
Theoretical maximum (24 × 26)	624 seats
Less end-movement and pulpit-clearance rows	24 → 20 usable rows
Less side-aisle seat columns	26 → 24 usable seat columns
Usable governance field (20 × 24)	480 governing seats
Independent cross-check (QUORUM distribution)	West pulpit 84 seats + East pulpit 84 seats + Inner court 312 = **Total of 480 seats**

Two converging proofs of the 480-seat court: (1) a geometric closure from the BUILD, SCHOOL, and HOUSE DOCS, and (2) a constitutional closure from the QUORUMS.

This translation point is easy to miss. The 480-seat arrangement follows the canon's two controls: (1) the court dimensions in BUILD and SCHOOL and (2) the quorum counts in QUORUMS. But its modern application carries the 1530s office words into present-day function. Deacons, Teachers, Priests, and Elders are therefore not preserved as ecclesiastical ranks but are seated as the regulatory, data, origination, and village officers of a contemporary community.

The table shown on the next page makes the bridge explicit: First, the canon provides the office word and count, and secondly, the reconstruction assigns each one to its corresponding modern governing role within the court.

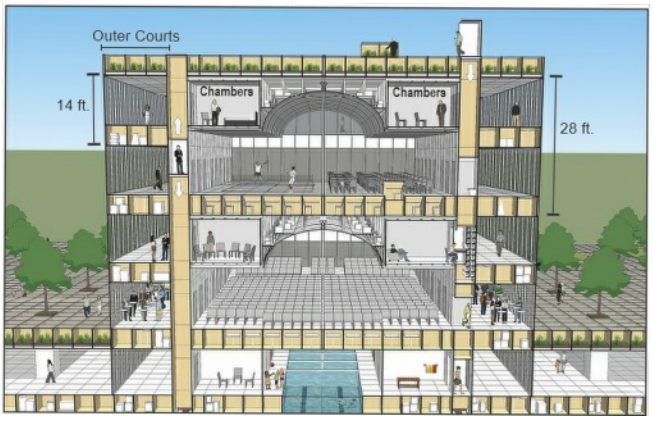
The two buildings selected for first construction, Houses 5 and 17, each contain a lower and a higher court, making four identical governing courts in all. Four courts × 480 seats totals 1,920 seats, the same total independently derived from the building geometry as 1,920 offices. These courts correspond to the system's four adult Segment divisions for advocacy and seat placement: (A) partnered male, (B) partnered female, (C) single female, and (D) single male (see p. 23). This is the only division that produces four evenly matched, universally present groups in any population. The convergence claim is strongest here: architecture and governance reach the same number by independent paths.

Why the Outer Court and Chamber Tier are Essential

Two elements later houses removed are, in fact, load-bearing:

The first element: The outer court—the 16.5-foot band of hallways, stairs, elevators, and bathrooms on all four sides-is not spare margin; it is the circulation system that allows the building to operate safely as a public structure. Without it, the courts cannot be entered or emptied efficiently.

The second element: The higher part of the inner court is the chamber tier used as school space during public operation and as offices and council rooms during governance and is where the offices, councils, and school belong. Without it, the 1,920 offices have no place to exist. When later houses omitted both of these elements, the system was changed in that the distributed, office-bearing, four-court civic instrument became a single assembly hall. Restoring the original wording restores the full design.



The outer courts allow the building to be for the public and the chamber tier provides rooms for schools and offices.

Canon Office Divisions & (QUORUMS)	Per Court Count	Seat zone in each of the four courts	Modern Function 4 Department Presidencies of Three & 24 Bureau Presidencies of Four
4 Aaronic Quorum ABCD Segment Presidencies of three	12	East End Pulpit court middle seats 4 rows of three	4 Department (V-VIII) Segment Presidencies of three; These 4 Segment presidencies of three, one from each Department and Segment court, form a Department Council of 12 (4 departments x 3 presidencies each, e.g. AAA, BBB, etc.).
Deacon	12	East End inner court 12 seats in middle	12 Regulatory presidencies of four, representing Department V. Numbered 1-12, each presidency serving two bureaus: 1 → 1, 13; 2 → 2, 14; and so on.
Teacher	24	East Pulpit court 12 each side	Data officers from Department VI (Accounting, Publication, Metrics)
Priest	48	East Pulpit court 24 each side	Origination officers from Department VII (Schema, Markets, Underwriting)
4 Melchizedek Quorum Segment Presidencies of three	12	West End Pulpit court middle seats 4 rows of three	4 Department (I-IV) Segment Presidencies of three; These 4 department Segment presidencies of three, one from each department and Segment court, form a Department Council of 12 (4 departments x 3 presidencies each).
Elder	96 x 3 = 288	Center of inner court: 12 rows of 12 each side	96 x 3 Village presidents from Department I, 3 bureau presidencies of 4 per village representing Bureaus 1, 2, and 3.
High Priest	24 x 3 = 72	West Pulpit end 72 seats	24 x 3 District presidencies from Department II, 3 bureau presidencies of 4 per district representing Bureaus 4, 5, and 6.
High Council	12	West end of inner court 12 seats in the middle section	12 Trustee presidencies of four, numbered 1-12, each serving two bureaus: 1 → 1, 13; 2 → 2, 14; and so on.
TOTAL Seats	**480 in buildings 5 and 17 upper of lower courts**		

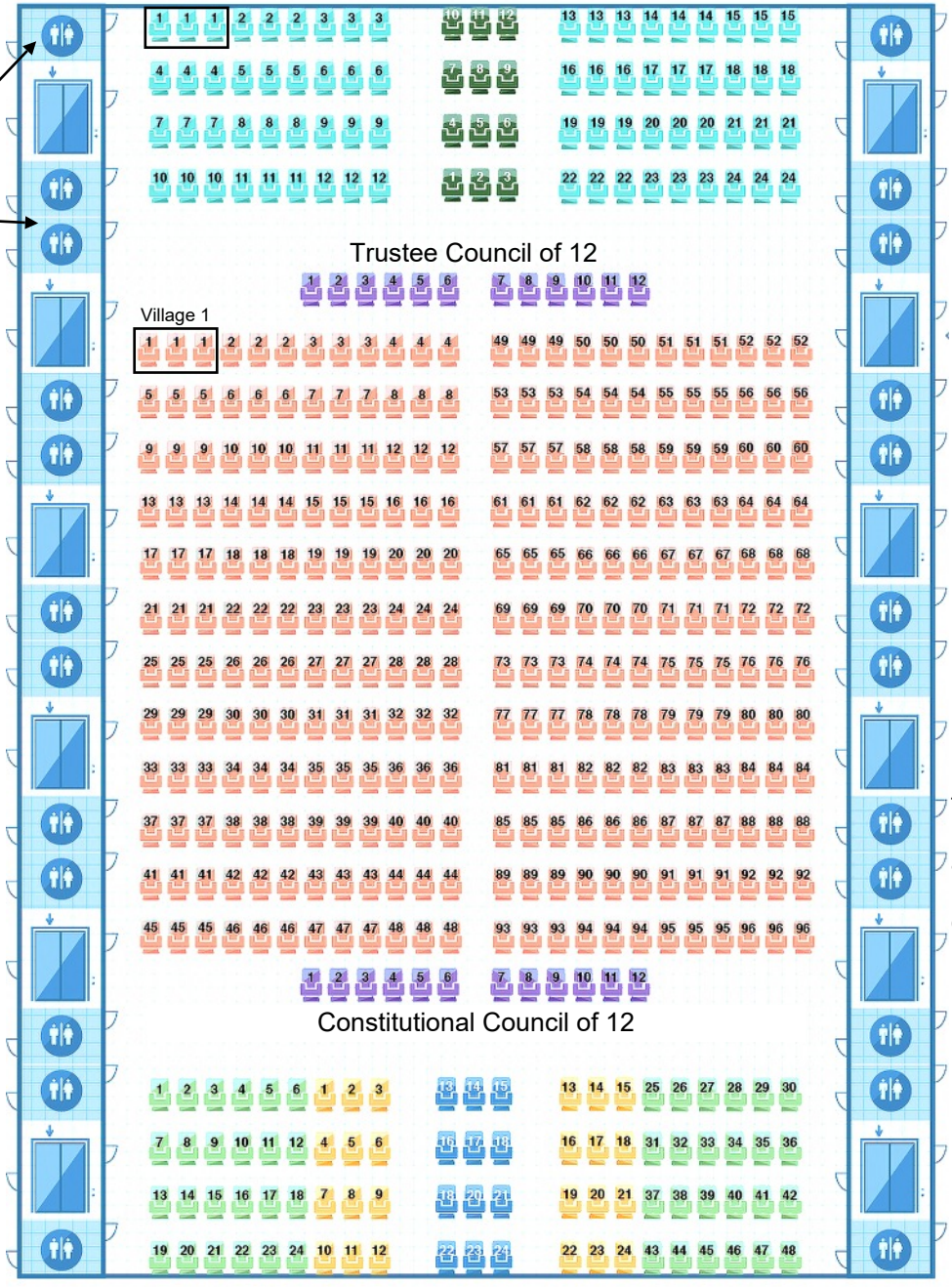
The QUORUMS counts become modern bureau seats. Built to the canon's counts of 12/24/48/96, plus the derived 24 high priests and the High Council 12, the court seats those offices as the regulatory, data, origination, village, district, and trustee officers of a present-day NewVistas community. A layout of the floor plan and seating arrangement is shown on the next page.

Quorum Seating Arrangement: 480 seats

384 seats

- District ABCD Segment Presidencies 1-24 have seats on the west end: **72 seats**
- ABCD Segment Trustees of Twelve 1-12 have seats on the west end: **12 seats**
- Community Bureau Segment Presidents 1-12 have seats on the west end: **12 seats**
- Village Segment Presidents 1-96 have 3 seats each in the middle: **288 seats**

12 adaptive transforming bathrooms on each side



6 Elevators on each side

Bathrooms and elevators open inside and outside to allow exit to hallway

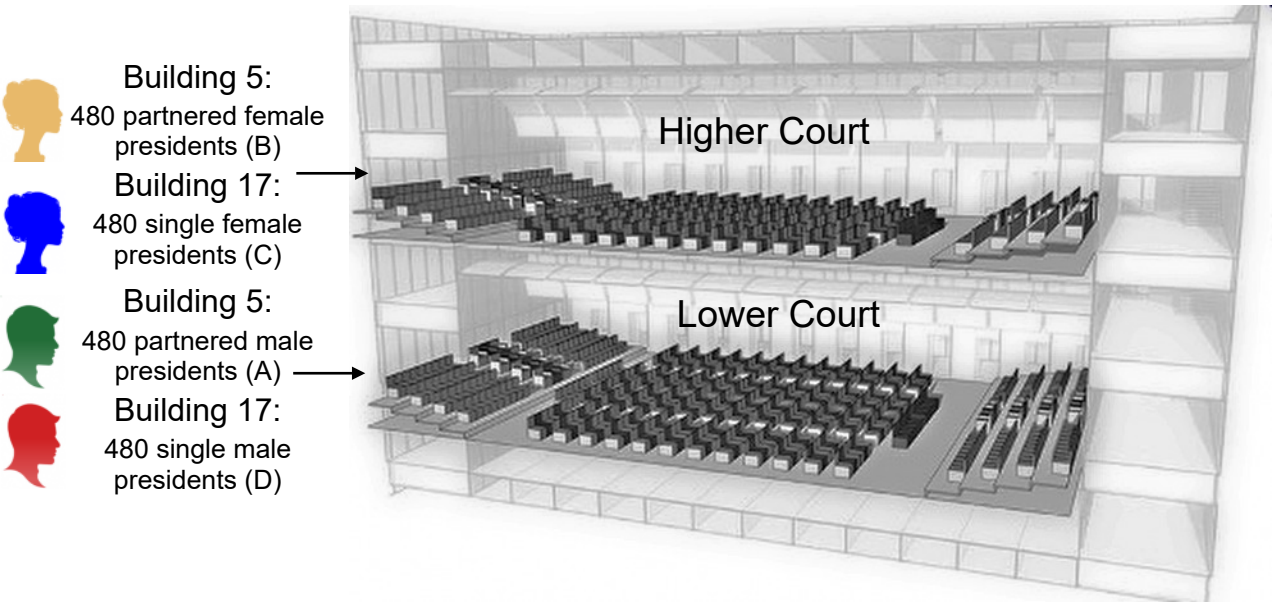
Each of the 5 floors plus the roof have 24 adaptive bathroom or change rooms

96 seats

- 1-12, Continuity Officers in the NewVistas Community on east end: **12 seats**
- 1-24, 25-48: Schema, Markets and Underwriting on east end: **48 seats**
- 1-12, 13-24: Accounting, Publication and Metrics: **24 seats**
- 13-24: Governing Presidents in the Assurance Division: **12 seats**

TOTAL 480 seats

Lower and Higher Court Arrangements for ABCD Segment Presidents



Source: NewVistas

Seating of a community's organizational presidencies uses multipurpose District buildings 5 (in Block 1) and 17 (in Block 2), each with two identical lower and higher courts, each seating 480 presidents as shown above. In all four courts, each seat represents the same specific position, and each court contains one of the four adult Segment presidents: A, B, C and D. When all four assembly courts are in session, a total of 1,920 seats will be occupied (4 courts x 480 presidents = 1,920 seats). Each seat depends on the location of the president's village (1-96) and district (1-24), as well as their responsibility.

From their assigned seat, each president can stand, speak and be heard by all other presidents present in the assembly courts. In quarterly conferences, the twenty-four bureau Governing presidents give the quarterly reports on all twenty-four bureaus, each specific to its Segment, so they are seated in the middle at both ends of the courts. One set of the twelve middle seats are for the Provision Division and the other set are for the Assurance Division.

The courts are specifically designed for those sitting in the main body area to face either end of the court. To enable this, transforming technology is designed that allows seats on the floor to easily switch direction that the occupant faces. This seating design affirms that attention is to be paid to the duties and responsibilities of both the Provision and the Assurance Divisions, ensuring that one division does not take precedent over the other.

On the 13th Sunday of every quarter, there are four parallel conferences, each for the 480 presidents representing their Segment. All 1,920 community presidents attend these conferences. Community participants, including captains of ten, can listen to those making presentations with online access administered by Media Bureau 12 within the Platforms Department IV.

During the conferences, the twenty-four bureau presidents report on the governance enterprise results for their bureau during the previous quarter, each taking 12-14 minutes of time. After every three presentations, done by the three presidents serving each of the twenty-four bureaus in the eight departments, there is a 15–minute break. The schedule provides time for a 2–hour lunch and a 2–hour dinner period. The conference runs for twelve hours, including the breaks and both the lunch and dinner periods.

Four Courts as Instruments of Integration

The four courts should not be viewed as a mechanism for dividing the population. Instead, the courts identify distinct perspectives so those perspectives can be joined in community governance. Each NewVistas presidency includes one representative from each ABCD court, bringing the four court perspectives together rather than leaving them separate. The constitutional movement is from four unique perspectives toward a single deliberation and decision. This is central to the NewVistas structure: representation is not complete simply because a single demographic perspective has a court somewhere in the government. It becomes meaningful only when that perspective is present wherever a presidency makes decisions.

The Four States of Life

Two dimensions of human life create a natural four-part ABCD matrix: self-identified gender, male or female, and self-identified relationship status, single or partnered. The resulting perspectives are (A) Partnered Male, (B) Partnered Female, (C) Single Female, and (D) Single Male. These four Segment categories are broad enough to include the whole population for representative purposes, yet distinct enough to bring meaningfully different circumstances into deliberation.

The matrix also preserves two kinds of balance at once: (1) Partnered Male and Single Male together represent the male perspective and (2) Partnered Female and Single Female together represent the female perspective. Also, Partnered Male and Partnered Female together represent (1) partnered life and Single Male and Single Female together represent (2) single life.

Self-Identification, Not Community Classification

NewVistas does not determine an individual's gender for court representation; the individual self-identifies. Likewise, the community does not decide whether someone is partnered or single. Relationship status is also self-identified by the individual.

This limit matters. The courts are representative institutions, not tools for investigating private identity or relationships. Their purpose is to ensure that perspectives are present in governance, not to give the community authority to define the person. The individual identifies the court through which they are represented; the court does not define the individual.

States of Life Rather Than Permanent Classes

Partnered and single are changing conditions. A person may move between them more than once over a lifetime: a single male may become partnered, later become single again, and later partner again. The same life-cycle movement applies to females. This makes the four courts fundamentally different from permanent social classes. The institutions remain stable while membership changes with people's lives. A perspective represented by another court today may become one's own later. That mobility reduces the logic of permanent faction. The courts recognize different circumstances without turning them into hereditary or fixed political identities.

Why Single Men Must Have Their Own Voice

A male/female representation system by itself can obscure the differences between partnered and single life. Partnered men may not experience housing, social life, household finances, caregiving, community expectations, or other institutions in the same way single men do.

Single men have often lacked a distinct institutional category through which their circumstances are considered. Public discussion may focus on families, households, women, children, older adults, workers, or other recognized groups without treating single men as a separate perspective. The four ABCD Segment-court structure keeps that perspective from being absorbed into the broader category of men. This does not claim that single men are always more disadvantaged than other groups. The NewVistas constitutional principle is broader:

> *No major state of life should have to prove greater hardship before it deserves to be heard.*

Why Single Women Need Their Own Voice

The same principle applies to single women. Representation of women is incomplete if partnered women are expected to speak for all women. Single women may face materially different questions involving housing, economic security, social participation, caregiving, aging, safety, family relationships, and community expectations.

Under the ABCD court structure, single women have a formal voice of their own in every presidency.

They no longer depend on partnered women, men, or a generalized household perspective to bring their circumstances into governing discussions.

Partnered women retain their own voice as well. Women are represented with the same institutional standing with men, while partnered and single states within each gender are also represented with the same institutional standing.

Co-ordinate Presence Through Every Presidency's Composition

The presidency's composition is the main mechanism for a co-ordinate presence where each presidency includes one representative from each of the four ABCD courts, creating a co-ordinate institutional presence even when the underlying populations are not the same size. The constitution does not require the four states to be numerically the same; it ensures that none is absent from presidential deliberation. Women have the same institutional standing presence with men. The same institutional standing is for single people with partnered people, single women with partnered women, and single men with partnered men.

Every Decision Includes All Four Perspectives

The arrangement's deepest purpose is deliberative. By including one representative from each ABCD court Segment in every presidency means that decisions must encounter the circumstances of all four states of life before they are made.

Housing offers a simple example. A policy that seems efficient for partnered households may create different costs or constraints for single residents. Education and child-related decisions may be experienced differently by partnered and single people. Transportation, recreation, employment, economic policy, community obligations, health services, building design, scheduling, and social facilities can likewise affect the four states in different ways.

The ABCD court presidency does not require every representative to agree. It guarantees something more basic: none of the four perspectives is structurally absent from deliberation. No presidency considers an issue from only one state of life. Each includes all four, requiring the governing process to consider the effects of its decisions on the whole community.

Segment Evidence: Four Broadly Comparable Populations

The United Nations does not publish a global table that exactly matches the NewVistas categories because its classifications are designed for demographic measurement, not the NewVistas self-identification ABCD framework. However, two UN datasets provide the main evidence needed to approximate these four populations.

1. *World Population Prospects 2024*, the twenty-eighth edition of the official UN population estimates and projections, covers 237 countries or areas. It provides estimates from the 1950s to the present and projects populations through 2100, with the Population Division reporting estimates by age and sex.[1]

2. *World Marriage Data 2019* provides comparable marital-status data by age and sex for 232 countries or areas. It includes categories such as currently married, ever married, single or never married, consensual union, widowed, divorced, separated, and related variants reported by national sources.[2, 3]

Using these sources as Segment approximations for the NewVistas self-identified categories, the four ABCD segments appear to fall within these broad approximate statistical ranges:

State of Life	Range of World Population
(A) Partnered Male	~22-25%
(B) Partnered Female	~22-25%
(C) Single Female	~25-28%
(D) Single Male	~25-28%

References:

1. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. World Population Prospects 2024. (https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/World-Population-Prospects-2024)
2. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. World Marriage Data 2019. (https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/node/3593)
3. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. World Marriage Data 2019: Metadata.

Built Evidence: The Standing Kirtland "House"

The convergence is not only textual; one central feature was built and still survives. The "House" constructed in Kirtland, Ohio, between 1833 and 1836 contains duplicate lower and higher courts on two stacked floors, physically confirming that these terms meant two complete governing chambers, one above the other, as the BUILD and SCHOOL DOCS specify. Each floor has tiered pulpits at both the east and west ends, and its reversible pews allow the congregation to face either pulpit, matching the HOUSE plan's "pews instead of Slips" instruction. The Kirtland House confirms the two-court concept in built form, even though it preserves only part of the larger pattern: it is a single building rather than one of the planned twenty-four distributed buildings, and it omits both the outer-court service band and the office-bearing chamber tier, or "higher part of the inner court." What remains are two courts, dual end pulpits, and reversible seating and is the design's load-bearing core, still standing and verifiable nearly two centuries later.

The Kirtland "House": Higher and Lower Courts



The Kirtland House, higher court, looking along the axis. Pulpits stand at both ends and the pews are reversible, so the congregation can turn to face either pulpit — the "pews instead of Slips" arrangement of the HOUSE plan.

(Photograph of the Kirtland House interior higher court.)



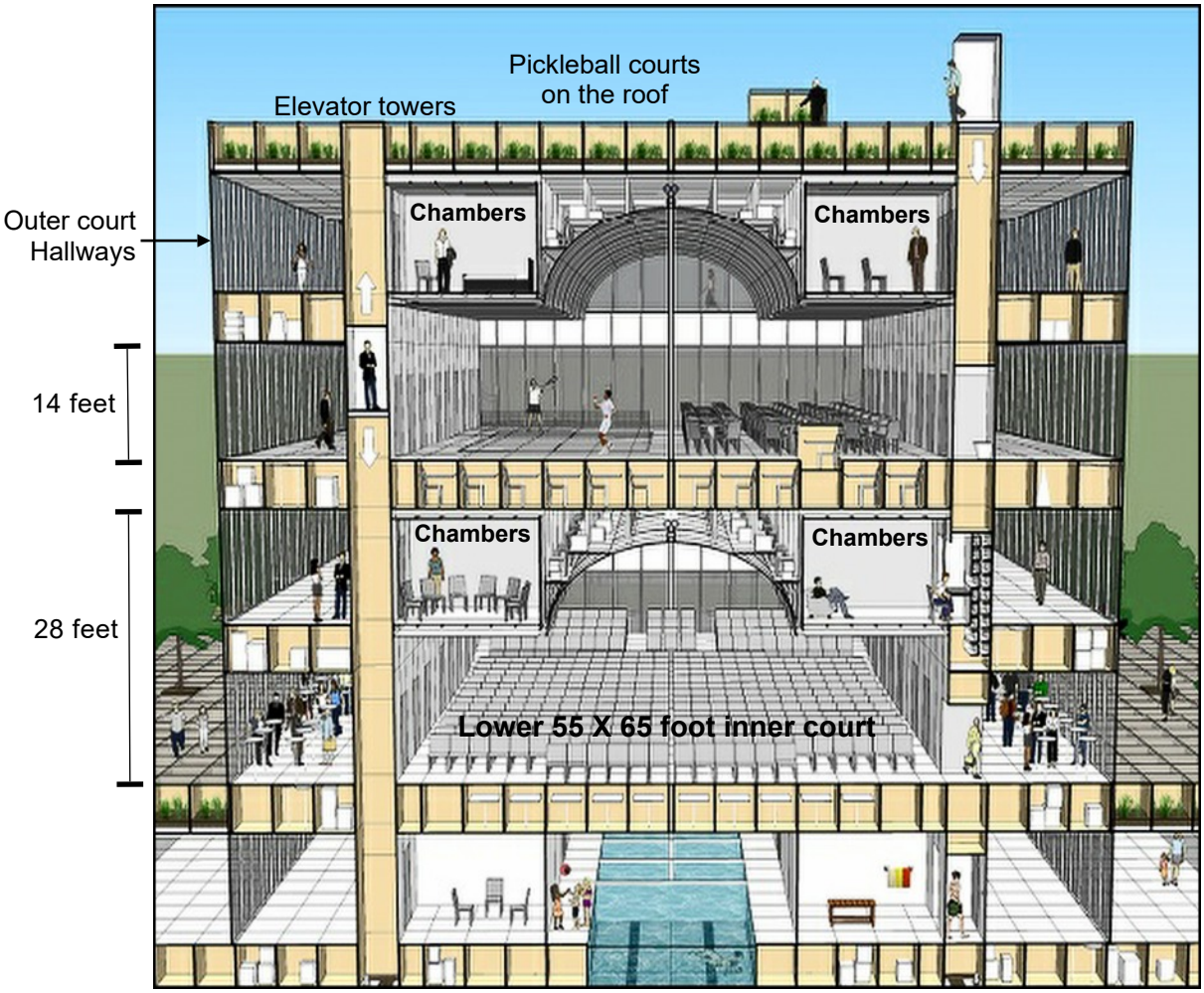


The Kirtland House, lower court; Each floor has pulpits at both the east and west ends: the four rows of three seats as described in the HOUSE, built in the 1830s and surviving today.

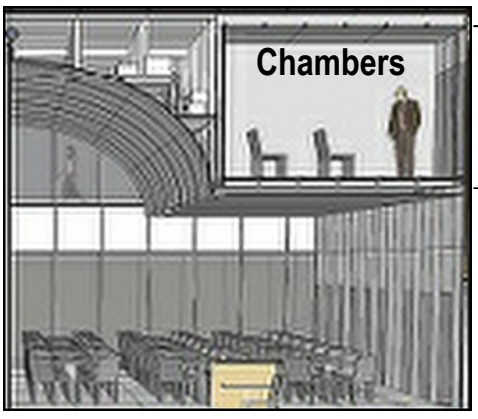
(Photograph of the Kirtland House interior lower court.)

"And let the higher part of the inner court be dedicated unto me for the school …" (SCHOOL DOC 4)

Building 5 in Block 1



"And there shall be a lower court and a higher court, according to the pattern which shall be given unto you hereafter" (BUILD DOC; 6 May 1833 pre-announcement).



The 14-foot tier of chambers are integral to each court, with the "higher part of the inner court" serving as the school during public operation and as offices and council rooms during governance.

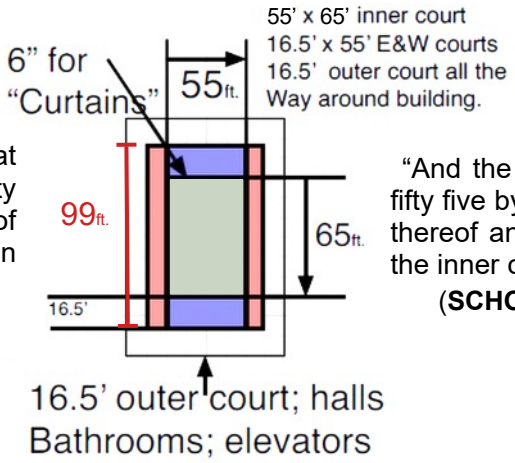
The outer court is working space; the 16.5 foot band of hallways, stairs, elevators, and bathrooms on all four sides is the entry-and-exit system that lets the building function as a public structure.

Remove the outer court and the courts can no longer be entered and emptied safely; remove the "higher part of the inner court" and the offices, councils, and school have nowhere constitutional to go.

The House Building Dimensions

Inner court: 55 ft. x 65 ft.; curtains 1 ft.; east and west courts 16.5 ft. each;
Outer court all around of 16.5 ft. yields 88 ft. wide by 132 ft. long.

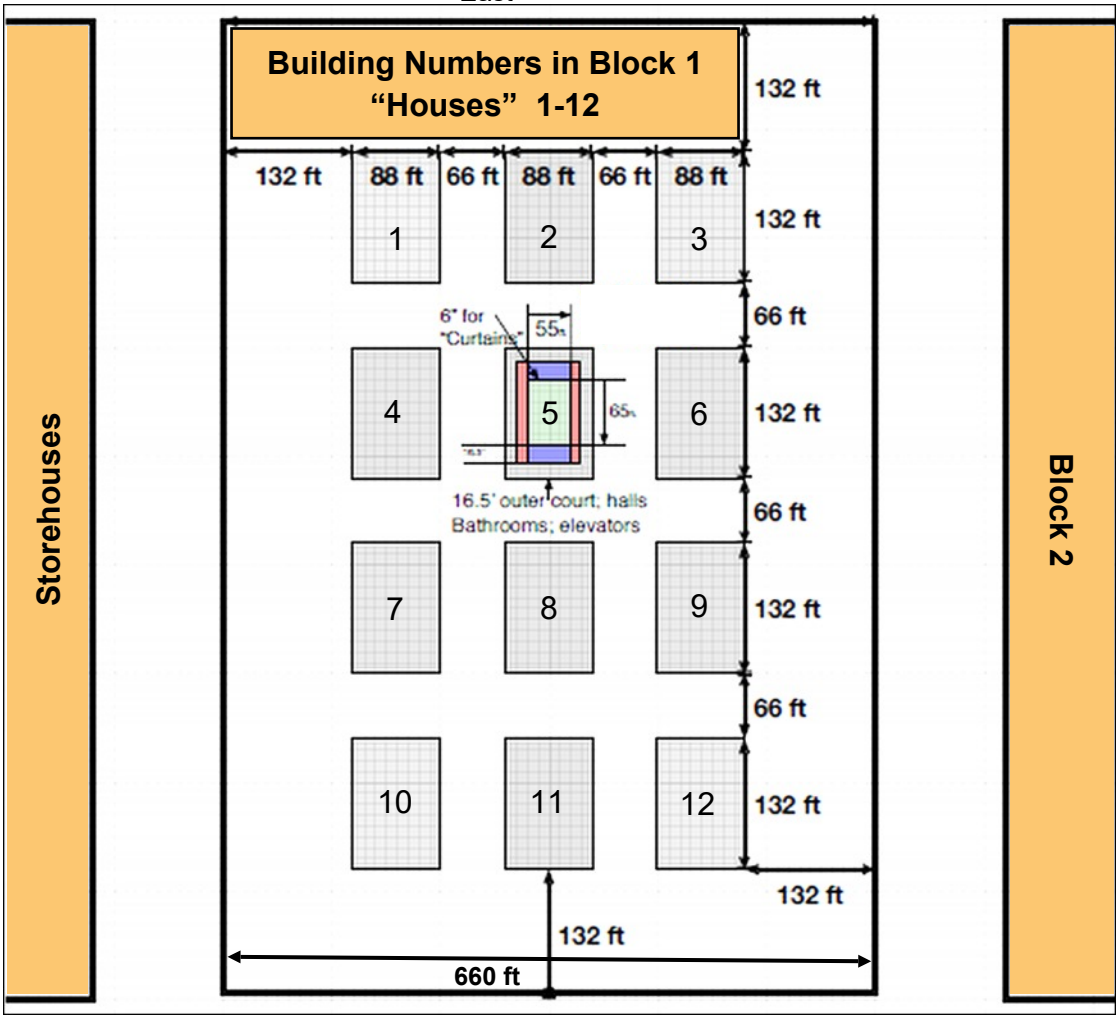
"Verily I say unto you, that it shall be built fifty five by sixty five feet in the width thereof and in the length thereof, in the inner court."
(**BUILD DOC**; 6 May 1833)



"And the size thereof shall be built fifty five by sixty five feet in the width thereof and in the length thereof, in the inner court."
(**SCHOOL DOC**; 1 June 1833)

"…let the house be built, not after the manner of the world, for I give not unto you that ye shall live after the manner of the world; therefore, let it be built after the manner which I shall show unto three of you…" (**SCHOOL DOC, 1 June 1833**; a pre-announcement).

East



Why Each Word Matters

The table below shows what each key word fixes and what fails when that word is omitted or mistranslated. It condenses the argument that the full system holds only when every controlling term remains true at once, while familiar alternatives survive by dropping one of the document's required words.

Key word/Constant	Source DOC	What it locks in	Drift if relaxed
Court (not a floor or hall)	BUILD, SCHOOL	A governing, deliberative space	"Floor" / "assembly hall" (governance disappears)
Inner court	BUILD, SCHOOL	A larger building must surround the 55 ft. × 65 ft. core	The outer court is lost
Lower / higher court	BUILD	Two courts of one rank	Lower/upper floors; "higher" reads as superior
Higher part of the inner court	SCHOOL	A school-and-chamber tier within the court	"School floor" pulled outside the court
Chamber (not gallery)	HOUSE	Working office and council space above the court	Gallery/balcony (the office tier is lost)
14 feet between floors; 28-ft. court	HOUSE	Exactly two 14-ft tiers	The two-tier court is lost inside an undifferentiated five or six floor building
55 ft. × 65 ft.	BUILD, SCHOOL, HOUSE	The inner-court dimension (strongest constant)	Equated with one smaller building
88 ft. × 132 ft.	PLOT	The outer shell and service court	No shell (the inner court floats free)
24 buildings	PLOT	A distribution of buildings of the same pattern	"One central building" collapse
Two named buildings (#5, #17)	BUILD	Two buildings → four courts	One building becomes dominant; a hierarchy forms
Quorum sizes 12/24/48/96	QUORUMS	The seat populations closing a court at 480	Capacity becomes a vague assembly size

The convergence constraints. Each key word fixes one dimension of the system; releasing any one collapses the reconstruction.

These numbers are the strongest evidence that the design is intentional. The architecture does not merely accommodate governance; it produces a complete governing system. Two selected buildings yield four courts; each court closes independently at 480 seats; and the total of 1,920 seats matches exactly the 1,920 offices derived from the building geometry. That agreement is not decorative or ceremonial. It is a numerical lock: seats and offices arrive at the same total by separate documentary paths, showing that the building is the physical form of an organizational constitution. The next section therefore turns to that constitution directly, because this generated system is the documents' most distinctive specification and the point most easily missed if the analysis stops with architecture.

The Organizational Architecture Generated by the Documents

So far, the argument has recovered an economic operating system in the LAW and a spatial container in the PLOT and HOUSE. What joins them is easy to miss because it emerges from arithmetic rather than exposition: a complete, unusual, and internally coherent organizational structure. The two named buildings and their four courts do more than house governors; they determine how governance is composed, how authority is distributed, and why no part can harden into hierarchy. This section makes that structure explicit because it is the system's most distinctive contribution and the element most relevant to institutional design.

The Generative Move: Two Buildings, Four Co-ordinate Courts

The BUILD requires each selected Houses building 5 and 17 to include both a lower and a higher court. Two buildings with two courts each yield four co-ordinate courts. Because "lower" and "higher" describe physical position rather than rank, all four courts carry governing capacity. They are assigned to the four adult Segment divisions: A, partnered males, B, partnered females, C, single females, and D, single males. All four courts carry the same governing capacity and sort essentially any adult population, in any place, into four evenly matched and universally present groups. Each Segment therefore stands in its own co-ordinate court, so the full civic body appears inside governance rather than being filtered through a dominant group. Status is self-declared, affects only seat placement and advocacy, and has no property, lease, or enterprise consequence; a change in status never interrupts a term of office.

The force of the arrangement is that representation is not added "after the fact" but is built into the architecture itself. The four courts make it impossible for one adult condition to become the silent norm for all the others, because each Segment stands in a chamber of the same capacity and the same claim on the governing system. Governance therefore begins not with hierarchy, party, wealth, or inherited status, but with the whole adult population divided only by conditions every society must contain. That is why the move from two buildings to four courts is more than arithmetic: it is the constitutional act that turns a building plan into a civic body that represents everyone in the entire NewVistas community.

Two Bodies for Every President

Each of the 480 seats in a court functions in two ways at once: (1) it belongs to a local row and (2) to a numbered coordinate repeated across all four courts. From that single arrangement, the documents generate two governing bodies for every president:

1. The Segment presidency of three, (AAA, BBB, CCC and DDD). Seats are arranged in continuous adjacency bands, so every three neighboring seats within the same Segment form a presidency of three. With 480 seats divided by three, each court contains 160 such presidencies. Across four courts, the system produces 640 Segment advocacy presidencies of three. This is the local advocacy body where one of the four representative Segment's concerns and blind spots appear first and the most clearly.

2. The governing presidency of four. Seat one in one court corresponds to seat one in the other three courts, and the pattern repeats through all 480 coordinates. Each mirrored coordinate therefore joins, (A) one partnered male, (B) one partnered female, (C) one single female, and (D) one single male into a governing presidency of four, ABCD, creating 480 such presidencies in all for a total of 1,920 presidents that preside in the four courts. Because each court includes all four Segment ABCD voices, the presidency of four governs while the presidency of three e.g. AAA, BBB, etc. are the advocates.

The result is deliberate and structural. No president stands (or can stand) as an isolated individual authority. Each president belongs simultaneously to a horizontal advocacy triad of the same Segment (e.g. AAA) and a vertical governing quad of the ABCD combined Segment group before any manual is written. The novel architecture creates dual membership from the start as it creates a constitutional mesh rather than a chain of command. In mature form, the system is a 3 × 4 matrix where the triad provides an immediate Segment advocacy, the quad provides full cross-Segment witness, and the councils, described next, harmonize across domains without creating rank among the bodies.

Governing Body	Count	Composition	Constitutional function
Presidency of three	640	3 adjacent seats, (one Segment; AAA, BBB, etc.)	Local Segment advocacy
Presidency of four	480	1 seat × 4 mirrored courts (all segments; ABCD)	Cross-Segment governance
Council of twelve	176	3 presidencies of four in an office run (ABCD, ABCD, ABCD)	Harmonization across domains

The bodies generated by the seat-and-office geometry.
Each president belongs to at least one triad and one quad simultaneously;
councils form where quads stand in ordered office relation.

One governance court has 480 seats. The west pulpit carries four Segment quorum presidencies of three (AAA, BBB, etc.) and three quorums of 24 high priests (84 seats); the east pulpit carries four Segment quorum presidencies of three (AAA, BBB, etc.), a 48-priest quorum, and a 24-teacher quorum (84 seats); and the inner court carries three quorums of 96 elders, with the Council of 12 at its west end and the Deacon quorum of 12 at its east end (312 seats) — with adjacency bands that form presidencies of three and numbered coordinates that mirror across the four courts to form co-ordinate presidencies of four (ABCD).

Councils of 12 from Office Adjacency

The 1,920 offices are organized in repeated bands and aligned runs, not scattered at random. The basic unit is the presidency of four: one matched seat from each of the four co-ordinate courts. When three adjacent Segment (ABCD) presidencies of four stand in an ordered office run, they form a Council of 12 (3 × 4 = 12). The counts then follow from the office structure: 96 village councils, 24 district councils, 24 bureau councils, 24 data/origination councils, and 8 department coordination councils for a total of 176 Councils of 12 in all.

They are parallel governing domains, not ascending levels. A president may serve in more than one council because the same office has duties in more than one domain, but each council remains limited to its own charge. Governance therefore works through:

- Intersecting peer bodies rather than a reporting ladder;
- By dense system without hierarchy;
- A “mesh” of inter relationships rather than a pyramid.

Because every office is already surrounded by nearby peer councils, no office can absorb another’s work and any encroachment crosses a visible boundary into an occupied constitutional place.

Twenty-Four Independent Governing Bureaus

The 1,920 presidents are not interchangeable officeholders; the documents assign them differentiated constitutional work. The eight long names on the reverse of the PLOT divide the twenty-four public buildings into eight rows of three. In modern terms, those rows become eight departments, each composed of three independent bureaus, for twenty-four bureaus in all. Each bureau occupies one public building; each building contains eighty offices; and each bureau therefore holds a three-building field of 240 offices. The modern bureau names do not invent a new structure. They translate the recovered long names into present-day functional language, preserving the PLOT’s own division of work.

The decisive rule is bureau independence. The twenty-four bureaus are separate constitutional domains: they set standards, approve actions, preserve due process, and provide accountability, but none may absorb another’s function. It is the system’s defense against capture. The rail-separation rule makes the defense concrete.

Three Presidencies: Trustee, Continuity and Constitutional

Each bureau is governed by three co-ordinate, named Segment presidencies of four (ABCD). The three presidencies meet weekly as a coordinating Council of 12 — none of which outranks the others. All three presidencies must be satisfied for any significant action to proceed. All material actions must satisfy strategic coherence, domain continuity, and constitutional integrity simultaneously. No action clears on the authority of one presidency alone.

Trustee Presidency

Responsible for long-horizon direction, capital enterprise logic, and preservation of the bureau's constitutional identity and mission over time.

Continuity Presidency

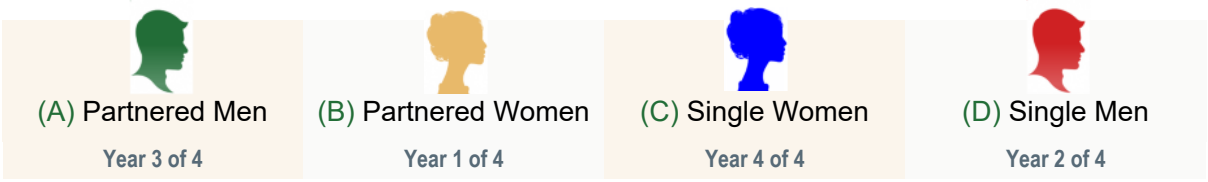
Responsible for ensuring the bureau's constitutionally required domain remains continuously operational through certified Enterprise Owners and rule-based enforcement — without operating or delivering services itself.

Constitutional Presidency

Responsible solely for safeguarding adherence to the constitutional framework: enforcing constitutional limits, reviewing compliance, and preventing scope expansion. This presidency exists specifically to watch the other two.

Why Groups of Four — and What They Are

Each of the three presidencies within a bureau is itself a presidency of four: one member drawn from each of the four adult Segment groups in the community — partnered men, partnered women, single women, and single men. Segment status is self-declared by each individual, and a change of self-declared status mid-term never disturbs a term of office. Every governing body therefore carries a full cross-section of lived experience by design, not aspiration, and no constituency goes unrepresented in any governing room.



A presidency of four: one member from each adult A-B-C-D Segment group, each on a different year of a four-year term. One seat opens every year and one new member joins, so the body never loses institutional memory and never all turns over at once.

Every governing member serves a four-year term. The four seats within each presidency are staggered — set initially by witnessed random draw — so that only one seat opens per year. Three experienced members are always in place when one new one joins. The outgoing member's term ends on their own birthday, which distributes office transitions across the calendar and prevents any organized effort to seize multiple positions at once during a single political moment.

New members are identified and narrowed by the sitting presidency within published qualification criteria, then selected by witnessed random draw from the remaining two finalists, then confirmed by those they will serve. No one campaigns for the position. No superior appoints anyone. The process is designed to prevent both popularity contests and top-down control at every step.

The Importance of Rails

The Village Department I lease-and-custody rail (Bureaus 1-3), the District Department II rail (Bureaus 4-6), the Title-and-Finance Department III rail (Bureaus 7-9), the Data-and-Accounting Department VI rail (Bureaus 16-18), the Origination Department VII rail (Bureaus 19-21), and the Infrastructure Department VIII rail (Bureaus 22-24) may not be merged into one operating authority by software design, efficiency claims, contractor convenience, or emergency argument (Departments IV and V are treated immediately below). If those Department rails collapse, the same body could approve, finance, measure, custody, and operate the very systems it is supposed to govern thereby recreating monopoly under constitutional language.

Why Separation Matters

The Platforms Department IV shows why the separation matters: communications devices, proof systems, and public media must remain divided so no single body controls the tools residents use, the evidence those tools report, and the information environment residents see. The Infrastructure Department follows the same logic, dividing title custody, leasing, standards, and operation so no bureau can rebuild an infrastructure monopoly in another form. Because all twenty-four buildings follow the same size and eighty-office capacity, the public square turns the rule into architecture: identical buildings for co-ordinate domains, distinct functions of the same dignity, and no bureau placed above another.

Departments I-VIII and Bureaus 1-24

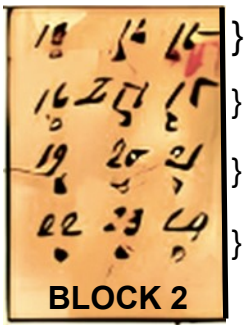


} Village Dept. I: Bureaus 1, 2, 3

} District Dept. II: Bureaus 4, 5, 6

} Title Dept. III: Bureaus 7, 8, 9

} Platforms Dept. IV: Bureaus 10, 11, 12



} Regulatory Dept. V: Bureaus 13, 14, 15

} Data Dept. VI: Bureaus 16, 17, 18

} Origination Dept. VII: Bureaus 19, 20, 21

} Infrastructure Dept. VIII: Bureaus 22, 23, 24

DEPARTMENT	BUREAUS (three each; independent)
I — VILLAGE	1-Inventory • 2-Facilities • 3-Equipment
II — DISTRICT	4-Food/Health • 5- Life Plan • 6- Leisure
III — TITLE	7-Clearing • 8-Property • 9-Capital
IV — PLATFORMS	10-Communications • 11- Proof • 12-Media
V — REGULATORY	13-Innovation • 14-Legal • 15-Audit
VI — DATA	16-Accounting • 17-Publication • 18-Metrics
VII — ORIGINATION	19-Schema • 20-Markets • 21-Underwriting
VIII — INFRASTRUCTURE	22-Materials • 23-Utilities • 24-Transportation

The I-VIII Departments and 1-24 independent Bureaus, each named first by the PLOT's reverse-side long name (see pp. viii; 12) and then translated into modern function. Each bureau is a separate governing domain occupying one of the twenty-four public buildings.

Three deliberative filters — not three levels of hierarchy

The governing structure produces three distinct kinds of bodies. These are not three tiers of a hierarchy — no body outranks another — but three successive deliberative filters that any significant concern must pass through before it becomes governance:



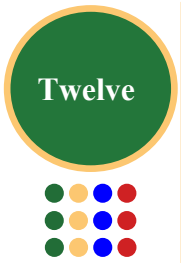
Presidencies of three — local Segment advocacy

Every president sits in immediate horizontal adjacency to two others from the same court forming a Segment presidency of three (AAA, BBB, etc). These 640 bodies (160 per court, across 4 courts) are the first and most local filter. Local concerns surface here quickly. Burdens are voiced, blind spots exposed, and ideas receive their first constitutional articulation. But a presidency of three gives narrow, local voice — it does not govern the full system alone.



Presidencies of four — complete cross-Segment witness

Each of the 480 numbered seat coordinates across the four courts gathers one president from each ABCD Segment into one presidency of four. What seemed obvious inside one triad may look partial once seen through the repeated constitutional mirrors of all four courts. The presidency of four asks whether the local concern survives complete witness — not a higher rank, but a fuller lens.



Councils of twelve: harmonization across intersecting domains

When three presidencies of four operate within the same constitutional domain, they form a Council of 12 (ABCD, ABCD, ABCD). These councils ask whether a concern survives intersecting business enterprises — not just its own local logic. A village burden must live beside other village burdens. A bureau concern must live beside other bureau concerns. The council harmonizes without creating rank above the presidencies within it.

176 Councils of 12

A full community produces exactly 176 Councils of 12, arising from the constitutional geometry itself rather than from administrative invention:

96 Village Councils

One per village, coordinating the three presidencies serving each village's day-to-day affairs

24 District Councils

District-scale coordination across the four villages of each district

24 Bureau Councils

One per bureau, formed by the three named presidencies of that bureau

24 Data/Origination Councils

Governing the teaching and watch-care relations within each domain

8 Department Councils

One per department, harmonizing the three bureaus within each department

176 Councils of 12

Each with a bounded domain and no authority over any other

Bureaus Govern; Enterprise Owners Operate

The system's most important boundary is the line between governance and operation. That boundary follows directly from the LAW DOC: *"residue"* is *"kept to administer"* through Enterprise Owners, while bureaus govern. The twenty-four bureaus operate nothing. They do not run farms, restaurants, clinics, utilities, transport fleets, warehouses, laundries, or schools; they hold no inventory and take no custody of productive assets. Their work is limited to standards, certification, approval, measurement, trigger-based audit, and due process. Each bureau charter repeats the same rule: its office is governance only. Every operating enterprise such as a farm, restaurant, clinic, utility firm, transport service, or learning environment, is run by an Enterprise Owner, an individual business owner, or by certified contractors working under them.

Owners are also the only parties who hold custody of property, and they hold it solely by lease. Title to all assets remains with the community through the title repositories administered by Bureaus 7, 8 and 9. External banks may hold liens on specific financed assets, but title never leaves the institutional structure. An Enterprise Owner receives custody of the assets the business needs through the proper lease rail, owns the business 100% individually, and pays lease charges set by market value covering useful life, upkeep and lifecycle/financing cost. The rule is strict: one Enterprise Owner, one enterprise; no joint ownership and no co-lease. One owner is responsible for each lease, custody arrangement, credit line, and enterprise; others may allocate costs only through agreements recorded in that Owner's approved plan. Liquidity is governed access to bounded operating credit after origination gates clear — not a deposit balance — so the community holds no deposits, makes no loans, and keeps all banking external.

This division keeps the residual truly "kept." Because bureaus do not operate, they need no operating budgets, accumulate no reserves, and cannot become spending bodies that draw down principal. Because Enterprise Owners operate competitively under unified title, productive capacity grows through created value and external credit rather than bureau expenditure. The familiar institutional failure of a governing body that taxes, spends, hires staff, takes custody, and eventually becomes the operator, is blocked at the structural level. Governance and operation remain in different hands, and custody belongs only to the lease-holding Enterprise Owner. Examples make the boundary visible:

- If a clinic is needed, the health-related bureau may certify standards, approve the plan, and audit outcomes, but it does not hire nurses, buy equipment, or run appointments; a clinic Enterprise Owner operates the business and leases the required rooms, devices, and systems.
- If a transit route is needed, the transportation bureau may set safety and service standards, but a transportation enterprise operates the vehicles under lease while title and finance remain in separate rails.
- If a school program is needed, the learning environment is operated by an operator owner or certified contractors, while the relevant bureaus govern curriculum standards, certification, measurement, and due process.

In each case, the same rule holds: bureaus decide whether the work is authorized and accountable; Enterprise Owners do the work, hold custody by lease, and bear operating responsibility.

Why the Structure Resists Capture

Several anti-concentration rules reinforce the meshed geometry:

Every president serves a bounded four-year term and is released on his or her birthday, a date the institution does not control; releases are therefore scattered across the calendar rather than concentrated in election seasons. Terms are staggered so one seat in each presidency of four opens each year, making renewal continuous rather than synchronized.

Succession moves through qualification, narrowing, a random witnessed draw between two finalists, and sustaining confirmation by those served, which removes king-making and factional control from the final choice.

Presiding and clerking rotate; no presidency has an internal rank ladder; and councils meet in the office of the current presider rather than in a permanent head office.

Public service is unpaid and unreimbursed, so office cannot become a salaried career or path to enrichment.

Finally, the system grants no emergency power. In times of stress, continuity comes from distribution and redundancy, not from concentrated authority. The four co-ordinate courts, 640 triads, 480 quads, 176 councils, and twenty-four independent bureaus together form one accountable organism, with responsibility running sideways through repeated peer witness rather than upward through command. The result is a system without hierarchy and authority that cannot concentrate. The next part explains how a person enters this system, holds and rotates office, and is replaced through the office and temporal constitution drawn from the STAND, ROTATE, and CHOSEN DOCS.

From Recovered Documents to a Working System

Read together, the three layers specify one settlement:

(1) The LAW DOC makes it solvent by design:

- Property is conveyed into unified title;
- Each Enterprise Owner receives an Owner's Draw for self and family;
- "Residue" is "kept" while "to administer";
- Growth is funded through their enterprise value rather than spent principal.

(2) The PLOT DOC makes it replicable by standardization: a rod-coherent square built from repeatable modules, with a differentiated civic core and a command to lay off the next square *"in the same way."*

(3) The HOUSE DOC makes it governable without hierarchy: two civic buildings, 5 and 17, and four co-ordinate courts generate 1,920 matched seats and offices, 640 advocacy triads, 480 governing quads, 176 harmonizing councils; eight departments and twenty-four independent bureaus, while Enterprise Owners alone operate and hold custody by lease.

What unites the three layers is that they were specified before the tools existed to operate them. In earlier centuries, an office that combined title, leases, accounting, building, instruction, and governance, or a residual that had to remain kept while continuously administering, would have required vast clerical machinery and hand-reconciled ledgers, consuming the very residual the LAW preserves. That constraint changes as administrative friction falls:

- Digital systems can track title, leases, and residual routing;
- AI can support instruction, accounting, and anticipatory visibility without bureaucracy;
- Robotics can assist construction and logistics;
- Fuel cells, modular construction, satellite communications, and
- Verifiable digital governance can make the system practical at community scale.

The recovered words supply the specification; current tools make it workable. The sections that follow develop the bureaus one-by-one, but the constitutional core is already complete: a solvent, replicable, non-hierarchical community in which governance and operation remain separate, and every participant stands in one bounded place within an interlocking system.

Because the PLOT commands that the same square be laid off again until it has *"filled the world,"* the system is addressed not to one people or place but to all humanity. That is the force of the recovered specification. It does not offer a local reform, a model village, or a nostalgic return to an older social system. It describes a complete civic organism: solvent because its capital is kept, scalable because its pattern is standardized, and resistant to domination because authority is distributed through courts, bounded offices, independent bureaus, and operating Enterprise Owners. If the reading is correct, the documents do not merely preserve a historical plan; they disclose a constitutional technology for building communities that can be chosen freely, reproduced widely, and adapted everywhere without surrendering their governing core.

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PART TWO:

THE ECONOMIC ENGINE IN OPERATION

