



NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER

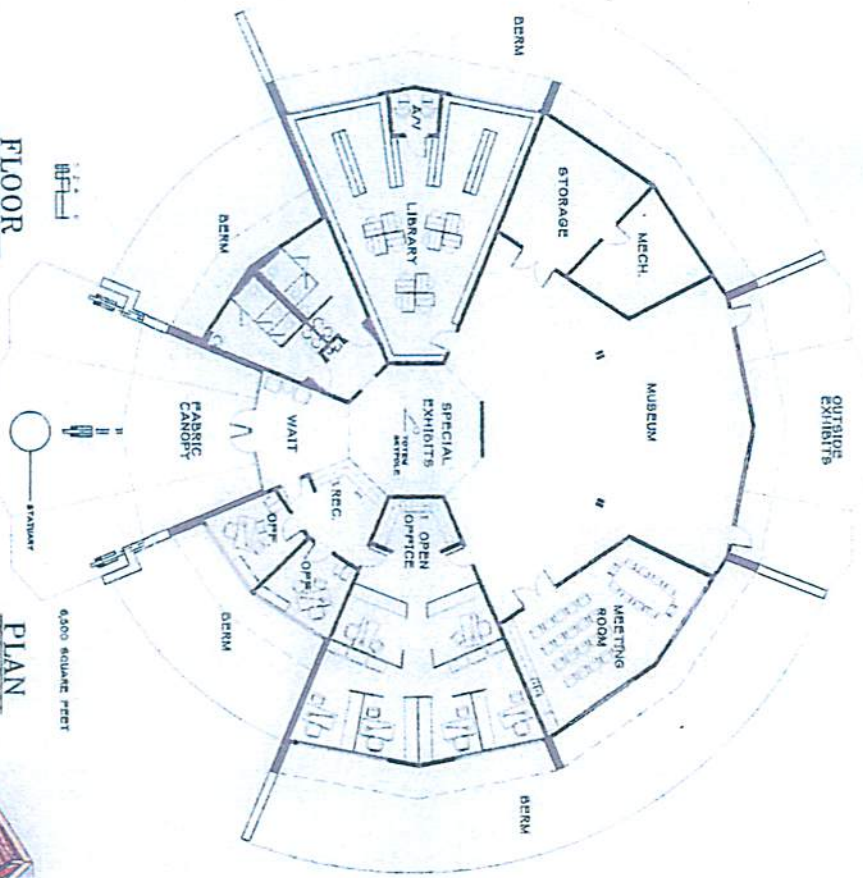
"CIRCLE OF LIFE"

The Native American Indian Association has designed a new Native American Indian Center, "**Circle of Life**," which we hope you find of interest.

The Native American Indian Association (NAIA) is currently seeking funding for the acquisition of property and the construction of a new Native American Indian Center. This facility has been named the "**Circle of Life**." The project profile, site and floor plan and front elevation are attached. This facility will serve as the administration headquarters for the Native American Indian Association as well as a POW-WOW grounds, museum and library to educate the public at large concerning the past heritage and present concerns of more than 10,000 Native American residents of our state. The Native American Indian Association is the only statewide service provider with an all Indian Board of Directors. NAIA provides such services as job training and placement for unemployed Native Americans, emergency assistance for very low income Native Americans, case management for homeless Native Americans, cultural revitalization, scholarships for higher education and public information.

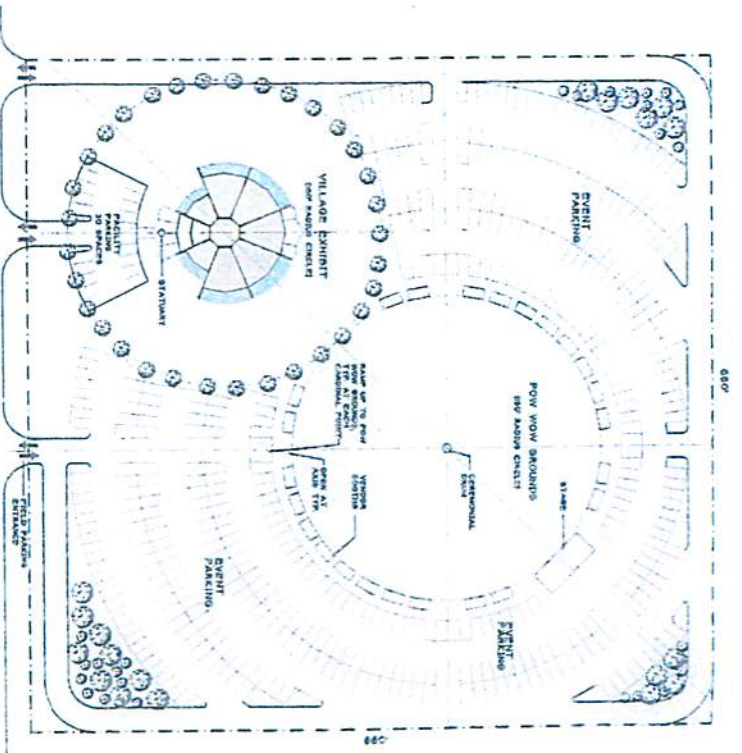
NAIA is presently seeking the donation of acreage in Middle Tennessee for the construction of the "**Circle of Life**" facility. We are attempting to raise 1.5 million dollars to complete this project and make it operational.

Native American Indian Association of Tennessee
230 Spence Lane • Nashville, TN 37210-3623
Phone (615) 232-9179 • Fax (615) 232-9180



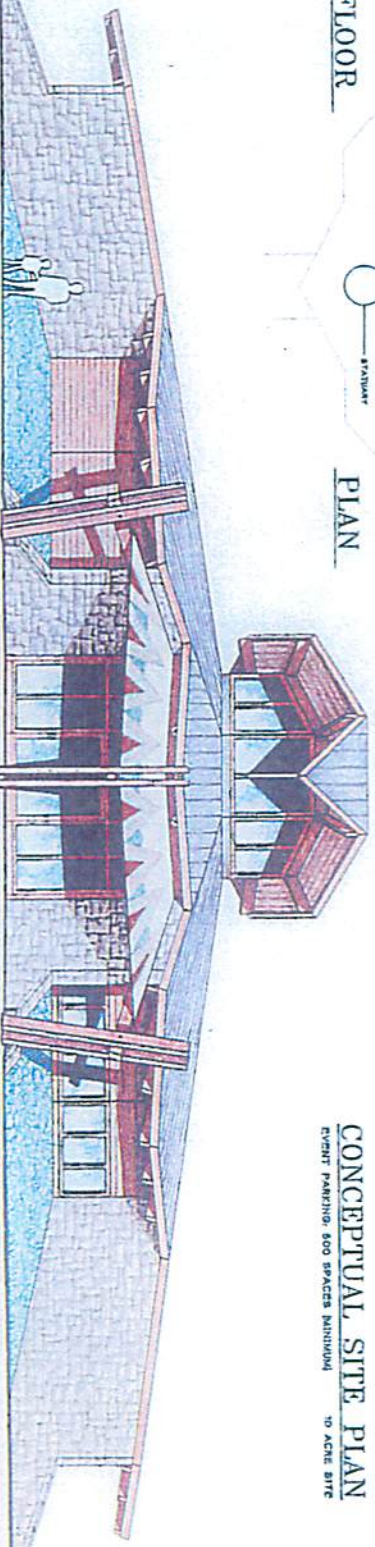
FLOOR

PLAN



CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN

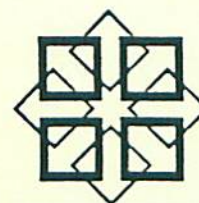
FRONT ELEVATION



NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION McFARLIN HUTT ARCHITECTS, INC.

PROJECT PROFILE

**NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER for
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION of TENNESSEE**



**McFARLIN
HUITT
ARCHITECTS
INC.**

Architecture
Interior
Architecture

PROJECT MISSION STATEMENT

Provide a site adequate to accommodate a ceremonial Pow-wow grounds, with public event parking for at least 500 cars. Construct a multi-purpose structure to house NAIA administrative offices, community meeting room, research library, and exhibit museum. Construct permanent parking for the Community Center; reserve adjacent site area for an historic village exhibit.

All components of the project are to be appropriate to serve the special needs of local Native Americans and promote public awareness of their unique culture. The design should express the wholistic relationship of the past, present, and future. The Community Center should be architecturally identifiable as a Native American facility.

DESIGN RESPONSE

The proposed layout of the conceptual 10-acre site responds to the ancient spiritual concept of the "Circle of Life". The configuration of the Pow-wow grounds--including parking--radiates out from the ceremonial central Drum.

The architectural expression of the 6,500 square-foot Community Center structure is intended to evoke a sense of animation, of shelter given form by the earth but drawn into the sky. It is to be constructed from common native materials such as wood and stone, with emphasis on balancing architectural principles of economy, durability, function, and form. A fabric entrance canopy makes reference to the traditional structures used by nomadic Indian tribes of the region. Environmental support systems are to utilize state-of-the-art energy-efficient technology.

CONSTRUCTION COST

A conceptual evaluation of probable construction cost is outlined below. These costs do not include costs for land purchase, environmental assessments, or legal fees.

Pow-wow grounds and event parking:	\$ 200,000
(assumes minor site clearing, electrical power, no pavement)	
Community Center building:	\$ 800,000
Community Center parking lot	\$ 35,000
Community Center furnishings, moveable equipment	not included
Architectural fees	\$ 50,000
Misc. Expenses (Land Survey, Geotechnical Report, Document printing)	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,100,000

PREPARED BY: R. Daniel Huitt, Principal-in-Charge

1213 16th Ave. South
Nashville, Tennessee
3 • 7 • 2 • 1 • 2

(615) 329-3922
FAX (615) 321-0850



NAIA'S GOAL:

"CIRCLE OF LIFE" INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

1. NEED STATEMENT

In the State of Tennessee, all American Indians were methodically moved out of the state in the infamous "Trial of Tears" in 1838. Many southern states that took part in this methodical removal have since recognized their American Indian population and have established reservations for the American Indians that managed to escape and stay behind.

Tennessee is one of the few states that have never established an American Indian Reservation. Currently, neither the State of Tennessee nor federal government recognizes the American Indian population in Tennessee.

There is no state or federally funded American Indian services in Tennessee. NAIA was formed in 1980 and incorporated in 1982 with the motto "Indians helping Indians". According the last census, there are well over 15,000 American Indians living throughout the state of Tennessee. There is a large population of Cherokee Indians residing in East Tennessee and a large band of Choctaw Indians living in West Tennessee. The latter of the group is the only native speaking community in the state. Each Tennessee's major urban areas have over 1,000 American Indians in their towns and cities, including Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County.

NAIA is the sole American Indian organization statewide; therefore, there is a need for an American Indian Cultural Center to provide all Tennesseans, especially for the growing American Indian population, with a place to provide supportive and social services, cultural revitalization, educational services and job training and placement services.

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"Indians Working for Indians"

This project will address the need for the construction of a building that will bring together dispersed tribal programs aimed at quality of life and family issues. NAIA is confronted with problems and issues that affect the American Indian community, their families, youth and elderly. It is designed that programs can hold physical activities, social functions, educational and cultural projects. Also, it will serve as a gathering place, improving the quality of life and fostering a healthy social environment of the American Indians who are citizens of Nashville and the state of Tennessee.

NAIA needs to acquire more space so activities and programs can function more efficiently to service the American Indians.

2. SPECIFIC PROBLEM

There is no accommodating large central gathering place for NAIA to hold any kind of physical activities, social functions, educational and cultural projects for the American Indian families. This specific problem compounds the challenges that NAIA has to continually encounter.

The Native American Indian Association mission statement- "to enhance the overall quality of life for the American Indian citizens"-is still the focal point of the consolidation and centralization of programs that the new "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center will provide. This center will ensure that NAIA fulfills its motto and mission and holds a high priority above other projects.

3. BUDGET

The budget for the construction of the "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center is attached in the Project Profile courtesy of McFarlin Hutt Architects. The estimated cost for the project is \$1,100,000. See enclosed complete budget, including land requirements and proposed land acquisition.

4. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

This "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center will benefit all citizens of Nashville and throughout Tennessee. It will include a library of American Indian resources, a cultural museum exhibit and a commercial sale space for authentic American Indian arts, crafts, clothing and jewelry.

There is a need for general public educational information about American Indian history and heritage that is lacking and not provided by the public school system in Tennessee. This cultural center will benefit the public and home schooled children; all ages will be encouraged to utilize the educational information at the center's library. This library will be the sole resource center dedicated to providing information regarding American Indian history and heritage.

Certainly, the "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center will benefit the more than 15,000 American Indians by providing a central place. More importantly it will give NAIA the space it needs for administrative and supportive services that include emergency relief assistance, scholarship awards, job training and placement and housing assistance to the growing population of American Indians in the state of Tennessee.

The city of Nashville will benefit from the library, museum and commercial sale center which will draw visitors to Nashville: thus increasing city revenue dollars and promoting additional tourism.

And with the completion of the "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center, NAIA can establish and effectively apply for other federally funded programs to benefit the American Indians.

5. SOURCES OF FUNDS

NAIA currently has a building fund of \$438,714

- NAIA to date has raised \$188,714
- Senator Frist has provided federal funding sources for \$250,000 for the construction of the "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center
- Representative Ben West and others, support this project.
- Nashville City Council members, past and present have supported this Cultural Center for NAIA
- NAIA has a history of working with state and federal funding sources.
- Administered grants from DOL, DOE and HUD
- NAIA has administered funding from foundations and other funding sources in its 31 years of service in Tennessee.

We look forward to working together to ensure that the Native American Indian Association's "Circle of Life" Indian Cultural Center becomes a reality for the greater good of our citizens of Nashville and the state of Tennessee.