

times. Most of the money is expected to come from a Federal grant for the handicapped; accommodations for the handicapped are commendable, but the interior of City Hall is still unprotected from the architectural onslaughts of successive administrations. (This one, to its credit, has been trying to restore both history and order.) A ludicrously delayed landmark designation is scheduled to come shortly.

In the meantime, only the Art Commission has the power to pass on who shall poke holes through City Hall's historic patchwork and where and how it shall be done. This has not deterred generations of bureaucrats from stretching, slicing and otherwise attacking the building's elegant fabric for passing political need or whim. Its delicate graces, in fact, have proved surprisingly resistant to assault.

The elevator proposal is at least as sensitive in terms of location and design as any other; it requires proper architectural and landmark review if it is not to be a downer.

Upper or Downer?

With everything at a permanent low in City Hall and nowhere to go but up, the only thing that seems to be doing so is an elevator—intended to take the body politic from the basement to the second floor. This will cost \$26,524 for plans and another \$250,000 to build, which is hardly an austerity in these penny-pinching