

# Groundbreaking Today for Bay State School

## New Southeastern Institute Will Be Finished in 1975

By ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE

A new school chartered by the Massachusetts State Legislature in 1960, the Southeastern Massachusetts Technological Institute, is holding groundbreaking ceremonies this afternoon for one of the most striking campuses in the country.

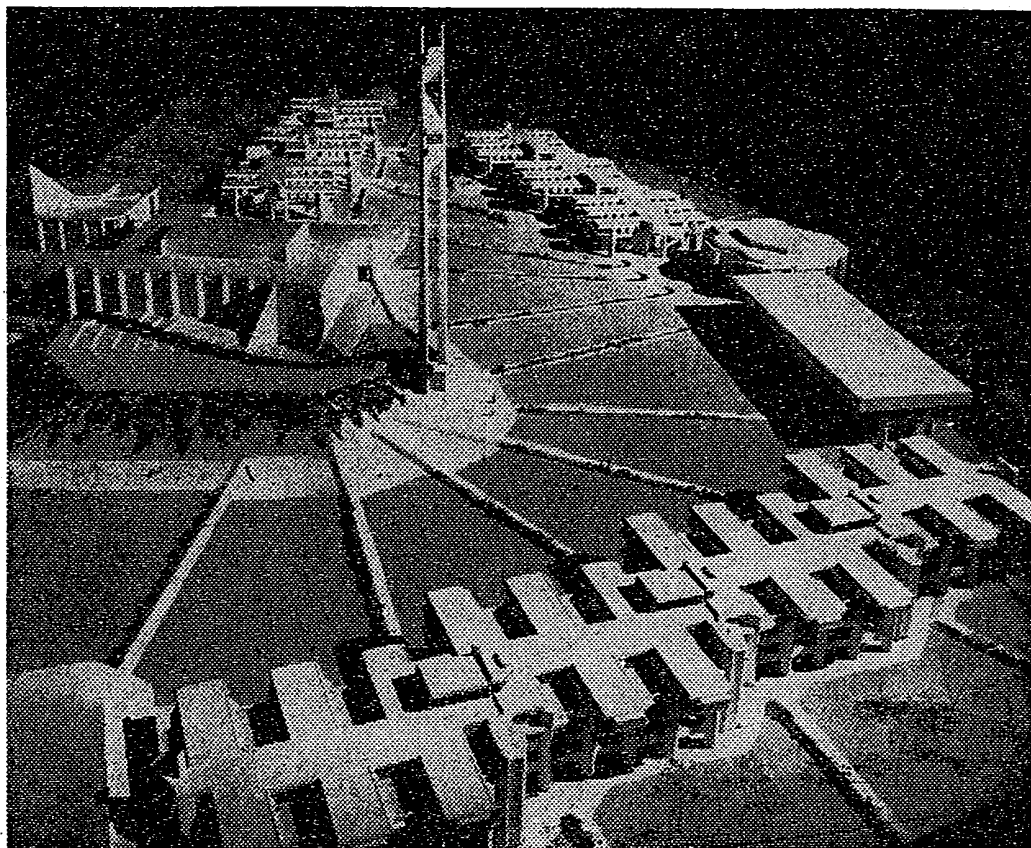
Situated at North Dartmouth, Mass., four miles west of New Bedford, the new college combines the latest scientific planning with the most advanced architectural concepts. An up-to-the-minute technical program will be housed in up-to-the-minute buildings designed by Paul Rudolph of New Haven and Desmond & Lord of Boston.

The needs, enrollment and program of the school have been determined by demographic and other specialized scientific studies, after surveys in the nineteen-fifties had pointed to deficiencies in public higher educational opportunities in the heavily populated southeastern portion of the state.

These studies showed the need for a broad curriculum of engineering, science and liberal arts courses to be available to a student body of 3,000 in that area, between 1966 and 1967. A full enrollment of 7,500 is anticipated by 1975. The school incorporates two existing technical colleges, the Bradford Duffee College of Technology and the New Bedford Institute of Technology.

The 700-acre North Dartmouth campus was purchased in 1960 out of state appropriations of \$1.5 million, which also paid for the development of initial architectural plans. A further appropriation of \$6 million was made last year to permit construction to begin before July 1, 1964. Additional funds to cover the rest of the construction are expected to be set aside this year.

The first building, a large



Ezra Stoller Associates

**Model of Southeastern Massachusetts Technological Institute, to be built at North Dartmouth, Mass. Tall structure at center is a bell tower, standing beside an amphitheater. Beyond this is library, and at left is a little theater. At top are academic buildings. Many-sided structure is an auditorium and flat-topped one is administration building. At front are class buildings. Architects are Paul Rudolph and Desmond & Lord.**

complex for liberal arts and administration, will be finished in the fall of 1965, when use of the campus will begin. By 1975, the completed campus will consist of about 20 buildings.

The new campus with its modern master plan is a contemporary substitute for traditional "Ivy League" collegiate design. All structures are to be grouped informally around a central library, amphitheatre and bell tower, with walks and open greens between, in a free-form, roughly circular containment.

Instead of conventional, monolithic classroom blocks on the huge scale necessary for modern education, six long, continuous buildings for science, engineering and liberal arts are planned as staggered structures

with repeated units of projecting wings and courts.

These academic groups will include large lecture halls with movable walls for an auditorium, and will connect with a little theatre, student union and cafeteria and administration center.

In appearance, these buildings will bear a marked resemblance to the much-discussed Art and Architecture Building that Mr. Rudolph has designed at Yale, where he is the head of the School of Architecture. They are an enlargement and extension of the structural and spatial ideas that have made the new Yale landmark a spectacular focus of attention to the architecture profession.

Mr. Rudolph's current work,

including the new college structures, is characterized by intricate arrangement of strong concrete forms, which serve equally as hollow supporting columns containing mechanical equipment and as a rich esthetic pattern of light and shadow and rugged shapes and surfaces. It has a plastic, sculptural quality that contrasts dramatically with the flat glass walls and smooth facades of much of today's building.

In addition to eye-catching construction, the college will also have the Southeastern Massachusetts Research Foundation, which will give technical assistance to local industry. Dr. Joseph L. Driscoll, president of the new school, was appointed in 1962.