

there was that jag in the street, which you are familiar with. Also, if you go back and look at the Capitol plans, back at the time that the building currently was constructed, why it was conceived that to the east, and to the north, and to the south, and to the west that there would be a boulevard to be attractive for the Capitol building. If you look down 15th Street, which I do not recall if there was any state funds in that, I don't think there was, I think that was totally a local effort, adjacent landowners, plus the city. But they gave a very attractive appearance to our State Capitol. In the same concept the original plan was to include, in the 1920's, to the east, going down J Street, because of plating, some time in the 1800's, that has never been completed. I had the same hesitancy, that others have spoken about, when I introduce the bill, because I knew, as we all knew, it will be a tight budget year. My rationale, however, was the same as Senator Moore has already indicated, and any of you in agriculture know that when a piece of property might be available, if you do not acquire it, you won't. Now the difference in this one is that the structure that is on it is not in good shape. If somebody else acquires it, and it will be...in all probability, have a new structure which will substantially increase the cost, and probably make it prohibitive. So it's one of those situations it is available at the moment, willing buyer, willing seller, it's not in improved condition, and it does provide an opportunity somewhere down in the future to provide the same kind of attractive approaches to the Capitol from all four directions, as was originally planned. Senator Wesely made a comment on the acquisition of other property. I never told this story, but it's true. He mentioned that three-quarters of a block in which, in fact, we appropriated money, I believe, I know we negotiated to acquire that three-quarters block for about, as I recall, a million-four, million-five, somewhere in there essentially was going to do it, and then something...we didn't. But in December of that year, and I don't recall the year, but it's been in the last seven, eight years, I had a telephone call from the person at the company that was somewhere back east that owned the three-quarters block. And they said to me, you know, if the state would like to acquire that, we want to sell it prior to December 31st, and as I recall it was somewhere in the area of 800 to 900 thousand dollars, which was property that everybody looked at, agreed was a reasonable buy because of where it was, and everything about it for substantially 50 percent more. I regretted, because I told the person at that time I was obviously picking corn, this was in