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In this issue we present an extended PlaceViews section examining the transformation of San Jose, California. For the last two decades, this self-proclaimed "capital of Silicon Valley" has engaged in an exemplary effort to rebuild and redefine its downtown. After years of neglect during the post-World War II era of suburban dispersal, this effort both tapped into the high-tech boom and was spearheaded by talented and dedicated designers and managers. As a "best-case" scenario, the San Jose experience offers valuable urban design insights — especially when viewed from differing vantage points. This issue also provides two offerings of Research and

Debate, both of which carry on a discussion started by the late Michael Brill in our Fall 2001 issue. There are twelve pages of Portfolio by one of America's foremost architectural photographers; a provocative Speaking of Places; and a Dispatch from a conference which helped improve the research base for both the New Urbanism and Smart Growth movements. We conclude with a Forum section looking into two innovative courthouse spaces created by GSA. —DM

A collage of views looking north along First Street in San Jose, 1950s and now. Photos courtesy of San Jose Redevelopment Agency (SJRA).