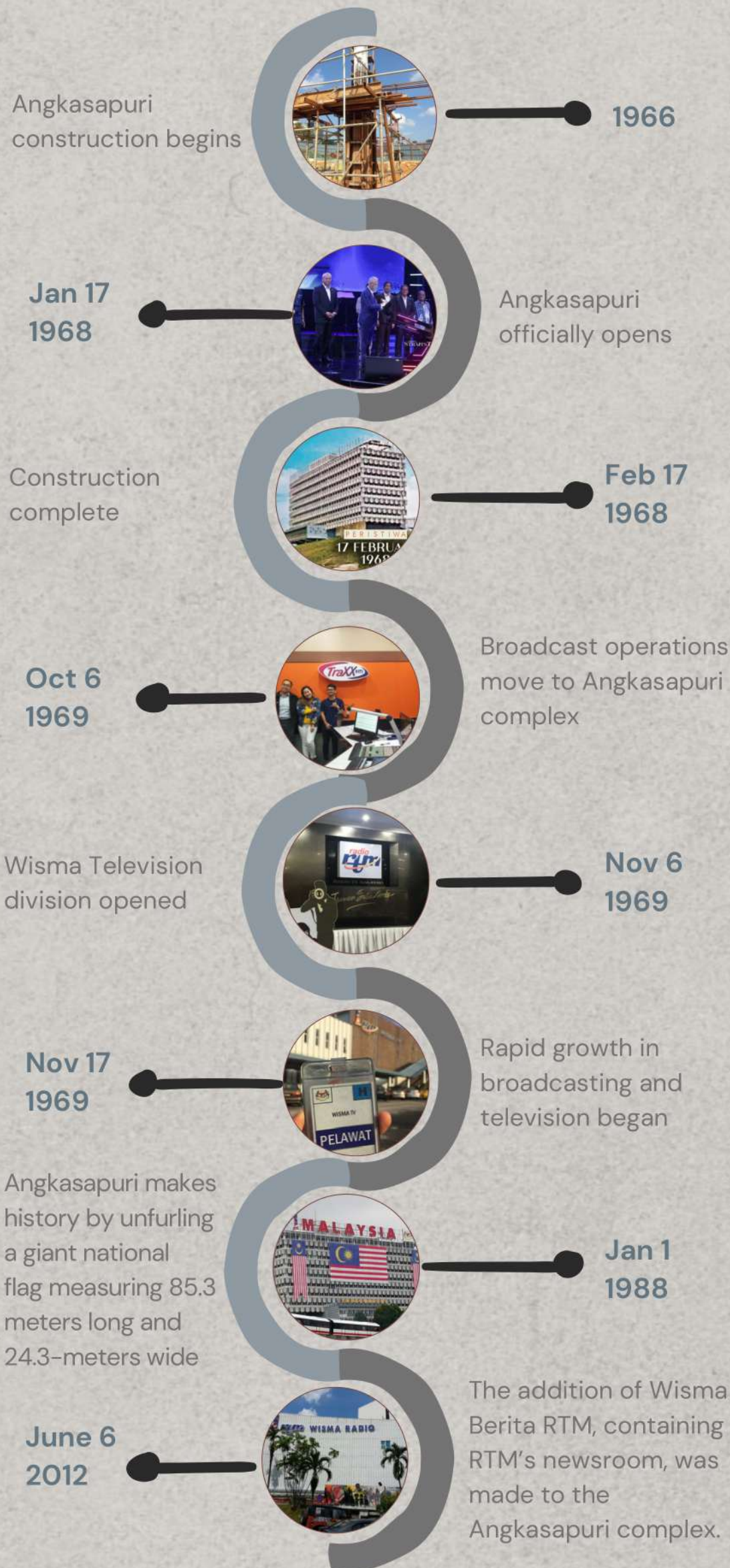


# WISMA ANGKASAPURI

## History of Angkasapuri



## The Radio Revolution

Angkasapuri is the main governmental building for Malaysia's Ministry of Information, and it is also the headquarters for Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) in Kuala Lumpur. It is an iconic landmark in Kuala Lumpur and has been a center of broadcasting excellence for several decades. The building is famous for its **International style** and its Malay architectural influence.



## The Architect



**Nicholas Pappas**, a Canadian architect, is the founder and senior partner of N.J. Pappas (an architectural and engineering consulting firm). He is the first chief engineer of International McCurdy Radio Industries, Limited, Toronto.

In 1944, he joined the engineering division of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which is also known as CNC. He then became a supervising engineer in 1951. In 1952, he received his degree in physics from Sir George Williams University, Montreal, and later completed his studies there. In the following year, he then left the CBC for private industry. In 1965, he started his own private engineering practice as a one-man operation in Montreal Suburb.

## Architectural Style

**International Style** used steel, reinforced concrete, and glass due to new building technology, making masonry outdated. It featured functional designs with clean lines, plain surfaces, and maximized floor space.



Plain surfaces



Rectilinear



Transparency



Proportions



Smooth Facade

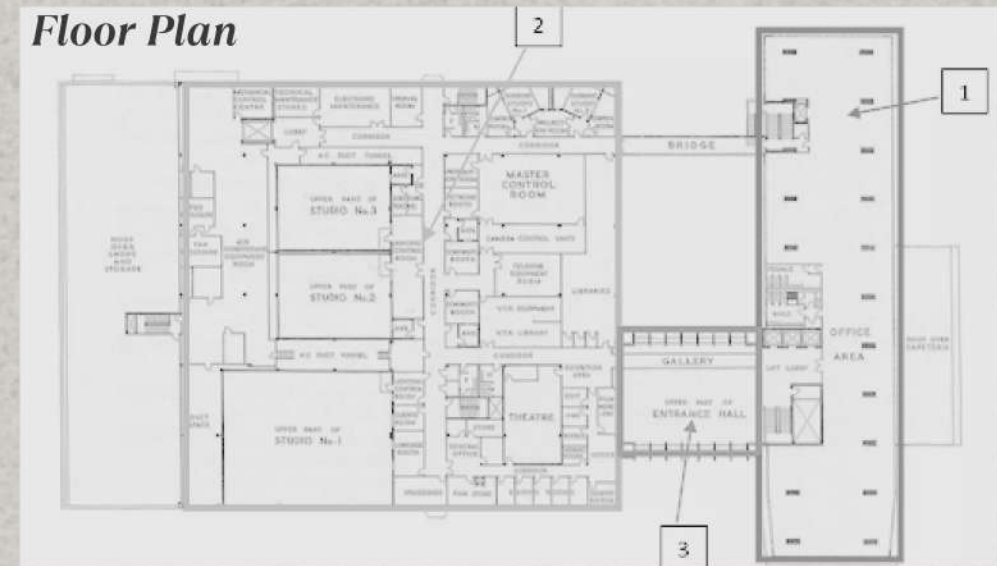


Curvilinear

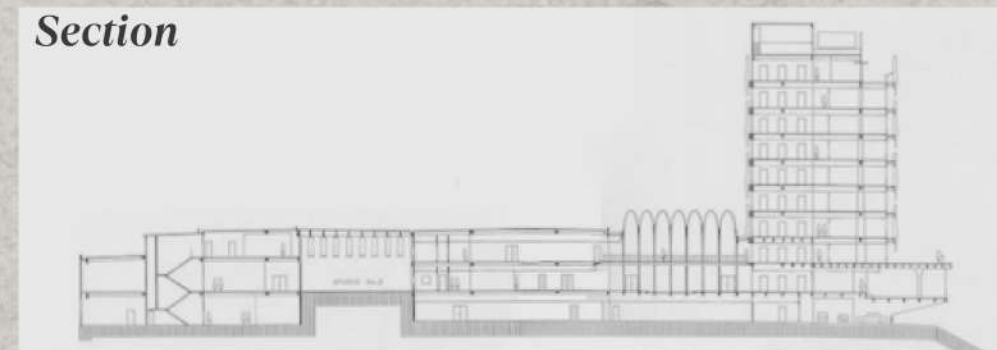
## Architectural Layout

The architectural layout of Wisma Angkasapuri is designed to accommodate various broadcasting functions while also providing a welcoming public space for visitors. The building is mainly divided into three (3) parts: the Administration Tower, the Entrance Hall and Television Room.

### Floor Plan



### Section



Overall, this layout emphasises efficiency, order, and flexibility. The careful arrangement of spaces and functions ensures a smooth and efficient workflow for the building's occupants. It is a testament to the diverse architectural heritage of Malaysia, combining traditional elements with modern technology to create a dynamic complex for broadcasting and media production.

## Construction & Materials

The building uses **reinforced** and **precast concrete**, **tinted glass**, **aluminium**, and **ceramic tiles**.

**Reinforced concrete** is used for durability and has **steel bars** to resist stress. **Precast concrete** components are made in factories for easier assembly. **Tinted glass windows** and **aluminium framing** reduce heat from sunlight. **Ceramic tiles** are used for cladding, flooring, and lining curved edges. **Unglazed tiles** are used for exterior walkways, while **glazed tiles** enhance interior aesthetics.

## Architectural Elements

### Facade

International Style used steel, reinforced concrete, and glass due to new building technology, making masonry outdated. It featured

### Form

The form of Angkasapuri is characterised by a modernist style, with clean lines and geometric shapes. Influenced by the concept of functionalism, one of the principles of this architecture style.

### Pilotis

Vertical columns called pilotis support the building above the ground. The columns, some with grid-shaped tile detail, built of reinforced concrete, and taper towards the base.

### Roof

The concrete and steel barrel vaulted sloping roof has a dynamic, sculptural aspect that distinguishes it from other buildings in Kuala Lumpur.

### Ceiling

The concave ceiling creates coves which start from the main wall. Hexagonal panels are organised in a grid pattern and hung from the ceiling by metal rods in the Angkasapuri's main lobby space.

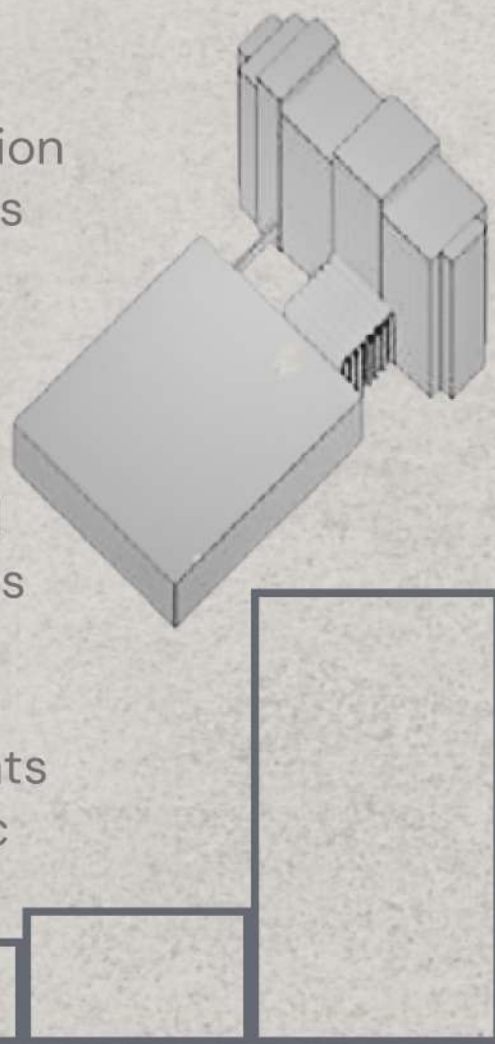
### Ornamentation

Traditional Malay architecture can also be seen throughout the building with the detailed ornamentation done with detailed metal work as well as wood carvings.

## Organisation Analysis

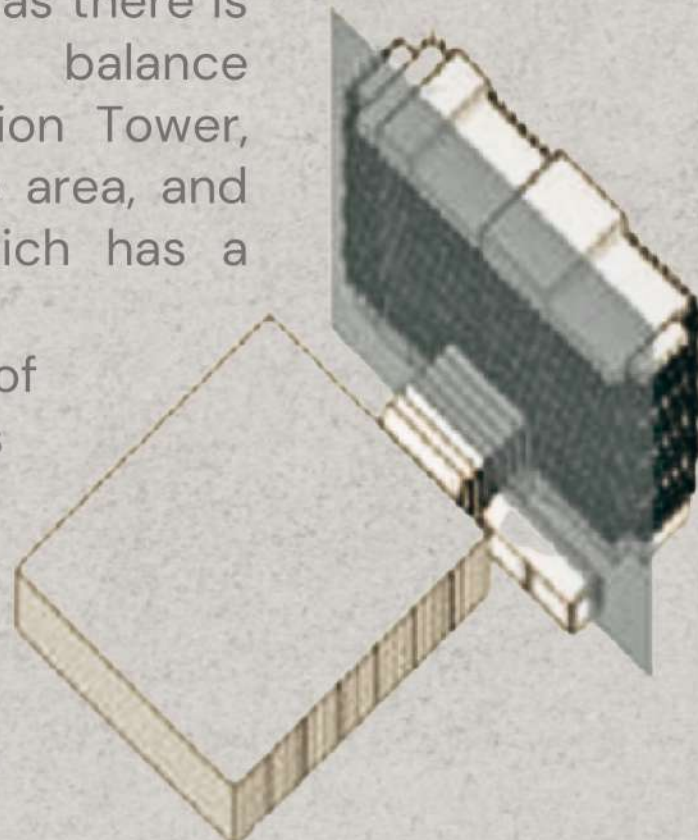
### Hierarchy

The tall height of the Administration Tower allows for an iconic view, as well as contributes to its functionality as a broadcasting tower. Based on the diagrams, hierarchy is found in the careful arrangement of the buildings and floors, set in a way that maximises design function and reflects the different degrees of importance. Overall, this arrangement highlights the functional, formal or symbolic roles each section plays in the building.



### Symmetry & Balance

The overall form of the building is considered asymmetrical, as there is a clear asymmetrical balance between the Administration Tower, which has a smaller base area, and the Television Room, which has a much larger base area. However, the great height of the Administration Tower's 10-storeys effectively counterbalances the Television Room's mere height of 3 storeys. Thus, there is a balance in terms of visual weightage.



### Geometry

The rhythmic pattern of rectangular shapes, while also an efficient use of space, creates a sense of order and symmetry within the building. The floor plan of the building comprises 3 rectangles, with rectangular rooms on the interior. The office areas of the Television Room are based on a grid organisation, in which the addition and subtraction of portions from the space are required to suit the needs and functions of a particular space, thus conveying a sense of geometrical balance.

