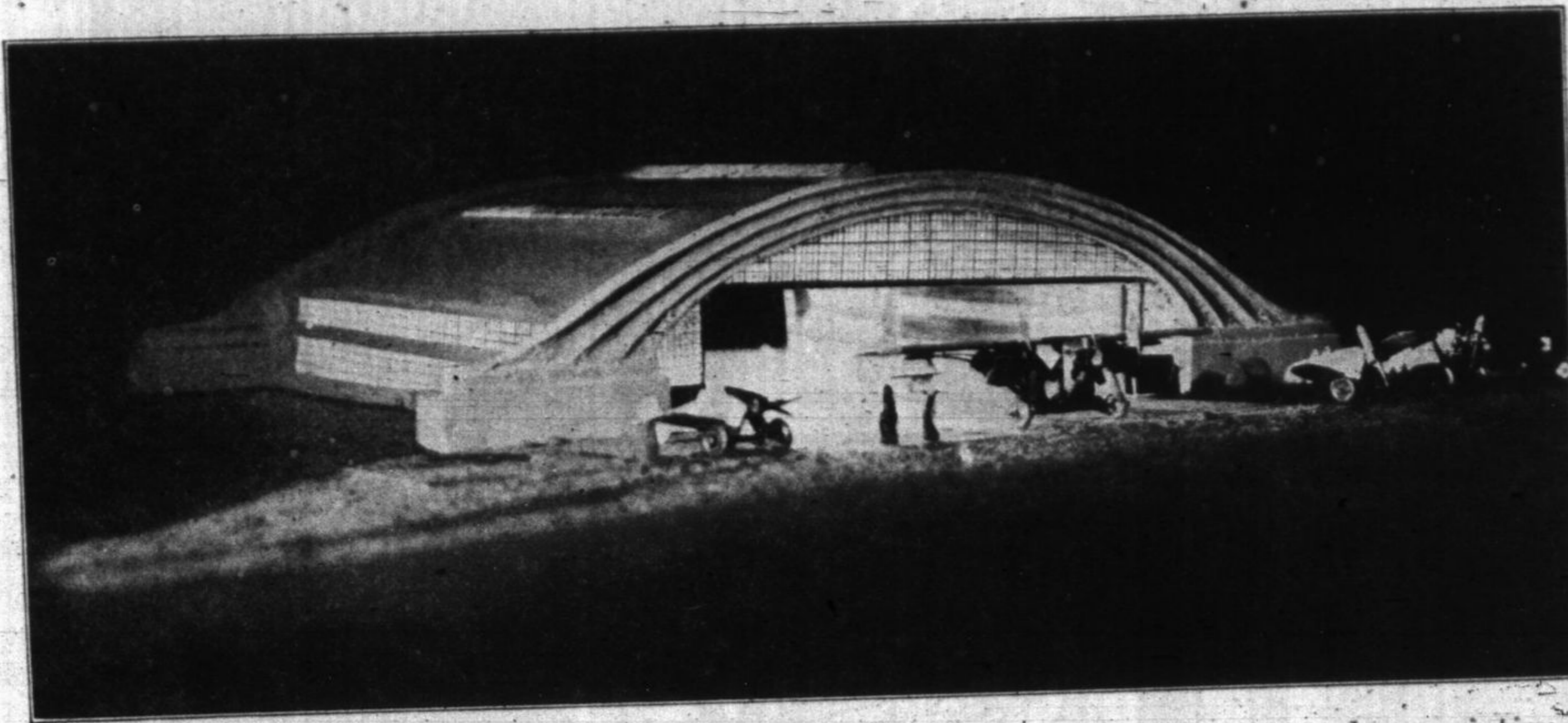


Proposed Hangar for North Shore Airport, "Sky Harbor."



Hangar to be constructed at Sky Harbor, airport west of Glencoe. Part of a modern aviation project that is being furthered by a group of Chicago business men. This hangar will house the planes of the corporation as well as private and commercial planes visiting Sky Harbor.

TRACE OF EARLIEST CIVILIZATION FOUND

The world's earliest civilization was founded some time shortly before 4000 B.C., is the conclusion reached by archaeologists of the Field Museum-Oxford university joint expedition to Mesopotamia, now conducting its sixth season of operations on the site of the ancient city of Kish which was founded immediately after the great flood described in the Bible.

This is the substance of a report from Professor Stephen Langdon, director of the expedition, made public today by Stephen C. Simms, director of Field Museum of Natural History.

The first few weeks of the present season, Prof. Langdon writes, have been devoted to hydraulic excavations below the modern water level, reached in last year's work, to virgin soil. Through these operations the expedition's archaeologists have now established a scientific classification of the various periods from the beginning of civilization upwards to the Neo-Babylonian period, marked by the great temple of Nabunidus at the end of the sixth century, Langdon reports.

"This remarkably well-preserved temple," the report continues, "which in parts still preserves the cornice of its western walls, now stands on the verge of a deep cavity. 14 meters below the pavement of the temple, where the last king of Babylonia took refuge from the Medes, the ruins of plano-convex brick walls now appear inundated by the risen water level of Mesopotamia, on the site said to have been the place where Kish was founded immediately after the Flood. Apparently the water level has risen about nine feet since that time.

"In this lowest stratum, now below water level, the same monochrome and polychrome painted ware is being found as at Jemdet Nasr, (another ancient city 17 miles to the northeast, in which the expedition has conducted excavations). There is also the same deep red ware as at Jemdet Nasr, but also fine black ware, and some beautifully-made incised black pottery. The civilization at Jemdet Nasr could be dated at a minimum date

3500 B. B., by the pictographic inscriptions found there. So large is the number of these tablets and so certain the identification of the signs with the classical Sumerian signs that they can be largely translated and definitely read as Sumerian.

"So primitive is the script of these first attempts in writing that the verb is not inflected and the noun not declined. Moreover, it is now clear that the proto-Sumerian people, who are the real founders of Kish and the primitive cities of central Mesopotamia are really Elamites.

Beginning of Civilization

"From the depth of this stratum at Kish, now completely soaked with the risen water of the whole country, it seems obvious that a date before 4000 B. C. must be assumed for the founding of the first proto-Sumerian cities of Mesopotamia. From this point upward the field director of excavations, L. C. Watelin, and his assistants T. K. Penniman and Rene Watelin, have been able to determine the ascending periods of history through 58 feet of debris with great precision, aided by inscribed tablets from plain level upward.

Seven Stages

There are seven stages of human history at this, the most ancient great capital in Asia. They have been chronologically and archaeologically identified as follows: Below water level, and 16 to 19 meters below mound level, the earliest period between about 4200 and 3500 B. B.; 13 to 16 meters below mound level, the brick tomb era, coming down to about 3200 B. B.; next higher, a thin layer of stamped earth laid over the ruins of the great Sumerian age, also about 3200 B. C.; above the last, a layer of a period of decadent civilization, marked broken shissueScmCc8& 3000 B. C.; next higher, a red stratum rich in gold, silver, precious stones, pottery, copper, and inscribed tablets, and containing stage towers in plano-convex bricks, fixed definitely at 3000-2800 B. C.; then still higher, a deep stratum five meters thick in which the ruins of the Sargonic period prevail, confused with later debris of the Hamurabi and Cassite period, 2800-1200 B. C.; and finally, above the last, lie the vast ruins of the Neo-Babylonian empire.

"Sculptures are beginning to appear which undoubtedly represent the period of the mighty kings of Kish, who ruled the land for centuries and made their capital a byword for temporal power in the early days of Sumerian history. We are therefore at last upon very solid archaeological ground in Mesopotamian excavation, confirming or correcting what was known from the equally deep series of strata at Nippur. The expedition hopes now to find material which will make possible tracing the religion and political history of the Sumerians."

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