The Rio Salado Project is a concept for solving flood control problems in the Salt River bed in ways that anticipate and encourage optimum development of the more than 20,000 acres of prime urban land thus made secure along the river's forty-mile course from Granite Reef to the Gila River. Initiated in the College of Architecture at Arizona State University in the fall of 1966, it has been carried on since the fall of 1969 by the Valley Forward Association and the Maricopa Association of Governments. This is the Rio Salado story up to the fall of 1972.