

# Native corporations active in Fairbanks downtown upgrade

Two Native corporations are likely to play a key role in Fairbanks' plans for downtown renovation. Doyon Ltd. has plans for a hotel and convention center, with parking garage, while Cook Inlet Region, Inc. is studying the conversion of the historic old Federal Building/Court House to office space. Both projects would fit nicely into the larger complex of ideas being discussed by the

Borough and downtown property owners to upgrade the center of the city.

One of the plans under consideration by the borough and the Fairbanks Downtown Association is the concept of a town square. This idea would tie together plans of individual investors such as Doyon and Cook Inlet Region, and give the whole area a focus of interest.

Doyon has budgeted

\$300,000 for a feasibility study of a new hotel/convention center/parking garage in the downtown area. Plans are not firmed up for the exact facility, because the borough also has plans for a parking garage, and there is a rival private enterprise hotel/convention center plan in the mill. Final recommendations of the feasibility study will likely await more definite downtown area projections.

Cook Inlet Region Inc. is owner of the old Federal Building/Court House, a property is acquired under the surplus federal property provisions of Section 3(e) of ANCSA. Work on the development plan to renovate this historic edifice and convert it to office space has been begun by GDM & Associates, a Fairbanks architectural firm. Plans call for a completion date sometime in the summer of 1982.