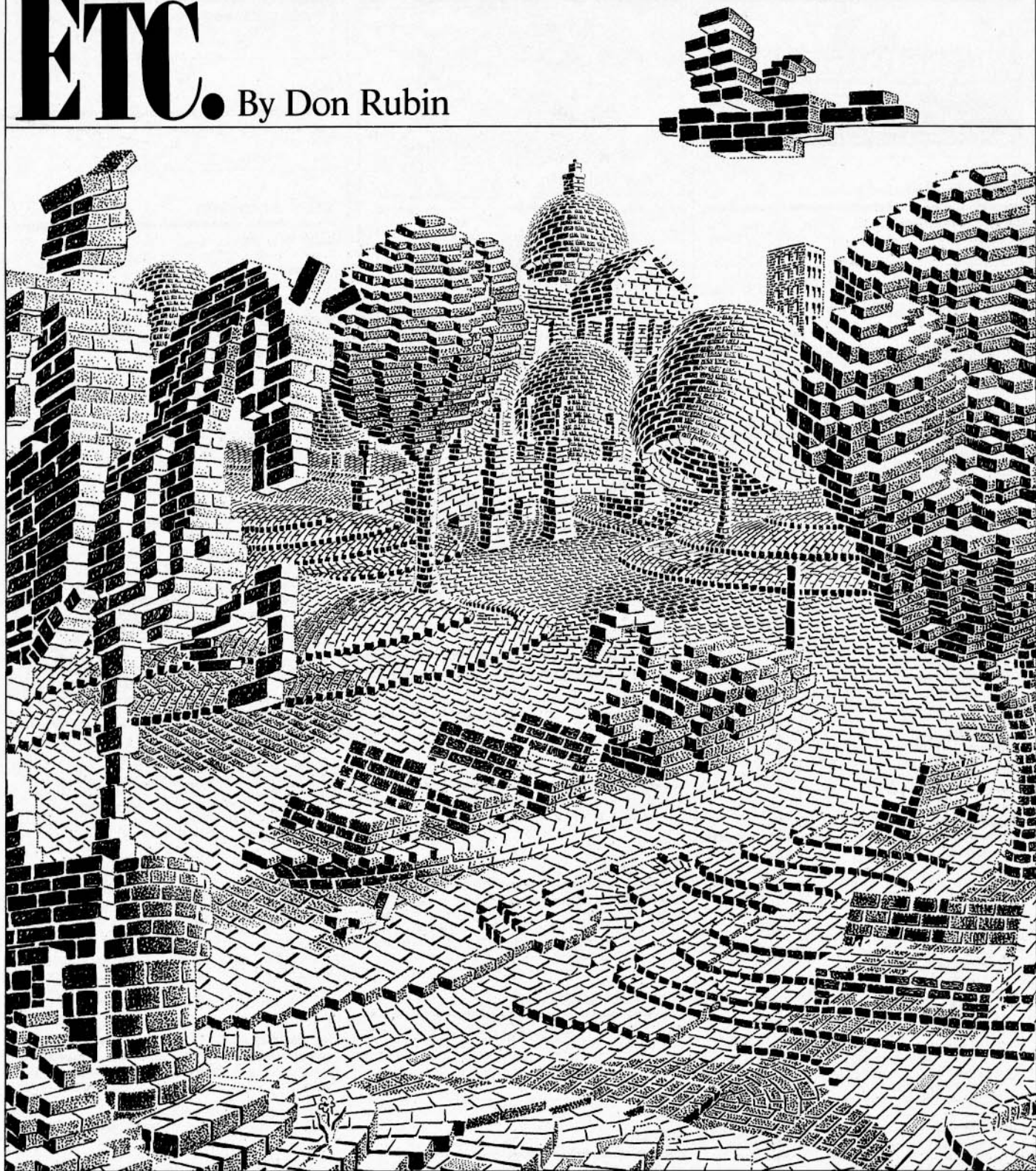


# ETC.

By Don Rubin



## Like a Brick State House

You can do *anything* in Boston, provided you do it in brick.

Bricks are to Boston what water is to Atlantis.

There are 1.5 million bricks—more than nine acres of little red clay blocks—in City Hall Plaza alone. Parts of Downtown Cross-

ing are made entirely of brick. Not just the buildings and the sidewalks, mind you, but the *streets* as well. Like a surrealist painting.

“The Freedom Trail? Oh, just follow the bricks.”

Landlords in Boston raise rents for exposing brick walls our grandparents cov-

ered up. As though there wasn't enough of the stuff *outside*.

Boston, the home of the trowel and the hod . . .

Two hundred years from today, folks will wonder why we did it, how we let it happen.