



CHRIS THELEN/STAFF

Foreman Andres Corral (left), of Roadrunner Construction Inc., and general contractor Michael Bogue, of MDH Builders Inc., look over blueprints during construction of the 113-room Value Place extended-stay hotel on River Watch Parkway.

# Inns offer plenty of room for travelers

By Laura Youngs  
Staff Writer

All along Interstate 20, hotels are popping up like wildflowers.

With several projects already in the works, a \$5 million, three-story full-service suite hotel, funded by a group of area physicians, has broken ground and is scheduled to open by fall 2007.

Completion of the 72-room Comfort Suites off River Watch Parkway, just east of the Microtel Inn and Suites at Exit 200, is set to coincide with the debut of The Villages at Riverwatch retail center.

Om Duggal, a developer and hotel manager, said that with the new mall and the many restaurants, guests will have everything they need.

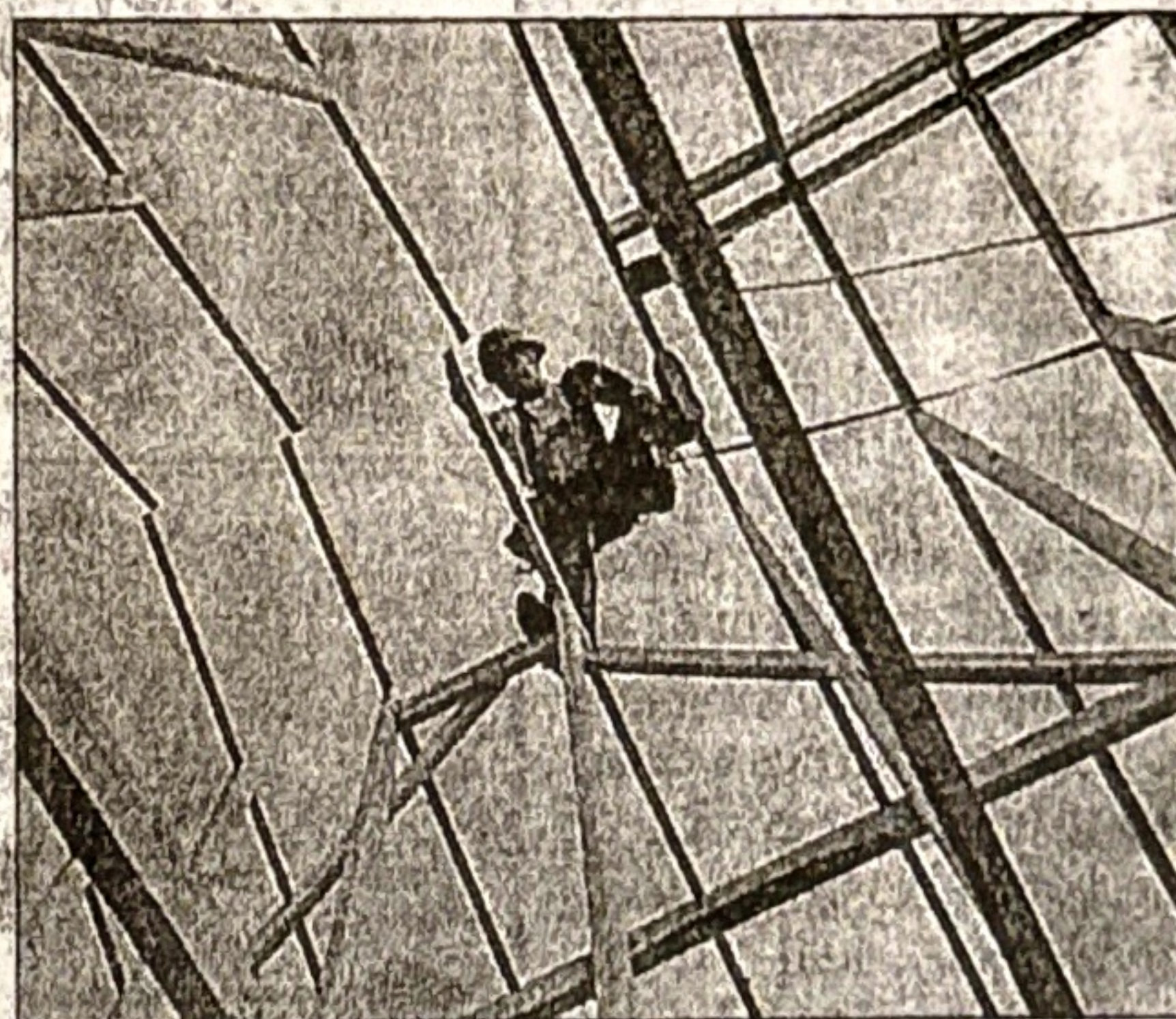
Starting at \$79 a night, Comfort Suites will have a sauna and spa, and each room will be equipped with a plasma television and a computer, Mr. Duggal said.

And just a stone's throw away, an extended-stay hotel, Value Place, is being built.

Michael Bogue, the general contractor for MDH Builders Inc., which is overseeing the \$4 million project, said the 113-room hotel should be ready by the end of January.

With weekly rates starting at \$169, rooms in the three-story hotel will include a kitchenette and furnishings for long-term stays, Mr. Bogue said.

He said that another, 105-room Value Place, near the intersection of Gordon Highway and



Construction worker Gavio Gosalez of Roadrunner Construction works on the frame of the roof for Value Place. The project is expected to be finished in January.

Bobby Jones Expressway, will be finished by mid-February.

The Comfort Suites and Value Place will complement two other hotels on the same corner off the parkway, including a recently finished Baymont Inn & Suites and Mr. Duggal's 2-year-old Microtel.

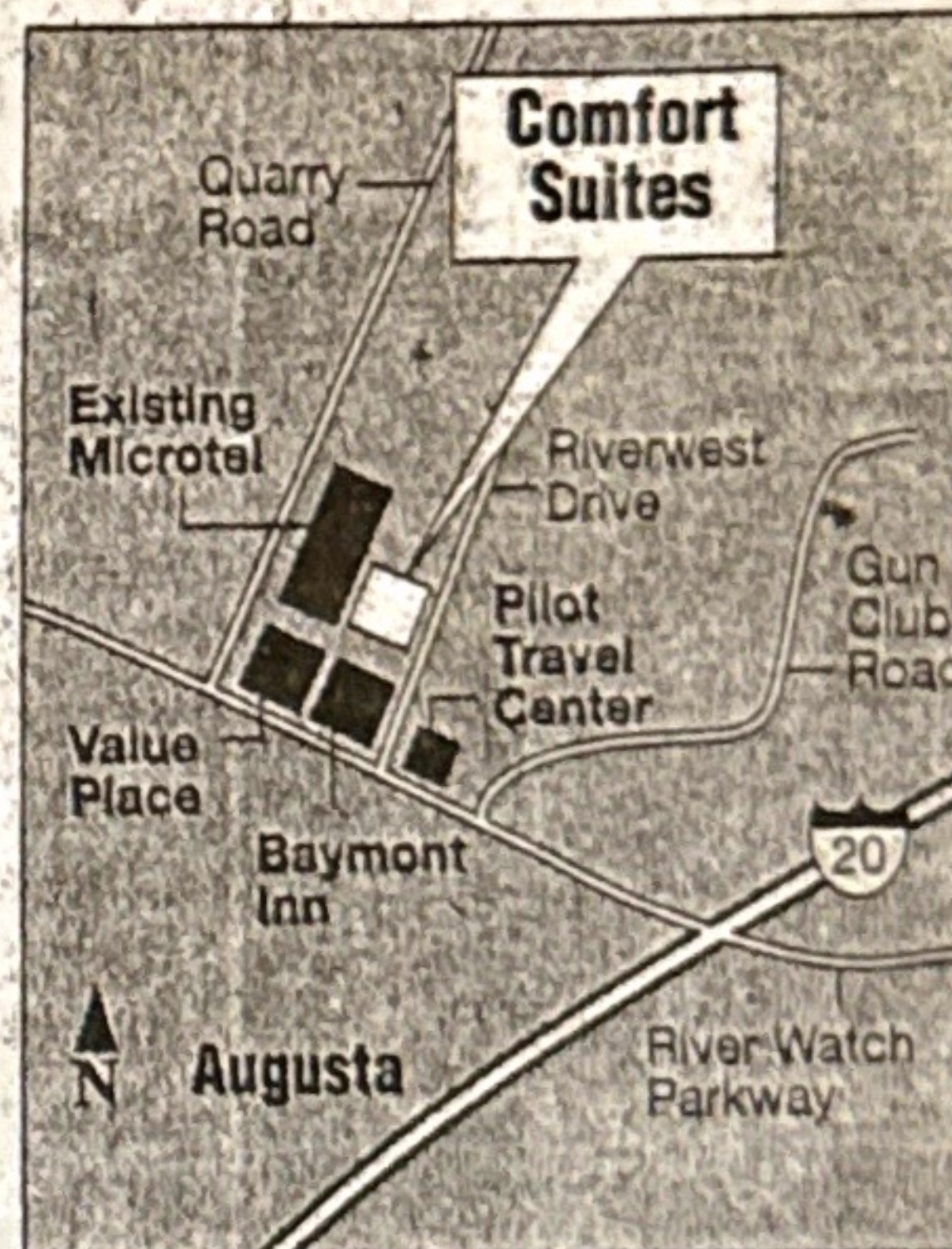
The selection will offer weary travelers a variety of prices and hotel options.

"They've got the whole choice right here," Mr. Bogue said.

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## New hotel locations

The 72-room Comfort Suites off River Watch Parkway is slated to open in fall 2007. A Value Place hotel is also scheduled to be built, and a Value Place extended-stay hotel is scheduled to open at the end of February.



STAFF

## OTHER PROJECTS

**CANDLEWOOD SUITES:** Set to open September 2007 off Claussen Road near River Watch Parkway; 80 rooms

**HILTON GARDEN INN:** Set to open April 2007 at the site of the former Augusta Inn & Conference Center; 114 rooms

**SHERATON:** Set to open April 2008 at the site of the former Augusta Inn & Conference Center; 150 rooms

Source: Hotel developers, The Augusta Chronicle archives.