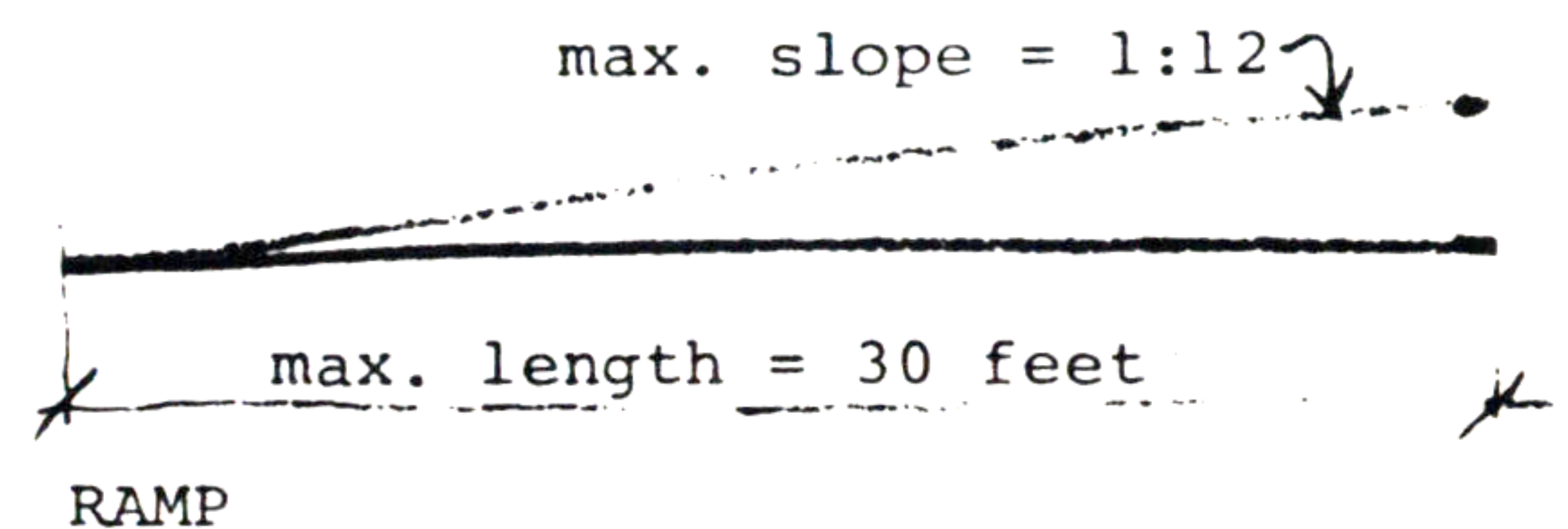


No Stairs for the Infirm

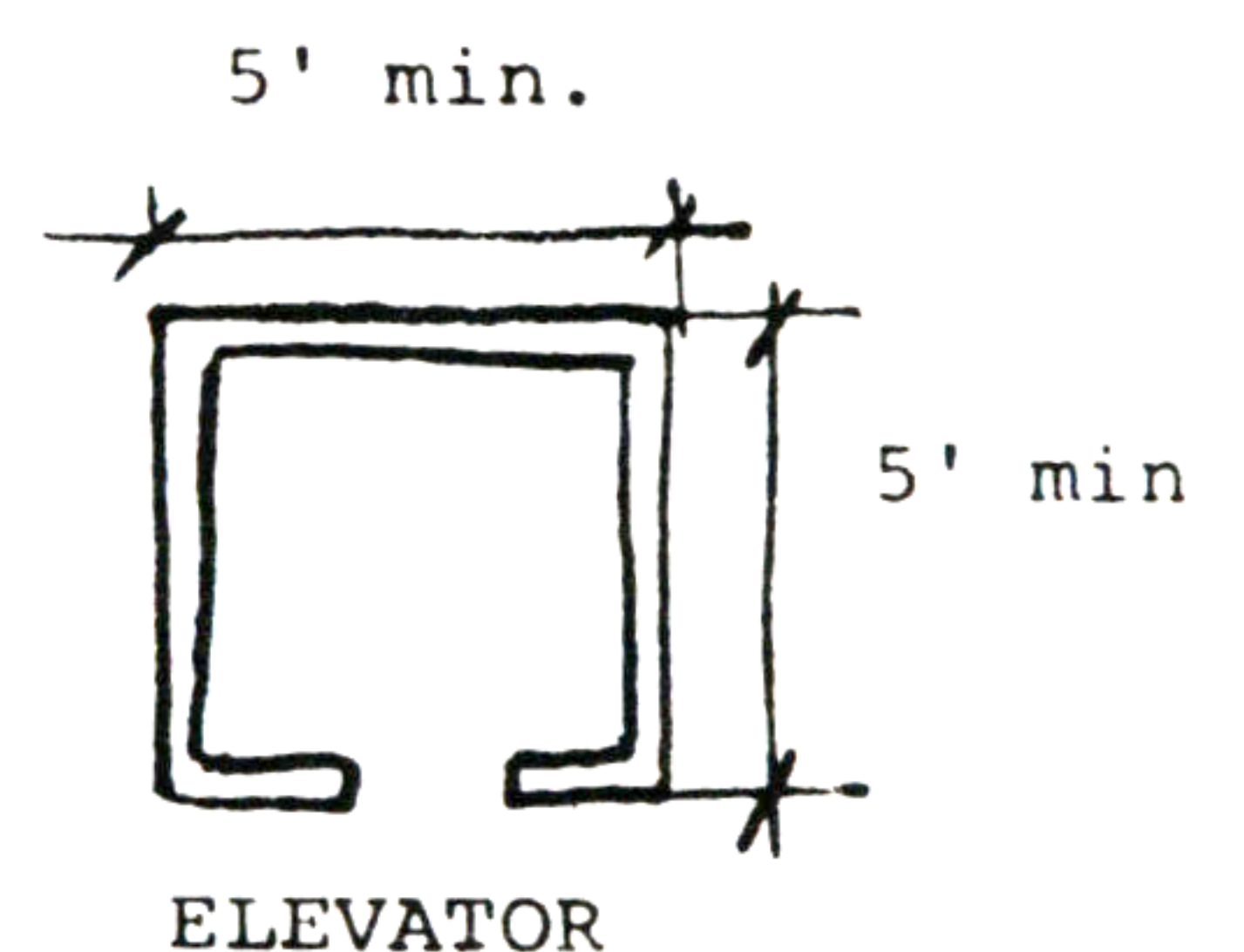
If you're in a wheelchair or have difficulty climbing stairs, many public places aren't open to you.

Everyone, including the old, and the handicapped, must be able to use all the public parts of any public place or building. Thus, there must be no public spaces accessible only by stair.

According to *John Callender's Time Saver Standards, 4th Edition, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1966, page 1198 and 1199*, the critical case is that of people in wheelchairs — most handicapped people can maneuver spaces that the wheelchair can. Elevators should be at least 5 feet square for wheelchairs to turn around in. Ramps should have a maximum slope of 1 in 12 or 8.33%, and should not be longer than 30 feet between level platforms.



Therefore: Put ramps, with maximum slopes of 1 in 12, or elevators, at least 5 feet square, in every public place or building with a change of level, so that all public parts of the place or building are open to the old and handicapped.



No Stairs for the Infirm

By: Christopher Alexander, Sara Ishikawa, Murray Silverstein.

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This pattern is tentative. If you have any evidence to support or refute its current formulation, please send it to the Center for Environmental Structure, P.O. Box 5156, Berkeley, California 94705; we will add your comments to the next edition.