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Cultural Resources Letter Report for the Submission of Mitigation Documentation Related to the Removal of Four Buildings and Multiple Concrete Foundations in Mercury, Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, Nevada

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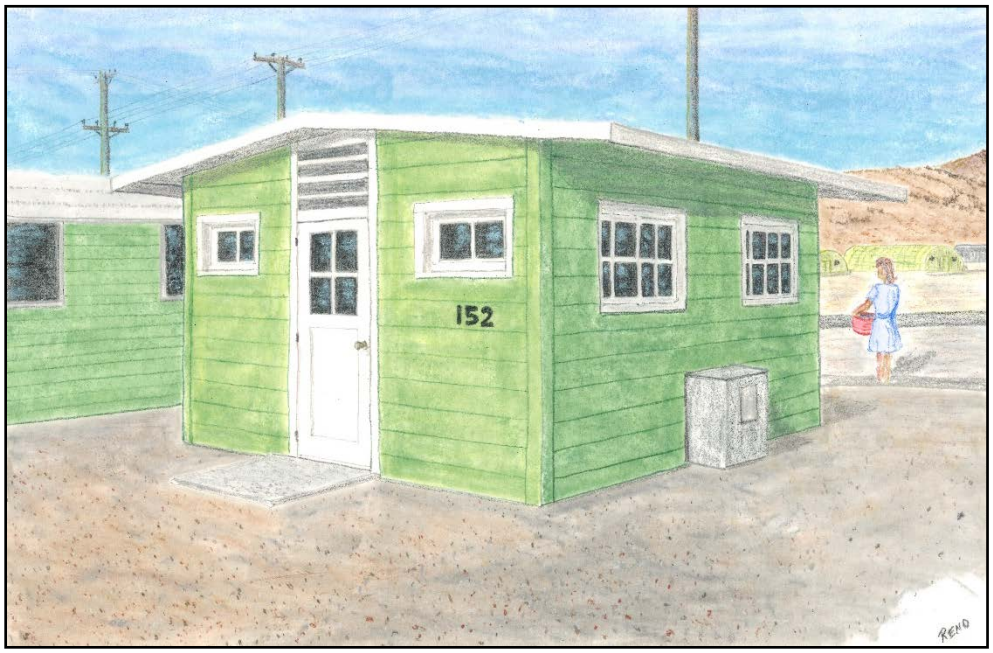
DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORT SR070918-1
PROJECT NO. 1810123

Evaluation of 1950s-Era Architectural Resources in Blocks 10, 11, and 17, Mercury, Area 23, Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, Nevada



Prepared by

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September 2018

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Cover Illustration: Women's Laundry, Building 23-152 as it originally appeared in the 1950s with Women's Dormitory, Building 23-106 at left. Reconstruction by Ron Reno, 2018.

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Prepared by

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Prepared for

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September 2018

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) plans to modernize the Mercury town site at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) in Nye County, Nevada, to meet current and future National Weapons Science, Global and Homeland Security Programs, and Environmental Management mission requirements. These plans, including anticipated demolitions, consolidations, and rebuilding at Mercury, are considered an undertaking subject to review under Title 54 U.S.C. § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Title 54 U.S.C. § 300101, et seq., and its implementing regulations, 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

The Desert Research Institute (DRI) completed an architectural survey of Mercury. This effort resulted in the identification, recording, and evaluation of the Mercury Historic District (Nevada State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] Resource No. D230), including the identification of its contributing components (Reno et al. 2018). This district was recommended eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP or National Register) under Criteria A and C but was unevaluated under Criteria B and D at that time. The Mercury Historic District contains 154 individual landscapes, buildings, and structures. Of these resources, DRI recommends all except one as contributing elements of the historic district during its period of significance corresponding to nuclear testing from 1951 through 1992. During most of the Cold War, the land now called the NNSS was formerly the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

This report is concerned with evaluating resources dating to the 1950s in Blocks 10, 11, and 17 in Mercury prior to the proposed demolition of 22 resources in Blocks 10 and 11 as a phase of the larger modernization program mentioned above. Although the Mercury Historic District as a whole is eligible to the National Register, further evaluation of these properties as detailed in this report indicates that none are individually eligible under any of the Secretary of Interior's Significance Criteria, either at the national or local level.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Most architectural descriptions and the major portion of this report were completed by Ron Reno, PhD, RPA, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Architectural Historian, Historian, and Archaeologist. Reno also has direct knowledge of Mercury during the Cold War from working there through most of the 1980s as an archaeologist with the Desert Research Institute (DRI). Historical research, form preparation, and report preparation were completed by Cheryl Collins, with assistance from Susanne Rowe and Megan Stueve, all of whom are archaeologists at DRI. We also thank Mona Reno, MLS, for additional historical research. Collins did GIS for the project and prepared the maps, and JD Lancaster created building layout drawings. High-resolution digital photography was taken by Steven Carragher, Mission Support and Test Services (MSTS), with some supplementary photography by King and others. The historical background sections are revised versions of earlier work by King (Reno and King 2016), who is also responsible for project administration and quality control.

Carrie Stewart, National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Officer for the NNSA/NFO served as the program manager overseeing this project. Jacob Huffines, Indirect Support, Facilities Program Manager with MSTS, administered the project for the NNSA/NFO. Tom Folk of MSTS provided on-site logistical support and also shared some of his recollections of the resources from the many years he has worked at the NNSS. James "JT" Treppicione, also of MSTS, assisted with the photography.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Energy, NNSA/NFO anticipates extensive demolitions and alterations of the base camp of Mercury on the NNSS in Nye County, Nevada (Figures 1 and 2) to support the NNSS's changing role in national security and a variety of research projects. Increased use of the NNSS buildings and structures remaining from the 1950s through the early 1990s demonstrate they are insufficient to meet new mission needs and pose significant health and safety risks. They are also inadequately constructed to house new technologies that need to be installed to support mission activities. As a result, many of the historic properties comprising the Mercury Historic District are scheduled for removal and/or rehabilitation. As part of the Mercury Modernization project, Mercury will be reconfigured to a more compact, efficient, modern base that is better suited to perform the evolving missions of the NNSS. This reconfiguration will require (1) the construction of a new, centrally located "campus" of administrative and mission-directed buildings with modern support infrastructure; (2) the repair, upgrade, maintenance, and ongoing custodial support and other improvements of existing infrastructure (where possible); and (3) the demolition of older structures and infrastructure where maintenance and upgrades are not practicable.

The NNSA/NFO has obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800) to consider the effects of its actions and undertakings on historically important properties and to develop and implement strategies to minimize or mitigate adverse effects to historic values. The NNSA/NFO has determined that the Mercury Modernization undertaking will have adverse effects on historic structures that are part of the Mercury Historic District, a group of properties and the surrounding area that together are eligible for listing in the National Register. The NNSA/NFO has consulted with the Nevada SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding the Mercury Modernization undertaking and has developed the Mercury Programmatic Agreement (Mercury PA) with the SHPO that specifies the approach that NNSA/NFO will take to meet its statutory obligations toward historic preservation.

The Mercury Historic District (SHPO Resource #D230) is located in Sections 10-12, 14, and 15, T15S R53E MDBM (projected) in Area 23 of the NNSS. In 2010, the NTS became the NNSS, and will be referred to as such throughout this report as appropriate.

II. RESEARCH DESIGN

Objectives

This architectural resources evaluation was undertaken to comply with requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, for the NNSA/NFO to manage historic resources under its jurisdiction. In particular, it complies with the *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada* (Mercury PA).

Area of Potential Effect

For this phase of the Mercury Modernization undertaking, the NNSA/NFO determined the area of potential effect (APE) for direct effects (hereafter simply referred to as the APE unless otherwise noted) is a 7.5-acre (3.03-hectare) parcel within the Mercury Historic District as identified by an architectural inventory (Reno et al. 2018). The outlines of this district along with the APE for direct effects are shown on Figure 1 and on the aerial photograph in Figure 2.

Equipment staging and temporary storage of demolition materials will be contained within the APE. As specified in the Mercury PA (II.A.1.) this APE also includes a buffer area of at least 25 ft around the perimeter of each element to be demolished or removed. As shown in Figure 4, the APE includes all of Blocks 10 and 11 in the central portion of Mercury. (During the architectural survey to identify the Mercury Historic District, the area was divided into a series of blocks, using streets as boundaries when possible, to assist in discussing sections of the district.) Blocks 10 and 11 are bounded on the north by Ranger Avenue, on the South by Sandstone Avenue, on the east by Jangle Street, and on the west by Teapot Street. The buildings and structures discussed in this report also include properties identical in design to those in Blocks 10 and 11 that were formerly in the northern half of Block 17.

As stated in the Mercury PA (II.B), the APE for indirect effects coincides with the boundary of the Mercury Historic District. This is the area where indirect physical, visual, atmospheric and audible effects on historic properties could diminish the integrity of historic properties for which setting, feeling, and/or association are aspects of integrity. The APE for indirect effects—the boundary of the Mercury Historic District—is also considered the APE for cumulative effects. The Mercury Modernization undertaking includes a multitude of individual actions that will collectively cause incremental and significant impacts to historic properties in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Element Category Identification

The NNSA/NFO and DRI, in consultation with the SHPO, are in the process of developing categories of elements within the Mercury Historic District for Appendix C of the Mercury PA. In the absence of a category list, DRI has recommended the following category assignments for elements in the APE. Standing buildings are being treated as Category I properties. The 23-B, -C,

and -D dorms are arguably elements for which there are several representatives (Category II), but as the buildings will be demolished simultaneously they also represent elements that will have only one representative at the Mercury Historic District and, therefore, might be individually eligible (Category I). Building 23-152 (the laundry) is the only representative of its type in the district and is assigned a Category I designation. NNSA/NFO in consultation with the SHPO has determined the 18 concrete foundations in the APE meet the definition of a Category III element (IV.B.3.). These foundations possess characteristics that are not unique to the Mercury Historic District and commonly occur on other facilities.

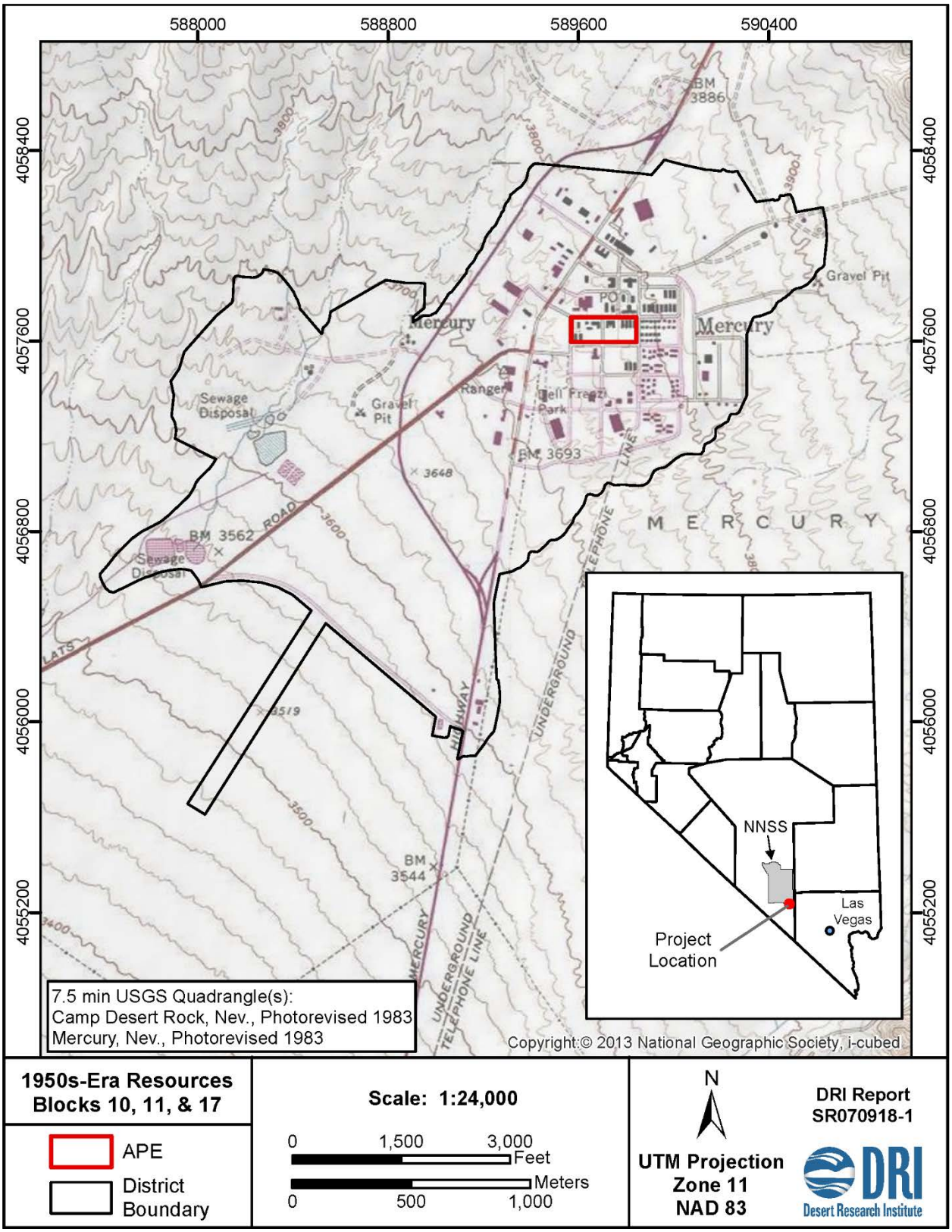


Figure 1. Map showing the APE for the present phase of demolitions within the Mercury Historic.

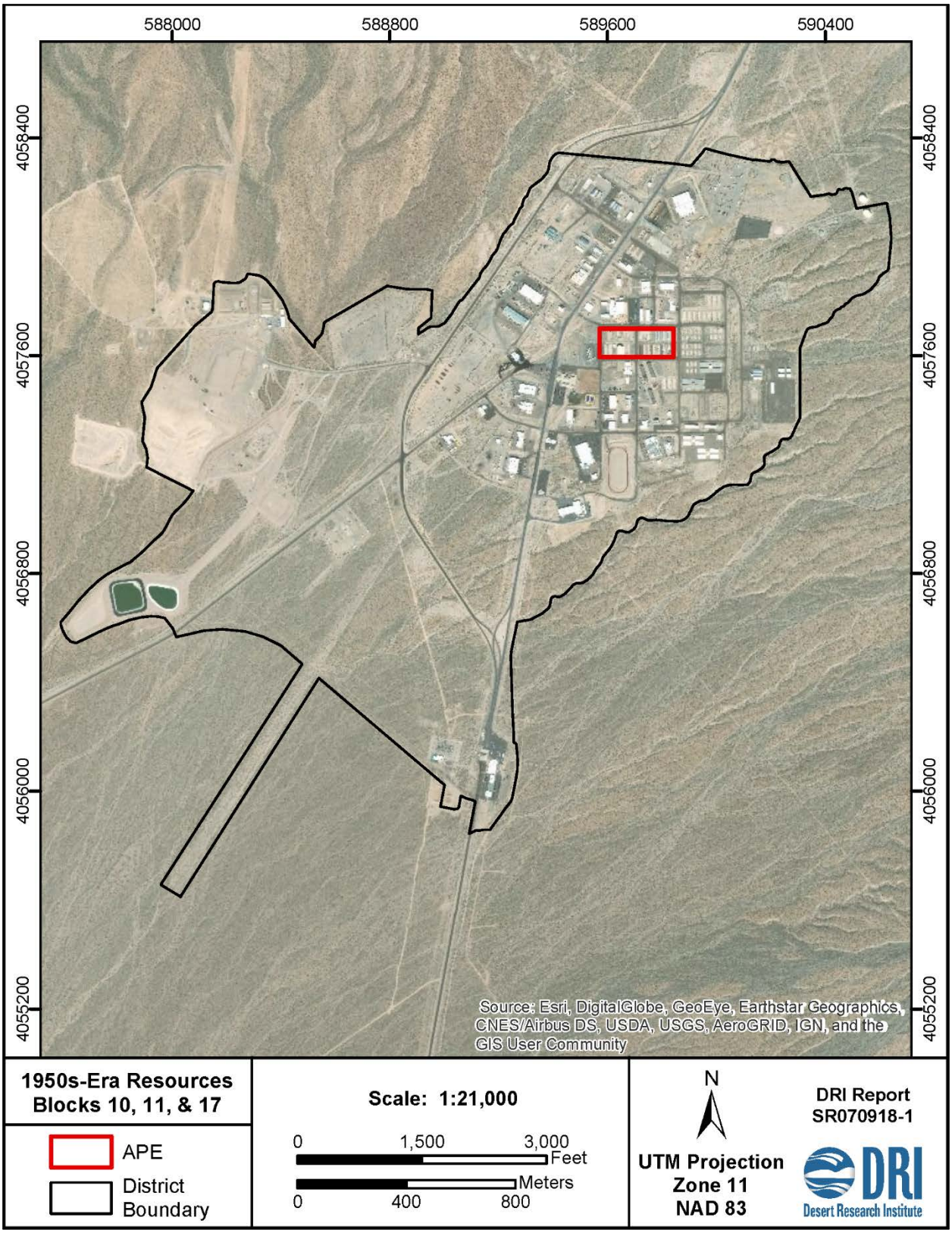


Figure 2. Aerial view of the APE within the Mercury Historic District.

Figure 3. The APE (within red rectangles) facing northwest (top) and southwest (bottom) (on file at the Remote Sensing Laboratory, Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas 2013).

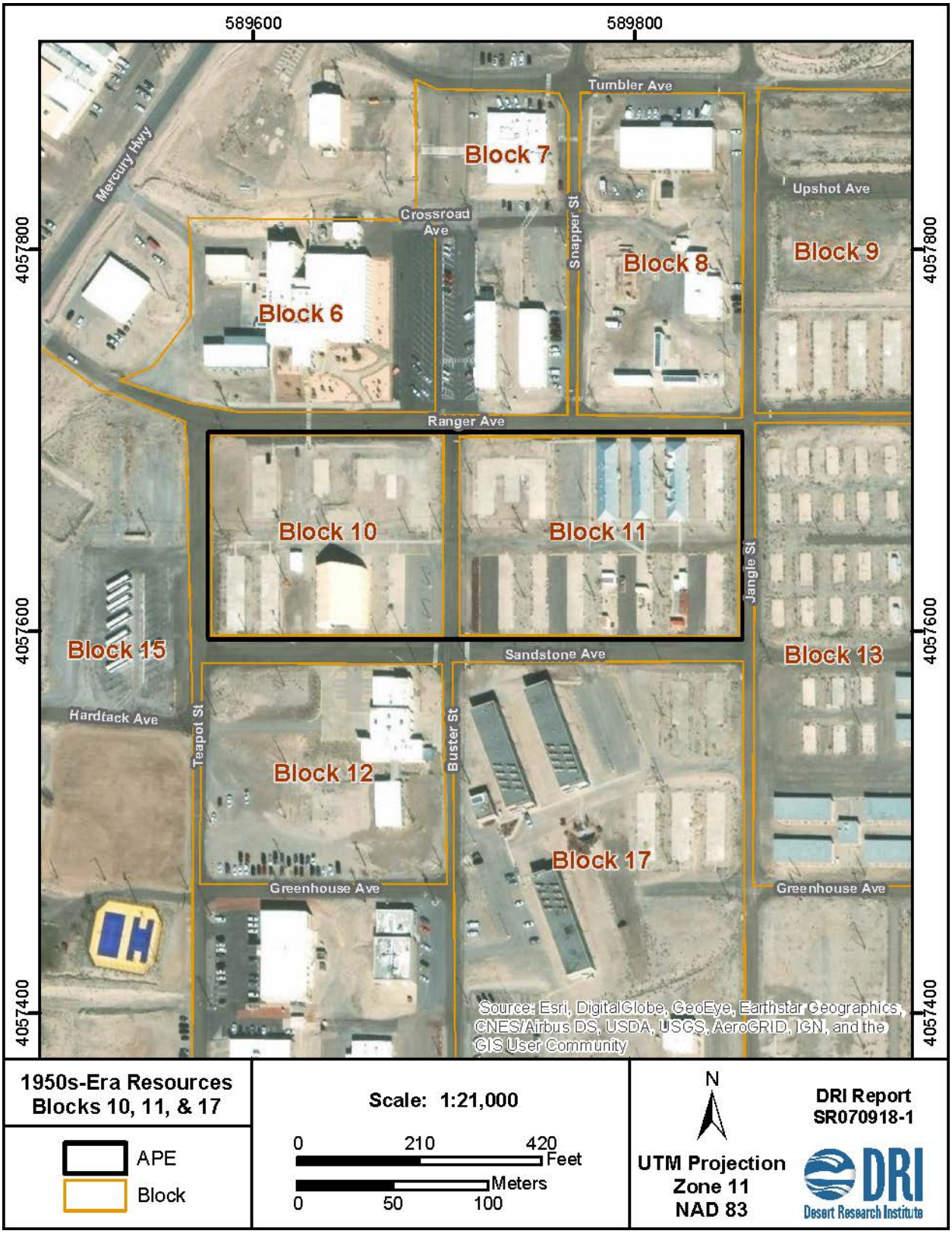


Figure 4. Aerial imagery of the project APE and surrounding area with block designations.

Methods

Field methods, updates to previously submitted documents, and this report were designed to meet requirements in the Mercury PA (VI.A-B) for evaluating Category I elements and to provide descriptions based on archival research of the buildings now only represented by foundations within the project APE.

Buildings and major structures are identified on the NNSS by a prefix indicating the area they are located in (buildings in Area 23 have the prefix 23), followed by a unique identifying number. These numbers were used as field identifiers and are also used when discussing resources in this report because they are tied to existing buildings and major structure documentation extending back through the entire Cold War period.

Additional research on the individual buildings beyond what was accomplished for the original architectural survey was carried out primarily using engineering records maintained at the NNSA/NFO North Las Vegas Facility in order to identify potential sources having information about the interiors of all the buildings and supplemental information about the exteriors of buildings that are no longer present. A representative sample of the multitude of available drawings was recovered from that facility, and a selection was made of those with sufficient informational content to warrant detailed examination. Available copies of the *NTS News* were also reviewed for material of architectural interest. A selection of Mercury maps, aerial photos, and drawings are included in this report.

Building construction dates reported in the architectural survey documentation for most of the properties were obtained from the NNSS GIS Integrated Planning database. In many cases, these dates have been modified based on evidence from other sources, particularly dated air photos and as-built notations on engineering drawings. In the course of our research, it became clear that the construction dates in the NNSS database often were the dates when the design process started, and actual construction frequently took place a year or more later.

The careers of architectural firms that designed the buildings were investigated by checking repository holdings, including SHPO architectural files; a newspaper search; American Institute of Architects (AIA) directories; Ancestry.com; and supplementary sources regarding the principals.

Recording of the existing building interiors was conducted by Ron Reno under the direction of Maureen King from July 9-12, 2018. High-resolution digital color photography of exteriors, interiors, and setting was done by Steven Carragher (MSTS) with the assistance of Maureen King and James Treppicione (MSTS). King also took supplementary digital photos. No interior recording was done as part of the original architectural survey.

In the Mercury PA (VIII.C), it was anticipated that detailed interior recording would normally be done for one representative element of a repetitive class such as the three standing dormitories (23-

B, -C, and -D) found in the APE. Dormitory 23-C was selected as most representative example of the group for detailed interior description.

No further field recording was done at the numerous empty foundations in the APE. Instead, the focus was on reconstructing the building histories from engineering drawings and photos. This information is in the discussion of these buildings in the text below and in updated Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) forms.

All of the resources in the APE are summarized in this document. The full records of our recording effort are in the ARA updates submitted separately to SHPO in a mitigation document package. One of the purposes of this enhanced research, along with further consideration of resources in the context of SHPO consultations, was to complete the partial significance evaluations of these 22 resources in regard to possible individual eligibility to the National Register and to evaluate eligibility under Criteria B and D. The revised significance is discussed at the conclusion of this report.

III. HISTORIC CONTEXT

Natural Setting

Mercury is located on a southwest-facing bajada below the Spotted Range in the northeast corner of Mercury Valley. The center of Mercury is at an elevation of approximately 3,700 ft. Red Mountain towers over Mercury to the north, and the valley is bounded by the Specter Range to the southwest. The Spring Mountains lie to the south. To the northeast is the Mercury Ridge, which shields Mercury from Frenchman Flat. The APE is located in the completely developed center of Mercury

Mercury, the Cold War, and Nuclear Testing at the NNSS

This historic context specifically addresses the relationship between the APE for this specific phase of demolitions within the Mercury Historic District. The district's relation to larger national patterns of historic events known as the Cold War and nuclear testing are detailed in Reno et al. 2018 and will not be repeated here.

The continental nuclear test site has gone through a number of name changes from *South Site, Alternate Test Site B*, *Site Mercury,* and *Nevada Test Site (NTS)* in 1950-51 to *Nevada Proving Grounds* in 1952 and back to *NTS* on January 1955, which remained its name for the rest of the Cold War. The facility was renamed in 2010 and is presently managed as the NNSS.

Mercury is one of two permanent bases established on what is now the NNSS to support nuclear testing. The Area 12 Camp was established near the north end of the site to support tunnel operations in Rainier Mesa and other testing-related activities on Pahute Mesa and Yucca Flat. The much larger base is Mercury, which is a town 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada, toward the southern end of the NNSS. Mercury continues to serve as the principal entrance to the NNSS. It has always provided a wide range of support facilities, including an extensive administrative role. There are various other facilities throughout the NNSS, but they all lack the long-term residential components and the related social and recreational facilities that are found only at Mercury and the former Area 12 Camp.

Like many other government installations, Mercury resembles a typical company town. It is self-contained and established to provide facilities, services, and amenities for personnel working on the site. Architecturally, there are elements similar to other small towns in the United States: administration buildings, infrastructure (airstrip, roads, power, communications, water, and sewer), residential buildings, community support (post office, church, healthcare, and recreation), and transportation corridors. However, unlike any other town, the origin and history of Mercury are inexorably linked to developments during the Cold War and the nuclear testing program from 1951 to 1992. Several other communities scattered around the United States provided support for the development and production of weapons, but Mercury supports the only location in the continental United States where a long series of nuclear explosive tests were undertaken. Over this time span, the town expanded and diversified to accommodate a growing workforce and a year-round testing schedule. Although most of the buildings in Mercury were not integral to nuclear testing mission

requirements, support facilities were critical for operational support and the well-being of the workforce.

Camp Mercury: The Early Years (1951-1962)

Nuclear Testing at what is now the NNSS began with the Ranger Series (January-February 1951) of five airdrop atmospheric tests over Frenchman Flat (NNSA/NFO 2015). This testing program was instituted in so great a hurry that adequate base facilities could not be constructed on the site. Instead, temporary facilities were borrowed or built at Nellis Air Force Base near Las Vegas and at Indian Springs (now Creech) Air Force Base. Contractors established offices in Las Vegas (Fehner and Gosling 2000:52). Following the Ranger Series, the United States Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) moved to establish the area as a permanent proving ground for nuclear weapons testing. The nuclear testing target area was expanded northward from Frenchman Flat to Yucca Flat, and a control point facility was established on a pass over the ridge between the two basins. Originally, a base camp to support the test operations and house personnel was planned for a site eight miles south of the temporary control point in Frenchman Flat. However, because of Department of Defense proposals for additional tests, Frenchman Flat was retained as an operational test area (Fehner and Gosling 2000) and the base camp was built in the present-day location of Mercury. Mercury is protected from testing at Frenchman Flat by an intervening ridge, upwind of all potential testing areas. It is on the most direct route from Las Vegas to the testing areas and only a few miles from the main road from Las Vegas to Tonopah (now US 95).

Mercury's initial design followed a classic Roman military outpost or *castrum*. The design's usual gridiron street pattern aligned arbitrarily on the cardinal points of the compass was not suited to the local topography, which warranted a northwest to southeast orientation. This resulted in the construction of an array of cut-and-fill terraces that were either at ground level or somewhat sunken below grade at the northeast corners and berms. These were sometimes quite tall at the southwest corners. The APE is full of such terraces.

Initially, the camp, named Base Camp Mercury, was planned to provide minimum facilities for two or three test series a year, with a six-week time frame for each test. Design of Mercury was shared between Holmes and Narver (H&N) and Silas Mason Company. Both of these firms would be prominent government contractors throughout the Cold War. The base camp initially included barracks, a mess hall, and administrative buildings. It was designed to accommodate 412 persons at peak periods of use for only 18 weeks a year. By late 1951, these expectations were already obsolete because the camp overflowed with 1,100 residents (Fehner and Gosling 2000:81). During the Operation Buster series of five atmospheric tests (October-November 1951) followed by the Operation Jangle crater and surface tests (November 1951), it quickly became apparent that the minimal facilities were insufficient. In 1951, a $6.7 million construction project was approved to meet the needs of the growing testing program and population (NNSA/NFO 2013b). The AEC expanded the base camp, adding more barracks, a second mess hall, a recreational facility, a warehouse, offices, and laboratory space (Fehner and Gosling 2000). Figure 5 shows a map of Mercury during this early period. On this map, the Mercury Highway is at the upper left, and the

streets have not yet been named. It shows the initial development of the APE which contains all 24 of the first generation of permanent wood-frame dormitories (23-A-Q; 23-V-Y; 23-103-105). It also contains the cluster of frame administrative and support buildings (23-100-103, 127) facing what would soon be called Ranger Avenue to memorialize the first series of nuclear tests at the Nevada site. The large Quonset hut that housed the Mercury Theater (23-125) was also part of this initial phase of construction.

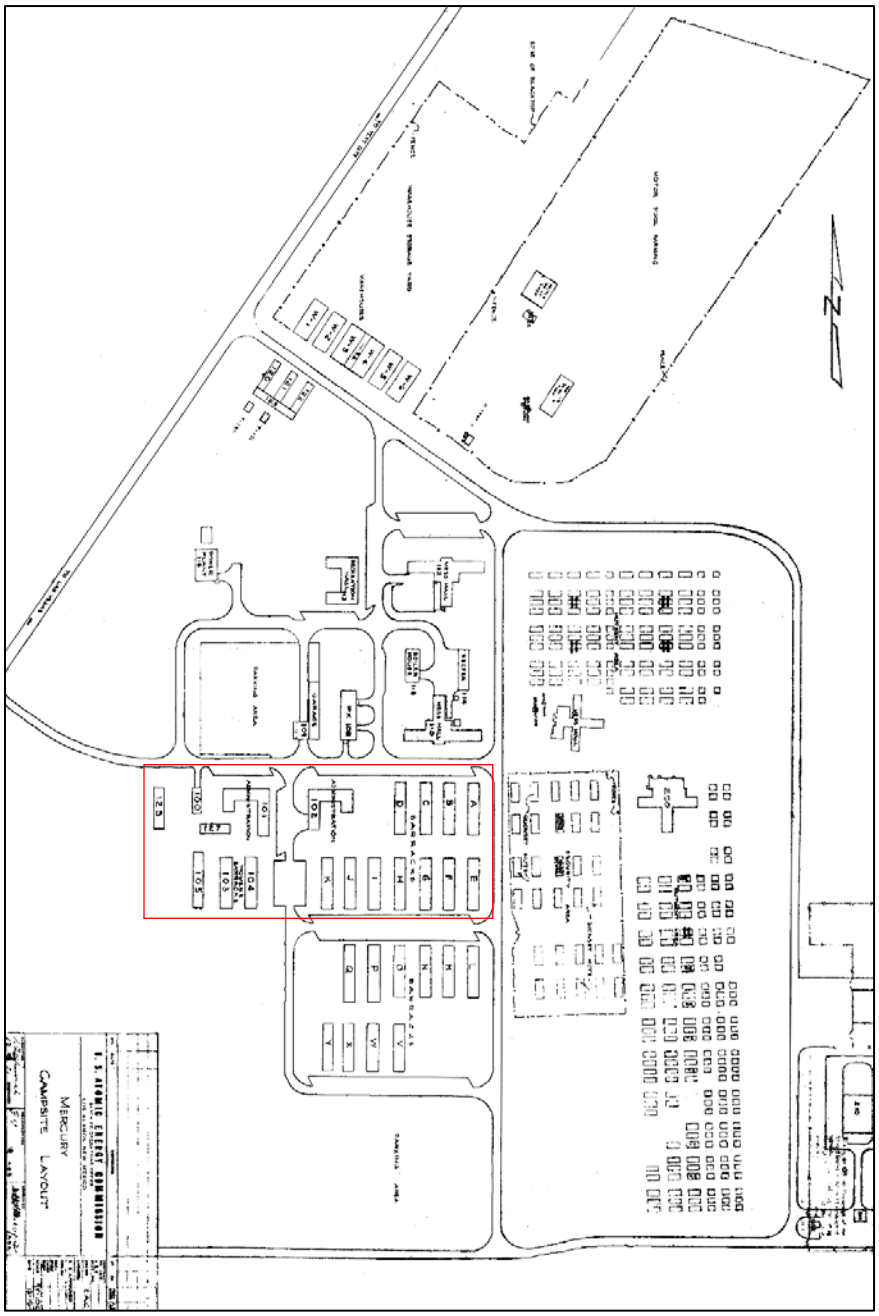


Figure 5. Map of Mercury in December 1951 (AEC Drawing NTS-187-C Sheet 1) (best available copy). Several of the projected buildings shown were not built until the mid-1950s.

Harold Cunningham (ca 2014:25) recalls living conditions on the base at that time:

> We then checked into the housing office at Mercury to arrange for our sleeping quarters, and found that the entire camp was very primitive. It had been constructed by Haddock in 1951 [contemporary sources credit Lembke along with Clough and King for this, so Cunningham may be in error—Haddock built the Control Point complex in Area 6 and facilities on Frenchman Flat], and practically everything was built of plywood. … The bath facility was down a gravel path and contained showers, toilets, and lavatories. We all lived in these hutments [see below under resource types] whether we were engineers, supervisors, or top managers like Joe Lopez and Frank Rogers. I believe there were a couple of wooden barracks available for female employees.

Over the decade, testing-related activities steadily increased and testing occurred on a year-round basis. This required additional construction to accommodate personnel and support facilities. On March 1, 1952, the Post Office was established with the official designation of Mercury, Nye County, Nevada (Gamett and Paher 1983:92). Over the first 11 years, Mercury grew to keep pace with a larger population, but there was no master plan and most structures were temporary constructions.

By the end of the decade, Mercury had expanded well to the west of the Mercury Highway. Extensive storage yards were packed with materials needed to conduct testing in the forward areas and the parking lots were jammed with cars. Mercury had also acquired major outdoor recreational facilities by that time. Figures 6 and 7 show completion of the 1950s period of construction in the APE. Dorms 23-S-U have been constructed in the southeast corner of Block 11. Dorms 23-106 and 107 along with Laundry 23-152 stand in the southwest corner of Block 10. The parking lot between Dorm 23-D and Administrative Building 23-102 is crammed with trailers for additional office space. The array of 11 wood-frame dorms in Block 9, immediately northeast of the APE, have also been completed by this time, finalizing this style of housing construction in Mercury.

Figure 6. Figure 6. Mercury in the early 1960s (courtesy of C. Costa). North is to the left.

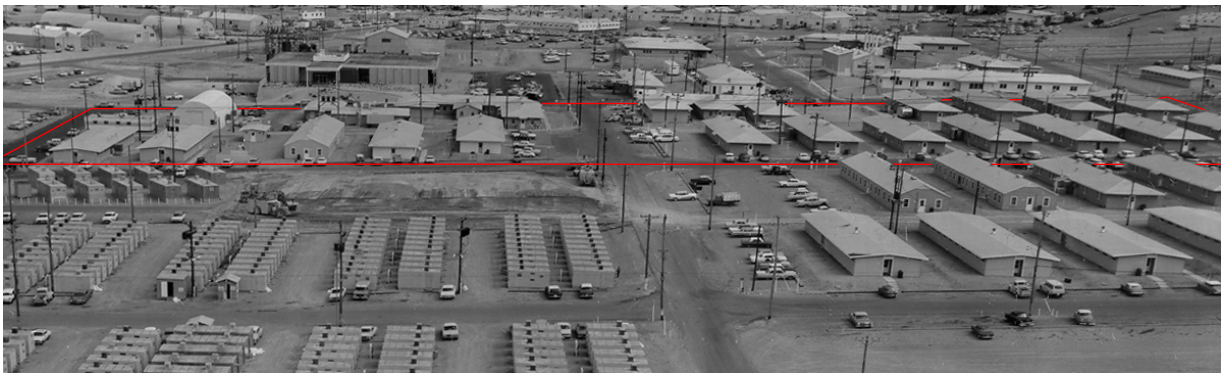


Figure 7. View of the APE facing north. REECo Photograph 3028-15 (1965). Note the new Cafeteria (23-300) on the north side of Ranger Avenue (upper left) which was not yet present on Figure 6.

Arthur Benedict Associates analyzed the functional layout of Mercury at the end of this period (Figure 8). Housing was concentrated in the southeast end of Mercury. It can be seen from this Figure how central the APE was within the camp. Administrative buildings were scattered all around despite some concentration on Ranger Avenue. Fabrication and repair shops were concentrated on the northwest end of Warehouse Road. The motor pool and its support buildings were in the northeast end of town. The Department of Defense compound at the southeast corner of Mercury was also mainly motor pool support, although this function is not identified in Figure 8. Warehousing, including large outside storage areas, was in the north end of town on both sides of the Mercury Highway. Recreational facilities were somewhat scattered, but the large outside facilities were in the southwest corner of Mercury. Laboratory and research facilities were minimal at that time and were dispersed. Initially, the Mercury Highway was on the western edge of Mercury, but by the end of the decade, the base had expanded to the point that all traffic to the forward areas on the Mercury Highway had to pass directly through the developed part of Mercury.

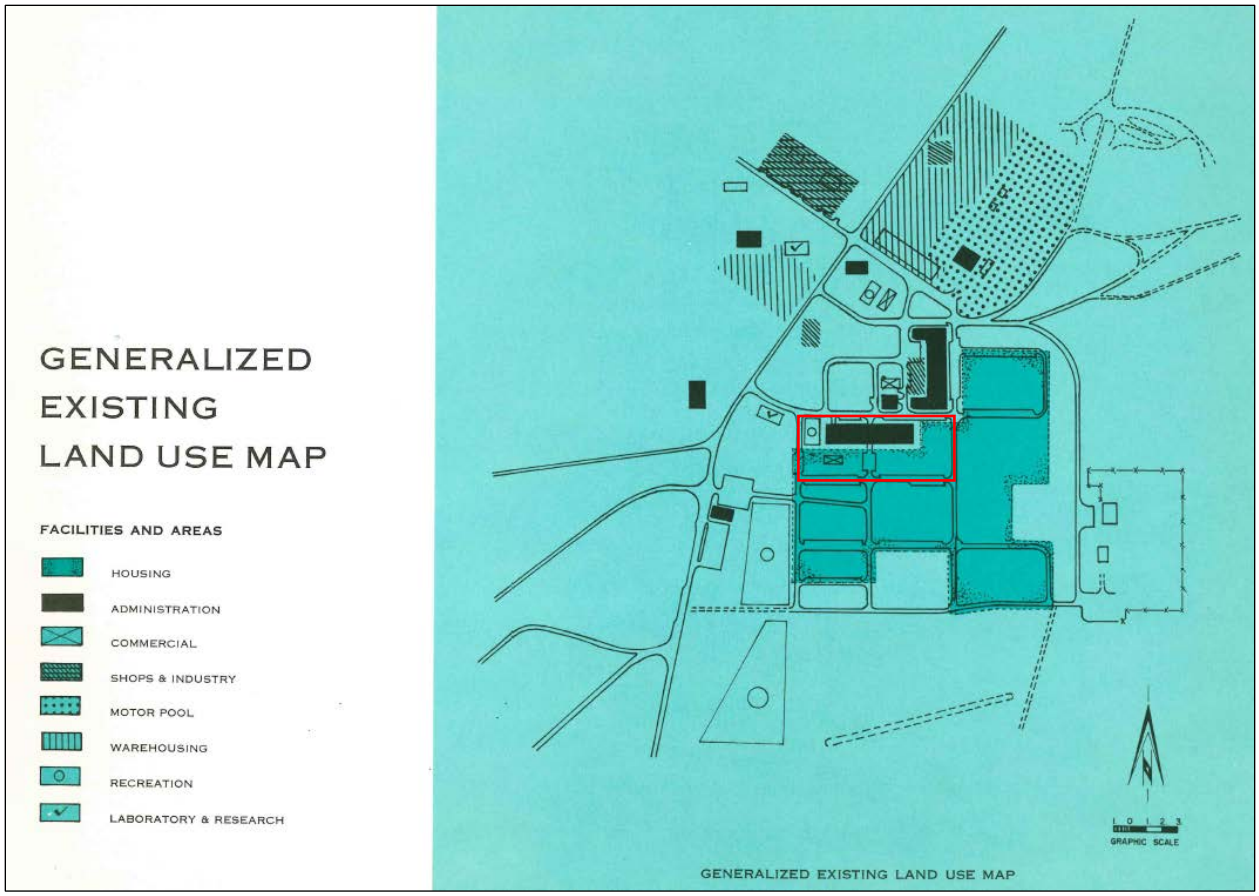


Figure 8. Generalized existing land use map (ABA 1962:11) showing the project APE (red).

Architecturally, this was a period with no stylistic pretentions at all. It was dominated by designs perfected during World War II. H&N and Silas Mason Company did the architectural design work at the onset of this period, although other firms may have contributed designs later on. Both company's designs are in the APE. C.H. Leavell & Co. of El Paso, Texas, Lembke Construction Co. of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Clugh and King Construction Co., also of Albuquerque are credited with most of the initial construction of Mercury (Las Vegas Review-Journal 1963; *NTS News* 5/26/1963). Dodge Construction of Fallon, Nevada, worked on paving and other infrastructure projects, as did Pipe Line Construction Co. of Riverside, California. Haddock Construction may also have done some early work in Mercury, although its major efforts were in Frenchman Flat and at the new Control Point (CP) farther to the north. Claremont Construction Co. of Claremont, California, built the Power House (23-116).

Mercury Becomes a Permanent Base (1963-1977)

With the signing of the Limited Test Ban Treaty in August 1963, atmospheric testing ended. The last atmospheric test at what is now the NNSS was a surface test on July 17, 1962, named Little Feller I. Since then, all nuclear tests conducted on the NNSS were underground. Although atmospheric testing ended, underground testing activities at the site steadily expanded, and testing occurred on a

year-round basis. In addition, the Plowshare Program and the Nuclear Rocket Development Station brought increased activity to Mercury (Fehner and Gosling 2000:83; NNSA/NFO 2013b). This required additional construction to meet demands for a wide range of facilities in Mercury. In 1962, an AEC supplemental appropriations bill provided funds to add to or replace most of the earlier temporary buildings and included a $15 million request for permanent NNSS construction (NNSA/NFO 2013b). By June 1962, the AEC requested Arthur Benedict Associates of Los Angeles, California, to develop a long-range comprehensive Master Plan for the coordinated development of Mercury.

The Mercury Master Plan (ABA 1962) proposed an expansion of all facilities for a permanent site, including residential facilities for permanent and transient personnel. Facilities programmed for construction during fiscal years 1963 and 1964 were support facilities (the cafeteria and food handling areas, administrative buildings, laboratories, maintenance shops, warehouses, communications, and the Civil Effects Test Organization building), resident-oriented facilities (the dormitories, recreation hall, swimming pool, bowling alley, chapel, and health, medical, and safety building), circulation (the Camp Desert Rock airstrip, Highway 95 improvements, the Mercury Bypass, and primary and secondary streets), and utilities (a new power transmission line and sewage treatment plant). It also advocated elimination of the uniformly drab green paint and replacement with variegated colors. In contrast with so many master planning efforts, this one was largely executed even in its smaller details. Therefore, the early 1960s represented a major building boom in Mercury. By the mid-1960s, Mercury was a developed town and contained facilities essential for supporting the nuclear testing effort.

In 1964, Judy Golwyn, editor of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory's magazine *The Magnet*, described Mercury when many of these new facilities were being constructed, but also when the buildings in the APE formed a prominent part of the community. Excerpts were reprinted in the *NTS News* (March 12, 1965, pp. 5-6):

> It has a post office of its very own, a movie theater, a bowling alley, even a laundromat—but only the most dedicated civic booster could call Mercury, Nevada, a town.
>
> Against its serene background of desert, hills, and bright blue sky, the little jumble of Quonset huts, warehouses, and office buildings seems both glaringly conspicuous and, at the same time, curiously insignificant. A high-flying airplane would be unlikely even to spot Mercury in the vast desert surrounding it, and the earthbound motorist, speeding north on his way into the test site's forward area, finds himself wondering (as soon as the last Quonset hut has been swallowed up in the distance) whether that really *was* a human settlement back there, or just another trick of the desert landscape.
>
> Here [are] weather-beaten "temporary" buildings that huddle together with a growing number of sleek, modern, permanent ones.

> Most NTS employees live in Las Vegas and suffer the long 130-mile daily commute to their jobs and back. A considerable number, however, (mainly young unmarried) have thrown in the sponge and have moved out to the site. They live, if you can call it that, in dormitories or trailers, spend their evenings at Mercury's movie house or recreation hall, and take off for Las Vegas each weekend.

Shortly afterward, Dave Sundberg, editor of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory's magazine *The Atom* set down his own perceptions of Mercury, which supplement those of Golwyn quite well. The following are selections reprinted in the *NTS News*, March 12, 1965:

> From a distance, when the brilliant desert sun is reflected off the roofs of its buildings, Mercury, Nevada, looks like a silvery island in a sea of rocks and yucca. As you get closer, the illusion quickly fades and Mercury becomes, for the most part, an austere collection of steel warehouses, wooden "temporary" buildings and trailers of every size.
>
> In some ways Mercury is like a town. It has a post office, movie theater, paved streets, even a steak house. Nevertheless, Mercury is not a town. It's a camp, a sort of center of operations for the Atomic Energy Commission's almost unbelievably big Nevada Test Site…. The camp has been called "loneliness with a fence around it."
>
> Of the several thousand scientists, secretaries, technicians and tradesmen who work in Mercury and the rest of the Test Site, most live in the Las Vegas vicinity and commute to work an hour and a half each way by car or in one of the 54 buses, which provide transportation to and from Las Vegas.
>
> There is no family housing in Mercury, thus no families. Only a few hundred men and women, nearly all of them single, call Mercury their home. They live in small trailers or dormitory rooms and leave the Test Site only on weekends or holidays.
>
> The handful of people who can be found in Mercury on a Saturday or Sunday are almost exclusively transient personnel like Los Alamos Rover [nuclear rocket] or weapons men who fly out to spend days or weeks at a time during peaks of activity. The weekends at Mercury are the most dreaded part of their life at the Site….
>
> The most welcome new buildings are two dormitory complexes of 48 rooms each …. The new dorm rooms are single occupancy, have curtains on the windows, rugs on the floor. They aren't the Holiday Inn, but they are far better than the old army-style gloomy wood frame dorms they supplement but don't replace.
>
> So far, neither the Government construction program, nor the Mercury Boosters Association has done much to quench Mercury's quasi-military atmosphere. Beds are "bunks" and come equipped with army blankets. The cafeteria is still better known as the "mess hall" and the dormitories are invariably called "the barracks."
>
> The PX is simply the PX—it has no equivalent civilian name. The general store of Mercury [located in a partitioned corner of the Cafeteria 23-300], it's the place to go to buy everything from toothpaste to Seagram's Seven to the vast amount of reading material, which is consumed during the long evening hours at Mercury.

> If you ask ten people for their opinions on Mercury, you will get ten very different replies…. Wiley Williams, a 15-year LASL employee who had worked at Mercury permanently for the past three years, expresses a common opinion, "You get sort of numb to it after a while."

Mercury is shown as it appeared at the height of this period in 1968 in an aerial photo in Figure 9 and on a map in Figure 10. Most of the major new buildings were in existence at this time. It can be seen that several of the larger buildings broke from the original town alignment and were oriented on contour instead. The bypass has been constructed and the area between the Mercury Highway and the bypass has been filled. Shops, the motor pool, and major laboratory buildings were shifted to the southwest end of Mercury and the new Main Gate facility was constructed south of town. Figure 9 also shows the complete projected buildup of Warehouse 23-160 at the north end of town. Only two planned modules were actually constructed, leaving much of the materials storage in Mercury in open lots as before.

Although the Master Plan envisioned eventual elimination of the 1950s era frame buildings and replacement with more permanent types, the only changes in the APE during this period was removal of the Weather Service Building, 23-127.

Architecturally, this is the period when various types of Mid-century Modern architecture entirely changed the character of Mercury. The new buildings were designed by a number of architectural firms from around the West, including several firms of national prominence. The use of a variety of firms is reflected by the corresponding variety of the buildings. It does not have the regimented similarity of research campuses designed by a single firm.

Figure 9. Mercury in 1968, facing north (Nuclear Testing Archive, Accession No. NV0174481).

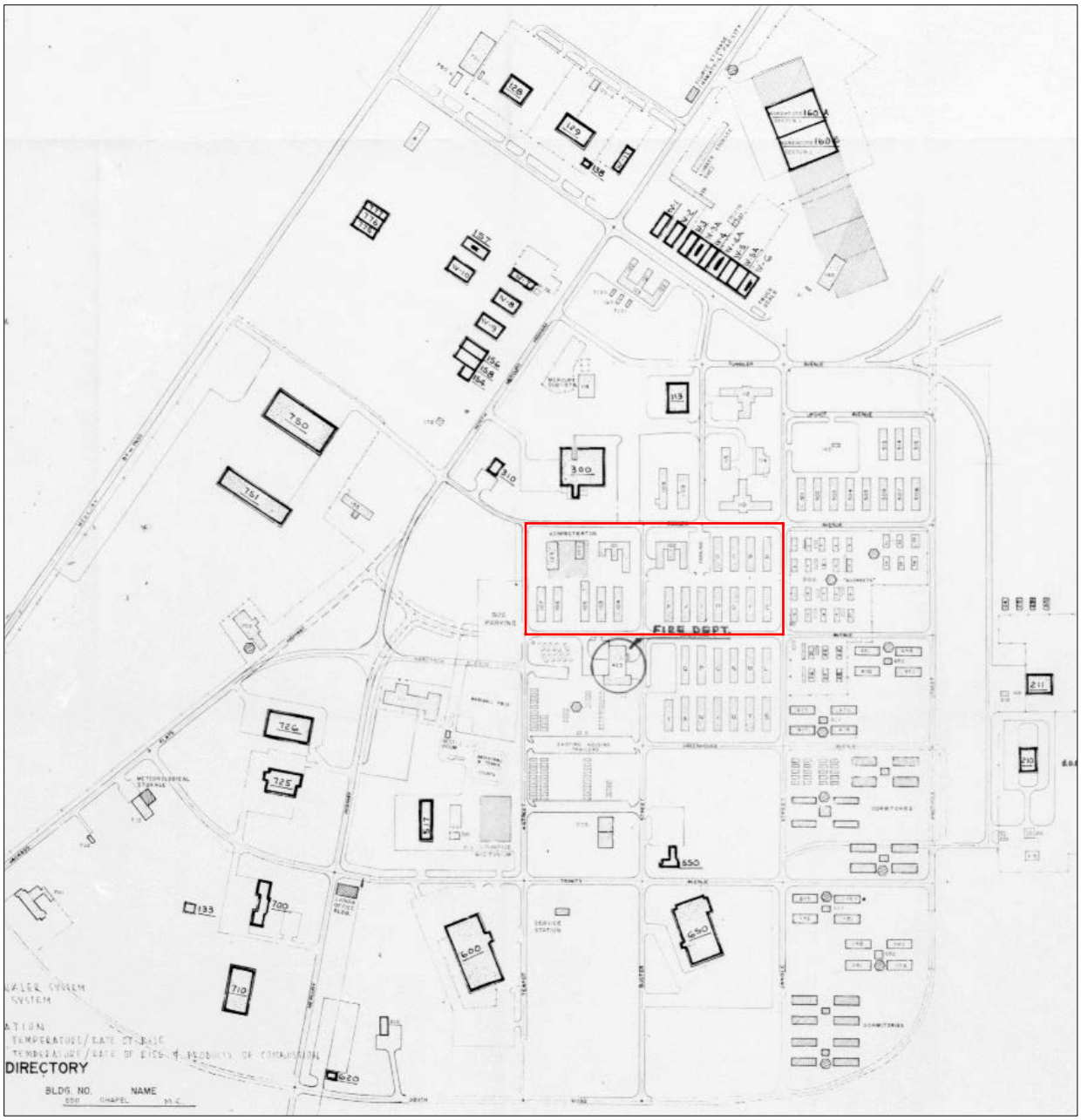


Figure 10. Mercury in 1968 according to a directory map (AEC 1969).

Although the designs were fairly conservative, they experimented in the use of details and surface treatments that went well beyond mere functionalism. Toward the end of this period and into the early 1980s the wooden buildings were sheathed with insulated aluminum siding. If they were not yet given the variegated pastel exteriors endorsed by the Master Plan they received the new colors when the replacement siding was applied.

Redevelopment in the Final Cold War Years (1978-1992)

The Master Plan envisioned Mercury transitioning to a permanent suburban community tied to Las Vegas, which would have a large permanent residential area supporting family housing as well as more transient types of housing. An increase of the kinds of amenities that would make such long-term occupation livable was also envisioned. This vision would ultimately have created a community rather similar to that of Los Alamos, New Mexico. This kind of community development never took place, although living arrangements built in this period did allow for much greater privacy and personal space in dormitory arrangements.

Continued underground testing in the 1980s, along with the major activities such as the MX missile development and the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations at Yucca Mountain created a need for increased infrastructure that created the last major building boom in Mercury. A major result in regard to the present project is that several of the 1950s dormitories in Block 17 were demolished and their foundations removed for construction of a new two-story dormitory complex (23-531 series).

Mercury at the conclusion of the Cold War is depicted in Figure 11. Architecturally, this period is easy to spot on the landscape of Mercury because it is exemplified by the construction of new and distinctive buildings, including the construction of buildings with two stories for the first time. Although this period began with the construction of three large prefabricated metal dormitories (23-526, 527, 529), it is dominated by buildings incorporating varying amounts of gray or earth-tone split face concrete masonry. This architectural phase is so distinctive that it is convenient to regard it as a Late Modern development of the Modernist movement.

By the end of the Cold War the APE had changed considerably. All of the buildings along Ranger Avenue remained intact, but as shown on Figure 11, most of the 1950s dorms were removed. The concrete foundation slabs for 10 dorms north of Sandstone Avenue were re-used for recreational vehicle parking in which site workers provided their own housing. Over half of the old dorms in Block 17 were removed for construction of the new 23-531–536 dormitory complex and attendant parking areas.

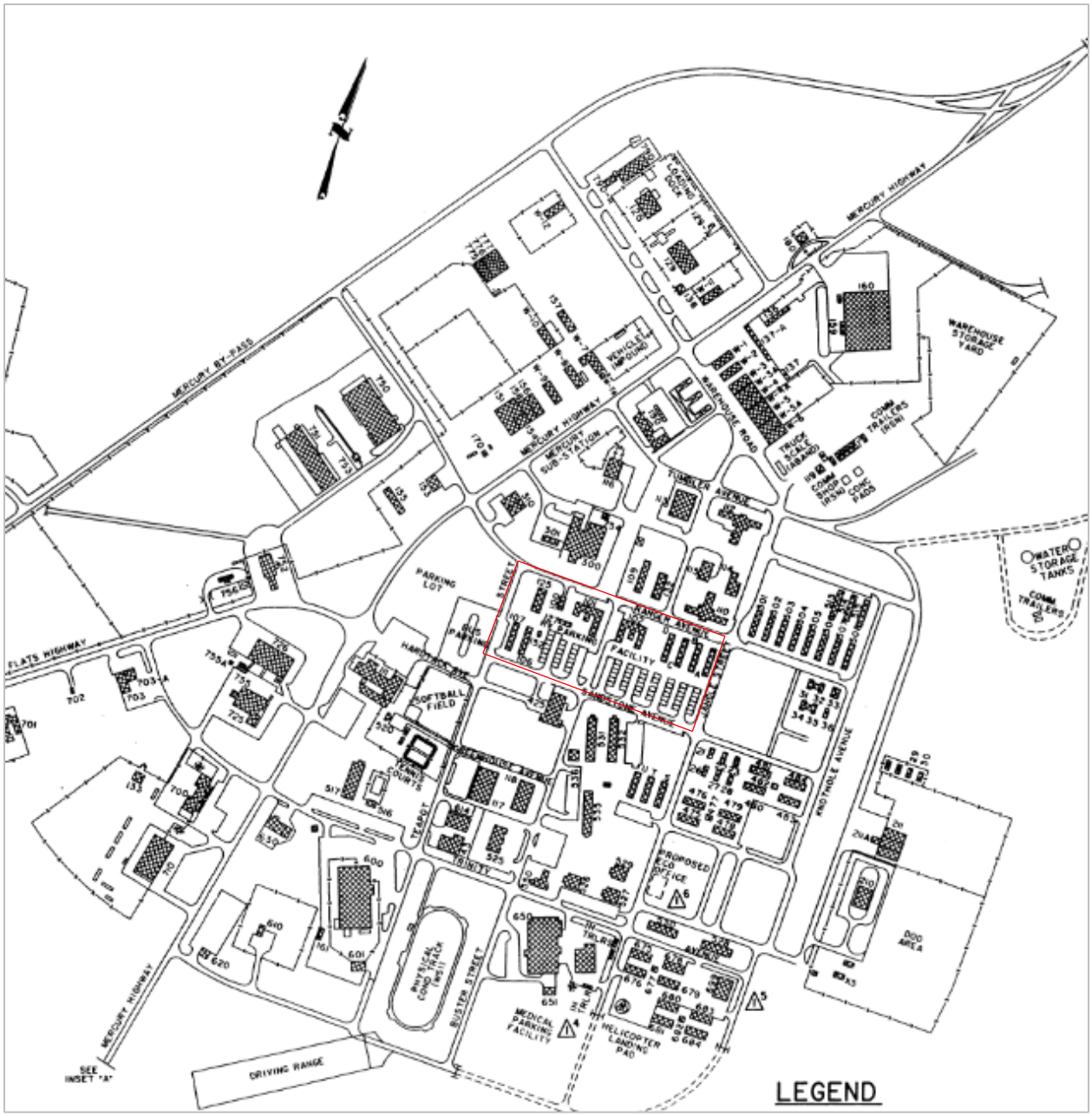


Figure 11. Map of Mercury in 1992.

Mercury Since 1992

With the cessation of nuclear testing and at least a pause in the controversial Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations at Yucca Mountain, Mercury's vital role as a base rapidly dwindled. This resulted in a great reduction of personnel and downsizing. Most service facilities were shut down, much of the resident population was security forces, and the structural footprint was reduced.

Much of the testing infrastructure was maintained in a mothballed state by a skeleton crew of site workers because of Presidential Decision Directive 15 (1993), which mandated that the site be

prepared to resume nuclear testing within 24-36 months (Hopkins 2016:9). Subcritical nuclear experiments and experiments with large amounts of conventional explosives were continued.

During the mid-1990s, an attempt was made to rebrand the site. A new sign over the front guard gate now reads "Nevada Test Site/An Environmental Research Park" (Center for Land Use Interpretation 1996:12). A number of environmental research projects were initiated, but they had nowhere near the scope and funding of Cold War environmental projects coordinated through the Civil Effects Test Organization. Mercury still retained the aspect of a ghost town.

Under the administration of Bechtel, the labs finally lost their paramount importance on the site. Long-term contractors such as Wackenhut Security, Incorporated; Reynolds Electrical Engineering Company (REECo); Edgerton, Germeshausen, and Grier, Inc. and H&N finally disappeared from the NNSS.

Almost no new construction appeared in Mercury during these years. The aging buildings continued to be used while facilities maintenance personnel had to make do with fewer and fewer resources to keep the place operating. As buildings were abandoned, money did not exist to pay for routine maintenance, so they decayed at varying rates depending on their construction and the occurrence of accidents, such as roof or plumbing leaks. Many buildings and structures were removed during this period while vehicles, furnishings, and any number of other objects were sold or surplused, a process that has continued to the present. In the APE all of the remaining wood-frame buildings and the theater were removed except dorms 23-B, -C, and -D (redesigned during the Cold War into offices) and the tiny laundry 23-152. All four of the standing buildings in the APE are vacant and gradually falling into disrepair.

This trend appears to be reversing as the challenges to national security global threat of terrorism once again call upon resources for testing and training, which can be developed at what is now the NNSS.

IV. RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS

The several distinct series of dormitories are described as collective units while unique buildings are described separately. Additional descriptions along with photos, drawings, and supplemental references are in the ARA forms and updates are included with the mitigation documents. These descriptions are confined to buildings and building foundations. Not included are descriptions of infrastructure which generally followed streets, alleys, and spaces between buildings including above-ground and below-ground utilities, which are discussed in other reports including Collins (2017) and Collins and King (2017).

Mercury Historic District (D230)

Mercury is a planned development with most buildings, streets, and other structures constructed on a grid within an area that is approximately a half-mile square. The town road system was recorded as SHPO Resource #S1762. Most of the grid is oriented on the cardinal directions, but the northern part of town and developments on the west side of the Mercury Highway (S1760) are oriented to the northeast to conform with the direction of the highway as it heads north into the NNSS where the actual work areas were primarily located. A second principal road, the Jackass Flats Road (S1761), heads west from Mercury to access the southwestern portion of the NNSS, including the nuclear ramjet and rocket development facilities at Jackass Flats and more recently the proposed nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain.

A total of 154 individual Principal Resources—including landscapes, buildings, and structures—along with 346 Accessory Resources were recorded in the Mercury Historic District during an architectural survey (Reno et al. 2018). Thirty-five properties, some originally recorded as principal resources and some as accessories (Figure 12), are further described in this report, 22 of which are within the APE (Blocks 10 and 11). The 13 buildings in Block 17, adjacent to but outside the APE, were included because these exhibit the same engineering designs used to build some of the properties in the APE. Of the 35 properties, as of July 2018, eight buildings and their foundations have been removed; 23 are solely represented by their remaining concrete foundations; and four are still standing: the laundry (23-152) and three dormitories (23-B, -C and -D).

All of the buildings in the APE had concrete floors. In most cases the foundations were integral to the floors (thickened slab on grade), but some of the foundations may have been poured separately from the floor slabs. For convenience, the two varieties are both usually referred to in this report as concrete slab foundations.

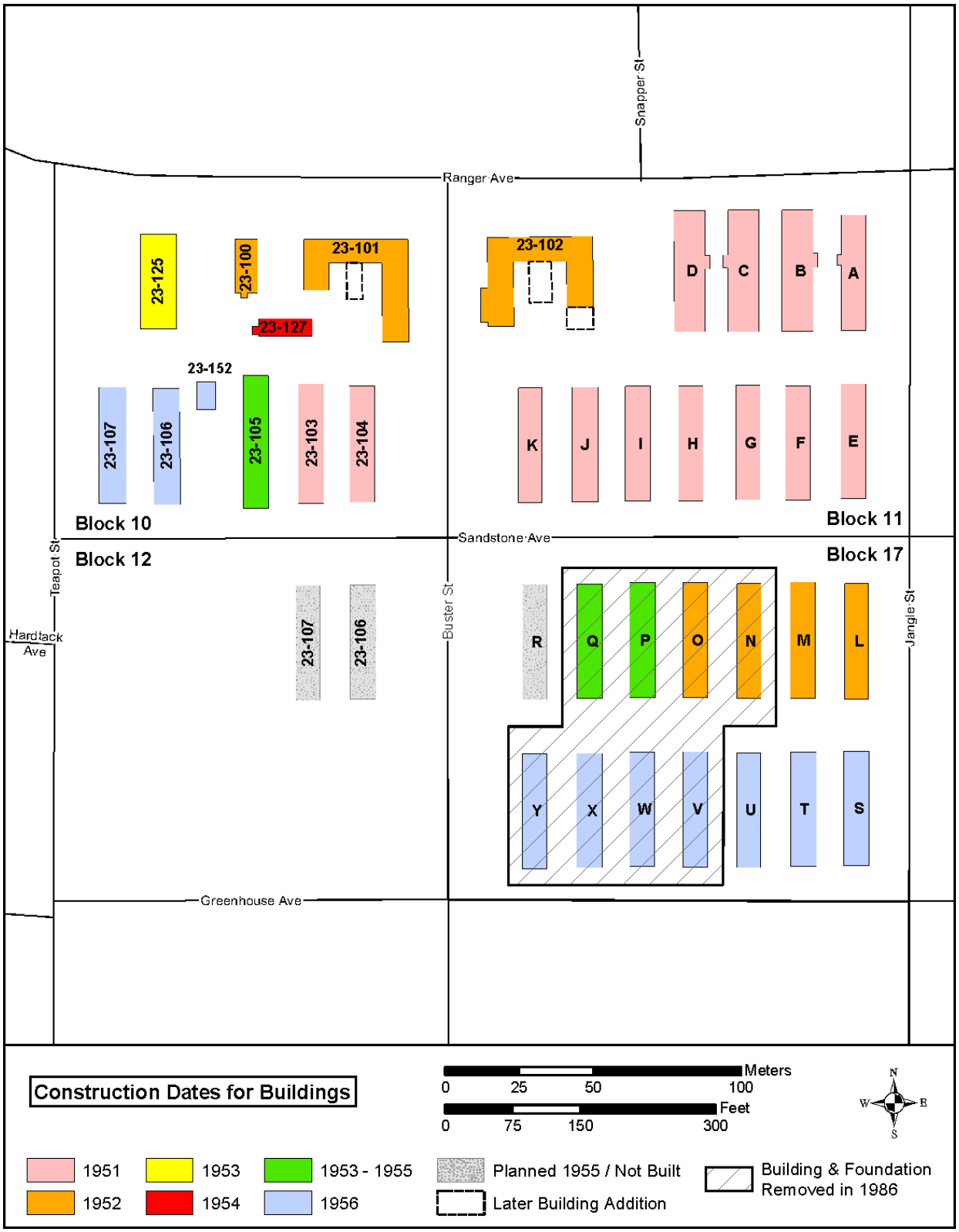


Figure 12. Construction dates for buildings discussed in this report. Included are buildings that were planned but not built and buildings and foundations removed during 1986 dormitory construction.

Architectural Styles

All of the buildings constructed in the APE were of two architectural styles, both of which were fully developed during the course of World War II. With only one exception they were demountable wood-frame buildings. Today, only four examples of this style remain standing in the APE. The sole exception is the prefabricated Quonset hut that housed the Mercury Theater.

Prefabricated

Prefabricated metal buildings such as Quonset huts, straight-sided Quonset huts, and Butler Buildings comprised much of the built environment of Mercury in the 1950s. A sample of Quonsets, Butlers, and similar buildings by different manufacturers remains but no examples of the straight-sided Quonset huts have survived other than their foundations. Prefabricated buildings by Butler and other manufacturers continued to be erected in smaller numbers throughout the Cold War years and beyond for various purposes, even including major office buildings. Once constructed, the smaller buildings were portable and could be moved intact. Larger ones had to be disassembled to be moved.

The Quonsets were developed in 1941 at the navy base at Quonset Point, Rhode Island, by a team led by Otto Brandenberger with the George Fuller Co. Most Quonsets were prefabricated by the George Fuller Co. and later by Stran Steel Corporation, but there were other manufacturers as well (Cohen 2011-258-259). Of the many Quonset huts that once dominated much of Mercury, only four remain. Gabled, prefabricated metal buildings have survived better at Mercury, with 17 still standing, including early (1950s and possibly wartime) products of Butler and Stran Steel as well as a few products by later companies such as American. The Mercury Theater was one of the Quonset huts manufactured by Stran Steel, a division of Great Lakes Steel Corporation in Detroit, Michigan.

Demountable

One-story, hip or gabled wood-frame buildings with horizontal wood siding comprised the more elaborate 1950s buildings at Mercury. Only seven survive today and all have been considerably altered through time, although most of the alterations occurred during the Cold War. Derived from various World War II mobilization designs (Cohen 2011:250; Garner 1993; REECo 1955), all were composed of rectangular elements narrow enough to be transported by road should they be needed elsewhere. For this reason, buildings such as these are classified as demountable. Normally not prefabricated, they were built in place. The rectangular modules were combined into more elaborate floor plans as needed. The long, narrow, sometimes maze-like design of these composite buildings allowed for abundant natural light and ventilation. This modular nature was expressed best in Mercury by the large E-plan building, which had separate building numbers (23-120, 121, 122, and 123) for every wing. The old Recreation Building (23-113, Block 7) is one of the best examples of a demountable wood-frame building that is still in use at the NNSS. Originally with a U-shaped plan, the courtyard was enclosed in the 1960s (Figure 14). Figure 14 also provides a good example of the inconvenient berms that were sometimes required for construction of the cut and fill terraces in Mercury.

Harold Cunningham (ca. 2014:25) describes how a demountable building was moved to Mercury in 1951 to serve as a barracks for female employees:

> One of these barracks came from White Rock, New Mexico, and had been built to house Los Alamos construction workers. It had been sawed in shapes that were the largest permissible to travel over the highways. The AEC decided that this was not a cost-effective way to make housing available and only one barracks was moved from White Rock.

It is impossible to reconcile this recollection with the available records, which indicate that both of the 1951 vintage women's dormitories were designed specifically for Mercury. It does however illustrate the intended movability of the demountable buildings. Where road conditions allowed such buildings were often transported over long distances as complete units.

Original Dormitory Designs

All of the dormitories in the APE were built in the 1950s. The dormitory complex in Blocks 10, 11, and 17 included nearly three-quarters of all of the first-generation dormitories in Mercury. Their precisely oriented array of abundant repetitious forms created the core cityscape of Mercury at that time and remained so until more variegated and larger buildings began to appear in the mid-1960s. These dormitories all were rectangular-plan one-story frame buildings with low-to-moderate pitch composition gable or hipped roofs on concrete slab foundations (Figures 13 and 14). All were organized around a long central hallway with service spaces (restrooms, showers, and mechanical rooms) concentrated at the center and bedrooms extending out along both ends of the hall. All had wood shiplap siding and were initially painted light green. It appears that all of the dormitories in the APE were built on site from a few standardized plans. The design classes are discussed in chronological order since, as can be seen on Figure 12, men's dormitories spread outward systematically from Block 11 south into Block 17. Meanwhile, women's dormitories spread westward across Block 10. For completeness in this historical summary, Figure 12 includes all dormitories of each construction series including those that were planned but never actually built and those that have already been demolished and their foundations removed as a result of construction of a new generation of dormitories in 1986. The building dates portrayed in Figure 12 reflect the research undertaken for this report and in many cases are somewhat later than those in the NNSS GIS Integrated Planning database, which were used for the original Mercury survey report and ARA forms.

Men's and women's dormitories generally looked the same or very similar from the outside but had different internal arrangements and wall materials. At any point in time, women's dormitories had greater privacy, better personal storage spaces, semi-private rooms, and day rooms or lounges. Eventually the early men's dormitories were retrofitted with most of these improvements and all were incorporated into later dormitories, which, by the end of the Cold War, generally had private rooms and individual bathrooms. This was far removed from the early conditions of large communal barracks-style bedrooms and group shower rooms.

Buildings in Mercury have always been assigned reference numbers following the numeric prefix for Area 23. The exception to this general system is the array of men's dormitories in Blocks 11 and 17

which are identified by letters rather than numbers. This curiosity will be discussed further below, but as a result, this led to their being referred to informally on site as the *letter dorms*.

Figure 13. The APE in 1965 facing east-northeast. This view shows at least a portion of every dormitory in the APE. Teapot Street is in the foreground and Greenhouse Avenue is on the right margin. Women's dormitories occupy Block 10 at the lower left corner. Similar dormitories in the upper left corner are in Block 9 outside the APE (REECo 3027-7, 1965).

Figure 14. Eastern portion of the APE in 1965 facing north-northeast. This photo shows all three men's dormitory types. Their exteriors are nearly identical to the corresponding three variants found in the women's area. In the foreground are the examples of the S-Y series with their very low-pitch gable roofs and inset doorways. The next row starts with the parking lot where Dormitory R was never built. Immediately to the right of the lot are the Dormitories Q and P with their distinctive triangular vents in the gable ends. The rest of the hip-roofed dormitories are of the A-O series within the APE. The view is to the northeast with the corner of Buster and Greenhouse in the lower left (REECo Photo 3028-15, 1965).

Men's Dormitory Series A-O, Resources 23-A through 23-E/SHPO B15239-B15241; C298, C324, H&N, 1951-1952

Figure 15. Men's Dormitories 23-A-O. Top: Foundations as they appear today facing southwest from the corner of Jangle and Sandstone (DRI 2017). Bottom: Dormitory 23-G was typical of the entire A-O series of dormitories (REECo 1955).

The Men's Dormitory Series A-O were the earliest series of 15 nearly identical dormitories built in Mercury (Figure 15). As shown on Figure 12, initial construction of the series in 1951 occupied most of Block 11, and the following year four additional dormitories of this design were built in Block 17 just south of Sandstone Avenue. Two of the Block 17 dormitories (N and O) and their foundations were completely obliterated in 1986.

Initially, they were collectively called Building 114 by H&N with an additional letter to distinguish each one, such as 114a. Soon the 114 was dropped and the buildings were usually referenced by their letters only, but the 114 designation never completely went away and lives on in places such as plan and elevation drawings.

The dormitories were 128×28 ft (3,584 ft^2) rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with moderate-pitch hip roofs and concrete slab foundations (REECo 1955). The standard plan (Figure 16) was given variety by being reversed on either axis, resulting in four different layouts, while adhering to the strict north-south orientation of the whole complex in accord with the surrounding street grid. It would be interesting to know why anyone felt the plan reversals were necessary. This basic plan with relatively minor alterations is the basis for all of the 1950s era dormitories.

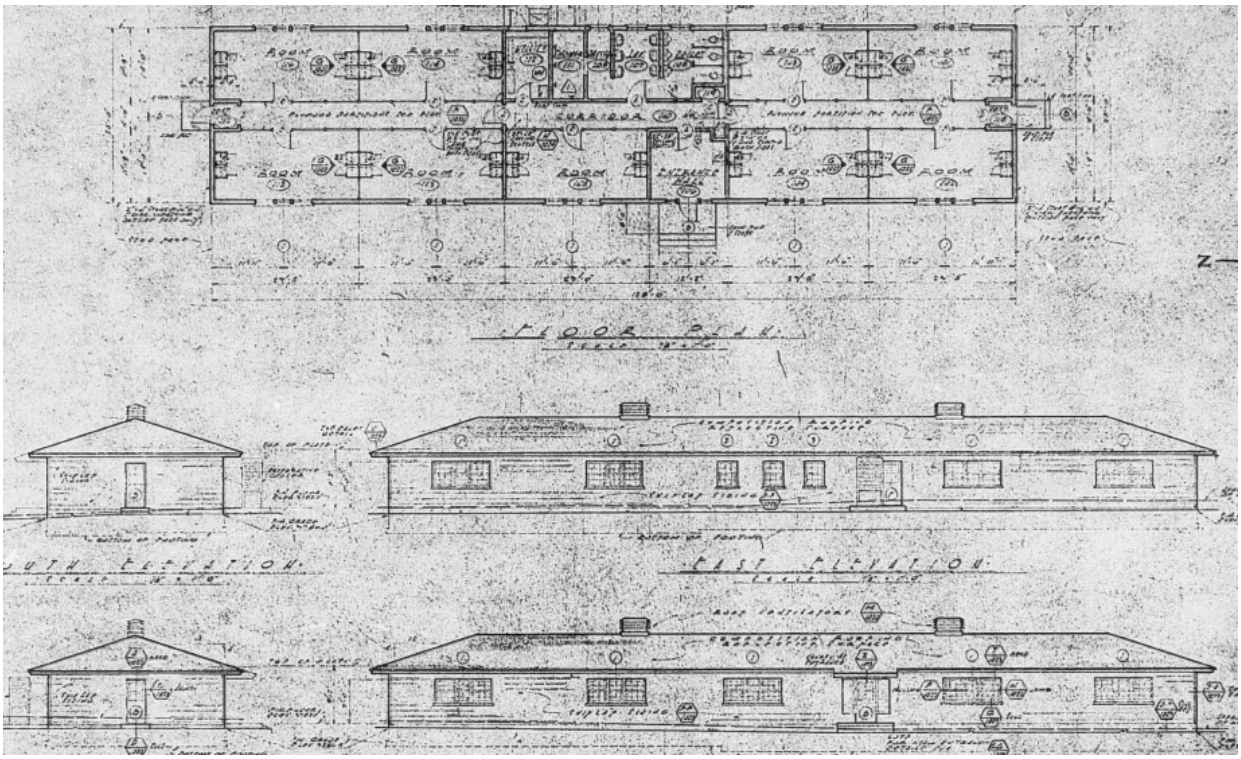


Figure 16. The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O series of dormitories except for switching every other building to face in the opposite direction (H&N Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974). Windows were wood framed with narrow surrounds, which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. The large barracks-style sleeping rooms had triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms had single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

The front entrances were near the centers of the long façades. Exterior doors had four lights. The front door of each dormitory was flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extended from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof formed a hood over the entrance, which had a concrete stoop. To one side of the door were three sets of triple windows, and to the other side, two more triple window sets. Original door hardware throughout the buildings was brass or bronze, most of which was replaced through time (Figure 17).

The rear also had a door near center but lacked sidelights and hood. It opened to the mechanical room and was located next to the evaporative cooler. Arrayed on both sides of the door was a combination of single and triple windows.

Figure 17. Examples of original brass and bronze door hardware at Buildings 23-B, C, and D (DRI 2018).

The narrow sides on the north and south ends each had entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

Originally, the hip roofs were covered with light-colored composition material but later had a more sophisticated reflective coating. Roofs had wide overhangs with plywood soffits and plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents were on the ridgelines.

The standard plan was arrayed around the full-length central hallway, which had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. The walls of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For purposes of this report the construction style of these partitions is referred to as post-and-plywood. A good historic photo of this kind of wall construction is included with the ARA update for Dorm C, among others.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11×23 ft and normally had four occupants. Occupancy could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site during this period could be converted to bunks). As noted above, sleeping room partitions were made of a single-thickness of plywood mounted on 4×4 in posts. These partitions were originally open at the top and the bottom for ventilation but were later sealed from floor to ceiling with additional plywood panels. Walls in the central block were of stud and drywall construction.

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

Standard modifications to the dormitories through time included abandonment of the useless main entrance lobbies and reuse probably as another bedroom, application of insulated aluminum siding, and subdivision of the barracks-style sleeping rooms to semi-private bedrooms. It is likely that these dormitories were converted to semi-private rooms in 1959. Plans for this modification in this dorm

series were not recovered during research for this phase of the project, but since the S-Y dorms received this modification it would be surprising if the entire array of dorms was not altered in the same way.

Dormitories A-D were converted to office buildings. This led to their use into the present century and to the continued existence of Dorms 23-B, C, and D, although all are now vacant. [Although these four dorms were converted to offices, the term "Dorm" is used below to identify the buildings throughout this discussion to maintain continuity.] High resolution photographs of exteriors and interiors of this collection of three buildings are submitted with the updated ARA form for 23-C. See Figure 18 for the former and current conditions of Dorm A.

In 1965 the northwest sleeping room in Dorm 23-A was split in half with a steel partition and one dorm room was clad with drywall. By 1966, the dorm was converted to an office building, but with few internal modifications.

Two small partitions were removed in 1981, but a much more extensive remodel was done in 1982 when all of the former dorm rooms were split in half to make a total of 18 small rooms.

According to the available plans, throughout the life of the building it only had a single men's restroom in contrast to the office conversions of Dorms 23-B, C, and D, which all added women's restrooms.

Figure 18 shows 23-A in its final years when it was an Environmental Restoration Office, a function shared by B, C, and D. Prominent in this photo are the pale green color (a pastel, not the original green), 1970s metal siding, and the row of wall-mounted air conditioners, replacing the single evaporative cooler that once stood next to the rear door.

Since Dorm B has roof-mounted air conditioners, it has the best-preserved exterior of any surviving dormitory (Figure 19). It does not have either the wall penetrations for individual air conditioners installed at Dorm A or the window-mounted units used in Dorms C and D, one of which is visible in Dorm C at the right edge of this photo.

To convert Dorm B to offices, five of the former dorm rooms were subdivided with metal partitions that did not reach to the ceiling and one room was enlarged by removing an existing post-and-plywood partition between dorm rooms.

It was not until near the end of 1976 that a women's restroom was created out of the former men's shower room. This restroom conversion is similar to that documented in detail in 23-C.

Partitions were frequently added, deleted, moved, or altered in place. The partial plan from 1984 illustrates several of these modifications, including the retention of the original post-and-plywood walls along the entire northern portion of the hallway at that time. By 1986, all permanent walls in the southern third of the building were removed to create enough open space for eight cubicles (Figure 20).

Figure 18. Dormitory 23-A. Top: Foundation as it appears today facing north with 23-B to the left (DRI 2017). Bottom: Original rear and northeast corner facing southwest prior to its demolition (DRI 1998). Note that although this building faces west like 23-G its plan is reversed on the north-south axis.

Figure 19. Front (east) façade and northeast corner of Dormitory 23-B facing southwest (DRI 2017).

Room #	Function
101–106	Offices
107	Equipment Room
108	Office
109	Circulation
110	Office
111	Men's Restroom
112	Women's Restroom
113	Equipment Room

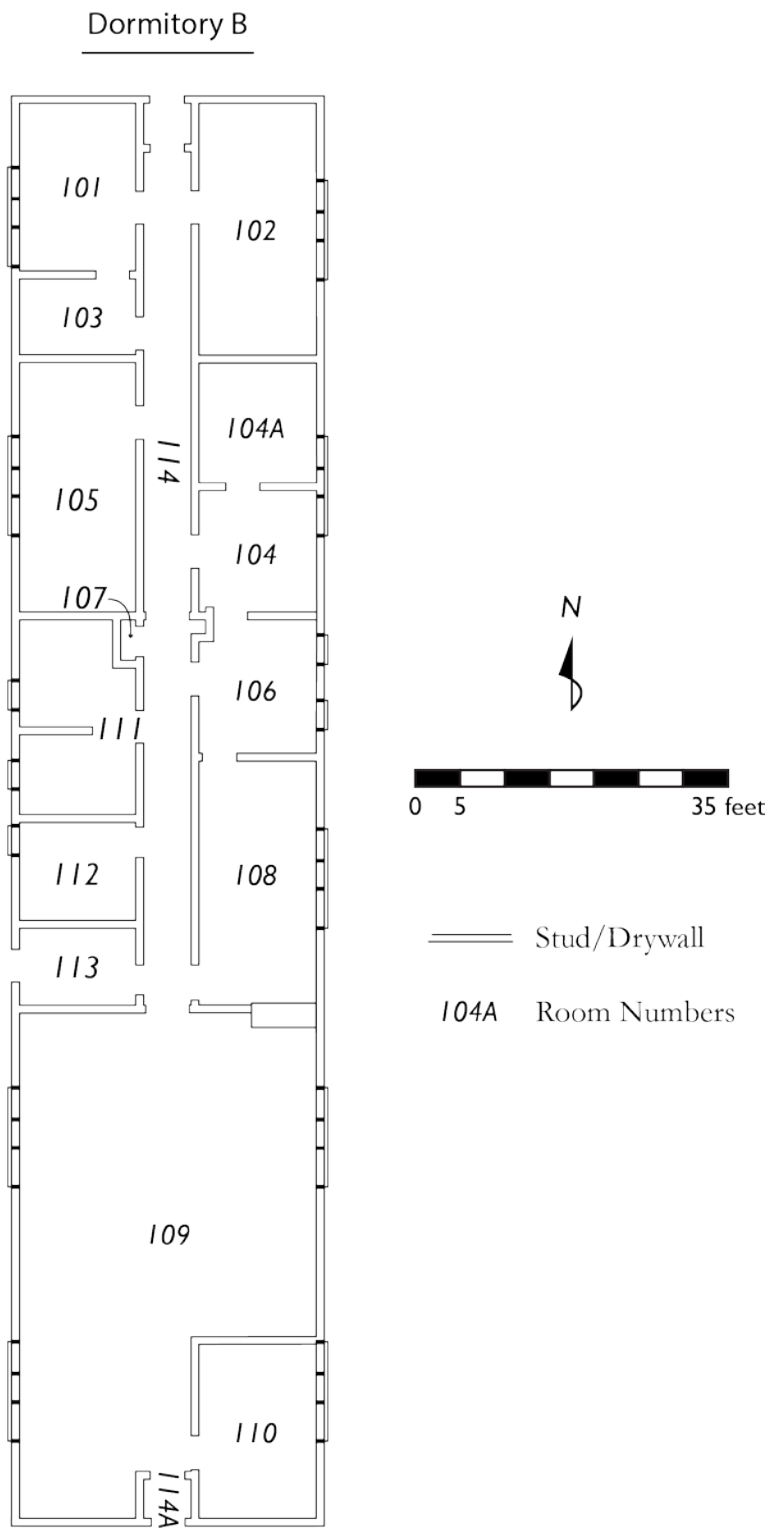


Figure 20. Present plan for Dormitory/Office 23-B, based on 2016 Space Management Plan (Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

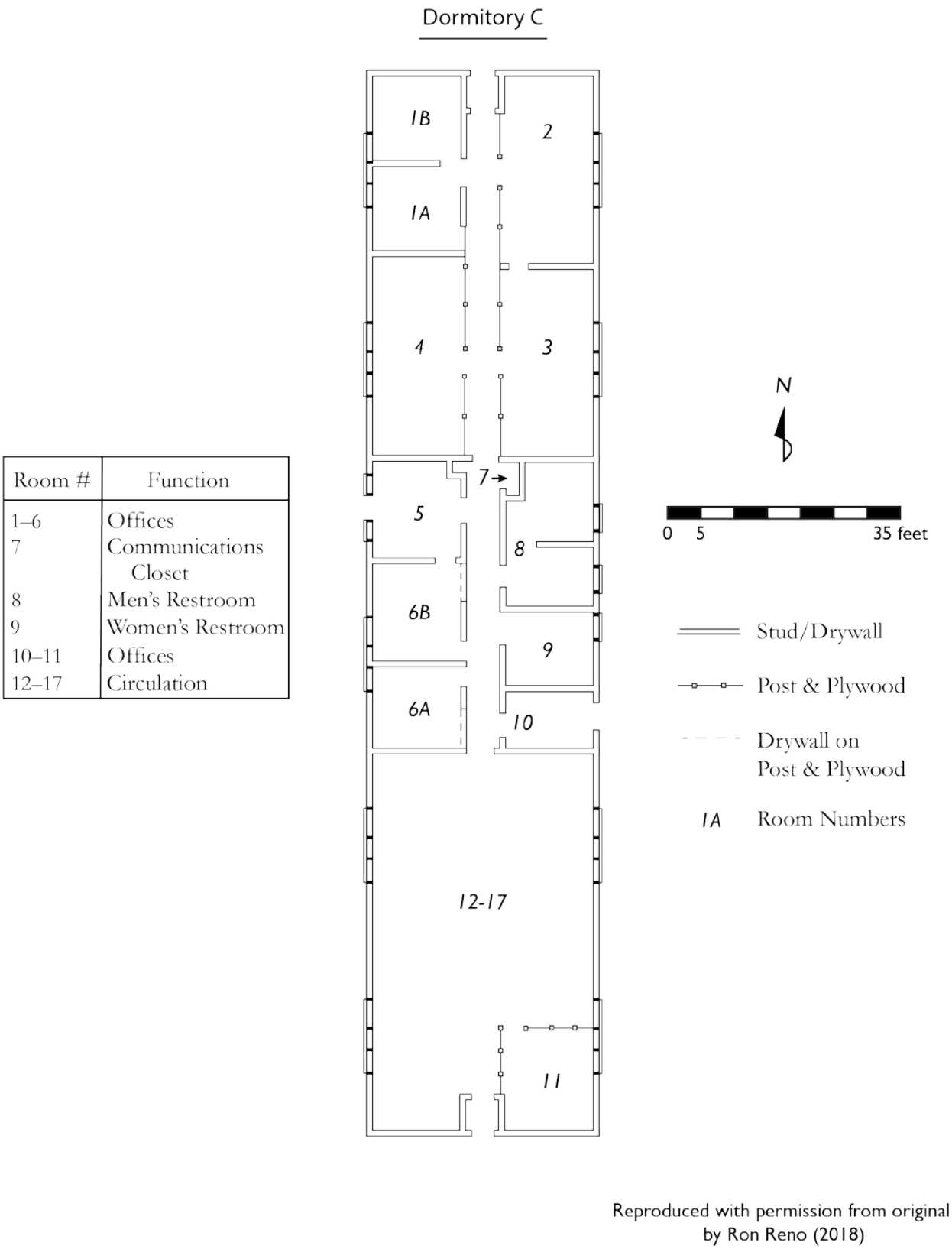
Figure 21. The rear and northeast corner of Building 23-C facing southwest (DRI 2017).

The exterior of Building 23-C as it looks today is in Figure 21. This photo, like those of the other surviving dormitories, shows relatively few changes from original construction, and nearly all of these date to the period of significance. Most prominent is the usual metal siding, in this case painted a pale yellow with pale green fascia. Original windows have been retained except where individual sashes have been replaced by air conditioners. The outside door in this image is a replacement.

Building 23-C began to transition to office space in 1965 when one of the dorm rooms was subdivided by a half-height steel partition. A major remodel completed by June the following year removed all original dorm dividing walls in both ends of the building and subdivided the remaining dorm room in the central service block.

A women's restroom was created out of the former shower room. Planning for this remodel began in 1980 and was completed in 1981. By 1982 dividing walls in the northern wing were re-established, and the partition in the former dorm room in the central block was removed. At this time, the centralized evaporative cooling system was abandoned in favor of individual window-mounted room air conditioners which had been installed earlier.

The present layout of the building, along with wall construction methods, is portrayed on the attached plan (Figure 22). Since 23-C was selected for detailed interior description as the best example left of this series of dormitories, detailed descriptions of all rooms in the building as it appears today are included in the ARA update.



Room #	Function
1–6	Offices
7	Communications Closet
8	Men's Restroom
9	Women's Restroom
10–11	Offices
12–17	Circulation

Figure 22. Present plan for Dormitory/Office 23-C (Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

Figure 23. Rear and northwest corner of Building 23-D (DRI 2017).

The exterior of Building 23-D as it looks today is shown in Figure 23. This photo, like those of the other surviving dormitories, shows relatively few changes from original construction, and nearly all of these date to the period of significance. Most prominent is the usual metal siding, in this case painted a pale green with pale blue fascia. Original windows have been retained except where individual sashes have been replaced by air conditioners. The outside door in this image is a replacement. This photo well illustrates the typical cut-and-fill terraces used throughout Mercury as building sites, along with two short segments of concrete walkway.

Planning for converting Dormitory 23-D to offices began in 1965 and the conversion was completed the following year. One aspect of this conversion is different in this building than it was in Buildings A-C. In several places, one wall of the central hallway was removed to increase office space in the adjoining room, but the opposite wall was retained. This design is visible in rooms 13 and 15 on the final layout of the building (Figure 24).

Room #	Function
01–03	Offices
04–05	Circulations
06	Men's Restroom
07	Equipment Room
08–11	Offices
12	Women's Restroom
13	Circulation
14	Office
15	Circulation

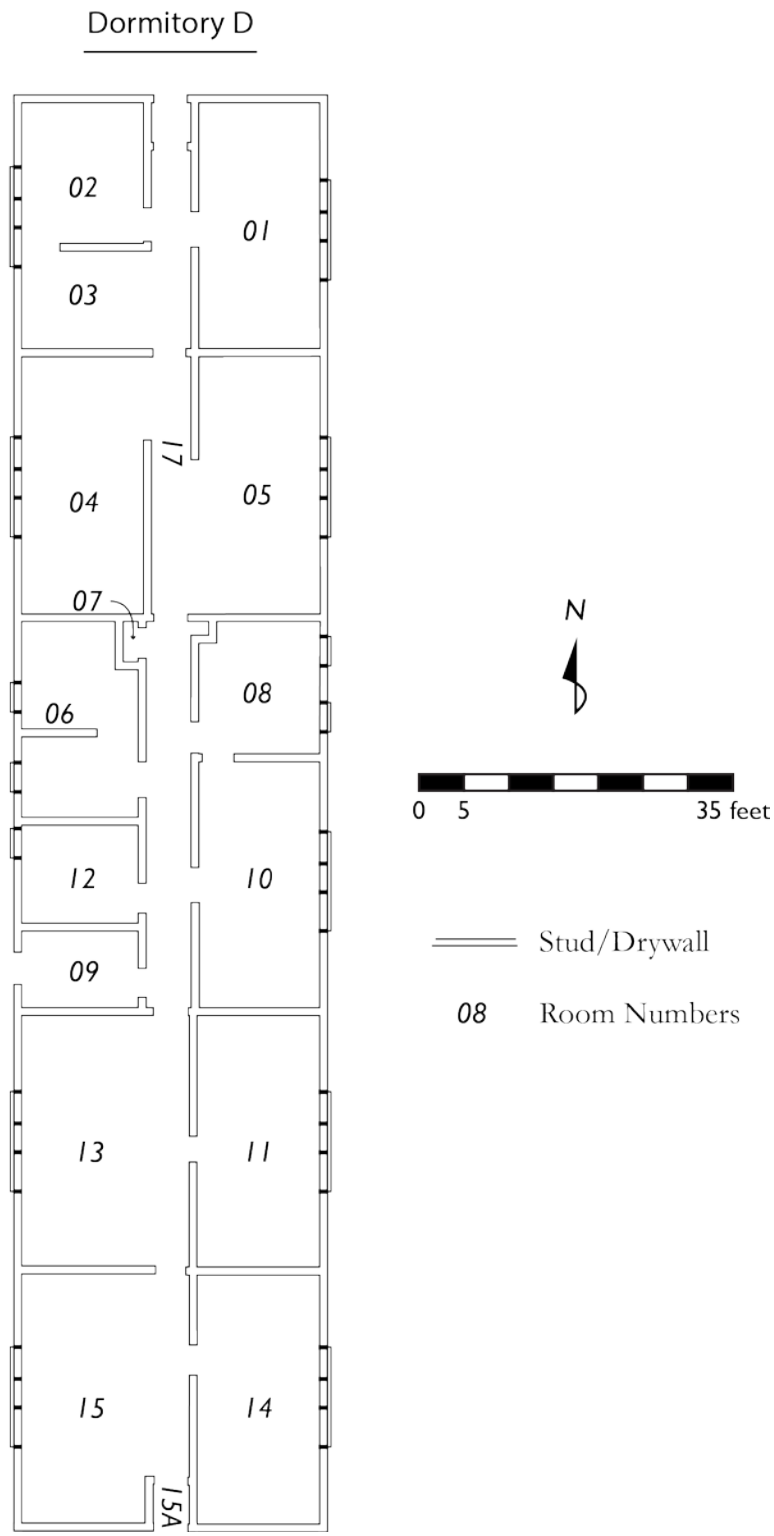


Figure 24. Present plan for Dormitory/Office 23-D, based on 2016 Space Management Plan (Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

During their approximately half-century of use, Dorms B, C, and D underwent a series of color makeovers similar to those of other buildings at Mercury. The big change in exterior colors was from the institutional green of the original base to the variegated pastels in the years following the recommendations of the 1962 Master Plan. The buildings were abandoned before the final exterior color change to a uniform tan took place throughout Mercury, so Dorms B-D are relics of the pastel era.

Interiors went through color changes as well. Those observed in these three buildings are shown in Figure 25. At upper left is a large sample of the pale green, which was the most common original color. The green and white wall also shows the typical lightweight post-and-plywood wall partitioning of the original barracks-style bedrooms, and the short partitions are examples of materials used after post-and-plywood walls were removed to facilitate open cubicle office spaces. At upper right is a far less common dark green initial coat. The various other colors include blue, yellow, pale pink, and light tan. The final coat is usually off-white, but pure white was also used in several locations.

Figure 25. Interior colors in Buildings 23-B, C, and D (DRI 2018).

Women's Dormitory Series 103-104 Foundations, Resource 23-103/SHPO C297, Silas Mason Co., 1951

Figure 26. Women's Dormitories 23-103 and 104. Top: View to southwest of foundation for 23-104 (DRI 2017). The 23-103 foundation is out of sight under the temporary shelter. Electrical boxes and asphalt paving are from re-use of this location as an RV park. Bottom: View to the northeast (REECo 3027-7, 1965).

The exteriors of these two buildings show well in Figure 26, despite it being enlarged from an overview photograph. These women's dormitories are modifications by Silas Mason Co. of H&N's A-O series of men's dorms. Building 23-103 initially was named Building 112B and 23-104 was 112A. The only difference on the exterior is that windows are mounted singly and in pairs in contrast to the triple-mounted windows of the men's dormitories.

As with the men's dorms, the plan for each was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage. Instead of the dorm room in the central block of the H&N dorms, this space was used as a day room. On each side of the central block were eight semi-private dorm rooms with four on each side of the hallway. All interior walls were of stud and drywall construction which provided much more privacy than the lightweight post-and-plywood partitions of the men's dorms of the A-O series. All of the rooms were provided with built-in closets, another amenity missing from men's dorms of the period.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11×11 ft and normally had two occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Men's Dormitory Series P-Q (foundations no longer exist); Women's Dormitory 105 Foundation, Resource 23-103/SHPO C297, Silas Mason Co., 1953-1955

Figure 27. Southwest corner of Men's Dormitory 23-Q facing north (REECo 1955). The two men's dormitories in this series, P and Q, were identical to 23-105, except they lacked day rooms, and the restrooms were provided with urinals. These two dormitories occupied the west end of the row of buildings just south of Sandstone Avenue. They were slightly longer than the A-series. They looked quite different with single windows, gable roofs, and triangular vents in the gable ends as shown on Figure 27. These two dormitories and their foundations were removed in 1986 to construct the 531-series of dormitories and associated parking areas. A third dormitory of this design (23-R) was planned but never constructed, its place in the array of dormitories instead becoming a parking lot at the corner of Sandstone and Buster.

Figure 28. Women's Dormitory 23-105 foundation facing south (DRI 2017). Asphalt paving to the left of the concrete slab and electrical boxes to the right are from later use as part of an RV Park. Women's Dormitory 23-105 shows well on the far left of the photo in Figure 13, confirming its close exterior resemblance to the photo of 23-Q above. Its present condition and later reuse as part of an RV park and as part of the base of a large temporary structure are shown in Figure 28. This building was the longest of any of the 1950s dormitories at 144 ft with a width of 30 ft. It was the usual frame structure with shiplap wood siding. It had an end-gable roof with triangular wood-louver vents in the gable ends. Three louvered clerestory vents were along the ridgetop.

In plan the Men's Dormitory Series P-Q had the usual central hall design. The useless main entrance of the earlier models was no longer present, leaving the main entrances at each north and south end with access to the mechanical room about halfway up one side. Outside doors were panel with multiple lights. All windows were 4/4 wood double-hung mounted singly. Doors and windows had simple surrounds. The 22 11 × 12 ft bedrooms were semi-private and were equipped with closets. All internal walls were of stud and drywall construction. As with earlier designs, the communal

restroom, showers, and mechanical areas were placed near the center of the building. A day room occupied the full length of one end.

Men's Dormitory Series S-Y Foundations, Resource 23-E/SHPO C298, 1956

Figure 29. Dormitories 23-S, T, and U. Top: Foundations facing southwest with typical reuse for temporary storage (DRI 2017). Bottom: Southern entries facing north prior to demolition (DRI 1998).

The last phase of demountable dormitory construction on this block was in 1956 with installation of these seven dorms along the north side of Greenhouse Avenue. The western four dormitories and their foundations were removed in 1986 to construct the 531-series of dormitories and associated parking areas. The western half of Greenhouse Avenue in this block was removed at the same time.

These buildings had low-pitch end-gable roofs and horizontally-oriented sliding windows (Figure 29). In place of the enclosed entry vestibules of the A-O series, these had doors inset into the ends of the central hallway. Original wood siding was replaced as usual by metal insulated siding. Dorm exteriors were painted with pastel colors including off-white, pale yellow and pale green.

The layout of these 118×30 ft buildings was very similar to the A-O series. Typical dorm rooms were 12×21 ft prior to later division of each one into two semi-private rooms.

Women's Dormitory Series 106-107 Foundations, Resource 23-103/SHPO C297, 1956

Figure 30. Women's Dormitories 23-106 and 107. Top: View to the southwest of the foundations as they appear today showing their distinctive entry niches (DRI 2017). Bottom: From nearly the same vantage prior to demolition (DRI 1998).

The last two women's dormitories in this complex were originally intended to occupy the southwest corner of Buster and Sandstone in a parcel that would eventually be occupied by the new fire station, but ended up instead on the northeast corner of Teapot and Sandstone.

These two buildings reverted to the smaller dimensions of most other dorm classes with a length of 128 ft and a width of 30 ft. They presented a much more modern outside appearance with very low-pitch gable roofs and introduction of aluminum sliding windows mounted singly (Figure 30). This modern appearance was enhanced when the v-rustic wood shiplap siding was covered with aluminum siding in the late 1970s or early 1980s. At that time the louvered gable-end vents over the doorways were covered over.

The dorms had the usual central-hall layout but in this case the end doors were inset rather than mounted flush with the outside walls. They also contained the similar central restroom, shower, and mechanical area. The dayroom or lounge was again located in the central area with its own outside door. There were 18 semi-private rooms, all with closets.

Other Support Facilities

Aside from a single Quonset hut, all of the remaining five buildings in the APE are or were wood demountable structures nearly identical to the dormitories discussed above in design and materials. As part of their basic design, all were narrow enough to be moved on a highway. They were made up of a series of modular elements similar to the dorms in interior construction, materials, massing, fenestration, roof design, and interior layout based on a central hall the full length of the building or wing if it was a complex structure. Aside from the laundry, which was recorded in the architectural survey as part of the women's dormitory complex (23-103), all of the other support buildings were unique and recorded as separate resources.

Hospital and Sheriff's Office Foundation 23-100/SHPO C319, Silas Mason Co., 1952

Figure 31. Infirmary/Sheriff's Office 23-100. Left: Foundation looking north (DRI 2017). Right: View of the northwest corner of 23-100 facing southeast, showing one of the most heavily landscaped yards in Mercury (REECo 1969). Building 23-101 is in the background.

This was a rectangular-plan wood-framed one-story building with wood siding, low-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation (Figure 31). The wood siding was covered with aluminum siding in 1981-1982. The building was originally constructed to house the base infirmary/hospital. It had the typical panel doors, some with multiple lights, and 6/6 wood-framed double-hung windows found throughout Mercury at this time. The north and south entry facades were identical with a central door flanked on each side by a single window. The rear (south) entry was widened in 1959 to facilitate movement of patients. Fenestration along the sides was irregular, coinciding with variation in interior room layout. The roof was reflective white composition with three louvered vents along the ridgeline. It protruded to protect each entry.

The main (north) entrance was enhanced throughout the use of the building by construction of a rock garden (Figure 31). A few shrubs and one of Mercury's few deciduous trees were planted in the garden. In addition, a mature Joshua tree was transplanted into it. None of these landscape elements remain.

In plan, the 26×60 ft building was laid out exactly like a dormitory with a full-length central hallway flanked on each side by six identical 10 ft square modules. At the north main entry the first module on each side was kept open to the hallway to form a large waiting room. Along the east side of the building from front to rear were the civilian doctor's office, surgery, examination, ward, and "physic." rooms. Similarly along the west side were the military doctor's office, surgery, mechanical and maintenance spaces, ward, and laboratory. Both wards opened to small toilets. There were no baths or showers in the building and, notably, no decontamination area. Air conditioning was from a single evaporative cooler located on the ground adjacent to the mechanical room. It led to a full-length duct that formed the ceiling of the central hallway. Flooring was asphalt tiles.

By 1959 the waiting room was much reduced, and offices were created in both the east and west ends of the former waiting room by means of partitions. The room in the southeast corner was used for X-rays with an adjacent small developing room.

In 1959 the layout was changed to again increase the size of the waiting room by removing the western partition. The eastern partition was moved to align with the hallway, and this space was designated as a file room. The first two rooms on the east side of the hallway were joined to make a large treatment room. Continuing south down the east side of the hall were a lab, ward, and X-ray room. Along the west hall were two doctors' offices, mechanical space, and a large examination room created by removing the form wall partition. The toilet from this former ward was converted into a shower with vinyl tiles. Reduction to a single small ward indicates the emphasis on triage and transport rather than on-site health care.

Later in 1959 the new treatment room was modified into an X-ray room. The main structural change was lining the interior with sheet lead and placing slats in the existing window sashes.

With construction of the new hospital building (23-650) in 1963 it became the Nye County Sheriff's Office. It retained this function throughout the rest of the Cold War.

Administration Building Foundation 23-101/SHPO C320, Silas Mason Co., 1952

Figure 32. Administration Building 23-101. Top: Foundation looking northwest showing the cut and fill terrace (DRI 2017). Bottom: The northeast corner of Building 23-101 is on the left, facing south-southwest (REECo 1955).

Originally this building was used for administrative offices (REECo 1955). In the 1980s it was used for the REECo Mechanical Calibration Laboratory before it moved to 23-153. By the early 1990s it served as offices for the REECo supply and prop management. Under Bechtel it was the property and labor relations office.

This was originally a 6,458 ft^2 U-plan wood-framed building with wood v-rustic shiplap siding, low-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation (Figure 32). The front section on Ranger was 115×28 ft. The wings were also 28 ft wide. The western wing was 28 ft long and the eastern wing by Buster Street was 87 ft in length.

Windows were typical 6/6 wood-framed double hung, mounted singly and in pairs. Several louvered metal roof vents were on the ridgelines.

The formal entry lobby was in the northeast corner of the building facing Buster Street. Several other entrances accessed all sides. The entrances had concrete stoops, which were protected by roof extensions.

The north and east wings had central hallways with offices of various sizes along both sides of the corridors. Each of these wings also had men's and women's restrooms near the center. The east wing also had the principal mechanical room for the building with a large evaporative cooler on the ground outside. The west wing contained a single large drafting room, which extended north to the corridor of the north wing.

The center wing, which converted the building to a roughly E-shaped plan, was added in March 1957 according to architectural drawings, but aerial photographs indicate it was not actually built for several years. It had smaller dimensions than the other wings at 18×40 ft and lacked a central hallway since it contained only one office and a large room labeled "FPUA" on plans drafted around that time.

By 1959, the original drafting room had been converted to a conference room and two offices. Otherwise the building remained unchanged since the addition of the center wing.

By 1965, the central wing was converted to a large open office space. The following year it was divided up into three new offices along with the original office. At the same time, the west wing was re-arranged by making one room at the south end of the wing and all other room walls were removed including the south wall of the north wing corridor in this area.

Administration Building Foundation 23-102/SHPO C, Silas Mason Co., 1952

Figure 33. Administrative Building 23-102. Top: Foundation facing southwest (DRI 2017). Bottom: Northwest corner of Building 23-102 facing southeast (REECo 1955).

Building 23-102 was used for administrative offices (Figure 33). Originally it housed field offices for the Security Division along with communications equipment. By the 1980s, it was used as the administrative office for Fenix & Scisson. In the early 1990s, it was used by Raytheon Services, Nevada Technical Support and later by the Safety & Health Department.

This was a 6,575 ft^2 E-plan wood-framed building with wood v-rustic shiplap siding, moderate-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation. The front section on Ranger was 115×28 ft. The wings were also 28 ft wide. The side wings were 74 ft long and the central wing was 45 ft in length (REECo 1955).

This building initially had an irregular U-shaped plan with the east wing shorter than the west. Its asymmetry was accented by the southern portion of the west wing, which had a higher roofline to accommodate two segmented overhead bay doors opening to Buster Street as shown on the right side of Figure 33. These bays served as an engine room and were superior in height for housing fire engines to Building 23-109 with its uniformly low walls. Despite this problem with 23-109, which is just on the other side of Ranger Avenue from this building, the other building won the competition to become Mercury's first fire station. Either the bay doors were replaced with siding and doors to match the rest of the building after the initial construction (and by the time the attached photo was taken in 1955), or, per the as-built notations, it is likely the bay doors were removed from the building design prior to initial construction. Presumably, this part of the building was allowed to retain its extra height in an effort to avoid slowing down construction by making too radical a revision of the plans. The resulting space was used as a commodious briefing room. In outside appearance it was nearly identical to its neighbor to the west, 23-101.

Although superficially similar, building 23-102 had a radically different internal layout from 23-101. The northern wing had the central hallway common to most of the demountable buildings of the era but the other two wings lacked any corridor along the long axes. This made travel within the building very difficult. It was clearly easier to go outside and reenter the building elsewhere rather than walk through the mazes and disturb several fellow workers in the process.

In addition to several administrative offices, the building originally had spaces dedicated to security, communications, and a dark room. Men's and women's restrooms were located near the middle of the northern wing.

A small laundry was built as an addition to the southeast corner of the west wing in 1956. The tiny 9×12 ft end-gable addition was of materials matching the rest of the building. It was accessed from the courtyard, having no doorway to the interior of the main building. Like Building 23-152 described below, it was known on the site as a *washateria* (also spelled *washeteria*). Its curious location is explained by proximity to men's dormitory complexes to the east and south. It appears to have been rather quickly removed, perhaps due to machinery noise transmitted through the common wall into the administration building.

The east wing was extended 30 ft to the south the following year. This gave the building a more symmetrical U-shaped plan although the east wing was now slightly longer than the west wing.

By 1965, the final addition was made to the building. It was a 26×46 ft gabled wing running south from the center of the north wing, filling in much of the former courtyard and giving the building its E-shaped plan. This wing was of much more traditional design with a central corridor and four identical offices on each side of the hallway.

By 1966, cumulative changes to the building included conversion of the briefing room to a file archive and breakup of the fairly open east wing into many small offices. A large drafting room occupied part of the east wing.

Minor layout changes continued through time but a major alteration to the mechanical systems occurred in 1972 when the steam and hot water heating system was removed and replaced with a variety of other units distributed throughout the building.

A long series of alterations finally established a complete system of interior access corridors, most of them centrally located, in all wings.

Mercury Theater Foundation 23-125/SHPO C321, U.S. Navy/Silas Mason Co., 1953

Figure 34. The Theater. Top: Foundation facing south (DRI 2017). Bottom: Main entries and northwest corner of Building 23-125 facing to the southeast. Buildings 23-127 and 23-103 are visible at the left (REECo 1955). Note that although this photo and the other building photos included in the August 1955 facilities report could have been taken well before the date of that publication, all other REECo photos included in this report and the ARA forms are individually dated.

The theater was a rectangular-plan 100×40 ft (4,000 ft^2) Type 40 Quonset hut with metal framing, corrugated steel ends and roof, and concrete slab foundation (Figure 34 above). Extensive modifications were required to convert a standard Quonset hut into the Mercury Theater, which also served as an assembly hall and classroom. The large bay door and two pairs of windows in the front (north) façade were removed and covered with matching metal siding. In their places were two single doors in each corner along with a door to the mezzanine projection room and a steel staircase leading to it. Frames for movie posters were mounted on the front façade (Figure 35).

Figure 35. Joanne and Bob Parnell in front of the Mercury Theater (REECo 1393-9, 1962).

The windows in the rear façade were replaced with single windows and later replaced with doors. The bay door remained but was permanently sealed. Sides were broken only by ducts for evaporative coolers and a double door.

Most of the interior was occupied by fixed theater seating with aisles along the walls. A projection screen and stage occupied most of the south wall with small offices and storage rooms on each side. All interior walls were made of concrete block.

Between the twin entries at the north end of the building were men's and women's restrooms and a ticket office below the projection room.

This building remained remarkably unchanged throughout the Cold War years. Ron Reno recalls the interior looking the same in the 1980s as it did in the 1950s photos included with the ARA update.

Weather Service Building Foundation 23-127/SHPO C322, Silas Mason Co., 1954

Figure 36. Weather Bureau Building 23-127. Top: Foundation facing southwest. Bottom: Front elevation of building 23-127 facing south (REECo 1955).

The Weather Service building was a 60×20 ft (1,200 ft^2) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with wood siding, moderate-pitch gable roof, and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955). This building housed the U.S. Weather Bureau until it moved into a new building (23-143) in 1987. In 1986, it also housed the REECo safety shoe store.

Unlike the earlier surrounding buildings, this one had drop-rustic pattern shiplap siding instead of v-rustic. It had twin entries on the north façade facing Ranger Avenue along with three of the usual 6/6 double-hung windows (Figure 36 above). Two horizontally-oriented single-light windows were located high in the wall near the northwest corner. Two of these unusual windows were located directly opposite these in the south wall, which had one 6/6 window as well but was mostly blank.

The narrow west wall was blank while the east wall had two symmetrically-located 6/6 windows. Wood louver vents, which followed the roof pitch were in each gable end.

Interior layout was nearly unchanged during the building's use. An open workspace comprised about half of the building. There were also four other rooms and a small restroom. The building lacked entry vestibules or hallways.

A door was placed in the west wall sometime between 1959 and 1965.

Rooftop ventilators and a weather station with wind vane and anemometer were added prior to the 1960s.

Insulated aluminum siding was applied to the exterior between the summer of 1981 when its plans were approved and March 1982 when completion of the improvement is documented as built. At the same time, rectangular metal louver vents replaced the earlier wooden vents in the gable ends.

Laundry Building 23-152 (part of Resource 23-103/SHPO C297), Silas Mason Co., 1956

Figure 37. Southeast corner of Laundry Building 23-152 facing northwest with addition in the foreground (DRI 2017). This photo is from the same vantage as that of the reconstruction rendering of the original building on the cover of this report. The foundation slab for Dormitory 23-106 is at the left. The garbage cans in the foreground are also of Cold War vintage.

The Laundry or Wash House (23-152, Figure 37) was frequently referred to on site as a *washateria* (also spelled *washeteria)*, as was the smaller facility attached for a time to Building 23-102. This name is little-used in most of the United States, but has a strong regional usage centered in Texas. Its use in Mercury comes as little surprise considering that both H&N and Silas Mason Company moved many personnel from their Texas operations directly to the Nevada Test Site.

It is the only standing historic building on the entire block and has the distinction of continued use from its construction in 1956 nearly to the present. It is a 392 ft^2 one-story rectangular-plan wood-frame building. It was enlarged in 1957 (Figure 38). It was originally sheathed with wood v-rustic shiplap siding which was painted green like all other wooden buildings of that era in Mercury. The

original end wall of this material is preserved as an interior partition due to the expansion. In the early 1980s, the walls were covered with aluminum insulated bevel siding. Original windows are wood-framed 4/4 sliders. The building addition at the south end of the building has a replacement flush metal door with one light flanked by wood-framed fixed 1/1 windows. The north entry is the same but there is only one window to the left of the door. Metal louvered vents are in the gable ends replacing the original wood louvers. It has a low pitch gable roof with recent metal soffits. Originally composition, the roof is now covered with a reflective coating.

The concrete floor has raised housekeeping platforms for a row of washing machines and a hot water heater on the east side and a row of dryers along the west side. All walls are drywall, and the roof beams and collar ties are left open from below.

The small south addition to the building originally was intended for ice and soda vending machines, but it was converted to a laundry processing area with two built-in drop-down ironing boards. It matches the original part of the building in design and materials. Due to the application of aluminum siding and metal soffits and fascia, from the outside it is impossible to distinguish the addition from original construction.

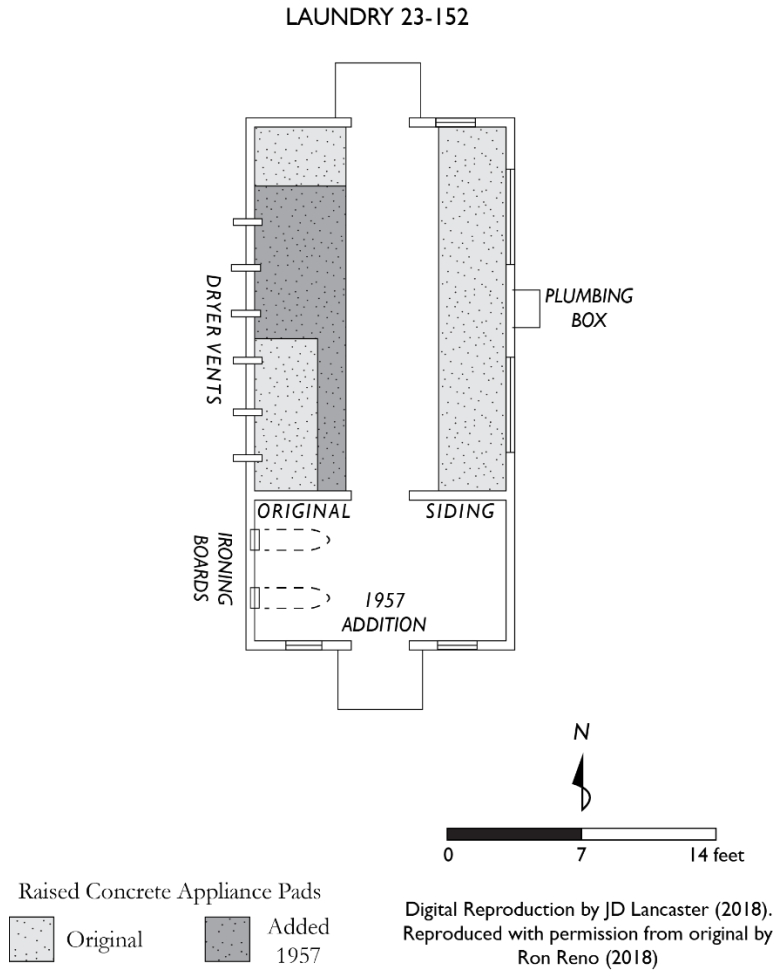


Figure 38. Plan of Laundry Building 23-152 as it exists today.

Architectural and Engineering Firms

Many architectural firms had a role in designing the built environment of Mercury. Of these, only two – H&N and Silas Mason Company (along with its successor Mason & Hangar-Silas Mason Company) designed buildings in the APE. These two companies cooperated very closely in the original design of Mercury. In some cases, it appears that H&N developed initial designs to be finalized by Silas Mason Company and in others, Silas Mason Company created slight modifications to existing H&N plans. This cooperation also characterized their design work in Frenchman Flat, to the extent that it is often impossible to attribute certain designs to one firm rather than the other (Johnson 2001)

Holmes & Narver (H&N)

H&N was active from the initial construction of what is now the NNSS through the end of the Cold War. This work was part of Contract 20, which was the longest running single contract ever administered by the U.S. government. James T. Holmes and D. Lee Narver started the firm in 1933 in Los Angeles to repair earthquake damage to a large number of buildings. The firm entered the realm of government-base design in 1940 with the designs of Camp Roberts and Camp Nacimiento for the Army, followed by a number of wartime military bases. Design of the nuclear test facility at Enewetak in 1947 foreshadowed its role in designing the new base camp of Mercury in 1951. The firm was extremely active during the Cold War with projects including facilities at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Douglas Aircraft, and overseas military bases.

H&N replaced Silas Mason Company as the principal engineering contractor at the NTS in 1956 (Johnson 2001). An example of 1960 design on the NTS is the Records Library (23-310, Block 5). In 1985, the DOE contract for NTS facilities reached 400 million dollars. During this period, the firm designed the striking 23-531 to 536 series of dormitories and Photographic Support Building 23-614 (Block 16) at Mercury. Much of the work H&N did at Mercury and at the rest of the test site was the unglamorous job of perpetually altering buildings to keep pace with changing mission requirements.

Although the military-related contracts were central to the work performed by H&N, the firm also had significant civilian commissions, such as the 1958 TWA terminal at Los Angeles International Airport. H&N ceased to exist as an independent firm in 2001. It was acquired by DMJM, which was in turn acquired by AECOM (Moore et al. 2010:189-190; *NTS News* August 19, 1983).

Silas Mason Company (Mason & Hangar-Silas Mason Company from 1955)

The Mason & Hangar family of companies began by building railroads starting in 1827 and continuing with railroad construction until 1916. The company had five contracts during World War I, ultimately constructing 1,700 buildings. After the war, the company designed skyscrapers, including the Hotel Lafayette in Lexington, and constructed the 100,000 resident company town for the Old Hickory Powder Plant in Tennessee. The Silas Mason Company was organized as a subsidiary in 1933 to work on New York subways including the Lincoln Tunnel. It was responsible for construction of Grand

Coulee Dam, again building a company town for the project. During World War II the company was active on projects such as ordnance plants.

Involvement with nuclear weapons infrastructure began in 1947 at the AEC Burlington Iowa plant. At the same time, the company also began its work at the Pantex facility near Amarillo, Texas, (where the company continues to work to this day) which contributed many of the specialists who were transferred to work on the new Nevada testing facility. It established an office and fabrication facilities in Las Vegas in 1951 and became involved in design and construction of many test-related facilities in Frenchman Flat and at Mercury. The company's involvement with the Nevada Test Site ended in 1955 when its role there was taken over by both REECo, which created an engineering department for this purpose, and by H&N, which soon took over the role as principal site architecture and engineering contractor. Silas Mason Company was re-absorbed into its parent company in 1955 near the end of its tenure at the NTS. In 1957 the company was reintroduced to the test site in a spectacular way when its "Gravel Gertie" nuclear containment design was first tested and subjected to follow-up test events through 1982 (Johnson 2001; NNSA/NFO 2013a; Sowder 2004).

In subsequent years, the company's design contracts have been immense and diverse, including projects such as the Lexington Civic Center, restoration of the Lexington Opera House, and major work for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, as well as extensive work for the Army (Goodwin 2012).

V. NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF CATEGORY I ELEMENTS

Sufficient supplemental research, along with consultations undertaken during the process of writing the Mercury PA, now makes it possible to make informed recommendations regarding the significance of the resources in the APE in regard to individual eligibility for listing to the National Register.

In summary, although the Mercury Historic District as a whole is eligible to the National Register at the national level, and each property described in this report contributes to this eligibility, none of these properties are individually eligible, under any of the Secretary of Interior's Significance Criteria at the local or national level.

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance and importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 346 Accessory Resources.

All of the resources within the APE contribute to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide architectural survey conducted in 2017, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research is required to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

DRI has recommended the many buildings which are represented today solely by foundations be precluded from individual eligibility for inclusion in the National Register due to their integrity issues. As a class, they are contributing elements to the district at the local level of significance.

Sufficient supplemental research has been done to complete the evaluations of the standing buildings in the APE. Dormitory/Offices 23-B, 23-C, and 23-D along with the Laundry 23-152 are all survivors of initial phases of camp construction. However, they represent palimpsests of large numbers of modifications throughout the Cold War period which have greatly altered their interiors and exteriors in materials, layout, and function. This series of alterations is of interest in regard to the specific history of construction and use of Mercury, but detracts from their interest as distinct property types.

As a design class, the demountable buildings are extremely important to the development of modular design, being the obvious precursors of the now-ubiquitous prefabricated modular buildings. They are also important in the development of roof support structures of sufficient strength to allow complete freedom in organizing the interior spaces, since interior columns or bearing walls could be dispensed with.

Despite the tremendous importance of this class to the change in design over time, they have little individual importance on their own. They are highly altered and undistinguished examples of a very common property type. Like the other demountable buildings related to administration and testing support activities, their scattering over the landscape in relation to the other buildings has more of an impact on a visitor than the presence of each individually. They have the most value as components of the whole Mercury Historic District, and it is only appropriate to consider them eligible for the National Register as contributing elements, not as individually eligible.

It is also important to note that while the four standing buildings in the APE are rare surviving examples of once-common types in Mercury itself, there are abundant and far more intact examples of wood demountable buildings outside Mercury which survive from World War II and the early years of the Cold War. For example, a very large collection of such buildings survives at Wendover, several survive (in new locations) from the Hawthorne Ammunition Depot, and a scattering of others from bases including Tonopah Airfield and Naval Air Station Fallon can be found, also in new locations. These considerations indicate that these buildings are not individually eligible for the National Register.

Although the designers of the demountable buildings in the APE, H&N and Silas Mason Company, are of national importance as the designers of a plethora of Cold War bases and buildings, the ones in the APE are extremely common and utilitarian types which do not approach the architectural distinction of some of the other work of the firms. Again, indicating that while they are contributors to the district, they do not rise to the level of individual significance under Criterion C.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings (housing, recreation, administration, and general site support) such as are in the APE, this kind of association is lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that any of the buildings in the APE have significant associations with important persons. Therefore, they are recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the resources in the APE to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of these buildings is minimal. The buildings are not individually significant and they are recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

Figure 39. Sign left upon abandonment of Building 23-C (DRI 2018).

V. REFERENCES

Engineering drawings are on file at the NNSA/NFO North Las Vegas Facility either in digital format or as aperture cards. All engineering drawings in the report and included with ARA forms have been reviewed and approved for public release.

Newspapers consulted included the Reno Evening Gazette (REG), Reno Gazette-Journal (RGJ) and the Nevada State Journal (NSJ). Other newspapers are fully spelled out in text when cited.

References for detailed resource descriptions are with individual ARA forms.

Additional references to larger topics, such as the Mercury Historic District as a whole or architectural types, can be found in Reno et al. (2018).

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DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CULTURAL RESOURCES FINDING OF EFFECT
LETTER REPORT LR070918-1-FOE
PROJECT NO. 1810123

Cultural Resources Letter Report on the Finding of Adverse Effect and Proposed Mitigation for the Removal of Four Buildings and Multiple Concrete Foundations in Mercury, Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, Nevada

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Prepared for

U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Field Office, Las Vegas, Nevada

Submitted by

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September 2018

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DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CULTURAL RESOURCES FINDING OF EFFECT
LETTER REPORT LR070918-1-FOE
PROJECT NO. 1810123

INTRODUCTION

The National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) proposes to remove four standing buildings and 18 concrete foundations in a two-block area near the center of the town of Mercury in the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

NNSA/NFO will implement this undertaking in accordance with the *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada*, hereafter referred to as the Mercury PA.

The buildings and remaining foundations were built between 1951 and 1956 in support of townsite development for nuclear testing activities on the NNSS. The town of Mercury and the immediate surrounding area have been designated the Mercury Historic District (SHPO Resource #D230), a property eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992.

The elements listed in Table 1 were identified during the initial architectural survey (Reno et al. 2018) as contributing to the eligibility of the Mercury Historic District. All fall within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for direct effects from the proposed activity.

Table 1. Buildings and Concrete Foundations within the APE.

Standing Buildings		**Concrete Foundations with no Standing Building**	
SHPO Resource	**Building Designation**	**SHPO Resource**	**Associated Building**
C297*	23-152	C319	23-100
B15239	23-B	C320	23-101
B15240	23-C	C323	23-102
B15241	23-D	C321	23-125
		C322	23-127
		C324	23-A
		C297*	23-103; 23-104; 23-105; 23-106; 23-107
		C298	23-E through 23-K

**Note that Resource #C297 consists of both one existing building (23-152) and several concrete foundations. The ARA form related to this resource number is labeled 23-103.*

FINDING OF EFFECT

After informal consultation with the DRI subject matter expert and applying the criteria of adverse effect, the NNSA/NFO Cultural Resource Manager (NFO/CRM) has determined the planned demolition of buildings and foundations within the APE will alter, directly and indirectly, the characteristics that qualify the Mercury Historic District for inclusion in the National Register. The planned demolition of these resources will result in an **Adverse Effect** to a historic property. While these elements are contributors to the district, they are not individually significant under the Secretary of Interior's Significance Criteria.

As specified in the Mercury PA under Stipulation VII.C, the NNSA/NFO is submitting the finding of adverse effect from the proposed demolition activity with documentation, including a description of the proposed mitigation consistent with Stipulation VIII of the Mercury PA. This documentation is being submitted concurrently with the National Register evaluation report (SR070918-1).

ELEMENT CATEGORY IDENTIFICATION

A table listing element category identifications for properties in the Mercury Historic District is in progress (Appendix C of the PA). For the purposes of the evaluation effort for this undertaking, all standing buildings in the direct APE were treated as Category I properties. DRI formally evaluated the buildings and recommended them as not individually eligible to the National Register under any of the Secretary of Interior's Significance Criteria. Therefore, DRI identifies these buildings as Category II properties (IV.B.2.) for the purpose of mitigation. The SHPO has agreed that the concrete foundations meet the definition of a Category III element (IV.B.3.) (email dated 07/13/2018). These foundations possess characteristics that are not unique to the Mercury Historic District and commonly occur on other facilities.

MITIGATION PLAN FOR CATEGORY II AND III ELEMENTS

In the Mercury PA, it is anticipated that detailed high-quality digital photography will typically be done of one representative element of a repetitive class such as the three standing dormitories (23-B, -C, -D) found in the APE. Although only one dormitory (23-C) of this group is selected as the most representative example for detailed interior description, it will be necessary to take photos within all three buildings to achieve a representation of all of the various types of interior construction and changes to layout that have taken place within the period of significance. This collective group of photographs will provide complete coverage of both the original construction and the kinds of modifications introduced throughout the Cold War for this building class.

NNSA/NFO in consultation with the SHPO has determined the 18 concrete foundations in the APE meet the definition of a Category III element (IV.B.3.). These foundations possess characteristics that are not unique to the Mercury Historic District and commonly occur on other facilities. In addition, the SHPO agreed photographic documentation in the existing Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) forms is adequate for the mitigation requirements. Therefore, high quality digital photography will not be done at the numerous empty foundations in the APE. Instead, the focus will be on reconstructing the building histories from engineering drawings and historic photos. This information will be presented in the updated ARA forms.

The following steps are proposed to mitigate the Category II and III elements:

- An updated ARA form will be completed for each of the resources listed above (VIII.C.1.a);
- High-quality digital images will be taken of one or more member(s) of the Category II element classes consistent with the plan for photography found in Appendix D of the Mercury PA (VIII.C.1.b);
- For the Category II properties (in this case, the four standing buildings), current annotated sketch plans, copies of historic architectural drawings, and photo plans will be added to the updated ARA forms (VIII.C.1.c); and
- Descriptions will be completed of the element classes and their significance within the context of the historic district (VIII.C.1.d). For this project, these descriptions will be submitted in a separate report (SR070918-1), which also serves as the evaluation report required under Stipulation VI.B.

REFERENCE

Reno, R. L., Collins, C. M., King, M. L.
2018 *The Architecture of Mercury – Nevada's Boom Town: An Architectural Survey of Mercury, Area 23, Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, Nevada*, Desert Research Institute Technical Report TR 115 Rev 1, DOE/NV/0003590-09, Desert Research Institute, Las Vegas, Nevada.

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DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CULTURAL RESOURCES MITIGATION SUBMISSION
LETTER REPORT LR070918-1-MIT
PROJECT NO. 1810123

Cultural Resources Letter Report for the Submission of Mitigation Documentation Related to the Removal of Four Buildings and Multiple Concrete Foundations in Mercury, Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, Nevada

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Prepared for

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Nevada Field Office, Las Vegas, Nevada

Submitted by

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September 2018

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DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CULTURAL RESOURCES MITIGATION SUBMISSION
LETTER REPORT LR070918-1-MIT
PROJECT NO. 1810123

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this letter report is to submit documentation related to the mitigation of four buildings and 18 concrete foundations in a two-block area in the Mercury Historic District (SHPO Resource #D230). This submission is intended to comply with the stipulations in the *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada*, hereafter referred to as the Mercury PA. Table 1 provides a list of the properties addressed by this letter report.

Table 1. Resources for Mitigation Review.

Standing Buildings (Category II)		**Concrete Foundations with no Standing Building (Category III)**	
SHPO Resource	**Building Designation**	**SHPO Resource**	**Associated Building**
C297*	23-152	C319	23-100
B15239	23-B	C320	23-101
B15240	23-C	C323	23-102
B15241	23-D	C321	23-125
		C322	23-127
		C324	23-A
		C297*	23-103; 23-104; 23-105; 23-106; 23-107
		C298	23-E through 23-K

**Note that Resource #C297 consists of both one existing building and several concrete foundations. The ARA form related to this resource number is labeled 23-103.*

In accordance with the Mercury PA, treatment of adverse effects to these properties was completed. These treatment measures included supplemental historical research, enhanced significance discussions, and digital photographic documentation.

MITIGATION FOR CATEGORY II AND III ELEMENTS

In the Mercury PA, it is anticipated that detailed high-quality digital photography will typically be done of one representative element of a repetitive class such as the three standing dormitories (23-B, -C, -D) found in the APE. Although only one dormitory (23-C) of this group was selected as the most representative example for detailed interior description, it was necessary to take photos within all three buildings to achieve a representation of all of the various types of interior construction and changes to layout that had taken place within the period of significance. This collective group of photographs provides complete coverage of both the original construction and the kinds of modifications introduced throughout the Cold War for this building class.

NNSA/NFO in consultation with the SHPO has determined the 18 concrete foundations in the APE meet the definition of a Category III element (IV.B.3.). These foundations possess characteristics that are not unique to the Mercury Historic District and commonly occur on other facilities. In addition, the SHPO agreed photographic documentation in the existing Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) forms is adequate for the mitigation requirements. Therefore, high quality digital photography was not done at the numerous empty foundations in the APE. Instead, the focus was on reconstructing the building histories from engineering drawings and historic photos. This information is presented in the updated ARA forms.

The following steps were undertaken to mitigate the Category II and III elements:

- An updated ARA form was completed for each of the resources listed above (VIII.C.1.a);
- High-quality digital images were taken of one or more member(s) of the Category II element classes consistent with the plan for photography found in Appendix D of the Mercury PA (VIII.C.1.b);
- For the Category II properties (in this case, the four standing buildings), current annotated sketch plans, copies of historic architectural drawings, and photo plans have been added to the updated ARA forms (VIII.C.1.c); and
- Descriptions have been completed of the element classes and their historic significance within the context of the historic district (VIII.C.1.d). For this project, these descriptions are submitted in a separate report (SR070918-1), which also serves as the evaluation report required under Stipulation VI.B.

REVIEW OF STANDARD MITIGATION FOR CATEGORY II AND III ELEMENTS

The size of the files for these ARA form updates and digital photography are not compatible with an electronic submission per Stipulation VIII.D.1. Therefore, documents including ARA forms and digital images of the element classes prepared in accordance with Stipulation VIII.C are being submitted in hard copy.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation is attached for SHPO review and comment to meet standard mitigation requirements for Category II and III elements (VIII.D.)

- An updated ARA form for each of the resources listed in Table 1 (VIII.C.1.a).
- For the Category II properties (in this case, the four standing buildings), current annotated sketch plans, copies of historic architectural drawings, digital images, and photo plans have been added to the updated ARA forms (VIII.C.1.c).
    - For the 23-B, -C, and -D dorm series, 23-C was selected as the most representative of the type. Therefore, while the narrative eligibility justification and architectural description have been updated on all three dorms, detailed interior description and digital photographic documentation are only included with 23-C.
    - The 23-152 laundry was originally recorded as an accessory resource to Resource C297. Mitigation documentation for the laundry is included with the C-297 (23-103) ARA update.

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C297 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time, detailed interior description of the laundry, high-resolution photography, and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	23-103, 104: **1951** 23-105: **1953-1955** 23-106, 107, 152: **1956**

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes and Narver had an early conceptual role in designing 23-103 and 104 and designed the A-O series of men's dorms that formed the basis of the design. However, it appears that Silas Mason Co. produced the final design for these buildings. Design attribution is difficult since both firms produced parallel sets of nearly identical plans for these two buildings. Silas Mason Co. designed 23-105. The final two dorms, 23-106 and 107 were designed by the same company after a merger changed its name to Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. The original designer of the laundry (23-152) could be either Holmes and Narver or Silas Mason. REECo designed the expansion of that building.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

The major dormitory buildings, which comprised nearly all of this resource, are represented today solely by foundations, precluding them from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues. The one standing building, while of considerable interest, is an extremely minor resource consisting of a tiny laundry. It is not of historical importance in regard to Criterion A. In regard to C, it is a rare surviving example of a once-common type in Mercury – wood frame demountable buildings. However, buildings of this construction type from World War II and the early Cold War are not rarities, and many other more complex examples exist at or near various military bases. Although its status as a contributing element to Mercury at the local level is sound, it does not warrant consideration as significant either at the national level or in its own right as an individual resource.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as these, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that any of the buildings in this group has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of these resources to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this set of buildings is important, but only as a collection of buildings and not in regard to characteristics of the individual buildings. The contribution of the buildings is minimal and they are not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Dormitories 103 and 104

These women's dormitories are modifications by Silas Mason Co. of Holmes and Narver's A-O series of dorms. Building 23-103 initially was named Building 112B while 104 was 112A.

The dormitories were 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with moderate-pitch hip roofs and concrete slab foundations (REECo 1955). They were much more solidly built than wartime frame structures with 2x6 framing. A concrete walk runs along the alley north of the dorms. Short concrete walks connect the dorms with this walkway and with Sandstone Avenue to the south.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows were 6/6 wood double-hung mounted singly and in pairs, later replaced with aluminum sliders. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers. Interior doors were later replaced with hollow-core doors.

The front (west) entrance was near the center of the long façade. The door had a 2/2 light. It was flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extended from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof formed a hood over the entrance, which had a concrete stoop.

The rear also had a door near center but lacked sidelights and hood. The narrow sides each had entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but later had a reflective coating. It had wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents were on the ridgeline.

The plan for each dorm was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones. The central block contained the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage. Instead of having a dorm room in the central block like those of the Holmes and Narver dorms, this space was used as a day room. On each side of the central block were eight semi-private dorm rooms with four on each side of the hallway. All interior walls were of stud and drywall construction, which provided much more privacy than the lightweight partial partitions of the men's dorms of the A-O series. All of the rooms were provided with built-in closets, another amenity missing from men's dorms of the period.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x11 ft and normally had two occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

Dormitory 105

This building was the longest of any of the 1950s dormitories at 144 ft with a width of 30 ft. It was the usual frame structure with shiplap wood siding and had an end-gable roof with triangular wood-louver vents in the gable ends. Three louvered clerestory vents were along the ridgetop.

In plan it had the usual central hall design. The useless main entrance of the earlier models was no longer present, leaving the main entrances at each end with access to the mechanical room about halfway up one side. Outside doors were panel with multiple lights. All windows were 4/4 wood double-hung mounted singly. Doors and windows had simple surrounds. The 22 11x12 ft bedrooms were semi-private and were equipped with closets. All internal walls were of stud and drywall construction. As with earlier designs, the communal restroom, showers, and mechanical areas were placed near the center of the building. A day room occupied the full length of one end.

Dormitories 106 and 107

The last two women's dormitories in this complex were originally intended to occupy the southwest corner of Sandstone and Buster in a parcel that would eventually be occupied by the fire station built in 1966.

These two buildings reverted to the smaller dimensions of most other dorm classes with a length of 128 ft and a width of 30 ft. They presented a much more modern outside appearance with very low-pitch gable roofs and introduction of aluminum sliding windows mounted singly. This modern appearance was enhanced when the V-rustic wood shiplap siding was covered with aluminum siding in the late 1970s or early 1980s. At that time the louvered gable-end vents over the doorways were covered over.

They had the usual central-hall layout, but in this case the end doors were inset rather than mounted flush with the outside walls. These dorms had the usual central restroom, shower, and mechanical area. The dayroom or lounge was again located in the central area with its own outside door. There were 18 semi-private rooms, all with closets.

Laundry 152

The laundry or wash house was frequently referred to on site as a *washateria* (also spelled *washeteria)*, as was the similar facility attached for a time to Building 23-102. The size is 392 ft², not as large as indicated in the facilities database, which was used to document the area on the original ARA form.

The original ARA is incorrect regarding dating of aluminum siding application. The upgrade was designed in October 1981 by REECo, and the as-built stamp on the engineering drawing indicates that it was completed by January 1983. As part of that upgrade, five large dryer vents high in the west wall were covered over and their function taken over by the row of vents in the lower part of the wall, which are still in place today.

Supplemental interior description was done as part of the mitigation plan, details of the two rooms are as follows:

BLDG #: 23-152	ROOM #: Original	LEVEL: 1	280 FT²	Recorded: July 9, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Laundry				
PHOTO(S): See plan, page 18				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	White drywall, originally pale green. Building was originally uninsulated and not lined with drywall.			
N. Wall	Center door, left window blocked and replaced with electrical box. Window to right of door. Replacement electrical fan and vent above door.			
S. Wall	Center door, metal fire extinguisher mount. Door removed.			
E. Wall	Two sliding windows over galvanized wainscot on plywood with attached plumbing for washing machines. Hole in center at bottom for exit of plumbing reveals interior face of original 7" V-rustic wood siding painted light green.			
W. Wall	Row of dryer exhaust vents near floor. Electrical surface-mounted electrical boxes and conduit, all now capped. Metal instructional sign for use of laundry.			
Ceiling	2 ft pressboard panels on 4x6 (nominal) rafters. 2x6 collar ties at alternate rafters. Wood bird stops are not covered by drywall.			
Floor	Unpainted concrete with floor drain. Raised housekeeping pads under appliances. Several generations of concrete anchors for appliance mounting. 5" concrete base and 3" wood base. Some cracking and old repairs.			
Doors	N: Replacement 3'6" flush white with one light (original doorway was 3 ft wide). S: Removed and casing replaced with bevel inside and square trim outside.			
Windows	All are original wood. North and south walls: 1'5"x2'8" 1x1 with plain sill and bevel surrounds. East wall: pair of 4x4 sliders 2'4"x5' with bevel surrounds.			
Lighting	Suspended 2-tube with grilles but no diffusers.			

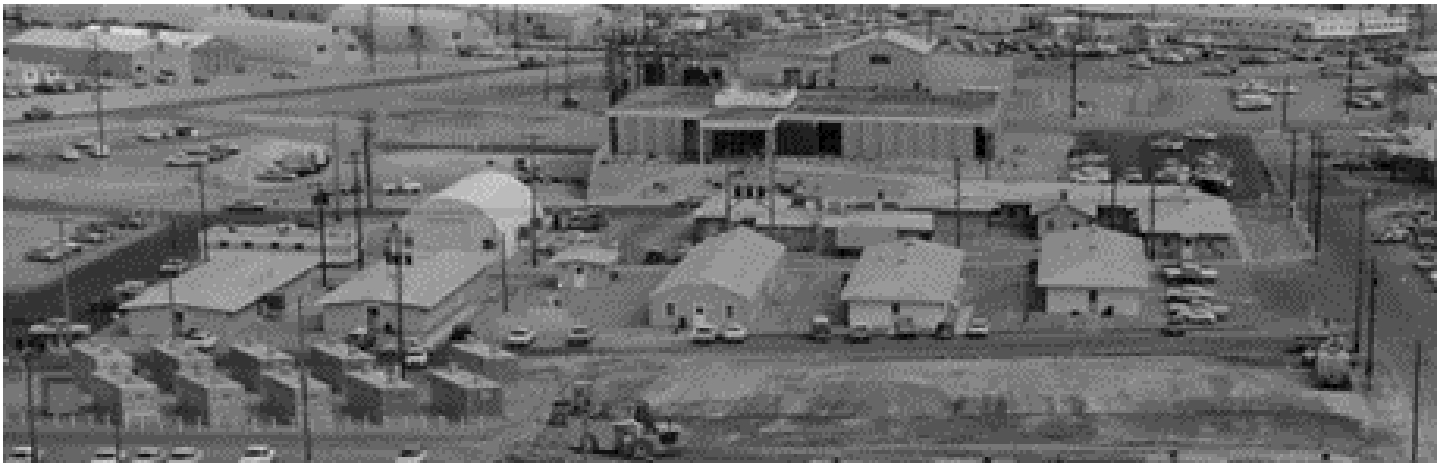
BLDG #: 23-152	ROOM #: Addition	LEVEL: 1	112 FT²	Recorded: July 9, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Originally ice and vending, most recently sorting and ironing				
PHOTO(S): See plan, page 18				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	White drywall with surface-mounted electrical outlets and conduit.			
N. Wall	Outside of building originally had 7" V-rustic siding. Flaking of white paint reveals original pale green. Near the tops of both walls on each side of doorway are matching siding plugs where original windows were removed. Metal cover over hole remains from when light above doorway was removed.			
S. Wall	Center replacement 3' door flanked by two fixed windows (see Windows above) relocated from original south wall. Replacement louvered metal vent over door. (See elevation and reconstruction Drawings for original wood louvered vents in eaves above both doors.)			
E. Wall	Galvanized wainscot on plywood with attached plumbing.			
W. Wall	Pair of ironing boards inset into wall. Installed after removal of soda machine.			
Ceiling	Same as original.			
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			

Floor	Unpainted concrete with 4" wood base and quarter-round toe strip.
Doors	Replacement 3 ft flush with one small light.
Windows	See above. Although they appear to be original, note that the windows on the north and south elevations are narrower than depicted on the 1957 elevation.
Lighting	Same as original.
Built-ins	Two drop-down ironing boards inset in gray steel cases. The cast aluminum board brackets are embossed "DURA STEEL PROD. L.A. CAL."

See Attachment A for high-quality digital images of 23-152 (page 17).

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*



Women's dormitory complex facing north. REECo 3028-15, 1965.

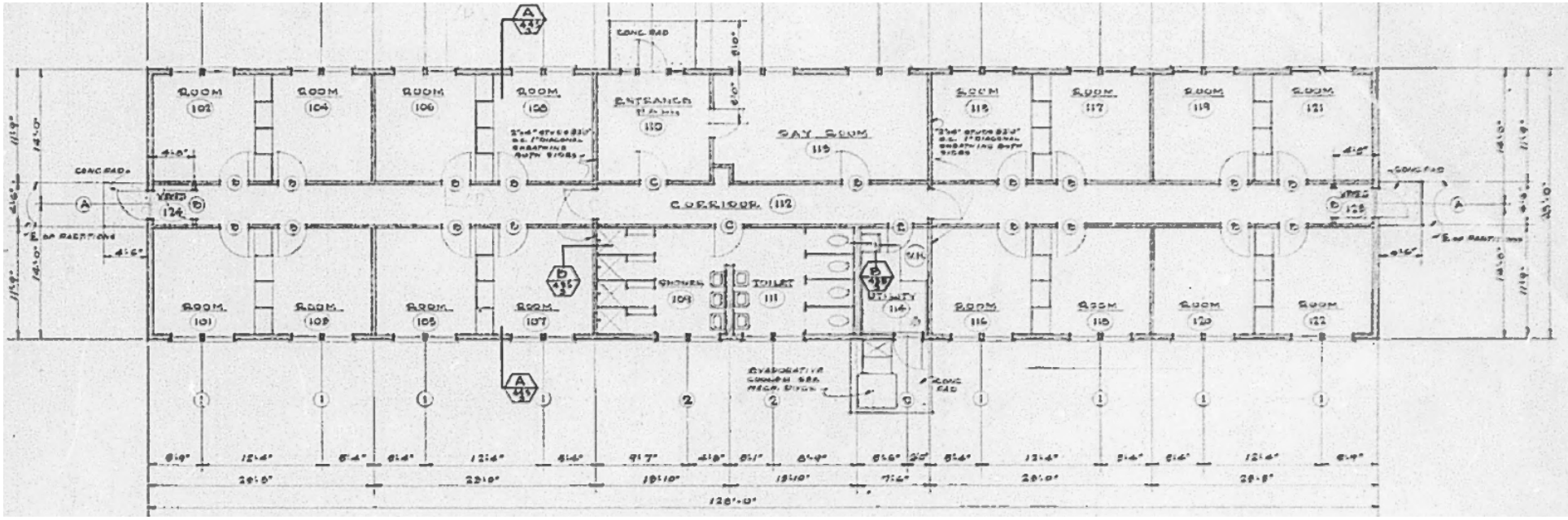
Washers on east wall or north room before removal of machines, facing northeast (DRI 2016).

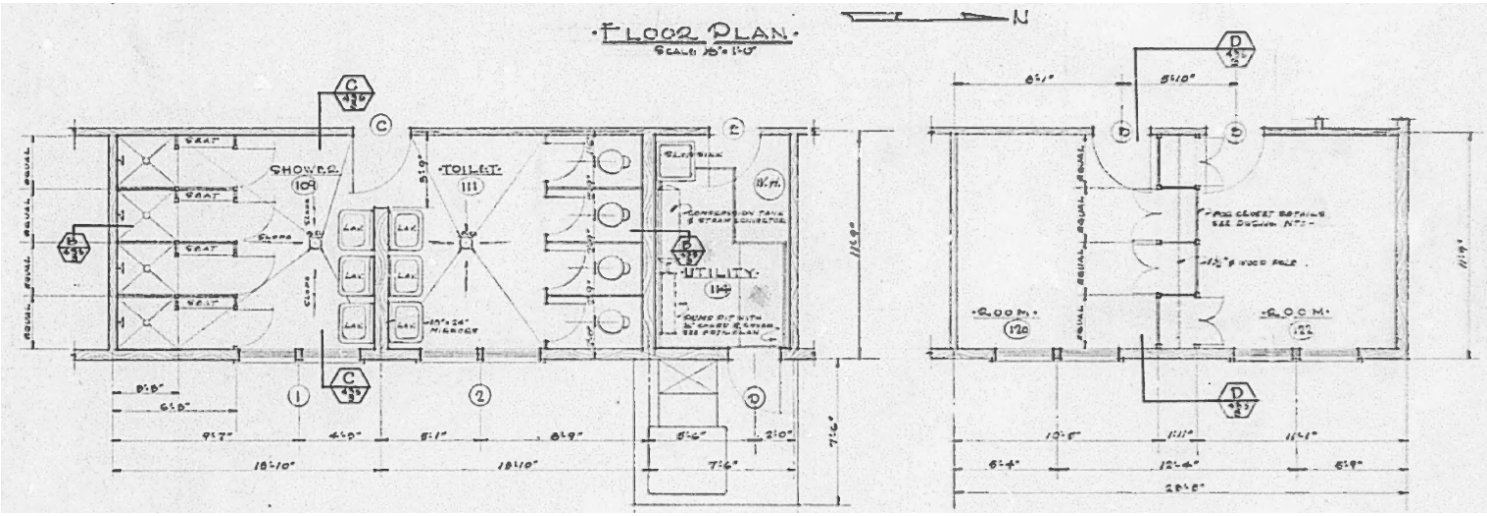
Ceiling rafters, facing northeast (DRI 2016).

Sign on west wall in north room (DRI 2016).

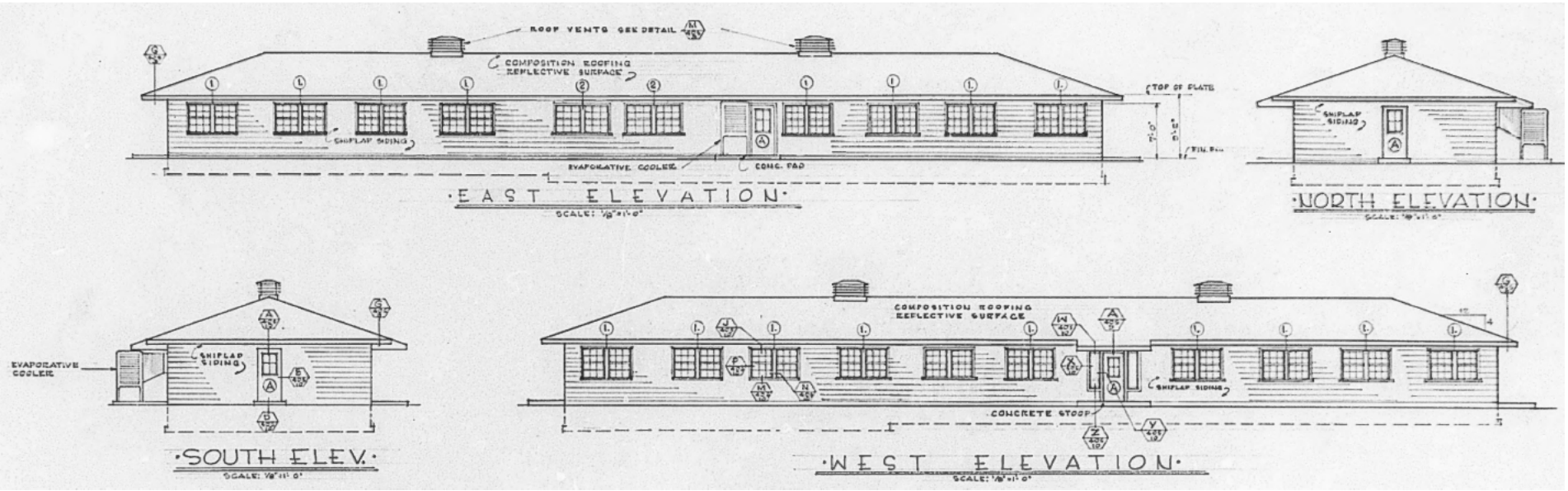
Soap machine on south wall of north room (DRI 2016).

Hi-resolution aerial view of the area surrounding the Laundry building (23-152) as of October 10, 2016 (NSTec Product ID: 20170223-02-P002-R01).

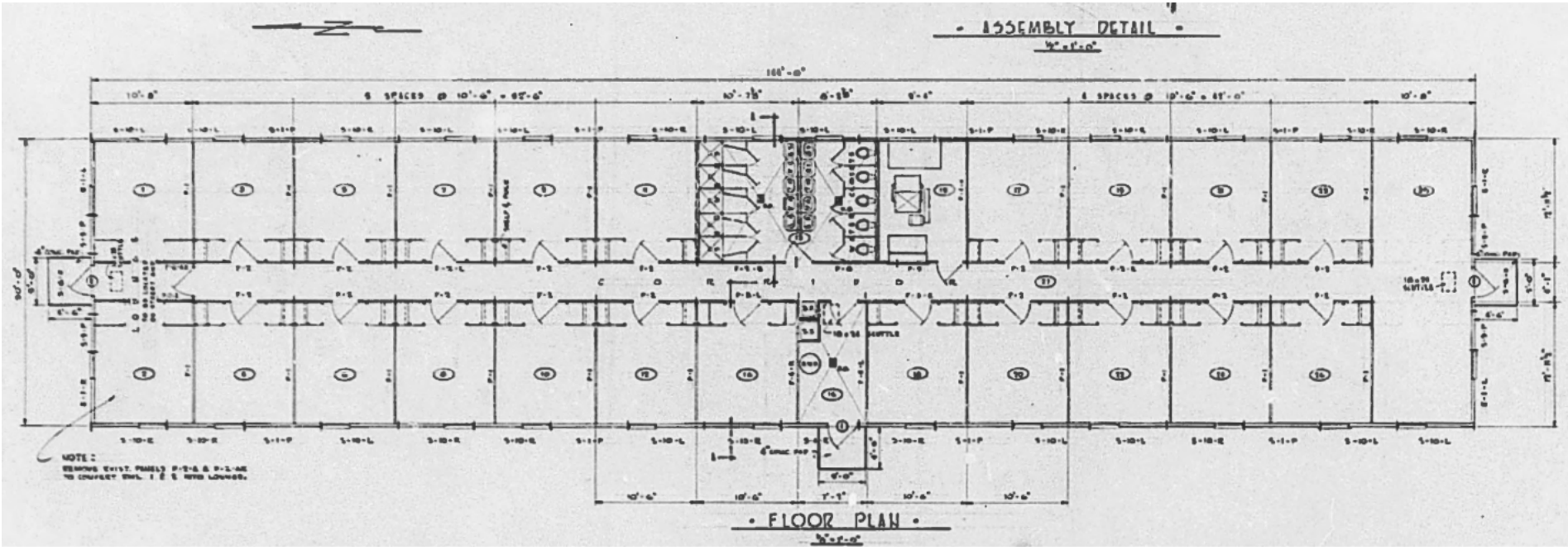


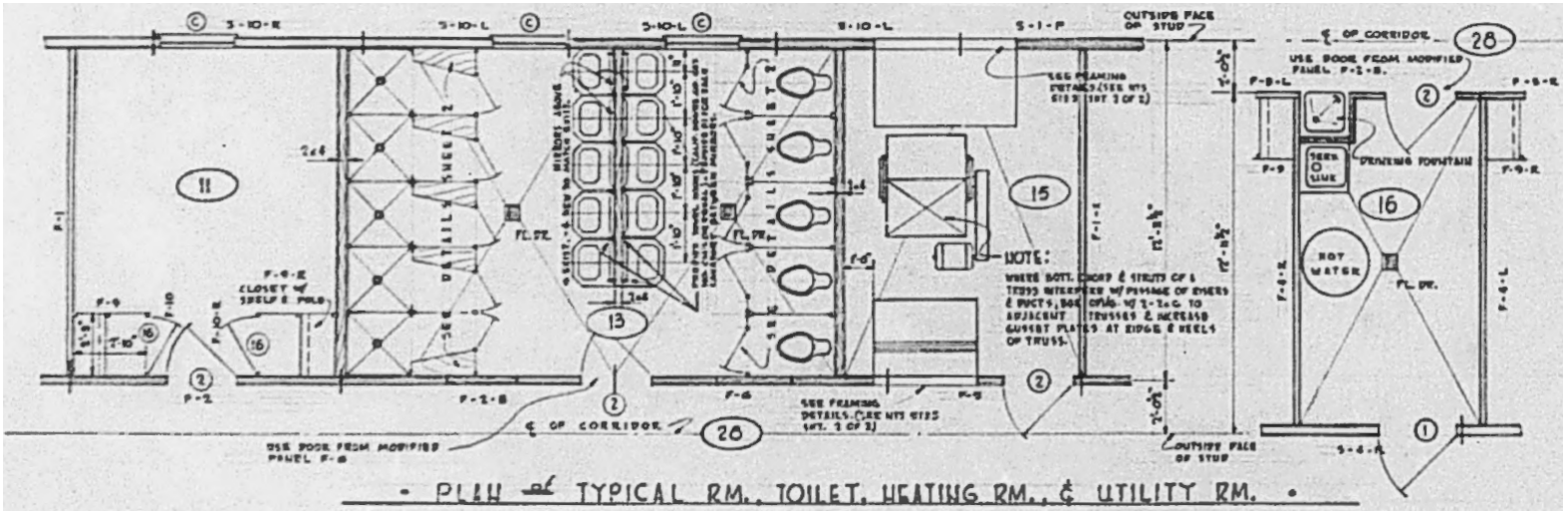


Plan for Dormitory 23-103, originally Building 112B. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-103-S1, 1951.

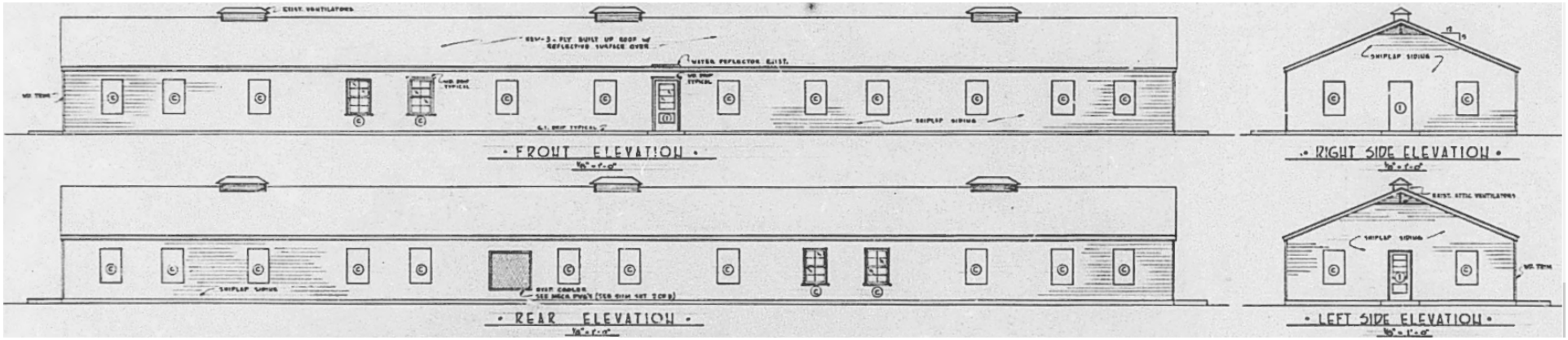


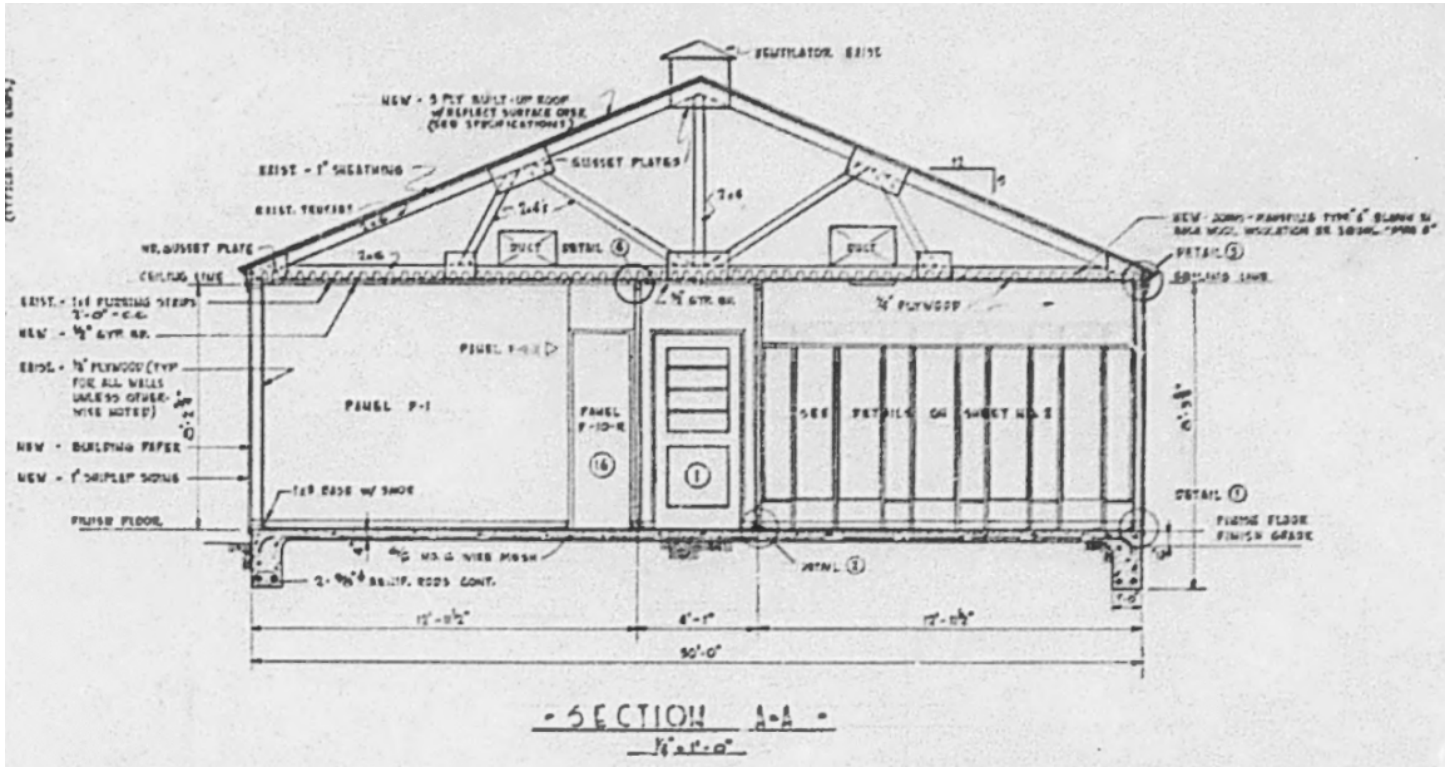
Elevations for Dormitory 23-103. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-103-S4, 1952.



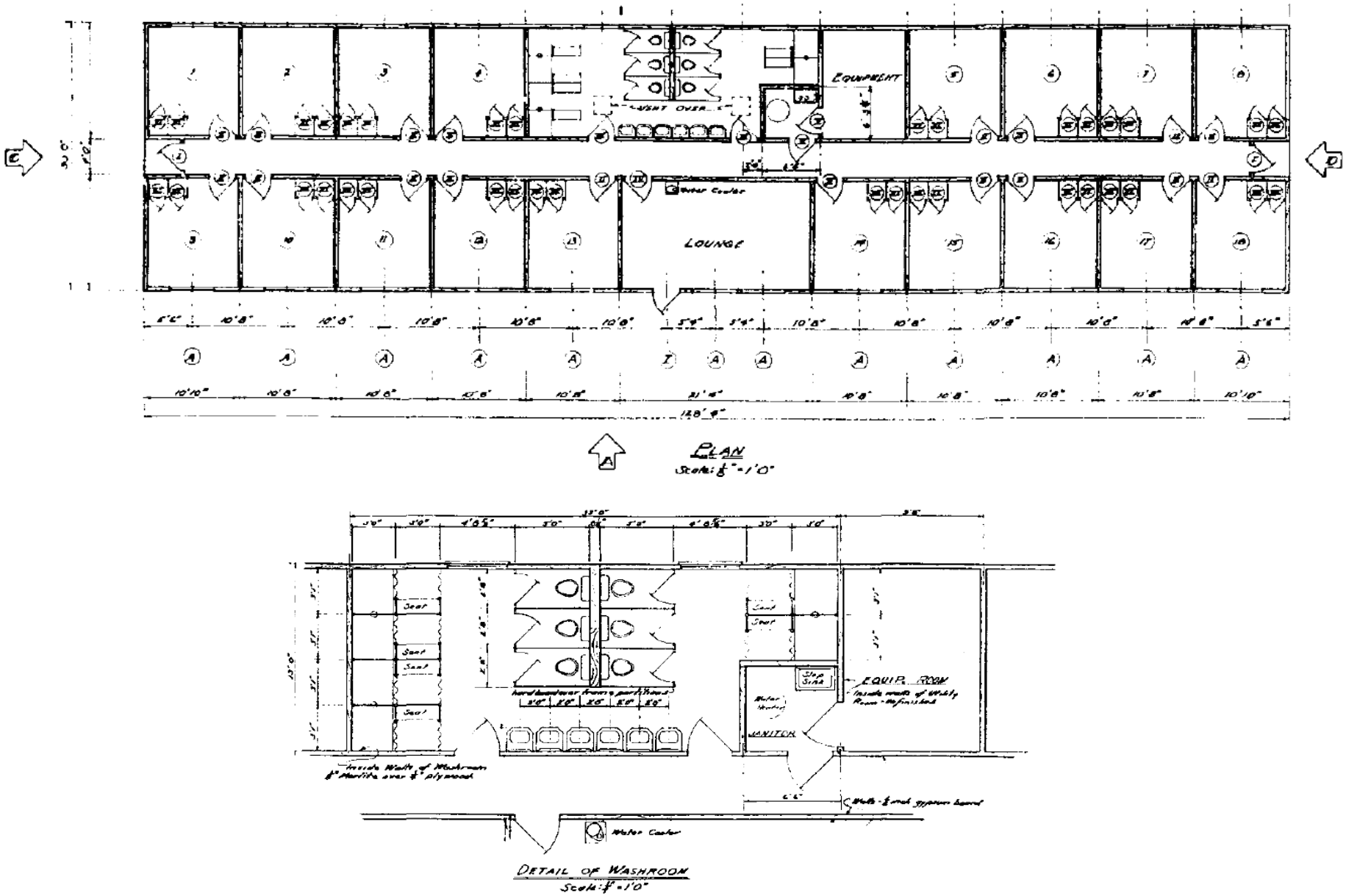


Plan for Women's Barracks 23-105. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-105-S2, 1953 or 1955 [date difficult to read].

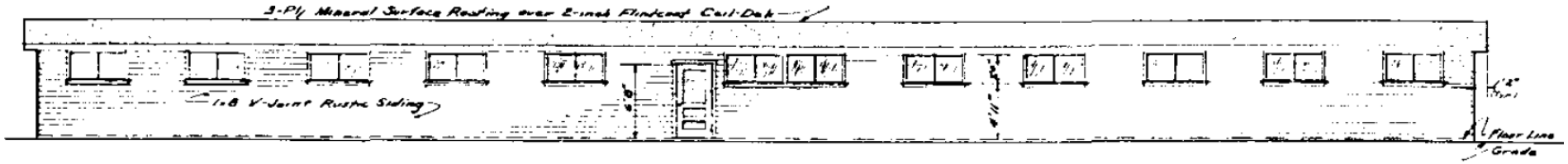




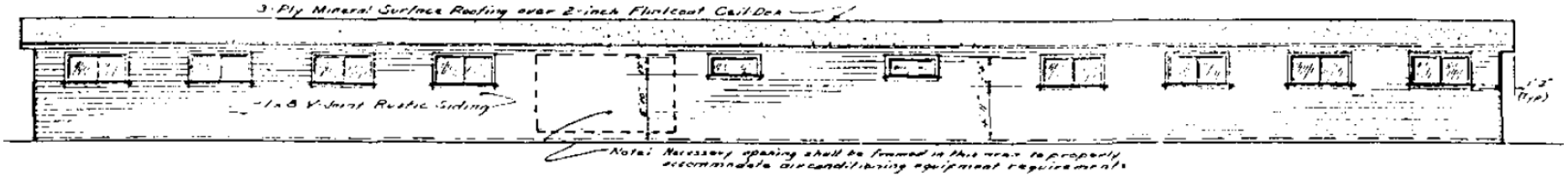
Elevations and section for Women's Barracks 23-105. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-105-S2, 1953 or 1955 [date difficult to read].



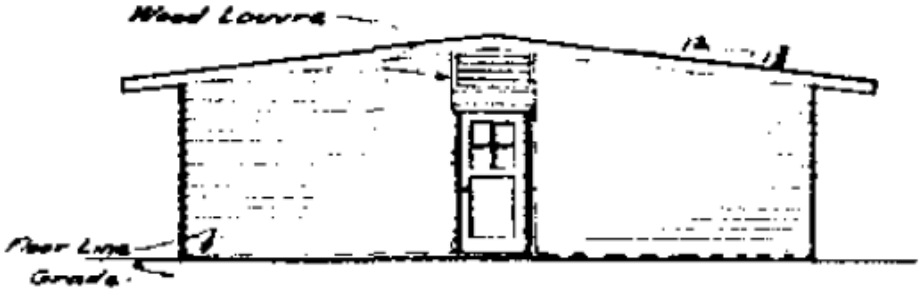
Plan for Women's Barracks 23-106. Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-106-S2, 1955.



ELEVATION A

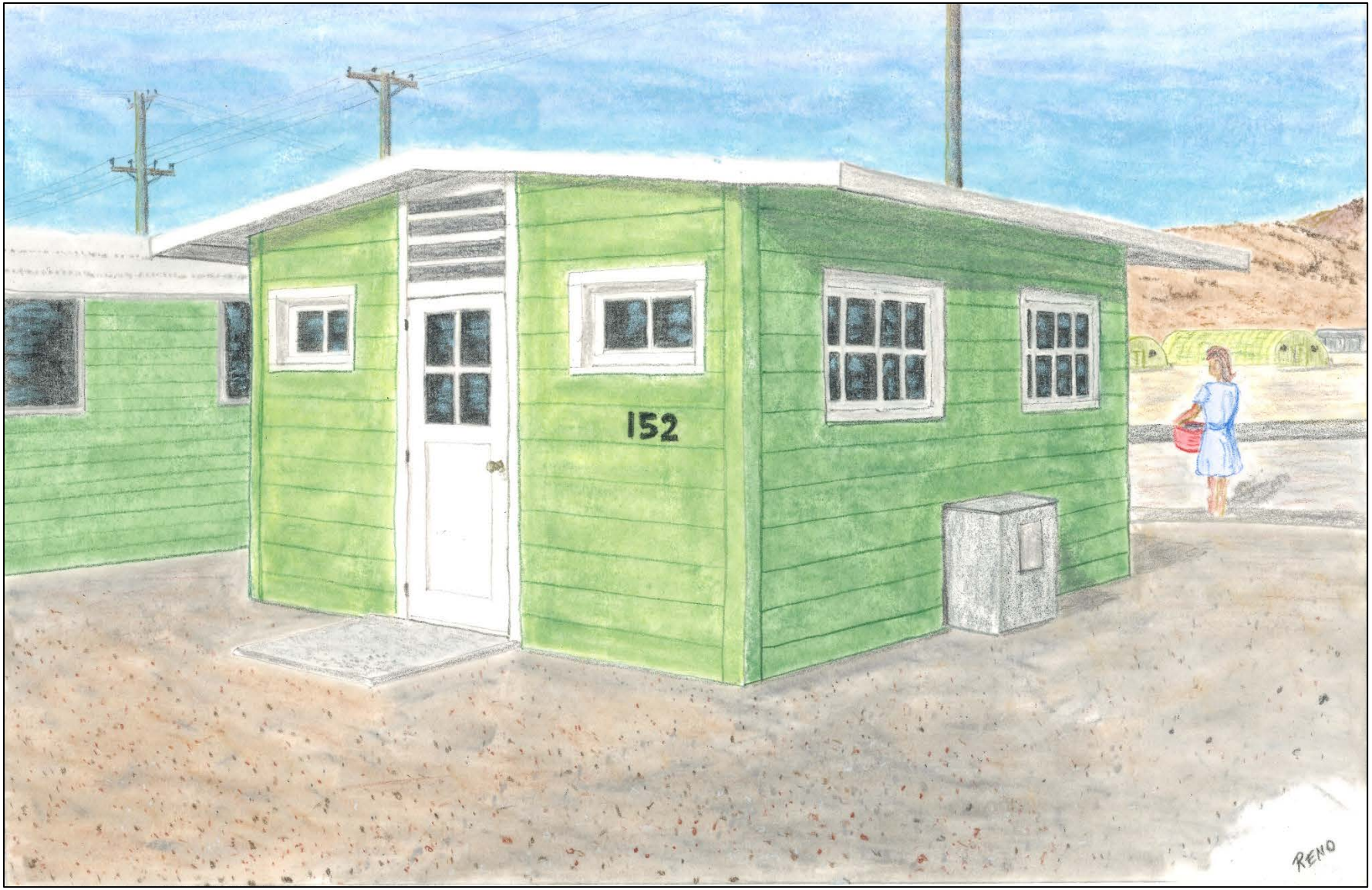


ELEVATION B



ELEVATION C & D

Plan for Women's Barracks 23-106. Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-106-S2, 1955.



Reconstruction of 23-152 as it likely appeared when originally constructed, facing northwest. Rendering by Ron Reno, 2018.

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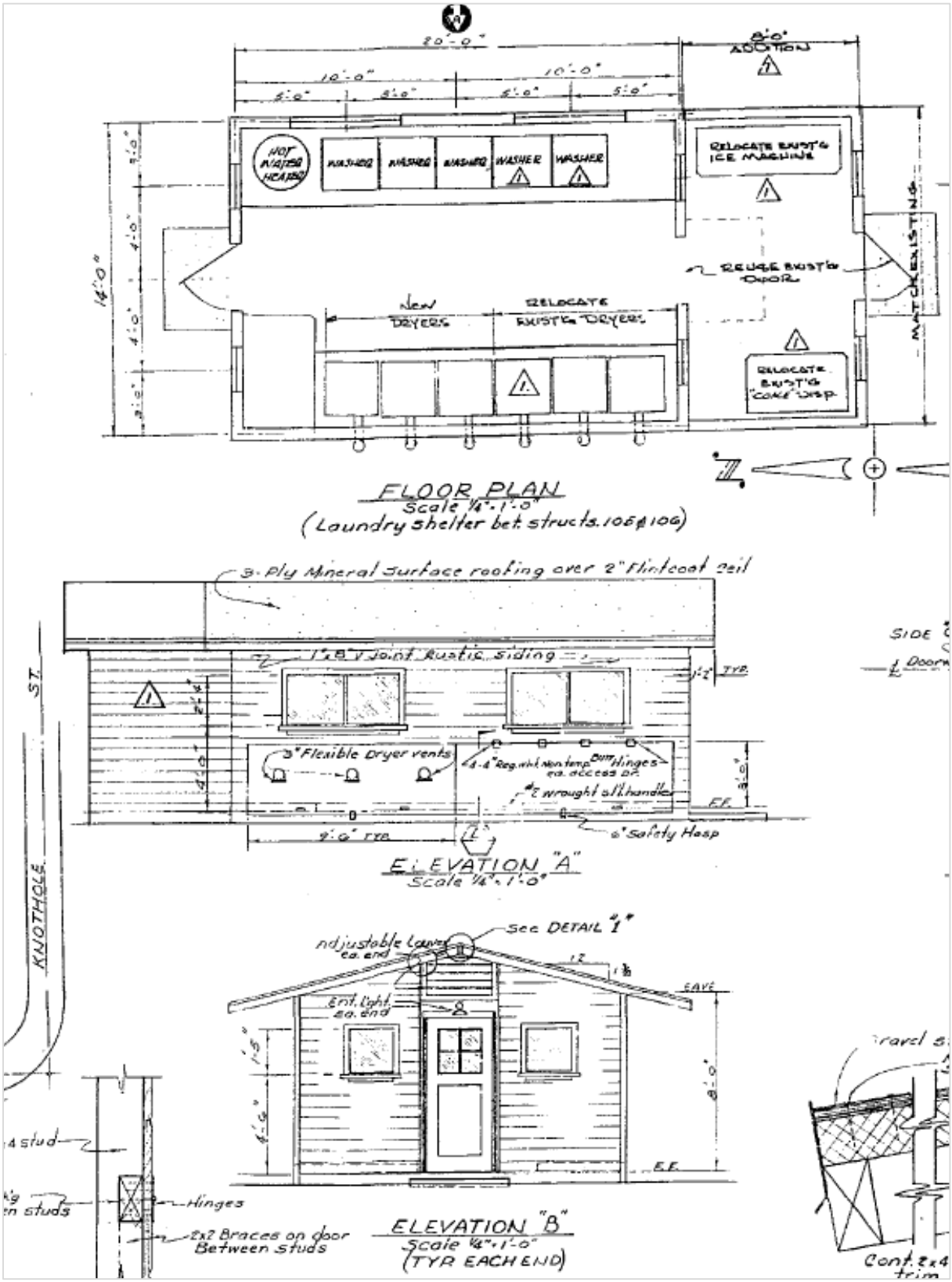

Plan and elevations for expansion of Building 23-152. REECo Drawing M-152-S1, 1957.

ATTACHMENT A

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

LAUNDRY BUILDING (23-152) ARA FORM for SHPO Resource #C297
Mercury Historic District
Mercury
Nye County
Nevada

INDEX TO HIGH-QUALITY DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Steve Carragher (Mission Support and Testing Services), Photographer, July 2018

1 DETAIL VIEW OF IRONING BOARD CABINETS ON INTERIOR WEST WALL FACING THE EAST

2 VIEW OF ORIGINAL RUSTIC SIDING PRIOR TO 1957 ADDITION SHOWING WHITE OVER GREEN PAINT FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST

3 VIEW OF ORIGINAL MAIN LAUNDRY ROOM FACING THE SOUTHEAST

4 VIEW OF ADDITION INTERIOR ON SOUTH END OF ORIGINAL BUILDING SHOWING RUSTIC SIDING AND DOOR FRAME FACING THE NORTH

5 PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE SOUTHWEST

6 PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST

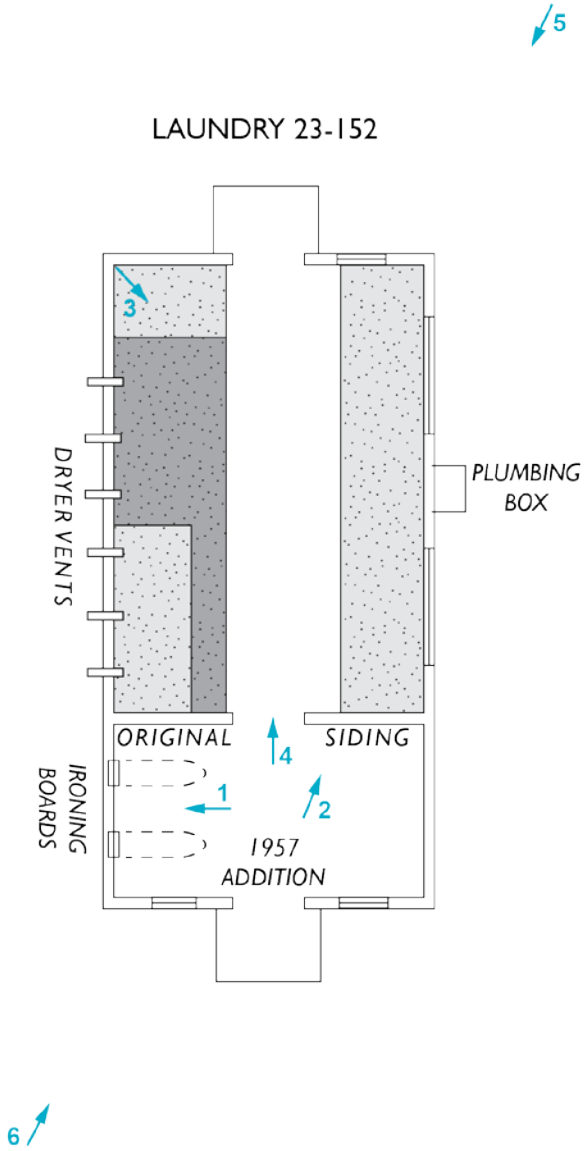
5
LAUNDRY 23-152
3
DRYER VENTS
PLUMBING BOX
ORIGINAL
SIDING
4
IRONING BOARDS
1
2
1957 ADDITION
6
Raised Concrete Appliance Pads
Original
Added 1957
2
Photo Locations and Direction
N
0
7
14 feet
Digital Reproduction by JD Lancaster (2018).
Reproduced with permission from original by Ron Reno (2018)

PHOTO #1: DETAIL VIEW OF IRONING BOARD CABINETS ON INTERIOR WEST WALL FACING THE EAST.

PHOTO #2: VIEW OF ORIGINAL RUSTIC SIDING PRIOR TO 1957 ADDITION SHOWING WHITE OVER GREEN PAINT FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST.

PHOTO #3: VIEW OF ORIGINAL MAIN LAUNDRY ROOM FACING THE SOUTHEAST.

PHOTO #4: VIEW OF ADDITION INTERIOR ON SOUTH END OF ORIGINAL BUILDING SHOWING RUSTIC SIDING AND DOOR FRAME FACING THE NORTH.

PHOTO #5: PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #6: PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST.

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INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

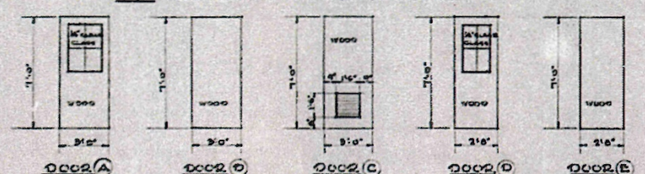
ROOM NAME	ROOM No.	FLOORS: CEMENT FILTRALITE	FLOORS: WOOD	BASE: CEMENT	BASE: WOOD	WALLS: 1/2" CEM. WALL BD.	WALLS: 3/4" PLYWD. PANEL	WALLS: 1/2" GYP. WALL BD.	WALLS: CEMENT PLASTER	CEILING: CEMENT PLASTER	WAINSCOT	PAINTING: WALLS	PAINTING: CEILING	PAINTING: WAINSCOT & SPECIAL	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: WOOD DOORS	FINISH WOODWORK: BASE	FINISH WOODWORK: TRIM	FINISH WOODWORK: CASEWORK	FINISH WOODWORK: WOOD SASH	REMARKS
ROOM	101	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	102	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	103	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	104	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	105	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	106	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	107	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	108	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
SHOWER	109	•		•				•		•		E	E E		E		E		E	
ENTRANCE HALL	110	•			•		•		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
TOILET	111	•		•			•		•			E	E E				E		E	
CORRIDOR	112	•			•		•		•			P	P P		P	P	P			FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH
DAY ROOM	113	•			•		•		•			P	P P		P	P	P		P	
UTILITY	114	•		•			•		•			E	E E		E	E	E	E		
ROOM	115	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	116	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	117	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	118	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	119	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	120	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	121	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	122	•			•		• •		•			P	P P		P	P	P	P	P	
VESTIBULE	123	•			•				•			P	P P		P	P	P			FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH
VESTIBULE	124	•			•				•			P	P P		P	P	P			FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH

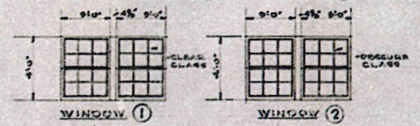
E - ENAMEL
P - PAINT

DOOR SCHEDULE

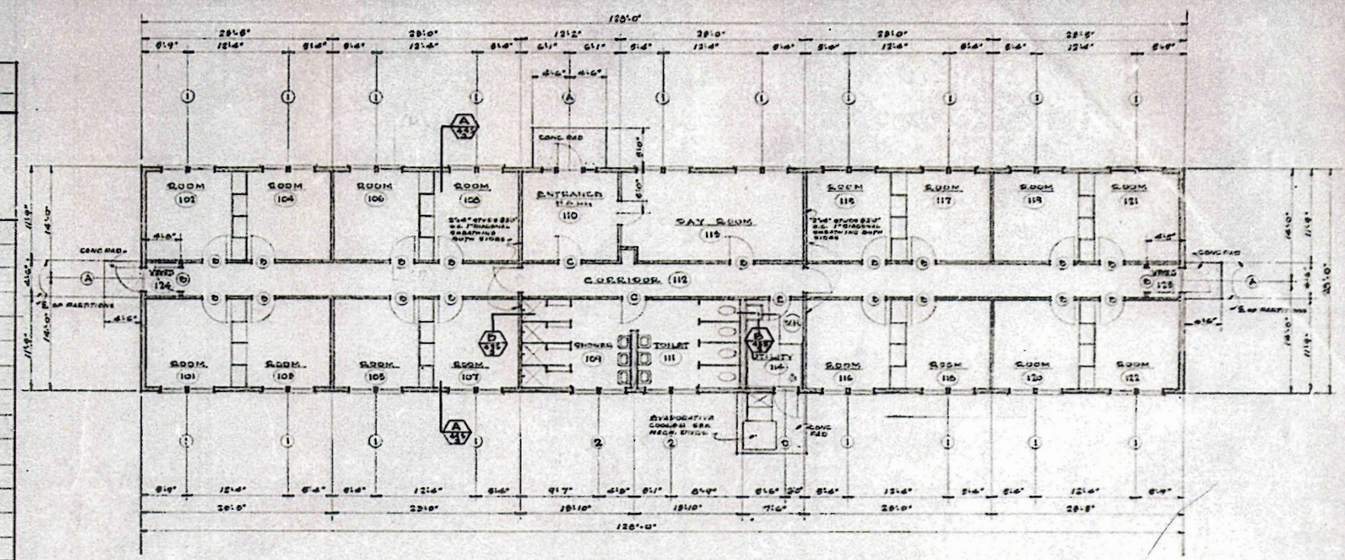
SYMBOL	SIZE	THICK	TYPE	HEAD	JAMB	SILL	FRAME	REMARKS
A	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	A 405-10	D 405-10	D 405-10	WOOD	UPPER PANEL 1/8" CLEAR GLASS 2 LIGHTS WIDE 2 LIGHTS HIGH
B	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL
C	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL W/METAL LOUVER
D	2'-8" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	A 405-10	D 405-10	D 405-10	WOOD	UPPER PANEL 1/8" CLEAR GLASS 2 LIGHTS WIDE 2 LIGHTS HIGH
E	2'-8" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL

NOTE: ALL DOORS TO HAVE AUTOMATIC CLOSERS.

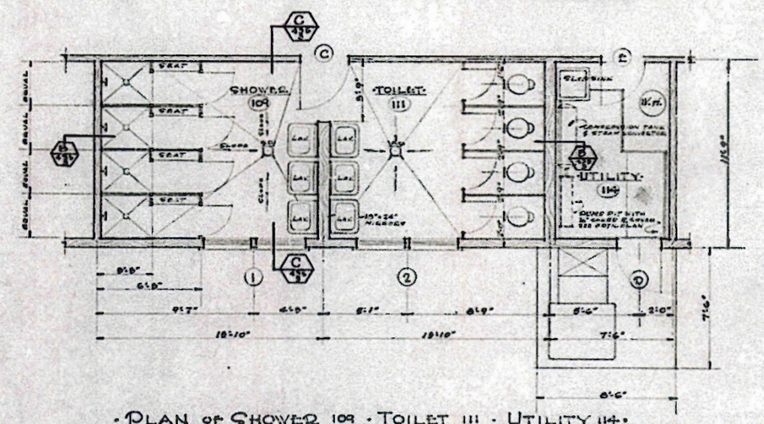




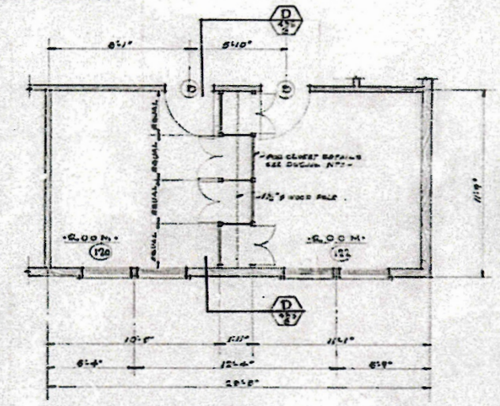
NOTE:
- WINDOWS SHALL BE DOUBLE HUNG WOOD
- ALL GLASS SHALL BE DOUBLE STRENGTH
- WINDOWS IN TOILET 111 & SHOWER 109 TO HAVE OBSCURE GLASS.



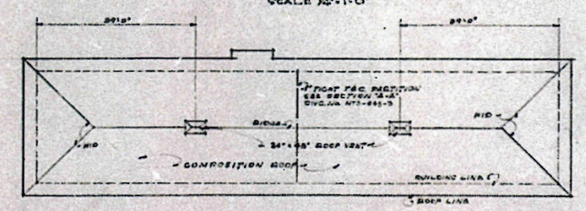
FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



PLAN OF SHOWER 109 · TOILET 111 · UTILITY 114
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



PLAN OF ROOM 120 & ROOM 122
ROOMS 101 THRU 108 & 115 THRU 121 SIMILAR
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



ROOF PLAN
SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"

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OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Tim Reara A433MSTS
Date: 30 Aug 2018

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	ABC	SHT. NO	USER
23	103	OB	32	005	S 1	01

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. ENGR.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

WOMENS' BARRACKS 112B
FLOOR PLAN & SCHEDULES

CONTRACT NO. 1301
A.E.C. ACCT. NO.
DRAWN
ENGINEER
A.E. APPROVED
DESIGN
ELEC.
MECH.
STRUC.
CIVIL
SCALE
DATE

SUBMITTED — ENGINEER
RECOMMENDED — A.E.C.
APPROVED — A.E.C.

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. H.T.S. 439
SHEET 2 OF 4

M103-S1

M103-S1

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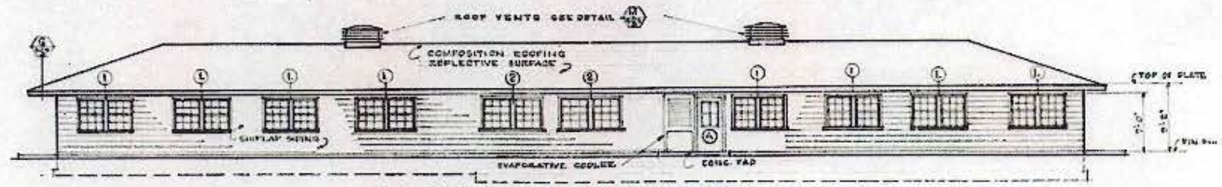
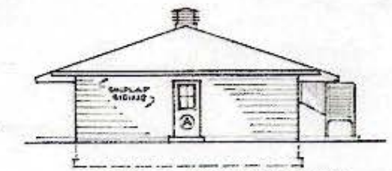
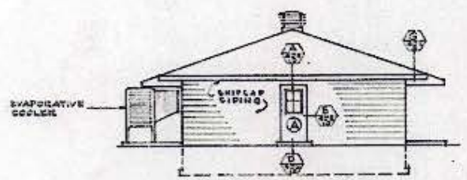


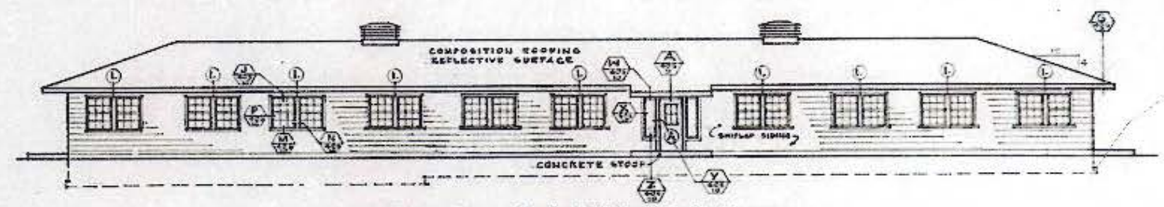
·EAST ELEVATION·



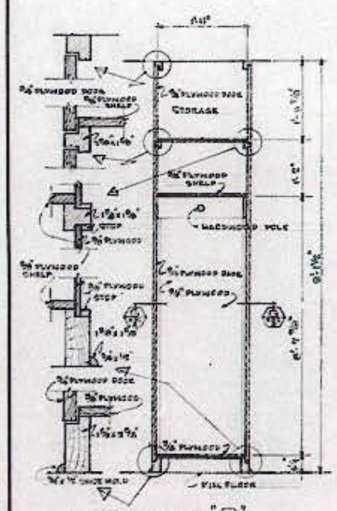
·NORTH ELEVATION·



·SOUTH ELEV.·



·WEST ELEVATION·



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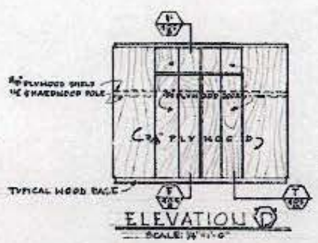

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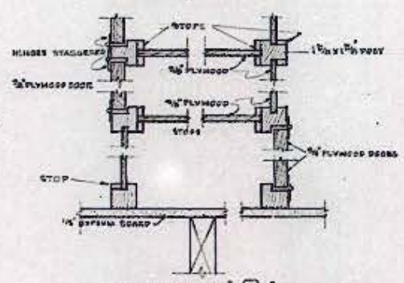

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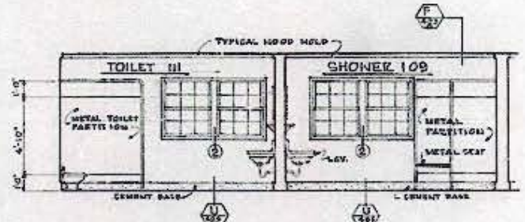

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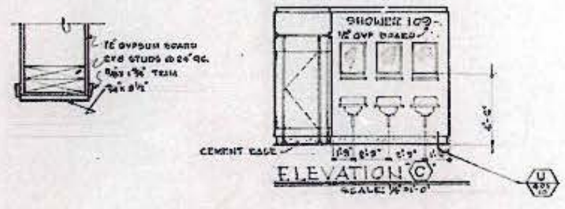

ELEVATION "C"

CLOSET DETAILS

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OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Reavis MSTS A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018

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AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA	CLASS	TYPE	ASSC	SHT NO	USER	
23	103	CB	23	005	S 4	01	

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

WOMEN'S BARRACKS ~~HOE~~
ELEVATIONS AND DETAILS

DRAWN: TMF
SCALE: N.T.S.
DATE: 12-5-52

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. N.T.S.-43S
SHEET 3 OF 4

M103-54

M103-84

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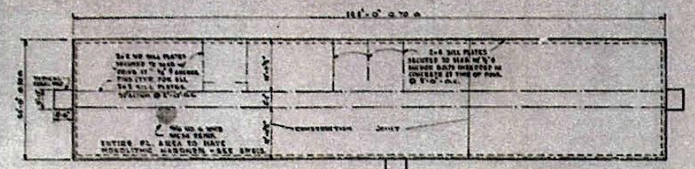
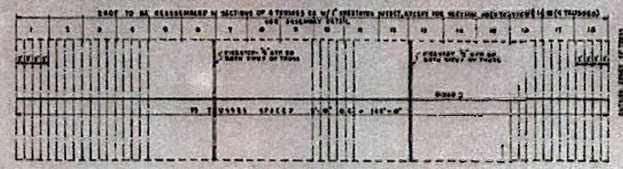
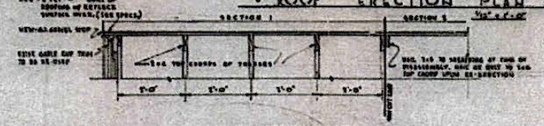


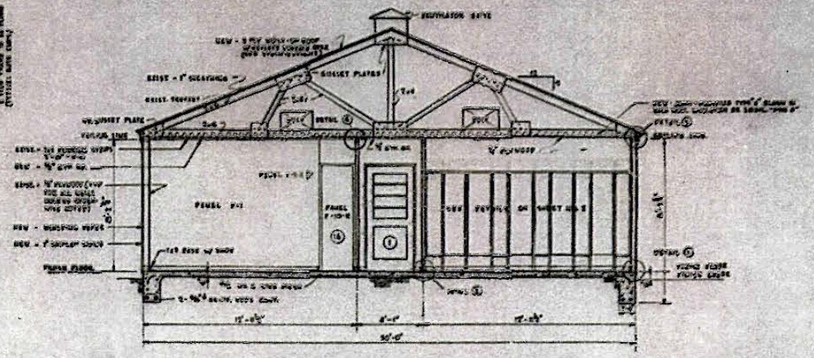
• FOUNDATION & SILL PLATE SETTING PLAN •



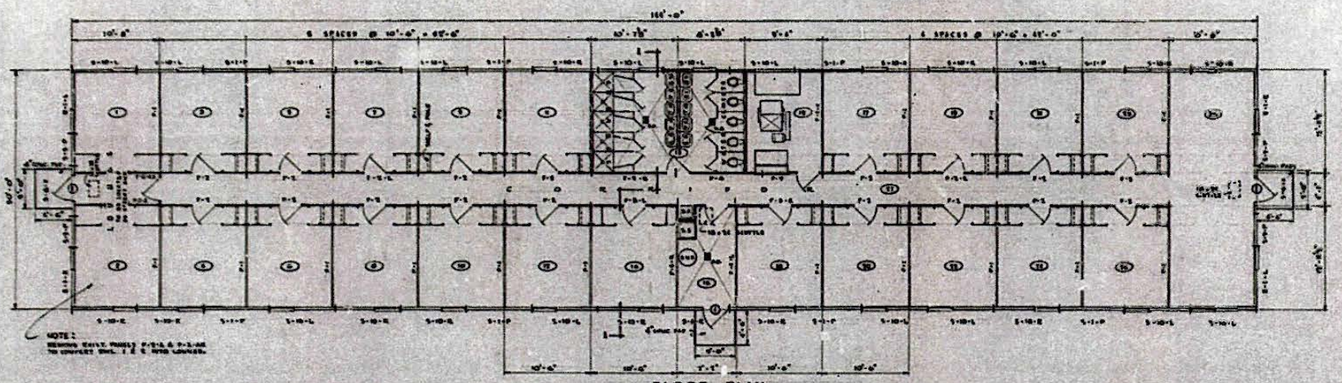
• ROOF ERECTION PLAN •



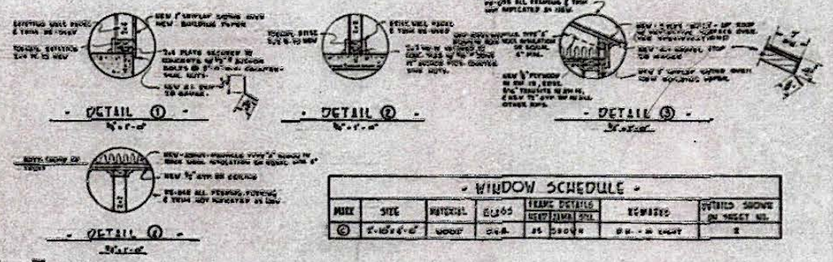
• ASSEMBLY DETAIL •



• SECTION A-A •



• FLOOR PLAN •



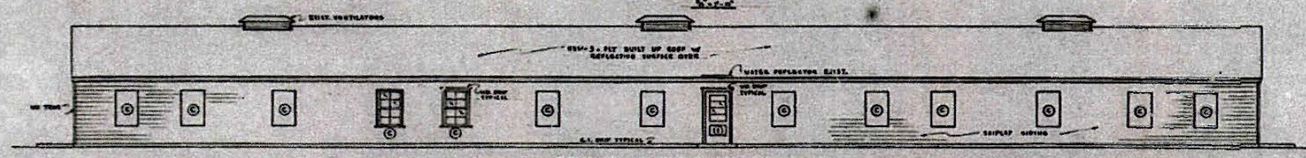
• DETAIL ① • • DETAIL ② • • DETAIL ③ • • DETAIL ④ •

• WINDOW SCHEDULE •

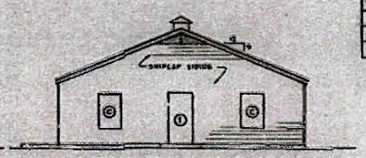
MARK	SIZE	MATERIAL	GLASS	FRAME DETAILS HEAD	JAMB	SILL	REMARKS	DETAILS SHOWN ON SHEET NO.
Ⓒ	2'-10½" x 4'-6"	WOOD	CLEAR	AS	SHOWN		6 MONTHS OLD - NEW - IN CREAT	2

• DOOR SCHEDULE •

MARK	SIZE	MATERIAL	GLASS	FRAME DETAILS HEAD	JAMB	SILL	REMARKS	DETAILS SHOWN ON SHEET NO.
①	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	SOLID	AS	SHOWN		6 MONTHS OLD - NEW	2
Ⓑ	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	SOLID	"	"		9 PANEL	2
Ⓐ	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	"	"	"		9 PANEL	2



• FRONT ELEVATION •

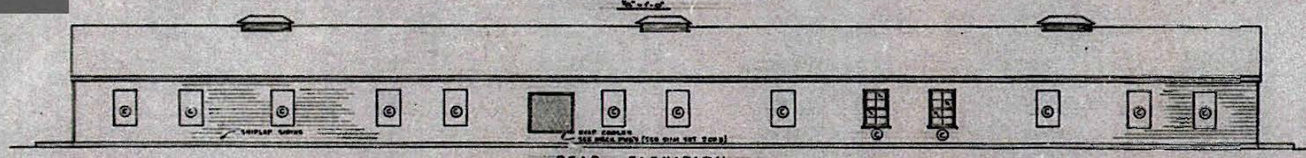


• RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION •

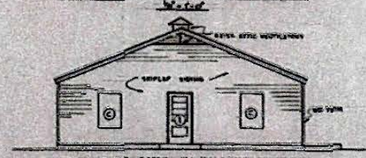
• FINISH SCHEDULE •

ROOM NO.	WALLS PLYWOOD	WD. TRANSITE	CEILING PLYWOOD	SCRATCH COAT	WD. TRANSITE	FLOOR	TRIM
15	●		●			CONC.	WD.
16	●		●			"	"
19		●			●	"	"
ALL OTHERS	●			●		"	"

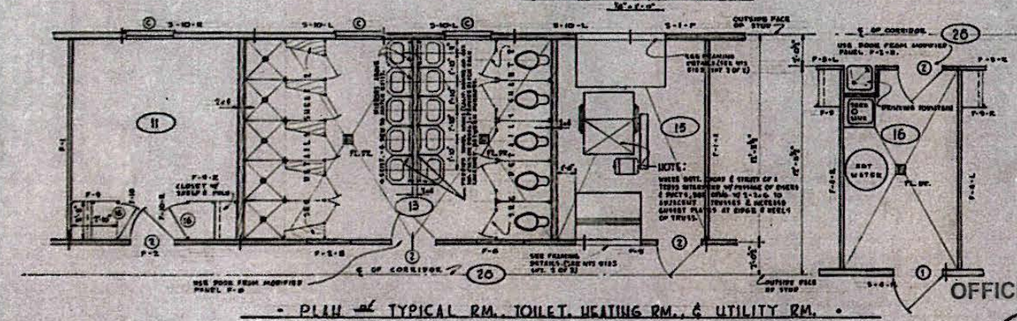
NOTE: PLYWOOD IN RM (19) TO BE WATERPROOF GRADE



• REAR ELEVATION •



• LEFT SIDE ELEVATION •



• PLAN of TYPICAL RM., TOILET, HEATING RM., & UTILITY RM. •

NOTE:

- INDICATES WALL PANELS W/ NO CHANGE.
- INDICATES WALL PANELS W/ MODIFICATIONS.
- INDICATES NEW WALL PANELS.
- ALL EXTERIOR WALL PANELS 3/4 STUFFING.
- ALL CORRIDOR WALL PANELS 1/2 STUFFING.
- ALL OTHER INTERIOR WALL PANELS 1/4 STUFFING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- SEE MECHANICAL DWGS. FOR PLUMBING, HEATING, & COOLING LAYOUTS & DETAILS. (SEE NTS SHT 1 OF 2)
- SEE ELECTRICAL DWGS. FOR LIGHTING & POWER LAYOUTS & DETAILS. (SEE NTS SHT 1 OF 2)

INDEX AREA	BLDG. OR STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.E.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	105	08	32	005	52	01

NOTE: THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF OCT. 26, 1967

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INV. NO. 253-84-9 BID ITEM 32

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. REP.
1		INCIDENT STATUS NO CHANGE				

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR PLAN - FOUNDATION PLAN
ELEVATIONS-SECTIONS & SCHEDULES
FOR
WOMEN'S BARRACKS

CONTRACT NO. 29-2-8-1
A.E.C. PROJ. NO.
DRAWN C.R.M.
CHECKED
A.E. APPROVED
SCALE AS NOTED
DATE 6-11-59

Pete Stamer, Project Engineer; Elton Collins, Chief Engineer; Jack Rilko, Project Engineer

Giles Mason Company
ENGINEERS LAS VEGAS, NEVADA CONTRACTORS

DRAWING NO. N.V.S. 5155

SHEET 1 OF 2

7

N105-52

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Name/Org: Tim Reurid MSTS A433

Date: 30 Aug 2018

M105-52

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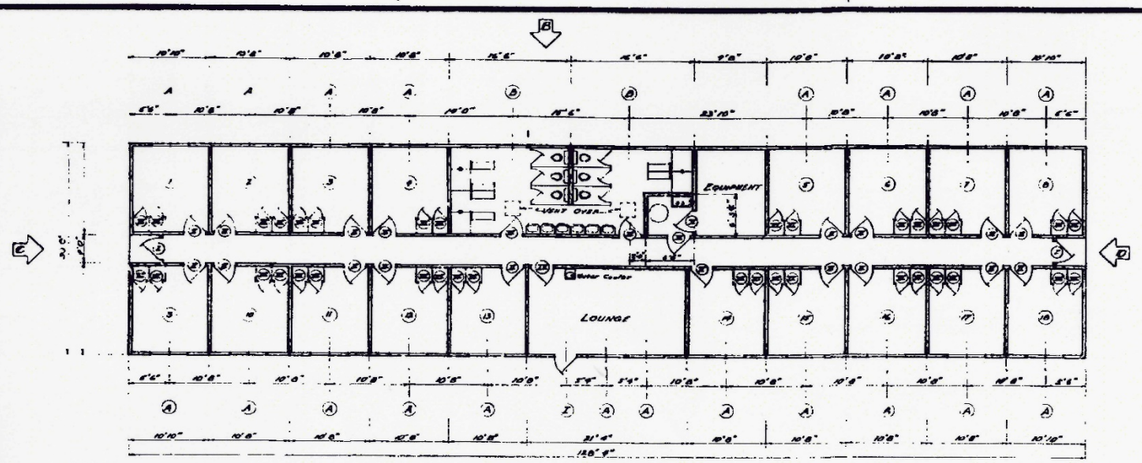
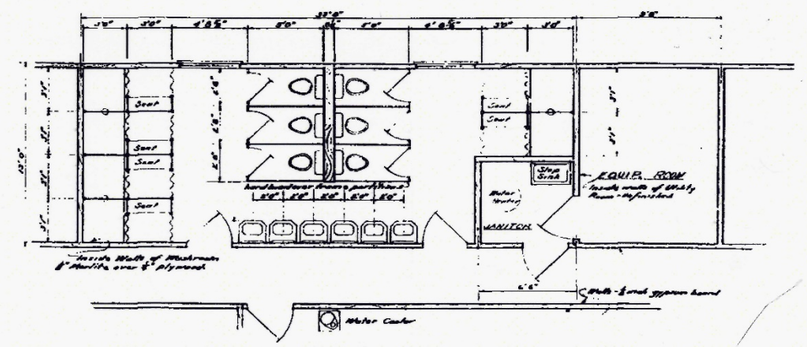
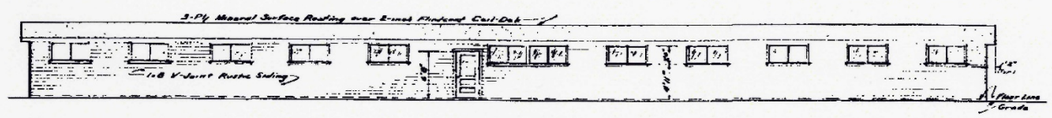


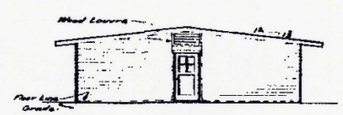
PLAN
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



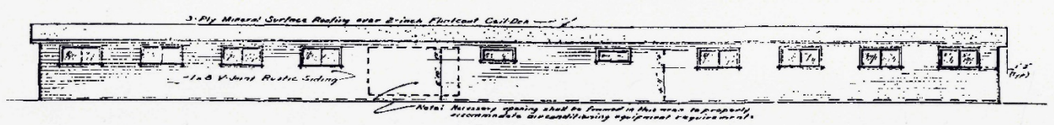
DETAIL OF WASHROOM
Scale: 1/4" = 1'0"



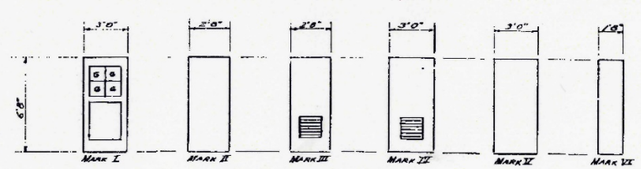
ELEVATION A
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



ELEVATION C & D
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



ELEVATION B
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



DOOR SCHEDULE

MARK	QUAN	SIZE	MATERIAL	REMARKS	GLASS	HARDWARE
I	2	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	4 Lights at Top	D.S.A	XIII
II	18	2'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIII
III	2	2'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush with Louvers	None	XXXVII
IV	1	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush with Louvers	None	XXXVII
V	2	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIV
VI	36	1'8" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIII

WINDOW SCHEDULE

MARK	QUAN	SIZE	MATERIAL	REMARKS	GLASS
A	20	5'0" x 2'4"	Aluminum	Horizontal Sliding Perimeter Jb. 2-22	D.S.A
B	2	4'0 1/8" x 1'5"	Aluminum	Commercial Projected A.M.A. Spec. P-A2	Obscure

INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOMS	WALLS		CEILINGS		PAINTING						REMARKS
	Vinylite* Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	Vinylite* Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	Acoustical Tile Ceiling	Walls	Ceiling	Metal	Finish Woodwork: Wood Doors	Frames	Trim	P = Paint E = Enamel
Rooms 1 to 10		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Wash Room	•	•		•			E	E		E	E	E	Furr Ceiling Down to 8'0"
Equipment Rm.		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Day Room		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Corridor		•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	Furr Ceiling Down to 7'6"

* "Vinylite" plastic finish hardboard is "Snow White," with Blue Score lines recess 4 inches apart vertically & horizontally. 4'x8' in 4'x8' 1/8" thick panels. Trade name "Vinylite" is manufactured by North Wolf Products, Inc., Subsidiary of Masonite Corporation, or approved equal for which

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Name/Org: Tim Rearick MSTS A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018

INDEX CODE

23	106	08 22	005	52	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	ARCH. ENGR.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS FIELD OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

WOMENS BARRACKS
FLOOR PLAN & ELEVATIONS

CONTRACT NO. 1238
A.E.C. DES. NO.
DRAWN JGB
CHECKED
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
PROJ. CHIEF
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE 1/8" = 1'0"
DATE 26 April 1956

RECOMMENDED — A.E.C.
APPROVED — A.E.C.

Morrison & Knudsen - Stone & Webster Co., Inc.
ENGINEERS — CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

JOB NTS
DRAWING NO. N-106 S2
REV.

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M106-S2

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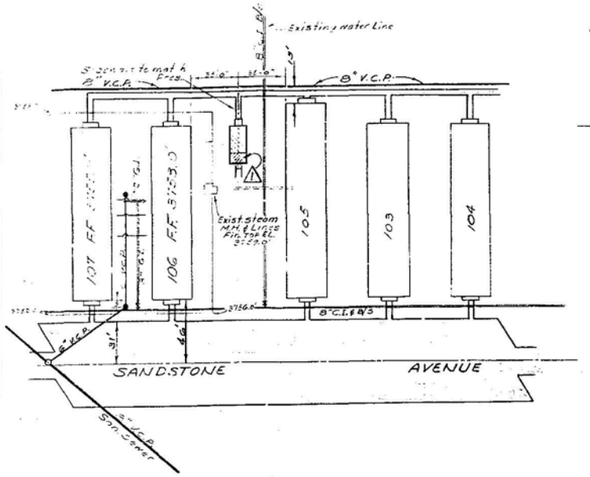
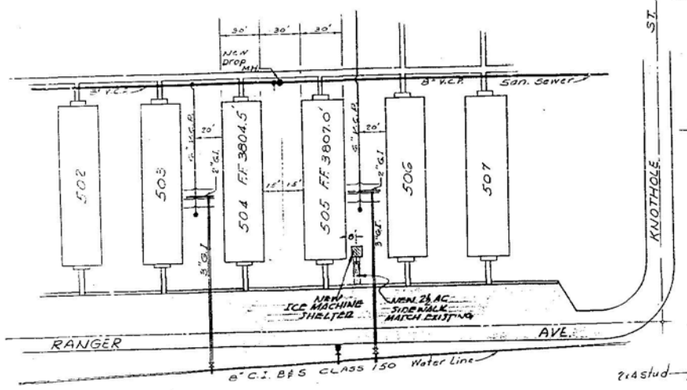
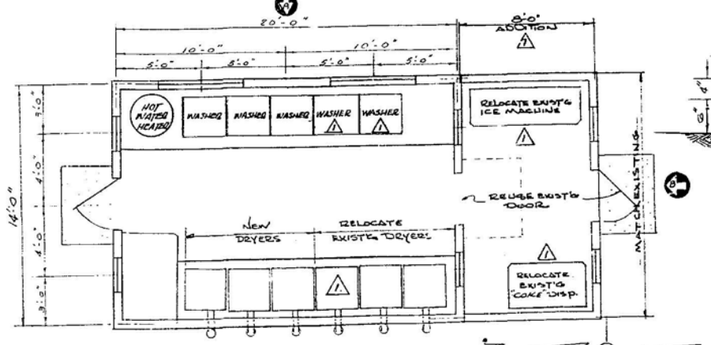
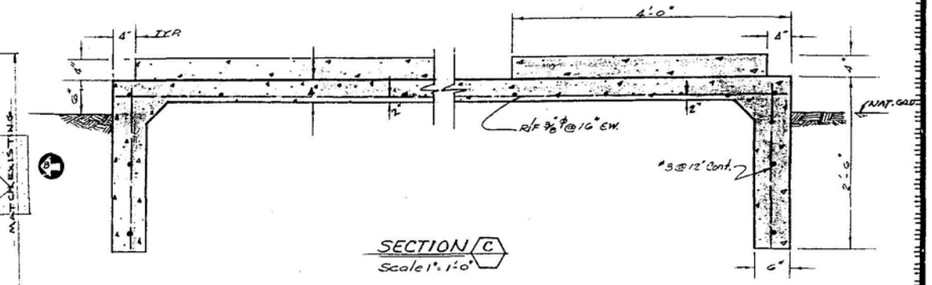


PLOT PLAN
Scale 1" = 50'

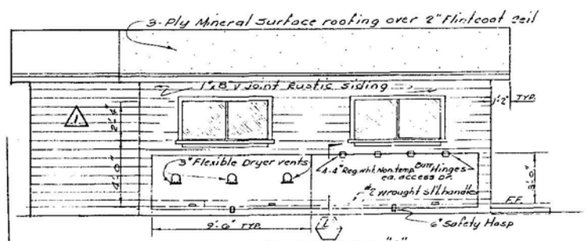




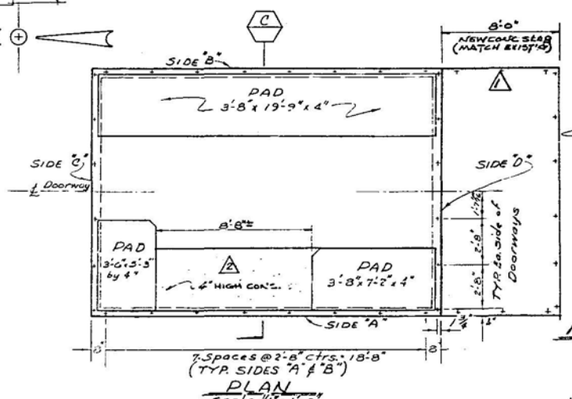
FLOOR PLAN
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
(Laundry shelter bet. structs. 105 & 106)



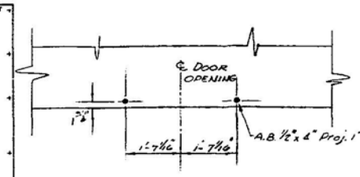
SECTION C
Scale 1" = 1'-0"



ELEVATION "A"
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

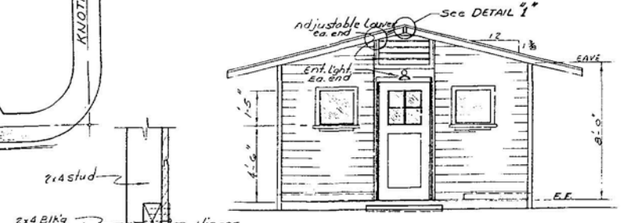


PLAN
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
ANCHOR BOLT LAYOUT



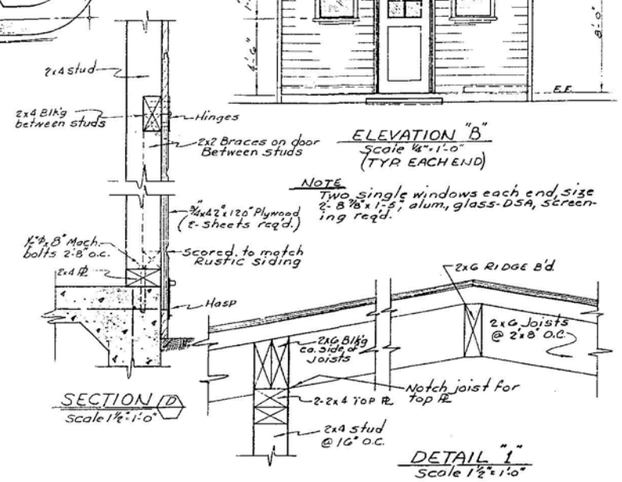
3'-0" x 7'-0" DOOR ANCHOR BOLTS
Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"

NOTE:
1- Perimeter bolts are 1 3/4" inside of building line. Bolts are 1/2" x 8" Long Sq. head mach., w/2 1/2" proj.



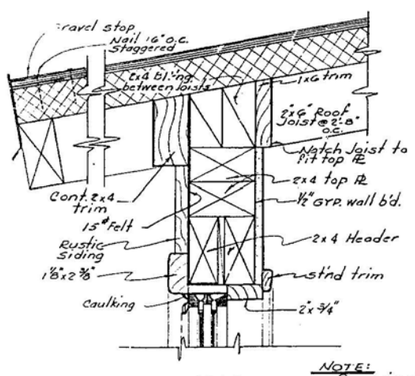
ELEVATION "B"
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
(TYP. EACH END)

NOTE
Two single windows each end, size 2'-8 7/8" x 1'-8"; alum., glass-DSA, screening req'd.



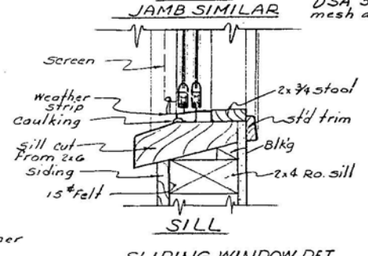
SECTION D
Scale 1 1/2" = 1'-0"

DETAIL "1"
Scale 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



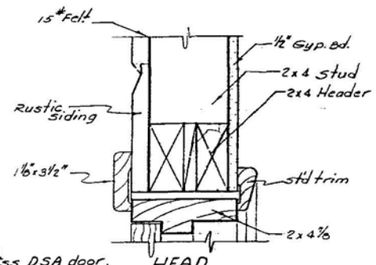
HEAD
JAMB SIMILAR

NOTE:
Panaview #W-2 Alum., glass-DSA, 3'-0" x 2'-4" window w/16 mesh alum. wire cloth screen'g.



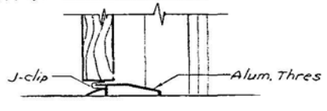
SILL

SLIDING WINDOW DET.
Scale 3" = 1'-0"

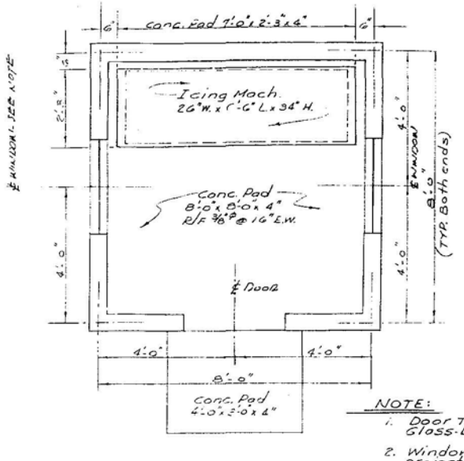


NOTE:
Glass DSA door (wood) w/4-Lights @ top Size 3'-0" x 6'-8" x 1 3/4".

HEAD
JAMB SIM.



SILL
DOOR DETAIL
Scale 3" = 1'-0"



PLAN
Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"
(Ice Machine Shelter)
Between Structs. 505 & 504

NOTE:
1. Door Type (Wood) w/4-Lights @ top Glass-DSA Size 3'-0" x 6'-8" x 1 3/4".
2. Window Type (Alum.) Commercial projected A.W.M.A. Spec. P-A2 Glass-DSA Size 2'-8 7/8" x 1'-5".
3. Bolt layout similar to laundry Shelter.

PAINTING NOTE:
All wood trim shall receive one (1) coat primer & two coats semi-lustre paint.
All gypsum board, to receive one (1) seal coat & two (2) finish coats of flat rubber base paint.
Exterior wood surfaces shall be primed w/ one coat white lead primer & finished with two coats of paint matching dormitories.

INDEX			CODE				
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.B.C.	SHT. NO.	USER	
23	152	17	30	003	S 1	01	7

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	CHIEF ENG.	A.E.C. APP.
1	1/14/58	ADD 8'-0" TO SO. END OF BLDG, INCLUDING UTILITIES FOR (2) W.M. (3) D	GJ			
		Changed Drawing number from M-106-52 To				

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

PLOT PLAN
PLAN, ELEVATIONS, SECTIONS & DET'LS
LAUNDRY & ICE MACH. SHELTERS

DRAWN BY J.P.
CHECKED BY R.B.C.
DEPT. ENGR. R.B.C.
SCALE NOTED
DATE 1-29-57

W.O. 4501-27 E.O. 325107

SUBMITTED: Chief Engr. — APPROVED: Agency — RECOMMENDED: A.E.C. — APPROVED: A.E.C.

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

JOB: NTS — DRAWING NO. M-152-51 — REV. 1

DIETZGEN NO. 192M EDVELL

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☒

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589653	Northing: 4057625 **(Pad for 23-103)**	

USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?		Yes ☐		No ☒	

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951 and 1956	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☒	No ☐
	Number?: 5	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Dorm buildings removed, foundations remaining. Laundry (AR152) is in use and maintained.		

Building 23-156 and foundations for Women's Dormitories, view west (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s):post-1992

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Women's Dormitories
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing, RV Park
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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5. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

These buildings served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. They represent an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the buildings has severely degraded their integrity. Despite this problem, the array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundations related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

A large "COVER-ALL" brand metal-framed plastic-covered portable building on the foundations for Buildings 23-103 and 23-105 post-dates the period of significance and does not contribute to the Mercury Historic District. The shelter is no longer in use. It is easily removable but at present due to its incompatible scale, design, and materials it has an adverse visual impact on the integrity of design, workmanship, and feeling of the Mercury Historic District far beyond that of any other post-Cold War buildings or structures.

Despite its small size, the Wash House (Building 23-152) is one of the premier historic buildings surviving in Mercury. Its modifications nearly all date to the period of significance and unlike the rest of the resource it retains all aspects of integrity to a high degree.

The RV Park is well preserved and also contributes to the Mercury Historic District, representing an entirely new approach to site housing in the 1980s.

6. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource occupies the southern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions.

The dormitories were rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with wood siding, low and moderate-pitch roofs, and concrete slab foundations. Concrete sidewalks ran to all of the building entrances (located at both ends of each dormitory) and along the maintenance alley north of the row of dorms. The designer and builder of this series of buildings is unknown pending further research.

The foundation for Building 23-103 was arbitrarily designated the Principal Resource simply because it has the lowest building number. The four other dormitory foundations and the Wash House are Accessory Resources.

The gravel spaces between foundations in the entire southeast corner of the block from the foundation for Building 23-105 eastward were paved for use as an RV Park which opened in 1981 (NTS 1981). This park continued into the block to the east of Buster Street. Electrical and water hookup boxes are still standing. Paving of the area east of the foundation for Building 23-104 is currently maintained as a bus stop.

AR1: 23-104 Foundation
Three styles of dormitories were constructed. Buildings 23-103 and 23-104 were built in 1951 (AEC 1951). They were 128 by 28 ft (3,584 sq. ft.) and had hip roofs. These buildings were removed prior to 1981.Three examples of this type, Buildings 23-B, C, and D, are still standing on the next block to the east.

AR2: 23-105 Foundation
Building 23-105 was also built in 1951. It was 144 by 30 ft. (4,320 sq. ft.) and had a gable roof with distinctive triangular wood louvered vents in the gable ends. The building was also removed prior to 1981.

AR3 and AR4: 23-106 and 23-107 Foundations
Buildings 23-106 and 23-107 were built in 1956. They were about the same length as building 23-103 but slightly wider with low-pitch gable roofs.

AR5: The Wash House Building 23-152
The Wash House (23-152) was also known as a Washeteria. It is the only standing building on the entire block and has the distinction of continued use from its construction in 1956 to the present. It is a 413 sq. ft. one-story rectangular-plan wood-frame building. It was enlarged prior to 1974. It was originally sheathed with wood V-rustic shiplap siding which was painted green like all other buildings of that era. The original end wall of this material is preserved as an interior partition due to the expansion. In 1974 the walls were covered with aluminum insulated bevel siding. Original windows are wood-framed 4/4 sliders. The addition at the south end of the building has a replacement flush metal door with one light flanked by wood-framed fixed 1/1 windows. The north entry is the same but there is only one window to the left of the door. Metal louvered vents are in the gable ends. It has a low pitch gable roof with recent metal soffits. Originally composition, the roof is now covered with a reflective coating.

7. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

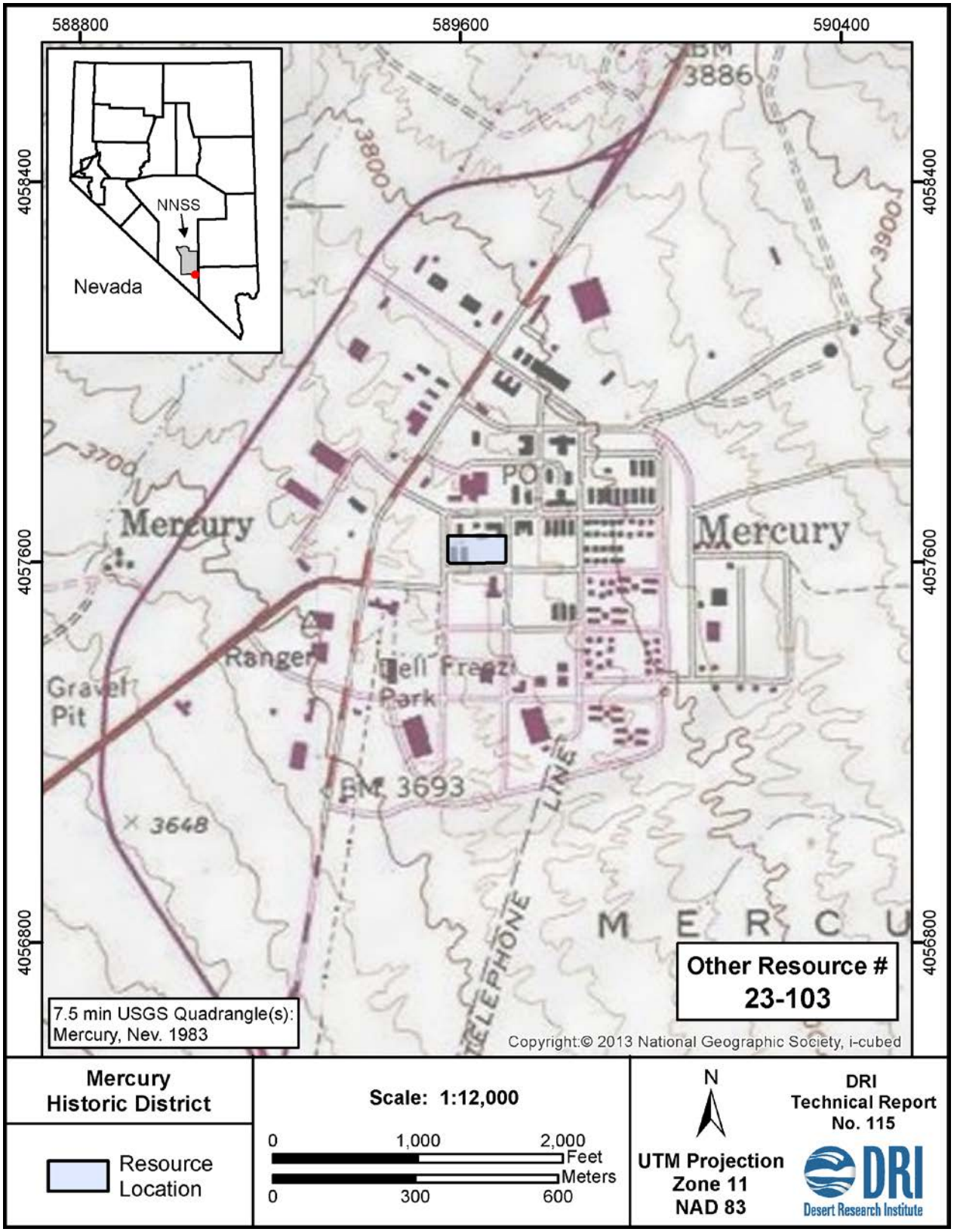
NTS News Bulletin
1981 *NTS R-V Park opens.* 29 May: 1-2. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113289.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1951 Mercury Campsite Layout. Drawing No. N.T.S.-187-C

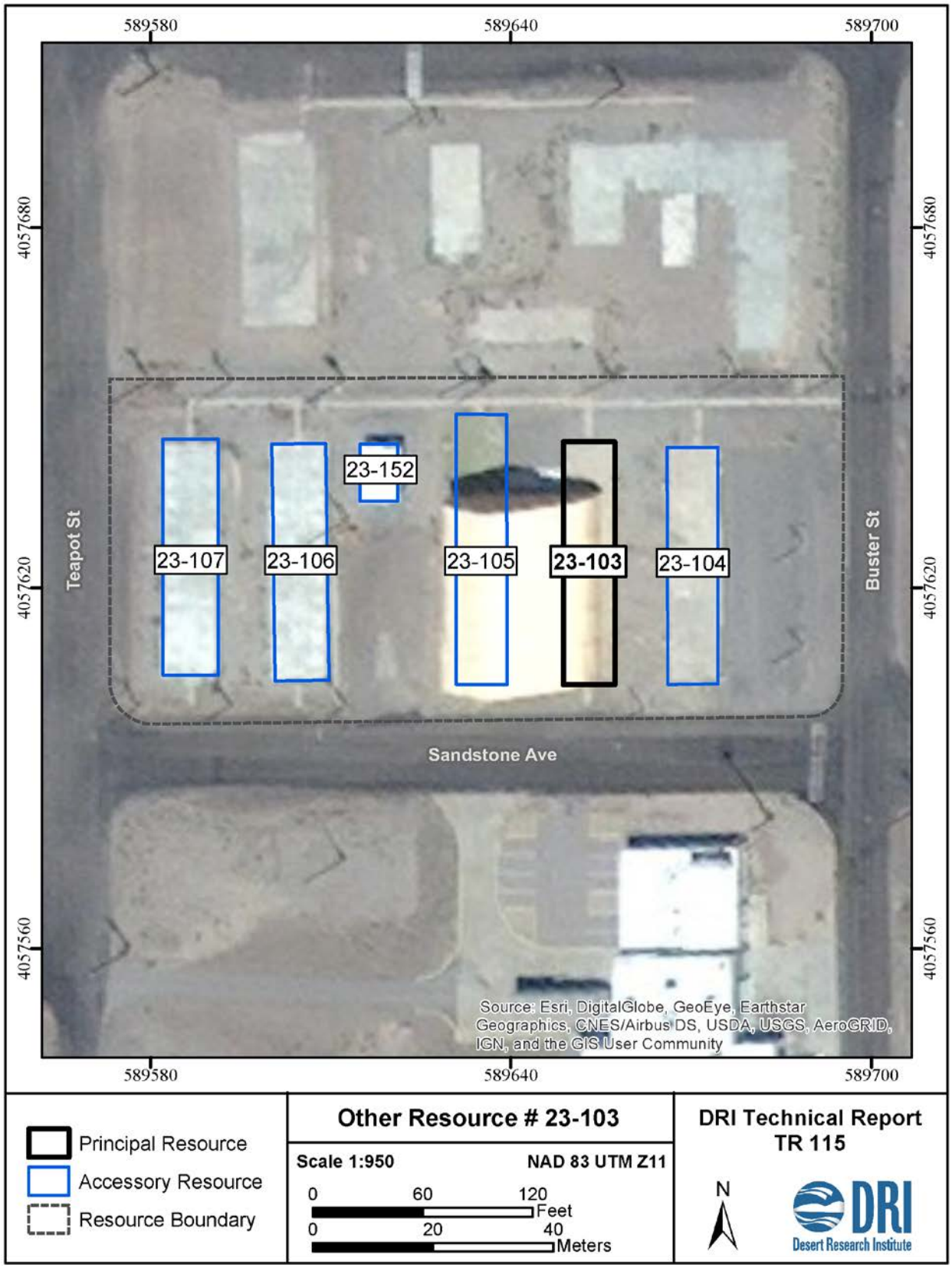
8. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



9. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

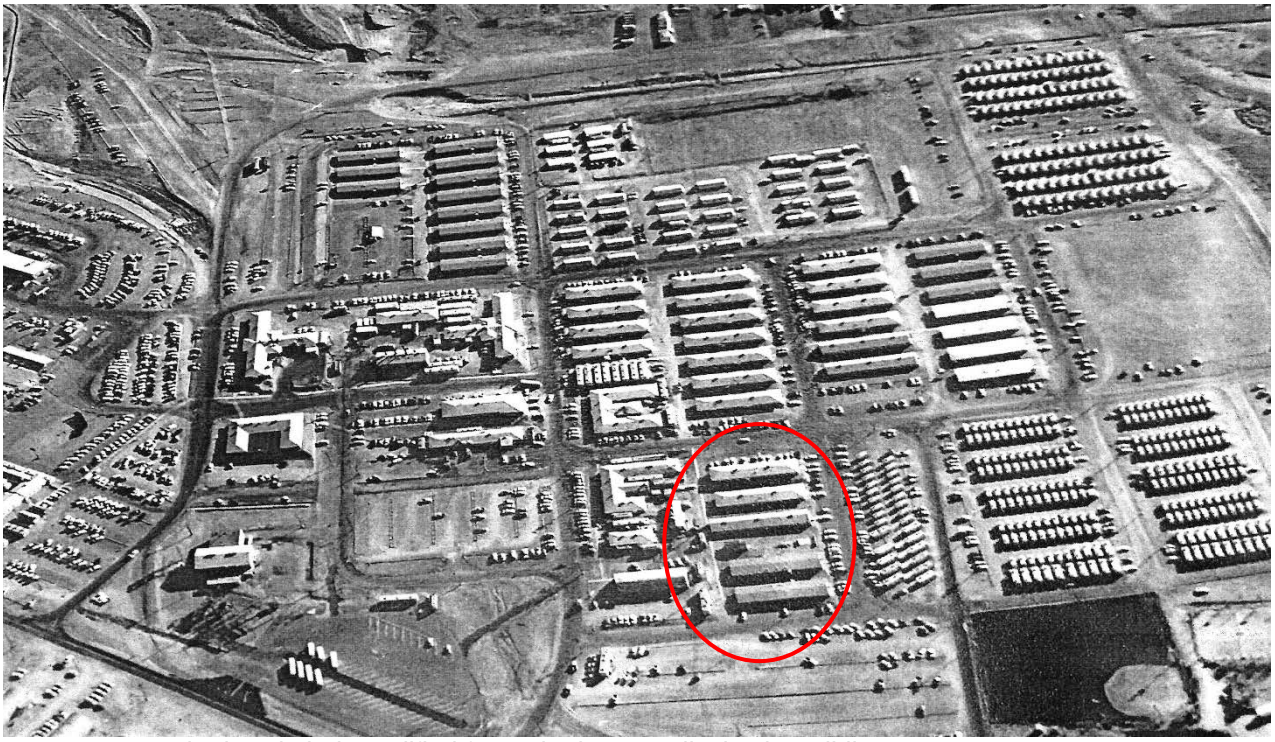


10. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Menocal Date: 6/20/2017

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southeast Photographer: Menocal Date: 6/20/2017



Women's Dormitories circled. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Building 23-G. Buildings 23-103 and 23-104 were nearly identical to the dormitory shown.
Elevations: East, North Direction facing:South Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Building 23-Q. Building 23-105 was nearly identical to the dormitory shown in this photo.
Elevations: West, South Direction facing: Northeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Buildings 23-106 and 23-107 in 1998.
Elevations: North, East Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: DRI Date: 1998

Accessory Resources

Complete only if Accessory Resources are present. Include as many extra entries as necessary.

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR1: 23-104 Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589670		Northing: 4057624	

Building 23-104 was at arrow. The foundation for Principal Resource 23-103 is covered by the prefabricated shelter.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR2: 23-105 Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589635		Northing: 4057628	

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR3: 23-106 Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589605		Northing: 4057624	

Building 23-106 was in foreground. Building 23-107 was in background.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR4: 23-107 Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589587		Northing: 4057625	

SEE PHOTO ABOVE

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☒	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR5: 23-152 Wash House			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589618		Northing: 4057639	

Elevations: South, East Direction facing: Northwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource B15239 (23-B) was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

This is one of three buildings still standing (23-B, -C, and -D) that are members of a single class of buildings that were essentially identical when originally built. These are sometimes referred to as the BCD Dorms.

As a general rule, only a single representative of each element class is to be selected for enhanced internal recording and high-quality digital photography per the programmatic agreement (PA) related to modernization and maintenance activities in Mercury (NNSA/NFO & SHPO 2018). In this case, one of the buildings (23-C) was selected for detailed internal description, but due to the varied internal modifications, which all three buildings have undergone during the period of significance, it was determined that the best course of action was to take interior digital photographs of select elements in all three to form a composite collection representing both original design elements and the various kinds of modifications which have been introduced through time. A plan showing the photo views selected for the three buildings along with the images is presented in Attachment A of the ARA form for 23-C. Dormitories B and D have enough individual variation to warrant separate updates to the architectural descriptions and some engineering drawings on each form, although in lesser detail than those in 23-C.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

These dormitories are typical examples of buildings that are of only local significance because of their role simply as general support infrastructure. They were not directly involved in the nuclear testing or other missions that make Mercury as a whole a critical part of the testing enterprise. The dorms similarly lack the direct historical associations needed to consider them individually eligible to the National Register under Criterion A.

Although the demountable buildings, of which 23-B is an example, are a class of considerable importance under Criterion C as a distinctive modern type of mass-produced modular housing, they are inherently significant only as a composite entity, not as individual elements. Although demountable buildings are now quite rare on the NNSS, similar examples from World War II and the Cold War can be found throughout the United States. As such, the individual significance of this building is not warranted on the basis of it being a rare survivor of a once-common type on the NNSS.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

This is one of a series of 17 nearly identical dormitories. Initially they were collectively called Building 114 by Holmes and Narver with an additional letter to distinguish each one, in this case 114b. Soon the 114 was dropped and the buildings were usually referenced by their letters only, but the 114 designation never completely went away and lives on in places such as drawing numbers.

Resource 23-B (often referred to as Dorm B) is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955).

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows are wood framed with narrow surrounds which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. Dorm rooms have triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by a 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms have single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

The front (west) entrance was near the center of the long façade. The door had a 2/2 light. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three sets of triple windows, and to the right are two more triple window sets.

The rear also has a door near center but lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides on the north and south ends each have entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline.

The original plan was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. Those of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For ventilation the partitions were open near the floor and ceiling.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x23 ft and normally had four occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

To convert the building from a dormitory to offices, five of the former dorm rooms were subdivided with metal partitions that did not reach to the ceiling, and one room was enlarged by removing an existing post-and-plywood partition between dorm rooms. The result of these changes is shown on the attached 1966 plan (page 5), which also shows door and window details.

It was not until near the end of 1976 that a women's restroom was created out of the former men's shower room. This restroom conversion is similar to that documented in detail in 23-C.

Partitions were frequently added, deleted, moved, or altered in place. The partial plan from 1984 illustrates several of these modifications, including the retention of the original post-and-plywood walls along the entire northern portion of the hallway at that time. The cumulative changes in layout are shown in the 1986 Fenix & Scisson plan (page 7). Notable at that time was removal of all permanent walls in the southern third of the building to create eight cubicles.

After the period of significance, three permanent office spaces were again built in this area in 1999. As the recent Space Management Plan shows (page 8), two of these were subsequently removed, leaving a large space for cubicles and a single corner office.

9. References

NNSA/NFO & SHPO
2018 *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada*. Electronic Document: http://shpo.nv.gov/uploads/documents/DOE_Modernization_and_Operational_Maintenance_of_the_Nevada_National_Security_Site_at_Mercury_PA.pdf, accessed August 1, 2018.

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*

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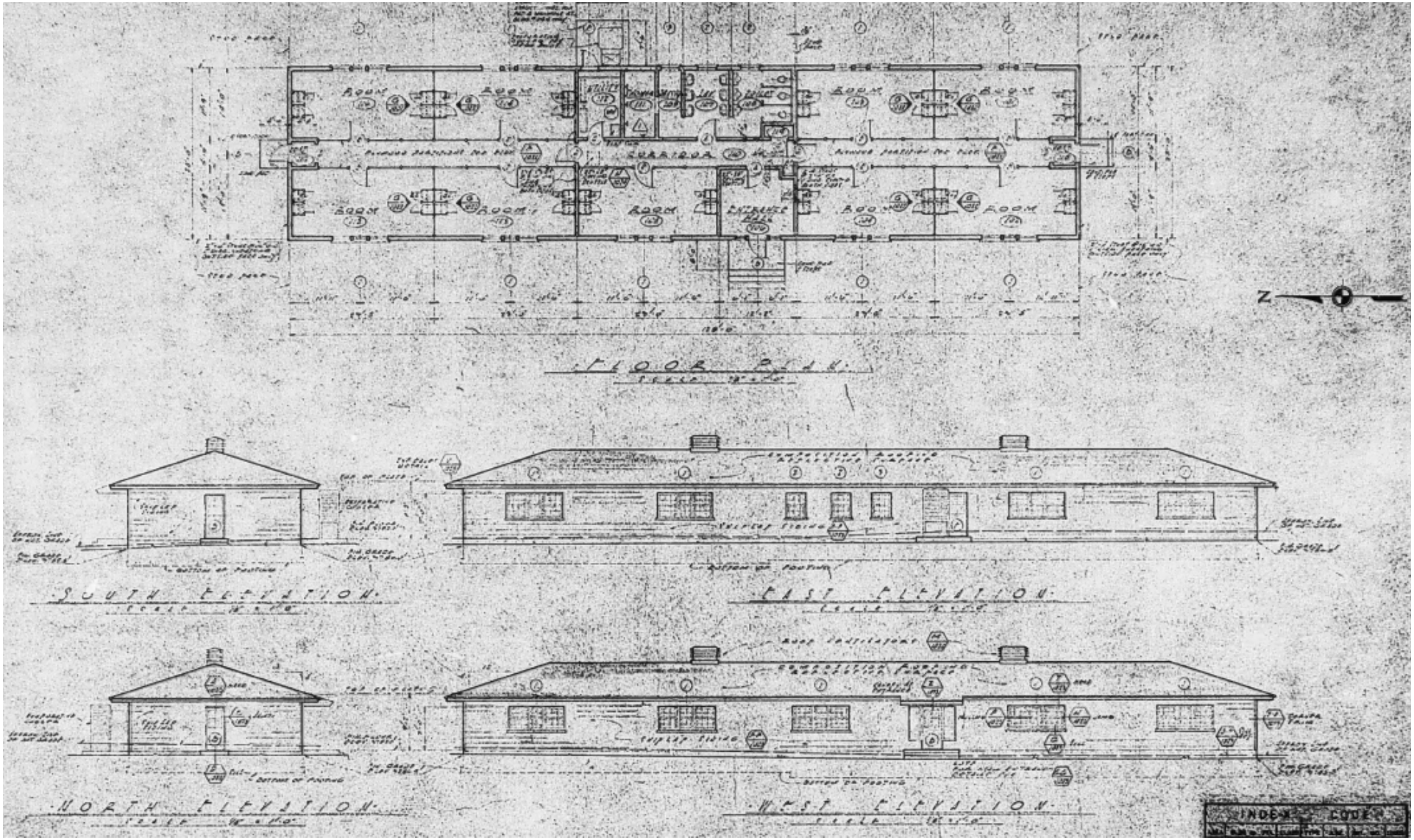
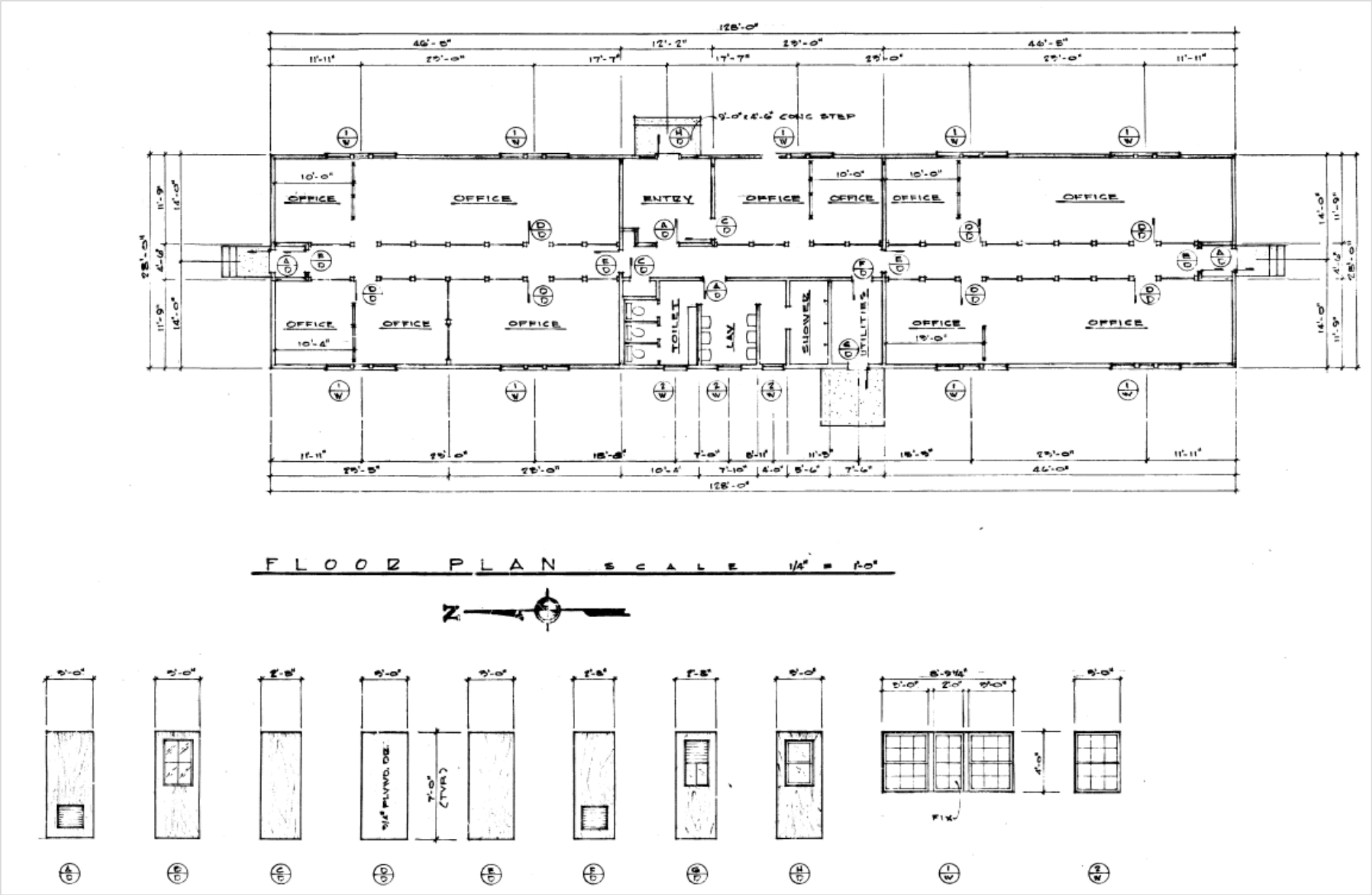
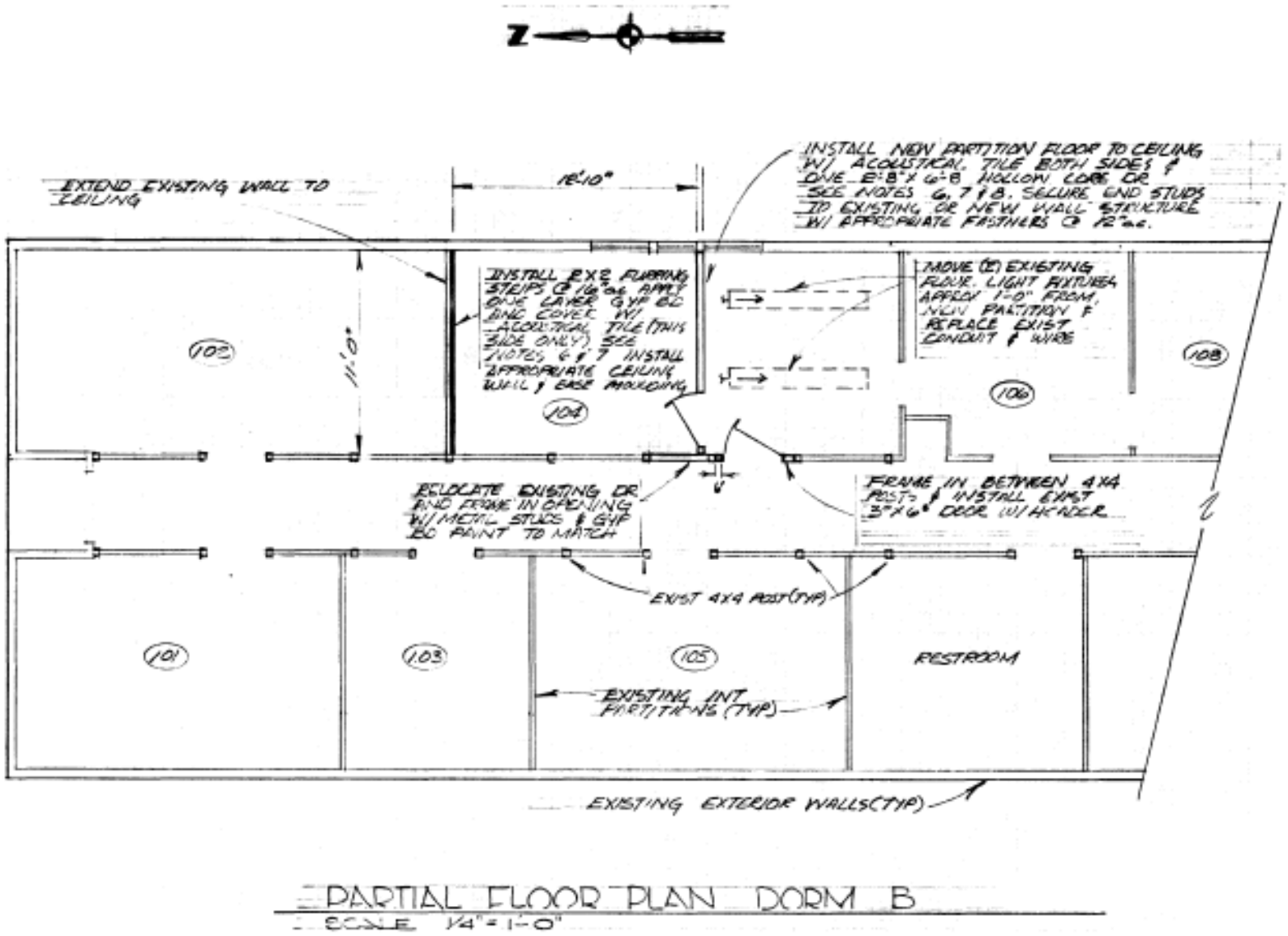


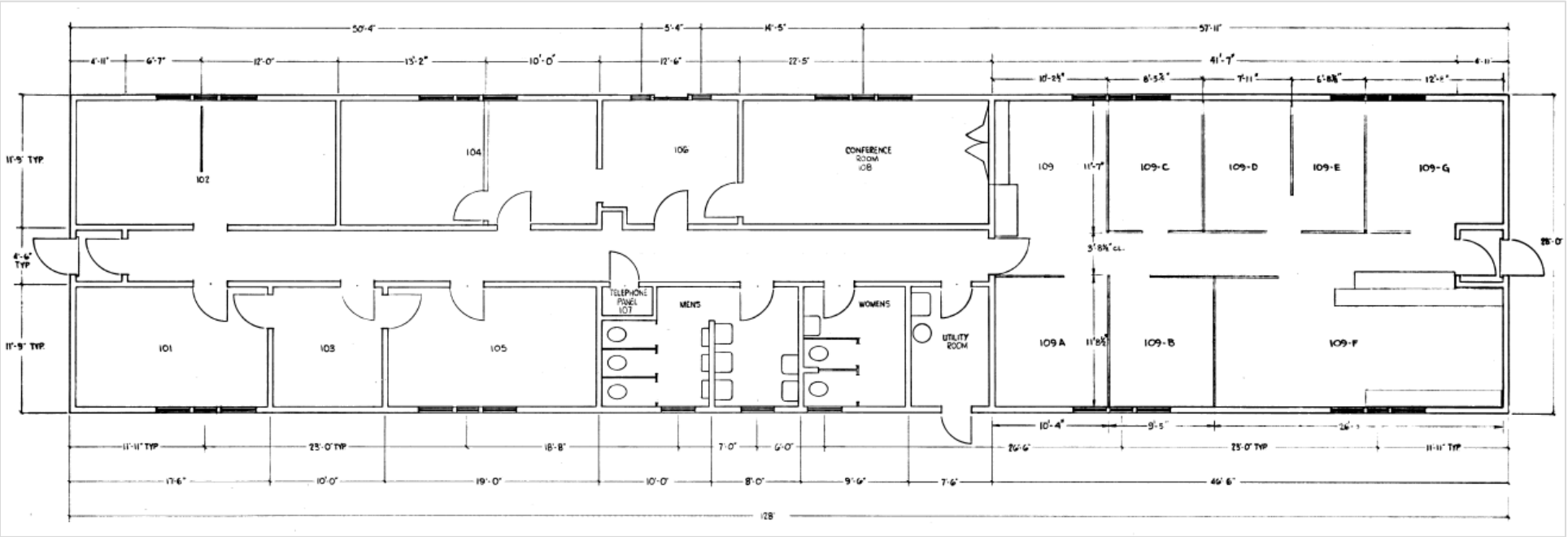
The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O series of dormitories except that some, including 23-B, face east and others have a reversed plan facing to the west like that shown in this drawing (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).



Plan showing the initial conversion from dormitory to offices (Holmes and Narver Drawing JS-023-114b-A1, 1966).

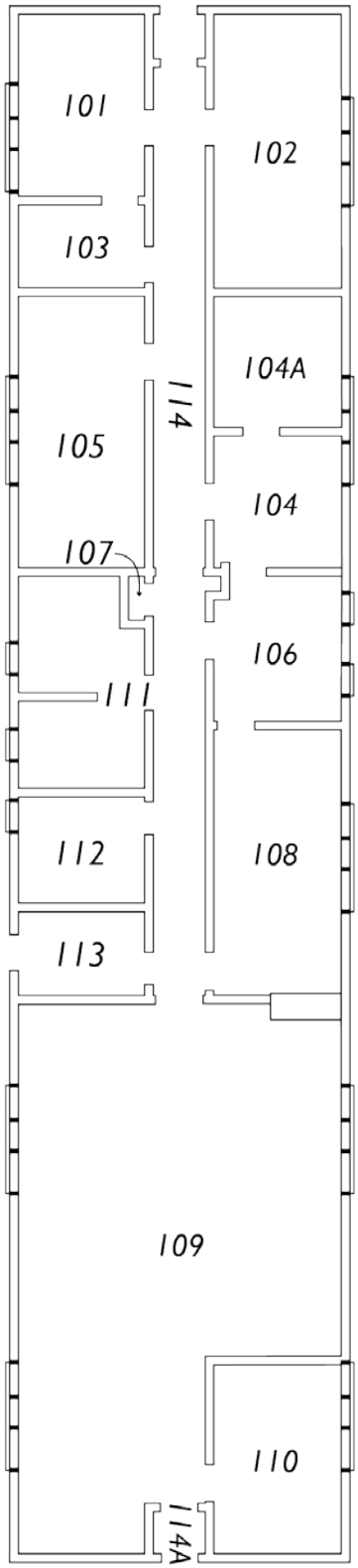


This partial plan well illustrates the kinds of interior alterations that took place to adjust to changing office requirements (REECo Drawing 23-DO-B-A2, 1984).

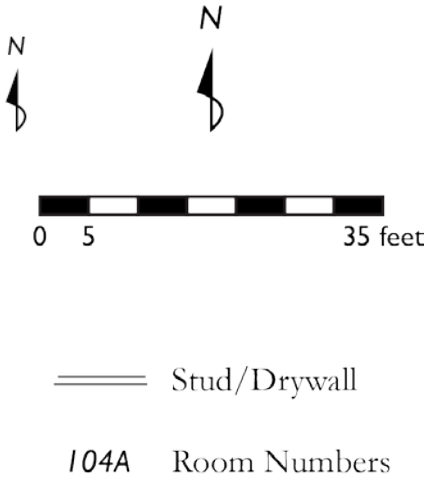


Plan of general layout. Wall construction details are not distinguished. Note introduction of the cubicle farm in Room 109 (Fenix & Scisson Unnumbered Drawing, 1986).

Dormitory B



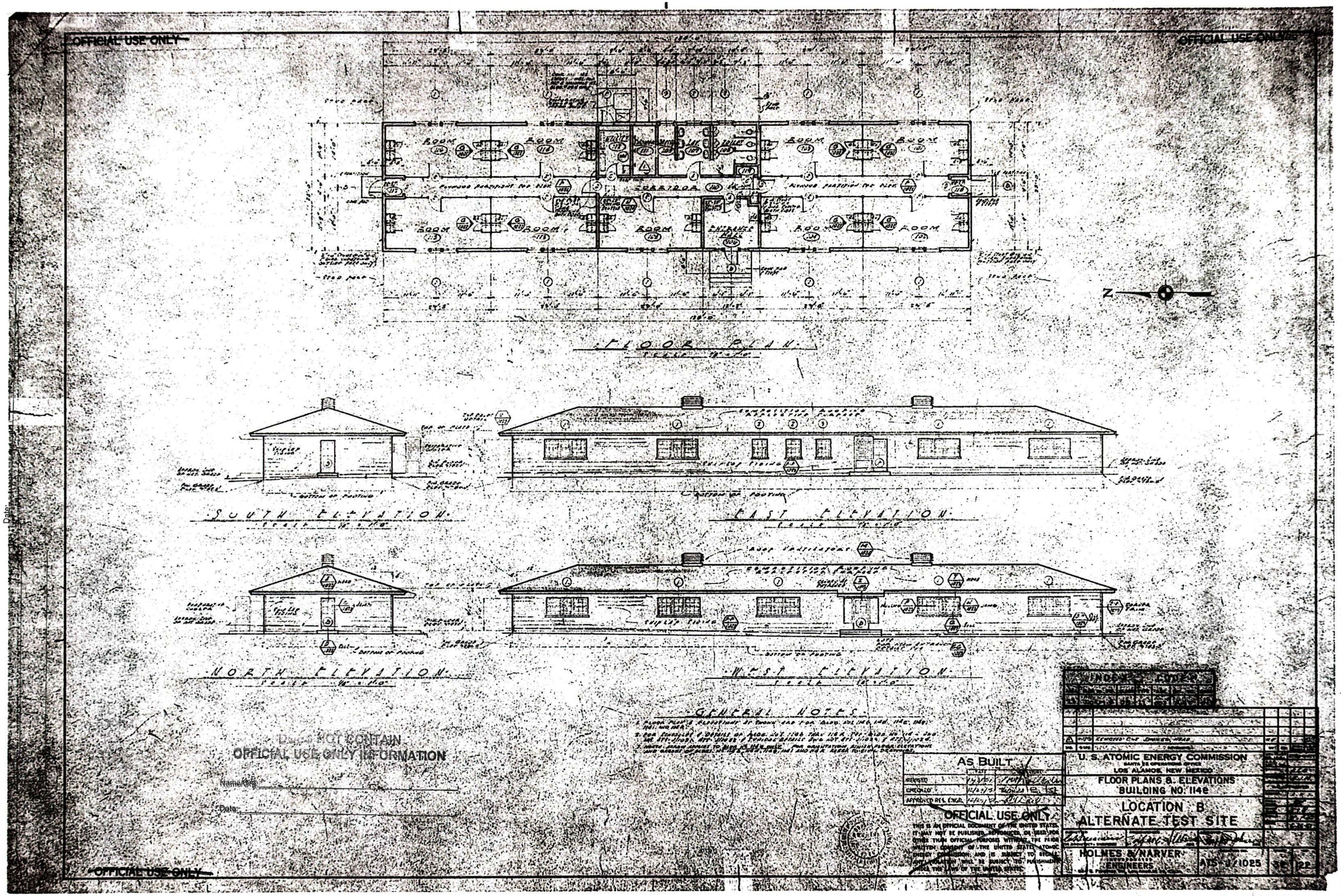
Room #	Function
101–106	Offices
107	Equipment Room
108	Office
109	Circulation
110	Office
111	Men's Restroom
112	Women's Restroom
113	Equipment Room



Current configuration of Dorm B, based on 2016 Space Management Plan
(Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

Central hallway of Dormitory 23-G, nearly identical to 23-B,
showing distinctive post-and-plywood interior wall construction (REECo 1955).

North and west elevations of Dorm B taken in 2015, facing southeast (DRI).



DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Record A433/HSTS 30 Aug 2018
Date:

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org:
Date:

ATS-J/1025

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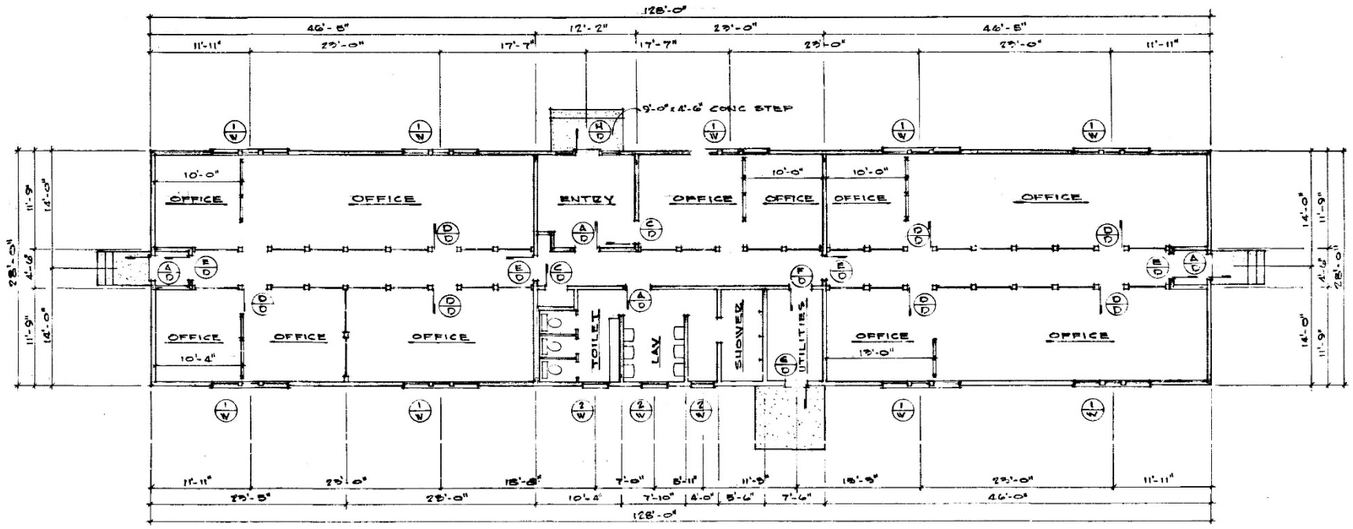
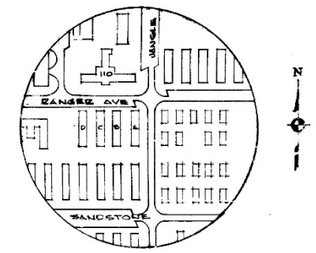


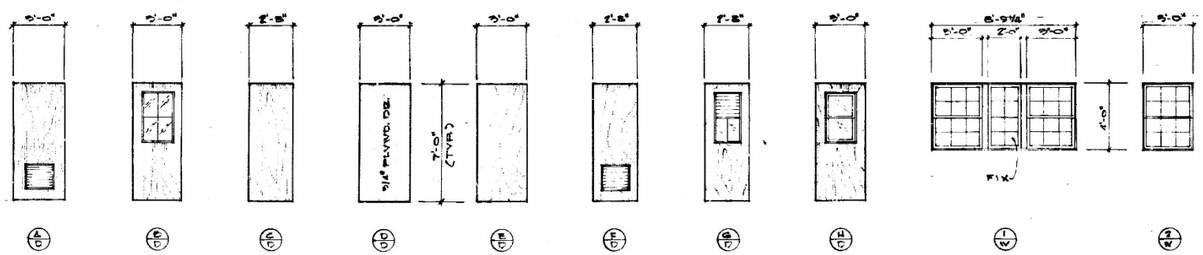
FLOOR PLAN SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



VICINITY MAP
NO SCALE

GENERAL NOTES:
FOR INT. FINISH SCHEDULE SEE DWG ATS 3/1021

REFERENCE DWGS
HOLMES & NARVER ATS 3/1021
BECO NTS-23-114B-A2



DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA	CLASS	TYPE	A.&L.	SH.	NO.	USER
23	Dorm B	08	22	001	A 1		01

NOTE:
THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF JAN 15-66

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	A.E.	APP.

U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED:
DRAWN: E. TAYLOR
CHECKED:
PROJECT ENGINEER

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

DORMITORY "B"
FLOOR PLAN

SUBMITTED: HOLMES & NARVER INC.
AGENCY APPROVAL
AEC APPROVAL
DATE

HOLMES & NARVER INC.
ENGINEERS—CONSTRUCTORS
ON-CONTINENT TEST DIVISION LAS VEGAS OFFICE
3030 SOUTH HIGHLAND DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. D. NO. 01315

DRAWING NUMBER JS-023-114b-A 1

SHEET ____ OF ____

5/65 DIETERICH-POST CLEARPRINT 1000H

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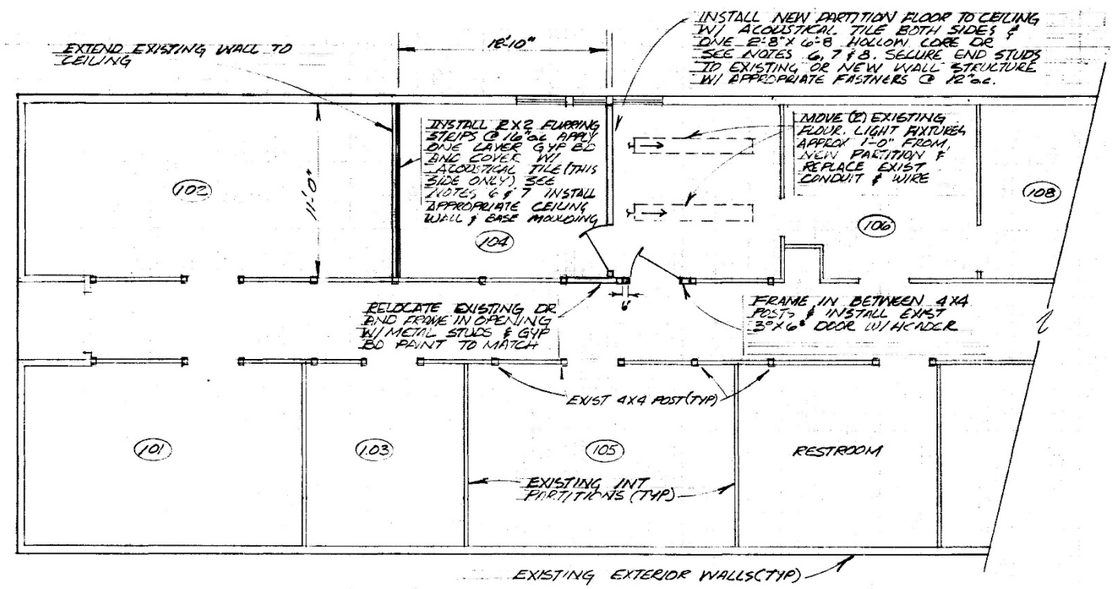
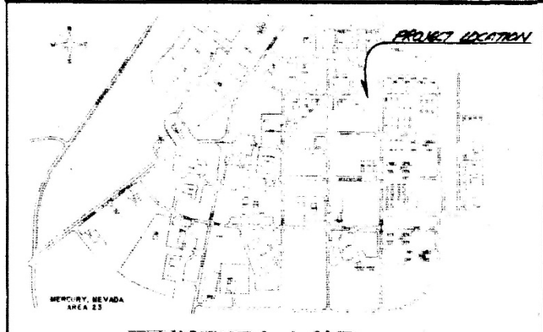


PARTIAL FLOOR PLAN DORM B

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES

1. ALL MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION METHODS SHALL CONFORM TO THE NTS STANDARD CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS SECTIONS 7, 8, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23 & THE NEC
2. ALL DIMENSIONS OF EXISTING STRUCTURE PERTINENT TO THIS PROJECT SHALL BE VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR
3. WHERE DEMOLITION OCCURS THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROTECT EXISTING STRUCTURE & WALL WITH DUST COVERS, BARRIERS OR OTHER MEANS DEEMED APPROPRIATE.
4. ALL DEBRIS, NON SALVAGEABLE MATERIALS & EXCESS EARTHWORK SHALL BE REMOVED FROM THE JOB SITE & DISPOSED OF AT THE NEAREST SANITARY LAND FILL
5. ALL CUTTING, PATCHING, FITTING & FINISHING OF EXISTING WORK SHALL BE DONE AS NECESSARY TO ACCOMODATE WORK REQUIREMENTS & RESTORE EXISTING WORK THAT IS DAMAGED DUE TO WORK BEING PERFORMED. NO UNFINISHED SURFACES SHALL BE LEFT EXPOSED BUT SHALL BE FINISHED TO CONFORM WITH & REPLACE THE SIMILAR WORK. FINISH SHALL INCLUDE PAINTING AS REQUIRED
6. NEW PARTITION, WALL EXTENSIONS & FRAMED IN OPENINGS SHALL CONSIST OF 20GA ST. STUDS @ 16"oc. W/ 5/8" GYPSUM BD BOTH SIDES SECURE TO STUDS W/ APPROPRIATE FASTENERS @ 6"oc. PERIMETER 12"oc. FIELD & INSTALL THE APPROPRIATE CEILING, WALL & BASE MOULDING
7. NEW ACOUSTICAL TILE SHALL BE UL LISTED 2'-0" X 2'-0" X 5/8" THK TONGUE & GROOVE TILE W/ STAPLE FLANGE & WHITE TEXTURED PATTERN. FLAME SPREAD RATING NO GREATER THAN 25 & SMOKE DEVELOPMENT FUEL CONTRIBUTION NO GREATER THAN 50. INSTALLATION SHALL BE AS PER MFRS INSTRUCTIONS WITH THE APPROPRIATE FLAMESTOP OR FASTENERS RECOMMENDED BY GYPSUM, ARMSTRONG OR FAIRLITE OR APPROVED EQUAL.
8. NEW HOLLOW CORE WOOD DR SHALL BE REECO STK 2:8" X 6:8" X 1 3/8" W/ 5 BUTT HINGES (REECO S/N 1202-4420) LOCKSET (REECO S/N 1202-4994) DOOR STOP (REECO S/N 1202-7802) & DOOR SWEEP.
9. 2X2 FURRING STRIPS SHALL BE FIRE RETARDANT IN ACCORDANCE W/ NTS STD CONST SPECS SECTION 14



VICINITY MAP

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	DOE APP.
1	9/25/87	AS BUILT				

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA

ADDITIONAL OFFICE AREA
DORM B
FLOOR PLAN

DESIGNED, DRAWN, CHECKED, PROJECT ENGR.

SUBMITTED 9-5-84 — AGENCY APPROVAL — DOE APPROVAL 9/5/84

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 14400 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

I. D. NO. NTS — DRAWING NO. CS-LO-B-A2

REV — SHEET 1 OF 1

AS BUILT
REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO., INC.
ENGINEERING & CONTRACT ADMIN. DEPT.
DATE 9-5-78 — DRAWN EK 9-29-87

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☒	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 11, Sandstone – Buster		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589816	Northing: 4057681	

USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?		Yes ☐		No ☒	

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	Hip	
Roof Materials	Composition	
Exterior Wall Materials	Metal Bevel Siding	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	Wood	
Window Type	6/6 Double-hung	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☒	Fair ☐	Poor ☐
Explanation: Vacant. HVAC systems are deteriorated and require replacement. Interior is deteriorated and needs refurbishment. Sprinkler system is not operational. Utilities are disconnected.		

Building 23-B, view southwest (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed: NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name: Date listed:	NRIS #:

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☒	Materials ☒	Workmanship ☒	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1998

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Men's Dormitory
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey, including recording and evaluations of building interiors, required to make justifiable recommendations regarding eligibility related to association with significant persons under Criterion B or potential research potential under Criterion D, this resource

remains unevaluated under these criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represents an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. This building, along with its two neighboring structures, comprises many of the few remaining examples of the earliest generation of wood-frame demountable buildings erected at the new base camp of Mercury. Modifications are relatively minor and the application of replacement siding occurred during the period of significance and does not detract from the significance of the building. It retains all aspects of integrity to a remarkably high level considering that it remained in active use well beyond its projected useful life span. Now vacant, it was maintained until recently.

This resource is one of the premier contributors to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is on Ranger Avenue between Buster and Jangle Streets. This block was completely developed for housing and administration. It is on a gravel-covered cut and fill terrace.

The dormitory is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955). A concrete sidewalk runs along Ranger and other walks connect with dorms to the south. It was most recently used as an Environmental Restoration office.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (NTS News 1974). Now light tan, remnants of earlier pale green paint remain under portions of the original wood soffits and on small exposed areas of original wood siding.

Windows are wood framed without surrounds. They are typically triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by 6/6 double-hung operable sash or single 6/6 double-hung. Some top sashes have been replaced with air conditioning units. Doors are flush wood with variable lights and some with louvers, replacing the original wood panel doors.

The front entrance is near the center of the long east façade. The door has a 2/2 light. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three triple windows and to the right are two more triple windows.

The rear also has a door near center but lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides each have entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoop which from Ranger is reached via concrete steps with pipe railing.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits. It has a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline. Four large air conditioner units with wood railings have been mounted along the rear (west) roof surface. These are accessed via a steel ladder mounted at the rear of the building.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

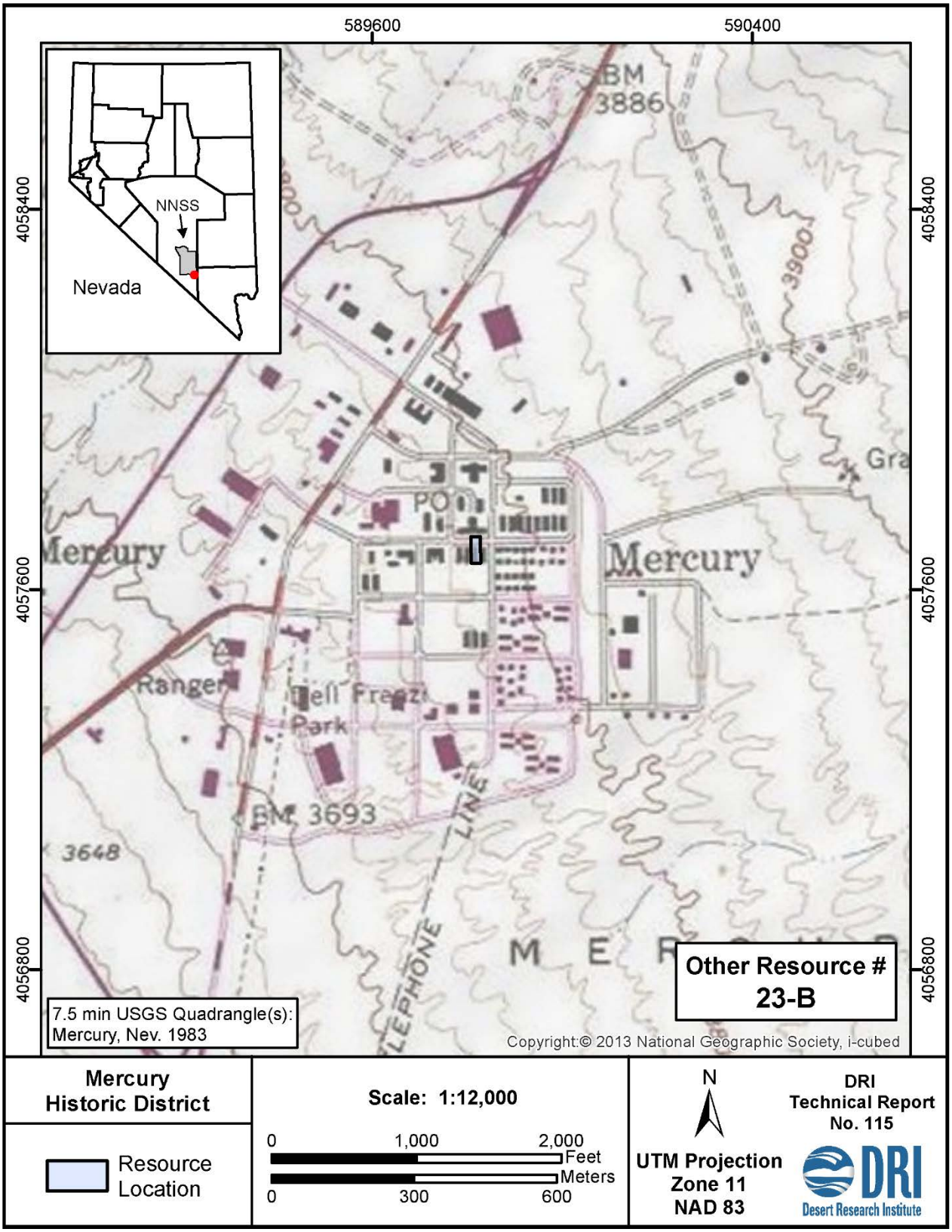
Desert Research Institute
2017 Mercury Photos.

NTS News
1974 *Energy: NTS Conservation Continues.* November: 5-6. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevations: North, East Direction facing:Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevations: North, East Direction facing: Southeast Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Building 23-B at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevations: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Building 23-G. Building 23-B was nearly identical to the dormitory shown.
Elevations: East, North Direction facing: South Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

NEVADA
STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource B15240 (23-C) was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

This is one of three buildings still standing (23-B, -C, and -D) that are members of a single class of buildings that were essentially identical when originally built. These are sometimes referred to as the BCD Dorms.

As a general rule, only a single representative of each element class is to be selected for enhanced internal recording and high-quality digital photography per the programmatic agreement (PA) related to modernization and maintenance activities in Mercury (NNSA/NFO & SHPO 2018). This building (23-C) was selected for detailed internal description, but due to the varied internal modifications, which all three buildings have undergone during the period of significance, it was determined that the best course of action was to take interior digital photographs of select elements in all three to form a composite collection representing both the original design elements and the various kinds of modifications which have been introduced through time. A plan showing the photo views selected for the three buildings along with the images is presented in Attachment A.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

These dormitories are typical examples of buildings that are of only local significance because of their role simply as general support infrastructure. They were not directly involved in the nuclear testing or other missions that make Mercury as a whole a critical part of the testing enterprise. The dorms similarly lack the direct historical associations needed to consider them individually eligible to the National Register under Criterion A.

Although the demountable buildings, of which 23-C is an example, are as a class of considerable importance under Criterion C as a distinctive modern type of mass-produced modular housing, they are inherently significant only as a composite entity, not as individual elements. Although demountable buildings are now quite rare on the NNSS, similar examples from World War II and the Cold War can be found throughout the United States. As such, individual significance of this building is not warranted on the basis of it being a rare survivor of a once-common type on the NNSS.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

This is one of a series of 17 nearly identical dormitories. Initially they were collectively called Building 114 by Holmes and Narver with an additional letter to distinguish each one, in this case 114c. Soon the 114 was dropped and the buildings were usually referenced by their letters only, but the 114 designation never completely went away and lives on in places such as drawing numbers.

Resource 23-C (often referred to as Dorm C) is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955).

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows are wood framed with narrow surrounds which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. Dorm rooms have triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by a 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms have single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

The front (west) entrance was near the center of the long façade. The door had a 2/2 light. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three sets of triple windows, and to the right are two more triple window sets. This entrance was superfluous. Since the parking areas were at each narrow end of the building those two side entrances were much more convenient. Therefore the formal entry foyer was converted into a small office.

The rear also has a door near center but lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides on the north and south ends each have entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline.

The original plan was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. Those of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For ventilation the partitions were open near the floor and ceiling.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x23 ft and normally had four occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

The building began to transition to office space in 1965 when one of the dorm rooms was subdivided by a half-height steel partition. A major remodel completed by June the following year removed all of the original dividing walls in both ends of the building and subdivided the remaining dorm room in the central service block. The attached plan from this remodel (page 10) also shows the window and door styles present at that time, most of which date to original construction.

A women's restroom was created out of the former shower room. Planning for this remodel began in 1980 and was completed in 1981 (REECo Drawing 23-DO-C-C1.2, 1980). The attached 1982 drawing (page 11) reflects this change along with re-establishment of dividing walls in the northern wing and removal of the partition in the former dorm room in the central block. At this time the centralized evaporative cooling system was abandoned in favor of individual window-mounted room air conditioners which had been installed earlier.

The present layout of the building, along with wall construction methods, is portrayed on page 12. Detailed descriptions of all rooms in the building as it appears today comprise the remainder of this section.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 1A	LEVEL: 1	120 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally part of a dorm room (communal sleeping room).				
PHOTO(S):				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	Off-white. Surface-mounted electrical conduit and fixtures are common throughout entire building.			
N. Wall	Replacement drywall terminating in mullion of center window.			
S. Wall	Original south wall removed. Replacement is drywall covered with white acoustic tiles.			
E. Wall	Drywall. Remnant of original post-and-plywood partition in right corner. Door in left corner (directions in all descriptions are facing the wall from center of room). Horizontal air vent near ceiling.			
W. Wall	Original drywall. Operable and fixed windows in right corner.			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2" rectangular cornice molding.			
Floor	Rust carpet. West and south walls have original 3" rectangular wood base with quarter-round toe strip (typical for entire building). 4" dark gray vinyl base at other walls. Toe molding has been removed from the west wall to install conduit.			
Doors	Flush off-white. Bevel trim is standard throughout building.			
Windows	Wood-framed 6/6 double-hung with upper sash replaced by air conditioner and wood-framed vertical fixed 8-pane.			
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.			
Built-ins	Rolled projection screen mounted on south wall.			
Other (General)	Note that there is no system in how numbers were applied to subdivided rooms through time. Three different numbering schemes were used in Buildings 23-B, C, and D. Numerous paint colors were applied to the interior of the building through time. Earliest are both light and dark green (in the other dorms, only light green was observed with no dark green). Other colors are yellowish orange (salmon), sky blue, tangerine, pale yellow, off-white, and light pink. This series of dormitories originally had post-and-plywood partitions with nominal 4x4" posts and 2x4" cross-pieces. Plywood panels were held in place by light battens nailed to the framing. The partitions were open at top and bottom for air flow. These openings have since been sealed with plywood matching that of the large center panels.			

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 1B	LEVEL: 1	120 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally part of a dorm room.				
PHOTO(S):				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	Off-white drywall.			
N. Wall	Original.			
S. Wall	Intersects mullion of center window.			
E. Wall	Drywall, original at left side, rest replacement. Door in right corner. Horizontal air vent near ceiling.			
W. Wall	Original drywall. Single window in left corner.			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.			
Floor	Rust carpet. West and north walls have original 3” rectangular wood base with quarter-round toe strip (typical for entire building). 4” dark gray vinyl base at other walls.			
Doors	Flush off-white.			
Windows	Wood-framed 6/6 double-hung. Air conditioner replaces top sash.			
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.			
Built-ins	AEC label on chalkboard mounted on west wall.			

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 2	LEVEL: 1	250 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally a dorm room.				
PHOTO(S): Detail of original door. (Attachment A, Photo #7)				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	Off-white.			
N. Wall	Original drywall.			
S. Wall	Replacement drywall with door at right corner.			
E. Wall	Original drywall. Triple window with “CHROMALOX” electric heater beneath.			
W. Wall	Original drywall at right, rest post-and-plywood. Door and two typical vents near ceiling.			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.			
Floor	Rust carpet. Typical wood base at drywall, quarter round at post-and-plywood (typical).			
Doors	Original ¾” flush plywood sheet with bronze latch and stop. Three vertical ¾x2 ½” battens installed inside and out along bottom two feet of door (typical original dorm door).			
Windows	Typical triple-mounted sets include a fixed vertically-oriented 8-light window flanked by two 6/6 double-hung windows. All are wood-frame and separated by narrow mullions. In this case an air conditioner replaces the upper sash of the left window.			
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.			
Built-ins	Steel divider as shown on 1965 plan connected to northern window mullion.			

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 3	LEVEL: 1	250 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally a dorm room.				
PHOTO(S):				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	Off-white.			
N. Wall	Replacement drywall with door at left corner.			
S. Wall	Original drywall.			
E. Wall	Original drywall with typical triple window.			
W. Wall	Post-and-plywood with original door identical to Room 2. Two typical vents near ceiling.			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.			
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood bases for drywall and post-and-plywood walls.			
Doors	North door is flush.			
Windows	Air conditioners replace both upper sashes.			
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.			

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 4	LEVEL: 1	260 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Conference Room; originally a dorm room.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white.
N. Wall	Acoustic tiles over replacement drywall. Wall is about one foot north of the location of the original dorm partition.
S. Wall	Original drywall with whiteboard.
E. Wall	Acoustic tiles on drywall facing installed on post-and-plywood partition. Two typical vents near ceiling and two white boards.
W. Wall	Original drywall and typical triple window.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood base all around.
Doors	Flush off-white.
Windows	Air conditioner replaces top sash of right window.
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.
Built-ins	Wood mount for rolled projection screen (removed) on north wall.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 5	LEVEL: 1	136 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally main entry foyer.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white drywall, all original.
N. Wall	-
S. Wall	Inset electrical box; door in left corner.
E. Wall	Door near center to hallway. Inset electrical box. One typical vent near ceiling.
W. Wall	Center exterior door with large fixed sidelights.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood base all around.
Doors	Interior: both flush off-white. Exterior door (sealed shut) is flush with one light, which has been plugged and the upper portion replaced with an air conditioner. The metal kick plate and old knob/latch have been painted over.
Windows	Sidelights are fixed with a single light.
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 6A	LEVEL: 1	125 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally half of a dorm room.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white drywall.
N. Wall	Replacement intersecting plugged center window.
S. Wall	Original.
E. Wall	Replacement.
W. Wall	Original with two wood strips for mounting equipment. Light and dark green paint are exposed behind peeling paint.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Rust carpet. West and south walls have typical wood base. Other walls have 4” dark gray vinyl base.
Doors	Flush off-white.
Windows	Only the southern of a triple set remains. Top sash replaced with an air conditioner.
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 6B	LEVEL: 1	125 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Office; originally half of dorm.				
PHOTO(S): Partition wall tied into window mullion (Attachment A, Photo #8).				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white drywall.
N. Wall	Original with door in right corner.
S. Wall	Replacement intersecting plugged center window.
E. Wall	Replacement.
W. Wall	Original.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Rust carpet. West and north walls have typical wood base. Other walls have 4” dark gray vinyl base.
Doors	Flush off-white.
Windows	Only the northern of a triple set. Top sash replaced with an air conditioner.
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 7	LEVEL: 1	8 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Storage; communications closet.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Original pale yellow drywall. Phone and other communications equipment attached to walls.
N. Wall	-
S. Wall	-
E. Wall	Faced with plywood for equipment mounting (removed).
W. Wall	Center door.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Mottled tan vinyl tile.
Doors	Flush with pale yellow interior and off-white exterior.
Windows	-
Lighting	Wall socket for single bulb.
Other	The interior surface of the door frame on the hallway side retains a very light pink color not seen elsewhere in the building.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 8	LEVEL: 1	191 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Men’s Restroom.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	All original off-white drywall, most with later tall faux white tile pressboard wainscot applied.
N. Wall	No wainscot in toilet stalls.
S. Wall	Former door to shower area plugged with drywall and wainscot. Two sinks are on this wall.
E. Wall	Divided in half by full-height partition. Single window on each side of partition with electric heater under the south window in the lavatory area.
W. Wall	Door.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Mottled tan vinyl tiles with 6” concrete base. 4” dark brown vinyl base has been applied to concrete base. Plugged doorway has wood base sized to match concrete elsewhere.
Doors	Flush off-white with louver vent. Bronze latch and kick plate.
Windows	6/6 wood double-hung. Top sash of clear glass painted black. Lower sash has translucent lights.
Lighting	1-tube surface-mount ceiling light in toilet area. 1-tube surface-mount light over both sets of sinks. All diffusers removed.
Built-ins	Lavatory formerly had 6 sinks, one of which was moved to Women’s Restroom after remodel. A small shelf and mirror are above each sink. Toilet area has 3 urinals and 3 toilets with original off-white plywood partitions.
Other	Center partition is concrete to wainscot height, originally painted dark green. Wainscot panels have been applied. Three urinals are mounted in the north face of the wall and three sinks to the south face. Urinals may be original but sinks appear to date to about the 1970s.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 9	LEVEL: 1	105 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Women's Restroom. Originally Men's showers and later modified for storage.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	All original off-white drywall, with later tall faux white tile pressboard wainscot in lavatory area.
N. Wall	One sink, mirror, and shelf moved from Men's Restroom.
S. Wall	Entire toilet area has oatmeal ceramic tiles to top of stall enclosures.
E. Wall	Window.
W. Wall	Door.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2" rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Mottled tan vinyl tiles with 6" concrete base. 4" dark brown vinyl base has been applied to concrete base. Plugged doorway has wood base sized to match concrete elsewhere.
Doors	Flush off-white with louver vent. Bronze latch and kick plate.
Windows	6/6 wood double-hung. Top sash of clear glass painted black. Lower sash has translucent lights.
Lighting	1-tube surface-mount ceiling light, diffuser removed.
Built-ins	Two toilets with plywood stalls and brass fittings. One old shower drain is visible (plugged).

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 10	LEVEL: 1	83 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Mechanical Room				
PHOTO(S): Detail of wall-mounted insurance certificate (Attachment A, Photo #9).				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white drywall. Pale green revealed behind removed sink.
N. Wall	Janitor sink (removed).
S. Wall	-
E. Wall	Air conditioner duct entry and door to outside.
W. Wall	Door.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2" rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Gray-painted concrete with 6" concrete base. There is a floor drain and large raised-nonskid pattern steel plates over a mechanical cellar.
Doors	Exterior: flush with louver vent over two lights. Brass knob. The louver has been covered with a plastic panel. Interior: flush louvered with brass fittings.
Windows	-
Lighting	1-tube with diffuser removed.
Built-ins	2003 water heater replaces original electric boiler. Insurance certificate (see photo) for "Vertical Coil Water Heater" manufactured in 1951 by Advance Tank & Mfg. Co. last inspected in September 1964. A large insulated rectangular duct conveyed cool are from a large evaporative cooler located on an external concrete pad through this room and up to the central ceiling air duct.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 11	LEVEL: 1	139 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Storage. Enclosed for use as an office from part of an original dorm room.				
PHOTO(S):				

ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**
All Walls	Off-white. All openings including windows covered with ½" lightweight wire mesh.
N. Wall	Repositioned post-and-plywood partition faced on the south with acoustic tile. Left open to ceiling. Door at left and opening at base of wall at right. Connects with window mullion.
S. Wall	Original drywall.
E. Wall	Original drywall.
W. Wall	Original drywall at left, rest original post-and-plywood covered with acoustic tiles.
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2" rectangular cornice molding.
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood base.
Doors	Flush off-white.
Windows	Center and right windows of typical triple set. Upper sash replaced with air conditioner.
Lighting	2-tube with diffusers.

BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 12-17	LEVEL: 1	1,148 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Open workspace. Formerly 1 ½ dorm rooms and part of central hallway.				
PHOTO(S): Overview from southwest corner (Attachment A, Photo #10).				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	All original off-white drywall except walls of Room 11, which are post-and-plywood.			
N. Wall	Center door to hallway.			
S. Wall	Door to southern entry vestibule.			
E. Wall	Triple window and northern third of southern triple window.			
W. Wall	Two triple windows.			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding.			
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood base.			
Doors	See Room 18.			
Windows	All typical. In the triple sets an air conditioner replaces the top left sash. The single window also has an air conditioner instead of a top sash.			
Lighting	2-tube, diffusers removed.			
Built-ins	Cubicle dividers used to create five workstations and a common work area, each of which was assigned a separate room number.			

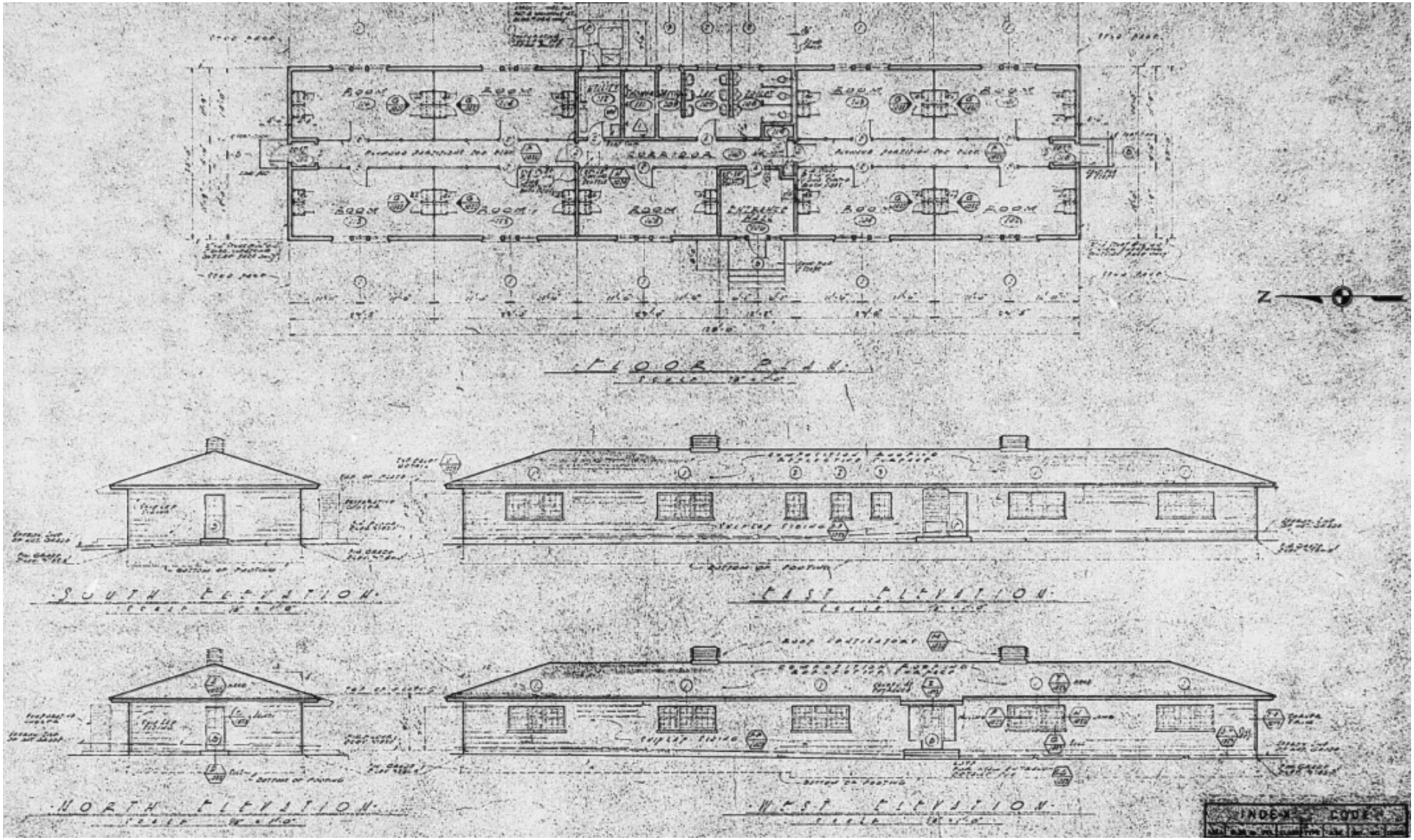
BLDG #: 23-C	ROOM #: 18	LEVEL: 1	654 FT²	July 10, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Hallway.				
PHOTO(S): Example from 23-B, overview facing south (Attachment A, Photo #1).				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	Off-white. Original drywall in both entry vestibules and in central service area. Original post-and-plywood walls survive along most of the hallway north of the service area. Hallway walls have been removed south of the service block to create a large open space.			
N. Wall	-			
S. Wall	-			
E. Wall	-			
W. Wall	-			
Ceiling	Off-white drywall with 2” rectangular cornice molding. In some places there is no cornice molding. Ceiling is the underside of an air duct that runs full-length of building. Square diffusers are inset into the ceiling.			
Floor	Rust carpet with typical wood bases depending on whether walls are drywall or post-and-plywood.			
Doors	North and south exterior doors are recent flush with one-light. Doors inside vestibules are flush with one light with brass hardware and kick plate. Northern service block door is the same but without a light. Southern service block door has been removed.			
Windows	-			
Lighting	1-tube, diffuser removed.			
Entries	Drywall with typical wood base and vinyl tiles.			

9. References

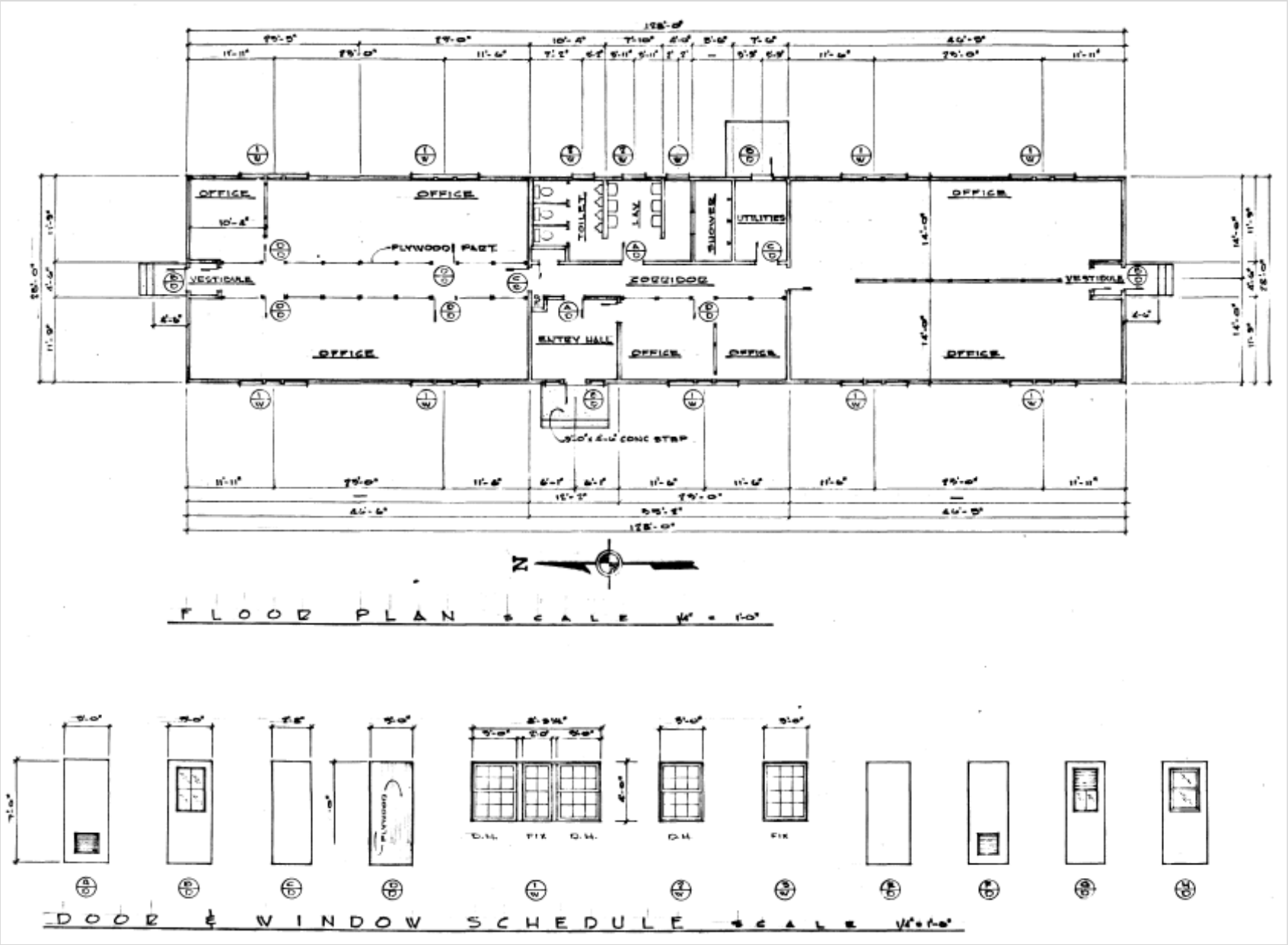
NNSA/NFO & SHPO
2018 *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada*. Electronic Document: http://shpo.nv.gov/uploads/documents/DOE_Modernization_and_Operational_Maintenance_of_the_Nevada_National_Security_Site_at_Mercury_PA.pdf, accessed August 1, 2018.

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

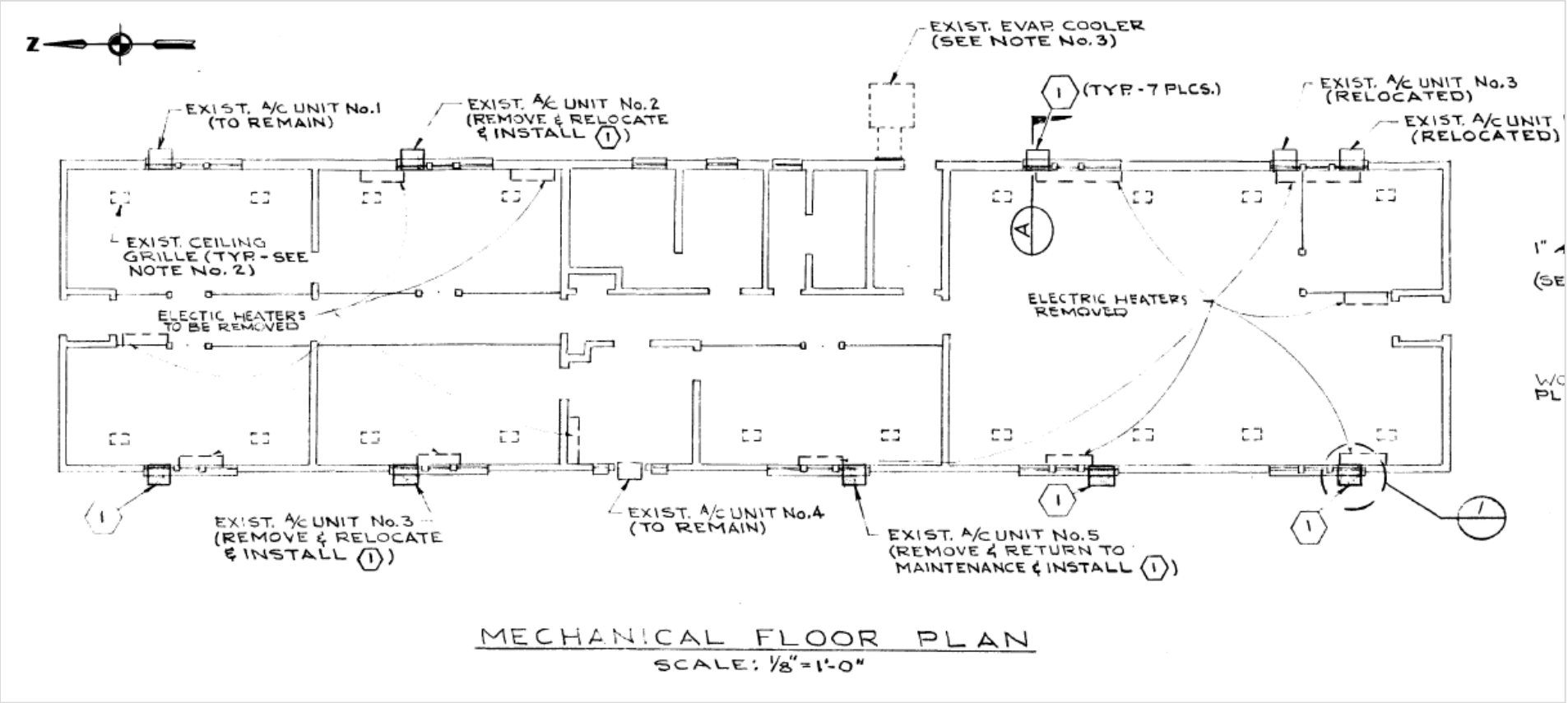
Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*



The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O, 103-104 series of dormitories except that some face west like this one and others have a reversed plan facing to the east (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).



Plan showing the initial conversion from dormitory to offices (Holmes and Narver Drawing JS-023-114C-A1, 1966).



Additional modifications per an as built drawing (REECo Drawing 23-DO-C-M2/E2, 1982).

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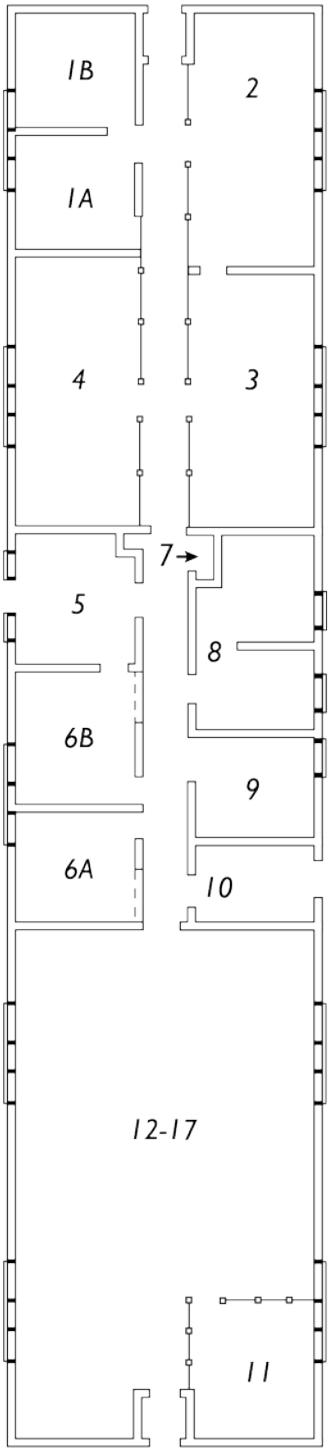
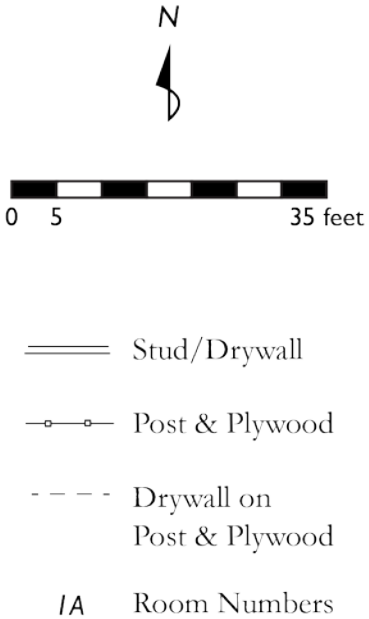
Dormitory C



Room #	Function
1–6	Offices
7	Communications Closet
8	Men's Restroom
9	Women's Restroom
10–11	Offices
12–17	Circulation



Reproduced with permission from original by Ron Reno (2018)

Current configuration of Dorm C (Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

Central hallway of Dormitory 23-G, nearly identical to 23-C,
showing distinctive post-and-plywood interior wall construction (REECo 1955).

Dormitory 23-G is typical of the A-O/103-104 Series. Northeast corner, view southwest (REECo 1955). The rear of the building is at the left. A photo of Dormitory 23-Q was included on the original form in error.

North and west elevations of Dorm C, facing south-southeast (DRI 2015).

Landscape between Dorms B and C, facing north (DRI 2015).

Example of paint colors in Dorm C showing light green on the door (left) and a closet interior (right), pale yellow and off white on the hinges, and salmon on the door frame (DRI 2018).

Hi-resolution aerial view of the area surrounding the BCD Dorm complex as of October 10, 2016 (NSTec Product ID: 20170223-02-P002-R01).

ATTACHMENT A

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

BCD DORMITORIES
Mercury Historic District
Mercury
Nye County
Nevada

Update to SHPO Resources
#B15239, #B15240, and #B15241

INDEX TO HIGH-QUALITY DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Steve Carragher (Mission Support and Testing Services), Photographer, July 2018

1 VIEW OF HALL IN DORM B FROM FOYER FACING THE SOUTH

2 VIEW OF WINDOWS IN ROOM 101 OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHWEST

3 VIEW OF TELEPHONE PANEL AND BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE IN ROOM 107 OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHEAST

4 DETAIL OF BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE TO ROOM 107 OF DORM B (THIS PHOTO BY DRI)

5 VIEW OF ENTRANCE FOYER, ROOM 106, OF DORM B FACING THE EAST

6 VIEW OF TILE WALL IN WOMEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 112, OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHWEST

7 DETAIL OF BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE TO ROOM 2 IN DORM C.

8 VIEW OF PARTITION INSTALLED PERPENDICULAR TO WALL OF FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 6B, IN DORM C FACING THE WEST

9 DETAIL OF HEATER INSPECTION CERTIFICATE DATED 1964 ON NORTH WALL OF MECHANICAL ROOM, ROOM 10, IN DORM C

10 OVERVIEW OF MODULAR OFFICES, ROOMS 12 – 17, IN DORM C FACING THE NORTHEAST

11 VIEW OF DOOR IN MAIN HALLWAY SEPARATING NORTH AND CENTRAL BLOCKS OF DORM C FACING THE SOUTH

12 DETAIL OF HANDLE ON DOOR SEPARATING NORTH AND CENTRAL BLOCKS OF DORM C

13 OVERVIEW OF TYPICAL DORM ROOM, ROOM 1, IN DORM D FACING THE SOUTH

14 OVERVIEW OF FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 5, IN DORM D WITH HALLWAY PARTITION REMOVED FACING THE SOUTHWEST

15 VIEW OF STALLS IN MEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 6, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTH-NORTHWEST

16 VIEW OF SINKS IN MEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 6, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTHWEST

17 VIEW OF MECHANICAL ROOM, ROOM 9, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTHEAST

18 CLOSER VIEW OF SINK AREA IN MECHANICAL ROOM

19 VIEW OF RUSTIC GREEN PAINT IN FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 13, IN DORM D FACING THE SOUTH

20 GENERAL VIEW OF FRONT FAÇADE OF DORM B FACING THE WEST (EAST ELEVATION)

21 PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF BUILDINGS IN DORM COMPLEX, DORM B IN FOREGROUND, FACING THE SOUTHWEST

22 GENERAL VIEW OF SIDE FAÇADE OF DORM C FACING THE SOUTH (NORTH ELEVATION).

23 PERSPECTIVE OF NORTH AND WEST FAÇADES OF DORM D FACING THE SOUTHEAST

24 GENERAL VIEW OF REAR FAÇADE OF DORM D FACING THE EAST (WEST ELEVATION)

25 PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF DORM D FACING THE NORTHEAST

26 GENERAL VIEW OF SIDE FAÇADE OF DORM B FACING THE NORTH (SOUTH ELEVATION)

27 PERSPECTIVE OF SOUTH AND EAST FAÇADES OF BUILDINGS IN DORM COMPLEX, DORM B IN FOREGROUND, FACING THE NORTHWEST

Photo Key for interior digital photographs of the BCD Dorms. (Photo key by JD Lancaster, DRI)

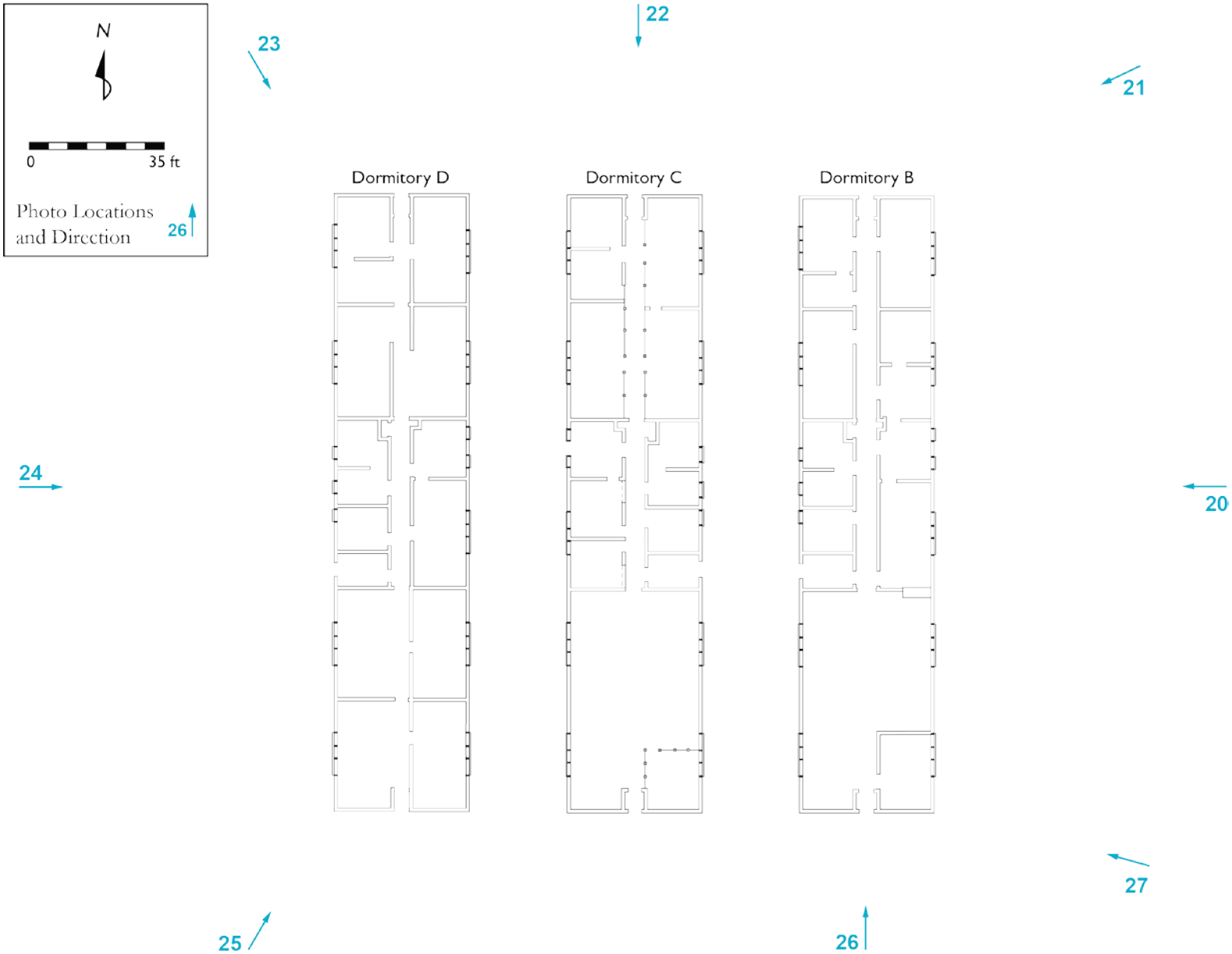


Photo Key for exterior digital photographs of the BCD Dorm Complex.

PHOTO #1: VIEW OF HALL IN DORM B FROM FOYER FACING THE SOUTH.

PHOTO #2: VIEW OF WINDOWS IN ROOM 101 OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #3: VIEW OF TELEPHONE PANEL AND BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE IN ROOM 107 OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHEAST.

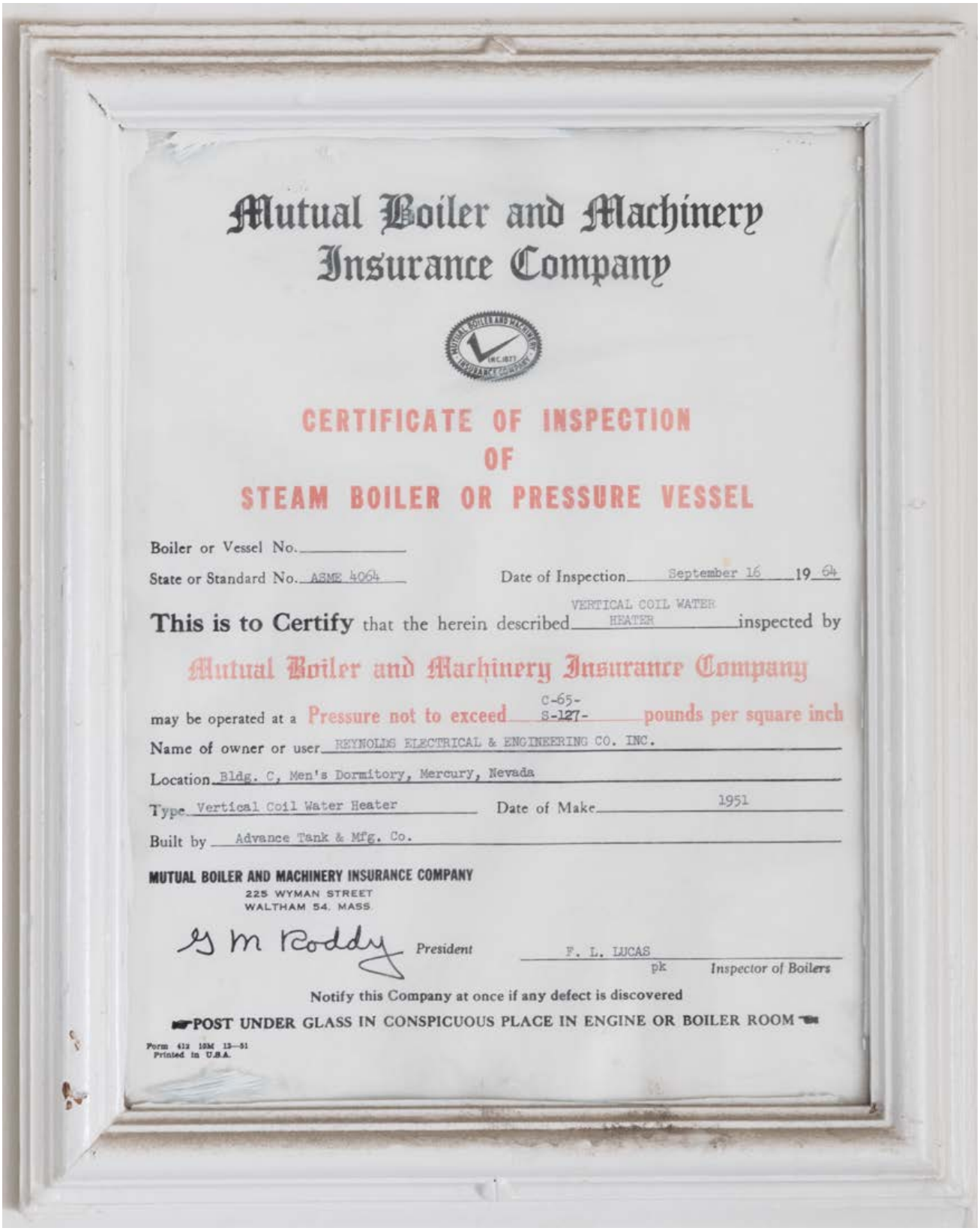
PHOTO #4: DETAIL OF BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE TO ROOM 107 OF DORM B.

PHOTO #5: VIEW OF ENTRANCE FOYER, ROOM 106, OF DORM B FACING THE EAST.

PHOTO #6: VIEW OF TILE WALL IN WOMEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 112, OF DORM B FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #7: DETAIL OF BRONZE DOOR HARDWARE TO ROOM 2 IN DORM C.

PHOTO #8: VIEW OF PARTITION INSTALLED PERPENDICULAR TO WALL OF FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 6B, IN DORM C FACING THE WEST.



Mutual Boiler and Machinery Insurance Company

CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION
OF
STEAM BOILER OR PRESSURE VESSEL

Boiler or Vessel No. _____

State or Standard No. ASME 4064 Date of Inspection September 16 19 64

This is to Certify that the herein described VERTICAL COIL WATER HEATER inspected by

Mutual Boiler and Machinery Insurance Company

may be operated at a Pressure not to exceed C-65- S-127- pounds per square inch

Name of owner or user REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO. INC.

Location Bldg. C, Men's Dormitory, Mercury, Nevada

Type Vertical Coil Water Heater Date of Make 1951

Built by Advance Tank & Mfg. Co.

MUTUAL BOILER AND MACHINERY INSURANCE COMPANY
225 WYMAN STREET
WALTHAM 54, MASS.

G M Roddy *President* F. L. LUCAS pk *Inspector of Boilers*

Notify this Company at once if any defect is discovered

POST UNDER GLASS IN CONSPICUOUS PLACE IN ENGINE OR BOILER ROOM

Form 412 10M 12-51
Printed in U.S.A.

PHOTO #9: DETAIL OF HEATER INSPECTION CERTIFICATE DATED 1964
ON NORTH WALL OF MECHANICAL ROOM, ROOM 10, IN DORM C.

PHOTO #10: OVERVIEW OF MODULAR OFFICES, ROOMS 12 – 17, IN DORM C FACING THE NORTHEAST.

PHOTO #11: VIEW OF DOOR IN MAIN HALLWAY SEPARATING NORTH AND CENTRAL BLOCKS OF DORM C FACING THE SOUTH.

PHOTO #12: DETAIL OF HANDLE ON DOOR SEPARATING NORTH AND CENTRAL BLOCKS OF DORM C.

PHOTO #13: OVERVIEW OF TYPICAL DORM ROOM, ROOM 1, IN DORM D FACING THE SOUTH.

PHOTO #14: OVERVIEW OF FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 5, IN DORM D
WITH HALLWAY PARTITION REMOVED FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #15: VIEW OF STALLS IN MEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 6, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTH-NORTHWEST.

PHOTO #16: VIEW OF SINKS IN MEN'S RESTROOM, ROOM 6, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTHWEST.

PHOTO #17: VIEW OF MECHANICAL ROOM, ROOM 9, IN DORM D FACING THE NORTHEAST.

PHOTO #18: CLOSER VIEW OF SINK AREA IN MECHANICAL ROOM.

PHOTO #19: VIEW OF RUSTIC GREEN PAINT IN FORMER DORM ROOM, ROOM 13, IN DORM D FACING THE SOUTH.

PHOTO #20: GENERAL VIEW OF FRONT FAÇADE OF DORM B FACING THE WEST (EAST ELEVATION).

PHOTO #21: PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF BUILDINGS IN DORM COMPLEX, DORM B IN FOREGROUND, FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #22: GENERAL VIEW OF SIDE FAÇADE OF DORM C FACING THE SOUTH (NORTH ELEVATION).

PHOTO #23: PERSPECTIVE OF NORTH AND WEST FAÇADES OF DORM D FACING THE SOUTHEAST.

PHOTO #24: GENERAL VIEW OF REAR FAÇADE OF DORM D FACING THE EAST (WEST ELEVATION).

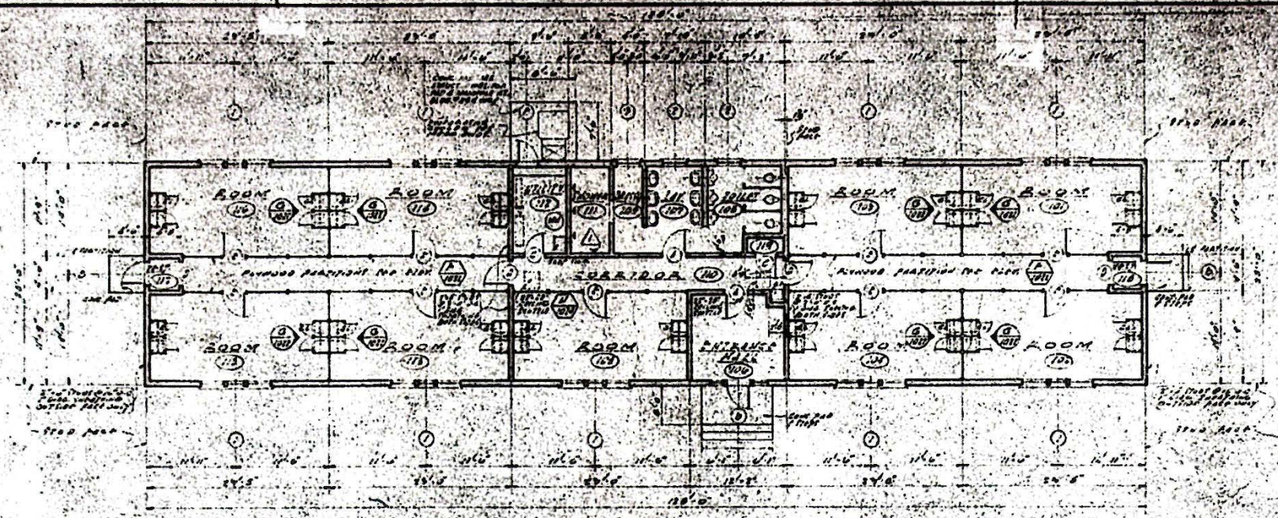
PHOTO #25: PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF DORM D FACING THE NORTHEAST.

PHOTO #26: GENERAL VIEW OF SIDE FAÇADE OF DORM B FACING THE NORTH (SOUTH ELEVATION).

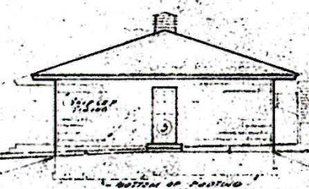
PHOTO #27: PERSPECTIVE OF SOUTH AND EAST FAÇADES OF BUILDINGS IN DORM COMPLEX, DORM B IN FOREGROUND, FACING THE NORTHWEST.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

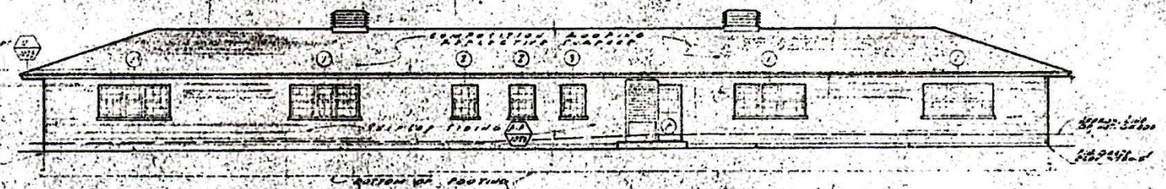
Name/Org: Timberon A4331n575 30Aug2018
Date:
DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION



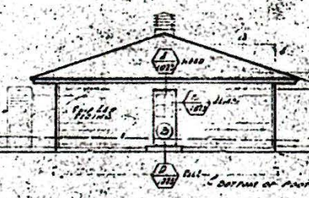
FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



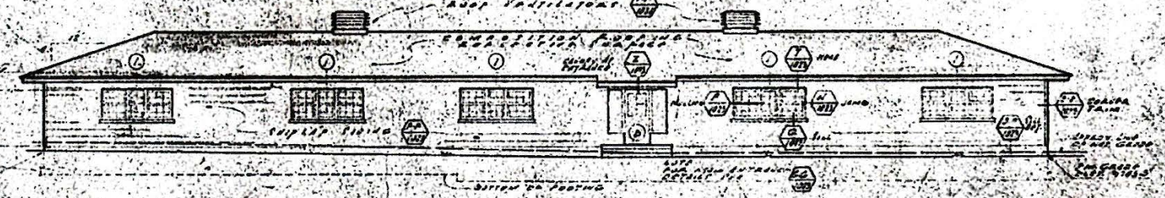
SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



WEST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES

1. FLOOR PLAN & ELEVATIONS AS SHOWN ARE FOR BLDG. NOS. 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, AND 1151.
2. FOR SCHEDULES & DETAILS OF BLDG. NOS. 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, AND 1151 - SEE ATT. FLOOR, ATT. ELEVATIONS & PLUMBING SCHEDULES SHEET ATT. FLOOR & ATT. ELEVATIONS.
3. NORTH ARROW SHOWN TO BE ON THE PLAN & ELEVATIONS AS SHOWN ON FLOOR PLAN & ELEVATIONS AND BASED ON BLDG. NOS. 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, AND 1151 BASED TO GENL. DRAWINGS.

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org:
Date:

AS BUILT

REVISED			
CHECKED			
APPROVED REG. ENGR.			

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THIS IS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. IT MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED, REPRODUCED, OR ISSUED FOR OTHER THAN OFFICIAL PURPOSES WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, AND IS SUBJECT TO STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY. VIOLATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO PUNISHMENT UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
A	6/25	REVISED CHF SHOWER HEAD	

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR PLANS & ELEVATIONS
BUILDING NO. 1146

LOCATION B
ALTERNATE TEST SITE

HOLMES & NARVER
ARCHITECTS-ENGINEERS

ATS-J/1025 SE 122

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ATS-J/1025

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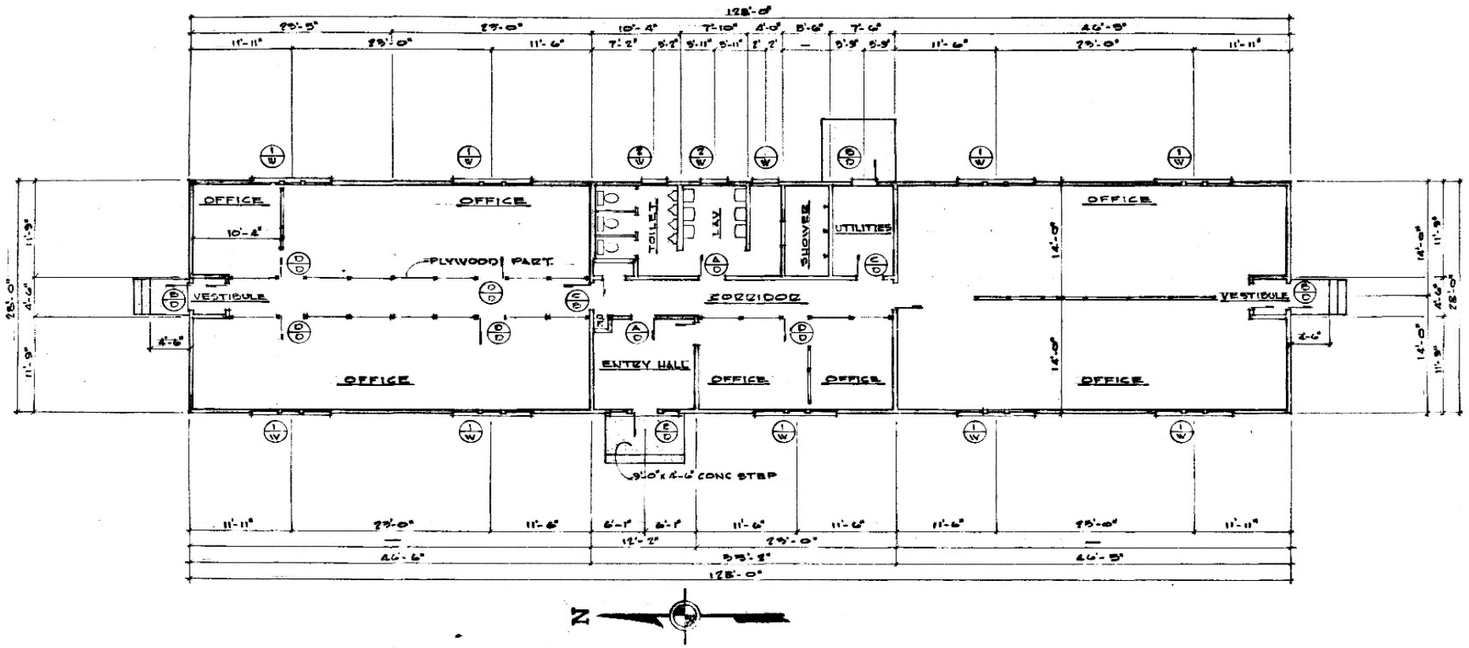
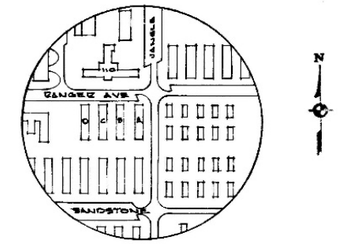


FLOOR PLAN SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



VICINITY MAP

MERCURY, NEV. NO SCALE

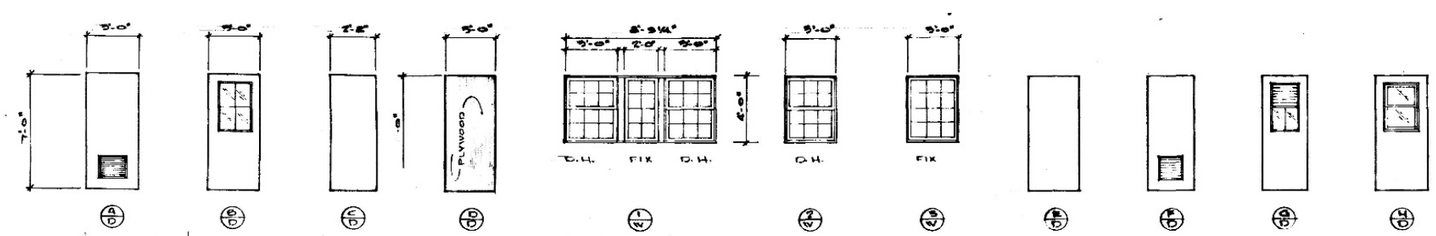
GENERAL NOTES:

FOR INT. FINISH SCHEDULE SEE DWG ATS-J/1021

REFERENCE DWGS

HOLMES & NARVER ATS-J/1021

REECO NTS 23-1146-A-2



DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.&C.	SHT. NO	USER
23	Dorm C	08	22	001	A 1	01

NOTE:
THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF JAN 13-66

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	A.E.	APP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED: REY H. & N "51"
DRAWN: S. NAYLOR
CHECKED:
PROJECT ENGINEER:

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

DORMITORY "C"
FLOOR PLAN

SUBMITTED: HOLMES & NARVER INC.
AGENCY APPROVAL:
AEC APPROVAL:
DATE:

HOLMES & NARVER INC.
ENGINEERS—CONSTRUCTORS
ON-CONTINENT TEST DIVISION LAS VEGAS OFFICE
3080 SOUTH HIGHLAND DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

L.O. NO. 01315

DRAWING NUMBER JS-023-114c-A1

SHEET 1 OF

9/65 DIETERICH-POST CLEARPRINT 1000H

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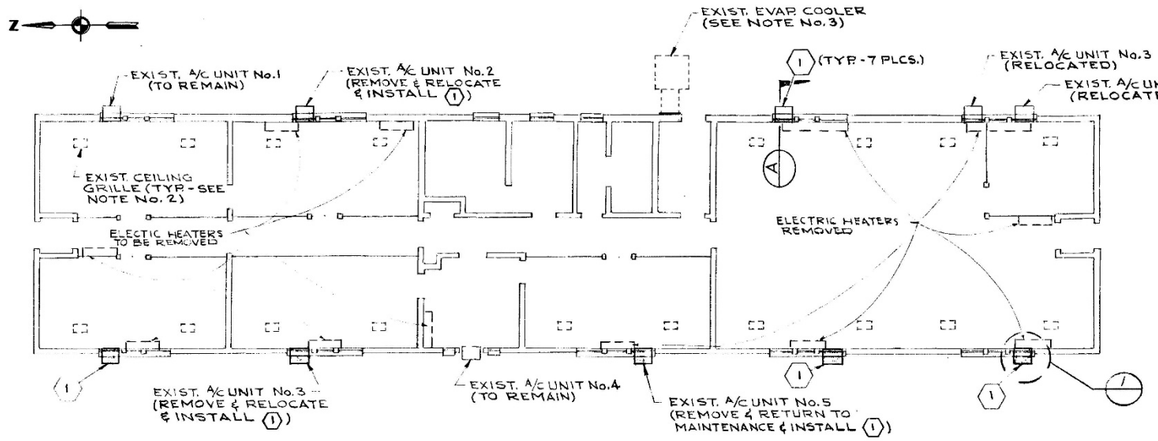
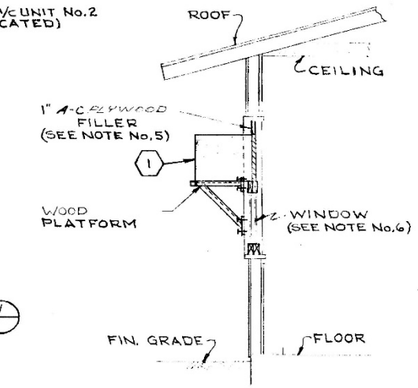


MECHANICAL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

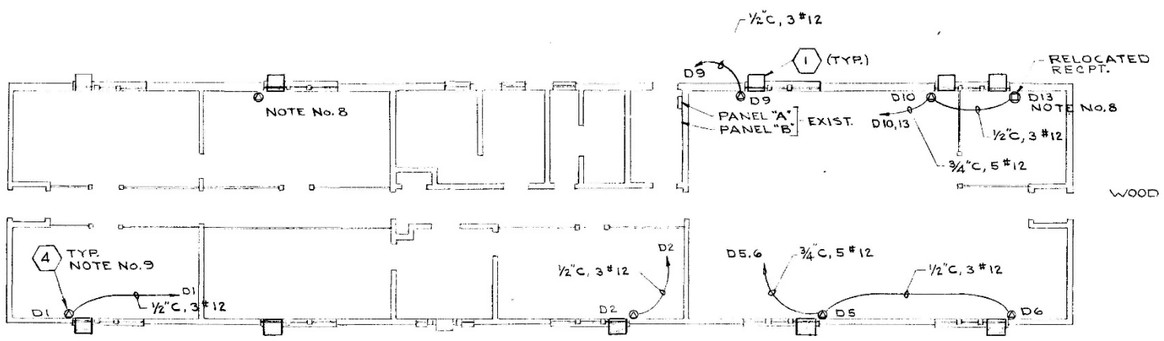


SECTION (A)
SCALE: 1/2"=1'-0"

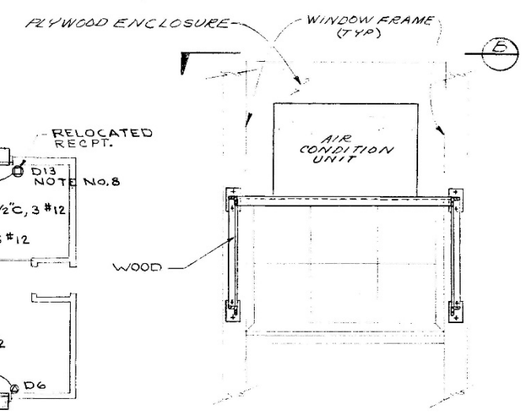
EQUIPMENT SCHEDULE		
ITEM NO.	NO. REQ'D	DESCRIPTION
(1)	7	AIR CONDITIONER - THRU WALL - ROOM - UL LISTED CAP. - 17,600 BTU/HR COOLING @ STD. ARI CONDITIONS & 208 V. - 1PH. - 60HZ. POWER (AMANA MOD. 218-D-3HW OR ENG. APVD. EQUAL)
(4)	7	RECEPTACLE - SINGLE, 20 AMP., 250V., GROUNDING NEMA TYPE 6-20R (REECO S/N 1224-3263)

GENERAL NOTES:

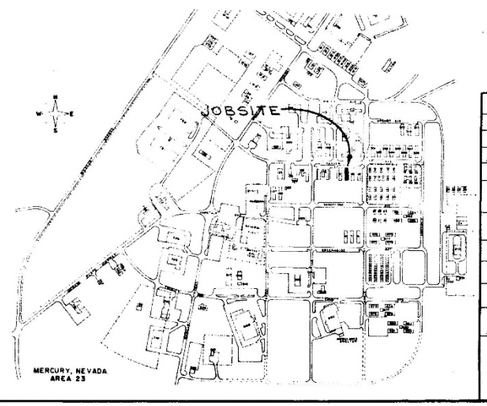
1. ALL WORK AND MATERIALS SHALL [illegible] N.T.S. STD. CONST. SPECS., SECT. 14, 18, 22 & 23 AND N.E.C.
2. REMOVE 18 - 12x18 CEILING GRILLES AND PATCH GYP BD TYPE X, PAINT OPENINGS THRU CEILING TO MATCH EXISTING.
3. REMOVE EXIST. EVAP. COOLER, BLANK DUCT OPENING THRU WALL, AND CAP WATER LINE AT WALL.
4. INSTALL NOM. 8" (R-19) OF BLOWN CELLULOSE INSULATION IN ATTIC SPACE (3600 SQ.FT. REQ'D.).
5. ALL PLYWOOD SHALL BE FIRE RETARDANT, TREATED W/ KOPPERS NCX NON LEACHING PROCESS, UL LABLED. PAINTED PER NTS SPEC., SECT. 18.
6. UPPER SASH SHALL BE LOWERED ONLY. DO NOT REMOVE FROM WINDOW.
8. REMOVE RECEPTACLE FOR UNIT #2. RE-INSTALL AT NEW LOCATION FOR UNIT #2.
9. INSTALL A/C RECEPTACLES ABOVE WINDOW (TYP. 8 PLACES).



ELECTRICAL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



DETAIL (1)
SCALE: 1"=1'-0"



AS BUILT
REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO. INC.
ENGINEERING & CONTRACT ADMIN. DEPT.
7-26-82 | [illegible] | EN 7-16-82
APPROVED M.G. HEADICKE 7-30-82 | DOE APP. [illegible]

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	DOE APP.
1	7/16/82	AS BUILT CONDITIONS	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

DESIGNED W.J.M.
DRAWN W.J.M.
CHECKED [illegible]
PROJECT ENGR. [illegible]

AIR CONDITIONING MODIFICATIONS
DORMITORY "C"
MECH. - ELEC. PLAN & SECTION

SUBMITTED [illegible] 9-22-8[illegible] | AGENCY APPROVAL [illegible] | DOE APPROVAL [illegible] | DATE [illegible]

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 14400 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

I. D. NO. NTS
DRAWING NO. 23-DO-C-M2/E2
REV. 1
SHEET 1 OF 1

RE-0806 (3/78)

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NEVADA
STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N			Date:	
Survey Date	June 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09; TR 115

1. Property Type

Building ☒	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 11, Sandstone – Buster				
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023				
County	Nye				
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A		Subdivision Name	N/A	
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589797		Northing: 4057681		
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐		No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	Hip	
Roof Materials	Composition	
Exterior Wall Materials	Metal Bevel Siding	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	Wood	
Window Type	6/6 Double-hung	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☒	Fair ☐	Poor ☐
Explanation: Vacant. HVAC systems are deteriorated and require replacement. Interior is deteriorated and needs refurbishment. Sprinkler system is not operational. Utilities are disconnected.		

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed: NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name: Date listed:	NRIS #:

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☒	Materials ☒	Workmanship ☒	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1998

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Men's Dormitory
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey, including recording and evaluations of building interiors, required to make justifiable recommendations regarding eligibility related to association with significant persons under Criterion B or potential research potential under Criterion D, this resource remains unevaluated under these criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represents an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. This building, along with its two neighboring structures, comprises many of the few remaining examples of the earliest generation of wood-frame demountable buildings erected at the new base camp of Mercury. Modifications are relatively minor and the application of replacement siding occurred during the period of significance and does not detract from the significance of the building. It retains all aspects of integrity to a remarkably high level considering that it remained in active use well beyond its projected useful life span. Now vacant, it was maintained until recently.

This resource is one of the premier contributors to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is on Ranger Avenue between Buster and Jangle Streets. This block was completely developed for housing and administration. It is on a gravel-covered cut and fill terrace.

The dormitory is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation. A concrete sidewalk runs along Ranger and other walks connect with dorms to the south. It was used most recently as an Environmental Restoration office.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (NTS News 1974). Now pale yellow, remnants of earlier pale pink paint remain under portions of the original wood soffits and on small exposed areas of original wood siding. This building was originally painted a pale green color.

Windows are wood framed without surrounds. They are typically triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by 6/6 double-hung operable sash or single 6/6 double-hung. Some top sashes have been replaced with air conditioning units. Doors are flush wood with variable lights and some with louvers, replacing the original wood panel doors.

The front entrance is near the center of the long east façade. The door has a 2/2 light. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three triple windows and to the right are two more triple windows.

The rear also has a door near center but lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides each have entrances to the central hallway with a concrete stoop which, from Ranger Avenue, is reached via concrete steps with pipe railing.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits. It has a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

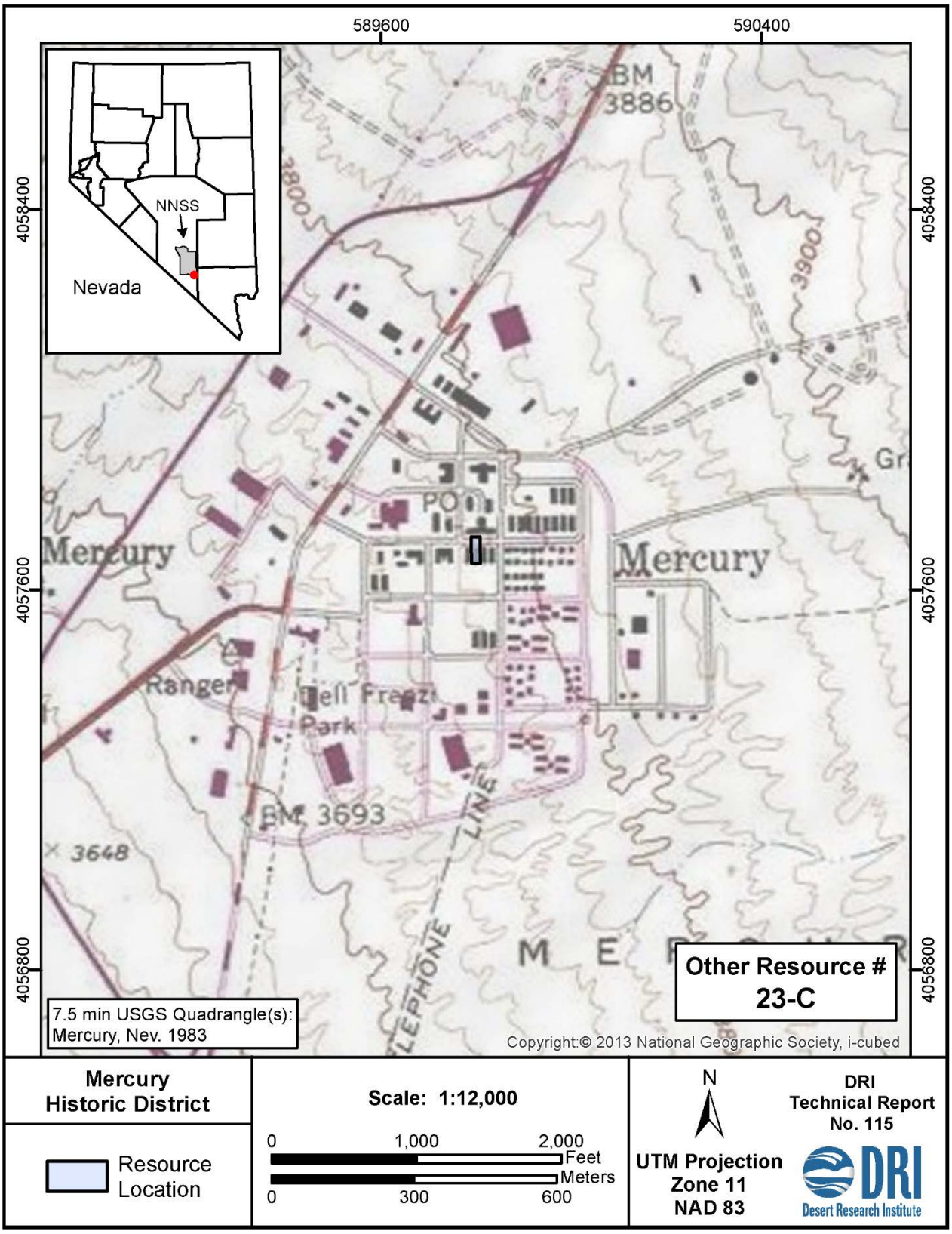
List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

NTS News
1974 *Energy: NTS Conservation Continues.* November: 5-6. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: North, West Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevation: North Direction facing: South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Building 23-C at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Building 23-Q. Building 23-C was nearly identical to the dormitory shown. **See correction in update, page 14.**
Elevations: West, South Direction facing: Northeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/.0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource B15241 (23-D) was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

This is one of three buildings still standing (23-B, -C, and -D) that are members of a single class of buildings that were essentially identical when originally built. These are sometimes referred to as the BCD Dorms.

As a general rule, only a single representative of each element class is to be selected for enhanced internal recording and high-quality digital photography per the programmatic agreement (PA) related to modernization and maintenance activities in Mercury (NNSA/NFO & SHPO 2018). In this case, one of the buildings (23-C) was selected for detailed internal description, but due to the varied internal modifications, which all three buildings have undergone during the period of significance, it was determined that the best course of action was to take interior digital photographs of select elements in all three to form a composite collection representing both original design elements and the various kinds of modifications which have been introduced through time. A plan showing the photo views selected for the three buildings along with the images is presented in Attachment A of the ARA form for 23-C. Dormitories B and D have enough individual variation to warrant separate updates to the architectural descriptions and some engineering drawings on each form, although in lesser detail than those in 23-C.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

These dormitories are typical examples of buildings that are of only local significance because of their role simply as general support infrastructure. They were not directly involved in the nuclear testing or other missions that make Mercury as a whole a critical part of the testing enterprise. The dorms similarly lack the direct historical associations needed to consider them individually eligible to the National Register under Criterion A.

Although the demountable buildings, of which 23-D is an example, are as a class of considerable importance under Criterion C as a distinctive modern type of mass-produced modular housing, they are inherently significant only as a composite entity, not as individual elements. Although demountable buildings are now quite rare on the NNSS, similar examples from World War II and the Cold War can be found throughout the United States. As such, individual significance of this building is not warranted on the basis of it being a rare survivor of a once-common type on the NNSS.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

This is one of a series of 17 nearly identical dormitories. Initially they were collectively called Building 114 by Holmes and Narver with an additional letter to distinguish each one, in this case 114d. Soon the 114 was dropped and the buildings were usually referenced by their letters only, but the 114 designation never completely went away and lives on in places such as drawing numbers.

Resource 23-D (often referred to as Dorm D) is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955).

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows are wood framed with narrow surrounds which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. Dorm rooms have triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by a 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms have single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

The front (west) entrance is near the center of the long façade. The door has a 2/2 light. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three sets of triple windows, and to the right are two more triple window sets.

The rear also has a door near center but lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides on the north and south ends each have entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline.

The original plan was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. Those of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For ventilation the partitions were open near the floor and ceiling.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x23 ft and normally had four occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

Planning for converting the dormitory to offices began in 1965, and the conversion was completed the following year according to a REECo engineering drawing (page 5). One aspect of this conversion is different in this building than it was in Buildings A-C. In several places one wall of the central hallway was removed to increase office space in the adjoining room, but the opposite wall was retained. This design is visible in rooms 13 and 15 on the final layout of the building shown on the attached Space Management Plan (page 6).

9. References

NNSA/NFO & SHPO
2018 *Programmatic Agreement between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Regarding Modernization and Operational Maintenance of the Nevada National Security Site, at Mercury in Nye County, Nevada*. Electronic Document: http://shpo.nv.gov/uploads/documents/DOE_Modernization_and_Operational_Maintenance_of_the_Nevada_National_Security_Site_at_Mercury_PA.pdf, accessed August 1, 2018.

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*

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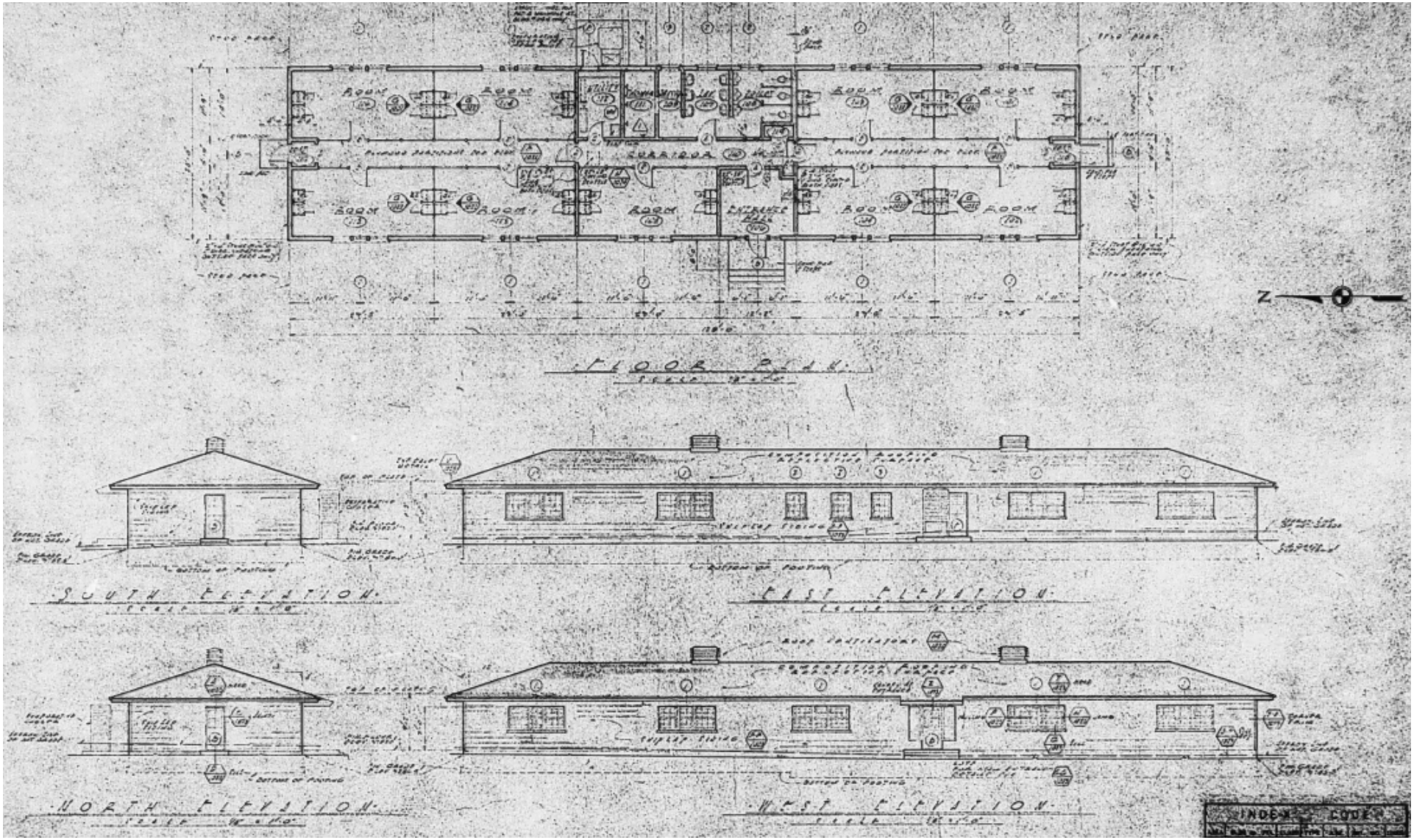

The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O, 103-104 series of dormitories except that some, including 23-D, face west like this one and others have a reversed plan facing to the east (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).

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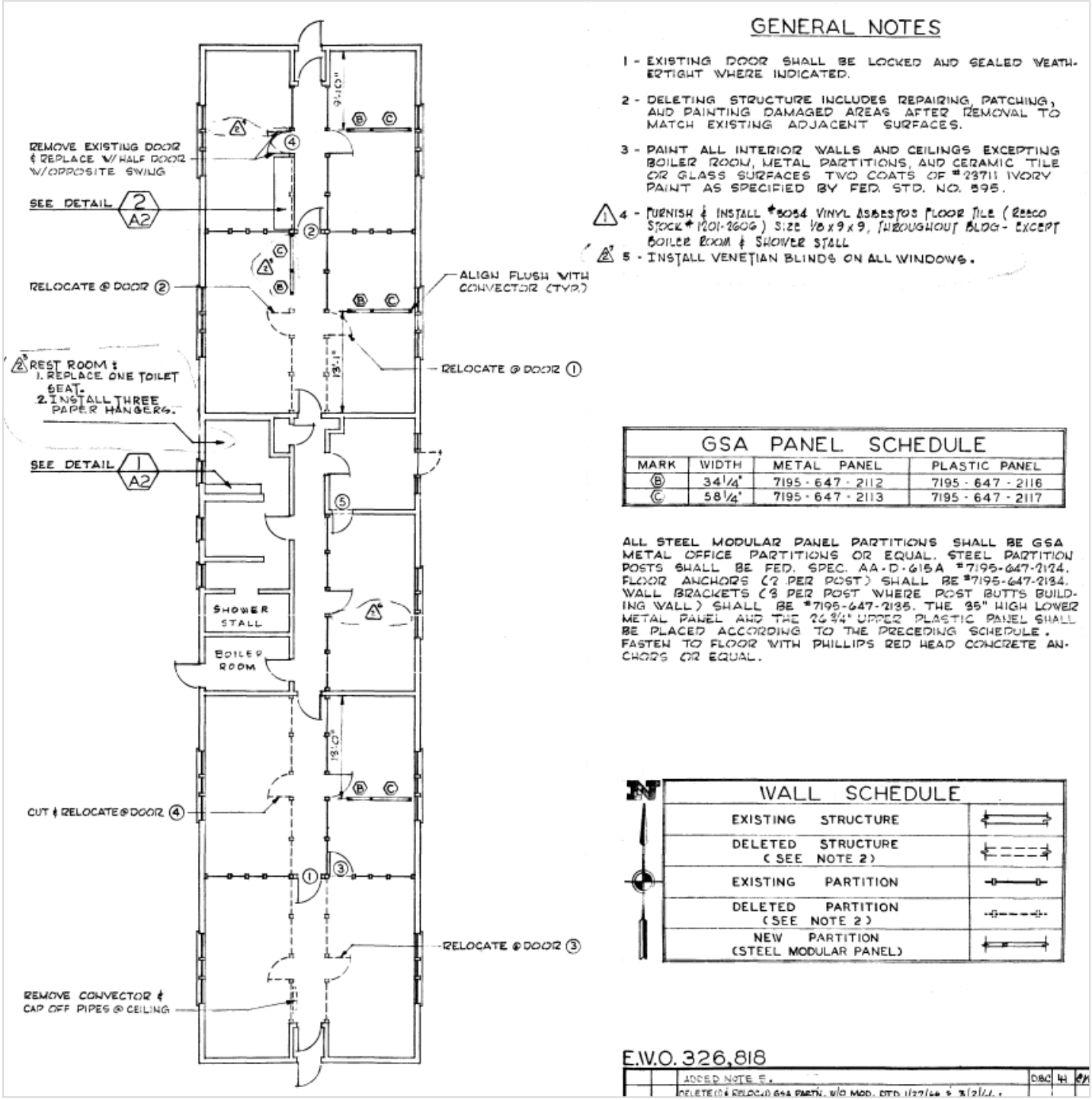
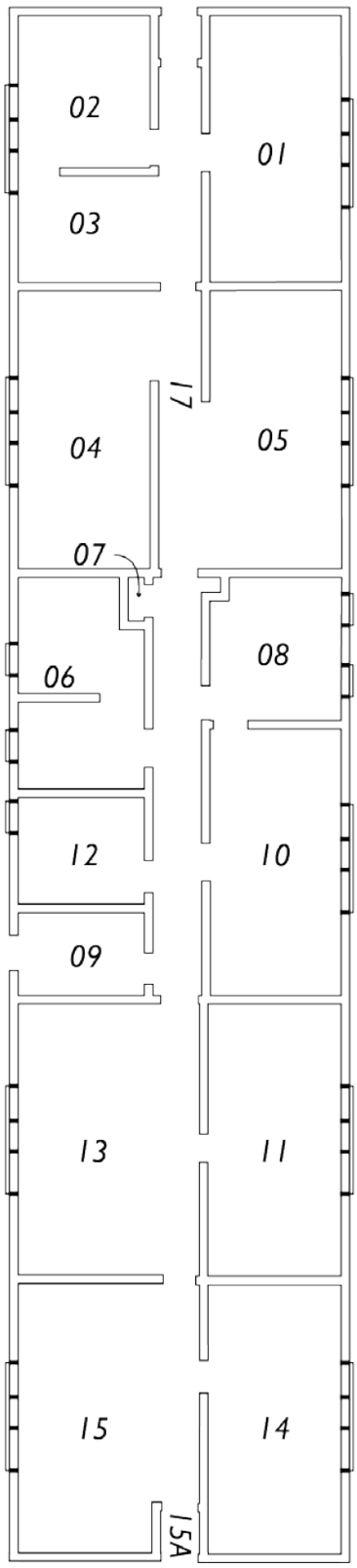
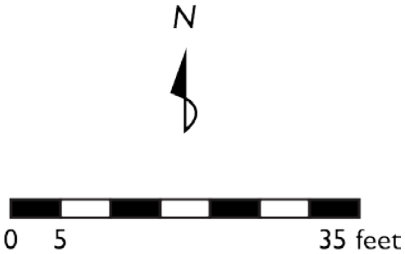


Office conversion plan (REECo Drawing 23-114D-A1, 1965, updated 1966).

Dormitory D

Room #	Function
01–03	Offices
04–05	Circulations
06	Men's Restroom
07	Equipment Room
08–11	Offices
12	Women's Restroom
13	Circulation
14	Office
15	Circulation





Stud/Drywall

08 Room Numbers

Current configuration of Dorm D, based on 2016 Space Management Plan
(Digital reproduction by JD Lancaster, DRI, 2018).

Central hallway of Dormitory 23-G, nearly identical to 23-D,
showing distinctive post-and-plywood interior wall construction (REECo 1955).

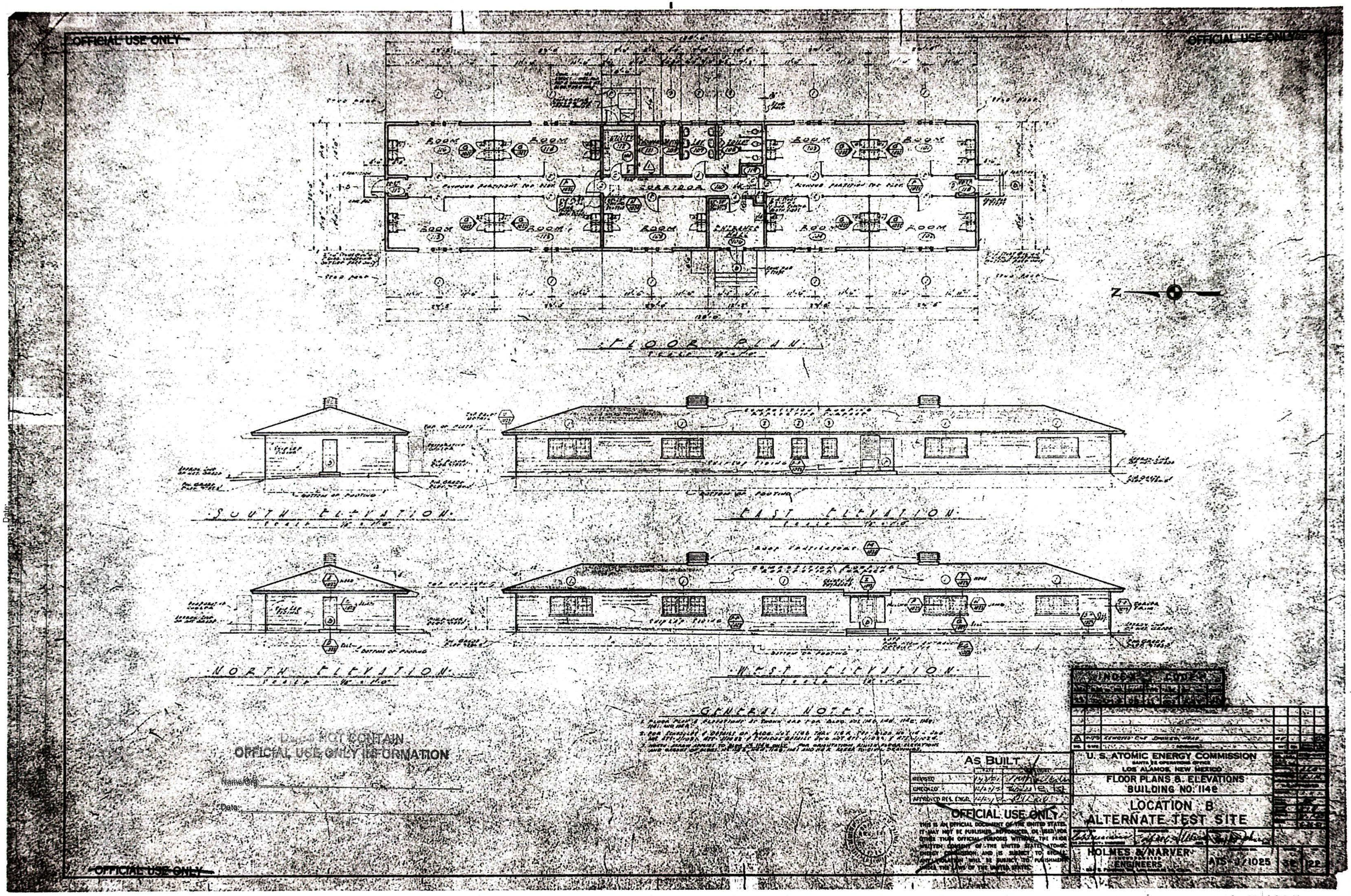
Dormitory 23-G is typical of the A-O/103-104 Series. Northeast corner, view southwest (REECo 1955).
The rear of the building is at the left.

Landscape between Dorms C and D, facing north (DRI 2015).

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Timbered A433/wests 30Aug2018

Date:



ATS-J/1025

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DOOR SCHEDULE

MARK	SIZE	TYPE	HARDWARE	MATERIAL	REMARKS
1	3'-0" x 7'-0" x 3/4"	A	-	-	RELOCATE EXIST'G DOOR & HARDWARE
2	3'-0" x 7'-0" x 3/4"	A	-	-	" "
3	3'-0" x 6'-11" x 3/4"	A	-	-	" "
4	3'-0" x 6'-11" x 1"	B	HW-2	PLYWOOD	
5	2'-8" x 6'-8" x 1 3/8"	C	HW-1	FLUSH HOLLOW CORE W/	CUT INTO EXISTING WALL

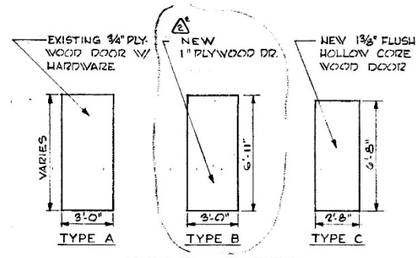
NOTES

1 - ALL DOORS AND FRAMES SHALL RECEIVE TWO COATS OF PAINT, COLOR SHALL BE IVORY #23711 AS SPECIFIED BY FEDERAL STANDARD NO. 595.

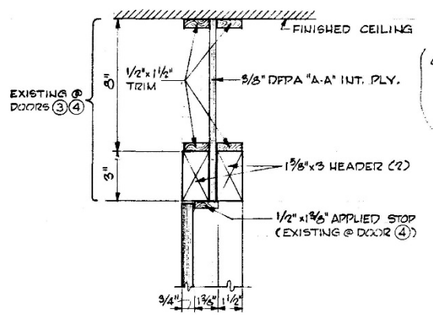
2 - ALL HARDWARE SHALL BE SIMILAR & EQUIVALENT TO THAT MANUFACTURED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

HW-1
- 1 1/2 PR. YALE 3 1/2 x 3 1/2 FULL MORTISE HINGES
- 1 EA. SCHLAGE LATCHSET A10-S
- 1 EA. SCHLAGE FLOOR MOUNTED DOOR STOP

HW-2
- 1 EA. MAGNETIC DOOR LATCH NO. 1672B, McMASTER-CARR
- 1 PR. 2 1/2 x 3 HINGES - SALVAGE FROM EXISTING DOOR



DOOR TYPES
SCALE : 1/4" = 1'-0"



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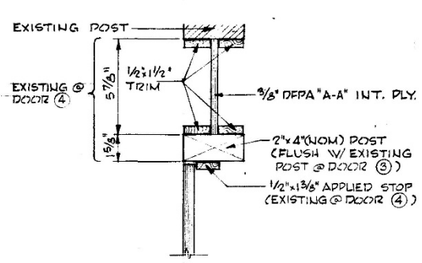
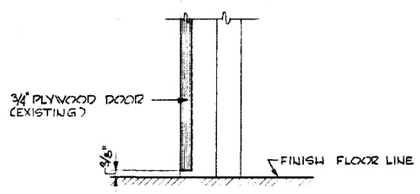
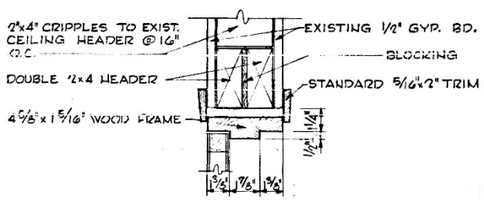


JAMB



SILL

TYPICAL 3/4" PLYWOOD DOOR FRAME DETAILS
SCALE : 3" = 1'-0"



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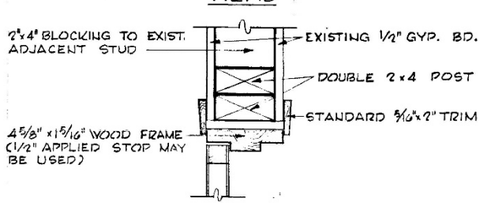

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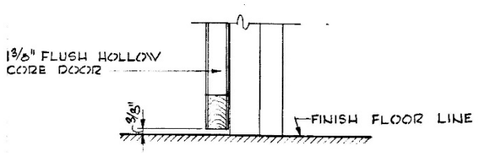
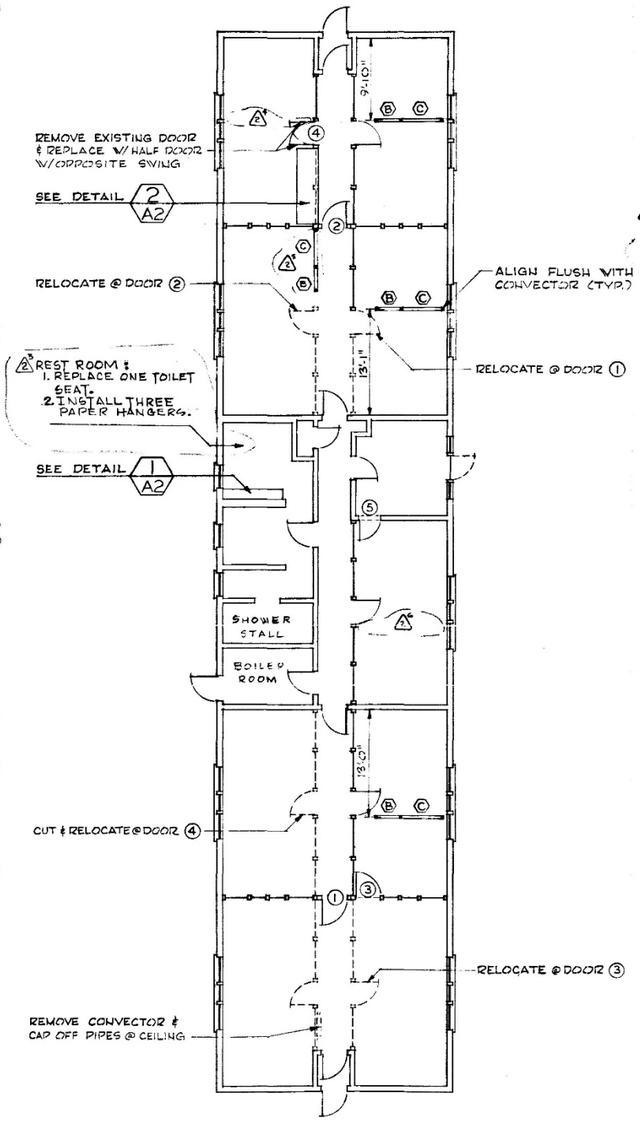


SILL

TYPICAL FLUSH HOLLOW CORE WOOD DOOR FRAME DETAILS
SCALE : 3" = 1'-0"



FLOOR PLAN
SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES

1 - EXISTING DOOR SHALL BE LOCKED AND SEALED WEATHERTIGHT WHERE INDICATED.

2 - DELETING STRUCTURE INCLUDES REPAIRING, PATCHING, AND PAINTING DAMAGED AREAS AFTER REMOVAL TO MATCH EXISTING ADJACENT SURFACES.

3 - PAINT ALL INTERIOR WALLS AND CEILINGS EXCEPTING BOILER ROOM, METAL PARTITIONS, AND CERAMIC TILE OR GLASS SURFACES TWO COATS OF #23711 IVORY PAINT AS SPECIFIED BY FED. STD. NO. 595.

1 4 - FURNISH & INSTALL #3054 VINYL ASBESTOS FLOOR TILE (ARMCO STOCK # 1201-1600) SIZE 1/8 x 9 x 9, THROUGHOUT BLDG - EXCEPT BOILER ROOM & SHOWER STALL

2 5 - INSTALL VENETIAN BLINDS ON ALL WINDOWS.

GSA PANEL SCHEDULE

MARK	WIDTH	METAL PANEL	PLASTIC PANEL
B	34 1/4"	7195 - 647 - 2112	7195 - 647 - 2116
C	58 1/4"	7195 - 647 - 2113	7195 - 647 - 2117

ALL STEEL MODULAR PANEL PARTITIONS SHALL BE GSA METAL OFFICE PARTITIONS OR EQUAL. STEEL PARTITION POSTS SHALL BE FED. SPEC. AA-D-615A #7195-647-2124. FLOOR ANCHORS (2 PER POST) SHALL BE #7195-647-2134. WALL BRACKETS (3 PER POST WHERE POST BUTTS BUILDING WALL) SHALL BE #7195-647-2135. THE 35" HIGH LOWER METAL PANEL AND THE 26 3/4" UPPER PLASTIC PANEL SHALL BE PLACED ACCORDING TO THE PRECEDING SCHEDULE. FASTEN TO FLOOR WITH PHILLIPS RED HEAD CONCRETE ANCHORS OR EQUAL.

WALL SCHEDULE

EXISTING STRUCTURE	
DELETED STRUCTURE (SEE NOTE 2)	
EXISTING PARTITION	
DELETED PARTITION (SEE NOTE 2)	
NEW PARTITION (STEEL MODULAR PANEL)	

E.W.O. 326,818

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	A.E.C. APP.
		ADDED NOTE E.	DBC	H	CTC	
		DELETE (1) & RELOC. (1) GSA PARTN. W/O MOD. DTD 1/27/66 & 3/2/66;				
2	7/14/66	AS BUILT - CHANGED DOOR #4 TYPE B, REST RM. M201F.				
1	5/1/66	ADDED FLOOR TILE NOTE	FD			

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED: R.G.C.
DRAWN: R.G.G.
CHECKED: [illegible]
PROJECT ENGINEER:
SUBMITTED: [illegible] 7/12/65 CHIEF ENGR.
AGENCY APPROVAL — REP. NO.
APPROVED: [illegible] A.E.C. — DATE 7-16-65

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

DORMITORY "D" MODIFICATIONS

FLOOR PLAN AND SCHEDULES

REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

L.B. NO. NTS

DRAWING NO. 23-114 D-A1

SHEET 1 OF 3

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.E.	SHT. NO.	USER	
23	Dorm D	08	22	003	A 1	01	

W/O 416.09 B

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NEVADA
STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☒	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, 11, Sandstone – Buster				
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023				
County	Nye				
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A		Subdivision Name	N/A	
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589780			Northing: 4057680	
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?		Yes ☐		No ☒	

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	Hip	
Roof Materials	Composition	
Exterior Wall Materials	Metal Bevel Siding	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	Wood	
Window Type	6/6 Double-hung	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☒	Fair ☐	Poor ☐
Explanation: Building is vacant. The exterior is in fairly good condition. Major interior repairs are needed. HVAC system needs major repairs.		

Building 23-D, view southeast (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed: NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name: Date listed:	NRIS #:

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☒	Materials ☒	Workmanship ☒	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1998

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Men's Dormitory
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey, including recording and evaluations of building interiors, required to make justifiable recommendations regarding eligibility related to association with significant persons under Criterion B or potential research potential under Criterion D, this resource remains unevaluated under these criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represents an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. B15241, along with its two neighboring structures, comprises many of the few remaining examples of the earliest generation of wood-frame demountable buildings erected at the new base camp of Mercury. Modifications are relatively minor and the application of replacement siding occurred during the period of significance and does not detract from the significance of the building. It retains all aspects of integrity to a remarkably high level considering that it remained in active use well beyond its projected useful life span. Now vacant, it was maintained until recently.

This resource is one of the premier contributors to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is on Ranger Avenue between Buster and Jangle Streets. This block was completely developed for housing and administration. It is on a gravel-covered cut and fill terrace.

The dormitory is a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation. A concrete sidewalk runs along Ranger, and other walks connect with nearby dorms. It was used most recently as an Environmental Restoration office.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (NTS News 1974). Now pale green, remnants of earlier pale blue paint remain under portions of the original wood soffits.

Windows are wood framed without surrounds. They are typically triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by 6/6 double-hung operable sash or single 6/6 double-hung. Some top sashes have been replaced with air conditioning units. Doors are flush wood with variable lights and some with louvers, replacing the original wood panel doors.

The front entrance is near the center of the long east façade. The door light has been replaced with an air conditioner. It is flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extend from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof forms a hood over the entrance, which has a concrete stoop. Left of the door are three triple windows and to the right are two more triple windows.

The rear also has a flush door with one light and a louver vent near center. This door lacks sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides is a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides each have entrances to the central hallway with a concrete stoop which, from Ranger Avenue, is reached via concrete steps with pipe railing.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but now has a reflective coating. It has wide overhangs with plywood soffits. It has a plain board fascia. Fascia and soffits are pink. Two large rectangular metal vents are on the ridgeline.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

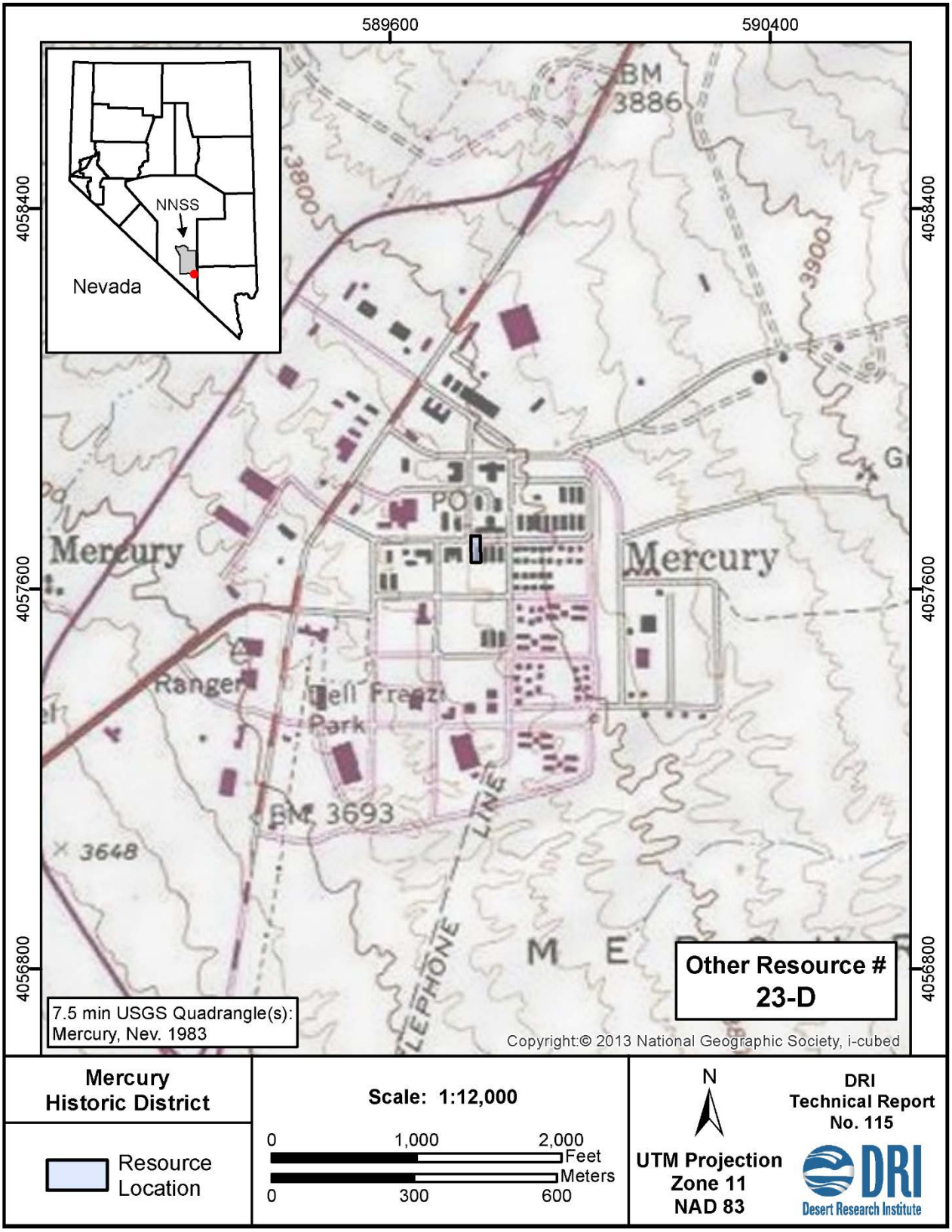
List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

NTS News
1974 *Energy: NTS Conservation Continues.* November: 5-6. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: North, East Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: DRI Date: 2015

Elevation: South, West Direction facing: Northeast Photographer: DRI Date: 2015

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C319 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	The earliest readable drawings of the building are dated February 1952 with earliest as-built stamps dating to May 1952. This suggests that this building may have been constructed early in 1952 rather than 1951 as indicated by the NNSS facility files.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the local or national level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	The earliest readable plans from 1952 are by Silas Mason Co. of Las Vegas. This suggests that this engineering and contracting firm may have designed the building. It cannot be completely ruled out that Holmes and Narver may have done the initial design however, since there is also a Holmes and Narver plan which does not have a readable date due to extremely poor scanning of the original drawing.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by foundations, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

The date of the presumably oldest plan by Holmes and Narver is not readable. The oldest readable dates on a drawing are the 1952 elevations by Silas Mason Co., an engineering and contracting firm based in Las Vegas.

The building was originally constructed to house the base infirmary/hospital. It had the typical panel doors, some with multiple lights, and 6/6 wood-framed double-hung windows found throughout Mercury at this time. The north and south entry facades were identical with a central door flanked on each side by a single window. The rear (south) entry was widened in 1959 to facilitate movement of patients on gurneys as shown on the attached 1981 elevations. Fenestration along the sides was irregular, reflecting interior room layout. The roof was reflective white composition with three louvered vents along the ridgeline. It protruded to protect each entry.

The main (north) entrance was enhanced throughout the use of the building by construction of a rock garden. A few shrubs and one of Mercury's few deciduous trees were planted in the garden. In addition, a mature Joshua tree was transplanted into it. None of these landscape elements remain.

In plan, the 26x60 foot building was laid out exactly like a dormitory with a full-length central hallway flanked on each side by six identical 10x10 ft modules. At the north main entry the first module on each side was kept open to the hallway to form a large waiting room. Along the east side of the building from front to rear were the civilian doctor's office, surgery, examination, ward, and "physic" rooms. Similarly along the west side were the military doctor's office, surgery, mechanical and maintenance spaces, ward, and laboratory. Both wards opened to small toilets. There were no baths or showers in the building and, notably, no decontamination area. Air conditioning was from a single evaporative cooler located on the ground adjacent to the mechanical room. It led to a full-length duct that formed the ceiling of the central hallway. Flooring was asphalt tiles.

By 1959 the waiting room was much reduced and offices created in both the east and west ends of the former waiting room by means of partitions. The room in the southeast corner was used for X-rays with an adjacent small developing room.

In 1959 the layout was changed to again increase the size of the waiting room by removing the western partition. The eastern partition was moved to align with the hallway and this space was designated as a file room. The first two rooms on the east side of the hallway were joined to make a large treatment room. Continuing south down the east side of the hall were a lab, ward, and X-ray room. Along the west hall were two doctors' offices, mechanical space, and a large examination room formed by removing the form wall partition. The toilet from this former ward was converted into a shower with vinyl tiles. Reduction to a single small ward indicates the emphasis on triage and transport rather than on-site health care.

Later in 1959 the new treatment room was modified into an X-ray room. The main structural change was lining the interior with sheet lead and placing slats in the existing window sashes.

With construction of the new hospital building (23-650) in 1963, C319 became the Nye County Sheriff's Office. It retained this function throughout the rest of the Cold War.

According to REECo Drawing 23-100-A1 Sheet 1, aluminum siding was installed over the original wood V-rustic shiplap siding sometime between completion of the drawing for the upgrade in August 1981 and completion of the upgrade according to as-built documentation in September 1982.

The sidewalk mentioned in the original ARA form extends along the entire northern edge of the property along Ranger Avenue. It continues to the front of the Mercury Theater 23-125 on the west and Administration Building 23-101 to the east. A crosswalk, which is still in use, leads to the Cafeteria 23-300. This is a rare example of a roadside crosswalk in Mercury where most pedestrian travel has been either on the gravel margins of roadways or on the pavement during low traffic periods.

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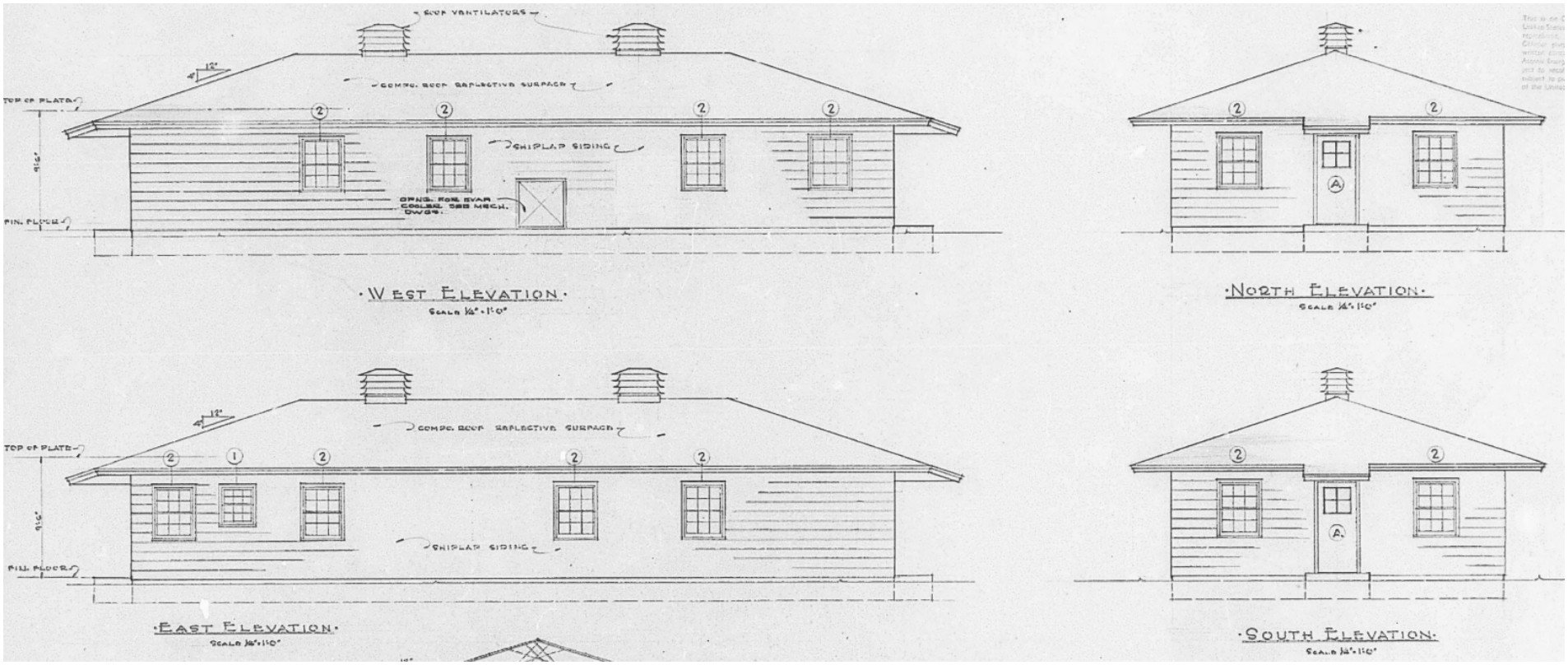
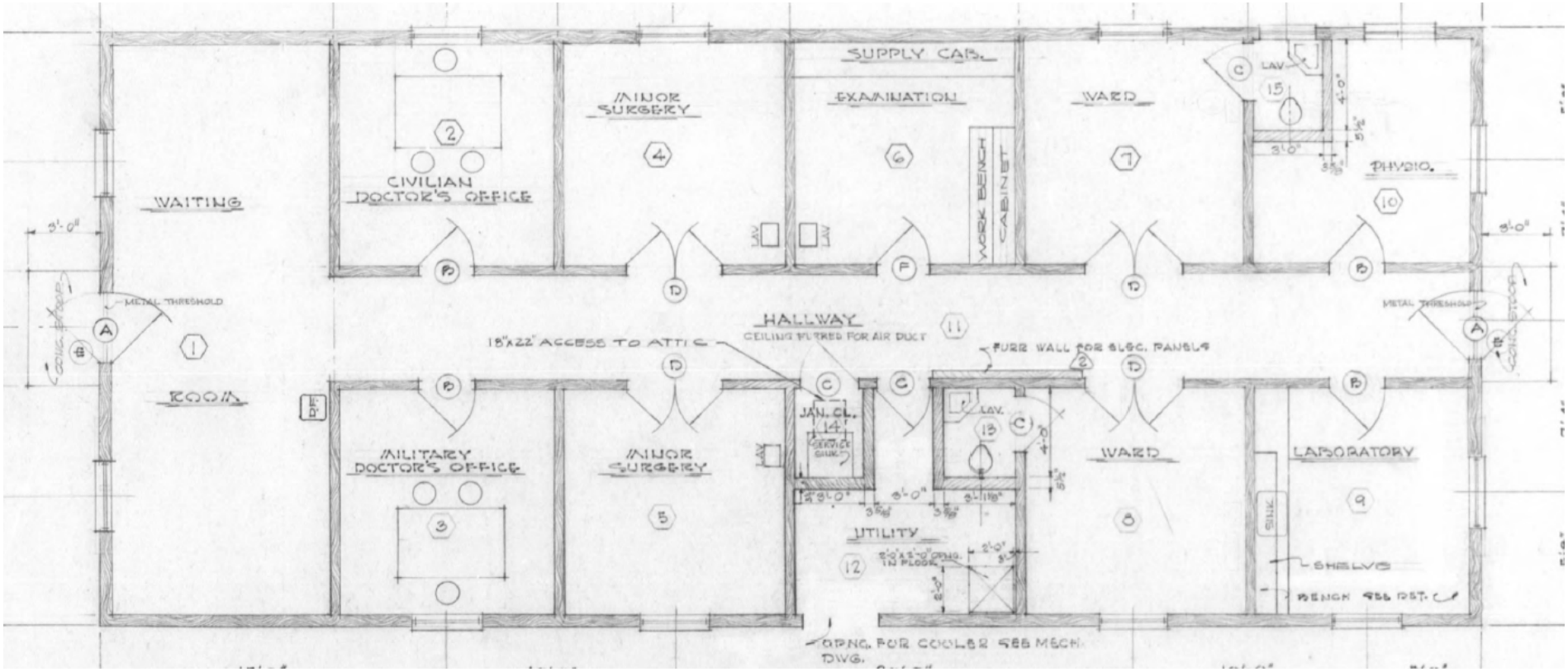
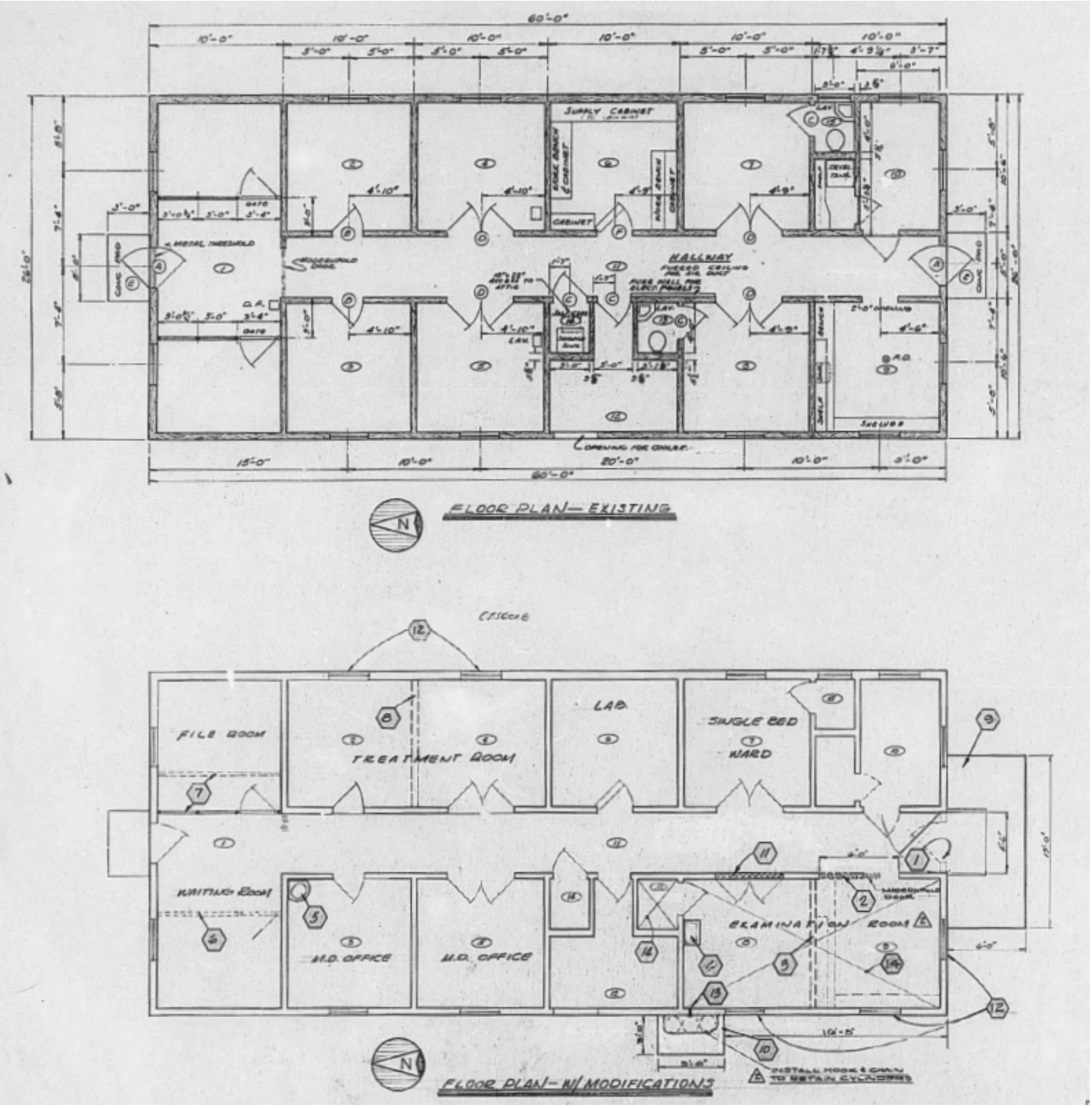


Elevations of Building 23-100 as it appeared in 1952 (Silas Mason Co. Drawing M100-S4).



Hospital floor plan (Silas Mason Co. Drawing NTS 49-S Sheet 2, 1952).



Existing and modification floor plans as of 1959 (REECo Drawing M100 S8).

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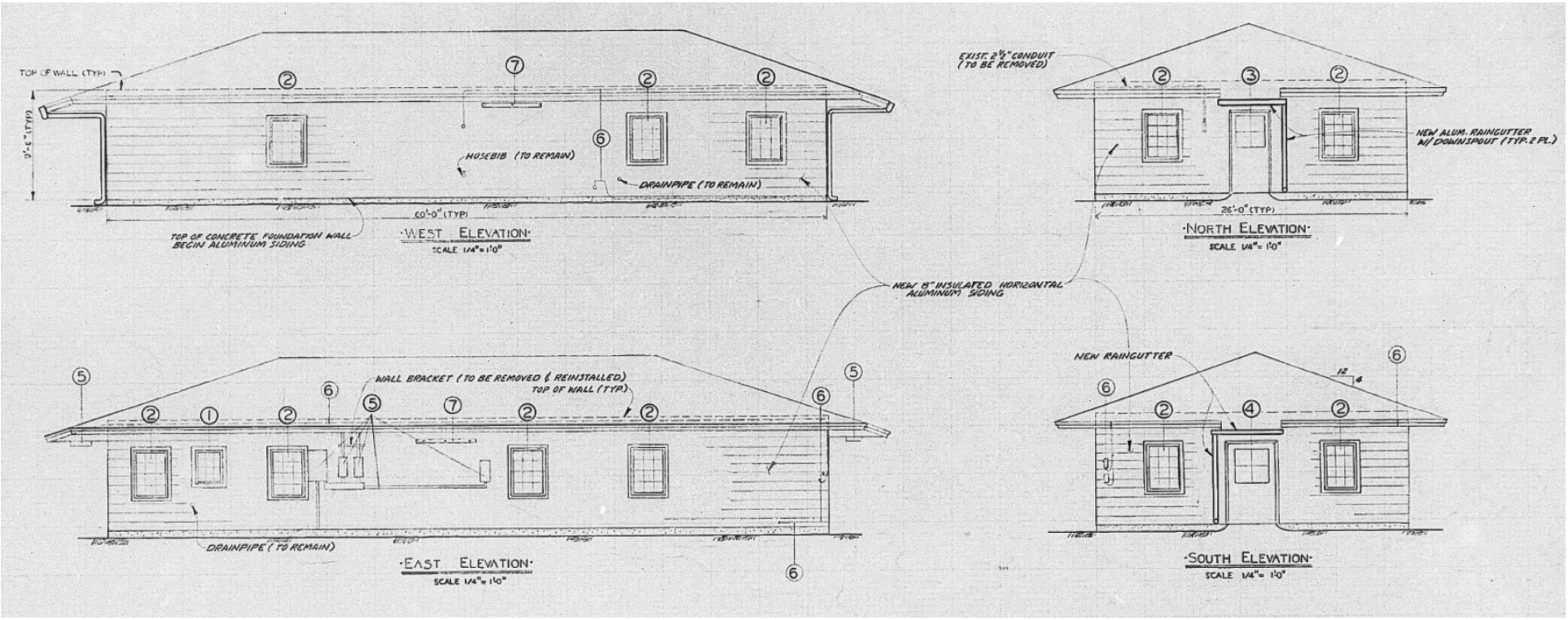
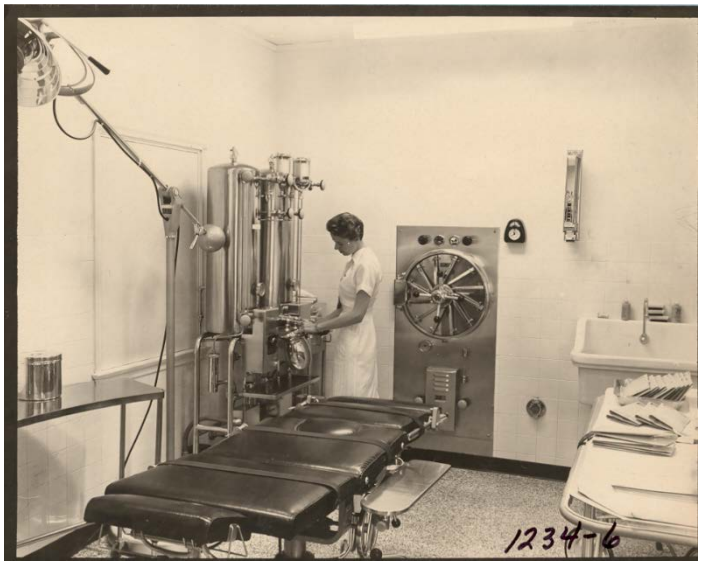


Elevation drawings (REECo Drawing 23-100-A1, 1981).



Photos taken of the interior of the hospital in 1962 by a REECo Photographer. Clockwise from top left: surgery, x-ray, exam, and waiting rooms.

Patient receiving and medical records room, taken in 1962 by a REECo photographer.

Corrections to figure captions on pages 7 and 8 of original form:

Both photographs show the northwest corner of the building, facing southeast.

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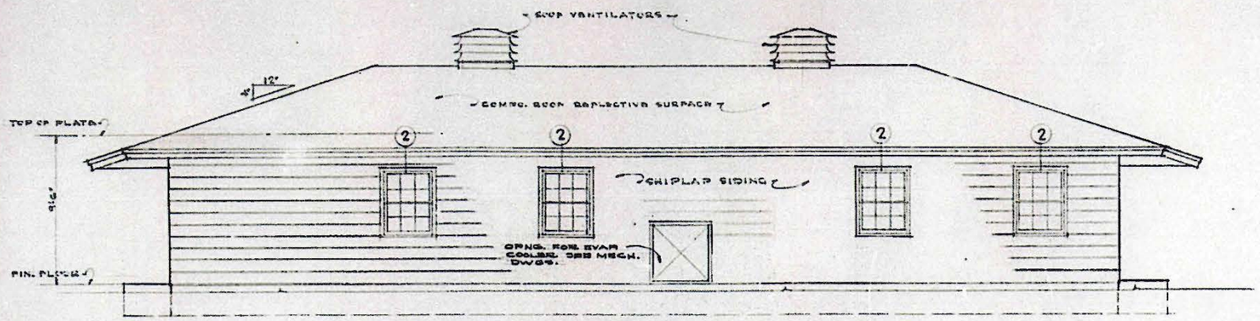
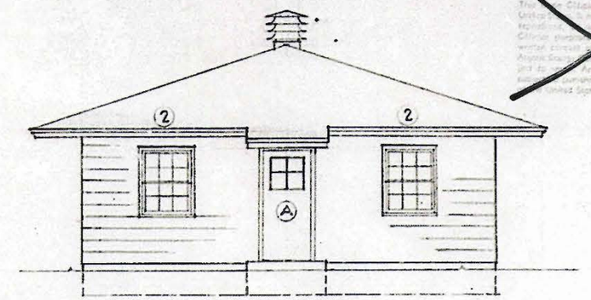
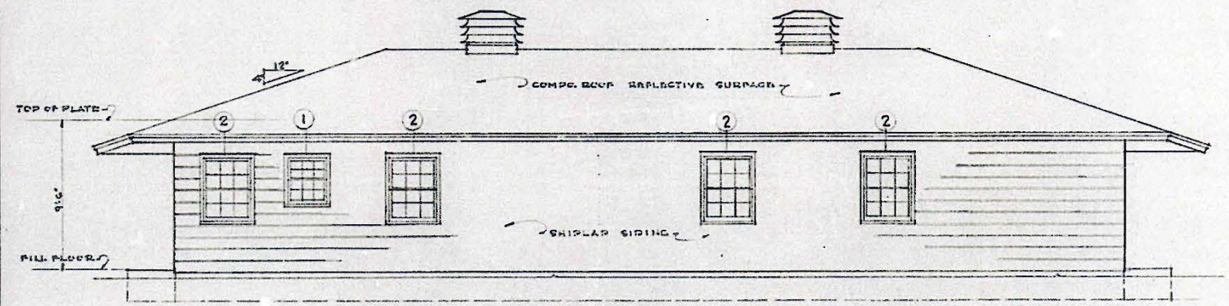


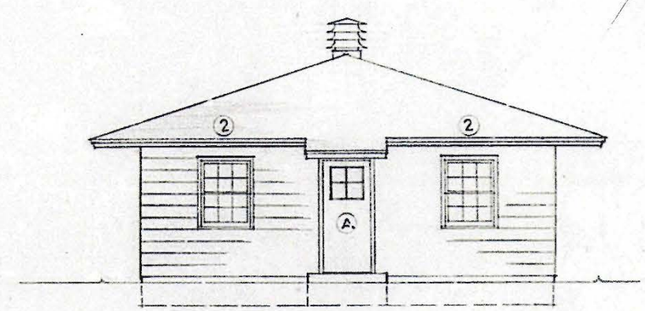
·WEST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



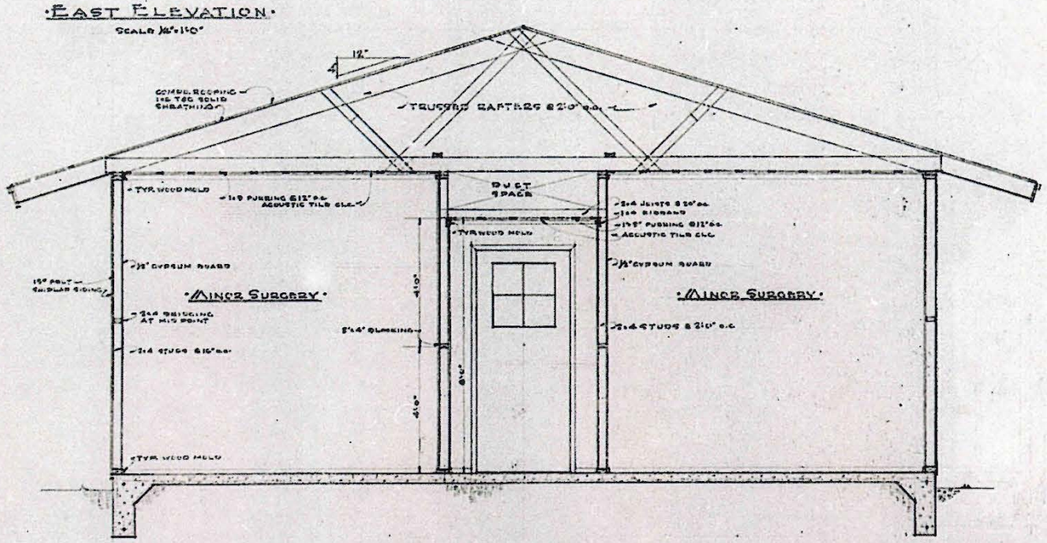
·NORTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



·EAST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



·SOUTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



·TRANSVERSE SECTION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Tim Rearick MSTS A433

Date: 30 Aug 2018

INDEX CODE						
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	ABE	SHT. NO.	USER
23	100	12	33	005	S4	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR. A.E.C.
1	5-7-53	AS BUILT			

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

·STRUCTURE 100·
ELEVATIONS

CONTRACT NO. (A.E.C.)
A.E.C. PROJ. NO.
DRAWN D.R.K.
CHECKED
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE NOTED
DATE 8-6-52

SUBMITTED D. Wood ENGINEER
RECOMMENDED A.E.C.
APPROVED A.E.C.

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. M100-S4 1
SHEET OF

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

1

M100-S4

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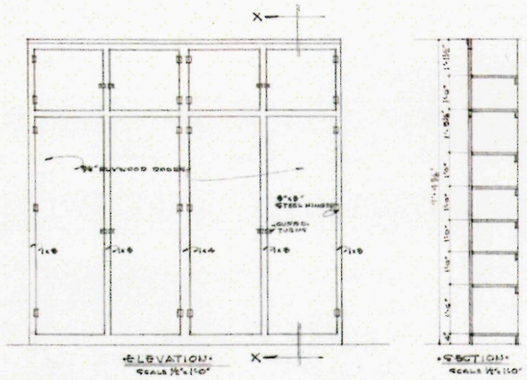
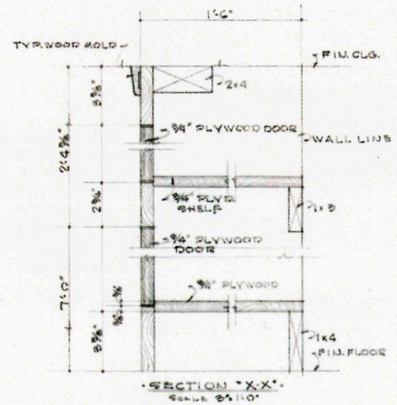
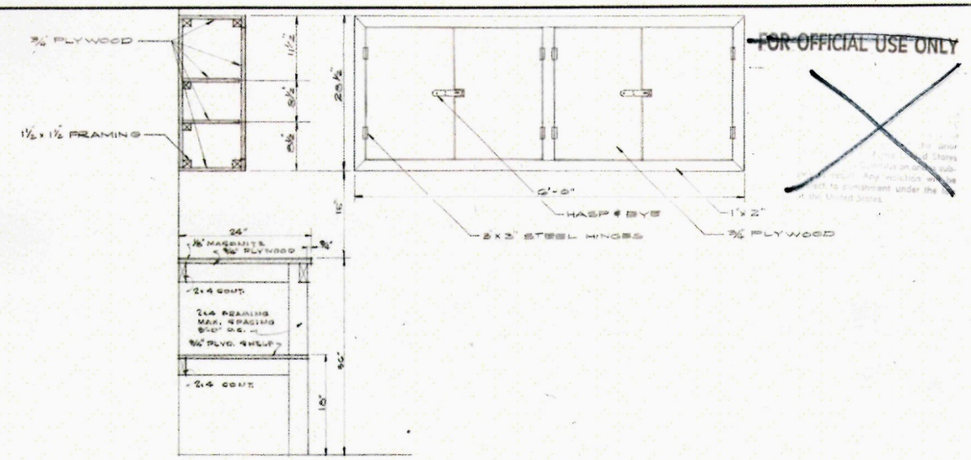
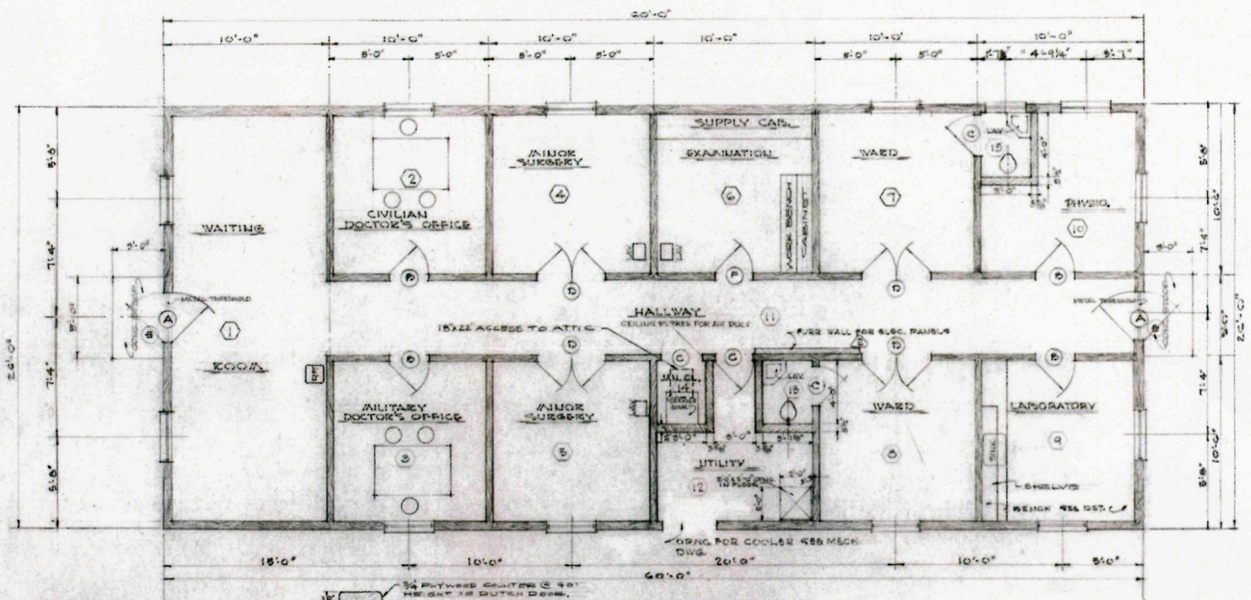


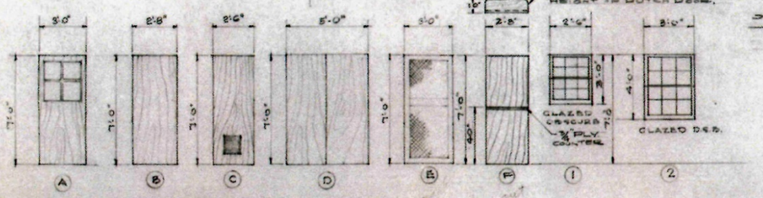


SUPPLY CABINET DETAILS



SECT. THRU LABORATORY WORK BENCH & CABINET





DOOR NO.	DOOR CLOSER	HINGES	KICK PLATE	REMARKS
A		3-4x4	16 GA. 30" x 10"	BOTH SIDES
B		2-4x4		
C		2-4x4		
D		2-4x4		
E		2-4x4		SCREEN
F		4-4x4		DUTCH DOOR

NOTE: ALL DOORS EXCEPT "E" TO BE 1 3/4" FLUSH SLAB.

INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOM NAME	ROOM NO.	FLOORS: ASPH. TILE	FLOORS: CER. QUARRY	FLOORS: WOOD	BASE: CER. QUARRY	BASE: ASPHALT TILE	BASE: WOOD	CEILING: PLASTER	CEILING: ACOUSTICAL TILE	WALLS: PLASTER	WALLS: CER. TILE	WAINSCOT: CER. TILE	WAINSCOT: 4" CERAMIC BASE	WAINSCOT: 4" WOOD BASE	PAINTING: WALLS	PAINTING: CEILING	PAINTING: WAINSCOT	PAINTING: DOORS	PAINTING: SASH	PAINTING: BASE	PAINTING: TRIM	PAINTING: CASE MOLD.	REMARKS
WAITING ROOM	1	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		E- ENAMEL
OFFICE	2	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P- PAINT
OFFICE	3	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
SURGERY	4	•			•		•		•	•				•	E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
SURGERY	5	•			•		•		•	•				•	E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
EXAMINATION	6	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
WARD	7	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
WARD	8	•			•		•		•	•				•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
LABORATORY	9		•		•		•		•						E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
PHYSIO.	10		•		•		•		•						P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
HALLWAY	11	•			•		•		•				•		P	P	P	P	P	P	P		FURR CLG. TO 8'6"
UTILITY	12		•		•			•	•						P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
TOILET	13		•			•		•	•			•			E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
JANITOR CLG.	14		•		•			•	•						P	P	P	P	P	P	P		LOWER CLG. FOR DUCT SEE MECH. DWG.
TOILET	15		•			•		•	•			•			E	E	E	E	E	E	E		

SEE DWG. M100-57 FOR REDRAWN FLOOR PLAN 5-20-59
SEE DWG. " FOR REDRAWN DETAILS, ETC. " E.C.G.

INDEX CODE						
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.B.C.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	100	12	32	005	55	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. APP.
3	5-4-57	AS BUILT				
2	5-1-52	GENERAL AS BUILT REVISION"				
1	6-8-52	ADDED FINISH SCHEDULE & DETAILS"				

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

STRUCTURE 100
FLOOR PLAN

CONTRACT NO. TA-51
A.E.C. ACCT. NO.
DRAWN S.M.
CHECKED
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"
DATE 2-28-52

SUBMITTED
RECOMMENDED A.E.C.
APPROVED

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. U. T. S. 49-S
SHEET 2 OF 5

M100-55

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Rearick, JM STS, A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

NTC-0409-55

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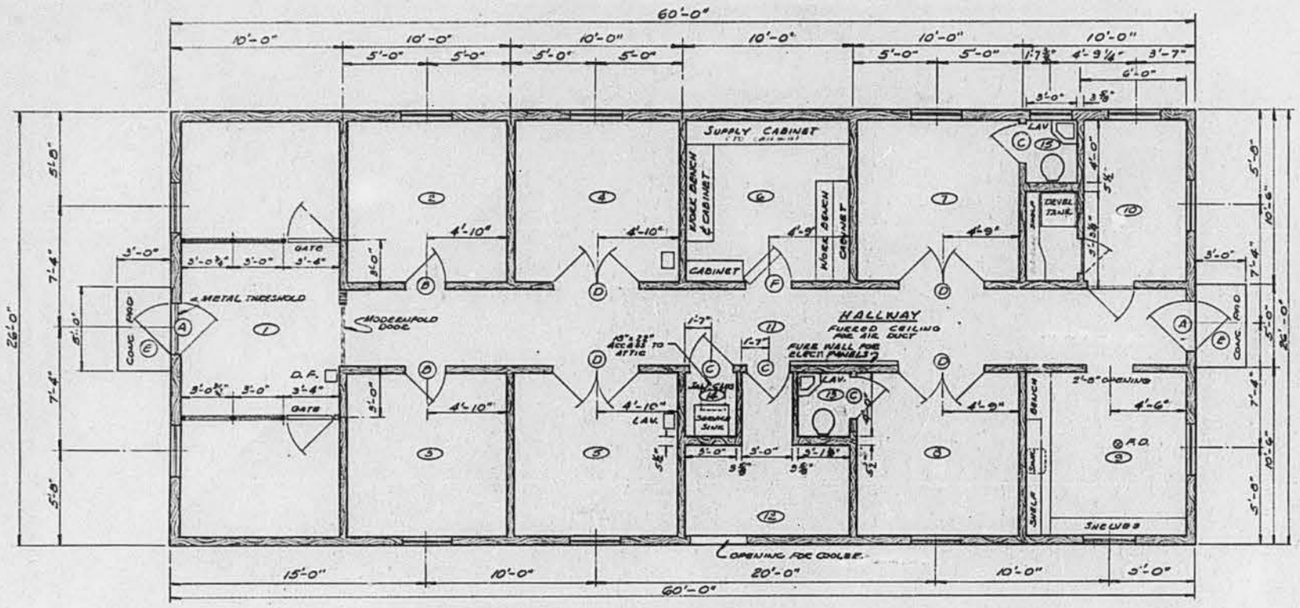
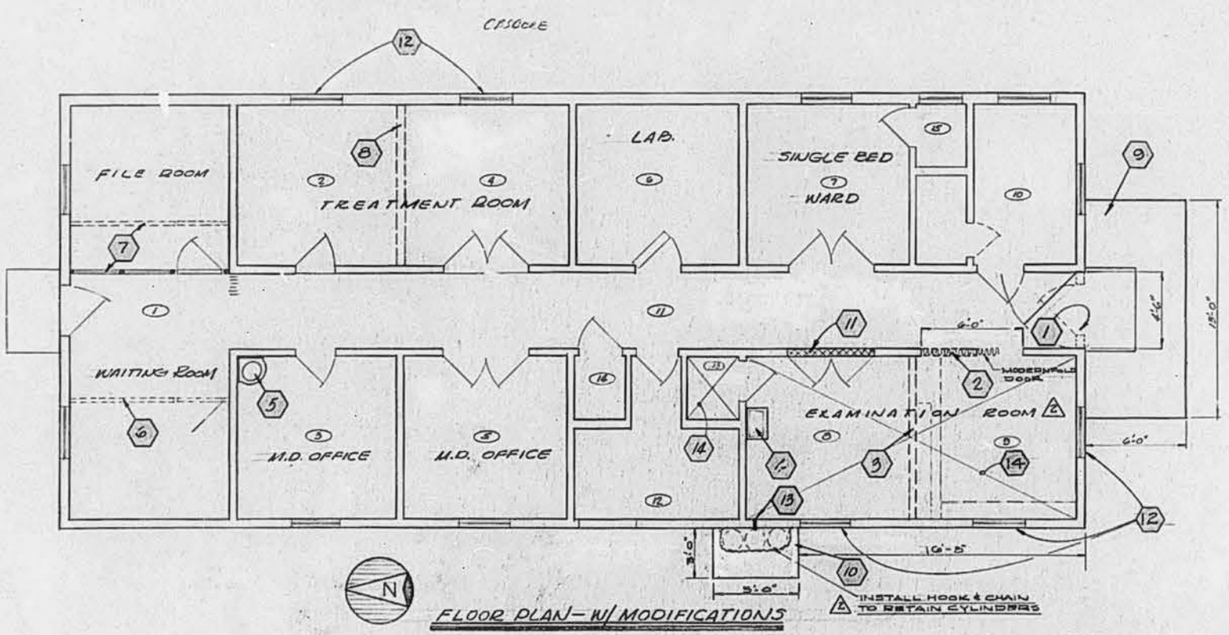


FLOOR PLAN— EXISTING



FLOOR PLAN— W/ MODIFICATIONS

MODIFICATION SCHEDULE

MOD. DESIGNATION	DESCRIPTION
1	REMOVE EXISTING ℄ INCREASE DOOR TO 4'-6" WIDE x 7'-0" HIGH. USE EXISTING HARDWARE
2	REMOVE WALL TO INCREASE EXISTING 2'-8" OPENING TO 6'-0"
3	REMOVE WALL ℄ ATTACHED SHELVES, SINK ℄ BENCH
4	ADD NEW 20"x18" LAVATORY CRANE 1-507 VICTOR SHIELD WALL HUNG W/ SOLID CONCEALED HANGERS, TRIM 34-200, 3/8" x 2" x 110" CONNECT TO EXISTING COLD & HOT WATER LINES TO ABOVE CEILING & DRAIN TO 4" C.I. BELOW FLOOR.
5	ADD NEW 17"x17" LAVATORY CRANE 1-870-E COMPACT WALL HUNG, VITREOUS CHINA, W/ CONCEALED HANGERS & BRACKETS, CONNECT TO EXISTING ½" CW & ½" TOGAN LINE. CONNECT TO EXISTING 1½" WM ABOVE CEILING.
6	REMOVE EXISTING PARTIAL ENCLOSURE
7	RELOCATE PARTIAL ENCLOSURE TO POSITION SHOWN
8	REMOVE WALL REPLACE ALL DEFECTIVE FLOOR TILE, PAINT TO MATCH
9	INCREASE EXISTING 3'-0"x3'-0"x0'-4" CONC. PAD TO 6'-0"x13'-0"x0'-4" W/ 66-1010 W.W.F.
10	ADD 3'-0"x3'-0"x0'-4" CONC. PAD
11	CLOSE IN 3'-0" WIDE OPENING. 2"x4"s WOOD STUDS W/ ½" GYPSUM BOARD BOTH SIDES. PAINT TO MATCH.
12	SEAL AND FIX WINDOWS TO MAKE AIR TIGHT
13	INSTALL OXYGEN CONNECTION ADD A 1" PIPE SLEEVE THROUGH WALL FOR ⅜" COPPER SERVICE. INSTALL INTERIOR GAS COCK, ⅜" I.P.S. W/ SPECIAL MOPS NOZZLE.
14	REMOVE EXISTING ASPHALT TILE ℄ INSTALL CONDUCTIVE VINYL PLASTIC FLOOR TILE. SEE NOTE 14-A BELOW
15	WEATHERSTRIP ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS EXCEPT THOSE COVERED ON NOTE 12

NOTE 14-A:

THE FLOOR AREA OF DESIGNATED EXAMINATION ROOM (20 FT x 10'-6") TO BE COVERED WITH CONDUCTIVE VINYL PLASTIC FLOOR TILE. (REFER TO SPECIFICATIONS)

WAINSCOATING 5'-0" HIGH IN THIS ROOM TO BE PLASTIC OR ALUMINUM TILE APPLIED DIRECTLY TO WALL BOARD.

PAINTING NOTE:

PAINT ALL NEW WOOD & GYPSUM BOARD WITH A PRIME & TWO FINISH COATS OF RUBBER BASE PAINT MATCHING EXISTING.

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

NTS/M100-M2 REV. 2 - WATER PIPING & PLUMBING DRAINAGE
NTS/M100-E1 REV. 3 - ELECTRICAL PLAN

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	CHKD	APP
3	11-12-59	CHANGED CERAMIC TILE TO CONDUCTIVE VINYL PLASTIC TILE				
2	10-20-59	CHANGED LOCATION IN BLDG. OF CERAMIC TILE				
1	10-14-59	ADDED CERAMIC TILE TO TREATMENT ROOM FLOOR	EADS			

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

STRUCTURE 100
MODIFICATIONS
FLOOR PLANS & SCHEDULE

DRAWN BY: R.E. EADS
CHECKED BY:
DSGN ENGR: R.E. EADS
SCALE: ½"=1'-0"
DATE: 8-19-59

INDEX CODE						
FOR	BLDG W	STA	CLASS	TYPE	ASM	SHT	NO	DWG
23	100		12	32	003	S	8	01

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO. INC.

APPROVED: W. Fonfah, ACTING
RECOMMENDED:
APPROVED: AGENT, 10-1-59
SUBMITTED:

FOR NTS | DRAWING NO. M100-38 | REV. 3

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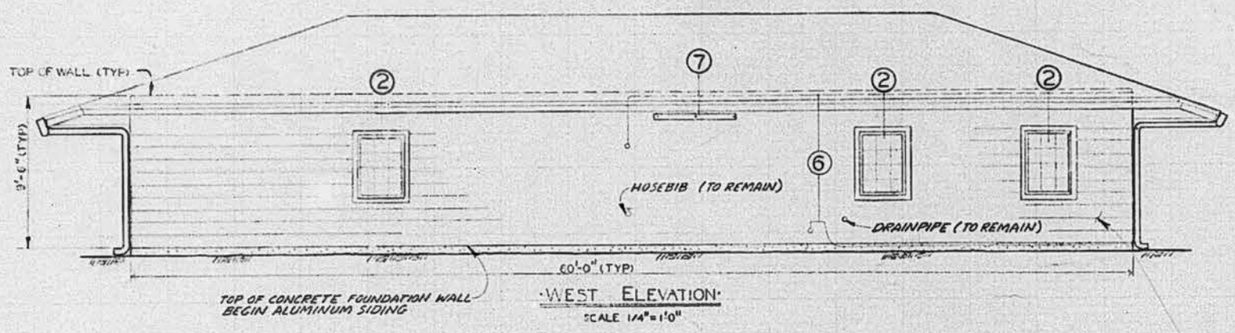
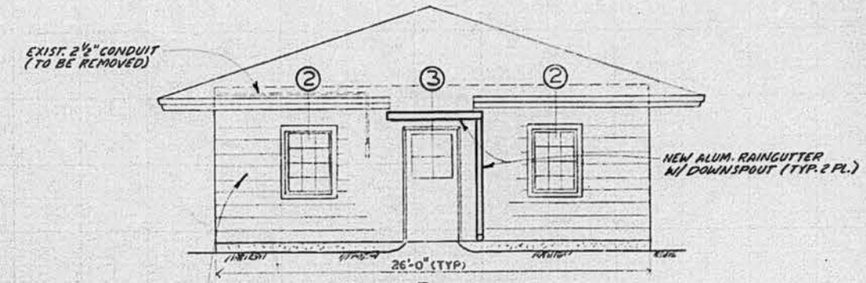
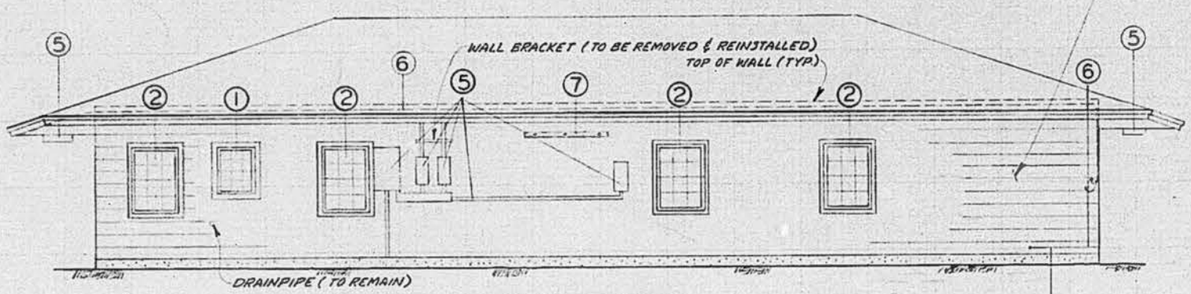


·WEST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'0"

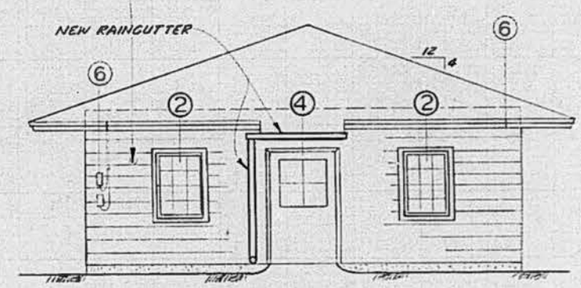


·NORTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'0"

NEW 8" INSULATED HORIZONTAL
ALUMINUM SIDING



·EAST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'0"



·SOUTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/4" = 1'0"

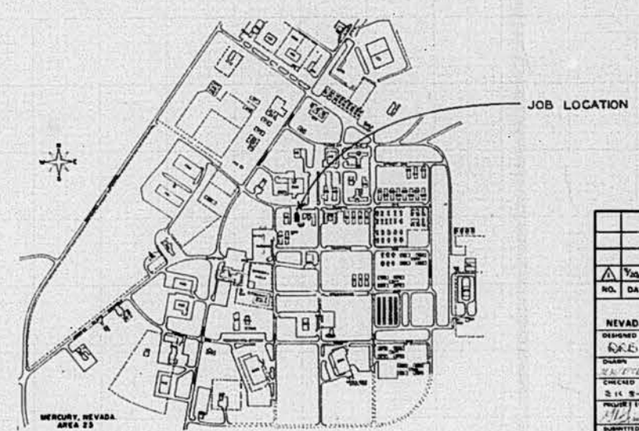
NOTES

DIMENSIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

1. 2'-10" x 3'-5" (FRAME OPENING)
2. 3'-4" x 4'-5" " "
3. 3'-5" x 6'-11" " "
4. 3'-5" x 6'-11" " "

EXISTING FACILITIES:

5. ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (TO BE REMOVED & REINSTALLED BY GENERAL CONTRACTOR AFTER SIDING APPLICATION)
6. COMMUNICATION LINES (TO BE REMOVED & REINSTALLED BY NEVADA BELL AFTER SIDING APPLICATION)
7. 5' LONG, 2"x4" LADDER CONNECTION (TO BE REMOVED & REINSTALLED BY GENERAL CONTRACTOR AFTER SIDING APPLICATION)



AS BUILT
REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO. INC.
ENGINEERING & CONTRACT ADMIN. DIV.
9-22-82
M G HENDRICK 9-22-82
C.E. 9-27-82

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	DOE APP.
1	9/22/82	AS BUILT CONDITIONS				

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED R&B
DRAWN
CHECKED
PROJECT ENGR.
SUBMITTED

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

ALUMINUM EXTERIOR SIDING
BUILDING #100
ELEVATION, PLAN, & DETAIL

AGENCY APPROVAL — DOE APPROVAL — DATE

Reynolds
Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 14400 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

C.D. NO. NTS 333

DRAWING NO. 23-100-A1

REV 1 SHEET 1 OF 2

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot			
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023			
County	Nye			
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A	
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589630	Northing: 4057684		
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒ / Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951
Architectural Style	Demountable
Architectural Type	Wood Frame
Roof Form	N/A
Roof Materials	N/A
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A
Foundation Materials	Concrete
Window Materials	N/A
Window Type	N/A
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐ No ☒
	Number?:

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building removed. Foundation remains.		

Building 23-100 foundation, view north (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed: / NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name: / Date listed:	NRIS #:

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1997

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Infirmary, Sheriff's Office
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Infirmary, Sheriff's Office
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represented an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by

replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, it, along with the nearby array of foundations, is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is in the northern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions. In the 1950s, Ranger Street was the principal administrative center of Mercury.

This was a rectangular-plan, wood-framed, one-story building with wood siding, low-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation. A concrete sidewalk ran along Ranger Avenue.

Only the foundation and sidewalk remain. A concrete stoop is at the rear of the main foundation.

There are no Accessory Resources.

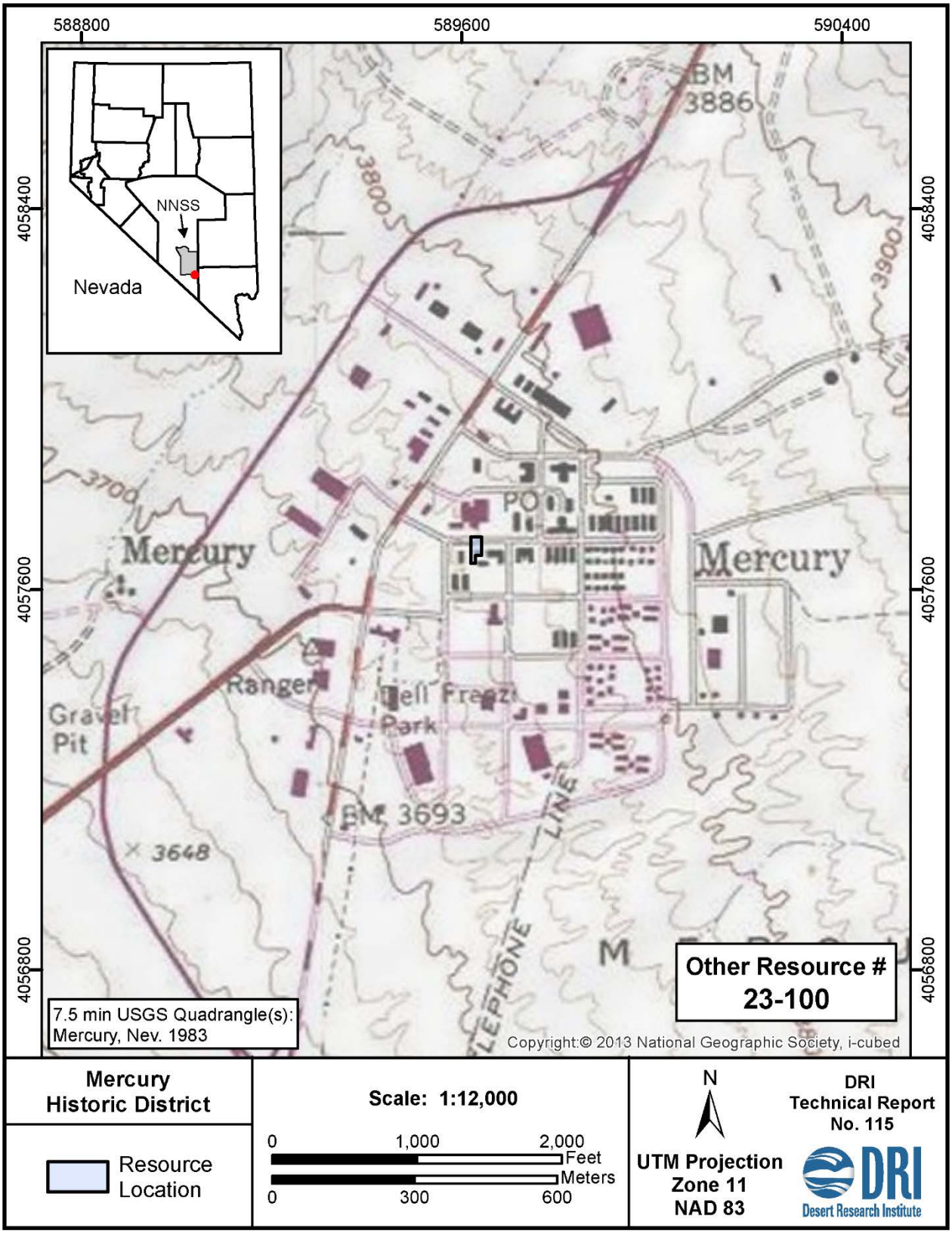
8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1982 Photograph Album Index (1958-1976).

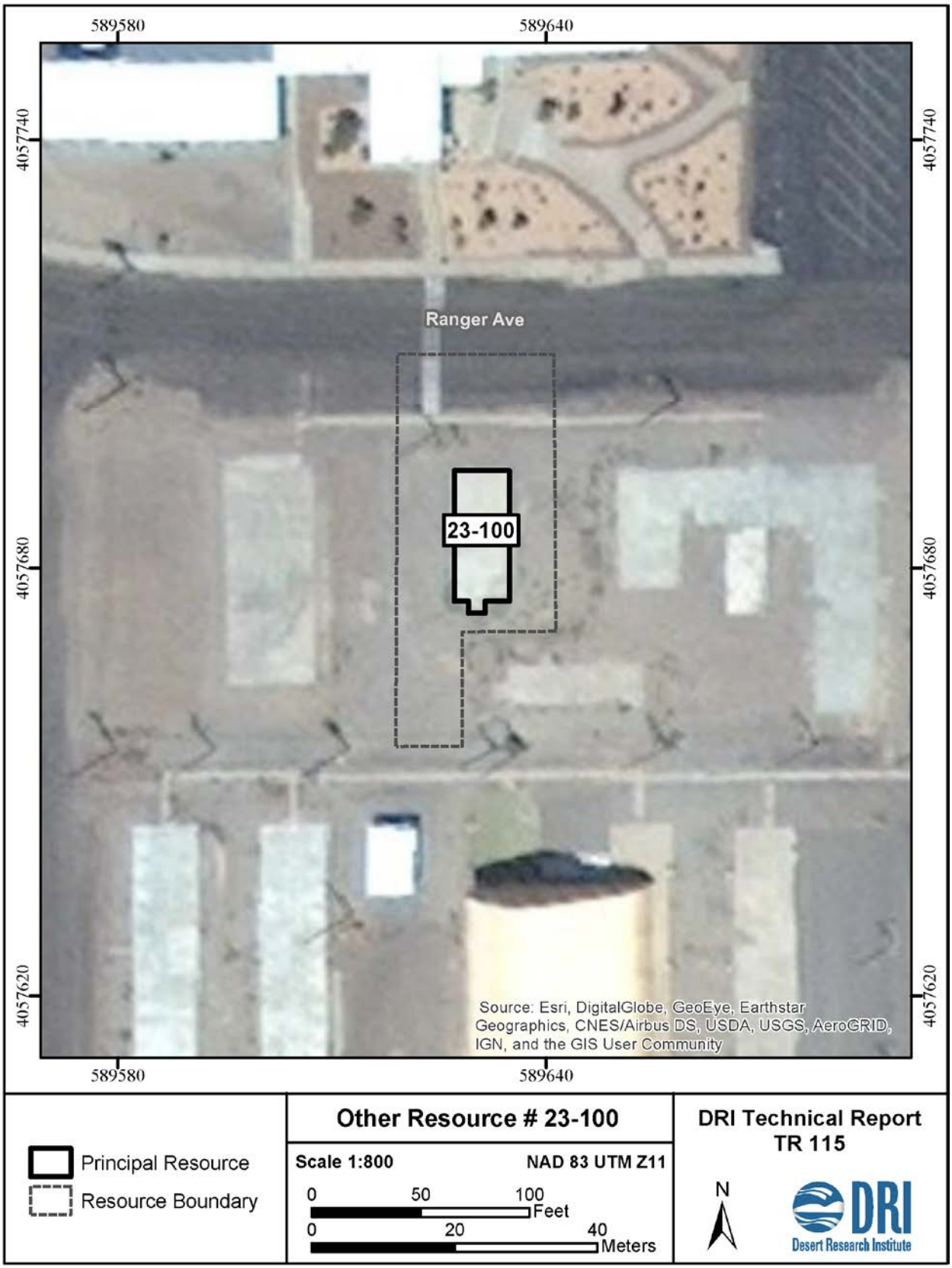
9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

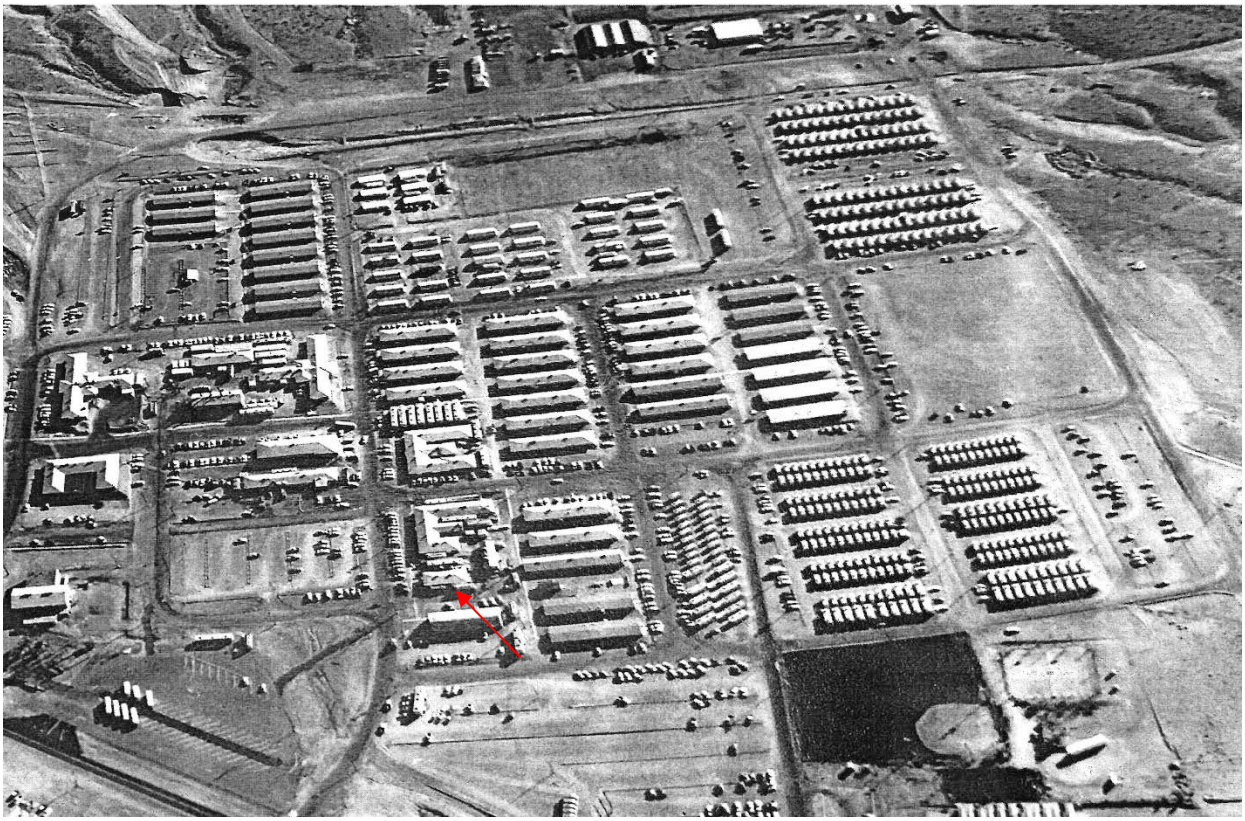
Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.



11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: West Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017



Building 23-100 at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: N/A Photographer: REECo (1982) Date: 1966

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: N/A Photographer: REECo (1982) Date: 1969

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C320 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	Original drawings indicate the building was designed in December 1951, indicating that construction could not be completed until 1952 despite the 1951 construction date in the facilities database.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	The original form is incorrect. Drawings indicate that the building was designed by Silas Mason Company, Las Vegas. Holmes and Narver did have a continuing role designing minor modifications to the building throughout its life.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research is required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by its foundation, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Windows were typical 6/6 wood-framed double hung, mounted singly and in pairs. Several louvered metal roof vents were on the ridgeline.

The formal entry lobby was in the northeast corner of the building facing Buster Street. Several other entrances accessed all sides of the building. The entrances had concrete stoops which were protected by roof extensions.

The north and east wings had central hallways with offices of various sizes along both sides of the corridors. Each of these wings also had men's and women's restrooms near the center. The east wing also had the principal mechanical room for the building with a large evaporative cooler on the ground outside. The west wing contained a single large drafting room which extended north to the corridor of the north wing.

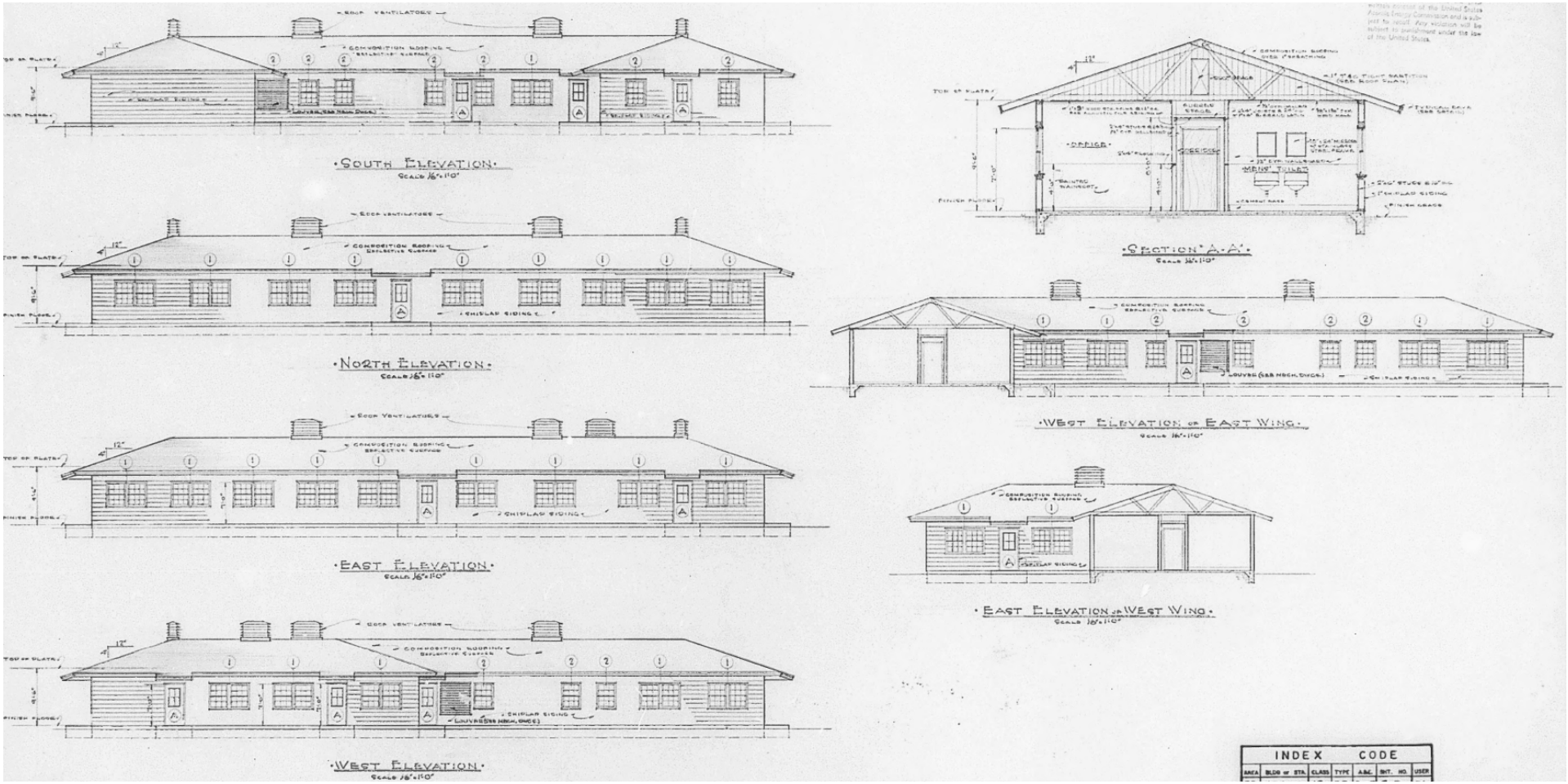
The attached 1955 photo of the large conference/briefing room indicates that the drafting room was converted to this purpose at this time, although the first available plan documenting this change dates to 1959.

The center wing which converted the building to a roughly E-shaped plan was added in March 1957. It had smaller dimensions than the other wings at 18x40 ft and lacked a central hallway since it contained only one office and the large FPUA room (meaning of acronym unknown at this time).

As noted above, by 1959 the original drafting room had been converted to a conference room and two offices. Otherwise the building remained unchanged since the 1957 addition.

By 1965 the central wing was converted to a large open office space. The following year it was divided up into three new offices along with the original office. At the same time, the west wing was re-arranged by making one room at the south end of the wing and all other room walls were removed including the south wall of the north wing corridor in this area.

The former conference room was subdivided into eight office spaces by means of metal modular partitions and the large southern room was also split into two offices in 1982 (REECo Drawing 23-101-A2-E2).



Original elevations (Silas Mason Co. Drawing M101-S2, 1951).

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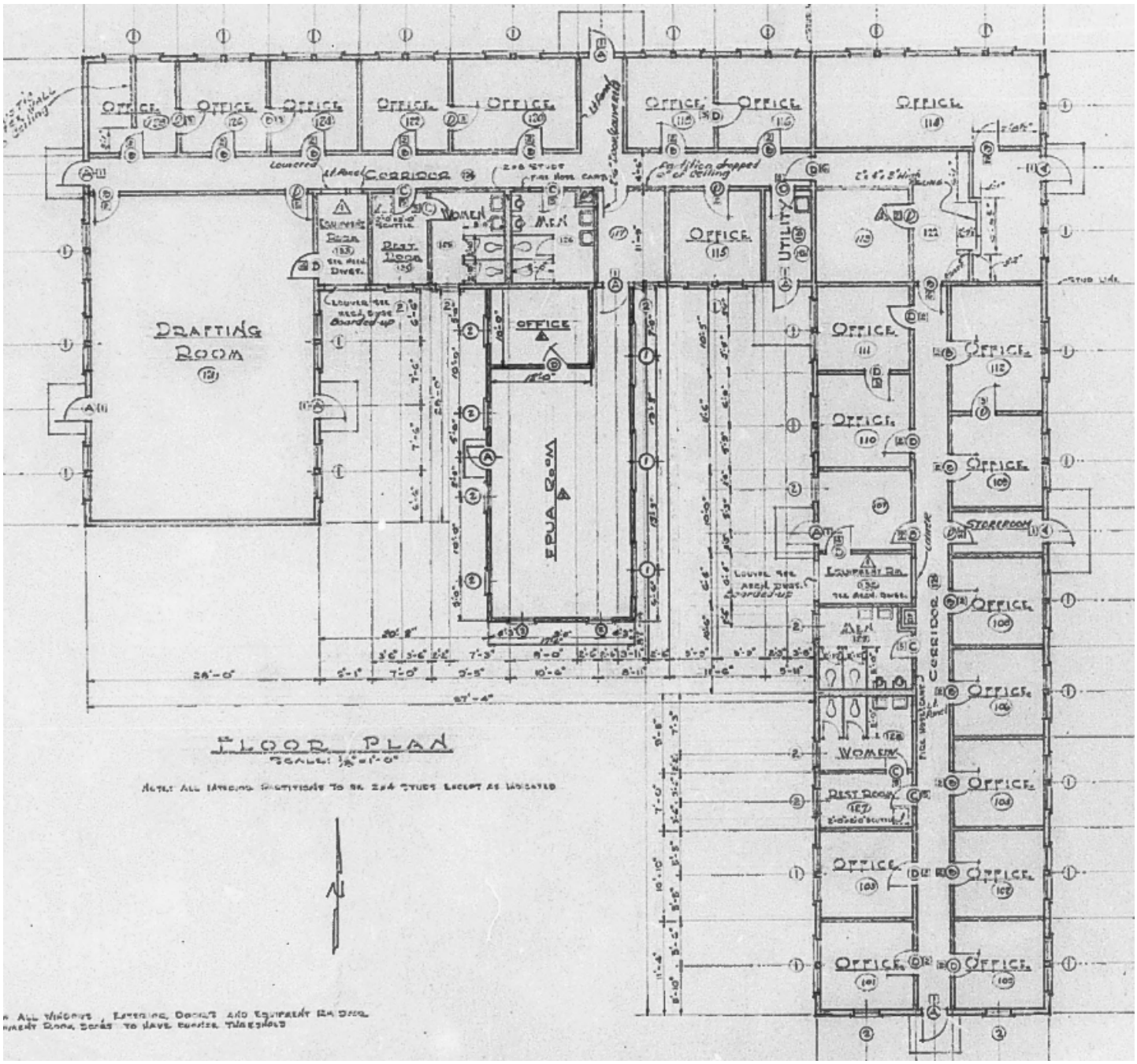
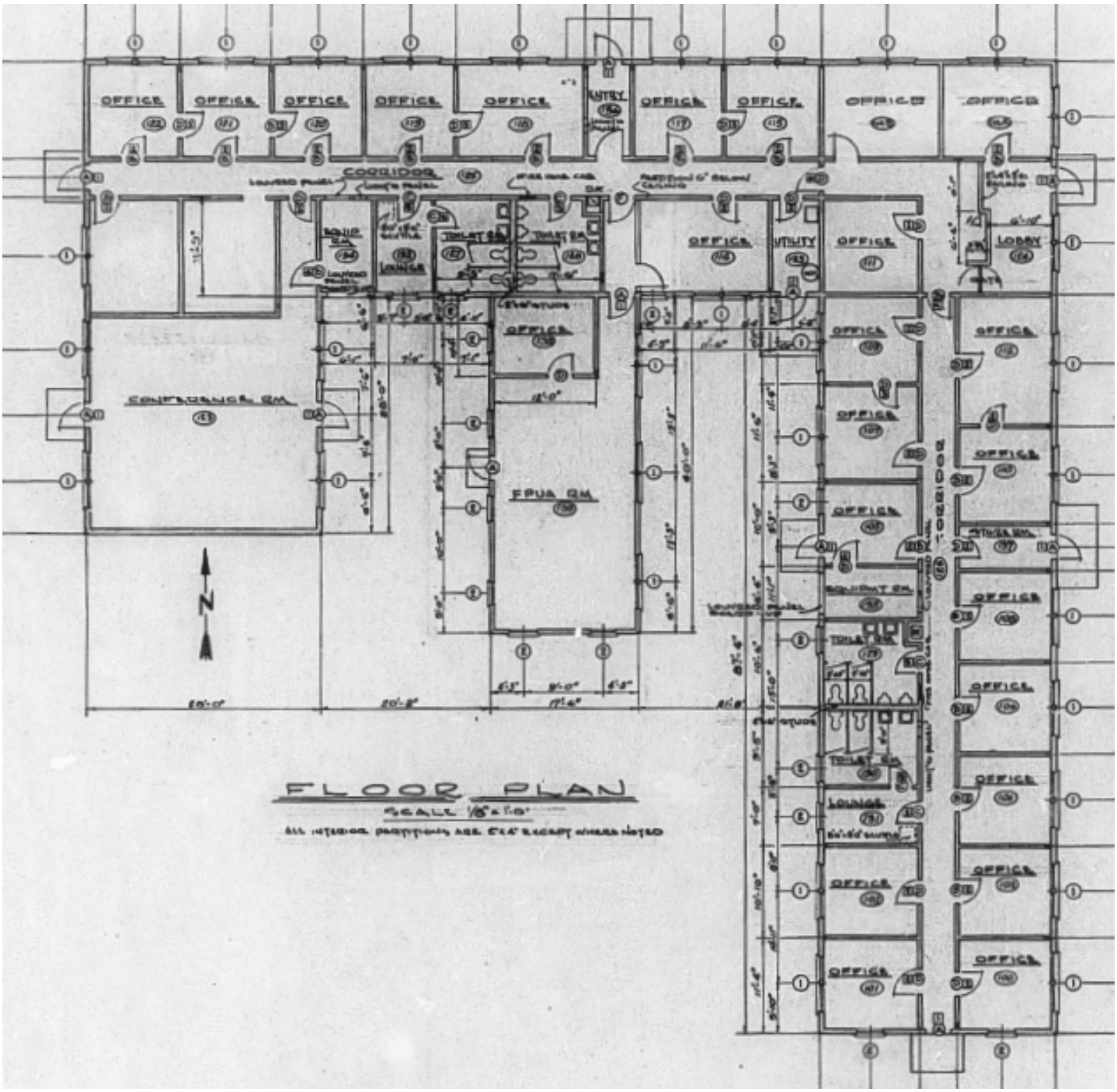
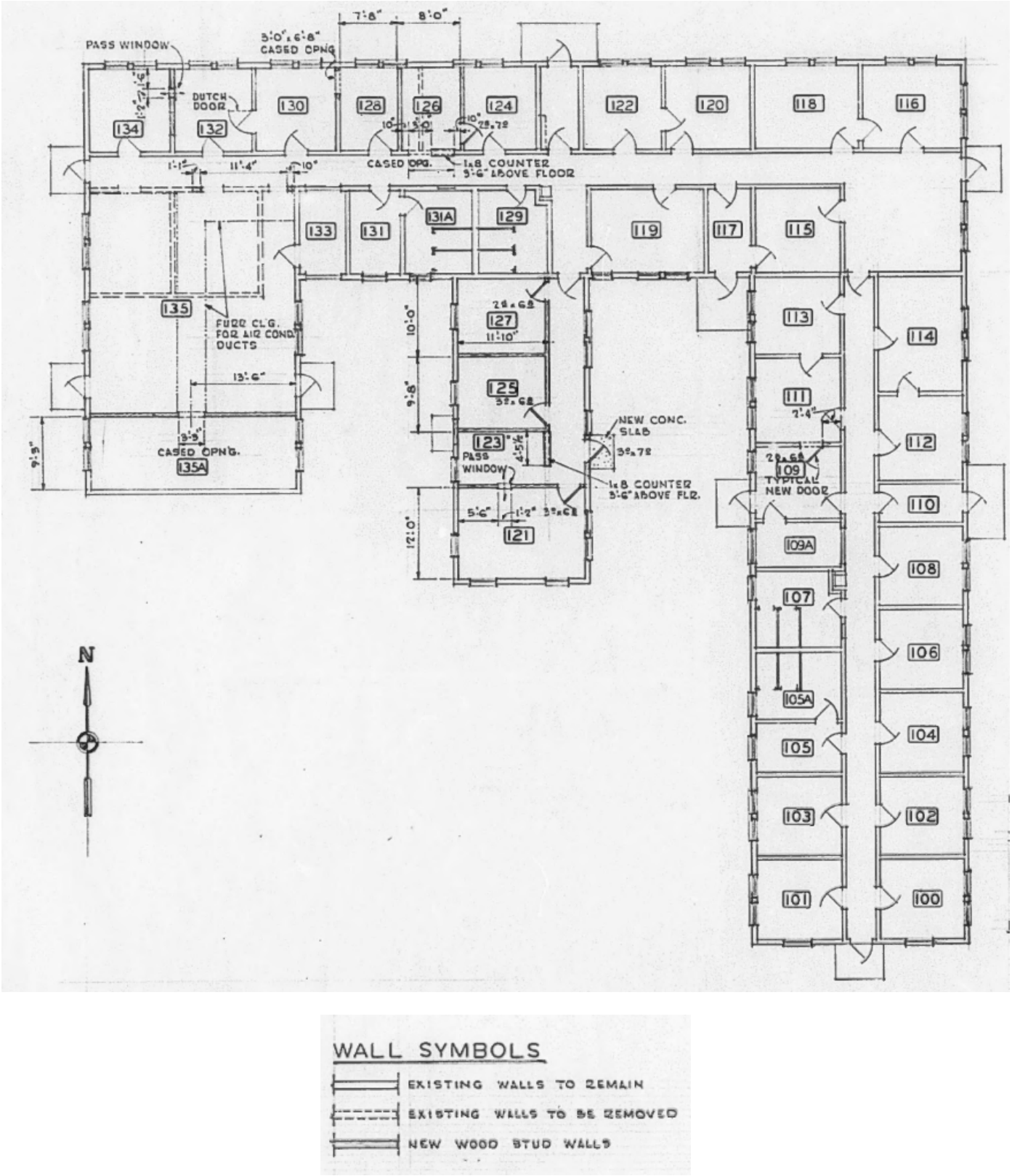


Original floor plan (Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-101-S1, 1951, revised 1959).
Revision shows the center wing FPUA Room addition of March 1957.



Modified floor plan (REECo Drawing M101-S14, 1959).



Modified floor plan (REECo Drawing 23-101-A1, 1966).

Interior of conference/briefing room showing a typical interior. REECo 1955.

Aerial view of Bldg 101 and surrounding facilities, facing southeast, taken January 1961 by REECo photographer.

Correction:
Photo caption update:
The 1955 REECo photo on page 7 of the original form is of the northeast corner facing SSW.

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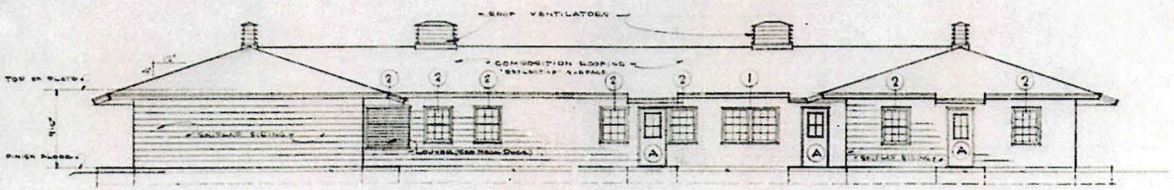
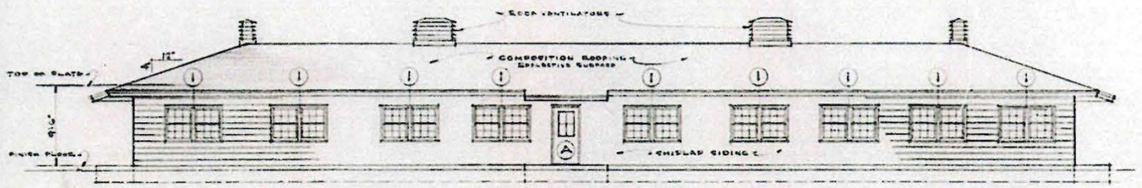
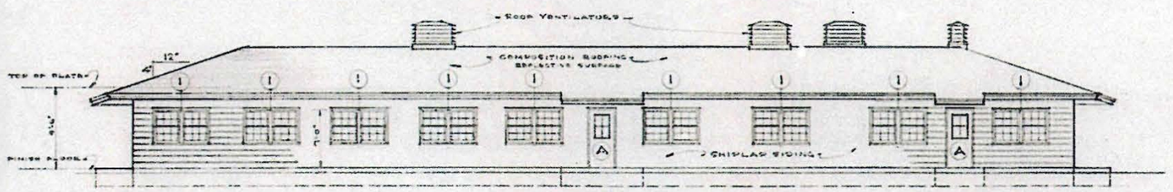


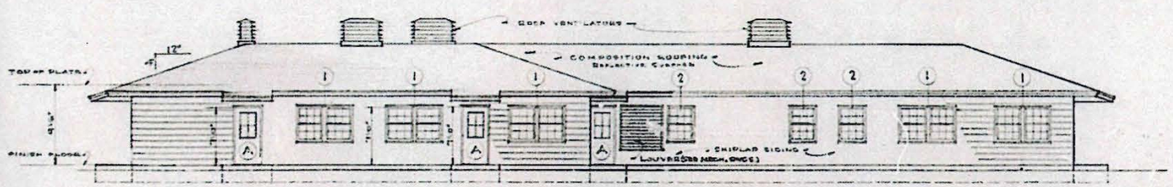
·SOUTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



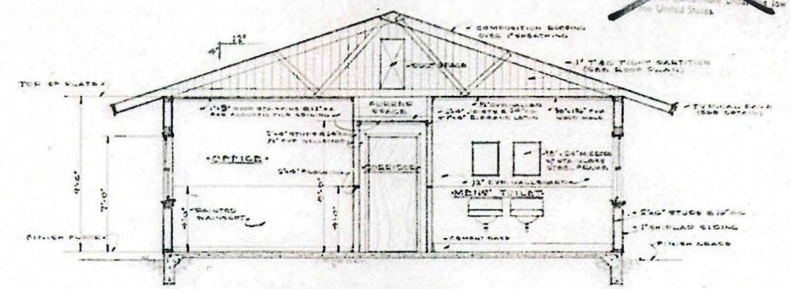
·NORTH ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



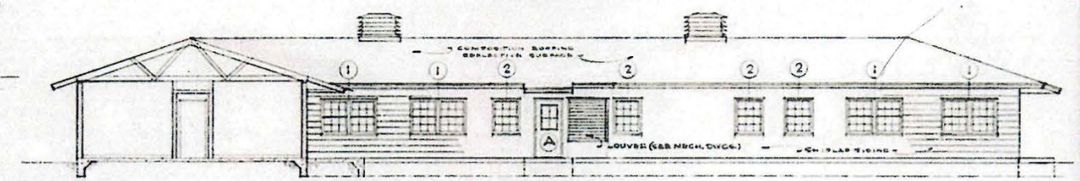
·EAST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



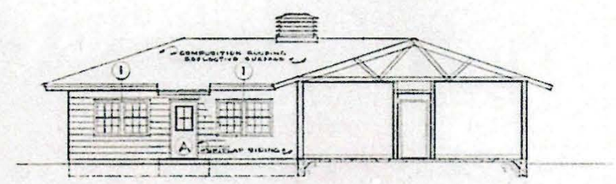
·WEST ELEVATION·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



·SECTION "A-A"·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



·WEST ELEVATION OF EAST WING·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



·EAST ELEVATION OF WEST WING·
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Tim Rearich MSTS A433

Date: 30 Aug 2018

INDEX CODE						
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.B.C.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	101	12	33	005	52	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. APP.
1	1-14-52	Moved Toilet Room Windows & Added 2 Louvers				

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

·STRUCTURE 101·
ELEVATIONS & SECTION

CONTRACT NO. 14-01
A.E.C. ACCT. NO.
DRAWN C.D.M.C.
CHECKED
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE NOTED
DATE 12-12-51

SUBMITTED R.H. Sunnell 12-26-51 ENGINEER
RECOMMENDED A.E.C.
APPROVED A.E.C.

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. N.T.S. ~~40-0~~
SHEET 2 OF 11

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

M101-S2

M101-S2

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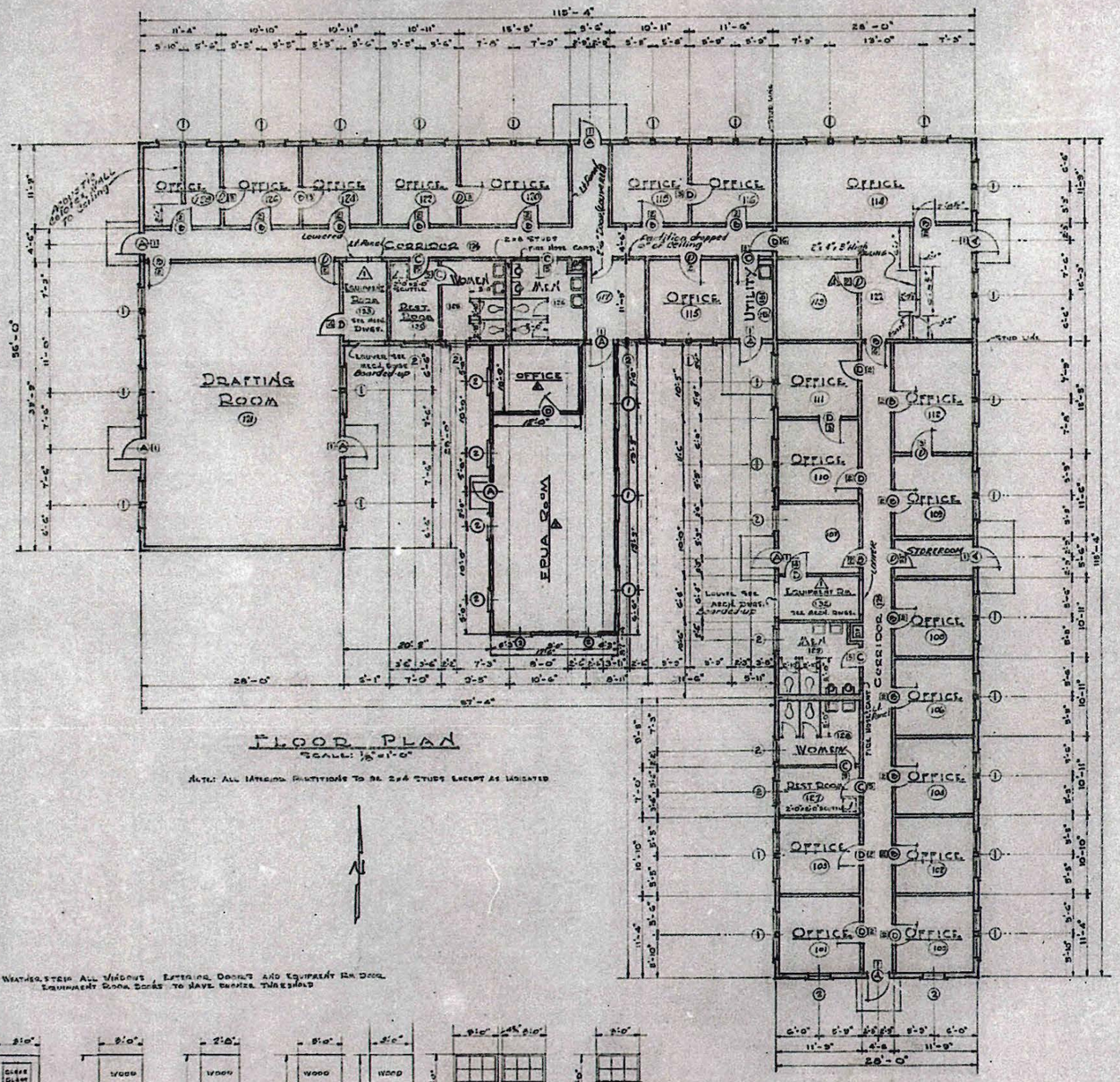
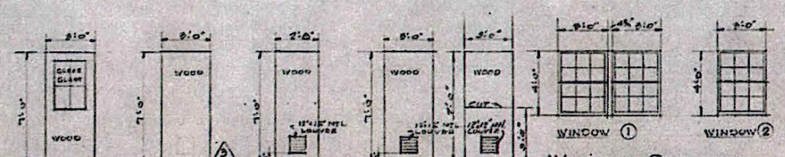


FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

NOTE: ALL INTERIOR PARTITIONS TO BE 2x4 STUDS EXCEPT AS INDICATED

WEATHERSTRIP ALL WINDOWS, EXTERIOR DOORS AND EQUIPMENT RM. DOOR. EQUIPMENT ROOM DOORS TO HAVE BRONZE THRESHOLD



DOOR SCHEDULE

- ALL DOORS TO BE 1¾" WOOD FLUSH PANEL
- EXTERIOR DOORS TO HAVE ALUM. THRESHOLD
- INTERIOR DOORS THAT SEPARATE ASPHALT TILE & CEMENT FLOORS TO HAVE ALUM. THRESHOLD

WINDOW SCHEDULE

NOTE: ALL WINDOWS TO BE WOOD DOUBLE HUNG. WINDOWS IN MENS & WOMENS TOILETS TO HAVE OBSCURE GLASS. ALL GLASS TO BE DOUBLE STRENGTH GLASS

INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOM NAME	ROOM NO.	FLOORS: ASPHALT TILE	FLOORS: CERAMIC TILE	FLOORS:	BASE: WOOD	BASE: CEMENT	CEILING: ACOUSTICAL TILE	CEILING: 1/2" GYP. BD.	WALLS: WOOD	WALLS:	WSCT.: CERAMIC TILE	WSCT.: 1/2" HIGH PLASTER	PAINTING: WALLS	PAINTING: CEILING	PAINTING: WAINSCOT	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: WOOD DOORS	PAINTING: WOOD FRAME	PAINTING: BASE	PAINTING: TRIM	PAINTING: CASEWORK	REMARKS (E = ENAMEL, P = PAINT)
OFFICE	101 THRU 120	•			•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
DRAFTING ROOM	121	•			•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR. AROUND DUCT
LOBBY	122	•			•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR. AROUND DUCT
CORRIDOR	123 & 124	•			•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR CEILING TO 8'-0"
TOILETS	125 THRU 128		•			•		•	•		•		E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
REST ROOM	129 & 130		•		•			•	•			•	E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
UTILITY	131		•			•		•			•		E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
EQUIPMENT RM.	132 & 133		•		•			•	•				P	P		P	P	P	P	P	
LATRY	134 & 135	•			•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR CEILING TO 8'-0"
⚠ FPUA ROOM & OFFICE		•			•		•		•			•	E	P	E	E	E	E	E	E	

NOTE: WAINSCOT IN ALL CASES TO BE 4'-0" HIGH.

HARDWARE SCHEDULE

MK.	No.	BUTTS: SIZE	BUTTS: RUSSWIN NO.	LOCKSETS	DOOR CLOSER	BOLTS	DOOR STOP	PUSH PLATE	DOOR PULL	KICK PLATE: GA.	KICK PLATE: WIDTH	KICK PLATE: LENGTH	KICK PLATE: BEVEL	KICK PLATE: FINISH	REMARKS
D	3	4½x4½	80¼	2024 BK. HAMPTON	* DBP					14	10"	2-10½"	B.E.	IID	KICK PLATE ONE SIDE (A)
E	3	4 x 4	80¼	2038 BK. HAMPTON			203								
F	3	4 x 4	80¼	2040 BK. HAMPTON			203								
H	3	4 x 4	80¼	2024½ BK. HAMPTON											
I	3	4 x 4	80¼		DBP		★203	616	626	14	10"	2-6½"	B.E.	IID	KICK PLATE ONE SIDE (B)
R	3	4 x 4	80¼	2025 BK. HAMPTON			203								

ALL NUMBERS IN SCHEDULE ARE TAKEN FROM RUSSWIN VOLUME SEVENTEEN CATALOG.
FINISH OF ALL HARDWARE SHALL BE DULL BRONZE EQUAL TO RUSSWIN FHD OR US10

- STOP NOT REQUIRED FOR MENS TOILET DOOR.
★ PROVIDE NECESSARY BRACKETS FOR MOUNTING CLOSER ON INSIDE.

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Tim Rearick MSTS A433

Date: 30 Aug 2018

3/8/59 SEE REDRAWN TRACING M101-S14 CJ

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. APP.
8	1-9-57	ADDITION OF FPUA RM.	CJ	DRG		
7	1-14-55	GENERAL AS BUILT REVISION	JP	DRG		
6	5-3-52	GENERAL AS BUILT REVISION	DBM	PS		
5	3-4-52	ADDED HARDWARE SCHEDULE.	JNC	PS		
4	1-14-52	ENLARGED EQUIPMENT RM. & MOVED TOILET DIAG.	JNC	PS		

INDEX CODE						
AREA	BLDG or STA	CLASS	TYPE	ASE.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	101	12	32	005	S 1	01

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

STRUCTURE No: 101
FLOOR PLAN
& SCHEDULES

CONTRACT NO. 18-1-81
A.E.C. DWG. NO.
DRAWN: E.W.D.
CHECKED: W.C.
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE: NOTED
DATE

SUBMITTED: R. L. Tannel 12-7-49 ENGINEER
RECOMMENDED: Edgar Allen A.E.C.
APPROVED: Jack Allen A.E.C.

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. N. T. S. ~~40-9~~
SHEET 1 OF 11

M101-S1

M101-S1

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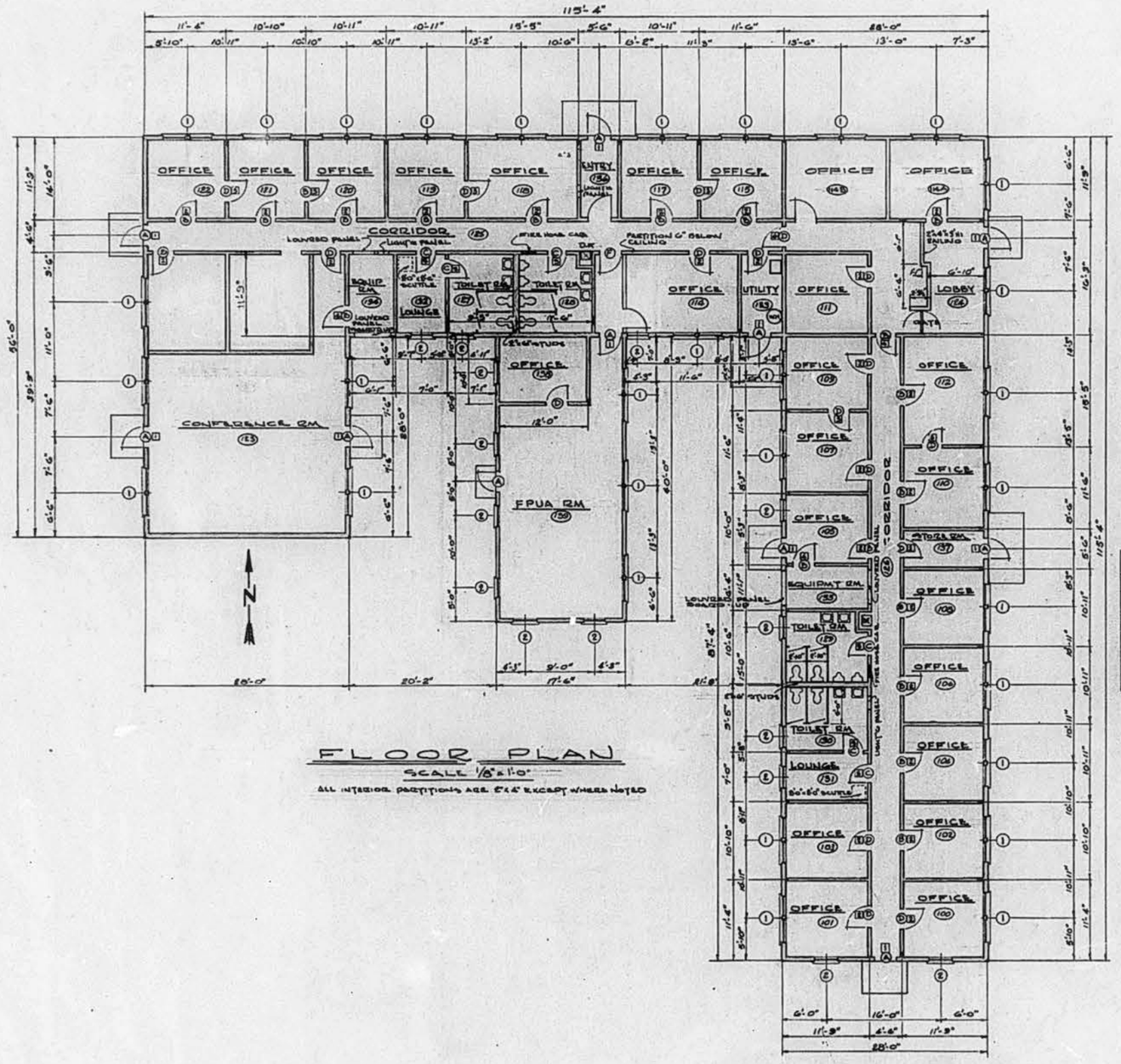


FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

ALL INTERIOR PARTITIONS ARE 5" & 4" EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

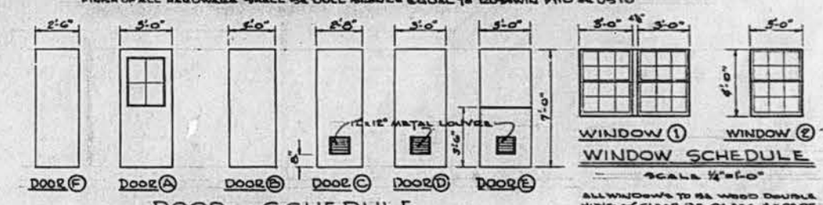
INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOM NAME	ROOM No.	FLOORS: Asphalt Tile	FLOORS: Conc. Trt'd	FLOORS:	FLOORS:	BASE: Wood	BASE: Concrete	CEIL'G: Acoustic Tile	CEIL'G: Wtr Ext Bd	WALLS: Wtr Ext Bd	WALLS:	W/S'CT: Ref'ml Cmnt	W/S'CT: 4'-8" Ml Paint	PAINTING: Walls	PAINTING: Ceilings	PAINTING: Wainscot	PAINTING (Finish Wood Work): Wd Doors	PAINTING (Finish Wood Work): Wd Mash	PAINTING (Finish Wood Work): Frames	PAINTING (Finish Wood Work): Trim	PAINTING (Finish Wood Work): Cabinets	REMARKS (E = ENAMEL, P = PAINT)
OFFICES	101 THRU 128	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	ACOUSTICAL DIVISION TO CEILING RM 128
CONFERENCE RM.	123	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR AROUND DUCT
LOBBY	124	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	" " "
CORRIDOR	125 & 126	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR CEILING TO 8'-0"
TOILETS	127 THRU 130		•				•		•	•		•		E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
LOUNGE	131 & 132		•			•			•	•		•		E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
UTILITY	133		•				•		•			•		E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
EQUIPMT RM	134 & 135		•			•			•	•				P	P		P	P	P	P	P	
ENTRY & STORA RM	136 & 137	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURR CEILING TO 8'-0"
FPUA RM & OFF.	138 & 139	•				•			•	•			•	E	P	E	E	E	E	E	E	
OFFICE	140	•				•		•		•			•	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	

HARDWARE SCHEDULE

MK.	BUTTS: No	BUTTS: Size	BUTTS: Russwin No	LOCKSETS	DOOR CLOSER	DOOR STOP	PUSH PLATE	DOOR PULL	KICK PLATE: Ga.	KICK PLATE: Width	KICK PLATE: Length	KICK PLATE: Bevel	KICK PLATE: Finish	REMARKS
1	3	4½" × 4½"	80¼	2024 BK HAMPTON	D&P SERCO MTD				14	10"	2'-0½"	B.E.	11-D	KICK PL. BOTH SIDE
2	3	4" × 4"	80¼	2038 BK HAMPTON		203								
3	3	4" × 4"	80¼	2040 BK HAMPTON		203								
4	3	4" × 4"	80¼	2024½ BK HAMPTON										
5	3	4" × 4"	80¼		BOP	203	616	626	14	10"	2'-0½"	B.E.	11-D	KICK PL. BOTH SIDE. NO DIE AND NUMBER SA.
6	3	4" × 4"	80¼	2023 BK HAMPTON		203								

ALL NUMBERS IN SCHEDULE ARE TAKEN FROM RUSSWIN VOLUME SEVENTEEN CATALOG
FINISH OF ALL HARDWARE SHALL BE DULL BRONZE EQUAL TO RUSSWIN F110 OR US10



DOOR SCHEDULE

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

WEATHERSTRIP ALL EXTERIOR DOS & WINDOWS

WINDOW SCHEDULE

SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

ALL WINDOWS TO BE WOOD DOUBLE HUNG 1/4" CLEAR DS. GLASS, EXCEPT TOILET RMS TO HAVE OBSCURED GLASS

ALL DOORS TO BE 1¾" WOOD FLUSH PANEL. EXTERIOR DOORS TO HAVE ALUM. THRESHOLD. INTERIOR DOORS MEDIUM NO CEMENT & ASPHALT TILE FLRS. TO HAVE ALUM. THRESHOLD. EQUIPMT RMS TO HAVE RUBBER THRESHOLDS

REDRAWN FROM TRACINGS M101-S13 & M101-S12

INDEX CODE								
AREA	BLDG. or SITE	CLASS	TYPE	ARE	SHT. NO	USER	
23	101	12	32	003	S	14	01

No.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	CHIEF ENGR.	A.E.C. APP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

STRUCTURE 101

FLOOR PLAN & FINISH, DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE

DRAWN BY: OJ
CHECKED BY: ✓
DEPT. ENGR.: Edd G. Gates
SCALE: As Noted
DATE: 8-2-59

APPROVED (CHIEF ENGR.) — RECOMMENDED (AGENCY) — APPROVED (A.E.C.) — SUBMITTED (A.E.C.)

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

JOB: NTS — DRAWING NO.: M101-S14 — REV.

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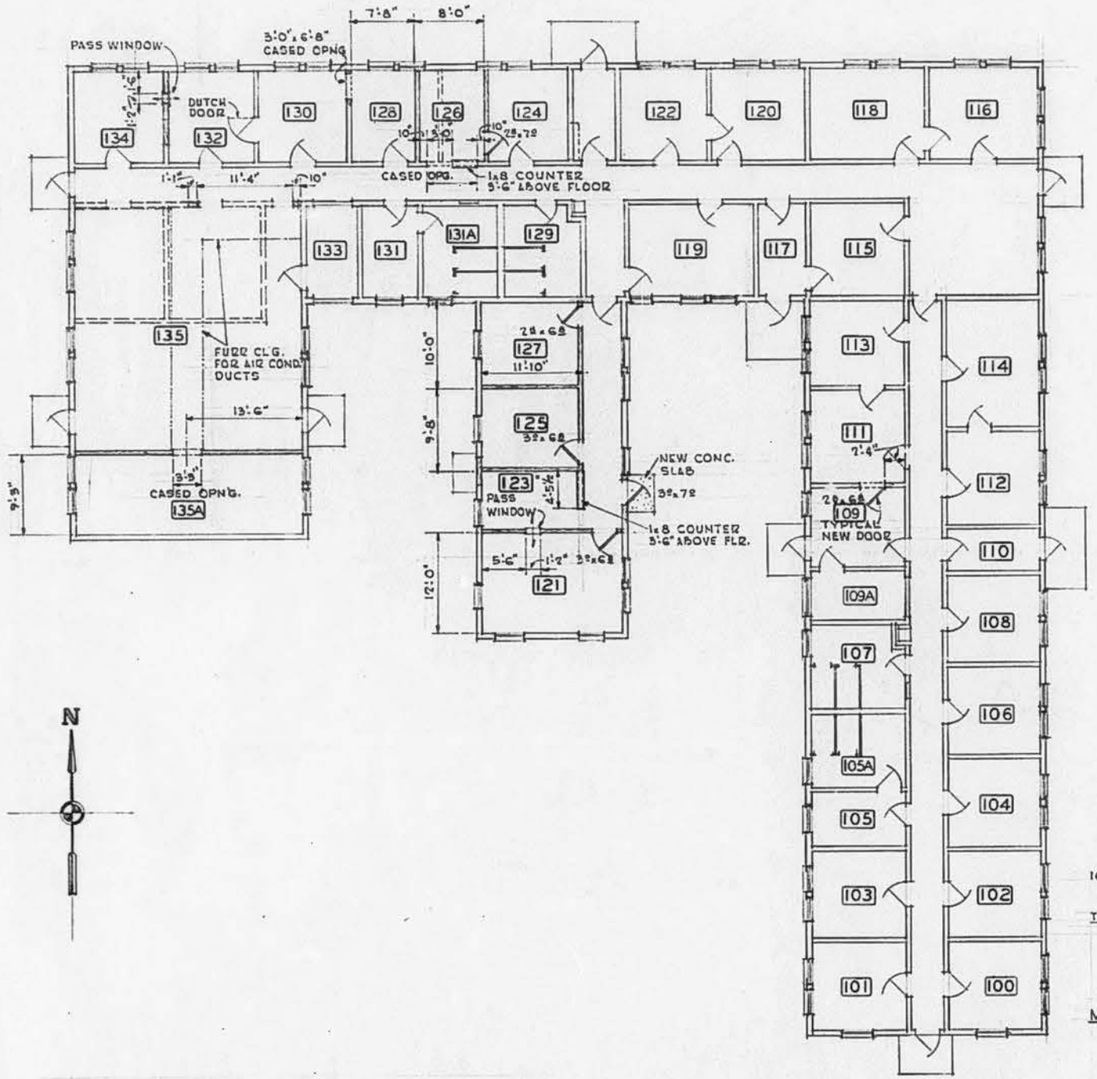
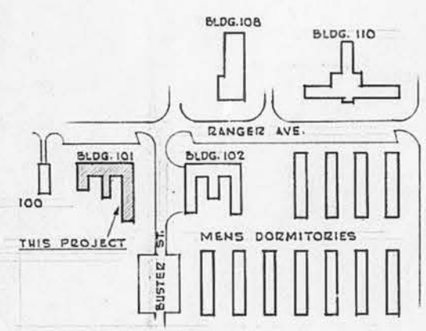
GENERAL NOTES

1. THIS IS AN EXISTING FACILITY.
2. ALL EXISTING DOORS, WINDOWS, TRIM AND OTHER SUCH ITEMS SHALL BE RE-USED WHERE POSSIBLE.
3. ALL PATCHING SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH MATERIALS TO MATCH EXISTING.
4. ALL NEW PARTITIONS, DOOR FRAMING, ETC., SHALL BE COMPLETED WITH MATERIALS TO MATCH EXISTING.
5. CEILING, WALL & FLOOR FINISH MATERIALS, TRIM & PAINT SHALL BE APPLIED IN A NEAT MANNER TO MATCH & COMPLIMENT EXISTING.



FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



MERCURY • AREA 23

KEY PLAN

NO SCALE

WALL SYMBOLS

- EXISTING WALLS TO REMAIN
- EXISTING WALLS TO BE REMOVED
- NEW WOOD STUD WALLS

E.W.O 326,915

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	A.E.C. APP.
1	4-26-66	ADDED ROOM NUMBERS	CBC	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED

DRAWN V.A. HOEL

CHECKED

PROJECT ENGINEER

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

MODIFICATIONS TO BUILDING NO. 101

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS & NOTES

SUBMITTED [illegible] 4-25-66 CHIEF ENGR.

AGENCY APPROVAL — REF. NO.

APPROVED [illegible] A.E.C. — DATE 4-27-66

REYNOLDS

ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

S.D. NO. NTS

DRAWING NO. 23-101-A1

SHEET 1 OF 1

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG. or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	AGE	SHT. NO.	US.
23	101	12	22	003	A1	01

W/O 4015-20

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 20, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589668	Northing: 4057689	
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building removed. Foundation remains.		

Building 23-101 foundation, view northwest (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): ca. 1958, post-1997

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Administration Building, REECo Mechanical Calibration Lab
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Office, Lab
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represented an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, it, along with the nearby array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is in the northern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions. In the 1950s, Ranger Street was the principal administrative center of Mercury.

Originally it was used for administrative offices (REECo 1955). In the 1980s it was used for the REECo Mechanical Calibration Laboratory before moving to 23-153 (NTS 1982). By the early 1990s it served as offices for the REECo supply and prop management. Under Bechtel it was the property and labor relations office (AEC 1951; Raytheon 1992; Bechtel 1997).

This was originally a 6,458 ft². U-plan wood-framed building with wood v-rustic shiplap siding, low-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation. The front section on Ranger was 115x28 ft. The wings were also 28 ft wide. The western wing was 28 ft long and the eastern wing by Buster Street was 87 ft in length.

A concrete sidewalk ran along Ranger Avenue. By 1959 a center wing was added, forming an E-shaped plan.

The building was removed sometime after 1997 leaving the foundation slab and a concrete sidewalk.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Bechtel Nevada
1997 Mercury Building Directory. Sketch No. SK-023-97-C169.

NTS News Bulletin (NTS)
1982 Calibration Lab's move enables it to be best of its kind in state. 4 June: 1, 3. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113188.

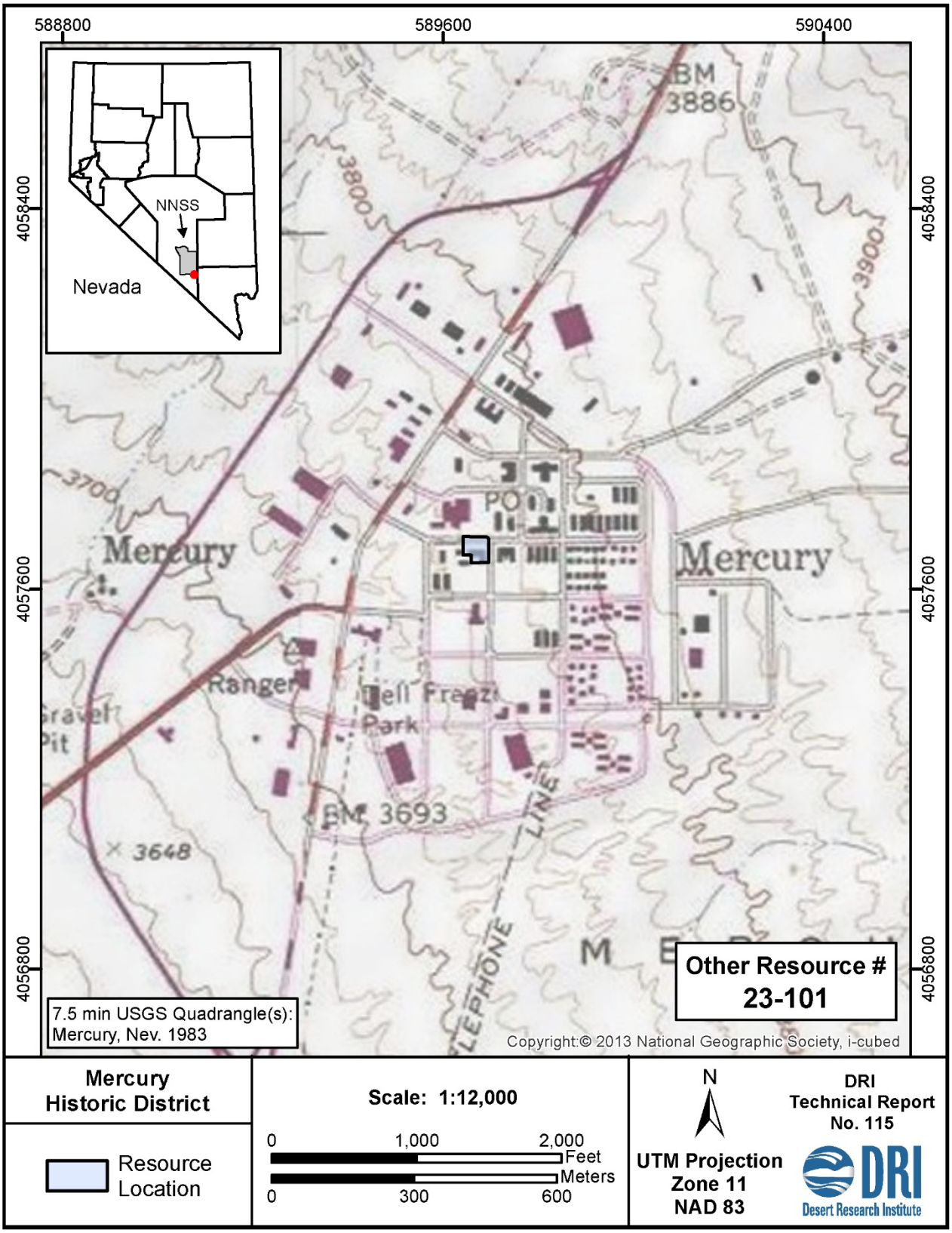
Raytheon Services Nevada
1992 Area 23 Mercury-Facilities Map. Drawing No. JS-023-002-C2

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1951 Mercury Campsite Layout. Drawing No. N.T.S.-187-C.

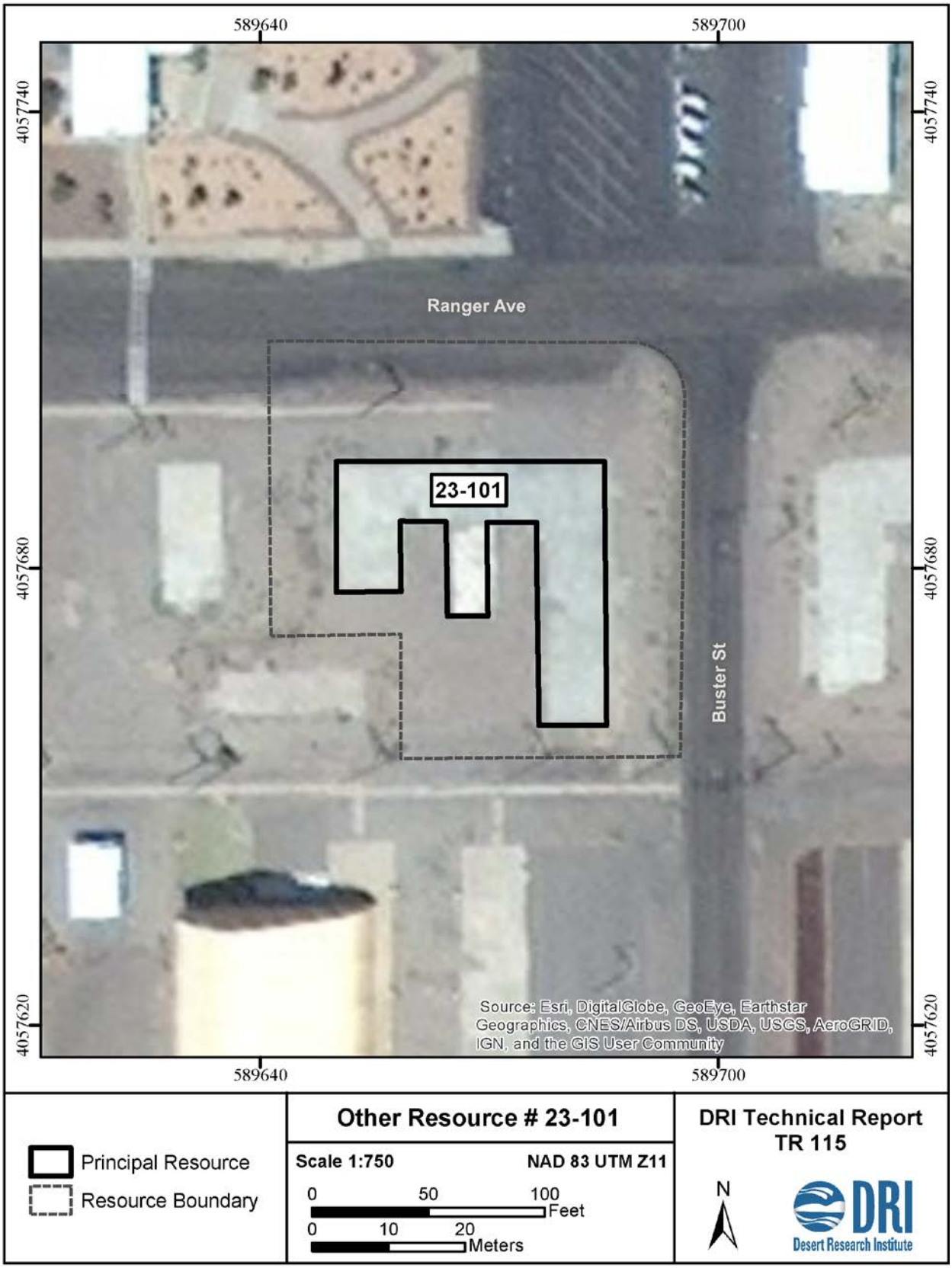
9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.



11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: North-northeast Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevation: Unknown Direction facing: Unknown Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Building 23-101 at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C323 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	Although plans for this building were made in 1951, the earliest as-built dates are in 1952, indicating that the 1951 construction date in the NNSS facilities database is a year too early.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by its foundation, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

This building initially had an irregular U-shaped plan with the east wing shorter than the west. Its asymmetry was accented by the southern portion of the west wing which was designed to have a higher roofline to accommodate two segmented overhead bay doors opening to Buster Street as shown on the attached west elevation. As indicated on the sectional drawing, these bays were to serve as an engine room and were better suited in height for housing fire engines than Building 23-109 with its uniformly low walls. Despite this problem with 23-109, which is just on the other side of Ranger Avenue from this building, the other building won the competition to become Mercury's first fire station. Either the bay doors were replaced with siding and doors to match the rest of the building after the initial construction (and by the time the attached photo was taken in 1955), or, per the as-built notations, it is likely the bay doors were removed from the building design prior to initial construction. Presumably this part of the building was allowed to retain its extra height in an effort to avoid slowing down construction by making too radical a revision of the plans. The resulting space was used as a commodious briefing room. In outside appearance it was nearly identical to its neighbor to the west, Building 23-101.

Although superficially similar, Building 23-102 had a radically different internal layout from 23-101. The northern wing had the central hallway common to most of the demountable buildings of the era, but the other two wings lacked any corridor along the long axes. As can be seen from the plan, this made travel within the building very difficult. It was clearly easier to go outside and reenter the building elsewhere rather than work through the mazes and disturbing several fellow workers in the process.

In addition to several administrative offices the building originally had spaces dedicated to security, communications, and a dark room. Men's and women's restrooms were located near the middle of the northern wing.

A small laundry was built as an addition to the southeast corner of the west wing in 1956. The tiny 9x12 ft end-gable addition was of materials matching the rest of the building. It was accessed from the courtyard, having no doorway to the interior of the main building. Like Building 23-152, it was referred to on the site using the delightful term *washateria*.

The east wing was extended 30 ft to the south the following year. This gave the building a more symmetrical U-shaped plan, although the east wing was now slightly longer than the west wing.

By 1965 the final addition was made to the building. It was a 26x46 ft wing running south from the center of the north wing, filling in much of the former courtyard and giving the building an E-shaped plan. This wing was of much more traditional design with a central corridor and four identical offices on each side of the hallway.

The cumulative changes to the building are shown on the attached 1966 plan. This plan shows conversion of the briefing room to a file archive and breakup of the fairly open east wing into many small offices. A large drafting room occupied part of the east wing.

Minor layout changes continued through time, but a major alteration to the mechanical systems occurred in 1972 when the steam and hot water heating system was removed and replaced with a variety of other units distributed throughout the building.

The final room configuration is shown on the attached 1974 sketch plan. It shows that after many years of frustration, a long series of alterations finally established a complete system of access corridors in all wings, most of them centrally located.

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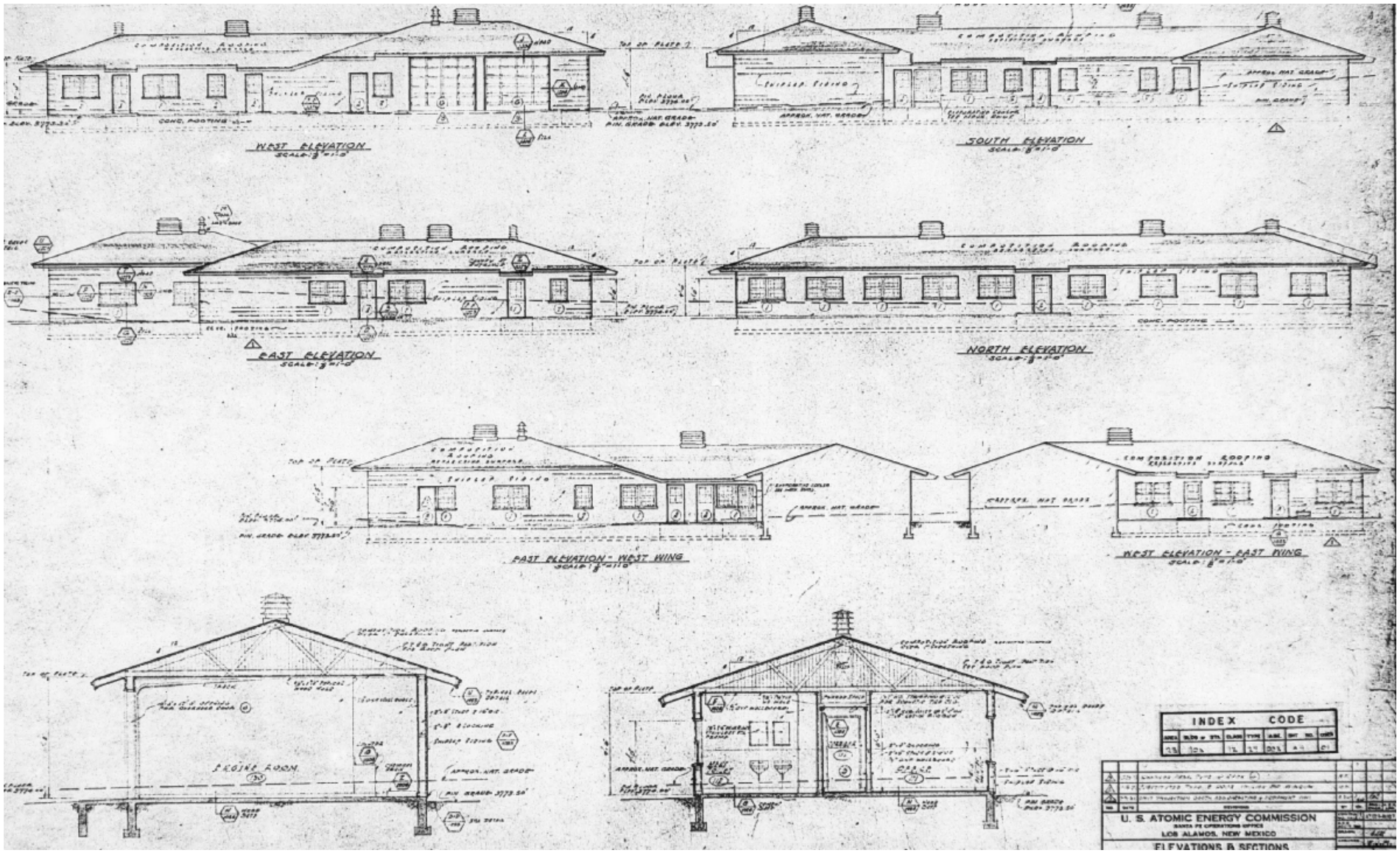
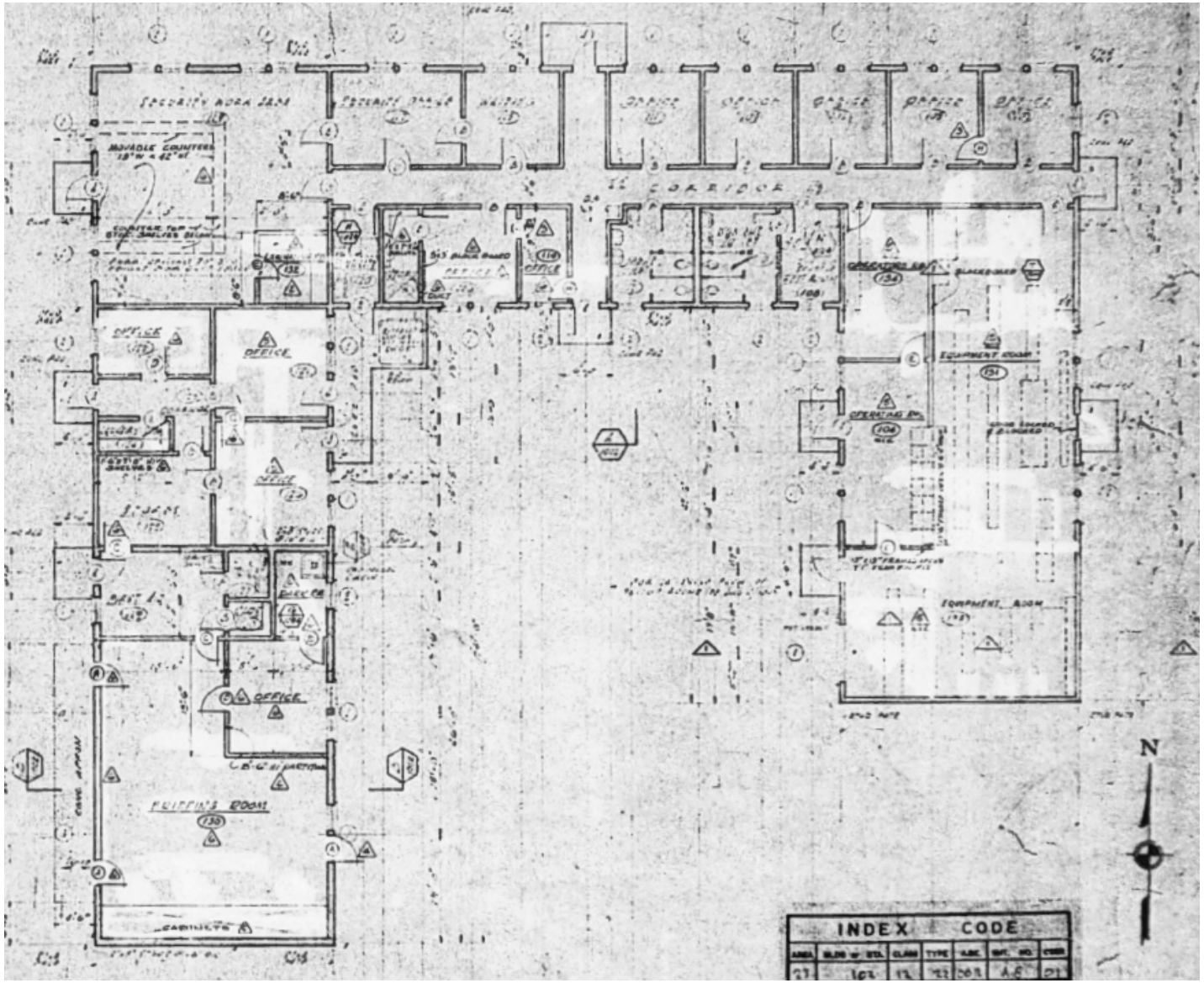
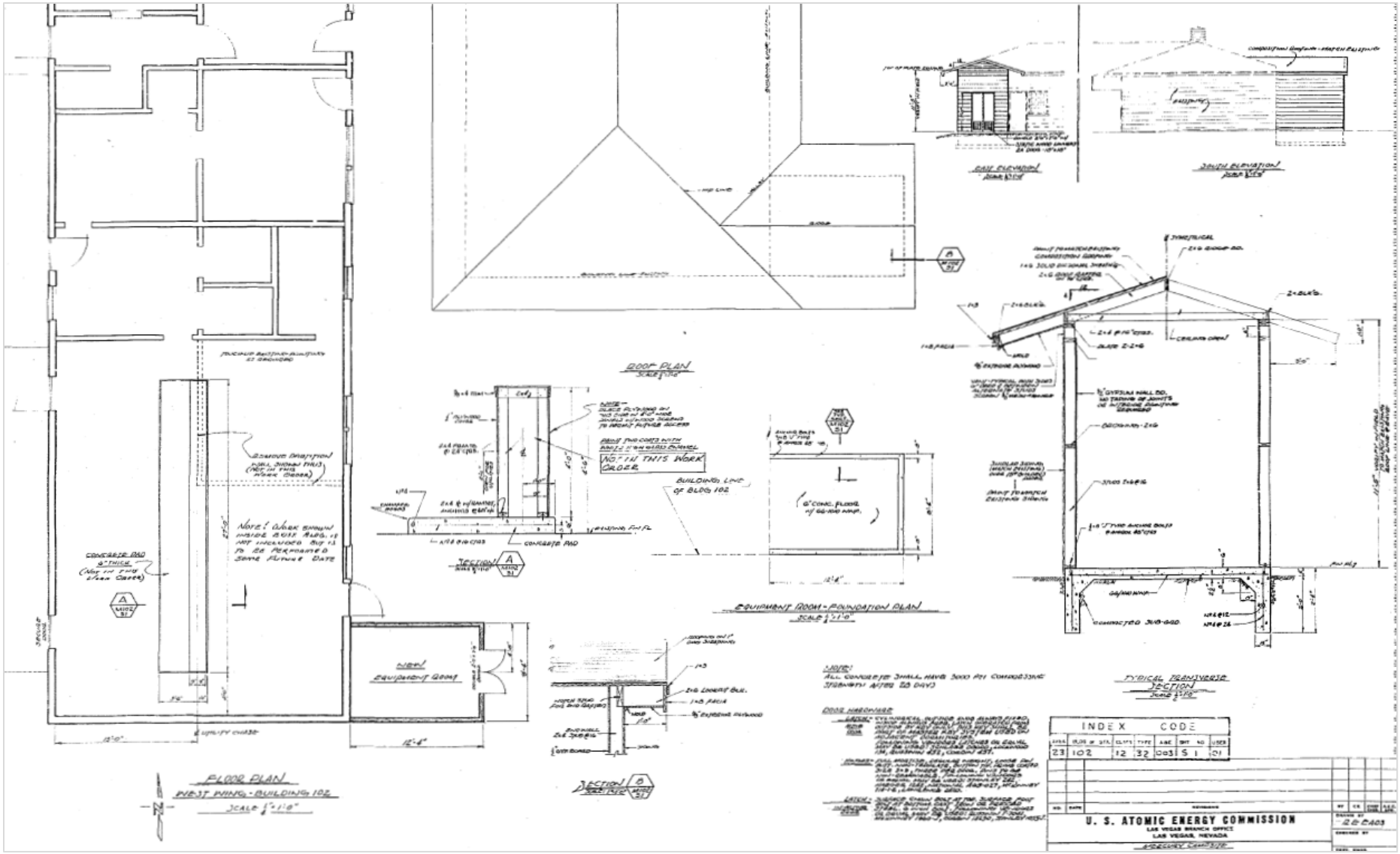


Original elevations and sections (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS – J/1002, 1951).



Original Plan (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J/1001, 1951). This drawing has been modified by 1952 to change the fire engine room to a briefing room.



Laundry addition to west wing (REECo Drawing M102-S1, 1956).

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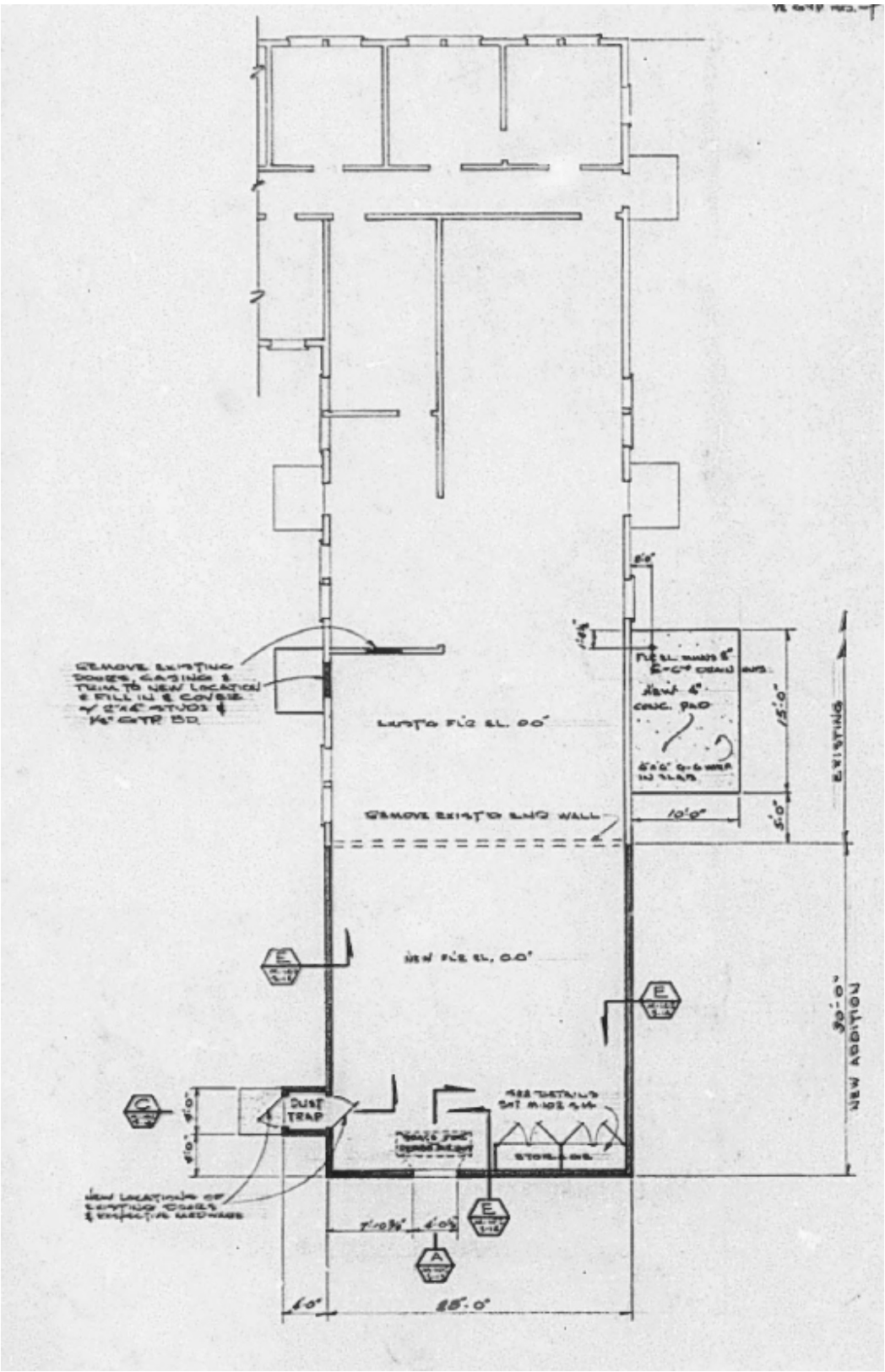
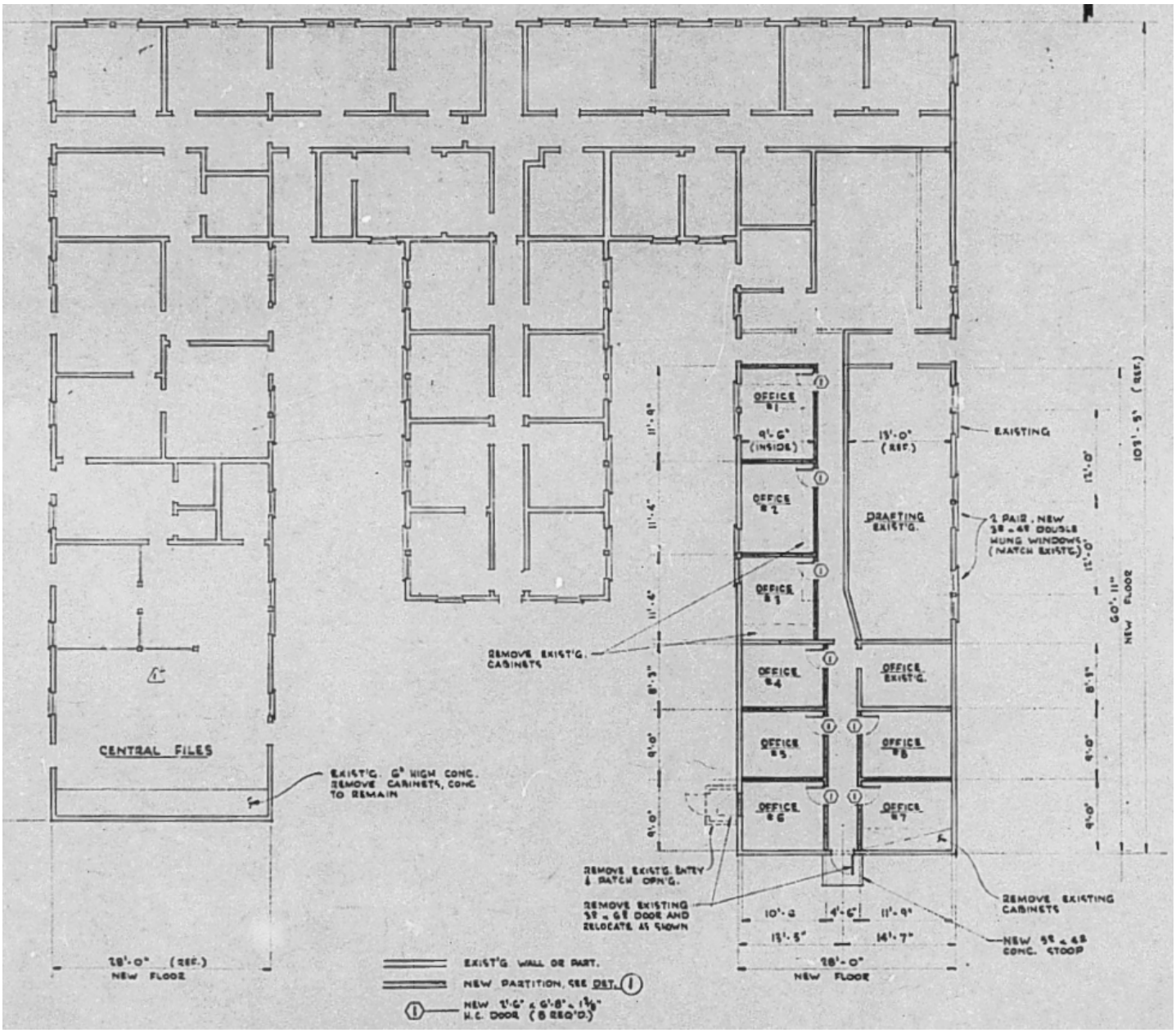
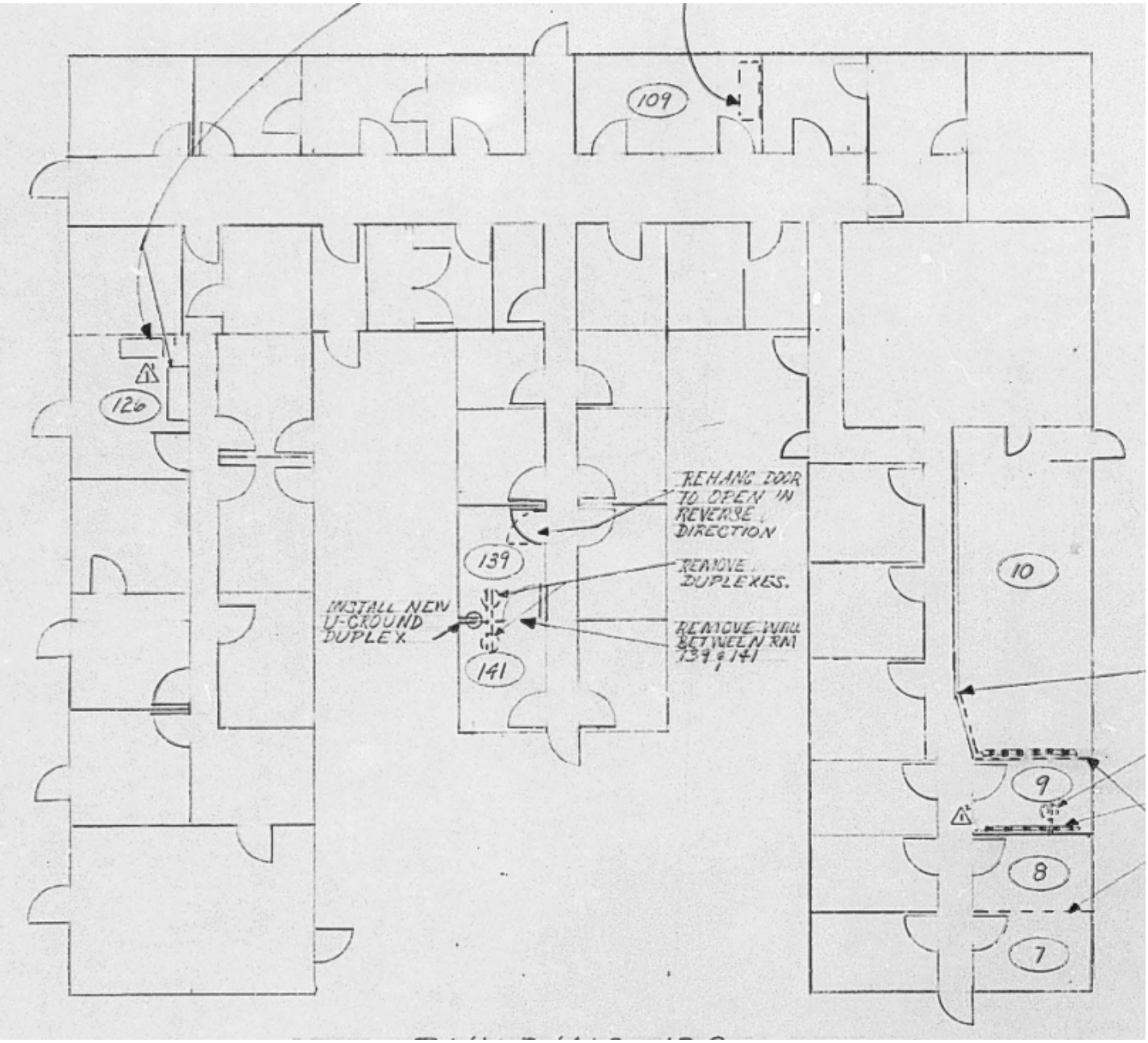


East wing addition (REECo Drawing M-102-S13, 1957).

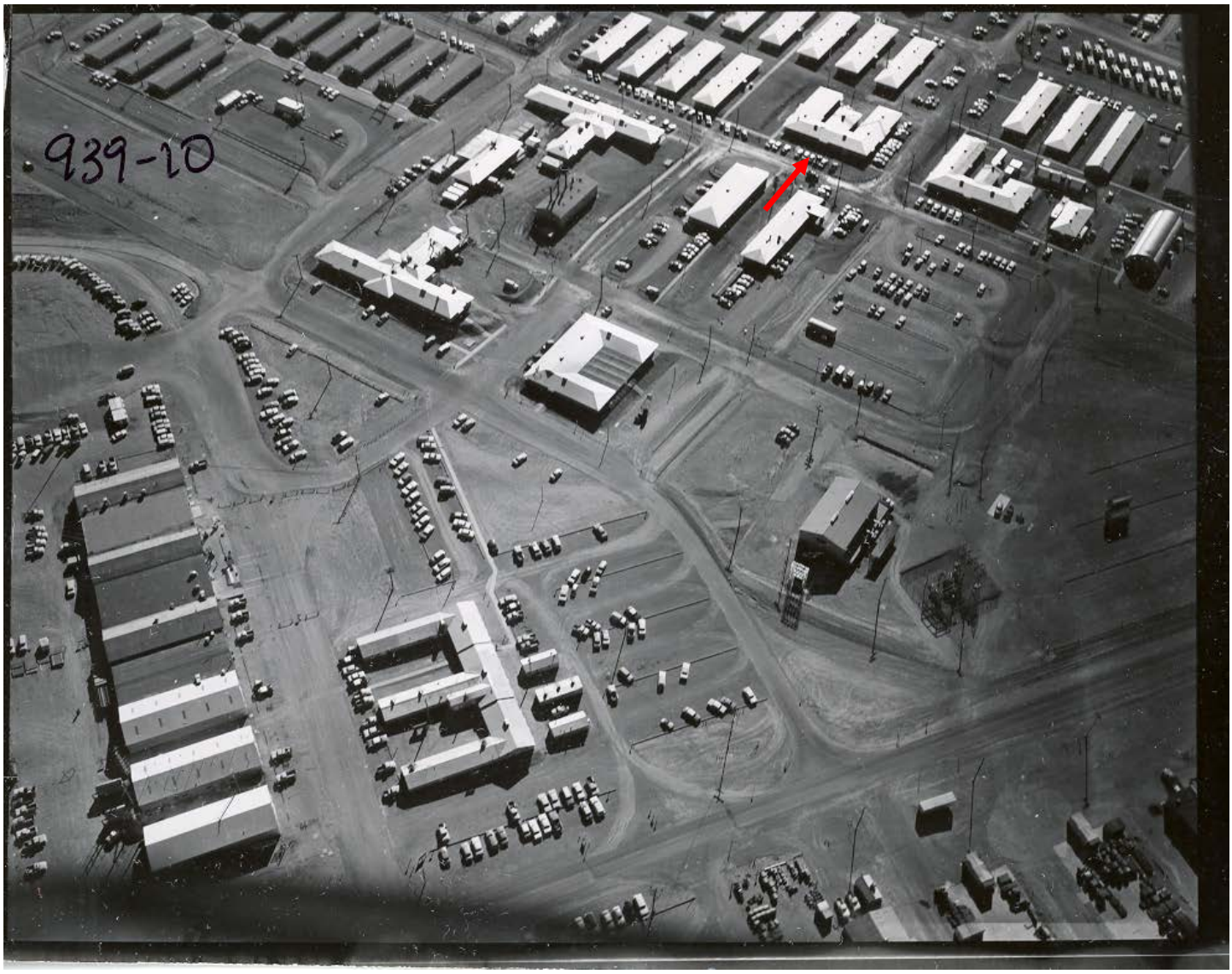


Modifications to office spaces (Holmes and Narver Drawing 023-102-S1.1, 1966).



Cumulative changes to floor plan (REECo Drawing 23-102-75-85067-181D, 1974).

One of the rear entrances, taken 9/6/1962 by REECo photographer.



Aerial view of 23-102 and surrounding facilities, facing SE, taken January 1961 by REECo photographer

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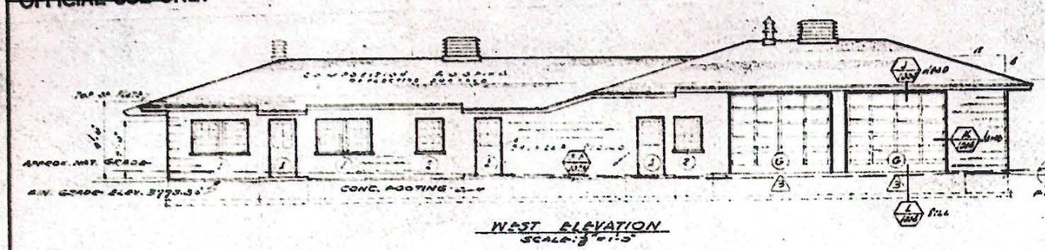
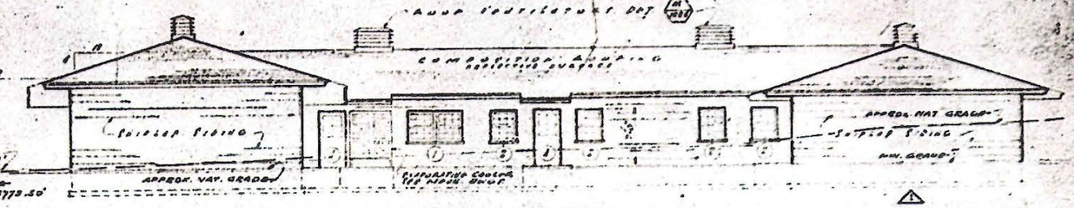
~~OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

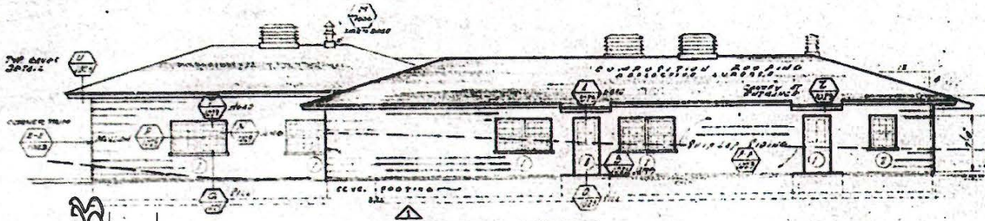
~~OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~



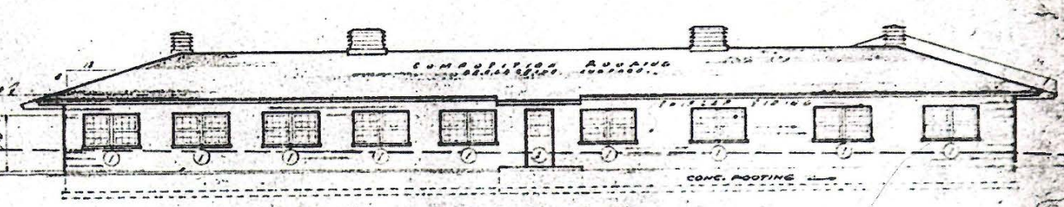
WEST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



NORTH ELEVATION
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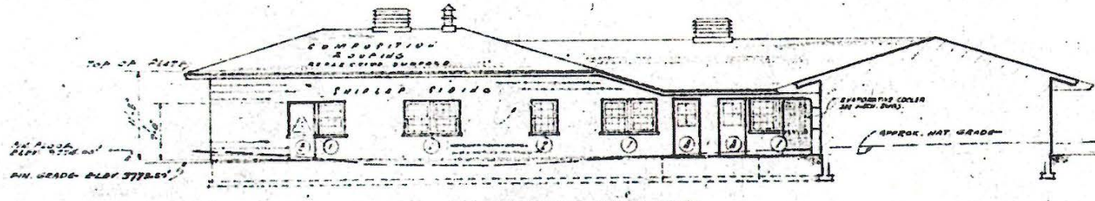
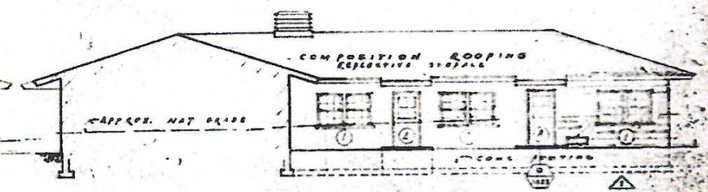
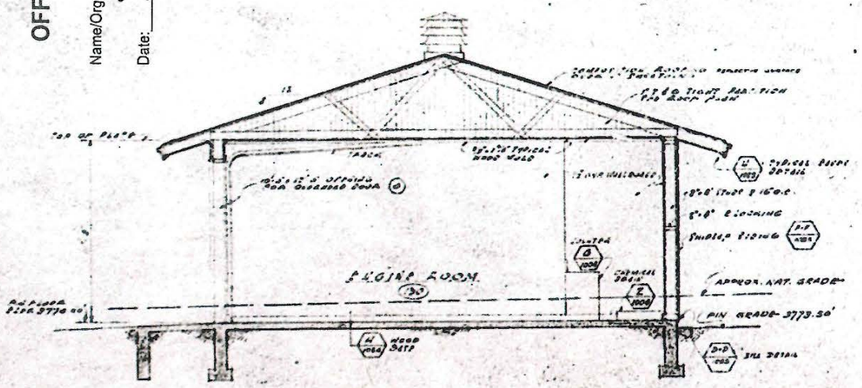


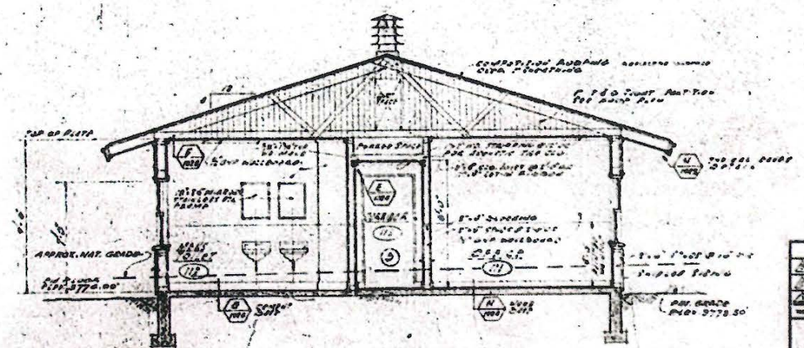
EAST ELEVATION - WEST WING
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



WEST ELEVATION - EAST WING
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



SECTION B-B
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



SECTION A-A
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

INDEX					CODE		
AREA	BLDG or STR.	CLASS	TYPE	ABC	SHT. NO.	SUFFX.
23	101	12	23	001	A-3	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.
1	7-23	CHANGED TITLE TO TYPE B [illegible]		
2	7-23	CHANGED TYPE B TO TYPE A [illegible]		
3	8-31	ADDED INSPECTION, SERVICE AND OPERATING EQUIPMENT [illegible]		

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

ELEVATIONS & SECTIONS
BUILDING NO. 101 02

LOCATION B
ALTERNATE TEST SITE

HOLMES & NARVER
INCORPORATED
ENGINEERS

ATS-J/1002 | 9 | 10

AS BUILT

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DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Pearl MSTS AYB
Date: 30 Aug 2018

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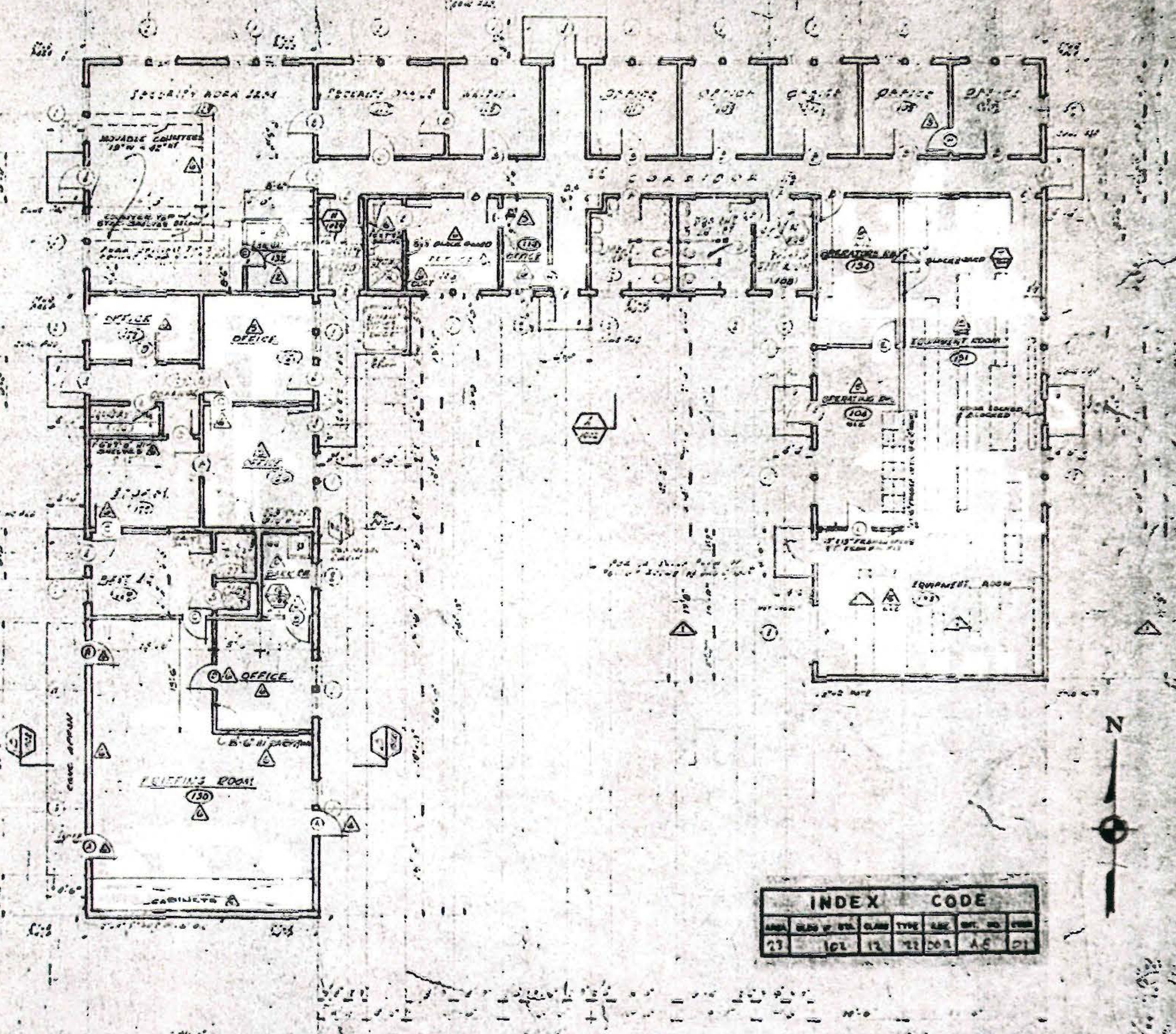
DOES NOT CONTAIN OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Reevil MSTS A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018

INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOM NAME								REMARKS
REMOVED BY OTHERS								
REMOVED BY OTHERS								
REMOVED BY OTHERS								
CORRIDOR								
OFFICE (REV N.I.C.)								
LAMINATING ROOM	132					P PP	PPPP	
SECURITY OFFICE (NIC)	133					P PP	PPPP	
OPERATIONS ROOM (NIC)	134					P PP	PPPP	

DOOR SCHEDULE

WINDOW SCHEDULE



INDEX CODE

FLOOR PLAN

[redacted]

GENERAL NOTES

AS BUILT

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR PLAN & SCHEDULES
BUILDING NO. 102

LOCATION B
ALTERNATE TEST SITE

HOLMES & NARVER
ENGINEERS

ATS-J/1001

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[redacted]

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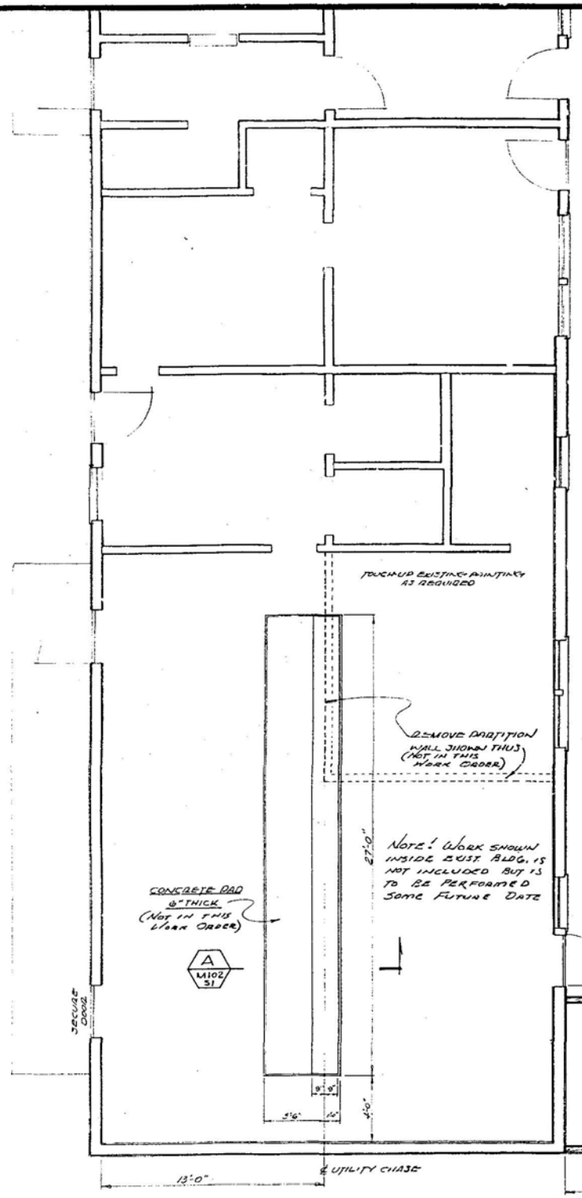
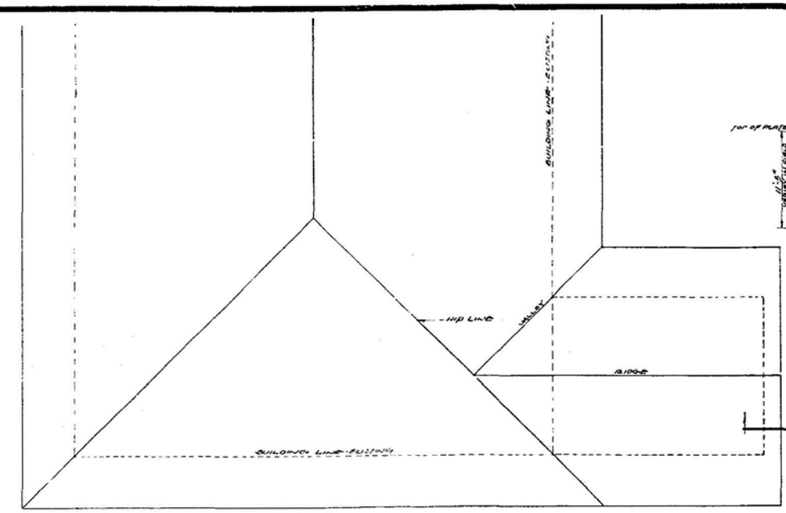
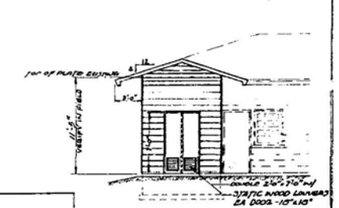


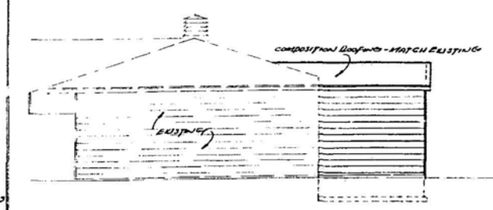
FLOOR PLAN
WEST WING - BUILDING 102
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



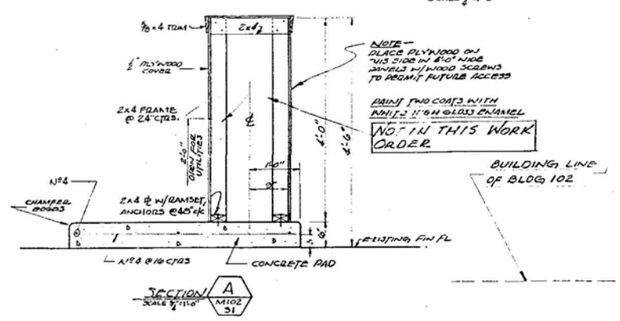
ROOF PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



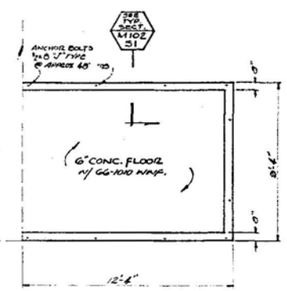
EAST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



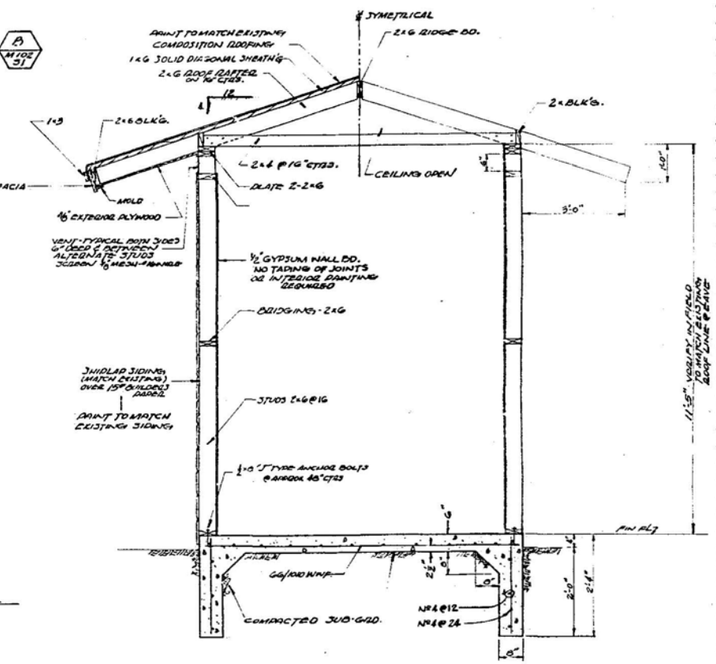
SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION A M102 31
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



EQUIPMENT ROOM - FOUNDATION PLAN
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



TYPICAL TRANSVERSE SECTION
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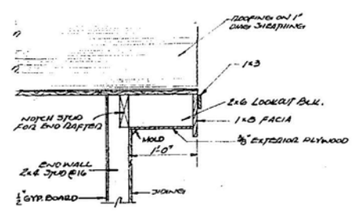

SECTION B M102 31
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

NEW EQUIPMENT ROOM

NOTE:
ALL CONCRETE SHALL HAVE 3000 PSI COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH AFTER 28 DAYS

DOOR HARDWARE

LATCH - ACTIVE DOOR: CYLINDRICAL, OUTSIDE KNOB ALWAYS FIXED, INSIDE ALWAYS FREE, LATCH DIRECTED FROM OUTSIDE BY KEY ONLY, NO KEY SHALL BE PART OF MASTER KEY SYSTEM USED ON ADJACENT BUILDINGS. FOLLOWING VENDORS LATCHES OR EQUAL MAY BE USED: SCHLAGE D80PD, LOCKWOOD 154, RUSSWIN 452, CORBIN 457.

HINGES - FULL MORTISE, REGULAR WEIGHT, LOOSE PIN BUTT, NON-REMOVABLE, BUTTON TIP, SATIN COATED, SIZE 3x3, THREE PER DOOR. PINS TO BE NON-REMOVABLE. FOLLOWING VENDORS OR EQUAL MAY BE USED: STANLEY 226, HAGER 1245, NATIONAL A03-027, McKINNEY T4A-3386, LAWRENCE 2850.

LATCH - INACTIVE DOOR: SURFACE CHAIN BOLT AT TOP, SURFACE FOOT BOLT AT BOTTOM, CAST IRON OR PRESSED STEEL, 6 INCH BOLT. FOLLOWING VENDORS OR EQUAL MAY BE USED: RUSSWIN F-7081, McKINNEY 1960-J, CORBIN 12120, STANLEY 1055-J.

INDEX CODE						
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	ABC	SHT NO	USER
23	102	12	32	003	S 1	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	CHIEF ENGR.	A.E.C. APP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

MERCURY CAMOSITE

BUILDING 102
MODIFICATIONS & WASHATERIA ADDITION

PLANS — SECTIONS — ELEVATIONS

DRAWN BY: R.E. EADS
CHECKED BY:
DEPT. ENGR.:
SCALE: NOTED
DATE: 5-3-56

SUBMITTED: CHIEF ENGR. — APPROVED: AGENCY — RECOMMENDED: A.E.C. — APPROVED: A.E.C.

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

JOB: NTS — DRAWING NO.: M102-31 — REV.:

DIETZGEN NO. 192M EDVELL

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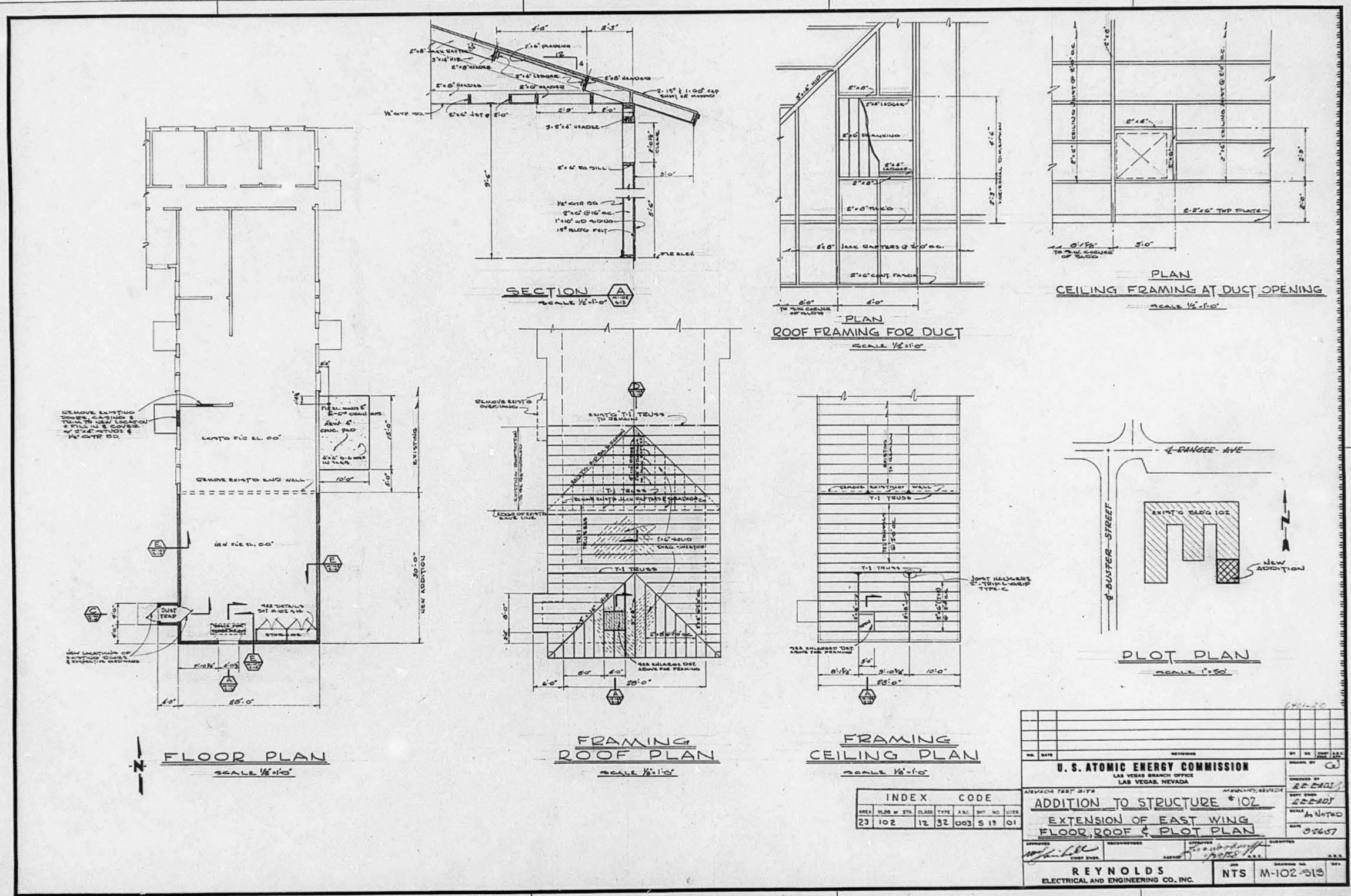
SECTION A
SCALE 1/2"=1'-0"
PLAN
ROOF FRAMING FOR DUCT
SCALE 1/2"=1'-0"
PLAN
CEILING FRAMING AT DUCT OPENING
SCALE 1/2"=1'-0"
FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"
FRAMING
ROOF PLAN
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"
FRAMING
CEILING PLAN
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"
PLOT PLAN
SCALE 1"=50'
RANGER AVE
BUSTER STREET
EXIST'G BLDG 102
NEW ADDITION
REMOVE EXIST'G END WALL
NEW F.L.E. EL. 0.0'
DUST TRAP
STORAGE
NEW ADDITION
EXISTING
EXIST'G T-1 TRUSS TO REMAIN
T-1 TRUSS
REMOVE EXIST'G OVERHANG
EDGE OF EXIST'G EAVE LINE
SEE ENLARGED DET. ABOVE FOR FRAMING
JOIST HANGERS 2"-TRIPLE GRIP TYPE-C
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
NEVADA TEST SITE
MERCURY, NEVADA
ADDITION TO STRUCTURE #102
EXTENSION OF EAST WING
FLOOR, ROOF & PLOT PLAN
REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.
NTS
M-102-513
INDEX CODE
AREA 23
BLDG or STA. 102
CLASS 12
TYPE 32
A.B.C. 003
SHT. NO. 513
USER 01
DRAWN BY
ENGINEER BY
DATE 8-26-57

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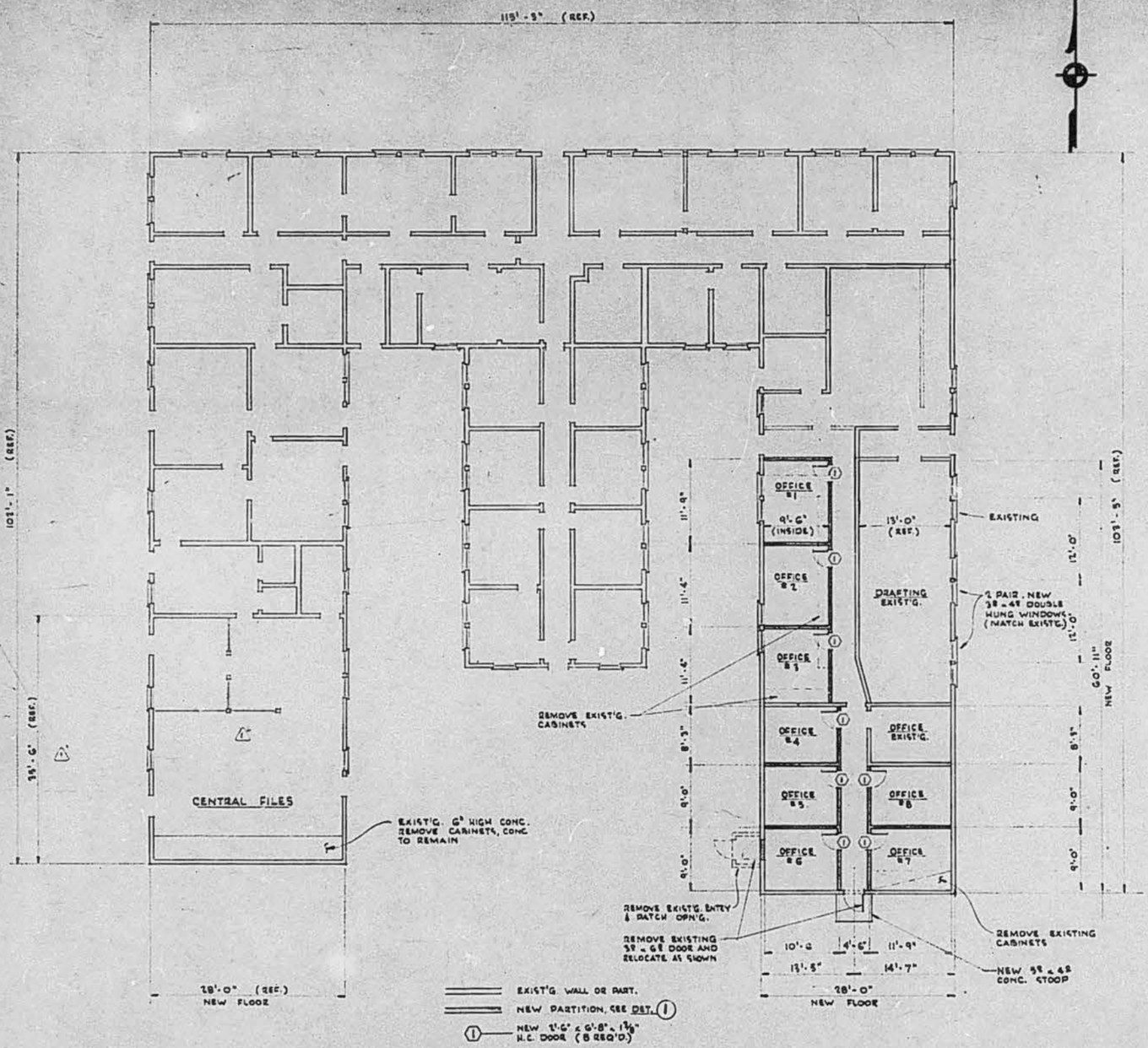
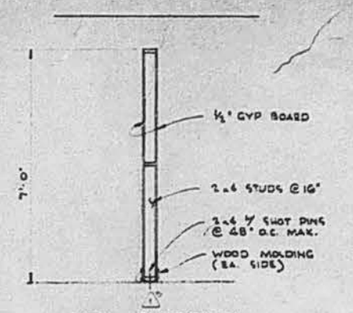


FLOOR PLAN – BLD'G. 102

SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"



NEW PARTITION

DETAIL 1

SCALE : 1 1/2" = 1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES :

1. PATCH ASPHALT TILE AS REQ'D IN CENTRAL FILE & "NEW OFFICE" AREA.
2. PAINT INTERIOR OF NEW OFFICES & CENTRAL FILES, PATCH EXISTING WALLS & CEILING WHERE NECESSARY.

REFERENCE DWG'S.

ELECTRICAL
MECHANICAL

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	A.E.	APP.
1	6-8-66	DELETED NEW ASPHALT TILE FLR. IN CENTRAL FILES. REVISED GEN. NOTE 1 & DET. 1	RD	HPC		

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

BUILDING 102 MODIFICATIONS
PLAN & DETAILS

DESIGNED: DRAWN: CHECKED: JRL PROJECT MANAGER: SUBMITTED:

AGENCY APPROVAL: AEC APPROVAL: DATE: 6-8-66

HOLMES & NARVER INC.
ENGINEERS—CONSTRUCTORS
ON-CONTINENT TEST DIVISION LAS VEGAS OFFICE
3030 SOUTH HIGHLAND DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

L.D. NO. 01637

DRAWING NUMBER: 023-102-S1.1

SHEET ___ OF ___

NOT MICROFILM QUALITY

RECORD SEPIA

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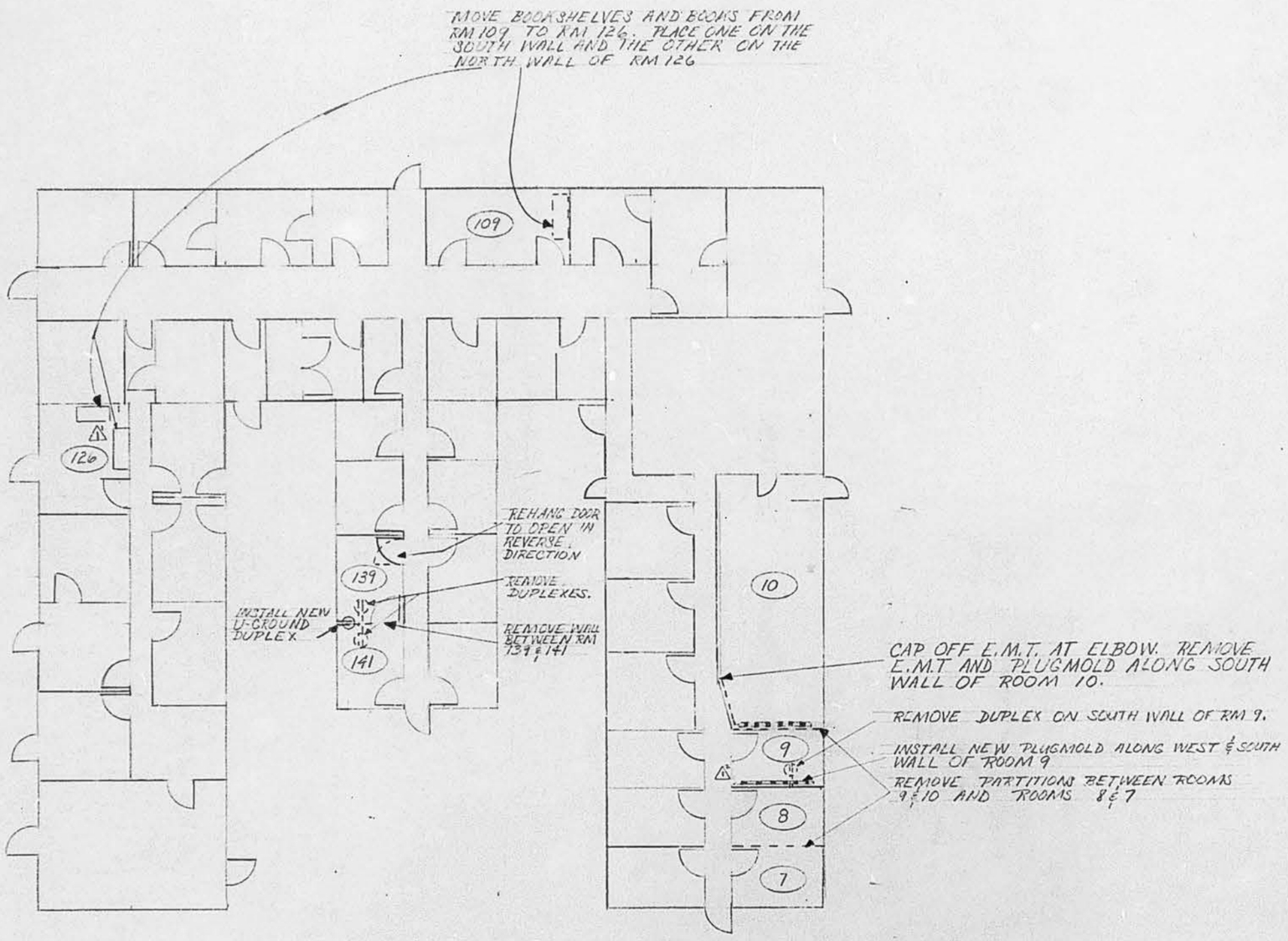
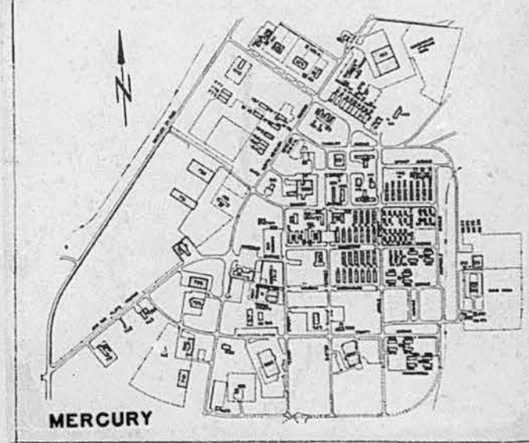


BUILDING 102

LEGEND

- E.M.T.
- E.M.T TO BE REMOVED.
- BOOKSHELF
- BOOKSHELF TO BE REMOVED
- TYPICAL PLUGMOLD
- PLUGMOLD TO BE REMOVED
- DUPLEX TO BE REMOVED
- TYPICAL U-GROUND DUPLEX



AS BUILT

06-01-79

H.L. SIEBELES

REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING COMPANY

SITE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

DESIGN BY T.M. COSGROVE

DRAWN BY T.M. COSGROVE

BUILDING 102

REVISED FLOOR PLAN

SCALE

WORK ORDER NO 1092-105-5113-067

DRAWING NO 23-102-75-85067-1RD

DN 85067

DATE NOVEMBER 11 1974

SHEET 1 OF 1

1	5/6/79	As Built Conditions					
NO	DATE	REV.	BY	CK	AP		

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 11, Sandstone – Buster		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589730	Northing: 4057690	
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building has been removed. Only the foundation remains.		

Foundation for Building 23-102, view southwest (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): ca. 1958; post-1997

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Administration Building
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Office
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represented an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary

housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, it, along with the nearby array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is in the northern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Jangle Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. The rest of this block was developed for housing (see aerial photo on page 7). In the 1950s, Ranger Street was the principal administrative center of Mercury.

Building 23-102 was used for administrative offices. Originally it housed field offices for the Security Division along with housing communications equipment. By the 1980s it was used as the administrative office for Fenix & Scisson. In the early 1990s it was used by Raytheon Services, Nevada (RSN) Technical Support and later by the Safety & Health Department (AEC 1951; Holmes and Narver 1986; Raytheon 1992; Bechtel 1997).

This was a 6,575 ft² E-plan wood-framed building with wood v-rustic shiplap siding, moderate-pitch hip roof, and concrete slab foundation. The front section on Ranger was 115x28 ft. The wings were also 28 ft wide. The side wings were 74 ft long and the central wing was 45 ft in length (REECo 1955).

The building was removed sometime after 1997 leaving the foundation slab and a concrete sidewalk.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Bechtel Nevada
1997 Mercury Building Directory. Sketch No. SK-023-97-C169.

Holmes & Narver, Inc. (H&N)
1986 Mercury Nevada Map.

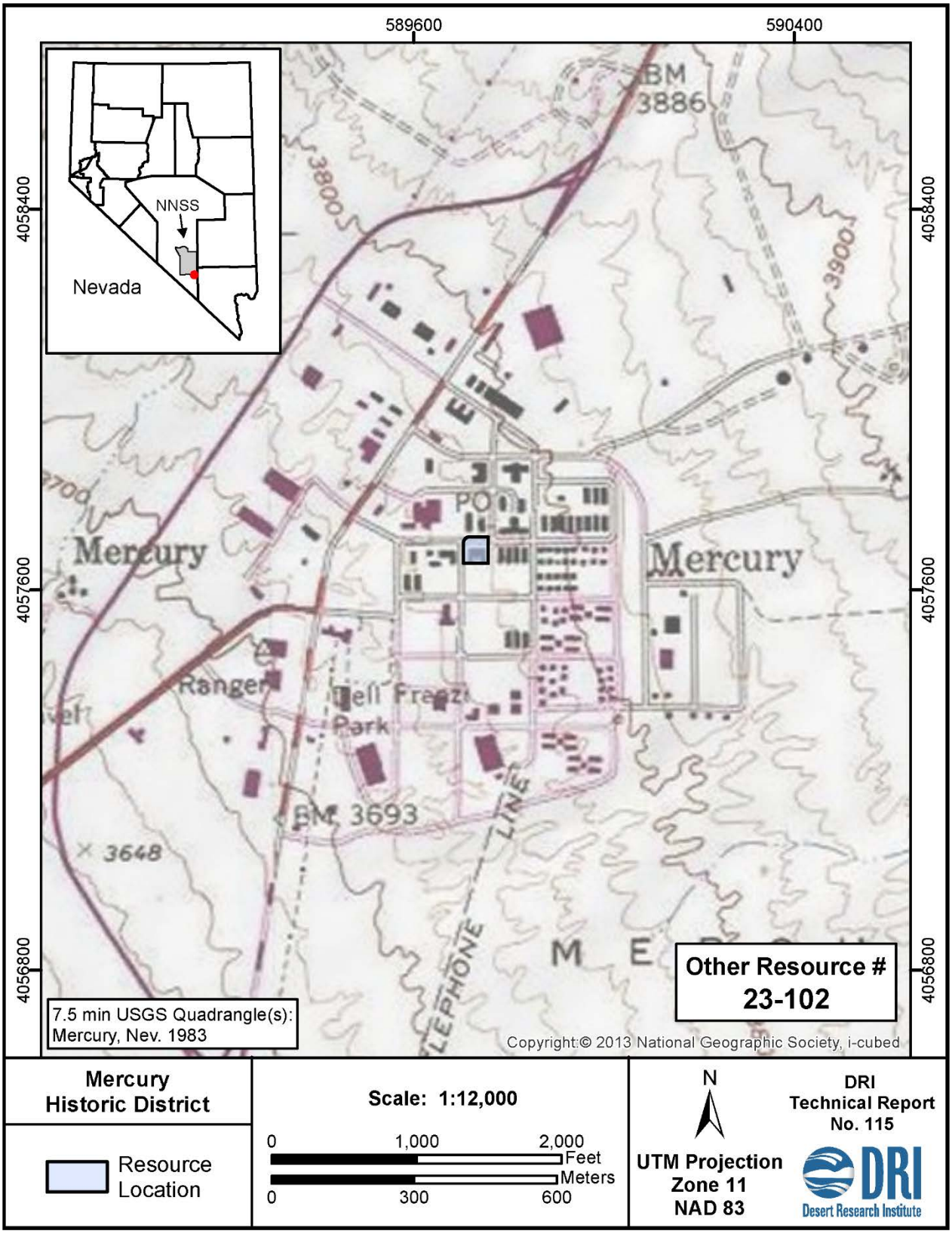
Raytheon Services, Nevada
1992 Area 23 Mercury-Facilities Map. Drawing No. JS-023-002-C2.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1951 Mercury Campsite Layout. Drawing No. N.T.S.-187-C.

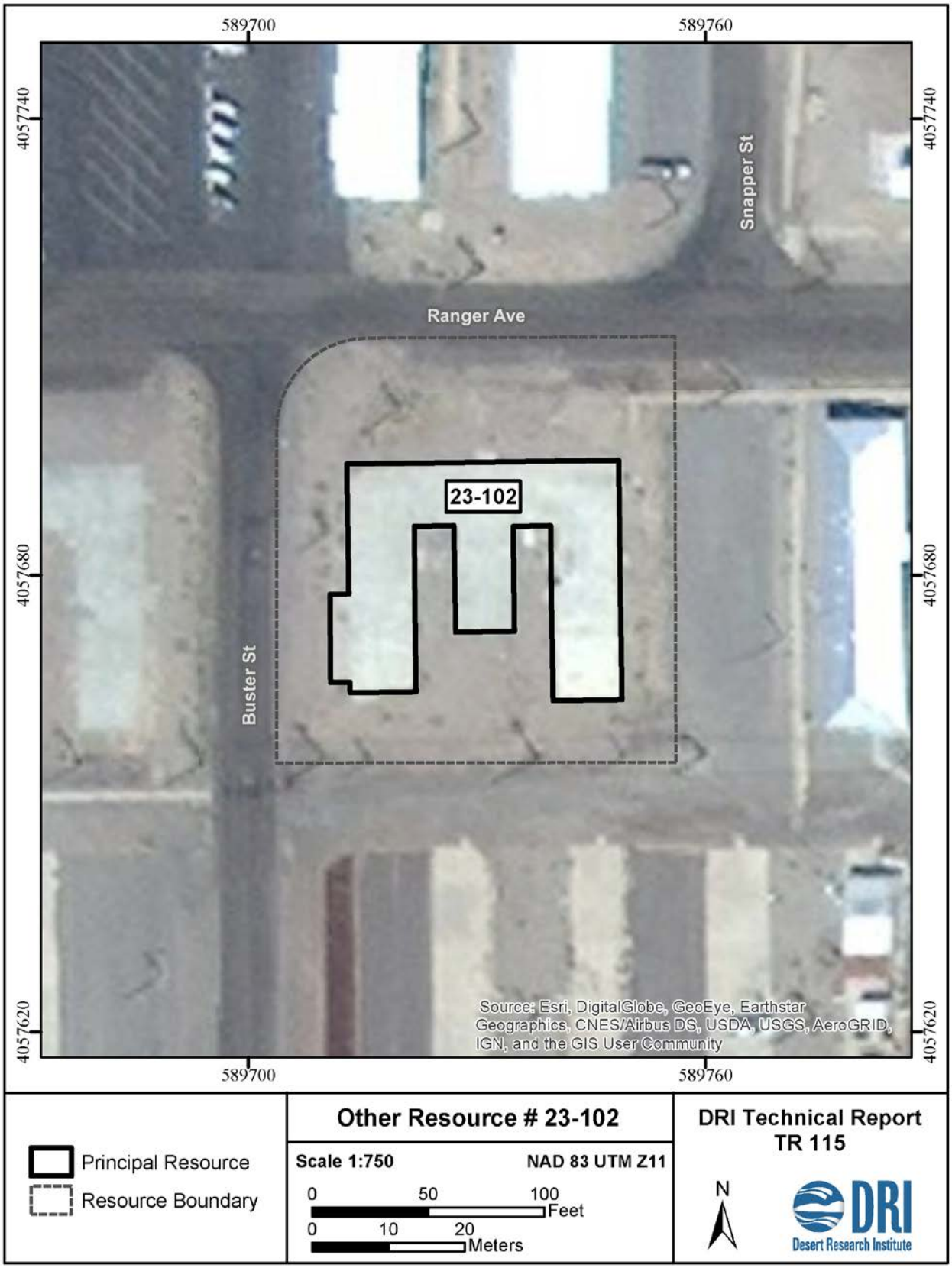
9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.



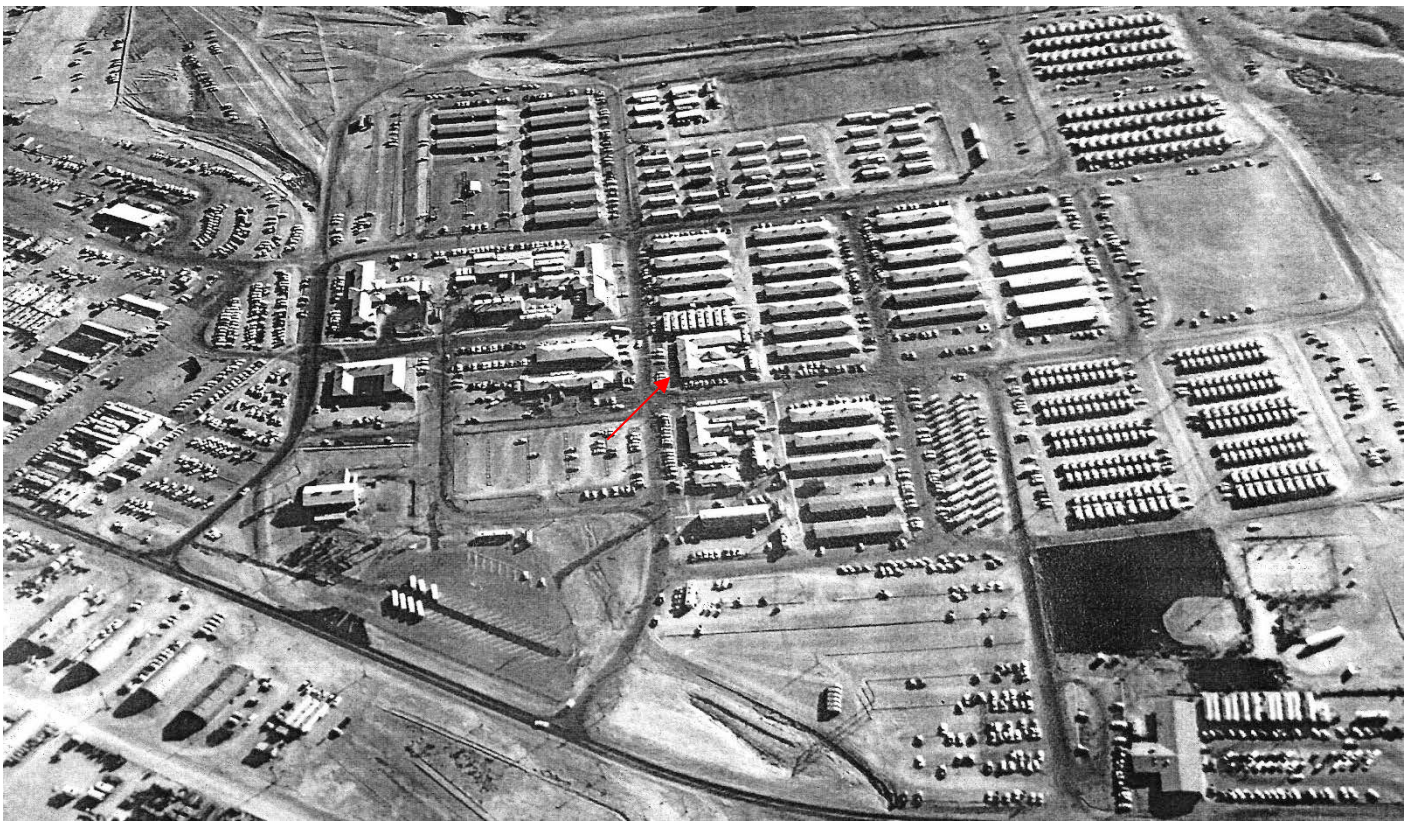
11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Northwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: North-northwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevations: North, West Direction facing: Southeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955



Building 23-102 is at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevations: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C321 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	The 1951 construction date in the NNSS facilities database is incorrect. The 1952 AMS air photo of Mercury (Project 109 Area G, VV-HU-M2 frame 136) shows this area very clearly but there is no evidence that construction of the theater had started. The original detailed plans for its installation (attached) date to August and September 1953, which makes this the likely construction date. As a sufficiently simple project, it is unlikely that construction was delayed until the following year.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	Basic 1950 design of the Type 40 Quonset by the U.S. Navy. Modifications and installation details designed and engineered by the Silas Mason Co., Las Vegas.

Builder/Contractor	The prefabricated metal structure was built by Stran Steel Division, Great Lakes Steel Corporation, Detroit, Michigan. It is not known what company did the installation and modifications.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by its foundation, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

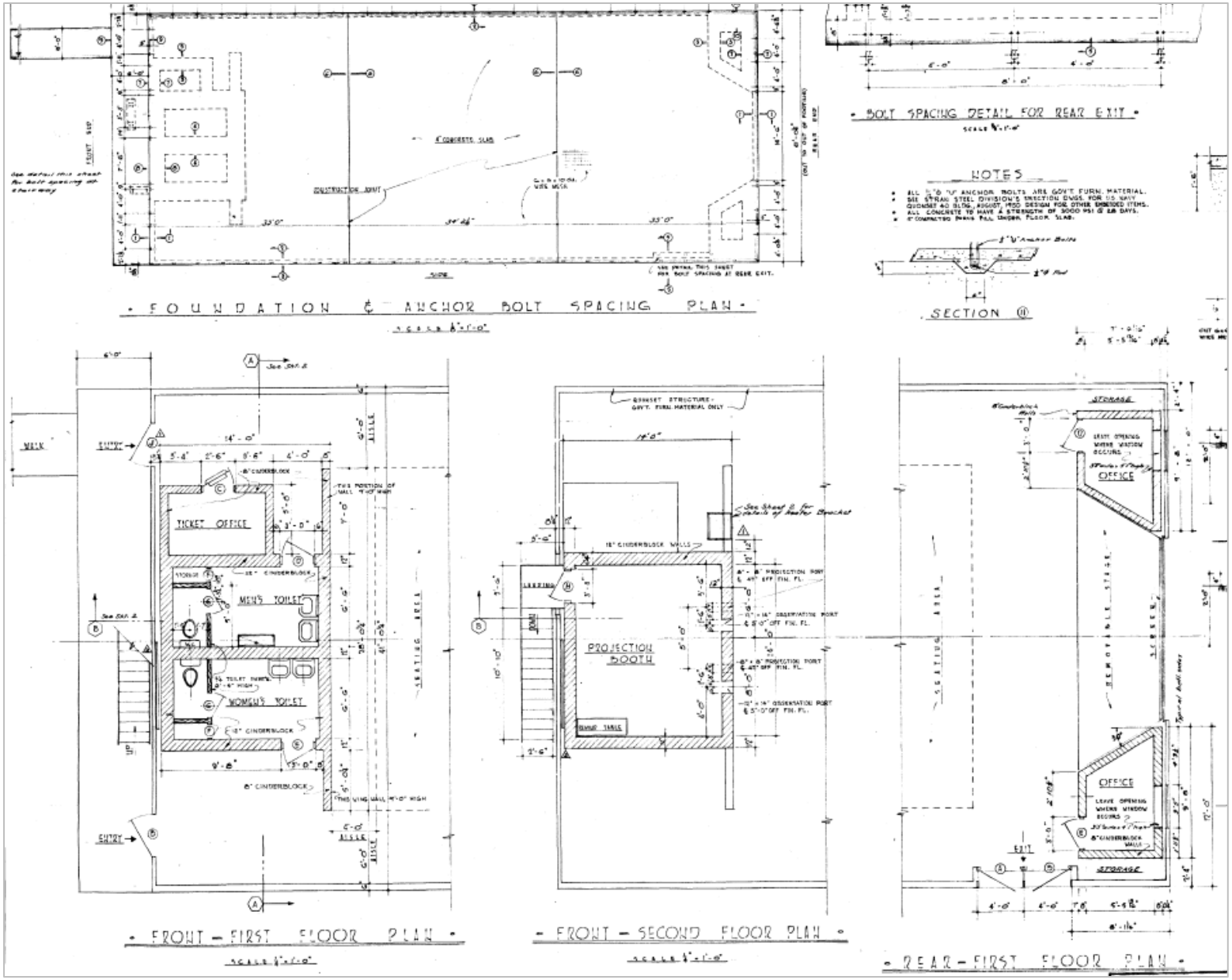
Extensive modifications were required to convert a standard Quonset Hut into the Mercury Theater. The large bay door and two pairs of windows in the front (north) façade were removed and covered with matching metal siding. In their places were two single doors in each corner along with a door to the mezzanine projection room and a steel staircase leading to it. In the rear façade the windows were replaced with single windows and later replaced with doors. The bay door remained, but was permanently sealed. Exterior sides were interrupted only by evaporative coolers and a double door.

Most of the interior was occupied by fixed theater seating with aisles along the walls. A projection screen and stage occupied most of the south wall with small offices and storage rooms on each side. All interior walls were made of CMU. Between the twin entries at the north end of the building were men's and women's restrooms and a ticket office below the projection room.

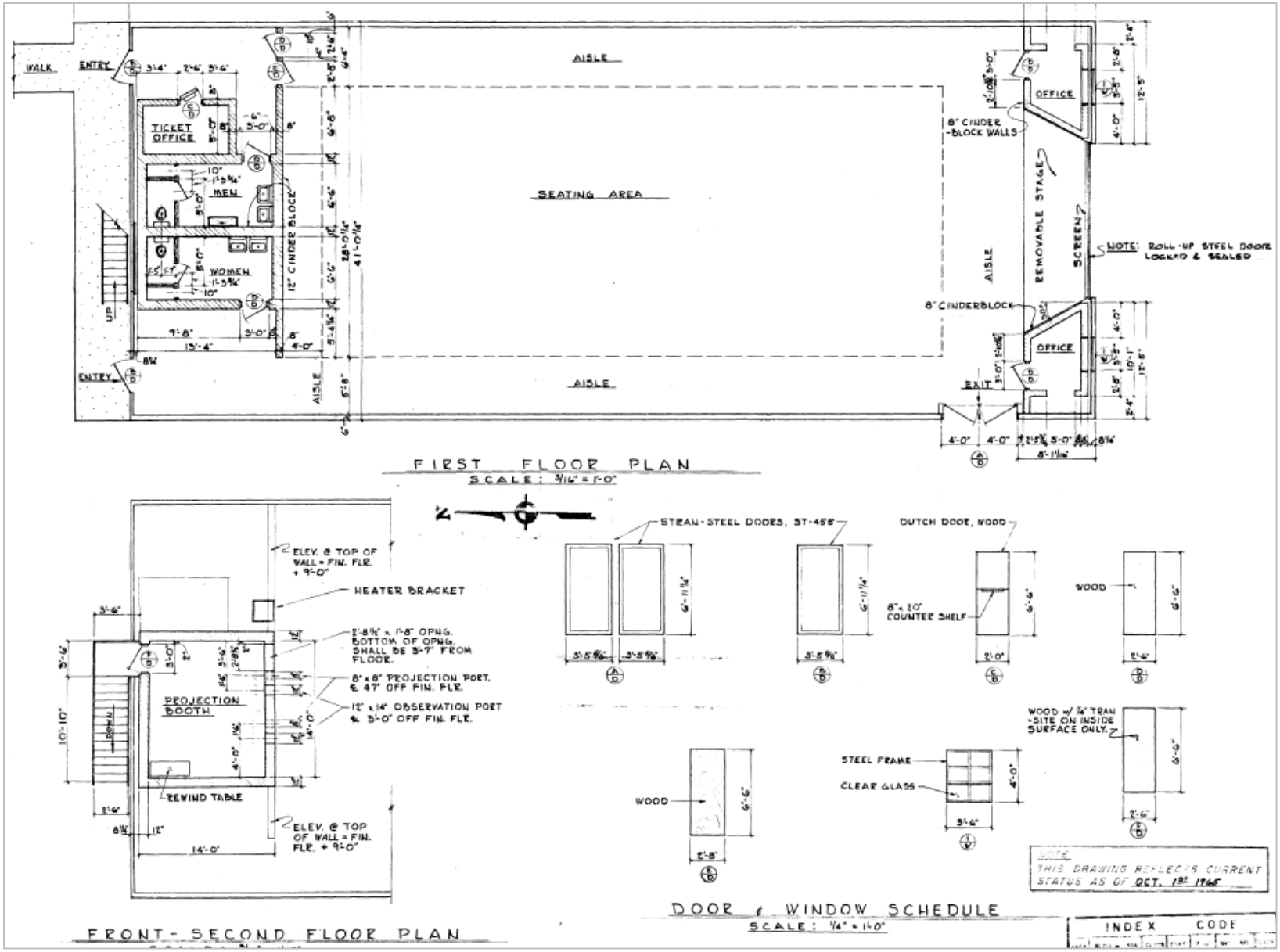
This building remained remarkably unchanged throughout the Cold War years. Ron Reno recalls the interior looking the same in the 1980s as it did in the attached 1950s photo.

9. References

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*



Original plan (Silas Mason Co. Drawing M 125-S1.2, 1953).



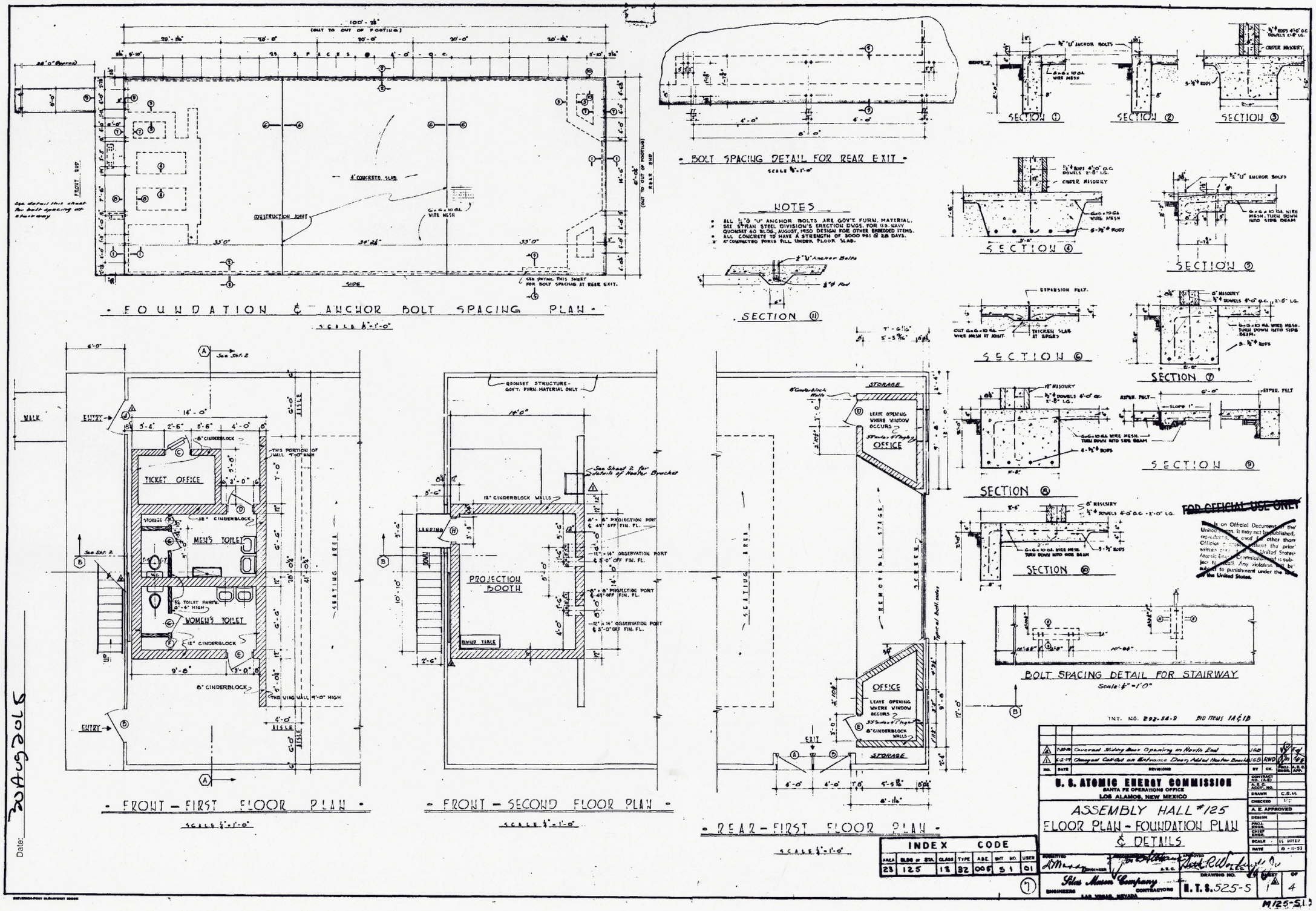
The plan showing the status of the building in 1965 is much clearer and shows no changes since initial installation (Holmes and Narver Drawing JS-023-125-S1).

Principal façade of the theater facing south. The upper door leads to the projection room, taken in 1962 by a REECo photographer. (Photo 1381-12)

The theater interior remained practically unchanged throughout the entire Cold War period (REECo 1955). View is facing south toward the screen and stage.

View of interior of the theater showing the projection room and restroom areas in the background, taken in 1959 or 1960 by a REECo photographer.

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Kerrick MSTSA433
Date: 30 Aug 2016



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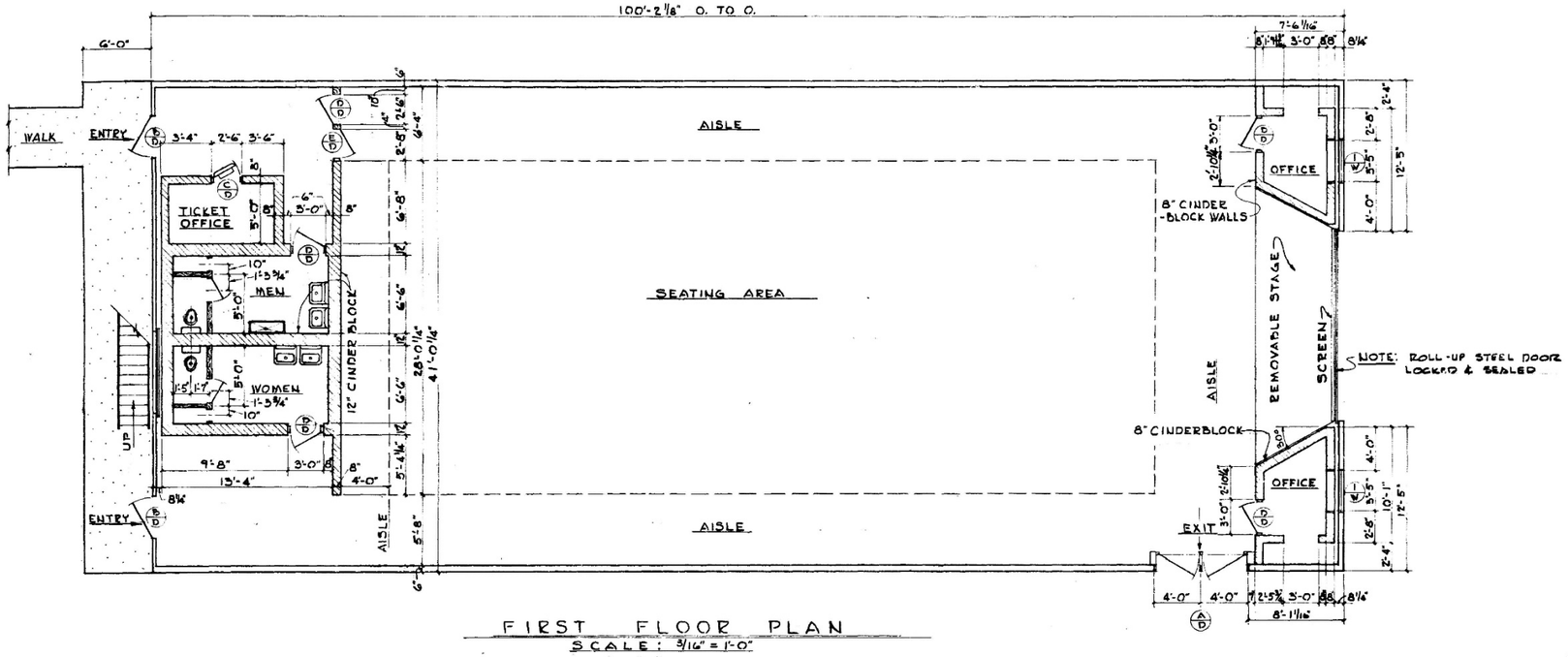
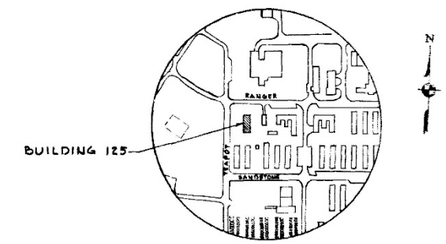
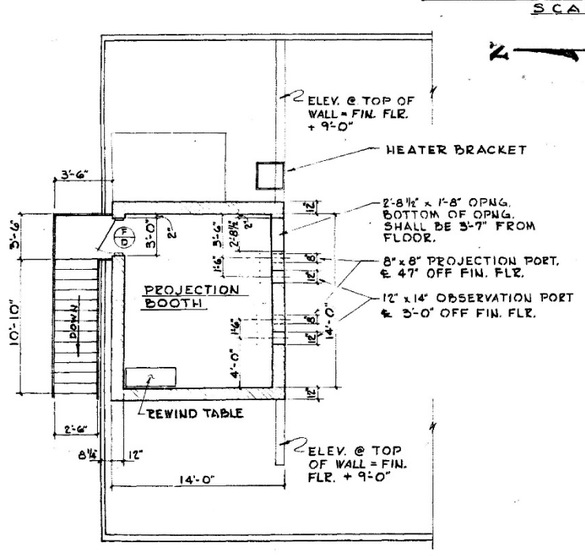


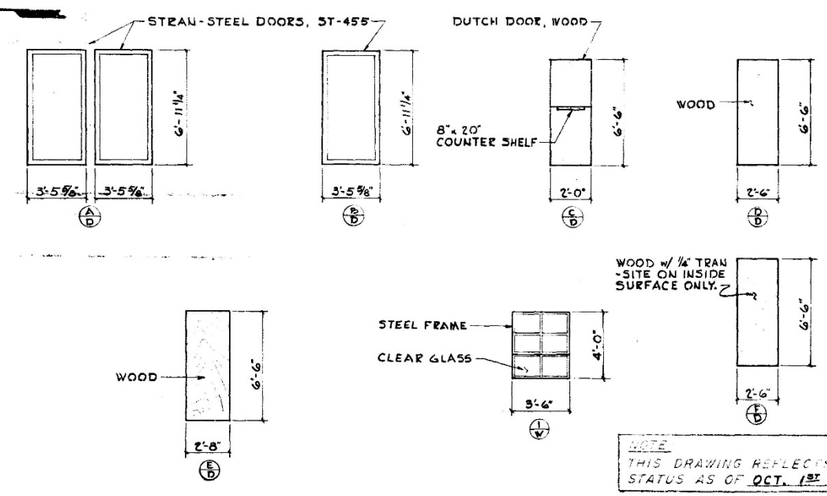
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



VICINITY MAP
NO SCALE



FRONT - SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

REFERENCE DRAWINGS

STRUCTURAL ____ N.T.S. - 5255-1 OF 4 (SILAS MASON)
STRUCTURAL ____ " " 4 OF 4 " "

NOTE
THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF OCT. 1ST 1965

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	A.E.	APP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED:
DRAWN: C P
CHECKED: 12/1/65
PROJECT ENGINEER:
SUBMITTED: HOLMES & NARVER INC.

NEVADA TEST SITE—AREA 23

BUILDING NO. 125
FLOOR PLAN

AGENCY APPROVAL:
AEC APPROVAL:
DATE: 12-8-65

HOLMES & NARVER INC.
ENGINEERS—CONSTRUCTORS
ATOMIC TEST SUPPORT ORGANIZATION, LAS VEGAS OFFICE
3030 SOUTH HIGHLAND DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. D. NO. 01315 COMPOSITE

DRAWING NUMBER JS-023-125-S1

SHEET 1 OF 4

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG.	STA.	CLASS.	TYPE	SEQ.	SHT. NO.	REV.
23	125	13	32	001	51	01	

1/65 DIETERICH-POST CLEARPRINT 1000H

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589602	Northing: 4057680	
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Prefabricated	
Architectural Type	Quonset	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building has been removed. Only the foundation remains.		

Foundation for Building 23-125, view south (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1992

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Mercury Theater
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Theater
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Unknown
Builder/Contractor	Unknown

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a recreational facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represented an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, it, along with the nearby array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is in the northern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions. In the 1950s, Ranger Street was the principal administrative center of Mercury.

This was a rectangular-plan 100x40 ft (4,000 ft²) Quonset Hut with metal framing, corrugated steel ends and roof, and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955). It was constructed in 1951 (AEC 1951). A concrete sidewalk ran along Ranger Avenue.

The building was removed after 1997. Only the concrete slab foundation and sidewalks remain.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

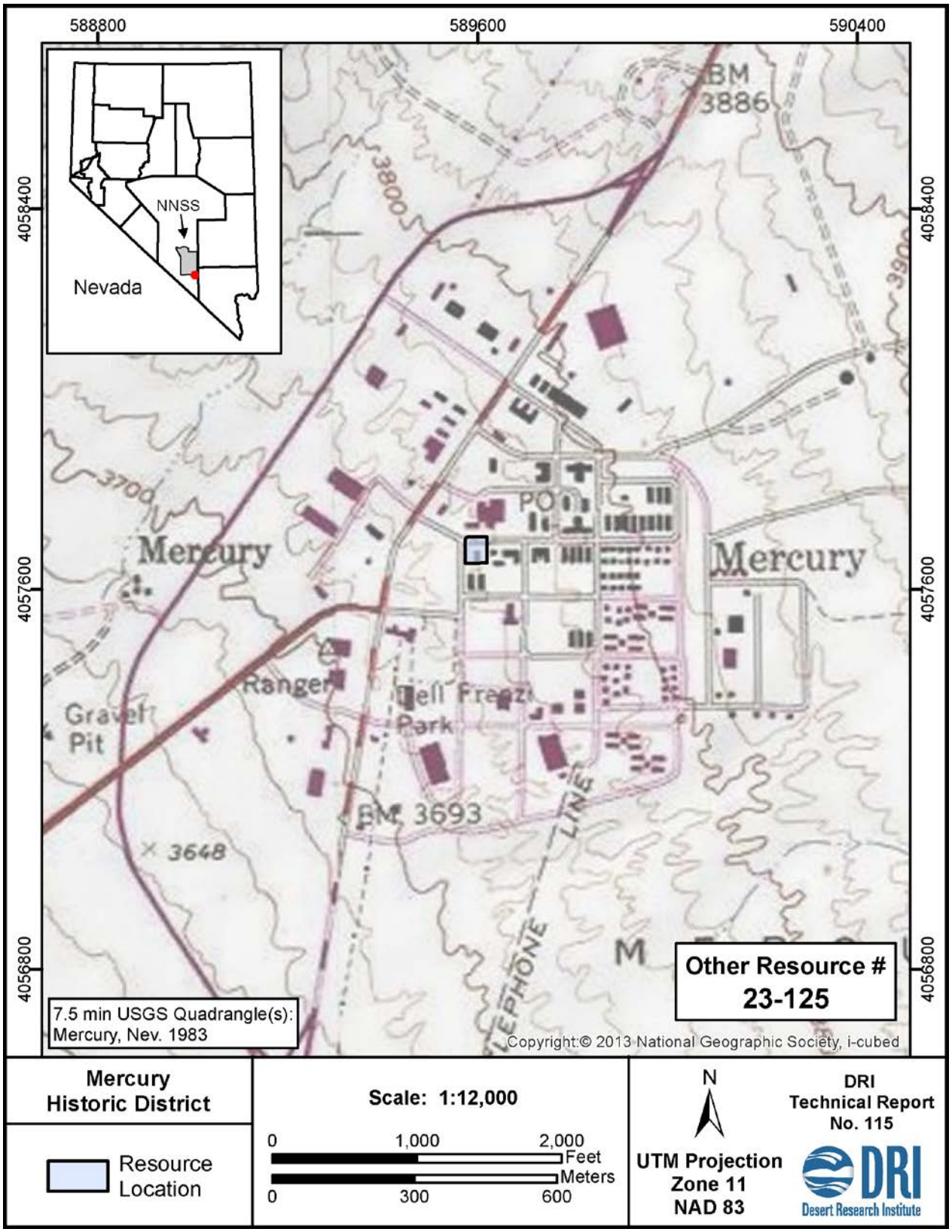
List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.*

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1951 Mercury Campsite Layout. Drawing No. N.T.S.-187-C.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

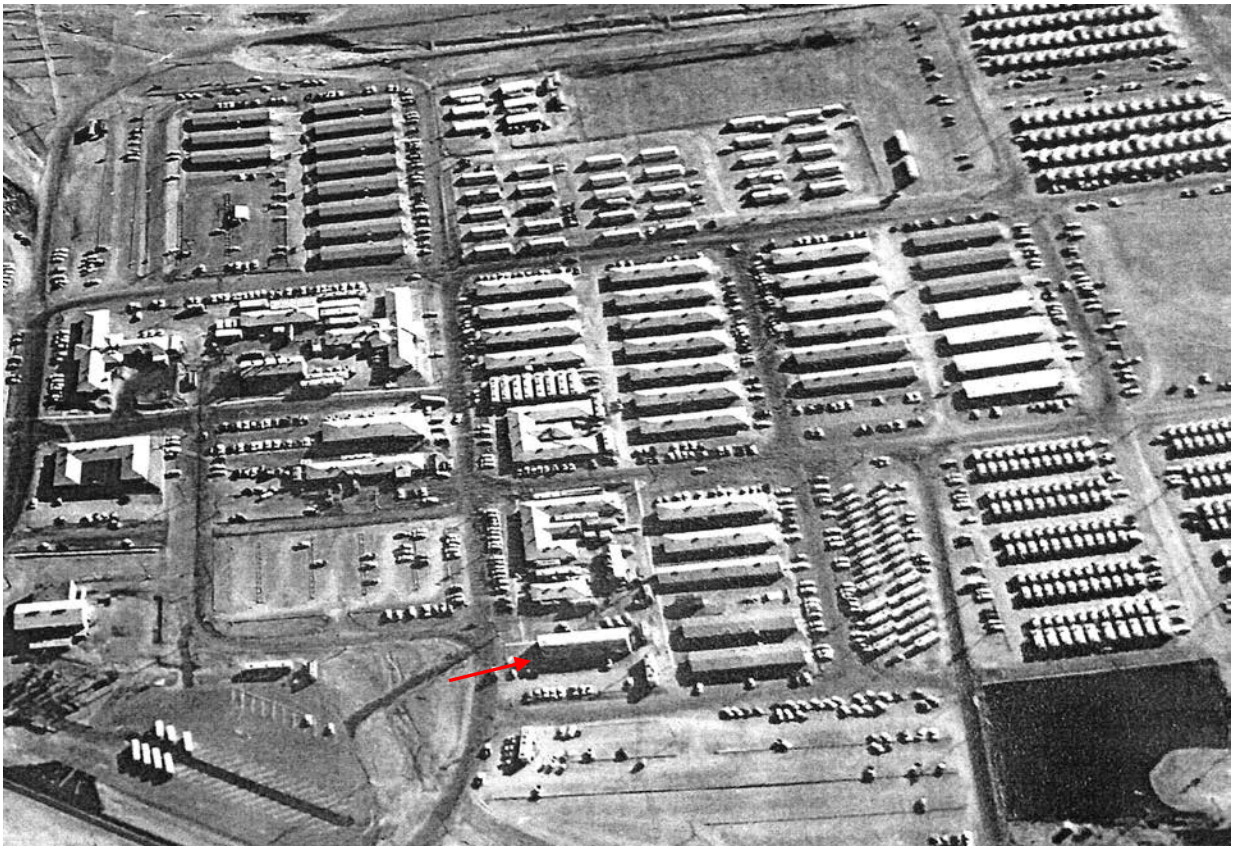
11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: West Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Elevation: North Direction facing: Southeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955



Building 23-125 at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C322 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	The 1951 construction date in the NNSS facilities database is incorrect. The building is not yet present on the 1952 AMS air photo of Mercury (Project 109, Area G, VV-HU-M2 frame 136). The original plans (attached) were completed in May 1954 and it is likely that it was constructed later the same year.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	Mason & Hanger - Silas Mason Co., Las Vegas.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by foundations, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

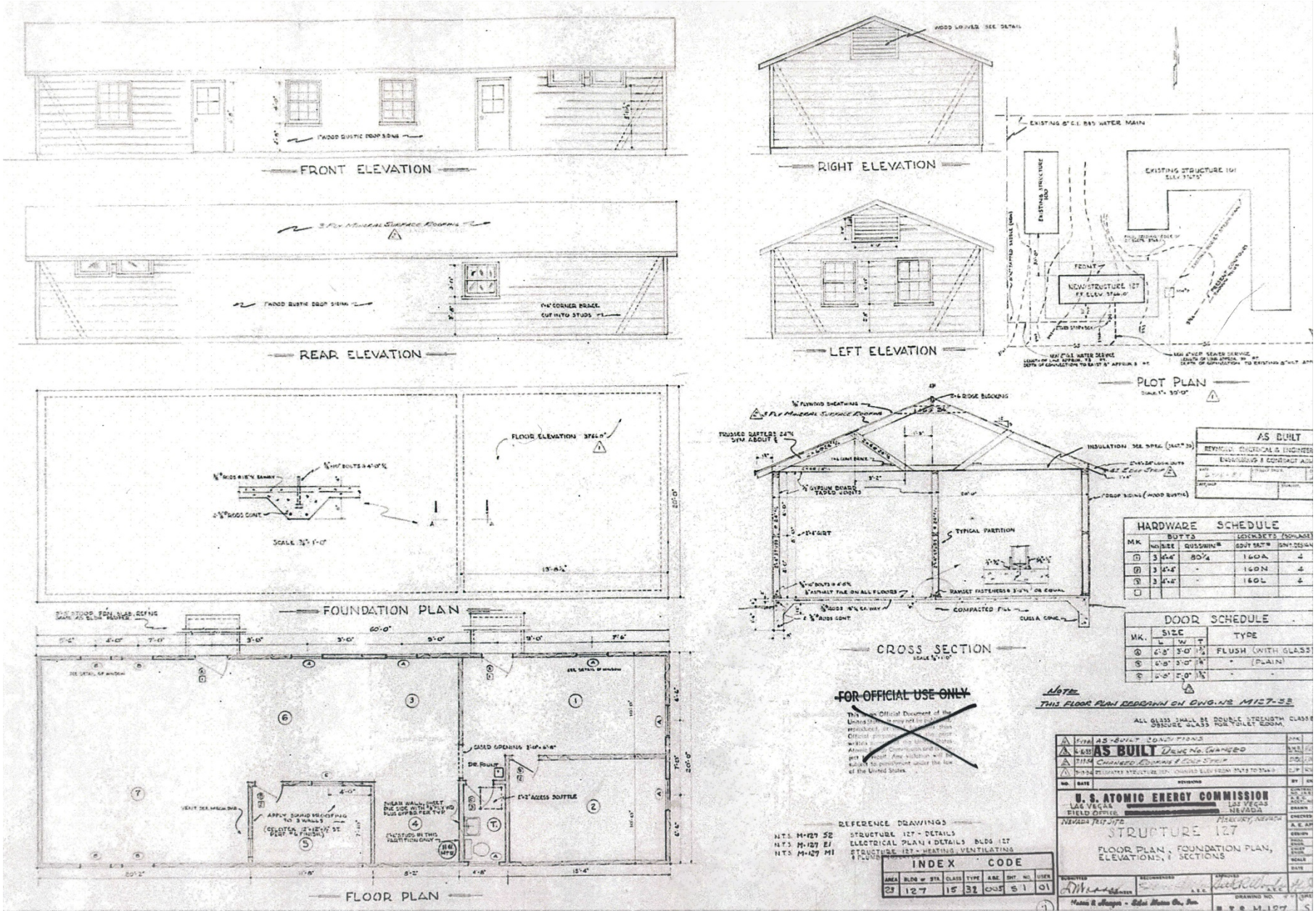
Unlike the earlier surrounding buildings, this one had drop-rustic siding instead of V-rustic. It had twin entries on the north façade facing Ranger Avenue, along with three of the usual 6/6 double-hung windows. Two horizontally-oriented single-light windows were located high in the wall near the northwest corner. Two of these unusual windows were located directly opposite these in the south wall, which had one 6/6 window as well, but was mostly blank. The narrow west wall was blank, and the east wall had two symmetrically-located 6/6 windows. Wood louver vents which followed the roof pitch were in each gable end.

The interior layout was nearly unchanged during the building's use. The open workspace, which comprised about half of the building, is shown in the attached photo. There were also four other rooms and a small restroom. The building lacked entry vestibules or hallways.

A door was placed in the west wall sometime between 1959 and 1965.

Rooftop ventilators and a weather station with wind vane and anemometer were added prior to the 1960s.

Insulated aluminum siding was applied to the exterior between the summer of 1981 when its plans were approved and March 1982 when completion of the improvement is documented as-built (REECo Drawing 23-127-A1, 1981). At the same time rectangular metal louver vents replaced the earlier wooden vents in the gable ends.



Original plan, elevations, and section (Mason & Hanger – Silas Mason Co., Las Vegas Drawing M-127-S1, 1954).

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Left: West wall detail. Right: Roof-mounted weather station.
Both taken in 1965 by a REECo photographer.

Interior view, taken in 1965 by a REECo photographer.

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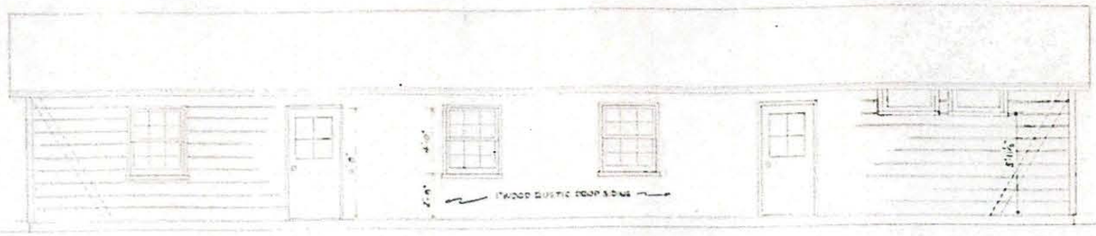
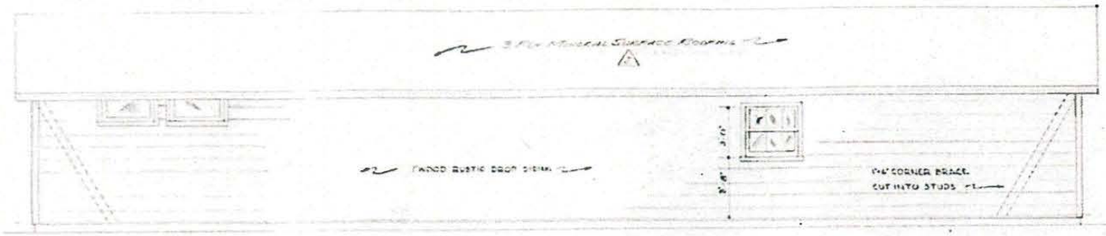
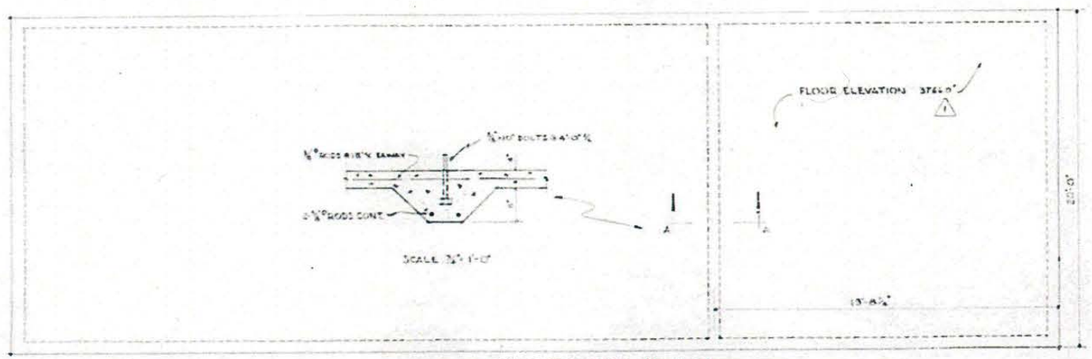
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Final review NSTS A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018



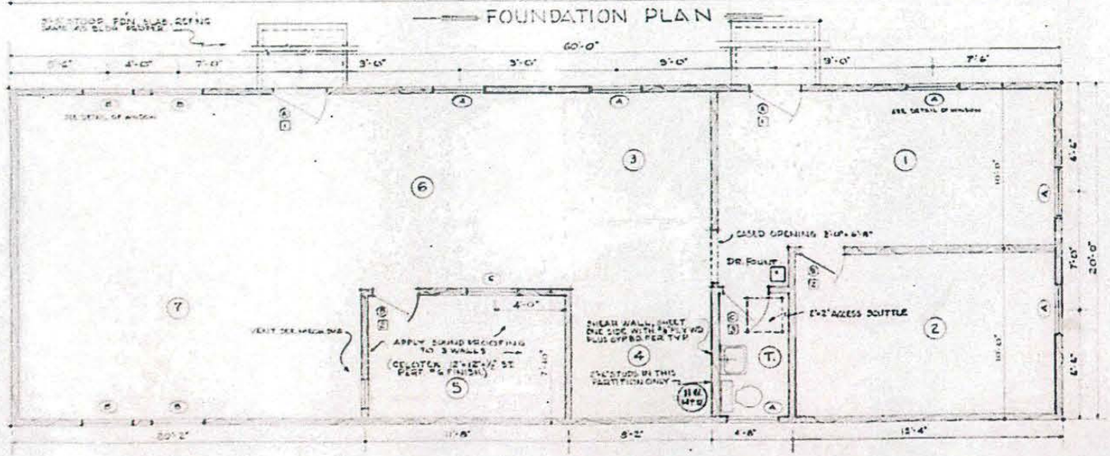
FRONT ELEVATION



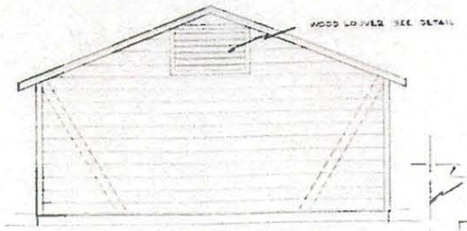
REAR ELEVATION



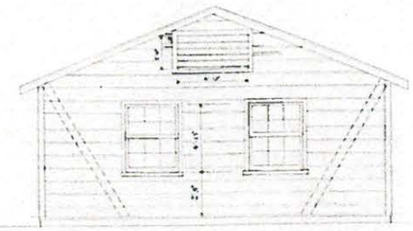
FOUNDATION PLAN



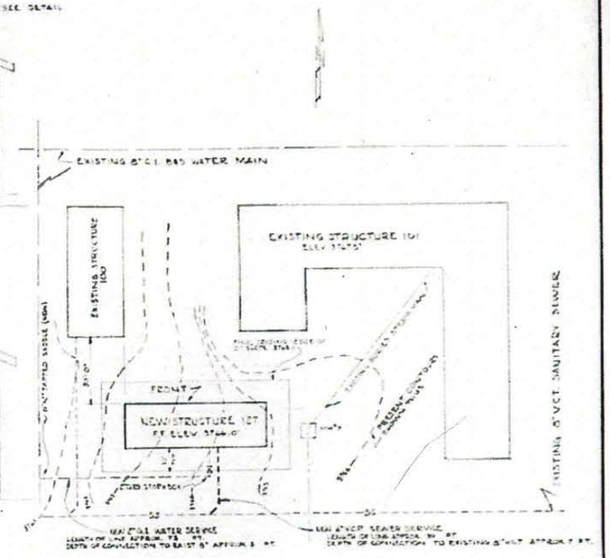
FLOOR PLAN



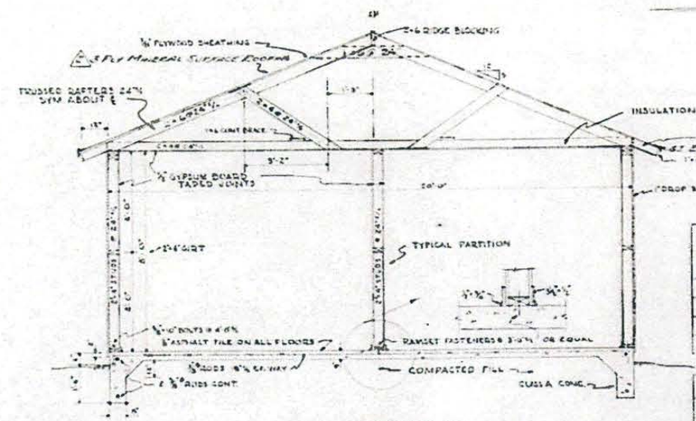
RIGHT ELEVATION



LEFT ELEVATION



PLOT PLAN



CROSS SECTION

AS BUILT	
REYNOLDS, ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO., INC.	
ENGINEERING & CONTRACT ADMIN. DIV.	
DATE	
APPROVED	

HARDWARE SCHEDULE					
MK.	BUTTS			LOCKSETS (SCHLAGE)	
	NO.	SIZE	QUESWING	GOVT SECTION	GOVT DESIGN
①	3	4½"x4½"	80½	160A	4
②	3	4½"x4½"	-	160N	4
③	3	4½"x4½"	-	160L	4
☐					

DOOR SCHEDULE				
MK.	SIZE			TYPE
	L	W	T	
④	6'-8"	3'-0"	1¾"	FLUSH (WITH GLASS)
⑤	6'-8"	3'-0"	1¾"	" (PLAIN)
⑥	6'-8"	5'-0"	1¾"	" "

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NOTE:
THIS FLOOR PLAN REDRAWN ON DWG. No. M127-S2

ALL GLASS SHALL BE DOUBLE STRENGTH CLASS B. OBSCURE GLASS FOR TOILET ROOM.

REFERENCE DRAWINGS

N.T.S. M-127 S2 STRUCTURE 127 - DETAILS
N.T.S. M-127 E1 ELECTRICAL PLAN & DETAILS BLDG 127
N.T.S. M-127 M1 STRUCTURE 127 - HEATING & VENTILATING

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.&E.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	127	15	32	005	S1	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.
4	5-17-54	AS-BUILT CONDITIONS		
3	6-8-53	AS BUILT DWG. No. CHANGED		
2	7-11-54	CHANGED FLOORING & FOUR STEP		
1	9-17-54	DESIGNATE STRUCTURE NO. CHANGED FROM STA. 12 TO STA. 13		

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS FIELD OFFICE — LAS VEGAS NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

STRUCTURE 127

FLOOR PLAN, FOUNDATION PLAN, ELEVATIONS, & SECTIONS

CONTRACT NO.	
A.E.C. ACCT. NO.	
DRAWN	
CHECKED	
A.E.C. APPROVED	
ENG-IN	
ENGR.	
ENGR.	
ENGR.	
SCALE	
DATE	

SUBMITTED: [signature] CONTRACTOR — RECOMMENDED: A.E.C. — APPROVED: [signature] A.E.C.

Morris & Hooper - Edwi Morris Co., Inc.
ENGINEERS — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA — CONTRACTORS

DRAWING NO. N. T. S. M-127 — SHEET S1 OF 4

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589644	Northing: 4057664	
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒		

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building has been removed. Only the foundation remains.		

Foundation for Building 23-127, view west (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1997

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Weather Station
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Weather Station, REECo Shoe Store (1980s)
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

---

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represented an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary buildings with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, it, along with the nearby array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource is in the northern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions. In the 1950s, Ranger Street was the principal administrative center of Mercury.

This was a 60x20 ft (1,200 ft^2) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with wood shiplap siding, moderate-pitch gable roof, and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955). A concrete sidewalk ran along Ranger Avenue. This building housed the U.S. Weather Bureau until it moved into a new building (23-143) in 1987 (Holmes and Narver 1959; AEC 1967). In the 1986 it also housed the REECo safety shoe store (Holmes and Narver 1986).

The building was removed after 1997. Only the concrete foundation remains.

There are no Accessory Resources.

8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

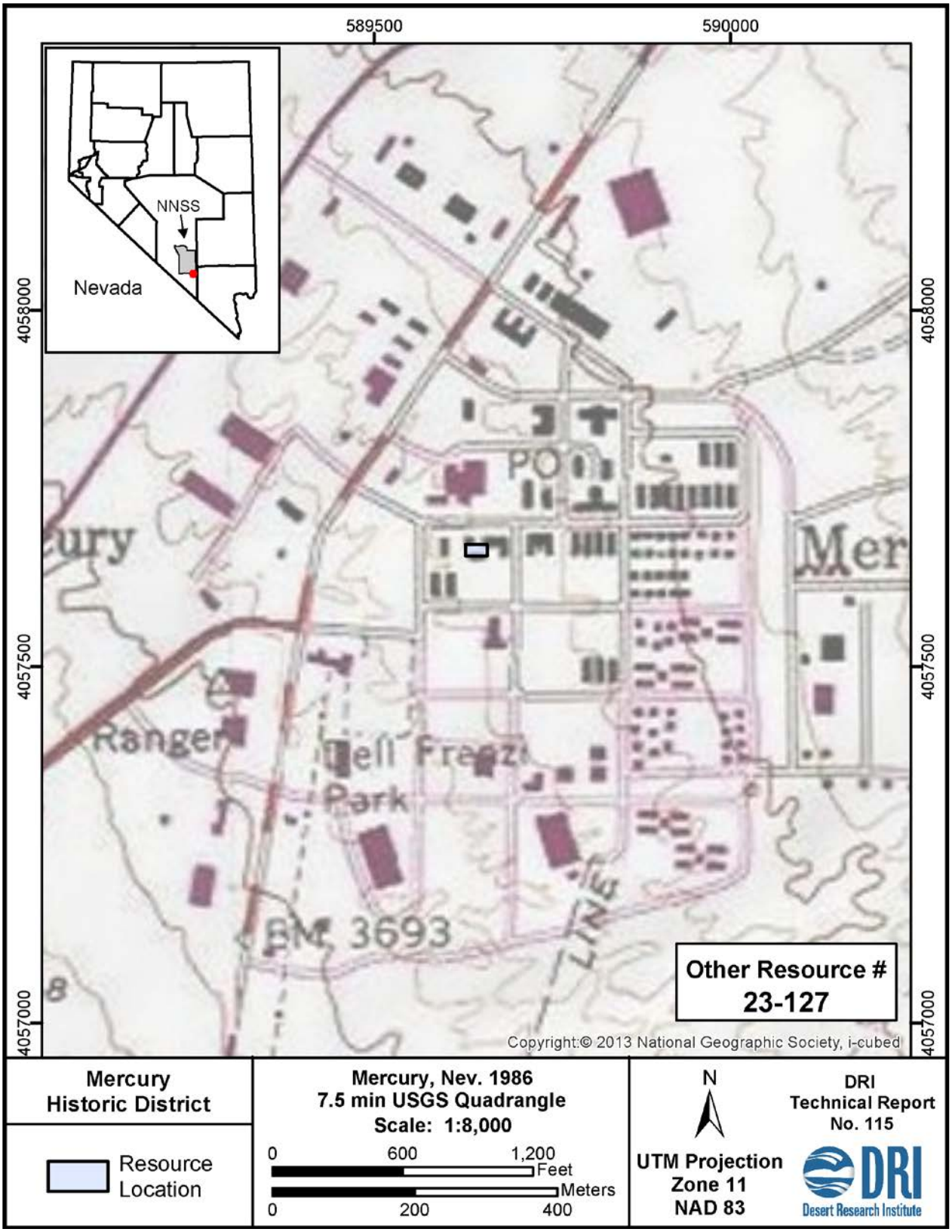
Holmes & Narver, Inc. (H&N)
1959 Plot Plan Mercury Nevada Map. Drawing No. BD-M-P-1.
1986 Mercury Nevada Map.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.*

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1967 Mercury Nevada (As Built Fire Protection Systems) Map.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



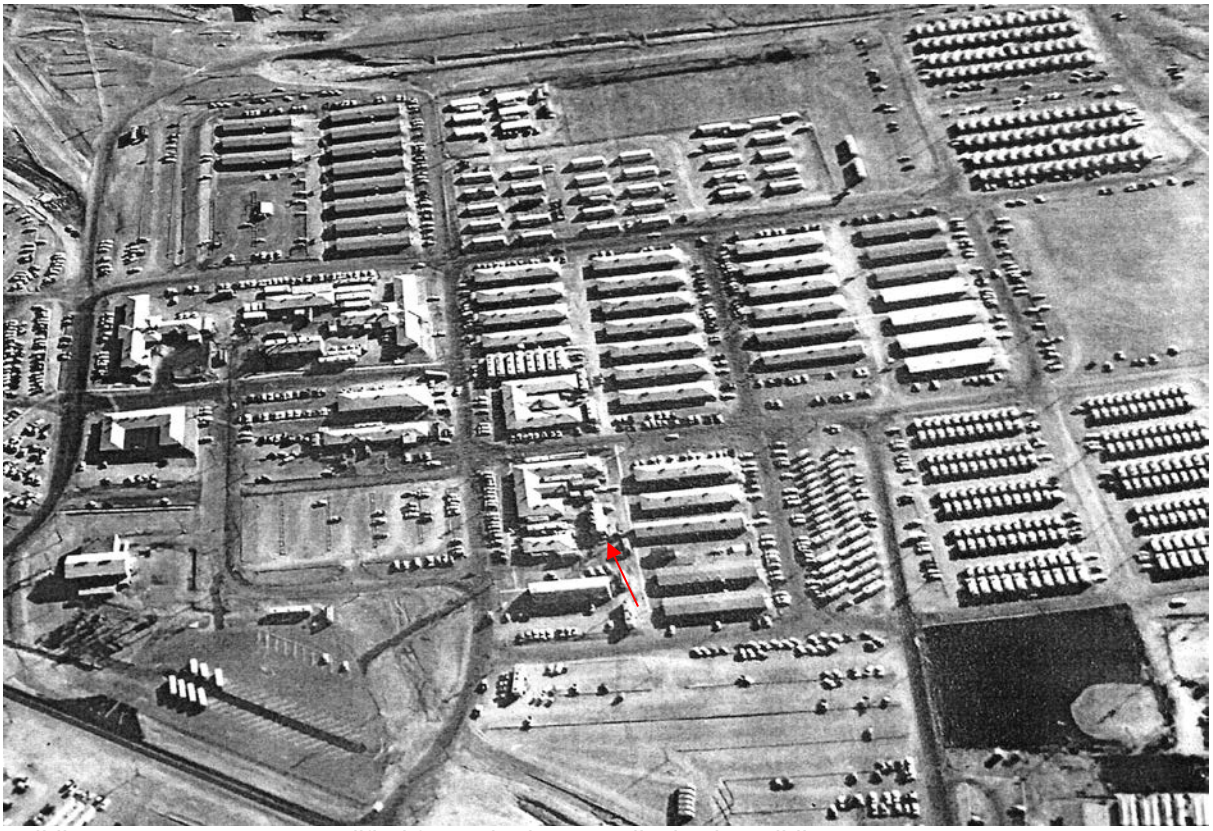
10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing:South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017



Building 23-127 at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Elevation: Unknown Direction facing: Unknown Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C324 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by its foundation, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as this one, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that this building has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this building is minimal and it is not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

This is the first in a series of 17 nearly identical dormitories. Initially they were collectively called Building 114 by Holmes and Narver with an additional letter to distinguish each one, in this case 114a. Soon the 114 was dropped and the buildings were usually referenced by their letters only, but the 114 designation never completely went away and lives on in places such as drawing numbers.

The dormitory was a 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed building with a moderate-pitch hip roof and concrete slab foundation (REECo 1955). A concrete sidewalk runs along Ranger in front of this and the similar dormitory buildings. 23-A was most recently used as an Environmental Restoration office.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows were wood framed with narrow surrounds, which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. Dorm rooms had triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by a 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms had single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

The front (west) entrance was near the center of the long façade. The door had a 2/2 light. It was flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extended from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof formed a hood over the entrance, which had a concrete stoop. Left of the door were three sets of triple windows, and to the right were two more triple window sets.

The rear also had a door near center but lacked sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides of the rear door was a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides at the north and south ends each had entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but later had a reflective coating. It had wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents were on the ridgeline.

The plan was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. Those of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For ventilation the partitions were open near the floor and ceiling.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x23 ft and normally had four occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

In 1965 the northwest room was split in half with a steel partition and one dorm room was clad with drywall. By 1966 the dorm was converted to an office building, but with few internal modifications as shown on the attached plan. Dormitories A through D were all converted to offices, which is the reason they escaped demolition for so long.

Two small partitions were removed in 1981, but a much more extensive remodel was done in 1982 when all of the former dorm rooms were split in half to make a total of 18 small rooms as shown on the attached plan.

According to the available plans, throughout the life of the building it only had a single men's restroom in contrast to the office conversions of Buildings B, C, and D which all added women's restrooms.

9. References

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*

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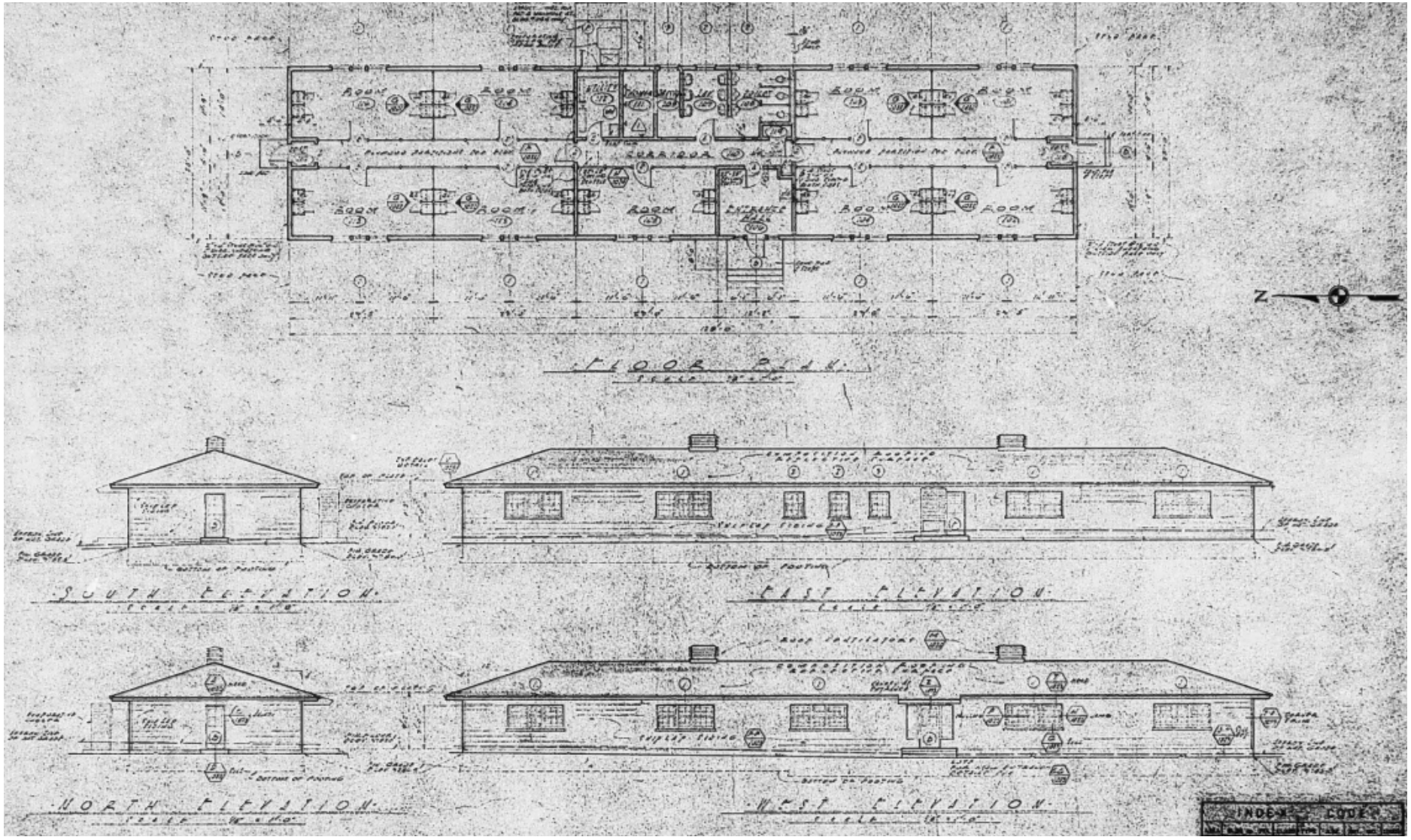
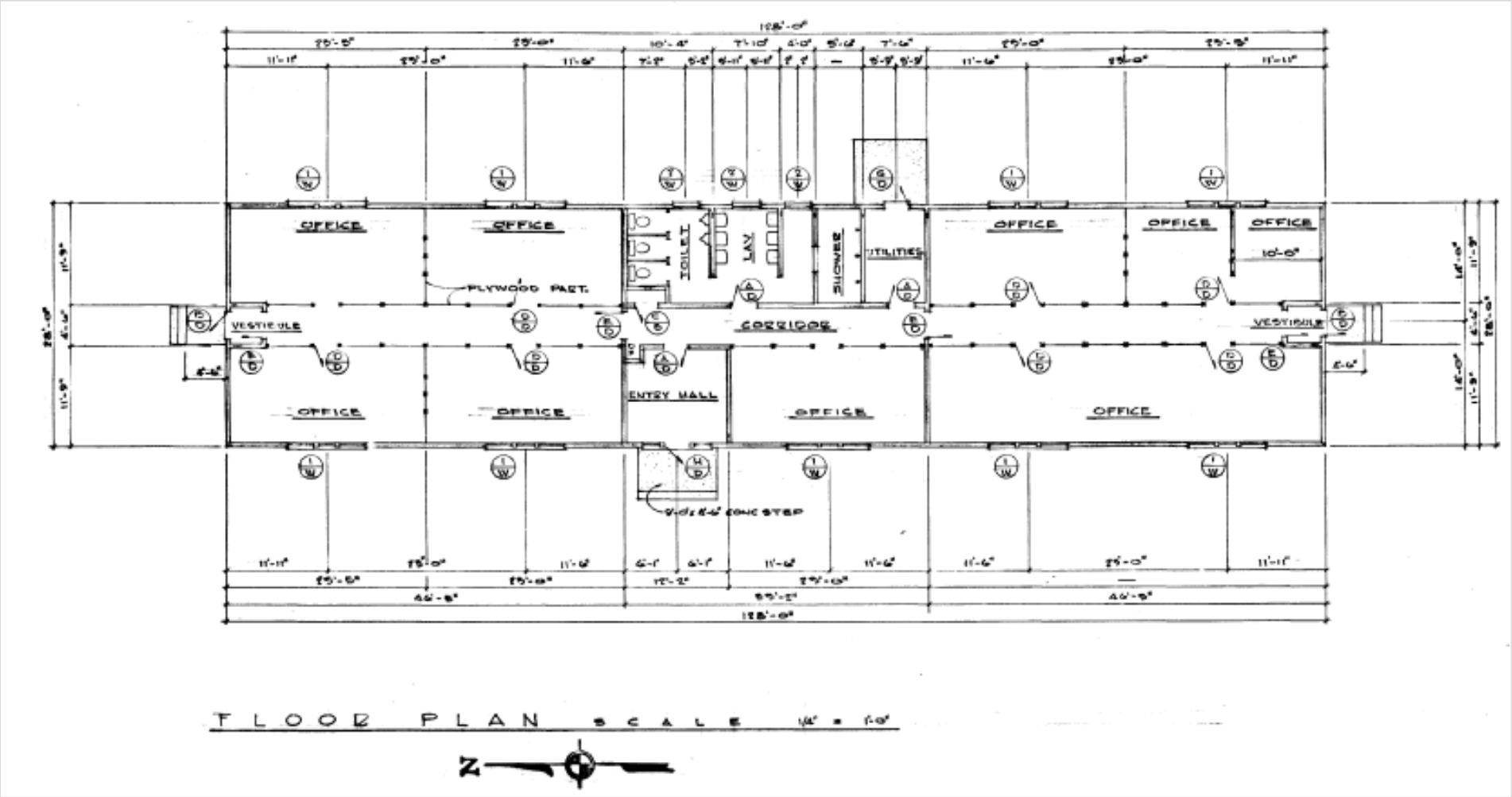
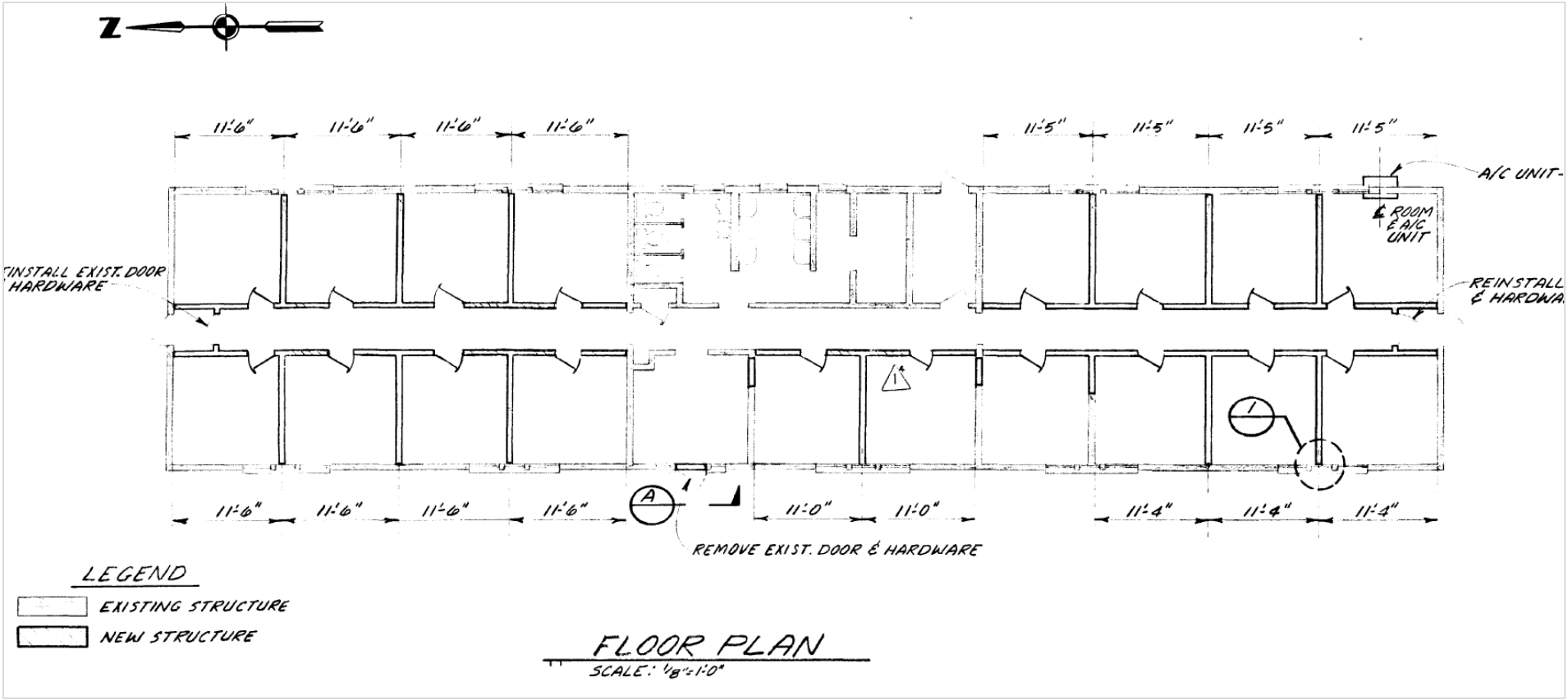


The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O, 103-104 series of dormitories except that some, including 23-A, face west like this one and others have a reversed plan facing to the east (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).



Conversion of the building to offices (Holmes and Narver Drawing JS-023-114a-A1, status as of 1/1/1966).



Modifications to Dorm A designed in July 1981 and completed by May 1982 (REECo Drawing 23-DO-A-A1, 1981).

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Northeast corner and rear of the building facing southwest (DRI 1998).

Southwest corner facing northeast. The original front entrance is in the middle of the long façade at the left (DRI 1998).

Dormitory 23-G is typical of the A-O series. Northeast corner, view southwest (REECo 1955). The rear of the building is the long side at the left. A photo of Dormitory 23-Q was included on the original form in error.

Central hallway of Dormitory 23-G showing distinctive post-and-plywood interior wall construction (REECo 1955).

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Name/Org: Timberon A433/4575 30 Aug 2018
Date:
DOES NOT CONTAIN
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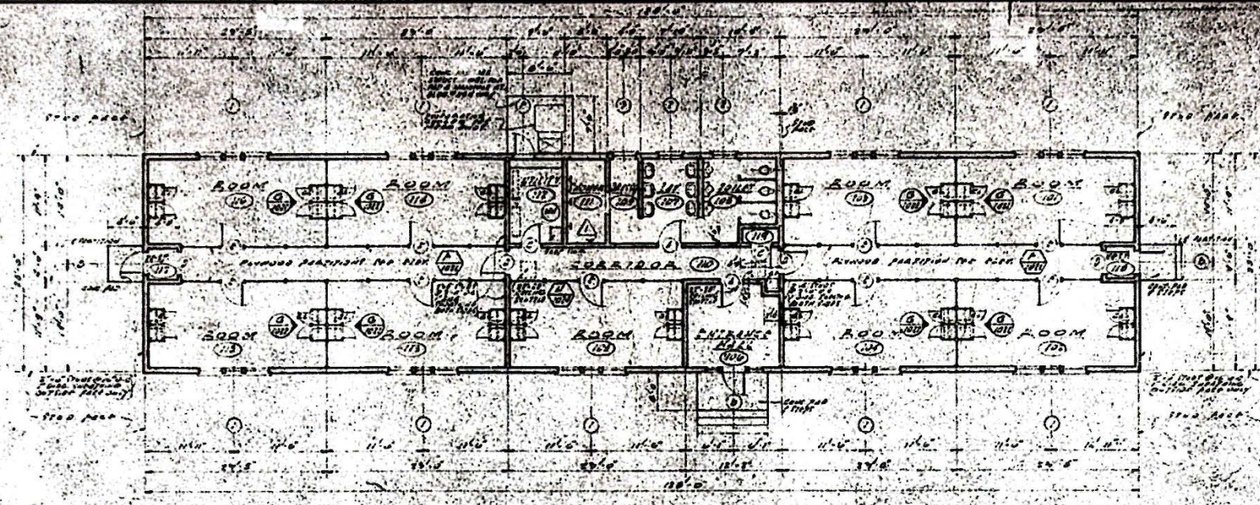
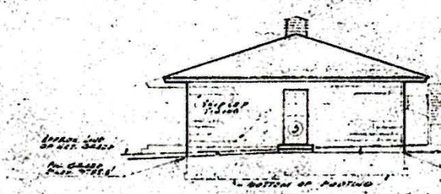
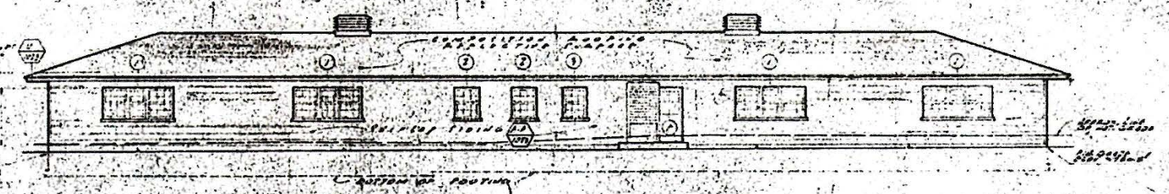


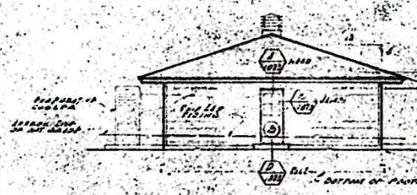
FLOOR PLAN



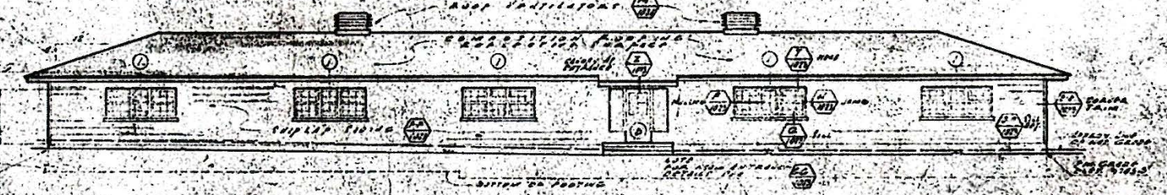
SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION

GENERAL NOTES

1. FLOOR PLAN & ELEVATIONS AS SHOWN FOR BLDG. 114, 114A, 114B, 114C, 114D, 114E AND 114F.
2. FOR FOUNDATION & DETAILS OF BLDG. 114, 114A THRU 114F, SEE BLDG. 114 - 300 SERIES DWGS. APP. 1200-B & FOUNDATION DWG. 114-301 APP. 1200-A & APPURTENANCE.
3. NORTH ARROW APPEARS TO BEAR IN 114 BLDG. FOR ORIENTATION. SINGLE FOOT ELEVATIONS AND GRADES OF BLDGS. 114, 114A, 114B, 114C AND 114D REFER TO BENCH MARKS.

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org:
Date:

AS BUILT		
	DATE	SIGNATURE
REVISED	1/4/73	
CHECKED	1/4/73	
APPROVED RES. ENGR.	1/4/73	

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INDEX	FOLDER

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	APP
1	1/73	REVISED CHT. SHOWN HERE			

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR PLANS & ELEVATIONS
BUILDING NO. 114e

LOCATION B
ALTERNATE TEST SITE

HOLMES & NARVER
ENGINEERS

ATS-J/1025 | SC | 22

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ATS-J/1025

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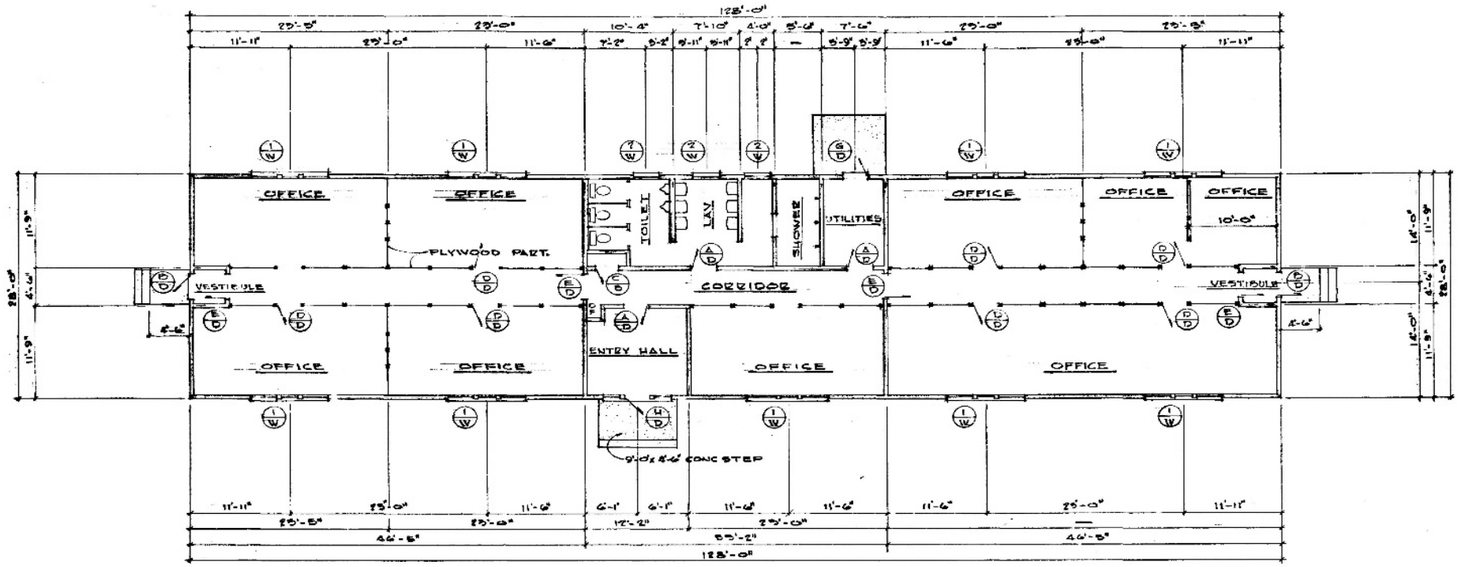
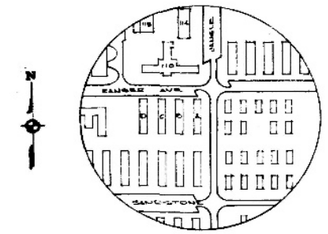


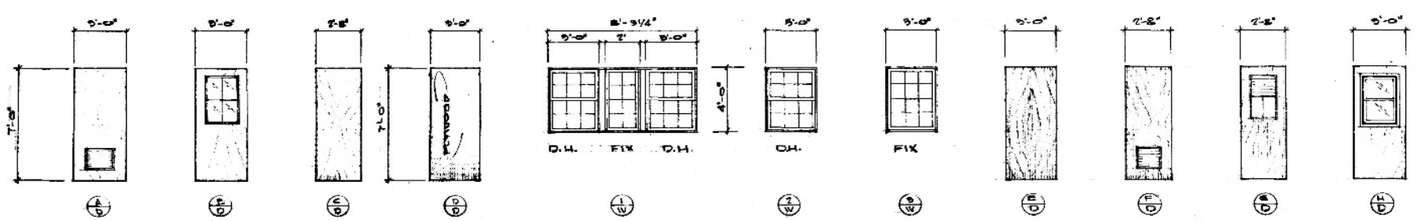
FLOOR PLAN SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



VICINITY MAP
MERCURY, NEV. NO SCALE

GENERAL NOTES:
FOR INT. FINISH SCHEDULE SEE DWG'S ATS-J/1021

REFERENCE DWG'S
HOLMES & NARVER ATS-J/1021
BECCO NTS 29-114 ABC-A2



DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS.	TYPE	ABF	SHT.	NO.	USER
23	Dorm A	08	22	001	A	1	01

THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF JAN 1 66

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	A.E.	APP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DESIGNED BY H&N "BJ"
DRAWN: E. NAYLOG
CHECKED:
PROJECT ENGINEER

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

DORMITORY "A"
FLOOR PLAN

SUBMITTED: HOLMES & NARVER INC.
AGENCY APPROVAL:
AEC APPROVAL:
DATE

HOLMES & NARVER INC.
ENGINEERS—CONSTRUCTORS
ON-CONTINENT TEST DIVISION LAS VEGAS OFFICE
3030 SOUTH HIGHLAND DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. D. NO. 01315

DRAWING NUMBER JS-023-114a-A1

SHEET ____ OF ____

9/60 DIETERICH-POST CLEARPRINT 1000H

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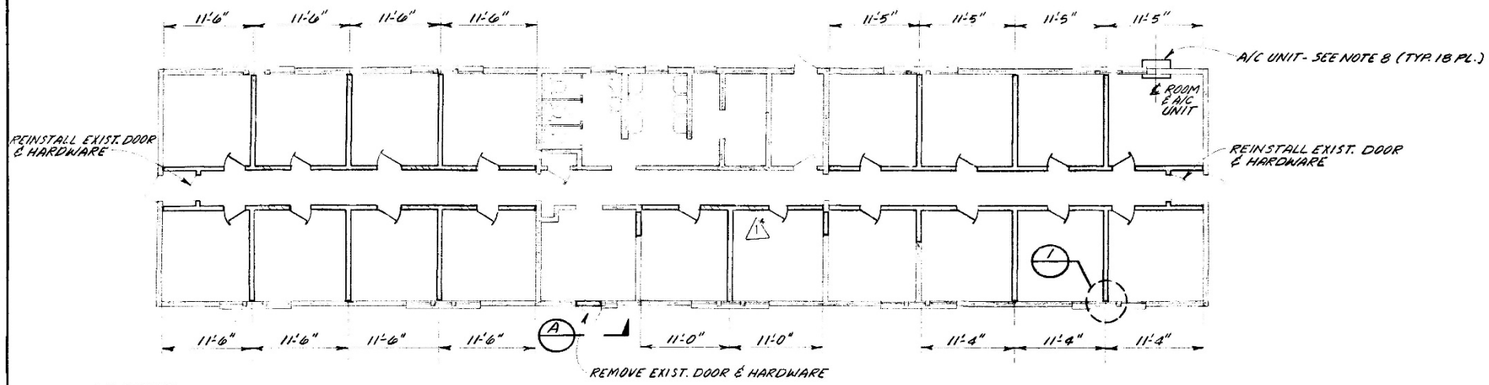


LEGEND

EXISTING STRUCTURE

NEW STRUCTURE

FLOOR PLAN

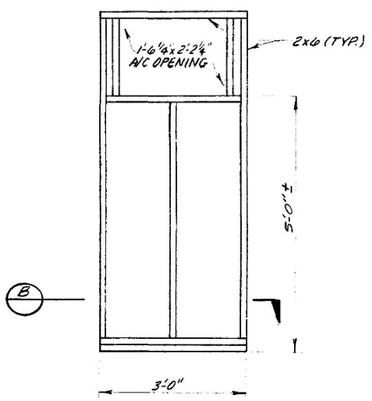
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES:

1. ALL MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION METHODS SHALL CONFORM TO THE NTS STANDARD CONSTRUCTION SPECS, SECS.14, 16.
2. ALL DIMENSIONS OF EXISTING STRUCTURE PERTINENT TO THIS PROJECT SHALL BE FIELD VERIFIED BY THE CONSTRUCTOR.

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

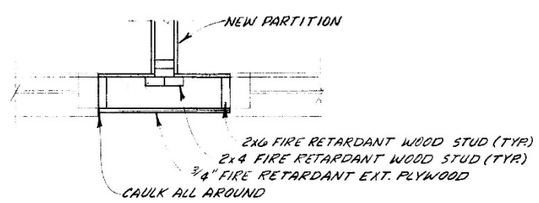
1. NEW PARTITION LOCATION TO BE FIELD LOCATED TO ALLOW 3" CLEARANCE TO EXISTING ELECTRICAL OUTLET. PARTITIONS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED OF FIRE RETARDANT 2x4 WOOD STUDS @ 24" O.C. W/ 5/8" TYPE X GYP. BD. JOINTS OF GYP. BD. SHALL BE TAPED & SEALED.
2. ALL OPENINGS & DAMAGE BY DEMOLITION TO BE PATCHED & SEALED FOR PAINTING.
3. ALL & CEILINGS IN CORRIDOR, DORMITORY ROOMS & LOUNGE TO BE PAINTED WITH A SEMI-GLOSS OFF-WHITE LATEX PAINT. ALL DOORS & WOOD TRIM TO BE PAINTED WITH A SEMI-GLOSS OFF-WHITE ENAMEL. CEILINGS TO BE SPRAYED WITH ACOUSTICAL MATERIAL
4. INSTALL NEW CARPETING IN CORRIDOR, DORMITORY ROOMS & LOUNGE. CARPETING TO BE INSTALLED UNDER W.O. # 5307-002
5. INSTALL NEW 4" VINYL BASE COVE IN CORRIDOR, DORMITORY ROOMS & LOUNGE.
6. ALL DORMITORY ROOM DOORS TO BE 2'-8"x 6'-8"x 1 3/4" 20 MIN. UL RATED WOOD W/3 4 1/2 x 3 1/2 BUTT HINGES REECO STK # 1202-4402, LOCK SET #1202-5291 & DOOR STOPS & CLOSER REECO STK. 1202-3798 BEST LOCKCORP. No. 77K-T FED SPEC. 161T FINISH DS 26 D
7. ALL EXTERIOR WALLS & CEILING SHALL BE INSULATED WITH 6" (R19) FIBERGLASS BLOWN IN INSULATION. INSULATION MATERIAL SHALL HAVE A FLAME SPREAD RATING NOT GREATER THAN 25 & A FUEL CONTRIBUTION & SMOKE DEVELOPED RATING NOT GREATER THAN 50.
8. PROVIDE FRAMED OPENING IN EXTERIOR WALL OF DORMITORY ROOMS FOR A/C UNIT. OPENINGS TO BE LOCATED IN CENTER OF ROOM & 15" ABOVE FLOOR. DIMENSIONS OF OPENINGS WILL BE DETERMINED FROM THE EQUIPMENT PURCHASED. PROVIDE WOOD TRIM AROUND A/C UNITS ON INTERIOR & CAULKING AROUND EXTERIOR OF EACH UNIT.
9. FLOORS IN REST ROOM AND SHOWER TO BE REFINISHED WITH AN EPOXY SEALER AS MFGD. BY MAMECO INTERNATIONAL, MONILE COMPOUND 850 LTC.



NOTE: WALL COVERING & INSULATION NOT SHOWN.

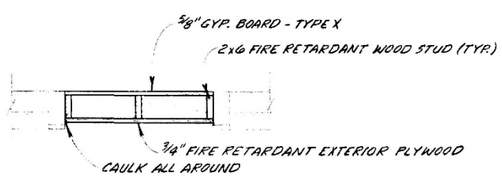
DOOR CLOSURE W/ CUTOUT FOR A/C UNIT (A)

SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"



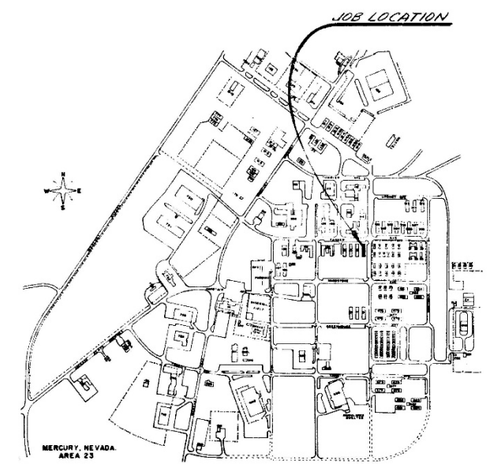
TYP. NEW PARTITION AT WINDOW (1)

SCALE: 1"=1'-0"



SECTION (B)

SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"



VICINITY MAP

NO SCALE

AS BUILT
REYNOLDS ELECTRICAL & ENGINEERING CO., INC.
ENGINEERING & CONTRACT ADMIN. DEPT.
EK 5-11-82
M.G. HENDRICK

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	A.E.	DOE APP.
1	5/11/82	AS BUILT CONDITION	EK	MGH		

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE — LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — AREA 23

MODIFICATIONS TO DORM "A"

FLOOR PLAN, SECTION & DETAILS

DESIGNED: LL
DRAWN: R. DUANE 7-24-81
CHECKED: EK 7-27-81
PROJECT ENGR.: LL
SUBMITTED: 7-27-81
AGENCY APPROVAL
DOE APPROVAL
DATE

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 14400 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

I.D. NO. NTS 339

DRAWING NO. 23-DO-A-A1

REV 1 — SHEET 1 OF 1

RE-0806 (3/78)

W.O. # 1090-885

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 11, Sandstone – Buster				
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023				
County	Nye				
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A		
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589835	Northing: 4057680			
USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Public-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?	Yes ☐	No ☒			

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☐	No ☒
	Number?:	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Building has been removed. Only the foundation remains.		

Foundation for Building 23-A, view north (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		

Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development
Period(s) of Significance	1951-1992
Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?	

Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): post-1998

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Men's Dormitory
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

This building served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. It represents an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the building has severely degraded its integrity. Despite this problem, the foundation is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundation related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource occupies the corner of Jangle Street and Ranger Avenue. This block was completely developed for housing and administration.

The dormitory was a rectangular-plan wood-framed building with wood siding, moderate-pitch roof, and concrete slab foundation. A concrete sidewalk which ran along Ranger is still intact.

Although this building was removed sometime after 1998, three examples of this type, 23-B, C, and D, are still standing in this block.

There are no Accessory Resources.

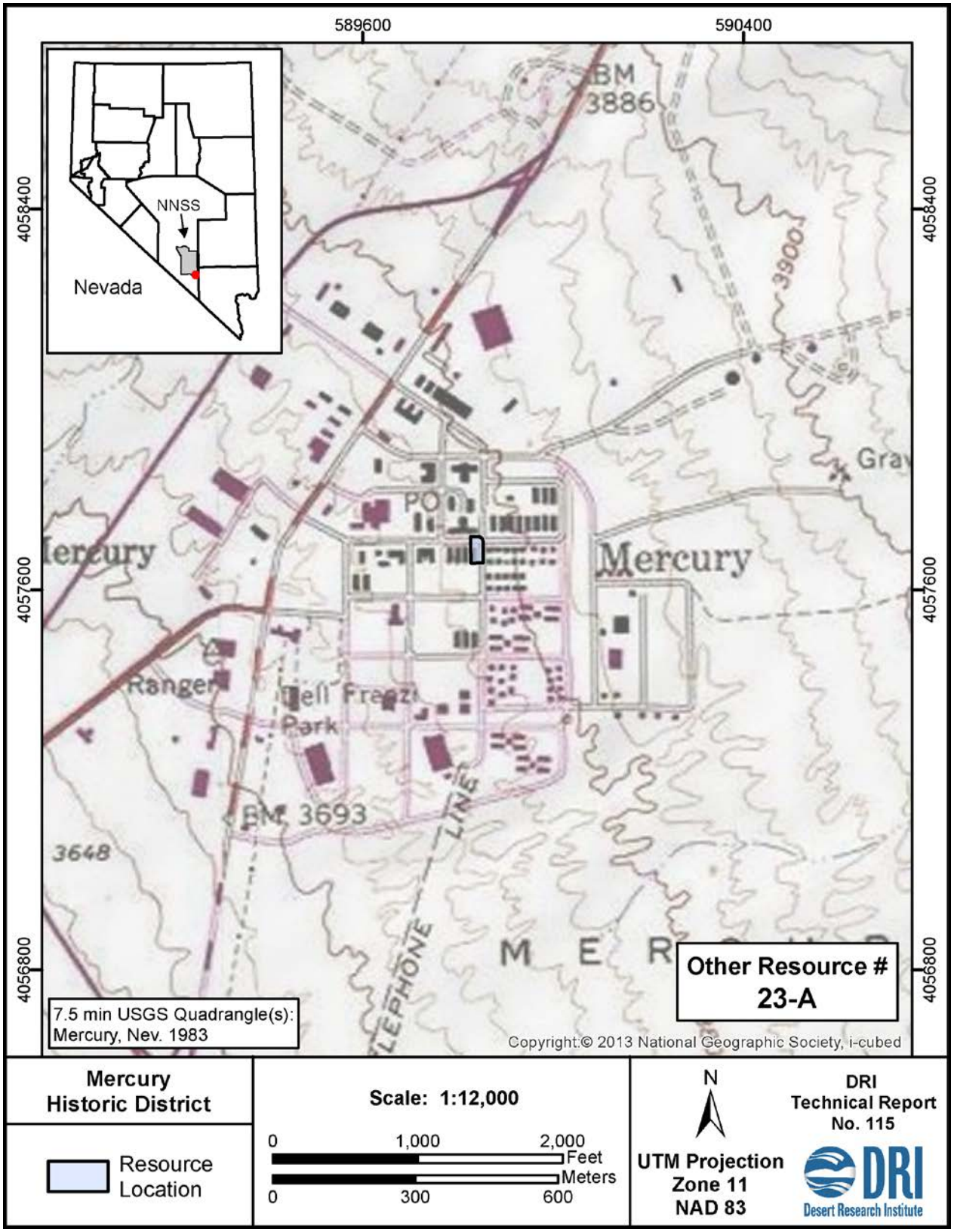
8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co. Inc. (REECo)
1955 Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.

9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: North Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Building 23-Q. Dormitory 23-A was nearly identical to the dormitory shown. **See correction in ARA update, p. 8.**
Elevations: West, South Direction facing: Northeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Building 23-A is at arrow. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C297 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time, detailed interior description of the laundry, high-resolution photography, and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	23-103, 104: **1951** 23-105: **1953-1955** 23-106, 107, 152: **1956**

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes and Narver had an early conceptual role in designing 23-103 and 104 and designed the A-O series of men's dorms that formed the basis of the design. However, it appears that Silas Mason Co. produced the final design for these buildings. Design attribution is difficult since both firms produced parallel sets of nearly identical plans for these two buildings. Silas Mason Co. designed 23-105. The final two dorms, 23-106 and 107 were designed by the same company after a merger changed its name to Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. The original designer of the laundry (23-152) could be either Holmes and Narver or Silas Mason. REECo designed the expansion of that building.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

The major dormitory buildings, which comprised nearly all of this resource, are represented today solely by foundations, precluding them from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues. The one standing building, while of considerable interest, is an extremely minor resource consisting of a tiny laundry. It is not of historical importance in regard to Criterion A. In regard to C, it is a rare surviving example of a once-common type in Mercury – wood frame demountable buildings. However, buildings of this construction type from World War II and the early Cold War are not rarities, and many other more complex examples exist at or near various military bases. Although its status as a contributing element to Mercury at the local level is sound, it does not warrant consideration as significant either at the national level or in its own right as an individual resource.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as these, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that any of the buildings in this group has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of these resources to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this set of buildings is important, but only as a collection of buildings and not in regard to characteristics of the individual buildings. The contribution of the buildings is minimal and they are not individually significant.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Dormitories 103 and 104

These women's dormitories are modifications by Silas Mason Co. of Holmes and Narver's A-O series of dorms. Building 23-103 initially was named Building 112B while 104 was 112A.

The dormitories were 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with moderate-pitch hip roofs and concrete slab foundations (REECo 1955). They were much more solidly built than wartime frame structures with 2x6 framing. A concrete walk runs along the alley north of the dorms. Short concrete walks connect the dorms with this walkway and with Sandstone Avenue to the south.

The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows were 6/6 wood double-hung mounted singly and in pairs, later replaced with aluminum sliders. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers. Interior doors were later replaced with hollow-core doors.

The front (west) entrance was near the center of the long façade. The door had a 2/2 light. It was flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extended from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof formed a hood over the entrance, which had a concrete stoop.

The rear also had a door near center but lacked sidelights and hood. The narrow sides each had entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but later had a reflective coating. It had wide overhangs with plywood soffits and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents were on the ridgeline.

The plan for each dorm was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones. The central block contained the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage. Instead of having a dorm room in the central block like those of the Holmes and Narver dorms, this space was used as a day room. On each side of the central block were eight semi-private dorm rooms with four on each side of the hallway. All interior walls were of stud and drywall construction, which provided much more privacy than the lightweight partial partitions of the men's dorms of the A-O series. All of the rooms were provided with built-in closets, another amenity missing from men's dorms of the period.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x11 ft and normally had two occupants, although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

Dormitory 105

This building was the longest of any of the 1950s dormitories at 144 ft with a width of 30 ft. It was the usual frame structure with shiplap wood siding and had an end-gable roof with triangular wood-louver vents in the gable ends. Three louvered clerestory vents were along the ridgetop.

In plan it had the usual central hall design. The useless main entrance of the earlier models was no longer present, leaving the main entrances at each end with access to the mechanical room about halfway up one side. Outside doors were panel with multiple lights. All windows were 4/4 wood double-hung mounted singly. Doors and windows had simple surrounds. The 22 11x12 ft bedrooms were semi-private and were equipped with closets. All internal walls were of stud and drywall construction. As with earlier designs, the communal restroom, showers, and mechanical areas were placed near the center of the building. A day room occupied the full length of one end.

Dormitories 106 and 107

The last two women's dormitories in this complex were originally intended to occupy the southwest corner of Sandstone and Buster in a parcel that would eventually be occupied by the fire station built in 1966.

These two buildings reverted to the smaller dimensions of most other dorm classes with a length of 128 ft and a width of 30 ft. They presented a much more modern outside appearance with very low-pitch gable roofs and introduction of aluminum sliding windows mounted singly. This modern appearance was enhanced when the V-rustic wood shiplap siding was covered with aluminum siding in the late 1970s or early 1980s. At that time the louvered gable-end vents over the doorways were covered over.

They had the usual central-hall layout, but in this case the end doors were inset rather than mounted flush with the outside walls. These dorms had the usual central restroom, shower, and mechanical area. The dayroom or lounge was again located in the central area with its own outside door. There were 18 semi-private rooms, all with closets.

Laundry 152

The laundry or wash house was frequently referred to on site as a *washateria* (also spelled *washeteria)*, as was the similar facility attached for a time to Building 23-102. The size is 392 ft², not as large as indicated in the facilities database, which was used to document the area on the original ARA form.

The original ARA is incorrect regarding dating of aluminum siding application. The upgrade was designed in October 1981 by REECo, and the as-built stamp on the engineering drawing indicates that it was completed by January 1983. As part of that upgrade, five large dryer vents high in the west wall were covered over and their function taken over by the row of vents in the lower part of the wall, which are still in place today.

Supplemental interior description was done as part of the mitigation plan, details of the two rooms are as follows:

BLDG #: 23-152	ROOM #: Original	LEVEL: 1	280 FT²	Recorded: July 9, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Laundry				
PHOTO(S): See plan, page 18				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	White drywall, originally pale green. Building was originally uninsulated and not lined with drywall.			
N. Wall	Center door, left window blocked and replaced with electrical box. Window to right of door. Replacement electrical fan and vent above door.			
S. Wall	Center door, metal fire extinguisher mount. Door removed.			
E. Wall	Two sliding windows over galvanized wainscot on plywood with attached plumbing for washing machines. Hole in center at bottom for exit of plumbing reveals interior face of original 7" V-rustic wood siding painted light green.			
W. Wall	Row of dryer exhaust vents near floor. Electrical surface-mounted electrical boxes and conduit, all now capped. Metal instructional sign for use of laundry.			
Ceiling	2 ft pressboard panels on 4x6 (nominal) rafters. 2x6 collar ties at alternate rafters. Wood bird stops are not covered by drywall.			
Floor	Unpainted concrete with floor drain. Raised housekeeping pads under appliances. Several generations of concrete anchors for appliance mounting. 5" concrete base and 3" wood base. Some cracking and old repairs.			
Doors	N: Replacement 3'6" flush white with one light (original doorway was 3 ft wide). S: Removed and casing replaced with bevel inside and square trim outside.			
Windows	All are original wood. North and south walls: 1'5"x2'8" 1x1 with plain sill and bevel surrounds. East wall: pair of 4x4 sliders 2'4"x5' with bevel surrounds.			
Lighting	Suspended 2-tube with grilles but no diffusers.			

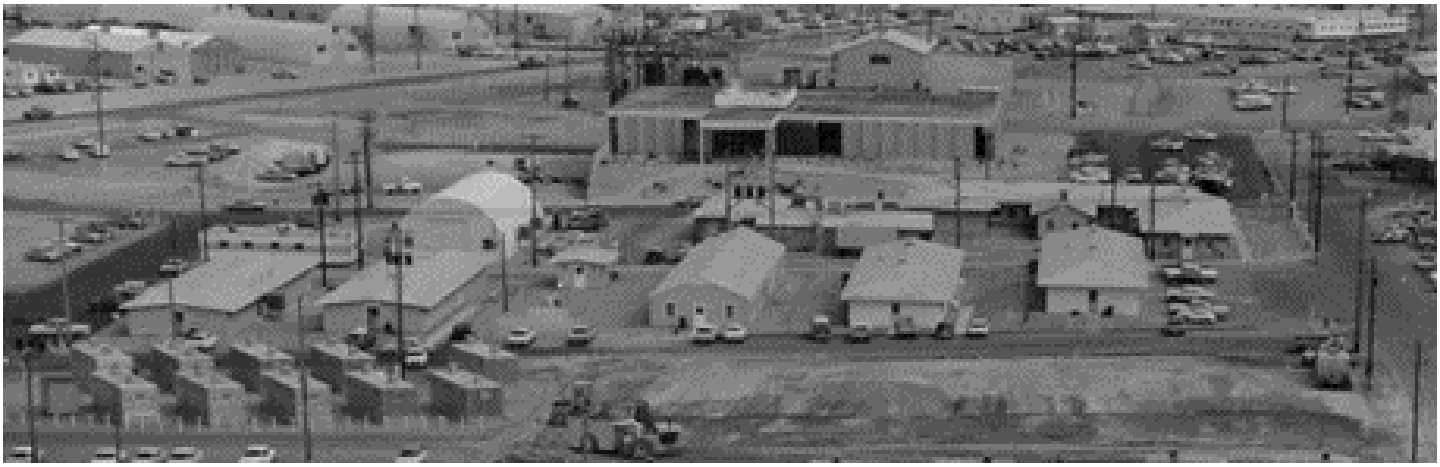
BLDG #: 23-152	ROOM #: Addition	LEVEL: 1	112 FT²	Recorded: July 9, 2018
FUNCTION(S): Originally ice and vending, most recently sorting and ironing				
PHOTO(S): See plan, page 18				
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			
All Walls	White drywall with surface-mounted electrical outlets and conduit.			
N. Wall	Outside of building originally had 7" V-rustic siding. Flaking of white paint reveals original pale green. Near the tops of both walls on each side of doorway are matching siding plugs where original windows were removed. Metal cover over hole remains from when light above doorway was removed.			
S. Wall	Center replacement 3' door flanked by two fixed windows (see Windows above) relocated from original south wall. Replacement louvered metal vent over door. (See elevation and reconstruction Drawings for original wood louvered vents in eaves above both doors.)			
E. Wall	Galvanized wainscot on plywood with attached plumbing.			
W. Wall	Pair of ironing boards inset into wall. Installed after removal of soda machine.			
Ceiling	Same as original.			
ELEMENT	**DESCRIPTION**			

Floor	Unpainted concrete with 4" wood base and quarter-round toe strip.
Doors	Replacement 3 ft flush with one small light.
Windows	See above. Although they appear to be original, note that the windows on the north and south elevations are narrower than depicted on the 1957 elevation.
Lighting	Same as original.
Built-ins	Two drop-down ironing boards inset in gray steel cases. The cast aluminum board brackets are embossed "DURA STEEL PROD. L.A. CAL."

See Attachment A for high-quality digital images of 23-152 (page 17).

NTS News
1974 NTS Conservation Continues. November. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113566.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*



Women's dormitory complex facing north. REECo 3028-15, 1965.

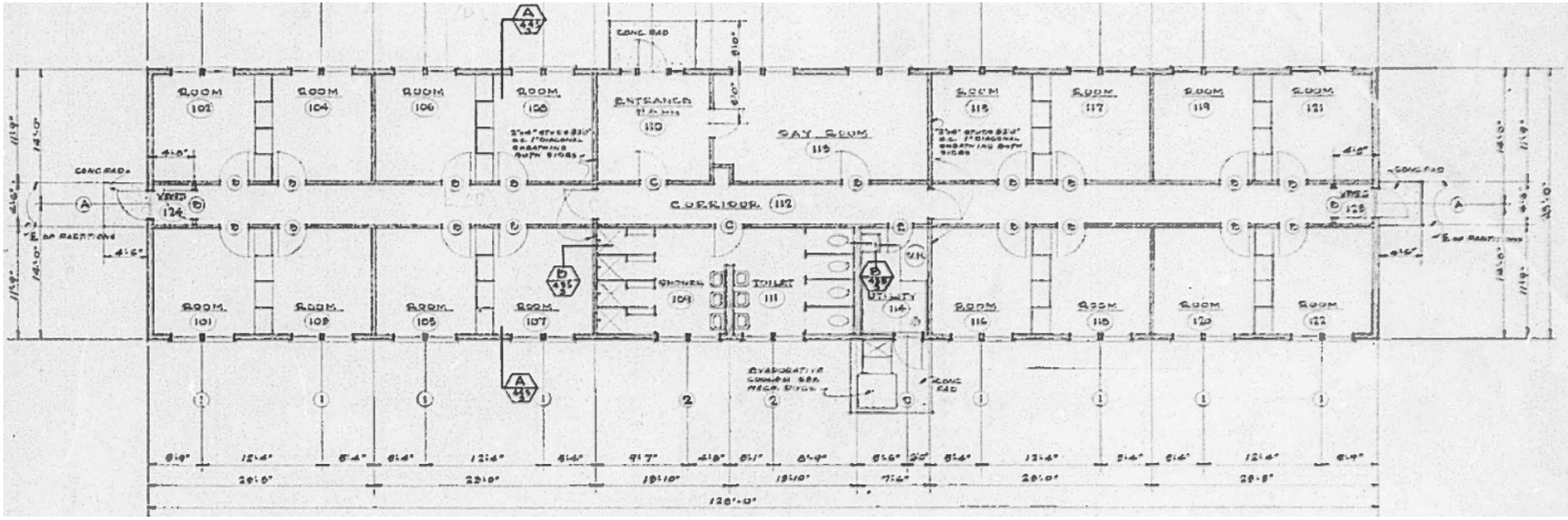
Washers on east wall or north room before removal of machines, facing northeast (DRI 2016).

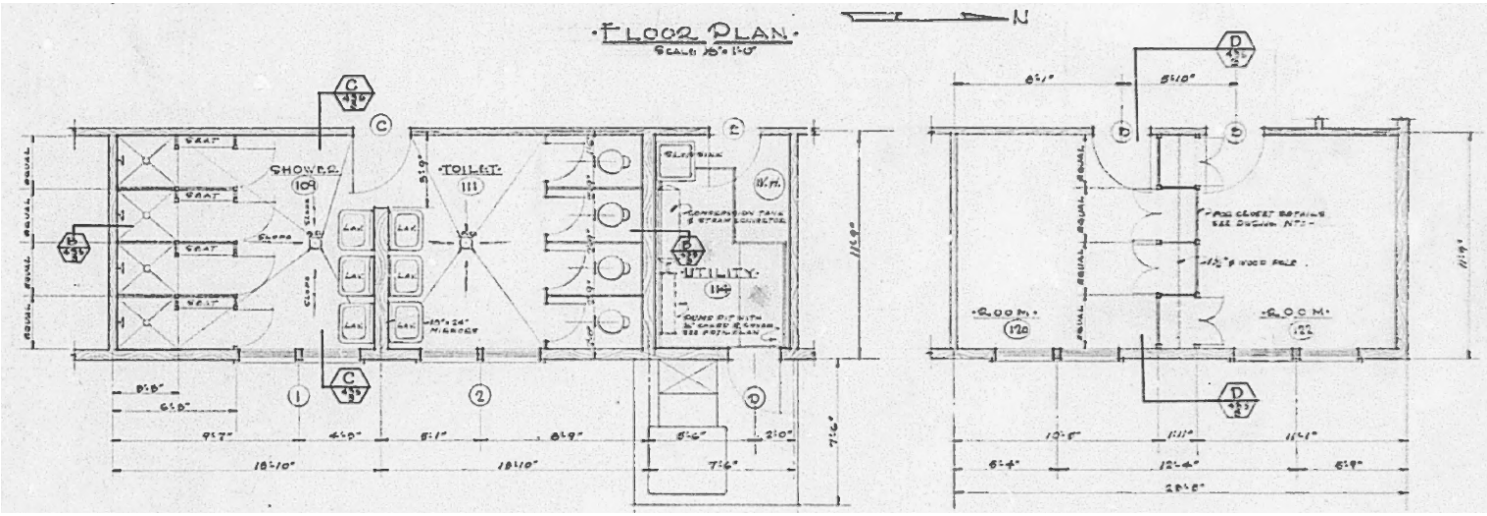
Ceiling rafters, facing northeast (DRI 2016).

Sign on west wall in north room (DRI 2016).

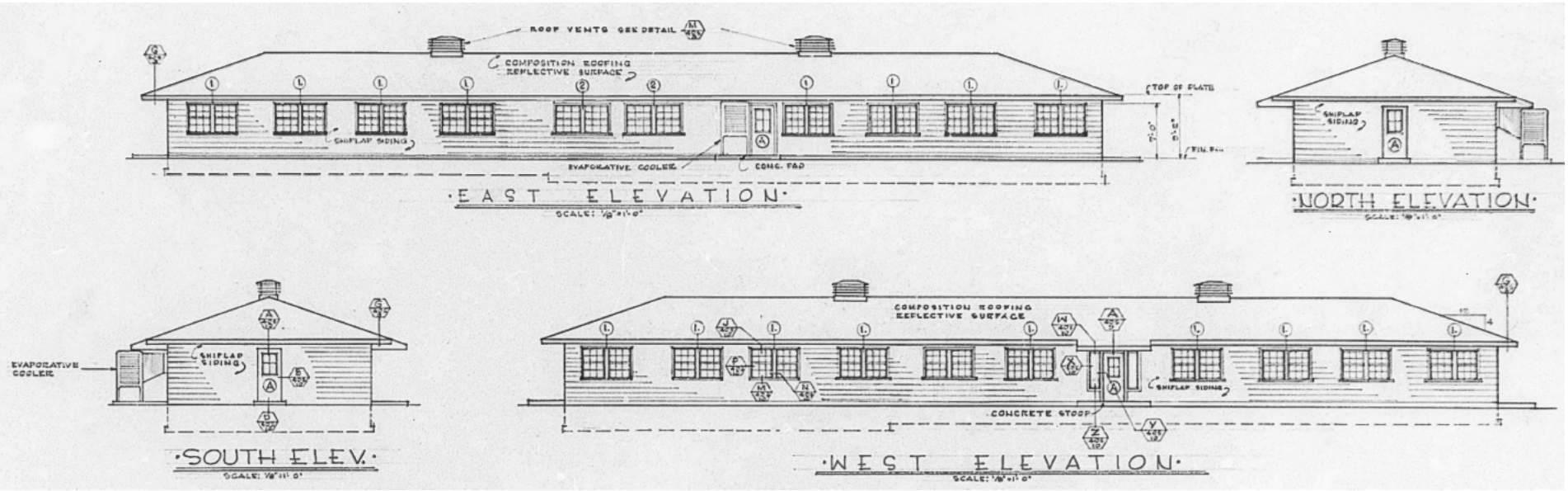
Soap machine on south wall of north room (DRI 2016).

Hi-resolution aerial view of the area surrounding the Laundry building (23-152) as of October 10, 2016 (NSTec Product ID: 20170223-02-P002-R01).

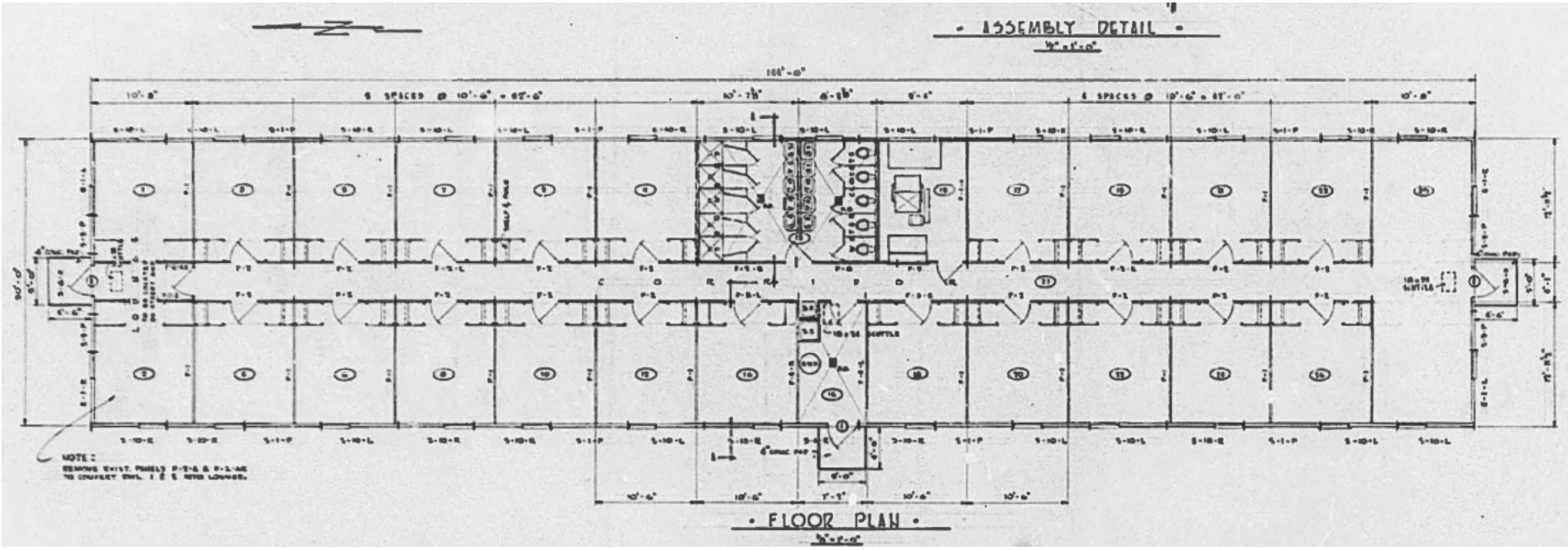


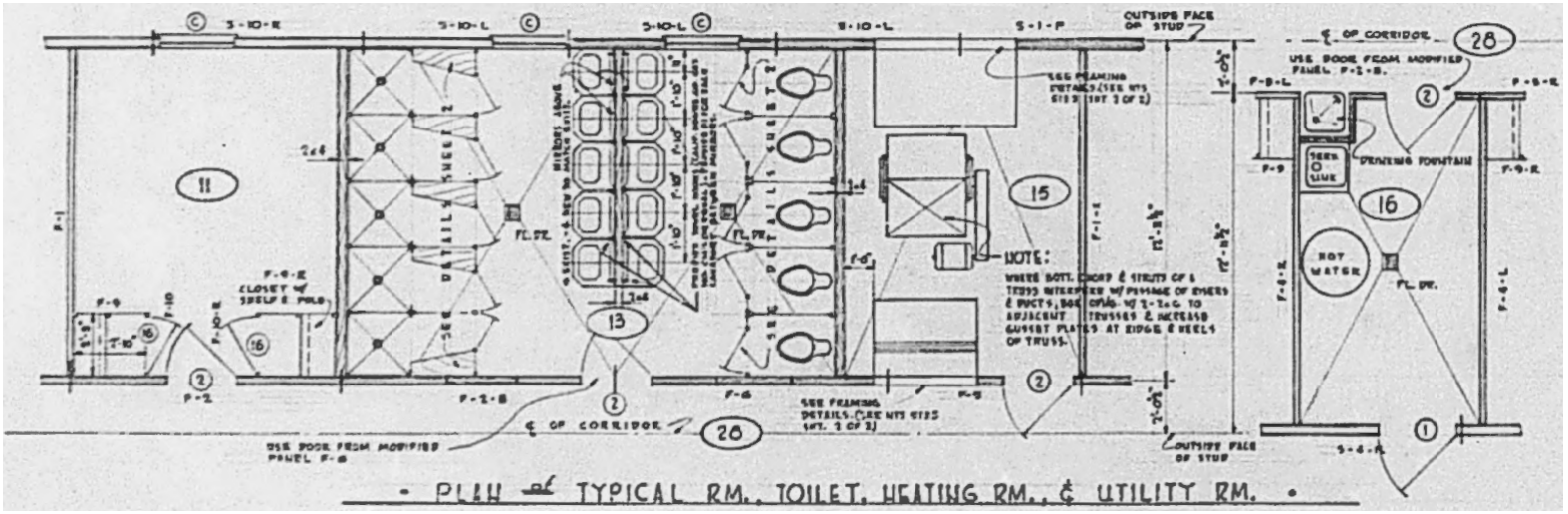


Plan for Dormitory 23-103, originally Building 112B. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-103-S1, 1951.

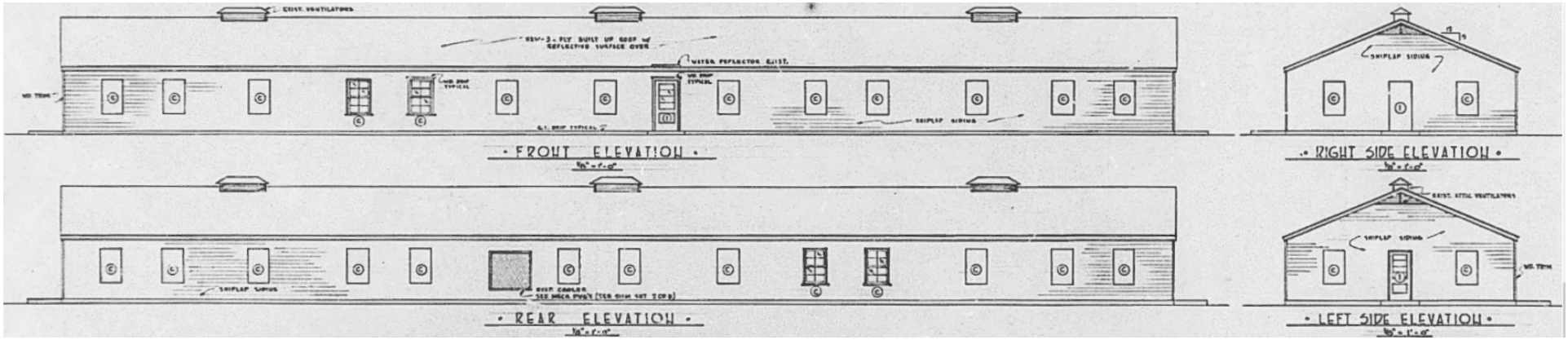


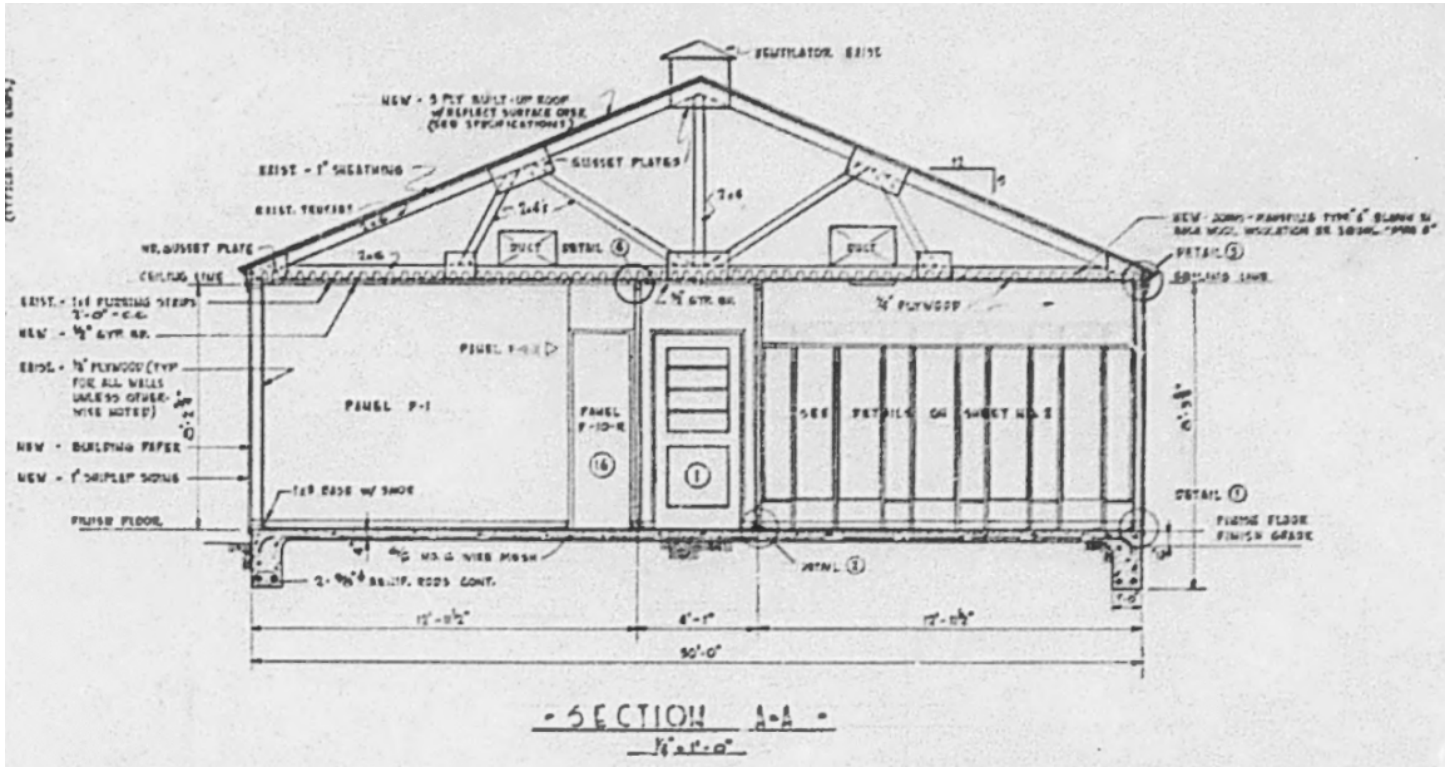
Elevations for Dormitory 23-103. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-103-S4, 1952.



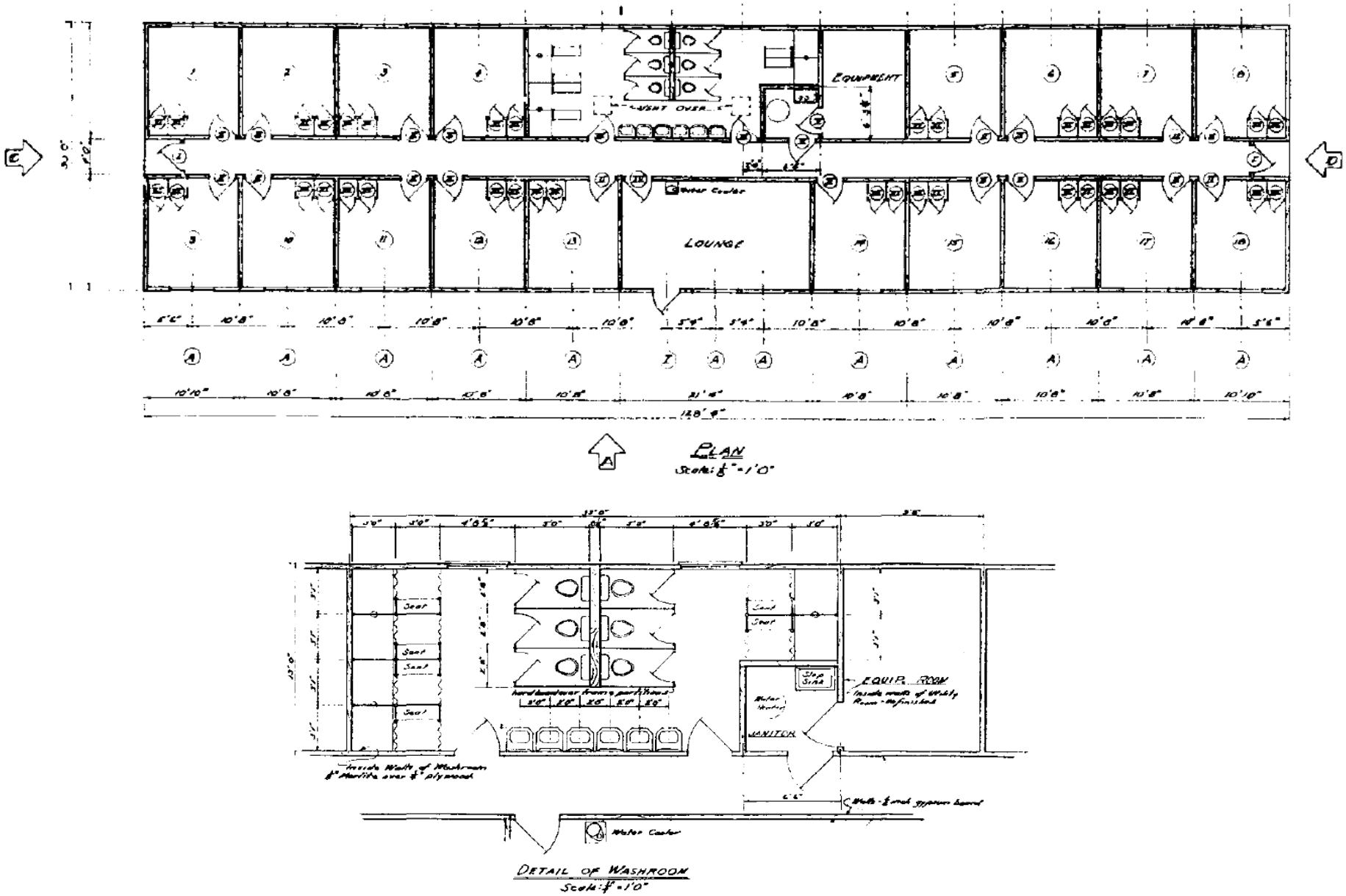


Plan for Women's Barracks 23-105. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-105-S2, 1953 or 1955 [date difficult to read].

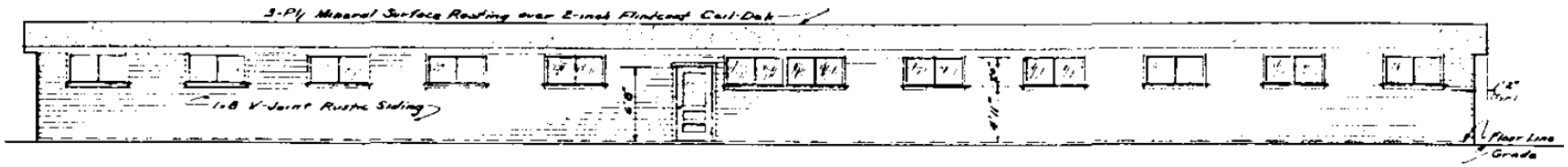




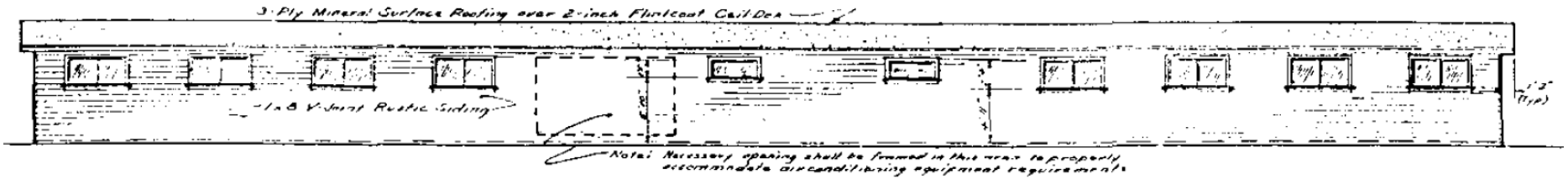
Elevations and section for Women's Barracks 23-105. Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-105-S2, 1953 or 1955 [date difficult to read].



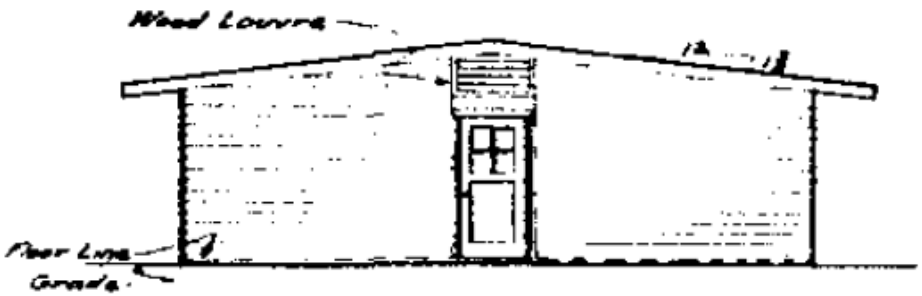
Plan for Women's Barracks 23-106. Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-106-S2, 1955.



ELEVATION A

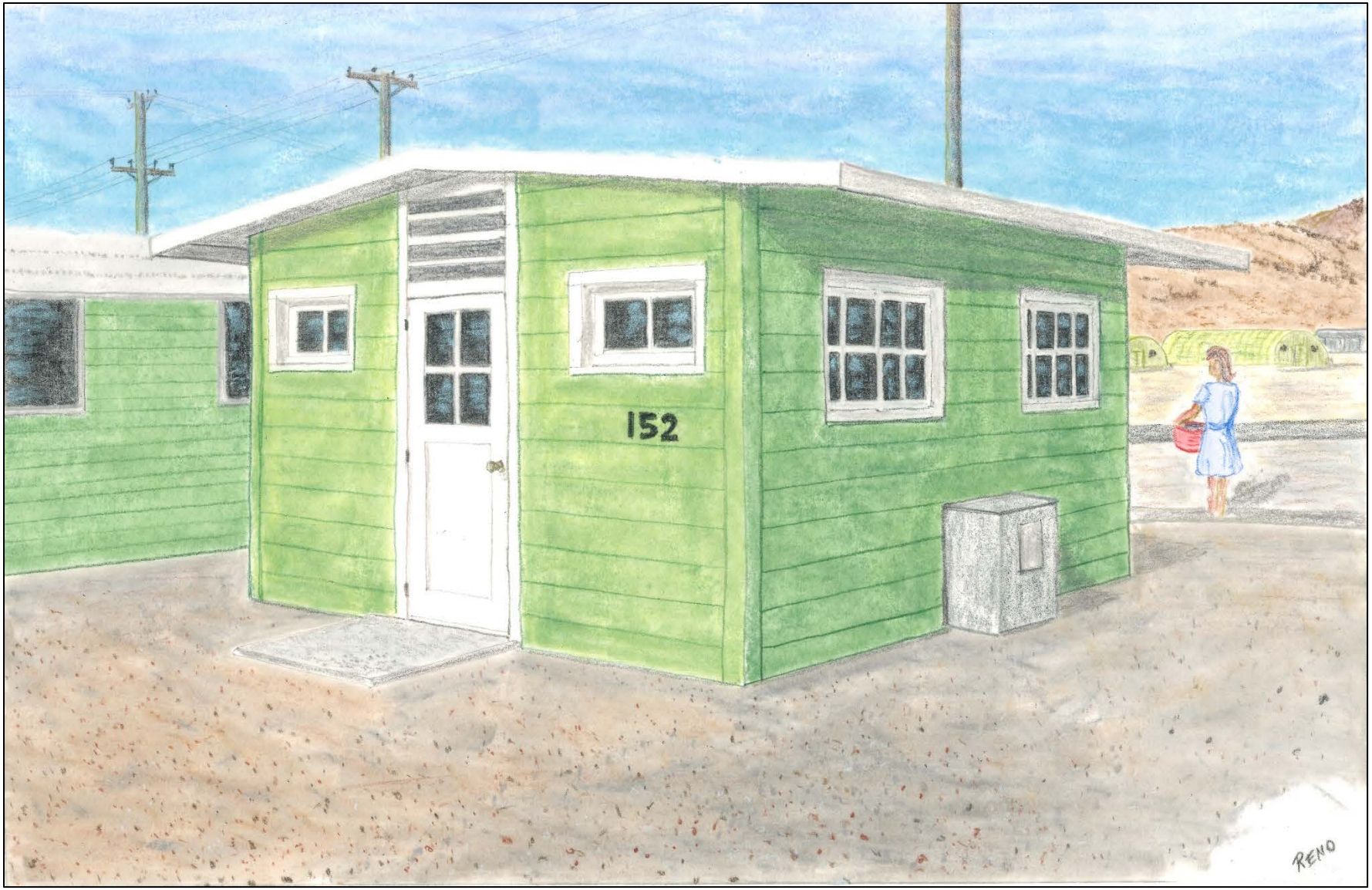


ELEVATION B



ELEVATION C & D

Plan for Women's Barracks 23-106. Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. Drawing M-106-S2, 1955.



Reconstruction of 23-152 as it likely appeared when originally constructed, facing northwest. Rendering by Ron Reno, 2018.

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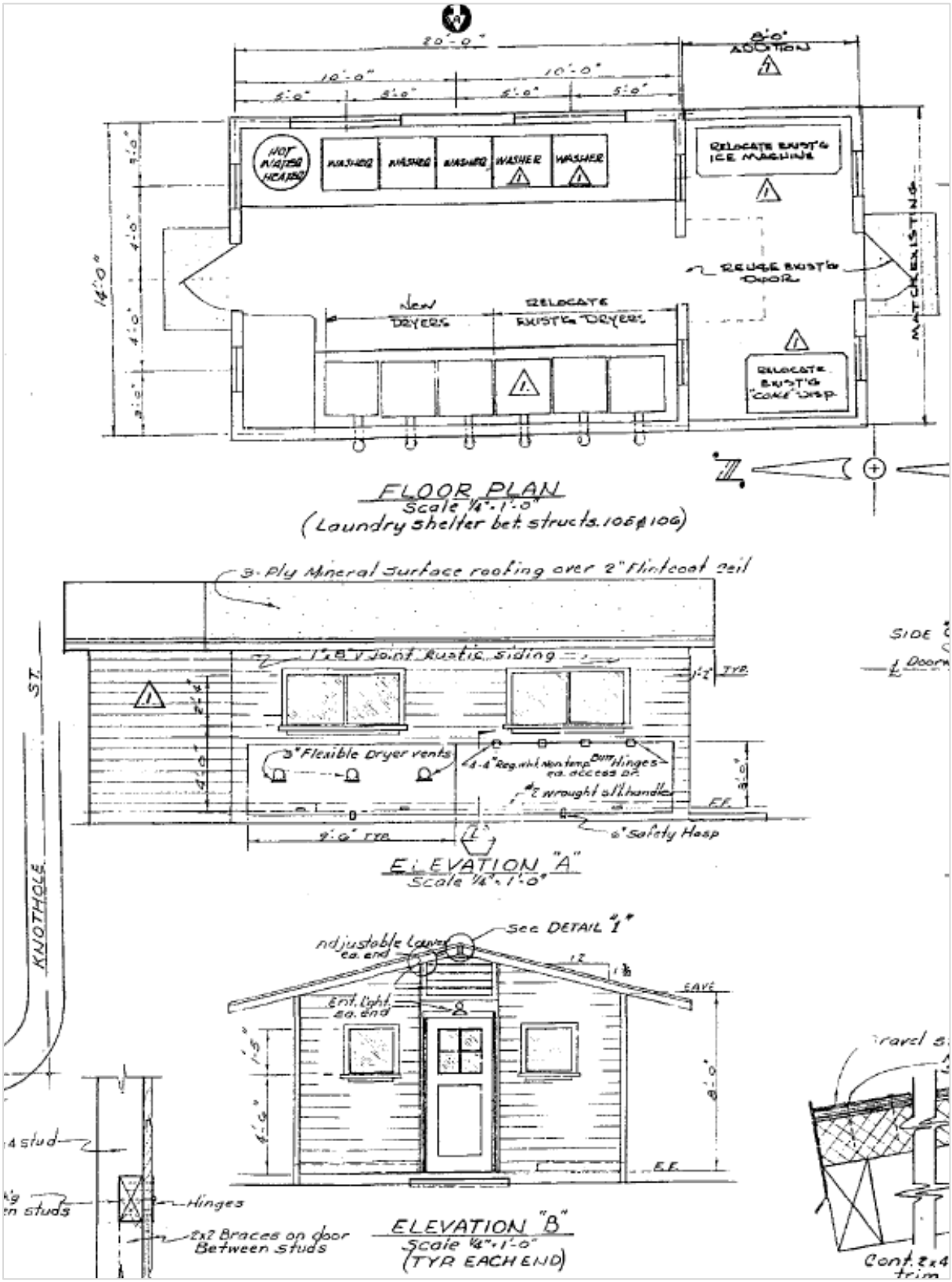

Plan and elevations for expansion of Building 23-152. REECo Drawing M-152-S1, 1957.

ATTACHMENT A

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

LAUNDRY BUILDING (23-152) ARA FORM for SHPO Resource #C297
Mercury Historic District
Mercury
Nye County
Nevada

INDEX TO HIGH-QUALITY DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Steve Carragher (Mission Support and Testing Services), Photographer, July 2018

1 DETAIL VIEW OF IRONING BOARD CABINETS ON INTERIOR WEST WALL FACING THE EAST

2 VIEW OF ORIGINAL RUSTIC SIDING PRIOR TO 1957 ADDITION SHOWING WHITE OVER GREEN PAINT FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST

3 VIEW OF ORIGINAL MAIN LAUNDRY ROOM FACING THE SOUTHEAST

4 VIEW OF ADDITION INTERIOR ON SOUTH END OF ORIGINAL BUILDING SHOWING RUSTIC SIDING AND DOOR FRAME FACING THE NORTH

5 PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE SOUTHWEST

6 PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST

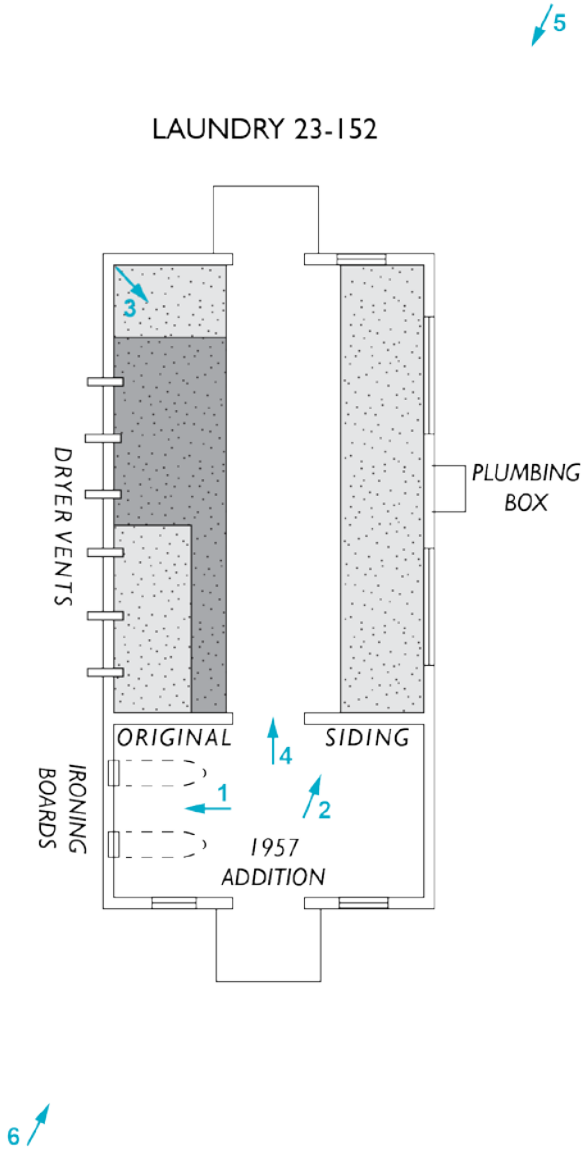
5
LAUNDRY 23-152
3
DRYER VENTS
PLUMBING BOX
ORIGINAL
SIDING
4
IRONING BOARDS
1
2
1957 ADDITION
6
Raised Concrete Appliance Pads
Original
Added 1957
2
Photo Locations and Direction
N
0
7
14 feet
Digital Reproduction by JD Lancaster (2018).
Reproduced with permission from original by Ron Reno (2018)

PHOTO #1: DETAIL VIEW OF IRONING BOARD CABINETS ON INTERIOR WEST WALL FACING THE EAST.

PHOTO #2: VIEW OF ORIGINAL RUSTIC SIDING PRIOR TO 1957 ADDITION SHOWING WHITE OVER GREEN PAINT FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST.

PHOTO #3: VIEW OF ORIGINAL MAIN LAUNDRY ROOM FACING THE SOUTHEAST.

PHOTO #4: VIEW OF ADDITION INTERIOR ON SOUTH END OF ORIGINAL BUILDING SHOWING RUSTIC SIDING AND DOOR FRAME FACING THE NORTH.

PHOTO #5: PERSPECTIVE OF EAST AND NORTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE SOUTHWEST.

PHOTO #6: PERSPECTIVE OF WEST AND SOUTH FAÇADES OF LAUNDRY FACING THE NORTH-NORTHEAST.

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INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

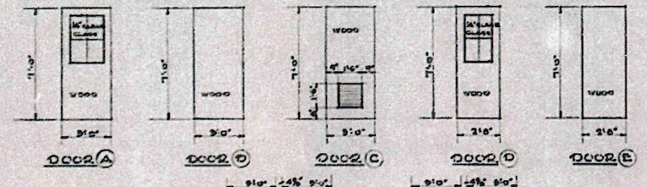
ROOM NAME	ROOM NO.	FLOORS: CEMENT FINISH	FLOORS: WOOD	BASE: CEMENT	BASE: WOOD	WALLS: 1/2" CVR. WALL BD.	WALLS: 1/2" PLYD. PANEL	WALLS: CEMENT PLASTER	CEILING: 3/8" GYP. WALL BD.	CEILING: CEMENT PLASTER	WAINSCOT	PAINTING: WALLS	PAINTING: CEILING	PAINTING: WAINSCOT & DADO	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: WOOD DOORS	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: BASE	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: TRIM	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: CASEWORK	PAINTING: FINISH WOODWORK: WOOD SASH	REMARKS
ROOM	101	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	102	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	103	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	104	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	105	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	106	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	107	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	108	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
SHOWER	109	•			•			•		•		E	E	E	E		E		E	
ENTRANCE HALL	110	•		•		•			•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
TOILET	111	•			•	•			•			E	E	E			E		E	
CORRIDOR	112	•		•		•			•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH
DAY ROOM	113	•		•		•			•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
UTILITY	114	•			•	•			•			E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
ROOM	115	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	116	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	117	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	118	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	119	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	120	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	121	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
ROOM	122	•		•		•	•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
VESTIBULE	123	•		•		•			•			P	P	P	P	P	P			FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH
VESTIBULE	124	•		•		•			•			P	P	P	P	P	P			FURRED CLG. 8'-0" HIGH

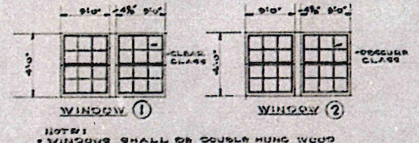
E - ENAMEL
P - PAINT

DOOR SCHEDULE

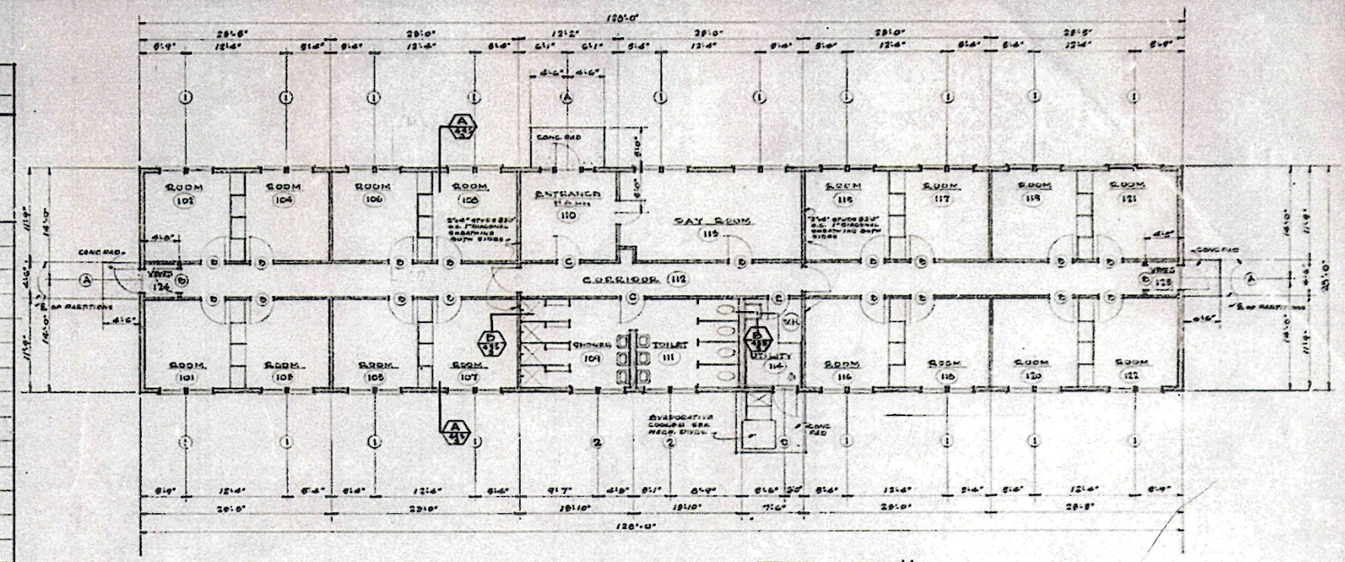
SYMBOL	SIZE	THICK	TYPE	HEAD	JAMB	SILL	FRAME	REMARKS
A	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	A 405-10	D 405-10	D 405-10	WOOD	UPPER PANEL 1/4" CLEAR GLASS 2 LIGHTS WIDE x 2 LIGHTS HIGH
B	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL
C	3'-0" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL w/METAL LOUVER
D	2'-8" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	A 405-10	D 405-10	D 405-10	WOOD	UPPER PANEL 1/4" CLEAR GLASS 1 LIGHTS WIDE x 2 LIGHTS HIGH
E	2'-8" x 7'-0"	1 3/4"	WOOD	E 405-10	F 405-10	G 405-10	WOOD	FLUSH PANEL

NOTE: ALL DOORS TO HAVE AUTOMATIC CLOSERS.

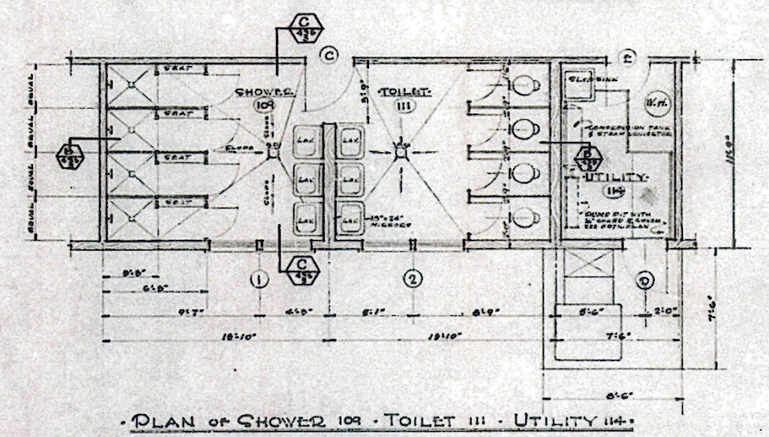




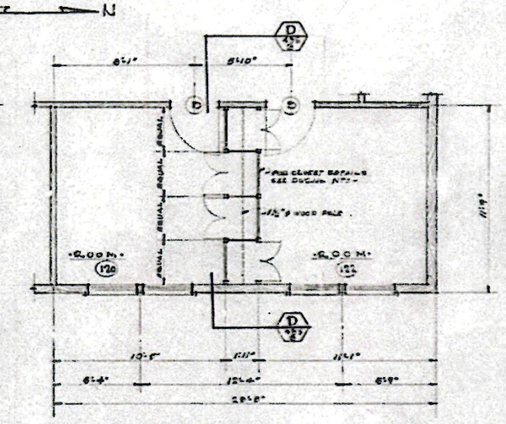
NOTE:
- WINDOWS SHALL BE DOUBLE HUNG WOOD
- ALL GLASS SHALL BE DOUBLE STRENGTH
- WINDOWS IN TOILET 111 & SHOWER 109 TO HAVE OBSCURE GLASS.



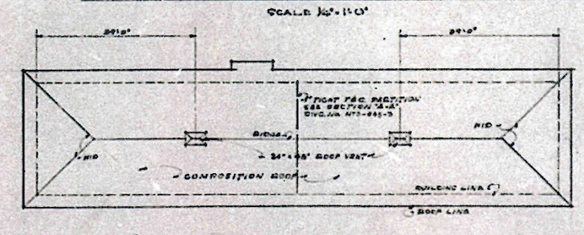
FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



PLAN OF SHOWER 109 · TOILET 111 · UTILITY 114
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



PLAN OF ROOM 120 & ROOM 122
ROOMS 101 THRU 108 & 115 THRU 121 SIMILAR
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



ROOF PLAN
SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"

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Name/Org: Tim Beard A433MSTS
Date: 30 Aug 2018

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AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	ABE	INT. NO	USER	
23	103	08	32	005	S 1	01	

AS BUILT
FINAL REVISION
SILAS MASON CO.

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. REP.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

WOMENS' BARRACKS 112 D
FLOOR PLAN & SCHEDULES

CONTRACT NO. 19-67
A.E.C. PROJ. NO.
DRAWN
CHECKED
A.E. APPROVED
DESIGN
SCALE NOTED
DATE

SUBMITTED — ENGINEER
RECOMMENDED — A.E.C.
APPROVED — A.E.C.

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. N.T.S.-439
SHEET 2 OF 4

M103-S1

M103-S1

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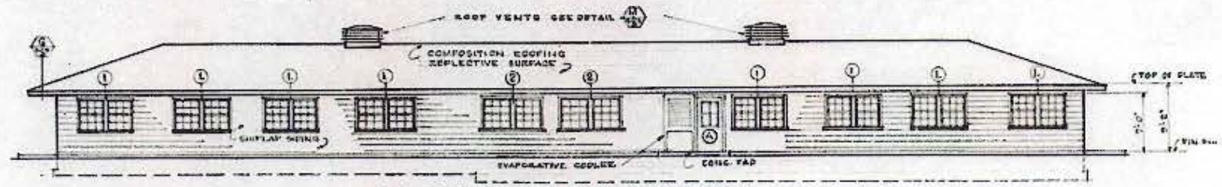
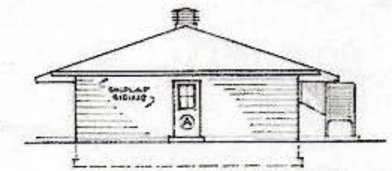


·EAST ELEVATION·



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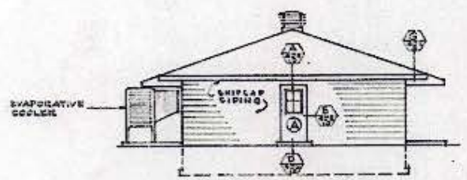
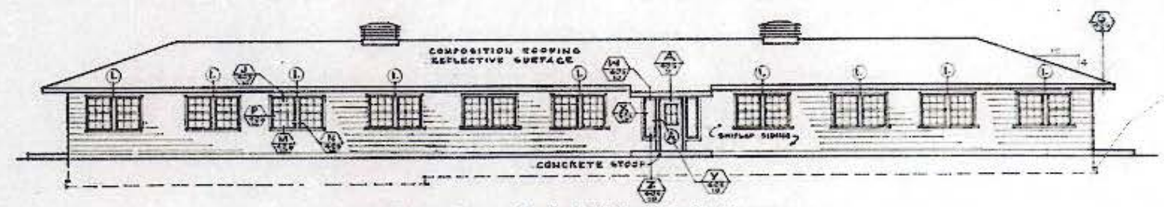
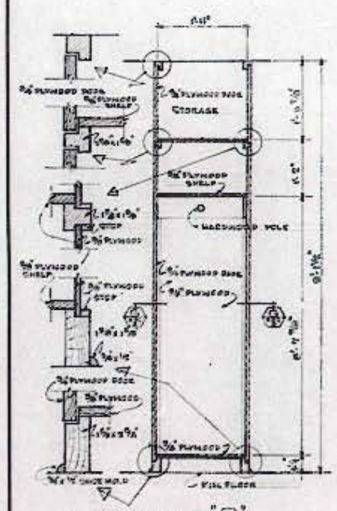


·SOUTH ELEV.·



·WEST ELEVATION·



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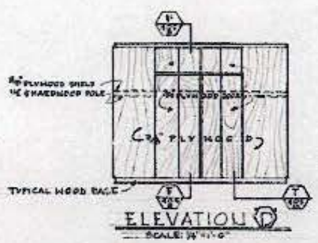

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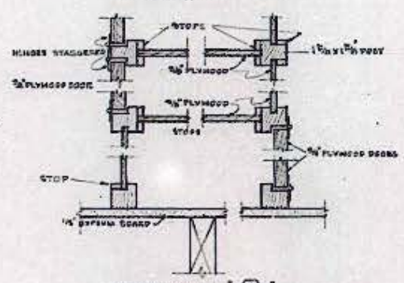

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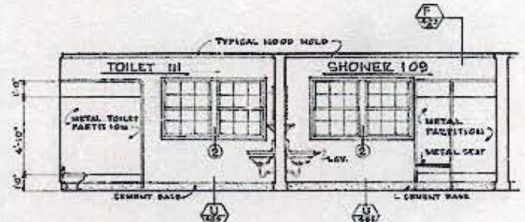

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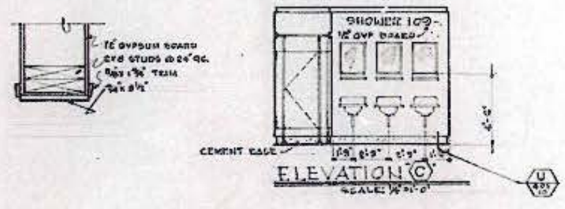

ELEVATION "C"

CLOSET DETAILS

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Date: 30 Aug 2018

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U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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WOMEN'S BARRACKS ~~HOE~~
ELEVATIONS AND DETAILS

DRAWN: TMF
SCALE: N.T.S.
DATE: 12-5-52

Silas Mason Company
ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

DRAWING NO. N.T.S.-43S
SHEET 3 OF 4

M103-54

M103-84

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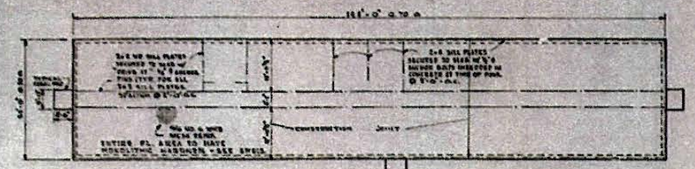
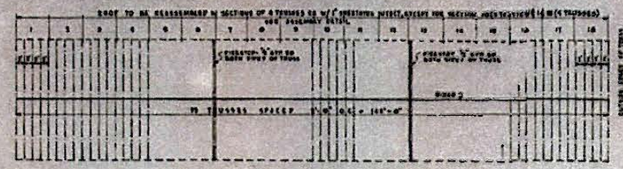
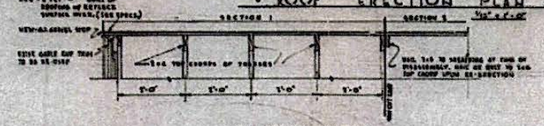


• FOUNDATION & SILL PLATE SETTING PLAN •



• ROOF ERECTION PLAN •



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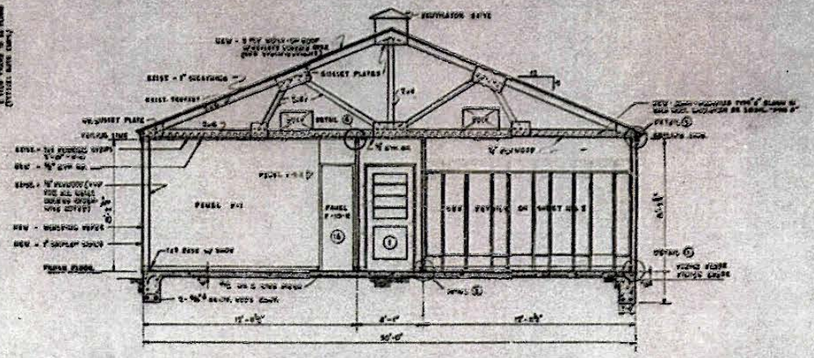
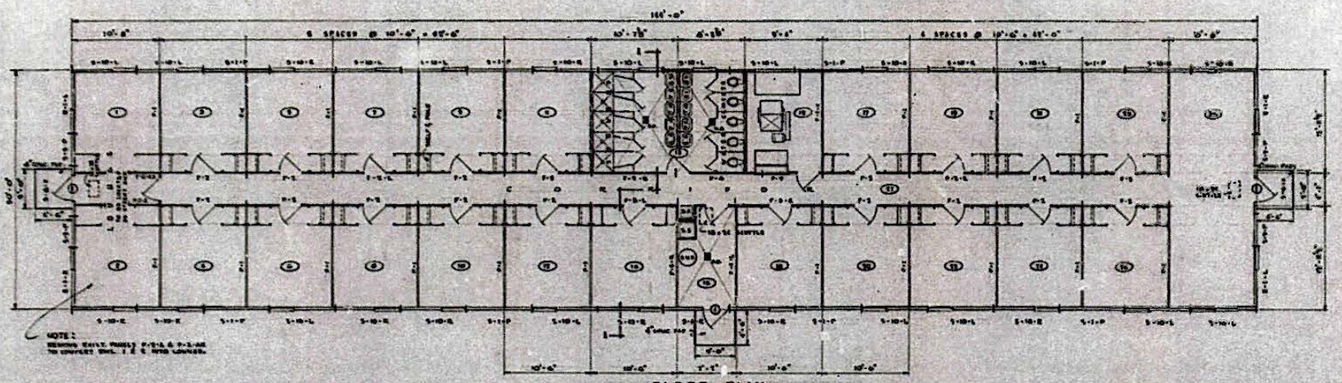
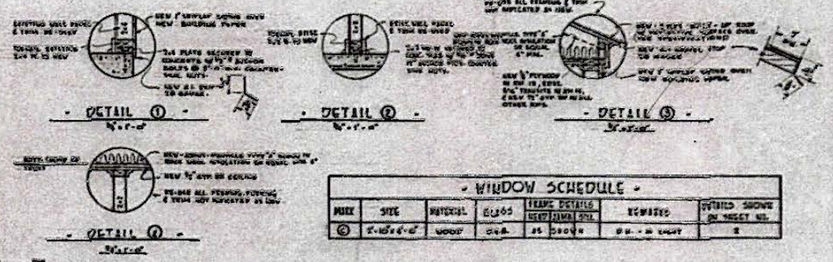


• SECTION A-A •



• FLOOR PLAN •



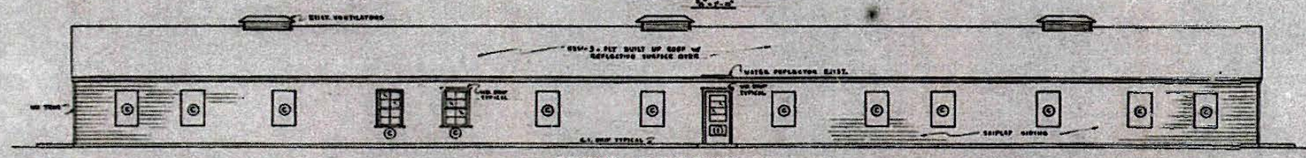
• DETAIL ① • • DETAIL ② • • DETAIL ③ • • DETAIL ④ •

• WINDOW SCHEDULE •

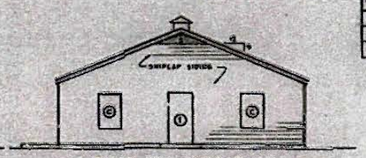
MARK	SIZE	MATERIAL	GLASS	FRAME DETAILS HEAD	JAMB	SILL	REMARKS	DETAILS SHOWN ON SHEET NO.
Ⓒ	2'-10½" x 4'-6"	WOOD	CLEAR	AS	SHOWN		6 MONTHS OLD - NEW - IN CREAT	2

• DOOR SCHEDULE •

MARK	SIZE	MATERIAL	GLASS	FRAME DETAILS HEAD	JAMB	SILL	REMARKS	DETAILS SHOWN ON SHEET NO.
①	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	SOLID	AS	SHOWN		6 MONTHS OLD - NEW	2
Ⓑ	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	SOLID	"	"		9 PANEL	2
Ⓐ	2'-6" x 6'-8" x 1¾"	WOOD	"	"	"		9 PANEL	2



• FRONT ELEVATION •

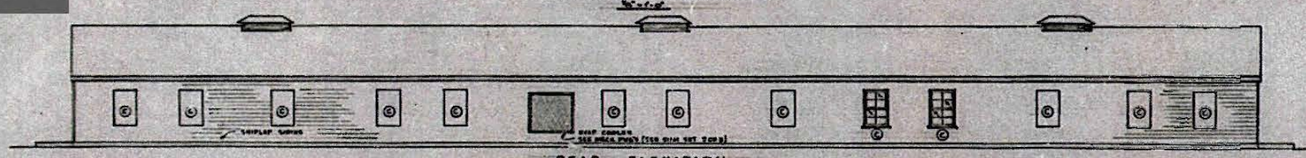


• RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION •

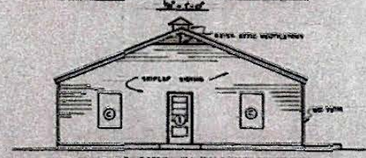
• FINISH SCHEDULE •

ROOM NO.	WALLS PLYWOOD	WD. TRANSITE	CEILING PLYWOOD	SCRATCH COAT	WD. TRANSITE	FLOOR	TRIM
15	●		●			CONC.	WD.
16	●		●			"	"
19		●			●	"	"
ALL OTHERS	●			●		"	"

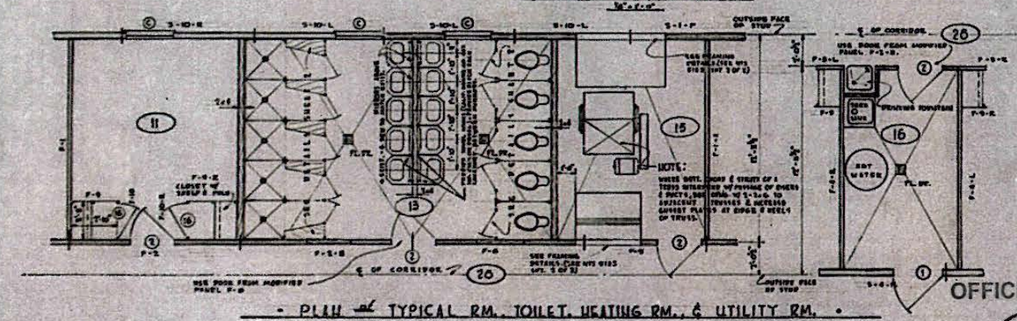
NOTE: PLYWOOD IN RM (19) TO BE WATERPROOF GRADE



• REAR ELEVATION •



• LEFT SIDE ELEVATION •



• PLAN of TYPICAL RM., TOILET, HEATING RM., & UTILITY RM. •

NOTE:

- INDICATES WALL PANELS W/ NO CHANGE.
- INDICATES WALL PANELS W/ MODIFICATIONS.
- INDICATES NEW WALL PANELS.
- ALL EXTERIOR WALL PANELS 3/4 STUFFING.
- ALL CORRIDOR WALL PANELS 1/2 STUFFING.
- ALL OTHER INTERIOR WALL PANELS 1/4 STUFFING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- SEE MECHANICAL DWGS. FOR PLUMBING, HEATING, & COOLING LAYOUTS & DETAILS. (SEE NTS SHT 1 OF 2)
- SEE ELECTRICAL DWGS. FOR LIGHTING & POWER LAYOUTS & DETAILS. (SEE NTS SHT 1 OF 2)

INDEX AREA	BLDG. OR STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.E.	SHT. NO.	USER
23	105	08	32	005	52	01

NOTE: THIS DRAWING REFLECTS CURRENT STATUS AS OF OCT. 26, 1967

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INV. NO. 253-84-9 BID ITEM 32

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHK.	PROJ. ENGR.	A.E.C. REP.
1		INCIDENT STATUS NO CHANGE				

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
SANTA FE OPERATIONS OFFICE
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR PLAN - FOUNDATION PLAN
ELEVATIONS-SECTIONS & SCHEDULES
FOR
WOMEN'S BARRACKS

CONTRACT NO. 29-2-8-1
A.E.C. PROJ. NO.
DRAWN C.R.M.
CHECKED
A.E. APPROVED
SCALE AS NOTED
DATE 6-11-59

Pete Stamer, Project Engineer; Elton Collins, Chief Engineer; Jack Rilko, Project Engineer

Giles Mason Company
ENGINEERS LAS VEGAS, NEVADA CONTRACTORS

DRAWING NO. N.V.S. 5155

SHEET 1 OF 2

7

N105-52

DOES NOT CONTAIN
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Name/Org: Tim Reurid MSTS A433

Date: 30 Aug 2018

M105-52

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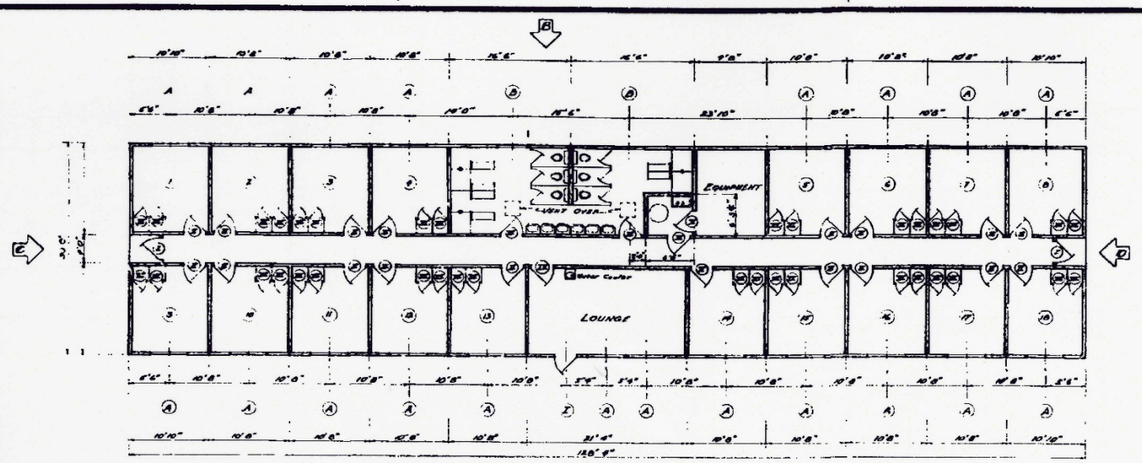
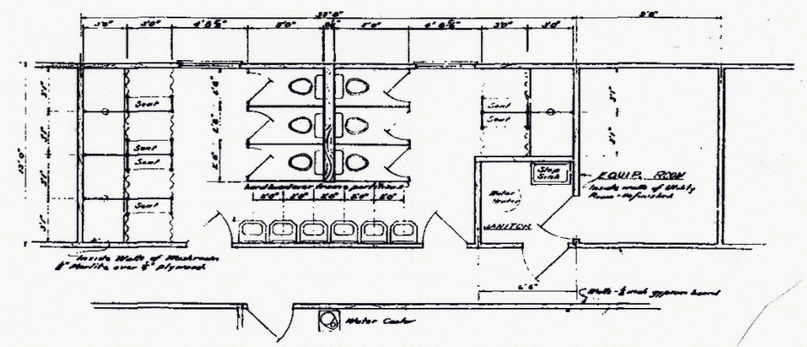
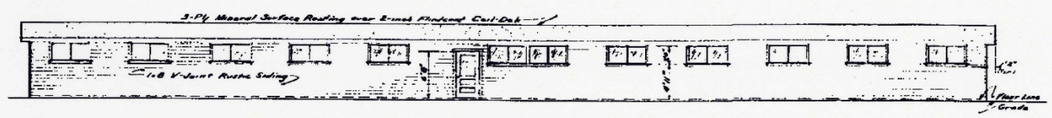


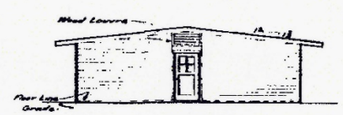
PLAN
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



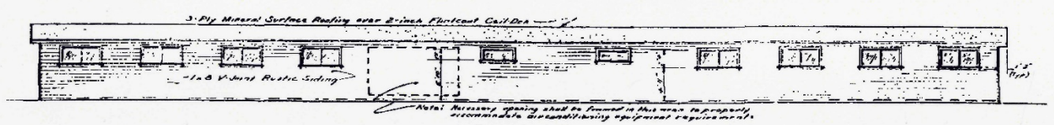
DETAIL OF WASHROOM
Scale: 1/4" = 1'0"



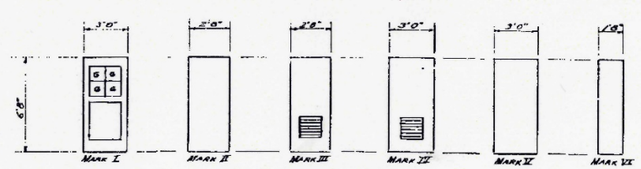
ELEVATION A
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



ELEVATION C & D
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



ELEVATION B
Scale: 1/8" = 1'0"



DOOR SCHEDULE

MARK	QUAN	SIZE	MATERIAL	REMARKS	GLASS	HARDWARE
I	2	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	4 Lights at Top	D.S.A	XIII
II	18	2'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIII
III	2	2'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush with Louvers	None	XXXVII
IV	1	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush with Louvers	None	XXXVII
V	2	3'0" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIV
VI	36	1'8" x 6'0" x 1 3/8"	Wood	Hollow Core Flush	None	XIII

WINDOW SCHEDULE

MARK	QUAN	SIZE	MATERIAL	REMARKS	GLASS
A	20	5'0" x 2'4"	Aluminum	Horizontal Sliding Perimeter Jb. 2-22	D.S.A
B	2	4'0 1/8" x 1'5"	Aluminum	Commercial Projected A.M.A. Spec. P-A2	Obscure

INTERIOR FINISH SCHEDULE

ROOMS	WALLS		CEILINGS		PAINTING						REMARKS
	Vinylite* Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	Vinylite* Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	5" Gypsum Board with Plastic Finish Hardboard Wainscot	Acoustical Tile Ceiling	Walls	Ceiling	Metal	Finish Woodwork: Wood Doors	Frames	Trim	P = Paint E = Enamel
Rooms 1 to 10		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Wash Room	•	•		•			E	E		E	E	E	Furr Ceiling Down to 8'0"
Equipment Rm.		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Day Room		•			•		P		P	P	P	P	
Corridor		•		•			P	P	P	P	P	P	Furr Ceiling Down to 7'6"

* "Vinylite" plastic finish hardboard is "Snow White," with Blue Score lines recess 4 inches apart vertically & horizontally. 4'x8' in 4'x8' 1/8" thick panels. Trade name "Vinylite" is manufactured by North Wolf Products, Inc., Subsidiary of Masonite Corporation, or approved equal for which

DOES NOT CONTAIN OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION
Name/Org: Tim Rearick MSTS A433
Date: 30 Aug 2018

INDEX CODE

23	106	08 22	005	52	01

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK.	PROJ. ENGR.	ARCH. ENGR.

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS FIELD OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

WOMENS BARRACKS
FLOOR PLAN & ELEVATIONS

CONTRACT NO. 1238
A.E.C. DES. NO.
DRAWN JGB
CHECKED
A. E. APPROVED
DESIGN
PROJ. ENGR.
PROJ. CHIEF
CHIEF ENGR.
SCALE 1/8" = 1'0"
DATE 26 April 1956

RECOMMENDED — A.E.C.
APPROVED — A.E.C.

Morrison & Knudsen - Stone & Webster Co., Inc.
ENGINEERS — CONTRACTORS
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

JOB NTS
DRAWING NO. N-106 S2
REV.

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M106-S2

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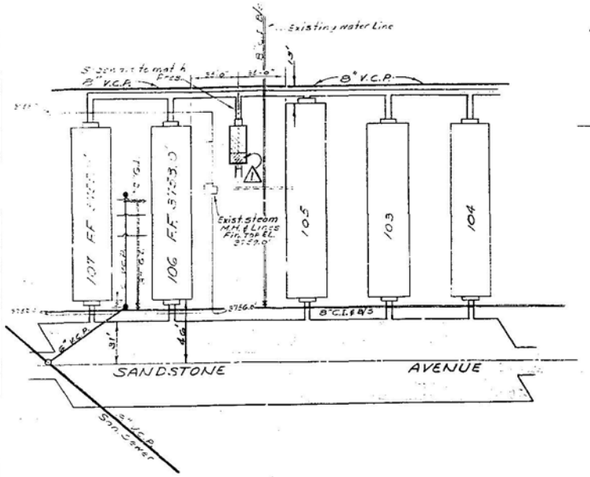
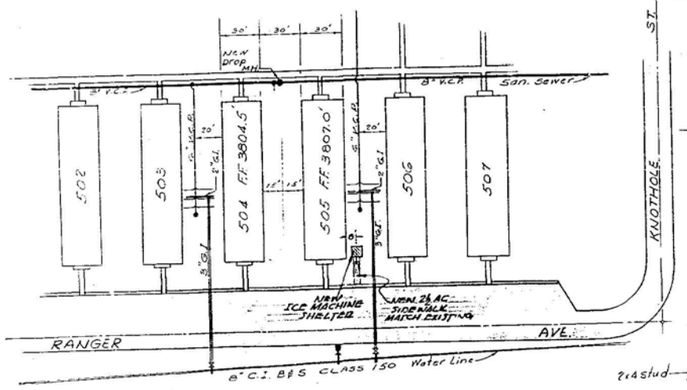
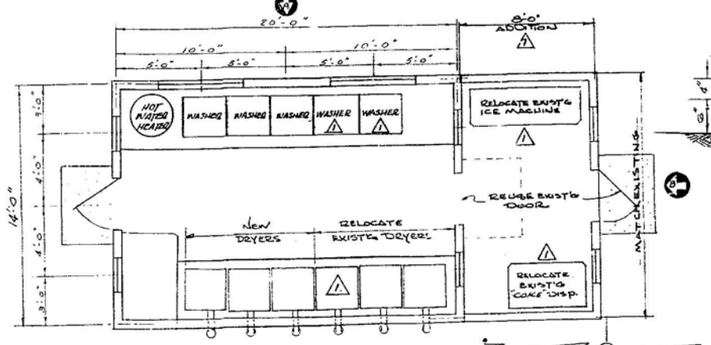
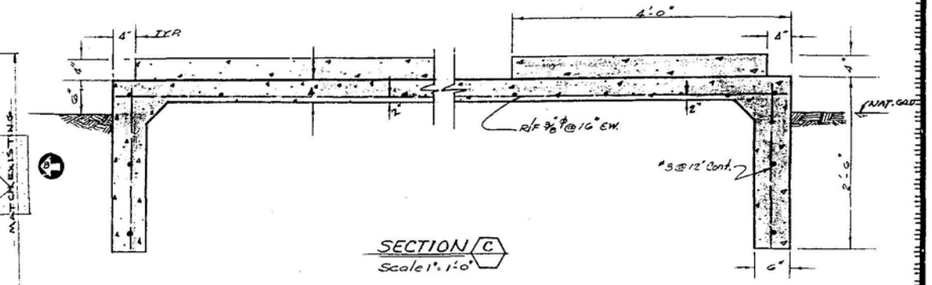


PLOT PLAN
Scale 1" = 50'

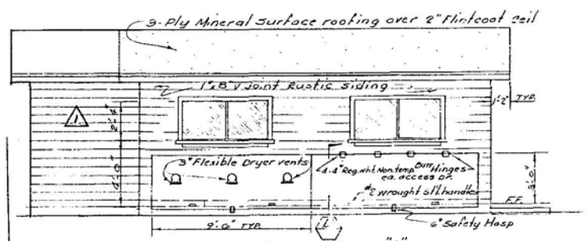




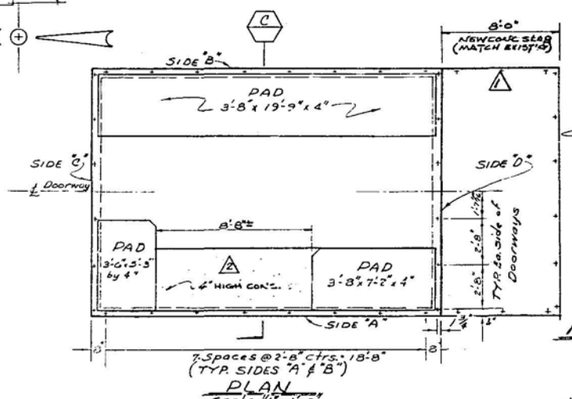
FLOOR PLAN
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
(Laundry shelter bet. structs. 105 & 106)



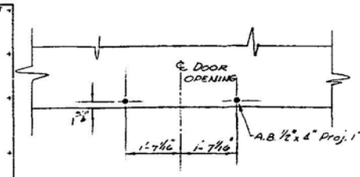
SECTION C
Scale 1" = 1'-0"



ELEVATION "A"
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

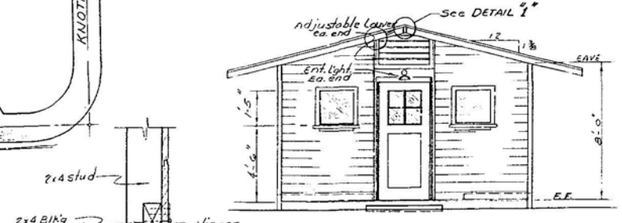


PLAN
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
ANCHOR BOLT LAYOUT



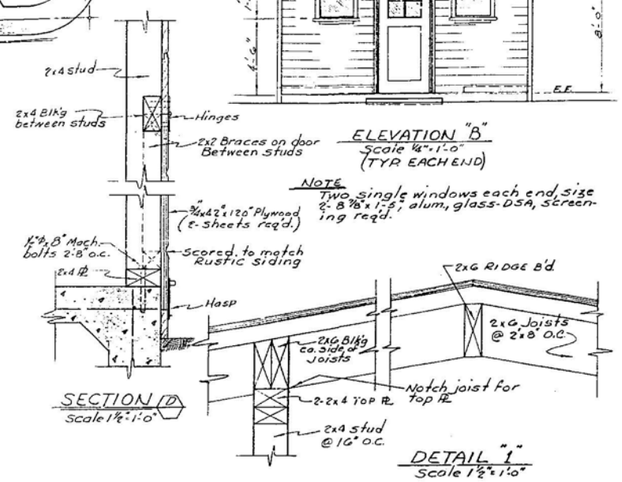
3'-0" x 7'-0" DOOR ANCHOR BOLTS
Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"

NOTE:
1- Perimeter bolts are 1 3/4" inside of building line. Bolts are 1/2" x 8" Long Sq. head mach., w/2 1/2" proj.



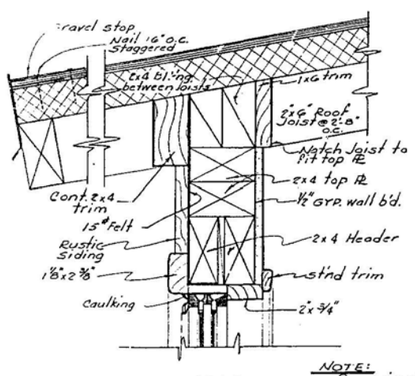
ELEVATION "B"
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
(TYP. EACH END)

NOTE
Two single windows each end, size 2'-8 7/8" x 1'-8"; alum., glass-DSA, screening req'd.



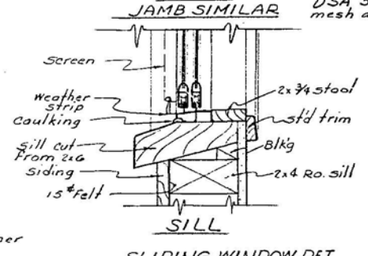
SECTION D
Scale 1 1/2" = 1'-0"

DETAIL "1"
Scale 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



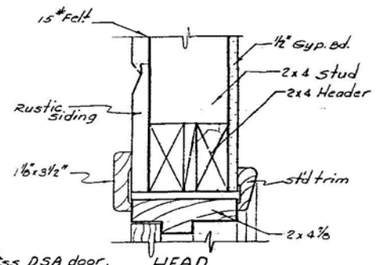
HEAD
JAMB SIMILAR

NOTE:
Panaview #W-2 Alum., glass-DSA, 3'-0" x 2'-4" window w/16 mesh alum. wire cloth screen'g.



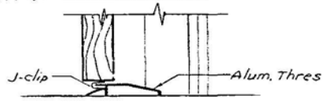
SILL

SLIDING WINDOW DET.
Scale 3" = 1'-0"

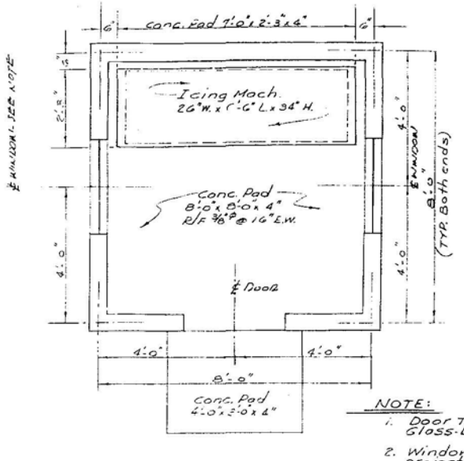


NOTE:
Glass DSA door (wood) w/4-Lights @ top Size 3'-0" x 6'-8" x 1 3/4".

HEAD
JAMB SIM.



SILL
DOOR DETAIL
Scale 3" = 1'-0"



PLAN
Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"
(Ice Machine Shelter)
Between Structs. 505 & 504

NOTE:
1. Door Type (Wood) w/4-Lights @ top Glass-DSA Size 3'-0" x 6'-8" x 1 3/4".
2. Window Type (Alum.) Commercial projected A.W.M.A. Spec. P-A2 Glass-DSA Size 2'-8 7/8" x 1'-5".
3. Bolt layout similar to laundry Shelter.

PAINTING NOTE:
All wood trim shall receive one (1) coat primer & two coats semi-lustre paint.
All gypsum board, to receive one (1) seal coat & two (2) finish coats of flat rubber base paint.
Exterior wood surfaces shall be primed w/ one coat white lead primer & finished with two coats of paint matching dormitories.

INDEX			CODE				
AREA	BLDG or STA.	CLASS	TYPE	A.B.C.	SHT. NO.	USER	
23	152	17	30	003	S 1	01	7

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	CHIEF ENG.	A.E.C. APP.
1	1/14/58	ADD 8'-0" TO SO. END OF BLDG, INCLUDING UTILITIES FOR (2) W.M. (3) D	GJ			
		Changed Drawing number from M-106-52 To				

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY, NEVADA

PLOT PLAN
PLAN, ELEVATIONS, SECTIONS & DET'LS
LAUNDRY & ICE MACH. SHELTERS

DRAWN BY J.P.
CHECKED BY R.B.C.
DEPT. ENGR. R.B.C.
SCALE NOTED
DATE 1-29-57

W.O. 4501-27 E.O. 325107

SUBMITTED: Chief Engr. — APPROVED: Agency — RECOMMENDED: A.E.C. — APPROVED: A.E.C.

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

JOB: NTS — DRAWING NO. M-152-51 — REV. 1

DIETZGEN NO. 192M EDVELL

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☒

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 10, Sandstone – Teapot		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589653	Northing: 4057625 **(Pad for 23-103)**	

USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?		Yes ☐		No ☒	

3. Architectural Information

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Construction Date	1951 and 1956	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☒	No ☐
	Number?: 5	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Dorm buildings removed, foundations remaining. Laundry (AR152) is in use and maintained.		

Building 23-156 and foundations for Women's Dormitories, view west (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		
Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development			
Period of Significance	1951-1992			

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s):post-1992

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Women's Dormitories
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing, RV Park
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke Construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

---

5. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

These buildings served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. They represent an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the buildings has severely degraded their integrity. Despite this problem, the array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundations related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

A large "COVER-ALL" brand metal-framed plastic-covered portable building on the foundations for Buildings 23-103 and 23-105 post-dates the period of significance and does not contribute to the Mercury Historic District. The shelter is no longer in use. It is easily removable but at present due to its incompatible scale, design, and materials it has an adverse visual impact on the integrity of design, workmanship, and feeling of the Mercury Historic District far beyond that of any other post-Cold War buildings or structures.

Despite its small size, the Wash House (Building 23-152) is one of the premier historic buildings surviving in Mercury. Its modifications nearly all date to the period of significance and unlike the rest of the resource it retains all aspects of integrity to a high degree.

The RV Park is well preserved and also contributes to the Mercury Historic District, representing an entirely new approach to site housing in the 1980s.

6. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource occupies the southern half of the block in Mercury bounded by Teapot Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions.

The dormitories were rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with wood siding, low and moderate-pitch roofs, and concrete slab foundations. Concrete sidewalks ran to all of the building entrances (located at both ends of each dormitory) and along the maintenance alley north of the row of dorms. The designer and builder of this series of buildings is unknown pending further research.

The foundation for Building 23-103 was arbitrarily designated the Principal Resource simply because it has the lowest building number. The four other dormitory foundations and the Wash House are Accessory Resources.

The gravel spaces between foundations in the entire southeast corner of the block from the foundation for Building 23-105 eastward were paved for use as an RV Park which opened in 1981 (NTS 1981). This park continued into the block to the east of Buster Street. Electrical and water hookup boxes are still standing. Paving of the area east of the foundation for Building 23-104 is currently maintained as a bus stop.

AR1: 23-104 Foundation
Three styles of dormitories were constructed. Buildings 23-103 and 23-104 were built in 1951 (AEC 1951). They were 128 by 28 ft (3,584 sq. ft.) and had hip roofs. These buildings were removed prior to 1981.Three examples of this type, Buildings 23-B, C, and D, are still standing on the next block to the east.

AR2: 23-105 Foundation
Building 23-105 was also built in 1951. It was 144 by 30 ft. (4,320 sq. ft.) and had a gable roof with distinctive triangular wood louvered vents in the gable ends. The building was also removed prior to 1981.

AR3 and AR4: 23-106 and 23-107 Foundations
Buildings 23-106 and 23-107 were built in 1956. They were about the same length as building 23-103 but slightly wider with low-pitch gable roofs.

AR5: The Wash House Building 23-152
The Wash House (23-152) was also known as a Washeteria. It is the only standing building on the entire block and has the distinction of continued use from its construction in 1956 to the present. It is a 413 sq. ft. one-story rectangular-plan wood-frame building. It was enlarged prior to 1974. It was originally sheathed with wood V-rustic shiplap siding which was painted green like all other buildings of that era. The original end wall of this material is preserved as an interior partition due to the expansion. In 1974 the walls were covered with aluminum insulated bevel siding. Original windows are wood-framed 4/4 sliders. The addition at the south end of the building has a replacement flush metal door with one light flanked by wood-framed fixed 1/1 windows. The north entry is the same but there is only one window to the left of the door. Metal louvered vents are in the gable ends. It has a low pitch gable roof with recent metal soffits. Originally composition, the roof is now covered with a reflective coating.

7. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

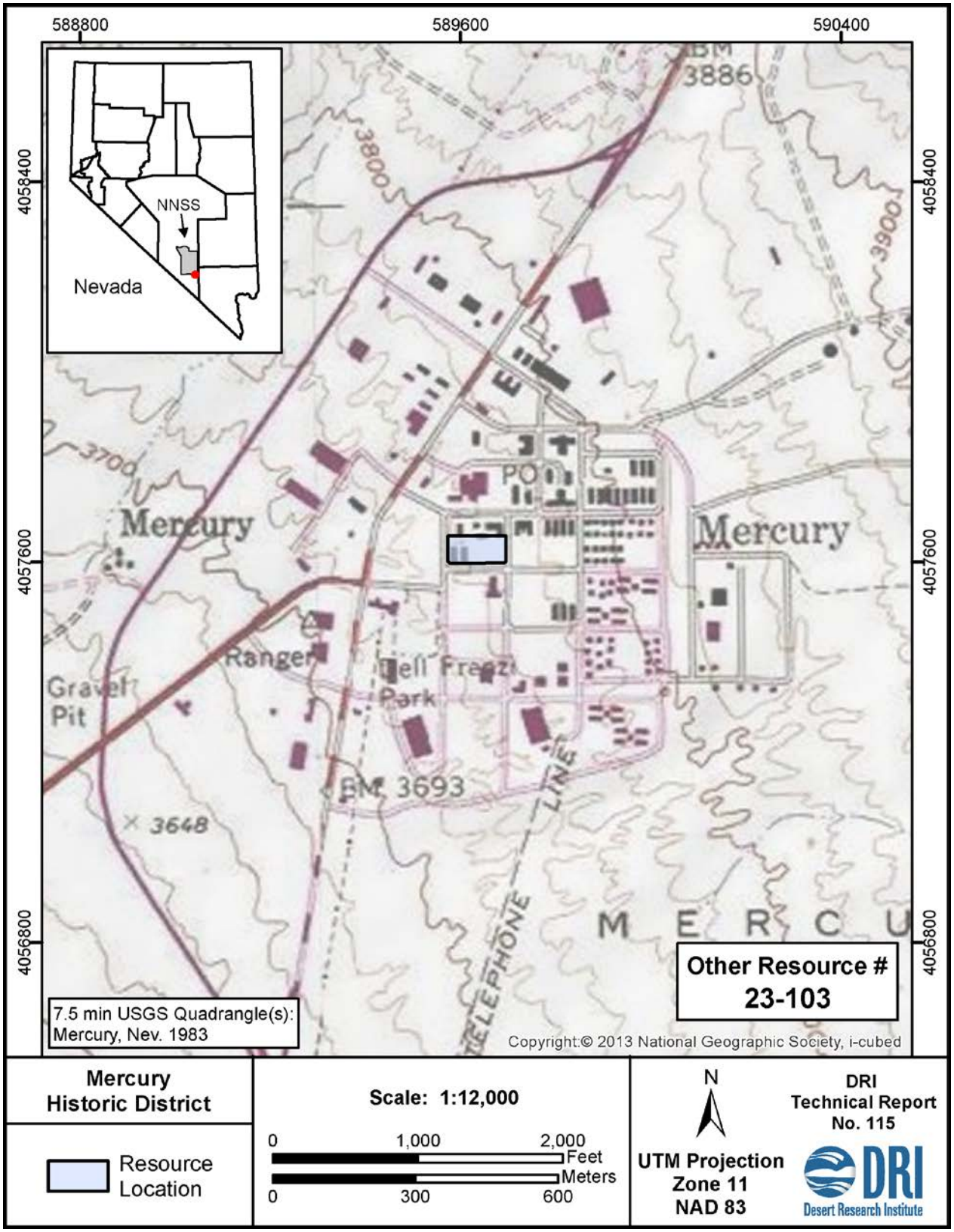
NTS News Bulletin
1981 *NTS R-V Park opens.* 29 May: 1-2. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113289.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo)
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site for the United States Atomic Energy Commission.*

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
1951 Mercury Campsite Layout. Drawing No. N.T.S.-187-C

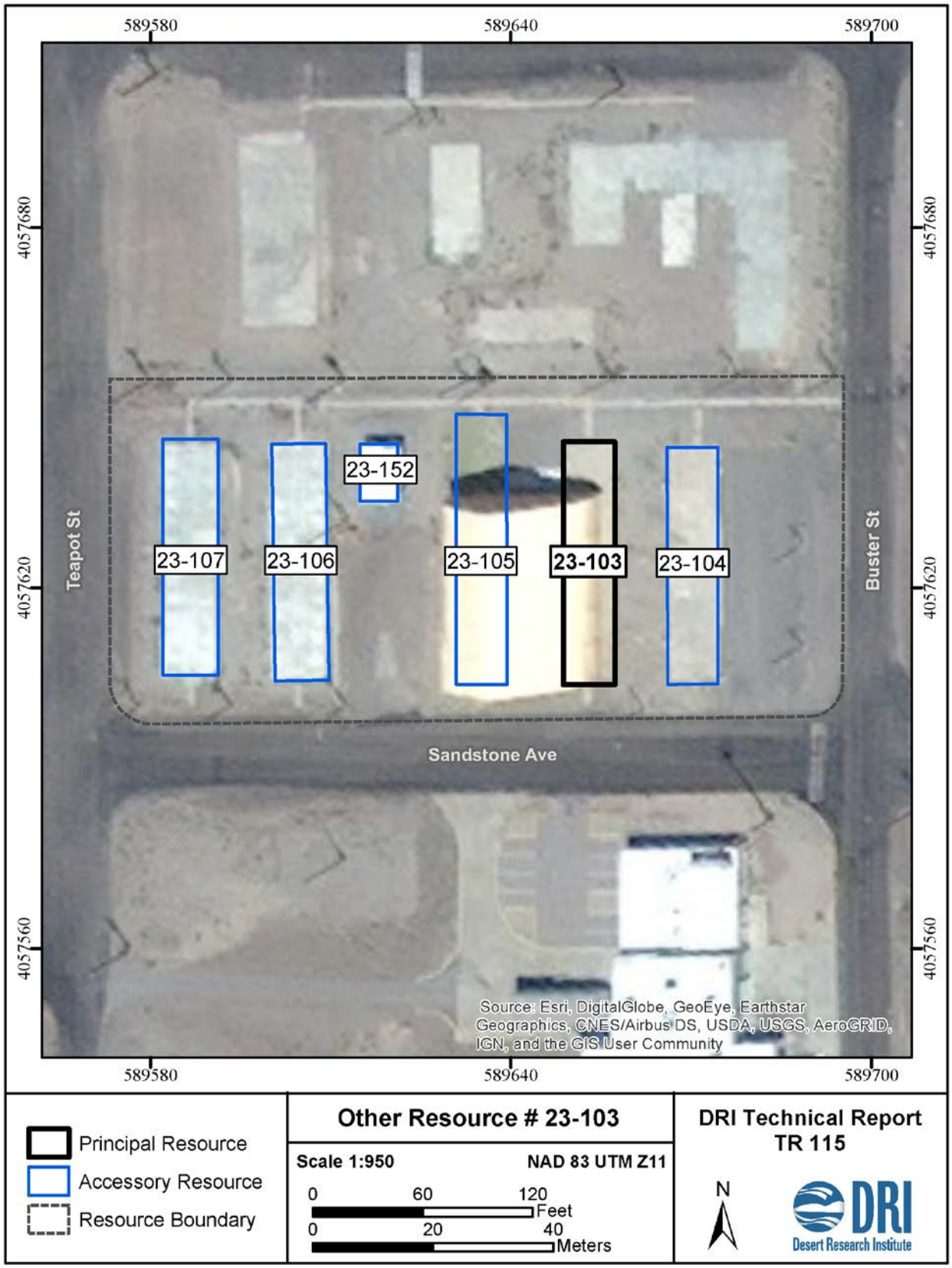
8. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



9. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.

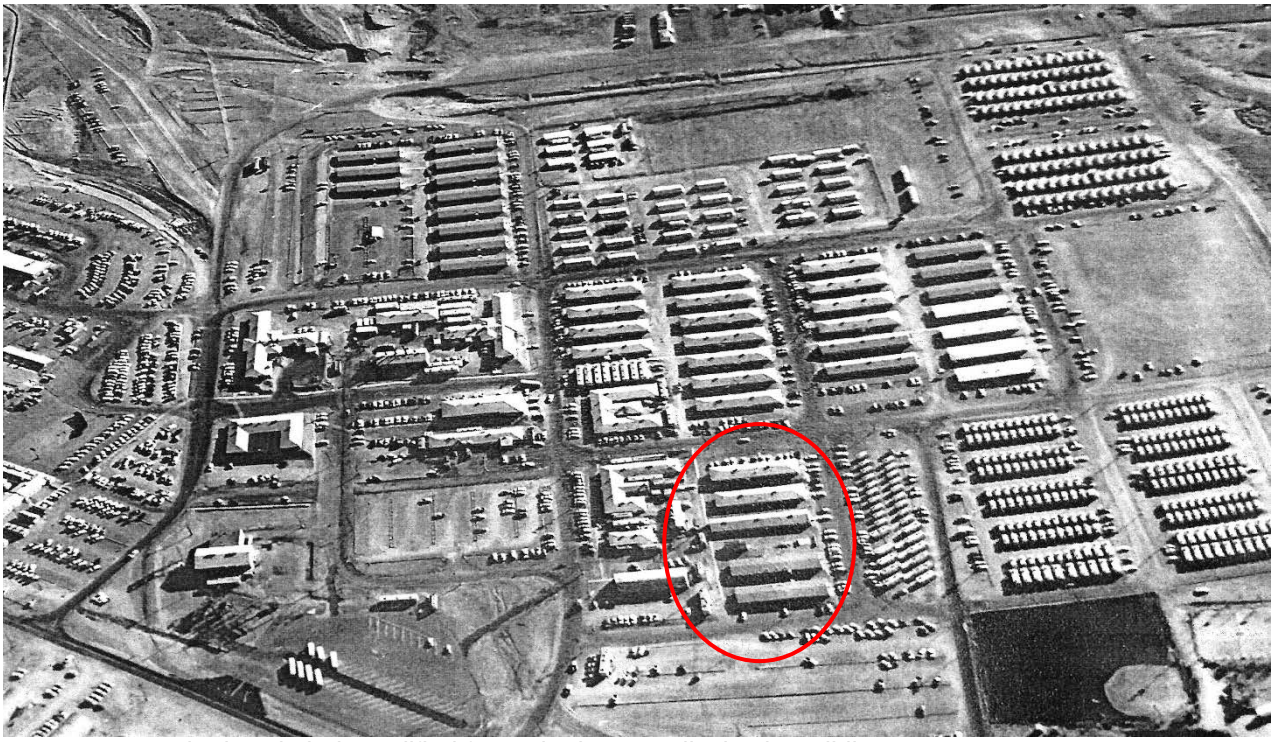


10. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Menocal Date: 6/20/2017

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southeast Photographer: Menocal Date: 6/20/2017



Women's Dormitories circled. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Building 23-G. Buildings 23-103 and 23-104 were nearly identical to the dormitory shown.
Elevations: East, North Direction facing:South Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Building 23-Q. Building 23-105 was nearly identical to the dormitory shown in this photo.
Elevations: West, South Direction facing: Northeast Photographer: REECo Date: 1955

Buildings 23-106 and 23-107 in 1998.
Elevations: North, East Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: DRI Date: 1998

Accessory Resources

Complete only if Accessory Resources are present. Include as many extra entries as necessary.

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR1: 23-104 Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589670		Northing: 4057624	

Building 23-104 was at arrow. The foundation for Principal Resource 23-103 is covered by the prefabricated shelter.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR2: 23-105 Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589635		Northing: 4057628	

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: South Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR3: 23-106 Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589605		Northing: 4057624	

Building 23-106 was in foreground. Building 23-107 was in background.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/20/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR4: 23-107 Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589587		Northing: 4057625	

SEE PHOTO ABOVE

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☒	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	AR5: 23-152 Wash House			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589618		Northing: 4057639	

Elevations: South, East Direction facing: Northwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017; **July 9-12, 2018**	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer; **Reno, King**	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-20; **SR070918-1**

Resource C298 was revisited by DRI July 9-12, 2018. The overall condition of the property is unchanged. This update documents additional historical research undertaken since that time and includes a revised significance discussion. The original significance evaluation of the property has been modified to address the potential individual eligibility of the resource rather than only discussing it in the context of contributing to the Mercury Historic District. All of the buildings originally constructed as part of this dormitory complex are discussed in the update. This includes seven dormitories (23-P, Q, V, W, X, Y) that were demolished, including their foundations, in 1986 to build the 23-531 series of dormitories. The locations of these former seven dormitories are not within the boundary of the resource footprint as shown on the map in the original ARA form due to their complete removal.

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	E-K: **1951** L-O: **1952** P-Q: **1953-1955** S-Y: **1956**

5. NRHP Evaluation

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☒	Unevaluated ☐		

Contributes to the district under Criteria A and C; not individually eligible to the National Register at the national or local level.

Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes and Narver designed the A-O series of dormitories. REECo engineered foundations for Dorms 23-S – Y and may have designed the rest of the buildings as well. Silas Mason Co. designed dorms 23-P and Q. Holmes and Narver designed later modifications to all buildings.

6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Individual Significance under Criteria A and C

The NNSA/NFO, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined the Mercury Historic District (D230) is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the national level of significance for its importance in supporting nuclear testing and scientific research from 1951 through 1992, inclusive. This period encompasses the entire era of nuclear testing at what is now the NNSS during the Cold War. The district is made up of 154 resources and 348 Accessory Resources.

This resource contributes to the significance of the district under these two criteria.

For purposes of the district-wide survey, individual resources were evaluated only as they relate to the Mercury Historic District as contributing versus non-contributing elements. Extensive additional research was required for these resources to enable evaluation at the individual resource level. It was anticipated that with completion of such research that several of the resources in Mercury would be considered significant enough to warrant individual eligibility. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district, however, that they will not be individually eligible. Rather, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole.

This resource, which is represented today solely by foundations, is precluded from individual significance under any criterion due to integrity issues.

Criterion B

Most of the individuals important at the national level to the nation's nuclear programs or other programs that were tested or developed at what is now the NNSS had far more important ties elsewhere, such as at the Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Although many of these individuals spent time at Mercury, it was often for short visits to monitor test results.

The critical aspect of National Register eligibility under Criterion B is that the resource be directly associated with an important aspect of the career that makes that person's achievements worthy of note. In regard to Mercury, this makes it likely that some of the laboratory-related buildings may have this level of association. In regard to the support infrastructure buildings such as these, this kind of association is generally lacking. No evidence has yet come to light suggesting that any of the buildings in this group has significant associations with important persons. Therefore, this resource is not recommended as contributing to the National Register under Criterion B.

Criterion D

The most important questions regarding the district as a whole relate to nuclear testing and if it is associated with individual resources. These are likely to be found in laboratory/radiation-related facilities. There is no potential for the minimal remains of this resource to have this kind of research potential.

In regard to an overall study of townsite development, the contribution of this collection of instant buildings is certainly important but here again the integrity issues limit the research potential of the physical remains of the buildings that once stood on this site.

This resource is recommended not eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Dormitories 23-E – 23-M (23-N and 23-O foundations no longer exist)

This resource encompasses foundations for nine of the 17 members of the A-O/103-104 series of dormitories (referred to hereafter as the A-O series). Most were built in 1951, but dormitories L-O south of Sandstone Avenue were constructed in 1952. Two additional dormitories, N and O, were originally part of this resource but were demolished in 1986 to provide parking for new dormitories.

The dormitories were 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with moderate-pitch hip roofs and concrete slab foundations (REECo 1955). Short concrete sidewalks ran from each dormitory to Sandstone Avenue. The original wood shiplap siding was covered with insulated bevel aluminum siding in 1974 (*NTS News* 1974).

Windows were wood framed with narrow surrounds, which were removed upon installation of the metal siding. Dorm rooms had triple sets of a 4/4 fixed sash flanked on each side by 6/6 double-hung operable sash. Other rooms had single 6/6 double-hung windows. Exterior doors were originally wood panel, some with lights or louvers.

Each front entrance was near the center of a long façade. Plans were reversed in alternating buildings, so roughly half of the dorms faced east and the remainder faced to the west. Each front door had a 2/2 light. It was flanked by fixed single-light sidelights which extended from the top of the door nearly to the ground. An extension of the roof formed a hood over the entrance, which had a concrete stoop. Left of the door were three sets of triple windows and to the right were two more triple window sets.

The rear also had a door near center but lacked sidelights and hood. Arrayed on both sides was a combination of single and triple windows.

The narrow sides on the north and south ends each had entrances to the central hallway with concrete stoops.

The hip roof was originally covered with composition material but later had a reflective coating. It had wide overhangs with plywood soffits, and a plain board fascia. Two large rectangular metal vents were on the ridgeline.

The plan was arrayed around a full-length central hallway that had the main air conditioning duct built into its ceiling. It was divided into three zones comprised of a central block containing the main entrance, restrooms, showers, mechanical room, and storage along with one dorm room. On each side of the central block were four dorm rooms with two on each side of the hallway. Walls in the central space were of stud and drywall construction. Those of the dorm rooms, including the one in the central block, were lightweight partitions made of a single thickness of plywood supported by posts. For ventilation the partitions were open near the floor and ceiling.

Dorm rooms were approximately 11x23 ft and normally had four occupants although that number could be doubled if necessary with bunk beds (all of the standard steel bed frames used on site could be converted to bunks).

Air conditioning was provided by a single evaporative cooler located outside the mechanical room and connected to the central air duct.

It is likely that these dormitories were converted to semi-private rooms in 1959. Plans for this modification in this dorm series were not recovered during research for this phase of the project, but since the S-Y dorms received this modification at around the same time, it would be surprising if the entire array of dorms was not altered in the same way.

Dormitories 23-P and 23-Q (foundations no longer exist)

These two dormitories occupied the west end of the row of buildings just south of Sandstone Avenue. They were slightly longer than the A-O series. They looked quite different with single windows, gable roofs, and triangular vents in the gable ends as shown on the attached photo. Additional details are provided for this series of three dorms in the description for 23-105, which was recorded as part of resource 23-103 (Resource #C297). These two dormitories and their foundations were removed in 1986 to construct the 531-series of dormitories and associated parking areas. A third dormitory of this design (23-R) was planned but never constructed, its place in the array of dormitories instead becoming a parking lot at the corner of Sandstone and Buster.

Dormitories 23-S – 23-U (23-V – 23-Y foundations no longer exist)

The last phase of dormitory construction at resource C298 was in 1956 with the installation of these seven dorms along the north side of Greenhouse Avenue. The western four dormitories and their foundations were removed in 1986 to construct the 531-series of dormitories and associated parking areas. The western half of Greenhouse Avenue in this block was removed at the same time.

These buildings had low-pitch end-gable roofs and horizontally-oriented sliding windows. In place of the enclosed entry vestibules of the A-O series, these had doors inset into the ends of the buildings leading to the central hallway. Original wood siding was replaced as usual by metal insulated siding. Early dorm exteriors were painted with pastel colors, including pale yellow and green, but later the standard green was used as in the rest of Mercury in the 1950s.

As shown on the attached plan on page 4, the layout of these 118x30 ft buildings was very similar to the A-O series. Typical dorm rooms were 12x21 ft.

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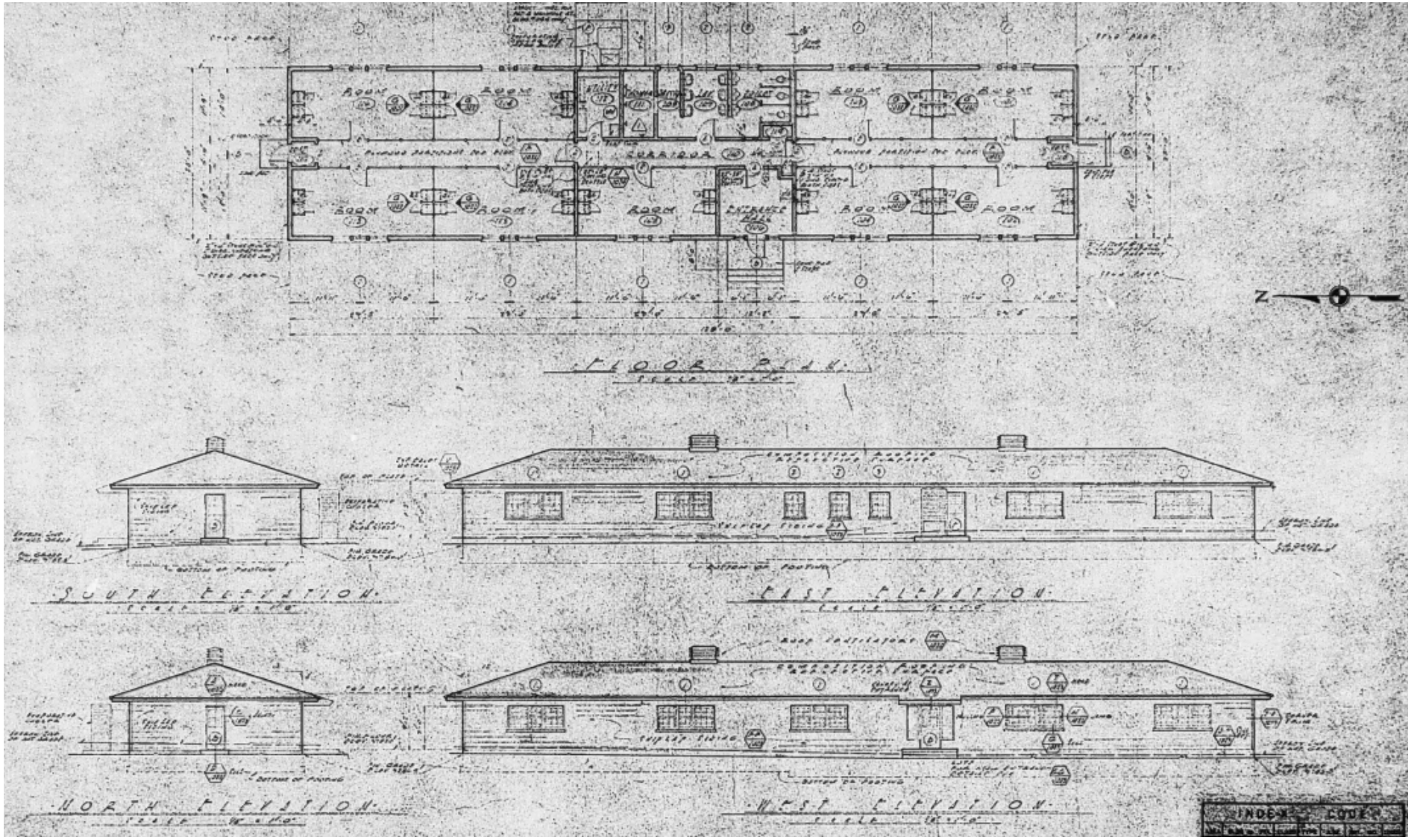
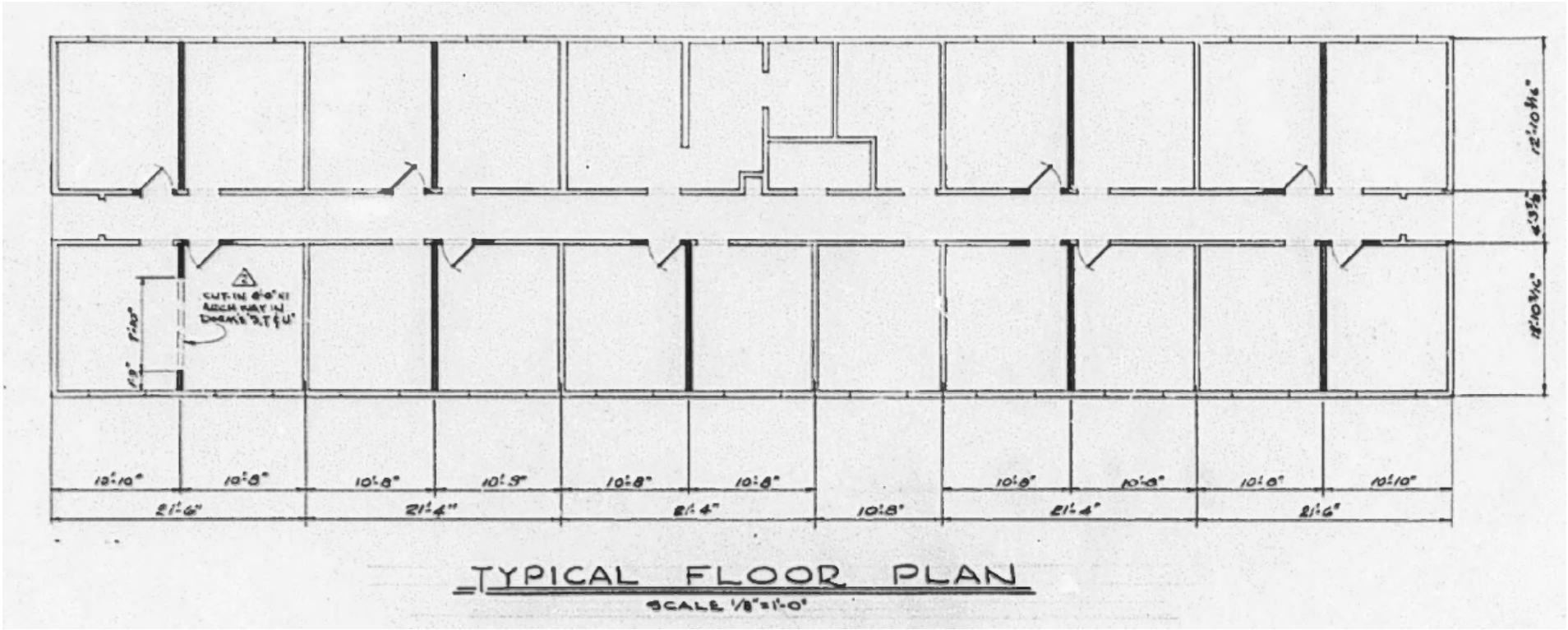
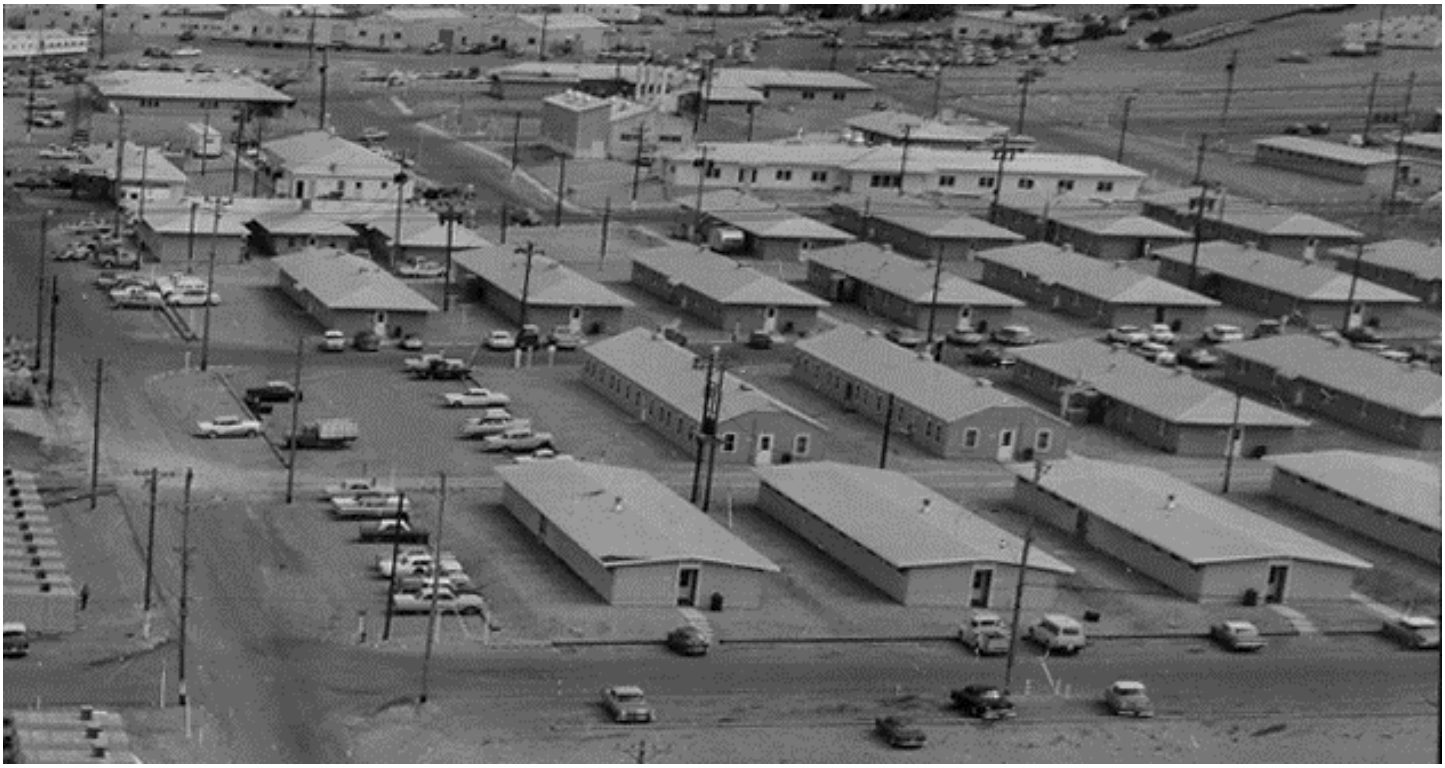


The plan and elevations for Building 23-E are typical of the entire A-O series of dormitories except for plan reversals (Holmes and Narver Drawing ATS-J-1025, 1951).



Plan for the S series of dormitories showing original room layout and division into semi-private rooms (REECo Drawing NTS-MS-S2, 1959).



This photo shows all three dormitory types present within this resource footprint. In the foreground are examples of the S-Y series with their very low-pitch gable roofs and inset doorways. The next row starts with the parking lot where Dormitory R was never built. Immediately to the right of the lot are the Dormitories Q and P with their distinctive triangular vents in the gable ends. The rest of the hip-roofed dormitories are of the A-O series. The view is to the northeast with the corner of Buster and Sandstone in the lower left (REECo Photo 3028-15, 1965.)

Southwest corner of Building 23-Q facing northeast (REECo 1955). This building, along with 23-P of the same design, were part of the array of dormitories southeast of Sandstone and Buster before their demolition in 1986.

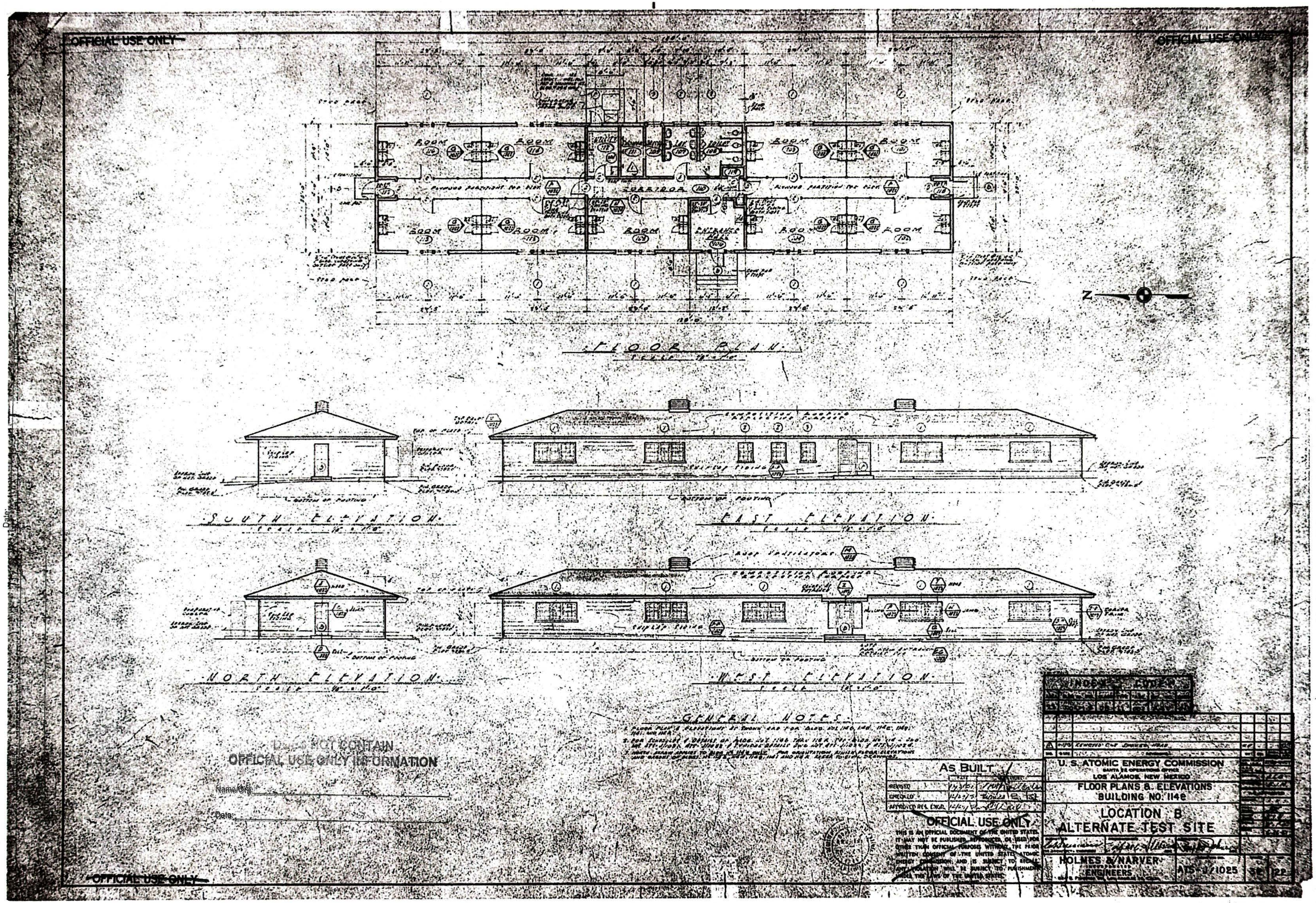
Central hallway of Dormitory 23-G showing distinctive post-and-plywood interior wall construction (REECo 1955).

Dormitories 23-S, T, and U, south elevations, facing north (DRI 1998).

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: Tim Record A433445TS 30Aug2018

Date:



ATS-J/1025

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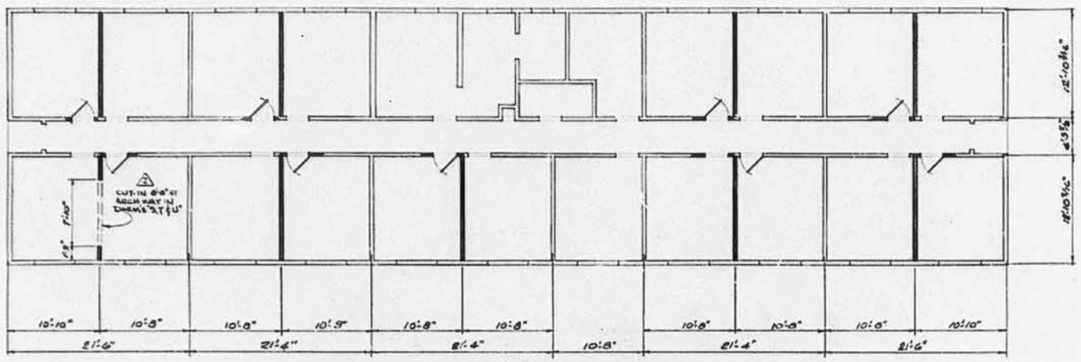
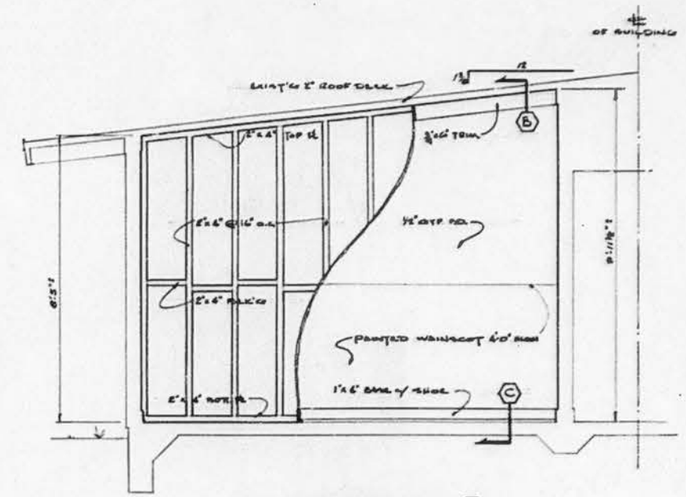


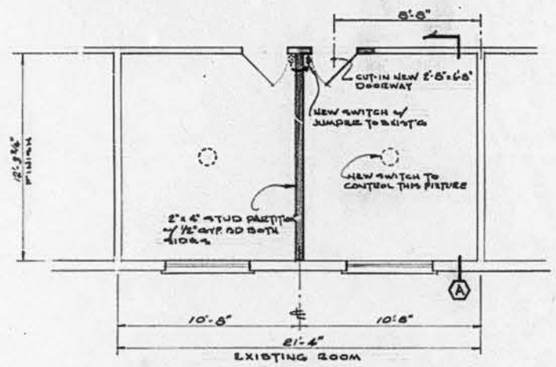
TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



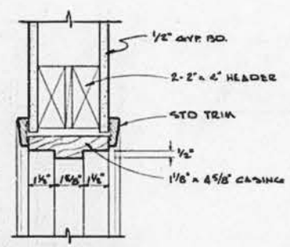
SECTION (A)

SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



TYPICAL ROOM DIVISION

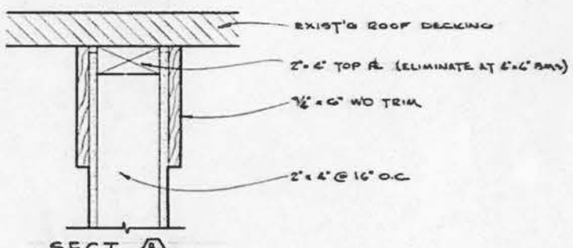
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



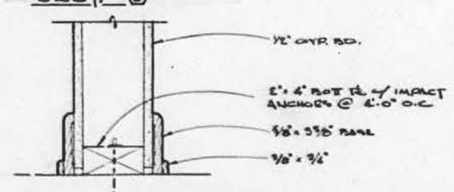
DOOR HEAD

JAMB SIMILAR

SCALE 3" = 1'-0"

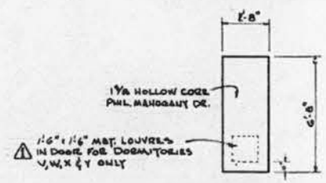


SECT. (B)



SECT. (C)

SCALE 3" = 1'-0"



TYP. DOOR

TYPE MARK II HARDWARE OF THE STD RESCO SPECIFICATIONS
(9 REQUIRED)

PAINTING NOTE:
ALL NEW SURFACES SHALL RECEIVE ONE SEALER COAT & TWO COATS OF A MATCHING FINISH PAINT.

INDEX CODE							
AREA	BLDG or STA	CLASS	TYPE	A.B.E.	SHT NO	USER	
23	Dorm S	08	34	0.3	S 2	01	E.O. SEE BSR

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CK	ENGR	A.E.C. APP
3	1/30/59	CUT-IN 7'-10" x 8'-0" ARCHWAY IN DORM'S "S, T & U" AS PER DE-20	GJ	L		
1	6/6/58	1'-6" x 1'-6" LOUVERS IN DR.	GJ	L		

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
LAS VEGAS BRANCH OFFICE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

NEVADA TEST SITE — MERCURY NEVADA

MODIFICATIONS TO DORMITORIES S, T, U, V, W, X, & Y

FLOOR PLAN & DETAILS

DRAWN BY: GJ
CHECKED BY: LEE
DEPT. ENGR.: R.E. EADS
SCALE: As Noted
DATE: 6-2-59

APPROVED: Dept. Engr. — RECOMMENDED: Agency — APPROVED: Paul O. Bechtel — SUBMITTED: A.E.C.

REYNOLDS
ELECTRICAL AND ENGINEERING CO., INC.

JOB: NTS — DRAWING NO.: MS-S2 — REV. 2

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NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) Form

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N		Date:		
Survey Date	June 21, 2017	Recorded By	Reno, Menocal, Shimer	Agency Report #	DOE/NV/0003590-09

1. Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☐	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☒

2. Property Overview and Location

Street Address	NNSS Area 23, Block 11, Sandstone – Buster		
City, Zip	Mercury, 89023		
County	Nye		
Assessor's Parcel #	N/A	Subdivision Name	N/A
UTM Location (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589837	Northing: 40576 **(Pad for 23-E)**	

USGS Info	Township: 15S	Range: 53E	Section: 11	USGS 7.5' Quad & Date: Mercury, Nev. 1983	
Ownership	Private ☐	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Restricted-Federal ☒	Multiple ☐
Should the property's location be kept confidential?		Yes ☐		No ☒	

3. Architectural Information

Construction Date	1951	
Architectural Style	Demountable	
Architectural Type	Wood Frame	
Roof Form	N/A	
Roof Materials	N/A	
Exterior Wall Materials	N/A	
Foundation Materials	Concrete	
Window Materials	N/A	
Window Type	N/A	
Accessory Resources?	Yes ☒	No ☐
	Number?: 11	

Condition of Resource(s)?		
Good ☐	Fair ☐	Poor ☒
Explanation: Buildings have been removed. Only foundations remain.		

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Overview of Men's Dormitory area, view southwest (2017).

4. Existing Listing & Potential District

Is the property listed in the National Register?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Date Listed:
				NRIS #:

Contributing to a listed historic district?	Yes ☐	No ☒	If yes, provide:	Name:	NRIS #:
				Date listed:	

If no, is there a potential district?	Yes ☒	No ☐	If so, is this resource contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
District Name: Mercury Historic District				SHPO #: D230	

5. NRHP Evaluation

If not already listed, complete the information below:

Eligible Under:	Criterion A ☒	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☒	Criterion D ☐
	Not Eligible ☐	Unevaluated ☐		

Area(s) of Significance	Nuclear Testing, Townsite Development
Period(s) of Significance	1951-1992

Integrity – Does the resource possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?

Location ☒	Design ☐	Materials ☐	Workmanship ☐	Setting ☒	Feeling ☒	Association ☒

General Integrity:	Intact ☐	Altered ☒	Moved ☐	Date(s): various

Threats to Resource:	Redevelopment
Historic Name	Men's Dormitories
Current/Common Name	None
Historic/Original Owner	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Current Owner	U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Administration Nevada Field Office
Current Owner Address	Nevada National Security Site
Historic Building Use	Housing, RV Park
Current Building Use	None
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Holmes & Narver, Inc.
Builder/Contractor	Lembke construction Co. and Clough and King Construction Co.

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6. Narrative Eligibility Justification

Provide a detailed explanation of the resource's eligibility for the National Register, including supporting historic information, methods for evaluation under the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and conclusions about eligibility.

For purposes of the present survey, the resources in Mercury were evaluated only as they relate to the Historic District as a contributing versus non-contributing element. It is the nature of most of the individual elements of the district that they would not be individually eligible, but rather that, in the aggregate, they combine to create the unique significance of the district as a whole, which is presently recommended eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C and unevaluated under Criteria B and D as detailed in the District form.

Since so many elements of the district have already been lost, those remaining elements from the period of significance have more comparative importance than they would have had otherwise. They are now in many cases rare survivors of what were formerly fairly common property types at Mercury. With this in mind, the requirements for being considered contributing elements to the district are fairly low. If a resource still retains visible elements which date to the period of significance, it is considered contributing to the significance of the district both for its historic importance in relation to nuclear testing under Criterion A and as a part of the distinctive design and construction of the district under Criterion C. The companion question asked was if that resource was to be removed would the district lose some of its overall significance. In nearly all cases there is sufficient integrity to answer this question in the affirmative.

Due to the extensive resource-level of research beyond the capabilities of the present survey required to make justifiable recommendations regarding individual eligibility, this resource remains unevaluated under the criteria at this time. It is anticipated that such enhanced recording and evaluation will occur in the future as redevelopment plans mature.

These buildings served as a support facility in Mercury for nuclear testing throughout much of the Cold War. They represent an expansion of the early 1950s commitment to increasingly permanent testing at this location by

replacing temporary housing with semi-permanent wooden structures that ended up being used far beyond their projected life span. Removal of the buildings has severely degraded their integrity. Despite this problem, the array of foundations is still impressive and helps provide the viewer with an overall feeling for the historic extent of Mercury that could not be derived solely from the remaining standing buildings. It is important in this regard not to focus solely on the foundations related to this particular resource but the extensive pattern of foundations preserved not only in the rest of this block but throughout much of the east-central part of Mercury. Hence this property contributes to the significance of the Mercury Historic District.

The RV Park is well preserved and also contributes to the Mercury Historic District, representing an entirely new approach to site housing in the 1980s.

7. Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the resource, including all character defining features, potential construction methods, potential alterations (both historic and non-historic), and any accessory resources.

This resource occupies the southern half of the block in Mercury and is bounded by Jangle Street, Sandstone Avenue, Ranger Avenue, and Buster Street. This block was completely developed for housing and a variety of other functions. It continues onto the block to the south, where many of the old dorm foundations were removed for construction of new dormitories in 1986. The previous extent of the entire dorm complex on these two blocks can be seen on the attached air photo (page 7).

The dormitories were rectangular-plan wood-framed buildings with wood siding, low and moderate-pitch roofs, and concrete slab foundations. Concrete sidewalks ran to all of the building entrances (located at both ends of each dormitory) and along the maintenance alley north of the row of dorms.

Two styles of dormitories were constructed in this area.

The first style was used to construct Dormitories 23-E through 23-K and Dormitories 23-F through 23-M in 1951 (Beck et al. 1996). The dormitories were 128x28 ft (3,584 ft²) and had moderate-pitch hip roofs. Three examples of this style of dormitory (Buildings 23-B, C, and D) are still standing immediately to the north and have individual building ARA forms. Dormitories 23-E through 23-K were removed between 1967 and 1979.

A second style was used to construct Dormitories 23-S, T, and U in 1956 (REECo 1993). These buildings were about the same dimensions as the older dorms but had low-pitch end-gable roofs. The designer and builder of this series of buildings is unknown pending further research. These buildings were removed after 1998.

All of the foundations have served at various times for temporary storage and parking.

The gravel spaces between foundations in the entire south half of the block north were paved for use as an RV Park in 1981 (NTS News 5/29/1981). This park continued into the block to the west of Buster Street. Electrical and water hookup boxes are still standing.

The foundation for Dormitory 23-E was arbitrarily designated the Principal Resource because it has the lowest building number. Since the foundations are all nearly the same, individual photographs were not taken of each. Instead representative photos were taken of the resources. Examples of the dormitory foundations are provided in the attached Accessory Resources section (pages 12 and 13).

The Accessory Resources for 23-E are as follows:

23-F
23-G
23-H
23-I
23-J
23-K
23-L
23-M
23-S
23-T
23-U

8. References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

Beck, Colleen M., Nancy Goldenberg, William Gray Johnson, and Clayton Sellers
1996 *Nevada Test Site Historic Structures Survey.* Desert Research Institute Technical Report No. 87. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Desert Research Institute
2017 Mercury Photos.

Holmes & Narver, Inc.
1959 Plot Plan Mercury Nevada Map. Drawing No. BD-M-P-1.
1979 Area 23 Mercury Utilities Water Map.
1986 Mercury Nevada Map.

NTS News Bulletin
1981 *NTS R-V Park opens.* 29 May: 1-2. Retrieved from NNSA/NFO Nuclear Testing Archive, Las Vegas, Accession No. NV0113289.

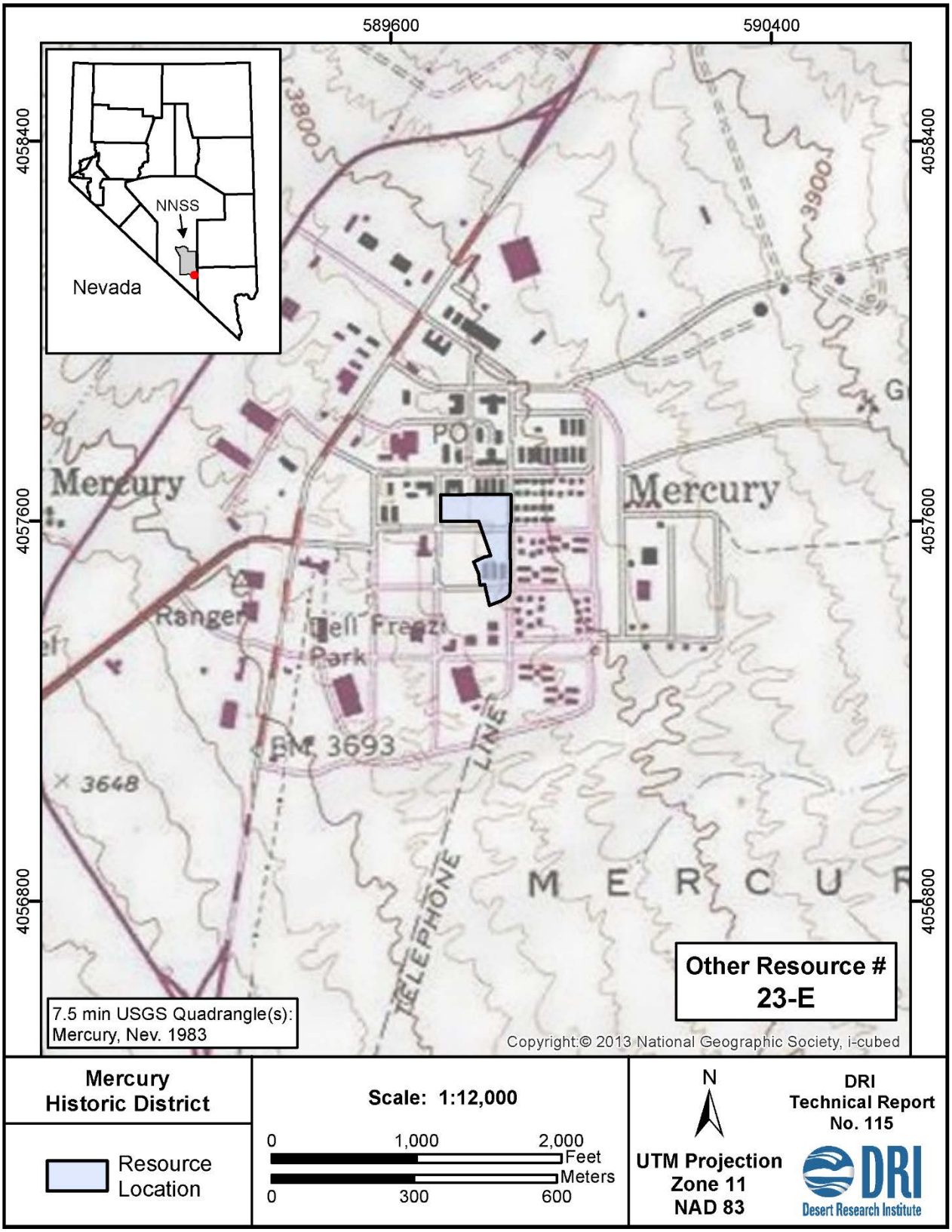
Raytheon Services Nevada
1992 Mercury Facilities Map. Drawing JS-023-002-CS.

Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Co, Inc.
1955 *Report on Existing Facilities at the Nevada Test Site.*
1993 Building Listing. Date Run 12/22/93.

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
1967 Mercury Nevada (As Built Fire Protection Systems) Map.

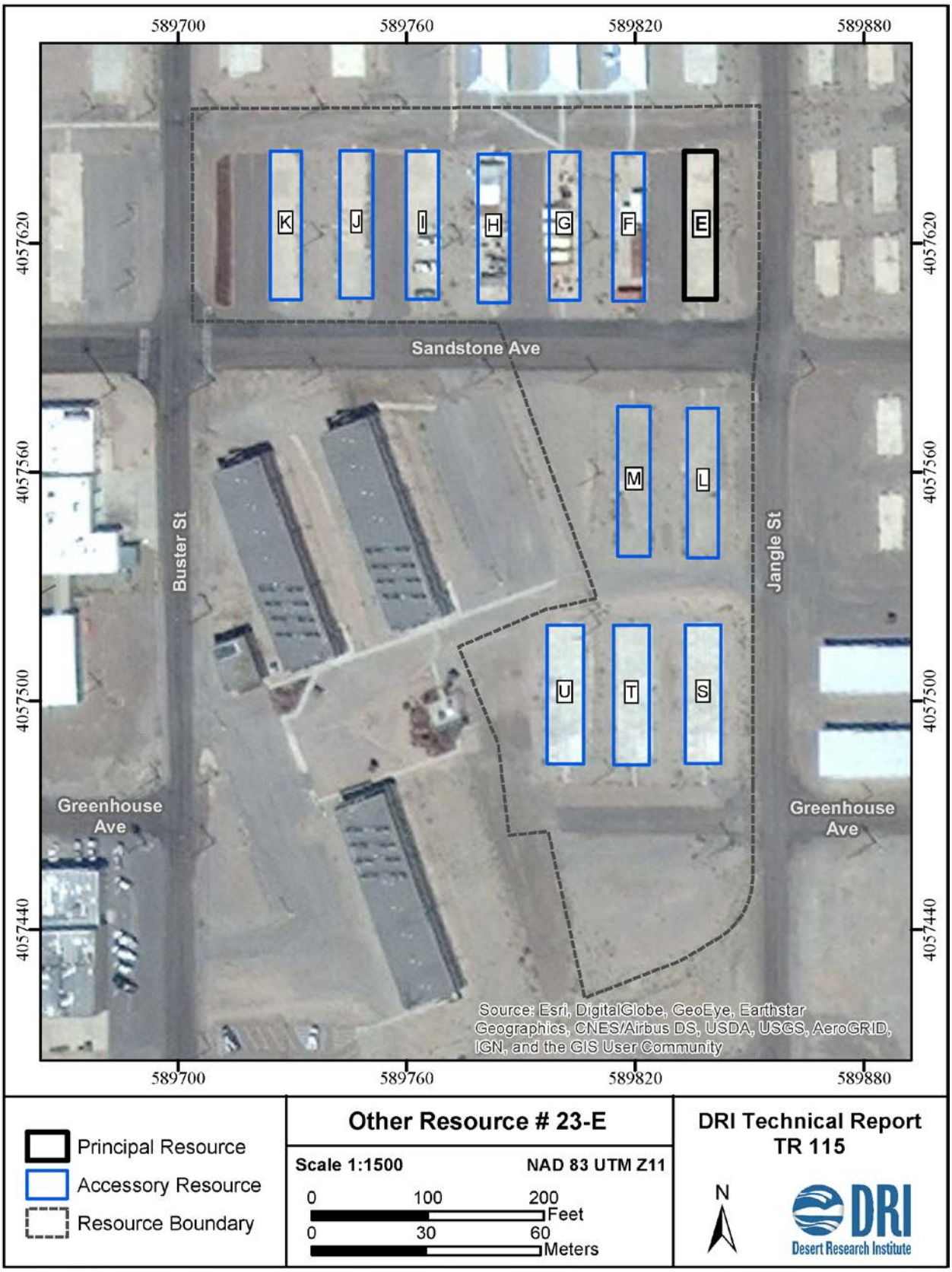
9. Area Location Map

Use a USGS quadrangle map at large extent to show general area of resource.



10. Site Plan Map

Use aerial imagery, drafting software, or a hand-drawn sketch (to scale) showing, at minimum, building/structure footprints and relationship to associated features. Attach extra maps if needed.



11. Photographs

Include as many photographs as needed to accurately depict the resource.

Overview of pads and RV hookups. Foundation for 23-E at arrow.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Location of dormitories circled. Modified from air photo on display in Building 23-109.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: East Photographer: Costa Donation Date: 1962-63

Building 23-G. Dormitories 23-E through 23-M were nearly identical to the dormitory shown.
Elevation: North, East Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: DRI Date: 1955

12. Accessory Resources

Complete only if Accessory Resources are present. Include as many extra entries as necessary.

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-F Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589818		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-G Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589801		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-H Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589783		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-I Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589764		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-J Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589747		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-K Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589728		Northing: 4057624	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-L Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589838		Northing: 4057557	

Overview of foundations for dormitories 23-L and M.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: North Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-M Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1951	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589820		4057557	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES 7, 12, AND 13 FOR EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date:

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-S Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589838		Northing: 4057502	

Foundation for dormitory 23-S.

Elevation: N/A Direction facing: North
Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Dormitories 23-S, T, and U from the corner Greenhouse Avenue and Jangle Street (DRI photo, 1998).

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-T Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589819		Northing: 4057502	

Overview of Foundations for 23-S, T, and U.
Elevation: N/A Direction facing: Southwest Photographer: Menocal Date: 06/21/2017

Accessory Property Type

Building ☐	Structure ☒	Object ☐	Landscape (non-archaeological site) ☐

Accessory Resource Overview

Accessory Resource Name	23-U Dormitory Foundation			
Construction Date	1956	Contributing?	Yes ☒	No ☐
UTM (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11 North)	Easting: 589802		Northing: 4057502	

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 13 FOR DORMITORY FOUNDATIONS AND REMOVED BUILDINGS

Elevation: Direction facing: Photographer: Date: