

# **Aspire Center for Workforce Innovation**

SHPO Mitigation Report 7.30.2025

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## A. SALVAGE HISTORIC CLASSROOM DOORS, UNUSED TRIM, UNUSED MILLWORK, USABLE WOOD FLOORING, AND UNUSED AUDITORIUM SEATING TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE SECONDARY MARKET, EITHER DONATION OR FOR SALE.

See attached PDF documenting all items that were salvaged and donated. Aspire hosted two events for the community to select items to take home, and the remaining items were taken to local charities.

In addition to the donated items, several elements were salvaged and preserved in the building, including the corridor trim, all classroom entryways and door frames (with new ADA-compliant doors), built-ins in the Principal's Office, and millwork cubbies that were repurposed into seating in the corridors. Pictures attached for reference.

Items were prepared for donation on two different days: August 26 and September 27. The contractor distributed the remaining items to the subcontractors and resale vendors. The gym floor panels were repurposed into a memory panel; the remaining floor was donated as well.

Please refer to Exhibit (A) for further details.

Item	Quantity	Date Donated
Door Type 1	28	Fall 2023
Door Type 2	9	Fall 2023
Door Type 3	6	Fall 2023
Door 5	1	Fall 2023
Door 6	1	Fall 2023
Vestibule Doors	4	Fall 2023
Wood shelves/boards	8	8/26/23
Bottom half of cabinet	1	8/26/23
Top half of cabinet	1	8/26/23
Built-in wood paneling w/hooks	1	8/26/23
Wood cabinets/wardrobes	3	9/27/23
Auditorium Seating	N/A	N/A
Wood Floor Gym Panels	N/A	Fall 2023

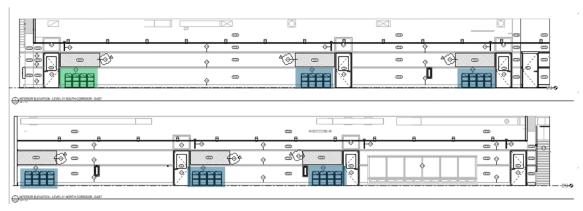
## B. UTILIZE SELECT SALVAGED AUDITORIUM SEATING AS WAITING AREA SEATING OUTSIDE NEW OFFICES IN PRIMARY CORRIDOR AND/OR SECONDARY CORRIDOR(S).

Several sections of the auditorium seating were preserved, refinished, and installed in the corridors. Locations noted below in blue on the elevations.

#### Best preserved seats will be used in corridors:



CD showing auditorium seats in corridors in relation to office doors:



Images showing auditorium seats installed in corridors:







## C. REPLACE EXISTING WINDOWS WITH ALUMINUM STOREFRONT WINDOWS THAT HAVE THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

All exterior windows were replaced and designed to match the original windows. We also installed new windows where they had been filled in over the years to match the original configuration. See below and attached photos for additional proof.

1. Muntin and mullion configuration that matches the historic window configuration as evidenced by historic architectural drawings.

Historic window configuration (1935)



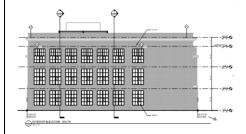
Historic window pictures







Current window configuration (2024)



Current window pictures







2. Painted or paint-like finish (non-anodized)

All windows were either painted or had a paint-like finish to match the finishes of the existing building conditions. Refer to Exhibit (B) for additional details.

## D. TAKE PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF ADVERSELY IMPACTED INTERIOR SPACES PRIOR TO DEMOLITION.

Professional photos were taken prior to demolition as well as during demo. Use this link to access all professional

 $photos: \underline{https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ngcoym3e2xwa5i1vy7vub/AHpbGqSGGVg0BNKCjsac96} \\ \underline{Y?rlkey=5s07sfloonuaeu2wiagt0pwrj&e=1\&st=2vkv6u40\&dl=0}$ 



Classroom Door



**Auditorium Seating** 



**Auditorium Doors** 



**Auditorium Seating** 



Principal's Office Reception's Desk



Storage Closet



Principal's Office waiting area



Main Stair Post



Main Hallway



Main Staircase

E. COMPILE PHOTOS (BOTH HISTORIC AND PRE-DEMOLITION), EXISTING DRAWINGS, AND A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORY OF EMMET SCHOOL INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION, ABANDONMENT, AND REPURPOSING INTO THE NEW ASPIRE CENTER.

We are excited to share that our team spent over a year of researching, designing, and installing what we are calling our historic display exhibit which is located in the main lobby. This exhibit captures pictures, drawings, artifacts, and historic articles from Emmet, the neighborhood, and the City of Chicago over the last 100+ years, all leading up to today's construction and what the future holds for the Aspire Center and the Austin neighborhood. See PDF of graphic panels showcasing all of this information. A picture is attached to show what the entire exhibit looks like installed.

1. Historic Photos (Photos courtesy of Bill Latoza)





#### 2. Pre-demolition Photos









#### 3. Existing Drawings

Please refer to Exhibit (C) for all existing as-built drawings.

4. Robert Emmet Public Elementary School was built in 1911 to serve the students of the Austin neighborhood in Chicago. In 2013, the school was shut down, along with 50 other Chicago Public Schools, due to low performance and under-enrollment. The original elementary school is a wood-frame construction with brick cladding and cement flooring. After its closing, the vacant building became a visual symbol for the disinvestment and lack of education in the Austin community. The new Aspire Center for Workforce Innovation aims to create a space where the members of the Austin community can work in collaboration and provide services to residents. The new renovation of the Robert Emmet Public Elementary School will become a physical symbol of collective impact and systemic change for the Austin community.

#### F. MAKE ITEMS LISTED IN "E" AVAILABLE TO BE USED IN:

#### 1. On-site display in the building



Historic Display on-site showcases the historic gym floor panels along with the history of the building and historic architecture of The Emmett School.

#### 2. News Outlets



Chicago Tribune Article: https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/07/ 25/robert-emmet-elementary-austin/

#### ABC7 Chicago Article:

https://abc7chicago.com/post/aspirecenter-workforce-innovation-offer-jobtraining-financial-coaching-madisoncentral-south-austin-chicago/16791803/

#### Austin Weekly News:

https://www.austinweeklynews.com/ 202<u>3/08/29/a-look-inside-the-</u> emmet-school-a-fixture-of-thecommunity/

#### Aspire Grand Opening Article:

https://chicago.urbanize.city/post/aspirecenter-workforce-innovation-celebratesgrand-opening

#### 3. Historic Chicago School Blog:

This final report will be shared with Historic Chicago Schools for their reference.

#### 4. Aspire Website

This final report will be shared on the Aspire Center's website, which is linked below for your reference. Please note that the Aspire Center social media accounts have been posting progress of the project over the last year.

https://acwichi.org/

#### 5. SHPO Website

This final report is shared with SHPO to be uploaded to their website.

#### **EXHIBITS**



## **SHPO Salvage Donation**

Description: Meta	grote (duct grilles)	Qty:	
wood	shelve5/boards	8	
<i>y</i>			
		0 10 1	-
Quantity	<u>Date of donation:</u>	\$ 126	

Recipient Signature

SBJV Representative Signature



## **SHPO Salvage Donation**

-Bottom half of cabinet - intact loors	
-Top half of cobinet  -intact doors, missing I glass port  -Built-in wood panelling w/ hooks	are

Quantity: 1 Cach

Date of donation:

8/26

Recipient Signature

SBJV Representative Signature



### **SHPO Salvage Donation**

Description:

9x Metal duct grates (small)

1x Metal grate (large)

3x Wood cabinets/wardrobes

see above Quantity:

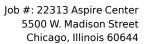
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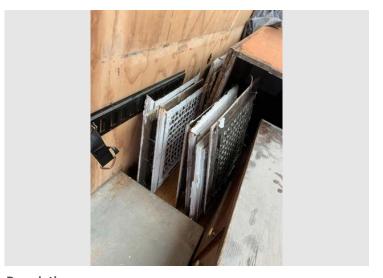
Recipient Signature

SBJV Representative Signature

9/127/2







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09/27/2023 at 01:14 pm

**Uploaded By**Davey Sekhon

Upload Date File Name



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**Taken Date** 

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09/27/2023 at 01:04 pm

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Davey Sekhon

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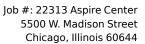


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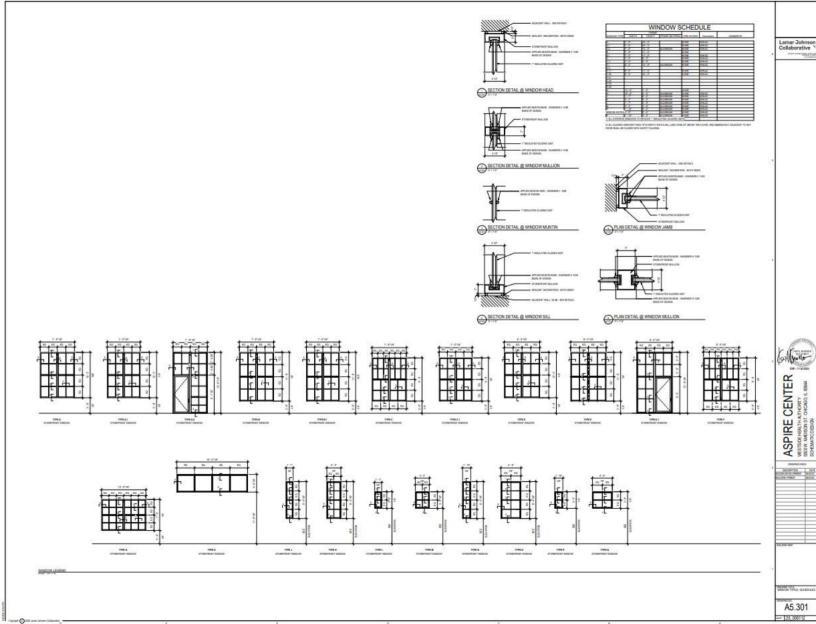


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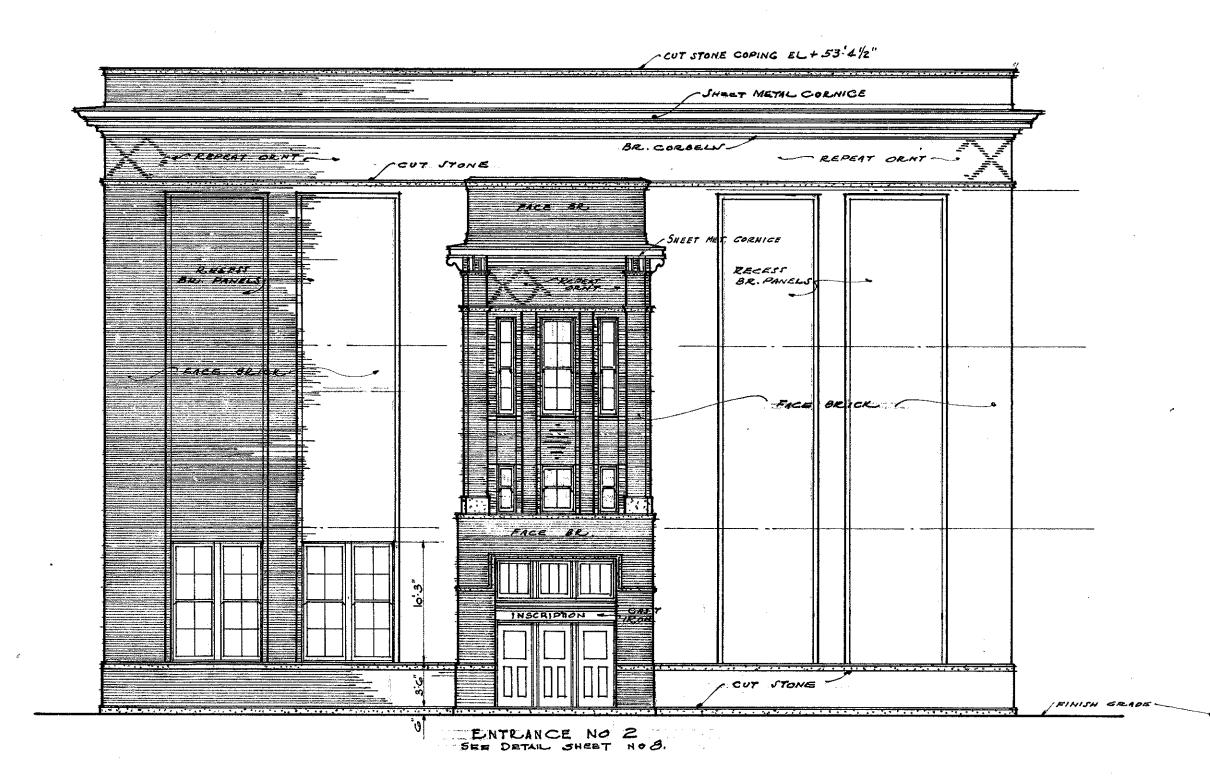
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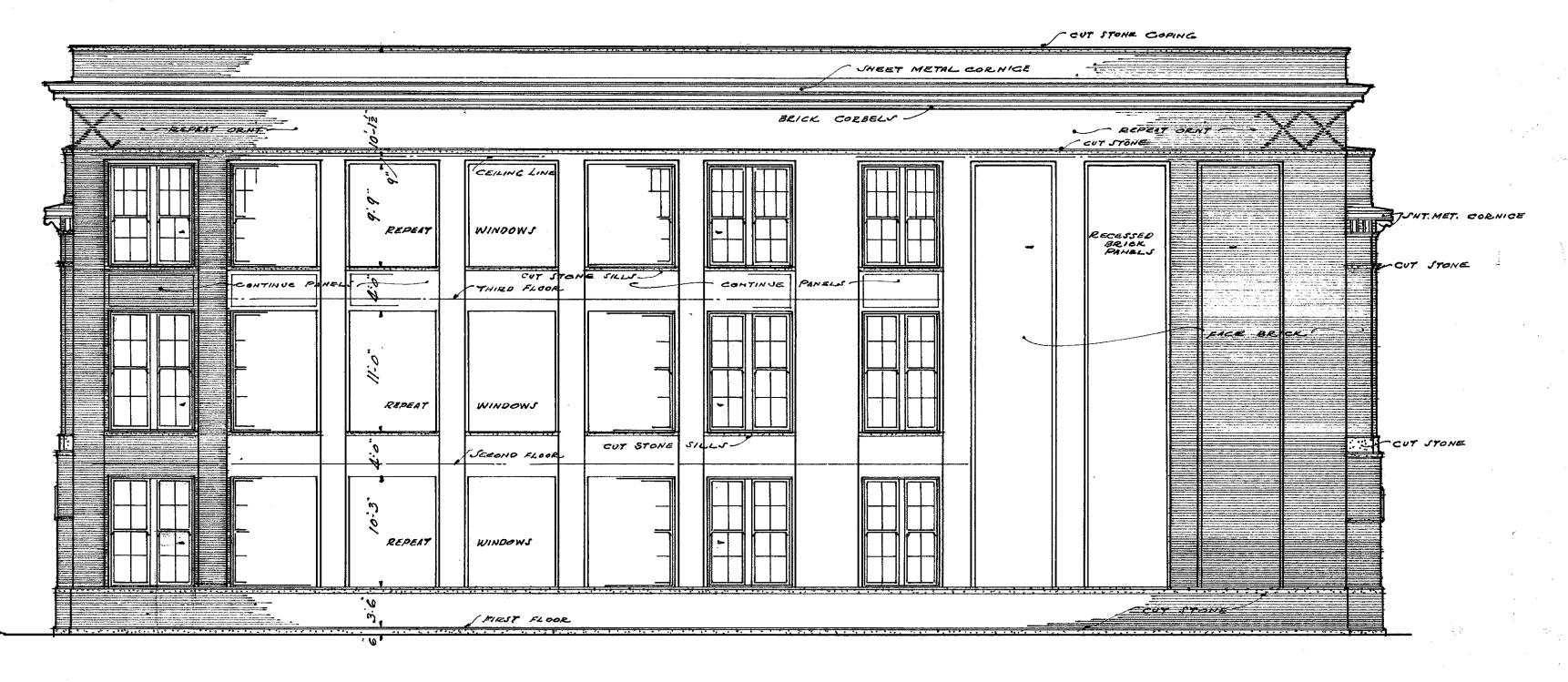
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· WEST · ELEVATION ·

## · SOUTH · ELEVATION ·

### MATERIAL:

FIRST FL. CORRIDOR: CONCRETE FLOOR, WOOD BASE, CEMENT WAINSCOT.

2 3 FL. CORRIDOR: ASPHALT TILE FLOOR, WOOD BASE, CEMENT WAINSCOT.

VESTIBULE: CONCRETE FLOOR, GLAZED BRICK WALLS.

STAIRS: TERRAZZO TREADS & LANDINGS, WITH TERRAZZO BASE ON LANDINGS.

CUT STONE COPING -7 +53:41/2"7 - PACE BRICK CEILING LINE PRESENT BUILDING REPEAT THIRD FLOOR T STONE SILLS WINDOWS WINDOWS CUT STONE SFIRST FLOOR ENTRANCE No 1. SEE DETAIL ON SHEET NO 8.

> · EAST · ELEVATION · (SCALE 1/8"=1:0")

ALL BRICK WORK TO BE LAID UP IN CEMENT MORTAR (SEE SPECIFICATIONS). ALL CONTRACTORS MUST REFER TO CONSTRUCTION SHEETS FOR DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION IN THEIR
RESPECTIVE BRANCHS. FOR INTERIOR SCALE DETAILS & DETAILS OF EQUIPMENT NOT
INCORPORATED IN THESE PLANS, SEE STANDARD DETAILS. ALL DUCTS & PIPES WHEN EXPOSED
IN FINISHED ROOMS SHALL BE FURRED, LATHED & PLASTERED OR ENCLOSED AS INDICATED.
ALL BEAMS THAT PROJECT BELOW CEILING AND LANDINGS, ETC. TO BE PLASTERED, SEE PLANS
AND STRUCTURAL DETAILS. ALL EXTERIOR WINDOWS ARE TO BE OF WOOD, UNLESS OTHERWISE
MARKED. COMPLETE EQUIPMENT NOT SHOWN ON ONE-EIGTH INCH SCALE PLANS, SEE ONE-QUARTER
INCH SCALE PLANS & OTHER DETAILS. IN ALL ROOMS WITH WOOD WAINSCOT CAP UNLESS SPECIALLY MENTIONED OR DETAILED OTHERWISE, WOOD CAP IS TO BE IN LINE WITH TOP OF BLACKBOARD OR CORKBOARD TRIM. IN STORE ROOMS WITH CEMENT WAINSCOT SAME TO BE 5-G
HIGH AND FINISHED WITH PAINTED LINE AT TOP OF WAINSCOT UNLESS SPECIALLY DETAILED
OR NOTED OTHERWISE. ALL WINDOWS TO BE TYPE A.

ALL PROJECTING STONE WORK, SHEET METAL WORK, BRICKWORK ETC. ON NEW BUILDING
TO BE OF SAME DESIGN AND OF SAME HEIGHTS AS ON OLD BUILDING WHEN NO LINTELS

OTHERWISE. ALL MEASURMENTS, PROFILES ETC. TO BE VERIFIED AT THE BUILDING. WHEN NO LINTELS ARE PROVIDED MASON TO BUILD ARCH OVER OPENINGS THE FULL THICKNESS OF WALL. SPRING LINE OF ARCH TO BE 2" ABOVE TOP OF FRAME.

# ·ELEVATIONS· ·ADDITIONS· & ·ALTERATIONS·

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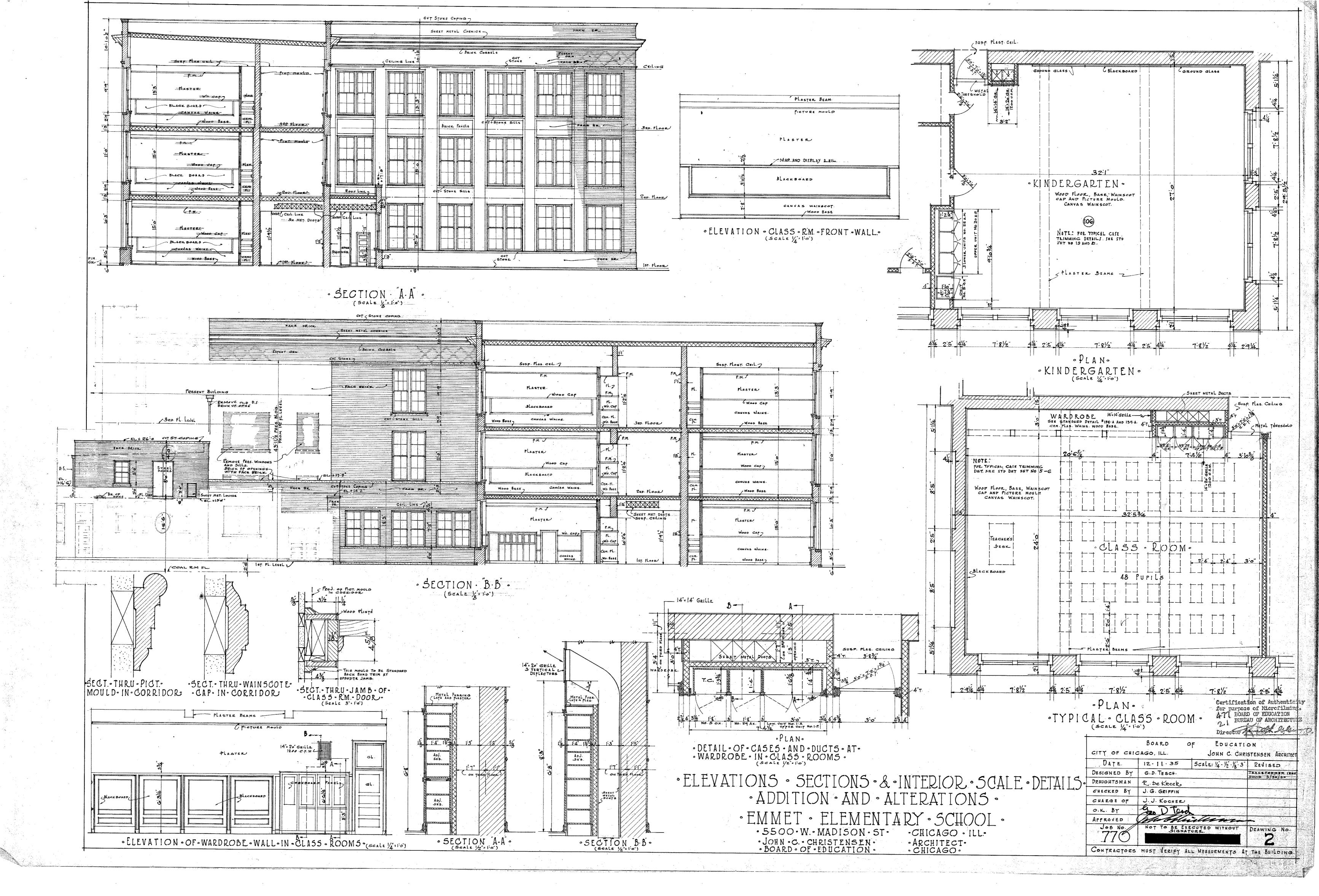
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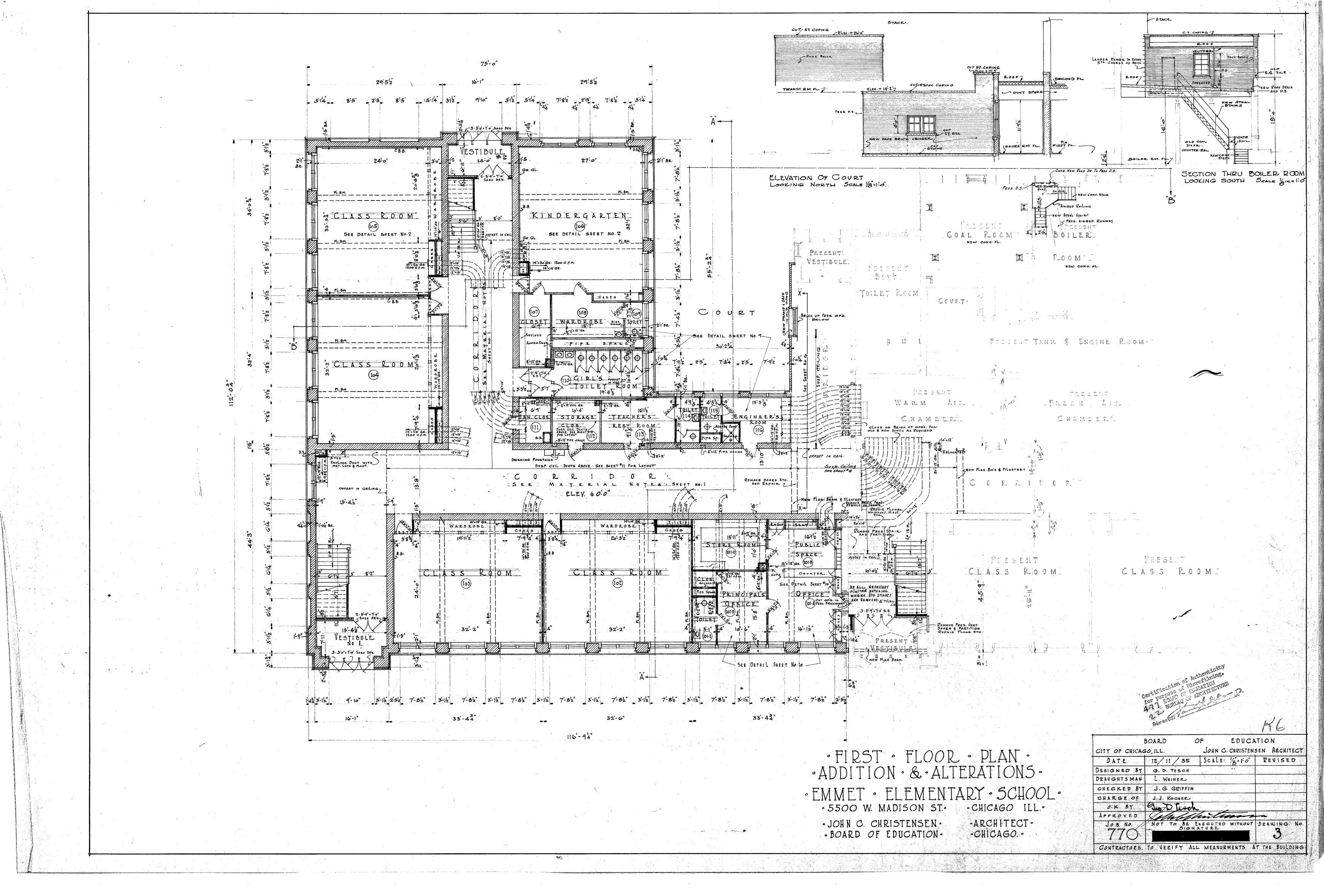
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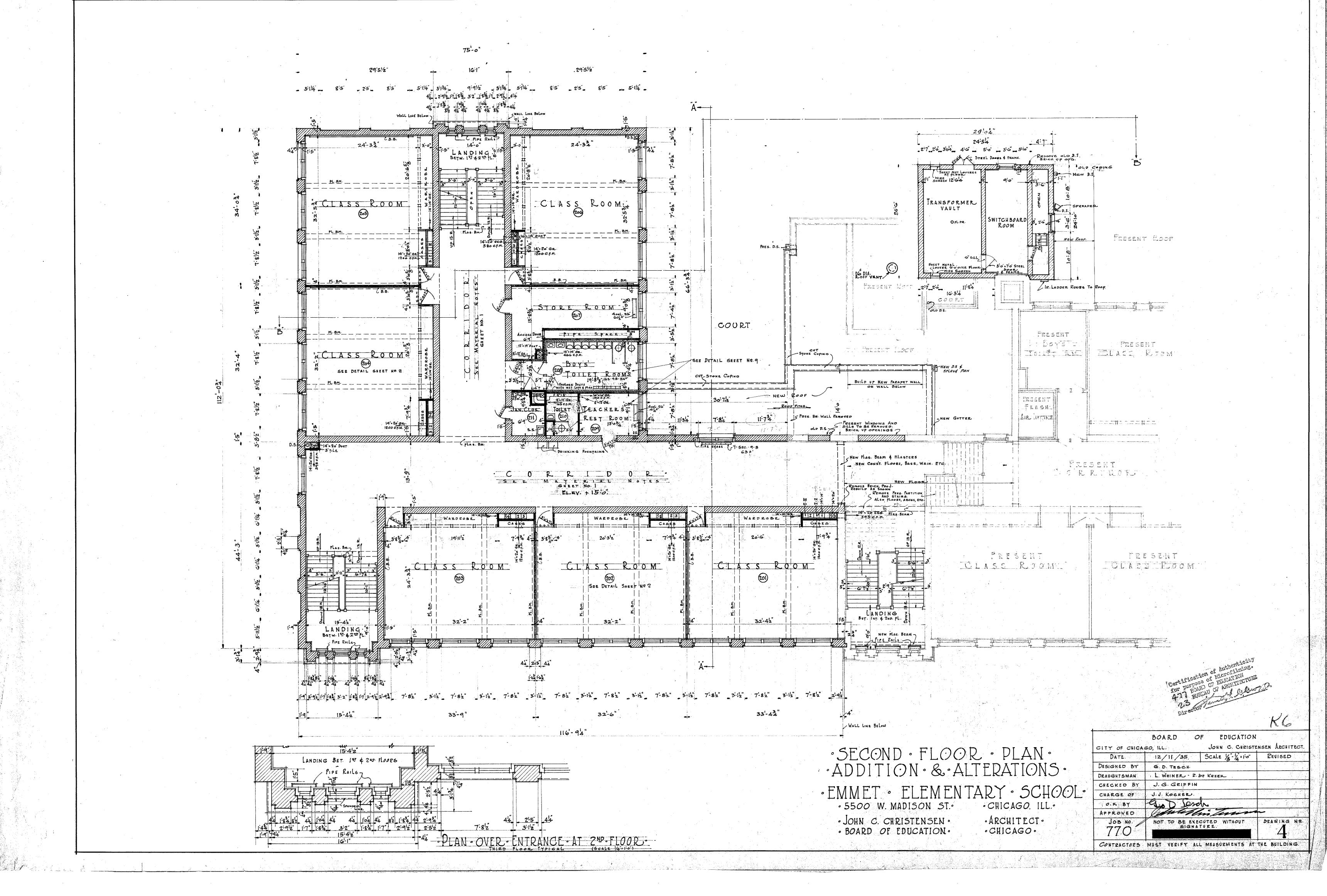
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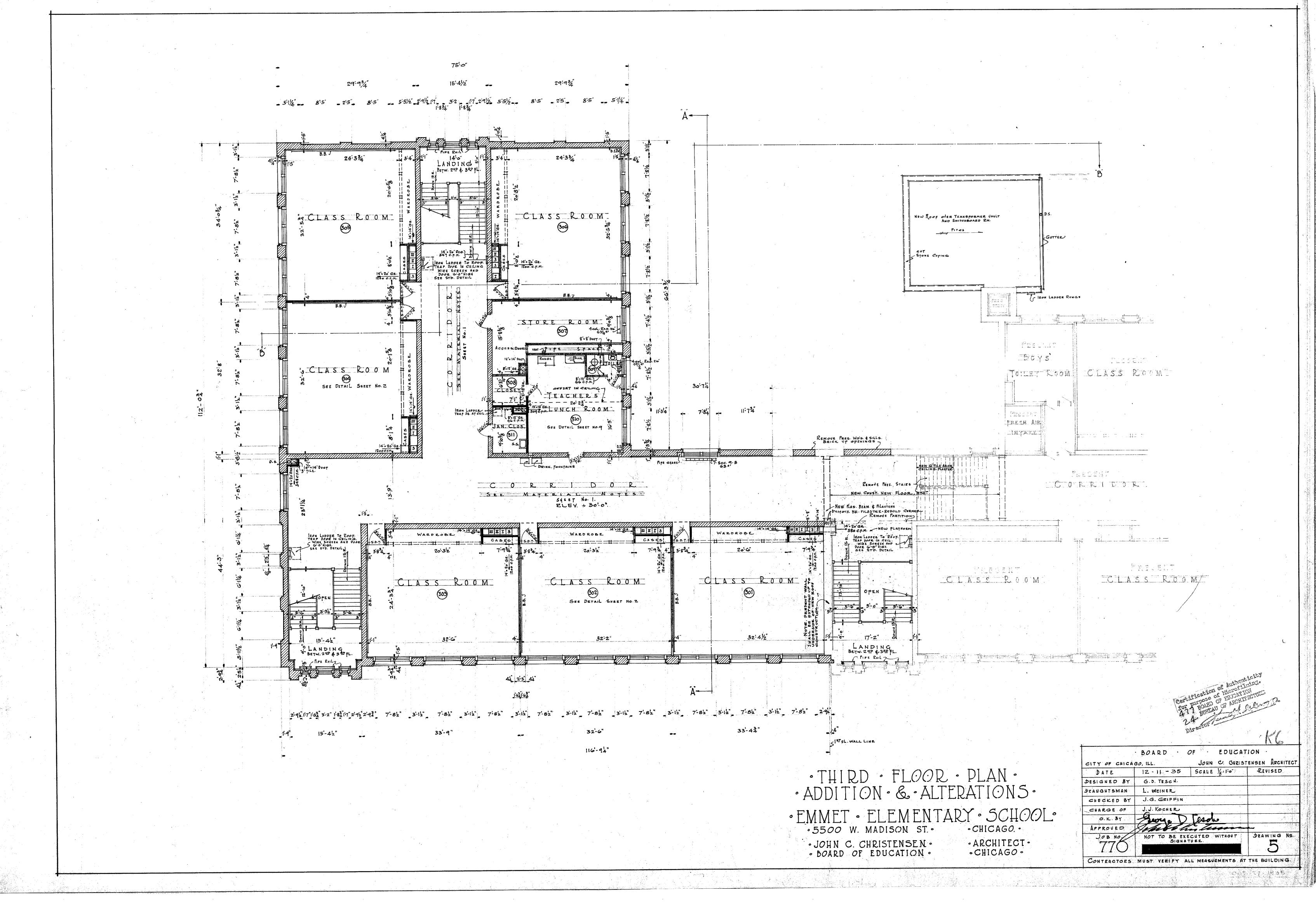
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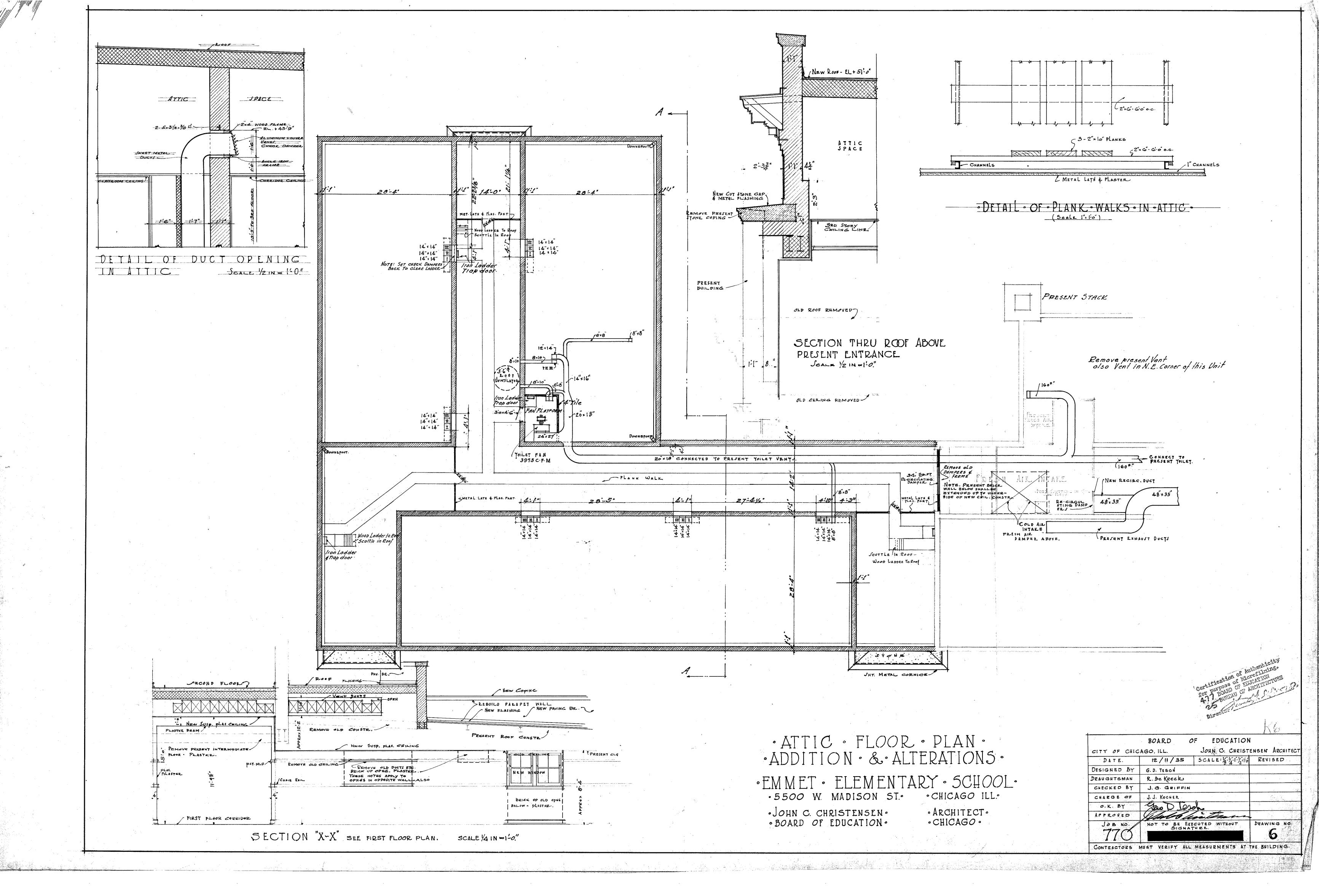
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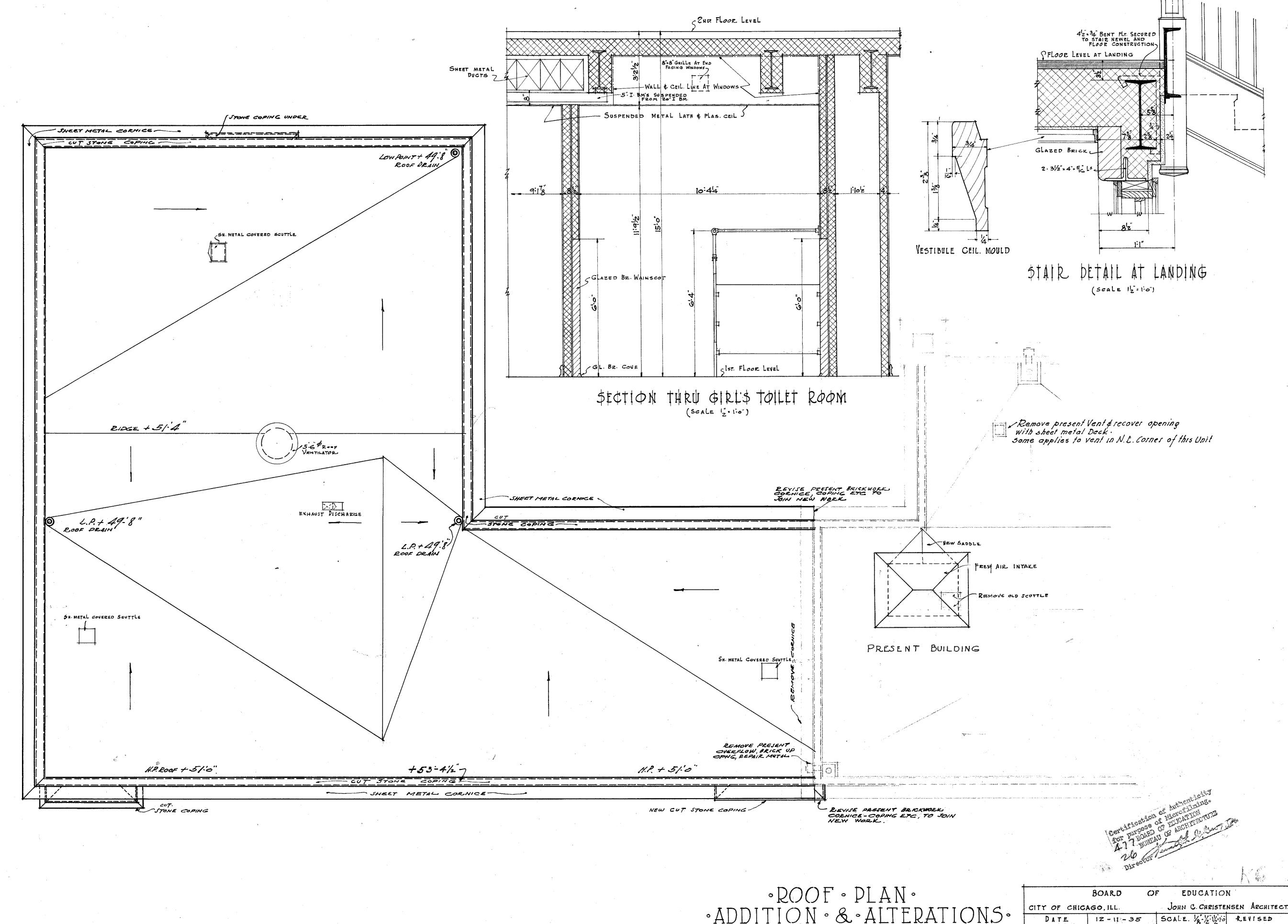












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· JOHN C. CHRISTENSEN. · BOARD OF EDUCATION ·

·ARCHITECT · ·CHICAGO ·

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