DUPAGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE CENTER CONTROL CENTER 130 North County Farm Road Wheaton DuPage County Illinois HIBS No. DU-2017-01

HIBS LEVEL III RECORDATION

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION DRAWINGS SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

HISTORIC ILLINOIS BUILDING SURVEY (HIBS)

DUPAGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER HIBS No. DU-2017-01

Location: 130 North County Farm Road

Wheaton, DuPage County, Illinois

Latitude: 41.865180°, Longitude: -88.143817°

Present Owner: DuPage County

Present Use: The DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center

remains intact, but is presently vacant.

Previous uses include:

Ground Level:

1958-1999 DuPage Co. Highway Department/Division of Transportation

1999-2011 DuPage Co. States Attorney Child Advocacy

2011-Present Vacant/Temporary Office Relocations

Lower Level:

1958-1975 DuPage Co. Highway Dept. Civil Defense Control Center

1975-1995 DU-COMM [911 Center]

1995-2011 DuPage Co. Emergency Management/Homeland Security

2011-Present Vacant/Storage

Significance: The DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center is

significant as the nation's first hydrogen-bomb blast and radiation resistant shelter and underground civil defense control center. When the center opened in 1958 it was the civil defense communication headquarters for Chicago and all of

northeastern Illinois.1

The building is also architecturally significant for its architectural contributions during the United States' "nuclear age"; an excellent example of the Mid-Century Modern style; and as the work of Jensen and Halstead, a prolific and notable Chicago firm which began with William Le Baron Jenney in 1868 and is

still in operation today.

¹ Thompson, John H. "Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter: Could Withstand Near Miss." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), April 11, 1958.

PART I HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date(s) of construction:

1957-1958

2. Architect/Designer/Engineer:

Jensen & Halstead

3. Original and subsequent owners:

DuPage County

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers:

Unknown

5. Original plans and construction:

Original plans are owned and maintained by DuPage County Facilities Management. A selection of architectural and structural drawings and a site plan have been included as part of this documentation.

6. Alterations and additions:

The building remains largely as historically constructed on the exterior with only minor alterations. The interior has been renovated at least eleven times to varying degrees.

On the exterior an accessible ramp was installed at the east entrance and the colored concrete and bronze compass inlay was demolished; a concrete pad and radio tower were installed at the western edge of the site between 1978 and 1987; and the outbuildings between the radio tower and parking lot were constructed ca. 2014.

The Highway Department spaces on the ground level remained largely unchanged until 1989 at which time the interior space saw some minor reconfigurations up until 2002 including:

- Lounge and Women's Locker Room and Toilet Room was remodeled into the Transportation Planning Office and the private in 1993.
- The single-user toilet room for the Superintendent's Office was converted to the Women's Toilet Room by moving the door located off the corridor in 1993.
- Between 1993 and 2002 the Lunch Room, which was previously converted to an office was reconfigured into two offices.

- In 1999 the original Men's Toilet Room was remodeled into a multi-user Women's Toilet Room and the Men's Locker Room remodeled into the Men's Toilet Room.
- The skylights located in the Men's and Women's Locker Room, Blueprinting Room, and Laboratory were not visible during the site visit or in an aerial view of the building and are assumed to be covered or removed.

Based on the available drawing from 1978, "Existing Conditions for Civil Defense Center" from the Office of the Building administrator: Design/Engineering Department, many of the spaces and interior configurations of the the Civil Defense Control Center in the lower level of the building had been remodeled by 1978 including:

- Addition of the Reception/Front Office
- Demolition of the Office of Director of Communications & Radio Officer and construction of the Secretary and private office space
- The west entrances to the Decontamination Showers were infilled
- Women's Dormitory and Lounge and State Office were demolished and replaced with existing corridor, two DU-Comm offices, and radio & repair shop
- East wall of the communications area moved east to align with original Message Center east wall and the Message Center was narrowed
- A Radio Room was constructed in Civil Defense Operations Center

B. Historical Context

History and Development of DuPage County

Since its beginning, the development of DuPage County has been intertwined with Chicago and the transportation network of northern Illinois including Native American trails, waterways, the areas first plank road, stage-coach routes, and railroads, which accelerated white settlement after the 1833 Treaty of Chicago, which moved Native Americans west of the Mississippi River. The first settlers arrived in the county in the 1830s and 1840s and settled on land along the DuPage River and then across the vast prairies.²

As Chicago began to grow as a central commercial point and transportation hub for the region and country, key transportation routes passed through the county and on or from Chicago. With the construction of the Illinois & Michigan Canal between 1836-1848, a key transportation route, DuPage County saw an influx of Irish immigrants who built the canal and then settled in the area.^{4 5}

² C. W. Richmond and H. F. Vallette, A history of the county of Du Page, Illinois: containing an account of its early settlement and present advantages, a separate history of the several towns, including notices of religious organizations, education, agriculture and manufactures, with the names and some account of the first settlers in each township and much valuable statistical information (Chicago, IL: Chicago, Steam presses of Scripps, Bross & Spears, 1857), 5-38, 5-80.

³ Bateman, Newton, Paul Selby, and Rufus Blanchard. History of Du Page County, Illinois (Chicago: O.L. Baskin, 1882), 10-162

⁴ Richmond and Vallette, A history of the county of Du Page, 5-38, 5-80.

⁵ Bateman, Selby, and Blanchard. History of Du Page County, 10-162.

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With an influx of population, DuPage County was formally established in 1839 with Naperville as the county seat and in 1850 was organized into nine townships. In 1867, the county seat was moved from Naperville to Wheaton where it has remained since. ^{6 7}

During the 1840s and 1850s plank roads were constructed and established as private toll roads. The area saw its first railroad in 1848 with the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad. By the early 1900s, six railroads would pass through DuPage County, built by Irish, English, Germans, Italians, Mexicans, and African American immigrants who would later settle in the area. 8 9

As Chicago continued to grow and create regional and national markets, DuPage County was able to contribute and benefit from the ongoing development. By contributing grain, produce, livestock, dairy, and other products, DuPage County helped to sustain Chicago's population and industry which brought wealth and prosperity to DuPage. Railroad lines with stops in the county offered passenger service, and residents could visit Chicago to shop and socialize. Commuter train service was added between the 1880s and 1910s. However, even with the ongoing advancements and growth, the county remained primarily agricultural until post-World War II. 10 11

In 1946 the City of Chicago began to acquire land for O'Hare International Airport, including a portion of northeast DuPage County. O'Hare opened in 1955 and by 1962 was the main airport for the greater Chicago area. In 1958, I-88 (East-West Tollway) and the portion of I-294 (Tri-State) that borders DuPage County on the east were completed, adding to the extensive and significant transportation network of DuPage County. ¹²

With the improved transportation network, scientific and business developments were attracted to the area including: the Atomic Energy Commission/Argonne National Laboratory in 1947 and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in 1973. During the 1980s, DuPage publicized its Research and Development Corridor along I-88 as a research and commercial center. ¹³

By 1995, only 5 percent of the county's land was identified as agricultural and 5 years later in 2000 the county's population surpassed 900,000. ¹⁴

DuPage County and the Nuclear Age

DuPage County already well connected by the existing transportation network and a research and development hub by 1950s, would become the central civil defense communications headquarters for Chicago and all of northeastern Illinois in the event of an actual or threatened attack by enemy bombers or inter-continental ballistic missiles with the

⁶Richmond and Vallette, A history of the county of Du Page, 5-38, 5-80.

⁷ Bateman, Selby, and Blanchard. History of Du Page County, 10-162.

⁸ Richmond and Vallette, A history of the county of Du Page, 5-38, 5-80.

⁹ Bateman, Selby, and Blanchard. History of Du Page County, 10-162.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ McGrath, Steph. "DuPage County." DuPage County. 2005. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/396.html.

¹² Îbid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

construction of the DuPage Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center building in 1957-58. 15

The documented building is noted as the United States' first civil defense control center, confirmed by Civil Defense administration headquarters in Battle Creek, Michigan in 1958. 16 The building was capable of sheltering 60-100 occupants for two-three weeks from the blast and radioactive fallout or penetration from 20 megaton Hydrogen-bomb three or more miles away. 17 18 19

To shelter its occupants the structure was designed to withstand a blast pressure of 30 pounds per square inch. 20 The center was built per federal defense specifications of the time and included extensive air-conditioning and filtration systems. The building operated on two gasoline-powered generators which provided power for radio and teletype transmission, light, heat, and ventilation. Occupants of the shelter were protected by a 3 foot thick concrete ceiling and 2 foot thick concrete walls. 21 A 2.5 ton steel blast door was operated by a button in the tunnel leading to the shelter.²²

The county and federal government shared the cost²³ of the shelter and the federal government would occupy the lower level, with civil defense officials directing evacuation and rescue operations during times of peace and war, relaying orders from national and state warning points to local officials throughout northeastern Illinois. 24

The county highway department would occupy the ground level. In addition to the working spaces in the lower and ground levels, the building also provided space for men and women dormitories, a kitchen, food storage, sanitary facilities, and a dispensary for doctors and nurses, all of which was located in the lower level bomb-proof shelter.

The dedication of the nation's first blast and radiation resistant H-bomb shelter occurred on October 19, 1958 at 1:45 pm and was officiated by Senator Dirksen, almost exactly one year after the USSR launched Sputnik on October 4, 1957. ²⁵

During the nuclear age, 35 to 50 Du Page county civil defense workers met in the shelter each Monday at 7:30 pm "activate" an intricate amateur radio and communications set-up under simulated disaster conditions.²⁶

¹⁵ Thompson, John H. "Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter: Could Withstand Near Miss." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), April 11, 1958.

bid.

¹⁷ "Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), October 19, 1958.

¹⁸ Lester, Kerry. "Lester: Wheaton's Cold War bunker enters final days." Daily Herald, June 21, 2016. http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160620/news/160629977/.

¹⁹ Thompson, John H. "Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter: Could Withstand Near Miss." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), April 11, 1958. ²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Cost accounts range from \$360,000-\$500,000.

²⁵ "Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), October 19, 1958.

²⁶ Canfield, David. "DuPage Underground Control Center is Nation's First: Volunteers Use It for Training." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), September 10, 1959.

The building only served as the civil defense control center for 17 years before being turned over to DU-Comm in 1975, the county's public safety communications center, and Homeland Security until 2011 at which point it was vacated and has been remained unused since.

Jensen & Halstead

The documented building was designed by the architectural firm of Jensen & Halstead, Chicago's oldest continuously operating firm. The firm was first founded by William LeBaron Jenney in 1868 under the name Loring & Jenney, after Sanford E. Loring. Jenney is most well-known for his design of the Home Insurance Building (1884-1931), the first skyscraper use an iron framework as its sole means of support. ²⁷

The name of the firm has evolved over the years including W.L.B. Jenney from 1872-1887, 1888-1891; Jenney & Mundie (William B. Mundie) from 1891-1905; Jenney, Mundie & Jensen from 1905-1907; Mundie & Jensen from 1907-1936; and finally Jensen & Halstead (Edward Halsted) in 1953. Though Jensen died in 1955, Halstead continued with the firm until his death in 1992 and the legacy of Jensen & Halstead continues with the current firm. The DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center would be one of Jensen & Halstead last municipal buildings. In 1961 the firm designed the Oak Park Hospital and began a career specializing in healthcare which continues today.

Prior to the DuPage Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center, the firm had designed many noteworthy and influential buildings including:

- Leiter I: 1879, Chicago, IL, demolished.
- Leiter II: 1891, Chicago, IL, landmarked.
- Ludington Building: 1892, Chicago, IL, landmarked.
- Manhattan Building: 1891, Chicago, IL, landmarked.
- The Fair Department Store II: 1892, Chicago, IL, demolished.
- New York Life Insurance Building: 1894, Chicago, IL, landmarked.
- Lake View Building: 1906, Chicago, IL.
- Consumers Building: 1913, Chicago, IL.
- LeMoyne Building: 1915, Chicago, IL.
- Singer Building: 1926, Chicago, IL.
- Union League Club: 1926, Chicago, IL.
- West Town State Bank: 1930, Chicago, IL, landmarked.
- Packard, Rambler, Locomobile and Pierce Arrow showrooms: 1909-1917, Michigan Avenue Motor Row, Chicago, IL, *landmarked*.

The project architect for the building was Robert Glenn Wasson. Some biographical information is gleaned from Wasson's 1962 entry in the American Institute of Architects Directory. Wasson was born in

²⁷ "Jensen & Halstead LTD. A History of Innovation in Architecture." Jensen Halstead LTD. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://www.jensenandhalstead.com/.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ "The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects." Jensen & Halstead (Firm). Accessed April 06, 2017. http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd4006083.aspx.

Toledo, Ohio on February 25, 1920 and received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1950. He worked for multiple firms including: Jensen & Halstead (Chief Draftsman); Stanton & Rockwell; Benard-Greenbaum & Associates (Draftsman); Deere & Co.; and Wight & Associates. Wasson joined the American Institute of Architects in 1956 and served on the Institute's Committee of Office Practice & Procedures from 1956-1959 and as the Chairman of the committee from 1958-1959. 30

PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

The documented building is located in Wheaton, IL at 130 North County Farm Road and consists of the original main building and below ground stair and blast door to the Civil Defense Control Center and the non-historic above ground entrance enclosure, radio tower, and outbuildings. The building is presently unused and has been vacant since 2011.

B. Site:

1. General setting and orientation:

The building's site is located at 130 North County Farm Road in Wheaton at the northwest corner of County Farm and Manchester Roads on the west side of County Farm Road between the main entrance to the DuPage County Government Complex to the north and Manchester Road to the south. The building is oriented on an east-west axis. Originally, the site only included the documented building, the above ground entrance enclosure to the Civil Defense Control Center, walks which wrapped the perimeter of the building, angled parking along the east elevation and rear parking lot, and a drive leading from the entrance to site from County Farm Road around the east and south elevations to the rear parking lot. Modifications to the site have been made including the addition of the concrete pad and radio tower at the west elevation between 1978 and 1987 and the construction of the existing outbuildings located between the radio tower and parking lot in ca.2014, but overall the original site layout and elements remain.

C. Description of Exterior: <u>DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center</u>

1. Over-all dimensions:

The building is one-story tall with a lower level. The building is rectangular in plan with a projecting main entrance vestibule at the east elevation. The building measures approximately 101' long by 61' wide and is 13' tall.

Access to the lower level is via a tunnel located outside of the building footprint. An enclosed, one-story above ground entrance to the lower level Civil Defense Control Center is located at the northwest corner of the site and measures approximately 28' by 8'. The existing entrance enclosure is non-original. The enclosure is rectangular in plan with a gable roof and the main entrance is recessed beneath the roof.

³⁰ "The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects." Robert Glenn Wasson. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd1047299.aspx.

2. Foundations:

Foundations are of reinforced concrete.

3. Walls:

The exterior walls of the building are set above aluminum frame, projecting glass curtain wall system with white, porcelain insulated panels above the windows and a tan, brick bulkhead in a running bond which also clads the center bay of the west elevation. The projecting vestibule walls are a dark brown brick in a stacked bond. The corners of the exterior curtain wall are recessed and also clad in white porcelain insulated panels.

4. Structural system, framing:

Above the reinforced concrete foundation, there is a 3' thick slab which forms the ceiling of the Civil Defense Control Center and floor of the Highway Department. The structure of the ground level is 3 bays wide by 5 bays long with steel columns supporting the roof structure.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors:

There are four entrances for the building: one located at the east (main) elevation with auxiliary entrances at all other elevations. The east entrance is located at the projecting vestibule, clad in a dark brown brick in a stack bond. The entrance is a pair of double doors flanked by sidelights with three fixed transoms above. The doors, sidelights, and transoms are glass with aluminum frames. The original extruded, triangular-shaped sconces flank the entrance and "DuPage County" is located above the entrance in metal letters.

The auxiliary entrances are a simple, metal standard door. The north and south entrances have a glass transom above, while the west entrance is surrounded by the tan brick also located in the bulkhead.

There is one entrance to the Civil Defense Control Center at the west elevation of the above ground enclosure. The pair of double doors is recessed below the gable roof. The doors are metal, painted brown, with an upper and lower glass panel.

Additionally, there is a below ground exit from the Civil Defense Control Center at the southeast corner of the site via a metal hatch at ground level.

b. Windows:

The north and south facades are lined with evenly spaced curtain wall, each containing a glass panel with a white porcelain insulated panel above all inset within an aluminum frame and divided by aluminum mullions. At the east elevation there are ten windows on either side of the projecting entrance vestibule; on the west elevation there are twelve windows to the north of the entrance and eight to the south; on the north elevation there are ten windows to the east of the entrance and four windows to the west; and at the south elevation there are nine windows to the west of

the entrance and four windows to the east. At the west elevation the eighth window from the north is clad with a white, porcelain insulated panel original to the building.

c. Other:

N/A

6. Roof:

a. Shape, covering:

The building is covered with a flat roof and is a standard built-up roof system (BUR) with pea gravel.

b. Cornice, eaves:

The fascia is clad in aluminum.

7. Decorative features:

The building is Mid-Century Modern in style; it was designed to be utilitarian in use and is very simple. The streamlined curtain wall detailing, notably the aluminum projecting framework with porcelain panels cladding the recessed corners below the aluminum fascia at the roof line and the projecting stacked bond brick vestibule, are key features of this minimal modern aesthetic. Decorative features include the intact original sconces at the main entrance and a compass and elevation insert of colored concrete and bronze originally located at the main entrance which has since been removed.

D. Description: DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center The DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center, located 130 North County Farm Road is a simple Mid-Century Modern building, one-story in height, clad in a glass and white porcelain insulated panel curtain wall with a tan-colored brick bulkhead and dark brown-colored projecting vestibule.

The ground level of the building which once housed the DuPage County Highway Department is open and simple. The space is configured around a central core which housed two vaults, a mechanical room, public toilet room, laboratory, and blue printing facilities. Around the perimeter of the interior space were the offices, lounge, lunch room, conference, room, and drafting room, divided from each other and the main corridors by glass partition walls. The ground level was remodeled multiple times and little historic fabric remains on the interior including an original bronze clock on the north wall of the reception area, glazed wall tiles in the public toilet room, and the terrazzo flooring in the vestibule and public toilet room.

Like the Highway Department spaces on the ground level the Civil Defense Control Center underwent multiple renovations, all of which occurred by 1978, just a few years after the control center was decommissioned and DU-Comm occupied the space. To enter, one would descend an enclosed stair from the ground level into a concrete tunnel on an east-west axis. Overhead and still in place today is the 2.5 ton blast door that would seal the shelter at the stairs. At the eastern end of the tunnel were the mechanical spaces and emergency supplies storage. Inside the tunnel, an L-shaped corridor, composed of concrete blocks, leads into the

vestibule located in the shorter leg of the "L" and then down along the longer leg of the "L", on the north-south axis, passed the communications rooms and into the Civil Defense Operations Center (CDOC). All auxiliary spaces were located on the perimeter of the CDOC. To the west of the CDOC were the communications and transmitter spaces and the message center; to the north was the Men's Toilet Rooms and Women's Dormitory/Toilet Rooms and the State Office; to the south were the Office of Civil Defense Director & Deputy and the Medical Office and first aid dispensary; and finally to the southwest was the Men's Dormitory and the Kitchen. Due to the extensive remodeling in the mid-1970s, very limited historic fabric remains on the interiors of these spaces including the wood wall paneling the Office of the Civil Defense Director and Deputy, Medical Office, and first aid dispensary. The most intact spaces include the Women's and Men's Toilet Rooms and the Kitchen. The toilet rooms retain the original stall partitions, wood shower seats, oversized, grey wall tiles, and terrazzo flooring. The kitchen remains fully intact including the wood cabinets, yellow Formica counters, original stove, and terrazzo flooring. Other original features include the wall-mounted lights in the tunnel and stair, vault, and wood shelving in the emergency supply storage.

PART III SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Original Architectural Drawings:

Obtained from DuPage County Facilities Management.

B. Early Views:

Various historic views of the DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center were printed in the Chicago Daily Tribune and are owned and maintained DuPage County Facilities Management.

C. Interviews:

None

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Bateman, Newton, Paul Selby, and Rufus Blanchard. History of Du Page County, Illinois. Chicago: O.L. Baskin, 1882.

Canfield, David. "DuPage Underground Control Center is Nation's First: Volunteers Use It for Training." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), September 10, 1959.

"Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), October 19, 1958.

History of Du Page County: historical and biographical. Chicago: Munsell Pub. Co., 1913.

Richmond, C. W., and H. F. Vallette. A history of the county of Du Page, Illinois: containing an account of its early settlement and present advantages, a separate history

of the several towns, including notices of religious organizations, education, agriculture and manufactures, with the names and some account of the first settlers in each township and much valuable statistical information. Chicago, IL: Chicago, Steam presses of Scripps, Bross & Spears, 1857.

Thompson, John H. "Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter: Could Withstand Near Miss." Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, IL), April 11, 1958.

2. Secondary and published sources:

Grossman, James R., Ann Durkin. Keating, and Janice L. Reiff. The encyclopedia of Chicago. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004.

"Jensen & Halstead LTD. A History of Innovation in Architecture." Jensen Halstead LTD. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://www.jensenandhalstead.com/.

Lester, Kerry. "Lester: Wheaton's Cold War bunker enters final days." *Daily Herald*, June 21, 2016. http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160620/news/160629977/.

McGrath, Steph. "DuPage County." DuPage County. 2005. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/396.html.

"The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects." Edward Grey Halstead. Accessed April 06, 2017.

http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd1017925.aspx.

"The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects." Jensen & Halstead (Firm). Accessed April 06,

2017. http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd4006083.aspx.

"The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects." Robert Glenn Wasson. Accessed April 06, 2017. http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd1047299.aspx.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

DuPage County Historical Society Wheaton, IL

National Archives

- · Records of the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization
- Records of the Office of Defense Mobilization
- · Office of Defense and Civilian Mobilization

Washington, D.C.

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F. Supplemental Material:

Selected historic illustrations and photographs are appended. See Index to Supplemental Materials.

PART IV METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

A. Research Strategy

Adhering to HIBS/HIER guidelines, document the subject properties through research of historic records, photographs and maps. Review material available at relevant archives and repositories. Use available research to document changes over time.

B. Actual Research Process

Reviewed documentation provided by DuPage County Facilities Management (client).

Conducted one site visits to photographically document the site and to take note of the existing site conditions and features.

Searched archives, local newspapers, and maps to locate information about the physical history and development of the subject property.

Contacted the architectural firm of Jensen & Halsted for any archival information on the building including photographs and biographical information on the project architect.

Submitted 95% draft for review by David Halpin, Cultural Resources Manager, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA).

Prepared final HIBS package per IHPA authorization letter dated May 5 2017.

C. Archives and Repositories Used

The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects

Chicago Historical Society

Chicago Tribune Historical Archive

DuPage County Facilities Management Archive

Illinois Digital Archives at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Internet Archive (archive.org)

Library of Congress online archives (http://www.loc.gov):

- "Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers"
- "Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey"

The Newberry Library, Chicago, IL

D. Research Staff

1. Primary Preparer:

Erica Ruggiero, Historic Preservation Specialist McGuire Igleski & Associates, Inc. Evanston, IL

2. Photographer:

Leslie Schwartz Leslie Schwartz Photography Chicago, IL

3. Delineator(s):

N/A

PART V PROJECT INFORMATION STATEMENT

This HIBS documentation project was undertaken to document the DuPage Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center at 130 North County Farm Road Wheaton, IL prior to demolition of the subject property as agreement upon between the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and DuPage County. The HIBS documentation completed will be deposited with the archives section of the Illinois State Historical Library as well as Special Collections at Southern Illinois University's Morris Library.

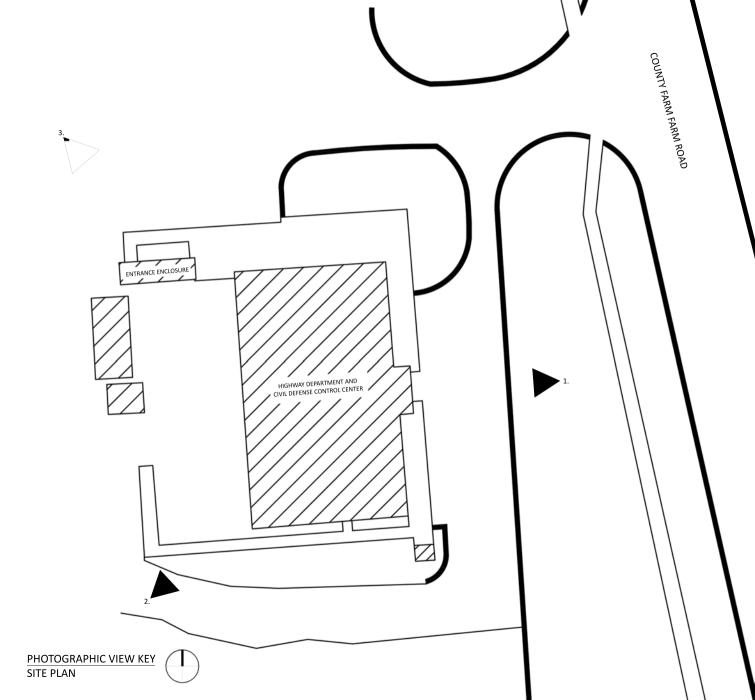
Preparation of this documentation was funded and assisted by DuPage County and was undertaken by McGuire Igleski & Associates, Inc, Evanston, Illinois, under the direction of Anne McGuire, President. Photography was performed by Leslie Schwartz, Leslie Schwartz Photography, Chicago, Illinois.

HISTORIC ILLINOIS BUILDING SURVEY

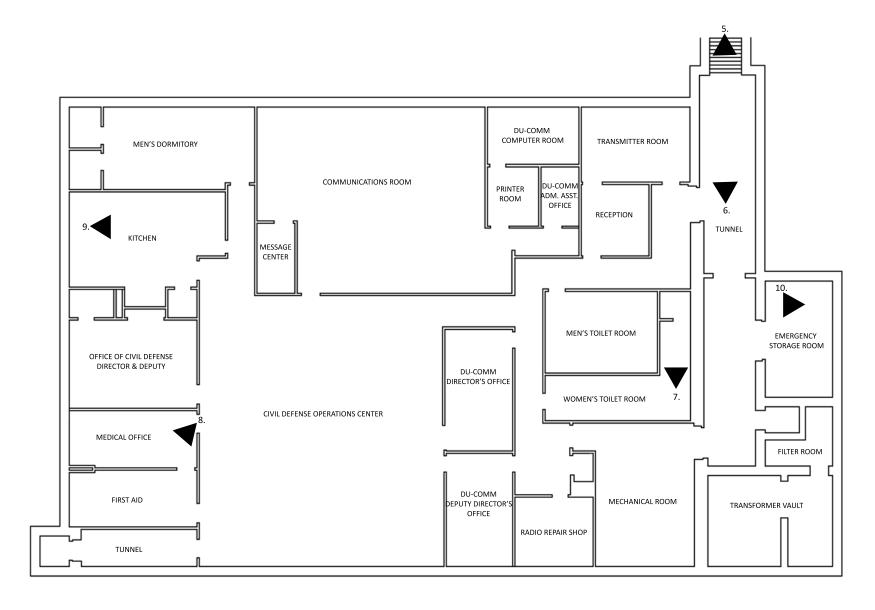
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center 130 North County Farm Road Wheaton DuPage County Illinois HIBS No. DU-2017-01

Leslie Schwartz, Photographer	March 2017
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.1	View of east (front) elevation looking west.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.2	View of the south (side) and west (rear) elevations looking northeast.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.3	View of the site including the DuPage County Highway Department Building and above ground entrance to the Civil Defense Control Center looking southeast.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.4	View of the DuPage County Highway Department Building vestibule, reception, and general office space looking southeast.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.5	View of tunnel entrance to the Civil Defense Control Center looking east.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.6	Detail of Civil Defense Control Center door used to seal the underground bunker.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.7	View of the women's decontamination shower looking west.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.8	View of medical office with first aid area in the background looking south east
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.9	View of kitchen looking north.
HIBS No. DU-2017-01.10	View of Emergency Storage Room looking northeast.





























HISTORIC ILLINOIS BUILDING SURVEY

INDEX TO DRAWINGS

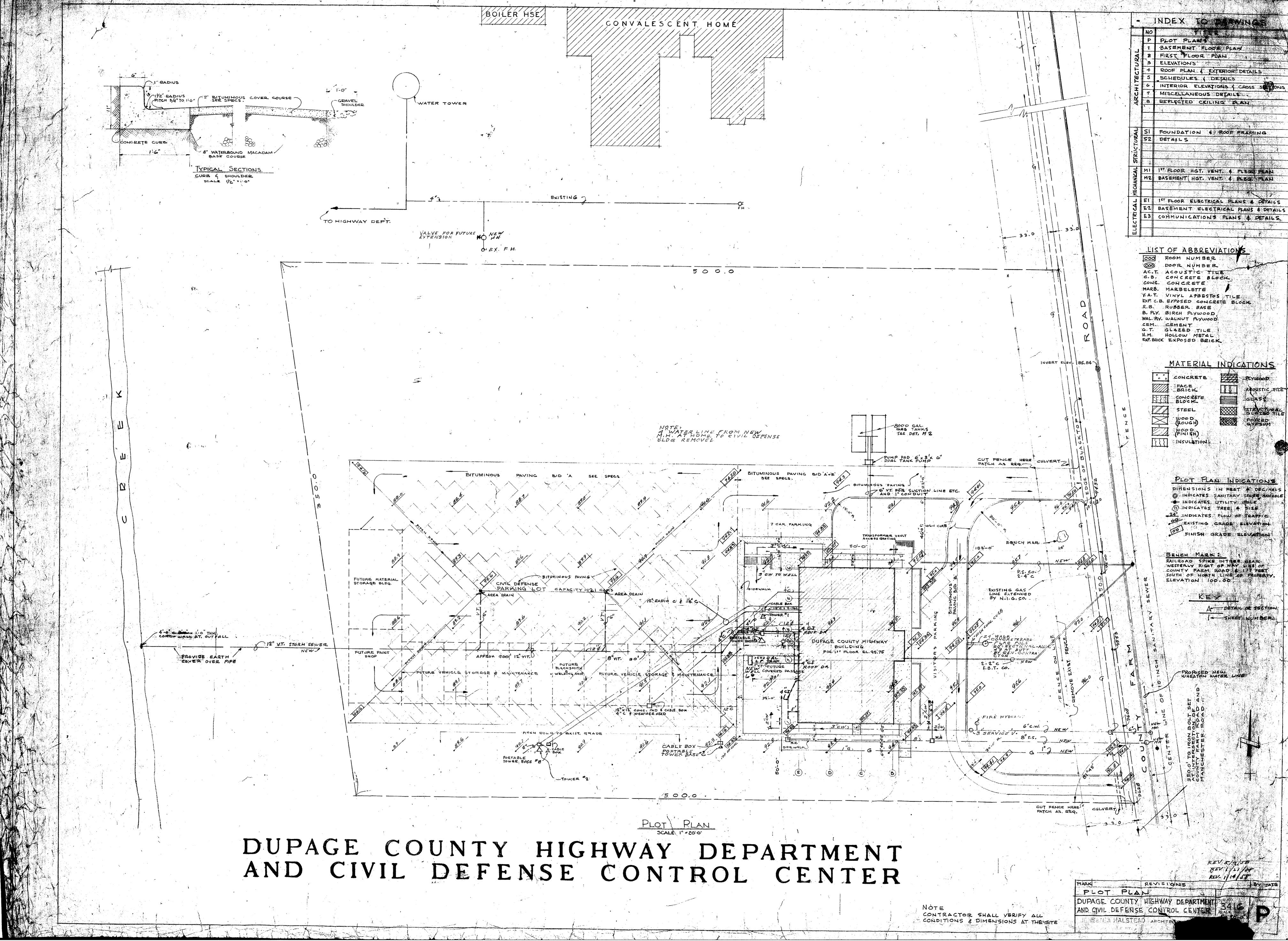
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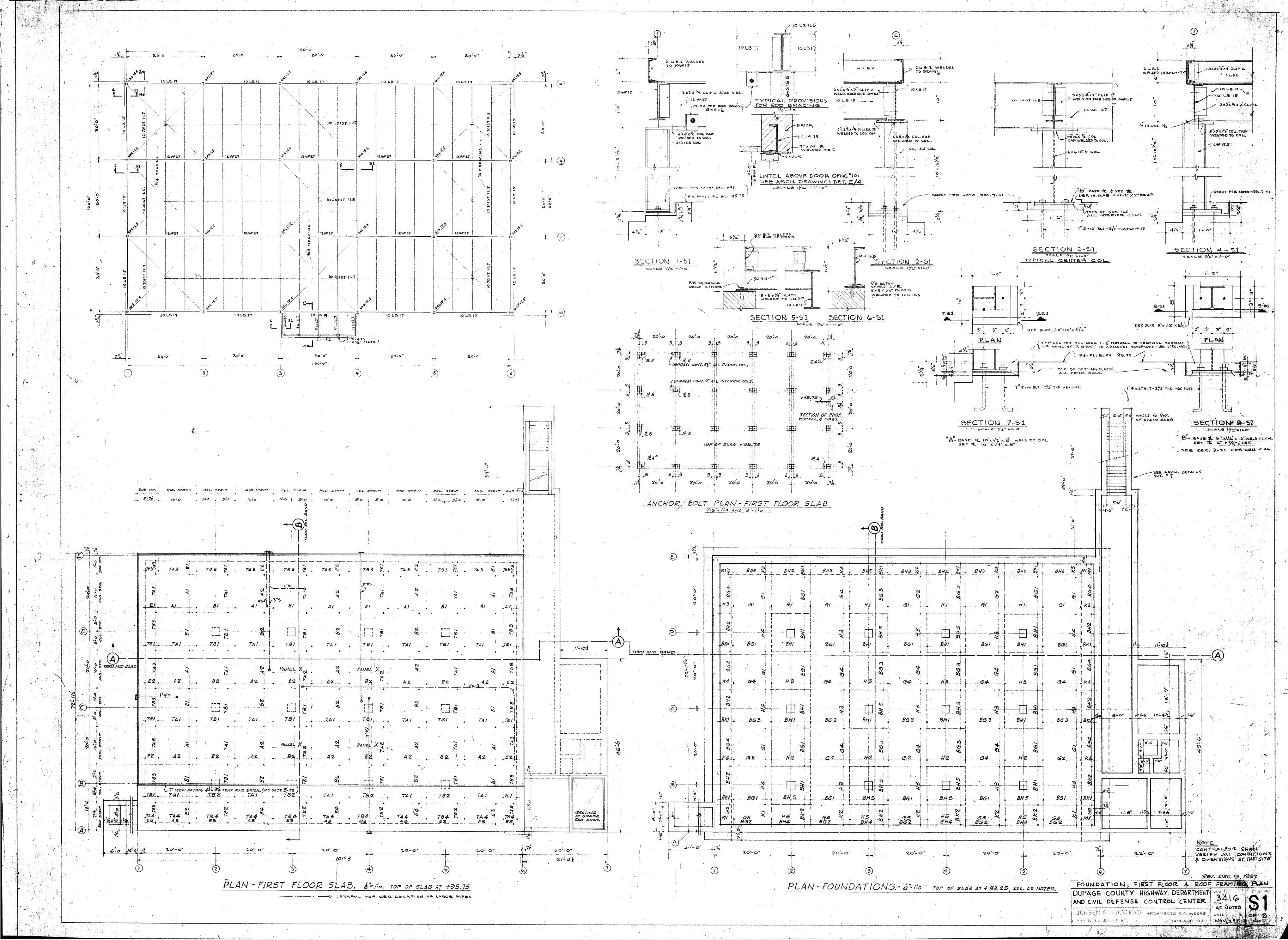
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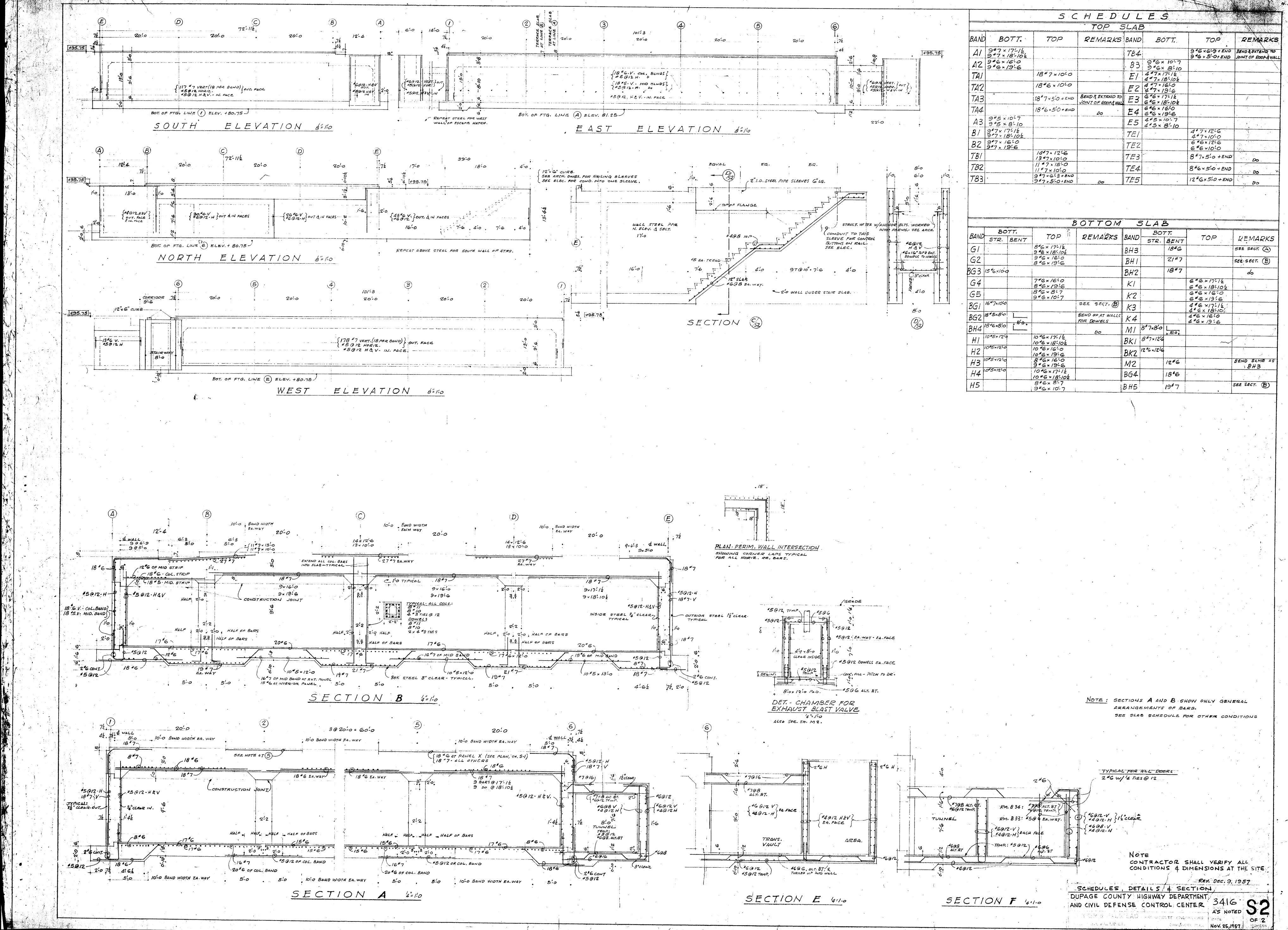
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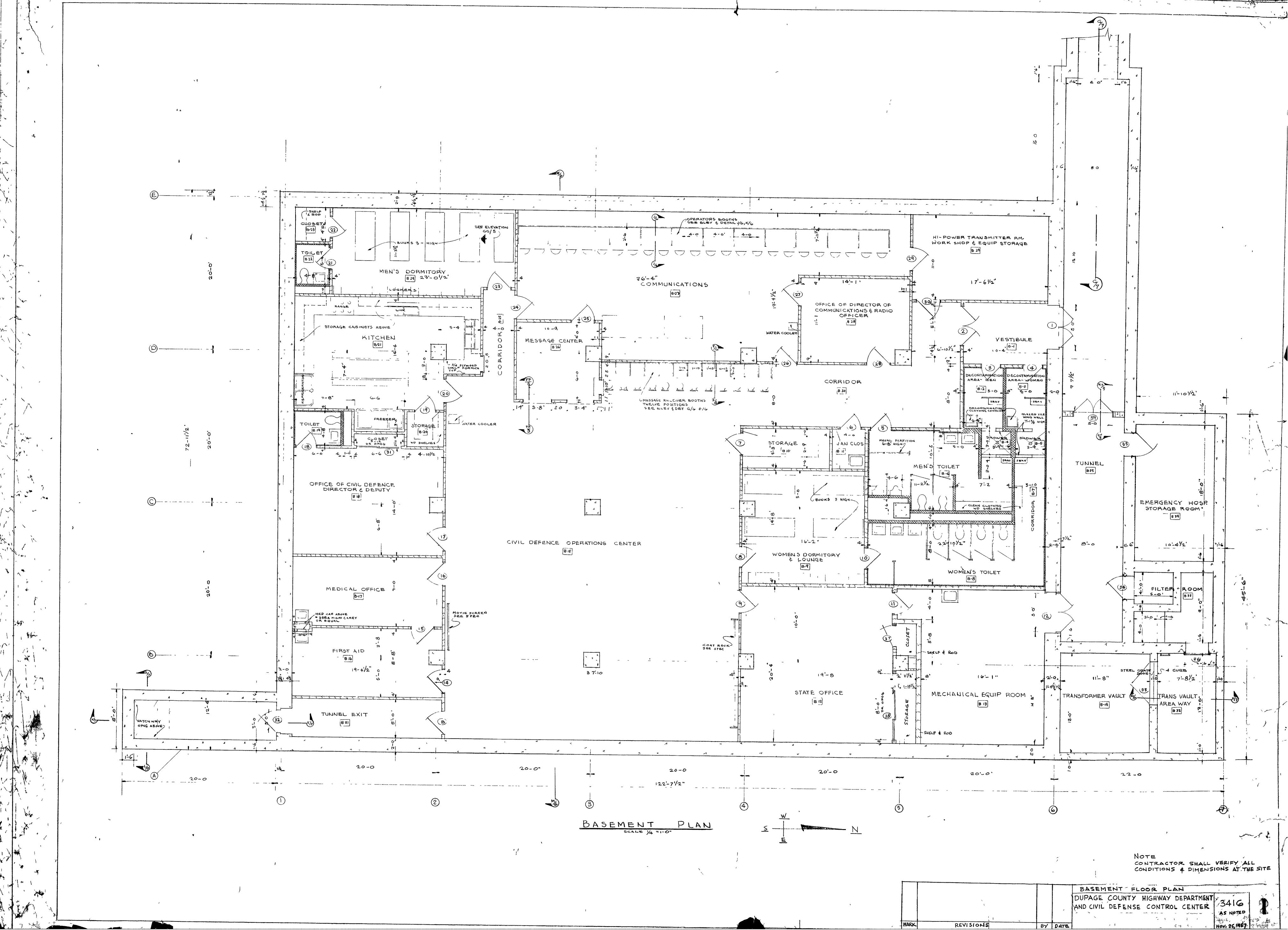
Jensen & Halstead. "DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center" Commission #3416, November 25, 1957.

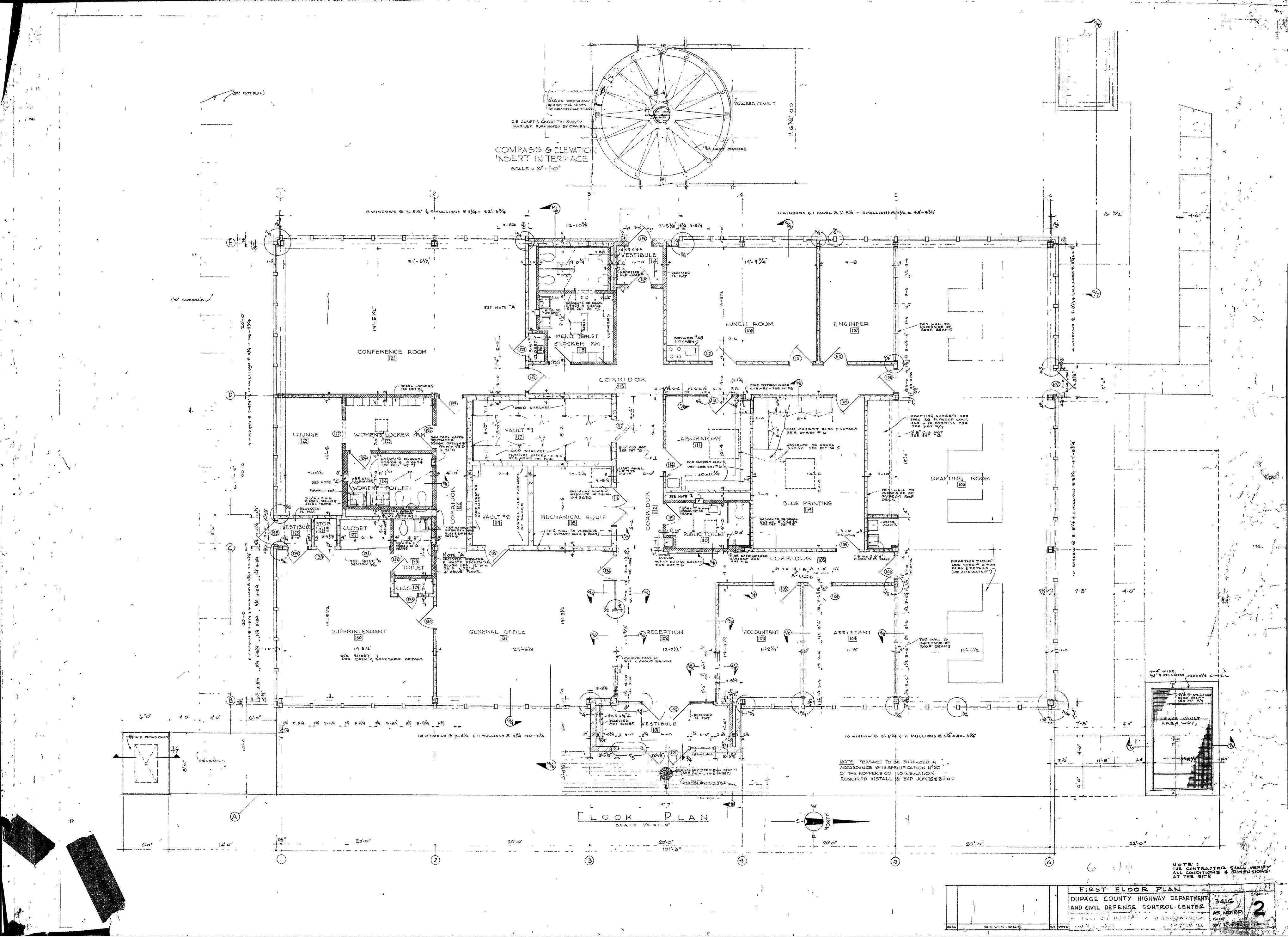
1	Drawing No. P: PLOT PLAN
2	Drawing No. S1: FOUNDATION, FIRST FLOOR & ROOF FRAMING
	PLAN
3	Drawing No. S2: SCHEDULE, DETAILS & SECTION
4	Drawing No. 1: BASEMENT PLAN
5	Drawing No. 2: GROUND FLOOR PLAN
6	Drawing No. 3: ELEVATIONS
7	Drawing No. 4: ROOF PLAN & EXTERIOR DETAILS
8	Drawing No. 5: DOOR & ROOM FINISH SCHEDULES & DETAILS
9	Drawing No. 6: INTERIOR ELEVATIONS, CROSS SECTION &
	DETAILS
10	Drawing No. 7: MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS
11	Drawing No. 8: GROUND FLOOR REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
12	Drawing No. PA1: ROLLING BLAST DOOR FOR STAIRWAY
13	Drawing No. PA2: ROLLING BLAST DOOR DETAILS
14	Drawing No. PA3: BASEMENT REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
15	Drawing No. PA5: STAIR ENCLOSURE

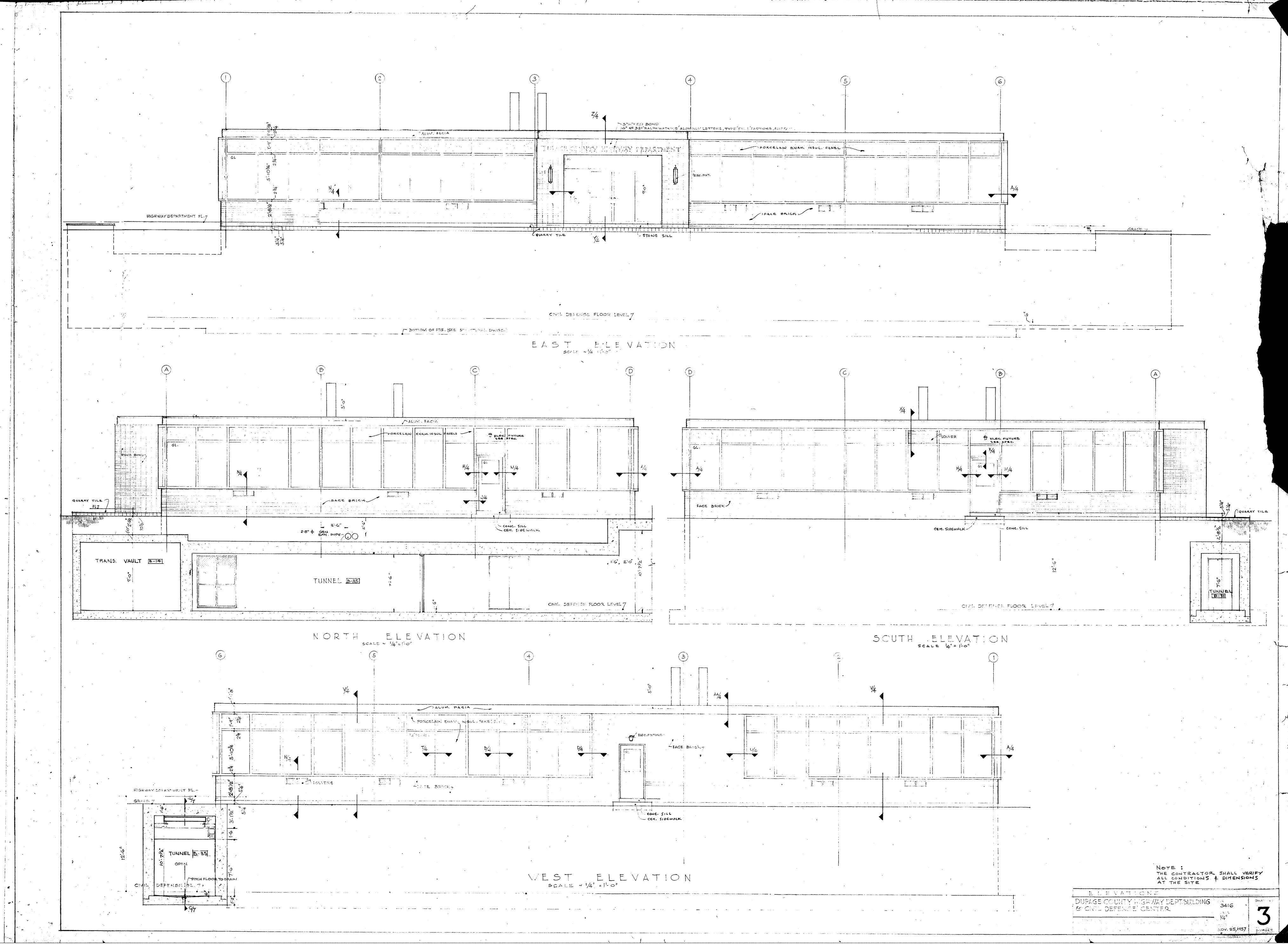


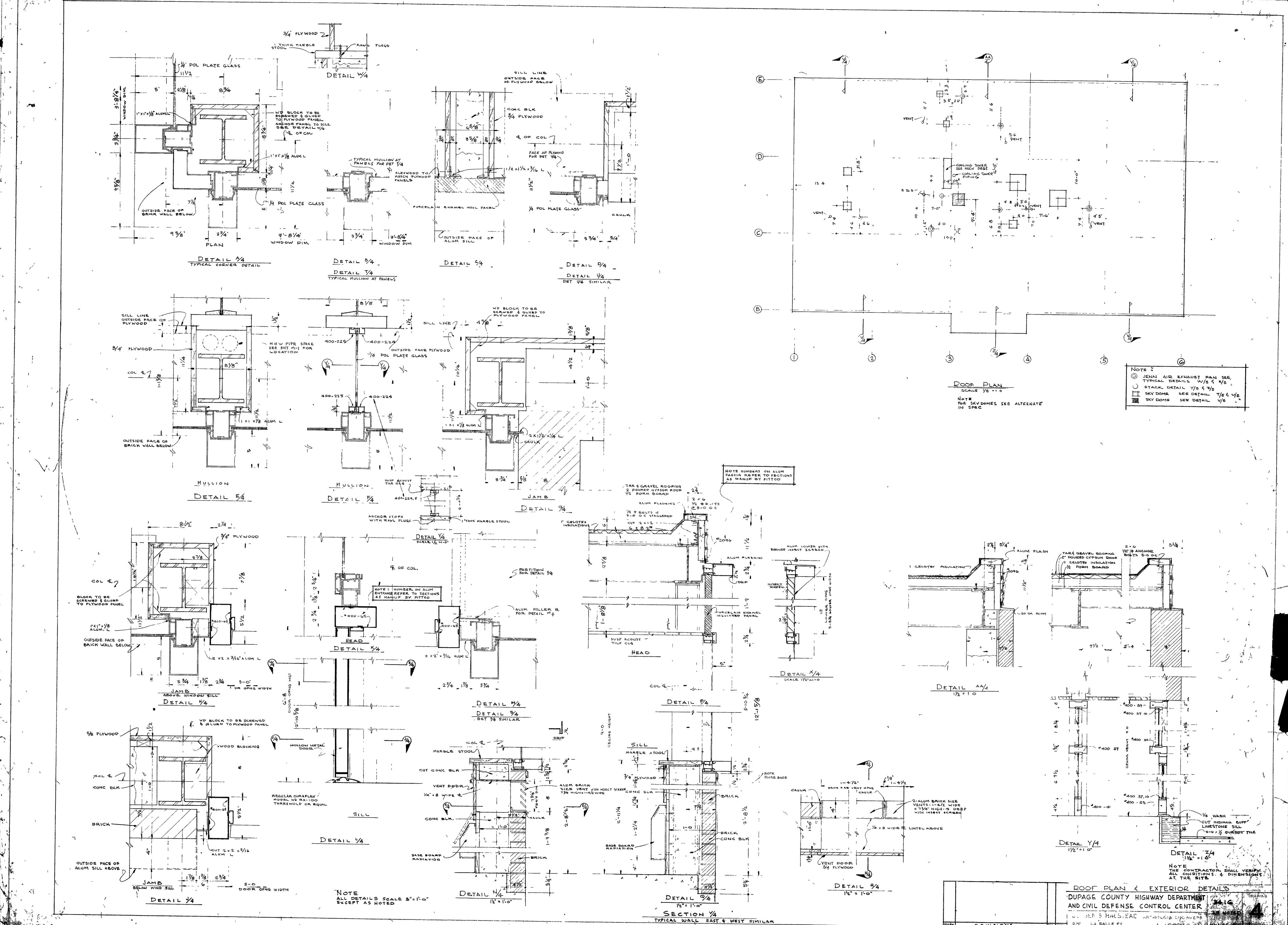


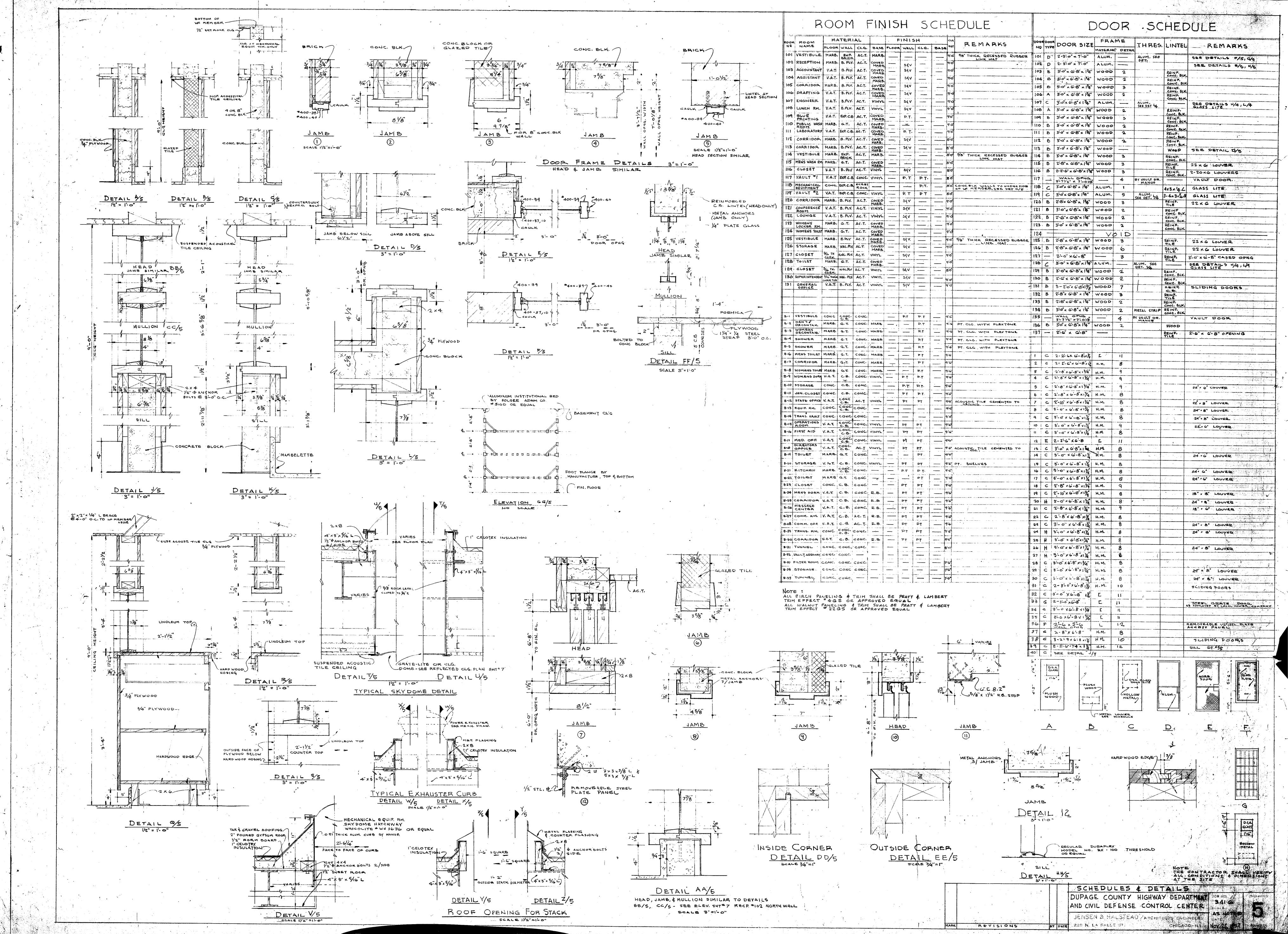


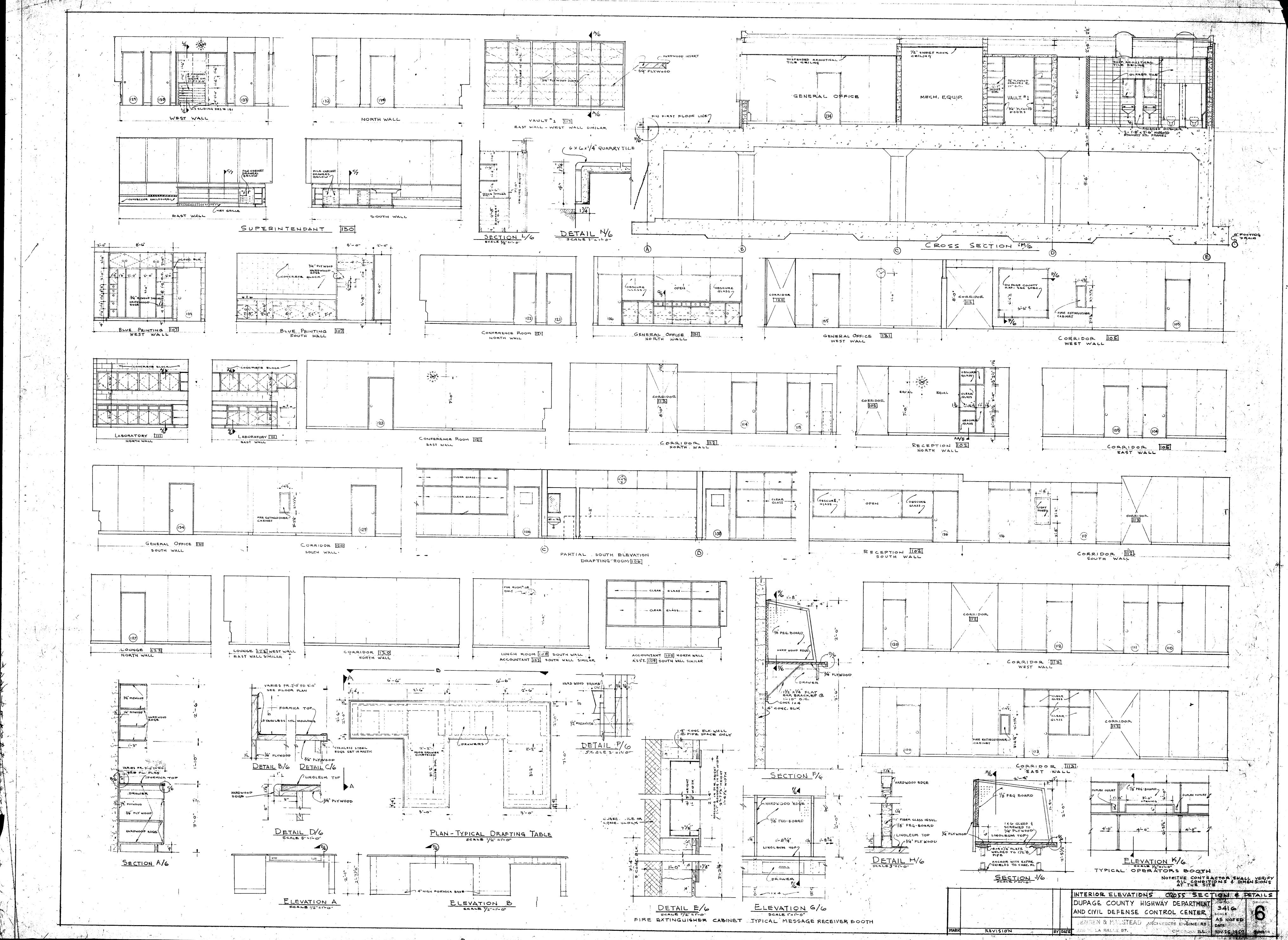


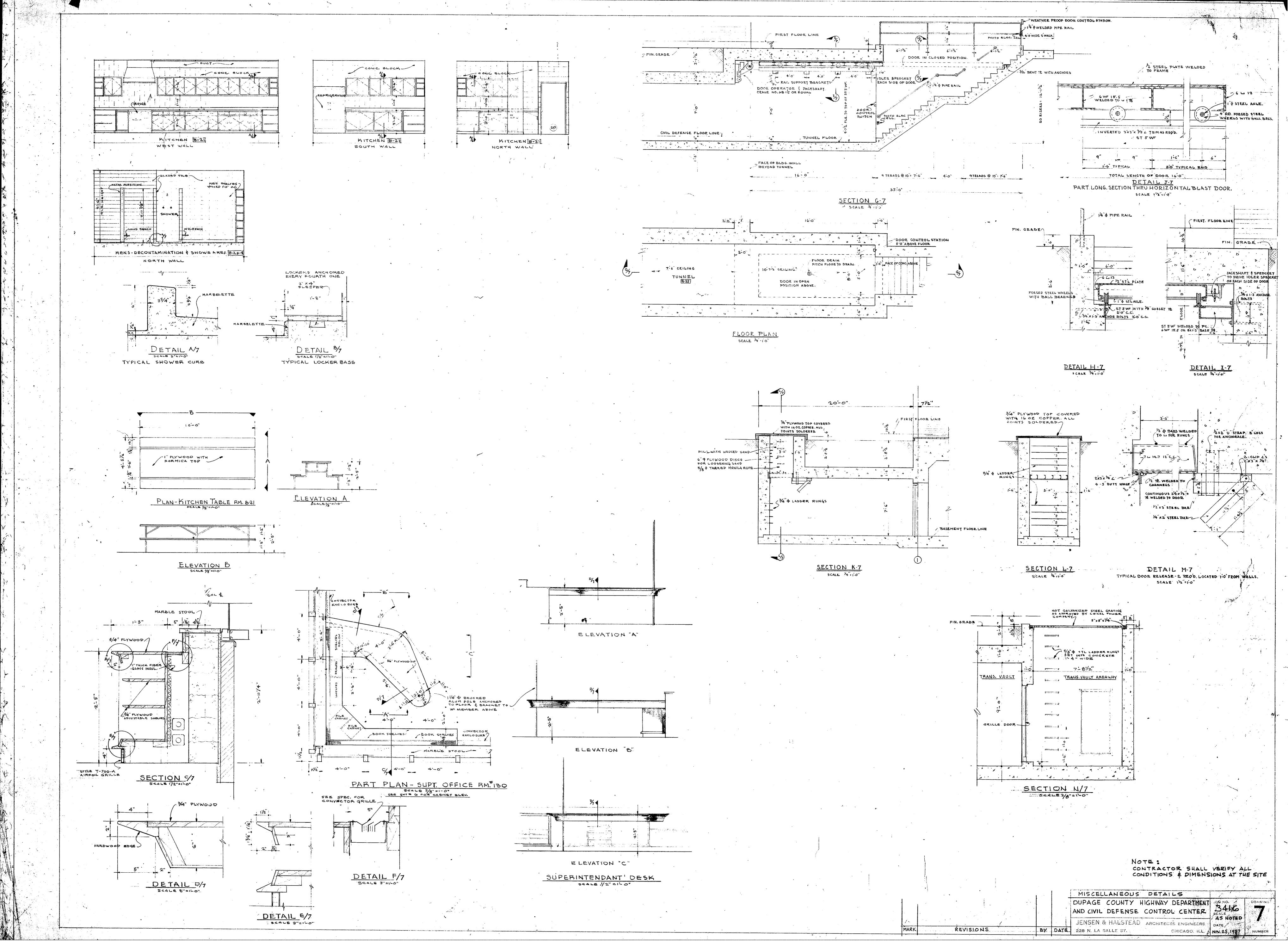


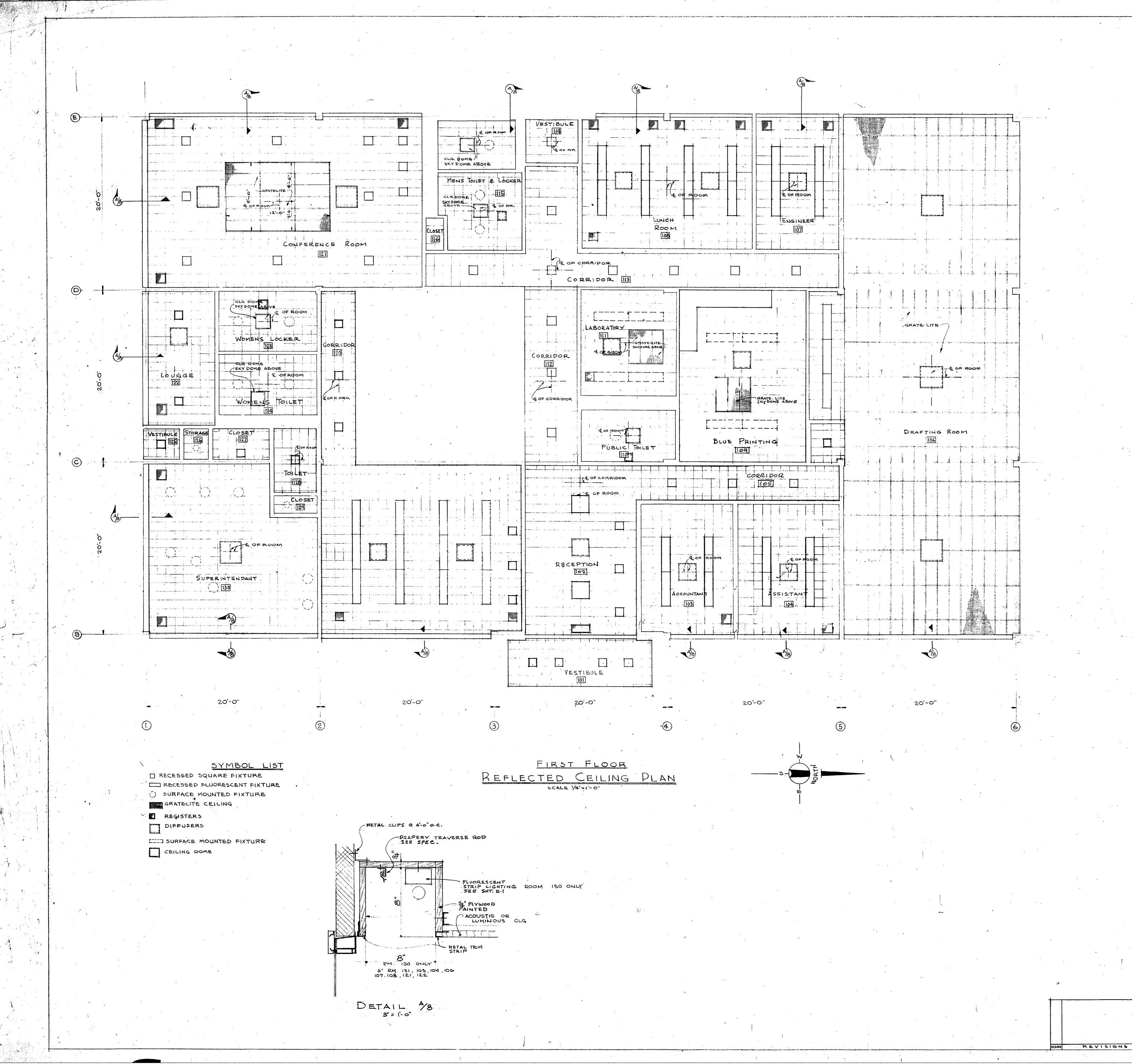












REFLECTED CEILING PLAN & DETAILS

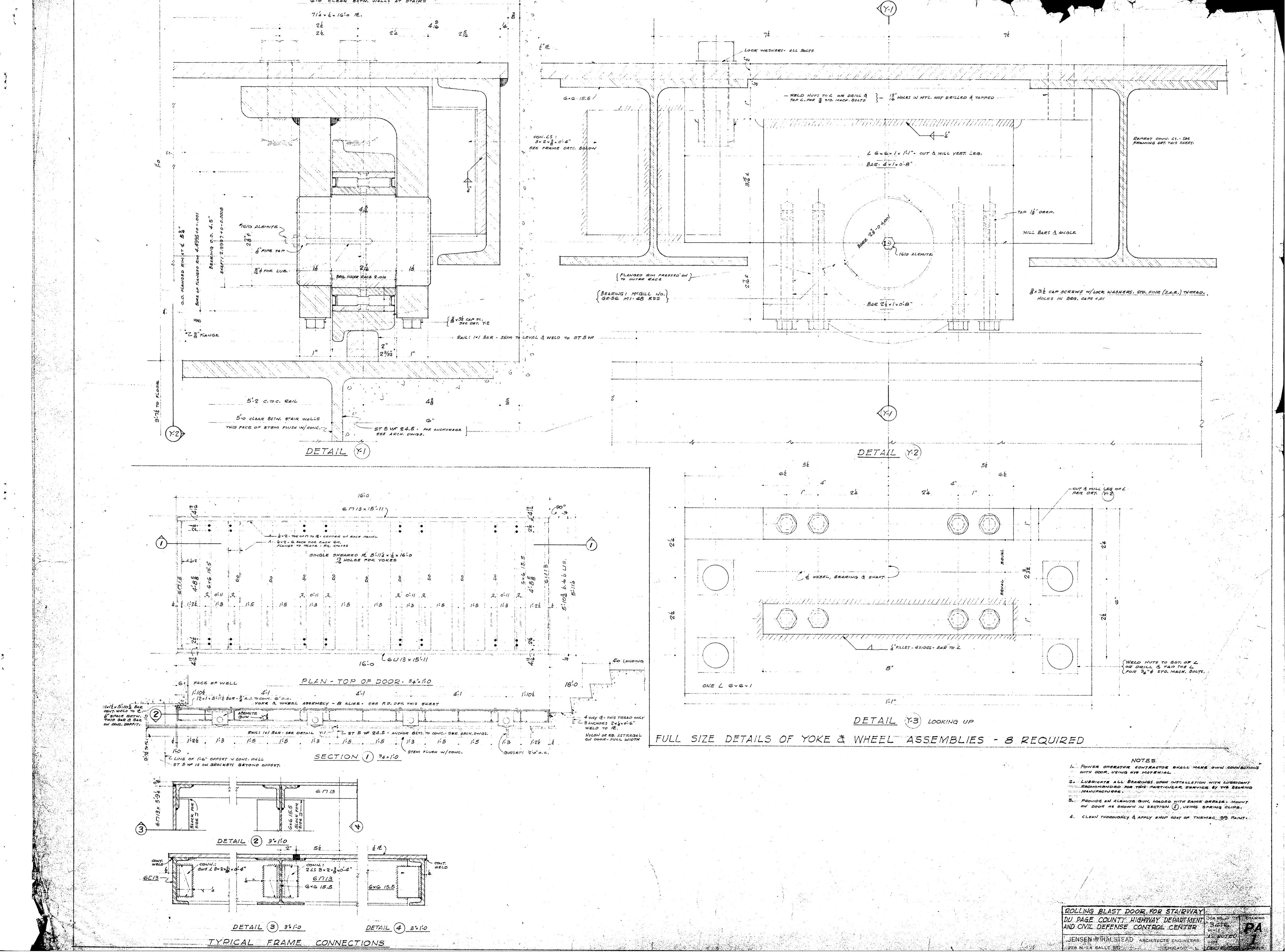
DUPAGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 3416

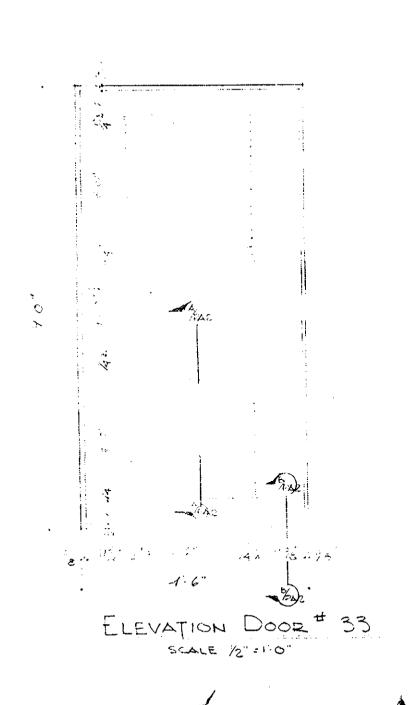
DUPAGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 3416

AND CIVIL DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER SCALE

JENSEN & HALSTEAD ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS DATE

BY DATE 1228 N LA SALLE ST: CHICAGO, ILL. NOW 25 1957 SE





1/4" STEEL PLATE FILLET WELD (BOTH SIDES) 13/4" x 1/4" STIL BAR LOUVER S - 1/2 / 2' ST'L WELDED TO BAR SOTH SIDES

SECTION A/PAZ

13/4" STEEL PLATE

CONT FILLET WELD

13/4" > 7/6"

STEEL BAR

SECTION B/PA2

PA-2 (DOOR # 33 & DETAILS)

AND CIVIL DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER

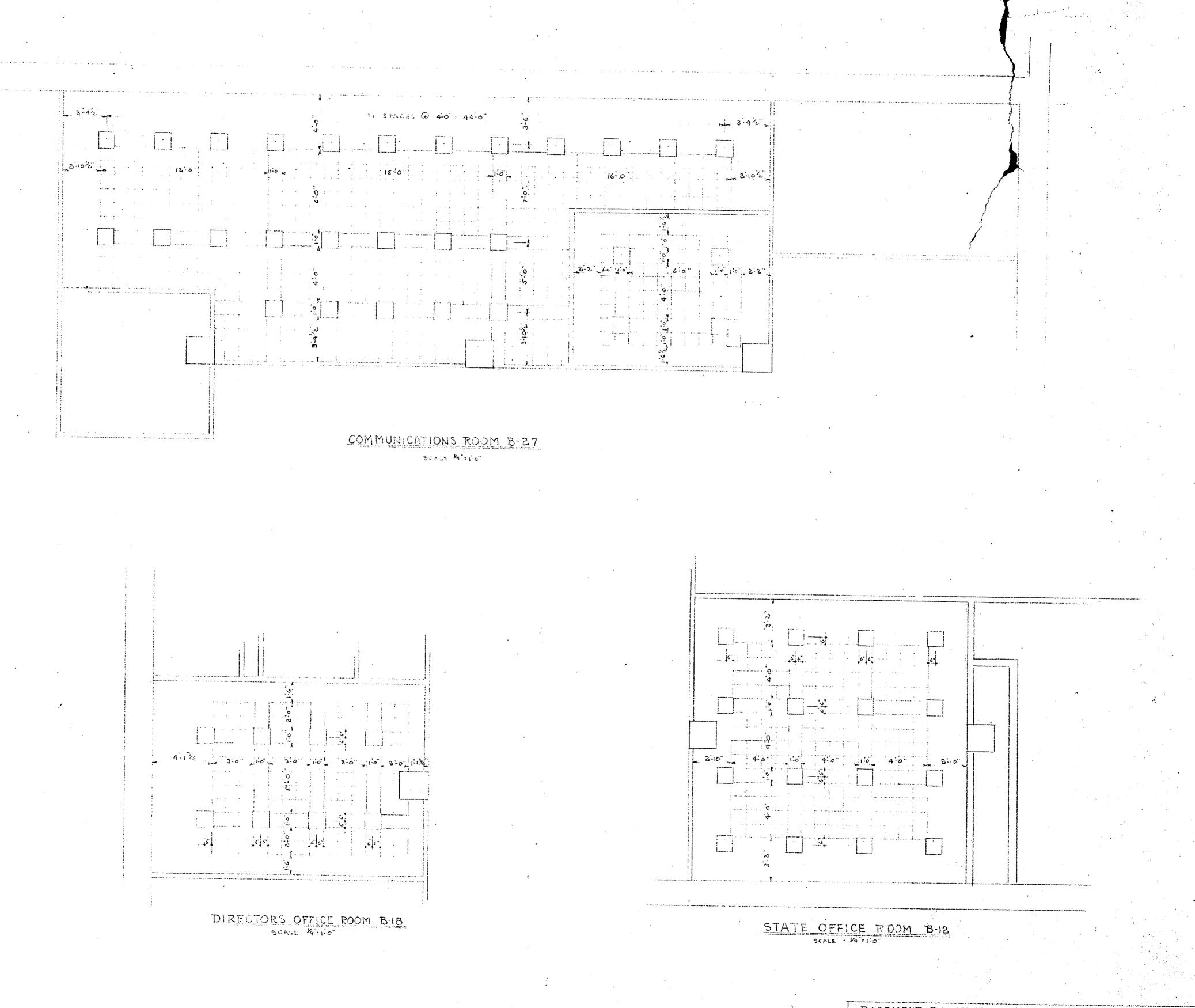
SCALE 3" +1-0"

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3416

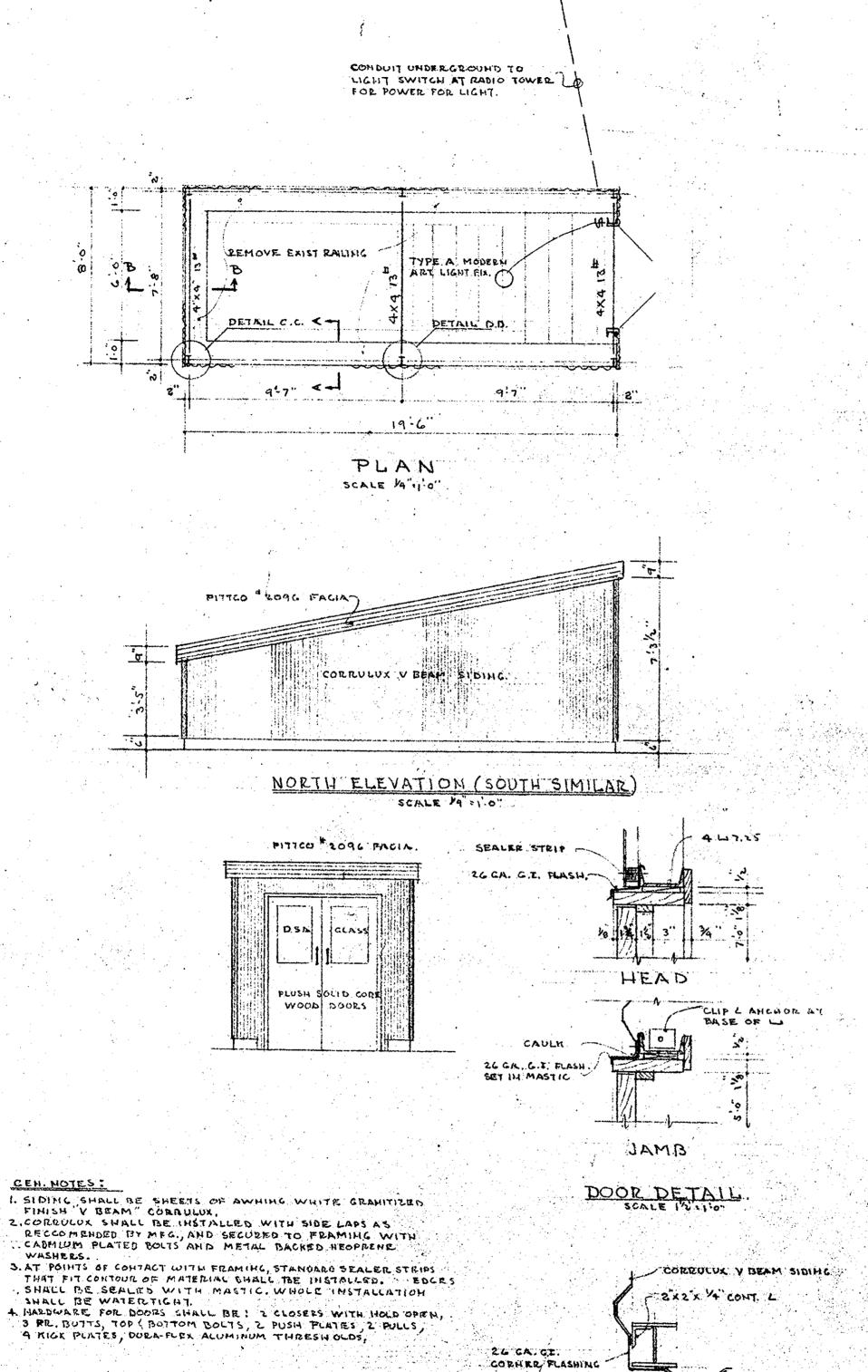
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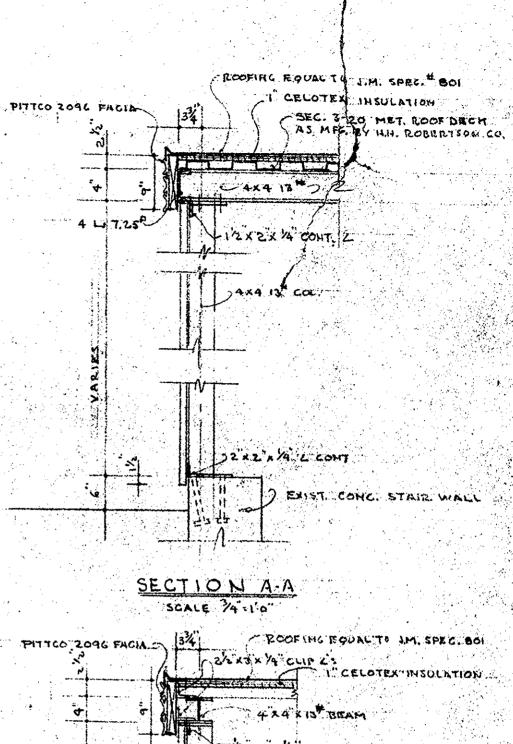
DUPAGE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT JOB NO.

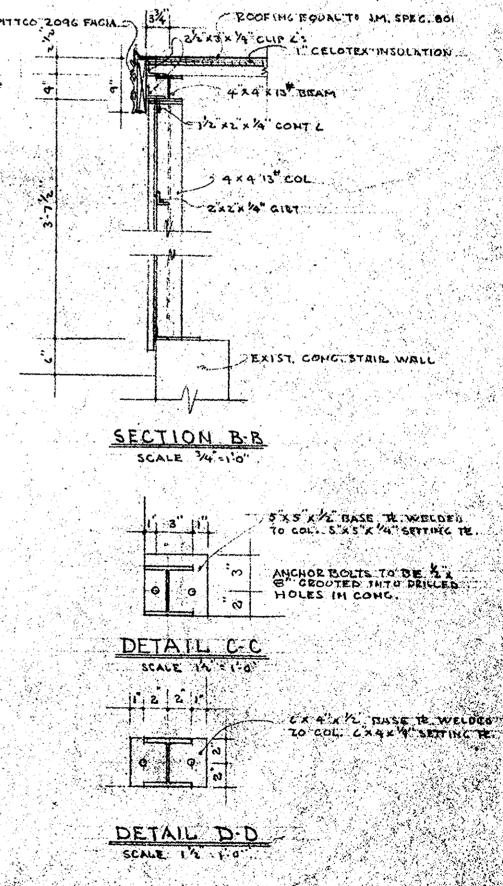
AND CIVIL DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER 3416

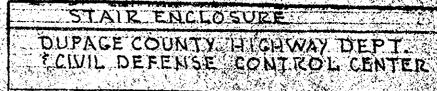


TYPICAL CORNER ELASHING DETAIL

SCALE IN TIO







PA-E

JENSEN & HALSTEAD ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS.

HISTORIC ILLINOIS BUILDING SURVEY

INDEX TO SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center 130 North County Farm Road Wheaton DuPage County Illinois HIBS No. DU-2017-01

HISTORIC ILLUSTRATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

- Figure 1. Chicago Daily Tribune "Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter." April 11, 1958.
- Figure 2. Chicago Daily Tribune "Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday: First H-Bomb Shelter Will Open Sunday." October 19, 1958.
- Figure 3. Chicago Daily Tribune "Du Page Underground Control Shelter Is Nation's First: Volunteers Use It for Training." September 10, 1959.
- Figure 4. DuPage County. Miscellaneous Views of the DuPage County Highway Department and Civil Defense Control Center. Undated.

Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter: Could Withstand Near Miss

Thompson, John H

Chicago Daily Tribune (1923-1963); Apr 11, 1958; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Tribune
pg. 2

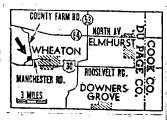
Wheaton Site of First H-Shelter

Could Withstand Near Miss

BY JOHN H. THOMPSON

(Picture on back page)
The first civil defense control center in the United States capable of sheltering its inmates from anything but virtually a direct hit by the most powerful hydrogen bomb is rising near Wheaton, 25 miles west of Chicago.

When completed by Du Page county it will become the civil defense communications center for Chicago and



all northeastern Illinois in the event of an actual or threatened attack by enemy bombers or intercontinental ballistics missiles.

First H-Age Refuge

Civil Defense administration headquarters in Battle Creek, Mich., confirmed that the Wheaton structure is the first in the nation to be built for the nuclear age. It is intended to remain intact if it is three miles or more from the center of a 20 megaton [20 million tons] H-bomb explosion.

This requires a structure able to withstand blast pressure of 30 pounds per square inch. Workmen yesterday poured 860 cubic yards of reinforced concrete to make a slab three feet thick.

The architects, Jensen & Halstead, 228 N. La Salle st., said the slab, forming the center's ceiling, will withstand 30 p.s.i. and will shield occupants from radioactive fallout or penetration.

Costs Shared

Seymour Waterfall, chairman of the Du Page county board of supervisors, said the county and federal govern-

ments share the cost of the center. It will occupy the basement of the building, while the county highway department uses the nonbomb proof first floor.

Over-all cost of the entire building, situated at the north-west corner of County Farm and Manchester roads, is \$500,000. The center, 120 feet long by 70 feet wide, will have concrete walls and floor two feet thick.

There is no entrance from the first floor. The center will be reached by exterior stairs, protected by a blest door, leading into a tunnel. Inside the center will be facilities enabling the occupants to survive without outside aid for at least two weeks.

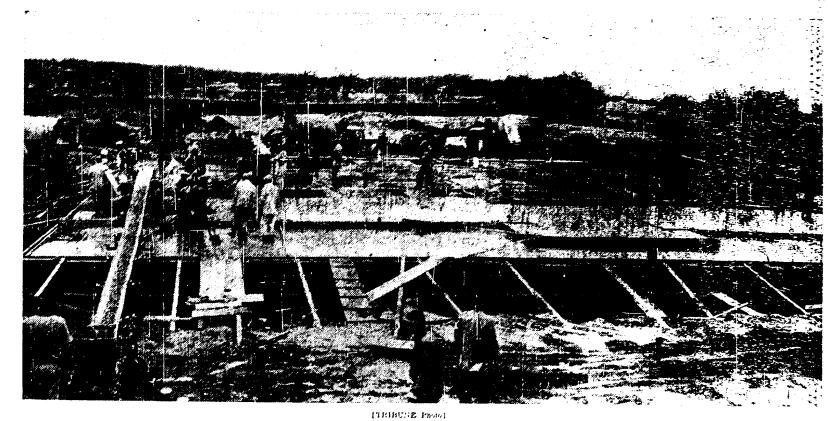
Room for 190

Robert Wasson, project architect, said the center, built to federal defense specifications, will be equipped with extensive air conditioning and filtering equipment. The center has a 9.6 foot ceiling and can hold up to 100 occupants.

Two gasoline operated gas.

Two gasoline operated generators will provide power for radio and teletype transmission, light, heat, and ventilation. In addition to working space, the center will have separate dormitories for men and women, kitchen, food storage, sanitary facilities, and a dispensary for doctor and nurses.

Build Nuclear Bomb Defense Shelter Near Wheaton



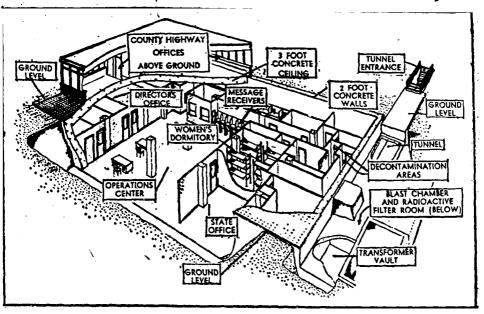
Workmen pouring a slab of concrete 3 feet thick as ceiling for nation's first civil defense control center near Wheaton.

The center, with room for 100 persons, is planned to withstand H-bomb blast three miles away. (Story on page 2)

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Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday: FIRST H-BOMB <span ... Chicago Daily Tribune (1923-1963); Oct 19, 1958; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Tribune pg. 3

Dedicate Nuclear Age Defense Center Sunday



[Prepared from Drawins by Jensen & Halstead, Architects and Engineers]

Cutaway sketch of new civil defense control center at Manchester and County farm roads, two miles west of Wheaton, which will be dedicated Sunday. Legends identify some of the many features of self-sustaining headquarters, built to withstand 20 megaton hydrogen bomb blast.

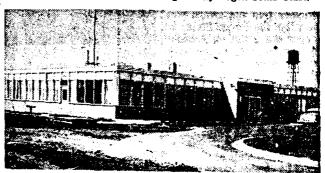
FIRST H-BOMB SHELTER WILL OPEN SUNDAY

Center at Wheaton for Civil Defense

The nation's first nuclear age civil defense underground control center will be dedicated Sunday near Wheaton

gen bomb exploded three or more miles away, the \$360,000 center will house civil defense officials directing evacuation and rescue operations in peace time or war time disasters.

30 Miles West of Loop The center is described by



Capable of withstanding the Building atop underground defense control cent blast of a 20 megaton hydro-house Du Page county highway department offices. Building atop underground defense control center, which will

federal officials as the first state civil defense director, blast and radiation resistant will speak. H-bomb shelter in the United States. It will serve as a head- 1:45 p. m. and the shelter quarters in emergencies for will be open to public inspecthe northeast Illinois and Du tion thereafter. Page county civil defense agencies.

ter and County Farm roads, tional and about 30 miles west of the out northeast Illinois. Chicago Loop.

Can Relay Orders

pected to officiate at ribbon weeks, Woodward said. cutting ceremonies at which

The program will begin at

In the reinforced basement center, disaster alerts and or-The center is at Manches ders can be relayed from nastate 2 miles west of Wheaton and points to local officials thru-

Cooking, storage, and dormitory facilities in the center are sufficient to sustain an Sen. Dirksen [R., Ill.] is ex- operating staff of 60 for two

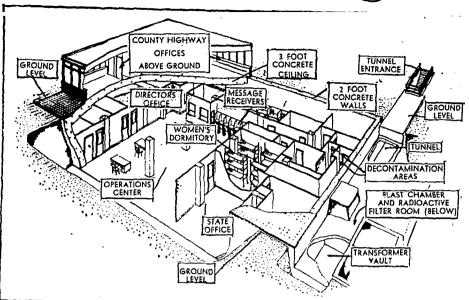
The center serves a dual federal, state, and county of-purpose with a building above ficials also are expected. Maj. ground to house county high-gen. Robert M. Woodward, way department offices.

Du Page Underground Control Shelter Is Nation's First: Volunteers Use It for Training

Canfield. David

Chicago Daily Tribune (1923-1963); Sep 10, 1959; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Tribune

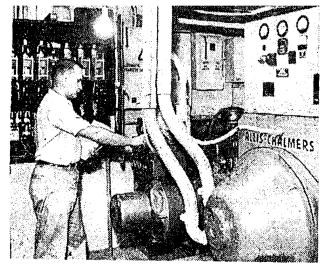
Du Page Underground Control Shelter Is Nation's First



Cutaway drawing shows underground civil defense control center at Manchester and County Farm roads two miles west of Wheaton. Legends identify some of the features of the self-sustaining headquarters, built to withstand 20 megaton hydrogen bomb blasts. An intricate radio and communications system is "activated" by volunteer workers each Monday



Amateur radio operators make contacts with control centers in Du Page county villages and cities. [TRIBUNE Photos by Fred Giese]



Adjusting the 100 kilowatt emergency power generator is Charles Brokaski, 2119 Oak Park av., Berwyn, assistant supervisor of fixed and portable power. Eight portable generators of 25 kilowatts each also are available.

Volunteers Use It for **Training**

BY DAVID CANFIELD
The nation's first civil defense underground control center-dedicated Oct. 19, 1958-is located 2 miles west of Wheaton at Manchester and County Farm

Capable of withstanding a blast of a 20 megaton hy-drogen bomb exploded 3 or more miles away, the \$360,000 center will house northeast Illinois and Du Page county civil defense officials directing evacuation and rescue operations in peace time or war time disasters.

Meet Every Week

About 35 to 50 Du Page county civil defense workers meet in the blast and radiation resistant H-bomb shelter at 7:30 p. m. each Monday. Under the leadership of Roy'C. Blackwell, Lombard, county civil defense director, the volun-teers "activate" an intricate amateur radio and communications set-up under simulated disaster con-

Disaster alerts and orders can be relayed from national and state warning points to local officials thruout northeast Illinois in the reinforced basement center. Occupants of the shelter are protected by a concrete ceiling 36 inches thick and 24 inch concrete walls. A 2½ ton steel door can be operated by a button in a tunnel leading to the shelter. The door is operated by electricity supplied by the shelter's own generator.

In the control center are food, living quarters, kitchen facilities, and medical supplies to keep a full staff 80 persons alive for three weeks in event of an atomic attack.

Road Headquarters

There are men's and women's decontamination rooms which would be used by persons entering the shelter after a bomb al-ready had been dropped on the area: Doctors with geiger counters would examine each new arrival for possible contamination.

Altho all civil defense facilities are underground, Du Page county highway



Du Page county's civil defense committee meets in the director's office. Members are (from left) Clifford Simpson, Elmhurst, deputy director; Roy C. Blackwell, Lombard, director; Harold P. Dunton, Wheaton, chief deputy director; and Wesley E. Kidd and Burton Tilden, Glen Ellyn, and Donald Swan, Lombard, all deputy directors. The \$360,000 center will house officials directing evacuation and rescue operations in peace or war time disasters.



Mrs. Roy C. Blackwell, Lombard, makes the lower bunk a bed in the women's dormitory. There are 24 beds each in the women's and men's dormitories.

department built its headquarters building on top of the 36 inch slab covering the shelter

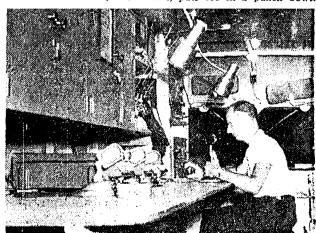
Members of the county civil defense committee are ton, Wheaton, chief deputy director; and Clifford Simpson, Elmhurst; Wesley E. Kidd and Burton Tilden, Glen Ellyn; and Donald Swan, Lombard; deputy



tion. They are (from left) C. A. P. Cadet Robert Payton Jr., Wheaton, operating a transmitter; and Miss Joanne Leonard, Wheaton; and Miss Carole J. Cavitt, Gillespie, Macoupin



Kitchen helpers prepare refreshments for workers. Mrs. Gerald Smith (left), Lombard, pours coffee into a percolator. Mrs. Karl Pearson, Villa Park, puts ice in a punch



Harry Ecklund, Wheaton, mobile unit supervisor, operates an amateur radio in the mobile communications center truck.

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