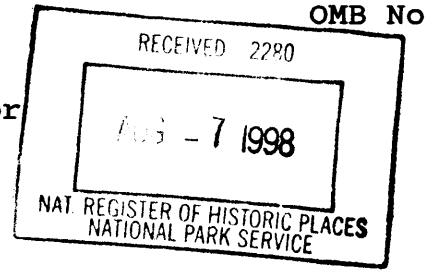
NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1148

1. Name of Property

historic name Sand Springs Power Plant

other names/site number Sand Springs Power, Light, Heat and Water Company

2. Location

street & number 221 South Main Street not for publication N/A
city or town Sand Springs vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Tulsa code 143
zip code 74063

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this XX nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property XX meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide XXX locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official — Date: 27 July 1998

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

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In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register — Edson H. Beall 9.3.98
___ See continuation sheet.

____ determined eligible for the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.

____ determined not eligible for the National Register

____ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
_X_ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_X_ building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: Public Works

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Commercial Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation BRICK
roof ASPHALT
walls BRICK
METAL
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_X_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance 1911-1947

Significant Dates 1911

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Tingley, Clarence H., builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
_____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_____ previously listed in the National Register
_____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_____ designated a National Historic Landmark
_____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
_____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 2 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	760160	4002470	3	__	_____	_____
2	__	_____	_____	4	__	_____	_____

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See Continuation Sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Mary Jane Warde

organization _____ date January 15, 1998

street & number 3523 Willow Park Circle telephone (405) 377-0412

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74074

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name The City of Sand Springs

street & number P.O. Box 338 telephone (918) 246-2501

city or town Sand Springs state OK zip code 74063

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SUMMARY:

The Sand Springs Power Plant in Sand Springs, Oklahoma is a complex building with an irregular shape and roofline. Several additions to the original one-story building occurred during the period of significance, 1911 to 1947. Built mostly of red brick, the Sand Springs Power Plant is an example of the Commercial Style adapted to industrial use, but it also demonstrates some Art Deco influence. One of the oldest buildings in Sand Springs, it stands on the northeast corner of South Main Street and Morrow Road in the area set aside for industrial development by city founder Charles Page.

DESCRIPTION:

The Sand Springs Power Plant at 221 South Main Street is situated on the northeast corner of the intersection of South Main Street and Morrow Road in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. The city of Sand Springs, platted and developed by entrepreneur Charles Page in 1911, is located on the wooded bluffs north of the Arkansas River and on its flood plain. The Sand Springs Power Plant anchors one corner of the original industrial area on the flood plain approximately five blocks south of the central business district. Commercial and industrial buildings line Morrow Road east and west of the intersection with South Main Street. To the west across South Main Street is a commercial strip one block deep bordering a 1920s residential area. To the north of the power plant are a railroad track, a large open field, and U.S. Highway 412.

The Sand Springs Power Plant is complex and irregular in shape and roofline, reflecting the several additions to the 1911 original building. Presently, it is approximately 120 feet by 50 feet. The longest axis of the building parallels Morrow Road. The primary entrance, on the west elevation of the oldest section of the building, faces onto South Main Street. (See photo 1.) This section, begun in 1911, is one-story. Generally, the roofline trends upward from west to east, ending in two three-story additions built by 1935. (See Sketch E.) Though there are three tiers of windows in these additions, the interiors are open from floor to roof. Most roof sections are asphalt and flat or saddle back in type. However, the northeast addition has a metal gable roof with a monitor the length of the ridge. Some walls of the building are metal, but most are red brick with the decorative corbelled cornices, arches, pilasters, and stone inlays typical of the early twentieth century Commercial Style. The foundation is concrete or brick, but floors are dirt, gravel, or concrete. There is a small basement on the south elevation. A number of windows and other openings were bricked in, leaving only the arched lintels still visible. Some attempt was made to maintain the original style of the building through its many additions by repeating decorative elements, particularly corbelling and pilasters.

The original Sand Springs Power Plant, begun in 1911, consisted of three buildings. (See Sketch A.) The westernmost was a broad L shape with an extension to the north. Today this extension is identifiable by its lower roofline and a west elevation that angles slightly inward. (See photo 1.) East of this building lay a large rectangular machine shop and a smaller rectangular warehouse. By 1919 the machine shop had been joined to the westernmost building, and a long addition housing a small work shop and boilers had been added along the north elevation. (See Sketch B.) In turn, a pump house, work shop, warehouse, and flue extended northward from the addition. By 1925 more warehouse and shop space had been added on the north elevation, a three-story brick addition replaced the 1911 machine shop, and yet another one-story addition on the southeast corner housed the switch board. (See Sketch C.) By 1935 the three-story, gabled monitor roofed addition was built on the northeast corner. A shallow two-story flat roofed switch house was added on the south elevation. (See Sketch D.) At some point after 1963, the outermost 1920s warehouse and shop additions on the north elevation were removed. The last addition, post 1963, is a small flat roofed portal in the angle of the original building. (See Sketch E.)

The west elevation, which still includes the primary entrance, demonstrates the many historic additions to the Sand Springs Power Plant by its seven different visible rooflines. (See photo 1 and Sketch E.) On the extreme left end of the west elevation, the three-story gabled monitor roof of the northeast addition is visible. It slopes north and south. The south slope is shorter and drops to a flat roofed section enclosed within the building. The longer north slope terminates behind a parapet on the north elevation. The roof and walls of the west elevation of the northeast addition are metal down to the first floor level, which is brick. Except for the northeast addition, which has a concrete foundation, all other walls on this elevation and the foundations are brick. On the extreme left of this addition is an overhead door. (See photo 5.) Visible on the right of the west elevation, above the original building, is the saddle back roof and brick wall of the three-story high southern addition. (See photo 1.) Several feet lower and nearer South Main Street is the flat roof of another enclosed addition. Both are red brick with no visible openings. On the right at nearly the same height is the flat roof of the 1919 addition. A band of original fixed windows in metal frames stretches across its entire width. Nearest South Main Street on the west elevation is the one-story original brick power plant with the 1919 work shop/pump house on the extreme left. The rooflines are flat above a corbelled brick cornice but vary in height. On the far left in the 1919 addition is a fixed window with twenty-eight opaque glass blocks. To the right of the window is a single glazed wood door. To the right of the door, in the angle of the L of the original building, is a small flat roofed extension added after 1963. It has a single metal door on its west elevation. The door opens onto a small playground

with gym equipment. The west elevation of the original 1911 power plant is on the right. A window and overhead door with a transom in the angled section have been filled. The primary entrance is now a wood door flanked by single windows. The window and door openings, originally set beneath arches, have been reduced in size and the windows boarded over. On the extreme right of this elevation is the west facade of the switch house addition built about 1935. (See photo 2.) It is two stories high with a flat roof. It has a concrete cap above a brick wall and concrete foundation. There are no remaining openings.

The south elevation of the Sand Springs Power Plant incorporates on the extreme left the original flat roofed, one-story building. Most foundations and the walls on this elevation are brick with a corbelled cornice on the older sections. (See photos 2 and 3.) On the extreme left, original arched doors and windows have been reduced in size or filled. Two windows have been filled with louvers, and a high louvered vent has been inserted. To the right of the windows at ground level are three ducts enclosed in ornamental concrete screens. Centered on this elevation is the three-story 1925 addition. (See Sketch C.) It has a saddle back roof with a concrete cap. Below the roofline is a band of six fifteen-light awning windows with metal frames. The windows are separated by pilasters. At the second story level are two bricked window openings above a metal overhead door and a loading dock. The foundations in these newer additions are concrete. To the right of the loading dock is the two-story switch house addition. (See Sketch D.) It has a flat roof with a concrete cap, brick walls, and a concrete foundation. At the second story level are four fifteen-light awning windows in metal frames. Each window is set off by pilasters. At the extreme right end of the south elevation, the three-story northeast addition, built about 1935, is visible. (See photo 3.) Its metal gabled monitor roof has a bank of twenty ten-light awning windows in metal frames. Below the windows is the slope of the shed roof above a two-story metal wall with a concrete cap. At the extreme right brick replaces the metal wall material. The brick section is decorated with pilasters and stone inserts. At the second floor level are three widely spaced multiple-paned awning windows in metal frames. Below these windows is the saddle back roof of the one-story switch board addition on the southeast corner. (See Sketch C.) It has brick walls and pilasters above a concrete foundation. Two twelve-light awning windows in metal frames flank a metal door and stair. At the extreme right end of this elevation at ground level is a twelve-light awning window in a metal frame.

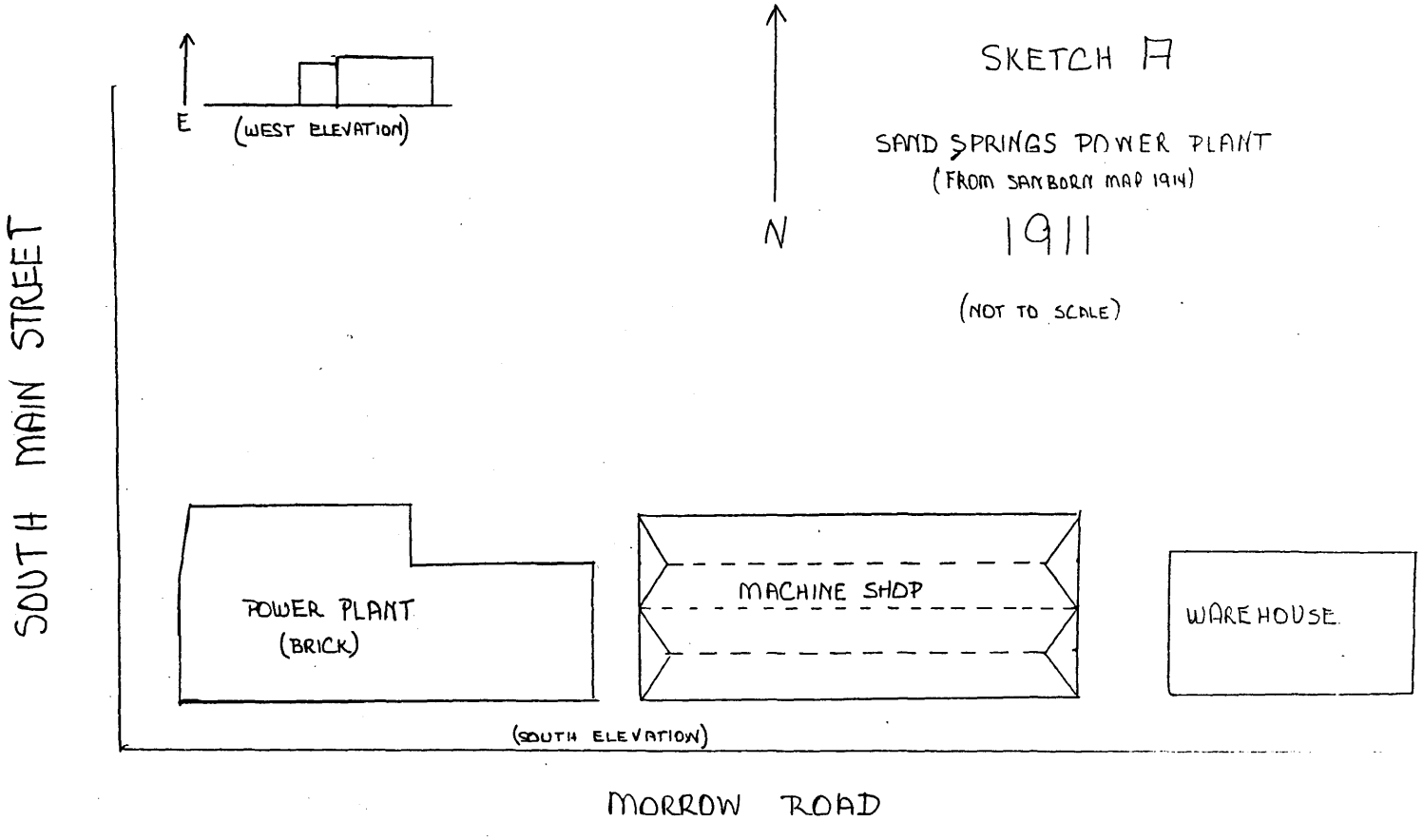
The east elevation of the Sand Springs Power Plant has four distinct sections, all with brick walls and concrete foundations. (See photo 3.) On the extreme left, nearest Morrow Road, is the two-story switch house addition. It has no openings on this elevation. Above it may be seen the three-story addition

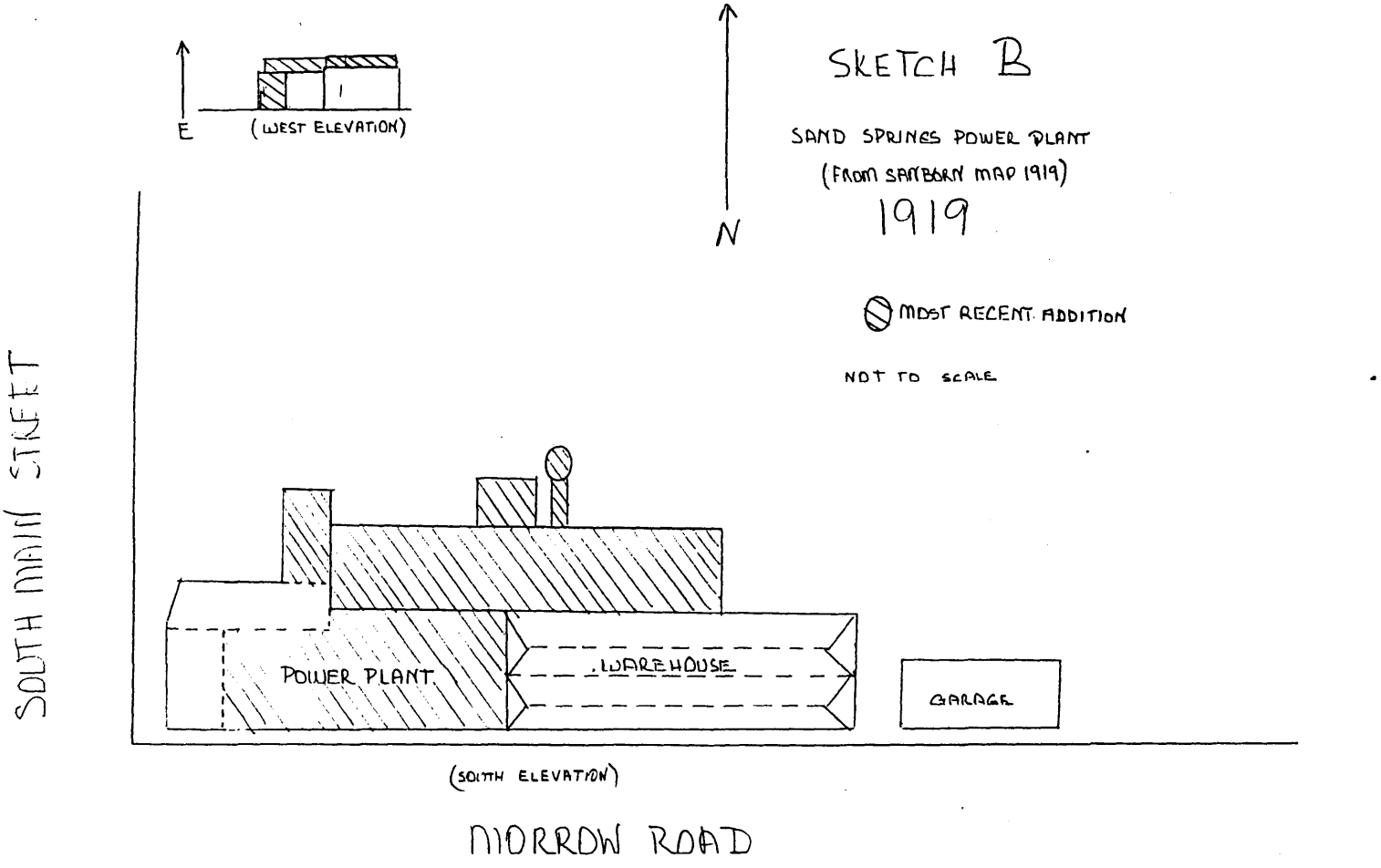
built by 1925. It has a saddle back roof above two tiers of four twelve-light awning windows in metal frames. Below this addition is the one-story switch board addition. It has a saddle back roof and a wall bisected by a pilaster. On the left is an awning window with eight lights set in a metal frame. To the right of this addition is a single glazed wood door and transom above a stair. Near ground level are two openings that have been boarded over. The three-story northeast addition dominates the east elevation of the power plant. Centered above it is the gabled monitor roof. It has a single fourteen-light awning window in a metal frame set into a brick wall. This brick wall extends downward to fill the angle created by the slope of the metal roof. It is set slightly behind a stepped brick parapet with a concrete cap. At the second floor level are four twenty-one-light awning windows with metal frames. Pilasters set off the corners of the building and separate the windows. Decorative stone inserts and the stepped parapet suggest the Art Deco influence popular at the time of construction of this addition. At the extreme left and right corners are overhead door openings that have been blocked. At the other end of the building and not visible from the street, the east elevation of the 1919 work shop/pump house addition has a flat roof, brick wall, and no remaining openings. (See photo 6.)

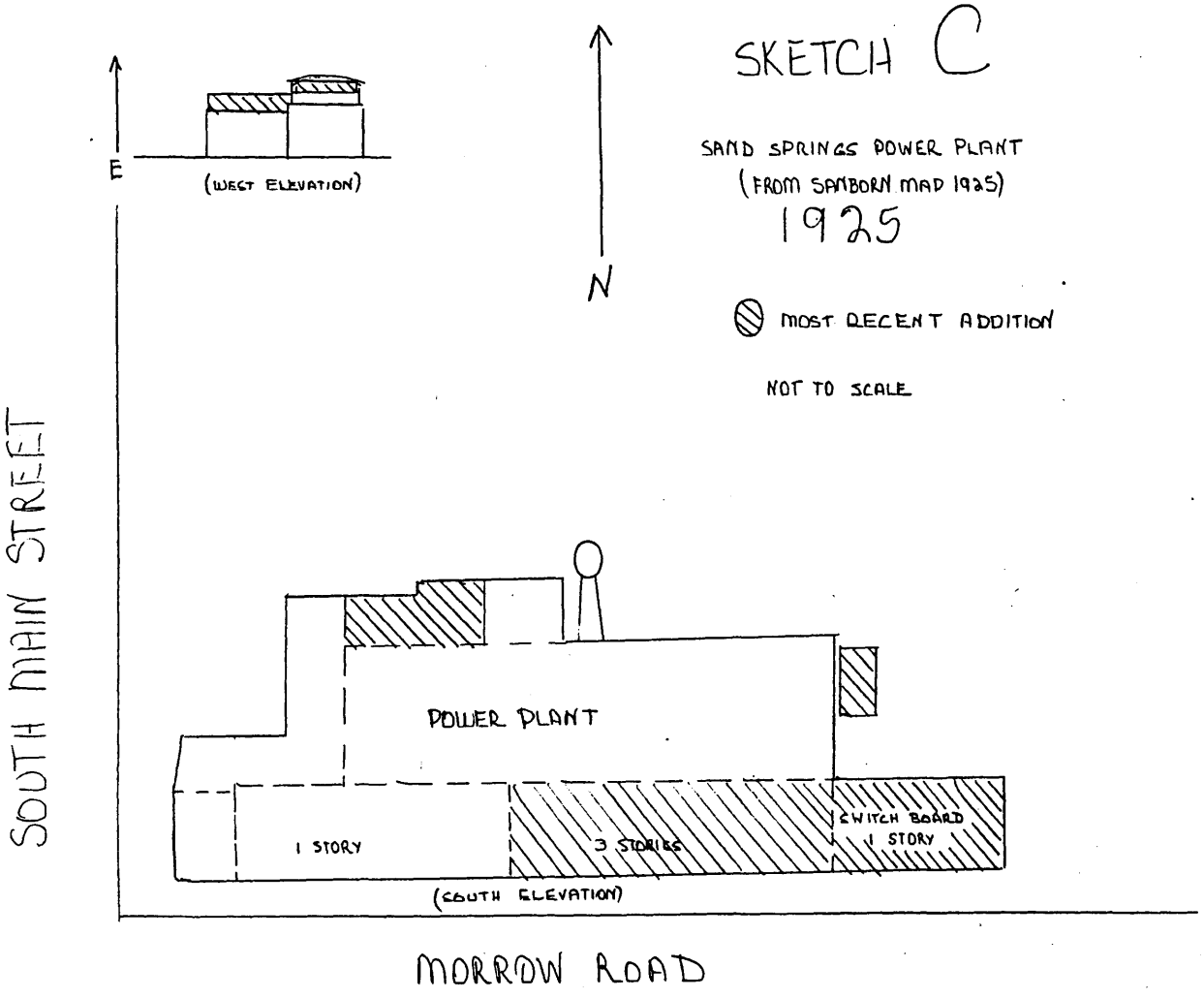
The north elevation of the Sand Springs Power Plant is also dominated by the northeast addition. (See photos 4 and 5.) On the extreme left, the metal gabled monitor roof has a continuous tier of twenty ten-light awning windows in metal frames. Below the monitor, the metal roof drops behind a brick parapet with a concrete cap. Stone inserts decorate the brick wall, and pilasters separate tiers of seven and six twenty-one-light fixed windows in metal frames at the third- and second-story levels, respectively. At ground level the center opening is a single metal door with a transom. The foundation is concrete. To the right of the northeast addition, the north elevation of the three-story 1925 addition is visible. It has a saddle back roof above a brick wall with pilasters. There are five fifteen-light awning windows with metal frames near the roofline. Much of the length of the north elevation is the one-story brick addition built by 1919. (See Sketch B.) The roof is generally flat but of varying heights. Several overhead door and window openings have been closed, but one roughly centered metal overhead door remains, along with a louvered opening near the right end. (See photos 5 and 6.) Two windows in the work shop/pump house extension at the extreme west end have opaque glass blocks. The small post-1963 addition built into the angle of the original building and 1919 addition has a small two-over-two hung window on its north elevation. (See photo 1.)

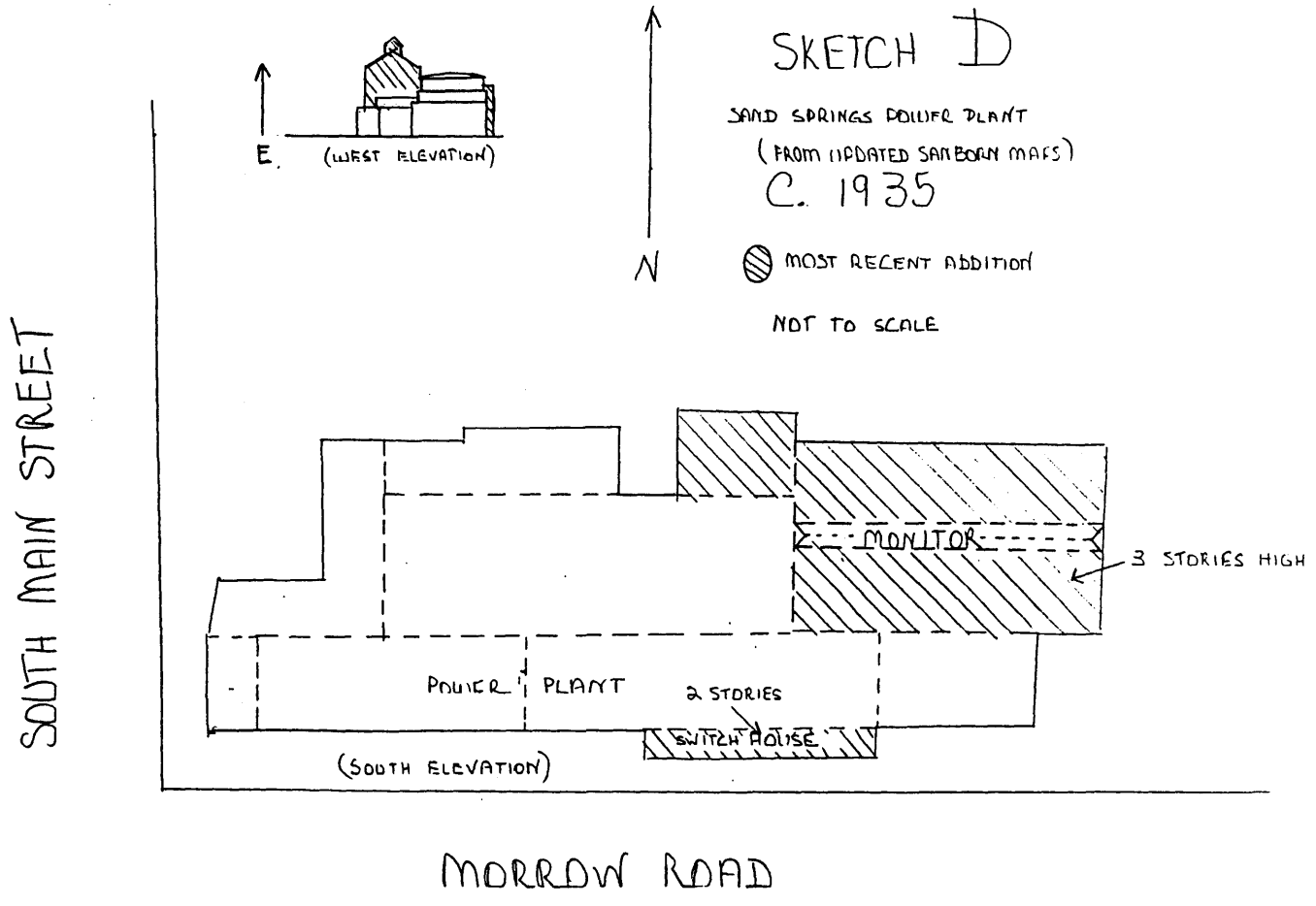
ALTERATIONS:

The Sand Springs Power Plant underwent several additions during the period of significance to meet the demands of the developing town of Sand Springs. The original building doubled, tripled, and quadrupled floor space by the 1940s. Several windows and doors were reduced in size, bricked in, or boarded over. Although some extensions on the north elevation were removed, these were not visible from either of the primary elevations, which fronted South Main Street and Morrow Road. These removals and alterations and the late addition of the small extension in the angle between the original building and 1919 addition did not impair the architectural or historical integrity of the building.


E
(WEST ELEVATION)
N
SKETCH A
SAND SPRINGS POWER PLANT
(FROM SANBORN MAP 1914)
1911
(NOT TO SCALE)
SOUTH MAIN STREET
POWER PLANT
(BRICK)
MACHINE SHOP
WAREHOUSE
(SOUTH ELEVATION)
MORROW ROAD


E
(WEST ELEVATION)
N
SKETCH B
SAND SPRINGS POWER PLANT
(FROM SANBORN MAP 1919)
1919
MOST RECENT ADDITION
NOT TO SCALE
SOUTH MAIN STREET
POWER PLANT
WAREHOUSE
GARAGE
(SOUTH ELEVATION)
MORROW ROAD


SKETCH C
SAND SPRINGS POWER PLANT
(FROM SANBORN MAP 1925)
1925
MOST RECENT ADDITION
NOT TO SCALE
E
(WEST ELEVATION)
N
SOUTH MAIN STREET
POWER PLANT
1 STORY
3 STORIES
SWITCH BOARD
1 STORY
(SOUTH ELEVATION)
MORROW ROAD

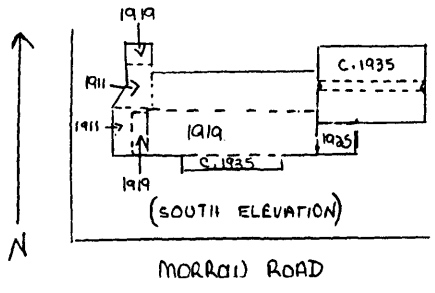

SKETCH D
SAND SPRINGS POWER PLANT
(FROM UPDATED SANBORN MAPS)
C. 1935
MOST RECENT ADDITION
NOT TO SCALE
E
(WEST ELEVATION)
N
SOUTH MAIN STREET
MONITOR
3 STORIES HIGH
POWER PLANT
2 STORIES
SWITCH HOUSE
(SOUTH ELEVATION)
MORROW ROAD

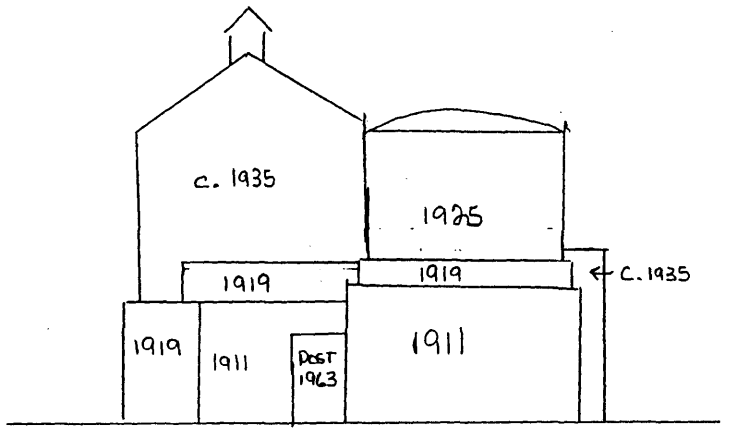
SKETCH E

SAND SPRINGS POWER PLANT

1998

NOT TO SCALE





SOUTH MAIN STREET

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SUMMARY:

The Sand Springs Power Plant is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its community and planning development significance for the town of Sand Springs, Oklahoma. From 1911 to 1947, the power plant was an integral part of the infrastructure of Sand Springs, a planned industrial community developed by entrepreneur Charles Page. The power plant was the only source of electricity for the industrial facilities Page established to form the town's economic base. It also powered the Sand Springs electric railway, the primary access to materials and markets for Sand Springs industries, while it provided electricity to the town's residences and commerce. Page then used revenues from the Sand Springs Power Plant to sustain the Sand Springs Home and Widows Colony in a unique combination of entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Sand Springs Power Plant was an integral part of the infrastructure of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, a planned industrial community conceived and developed by Charles Page (1860-1926), a noted philanthropist and entrepreneur during the early statehood period. Page had established himself in business through mining, logging, real estate, railroad, and oil exploration in several western states before coming to Indian Territory (present Oklahoma). He had also pioneered in the field of utilities as the owner of power plants in Fort Collins and Boulder, Colorado. He moved to the promising Red Fork Field near Tulsa as that small town experienced an oil boom in 1903. Page parlayed oil leases and oil companies into a fortune by Oklahoma statehood in 1907.[1]

That year Page launched a new enterprise, perhaps inspired by the founding of Gary, Indiana, a planned industrial community established by U.S. Steel, or perhaps by the severe depression of 1907, which left many unemployed laborers and their families destitute. Page, already known for his philanthropy and influenced by Salvation Army Captain B. F. Breeding, conceived the idea of founding his own diversified industrial community, one that would offer stable employment to laborers and security to widows and orphans. After investigating several locations in the Tulsa vicinity, Page purchased the 160-acre Siah Button allotment along the Arkansas River twelve miles west of Tulsa. Though completely undeveloped and without transportation access, the site offered abundant good water from several sand springs, hence the name of the planned

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[1]"Unto the Least of These": A Sketch of the Life of the Late Charles Page (Sand Springs, Okla.: n.p., c. 1939), 13-14; Sand Springs, Oklahoma: A Community History, volume I (Sand Springs, Okla.: Sand Springs Museum, 1994), 10.

community.[2] On June 2, 1908, Page's workmen began clearing timber for the Sand Springs Home, which later included the Widows Colony. Under Superintendent Breeding, it expanded to include dormitories and cottages, making it the nucleus of the new community of Sand Springs. Just west of the Home, in 1911 Page platted the Sand Springs townsite, which was incorporated in 1912. Page connected it to Tulsa by building his own electric interurban line, the Sand Springs Railway. His intent was to develop the town of Sand Springs, which would in turn support the Home through its ownership of several profitable Page-established enterprises--farms, a dairy, a hospital, and the Sand Springs Townsite Company.[3]

Page showed similar foresight and enterprise in providing for the development of the Sand Springs community. Near the Home he created an amusement park, taking advantage of the springs and picturesque Arkansas Valley scenery to lure visitors and prospective residents. To provide future residents employment, he offered free land and a bonus of $200,000 to industrialists who would relocate in Sand Springs. Another powerful incentive was cheap utilities. Page already owned wells and pipelines to supply natural gas. In 1911 he created the Sand Springs Power, Light, Heat and Water Company, also assigning its ownership to the Home. At first a generator on a flat bed railroad car produced the electricity to operate the interurban. However, that same year he employed Clarence H. Tingley, a mechanical and electrical engineer and Tulsa's electrical inspector, to plan and construct the Sand Springs's electrical and water systems. Tingley oversaw the development of natural gas-powered utilities in Sand Springs as the generator was moved to a metal shed. Tingley then began construction of the permanent power plant in an L-shaped, one-story Commercial Style brick building with a corbelled cornice and arched windows and doors. Under Page's leadership and Tingley's expertise, Sand Springs quickly acquired the amenities expected of a modern town. By 1911 it had electric power; by 1913 it had a telephone system. In 1914 the streets were still unpaved, but the population of 1200 enjoyed concrete sidewalks and streetlights.[4]

Page recognized the importance of providing adequate utilities for both residential and industrial use. In 1913 the Sand Springs Review noted that

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[2]"Unto the Least of These," 14-15; Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 10-11.

[3]Sand Springs, Oklahoma, I, 11-12; Nina Lane Dunn, Tulsa's Magic Roots (Tulsa: N. L. D. Corp., 1979), 279, 289-290.

[4]Sand Springs, Oklahoma, I, 12, 40-41, 257-258; Dunn, Tulsa's Magic Roots, 289.

"The Sand Springs Light, Power, and Water Co. is preparing to about double the capacity of the plant here by the expenditure of about $60,000. Charles Page was in St. Louis this week and bought it a second big gas engine for generating purposes."[5] By 1914 the plant consisted of three buildings along Morrow Road--the brick power plant, a machine shop, and a warehouse. The plant had five dynamos and gas engines producing two hundred kilowatts each. To the north of the plant and connected to it by an underground pipe was the fifty-foot-wide city well. The Sand Springs Railway track curved around the building from the northeast, ending at the nearby Sand Springs Railway Company car barn. These two essential parts of the Sand Springs infrastructure anchored the west end of the industrial park Page planned.[6]

Over the next fifteen years, Charles Page either founded his own industries in Sand Springs or induced other industrialists to locate there by offering investment capital and expertise in addition to free land and cheap utilities. By 1914 the Imperial Manufacturing Company produced washing machines, and A. H. Kerr and Company made fruit jars and lamp chimneys. Other Sand Springs manufacturers included the Iron and Steel Products Company, Neodesha Bottle and Glass Company, Nu-Flake Cereal Company, Tulsa Smelter Company, Tulsa Stove and Foundry Company, and Waite Concrete Works--all powered by the Sand Springs Power Plant.[7]

By 1919 the population of Sand Springs had reached five thousand and the industrial base had diversified and expanded as Page planned. There were now five miles of paved streets, churches, schools, and a hospital. A farm implement company, refineries, feed mills, and zinc plant provided additional employment for both local residents and alumni of the Sand Springs Home. Enterprises such as the Sand Springs Bottling Company, with its near monopoly on bottled water supplied to burgeoning but chronically thirsty Tulsa, comprised the Sand Springs Home Interests, adequately supporting the Home. To meet the demand for residential and industrial electricity, the power plant, another Home Interest, expanded again, joining two of the earlier buildings and

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[5]Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 41.

[6]Ibid., 12; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1914, microfilm, Oklahoma State University Library, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

[7]Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1914, 1919, 1925; Clarence B. Douglas, The History of Tulsa, Oklahoma: A City with Personality, volume I (Chicago: S. J. Clarke, 1921), 678-679.

nearly doubling in size with a large addition on the north elevation.[8] An observer of Sand Springs's healthy growth noted in 1921, "An addition a year to its plant has been necessary on the part of the local light and power plant to supply the demand for electricity. A lease of more than 100,000 acres takes care of the city's gas supply and gives it a [utility] rate less than that of any other municipality in the Southwest."[9] Tulsa's city fathers, somewhat taken aback in 1911 by Page's ambitious plan to found a new industrial community, accepted Sand Springs by 1923 as a manufacturing suburb and forecast its future as "Tulsa's manufacturing district."[10]

The greatest period of Sand Springs's growth, however, occurred in the 1920s as the population doubled to ten thousand by 1925. Page already owned a cotton gin; in 1923 a cotton mill began producing cotton cloth for sheets, shirts, and gingham fabric. Kerr, manufacturer of canning jars and lamp chimneys, supplied investment capital for a card board box factory. Other enterprises produced flour, tank cars, dairy products, paint, shoe polish, brick, tile, and coffee. While these industries were important to the Sand Springs economy, Tulsa-area businessmen understood that the interurban also founded by Charles Page and powered by the Sand Springs power plant was their life line.[11] Several years earlier Page had begun a project to dam Shell Creek to supply additional water to Sand Springs and Tulsa, a venture which never quite achieved the scope he envisioned. However, the power plant continued to expand to meet the demand of the booming town, which its Chamber of Commerce called "the Gary of the Southwest."[12] By 1925 an addition on the east of the renamed Sand Springs Power, Light, and Water Company housed the switch board, while other additions on the north provided space for the water works, warehouse, and more dynamos.[13]

Charles Page died unexpectedly in 1926, but Sand Springs continued to grow even

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[8]Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1919; Sand Springs, Oklahoma, I, 12.

[9]Douglas, History of Tulsa, 667.

[10]Pictorially Presenting Greater Tulsa (Tulsa: Chamber of Commerce, October 8-14, 1923).

[11]Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1925.

[12]Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 14.

[13]Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1925.

during the Great Depression as unemployed Oklahomans sought work in its many industries. After Page's death, the Sand Springs Home Interests sold the power plant to the Oklahoma Power and Water Company. By 1935 the building had been expanded yet again with a two-story switch house addition on the south and a large three-story monitor roofed addition on the northeast. Following World War II Sand Springs experienced a decline in population, dropping to 7,700 by 1961. In 1947 the utilities provided by the power plant were divided and sold. The power plant became the property of Public Service of Oklahoma. Its services were gradually taken over by other providers, but with the exception of the removal of three small late additions on the north elevation, the power plant remained generally unaltered.[14]

From his entrepreneurial experience, Charles Page understood the importance of supplying cheap utilities, adequate electrical power, and reliable transportation to lure labor and industry to the community he planned. That community, based on the model of Gary, Indiana, needed a strong, diversified industrial economy to support his philanthropic enterprise well into the future. The Sand Springs Power Plant was an irreplaceable part of Charles Page's vision as from 1911 to 1947 it was the sole power source for Sand Springs's industries and the Sand Springs Railway, tying manufacturing to materials and markets in Oklahoma's most successful planned industrial community. At the same time, revenues from the Sand Springs Power Plant, as Page planned, sustained the Sand Springs Home in a unique combination of entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

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[14]"Unto the Least of These," 26; Sand Springs, Oklahoma, I, 14-17, 40-41; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Sand Springs, Oklahoma, 1925, updated 1935, 1942, 1944, 1963.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A tract of land located in a part of the SW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 11, Township 19 North, Range 11 East, Tulsa County, Oklahoma, said tract being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the southwest corner of said SW/4, SE/4; thence N00 degrees 12'17" W on the west line of said SW/4, SE/4 a distance of 190.00 feet; thence N89 degrees 53'36"E, parallel with the south line of said SW/4, SE/4, a distance of 40.00 feet to the point of beginning; thence N89 degrees 53'36"E a distance of 75.41 feet to the center line of the Sand Springs Railway Company's South Wye tract; thence northeasterly on a curve to the right, on the center line of said wye track, having a radius of 459.00 feet and a chord bearing N56 degrees 44'02"E, for a curve distance of 236.27 feet; thence N70 degrees 06'24"E on the center line of said wye track a distance of 67.72 feet to a point 375.00 feet east of the west line of said SW/4, SE/4; thence S00 degrees 12'17"E, parallel with the west line of said SW/4, SE/4, a distance of 315.73 feet to a point 25.00 feet north of the south line of said SW/4, SE/4; thence S89 degrees 53'36"W, parallel with said south line, a distance of 320.00 feet to a point 55.00 feet east of the west line of said SW/4, SE/4; thence N45 degrees 90'21"W a distance of 21.23 feet to a point 40.00 feet east of the west line of said SW/4 SE/4; thence N00 degrees 12'17"W a distance of 150.00 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.812 acres, more or less.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include the property historically associated with the power plant.