

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NCRS use only
received **MAR 23 1992**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Music Hall

and/or common Clinton Music Hall

2. Location

street & number 23 West Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Clinton N/A vicinity of congressional district 13

state New Jersey code 034 county Hunterdon code 019

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name 1) Mrs. Martha Wisniewski second owner on continuation sheet

street & number P.O. Box 251

city, town Garwood N/A vicinity of state New Jersey 07027

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hunterdon County Clerk's Office

street & number 71 Main Street

city, town Flemington state New Jersey 08822

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Hunterdon County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of Cultural and Environmental Services

city, town Trenton state New Jersey 08625

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The two story, four bay brick gable front Music Hall was built in 1890-91 to house a 300 seat theatre and two storefront businesses. Built on the west bank of the south branch of the Raritan River it was adjacent to the Clinton Hotel and the Clinton Branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, but separated from Clinton's main business district located on the opposite bank of the river. The Music Hall replaced an earlier building destroyed by fire at the site in 1889. A multi-purpose structure, the Music Hall was owned and operated by a succession of local businessmen. In addition to its theatre space, each successive owner provided commercial space in the Music Hall for their respective trades and rented additional space in the building to area businessmen. Commercial additions to the Music Hall's rear elevation and its northeast corner facade were made in the early 20th century. Major alterations were made to the building's first story commercial facade both in 1916 and during recent years. Interior alterations to the theatre occurred throughout its eighty years of operation. Frequent changes included the removal and replacement of theatre seats and technical stage equipment. In recent years the theatre's seats and stage equipment were removed. The theatre's orchestra floor which sloped toward the stage was leveled.

Still located at the western fringe of Clinton's commercial business district, the Music Hall remains separated from Clinton's main business district located on the opposite bank of the river. The Music Hall remains in a largely residential section of Clinton. A few of the private residences in its immediate vicinity have been converted to commercial usage.

The 1890 portion of the Music Hall was built by two local craftsmen-William Price of Flemington, bricklayer and John Allegar, carpenter (Clinton Democrat: 10/9/1890). Price and Allegar were commissioned by Herman and James Altemus (Altemus and Brothers marble works formerly at the site) to build a simple structure housing two street facade commercial spaces and a 300 seat proscenium theatre. They erected a two story structure of common bond brick construction with headers every seventh course. The building's four bay front facade extended 40 feet. The Music Hall projected 85 feet and seven bays to the rear.

The Music Hall's first story commercial facade has been altered, while the second and attic stories remain intact. The front end gable with returning eaves contains three small arch windows. A second story belt course is interrupted by the second floor windows which have 8/2 sash and segmental brick arches. These windows originally had 8/8 sash.

The first story commercial facade of the Music Hall retains a central door entrance to the foyer of the theatre. The doorway, itself, was replaced in or prior to 1916. Originally a rectangular double door entrance with a rectangular transom light above, the door and transom have been removed, the doorway widened, and an arched double door replacement installed. The doorway is outlined by a thin architrave trim with a central keystone above. An article which appeared in the

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National Park Service**

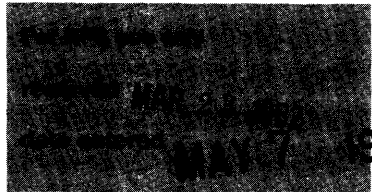
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Music Hall, Clinton Town, Hunterdon County, NJ

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882

2. Mr. Robert Schwartz
RD 1 Box 211A
Phillipsburg, NJ

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Clinton Democrat on December 7, 1916 noted that "the entrance to the Music Hall is now illuminated by an electric arch, and show nights the west side will look just like the Tenderloin." Today a simple wooden marquee projects over the entranceway. The marquee's Music Hall lettering, formerly obscured by signage for the hall's most recent commercial business - a natural foods store, has been repainted. The marquee is a 20th century addition to the structure.

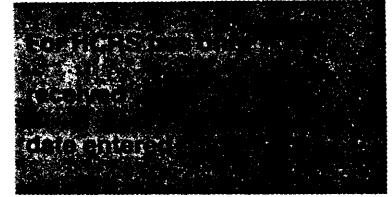
To either side of the 1890 Music Hall's central entrance were two identical storefronts. The northeast storefront which originally contained the sales offices of the Altemus and Brothers marble works was expanded by a 1916 addition. Prior to its expansion the 1890 storefront had a central double door entrance with rectangular transom above. To either side of this entrance was a large four pane store window. A waist high molded panel beneath each window matched the height of molded panels of the sales offices' double doors. Each door's upper panel was a tall rectangular pane of glass with the molded wooden panel below.

In 1915, Charles Bonnell, an automobile dealer, purchased the Music Hall. To accommodate his automobile showroom a 29' x 14', two story, flat roofed, brick addition was built flush with the Music Hall's front facade. An article appearing in the Clinton Democrat on August 24, 1916 noted how "Work on the remodeling of the Music Hall was begun this week. The front will be extended to the street and the corner formerly occupied as a marble yard will also be brought out several feet. Townsend's printing signs will be taken down and numerous other improvements made about the property. Contractor Ed Bonyng of Washington who is doing much of the work around the reformatory here, has the contract." By December 1916 the addition was completed and plate glass windows were placed in position in the northeast storefront facade (Clinton Democrat: 12/14/1916). This northeast storefront is currently a natural foods restaurant. The addition is of common bond brick construction with headers every eighth course. A single door entrance is flanked by two store windows - one a 24 pane window with a triple paned rectangular transom above, the other a 16 pane window with a double paned rectangular transom. The single door of the entrance appears to be recycled from the double door of the 1890 sales office. The second story windows of the 1916 addition are similar to those of the 1890 Music Hall varying only in their double segmental brick arches. Although it can be speculated that the first floor's recent multi-paned windows may be placed in the building's 1916 plate glass window openings, this point has not yet been substantiated.

The northwest storefront of the 1890 Music Hall contained a series of groceries and is currently a children's wear consignment shop. The 1890 storefront matched that of the northeast storefront previously described. Today the basic configuration of a central entrance with a large window to either side remains, however, its 19th century character has been lost. Whether changes were made to the northwest storefront in 1916 (when major alterations were made to the northeast storefront) or afterwards can only be speculated. Currently, a single door entrance is flanked by two 12-pane store windows. The door and windows have a rectangular transom

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above. The decorative molded panels beneath each window were lost as the windows now extend to just above the foundation's stone sill.

A two foot overhang runs the full length of the present Music Hall's front facade. It projects out from under the second story windows, directly above the first story windows. In the 1890's Music Hall there was a simple cornice in place of this overhang. A final note on the Hall's front facade concerns the building and its relation to the probable grading of West Main Street and/or the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the front facade. This grading may have occurred when the 1916 addition required subgrading prior to its construction. Whatever the cause for a change in grade, the 1890 Music Hall did not have steps leading up to its entrance, so the present steps are later additions.

As mentioned earlier, the 1890 Music Hall projected 85 feet and seven bays to its rear. The first two windows repeat the second floor front facade fenestration, but beyond the windows are large two story 16/16 double hung sash with segmental brick arches.

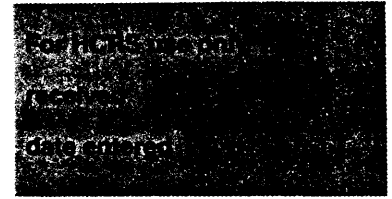
In 1910 a 3 1/2 story frame/clapboard addition was built onto the 1890 Music Hall's rear elevation. This addition was built by Morris Robinson, wheelwright and carriage salesman, who purchased the building in that same year. The addition measured 30 x 40 feet and included a still extant elevator for transporting carriages and buggies to each floor.

Performances in the Music Hall's theatre ended in the mid-1970's. The following dimensions for the 1890 theatre space were listed in "Julius Cahn's Official Theatrical Guide Containing Information of the Leading Theatres and Attractions in America." Published in 1896, this guide was first in a series of theatrical guides published by Julius Cahn from information supplied by managers of theatres throughout the country.

Stage dimensions: 25 x 38 feet
 Width of proscenium opening: 22 feet
 Height of proscenium opening: 14 feet
 Depth from footlights to back wall: 28 feet
 Depth from curtain line to footlights: 2 feet
 Distance between side walls: 38 feet
 Distance between fly girders: 30 feet
 Height of grooves from stage: 14 feet (3 grooves)
 Height of stage to rigging loft: 20 feet
 Depth under stage: 10 feet (1 trap)

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The above dimensions for the 1890 theatre have not been altered to any large degree. The essential elements of the theatre remain intact and in fair to good condition. The theatre's stage remains and although changes were made in the technical devices used on the stage, evidence remains by which much of its original apparatus can be deduced. The theatre's 24 foot proscenium arch remains intact. The gallery remains in good condition.

The last producer at the Music Hall allegedly stripped the entertainment hall of its technical equipment and other items. Its interior was altered to accommodate a natural foods store. Seats were removed from the hall; the orchestra floor was leveled, and barnsiding partitions were erected to seal off the hall's stage and gallery. The natural foods store has since closed and the building's present owner has removed the barnsiding partitions from the vacant hall.

Interior alterations to the theatre occurred throughout its years of operation. As early as August 1899, a minor fire necessitated renovation of theatre elements. An article which appeared in the August 2, 1899 edition of the Clinton Democrat noted that lightning struck the Hall in late afternoon "...Before the fire was extinguished the curtains and expensive shifting scenery of the Hall and all the stage furniture, including a valuable piano and parlor suit, were completely ruined ... hundreds of opera chairs warped out of shape by the heat." By August 31, 1899 the Clinton Democrat noted that the newly renovated Music Hall had reopened, "Mr. St. John Lewis contracted by Altemus Brothers for \$1,000 to restock scenery; 26 sets and drop curtain with a view taken from Main Street bridge looking northwest in midsummer...As for the auditorium, the general color scheme is sort of dark cherry. Stretchers, mounted with heavy painted and decorated canvas, will cover all the windows, thus shutting out all the light; Mr. Harry Low does actual decorative work under Lewis' direction.

Leslie A. Kershow, an early resident of Clinton describes the Music Hall as a red brick building with a dark wood interior. The orchestra floor sloped towards the stage and there were two aisles between the three banks of seats. In the gallery, he recalls, benches rather than seats were provided. William Hulsizer, another of Clinton's early residents, describes the interior of the Music Hall in his boyhood as having laminated seats with perforated designs in the backs. Both men recall that the Music Hall's stage curtain was of the roll-drop design, one that came down with a bang. The curtain was painted by Mr. Harry Low on an 18 by 22 foot canvas and portrayed a local scene of the Red Mill along the South Branch of the Raritan River. This curtain is currently in the possession of the Clinton Music Hall Preservation Society.

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The Music Hall has undergone alterations throughout its years of operation. Changes were made as it functioned alternately as a stage for live entertainment and as a movie house. The building's commercial space has been re-aligned for various uses.

The future use of the Music Hall has not been determined. A local group, the Clinton Music Hall Preservation Society, has approached its present owner in the hopes of obtaining a lease with a purchase provision. The Music Hall would be restored and utilized as an entertainment hall, its commercial spaces would be retained, and a museum for the Society's entertainment memorabilia would be established. The owner has also been approached by an individual hoping to establish a summer theatre festival in the Music Hall.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) (film)

Specific dates 1890-91,1910,1916 **Builder/Architect** Builders- William Price, John Allegar- 1890

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Contractor - Edward Bonyng - 1916

One of the State's few identified extant examples of rural America's small town entertainment theatre, the Music Hall is of local significance for its historical associations as the cultural center for the town of Clinton and its rural surroundings. With rail access and its location at the crossroads of the Old Spruce Run and Easton-New Brunswick turnpikes, the Music Hall attracted professional theatre companies travelling the entertainment circuits between New York City and Philadelphia. County-wide and occasional state-wide audiences were drawn to the Music Hall which was built in 1890-91 on the western fringe of Clinton's commercial business district. No other single building in Clinton accommodated as many local cultural services as did the Music Hall. The Music Hall hosted every major form of American popular entertainment. It functioned first as a stage for live entertainment offering Medicine Shows, Tom Shows, Minstrels, Melodramas, and variety-vaudeville shows. Magic lantern shows, silent films, and later motion pictures were offered to audiences as these forms of entertainment became available on a nation-wide scale. The Music Hall functioned alternatively as a stage for live entertainment and as a movie house, supporting these arts into the mid-1970's. The Music Hall functioned as the site for political rallies, public forums, debates, and high school graduations. The Music Hall held a Chautauqua week (Christian education camp) each summer during the 1910's through the 1920's. In addition to its function as an auditorium for the Chatauquas, the Music Hall hosted Farmer's Institutes and public health lectures. A multi-purpose building, the Music Hall was owned and operated by a succession of local businessmen. In addition to its theatre space, the Music Hall provided commercial space for its successive owners' trades and additional commercial space which was rented to area businesses.

The original Music Hall was built prior to 1880 for use as a sale and exchange stable for horses and mules by its owners Belden and Emery. The hayloft of the stable was converted into a theatre in the mid-1880's when the building was purchased by the Altemus and Brothers marble works. After its destruction by fire in 1889 the Music Hall was rebuilt on its original site. The new Music Hall continued to house several Clinton businesses in addition to its entertainment hall. The storefront on the northeast corner housed a succession of grocery stores. The frame section in the rear was erected in 1910 and functioned as Morris W. Robinson's carriage and furniture business until 1921, Morris Robinson having purchased the building in 1909. An Oldsmobile auto showroom was erected and operated until 1940, having been purchased in 1915 by Charles Bonnell.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 0.293

Quadrangle name High Bridge, New Jersey

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	5	0	7	2	8	0	4	4	9	7	8	8	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 25, Lot 19 - Town of Clinton Tax Map

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anita Impellizeri

organization Cultural & Environmental Services date 8/1981
Final revisions 1/1982

street & number 109 West State Street telephone (609) 292-2028

city or town Trenton state New Jersey 08625

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Laura Schmitt

title _____ date January 14, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] date 5/7/82
Keeper of the National Register

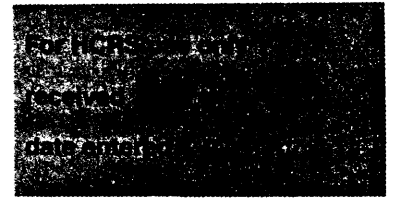
Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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The regard by which Clinton area residents held the Music Hall was echoed in their concern that the Music Hall would be demolished by Charles Bonnell to make way for construction of an automobile showroom. The following was printed in the July 20, 1916 edition of the Clinton Democrat. "The movie fans are hoping C.W. Bonnell, the new owner of the Music Hall, will not find it necessary to dismantle the old playhouse for the accommodation of his automobile business. While the Hoffman building would make a good picture house, there is no accommodation for the holding of plays or other entertainments there."

In fact, there were at that time only two other major theatres in all of Hunterdon County. Three Hunterdon County theatres were noted in Julius Cahn's 1896 theatrical guide (see appended information on this directory at the end of significance statement). They included the Music Hall in Clinton, the Flemington Opera House in Flemington, and Holcombe Hall in Lambertville. Holcombe Hall, although extant, no longer contains its theatre. It was converted to industrial usage, and most recently commercial space and loft apartments. The Flemington Opera House is no longer extant.

Of the Medicine Shows which appeared in Clinton, the Indian Medicine Show was the most popular. The Medicine Show was a sponsored form of live entertainment. It consisted of variety acts with "commercial breaks" in between. The audience did not pay admission for these shows, but were urged to buy patent medicines and other items.

Touring companies began performing the play Uncle Tom's Cabin to nation-wide audiences in the 1870's. The play's appeal grew and by the 1890's between 400 to 500 companies of performers specializing exclusively in the presentation of Uncle Tom's Cabin toured the country. Many of these companies performed at the Music Hall.

As with Tom Shows, the popularity of the Minstrel Show increased in the 1870's peaking in the 1890's. Both traveling minstrel shows and local talent performed in Clinton.

The local minstrel group, the Bon Ton Minstrels, began performing in town in 1917. Formed under the direction of Leslie A. Kershaw, an early resident of Clinton, Mr. Kershaw recalls how the public responded to Bon Ton.

Now then, when we got going and people got to know us, all the travelling salesmen from near and far in the State used to bring their wives and children into Clinton for the week of the minstrels so they could see it. They'd come by train or by horse and buggy, and they'd stay at the Clinton House. We were known all over the State and we packed the house for a week each year.

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Melodramas and Variety-Vaudeville Shows toured through Clinton on a regular basis. In addition to the out of town talent, amateur local entertainment was also available at the Music Hall. Local theatre, represented by the Scott Comedy Club began in 1886, and numerous band concerts and musicales were staged.

The Music Hall hosted a yearly summer Christian education camp during the 1910's through the 1920's. The Chautauqua encampments, as they were called, originated in 1874 at an assembly for the training of Sunday school teachers at Lake Chautauqua in New York State. The summer encampments held throughout the country grew in popularity and soon became less denominational and more cultural. They eventually paralleled the winter Lyceum movement. Begun in 1826, the Lyceums were held in communities throughout the country offering diversified programs of educational and cultural entertainment. Famous scientists, philosophers, ministers and writers were invited to speak to Lyceum groups. the nature of the Chautauqua program was gradually broadened to include general education and popular entertainments.

Leslie A. Kershaw, a Clinton resident, reminisces about the Chautauqua in Clinton.

They always drew big crowds here, Chautauqua did. Of course they brought in real artists then. Chautauqua was always a really good thing. There wasn't anything fishy about their productions. They were real productions. They'd bring in beautiful soloists, musical people who could play violins and so forth, and acting. That was a big week in Clinton. They'd come in once a year and that lasted for several years after I was here.

Magic lantern shows supplemented the early silent film presentations at the Music Hall. Films from American Biograph, Edison, Vitagraph, Essanay and other early film companies were shown at the Music Hall on Wednesday and Saturday nights. According to William Hulsizer, another Clinton resident, there was a single projection machine set up in the theatre's gallery. Accompanied by local pianists, the early silent films averaged ten minutes in length. To fill the time while reels were changed magic lantern shows were given. An early form of contemporary slide shows, performers sang to a piano accompaniment creating "Illustrated Songs."

The Music Hall's later years reflected the changes in American popular entertainment with continued films, Little Theater, and professional summer stock.

From 1945 until 1954 an amateur theatre group, The Music Hall Players, performed in Clinton. Using volunteer acting and technical talents, they hired professional directors for their productions. During the heyday years of the Music Hall Players, Eddie Rich, a theatre entrepreneur who produced plays throughout the east coast, produced summer stock at the Music Hall. Professional actors

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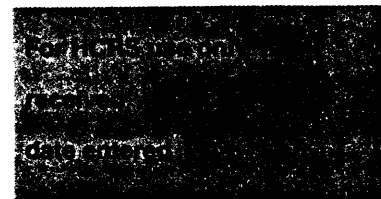
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who appeared in his productions at Clinton included Eli Wallach, Ann Jackson, Imogene Coca, Edward Everett Horton, Jean Hagen, John Carradine, Claire Luce, Ann Corio and Chester Morris.

Performances continued at the Music Hall on an irregular basis after 1954. Center Stage of the Hunterdon Art Center produced a number of plays at the Music Hall in the 1960's as did the Hunterdon Repertory Company. In 1965 Philip Burton, Director of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, and Executive Vice President of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, brought his group, The Acting Company, to Clinton. In 1970-72 Ithaca College sent a group to Clinton to run "Clinton Summer Theatre." The final performances at the theatre were held in the summer of 1973.

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New Jersey entries in Julius Cahn's 1896 "Official Theatrical Guide Containing Information of the Leading Theatres and Attractions in America" are listed below. The theatrical guide was the first volume in a series of yearly issues compiled for use by managers of theatres and traveling attractions throughout the country. Julius Cahn was the manager of Charles Frohman's Booking Department, Empire Theatre Building, New York City.

<u>City</u>	<u>Theatre</u>	<u>Seating Capacity</u>
Asbury Park	Park Opera House	1,016
Atlantic City	Academy of Music	1,600
Belvidere	New Opera House	511
Bloomfield	Central Hall	500
Bridgeport	Moore's Opera House	1,200
Burlington	Brich's Opera House	1,200
Camden	Temple Theatre	1,743
CLINTON	Music Hall	600
Dover	Baker Opera House	522
Elizabeth	Drake Opera House	1,425
Flemington	Flemington Opera House	500
Hackensack	Hackensack Hall and Armory	650
Hoboken	Lyric Theatre	2,006
Jersey City	Academy of Music	1,697
Keyport	Armory Hall	500-800
Lambertville	Holcombe Hall	500
Millville	Academy of Music	1,000
Montclair	Montclair Opera House	1,500
Mt. Holly	Opera House	600
Newark	Newark Theatre	1,018
	Jacob's Theatre	2,200
Newton	Dennis Opera House	450
Orange	Music Hall	950
Passaic	Whitehead's Opera House	900
Paterson	Paterson Opera House	1,930
	Bijou Theatre	1,755
Red Bank	Red Bank Opera House	1,000
Salem	Salem Opera House	900
Somerville	Somerset Hall	550
South Amboy	St. Mary's Hall	1,000
Toms River	Wardell Hall	350
Trenton	Taylor's Opera House	1,765

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Information in the guide was submitted to Cahn by the local theatre managers. Information included population of town, name of theatre manager, seating capacity, ticket prices, stage/theatre measurements, local of theatre space within building, i.e. first floor, etc., town newspapers, town hotels, and railroad connections. Note discrepancy of seating capacity for the Music Hall. Cahn's directory notes a seating capacity of 600.

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Cahn, Julius (1896). Official Theatrical Guide Containing Information of the Leading Theatres and Attractions in America.

Connell, Karen (1978). An Initial Glance at the History of Clinton Music Hall.

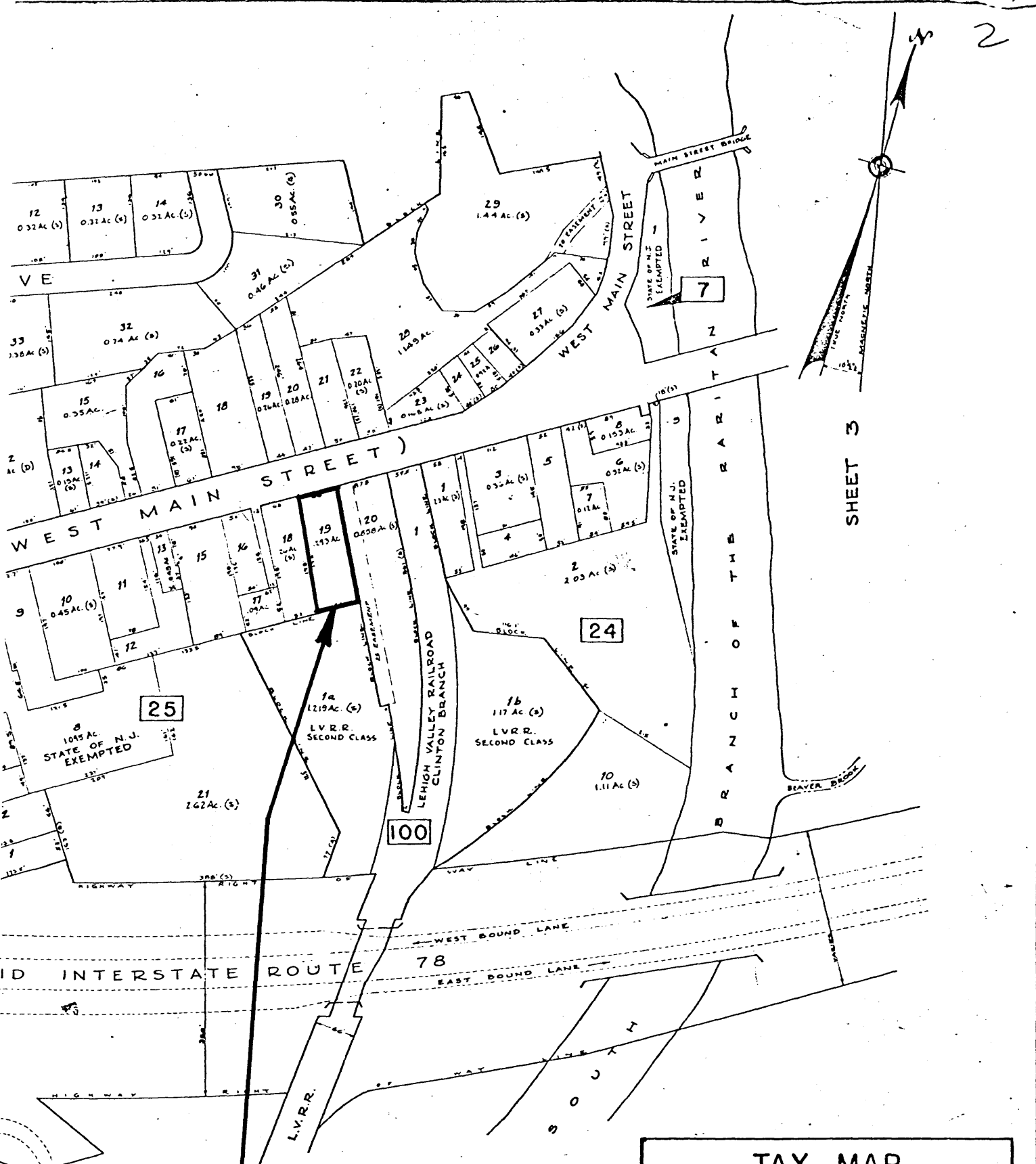
Simpson, James (1981). The Clinton Music Hall 1890-1920, The Chronicle of an American Theatre.

The Clinton Democrat: 8/2/1899, 8/31/1899, 10/9/1890, 8/24/1916, 12/7/1916, 12/14/1916, 7/20/1916.

Interviews with:

Leslie A. Kershaw, 14 Water Street, Clinton, New Jersey. Resident of Clinton from 1916.

Walter Hulsizer, 15 East Main Street, Clinton, New Jersey. Born in 1892, life-long resident of Clinton.



**CLINTON
MUSIC
HALL**

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIVISION OF TAXATION
ENGINEERING & RAILROAD TAX BUREAU
APPROVED AS A T-5 MAP PURSUANT TO THE
PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 175, LAWS OF 1913, ETC.
FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF TAXATION
BY: *Robert McElDowney Jr.*
DATE DEC 3 1962 SERIAL NO. 375

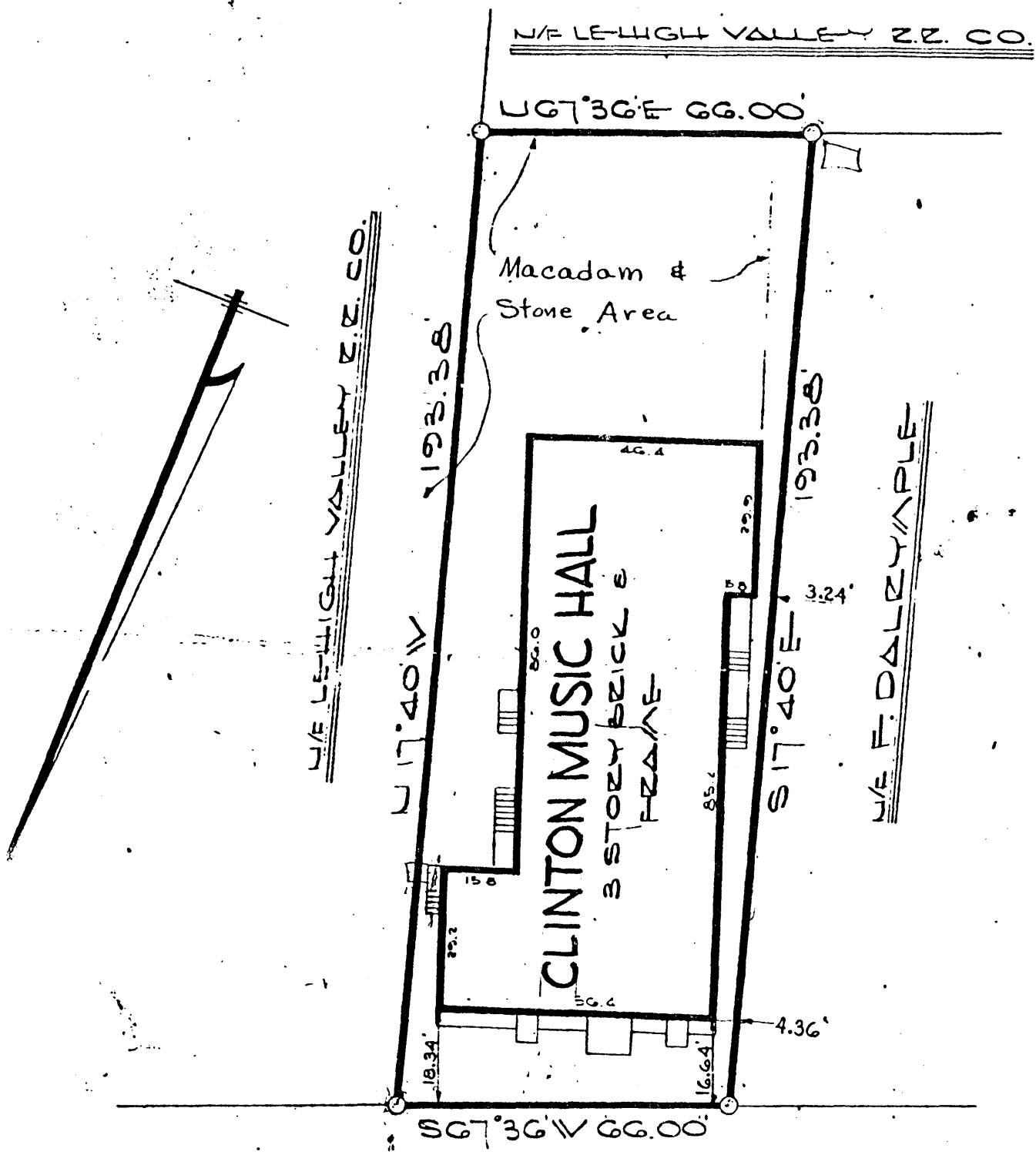
TAX MAP
TOWN OF CLINTON
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
SCALE: 1" = ~~100~~ 200'
MARCH, 1962
PREPARED BY
ROBERT McELDOWNEY JR.
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER & LAND SURVEYOR
CLINTON MUNICIPAL ENGINEER
STUDER & McELDOWNEY
CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
120 HIGHWAY 22 CLINTON, N. J.

SHEET 3

1182-C

MAIN ST. - TOWN OF CLINTON -
HUNTERDON CO., N.J.

Music Hall, Clinton
Hunterdon County, NJ



W. MAIN STREET

John Cilo, Jr.

29'9"

85'

46'6"

3'6"

3'

4'4"

23'6"

DOWN

29'6"

3'

1 1/2" TYP.
BETWEEN
BEAMS

38'4"

ROOF LINE

114'9"

40'6"

2'

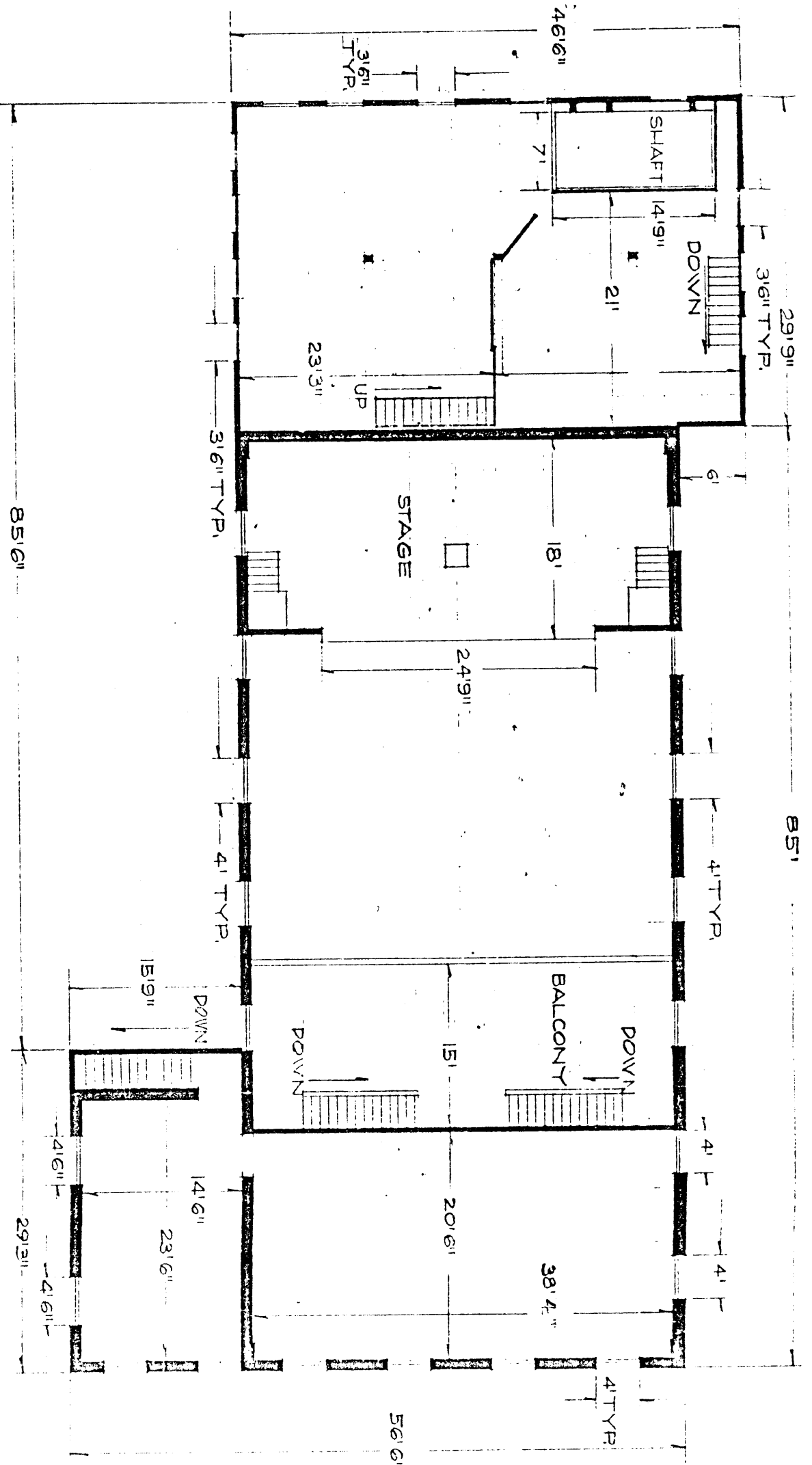
1'6"

17'9"

THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
THEATRE ATTIC - 4TH FLOOR SHOP
FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON



Music Hall, Clinton
Hunterdon County, NJ

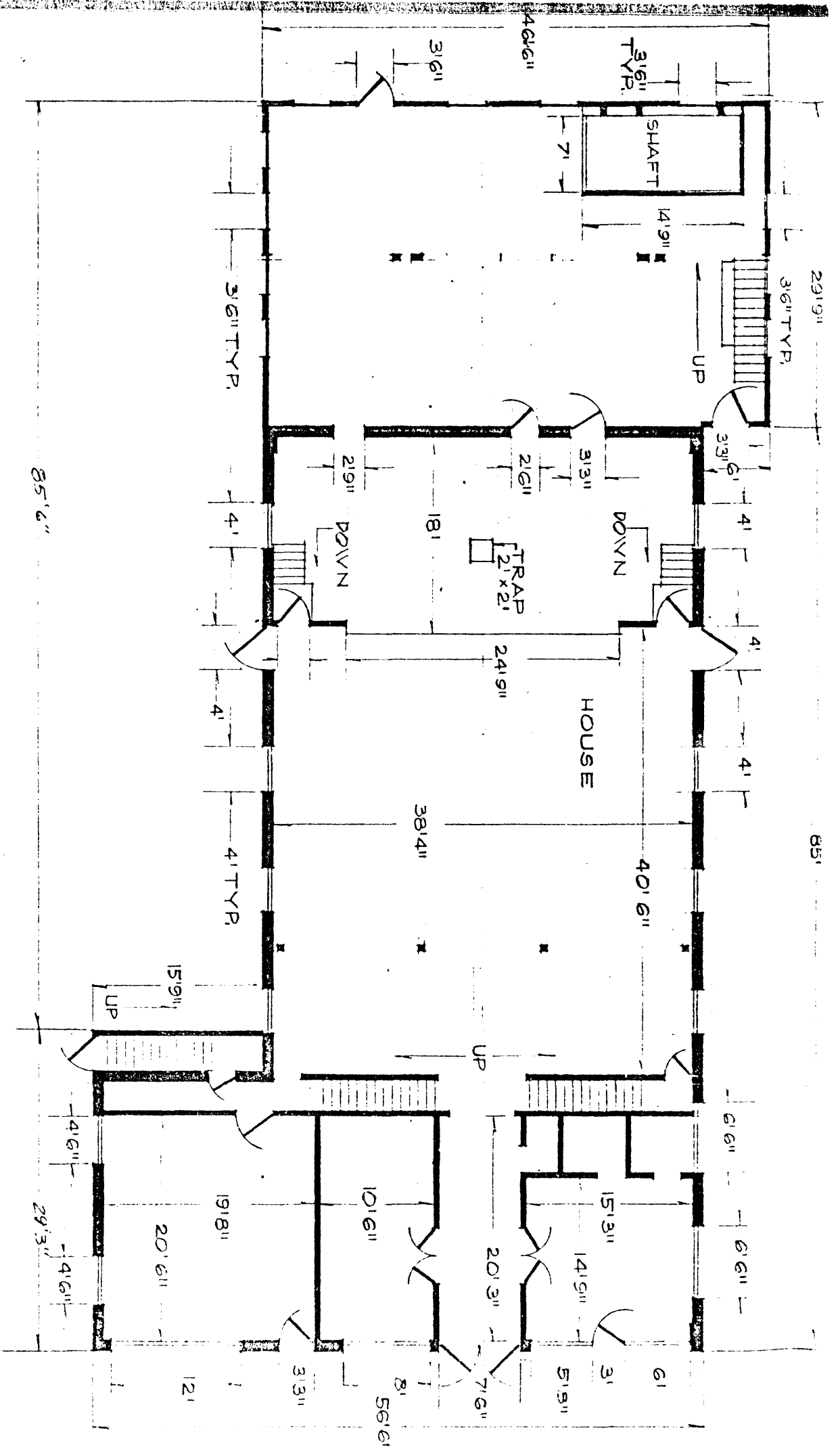


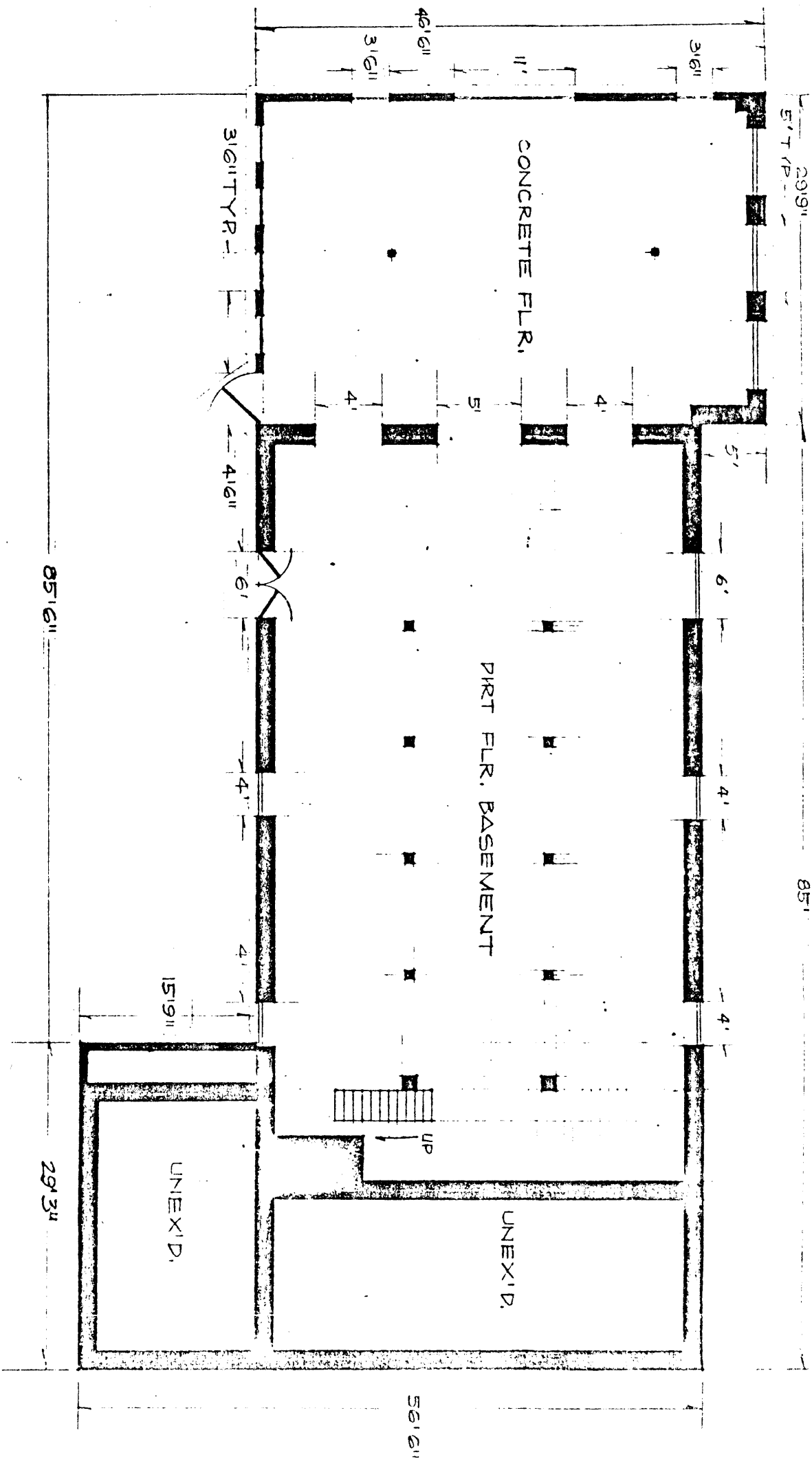
THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE BALCONY & FLYS - 3RD FLR, SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON



Music Hall, Clinton
 Huntington County, NY

THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE HOUSE & 2ND FLR. SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON





THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE BASEMENT & FIRST FLR. SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON



Music Hall, Clinton
 Hunterdon County, NJ

Clinton Township

Business Notices

Lebanon, Manufacturers and Dealers in Segars, Tobacco, Snuff and Smokers Articles, Annandale... Resident, Annandale... Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots Shoes... Alder, Post Master and Express Agent, Annandale... J. N. Merchant, Lebanon Farmer, near Annandale... Farmer, Dawestown... M. Farmer, Annandale... W. C. Teacher, Annandale... W. E. Wholesale Dealer in Segars and Tobacco, Annandale... Annandale... Manufacturer of Lime and Plaster, Annandale... C. Agent C. R. R. Annandale... Boss, Maunfts of Hgt, Elevators and Conveyors, Lebanon, near Depot... J. G. Farmer... H. Principal, High School, Lebanon... James W. Merchant Miller and Dealer in Flour, Feed, Corn Husks and Tow, and other in Hardwood Lumber, Johnson's Mills, Clinton... J. Physician and Surgeon, Annandale... J. Engineer, Annandale... J. Farmer and Auctioneer... J. Merchant, Lebanon... J. E. Teacher, Dhr No. 57... J. R. Res Lebanon... J. J. Producer of the Celebrated French Champagne, constantly on hand. Bourbon de France, Fromage de bofs, Osmembeurs, &c., Annandale... A. Dairy Farmer, Annandale

1873 Beer's Map of Hunterdon County

Clinton Music Hall
original Music Hall built
by Belden and Emery



CLINTON
CLINTON T.F.

Scale 30 Rods to the inch

J. T. Leigh

J. T. Leigh

Beaver Brook

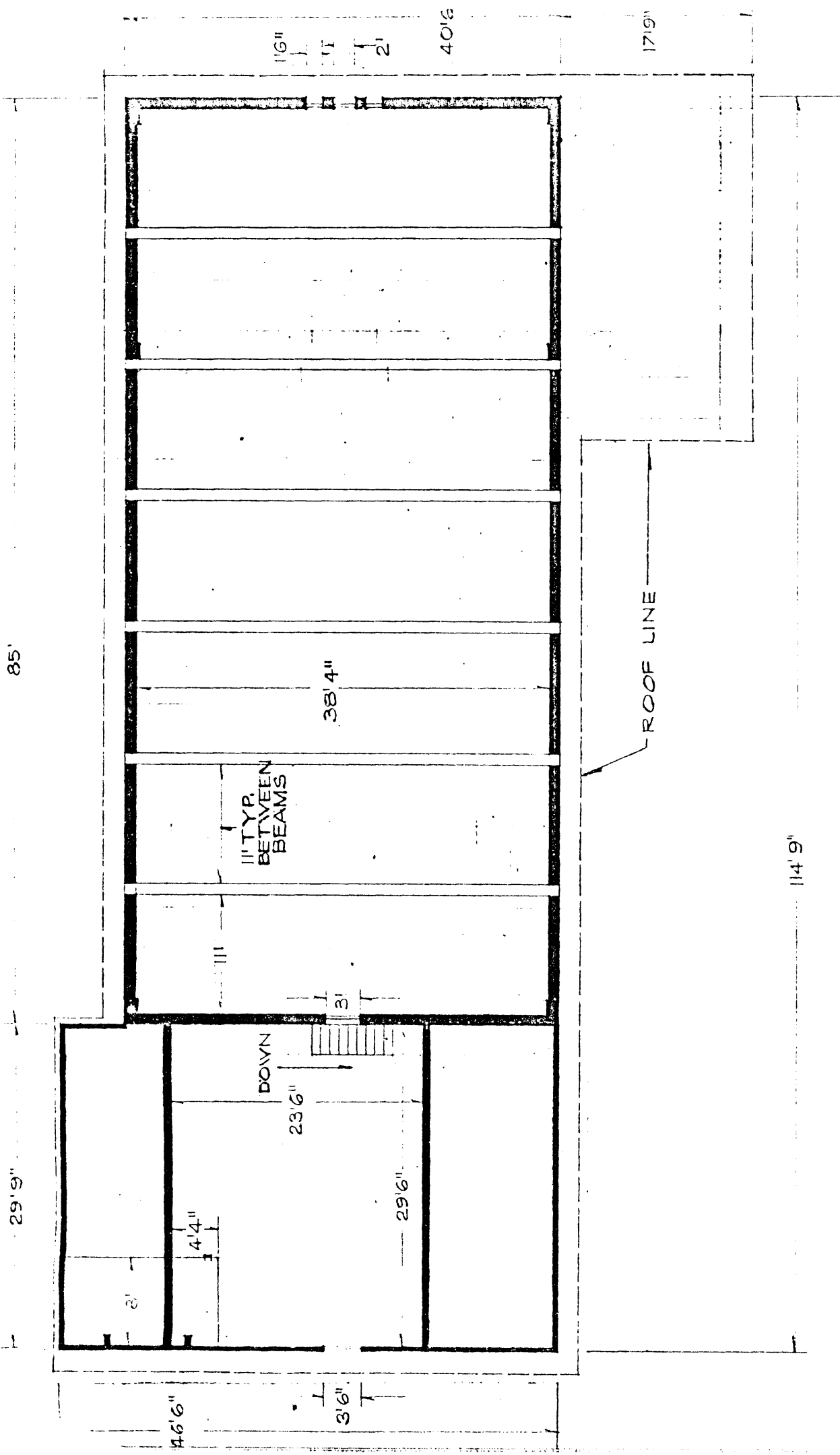
J. T. Leigh

Meridian

Music Hall
Clinton, Hunterdon County, NJ

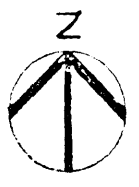
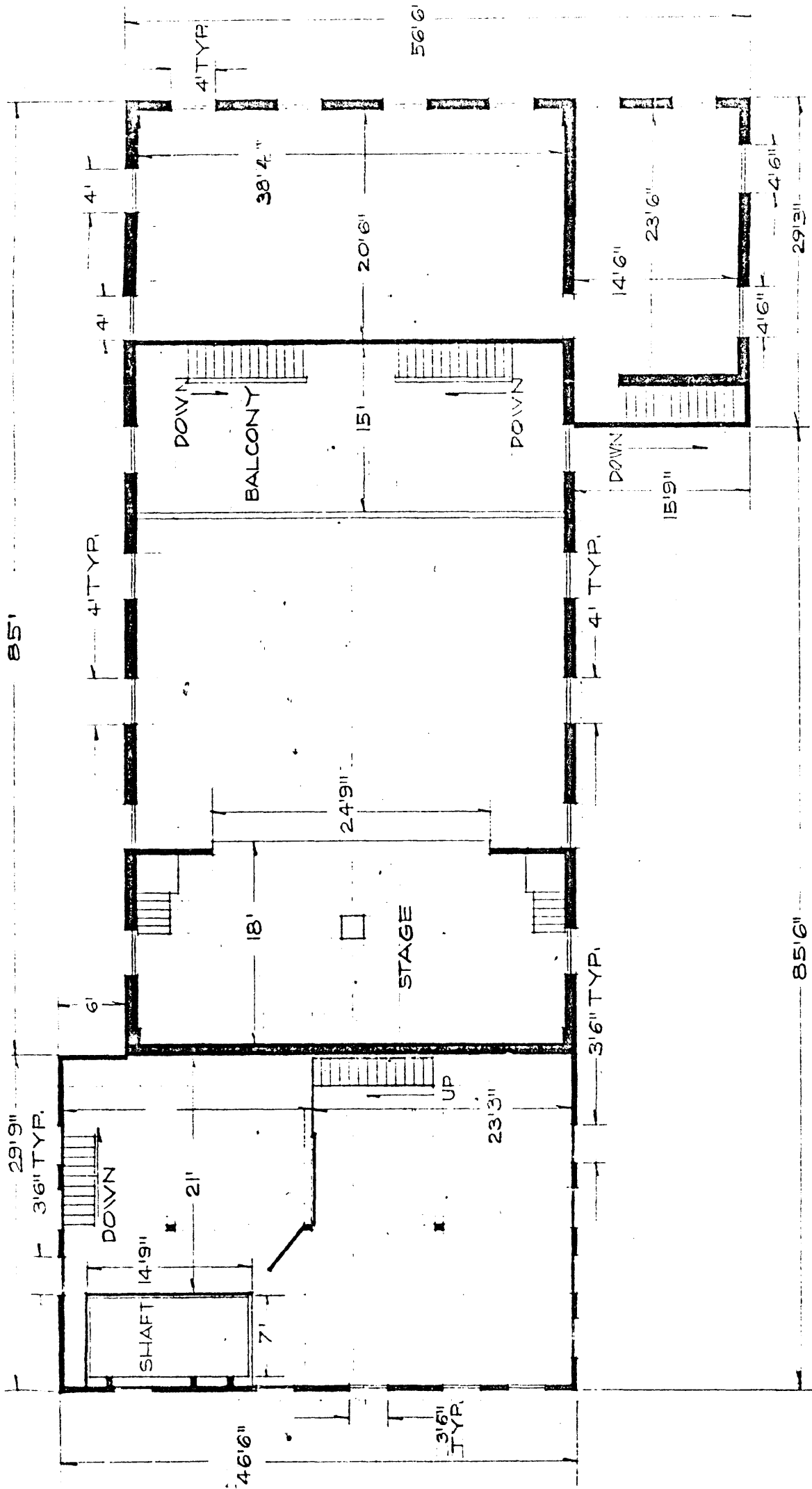


This 1886 view of Clinton shows the large barn, site of the first Clinton Music Hall, circled in the lower left corner. The present structure was erected in the same spot four years after this engraving was made. Although removed from the "downtown" section of Clinton, the theater's proximity to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station was a great asset to the many touring companies with a carload of scenery and costumes to unload. Map of Clinton reprinted from lithograph map Clinton, N.J.,



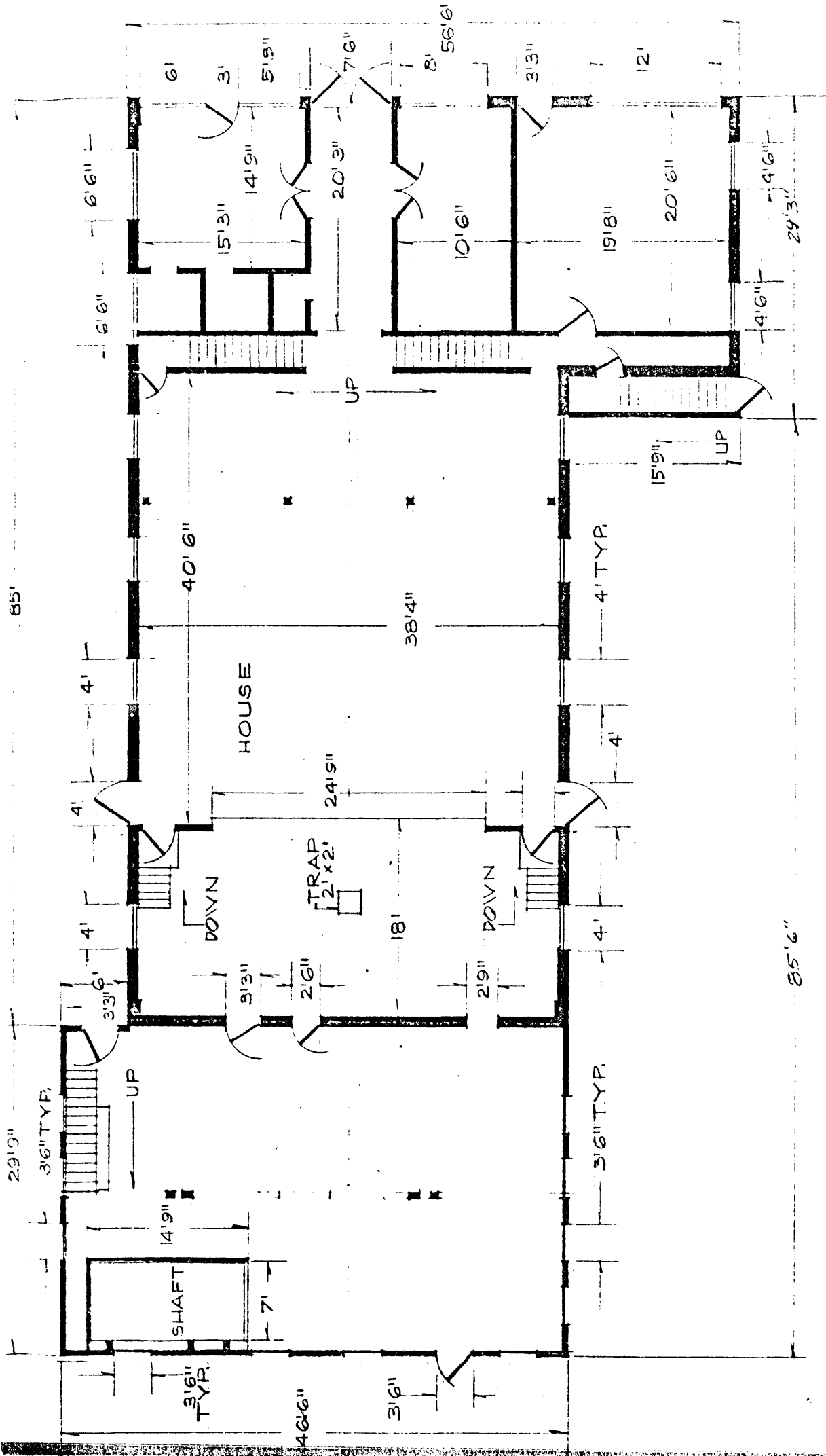
THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE 'ATTIC' - 4TH FLOOR SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON

Music Hall, Clinton
 Hunterdon County, NJ

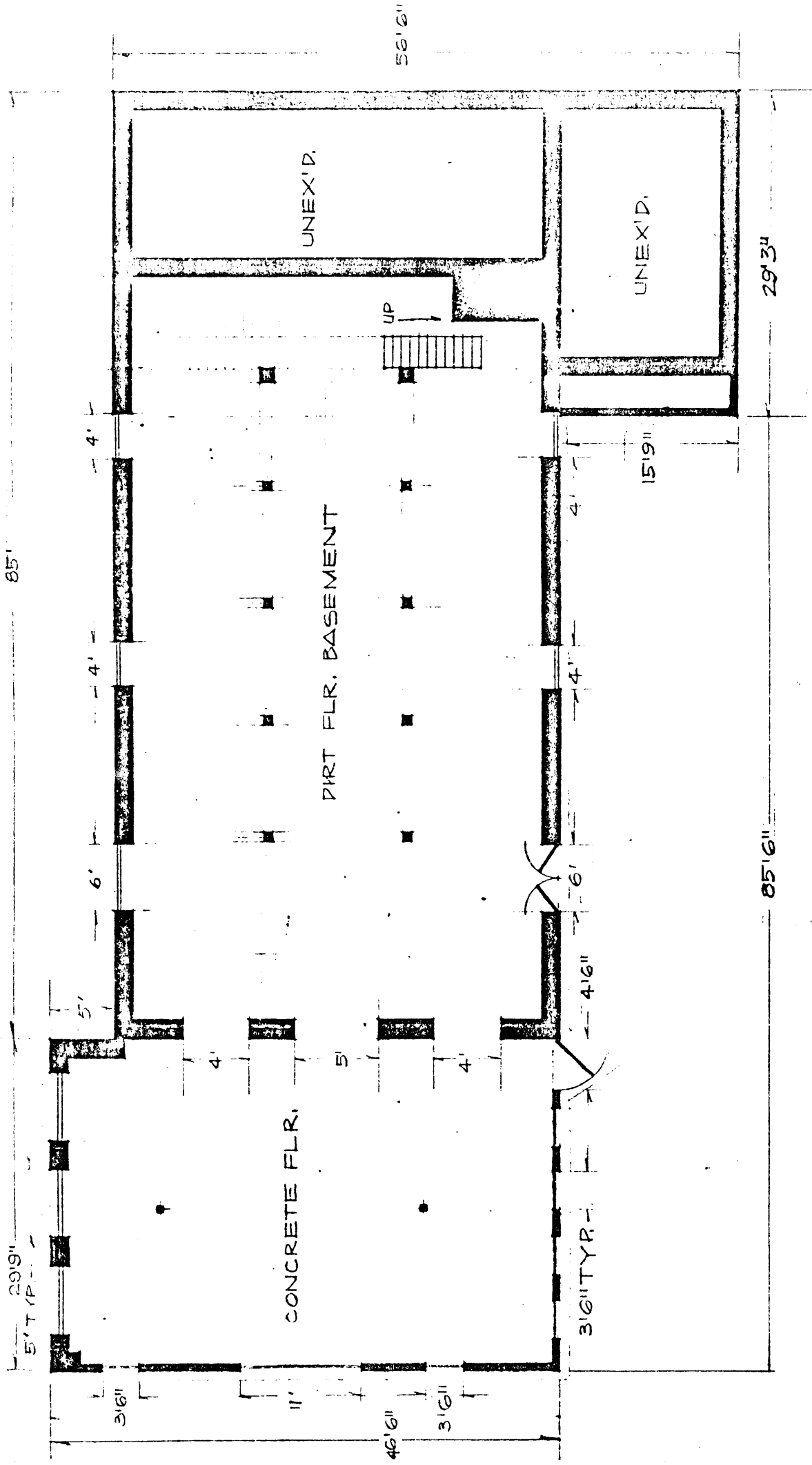


THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE BALCONY & FLYS - 3RD FLR., SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON

Music Hall, Clinton
 Burlington County, NJ



THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE HOUSE & 2ND FLR. SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON



THE CLINTON MUSIC HALL
 THEATRE BASEMENT & FIRST FLR. SHOP
 FEB. 1980 J.B. SIMPSON

Music Hall, Clinton
 Hunterdon County, NJ

CLINTON

CLINTON TWP.

Scale 20 Rods to the inch



Clinton Township

Business Notices

- Sharp, Manufacturers and Dealers in Segars, Tobacco, Snuffs and Smokers Articles, Annandale
- N. Resident, Annandale
- Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots Shoes and Millinery. Post Master and Express Agent, Annandale
- J. N. Merchants, Lebanon
- Farmer, near Annandale
- Farmer, Dawsdown
- M. Farmer, Annandale
- C. Teacher, Annandale
- W. E. Wholesale Dealer in Segars and Tobacco, Annandale
- A. Manufacturer of Lime and Plaster, Annandale
- R. C. Agent of H. R. Annandale
- Boys, Manufacturers of Hvy. Elevators and Conveyors, Lebanon, near Depot
- O. H. Principal, High School, Lebanon
- J. C. Farmer, Lebanon
- James W. Merchant Miller and Dealer in Flour, Feed, Corn Husks and Tows, and other in Hardwood Lumber, Johnson's Mills.
- Clinton
- Physician and Surgeon, Annandale
- Farmer and Auctioneer
- A. E. Lawyer, Lebanon
- S. Merchant, Lebanon
- Phillip E. Teacher, Dist No. 57
- burgh Rev. R. Res. Lebanon
- Julius. Producer of the Celebrated French Swiss Cheese, constantly on hand. Boudons de wheate, Fromage de bols, Camemberts, &c., Annandale
- V. A. Dairy Farmer, Annandale

1873 Beer's Map of Hunterdon County

Clinton Music Hall
original Music Hall built
by Belden and Emery

J. T. Leigh

J. T. Leigh

J. A. Cline
Mrs. Ruggier
J. A. Young

Inset

Music Hall
Clinton, Hunterdon County, NJ



This 1886 view of Clinton shows the large barn, site of the first Clinton Music Hall, circled in the lower left corner. The present structure was erected in the same spot four years after this engraving was made. Although removed from the "downtown" section of Clinton, the theatre's proximity to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station was a great asset to the many touring companies with a carload of scenery and costumes to unload. Map of Clinton reprinted from lithograph map Clinton, N.J.,