

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 31 1976  
DATE ENTERED SEP 29 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

*Handwritten initials*

\*\* Knightstown Academy

AND/OR COMMON

Knightstown Upper Elementary School

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Cary Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Knightstown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

10th

STATE

Indiana

CODE  
018

COUNTY  
Henry

CODE  
065

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

**PRESENT USE**

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation

STREET & NUMBER

19 South Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Knightstown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Henry County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

New Castle

STATE

Indiana

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Indiana Historic Preservation Program and Survey

DATE

1972- 1974

FEDERAL  STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

CITY, TOWN

Indianapolis

STATE

Indiana

# 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Knightstown Academy has changed little in appearance since its erection almost a hundred years ago. It is a three-story French Second Empire style, red-brick structure built with classic symmetry. The slate covered mansard roof features ornamental dormer windows and twin turrets on which are mounted a globe and a telescope. The decorative casings surrounding the turret windows and the globe and the telescope are metal. The rounded windows are capped with arched lintels.

Started in the Centennial year 1876, the building was completed and the first class was graduated in 1877. It has been used continuously as a school since then.

The original building contains four large rooms and a commodious hall on the first and second floors and three large rooms on the third floor. On each side of the front door are companion stairways which are largely self-supporting and rise to the third floor. The full basement has walls three feet in thickness. The third floor has not been used for classes since 1887 at which time a two-story wing, also brick, was added to the rear of the building. The exterior of this wing is identical to and in complete harmony with the original structure. The interior contains two large and two small rooms on each floor. In 1931 another brick wing was added to the west of the rear addition. This wing was built in a style typical of school buildings of the 1930's.

Until recently, the building has been well maintained; however there is a need for exterior painting, roof repair, and wiring. Also, several broken window panes have been replaced with plywood.

The structure faces south and is in the center of a city block, just three blocks north of U.S. 40 (National Road). Its grounds are shaded and well-kept. An iron fence encloses two sides of the school yard. Diagonal walks lead to the center doorway from the two corners of the block. The stiles at the end of each walk are still in place - just as they were when placed there to keep the local livestock out of the school yard.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1876, 1887, 1931

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Irwin Morrison

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Knightstown Academy is an excellent example of the Second Empire style applied to a school building. The twin towers with their globe and telescope have made the building a familiar landmark along the Old National Road (U.S. 40).

John Irwin Morrison, president of the School Board at the time the school was built supervised the planning and construction of the building. Coming to Knightstown after a distinguished career in education and politics, he was well prepared to influence decisions. He made the Washington County Academy at Salem, Indiana one of the early coeducational institutions in the Midwest. In addition he served in the Indiana House, as State Treasurer, and on the faculty and Board of Trustees of Indiana University. His daughter was the first woman admitted to Indiana University. It was at his instigation that the symbolic globe and telescope were incorporated into the school design.

Charles A. Beard, the noted American Historian graduated from the Academy in 1891. He went on to become a controversial figure in the interpretation of American history by using the economic interests of men to analyze their political activities. He is still remembered in Knightstown and the Academy in the best building associated with his life there.

The close association of this building with John I. Morrison and Charles A. Beard confined with its architectural importance make this a key structure in Knightstown's past.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See attached continuation sheet)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 626300 4406380  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 16 626300 4406380  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 16 626300 4406380  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D 16 626300 4406380  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. R. Thomas Mayhill

July 22, 1975

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

305 North Adams Street

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Knightstown

Indiana

## 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE March 24, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9/29/96

DATE 9/27/76

ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SEP 29 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE

Major Bibliographical References

Newspaper articles from New Castle Mercury (New Castle, Indiana), 11/16/1876 and 9/27/1877.

Stevens, Warder, Centennial History of Washington County, Indiana, 1916, pp. 159, 306-7, 343-4.

Interstate Publishing Co., History of Henry County, Indiana, 1884, p. 428-9.

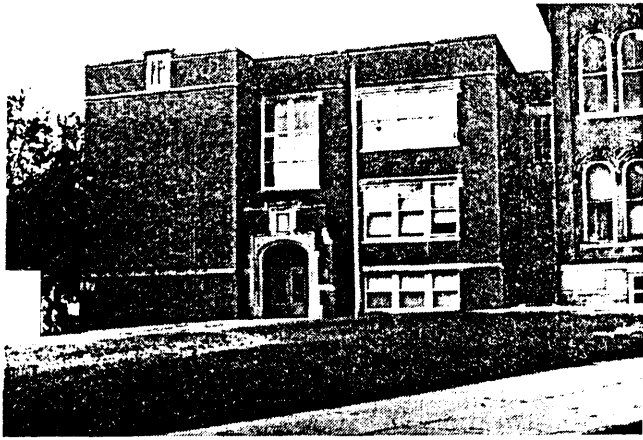
Rogers, L.E., Schools of Knightstown, Indiana, 1938.

Obituary of John Morrison, Indianapolis News, July 18, 1882.

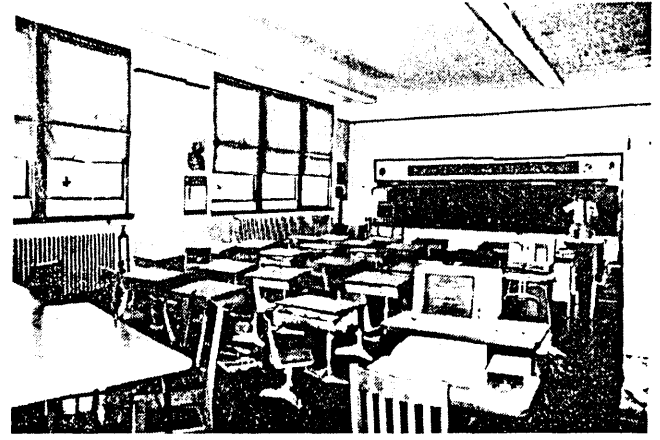
Esarey, Logan, History of Indiana, 1918, p. 456.

Indianapolis Star Magazine, April 2, 1950, "Founding Father".

Knightstown Banner, June 28, 1962, "John Morrison, Educator, Played Important Role at Knightstown", by L.E. Rogers



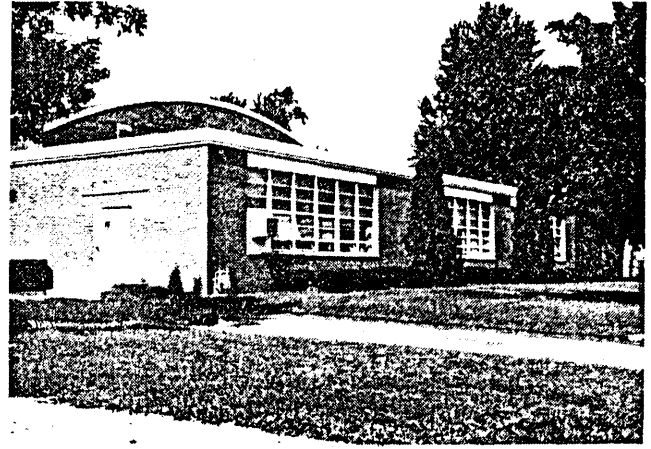
1931 ADDITION  
ADJACENT TO ACADEMY



1931 ADDITION  
CLASSROOM



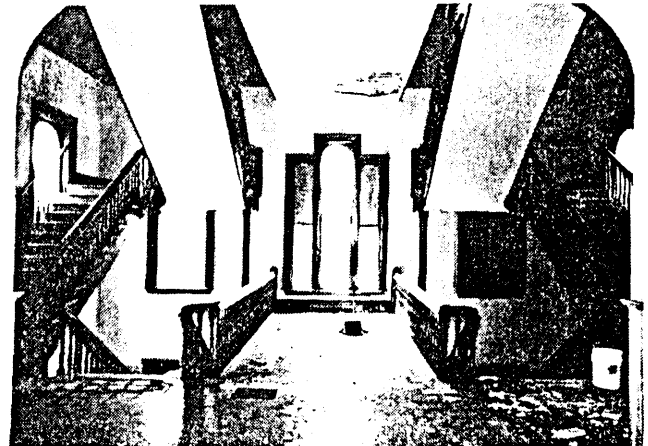
GYM



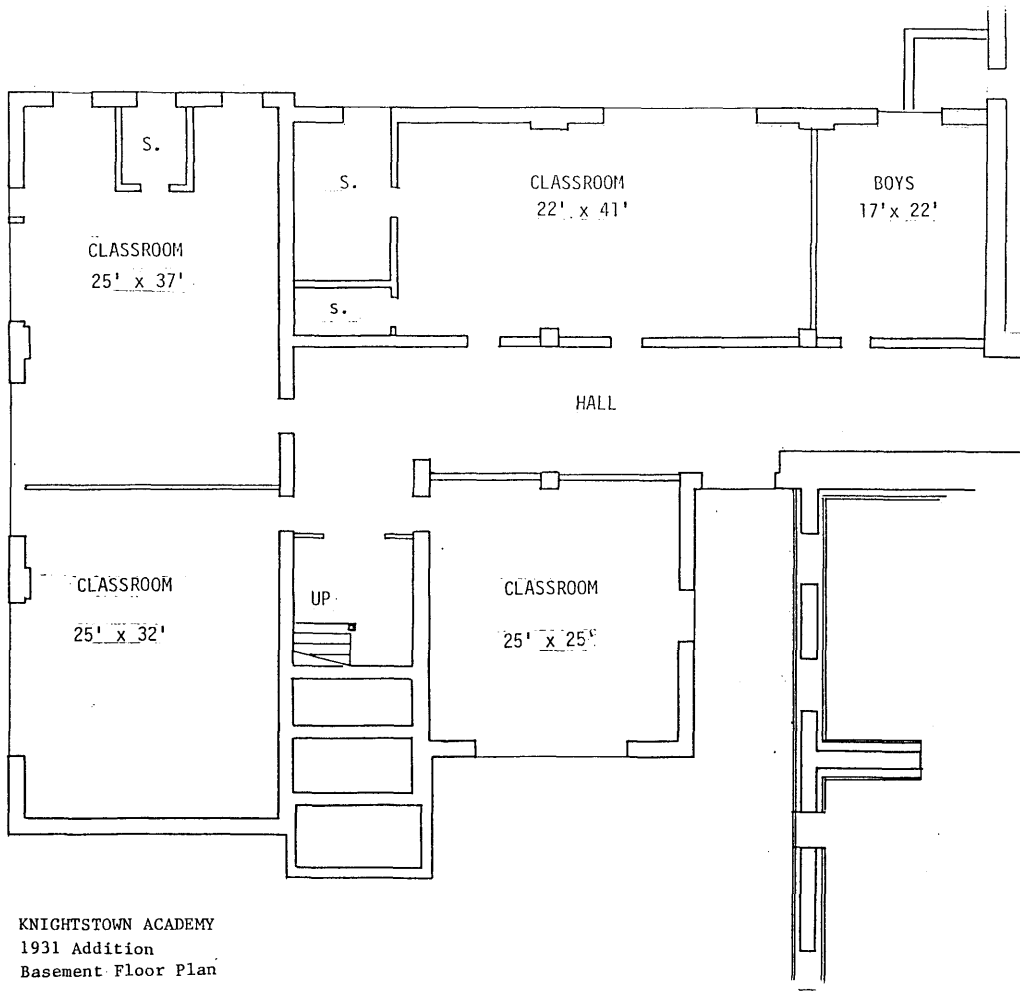
ANNEX - GYM



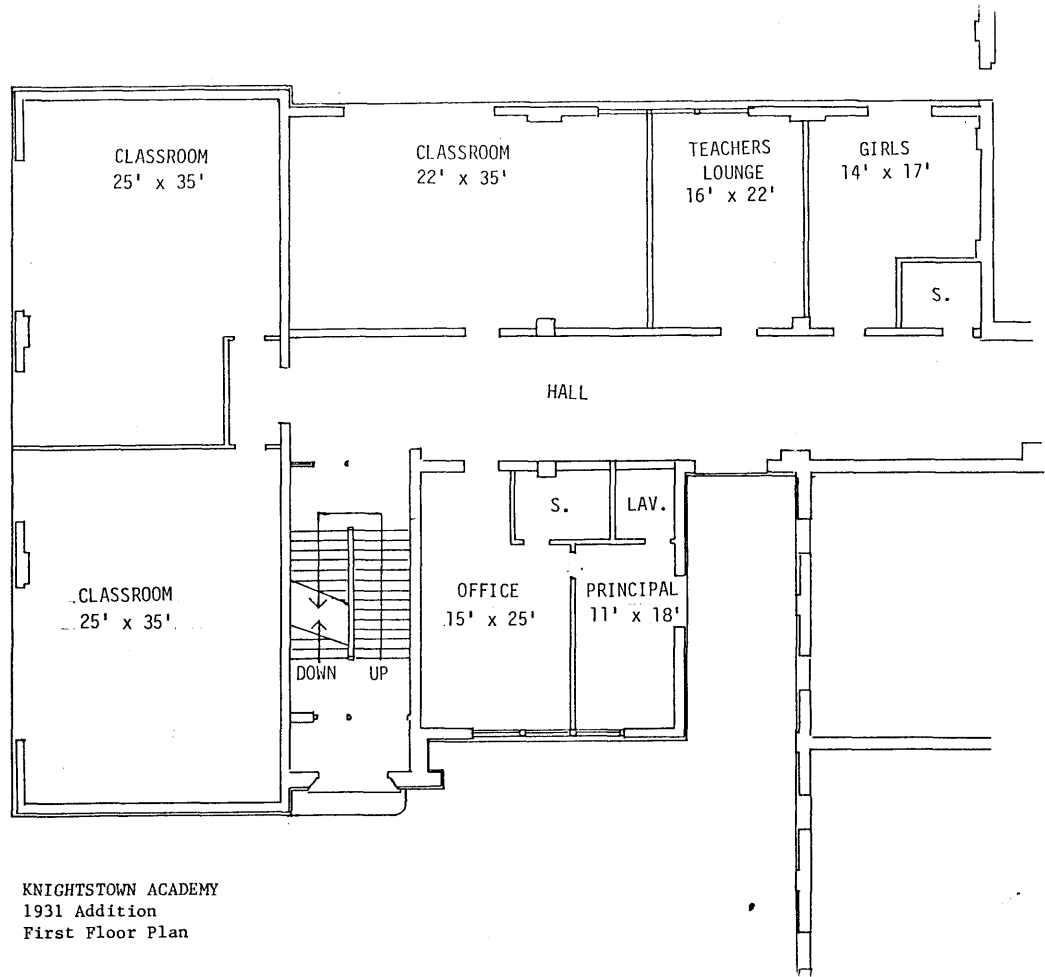
KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
THIRD FLOOR ROOM



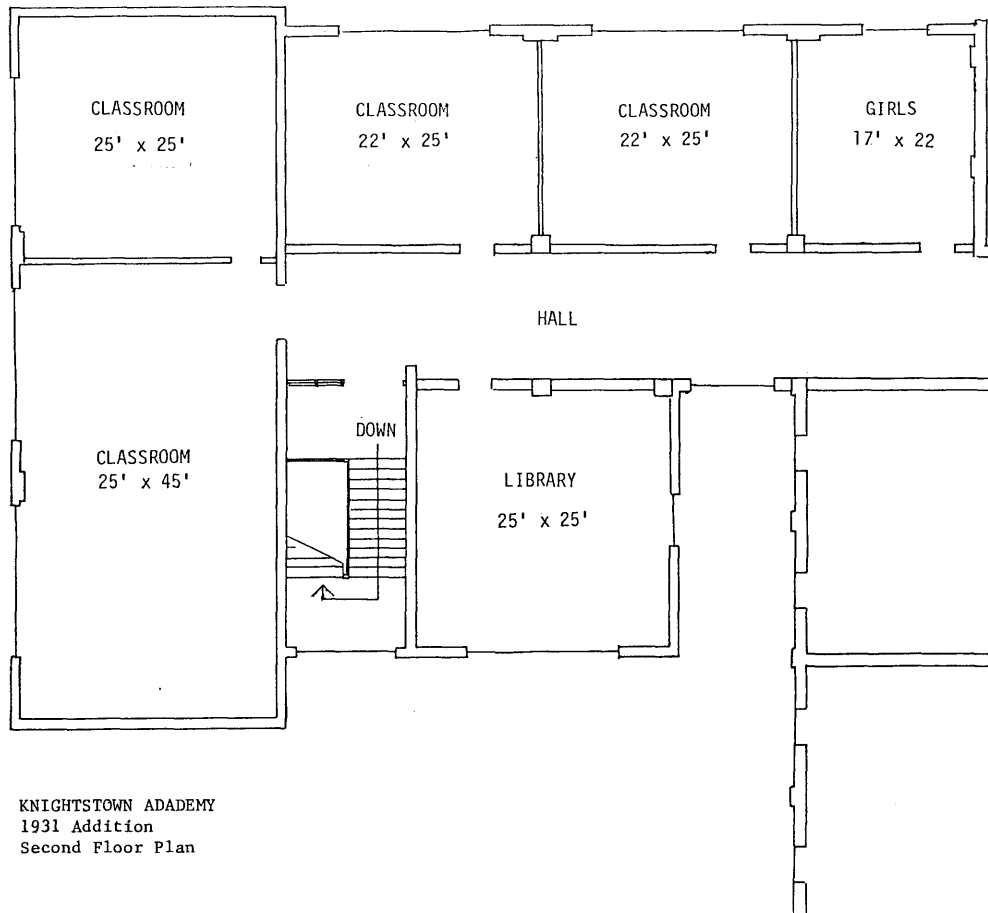
KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
MAIN STAIRCASE



KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
1931 Addition  
Basement Floor Plan

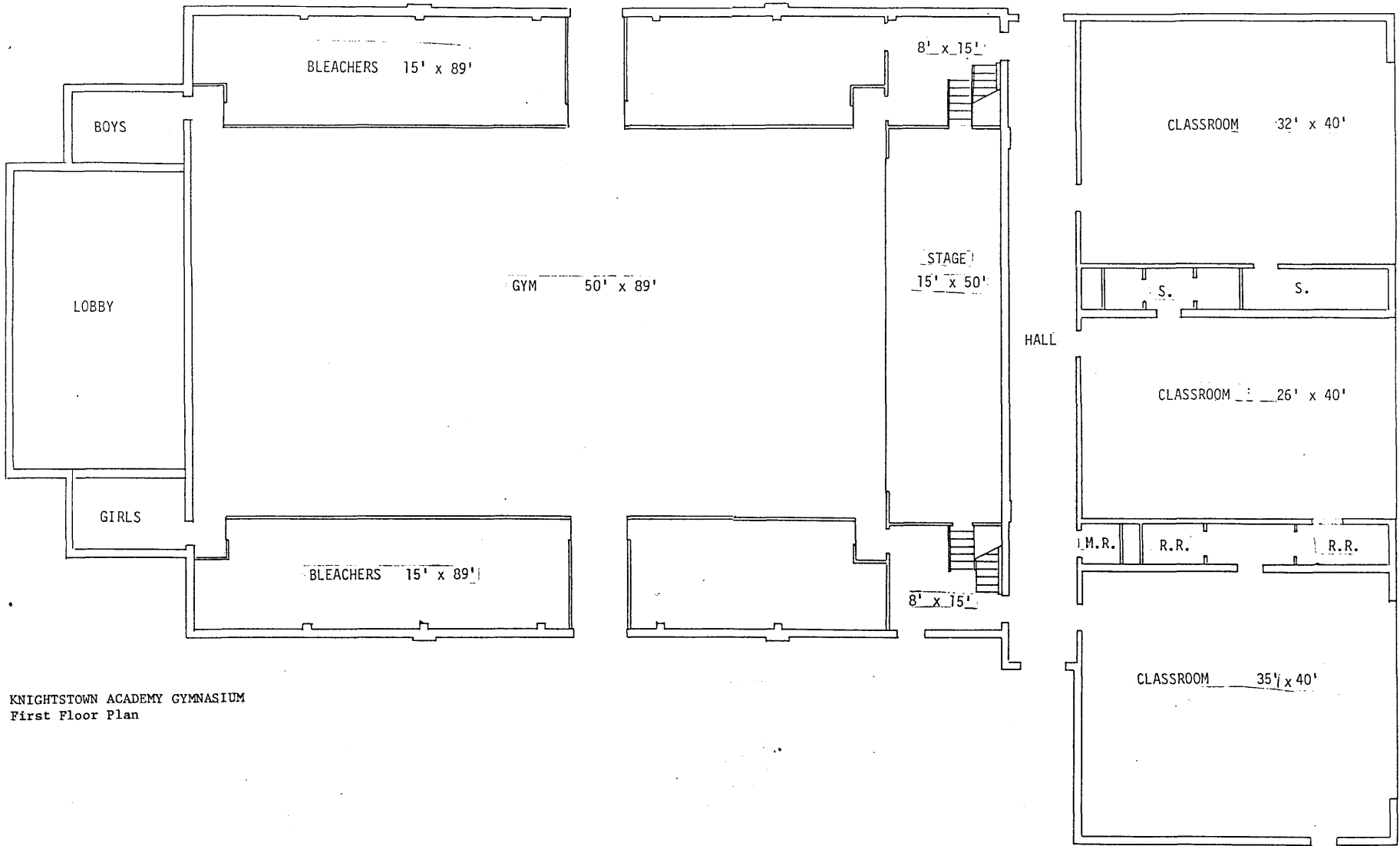


KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
1931 Addition  
First Floor Plan

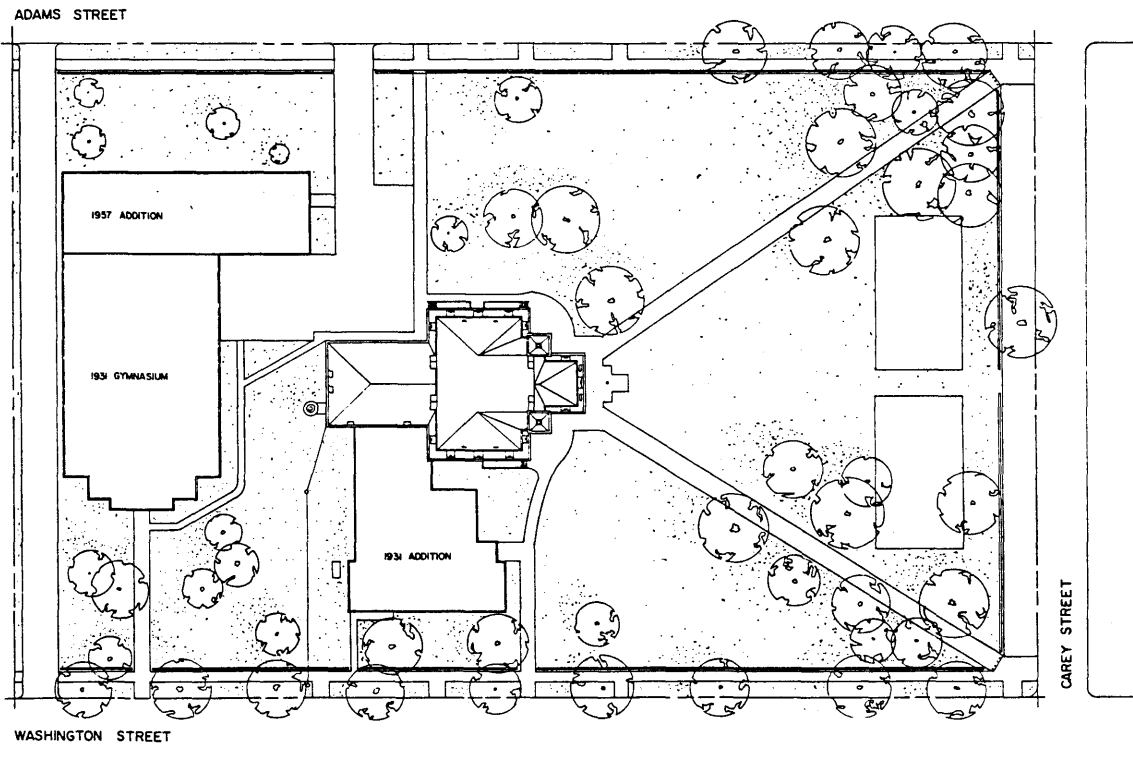


KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
1931 Addition  
Second Floor Plan



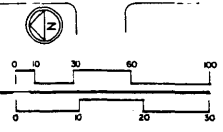


KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY GYMNASIUM  
 First Floor Plan

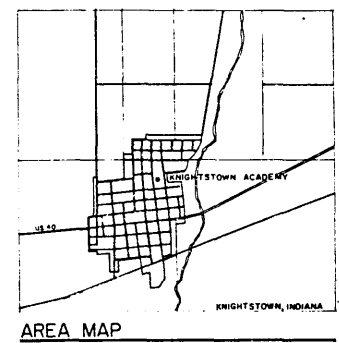


SITE PLAN

FEET 1/30" = 1'-0"  
METERS 1:300



THE KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY IS ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE EXAMPLES OF SECOND EMPIRE STYLE ARCHITECTURE IN INDIANA. ITS MOST DISTINCTIVE FEATURES ARE THE HANDSOME SQUARE TOWERS WHICH ARE CAPPED WITH ELABORATE CONVEX MANSARD ROOFS AND ORNATE DORMERS AND SYMBOLS OF SCIENCE - THE GLOBE AND THE TELESCOPE THAT STAND AT THE PEAKS OF THE TOWER ROOFS. THE STEEP MANSARD ROOFS OF THE BUILDING ARE ENHANCED WITH POLYCHROME SLATE ROOFING AND ORNATE METAL BRACKETS THAT ARE PLACED BELOW THE PROJECTING EAVES. METAL TRIM AND ORNAMENTATION IS CHARACTERISTIC IN THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE BUILDING. THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE ACADEMY IS BRICK WITH A LIMESTONE BASE. THE ORIGINAL SECTION OF THE BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1876 WITH A MATCHING ADDITION BUILT TEN YEARS LATER.

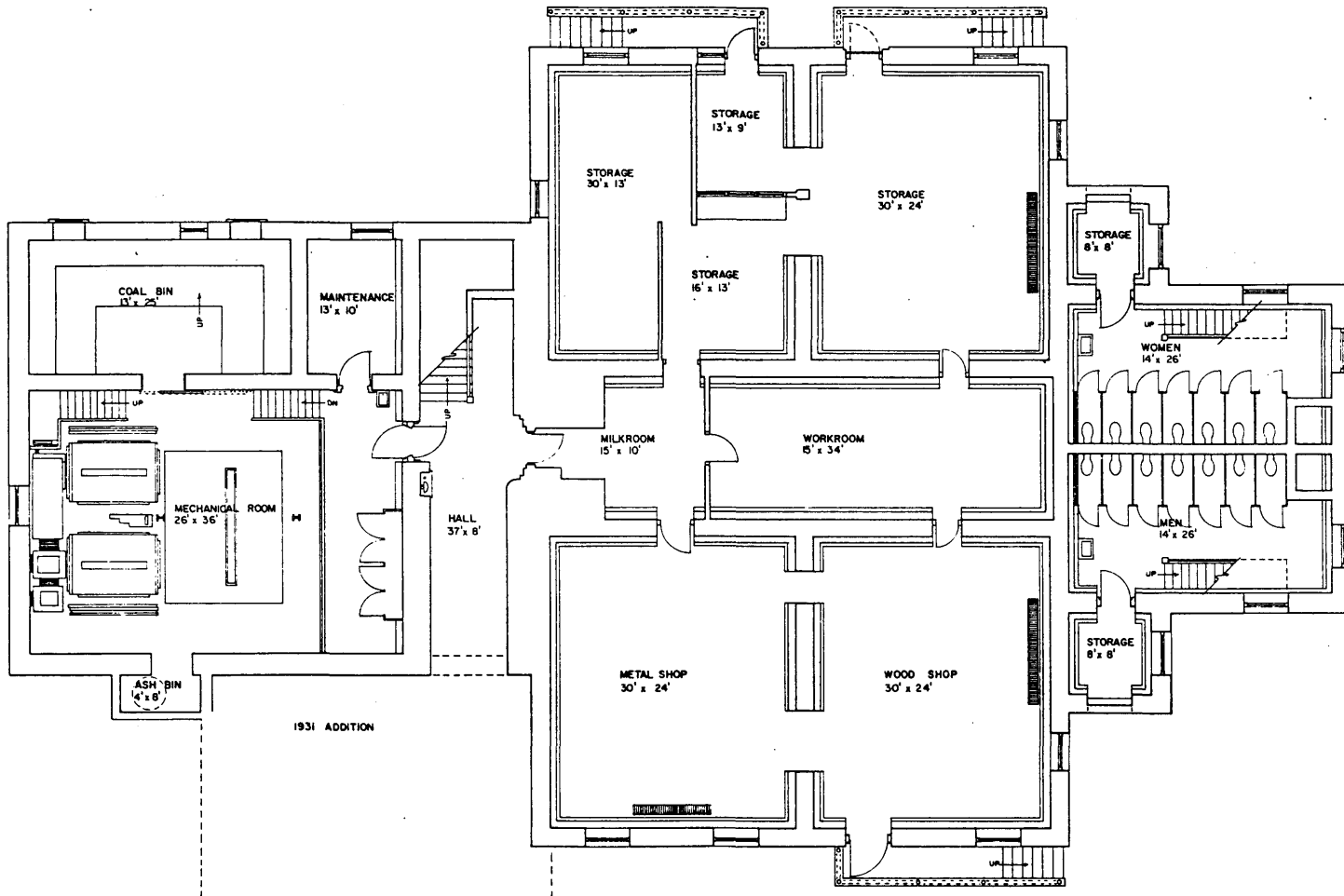


AREA MAP

REPRODUCED FROM ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS  
OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

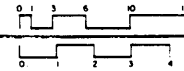
DESIGNED BY TIMOTHY A. BLEMER and OSCAR L. GARCIA  
OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204  
UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTHERN STATES  
HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILT 1 of 12 sheets  
SURVEY NO.  
KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA  
CAREY STREET

TRIM LINE



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"  
METERS 1:64

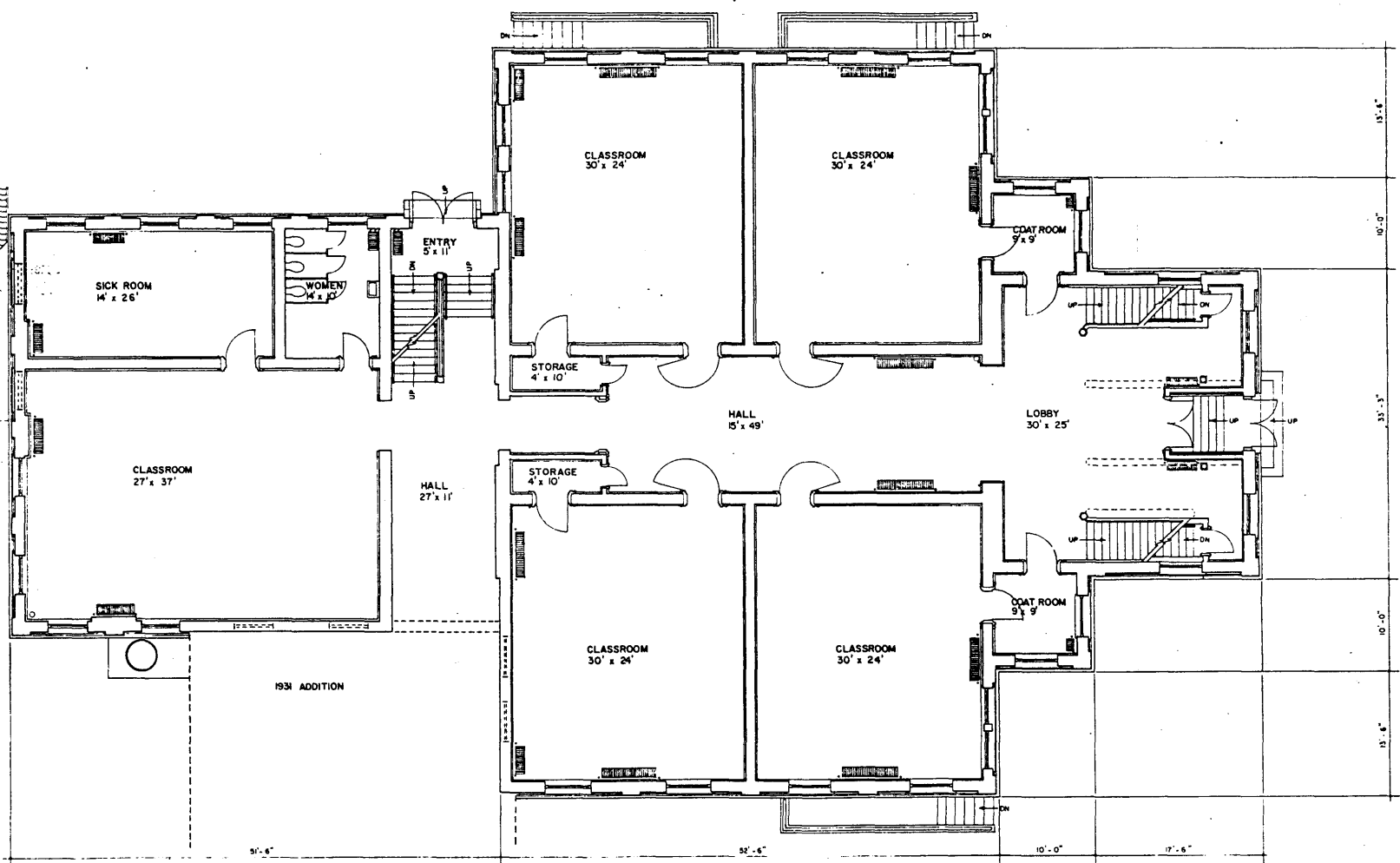


DESIGNED BY TIMOTHY A. BEHNER AND OSCAR L. BARNIA  
DRAWN BY ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS  
CHECKED BY OSCAR L. BARNIA  
DATE OF PUBLICATION: 1931  
PROJECT NO. 100-100-100-100

KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
 KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA  
 CAREY STREET  
 HISTORIC AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE  
 SHEET 2 OF 12 SHEETS

TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"  
 METERS 1:64

ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS  
 100 EAST WASHINGTON  
 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46202  
 PHONE: 317-421-1234

DRAWN BY: TIMOTHY A. BREMER and OSCAR L. GARCIA  
 COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA  
 100 EAST WASHINGTON  
 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46202  
 PHONE: 317-421-1234

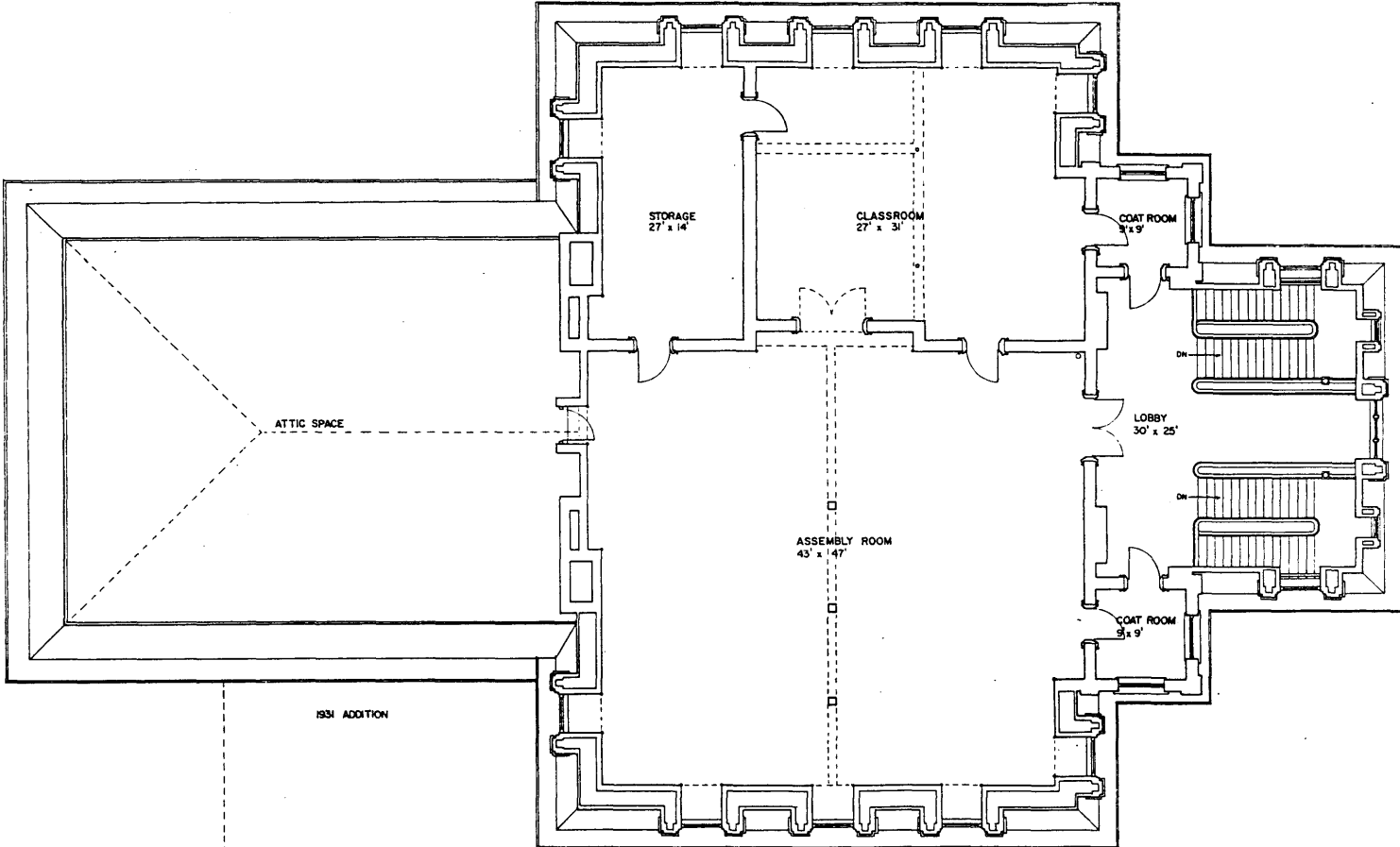
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 3 OF 12 SHEETS

KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY  
 KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA  
 CAREY STREET

TRIM LINE

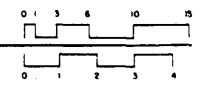


TWIN LINE



THIRD FLOOR PLAN

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"  
METERS 1:64



DESIGNED BY: THOMAS A. BUSHNER, ARCHITECT  
100 WEST 10TH AVENUE, SUITE 100  
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37919  
PHONE: 615-595-1234

DATE AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY, KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

OWNER: BOARD OF EDUCATION, KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

PROJECT NO: 1551

DATE: 10/15/2010

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

PROJECT: 1551 ADDITION

ARCHITECT: THOMAS A. BUSHNER, ARCHITECT, 100 WEST 10TH AVENUE, SUITE 100, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37919, PHONE: 615-595-1234

TWIN LINE

TRIM LINE



SOUTH ELEVATION

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"  
METERS 1:64



REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF THE ARCHITECT  
FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL RECORD  
MARCH 1908, P. 17

DESIGNED BY OSCAR L. GARCIA and TIMOTHY A. BURKER  
DRAWN BY ARCHITECTURE & ART  
ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE  
CONSULTING ARCHITECTS  
100 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

CAREY STREET

KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY

KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDING SURVEY  
SHEET 5 OF 12 SHEETS

TRIM LINE

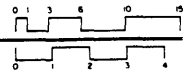
TRUE LINE



EAST ELEVATION

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"

METERS 1/64



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DRAWING BY ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS  
KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA  
DATE OF DRAWING: 11/20/20

DESIGNED BY OSCAR L. GARCIA AND TIMOTHY A. SIEWNER  
DRAWING BY ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS  
KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA  
DATE OF DRAWING: 11/20/20

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY

CAREY STREET

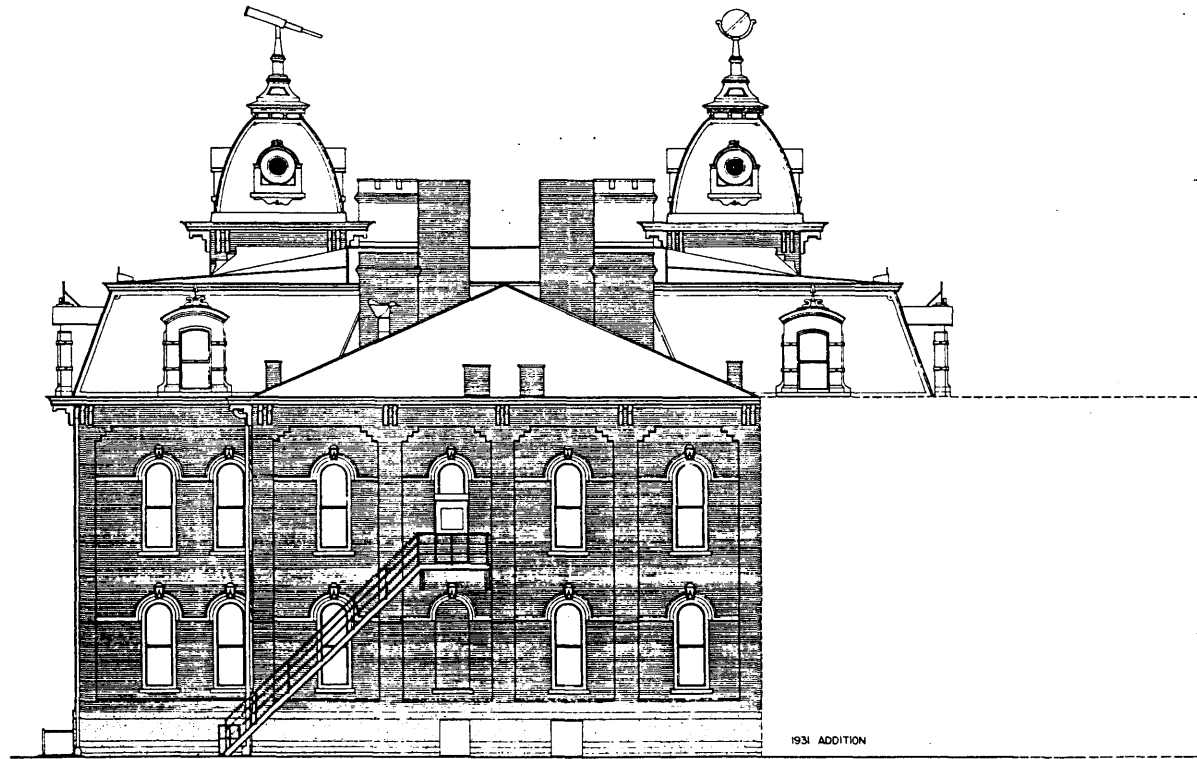
KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
ARCHITECTURE  
SERIES 7 OF 12 SHEETS

TRUE LINE

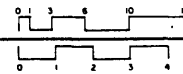


TRIM LINE



NORTH ELEVATION

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"  
METERS 1/64



OSCAR L. GARCIA and TIMOTHY A. BEHNER  
 ARCHITECTS  
 COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA  
 100 UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
 BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47409-1320  
 PHONE: 317/335-3200 FAX: 317/335-3201

CAREY STREET

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY

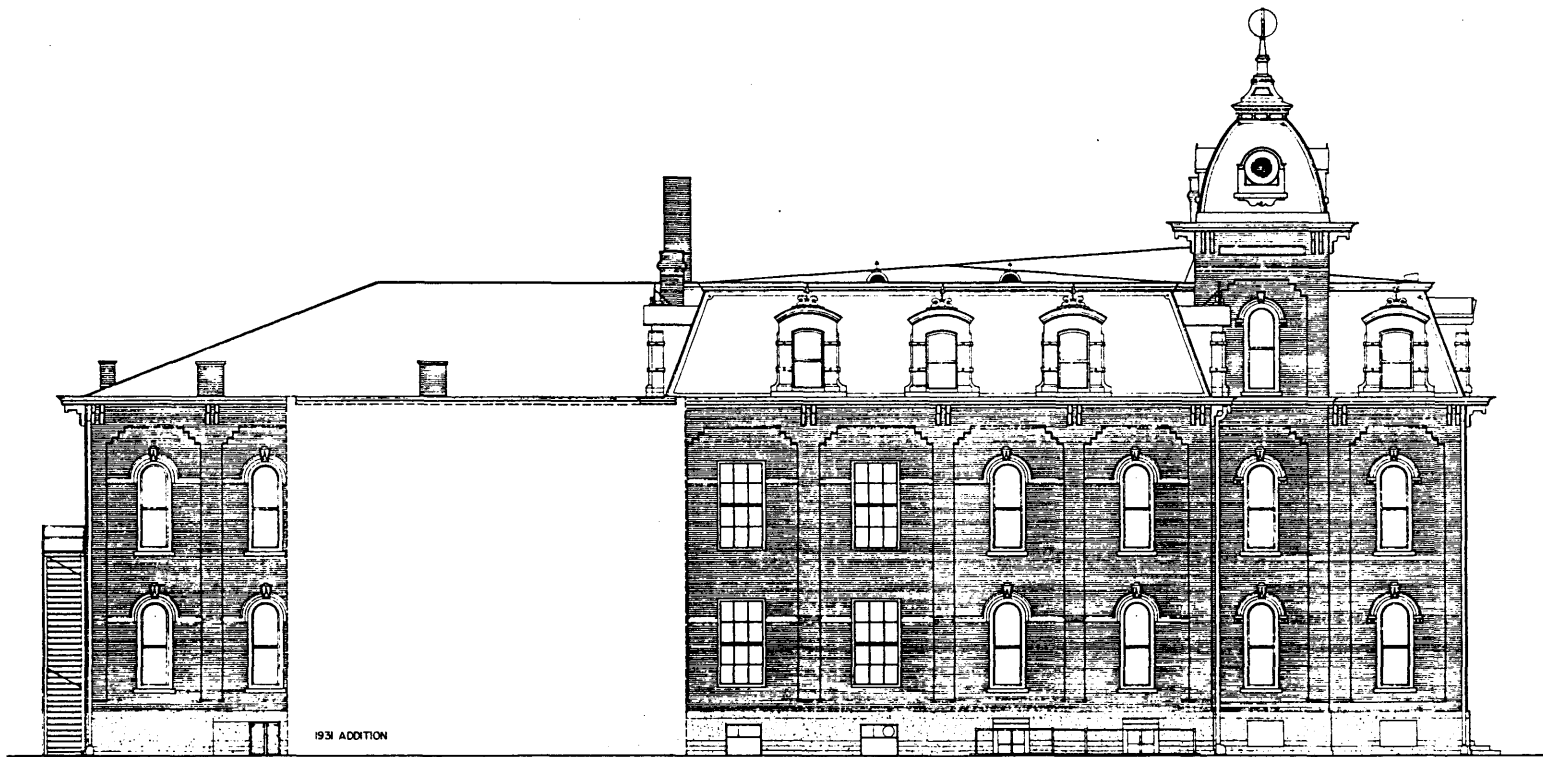
PROJECT NO  
KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 8 of 12 SHEETS

OSCAR L. GARCIA and TIMOTHY A. BEHNER  
 ARCHITECTS  
 COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA  
 100 UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
 BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47409-1320  
 PHONE: 317/335-3200 FAX: 317/335-3201

TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE



WEST ELEVATION

FEET 3/16" = 1'-0"

METERS 1:64



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MAY 1914 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
PROJECT NUMBER 1028

DRAWN BY OSCAR I. GARCIA and TIMOTHY A. BEHNER  
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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
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CAREY STREET

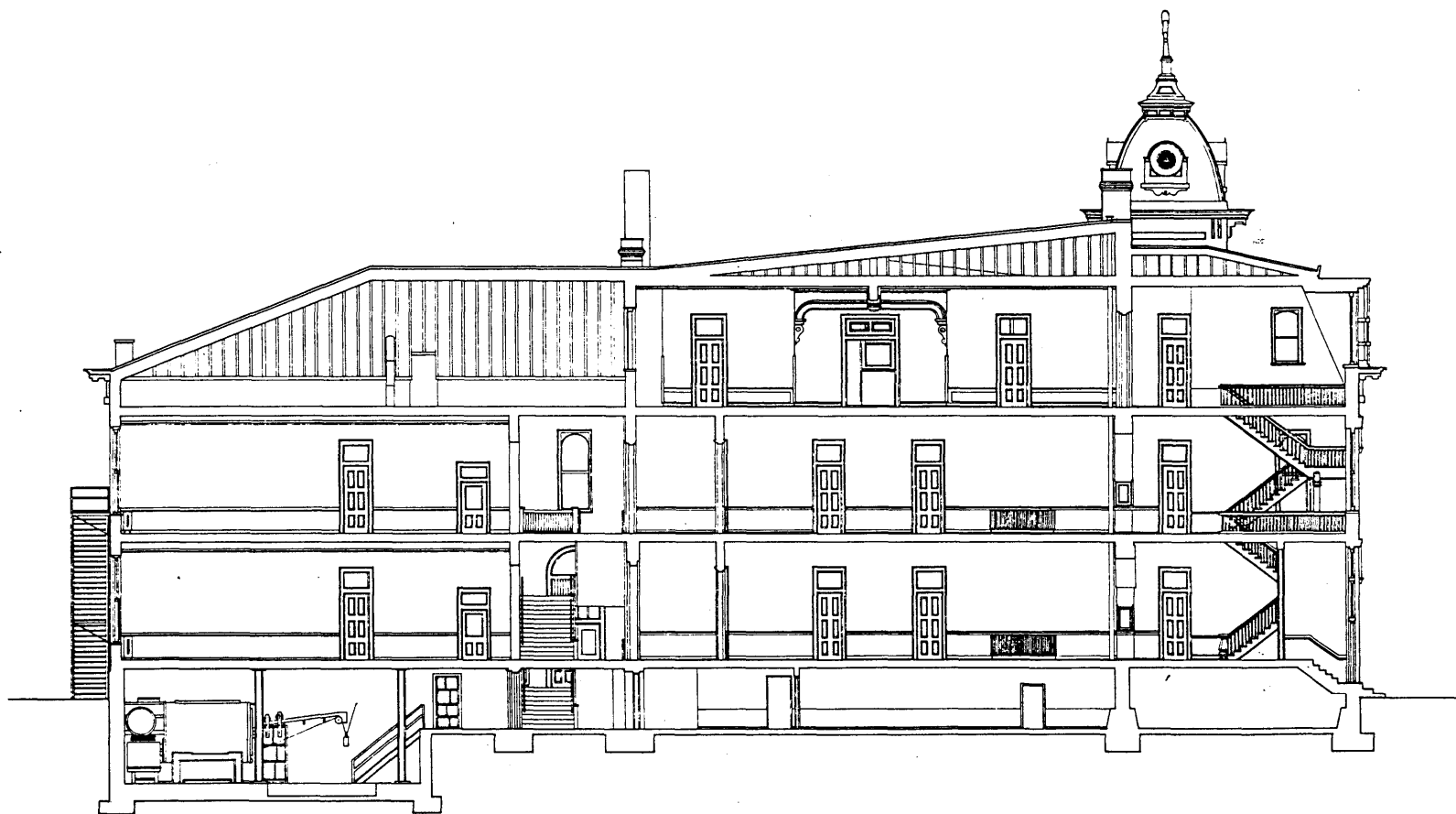
KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY

KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 9 of 12 SHEETS

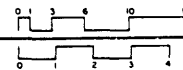
PROJECT NO.

TRIM LINE



BUILDING SECTION

FEET 3/16"=1'-0"  
METERS 1:64



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 COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING  
 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
 400 TAPSCOTT DRIVE  
 ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48106-1300

CAREY STREET

KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY

KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
PHOT. 10-12-17

100-100

100-100

100-100

100-100

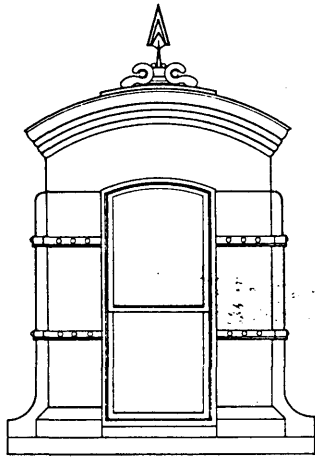
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100-100

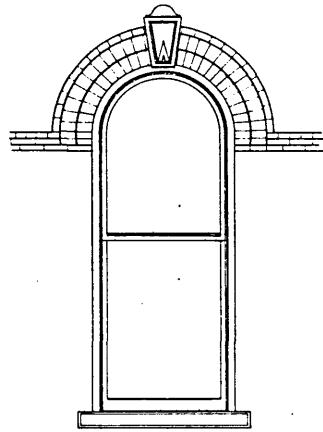
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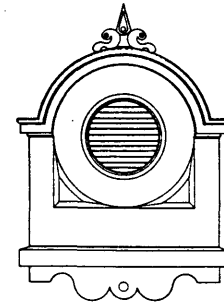
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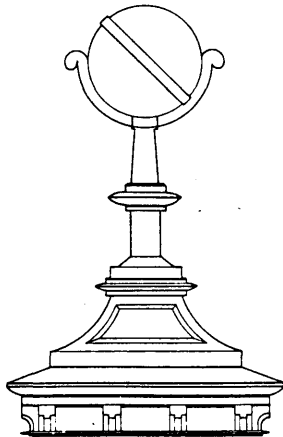
DORMER WINDOW



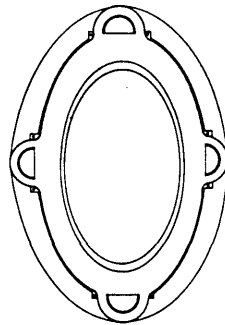
TYPICAL WINDOW



TOWER VENT

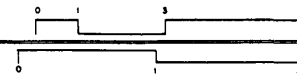


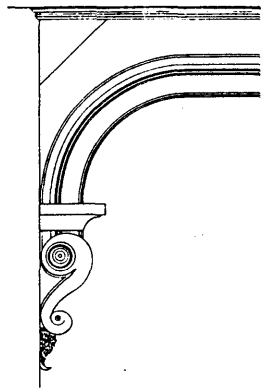
TOWER ORNAMENT



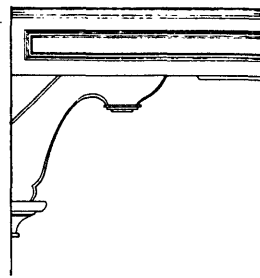
OVAL WINDOW

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METERS 1:16

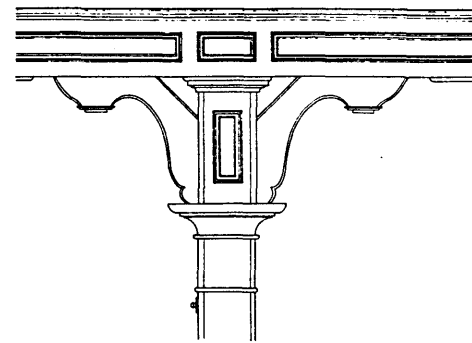




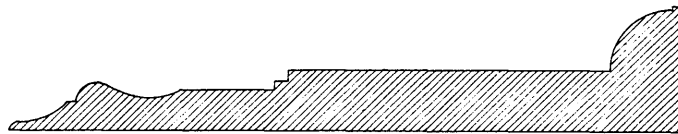
BEAM SUPPORT



WALL CAPITOL

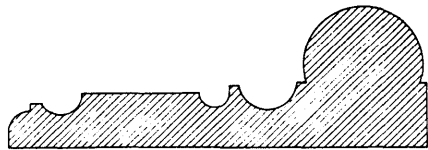


TYPICAL COLUMN CAPITOL



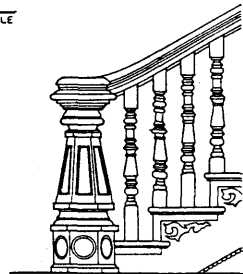
BASEBOARD PROFILE

FULL SCALE

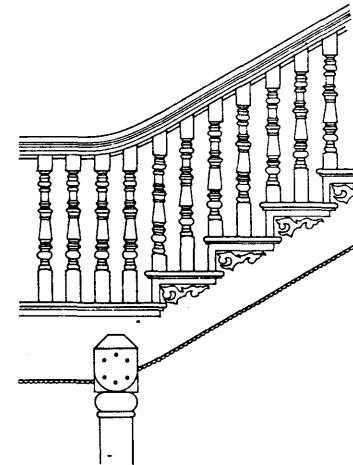


TYPICAL MOULDING PROFILE

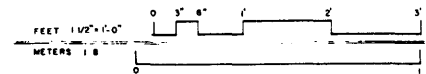
FULL SCALE



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