

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 23 1983
DATE ENTERED

**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
LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
31 ~~South~~ Main Street n/a NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Yerington VICINITY OF n/a CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2
STATE Nevada CODE 32 COUNTY Lyon CODE 019

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | n/a IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" 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 LYON COUNTY, NEVADA c/o Board of Lyon County Commissioners
STREET & NUMBER 31 South Main Street
CITY, TOWN Yerington VICINITY OF n/a STATE Nevada 89477

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lyon County Recorder's Office (Courthouse)
STREET & NUMBER 31 South Main Street
CITY, TOWN Yerington STATE Nevada 89447

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE none existing
DATE
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

| 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 Lyon County Courthouse, located in the city of Yerington, was erected between 1911 and 1912. Designed by Nevada's premier architect, Frederick DeLongchamps, the building is one of the number of Beaux-Arts-inspired courthouses that were erected in Nevada counties by the architect before WWI. Located in a park-like setting, the building retains a high degree of integrity.

The Lyon County Courthouse sits on approximately 1.4 acres of County owned property located in Section 15 of Township 13 North, Range 25 East, M.D.B.&M. The structure fronts the Main Street of Yerington which orientates it toward the east. The surrounding neighborhood is composed of both residential and commercial establishments.

Originally built by Reno contractor Ward Bros. & Calder, for \$35,000.00, the three story, 90 foot by 80 foot structure contains approximately 18,000 square feet of office space. Structurally, the Lyon County Courthouse represents Yerington's tallest reinforced concrete and brick structure. The concrete foundation supports a brick walled exterior skin which runs continuously from the foundation to the top of the building, creating a parapet wall above the ornamental eave line. Columns, window and door surrounds are in terra cotta. The entablature is wooden and the cornice is pressed tin.

The exterior organization reflects the bilateral symmetry typical of the genre of Classically-inspired public buildings. The buildings' relatively diminutive size is disguised by a skillful use of textured surfaces and over-scaled ornamental details.

The original interior organization, apart from the formal entrance/stair/hallway configuration, reflects a functional approach to spatial needs.

In 1936, the existing west half of the building was added at a cost of \$40,000. Since its opening in 1912, the building has been used to house the numerous offices and personnel associated with both County and State government.

All interior finishes and alterations are either original or match existing finishes. The finishes include ceramic tiled flooring, marble wainscoating, oak trim, plastered walls and ceilings, and marble thresholds at door openings.

| 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" 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 | Begin - April 15, 1911 Complete - September 1912 | BUILDER/ARCHITECT | Architect F. J. DeLongchamps Contractor Ward Bros & Calder |
|----------------|---|-------------------|---|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lyon County Courthouse is significant to the city of Yerington and Lyon County as a symbol of the settling of a dispute between the northern and southern parts of the county for the privilege of housing the county seat. In addition, it is an example of the sophisticated, Beaux-Arts-inspired architecture that Frederick J. DeLongchamps designed throughout the State. We believe that it is eligible under criteria C.

Like similar situations that occurred in large Nevada counties with sparse populations and few large towns, disputes often arose regarding the placement of the county seat. Competition for this privilege was fierce as the outcome often ensured the survival and growth of the winner, while the losers' prospects were markedly decreased. In 1910, the Lyon County seat was located in Dayton, near to the dwindling Comstock Lode. The combination of that economic decline, plus a fire which destroyed the existing courthouse, led to the competition for the seat by the citizens of Yerington, located to the south. The expansion of mining in Mason Valley was the deciding factor and the subject courthouse was erected the following year in Yerington.

It was designed by Frederick J. DeLongchamps, considered the state's premier architect. Educated in local schools, DeLongchamps apprenticed in architectural firms in California before opening an architectural practice in Reno in 1907. DeLongchamps, one of the first licensed architects in California and Nevada, secured his first large commission, that of designing the Washoe County Courthouse, in 1910. The success of this project resulted in contracts for numerous public buildings around the state and in northern California, one of which was the Lyon County Courthouse.

DeLongchamps also designed the Nevada Buildings at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco and was designated as Supervising Architect to the State of Nevada in 1919. In this position he was responsible for designing many of the state's public buildings. No other architect has had such an effect on the contemporary built environment in Nevada. DeLongchamps continued actively contributing to his profession into his eighties. Much honored during his life, he died in 1969 at the age of eight-seven.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Mason Valley News Paper

Geier, Corry L. Frederick J. DeLongchamps, Reno's Architect unpublished paper, 1981

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.25 acre

Yerington Quad, 15 minute

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|
| A | 1,1 | 3,1,2,6,7,5 | 4,3,1,7,2,7,5 |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located in Section 15, T13N, R25E., MDB&M, City of Yerington, Lyon County, Nevada, Block 191, Lot 6. Beginning at the southeastern corner of Lot 6, Block 191, thence westerly 264' to the southwest corner of said Lot 6, thence northerly 206' to the northwest corner of Lot 6, thence easterly 264' to the northeast of Lot 6, thence southerly 206' to the P. O. B., are comprising approximately 1.25 acres.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| NONE | | | |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James M. Hamrick, Architectural

TOD CARLINI, Lyon County Public Works Department, Historian, Nevada SHPO

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Lyon County Public Works

6/24/82

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

31 South Main Street

(702)463-3341 Ext. 246

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Yerington

Nevada

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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

James M. Hamrick

TITLE

Alternate SHPO

DATE

17 February 1983

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

Alton Byers

Entered in the
National Register

DATE

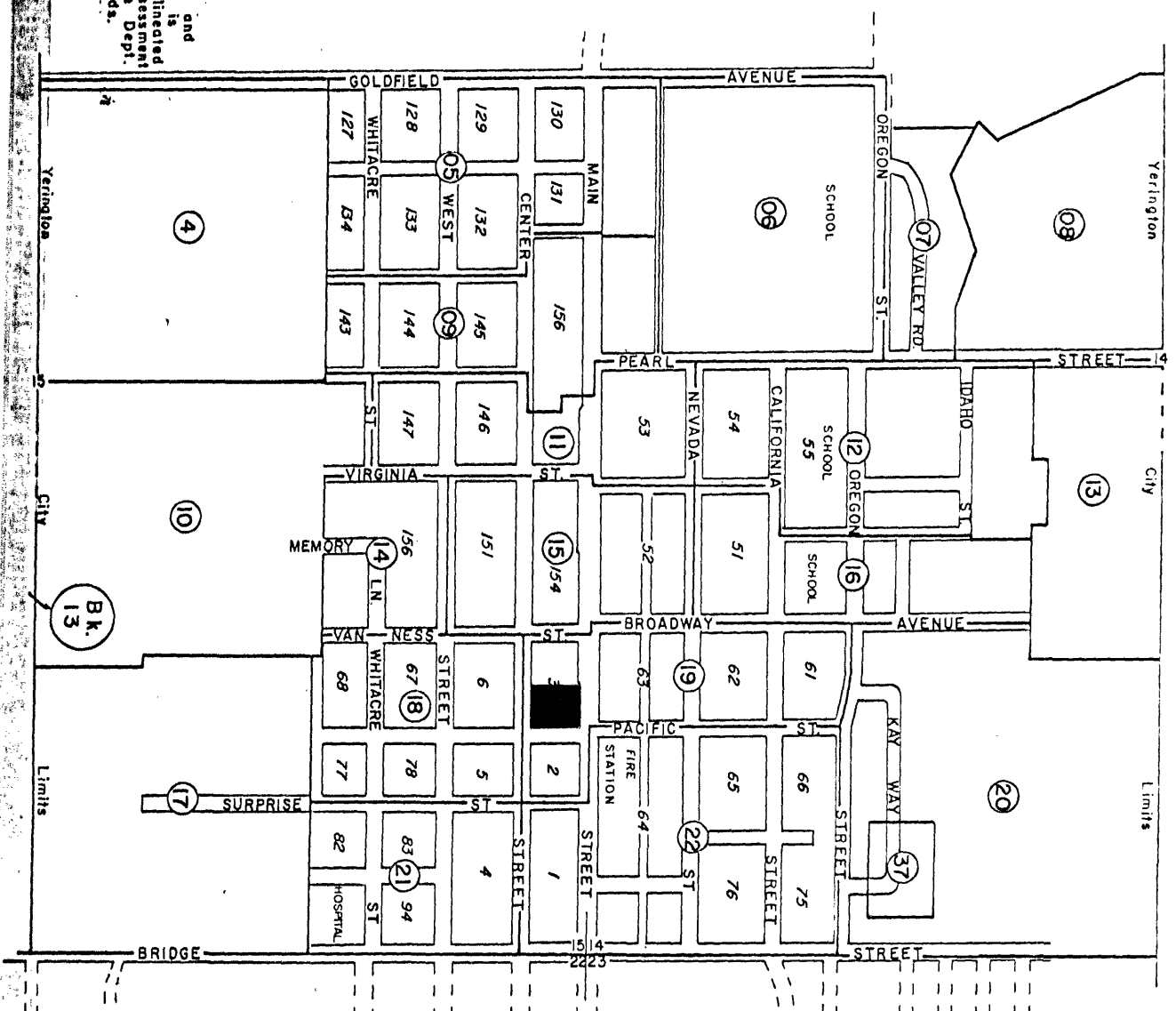
3/24/83

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Bk. 13

Por. Sec. 14 8 15, T13N, R25E, M.D.B. 3.M.

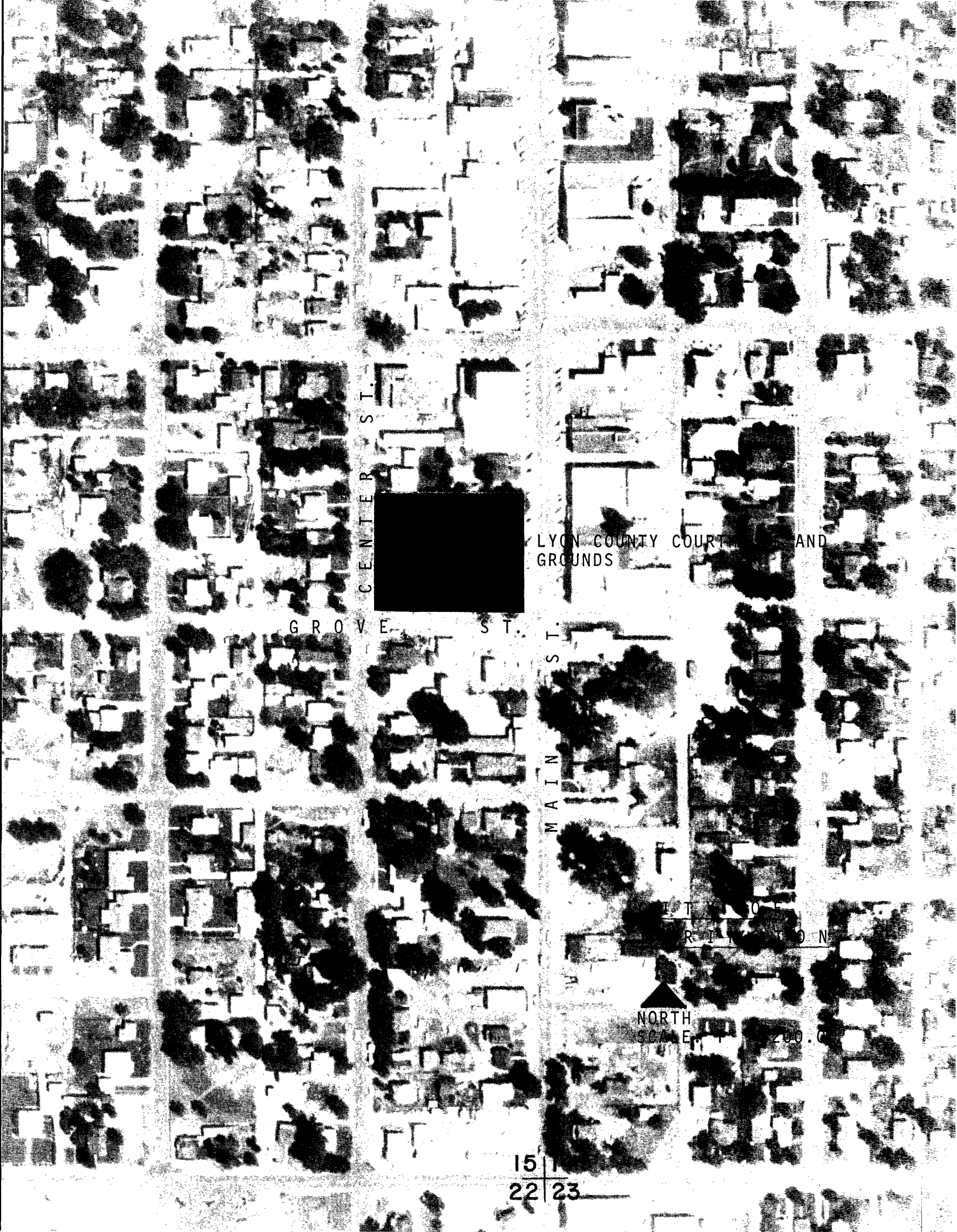
Book 01
INDEX MAP 2



This plat is for assessment use only and does not represent a survey. No liability is assumed as to the accuracy of the data delineated herein. Use of this plat for other than assessment purposes is forbidden unless approved by the Department, Division of Assessment Standards.

001/DOAS/JUNE 73/06

Yerington
LYON COUNTY



CENTER ST.

MAIN ST.

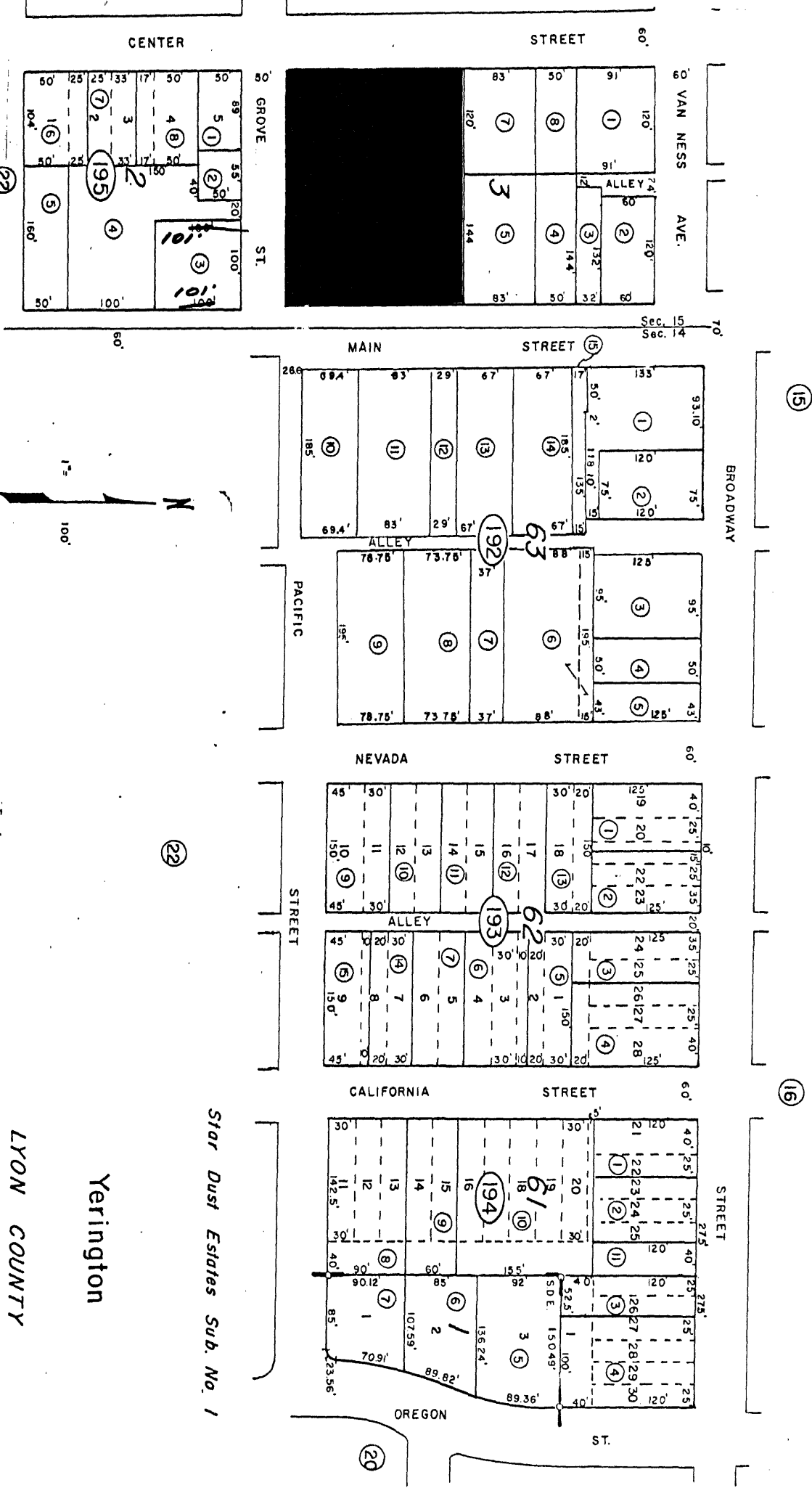
GROVE ST.

LYON COUNTY COURT AND GROUNDS

WEST 10 E
RIT 10 N

NORTH
SCALE 1" = 200.0'

15 |
22 | 23



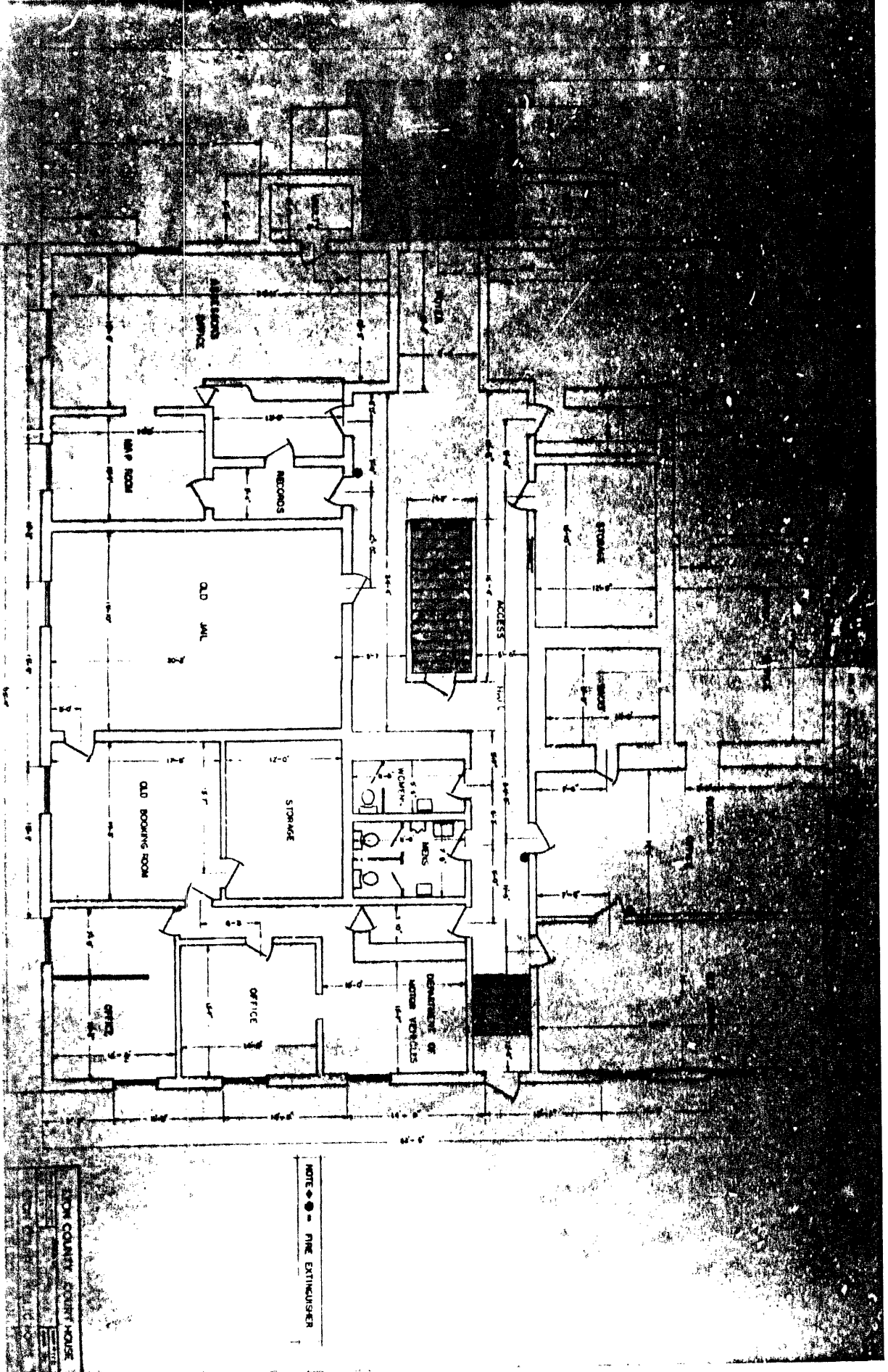
NOTE: This plat is for assessment use only and does not represent a survey. No liability is assumed as to the accuracy of the data delineated hereon. Use of this plat for other than assessment purposes is forbidden unless approved by the Dept. of Taxation, Division of Assessment Standards.

Yerington
LYON COUNTY

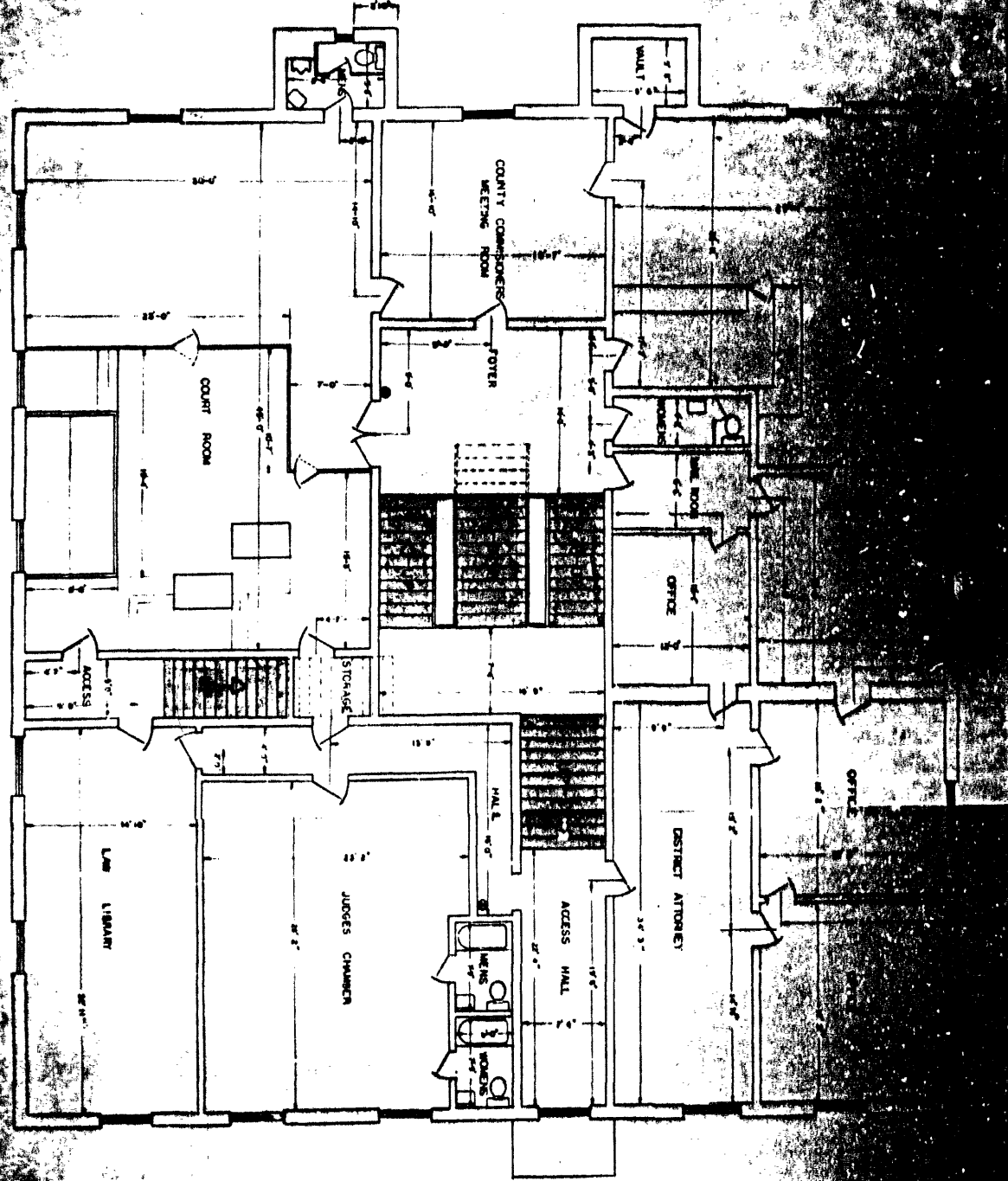
Star Dust Estates Sub. No. 1

DOT/DOAS/MAY 79/D6

LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - FIRST FLOOR



LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - SECOND FLOOR

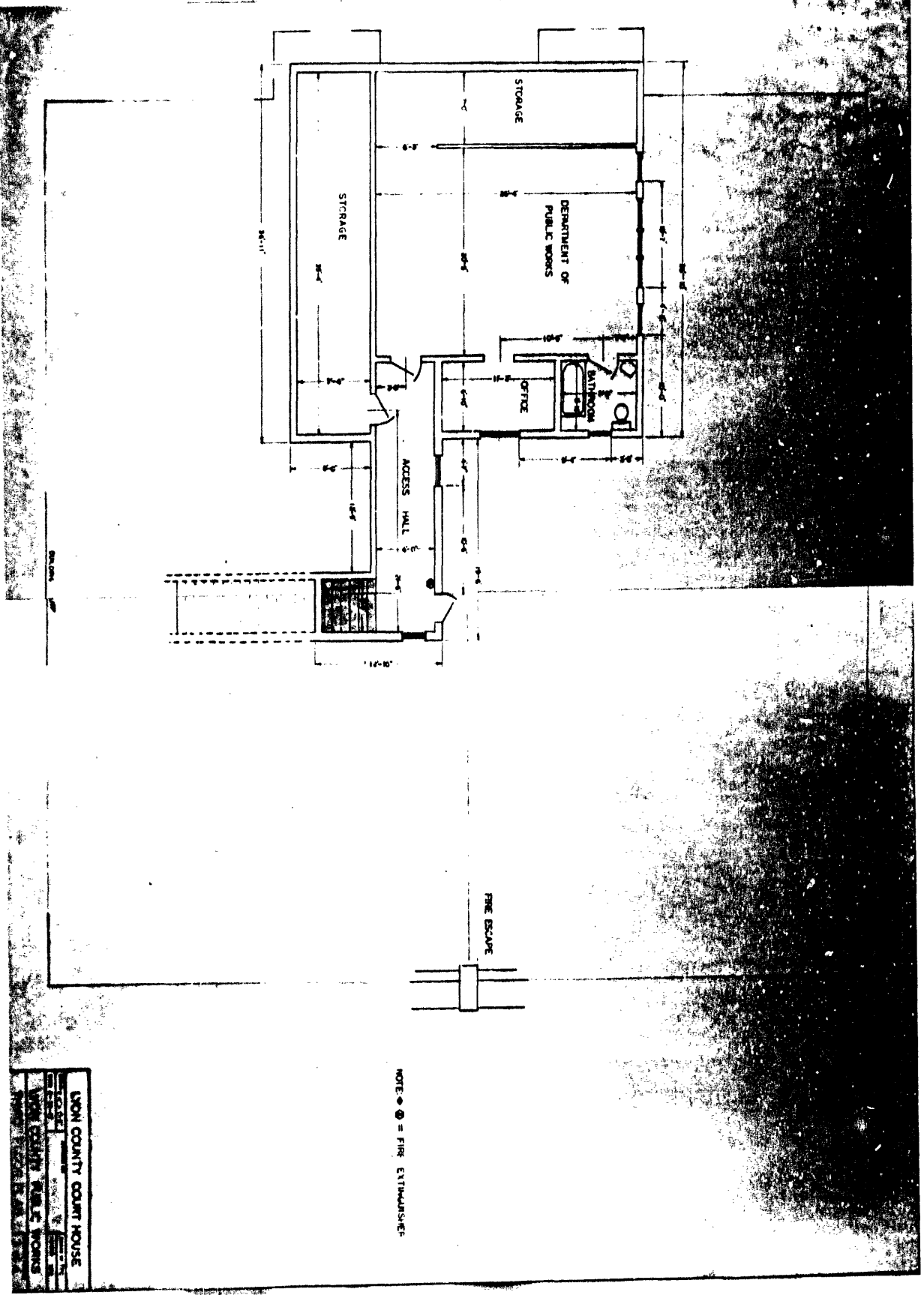


NOTE: ALL WINDOW POSITIONS ARE
 FROM THE FIRST
 FLOOR PLAN.
 ALL EXTERIOR DIMENSIONS
 ARE TYPICAL WITH FIRST
 FLOOR PLAN.
 ● - FIRE EXTINGUISHER

FIRE ESCAPE

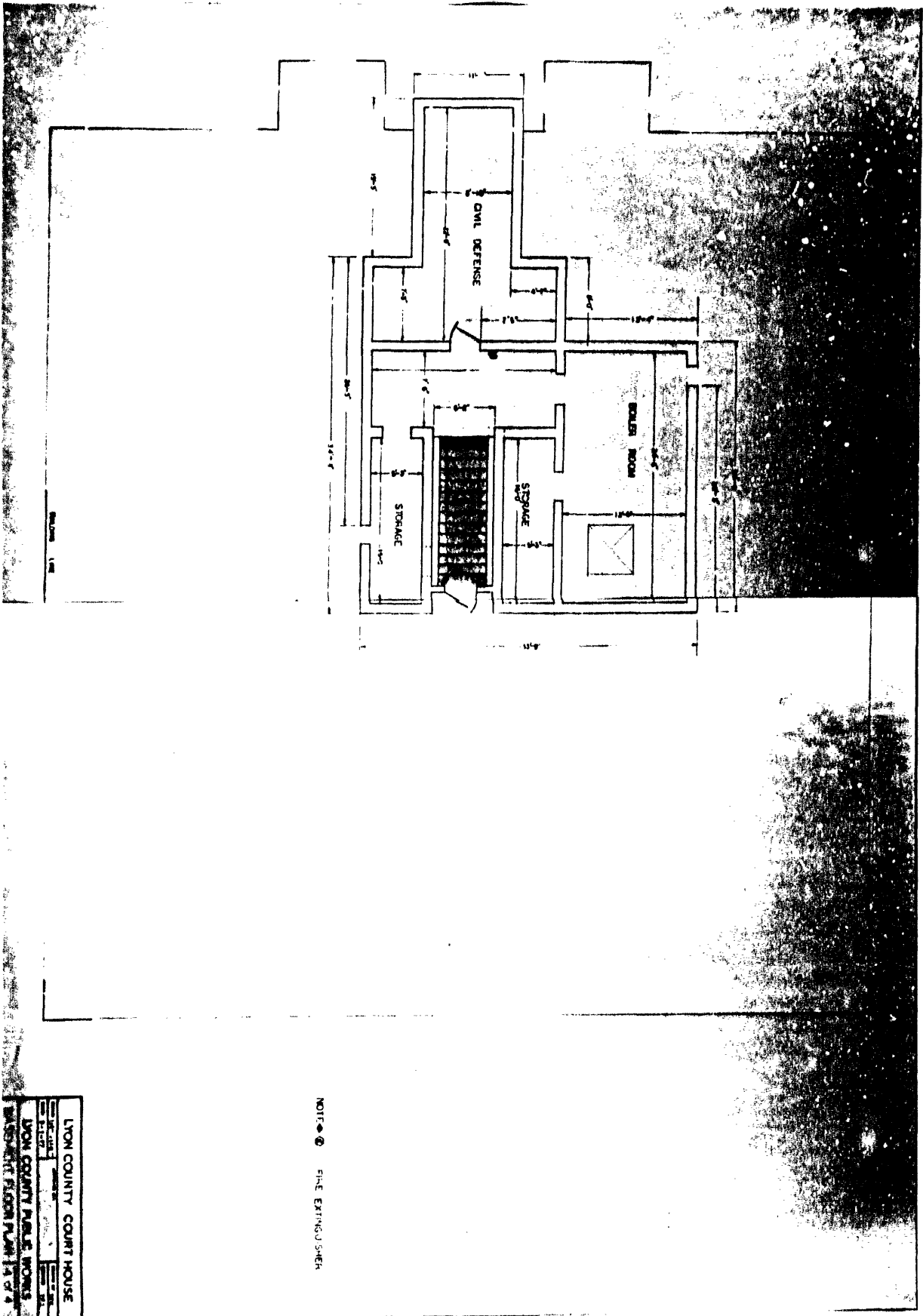
LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - THIRD FLOOR



NOTE: ● = FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| LYON COUNTY COURT HOUSE | |
| DATE | 12/15/77 |
| BY | J. L. B. |
| LYON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS | |
| NO. | 12/15/77 |



LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - BASEMENT

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| LYON COUNTY COURT HOUSE | |
| DATE | 1944 |
| BY | W. H. B. B. |
| LYON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS | |
| BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN 1A OF 4 | |

NOTE: ● FIRE EXTINGUISHER