

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 1 1978
JUN 22 1979
DATE ENTEREDNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

United States Post Office and Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

337 Broad Avenue

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Albany

VICINITY OF

2nd - Dawson Mathis

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Georgia

13

Dougherty

095

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

 DISTRICT PUBLIC OCCUPIED AGRICULTURE MUSEUM BUILDING(S) PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK STRUCTURE BOTH WORK IN PROGRESS EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC BEING CONSIDERED YES: UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION NO MILITARY OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

General Services Administration, c/o Michael F. Molloy, Historic Preservation Officer

STREET & NUMBER

Room #5312, 18th and F Streets, N.W.

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Washington, D. C.

VICINITY OF

20405

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dougherty County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

225 Pine Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Albany

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The United States Post Office and Courthouse, a rectangularly-shaped building with three stories and a basement, was constructed during the period 1910-1912 by Gude and Company of Atlanta under James Knox Taylor, supervising architect. The first floor, which included a public lobby, workrooms, postmaster's room, and miscellaneous supportive spaces, was designed for Post Office activities. Marshals' offices, district attorneys' offices, and witness and jury rooms were located on the second floor. The basement was designated for boiler room, maintenance, and storage activities.

Cut stone encloses the visible part of the basement which is four to five feet above ground. The brickwork, which is a buff-colored stretcher bond, forms four pilasters on each face of the building, with insert arches at each resulting bay. Each of the arches extends from the first floor level to just below the second floor level and is crowned with a keystone.

The windows of the first and mezzanine levels are contained within the arches. The twelve windows (approximately 4'8" x 7'6") on the south, east, and west sides of the building are double hung with plain pediments and stone pilasters. On the north side there are three large arched windows (approximately 8' x 13') with fanned lights over fixed glass lights. Immediately underneath each of the three, arched fanlight windows are three small double-hung windows. On the mezzanine level, the windows are double-hung (approximately 4' x 5'6") with flat arches at the lintels. Stone trim surrounds all the windows.

Above the arches, a stone cornice with a dentil band extends along the perimeter of the building. Above the cornice, the pilasters become smaller and more numerous, terminating with stone capitals at the stone frieze. Closely spaced brackets at the eaves appear to support the hipped clay tile roof.

The fifteen windows on the north, east, and west sides of the second floor have double-hung sash (approximately 4'6"x7') with stone surrounds. On the south side of the building, three of the windows are double-hung (approximately 8' x 10') and trimmed with stone. The dormer windows are small arches with fixed glass and keystone decoration.

The two front entrances have stoops of cut stone, with post-mounted dome lanterns at each side. The doors have stone entablatures and pilasters.

The building has a brick chimney with is located in the northeast corner. On the interior, the original floors of terrazzo on the first level, and wood on the mezzanine and second levels, have been covered with either vinyl or carpet; all other finishes are practically undisturbed. Handsome cast plaster ceilings in the Post Office lobby and Federal Courtroom are in excellent condition. The plaster walls have very few cracks or faults, and the oak windows, door trimming, doors, wainscoting and paneling have been beautifully maintained. Some of the storage and filing cabinets, desks, chairs, and tables are of oak also, and were used in the early days of the building.

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An addition constructed on the north side of the building in 1932 causes minimal disturbance of the original lines of the structure.

The United States Postal Service has planned modifications to the site, prior to its transfer to the General Services Administration. These include certain design modifications to be made on the first floor, among these being a slight alteration of the existing window bay where the new entrance and loading dock is planned, and the installation of a new Dutch door in the lobby. After evaluation of the proposed modifications, the Historic Preservation Section determined that these plans will have no effect on those characteristics which qualify it as eligible for listing on the National Register.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James Knox Taylor

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The United States Post Office and Courthouse has served as the major station for mail in Dougherty County since its completion in 1912. From the first part of the twentieth century, the Post Office building in Albany has been a representation of the Federal government's prestige and authority.

The land on which the building stands served as the circus grounds from 1867 until 1876 when it was bought by the Albany Hebrew Congregation. J. M. Criggs, a second district congressman from 1897 to 1910, was considered instrumental in obtaining appropriations for the building of the Post Office. A plaque commemorating his service to the district is still displayed on the first floor.

Construction of the Post Office began in 1910 and was completed in 1912. At that time, Nellie Brimberry was serving as Postmistress. Upon the death of her husband in January 1910, and her appointment by President Taft, Mrs. Brimberry became the first woman Postmistress of a major American Post Office. In 1911, she inaugurated the first Airmail flight and struck the first Airmail stamp, which preceded the first transcontinental Airmail flight by nine years. Mrs. Brimberry won acclaim in the southwestern part of Georgia when she secured for the pecan growers the privilege of sealing their product in packages so as to be dispatched by mail. This privilege was a great boom to the young pecan industry and brought national attention to one of the least-known products of the South.

Since its opening on February 24, 1912, the Post Office has been a symbol of the Federal government to the citizens of Albany. During the building's existence, the county has elected thirteen Presidents, with the latest coming from only forty miles away. The building has served the people of Albany and Dougherty County during two World Wars and two "police actions," as well as seen the passage of the nineteenth amendment providing women's suffrage.

The building became the seat of the Federal Court in 1923. Through wars, depression, segregation, integration, and prohibition, the building has brought authority and the influence of the Federal government to the people of Albany and Dougherty County.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dougherty County Deed Books 5 and 16
 Oral History, H. B. Brimberry
 Georgia Press Reference Association, 1927, "Nellie Brimberry" (Women of Georgia)
Albany Herald, February 21, 1966

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Albany West

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 769950 3496900

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

In a deed of May 7, 1907, Morris Weslosky sold to the United States of America the property now occupied by the Albany Post Office and Courthouse. The boundaries were described as follows: "Said tract of land lying and being in Albany."

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 Ms. Deni Lamb, Intern, Historic Preservation Section; and
Thronateeska Heritage Foundation, Inc., Albany, Georgia

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation Section

May 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

270 Washington Street, S. W.

(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

Georgia 30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Elizabeth A. Lyon

TITLE Elizabeth A. Lyon
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10/13/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles A. ...
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 6-22-79

ATTEST: *Ann A. ...*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 6/21/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The United States Post Office and Courthouse in Albany also possesses architectural distinction. The building was designed by James Knox Taylor (1857-1929), Supervising Architect for the United States Treasury between 1897 and 1912; it may have been one of the last government buildings designed by Knox before his retirement from public service in 1912. The building is an effective adaptation of the Second Renaissance Revival style. Building materials and design details, both interior and exterior, are characteristic period pieces, as are, in a sense, the construction techniques (well documented by local historical society photographs) and workmanship.

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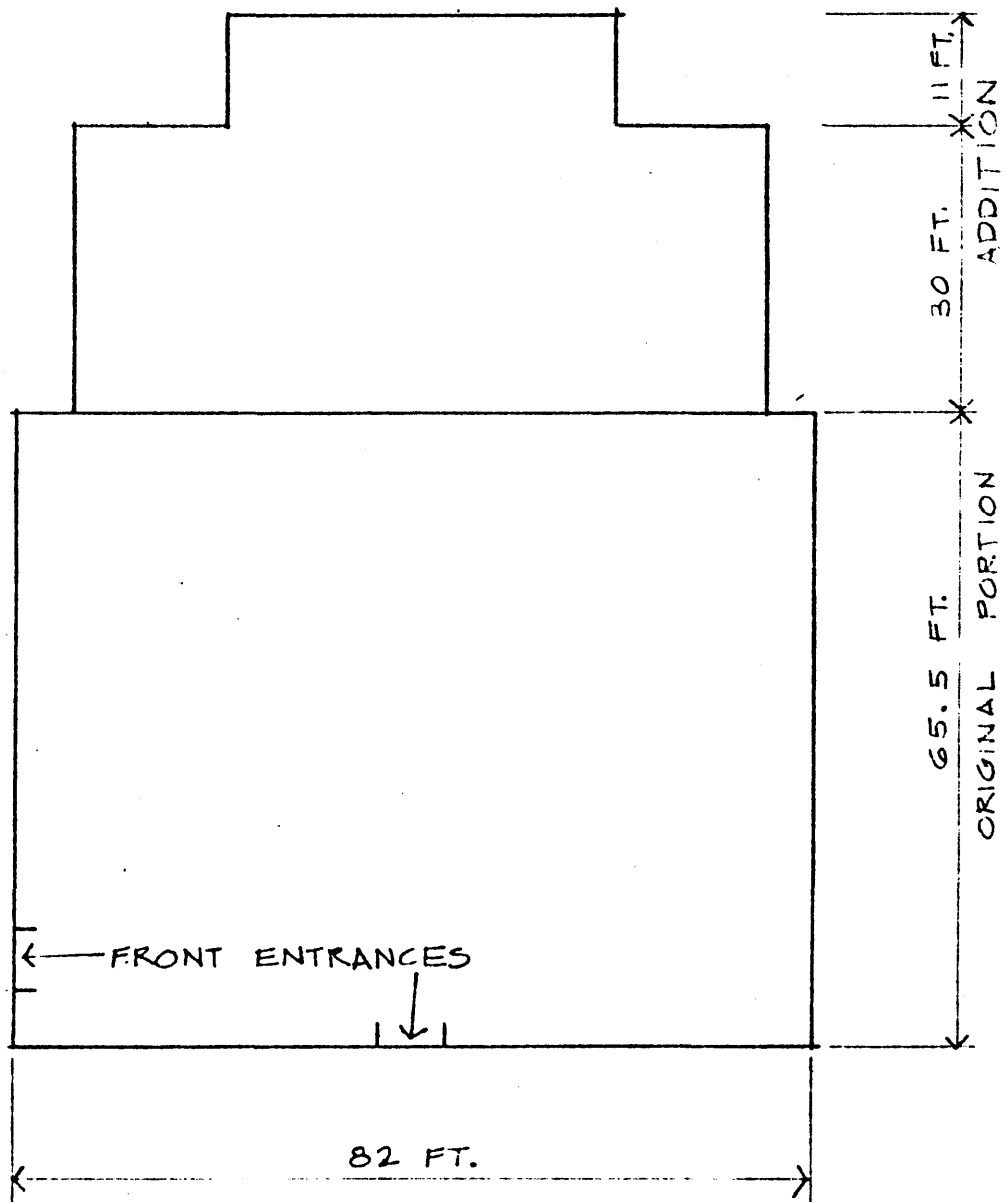
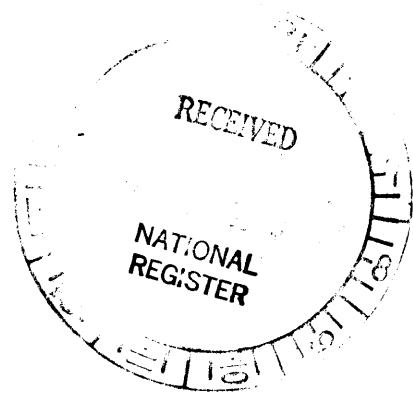
Verbal Boundary Description: (continued)

Georgia, fronting two hundred and ten (210) feet on the North Side of Broad Street, and extending northwardly, of that width, along the East Side of Jefferson Street, two hundred and ten (210) feet to the alley bounding said site on the north."

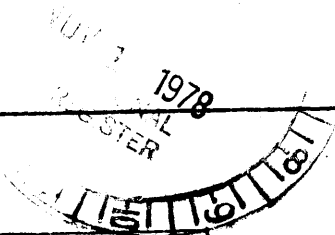
United States Post Office and Courthouse
Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia

For a structural nomination:

Sketch plan of structure:

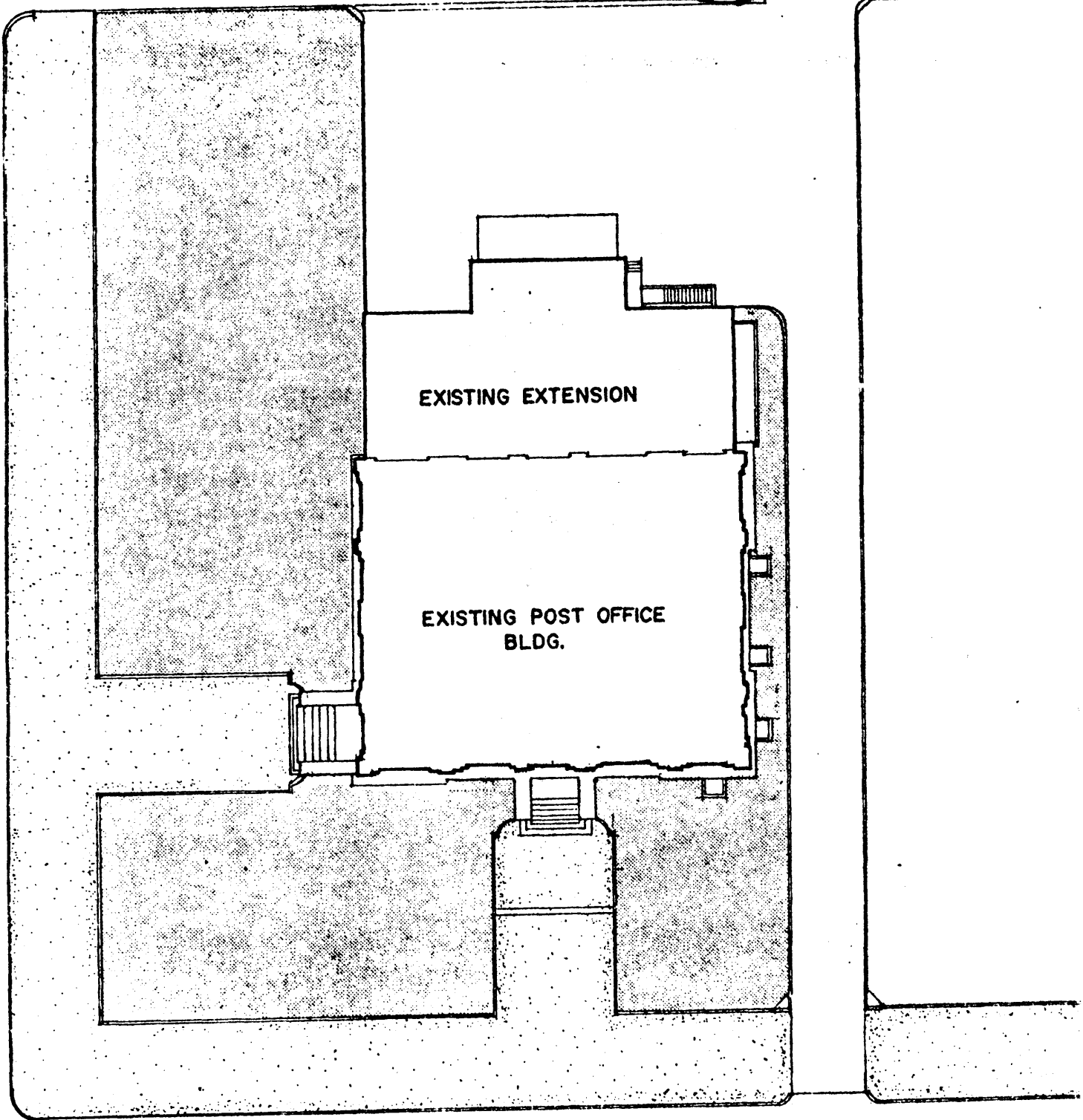


United States Post Office and Courthouse
Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia.



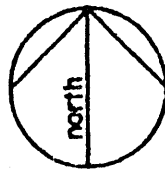
EXISTING ALLEY

JEFFERSON ST.



BROAD AVE.

ENCLOSURE 2B



APPROACH PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 30' - 0"