

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: <u>89000931</u>	Date Listed: <u>7/26/89</u>	
<u>Meridian Waterwks. Pumping Sta. et al</u>	<u>Lauderdale</u>	<u>MS</u>
<u>Property Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Amy Schlager
Signature of the Keeper

7/26/89
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The area of significance, "Community Development," should be added to correlate with Criterion A.

Discussed and concurred in by the Mississippi SHPO on June 26, 1989.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JUN 15 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name MERIDIAN WATERWORKS PUMPING STATION AND CLEAR WATER BASIN

other names/site number
MERIDIAN FRESHWATER TREATMENT PLANT PUMPING STATION AND CLEAR WATER BASIN

2. Location

street & number "B" STREET AND 17TH AVENUE N/A not for publication

city, town MERIDIAN N/A vicinity

state MISSISSIPPI code MS county LAUDERDALE code _____ zip code 39301

3. Classification

<p>Ownership of Property</p> <input type="checkbox"/> private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local <input type="checkbox"/> public-State <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<p>Category of Property</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	<p>Number of Resources within Property</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Contributing</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Noncontributing</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>5</u> buildings</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>2</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ objects</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>3</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>5</u> Total</td> </tr> </table>	Contributing	Noncontributing	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u> buildings	<u>2</u>	_____ sites	_____	_____ structures	_____	_____ objects	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u> Total
Contributing	Noncontributing													
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u> buildings													
<u>2</u>	_____ sites													
_____	_____ structures													
_____	_____ objects													
<u>3</u>	<u>5</u> Total													

Name of related multiple property listing:
MERIDIAN MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool June 9, 1989

Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Amy Schaefer 7/26/89

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 the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 INDUSTRY: WATERWORKS

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 INDUSTRY/EXTRACTION
 WATERWORKS/BASIN

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
 COLONIAL REVIVAL

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation (PUMPING STATION) CONCRETE
 walls BRICK AND STUCCO
 (BASIN) CONCRETE, WOOD
 roof (PUMPING STATION) TAR
 other (BASIN) ASPHALT

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Meridian Freshwater Treatment Plant Pumping Station and Clear Water Basin are located about one-half mile east of the Central Business District between the Mid-South Railroad, 17th Avenue and B Street (Photo 1).

The Pumping Station was built in 1887 as part of the Meridian Water Works Company. The building is brick covered with stucco and scored. The north facade entrance has a tin triangular pediment with decorative tin brackets. Four windows on the north facade have brackets and pediments identical to the entrance. The center of the north facade above the entrance is a palladian shaped, recessed sign with letters in concrete stating "1887 Meridian Water Works" (Photo 2). On the northwest corner of the north facade are two windows with round-arched lintels with elliptical fanlights, paired two-over-two double-hung sashes, wooden mullions and stucco sills. The center section of the north facade has pilasters capped with tin pediments. Three-fourth pilasters and a section of the northeast facade have a tin curbing with decorative brackets. The center masonry pediment is corniced and capped with tin.

The west facade has four pilasters with capitals and cornice extending the width of the building. Two windows have round-arched-lintels with elliptical fanlights, paired two-over-two double-hung sashes, wooden mullions and stucco sills. Two entrances have semi-circular door surrounds with keystones. The original double doors had single panes of glass with elliptical fanlights. Today the entrances have been changed to metal overhead doors. The fanlights have been removed and replaced with wood outside and stucco on the inside of the building (Photo 3).

The south facade has five windows identical to the windows on the north and west facades. One of the five windows has been enclosed with wood (Photo 4). The southwest corner has an entrance with a semi-circular surround, three stationary windows and a door with one-lite. There are four stationary windows on the top section of the south facade with three-lites. The south facade includes four windows that are segmental-arched and covered with wood. There are three entrance doors, two flush

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and one over-head track.

The Pumping Station has had three smoke stacks located south of the building. Two have been demolished and the 1924 stack is still standing. The stack is reinforced concrete with a concrete foundation and measures 146.50 feet in height. The smoke stack plans, drawings and specifications were designed by J. N. Chester Engineers of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The stack was built by the Weber Chimney Company of Chicago, Illinois.

The east facade has two double-width windows and one single-width window that are segmental-arched and covered with wood. Three top sections of pilasters are left on the upper section of the facade. There are decorative bands of masonry work on top of the facade. The northeastern corner has a section of tin curbing with one decorative bracket (Photo 5).

The original floor plan of the building had three sections built with steel trusses, concrete and steel flooring. The center section was the boiler room (Photo 6). The West section was the pump room housing the Worthington Compound Duplex F. P. Capacity 1 1/2 million gallon steam pump and a Gordon Compound Duplex F. P. Capacity three million gallon steam pump. Between 1898 and 1899 a Dean Compound Duplex F. P. Capacity 2 1/2 million steam pump was added. The three pumps worked jointly or singly. The pumps had the capacity to force 6,500,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours. A third boiler was added at the same time.

The Eastern section was the coal house and storage. By 1912 the coal house had been changed to include the machine shop. In 1951, when the City discontinued the use of steam pumps the machine shop was moved to the boiler room. The coal storage became office space.

In 1924, an addition was added to the Pumping Station on the north facade. This addition was built for a one crank and fly wheel, cross compound, five million gallon steam pump. The pump was built by Murray Iron Works of Burlington, Iowa. The addition was designed by Burt Stuart, Architect and constructed by R. D. McArthur. The addition is stucco with horizontal grooves and a flat roof. The windows are casement having multi-panes. Today the addition is used for the three cylinder, Worthington Internal Combustion engine which runs at 260 house power at 320 RM. The natural gas pump replaced the steam in the 1940's (Photo 7).

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When the City discontinued the use of steam in 1951, a 4 cylinder gas pump was added with two electrical centrifugal horizontal split case pumps. The gas pumps were discontinued in 1982 for the 4 cylinder and 1983 for the 3 cylinder. Today the City uses the two 250 horse power electric pumps and a 400 horse power electric pump, installed in 1983 (Photo 8 & 9).

The Clear Water Basin was built in 1887. Originally the basin was nine feet deep, with the capacity to hold one million gallons of water and 150 feet in diameter. The basin was deepened to twelve feet ca. 1898. In 1906, an oval multi-side covering was placed over the basin. The covering is supported by steel structuring in concrete piers. The flooring and sides are covered with concrete. On the top of the basin covering is a rectangular air vent with a low-pitched, hipped roof. The siding on the air vent was replaced in 1985. The East side of the basin is the entrance built of lap siding with a gable roof (Photo 10). From the inside of the entrance to the center of the basin is a wooden cat walk.

Included on the property of the Meridian Freshwater Treatment Plant is a filtering plant and wells built in 1951. These buildings are located in the southwest section of the property. The City has built storage buildings also located on the property. The above mentioned buildings have no adverse effect on the Clear Water Basin or Pumping Station. They are not physically connected to the Basin or Pumping Station except underground pipes from the filtering plant to the Basin.

On the north facade of the Pumping Station is a tin shed that is connected to the 1887 facade and 1924 addition. The City has plans to remove this shed during renovations to the Pumping Station.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ENGINEERING

ARCHITECTURE

1887, 1924

1887, 1924

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person N/A

Architect/Builder
1887 - AMERICAN WATERWORKS & GUARANTY CO.
1924 - STUART, BURT ARCHITECT.
- MCARTHUR, R. D., BUILDER

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Meridian Water Works Pumping Station and Clear Water Basin derive their significance by providing examples of the development of municipal water works systems at the turn of the Twentieth Century the present. The Pumping Station's structure and machinery illustrate the development of technology and engineering of municipal waterworks. The Clear Water Basin was designed in 1887 to hold the filtered water before pumping and is still in use for that purpose.

In 1886 Meridian was experiencing rapid growth and development. Meridian, like many cities, wanted to provide a better public water system that could offer dependable fire protection, pure water for public health and have the capacity to expand as the city grew. The Boards of Aldermen and Councilmen appointed a committee to look into the possibilities of a public water system. The committee took bids from several companies and "after a thorough examination of all other system of water works, the American Water Works and Guarantee Company Limited was adopted as being the best adapted to the needs of the City, and named the Meridian Water Works."¹

The City signed a contract with William S. Kuhn on July 20, 1886. The contract gave Kuhn and AWWG the authorization to construct and own a water works in Meridian. The contract required the company to erect and maintain settling basins, filtering galleries, reservoirs, water towers, pump houses, buildings, engines, machinery and other appliances. The pump house was to be "fire-proof and of handsome architectural design, of ample size, conventionally arranged for the holding and operating of necessary pumps and machinery."² The fire-alarm was to be electric and connected to City Hall and police stations. The Pumping Station was also required to have a telephone connected

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with the telephone exchange. The Pumping Station was to have two separate pumps with suitable boiler and attachments. The pumps were arranged to work singly or together. The original two pumps were a Worthington compound and a Gordon compound.

The contract with Kuhn and the franchisee was to be in effect for a period of twenty-five years. A clause in the contract reserved the right for the City to acquire the water works system at the end of ten years. If the City chose not to buy at the end of that period, they could buy at the intervals of five years thereafter at the appraised value. The City paid the franchisee for water used in buildings of the fire department, city offices, public schools, churches, one public fountain, one public watering trough in each ward and rental of fire hydrants. The City levied a special property tax for the purpose of meeting these payments. The contract allowed the franchisee to charge private consumers at assessed rates, meter rates or season rates. The private consumer was required to pay the connection fees.

In 1894 the City charter was amended to issue bonds for the purpose of purchasing or constructing water works. The amendment was approved by the Mississippi Legislature on March 8, 1895. The amendment led to a twelve year period of long litigation and negotiations for control of the water works between the City of Meridian and the Meridian Water Works Company. In June, 1906, the City bought the Meridian Water Works company for \$250,000.00, which was below appraised value.

The City has made improvements to the Pumping Station and Clear Water basin since the purchase of the water works system in 1906. The Clear Water Basin was covered ca. 1907 with an oval covering. In 1924 an addition was added to the Pumping Station for a new pump room. A concrete smoke stack and boiler were also added to the Pumping Station. The City purchased additional acres surrounding the Pumping Station to prevent being surrounded by future industrial growth and for future extensions in the Pumping Station.

The Pumping Station and Clear Water Basin are part of the original water works plant. The Pumping Station has gone through the technology changes of steam, natural gas and electric pumps.

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The Pumping Station and Basin represent the development of the municipal water works in the United States. Meridian followed the national trend of going from private ownership to public ownership water systems. In the current year, the City has appropriated funds for the maintenance and renovation of the water works pumping station. The Clear Water Treatment plant also has plans to renovate the three cylinder gas pump. The pump will be used to show the technological changes in the Pumping Station.

FOOTNOTES

¹Maloney, T. J. Meridian City Directory, 1888 (Mississippi Room Collection, Public Library, Meridian, Mississippi), p. 30.

²Dial, E. H. The Code of Laws of the City of Meridian, Mississippi (Meridian: New Job Office, 1903), p. 447.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

See continuation sheet

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:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 6.5

UTM References

A

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3	5	8	1	9	2	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

#18 RAGSDALE SURVEY, PT BLOCKS 257, 275 AND 276 & PT SW; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ & PT VACATED STREETS BOUND ON THE NORTH BY MID-SOUTH RAILROAD AND ON THE WEST BY 17TH AVENUE. THE LOT MEASURES 413 X 680 FEET.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

THE BOUNDARY INCLUDES THE PROPERTY OF THE MERIDIAN FRESHWATER TREATMENT PLANT, WHICH INCLUDES THE WATERWORKS PUMPING STATION AND CLEAR WATER BASIN THAT HAVE BEEN HISTORICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPERTY. THIS INCLUDES INFORMATION USED AS THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR TAX PURPOSES.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title FONDA K. RUSH, HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST
 organization CITY OF MERIDIAN date AUGUST 29, 1988
 street & number 601 24TH AVENUE telephone (601) 485-1910
 city or town MERIDIAN state MISSISSIPPI zip code 39302
 ±

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Meridian Water Works Pumping Station and Clear Water Basin, Meridian, Lauderdale, Mississippi

Section number 9 Page 1

Annual Reports of City of Meridian 1947-1954. Mississippi Room Collection, Public Library, Meridian, Mississippi.

Baker, M. N., Ph.D., ed. The Manual of American Water-Works, 1897. New York: The Engineering News Publishing Company. 1897.

Charter and Charter Amendments of the City of Meridian, Mississippi to January 1915. Mississippi Room Collection. Public Library, Meridian, Mississippi.

Dial, E. H. The Code of Laws of the City of Meridian, Mississippi. Meridian: New Job Office, 1903.

Gray, William F. Meridian Illustrated 1904. Meridian: Tell Farmer, 1904.

Lauderdale County, Mississippi Chancery Clerk. Deed Books 12, 44, 61, 85.

Maloney T. J. Meridian City Directory, 1888. Mississippi Room Collection, Public Library, Meridian, Mississippi.

Meridian (Mississippi) Evening Star. 27 April, 12, 24, 31 May, 6, 28, 29 June, 1906.

Meridian Mississippi Minutes of Board of Councilman, June 4, 1885 to September, 1892, October, 1892 to December 7, 1899, Minute Book H Nov. 1914 to Jan. 1917, Minute Book G April 1913 to Nov. 1914, Minute Book K Jan. 1924 to December 31, 1927.

Original Charter Together with Amendments Thereto and the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Meridian, Mississippi. Meridian: Democrat Book and Job Print, 1889.

Runnels, F. M. Illustrated Handbook of Meridian, Mississippi. Meridian: Privately Printed, 1907.

Sanborn Map Company, Insurance Maps of Meridian, Mississippi. Brooklyn, N. Y., 1889, 1893, 1898, 1902, 1906, 1912, 1916-1961.

The Southern Reporter, Vol. 37. St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1905.

"The Water System and Service". Meridian Herald Industrial Edition, 21 October, 1899, p. 12.

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Photographs Mississippi

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The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) Meridian Waterworks Pumping Station and Clear Water Basin
- (2) Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi
- (3) Cindy Hopkins
Except Photo 7 - Hammond Studios
- (4) August, 1988
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1--(6) Clear Water Basin, Pumping Station and Smoke Stack, view to the east

Photo 2--(6) North facade Pumping Station, view to the southwest

Photo 3--(6) West facade Pumping Station, view to the east

Photo 4--(6) South facade Pumping Station, view to the north

Photo 5--(6) East facade Pumping Station, view to the west

Photo 6--(6) Center section of Pumping Station, view to the southeast corner

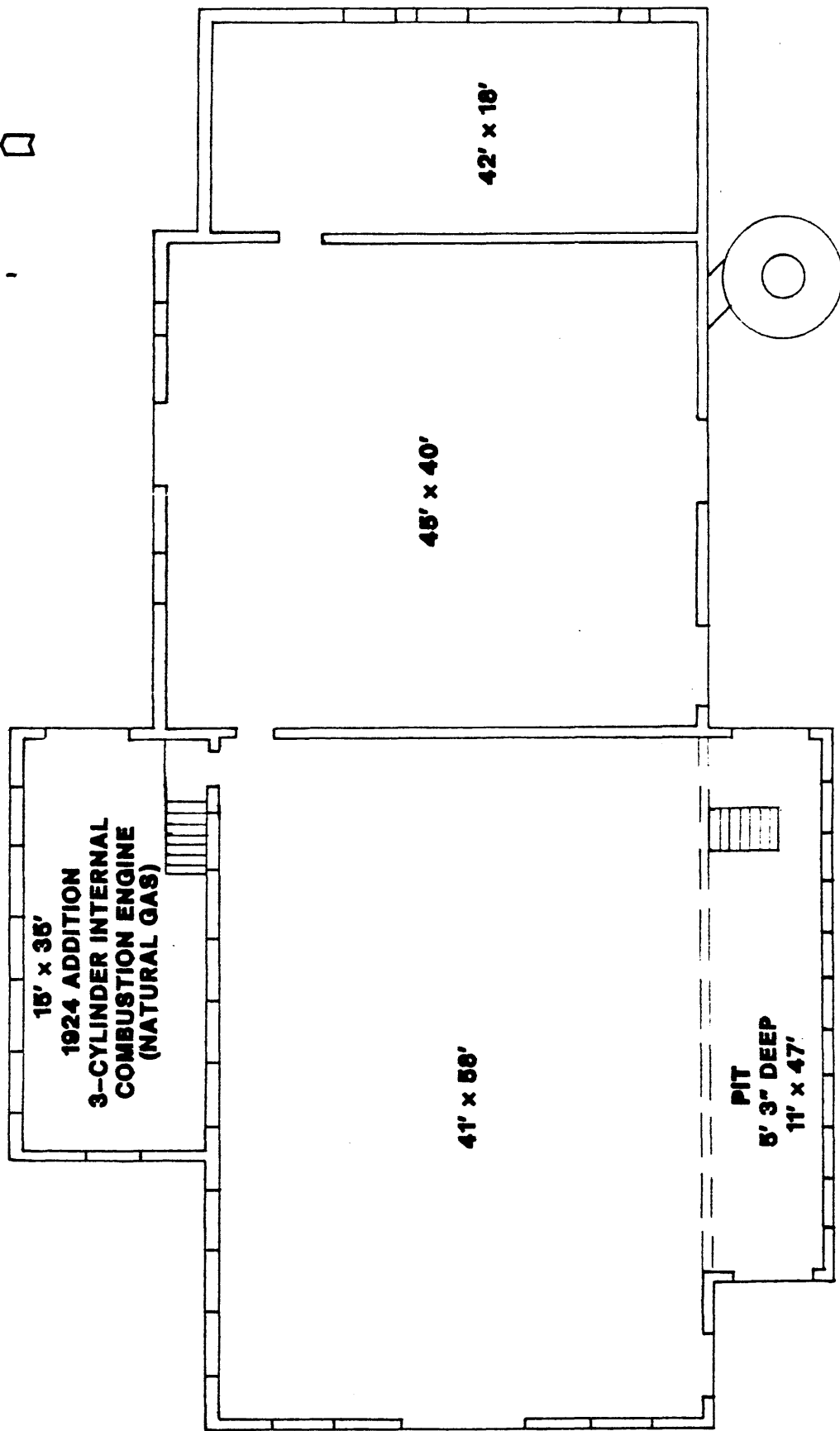
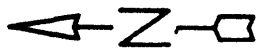
Photo 7--(6) 1924 addition and 3 cylinder natural gas pump, photo taken by Hammond Studios in the 1940's, view to the east

Photo 8--(6) Pumping room of Pumping Station, view to the west

Photo 9--(6) Pumping room of the Pumping Station, view to the southwest

Photo 10--(6) Clear Water Basin, view to the north

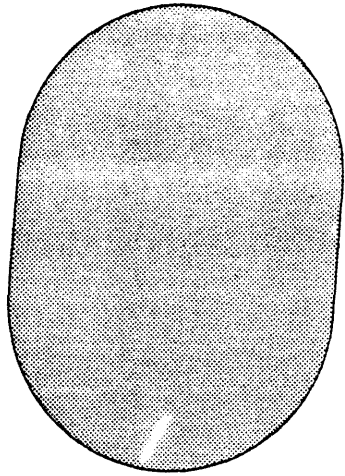
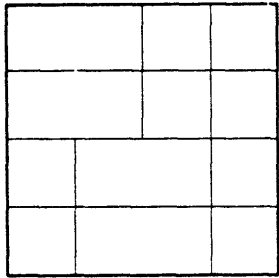
Photo 11--(6) Meridian Waterworks, 1916, photographer unknown, view to the southeast



FLOOR PLAN/MERIDIAN WATER WORKS

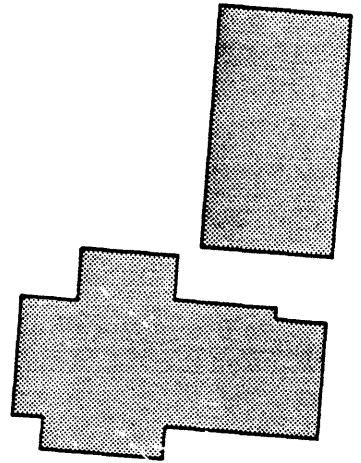
SCALE: 3/4" = 10'-0"

Old Settling Tank



Clear Well

Main Pumping Station



Flocculator

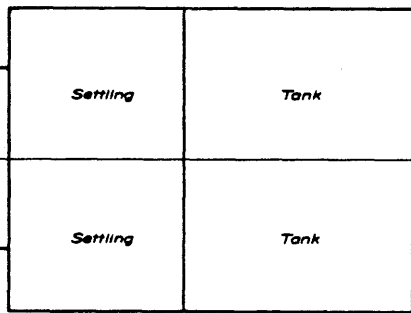
Settling

Tank

Flocculator

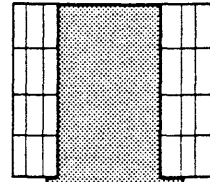
Settling

Tank



Filter Building

Post-Chemical Mixing Building



Quick-Mix Basin



DRIVEWAY

DRIVEWAY

"B"

STREET



CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISS.

Water Treatment Plant

PLOT PLAN

J.L. PAULK & ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERS PLANNERS
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

March, 1969

Figure VI-2