

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 5 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 HUMBOLDT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3th and
Fifth Street & Bridge Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Winnemucca

n/a VICINITY OF

n/a NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Nevada

CODE

32

COUNTY

Humboldt

CODE

013

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

County of Humboldt

STREET & NUMBER

Fifth Street & Bridge

CITY, TOWN

Winnemucca

n/a VICINITY OF

STATE

Nevada 89445

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Humboldt County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Fifth & Bridge Streets

CITY, TOWN

Winnemucca

STATE

Nevada 89445

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Winnemucca Historical Survey Project

DATE

May, 1982

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Historic Preservation & Archeology

CITY, TOWN

201 South Fall St., Carson City, Nevada 89710

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Humboldt County Courthouse, located in the city of Winnemucca, was erected between 1920 and 1921. It was designed by noted Nevada architect Frederick J. DeLongchamps to replace the original county courthouse (1874), which had burned. It occupies the same site as its predecessor and faces Bridge Street, one of the city's first arterials. The courthouse retains a high degree of integrity although parts of it are in need of maintenance and repair.

The courthouse faces east and occupies a prominent site. Sandwiched between Winnemucca's two historic commercial areas, the building faces a significant Art Deco-era fire station and is bordered on the north and south by late 19th Century domestic structures.

Designed in 1919, the building was constructed for \$150,000. The two-storey structure with full basement is square, with centrally-located pavilions on each elevation. Exterior materials are buff-colored brick and cream-colored terra cotta. After the completion of the Washoe County Courthouse (1910), DeLongchamps rarely used stone again in courthouse architecture, as brick was plentiful and relatively inexpensive. DeLongchamps also used architectural terra cotta extensively, both as detailing and as a building material in his major architectural designs. Window treatments at the Humboldt courthouse are not original. Upper floor windows are composed of nine lights, three of which are fixed and larger scaled. Lower floor windows consist of nine lights separated by a transom-like fixed pane. Many of the lower casemented panes on both floors have been replaced by solid panels with air conditioners. Metal and glass doors have replaced the originals on the east and south elevations.

DeLongchamps courthouse elevations around the state echo prevalent Beaux-Arts organizational schemes, although he usually emphasized massing manipulation over decorative embellishment to provide texture. Thus, simple unadorned wall surfaces characterize his general approach to this and other forms of public architecture, and is consistent with a philosophy of fiscal conservatism that permeated the state's boom-and-bust economic climate. In Winnemucca, however, the generous budget allowed DeLongchamps to selectively embellish the exterior elevations, and to create what is arguably his most elegant and finished interiors.

The monumental pedimented portico is composed of terra cotta Corinthian columns which support an extensive entablature which circumvents the building. The frieze is plain with the exception of medallions which appear above most of the capitals. Terra cotta capped Corinthian brick pilasters divide the entrance wall into five bays. The entrance itself is narrow and not particularly distinctive. It is identical to the south elevation entrance. Corner windows on the first floor have pedimented surrounds in terra cotta and are the only windows on the entire building so ornamented. Arrangements of brick pilasters identical to those in the main entrance appear on the pavilions of the other elevations.

The interior of the Humboldt County Courthouse is perhaps his finest Classically-inspired interior. Given the availability of square footage, he assembled a finely proportioned and detailed public space extending through two stories. The narrow building entrance leads through an equally narrow hallway to the columned interior hall. A centrally-positioned double staircase in marble divides at the landing and extends to either side of the U-shaped gallery. The gallery is supported by square, Classically-decorated structural columns which also appear at the northeast and southeast corners of the gallery.

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1921 (completion) BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frederick J. DeLongchamps

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Humboldt County Courthouse is significant to the city of Winnemucca and Humboldt County as an outstanding example among the numerous public buildings designed by Frederick J. DeLongchamps, Nevada's most notable historical architect. The significance of his contributions to the historic built environment in Nevada has been assessed and acknowledged by numerous individuals and groups, including the Nevada SHPO, Nevada Historical Society, and American Institute of Architects. Contexts used in the evaluation of this resource include: historical development of Winnemucca and Humboldt County; and public architecture designed by DeLongchamps, specifically the nine county courthouses in Nevada and California, of which the subject property is one of the most significant.

Winnemucca, named after the famous Northern Paiute chief, is the largest community in Humboldt Valley: the only mountain-free passage between the Watsach Range (Utah) and the Sierra Nevada. Situated at a mid-point between Salt Lake City and San Francisco, Winnemucca's fortunes were not tied historically to the boom-and-bust mining cycles. As both a destination and departure point, the community established a stable economic base as a regional supply and shopping center. By 1872, Winnemucca was the county seat. The original county courthouse was built on the site of the nominated property. The rectangular brick structure had a pedimented gable and modest Italiante detailing. It served the county until 1918, when it was partially destroyed by fire.

The request by the county commissioners for \$150,000 in bonds for a new courthouse was loudly protested by the citizens of Lovelock in western Humboldt County, who had already requested county division. They wanted \$75,000 of the proposed amount to build another courthouse for the soon-to-be-designated Pershing County. Eventually, the full amount was appropriated to Humboldt County. Lovelock became the county seat of Pershing County and DeLongchamps designed their building as well.

The cornerstone for the Humboldt County Courthouse was laid on February 21, 1920 and the building opened on January 1, 1921. It was described by the Reno Evening Gazette at the cornerstone ceremony as "the finest architectural work ever attempted in Humboldt County."

Frederick J. DeLongchamps is considered to be the state's finest historical architect. Educated locally, his first interest lay in mining engineering. But for reasons of health, he took up drafting and eventually apprenticed to California architectural firms. Returning to Reno in 1907, he began one of the most prolific architectural practices in Nevada. It can be said that he more than any other architect shaped the image of the state's early 20th Century public architecture. It was in the position of Supervising Architect for the State of Nevada that DeLongchamps designed the nominated property.

Stylistically, he owed much to the Beaux-Arts inspired Classical training he received as an apprentice. He was particularly interested in massing over detail, although he could easily produce highly-textured works such as the Winnemucca courthouse. He adapted readily to changing tastes and later produced fine Art Deco-era buildings such as the U.S. Post Office in Reno. He died in 1969 in his eighties.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Winnemucca Survey Project Essay, Martin Stupich
Humboldt Historian. "Early Courthouses and Lawyers of Humboldt County",
 Russell W. McDonald.
Frederick J. DeLongchamps: Reno's Architect. Corry L.A. Geier.
Pansilee Larson, Personal Communication.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,1	4,3,8,0,4,0	4,5,3,5,0,7,5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southeastern corner of Assessor's parcel # 3-622-5; thence westerly 125 feet to the southwestern corner of said parcel; thence northerly 150 feet to the northwestern corner of said parcel; thence easterly 125 feet to the northeasterly corner of said parcel; then southerly to the P.O. B, the whole comprising less than one acre.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	none	COUNTY	
STATE		COUNTY	

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James M. Hamrick, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Nevada State Historic Preservation Office

DATE

May, 1983

STREET & NUMBER

201 S. Fall St., Rm 106, Carson City, NV 89710

TELEPHONE

885-5138

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

Robert D. Vestergaard

TITLE *State Historic Preservation Officer*

DATE *24 June, 1983*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Linda McClelland

DATE *8/19/83*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

The remainder of the columns are of the Ionic order. All of the columns are mounted on impost blocks and are connected by a balustrade which started at the bottom of the staircase. The walls of the gallery consist of pilasters on dados, blind archades, plaster wall panels, and a thick picture molding. The courtroom, located to the west of the gallery, is elaborately ornamented with paired Corinthian pilasters supporting a delicate plaster entablature.

With one exception, there have been no major exterior or interior alterations to the courthouse. In 1976, the southwest corner of the building was altered to provide for a connecting passageway between the old courthouse and the new county office facility. We feel that the alterations are reversible.

WINNEMUCCA HISTORICAL
SURVEY PROJECT, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, NEVADA

PROPERTY NAME:

historic see preceeding page
common:

location: W. corner Bridge & 5th	inventory no. WNN-24
supplementary photo	class.

LOCATION:

street address:	
city:	county:

CURRENT OWNER:

name		
address		
city	state	zip

FORM PREPARED BY:

name	date
address	phn#
city	state zip

Property information:

hist. use:	
current use:	lot
architect/bldr:	
construction date(s):	

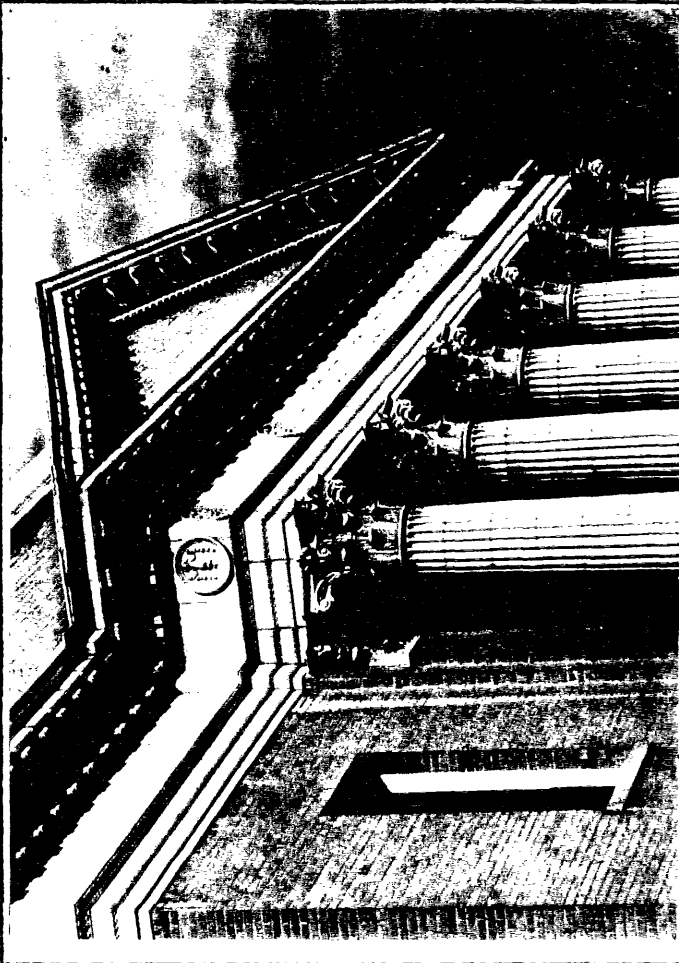
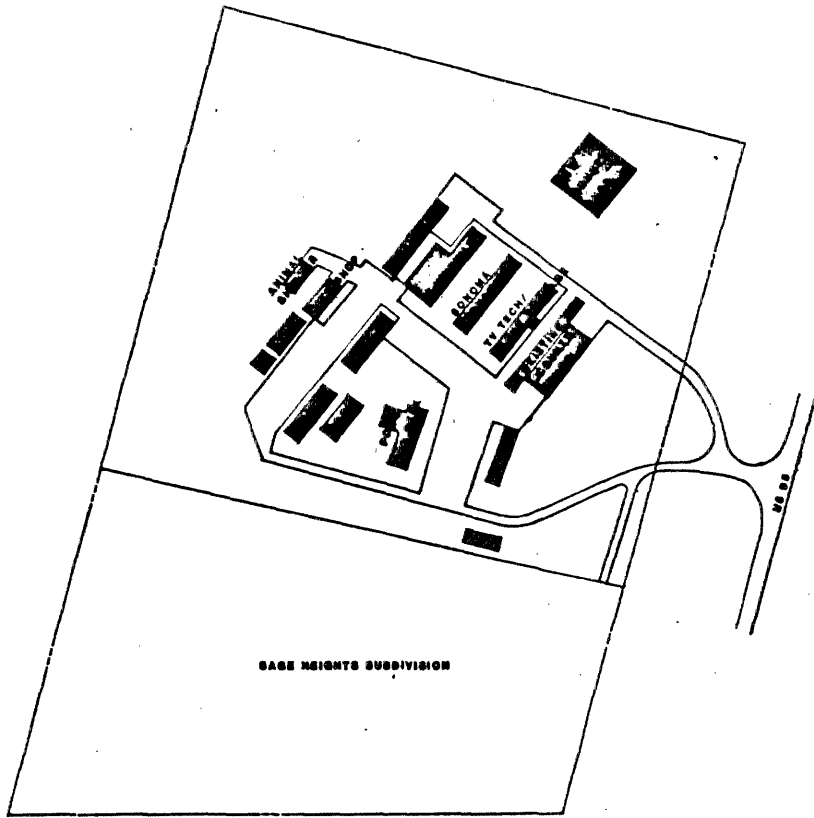


photo by: Martin Stupich	date: May 1982
orientation:	

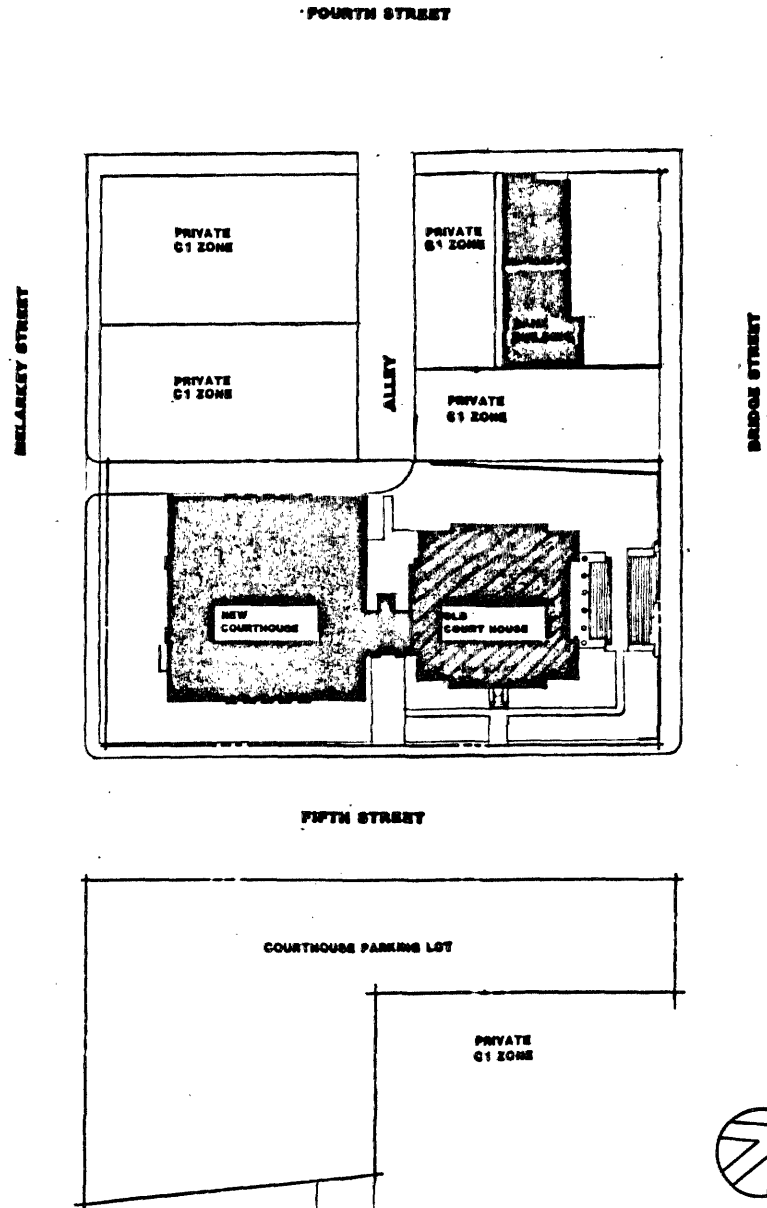
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Detail of portico
(above)
Detail of frieze
(right)





SAGE HEIGHTS - EXIST. CONDITIONS 1" = 100'



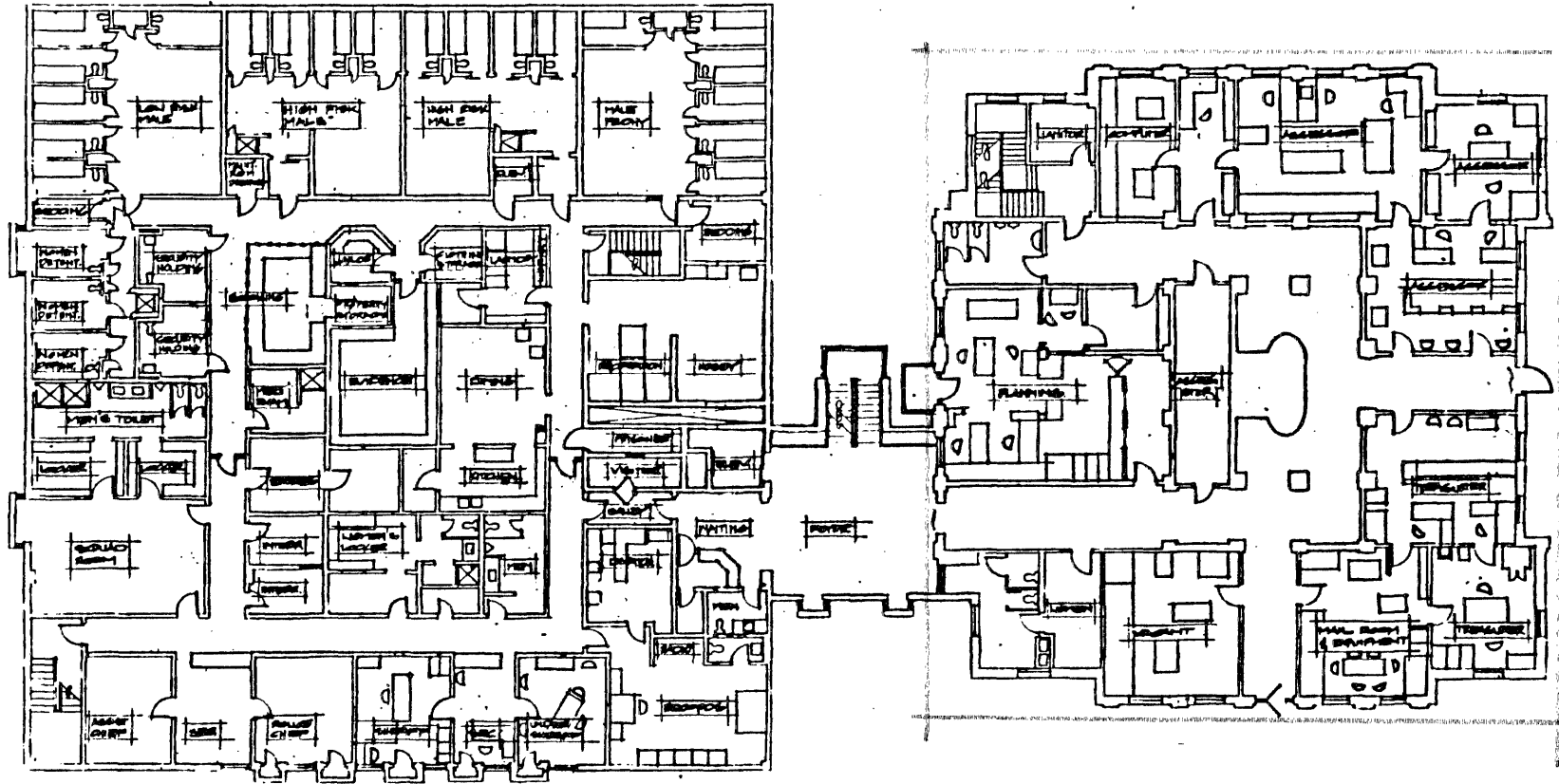
SITE PLAN - EXISTING CONDITIONS 1" = 30'

DC WEST
 DESIGN CONCEPTS WEST
 1000 1/2 Street, Suite 100
 Ukiah, CA 95524
 PHONE: (707) 462-1111
 FAX: (707) 462-1112
 WWW: www.dcw.com

HUMBOLDT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Project No.	1000000000
Client	Humboldt County
Project Name	Humboldt County Courthouse
Project Location	Ukiah, CA
Project Status	Pre-Design
Project Start Date	10/1/00
Project End Date	12/31/00
Project Manager	John Doe
Project Engineer	Jane Smith
Project Designer	Bob Johnson
Project Checker	Charlie Brown
Project Approver	David White
Project Date	10/1/00

Project No. 1000000000
 Project Name Humboldt County Courthouse
 Project Location Ukiah, CA
 Project Status Pre-Design
 Project Start Date 10/1/00
 Project End Date 12/31/00
 Project Manager John Doe
 Project Engineer Jane Smith
 Project Designer Bob Johnson
 Project Checker Charlie Brown
 Project Approver David White
 Project Date 10/1/00



FIRST FLOOR PLAN - EXISTING CONDITIONS

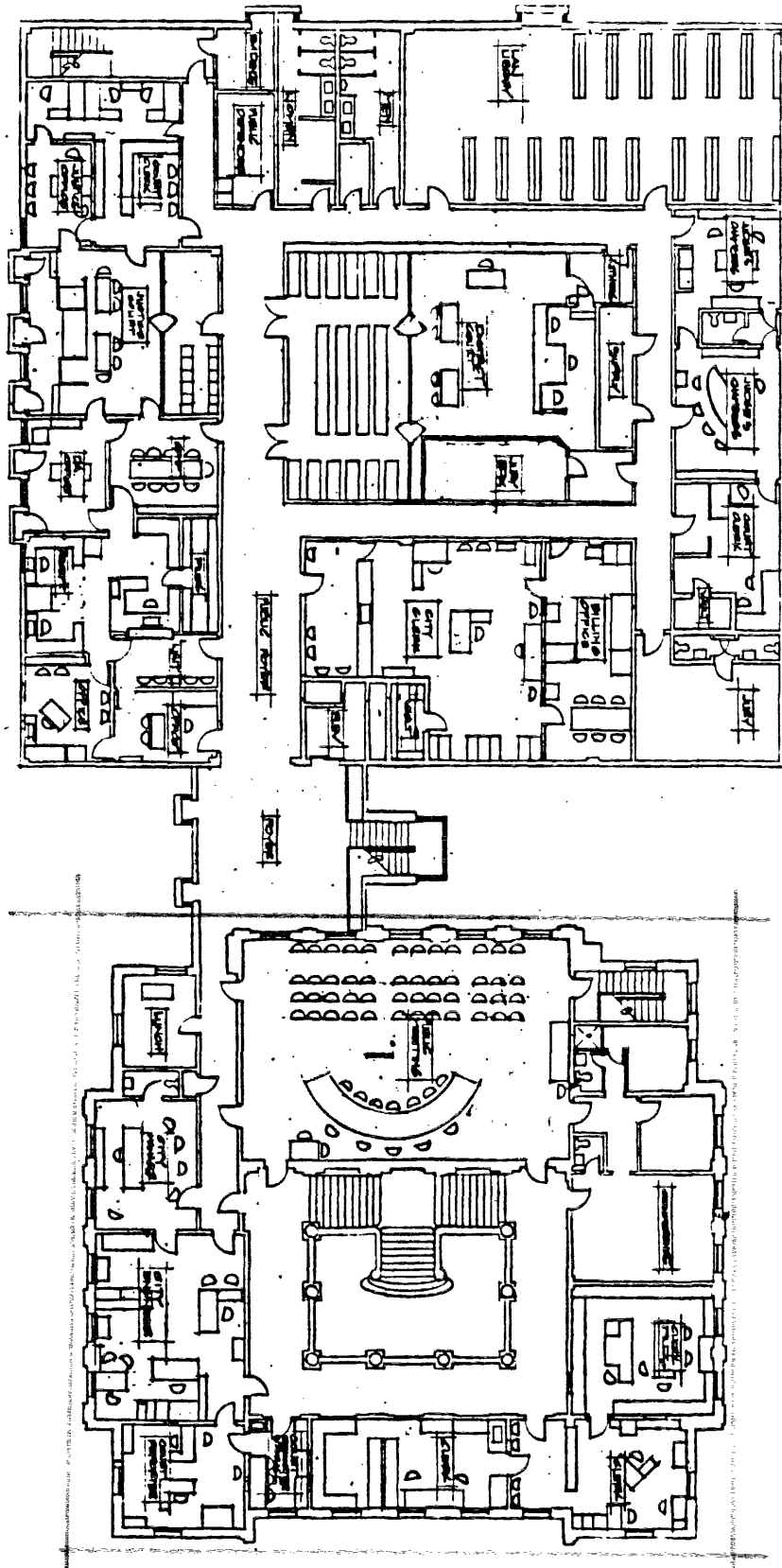
NOMINATED PROPERTY



1/8"

Project Name:	Humboldt County Courthouse
Client:	Humboldt County
Architect:	DC West
Date:	10/1/00
Scale:	1/8"
Sheet No.:	1 of 2

SECOND FLOOR PLAN - EXISTING CONDITIONS



NO MINIMUM PROPERTY

1/8"

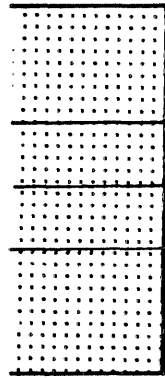


Job Number	
Date	
Drawn by	
Checked by	
Reviewed by	
Revised date	
Revised description	

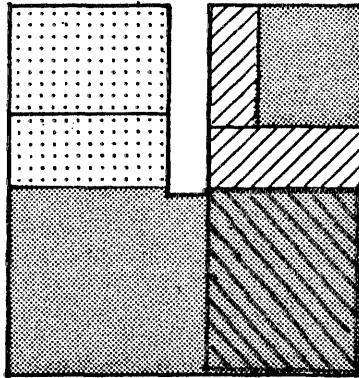
HUMBOLDT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

DC WEST DESIGN CONCEPTS WEST
 7700 65th Street, Everett, WA 98203
 P.O. Box 1077, Everett, WA 98203

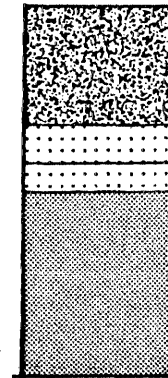
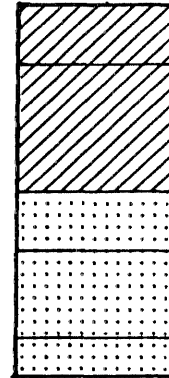
FOURTH STREET



MELARKEY STREET

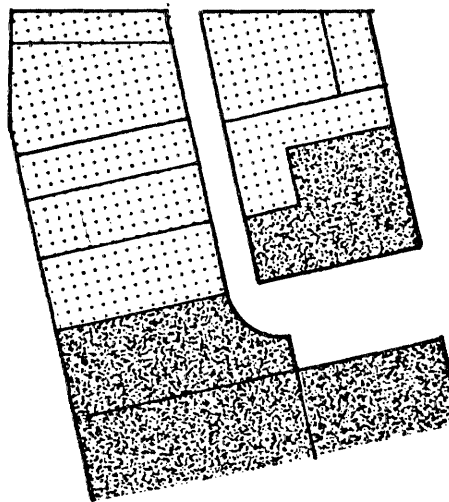
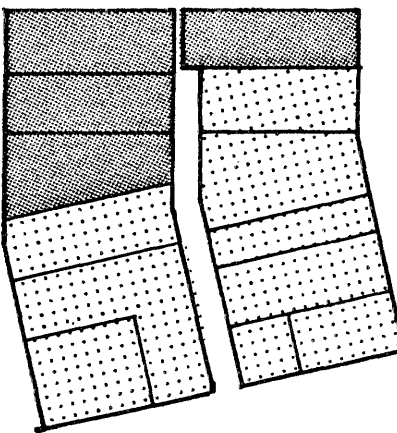
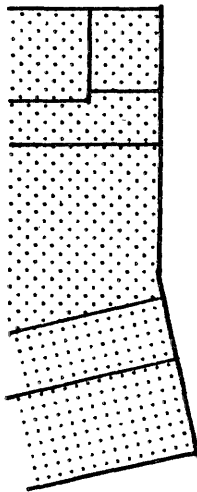


BRIDGE STREET



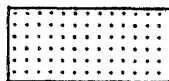
BAUD STREET

FIFTH STREET



ADMINISTERED PROPERTY

DOWNTOWN ZONING



C-1



R-3



C-2



CITY/COUNTY PROPERTY